

GLOSSARY

(b)(2) water	Section 3406(b)(2) of the CVPIA directs the Secretary of the Interior to dedicate and manage annually eight hundred thousand acre-feet of Central Valley Project yield for the primary purpose of implementing the fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration purposes and measures authorized by the CVPIA. The 800,000 acre-feet of water dedicated by the CVPIA is referred to as "(b)(2) water."
acre-foot	The quantity of water required to cover one acre to a depth of one foot, equal to approximately 325,900 gallons of water.
anadromous fish	Fish that ascend rivers to spawn, such as salmon, steelhead, striped bass, sturgeon, and American shad.
appropriative water rights	Water rights based upon the principle of prior appropriations, or "first in time, first in right". In order to maintain appropriative water rights, the right to any water must be put to beneficial use. Nonuse of appropriative water rights may result in the loss of those water rights.
Bay-Delta	The San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a low, nearly flat alluvial tract of land formed by deposits at the converging mouths of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.
CALFED	A cooperative effort involving several state and federal agencies with management and regulatory responsibilities in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta estuary (the Bay-Delta). State agencies include the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Fish and Game, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the State Water Resources Control Board. Federal agencies include Reclamation, the Service, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.
categorical exclusion (CE)	<p>A CE excludes certain categories of Federal actions from further NEPA documentation because these categories of actions have been determined in a public process to have no significant affect on the environment nor do they involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. There are 11 of these CEs for the Department of the Interior and 30 CEs specific for Reclamation. Reclamation prepares a Categorical Exclusion Checklist (CEC.) to document if a proposed action meets the criteria for being categorically excluded from further NEPA documentation. An action may fall under a particular CE but may not meet the checklist criteria. Examples of actions that can qualify for a CE include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nondestructive data collection, inventory, study, research, monitoring.• Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location and/or operation.
Central Valley Project (CVP)	The Federal water storage and transportation system in California, providing 20 percent of delivered water in the state, a percentage of which is dedicated to agriculture and to fish and wildlife purposes. The project also provides power generation and flood control.
conjunctive use	A term used to describe the operation of a groundwater basin in combination with a surface water storage and conveyance system to maximize water supply.
endangered species	Any species or subspecies of bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion of its range.
enhancement	Measures that develop or improve the quality or quantity of existing conditions.
entitlement water	Water guaranteed under any contract for delivery, contingent on supply.
environmental assessment (EA)	A document written for any Federal action to provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) or an environmental impact statement (EIS). An EA is written for all actions for which there is not an appropriate CE, or for actions that may fall under a CE but do not qualify under the checklist criteria. An EA is a

	concise document, usually under 30 pages, prepared with input from various disciplines and publics.
environmental impact statement (EIS)	<p>An EIS is prepared on major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. If an action does not fall under a CE or does not meet the criteria for a CE and/or a FONSI is not appropriate, then an EIS has to be prepared.</p> <p>An interdisciplinary team prepares an EIS. Each EIS has a public involvement program which includes meetings and other ways to get public and agency input on alternatives to be evaluated, critical issues and possible impacts. The EIS is sent out for public review. There are also hearings to receive comments on the draft EIS. The Federal agency prepares a final EIS which includes responses to comments received on the draft EIS. Finally, the decision maker for the Federal agency prepares a Record of Decision which compares the alternatives being considered and explains why a particular alternative was chosen to be implemented.</p>
estuary	A water passage where the tide meets a river current; an arm of the sea at the lower end of a river.
finding of no significant impact (FONSI)	A document that briefly demonstrates why a Federal action would not have a significant effect on the human environment.
firm water supplies	Non-interruptible water supplies guaranteed by the supplier to be available at all times except for reasons of uncontrollable forces or continuity of service provisions.
flow	The volume of water passing a given point per unit of time.
groundwater	Water that is stored naturally in the ground, usually in aquifers. Some stores of groundwater are naturally and regularly replenished, while others are depletable sources of water, not easily quickly recharged.
incremental Level 4	The difference between historic annual average water deliveries (Level 2) to refuges, and the refuge water supplies required to achieve optimum waterfowl habitat management (Level 4).
instream flow requirements	Amount of water flowing through a stream course needed to sustain instream values.
land retirement	Permanent or long-term removal of land from agricultural production.
Level 2 water	A term used to refer to refuge water supply deliveries. The 1989 and 1992 Refuge Water Supply Reports define Level 2 refuge water supplies as the average amount of water the refuges received between 1974 and 1983.
Level 4 water	A term used to refer to refuge water supply deliveries. The 1989 and 1992 Refuge Water Supply Reports define Level 4 refuge water supplies as the amount of water for full development of the refuges based upon management goals developed in the 1980s.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	A Federal law enacted in 1969 to require consideration of environmental impacts. For any proposed Federal action, a NEPA compliance document is prepared to provide full disclosure to the public of environmental concerns and impacts to be evaluated during planning and decisionmaking.
natural production	As defined by Section 3403(h) of the CVPIA, natural production is defined as "fish produced to adulthood without direct human intervention in the spawning, rearing, or migration progress."
riparian water rights	Riparian water rights exist for lands that abut a waterway, or which overly an underground stream. Use of water through riparian rights must be on riparian land and within the watershed of the stream. Riparian rights may not be lost as a result of nonuse.
State Water Project	The water transportation system in California owned and operated by the State, reaching from

(SWP)	northern Lake Oroville to Perris Lake in Southern California.
water acquisition	The purchase of water from willing sellers.
water rights	California recognizes riparian and appropriative water rights.
water transfers	A transaction between a water supplier, agreeing to transfer a volume of water, and the recipient of the water, under mutually acceptable terms, including the volume of water, the price paid, the time period, and the condition of the water for transfer.
watershed	A region or area bounded peripherally by a water parting and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.
wetland	Areas that are inundated or saturated with surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil. This classification includes swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Jurisdictional wetlands are those wetlands that meet the vegetation, soils, and hydrology criteria under normal circumstances (or meet the special circumstances as described in the US Army Corps of Engineers, 1987 wetland delineation manual where one or more of these criteria may be absent) and are a subset of Waters of the United States.
wildlife habitat	An area that provides a water supply and vegetative habitat for wildlife.
willing sellers	A term used to describe individuals who would be interested in selling water supplies under transfer guidelines established by the State Water Resources Control Board and other regulatory agencies.