

1 BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN  
2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)  
3 AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCESS (EIS)

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7 THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2009

8 BDCP PRESENTATION

9 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

10 6:39 O'CLOCK P.M.

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12 HILTON GARDEN INN

13 2200 GATEWAY COURT

14 FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA 94533  
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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 ---oOo---</p> <p>2 MODERATOR JONES: Good evening, folks. If you</p> <p>3 would like to come to your seats, we're just about to</p> <p>4 start.</p> <p>5 Good evening, my name is Pam Jones. I am the</p> <p>6 moderator for this evening. I am not an employee of any</p> <p>7 of the agencies of the Bay Delta. I'm here today to</p> <p>8 make sure that everyone who wants to speak has an</p> <p>9 opportunity to speak.</p> <p>10 Just as an overview of the evening, we'll have</p> <p>11 about a half an hour of presentation and update on the</p> <p>12 Bay Delta Conservation Plan, and then we'll go to about</p> <p>13 an hour of questions and answers. And then we would</p> <p>14 like to encourage you to go back to the tables and the</p> <p>15 posters in the back of the room because this purpose of</p> <p>16 -- this meeting has two purposes: Number one is an</p> <p>17 update on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan as it is now.</p> <p>18 And when that plan is finished, it gets handed</p> <p>19 over to an environmental team made up of staff and</p> <p>20 consultants. And their job is to take a look at that</p> <p>21 and evaluate the proposed plan in terms of its potential</p> <p>22 impact on ecosystems, the environment, communities,</p> <p>23 et cetera.</p> <p>24 Then they come up with alternatives to that</p> <p>25 plan, some of which are kind of listed on the board</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 specific questions for him.</p> <p>2 We have Chuck Hansen, Hansen Environmental,</p> <p>3 and Paul Cylinder with SAIC. Paul and Chuck are the</p> <p>4 environmental consultants to the project, and they can</p> <p>5 answer some of the technical issues as well.</p> <p>6 With that, I'm going to turn it over to Keith</p> <p>7 for some welcome comments.</p> <p>8 MR. COOLIDGE: Thank you, Pam.</p> <p>9 As she said, I'm Keith Coolidge. I'm with the</p> <p>10 California Natural Resources Agency. I have been</p> <p>11 involved in the Delta since 1986, primarily as a</p> <p>12 stakeholder for 14 years. And then on the other side of</p> <p>13 the microphone, I was reminded of this last night, we</p> <p>14 were in Stockton, which was the tenth stop on this</p> <p>15 12-night tour of Northern and Southern California.</p> <p>16 And we were in the very same room we had done</p> <p>17 scoping sessions for CalFed in the late 1990s. I had</p> <p>18 been in the audience. I had been making comments. Last</p> <p>19 night, I was on the other side. I was fielding them.</p> <p>20 So this truly has been a very long process to try to</p> <p>21 resolve some very contentious issues in the Delta.</p> <p>22 CalFed tried with twin goals of restoring the</p> <p>23 ecosystem and increasing the State's water supply. They</p> <p>24 succeeded to a varying degree. We invested an awful lot</p> <p>25 of money. Half of that was local matching funds. Added</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 tonight. Some of them may not be known yet. And you</p> <p>2 may have an idea about what those alternatives might be.</p> <p>3 So a very important part of your involvement</p> <p>4 tonight is to actually get your comments in writing as</p> <p>5 part of an official environmental impact report,</p> <p>6 environmental impact statement, process, so that it can</p> <p>7 be officially considered by the environmental review</p> <p>8 team.</p> <p>9 Even though we are recording tonight, if you</p> <p>10 would make sure that either you fill out a comment card,</p> <p>11 you speak to the Court Reporter, you put your thoughts</p> <p>12 on one of the flip charts there, that's the most direct</p> <p>13 way to help the environmental team do their analysis and</p> <p>14 come up with suggestions that you want them to take a</p> <p>15 look at.</p> <p>16 So with that, I would like to introduce you to</p> <p>17 the people who will be speaking this evening. We have</p> <p>18 Keith Coolidge, California Natural Resources Agency.</p> <p>19 Keith, you want to raise your hand?</p> <p>20 (Complying.)</p> <p>21 Karla Nemeth, California Natural Resources</p> <p>22 Agency. Karla is the BDCP liaison. John, John</p> <p>23 Engbring. He's with Fish and Wildlife Service. We have</p> <p>24 someone here from the California Department of Fish &amp;</p> <p>25 Game. Scott Cantrell is in the back, if there are</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 about 750,000 acre feet to the State's water supply.</p> <p>2 We made major investments in upstream</p> <p>3 tributaries to the Delta improving salmon habitat and</p> <p>4 putting fish screens on diversions. All of that was to</p> <p>5 a real benefit to the Delta. But the Delta itself</p> <p>6 deteriorated even further in the past seven years.</p> <p>7 And so that prompted the Governor, in 2006, to</p> <p>8 form Delta Vision. You have heard of that. That was an</p> <p>9 effort of Blue Ribbon Task Force to look at how do you</p> <p>10 really pull all of this together. Delta Vision came up</p> <p>11 and said the twin goals ecosystem restoration and a</p> <p>12 reliable water supply are valid. But don't overlook a</p> <p>13 very important third goal which is how do you do that</p> <p>14 with a Delta that is itself a unique and valued place?</p> <p>15 Don't forget that as you work on those goals.</p> <p>16 And then they also said there's some other</p> <p>17 things you have to keep in mind. We are going to have</p> <p>18 to significantly increase our efforts at conservation</p> <p>19 throughout the State of California. That's going to</p> <p>20 have to be foremost in everyone's minds as we move</p> <p>21 forward.</p> <p>22 You are going to have to resolve the tension</p> <p>23 that water in the Delta that is good for fish is not</p> <p>24 necessarily good for drinking water and vice versa. And</p> <p>25 later speaker tonight will talk a little bit about that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 tension. But water that's high in organics and has  2 variable salinity is not well received by drinking folks  3 and vice versa.</p> <p>4 Water is low in organics, low in salinity  5 isn't necessarily good for the ecosystem. You will need  6 to find a way to separate those if you're going to have  7 success. That was a recommendation from Delta Vision.  8 They said just doing that alone isn't going to work.  9 You're going to have to increase storage so that you can  10 make diversions out of the Delta at different times of  11 the year than you do it now. And you're going to have  12 to move on all of these fronts.</p> <p>13 Now, key to what the Delta Vision recommended  14 and key to what CalFed recommended was the development  15 of a conservation plan, a habitat conservation plan, a  16 multi-species conservation plan in CalFed parlance.</p> <p>17 That's really what we're here to talk about  18 tonight is the conservation plan that is known as the  19 BDCP, the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. And we're going  20 to talk in great detail about what that means. I hope  21 all of you will visit the stations in the back where  22 they are talking about various components of that.</p> <p>23 The purpose of scoping is to get your  24 comments. Are we adequately looking at all of the  25 alternatives? Are we adequately looking at the right</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 process, there are both State and Federal pumps that  2 move that water, there are listed species, species  3 listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act like  4 Delta smelt and Winter-Run Chinook salmon that are  5 actually killed by the pump.</p> <p>6 In and of itself, that's an illegal activity.  7 Agencies that do that and conduct those kind of  8 activities can do that, but they need a permit. They  9 need a permit from the Federal agencies. When I say  10 Federal agency, I mean U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  11 and National Fishery Service. There actually is someone  12 here from National Fishery Service. Ted Myer is here,  13 and he can answer questions on salmon.</p> <p>14 To receive that permit, the applicant in this  15 case, the Department of Water Resources, must complete  16 what we call a habitat conservation plan. That is what  17 this Bay Delta Conservation Plan actually is. It's  18 being prepared so that they can submit it to the Federal  19 agencies and there's a state equivalent Endangered  20 Species Act and the State will work through their  21 permitting process as well.</p> <p>22 That plan will be submitted to the Federal  23 agencies. And it has to include a description of the  24 activities that are being conducted. It has to include  25 a description of the effects of those activities on</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 things in your view? And are we overlooking anything  2 that you know about that we should know about?</p> <p>3 That's really the purpose of tonight, is to  4 get your comments on both the range of our alternatives,  5 the ideas that we're putting forward and help us as we  6 move forward.</p> <p>7 With that, I turn this over to John Engring.  8 John is with U.S. Fish and Wildlife. He's one of the  9 Federal partners in this effort with the State agencies.</p> <p>10 MR. ENGRING: Thank you, Keith. Again, my  11 name is John Engring. I am with the U.S. Fish and  12 Wildlife Service. I am the assistant regional director  13 for water and fish. And what I'm going to try and do is  14 explain as clearly and simply as I can exactly what  15 we're doing here and why we're here.</p> <p>16 First off, thanks for coming and thank you for  17 your interest. Thank you for your time. We are very  18 interested in hearing what you folks have to say because  19 we are in what is described as the scoping process as  20 part of the environmental review process. It is very  21 early in the environmental review. So we have a number  22 of steps to go.</p> <p>23 I think all of you know that Delta -- the  24 Delta is used as a water transfer from north to south.  25 There are large pumps that move water south. In that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 listed species. It has to include various alternatives  2 and options that were considered and conservation  3 measures that they the applicant will carry out to  4 complete the conservation plan, implement the  5 conservation plan.</p> <p>6 When we receive it, that conservation plan, we  7 look at it and we make a determination as to whether or  8 not it will jeopardize the continued existence of those  9 listed species. If in fact we decide that it can move  10 forward and those species can in fact survive, hopefully  11 ultimately recover, we can move forward and issue that  12 permit so that they can actually kill some of those  13 species in the Delta as they conduct their otherwise  14 lawful activity.</p> <p>15 That's what we're doing. We're in the early  16 stages of looking at this conservation plan. We are  17 required to conduct environmental review. This is part  18 of that environmental review. It is part of the early  19 scoping process. Part of the scoping process where we  20 are trying to solicit comments from the public.</p> <p>21 We have these stations, tables set up. There  22 are individuals who can answer questions at those  23 tables, very specific questions. If you have questions  24 and they can also take written comments from anybody  25 here that would like to provide comments.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 Again, I want to thank you for being here.  2 And I'll turn it over to Karla at this point. She will  3 describe in a little more detail what's in this plan at  4 this point.  5 MS. NEMETH: Thanks, John.  6 My name is Karla Nemeth. I'm with the  7 California Natural Resources Agency. The Natural  8 Resources Agency is the convenor of the Steering  9 Committee that's guiding the development of the plan.  10 That includes water agencies that supply water  11 from the Bay Area all the way down to San Diego,  12 Department of Water Resources, the U.S. Bureau of  13 Reclamation, environmental groups, the California Farm  14 Bureau and other folks interested in putting together  15 this plan.  16 Excuse me.  17 All the folks around that table realize what  18 Keith said. It's a major challenge to restore an  19 ecosystem in an environment such as the Delta. It's  20 home to half a million folks. It supports a vibrant  21 agricultural economy, a recreational economy. All of  22 these things are going to be important to balance  23 against the water reliability and the ecosystem  24 restoration needs in the plan.  25 The Secretary of Resources is very concerned</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 experienced record low populations in years. The Courts  2 have essentially said you can no longer continue to pump  3 water supplies because of the status of these fish  4 species. This has threatened water supply reliability  5 for 25 million Californians as well as agriculture up  6 and down the Central Valley.  7 Essentially, what the Courts have said, as the  8 water moves through the Delta through the Sacramento  9 River to the State and Federal water project pumps, the  10 force of those pumps create a reverse flow in the Delta  11 that pull the fish into the pumps. Therefore, to  12 protect these fish, we need to stop pumping water. We  13 need to reduce pumping water when fish are present in  14 this area.  15 Typically, when these kinds of conflicts exist  16 between water for human use and environmental needs, an  17 approach would be to propose a project to support water  18 supply and offset the damage caused to endangered  19 species kind of one by one.  20 But State and Federal endangered species laws  21 allow for something that's called conservation planning.  22 The State has the Natural Communities Conservation  23 Planning Act that creates a conservation plan and  24 fulfill it on State endangered species laws. The  25 Federal Endangered Species Act -- actually, in the Act</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 about how we do that. He is meeting with elected  2 officials from the Delta counties for the purposes of  3 providing a formal way in which we can keep the counties  4 and these communities whole as we continue to develop  5 the plan.  6 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Meeting when?  7 MS. NEMETH: Friday. He's been meeting with  8 elected officials on a monthly basis for quite some  9 time. We're going to continue to do that. We have  10 heard from folks that there is a desire to have formal  11 engagement in this process, and that's what we're  12 working towards.  13 As our two speakers have indicated, the Bay  14 Delta State and Federal environmental, process, the  15 purpose of my presentation here tonight is to update you  16 on the development of the plan as a proposed action.  17 I'm not going to have all the details.  18 We will provide some information about what we  19 do know at this point, what we're thinking in terms of  20 our approach and specific actions. Our expectation is  21 that the plan itself in a preliminary draft form won't  22 be available until this summer, is to help folks provide  23 good comments in the scoping setting.  24 What is the problem that we are working to  25 resolve? Several native fish species in the Delta have</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 itself -- calls for conservation planning as well.  2 Essentially, what this allows us to do is to  3 address endangered species issues in a much more  4 comprehensive holistic way, less piecemeal, so we can  5 address multiple species all at once with a goal of  6 actually contributing to their recovery and doing that  7 over the long term.  8 At the heart of these conservation planning  9 efforts is a conservation strategy. What that is is a  10 suite of actions that are designed to, implemented  11 together, over time are designed to recover species.  12 While that's the heart of the conservation  13 strategy, there are a lot of other critical elements  14 that ensure its success and implementation. That is who  15 funds it and how much. How do we make sure that the  16 funding is there to implement it over time? How do we  17 govern the implementation of the plan? How do we bring  18 new science into the plan as its developed?  19 The result of this kind of a planning process  20 is an actual plan that lays out a suite of activities  21 that are implemented through time in a particular way in  22 a particular sequence with identified funding in  23 exchange for permits to, in this case, operate the State  24 and Federal Water Project in exchange for the ability to  25 -- as John indicated earlier -- the ability to take</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 endangered species.</p> <p>2 In the Bay Delta conservation plan, we have</p> <p>3 two goals: One is a stable and healthy fish population;</p> <p>4 the second goal is reliable water supplies. What I'm</p> <p>5 going to describe for you tonight is one piece of the</p> <p>6 plan. That is our latest thinking on the conservation</p> <p>7 strategy.</p> <p>8 And as I indicated earlier, there are several</p> <p>9 other very important aspects of the plan that we need to</p> <p>10 create in order to have a draft ready. Again, our</p> <p>11 expectation is that we would have a preliminary draft of</p> <p>12 the entire plan this summer.</p> <p>13 So we're trying to build our conservation</p> <p>14 strategy on the recovery of these fish species in the</p> <p>15 Delta: Delta smelt, Longfin smelt, Chinook salmon,</p> <p>16 Sacramento splittail, green and white sturgeon and</p> <p>17 Central Valley steelhead. Our approach is to build off</p> <p>18 of the decades of science developed about</p> <p>19 the estuary and about fish species, about fish species</p> <p>20 in the Delta.</p> <p>21 And our first stop was to assess how we would</p> <p>22 measure success. How would we measure our ability to</p> <p>23 actually recover fish species? There are several ways</p> <p>24 that we are looking at that. They are biological goals</p> <p>25 and objectives. That includes the distribution of these</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 purposes of water conveyance, as I mentioned, through</p> <p>2 the Sacramento River, through the central part of the</p> <p>3 Delta and down at the pumps. And a couple of things</p> <p>4 happen. Water from the San Joaquin River comes in as</p> <p>5 well. And what essentially happens with the force of</p> <p>6 these pumps is it disrupts the flow of the Delta in that</p> <p>7 it creates a reverse flow in the central part of the</p> <p>8 Delta, that is water moving north to south to the pumps.</p> <p>9 And it also creates water that would outflow</p> <p>10 out to the Bay. It also creates a reverse flow action</p> <p>11 from water from the Sacramento River that would</p> <p>12 otherwise be outflow down to the pumps. And for the</p> <p>13 San Joaquin River, the pull of those pumps also draw</p> <p>14 water and fish species into the pumps through these two</p> <p>15 channels.</p> <p>16 What we're really looking at when we look at</p> <p>17 flows and their impact on fish is how do we create a</p> <p>18 system that can more naturally mimic natural flow</p> <p>19 patterns in the Delta to the benefit of fish.</p> <p>20 What we are considering is this dual</p> <p>21 conveyance that is continuing, when appropriate, to</p> <p>22 operate the pumps at the southern part of the Delta.</p> <p>23 But also to create a new diversion point off the</p> <p>24 Sacramento River that would carry water supplies to the</p> <p>25 pumps. So it's this kind of dual conveyance system that</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 fish species throughout the Delta, their growth rate,</p> <p>2 their mortality and other signs -- other indicators of</p> <p>3 their health in the Delta.</p> <p>4 We then took a look at the things that are</p> <p>5 stressing the fish species because remember our goal is</p> <p>6 to actually contribute to their recovery over time. And</p> <p>7 I described in an earlier slide the stress of the</p> <p>8 operation of the State and Federal water projects on</p> <p>9 fish species as it relates to flows in the estuary and</p> <p>10 fish getting pulled into the pumps.</p> <p>11 But the science has shown there are other</p> <p>12 things that are also stressing the fish species. That</p> <p>13 is a lack of physical habitat, a lack of food to support</p> <p>14 their growth. Other stressors include water quality,</p> <p>15 the presence of invasive species that compete with the</p> <p>16 native species in the Delta. Fish passage issues for</p> <p>17 fish that are migrating through the Delta.</p> <p>18 There's really a whole host of things that are</p> <p>19 stressing the species. And we're creating a strategy</p> <p>20 that can address all of these kinds of stressors at once</p> <p>21 with the notion that addressing each one of these things</p> <p>22 individually would not be as effective at contributing</p> <p>23 to the recovery of species as if we did them all</p> <p>24 together in an integrated holistic way.</p> <p>25 Water currently flows through the Delta for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 makes important changes to how water moves in the Delta</p> <p>2 and the survivability of fish species.</p> <p>3 And essentially, on a conceptual level, what</p> <p>4 that does is that allows water from the Sacramento River</p> <p>5 to head out to the Bay. It also allows water from the</p> <p>6 San Joaquin River to enter into the estuary because when</p> <p>7 we are operating out of the northern diversion point,</p> <p>8 we've removed the pressure that the pumps are currently,</p> <p>9 as they're operated, are putting on the water flows in</p> <p>10 the estuary. It allows for more east/west movement of</p> <p>11 water in the estuary.</p> <p>12 I'm going to go over a few of the conservation</p> <p>13 measures that we've been focusing on as we develop the</p> <p>14 plan. First, as I mentioned, are these ways to address</p> <p>15 water flows and how water is conveyed through the Delta</p> <p>16 for the betterment of fish species.</p> <p>17 In the near term, that's in the next five to</p> <p>18 15 years, we're looking at ways that we can immediately</p> <p>19 address flow issues in the southern part of the Delta</p> <p>20 with the continued operation of the State and Federal</p> <p>21 pumps. That includes tidal gates in the southern part</p> <p>22 of the Delta that can be opened and closed seasonally</p> <p>23 depending on the presence of fish.</p> <p>24 In the longer term, that is 15 years and out</p> <p>25 into the future, as I mentioned, we're looking at new</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 diversion points off the Sacramento River in the 2 northern part of the Delta with an eastern alignment 3 that sends water around and to the State and Federal 4 pumps. 5 The operation of this kind of a system is 6 going to be critical to the survivability and health of 7 fish species. There are a couple of ways that we are 8 looking at the operations of this kind of a facility. 9 How much water is diverted out of this northern 10 diversion point will be limited by what kind of 11 hydrologic years, in a wet year, a dry year, an average 12 year, a critically dry year. 13 But also, what are the flows that are needed 14 to go into the estuary to support fish species to make 15 sure that there's enough water in the system that fish 16 can migrate through the estuary away, enough water 17 moving through the system that can transport food into 18 the estuary. These are all important considerations for 19 water flows in the estuary and how they support fish 20 species. 21 The other key operational consideration with a 22 new northern diversion point and the pumps at the 23 southern end of the Delta is how do we manage salinity 24 in the Delta to address in Delta water quality issues. 25 It's a critical issue that we need to address and that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 effectiveness and make decisions as we go. 2 One of the ways we're designing the habitat 3 restoration elements is we've identified these 4 restoration areas, and we're working to really drill 5 down to a specific target or acreages that we need 6 within that bigger area so that as the plan is 7 implemented, we can do it flexibly in partnership with 8 willing buyers and willing sellers. We can focus on 9 public lands and approach the habitat restoration in a 10 way that's in partnership with local jurisdictions. 11 We're also taking a look at channel margin 12 restoration. That is restoring the channel banks in the 13 Delta along the areas of Steamboat and Sutter Slough, in 14 the long-term down here along the San Joaquin River, and 15 additional habitat restoration in the eastern part of 16 the Delta and southern part of the Delta here. 17 And finally, we're also taking a look at ways 18 to address some of these other stressors. What we don't 19 want to do is create this nice habitat and create this 20 nice flow and do it in an area where we have water 21 quality problems or we have invasive species problems. 22 Again, we're identifying areas where we can 23 remove invasive species, address water quality issues, 24 for example, and we can implement all of these 25 conservation measures together with the notion that all</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 we will address as part of the plan. We are doing quite 2 a bit of modeling on that now. We don't have all the 3 answers, but we're working towards them. 4 From a habitat restoration perspective, in the 5 near term, again, in this five- to 15-year period, we're 6 looking at three kinds of habitat restoration in the 7 Delta. One is flood plain restoration. We're looking 8 very closely about in the yolo bypass, and 9 essentially, creating -- inundating the flood plan with 10 water from the Sacramento River periodically to create 11 habitat spawning and rearing habitat for fish species. 12 We're looking at tidal marsh restoration, 13 particularly in the area of Cache Slough, Suisun Marsh 14 and here in the Western Delta. I know folks have been 15 seeing these kind of green blobs on a map for a while. 16 They're getting frustrated. They want us to get more 17 detailed. I want to explain an important point about 18 habitat restoration aspects of the plan. 19 That is, there are some restoration ideas that 20 we have where we have a good amount of science, and we 21 have a real reasonable and confident expectation of the 22 benefit of fish species. Some we have less of an 23 understanding of how fish species are going to respond. 24 And those are ones that, overtime, we will need to test 25 with pilot projects as we continue to monitor their</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 of them together provide the best opportunity for the 2 fish species to recover. 3 Where we are in the development is we've 4 identified about 50 different conservation measures. 5 For further analysis, they're all available on our 6 website <a href="http://www.resources.ca.gov/bdcp">www.resources.ca.gov/bdcp</a>. There are several 7 documents there, and I would be happy to direct folks to 8 information when we're through here. 9 We have quite a bit of work to do. Here we 10 are in the left side with a lot of individual 11 conservation measures that we're taking a look at. 12 We're looking on a lot of biological evaluations to help 13 us understand the expectations for the species', 14 individual species' response to the various conservation 15 measures. But we're also looking at other ways to 16 evaluate these conservation measures. 17 And that includes how practical is it, can we 18 do it when we're out there on the ground, how feasible 19 is the implementation, how much is it going to cost and 20 what is the relative benefit for that cost. All of 21 these things we'll be taking a look at over the course 22 of the next six to nine months as we continue to develop 23 the draft plan. 24 And our expectation is that we will have a 25 public review draft plan by the end of 2009 that will</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 include the conservation strategy and all of those  2 important elements like implementation structure and the  3 cost analysis identifying the funding partners. All  4 those pieces will be part of the plan.  5       So where we are is continuing to develop our  6 first draft of the entire plan in March 2009. We expect  7 to have a preliminary draft of the plan available this  8 summer, as I mentioned. And at that time, we are going  9 to want to get back out to the communities and talk to  10 folks and get some input. We'll have all these details,  11 really important details flushed out in terms of how we  12 will would operate this dual conveyance system, what  13 does it do to salinity in the Delta, how do we propose  14 to manage that, what are the habitat restoration  15 targets. All of those kinds of details will be  16 available this summer.  17       We expect to have a public review draft of the  18 conservation plan available at the end of the year.  19 That's a draft that we need to circulate for public  20 review and comment by law in advance of preparing a  21 final conservation plan, which we expect in June of  22 2010.  23       As John from the Fish and Wildlife Service  24 indicated earlier, the outcome of the plan is a permit  25 decision by the State and Federal fishery agencies for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 impacts going down into Southern California, a concern  2 that they really want better water quality on their  3 exports, even more so than more water. They are not  4 that interested in more water. They want a defined  5 amount of good quality water so they can do other local  6 projects.  7       We heard in the San Joaquin Valley very much a  8 concern that an entire farming operation system has  9 grown up dependent on water from the Delta, and we  10 shouldn't unwind that. We heard in the Delta very much  11 concern that this is our water, and we shouldn't share  12 it with others until we are sure that our own needs are  13 met; that we very much need to make sure that we have a  14 healthy and vibrant and thriving ecosystem.  15       We heard from recreational boaters concerned  16 that if we're building gates and barriers that they be  17 open and passable for recreational boaters. We heard  18 from sports fisherman very much a need for striped bass  19 in particular, to increase their numbers; to not blame  20 them for the decline of the ecosystem beyond their  21 participation.  22       We heard throughout a need for beneficiary  23 pay. That's a mantra from the CalFed days, the folks  24 who benefit the most would pay the most in proportion to  25 their benefits. And for those where the State benefits</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 the operation of the State and Federal water projects.  2 Concurrently with that, you can see the environmental  3 review process is ongoing, and the environmental review  4 process issues a record of decision on the conservation  5 plan as well in 2010.  6       With that, I just want to recap. We've shared  7 what our approach has been to developing the plan,  8 what's the problem we're trying to solve, how do we  9 propose to solve it, what are the ideas that we're  10 contemplating now and what's our process for completing  11 the draft plan and opportunities for public input.  12       With that, I think we will open up the floor  13 to questions about the plan.  14       MODERATOR JONES: Keith was going to say a few  15 words.  16       MR. COOLIDGE: This was something we tried  17 last night. On behalf of the Secretary, I kind of  18 wanted to do the same thing. He had been out to  19 several, a couple of these other meetings and had been  20 very impressed by the comments and the openness of the  21 folks had in raising questions and asking them.  22       And he sort of wanted to encourage you all to  23 engage in the same kind of dialogue with us. We have  24 heard many comments over these nights from -- up in the  25 Northern Sacramento Valley and concern of redirected</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 as a whole, we would find a way through bonds or through  2 what's left of the State's general fund to try to make  3 that whole.  4       We heard throughout the need for trust and the  5 fact that trust has eroded. We need very much -- there  6 is no way we can compel anyone to trust us, and  7 certainly, a collection of government agencies just  8 sometimes doesn't inspire that. But what we are trying  9 to do, to the best of our ability, is to be open, to be  10 honest with you, to let you in on our decision-making.  11 And I hope that you will understand where we are going  12 and help us get there.  13       Governance is very clearly a big issue for all  14 of this. Who controls, who controls the nods, who makes  15 the decisions. That is going to be a big discussion in  16 State legislature this year: Delta governance, water  17 governance in general. The Secretary has been meeting  18 since, I guess last July, with supervisors from each of  19 the five counties.  20       I notice Supervisor Reagan is here tonight.  21 He has provided a very valuable insight into some of the  22 concerns of his constituents, and we are trying very  23 hard to be responsive and to learn through this process.  24 And so far, he's been a very willing teacher for us.  25 And we hope that you will do the same tonight.</p>

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1 We are here to learn and to listen as well as  
 2 answer questions to the best of our ability.  
 3 Madam Facilitator.  
 4 MODERATOR JONES: Now we are -- excuse me. We  
 5 are about to turn it over to you for your questions and  
 6 comments. It's now a quarter after 7:00. We would like  
 7 to go till about a quarter after 8:00 with the questions  
 8 and comments.  
 9 We do want to give you time to go back and  
 10 speak one-on-one with the folks in the back of the room.  
 11 We are going to use speaker cards so while you're  
 12 passing your speaker cards over or requesting speaker  
 13 cards, I would like to introduce some of the elected  
 14 representatives or their representatives.  
 15 We have at least seven here tonight which is  
 16 quite a big showing. So starting with Supervisor Mike  
 17 Reagan, already acknowledged over there. We also have  
 18 Roger Straw representing Solano County Supervisor Linda  
 19 Seifert. Roger is back of the room.  
 20 Don Lubar (phonetic) from Senator Lois Wolk's  
 21 office, right here. Tom Meyers, City of Rio Vista.  
 22 Kathy Barnes Jones, Solano County. Kathy here? Kathy  
 23 was here. Chris Rogers, Solano County.  
 24 MR. REAGAN: He saw me walk in and left.  
 25 MODERATOR JONES: I guess so. And Tom Wong

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1 who is a representative of Assembly Member Mariko  
 2 D'Amato. Tony, are you here? Tony was here.  
 3 Is there anyone else I missed who is an  
 4 elected representative or official representative, an  
 5 elected official emeritus, any other category you would  
 6 like?  
 7 MR. REAGAN: Former supervisor, former mayor.  
 8 MODERATOR JONES: Sir, what is your name?  
 9 MR. BRANN: Dick Brann.  
 10 MODERATOR JONES: Okay. Good to see you here.  
 11 And mayor of Antioch? Rio Vista.  
 12 MS. COGLIANESE: Marci Coglianesse.  
 13 MODERATOR JONES: Marci, thank you very much.  
 14 I think we have it.  
 15 Our format for this evening, we have speaker  
 16 cards, we'll call these. If you would like to speak,  
 17 even if you haven't given a speaker card -- I only have  
 18 three up here. We would like to get through to you.  
 19 Even if you haven't given a speaker card, you may still  
 20 give a speaker card if the desire strikes you while  
 21 someone else is giving a comment.  
 22 We would like to open it up. You can give  
 23 comments or ask questions. We're going to try and keep  
 24 it to three minutes. But you know, with the amount of  
 25 people we have here, I think there's going to be ample

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1 opportunity to speak.  
 2 Let's just, as the format, go through starting  
 3 with three minutes. And then it looks like there will  
 4 be more opportunity for you to expand and continue on.  
 5 Okay. So what I'm going to do is call your name, and  
 6 I'm going to call the next person. If you choose to  
 7 identify an organization that you're here, that's your  
 8 choice to do so.  
 9 So Joseph Rizzi. And then Bud Tonnesen.  
 10 MR. RIZZI: Hi. Is this on?  
 11 I'm here from Natural Desalination. It's a  
 12 group I've created as a nonprofit organization.  
 13 There's ways of desalination, and they have  
 14 not -- I would really have loved to have seen other  
 15 alternatives of increasing the water supply. Because  
 16 that's one of the key things. In the Bay Area and L.A.  
 17 area, they need water.  
 18 Most of this is trying to divert water from  
 19 another area to get cleaner water. It's not necessarily  
 20 increasing the amount of real water that's actually  
 21 available to the people who actually need it: The  
 22 farmers and residents. Mostly a lot of us, the  
 23 residents.  
 24 So natural desalination is the process of  
 25 being able to utilize the water's own weight in the sea

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1 to be able to desalinate that water without the energy  
 2 usage that is required today. Most of the time when  
 3 people look at desalination, they look at Saudi Arabia.  
 4 Follow them. They have tons of energy. They don't care  
 5 about their energy.  
 6 In California, we care about energy as well as  
 7 water. This is a way of being able to desalinate the  
 8 water. At the same time, you can also use the natural  
 9 gradient of water. If you do a pipeline or horizontal  
 10 pipeline to the shore, you have natural flow of water  
 11 from the plant at sea to the shore.  
 12 That allows everybody to have the water that  
 13 they need, and that saves the Delta because you don't  
 14 have the water needing to be diverted anymore. I really  
 15 would have loved to see more thought into that.  
 16 As well as in Australia, they have ways of  
 17 using the ocean power and the power of river in order to  
 18 desalinate the water. There are other ways of dealing  
 19 with it. And the more you increase the water for the  
 20 users, the less we have to take from the Delta. I  
 21 really would have liked to have seen more that dealt  
 22 with that on there.  
 23 MODERATOR JONES: Bud?  
 24 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.  
 25 MODERATOR JONES: After Bud, Frank Johnson.

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1 MR. TONNESEN: That was my first question.  
 2 You hit it. I didn't hear anything about taking  
 3 saltwater and making freshwater. There was no mention,  
 4 with you, Karla, you did a great job. There was no  
 5 mention back here, I haven't seen anything on it. And I  
 6 think that's the very thing, important thing I think you  
 7 have missed, if you have missed it. I think it's  
 8 extremely important.  
 9 And my other comment -- and this has been in  
 10 the news every day. It's -- I think it's behind Obama.  
 11 He's there every day too. This has to do global  
 12 warming. I have not heard anything about global  
 13 warming, and you've stated that five, 10, 15 years down  
 14 the road into the future, that we will have this thing  
 15 here.  
 16 What happens if global warming is here, and  
 17 they say it is here, and we have 10 or 15 feet increase  
 18 in the water. That might be excessive. Maybe five to  
 19 10 feet. Have you guys considered that at all? Have  
 20 you addressed that? And is it in here someplace we can  
 21 read it?  
 22 MS. NEMETH: That's a good question. I'll  
 23 have Paul answer the way in which the plan is addressing  
 24 climate change issues.  
 25 MR. CYLINDER: We all seem to be getting sick

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1 up here.  
 2 The plan, first of all, there are two major  
 3 effects of global warming on the Delta. One is the  
 4 increase in sea level, and that is the Delta is tidal.  
 5 The entire Delta is tidal. It's all the way up to  
 6 Sacramento over to Stockton.  
 7 And so with sea-level rise, the levels in the  
 8 Delta will rise. Estimates right now are about 55  
 9 inches over the next hundred years. Another effect of  
 10 climate change, at least the models are predicting right  
 11 now, is that we will have more rain and less snow in the  
 12 Sierra Nevada. Sierra Nevada is our big reservoir of  
 13 this State. That's where the water is stored as snow  
 14 and is released into our rivers and captured in our  
 15 dams.  
 16 With an increase in rain and decrease in snow,  
 17 that means we will have more water coming down with the  
 18 precipitation, with rain coming off the mountains as  
 19 opposed to being held in the mountains as snow for  
 20 longer periods. So our hydrograph, how the rivers  
 21 behave will change. Those are two major effects.  
 22 There's also an effect of temperature increase  
 23 on the Delta itself increasing temperatures that has an  
 24 effect on fish. I said two. That's three things. All  
 25 of those we are looking to address in the conservation

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1 plan with our different conservation measures.  
 2 With regard to operations, we need to deal  
 3 with and model how the hydrograph, how the river is  
 4 going to change behavior and therefore how the Delta  
 5 will change behavior and adjust the way we are looking  
 6 to operate the Delta in the near term prior to having  
 7 the separate conveyance, the peripheral conveyance. And  
 8 then in the long-term, with the peripheral conveyance  
 9 that allows for more flexibility in addressing that  
 10 change, hydrograph.  
 11 With regard to sea-level rise, there two major  
 12 components of the plan that address how the sea level  
 13 rises that is going to affect both habitat as well as  
 14 the water supply. With habitat, all those green blobs  
 15 Karla pointed out to you are all areas we're identifying  
 16 is the best potential for habitat restoration. That  
 17 means reflooding the areas that used to be flooded and  
 18 used to be marsh in the Delta. And prior to the levees  
 19 cutting off the Delta, cutting off the water from the  
 20 surface.  
 21 Because the Delta has subsided so much,  
 22 because the land levels are so much lower than they were  
 23 when there was a marsh there, you notice all those green  
 24 blobs are around the edge of the Delta because those are  
 25 the areas where we have the opportunity to flood and get

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1 marsh, shallow water that will create tule marsh,  
 2 cattail marsh as opposed to just open water. Those  
 3 familiar with the Delta know there are levee breaches  
 4 where there's just open water in the middle of the  
 5 Delta. That's not the historic condition.  
 6 The places where we can get habitat for fish  
 7 are along the edges. And the way we deal with climate  
 8 change is to not only look for areas where the  
 9 elevations are proper to reflood and get the marsh but  
 10 also where it rises to an uplift to allow this sea level  
 11 rise the marsh to move. As the water rises, the marsh  
 12 will rise up into the other parts to have that area we  
 13 call an accommodation space, a space to allow for the  
 14 sea level rise to allow the habitats to move up slow  
 15 into the areas where the water is going to be higher.  
 16 So those are the different ways that we are  
 17 dealing, looking to deal with sea level rise in the  
 18 design of the conservation plan. I forgot one other  
 19 thing is water quality.  
 20 As Karla mentioned, the in-Delta pumping, the  
 21 risk of sea water intrusion to the water supply, the  
 22 peripheral canal facility allows for the flexibility to  
 23 take more water, freshwater from upstream and avoid  
 24 threats from the water supply, particularly with regard  
 25 to catastrophic loss. If we had a levee failure that

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 results in drawing sea water into the Delta and  2 threatening water supply out of those south Delta pumps.  3 We can still be taking water through that canal and  4 maintain our water supply through that type of disaster.  5       MODERATOR JONES: Frank Johnson and Steven  6 Chappell or Chappell.  7       MR. JOHNSON: You answered one of my  8 questions, Paul. The other question is: Will there  9 still be guarantees for the Suisun Marsh in regards to  10 water quality, specifically in the spring and the fall?  11       MR. CYLINDER: What we are looking to  12 accomplish here is to maintain water quality for all  13 these multiple uses in the Delta. So as Karla was  14 mentioning, fish have a need for certain quality of  15 water. People and agriculture have a need for different  16 quality of water.  17       There are standards in the Delta right now set  18 by the State Water Resources Control Board. We've been  19 modeling the Delta with water models that allow us to  20 test different ways of operating the system, and we're  21 trying to hit all three of these water goals.  22       One is flows that are beneficial to fish.  23 Another is water quality that allows for good quality  24 export water and reliable export water. And third is  25 maintaining water standards that have been set by the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 salinity and the conditions that we're looking for.  2       MODERATOR JONES: Steven Chappell. Is it  3 Chappell?  4       MR. CHAPPELL: Chappell.  5       MODERATOR JONES: Chappell. And then June  6 Guidotti.  7       MR. CHAPPELL: Steve Chappell, the executive  8 director of the Suisun Resource Conservation District.  9       My first question is: On the map you show the  10 planning area which is the legal boundary of the Delta.  11 Yet Suisun is so unique, that it's identified as a  12 conservation area. When I look at your list of species  13 -- my first question is: Why is Suisun unique that it's  14 considered a conservation area; yet, all the river  15 systems in the Sacramento Valley are excluded? Because  16 the list of species which you've listed here, four runs  17 of salmon, steelhead, green sturgeon, are using these  18 areas up river; yet, they're excluded. Yet Suisun is  19 included.  20       I would like to know why, how that is legally  21 binding being as you're going to be identifying  22 conservation strategies that are actually outside the  23 scope of your legal planning boundary?  24       Then I have follow-up questions.  25       MR. CYLINDER: Thanks, Steve.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 Board for areas around the Delta including Suisun Marsh.  2       MR. JOHNSON: That will be part of the plan no  3 matter what?  4       MR. CYLINDER: That is our goal is to continue  5 to meet those. Now, there are activities that we are  6 looking at, conservation measures, that are going to  7 change the -- they could change salinity conditions  8 around Suisun Marsh. If we do habitat restorations of  9 Suisun Marsh and open up areas to tidal action, that has  10 an effect on the surrounding salinity.  11       And the location of the restoration that  12 happens in the marsh has a different -- depending upon  13 where it is, in the southern part of the marsh or  14 northern part of the marsh has a different effect on how  15 it affects salinity in Suisun Bay.  16       MR. JOHNSON: How would you mitigate the  17 property owners in that case?  18       MR. CYLINDER: Again, the goal is to design a  19 program that would balance that. At this point, we  20 don't have -- we haven't worked out the details of how  21 the physical restoration and the operations can fit  22 together with Suisun. That's what we've been modeling.  23       Every time we look at a different physical  24 restoration opening up an area to tidal action, that  25 affects hydrodynamics. We model how to maintain</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1       As a habitat conservation plan John described  2 earlier, we do need to start identifying what our  3 planning boundaries are, where we expect to be focusing  4 our conservation.  5       However, two areas have been identified as  6 critical of different species. We've included them in  7 identifying conservation measures. Suisun Marsh being  8 one where it's important -- it's a very important,  9 Suisun Bay in particular, to Delta smelt and longfin  10 smelt.  11       And then the other area outside of our  12 planning area that we've identified is the Yolo Bypass  13 area all the way up to the Fremont Weir. That map  14 doesn't go all the way up. We identified a conversation  15 measure to address operations up Fremont Weir to improve  16 the existing flood plain along the Yolo Bypass.  17       The measure we've identified for Suisun is to  18 help the existing Suisun Marsh management plan in  19 funding and implementing the plan that's being developed  20 already for restoration of Suisun Marsh. That's the  21 core of that conservation measure at this time as  22 described in our plan.  23       Did I answer -- going upstream. Sorry.  24 Really, to put it bluntly, it's not biting off more than  25 we can chew to go upstream and get into the issues of</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 upstream salmon and dam operations and all those types 2 of things. This is a huge undertaking to deal with 3 this.</p> <p>4 And basically, you have to draw your limit 5 somewhere. The focus here is on the divergence from the 6 Delta and the activities of those, of the agencies that 7 are involved in that, Department of Water Resources, the 8 Bureau of Reclamation and the contractors that 9 (unintelligible) water too.</p> <p>10 The focus of the plan is on the Delta estuary. 11 And for our focus on those, particularly the upstream 12 fish species, but also the important migration corridors 13 for the salmon and steelhead as well as rearing habitat 14 for salmon and steelhead. The focus really was on the 15 Delta. We didn't go out to the ocean. We didn't go up 16 the rivers. Obviously, we could keep going, but we 17 didn't.</p> <p>18 MR. CHAPPELL: I'm glad to see we are the area 19 that was been chosen to be chewed upon. I would 20 strongly encourage you throughout your environmental 21 document that you clearly explain why, when the majority 22 of the species that you're identifying, spawning habitat 23 is upstream of your focused area, yet they are directly 24 affected by your take off, why you've segregated those 25 areas outside of your planning area.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 fish because they're affecting pumps so we're going to 2 reduce their habitat.</p> <p>3 How do you implement conservation strategies 4 to enhance remaining habitats that remain?</p> <p>5 MR. CYLINDER: A couple things there. You're 6 right about the trade-off. Because this is conservation 7 plan and we are focused on biological resources. We are 8 also focusing on the terrestrial species.</p> <p>9 The fish evaluations are out ahead of things. 10 We talked about the nonfish species. We're now up to 37 11 identified species to be covered by the plan. That's in 12 addition to those nonfish plants and wildlife, including 13 plants and wildlife in Suisun.</p> <p>14 And in fact, on Friday I'm going to be 15 recommending to the Steering Committee a recommendation 16 of the consultant team to add another 18 species of 17 plants and wildlife to the list. It could be affected 18 by these activities that we're proposing here to benefit 19 fish.</p> <p>20 We have to address those wildlife. We have to 21 make them whole too in terms of mitigating impacts of 22 those plants and animals. With regard to the trade-off, 23 I think the challenge here is that with the fish, we 24 don't have a lot of choices where to go to expand 25 habitat, to improve habitat for the fish.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 As for the Suisun Marsh plan, I think it 2 should be more clearly explicit that there is an EIR/EIS 3 ongoing with a public draft that's going to be out. 4 It's looking at a range of alternatives. I think the 5 draft that I've seen has selectively only picked the 6 highest range as the target of 97,000 acres.</p> <p>7 I would remind you there's a five to seven and 8 a three to five which are going to go through the same 9 environmental review and scrutiny about 10 (unintelligible). It does not preclude future actions 11 from going forward if the plan objectives are done.</p> <p>12 But there's also, there's other components 13 than just tidal restoration of the Suisun Marsh plan. I 14 would focus those direct effects that, in Suisun, you 15 have existing seasonal wetlands, resource values and 16 functions that tidal restoration are going to either 17 result in direct loss of or degradation.</p> <p>18 And we're starting to now balance one wetland 19 subtidal fish habitat against seasonal wetlands that are 20 supporting other native species, migratory species. And 21 your conservation strategies have not been clear to me 22 how integration of terrestrial species -- those offsets 23 because you're trading now. We're going to trade. 24 We're going to say that water fowl, neotropic migrant 25 shore birds, resident mammals are not as important as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 We have more flexibility with the terrestrial 2 wildlife and the seasonal restoration and habitat 3 restoration. I know it's a challenge. It's an 4 established use. But we are looking for opportunities, 5 as many as we can find, for these fish that are near 6 extinction. The Delta smelt is near extinction. 7 Longfin smelt is on decline and was just listed.</p> <p>8 That's the challenge here is to, is to have 9 that balance, as you said, a trade-off between the fish 10 and some of these seasonal wetland species. We're 11 looking to address those seasonal wetland species with 12 regard to the conservation plan also.</p> <p>13 MR. CHAPPELL: I have several others. I will 14 point out one thing: The legacy of conservation in 15 Suisun Marsh due to the landowners has presented BDCP 16 this opportunity that you have a legacy of water fowl 17 conservationists that preserve and protect those lands.</p> <p>18 I don't see anywhere in here the 19 acknowledgment that as you move forward in your near and 20 your long-term that all those lands are protected by 21 levees; yet, there is no discussion of the need for the 22 levee maintenance. In Suisun, the majority of those 23 levees are all privately maintained or publicly 24 maintained through Fish &amp; Game. 25 Through your conservation strategy to protect</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 those areas that are remaining, there has to be  2 long-term commitments for levee maintenance of Suisun  3 Marsh and infrastructure. If you increase salinity in  4 the infrastructure and the habitat quality decline, you  5 won't meet your objectives.</p> <p>6 MR. CYLINDER: Thank you.</p> <p>7 I would like to point out the relationship  8 between developing a plan that's focused on the  9 biological resources and the effort to enhance fish  10 habitat and enhance wildlife habitat, plant habitat, and  11 the impacts that result on landowners and on human  12 environment.</p> <p>13 While the HCP is focused on improving the  14 habitat for these species, the environmental evaluation  15 and all those stations you see back there needs to look  16 at the effects on all of the human environment. So if  17 implementing this plan is going to have an adverse  18 effect on levees and adjacent landowners, first, we're  19 trying through this public interaction to identify those  20 and build them into the conservation plan itself.</p> <p>21 If we don't, this environmental document  22 that's being put together here is going to identify  23 these other impacts and the environmental document may  24 identify additional measures that need to be taken to  25 offset or mitigate those impacts on the human</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 canal. That's never happened.</p> <p>2 Today is almost 24 years that I have tried to  3 put my parcel back to tidal action. The swamp removal  4 flow 322 certain levees were let out. It would put it  5 back to my 10-foot contour line.</p> <p>6 Because of Solano County Board of Supervisors,  7 because of the general plan, I have an overlay over my  8 property that I brought you letters that the attorney  9 has wrote that you cannot mitigate private property.  10 You cannot mitigate my parcel because you don't own it,  11 and the County has it for mitigation.</p> <p>12 You need, from my understanding from  13 Brouchette &amp; Crusela (phonetic), 15,000 acres to  14 mitigate. I heard, when I came here tonight, was the  15 whole Suisun Marsh. I wanted to know what bad thing you  16 were doing that you were mitigating the whole marsh. It  17 turns out that it's over towards Collinsville.</p> <p>18 Before the Board of Supervisors this week, we  19 tried to stop Vision One in Collinsville. They're  20 hauling in and they're going to put a power plant in.  21 They're doing research. They're going to do all this  22 green waste hauling in. Collinsville at one time had  23 salmon.</p> <p>24 Moyle did a research from  25 U.C. Davis. My parcel -- there's 32 salmon supposedly</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 environment.</p> <p>2 That's why it's so important to get your  3 comments here today. That is the big part of scoping is  4 identifying what you feel are issues that we're bringing  5 up because of what's being proposed here.</p> <p>6 MODERATOR JONES: June is going to speak from  7 her seat, and then Linda Schrupp.</p> <p>8 MS. GUIDOTTI: June Guidotti, fifth generation  9 in the Suisun Marsh. When I first came here, I was  10 against the diversion of water. I still am. 25 years  11 ago, when Jerry Brown wanted to move that water, I was  12 all for it.</p> <p>13 Because of what I lived with every day, don't  14 move the water. If you want to start with the Federal  15 sewer plant in Suisun, right now, going before the  16 Oakland Water Quality Board on April the 8th, they have  17 cyanide in the water and two chemicals, one and two that  18 I can't even pronounce the word on, that will kill our  19 fish. They're trying to find out where it's coming  20 from.</p> <p>21 Originally, on the salt and saline, the fifth  22 of the salt and saline, you never did it. You never  23 connected Denverton (phonetic) to Hill Slough. They  24 were supposed to flush the Suisun Marsh with that sewer  25 water, flush it and take it down to the peripheral</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 there was no oxygen down in the water down in Grizzly  2 Island. I'm thankful that you're coming to Suisun, and  3 you're going to investigate why my parcel, 150 acres can  4 sit in the center of Potrero Hills landfill, that they  5 want to bring the biosolids up there and spread it like  6 feces and take the methane gas out of it. That  7 biosolids is coming directly from that sewer plant.  8 It's running right into the water.</p> <p>9 40 years ago, we stopped the sportsmen from  10 shooting lead into the ground because of what it was  11 doing to the water. The pharmaceutical drugs that are  12 in this needs to be addressed. Why there's a commercial  13 industrial road leaking toxins going up to Potrero  14 Hills landfill that Steve Chappell can vouch for that  15 under tidal action that goes right over to the hundred  16 year flood, that goes right over to Bud Tonnesen's  17 sister-in-law's parcel that is unlined just like the  18 Solano Garbage Company is unlined.</p> <p>19 If you don't start cleaning up these areas --  20 that was supposed to be cleaned up, the Solano Garbage  21 Company. Dick Brann can tell you. Back in 1984. He  22 was knowledgeable of what was happening there.</p> <p>23 Unless you're going to -- there's a blessing.  24 The District of Columbia and Washington DC filed a  25 lawsuit December the 8th. They have to sell Potrero</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 Hills. People have asked that it go back to its natural 2 environment and stop the toxins. The sportsmen filed a 3 lawsuit that they've been hauling toxins into the Suisun 4 Marsh for 23 years. It's a blessing that these lawsuits 5 have come. 6 We have begged. I have begged the Board of 7 Supervisors to please not approve for them to haul 8 biosolids up there and do these biosolids in that 9 landfill. Because they get \$8.5 million for a tipping 10 fee just for hauling the garbage in. Steve Chappell 11 will vouch that he settled his lawsuit for more money 12 hauling garbage in. 13 So until these issues are addressed, how are 14 you going to keep the fish alive when you continue to 15 dump toxins that are killing the water? I mean, it's -- 16 that's why I came here. I want to submit this to -- I 17 guess to your minutes, to be added to the minutes. If 18 you have any questions, my name is on there. 19 I would really -- I saw the list for the 20 Steering Committee. I was a little upset when I knew 21 who was sitting on the Board, when I saw who was on the 22 Board. I'm glad to hear that the Federal is going to 23 step in and maybe take some of our levees out. Maybe we 24 need to restore this marsh and put it back. And good 25 luck on your project. Thank you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 the aquatic habitat is because there's been lawsuits 2 protecting the aquatic habitat that has interfered with 3 the operations of the State and Federal pumps. That's 4 why the focus there's the on that. 5 As they're doing HCP and luckily NCCP under 6 the State laws, the NCCP has a provision where under 7 CEQA they have to mitigate the socioeconomic impacts of 8 the mitigations they are putting in place. They have to 9 mitigate the mitigations. 10 For the counties and our communities here, we 11 get no benefit out of the pumps that they're talking 12 about in the south Delta. Our pumps are up here in the 13 Cache Slough that supplies Solano and Napa County. 14 There is an impact of them creating more high saline and 15 more high carbon water next to our water intakes, which 16 hasn't been explained clearly how that's going to be 17 mitigated. 18 There is reason why we have these 19 opportunities for shallow water habitat restoration on 20 the swamp when they overflow is because this county has, 21 like the Suisun Marsh, a history of preserving these 22 areas for their intrinsic values and their production 23 act. What we are talking about is damaging the economic 24 underpinnings of many of the communities in the Delta 25 without a clear mitigation strategy for how they're</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 MODERATOR JONES: Linda and then Mike Reagan. 2 UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN: I had a quick question. 3 She brought it up. Who is on the Steering Committee? 4 How do we find out? 5 MS. NEMETH: In your packets, there's a couple 6 of brochures. On the summary on the inside cover, we 7 list everybody there. Go over it. It's in your 8 materials. Thanks. 9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's not by name. It's by 10 agency; isn't it? 11 MS. NEMETH: Right, by organization. I can 12 show to the website and you can get the exact name who's 13 representing the agency or entity. Thanks. 14 MODERATOR JONES: Mike. Then Jan Rogala. 15 MR. REAGAN: Karla, since last summer, we've 16 been working on this. Secretary Chrisman has been very 17 open and receptive as we basically formed a 18 five-Delta-county coalition to actually engage because 19 what was happening in a different process, the Blue 20 Ribbon Task Force wasn't taking in some of the local 21 comments. 22 The BDCP is one of 50, 60 processes going on. 23 It's just a subset of everything that is going on in 24 trying to figure out how to replumb California. 25 A couple of things: Basically the focus on</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 going to do that. 2 The other thing we have is water rights which 3 are superior to those that are pumped from the south 4 Delta. And that entire concept that the areas where 5 there's natural scarcity waters, ability to draw water 6 is inferior to those whose living communities where 7 water naturally is is something that we, Napa, Yuba City 8 and Butte County and a few others are already in 9 litigation to protect. There will probably be several 10 others who will have to do that as well. 11 One of the things missing from this plan is a 12 current plan that's going on with -- the old Reclamation 13 Board is now called Central Valley Flood Protection 14 Board. They're coming up with a plan for the levees in 15 the Delta. Not just the project levees, but the other 16 levees. 17 Unfortunately much of their focus is to 18 identify which levees to not resuscitate if they fail. 19 For our communities, what provides the protection for 20 the water quality that we use for agricultural in our 21 municipalities is the levees that provides the 22 displacement to keep the freshwater in the area. 23 As we lose those levees, as Frank's Tract 24 (phonetic) is a classic example, the X2 moved inward 25 when that happened. It hasn't been flushed back out.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 We have to come to some understanding of how you're  2 going to maintain the X2 and provide the Suisun  3 Marsh with the saline you can control on the Montezuma  4 Slough which is part of the State water project, how are  5 you going to keep that freshwater to maintain the  6 functions of that 10 percent of the remaining wetlands  7 in California?  8       You've heard this on and on and on. We've  9 done testimony. One -- we have a long and sad  10 experience with government and nongovernment entities  11 operating or owning land that they do a poor job in  12 operating and maintaining because they don't have an  13 assured source of funding to do such.  14       The teachable moment is probably the prospect  15 (unintelligible) fish kill which was the Bureau of  16 Reclamation repairing the levees on an island they owned  17 that had failed. Fish had established themselves.  18 Fishermen followed, as is their Constitutional right.  19 We ended up having to do six rescues of fishermen who  20 were capsizing as the tides were rushing off that  21 island.  22       The Bureau of Reclamation fixed the levees and  23 pumped the levees dry to mitigate the risk. We're  24 looking at tens, if not hundreds of thousands of acres  25 of what is now agricultural land in the Delta being</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 walls, et cetera. What we really can't get a handle on  2 is how your project, river levee projects, all of the  3 projects are going to affect the river level in the  4 Sacramento River.  5       If you put a secondary canal or a bypass canal  6 or whatever, will it lower the flood risk or will it  7 raise it? Will the fixing of the levees lower the  8 river, or will they raise them? Sea water, this is the  9 most definitive word that we've gotten tonight. I'm  10 really grateful. First of all, you told me there will  11 be a report out shortly on sea water and global warming  12 and the affects on the river.  13       I'm delighted to hear that. I'm not delighted  14 to hear six feet. But you know, it will have a  15 significant effect. So my question is: What's this  16 Yolo Bypass going to do to the City of Rio Vista? It  17 appears to end just about on our doorstep. You see  18 Isleton makes the corner, comes around. There's the  19 bridge. That's always been farmland. It's been highly  20 productive farmland.  21       Rio Vista has an airport. That looks like the  22 airport may be part of the Yolo Bypass. Has a housing  23 development out there. I'm really concerned at the lack  24 of data we have. And I hope you'll keep that in mind.  25 Although I'm here tonight representing the City of</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 converted into something that if it isn't thought  2 through is going to be a nuisance.  3       MODERATOR JONES: Jan and Jon Fadhl.  4       MS. ROGALA: Hi. My name is Jan Rogala. I'm  5 a hazard mitigation and flood planner. I have the  6 interesting job of coming up with the floodplan to  7 protect both the cities of Rio Vista and the city of  8 Isleton.  9       Last month, I went to a meeting on the levee  10 repair where I learned that 10,000 linear feet of levees  11 were being repaired this year; had been last year;  12 probably next year. And these projects started at  13 Tehama, and they ran all the way to the Bay. Along with  14 that, they gave me a map of erosion areas.  15       Your project and those erosion areas intersect  16 dramatically. I don't know if this -- this was called  17 the Sacramento River Bank Protection Project. Our  18 questions at the Bank Protection Project is, of course,  19 you know the lower part of the river floods less if the  20 Yolo Bypass works well, and if a levee or two breaks  21 north of us and takes some of the stress off from  22 Rio Vista.  23       Part of the levees they're repairing are  24 across the river from Rio Vista. Rio Vista has no  25 levee. Rio Vista is considering many options, flood</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 Rio Vista, the City of Isleton has the same problem.  2       They are protected by levees. They are  3 considered Delta number two. Not a primary Delta, but a  4 secondary. So they have -- the one thing that we  5 discovered at the last meeting is that the Army Corps of  6 Engineers believes that levees should not have  7 vegetation on them. There's a whole movement opposing  8 that, et cetera.  9       But how does that affect your habitat, how  10 does that affect the runoff? I think all the projects  11 need to intercommunicate. And you all need to let us  12 know how it's going to affect these two little tiny  13 cities that I heard described, you know, kind of as Don  14 Quixote tilting at windmills because we are not a  15 priority.  16       So that's my comment. I hope you'll keep us  17 in mind.  18       MODERATOR JONES: Jon.  19       MR. CYLINDER: Just one comment on the Yolo  20 Bypass and what we've identified as a potential  21 conservation measure there. Right now, the Yolo Bypass  22 serves as a flood bypass protecting a lot of urban  23 areas. And we're not really looking to change that  24 function at all.  25       What we're looking to do, though, is to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 provide more flexibility in the operation of the Fremont  2 Weir. Right now, the Fremont Weir is simply an elevated  3 area that the water can spill over when the Sacramento  4 River gets to a certain stage and flood into the Bypass  5 and take the head off the Sacramento River as it comes  6 down past the city of Sacramento.  7 Our proposal, recommended conservation measure  8 at this point, is to put operable gates into the Weir,  9 keep the Weir at the same height. But allow those gates  10 to open such that we could take the head off the  11 Sacramento River at a lower stage to be able to more  12 frequently put water into the bypass for the benefit of  13 fish.  14 There's research that has shown that this  15 flood plain habitat, if you can keep it flooded long  16 enough is -- provides tremendous benefit to Sacramento  17 splittail as well as to Chinook salmon. The opportunity  18 here is to take an existing flood plain and re-operate  19 it so that it floods a little bit more frequently and a  20 little big longer period of time without having any  21 adverse effects on the flood control.  22 Obviously, we need to work and have been and  23 will continue to work with the Corps of Engineers who is  24 our newest member of the Steering Committee in making  25 sure that nothing we do results in any adverse effect on</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 environment, both positively and negatively.  2 As part of the analyses that are being  3 undertaken as part of looking at the various  4 alternatives as well as the proposed project, those  5 types of modeling tools are being applied. They're  6 being critically reviewed by others involved with flood  7 control risk and those types of issues.  8 And they will be part of the environmental  9 documentation that will be available to the public to  10 review to see how those issues were addressed, to see  11 what the results of the various alternatives would be on  12 those kinds of risks, and to see how those risks are  13 being handled as part of the overall conservation  14 strategy.  15 MR. FADHL: My name is John Fadhl. I happen  16 to farm and reside within the defined primary Delta.  17 One of the concerns that I have as a Solano County  18 resident, it has become very important to our residents  19 to protect our agricultural lands. Within that  20 protection, we have city-centered growth.  21 Consequently, our tax basis within the  22 unincorporated area is far behind those of other  23 counties. When we decided that Solano County is going  24 to become a mitigation sink, bank, whatever you want to  25 call it, we're going to impose and lose some of that tax</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 flood control ability.  2 MR. HANSEN: Just to help address your comment  3 a little bit because it is an absolutely important  4 consideration. Flood control is one of those issues  5 that needs to be evaluated as part of this EIR/EIS  6 process. The hydraulics that occur in the Sacramento  7 River are influenced by a variety of factors you point  8 out. Levees, a whole host of land uses.  9 One of the things we are contemplating is what  10 would be the effects of various types of habitat  11 modifications that would benefit fish through additional  12 inundated areas, both seasonally inundated as well as  13 permanently inundated, and how will that change the  14 hydrodynamic conditions within the River and the area  15 around Rio Vista, Isleton, that whole reach.  16 So as part of our process, there is a whole  17 team of engineers, scientists, modelers, who are all  18 devoting their attention to developing the tools that  19 will allow us to look over a whole period of hydrologic  20 record to evaluate what the effects of these various  21 projects would be on the flood risk as well as the  22 hydrodynamics, the tidal circulation, the salinity  23 patterns, all of those various processes that are of  24 importance to you, but they're also of importance to us  25 to better understand how this program may affect the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p>1 revenue that is already very valued.  2 I'm sure some of the other five Delta counties  3 are going to see that same thing when the benefit of the  4 counties from the south are going to get that higher  5 water quality that they so desire and need, but coming  6 back to it, we're going to pay that because as residents  7 of these five counties our tax base is going to get  8 eroded, and we've got to make up those funds somewhere  9 else.  10 I think that needs to be considered to where  11 those funds are going to come from. Obviously, as a  12 farmer affected by this stuff, I may lose part of our  13 property to pay those kind of impacts. The other thing,  14 I think that some of your government agencies -- I know  15 this was slightly addressed tonight. There's a  16 conflict.  17 When I was looking at a USGS, I believe it is,  18 document, they're saying that when you do flood  19 inundation of a Delta levee, that you create an  20 anaerobic environment. I'm trying to understand how a  21 fish can survive, that we are trying to protect, in an  22 anaerobic environment because of the peat soils we have  23 out there.  24 The other thing that I have is with this  25 raceway off to the east there taking a lot of that</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 northern Delta water down to the south, it's bypassing 2 the Solano County water intakes. I have grave concerns 3 what that's going to do to my water quality. I see 4 we'll have some sea water intrusion. 5       Likewise, when that water goes down there, if 6 you're saying that the snow pack is going to be less and 7 less and less and we're going to have more water flowing 8 through this region, where is the down-range storage 9 capacity when we have an abundance of this high-quality 10 water. 11       I realize it's outside the project scope, but 12 there needs to be some sort of mention within the 13 project scope that the expectation is that those 14 downstream will all take responsible actions for 15 containing that water when it's good quality. 16       Thank you. 17       MR. HANSEN: Let me address a couple of points 18 you made. I'm going to focus really on the water 19 quality issue, the anaerobic conditions that you 20 describe. When we're looking at these various kinds of 21 restoration projects, the circulation patterns that 22 occur within a seasonally inundated or permanently 23 inundated area are going to be important in terms of 24 dissolved oxygen concentrations, how they affect the 25 growth of tules and other vegetation. What that does to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 The kinds of comments and the questions you pose are 2 absolutely on target. Part of the purpose tonight is to 3 hear those kinds of comments so they can be incorporated 4 into the analyses for the EIR/EIS, but they can also be 5 incorporated into our thinking as we're looking at the 6 alternatives and fine-tuning and making some of these 7 decisions to help us move forward with avoiding the kind 8 of adverse circumstances that you pose and generating 9 the kind of benefits that we hope this panel will 10 actually achieve. 11       MODERATOR JONES: Okay. Richard Brann. 12       MR. BRANN: I have three questions. And it 13 may have been addressed before. Basically, I want to 14 know what is the authorization for this study? Where 15 did it come from? From the Legislature? From the 16 Executive Administrative Directive or some departmental 17 activity? 18       Second question is: Are you also studying 19 desalination as aggressively as you are studying this? 20 Southern California certainly ought to be using 21 desalination. Israel does. There's no reason why 22 Southern California shouldn't instead of taking Northern 23 California water. 24       My third one is: Are you aggressively 25 studying the interface of -- we're going to have rising</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 the water quality within that specific region as it 2 affects those conditions and habitat suitability for 3 various fish. 4       We don't want to create conditions that are 5 going to be anaerobic for a couple of reasons. One, as 6 you point out, it's not going to provide the kind of 7 fishery benefit that we want. The second issue that 8 gets interrelated here is that in many of these areas, 9 there are legacy constituents like mercury that are 10 endemic to the soils and change their chemical nature 11 under those conditions of anaerobic water. Becomes 12 methylated mercury. Becomes more toxic. 13       Again, that's a circumstance that we're 14 looking at critically in terms of this north Delta 15 habitat, what effects these sorts of projects would have 16 on that. That will all be part of the decision-making. 17       As I mentioned earlier, we're developing 18 hydrologic simulation tools to be able to answer your 19 questions about what will these projects do in terms of 20 changing the circulation patterns in the area of the 21 intake, what will they do in terms of changing the tidal 22 hydrodynamics, and what kinds of outcomes would we 23 expect in terms of salinity as a response to these kinds 24 of conservation measures. 25       So we're in the early part of that analysis.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 tidal from the earth warming? Are you addressing the 2 concerns there, and how that's going to affect the whole 3 -- 4       MS. NEMETH: In response to your first 5 question, the impetus for this conservation plan is a 6 voluntary process that water agencies essentially signed 7 up to do as a way to seek regulatory compliance under 8 the Endangered Species Act. It's not mandated by law. 9       But folks need to have permits so they have 10 voluntarily chosen to enter into this kind of a planning 11 process to achieve that. 12       MR. BRANN: You are aware that the Peripheral 13 Canal was voted down by the people of California once? 14       MS. NEMETH: I certainly am, sir. In response 15 to developing other kinds of water supplies, Keith might 16 be able to provide some perspective in the bigger 17 California water picture. 18       MR. COOLIDGE: Sure. Southern California is 19 actually actively investigating sea water desalination. 20 There's an ongoing pilot study in Long Beach, another 21 large plant proposed for Carlsbad down in San Diego 22 County working with a private corporation called 23 Poseidon Resources. 24       They have also looked at co-locating a plant 25 in the City of Huntington Beach which is right next to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 an electric-generating plant. They would like to be  2 able to use both the intake and power plant location to  3 help keep costs down. There was a plant that was put in  4 in there in Santa Barbara during the last drought.  5 They had no other source. They built a  6 desalination plant. When the drought ended it, they  7 dismantled it and tapped into the State water project.  8 So they have come and they have -- it is actively being  9 considered. The State of California through the  10 Department of Water Resources through the Integrated  11 Regional Water Management program has been offering  12 grants to help facilitate these studies.  13 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern  14 California, the large wholesale agency that governs six  15 counties down there, has been offering local assistance  16 to their member agencies to help them study and move  17 forward with desalination. They are also looking not  18 just at sea water desalination but water recycling,  19 taking wastewater, putting it through -- there's a large  20 project that came online in Orange County called the  21 Groundwater Replenishment System.  22 They are taking secondary treated water from  23 the sanitation district. Putting it through reverse  24 osmosis through filters. Treating it with ultraviolet.  25 And just to be triply sure, they are piping it upstream</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 farmer here in Suisun Valley. I have a question for the  2 gentleman over there. I heard you guys do studies and  3 doing the studies up and down mitigating for habitat,  4 everything like that.  5 As a farmer and are you going to go to getting  6 the water up north, bringing it down here and going down  7 south and you said in the future, there's going to be  8 more rain than snow. The snow has more density get down  9 to the dams.  10 If you're not going to have snow, you're going  11 to have more water. That precious cup of glass that  12 you're drinking there, Karla, is the most expensive  13 drink because I wonder -- and that water is going to  14 somewhere. And to say to you, sir, why is the cost of  15 desalination plants versus all the other kinds,  16 reclaimed water versus a dam, and what cost -- I haven't  17 heard about that -- of getting a dam there and catching  18 that water, and we can let it down. Getting nature's  19 water, the cleanest for that.  20 And desalination, what cost is that? I would  21 like to go down to the bottom line. And you're not  22 getting down to the bigger costs. You have all these  23 wonderful things about the habitat. The rain water is  24 the best form. Is it -- which is the best form to  25 clarify and clean: Reclaimed water or desalination or</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 and percolating down into their groundwater basin where  2 it begins to be pulled up no earlier than six months.  3 They're using all kinds of filtration to treat  4 that and pull that out. They really are doing a lot of  5 work down there to be regionally self-sufficient. There  6 plea through the Bay Delta process is to be assured on a  7 amount of water that they can count on from the State  8 and they will go find and develop the rest.  9 MS. GUIDOTTI: Can I have a question to  10 clarify something that Dick Brann said, that the people  11 voted down the peripheral canal? To my understanding,  12 it was approved. But all they had left to do is that  13 the people wanted them to take their own canal. Is that  14 wrong? I mean, they didn't want it -- their own water  15 in a different canal, but it actually was passed?  16 MS. NEMETH: I don't think so, no.  17 MS. GUIDOTTI: I know it was voted down. I  18 think I remember hearing it was approved, but the people  19 wanted them to use their own canal for this water to  20 Southern California. Not true. You don't know?  21 MS. NEMETH: I don't think so.  22 MS. GUIDOTTI: Okay. Thank you.  23 MODERATOR JONES: Okay. Last call. Any  24 questions? Okay. Yes, sir?  25 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Neil (unintelligible),</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 just cleaning when it's caught by a dammed reservoir?  2 And why aren't we getting more up and down the mountain  3 ranges north and go to L.A. and not take away from  4 Northern California farmers and the people.  5 MR. COOLIDGE: Let me see if I can -- I'm  6 going to address those, I think, in reverse order.  7 When we're talking about relative costs, sea  8 water desalination is about -- the lowest estimates I've  9 seen are about \$1,200 an acre foot. Put that in  10 perspective, a family of five uses an acre foot of water  11 in an urban setting every year. Your water bill is  12 about \$1,200.  13 Plus treatment, plus moving it. That equates  14 to --  15 MR. RIZZI: That's using your existing  16 technology, not using natural desalination.  17 MR. COOLIDGE: Absolutely. That's existing  18 technology, best estimates. The groundwater  19 replenishment program that I talked about taking  20 reclaimed water which has about a tenth of the salts  21 that sea water does, it is easier to treat. That's in  22 the neighborhood of 550 to \$600 an acre foot.  23 When we look at things like brackish water  24 desalination, actually taking groundwater that has a  25 high salt content but less salty than sea water and</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>1 reclaimed the water, I'm in the neighborhood of 3 to 2 \$400 an acre foot.</p> <p>3       The unblended cost of State Water Project 4 Water in Los Angeles and you pay for the State project. 5 There's a certain component you pay for energy and for 6 just the cost of water and the transportation through 7 the facilities. There's also energy. So Southern 8 California, because they have to pump it over the 9 Tehachapis, pays the most.</p> <p>10       I believe that's in the neighborhood of \$250 11 an acre foot by the time it gets down there. The local 12 sources, the Colorado River Aqueduct was built a long 13 time ago. That's in the neighborhood of \$130 an acre 14 foot. The Los Angeles Aqueduct from Owens Valley, 15 somewhat less than that. And pure pristine groundwater 16 is the cheapest source for them. By the time you figure 17 energy costs, it's around \$100 an acre foot.</p> <p>18       But as Southern California learned early on, 19 groundwater you have to treat very much like your 20 checking account. If you don't make regular deposits, 21 you're not going to be making regular withdrawals. 22 That's why they've gone to diversifying their system.</p> <p>23       MR. FADHL: What is the cost of that water as 24 it enters the Delta estuary? What's the cost coming 25 in?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p> <p>1 go to the back of the room because many of the comments 2 we heard are exactly the types of questions that should 3 be posed to the environmental crew back there.</p> <p>4       Because of the protocols of the official 5 environmental process, they're not necessarily there to 6 answer your questions. These folks will stay, and they 7 will. But they do want to hear your comments and your 8 concerns. So with that, we thank you and thank you for 9 coming. Continue on in the back of the room.</p> <p>10       (Whereupon, the presentation was concluded at 11 8:19 p.m.)</p> <p>12                               ---oOo---</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p> <p>1       MR. COOLIDGE: It would depend I think to Sac 2 Valley farmers, I am not sure, but it is less than 20 or 3 \$30 an acre foot. And the other thing to keep in mind, 4 as we've talked about, global warming. The loss of 5 Sierra snow pack, perhaps as much as a third of the 6 Sierra snow pack lost over the next 50 years. You are 7 going to see more high-volume floods and more prolonged 8 draughts.</p> <p>9       It really means surface storage, additional 10 surface storage is going to be very important. You need 11 to be able to capture those storm flows when they hit, 12 hold them, and that is surface storage. Slow the 13 releases and allow the percolation of underground 14 storage, below-ground storage, as the Governor like to 15 talk about.</p> <p>16       It's really an interlocking system. We really 17 do have a lot of work to do. This was a Delta Vision 18 recommendation. You're going to have to look at all the 19 pieces of the puzzle. You can't just pick and choose 20 because if the system is going to work, it is dependent 21 on each and every other piece of the puzzle.</p> <p>22       MODERATOR JONES: With that, I thank you all 23 for your comments. They were very insightful. Some of 24 them were even new and unique to this area because it's 25 a unique area. I would like to invite you to remain and</p>	