



Place  
First Class  
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Long-Term North to South Water Transfers EIS/EIR  
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# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority



Long-Term Water Transfers EIS/EIR

**Public Scoping Meetings**

Chico

January 11, 2011

Sacramento

January 12, 2011

Los Banos

January 13, 2011



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

# Meeting Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **Presentation**
  - **Project Overview**
  - **Schedule**
  - **EIS/EIR Development Process**
- **Open House**

# Meeting Purpose

- Provide information about long-term transfer combined EIS/EIR
- Gather information from the public on alternatives and potential environmental issues
- Answer questions about transfers

# Background

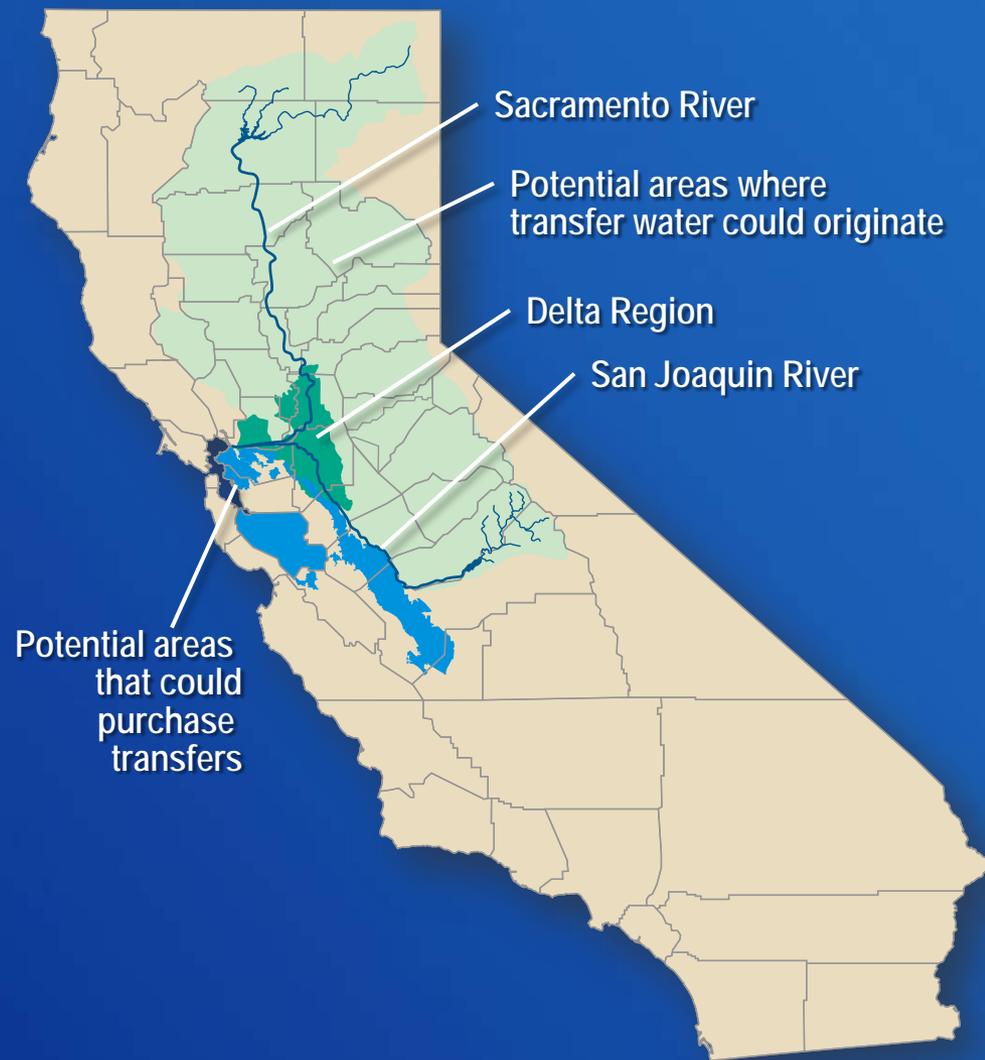
- Reclamation is not purchasing water under this project
- Reclamation is approving transfers
- Recent History
  - 2009 – Drought Water Bank
  - 2010 – Environmental Assessment for CVP-related transfers in 2010-2011
  - 2012 – EIS/EIR for CVP-related transfers in 2012-2022

# Purpose and Need

- **Hydrologic and climatic variability, as well as regulatory restrictions, can strain water supplies**
- **In an effort to be more prepared to manage for water shortages caused by decreases in water delivery from the CVP, various water agencies have requested that Reclamation facilitate water transfers**
- **The purpose of the Proposed Action is to facilitate voluntary water transfers from willing sellers north of the Delta to water users south of the Delta and the San Francisco Bay Area**

# Project Overview

- **EIS/EIR to analyze the effects of CVP-related water transfers**
- **Project timeframe is from 2012 to 2022**



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# Project Overview

- Reclamation is not initiating a “bank” or “program”
- Buyers and sellers are responsible for negotiating transfer terms, including transfer method, amount, period, and price
- SLDMWA will be responsible for negotiating transfers on behalf of potential buyers that are Member Agencies
- Reclamation and DWR will be responsible for approving transfers under their jurisdiction and for use of CVP and SWP facilities required for the transfers

# Transfers in EIS/EIR

- **CVP water supplies**
- **Non-CVP water supplies that require use of CVP or SWP facilities (including Warren Act contracts)**
- **Single year or multi-year transfers**
- **Transfers would not necessarily occur each year within the project timeframe**
- **Total annual transfers likely in the range of 100,000 to 150,000 acre feet**
- **Transfers of SWP water will not be directly analyzed in the EIS/EIR (all transfers will be included in the cumulative analysis)**

# Project Agencies

- **NEPA**
  - Lead Agency – Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)
- **CEQA**
  - Lead Agency – San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA)
  - Responsible Agency – California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

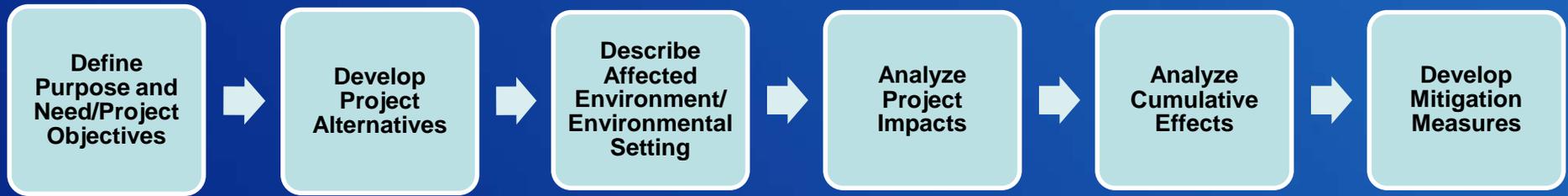
# Project Schedule

Project Milestone	Proposed Date
NOI and NOP	December 2010
Scoping Meetings	
Chico, CA	January 11, 2011
Sacramento, CA	January 12, 2011
Los Banos, CA	January 13, 2011
Draft EIS/EIR	July 2011
Public Meetings on Draft EIS/EIR	August 2011
Final EIS/EIR	January 2012
ROD and NOD	February 2012

# Environmental Review Purpose

- Evaluate reasonable alternatives that could reduce or avoid environmental impacts
- Provide information for public review and comment
- Identify any significant environmental impacts
- Disclose to decision makers the impacts, benefits, mitigation, and public comments

# EIS/EIR Development Process



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# Open House Stations

- **Station 1: Overview**
- **Station 2: Transfer Types and Resources to be Analyzed**
- **Station 3: Process, Schedule, and Comments**

# How to Submit Comments

- **Tonight: state oral comments to court reporter or fill out a comment form**
- **By February 28, 2011:**
  - **Mr. Brad Hubbard**  
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**Thank You for Your Participation**

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