

Delta Conveyance Project

Last Updated February 1, 2023



Adapting to Climate Change: Catching and Moving Water from Big Storms

Climate change models indicate that precipitation will fall more as rain and less as snow. This creates more runoff and river flows in the winter. In early January, California experienced an extreme event, with high flows in the middle of a drought. The proposed Delta Conveyance Project—a water infrastructure modernization project—would help capture and move this excess water and still meet fishery and water quality protections.

The chart below shows diversions made by the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project (SWP) from the Delta in the 2023 water year, beginning in October 2022. It shows the theoretical diversions that could have been made to capture excess water by the Delta Conveyance Project. Notably, the Delta Conveyance Project would not have operated until January 1, 2023 to meet fishery and water quality protections.

Diversions for Water Year 2023 (Estimates through January 31, 2023)

Month	State Water Project Exports* (Acre-Feet)	Central Valley Project Exports* (Acre-Feet)	Theoretical Additional DCP Diversion** (Acre-Feet)	South Delta Export Limiting Factors (days in month)
October	29,000	63,000		WQ (10/1-10/31)
November	38,000	81,000		WQ (11/1-11/30)
December	115,000	86,000		WQ (12/1-12/26), E/I (12/27-12/31)
January	369,000	233,000	228,000	OMRI-5k (1-2, 28-31), IEWPP (3-16) OMRI-2k (17), Capacity (18-27)
February				Limiting Factors Key WQ: Water Quality (D-1641) E/I: Export to Inflow Ratio (D-1641) OMRI-5k: Old and Middle River Index of -5,000 cfs (BiOps and ITP) IEWPP: Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection (BiOps and ITP) - "First Flush" OMRI-2k: Old and Middle River Index of -2,000 cfs (BiOps and ITP) Capacity: Available Facility Capacity Definitions BiOps: Biological Opinions issued in 2019 by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/ National Marine Fisheries Service ITP: Incidental Take Permit issued in 2020 by California Department of Fish and Wildlife
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
Total	551,000	463,000	228,000	

*Assumes 6,000 cfs DCP diversion capacity. For illustrative purposes only and does not indicate selection of a specific project alternative.

**Estimate based on available water above D-1641 requirements and allowable DCP diversion under the proposed bypass criteria

*Estimates are preliminary and subject to change

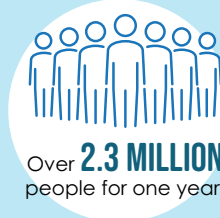
*Diversions from the south Delta **Additional DCP Diversions for SWP Participants

MISSED OPPORTUNITY

If the DCP was operational during the high rain events in January, we could have moved

228,000 acre-feet of water
into the San Luis Reservoir

228,000 acre-feet of water = enough water to supply:



The theoretical DCP diversion of 228,000 acre-feet is about **40%** of the total volume exported by the SWP in water year 2022.

