

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY · THE DELTA AS A LIVING PLACE

Delta Conveyance Project

A management strategy in the COEQWAL scenario library

This strategy represents the Delta Conveyance Project — a tunnel conveying water around the Delta with a 6,000 cfs North Delta Diversion capacity — using DWR's 2025 climate-adaptation model version as its base, adapted to the hydrology and land-use conditions shared across the COEQWAL library. It also carries the 2025 voluntary-agreement (“Healthy Rivers and Landscapes”) actions: additional flows and some rice-acreage fallowing in the Sacramento Valley.

This brief describes “*Delta Conveyance Project*”, one of 28 management strategies in the COEQWAL scenario library. Each strategy is simulated once under each of five hydroclimates; the references note at the end of this brief lists the model runs.

§2 WHAT THIS STRATEGY CHANGES

The strategy uses DWR's 2025 climate-adaptation scenario (model version CCA6) as its base. The sea-level-rise, land-use, and hydrology assumptions were adapted to match the conditions used across the COEQWAL library: DWR's adjusted historical hydrology, no sea-level rise, and the 2020 LandIQ land use.

The infrastructure change is the Delta Conveyance tunnel, with a North Delta Diversion capacity of 6,000 cfs, conveying water around the Delta.

Unlike earlier Delta Conveyance model versions, this configuration includes Voluntary Agreement — “Healthy Rivers and Landscapes” — actions, which previous DCP scenarios did not. These include additional flows and some rice-

acreage fallowing in the Sacramento Valley, reflected in the land-use and flows fields of the configuration table.

§ 3 THE CONFIGURATION IN DETAIL

The table compares the eight operational fields that define this strategy against current operations — the strategy that represents existing operational rules, recent (2020) land use, and TUCPs. Rows that match current operations are shown in light gray; rows that differ are highlighted.

ASPECT	CURRENT OPERATIONS	THIS STRATEGY
TUCP actions	Active	Active
SGMA actions	None	None
Land use	2020 LandIQ	2020 LandIQ, adjusted for Sacramento Valley rice fallowing as part of the voluntary agreements
Delta regulations	Standard	Standard
BiOps	2019 / 2020 ITP	Modified versions of 2019 / 2020 ITP
Infrastructure	Standard	Delta Conveyance Project (6,000 cfs North Delta Diversion capacity)
Flows	Standard	2025 version of the voluntary agreements (VAs) as included by DWR
Allocation / priorities	Standard	Standard

§ 4 LINEAGE AND SOURCE

This strategy is built from DWR's publicly released 2025 climate-adaptation scenario CCA6, adapted by the COEQWAL team for comparability with the rest of the library (historical adjusted hydrology, no sea-level rise, 2020 LandIQ land

use). The CalSim model files for this strategy are referenced by the run IDs in the references note at the end of this brief.

§5 RELATED STRATEGIES

RELATED STRATEGIES — THE DELTA AS A LIVING PLACE

Increase Delta outflows (65% unimpaired flow target). USBR Alternative 3 for the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project, with Delta outflow requirements set to roughly 65% of unimpaired volume.

Reduce Delta outflows (35% unimpaired flow target). USBR Alternative 3 for the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project, with Delta outflow requirements set to roughly 35% of unimpaired volume.

Maintain Delta outflows (45% unimpaired flow target). USBR Alternative 3 for the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project, with Delta outflow requirements set to roughly 45% of unimpaired volume.

Increase Delta outflows (55% unimpaired flow target). USBR Alternative 3 for the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project, with Delta outflow requirements set to roughly 55% of unimpaired volume.

Increase Shasta carry-over storage. Spring CVP allocation reductions that raise the target carry-over storage in Shasta reservoir by 20% relative to current operations.

Relax Delta salinity standards. Current operations with the fall X2 salinity requirement removed; other Delta flow and salinity requirements remain in place.

§6 WHAT THIS DOESN'T SAY

This brief describes a scenario representation in CalSim, not a real-world policy proposal or implementation plan. The strategy as modeled may not capture all details necessary to support direct translation to actual operations. The brief does not predict, evaluate, or recommend any outcome — it describes what the scenario changes about CalSim's representation of the system. For what the model produces under this strategy, see the result briefs referenced in §7.

§7 SEE RESULTS FOR THIS STRATEGY

To see modeled outcomes under this strategy across all nine key outcomes at the reference hydroclimate, see the *The Delta as a living place* theme brief.

To see outcomes at a specific location of interest, see the relevant LOI briefs — particularly those for Delta locations and the export service areas.

Compare this strategy in the data explorer → (<https://coeqwal.org/explore?strategy=s0065>)

REFERENCES — MODEL RUNS

Each strategy is simulated once under each of five hydroclimates. The table lists the model run behind this strategy and the current-operations run it is compared against, for each hydroclimate, so any reader can trace this page to specific CalSim runs.

HYDROCLIMATE	THIS STRATEGY	CURRENT OPERATIONS
Historical hydroclimate (adjusted)	s0065	s0020
Moderate climate stress (EC-Earth3-Veg)	s0157	s0134
Moderate-high climate stress (cc50)	s0085	s0047
High climate stress (cc95)	s0105	s0056
Extreme climate stress (TaiESM1)	s0131	s0108

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