

DELTA WETLANDS PROJECT

THROUGH DELTA CONVEYANCE

Two thirds of California residents depend on exports from the Delta for all or a portion of their water supply. The reliability of these water supplies is limited by hydrology and the

availability of export pumping capacity. Export pumping can be curtailed by fishery agencies and for water quality concerns.

In December 1999, the presence of migrating salmon on in the Sacramento River caused fishery agencies to close the Delta Cross Channel Gates. Continued export pumping drew salty water into the Delta resulting in the shut down of export pumps by the state and federal water projects in order to avoid water quality violations.





Subsequent modeling by the Department of Water Resources showed that if the Delta Wetlands Project had been operational, it could have kept salty water out of the Delta, thus avoiding the interruption of export pumping.

The Delta Wetlands Project's location in the heart of the Delta makes it ideal for providing fresh water to meet the fishery and water quality obligations of the state and federal water projects without impact on upstream reservoirs or requiring environmentally damaging pulse flows.