Public Law 102-575

Section 3406. Fish, Wildlife, Improved Water Management & Conservation

(a) Amendments to Central Valley Project Authorizations Act of August 26, 1937.--Section 2 of the Act of August 26, 1937 (chapter 832; 50 Stat. 850), as amended, is amended.

(1) In the second proviso of subsection (a), by inserting “and mitigation, protection, and restoration of fish and wildlife” after “Indian reservations,”;

(2) In the last proviso of subsection (a), by striking “domestic uses;” and inserting “domestic uses and fish and wildlife mitigation, protection and restoration purposes;” and by striking “power” and inserting “power and fish and wildlife enhancement”; 

(3) By adding at the end the following: “The mitigation for fish and wildlife losses incurred as a result of construction, operation, or maintenance of the Central Valley Project shall be based on the replacement of ecologically equivalent habitat and shall take place in accordance with the provisions of this title and concurrent with any future actions which adversely affect fish and wildlife populations or their habitat but shall have no priority over them.”;

(4) By adding at the end the following: “(e) Nothing in this title shall affect the State’s authority to condition water rights permits for the Central Valley Project.”

(b) Fish and Wildlife Restoration Activities.--The Secretary, immediately upon the enactment of this title, shall operate the Central Valley Project to meet all obligations under state and federal law, including but not limited to the federal Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. s 1531, et seq., and all decisions of the California State Water Resources Control Board establishing conditions on applicable licenses and permits for the project. The Secretary, in consultation with other State and Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and affected interests, is further authorized and directed to:

(1) Develop within three years of enactment and implement a program which makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that, by the year 2002, natural production of anadromous fish in Central Valley rivers and streams will be sustainable, on a long-term basis, at levels not less than twice the average levels attained during the period of 1967-1991; Provided, That this goal shall not apply to the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the Mendota Pool, for which a separate program is authorized under subsection 3406(c) of this title; Provided further, That the programs and activities authorized by this section shall, when fully implemented, be deemed to meet the mitigation, protection, restoration, and enhancement purposes established by subsection 3406(a) of this title; And provided further, That in the course of developing and implementing this program the Secretary shall make all reasonable efforts consistent with the
requirements of this section to address other identified adverse environmental impacts of the Central Valley Project not specifically enumerated in this section.

(A) This program shall give first priority to measures which protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values through habitat restoration actions, modifications to Central Valley Project operations, and implementation of the supporting measures mandated by this subsection; shall be reviewed and updated every five years; and shall describe how the Secretary intends to operate the Central Valley Project to meet the fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration goals and requirements set forth in this title and other project purposes.

(B) As needed to achieve the goals of this program, the Secretary is authorized and directed to modify Central Valley Project operations to provide flows of suitable quality, quantity, and timing to protect all life stages of anadromous fish, except that such flows shall be provided from the quantity of water dedicated to fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration purposes under paragraph (2) of this subsection; from the water supplies acquired pursuant to paragraph (3) of this subsection; and from other sources which do not conflict with fulfillment of the Secretary’s remaining contractual obligations to provide Central Valley Project water for other authorized purposes. Instream flow needs for all Central Valley Project controlled streams and rivers shall be determined by the Secretary based on recommendations of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service after consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game.

(C) The Secretary shall cooperate with the State of California to ensure that, to the greatest degree practicable, the specific quantities of yield dedicated to and managed for fish and wildlife purposes under this title are credited against any additional obligations of the Central Valley Project which may be imposed by the State of California following enactment of this title, including but not limited to increased flow and reduced export obligations which may be imposed by the California State Water Resources Control Board in implementing San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary standards pursuant to the review ordered by the California Court of Appeals in U.S. v. State Water Resources Control Board, 182 Cal.App.3rd 82 (1986), and that, to the greatest degree practicable, the programs and plans required by this title are developed and implemented in a way that avoids inconsistent or duplicative obligations from being imposed upon Central Valley Project water and power contractors.

(D) Costs associated with this paragraph shall be reimbursable pursuant to existing statutory and regulatory procedures.

(2) Upon enactment of this title dedicate and manage annually 800,000 acre-feet of Central Valley Project yield for the primary purpose of implementing the fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration purposes and measures authorized by this title; to assist the State of California in its efforts to protect the waters of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary; and to help meet such obligations as may be legally imposed upon the Central Valley Project under state or federal law following the date of enactment of this title, including but not limited to additional obligations under the federal Endangered Species Act. For the purpose of this section, the term “Central Valley Project yield” means the delivery capability of the Central Valley Project during the 1928-1934 drought period after fishery, water quality, and other flow and operational requirements imposed by terms and conditions existing in licenses, permits, and other agreements pertaining to the Central Valley Project under applicable State or Federal law existing at the time of enactment of this title have been met.
(A) Such quantity of water shall be in addition to the quantities needed to implement paragraph 3406(d) (1) of this title and in addition to all water allocated pursuant to paragraph (23) of this subsection for release to the Trinity River for the purposes of fishery restoration, propagation, and maintenance; and shall be supplemented by all water that comes under the Secretary’s control pursuant to subsections 3406(b) (3), 3408(h) -(i), and through other measures consistent with subparagraph 3406(b) (1) (B) of this title.

(B) Such quantity of water shall be managed pursuant to conditions specified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service after consultation with the Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources and in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game.

(C) The Secretary may temporarily reduce deliveries of the quantity of water dedicated under this paragraph up to 25 percent of such total whenever reductions due to hydrologic circumstances are imposed upon agricultural deliveries of Central Valley Project water; Provided, That such reductions shall not exceed in percentage terms the reductions imposed on agricultural service contractors; provided further, That nothing in this subsection or subsection 3406(e) shall require the Secretary to operate the project in a way that jeopardizes human health or safety.

(D) If the quantity of water dedicated under this paragraph, or any portion thereof, is not needed for the purposes of this section, based on a finding by the Secretary, the Secretary is authorized to make such water available for other project purposes.

(3) Develop and implement a program in coordination and in conformance with the plan required under paragraph (1) of this subsection for the acquisition of a water supply to supplement the quantity of water dedicated to fish and wildlife purposes under paragraph (2) of this subsection and to fulfill the Secretary’s obligations under paragraph 3406(d) (2) of this title. The program should identify how the Secretary intends to utilize, in particular the following options: improvements in or modifications of the operations of the project; water banking; conservation; transfers; conjunctive use; and temporary and permanent land fallowing, including purchase, lease, and option of water, water rights, and associated agricultural land.

(4) Develop and implement a program to mitigate for fishery impacts associated with operations of the Tracy Pumping Plan. Such program shall include, but is not limited to improvement or replacement of the fish screens and fish recovery facilities and practices associated with the Tracy Pumping Plant. Costs associated with this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California. The reimbursable share of funding for this and other facility repairs, improvements, and construction shall be allocated among project water and power users in accordance with existing project cost allocation procedures.

(5) Develop and implement a program to mitigate for fishery impacts resulting from operations of the Contra Costa Canal Pumping Plant No. 1. Such program shall provide for construction and operation of fish screening and recovery facilities, and for modified practices and operations. Costs associated with this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.
(6) Install and operate a structural temperature control device at Shasta Dam and develop and implement modifications in CVP operations as needed to assist in the Secretary’s efforts to control water temperatures in the upper Sacramento River in order to protect anadromous fish in the upper Sacramento River. Costs associated with planning and construction of the structural temperature control device shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(7) Meet flow standards and objectives and diversion limits set forth in all laws and judicial decisions that apply to Central Valley Project facilities, including, but not limited to, provisions of this title and all obligations of the United States under the “Agreement Between the United States and the Department of Water Resources of the State of California for Coordinated Operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project” dated May 20, 1985, as well as Pub. L. 99-546.

(8) Make use of short pulses of increased water flows to increase the survival of migrating anadromous fish moving into and through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Central Valley rivers and streams.

(9) Develop and implement a program to eliminate, to the extent possible, losses of anadromous fish due to flow fluctuations caused by the operation of any Central Valley Project storage or re-regulating facility. The program shall be patterned where appropriate after the agreement between the California Department of Water Resources and the California Department of Fish and Game with respect to the operation of the California State Water Project Oroville Dam complex.

(10) Develop and implement measures to minimize fish passage problems for adult and juvenile anadromous fish at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam in a manner that provides for the use of associated Central Valley Project conveyance facilities for delivery of water to the Sacramento Valley National Wildlife Refuge complex in accordance with the requirements of subsection (d) of this section. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(11) Rehabilitate and expand the Coleman National Fish Hatchery by implementing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Coleman National Fish Hatchery Development Plan, and modify the Keswick Dam Fish Trap to provide for its efficient operation at all project flow release levels and modify the basin below the Keswick Dam spillway to prevent the trapping of fish. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 50 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features and 50 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure.

(12) Develop and implement a comprehensive program to provide flows to allow sufficient spawning, incubation, rearing, and outmigration for salmon and steelhead from Whiskeytown Dam as determined by instream flow studies conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game after Clear Creek has been restored and a new fish ladder has been constructed at the McCormick-Saeltzer Dam. Costs associated with channel restoration, passage improvements, and fish ladder construction required by this paragraph shall be allocated 50 percent to the United States as a nonreimbursable expenditure and 50 percent to the State of
California. Costs associated with providing the flows required by this paragraph shall be allocated among project purposes.

(13) Develop and implement a continuing program for the purpose of restoring and replenishing, as needed, spawning gravel lost due to the construction and operation of Central Valley Project dams, bank protection projects, and other actions that have reduced the availability of spawning gravel and rearing habitat in the Upper Sacramento River from Keswick Dam to Red Bluff Diversion Dam in the American and Stanislaus Rivers downstream from the Nimbus and Goodwin Dams, respectively. The program shall include preventive measures, such as re-establishment of meander belts and limitations on future bank protection activities, in order to avoid further losses of instream and riparian habitat. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(14) Develop and implement a program which provides for modified operations and new or improved control structures at the Delta Cross Channel and Georgiana Slough during times when significant numbers of striped bass eggs, larvae, and juveniles approach the Sacramento River intake to the Delta Cross Channel or Georgiana Slough. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(15) Construct, in cooperation with the State of California and in consultation with local interests, a barrier at the head of Old River in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to be operated on a seasonal basis to increase the survival of young outmigrating salmon that are diverted from the San Joaquin River to Central Valley Project and State Water Project pumping plants and in a manner that does not significantly impair the ability of local entities to divert water. The costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula: 37.5 percent shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(16) Establish, in cooperation with independent entities and the State of California, a comprehensive assessment program to monitor fish and wildlife resources in the Central Valley to assess the biological results and effectiveness of actions implemented pursuant to this subsection. 37.5 percent of the costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursed as main project features, 37.5 percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(17) Develop and implement a program to resolve fishery passage problems at the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District Diversion Dam as well as upstream stranding problems related to Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District Diversion Dam operations. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be allocated 50 percent to the United States as a nonreimbursable expenditure and 50 percent to the State of California.

(18) If requested by the State of California, assist in developing and implementing management measures to restore the striped bass fishery of the Bay-Delta estuary. Such measures shall be coordinated with efforts to protect and restore native fisheries. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be allocated 50 percent to the United
States and 50 percent to the State of California. The United States’ share of costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be nonreimbursable.

(19) Reevaluate existing operational criteria in order to maintain minimum carryover storage at Sacramento and Trinity River reservoirs to protect and restore the anadromous fish of the Sacramento and Trinity Rivers in accordance with the mandates and requirements of this subsection and subject to the Secretary’s responsibility to fulfill all project purposes, including agricultural water delivery.

(20) Participate with the State of California and other federal agencies in the implementation of the on-going program to mitigate fully for the fishery impacts associated with operations of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District’s Hamilton City Pumping Plant. Such participation shall include replacement of the defective fish screens and fish recovery facilities associated with the Hamilton City Pumping Plant. This authorization shall not be deemed to supersede or alter existing authorizations for the participation of other federal agencies in the mitigation program. Seventy-five percent shall be considered a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure, and 25 percent shall be paid by the State of California.

(21) Assist the State of California in efforts to develop and implement measures to avoid losses of juvenile anadromous fish resulting from unscreened or inadequately screened diversions on the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, their tributaries, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the Suisun Marsh. Such measures shall include but shall not be limited to construction of screens on unscreened diversions, rehabilitation of existing screens, replacement of existing non-functioning screens, and relocation of diversions to less fishery-sensitive areas. The Secretary’s share of costs associated with activities authorized under this paragraph shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of any such activity.

(22) Provide such incentives as the Secretary determines to be appropriate or necessary, consistent with the goals and objectives of this title, to encourage farmers to participate in a program, which the Secretary shall develop, under which such farmers will keep fields flooded during appropriate time periods for the purposes of waterfowl habitat creation and maintenance and for Central Valley Project yield enhancement; Provided, That such incentives shall not exceed $2,000,000 annually, either directly or through credits against other contractual payment obligations, including the pricing waivers authorized under subsection 3405(d) of this title; Provided further, That the holder of the water contract shall pass such incentives through to farmers participating in the program, less reasonable contractor costs, if any; And provided further, That such water may be transferred subject to section 3405(a) of this title only if the farmer waives all rights to such incentives. This provision shall terminate by the year 2002.

(23) In order to meet Federal trust responsibilities to protect the fishery resources of the Hoopa Valley Tribe, and to meet the fishery restoration goals of the Act of October 24, 1984, Pub. L. 98-541, provide through the Trinity River Division, for water years 1992 through 1996, an instream release of water to the Trinity River of not less than 340,000 acre-feet per year for the purposes of fishery restoration, propagation, and maintenance and,

(A) By September 30, 1996, the Secretary, after consultation with the Hoopa Valley Tribe, shall complete the Trinity River Flow Evaluation Study currently being conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the mandate of the Secretarial Decision of January 14, 1981, in a manner which insures the development of recommendations, based on the best available scientific data, regarding permanent instream fishery flow requirements and Trinity
River Division operating criteria and procedures for the restoration and maintenance of the Trinity River fishery; and

(B) Not later than December 31, 1996, the Secretary shall forward the recommendations of the Trinity River Flow Evaluation Study, referred to in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Select Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the House of Representatives. If the Secretary and the Hoopa Valley Tribe concur in these recommendations, any increase to the minimum Trinity River instream fishery releases established under this paragraph and the operating criteria and procedures referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be implemented accordingly. If the Hoopa Valley Tribe and the Secretary do not concur, the minimum Trinity River instream fishery releases established under this paragraph shall remain in effect unless increased by an Act of Congress, appropriate judicial decree, or agreement between the Secretary and the Hoopa Valley Tribe. Costs associated with implementation of this paragraph shall be reimbursable as operation and maintenance expenditures pursuant to existing law.

If the Secretary and the State of California determine that long-term natural fishery productivity in all Central Valley Project controlled rivers and streams resulting from implementation of this section exceeds that which existed in the absence of Central Valley Project facilities, the costs of implementing those measures which are determined to provide such enhancement shall become credits to offset reimbursable costs associated with implementation of this subsection.

(c) San Joaquin and Stanislaus Rivers.--The Secretary shall, by not later than September 30, 1996:

(1) Develop a comprehensive plan, which is reasonable, prudent, and feasible, to address fish, wildlife, and habitat concerns on the San Joaquin River, including but not limited to the streamflow, channel, riparian habitat, and water quality improvements that would be needed to reestablish where necessary and to sustain naturally reproducing anadromous fisheries from Friant Dam to its confluence with the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. Such plan shall be developed in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game and in coordination with the San Joaquin River Management Program under development by the State of California; shall comply with and contain any documents required by the National Environmental Policy Act and contain findings setting forth the basis for the Secretary's decision to adopt and implement the plan as well as recommendations concerning the need for subsequent Congressional action, if any; and shall incorporate, among other relevant factors, the potential contributions of tributary streams as well as the alternatives to be investigated under paragraph (2) of this subsection. During the time that the Secretary is developing the plan provided for in this subsection, and until such time as Congress has authorized the Secretary to implement such plan, with or without modifications, the Secretary shall not, as a measure to implement this title, make releases for the restoration of flows between Gravelly Ford and the Mendota Pool and shall not thereafter make such releases as a measure to implement this title without a specific Act of Congress authorizing such releases. In lieu of such requirement, and until such time as flows of sufficient quantity, quality and timing are provided at and below Gravelly Ford to meet the anadromous fishery needs identified pursuant to such plan, if any, entities who receive water from the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project shall be assessed, in addition to all other applicable charges, a $4.00 per acre-foot surcharge for all Project water delivered on or before September 30, 1997; a $5.00 per acre-foot surcharge for all Project water delivered after September 30, 1997 but on
or before September 30, 1999; and a $7.00 per acre-foot surcharge for all Project water delivered thereafter, to be covered into the Restoration Fund.

(2) In the course of preparing the Stanislaus River Basin and Calaveras River Water Use Program Environmental Impact Statement and in consultation with the State of California, affected counties, and other interests, evaluate and determine existing and anticipated future basin needs in the Stanislaus River Basin. In the course of such evaluation, the Secretary shall investigate alternative storage, release, and delivery regimes, including but not limited to conjunctive use operations, conservation strategies, exchange arrangements, and the use of base and channel maintenance flows, in order to best satisfy both basin and out-of-basin needs consistent, on a continuing basis, with the limitations and priorities established in the Act of October 23, 1962 (76 Stat. 173). For the purposes of this subparagraph, “basin needs” shall include water supply for agricultural, municipal and industrial uses, and maintenance and enhancement of water quality, and fish and wildlife resources within the Stanislaus River Basin as established by the Secretary’s June 29, 1981 Record of Decision; and “out-of-basin” needs shall include all such needs outside of the Stanislaus River Basin, including those of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary and those of the San Joaquin River under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(d) Central Valley Refuges and Wildlife Habitat Areas.--In support of the objectives of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture and in furtherance of the purposes of this title, the Secretary shall provide, either directly or through contractual agreements with other appropriate parties, firm water supplies of suitable quality to maintain and improve wetland habitat areas on units of the National Wildlife Refuge System in the Central Valley of California; on the Gray Lodge, Los Banos, Volta, North Grasslands, and Mendota state wildlife management areas; and on the Grasslands Resources Conservation District in the Central Valley of California.

(1) Upon enactment of this title, the quantity and delivery schedules of water measured at the boundaries of each wetland habitat area described in this paragraph shall be in accordance with Level 2 of the “Dependable Water Supply Needs” table for those habitat areas as set forth in the Refuge Water Supply Report and two-thirds of the water supply needed for full habitat development for those habitat areas identified in the San Joaquin Basin Action Plan/Kesterson Mitigation Action Plan Report prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation. Such water shall be provided through long-term contractual agreements with appropriate parties and shall be supplemented by the increment of water provided for in paragraph (1) of this subsection; Provided, That the Secretary shall be obligated to provide such water whether or not such long-term contractual agreements are in effect. In implementing this paragraph, the Secretary shall endeavor to diversify sources of supply in order to minimize possible adverse effects upon Central Valley Project contractors.

(2) Not later than ten years after enactment of this title, the quantity and delivery schedules of water measured at the boundaries of each wetland habitat area described in this paragraph shall be in accordance with Level 4 of the “Dependable Water Supply Needs” table for those habitat areas as set forth in the Refuge Water Supply Report and the full water supply needed for full habitat development for those habitat areas identified in the San Joaquin Basin Action Plan/Kesterson Mitigation Action Plan Report prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation. The quantities of water required to supplement the quantities provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be acquired by the Secretary in cooperation with the State of California and in consultation with the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture and other interests in cumulating increments of not less than ten percent per annum through voluntary measures which include
water conservation, conjunctive use, purchase, lease, donations, or similar activities, or a combination of such activities which do not require involuntary reallocations of project yield.

(3) All costs associated with implementation of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be reimbursable pursuant to existing law. Incremental costs associated with implementation of paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be fully allocated in accordance with the following formula: 75 percent shall be deemed a nonreimbursable Federal expenditure; and 25 percent shall be allocated to the State of California for recovery through direct reimbursements or through equivalent in-kind contributions.

(4) The Secretary may temporarily reduce deliveries of the quantity of water dedicated under paragraph (1) of this subsection up to 25 percent of such total whenever reductions due to hydrologic circumstances are imposed upon agricultural deliveries of Central Valley Project water; Provided, That such reductions shall not exceed in percentage terms the reductions imposed on agricultural service contractors. For the purpose of shortage allocation, the priority or priorities applicable to the increment of water provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be the priority or priorities which applied to the water in question prior to its transfer to the purpose of providing such increment.

(5) The Secretary is authorized and directed to construct or to acquire from non-Federal entities such water conveyance facilities, conveyance capacity, and wells as are necessary to implement the requirements of this subsection; Provided, That such authorization shall not extend to conveyance facilities in or around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. Associated construction or acquisition costs shall be reimbursable pursuant to existing law in accordance with the cost allocations set forth in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

(6) The Secretary, in consultation with the State of California, the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, and other interests, shall investigate and report on the following supplemental actions by not later than September 30, 1997:

(A) Alternative means of improving the reliability and quality of water supplies currently available to privately owned wetlands in the Central Valley and the need, if any, for additional supplies; and

(B) Water supply and delivery requirements necessary to permit full habitat development for water dependent wildlife on 120,000 acres supplemental to the existing wetland habitat acreage identified in Table 8 of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture’s “Implementation Plan” dated April 19, 1990, as well as feasible means of meeting associated water supply requirements.

e) Supporting Investigations.--Not later than five years after the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall investigate and provide recommendations to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs and Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the House on the feasibility, costs, and desirability of developing and implementing each of the following, including, but not limited to, the impact on the project, its users, and the State of California:

(1) Measures to maintain suitable temperatures for anadromous fish survival in the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and their tributaries, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta by controlling or relocating the discharge of irrigation return flows and sewage effluent, and by restoring riparian forests;
(2) Opportunities for additional hatchery production to mitigate the impacts of water development and operations on, or enhance efforts to increase Central Valley fisheries; Provided, That additional hatchery production shall only be used to supplement or to re-establish natural production while avoiding adverse effects on remaining wild stocks;

(3) Measures to eliminate barriers to upstream and downstream migration of salmonids in the Central Valley, including but not limited to screening programs, barrier removal programs and programs for the construction or rehabilitation of fish ladders on tributary streams;

(4) Installation and operation of temperature control devices at Trinity Dam and Reservoir to assist in the Secretary’s efforts to conserve cold water for fishery protection purposes;

(5) Measures to provide for modified operations and new or improved control structures at the Delta Cross Channel and Georgiana Slough to assist in the successful migration of anadromous fish; and

(6) Other measures which the Secretary determines would protect, restore, and enhance natural production of salmon and steel-head trout in tributary streams of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, including but not limited to the Merced, Mokelumne, and Calaveras Rivers and Battle, Butte, Deer, Elder, Mill, and Thomas Creeks.

(f) Report of Project Fishery Impacts.--The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the State of California, appropriate Indian tribes, and other appropriate public and private entities, shall investigate and report on all effects of the Central Valley Project on anadromous fish populations and the fisheries, communities, tribes, businesses and other interests and entities that have now or in the past had significant economic, social or cultural association with those fishery resources. The Secretary shall provide such report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs and Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the House of Representatives not later than two years after the date of enactment of this title.

(g) Ecosystem and Water System Operations Models.--The Secretary, in cooperation with the State of California and other relevant interests and experts, shall develop readily usable and broadly available models and supporting data to evaluate the ecologic and hydrologic effects of existing and alternative operations of public and private water facilities and systems in the Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Trinity River watersheds. The primary purpose of this effort shall be to support the Secretary’s efforts in fulfilling the requirements of this title through improved scientific understanding concerning, but not limited to, the following:

(1) A comprehensive water budget of surface and groundwater supplies, considering all sources of inflow and outflow available over extended periods;

(2) Related water quality conditions and improvement alternatives, including improved temperature prediction capabilities as they relate to storage;

(3) Surface-ground and stream-wetland interactions;

(4) Measures needed to restore anadromous fisheries to optimum and sustainable levels in accordance with the restored carrying capacities of Central Valley rivers, streams, and riparian habitats;

(5) Development and use of base flows and channel maintenance flows to protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values;
(6) Implementation of operational regimes at State and Federal facilities to increase springtime flow releases, retain additional floodwaters, and assist in restoring both upriver and downriver riparian habitats;

(7) Measures designed to reach sustainable harvest levels of resident and anadromous fish, including development and use of systems of tradeable harvest rights;

(8) Opportunities to protect and restore wetland and upland habitats throughout the Central Valley;

(9) Measures to enhance the firm yield of existing Central Valley Project facilities, including improved management and operations, conjunctive use opportunities, development of offstream storage, levee setbacks, and riparian restoration.

All studies and investigations shall take into account and be fully consistent with the fish, wildlife, and habitat protection and restoration measures required by this title or by any other state or federal law. Seventy-five percent of the costs associated with implementation of this subsection shall be borne by the United States as a nonreimbursable cost; the remaining 25 percent shall be borne by the State of California.

(h) The Secretary shall enter into a binding cost-share agreement with the State of California with respect to the timely reimbursement of costs allocated to the State in this title. Such agreement shall provide for consideration of the value of direct reimbursements, specific contributions to the Restoration Fund, and water, conveyance capacity, or other contributions in-kind that would supplement existing programs and that would, as determined by the Secretary, materially contribute to attainment of the goals and objectives of this title.