



Western Principles for Delta Sustainability

Because a “Delta Solution” providing reliable supplies of clean life-sustaining water to Californians dependent upon imported State Water Project supplies is absolutely necessary to maintain a prosperous economy and healthy environment, Western Municipal Water District proposes the following principles related to the Delta Vision Strategic Plan:

- Western’s greatest priority for a Delta Vision Strategic Plan is physical change to construct the necessary infrastructure ensuring water supplies
- Western supports immediate action to improve in-Delta flows with simultaneous action to build an isolated conveyance facility.
- Water supply and ecosystem changes must be made in the context of the future vision for the Delta which acknowledges fundamental forces of sea level rise, seismic activity and unstable landforms.
- Western supports action to address, with objectivity and sound scientific evaluation, in-Delta stressors on ecological sustainability as an essential component of any approach asserting co-equal goals of improved water supply and ecosystem sustainability.
- Western supports ecosystem restoration efforts that recognize the dominance of non-native species in the system (95 percent of biomass) and that desirable ecosystem restoration outcomes cannot be guaranteed.

Western believes that existing agencies are better equipped to execute and administer the Delta Vision's strategic plan.

- Western supports the concept of "beneficiary pays" for supply and reliability improvements and supports broad public funding to address public benefit issues such as ecosystem restoration; diversion fees are not justified in any event.
- Western supports elimination of illegal water diversions in the Delta prior to imposition of any new flow regimes developed to support ecosystem health.
- Western supports action by the Delta Vision Cabinet Committee to direct the Department of Water Resources to expeditiously complete ongoing studies of various storage sites and begin construction of new surface and groundwater storage projects.
- Western opposes governance proposals such as the California Delta Ecosystem and Water Council because this would issue enormous new controls over all existing state institutions. Western believes that existing agencies are better equipped to execute and administer the Delta Vision's strategic plan.



Securing Your Water Supply

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