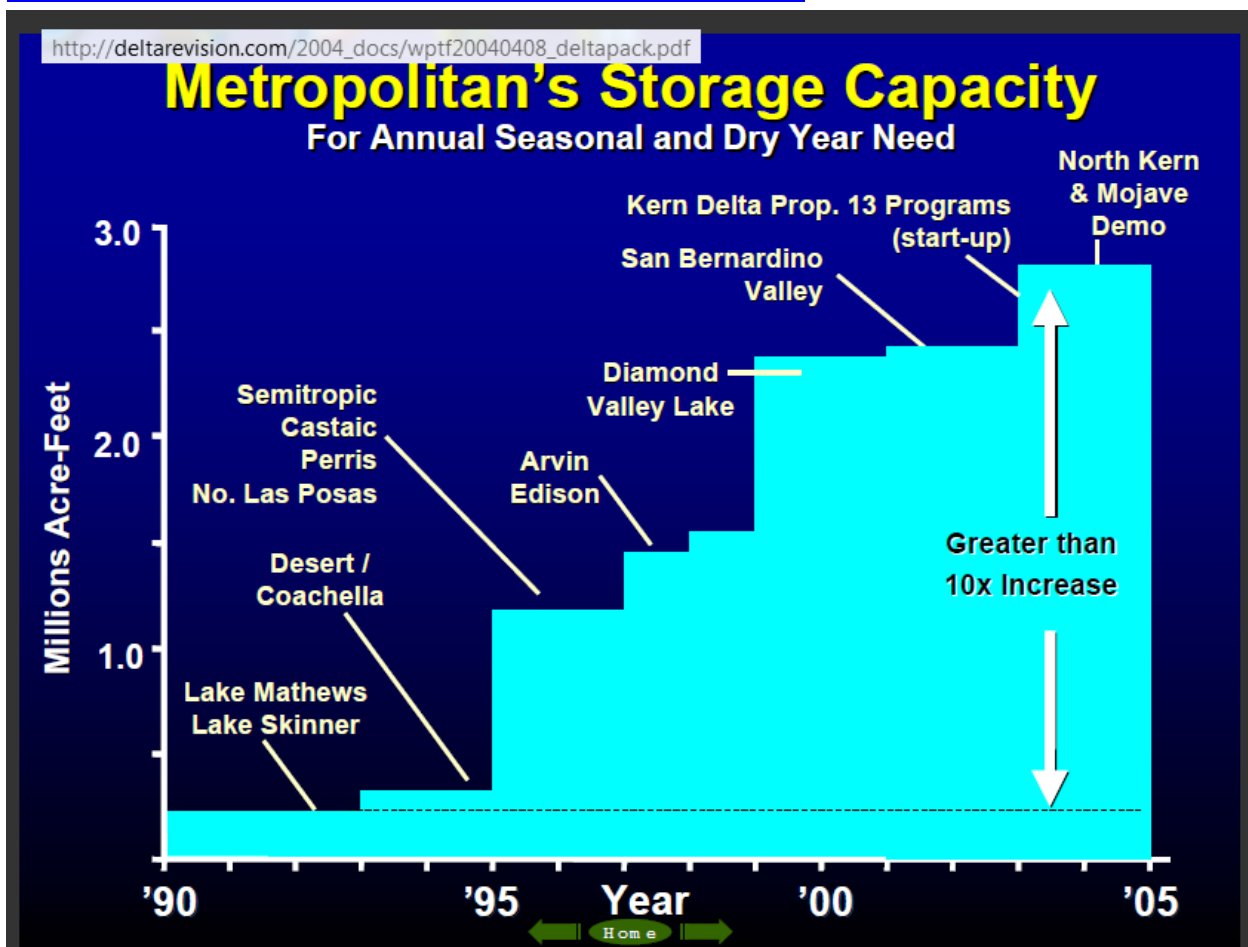


## Observations from the 8/29/2011 North Delta Cares meeting with MWD:

by Nicky Suard, Esq., Snug Harbor Resorts, LLC 8/30/2011

Dear North Delta Cares members: I appreciated the opportunity to attend the meeting in Clarksburg to ask questions of MWD leadership, but walked away very concerned about the LACK of honest or truthful information provided by the MWD speakers. What was the purpose of the meeting in Clarksburg on 8/29/2011? Did any Delta person at the meeting feel more assured that MWD was watching out for Delta landowner interests? Please do not be fooled by their silence of the facts! Here's just a few comments or observations backed by data found online:

1. We were shown a chart showing how in the last 10 years or so MWD has stored up 5 MAF (million acre feet) of extra water. The bulk of the surplus water storage happened in the last 5-7 years...when there was a "drought" and when the fish species in the Delta experienced epic declines. Most likely that surplus 5 MAF was diverted from the Delta-per 2003 news report...anyone else see a correlation? The slide below came from a MWD 2004 presentation preserved at the Delta Revision website. In 2005 MWD said they needed 3 MAF of storage and at the meeting on Monday the chart showed 5 MAF or more as of 2010. In 15 years they stored up 3 MAF and in 5 years, 3 of which were "drought" years, they store up another 2+ MAF. **MWD has been one of the main driving forces behind CalFed since 1998.** Take the time to look at their 2004 slideshow: [http://deltarevision.com/2004\\_docs/wptf20040408\\_deltapack.pdf](http://deltarevision.com/2004_docs/wptf20040408_deltapack.pdf)



2. Mr. Patterson mentioned water storage and listed SemiTropics as one of the companies they work with. SemiTropics is the company that started the in-Delta water storage planning in 1988 and right now the proposal which was "shovel ready" in 2010 is under the name of Wetlands, Inc who are still related to SemiTropics...so

does that mean use of Bacon Island and Webb Island for water storage is a MWD project? I did not hear Mr. Patterson acknowledge the association with the IDS planning. Did anyone else? IDS documents at [http://deltarevision.com/2004\\_docs.htm](http://deltarevision.com/2004_docs.htm) and more details of SemiTropics/Wetlands, Inc plans at [http://deltarevision.com/Delta\\_maps/In\\_Delta\\_water\\_storage.htm](http://deltarevision.com/Delta_maps/In_Delta_water_storage.htm)

3. Mr. Patterson talked about the “Monterey Agreement” but was hesitant to talk about the revisions created by the “Napa Proposition”, yet WMD was very involved in that meeting of “stakeholders” and acquired to right to take & store more water. (Delta landowners are never included as “stakeholders” in the meetings) and that agreement resulted in further plans for even more water diversions from the Delta! See below & news article reprint from 2003 at the bottom of these comments.

[http://www.citizen.org/documents/Water\\_Heist\\_lo-res.pdf](http://www.citizen.org/documents/Water_Heist_lo-res.pdf)

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## The Napa Proposition

IN JULY OF THIS YEAR (2003) the Federal Bureau of Reclamation, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and representatives from the largest agricultural and urban water districts in California—including the Westlands Water District, the Kern County Water Agency, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California—met in Napa in a series of closed, mediated sessions (by the same retired judge who mediated the Monterey meetings in 1994) to, yet again, restructure the state and federal water projects.<sup>84</sup>

As noted by State Senator Michael Machado in a letter to the Editor of the *San Joaquin Record* on August 27, no “representatives of the Delta, environmentalists or anyone one else outside their small circle” were included in the meetings.<sup>85</sup>

The agreement that resulted from the meetings, called the Napa Proposition, plans to further integrate the SWP and the CVP. Such integration will allow landowners, principally in the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California, to trade off the federal project’s superior storage capacity and the state project’s greater pumping capacity with one goal in mind: to continue pumping water to agribusinesses, developers and water marketing barons in Southern California, unabated by either federal or state endangered species acts or water quality issues in the Delta.

Giving SWP contractors access to CVP storage capacity violates the later project’s federal acreage limitations by enabling landowners, like Paramount, with over 100,000 acres to profit from federally funded infrastructure.

Increasing the SWP’s pumping capacity violates the intent of the Delta restoration efforts and the federal and state endangered species acts by manipulating the technology to pump more water south at faster rates, ignoring the long-term effects of such levels of water exports on the environment.

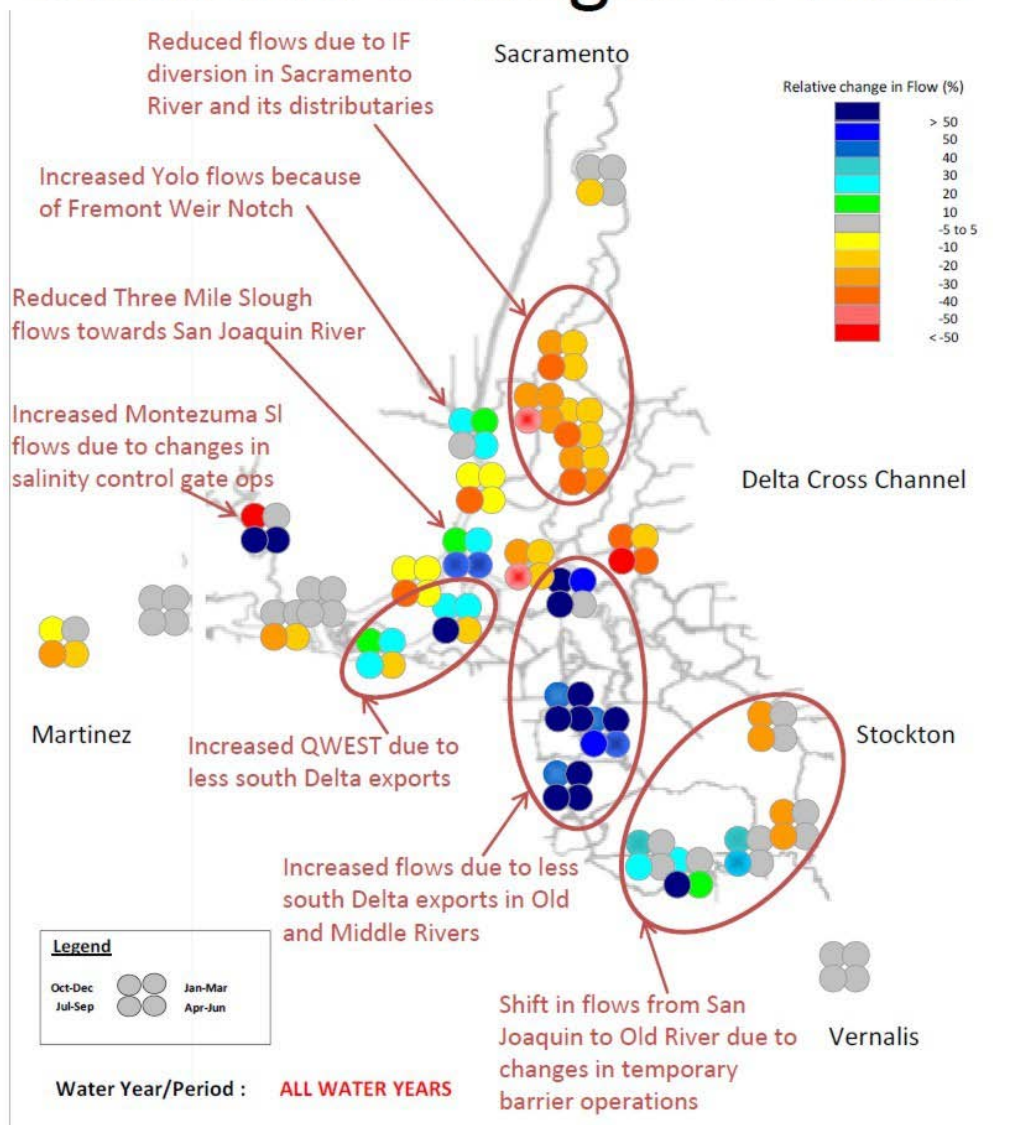
The Napa Proposition would continue and greatly exacerbate the negative impacts of the Monterey Amendments, allowing the SWP and CVP to juggle water to maintain unsustainable exports for unsustainable development, unsustainable industrial agricultural practices and taxpayer-subsidized water sales among the state’s largest landowners.

See also <http://www.bing.com/search?q=%22napa+proposition%22&pc=HPDTRDF&src=IE-SearchBox&first=11&FORM=PERE> slide #17  
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CRPT-108srpt268/pdf/CRPT-108srpt268.pdf>

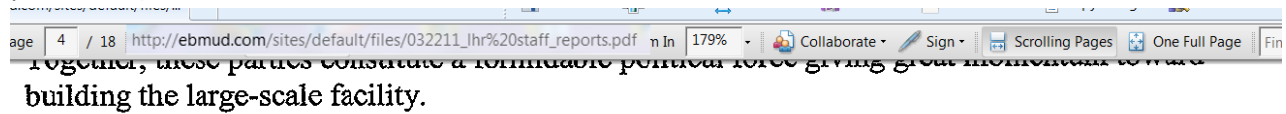
- I brought up the impacts to Steamboat and Summer Slough, and Ryer, Grand and Sutter Islands from the flow reduction and plans for channel margin setback. Our speakers seemed to not know about the Steamboat/Sutter BDCP specifics. Yet in 2009 MWD sent comments about the BDCP elements, including the exact same channel margin setback locations and plans...signed by our MWD speaker. (FYI portions of Grand and Ryer Islands are proposed to become tule farms, and Steamboat-Sutter Sloughs would become shallow water fish habitat with occasional cold water seasonal flows to transport migrating salmon smolt through the Delta. 50% or more less freshwater flow on Steamboat Slough means higher likelihood of saltwater intrusion in our area. Since the Freeport pumps have been operating, Steamboat Slough has already experienced lower freshwater flow which has resulted in a substantial increase of egeria densa (water weeds) along its banks.) Here's a link to the "impact map" which also shows the 20-25% seasonal reduction of fresh water flow all the way up to the Courtland/Clarksburg area. The map was given to Steamboat Slough landowners by Karla Nemeth in Sept 2010, and uses a method of dots similar to MWD graphics... [http://snugarbor.net/images-maps/ss-reduce\\_flow.JPG](http://snugarbor.net/images-maps/ss-reduce_flow.JPG)

[http://baydeltaconservationplan.com/Lists/Calendar/Attachments/112/6.17.10 SC Presentation Modeling Update.pdf](http://baydeltaconservationplan.com/Lists/Calendar/Attachments/112/6.17.10%20SC%20Presentation%20Modeling%20Update.pdf)

# Seasonal Changes in Flow



5. I brought up the fact that EBMUD is opposed to a 15,000 cfs canal or tunnel now that EBMUD and CCWD have almost completed their new water diversion projects, EBMUD/CCWD are going to support only a 3,000 cfs canal or tunnel. (This info came from a March 2011 EBMUD public meeting). EBMUD is opposed to a larger cfs because it will put “their water supply” perpetually at risk from the southern political pressures to export more water in the future. (Just like the Delta is perpetually at risk from southern, central and Bay area political pressures?)



The screenshot shows a PDF viewer interface. The address bar displays the URL: [http://ebmud.com/sites/default/files/032211\\_lhr%20staff\\_reports.pdf](http://ebmud.com/sites/default/files/032211_lhr%20staff_reports.pdf). The page number is 4 / 18. The zoom level is 179%. The viewer includes navigation buttons for 'Collaborate', 'Sign', 'Scrolling Pages', and 'One Full Page'. The visible text in the PDF is: "Together, these parties constitute a formidable political force giving great momentum to water building the large-scale facility."

The massive scale of a 15,000 cfs facility is difficult to comprehend. Bypassing 15,000 cfs of water around the Delta would require the construction of five separate pumping plants along the Sacramento River. Each of these pumping plants would have a pumping capacity more than ten times that of the Freeport facility (at 286 cfs). Officials who have toured the Freeport facility have balked at the idea of constructing a facility that is more than ten times larger than Freeport – and then multiplying that in five locations along the Sacramento River.

EBMUD staff have evaluated how an isolated conveyance facility, if approved and constructed, could affect EBMUD’s water rates and deliveries to its customers. In addition, staff has reviewed analyses performed by staff from the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) which draws directly from the BDCP’s own analyses to demonstrate that a 3,000 cfs facility would provide 97% of the water supply that the larger conveyance could deliver, while providing multiple benefits to the Delta region. This difference in yield could easily be compensated for by additional investments in conservation, recycling, desalination, and other alternative supplies. Such alternative sources should be analyzed as part of the BDCP process to achieve the reliability needs of the export contractors. The smaller facility would operate in conjunction with the existing south Delta pumps and is called “dual conveyance.” The following organizations

The next slide comes from another MWD document, and if you look at the maps and graphics for the “Through Delta” conveyance plans, clearly MWD graphic artists were involved in those planning documents! [http://www.deltarevision.com/2011videos/NameGame/calfed\\_update\\_links\\_in\\_order-revised.pdf](http://www.deltarevision.com/2011videos/NameGame/calfed_update_links_in_order-revised.pdf) This document has quick links to many “conveyance” planning documents or maps.

# Conveyance Improvements Footprint

Land Acquisition	West Canal	Central Tunnel	East Canal
Footprint	18,643 ac.	6,525 ac.	18,065 ac.
Subsurface Easement	920 ac.	1,945 ac.	506 ac.
Land (Residential & Commercial)	194 ac.	26 ac.	224 ac.
Utilities	300 conflicts	70 conflicts	150 conflicts
Transp. (Crossings)	20 Roads	0	18 Roads
Navigation (Siphons)	12 water courses	0	8 water courses

*Temporary right-of-way for construction is included*

*Note: Above costs are for the 2nd canal of "dual conveyance". The first canal is the Mokelumne River revisions and reoperation of the DCC & Freeport pumps*

*Preliminary Subject to Revision*

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from a MWD slide

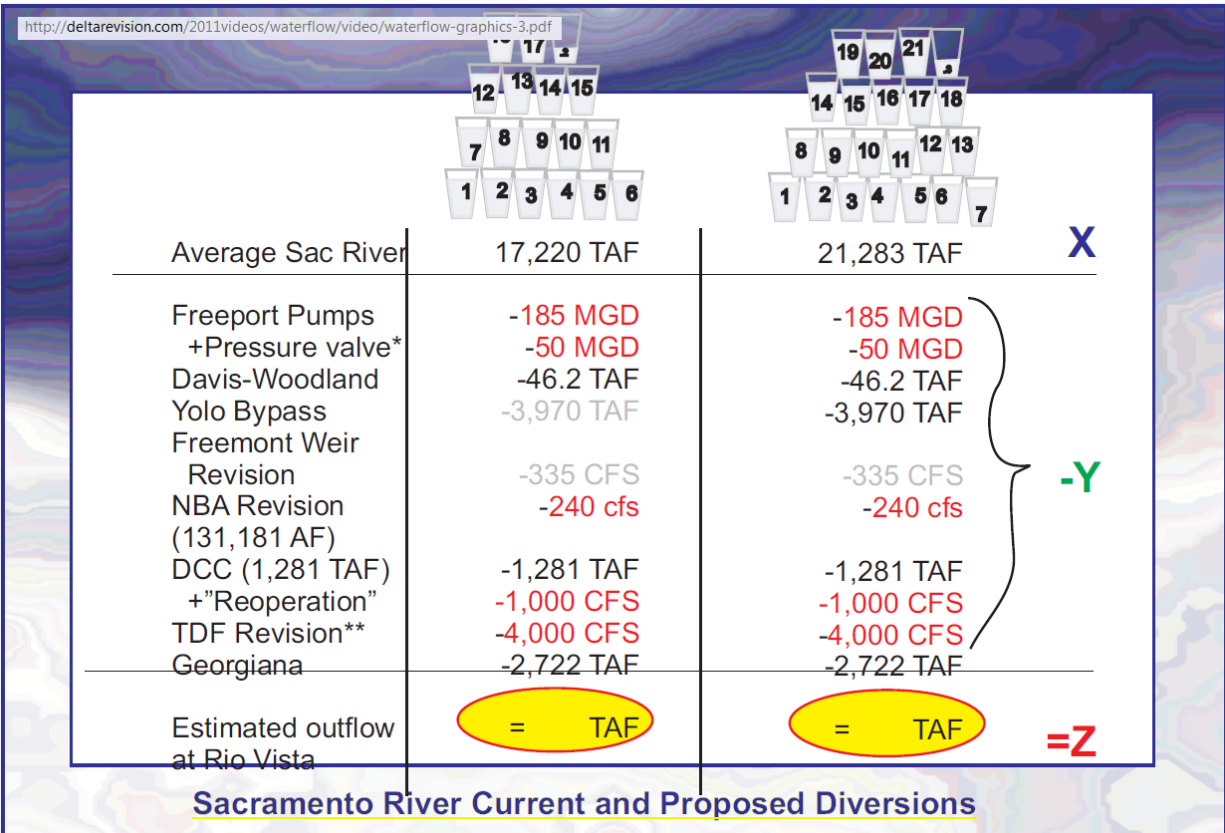
6. I asked Mr. Patterson how much funding MWD has put into the CALFED "Through Delta" conveyance planning and building, which has been done as local projects or individual projects over the last few years. He did not answer. Yet MWD has been one of the driving forces to the the "interim" project done. Note that I am talking about the "through Delta" alternative of the BDCP, which has changed names many times but is virtually the same project. <http://snugharbor.net/images2011/deltastuff/CONVEYANCE-PLANNING.pdf> shows copies of planning maps over the years...the other MWD speaker asked for this and the EBMUD meeting minutes I brought with me to the meeting. If you want to see more direct links:

[http://www.deltarevision.com/2011videos/NameGame/calfed update links in order-revised.pdf](http://www.deltarevision.com/2011videos/NameGame/calfed_update_links_in_order-revised.pdf) This document has quick links to many "conveyance" planning documents or maps.

*Note that just last Friday the Delta Stewardship Council approved levee work for islands in the area of the South pumps, which if one reviews the CalFed "preferred alternative" central conveyance plan, includes the levee improvements DSC just funded.*

When the through-Delta conveyance facility is fully operational, it appears there will not be more that 3,000 maf left of annual water flow down Steamboat, Sutter and the section of the Sacramento River between Georgiana to just past Ida Island (Viera's). **Consider this:** in 2003 DWR documents said **17,220 TAF** flowed into the Delta from the rivers feeding the Sacramento River. Reduce that by the diversion at Freeport, the new diversion from Folsom into the EBMUD Mokelumne Aqueduct system, (water which used to flow into the Sacramento), the proposed north-of-delta diversion by Davis-Woodland, the diversion at the DCC after the dredging & setbacks are completed in the channel and around Dead Horse Island, the diversion at Georgiana Slough and you can see it does not leave much fresh water flowing on the lower Sacramento or Steamboat/Sutter Sloughs!

<http://deltarevision.com/sacramento-river-waterflow.html> has many of the maps and planning documents regarding Delta water flow.



*Again, what was the purpose of the meeting in Clarksburg on 8/29/2011? Did any Delta person at the meeting feel more assured that MWD was watching out for Delta landowner interests?*

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**This article about the "Napa Proposition" was found online in 2010 but is now harder to find.** 2003 news article verbatim:

**(Note also that the Contra Costa Times changed ownership soon after this article came out!)**

**"Most wanted: Delta water**  
 Contra Costa Times - 9/30/03  
 By Mike Taugher, staff writer

A plan to boost the Southern California water supply could pump an additional 1 million acre-feet a year from the Delta, far more than water officials have previously disclosed, documents show.

That figure is roughly equal to the amount of water used each year in the entire Bay Area, and would increase the flow of water south of the Delta by more than 15 percent.

It contrasts sharply with earlier estimates that a privately crafted agreement called the Napa Proposition would result in modest pumping increases from the Delta.

The figure was included in a recent presentation to congressional aides that Southern California water agencies say was meant to show the wide range of water supply benefits included in the CalFed water program. Increases due to the Napa proposals were just a small part of that, they say.

But others, including at least one leading supporter of the plan, said the presentation is an accurate portrayal of how much water could be moved out of the Delta if the proposals in the Napa agreement, along with closely linked initiatives, are approved.

"The public has a right to know what the big picture looks like," said Tim Quinn, vice president of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, dismissing the fine line between the Napa agreement and CalFed, a sweeping effort among farmers, cities and environmentalists to cooperatively address Delta water issues.

"Frankly, it's a difficult question to say what's CalFed and what's Napa. From the perspective of those of us who were involved, Napa is CalFed," Quinn said.

Increasing Delta pumping from its current level of between 5 million acre-feet and 6 million acre-feet a year could harm fisheries and worsen water quality, particularly in the Contra Costa Water District.

Although the Napa plan promises to take steps to maintain environmental and water quality standards, environmentalists and officials at the Contra Costa district are skeptical.

"We're very concerned that they'll get down the road with their projects and say, we got our stuff, to heck with CalFed," said Greg Gartrell, assistant general manager at the Contra Costa Water District.

Since details of the Napa plan were first reported in the Times on Aug. 7, water officials have given a range of estimates on how much water would be pumped from the Delta. The figure is of concern because the more water is pumped, the greater the potential for damage to fisheries and water quality.

Most recently, the organization that represents customers of the state water project told the Times the Napa proposition would increase Delta exports by about 200,000 acre-feet, and that would only be possible in wet years.

But in a presentation called "CalFed Implementation: The Role of the Napa Proposition," the California Department of Water Resources and customers of state and federal water projects told congressional aides that the changes could add 700,000 acre-feet a year to their supply, while also making it possible for them to transfer an additional 300,000 acre-feet if they can find farmers willing to sell it.

All of that water would come through the Delta, although the amount would vary year-by-year depending on rainfall and the snowpack.

"They're trying to be up front about the fact that, yeah, we're going to be moving more water than we did 10 years ago," said Laura King Moon, the Bay-Delta program manager for customers of the State Water Project.

King Moon said it was wrong to attribute the entire 1 million acre-feet to the Napa provisions, saying the bulk of the water would come from water transfers and separate initiatives, including CalFed.

The Napa Proposition was developed during four days of closed-door meetings in July that included California's biggest water users, the state Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Environmentalists and Delta water agencies were excluded, and although the Contra Costa Water District was allowed to have an observer present, that observer was not allowed to participate in the talks.

The agreement marked the first time since the Peripheral Canal fight ended in 1982 that state and federal water agencies and their customers have "united on such a bold program to ramp up Delta exports at the expense of California's aquatic environments," according to testimony to be given today by Environmental Defense regional director Tom Graff.

But Quinn, the Met vice president, said the agreement represents an environmentally sensitive approach to meeting Southern California's water needs. It does not include a Peripheral Canal or new dams, and it relies on water transfers, increased efficiency and flexibility.

"That vision (of dams and canals) is completely gone," he said. "The environmentalists won."

Today, a state Senate panel headed by Sen. Michael Machado, D-Stockton, will convene an "informational" hearing on the Napa meetings and the proposal that grew out of it.

"There has been concern that the proposed Napa water agreement is not going to address issues that face the Delta," Machado said.

"This hearing will bring sunshine on the process and make sure that the fundamental principles in the CalFed record of decision are adhered to," Machado added, referring to a document signed three years ago in which all sides in California water conflicts pledged to work together for mutual benefits.

Supporters of the Napa proposition say it made sense to increase cooperation between the two projects, and that tensions made it necessary to meet privately.

"We haven't had any supply increases for many years in this state," King Moon said. "At the same time, we've diverted a lot of water to the environment. ... That's created a lot of friction in the water community, fighting for a supply that isn't there anymore."