

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT
LOWER YOLO BYPASS PLANNING FORUM
MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION PLANNING GOALS**

June 10, 2010 v.3

The Yolo Bypass provides a range of important and essential services and benefits to the Lower Sacramento Valley / Delta region. The purpose of the Lower Yolo Bypass Planning Forum (Planning Forum) is to discuss the future management of the lower portion of the Yolo Bypass (Lower Bypass) and to prepare consensus recommendations for the management of the Lower Bypass.

Yolo Bypass management actions recommended and implemented by any parties should achieve the following goals and seek affected local stakeholder input:

Goal 1: Flood System Operations. Restore/Return the Yolo Bypass to its original design standards as a flood protection facility of the Sacramento River Flood Control Project (FCP). Once improved, maintain the Bypass at or above these design standards. Avoid negative impacts to the flood system capacity, operational requirements, or maintenance needs of the Yolo Bypass. Coordinate future modifications to the Yolo Bypass to be compatible with system wide modifications to the FCP through the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) process and other relevant planning activities.

Goal 2: Agricultural Operations. Maintain or improve land and water management practices (including water operations) that support production agriculture/grazing in and adjacent to the Yolo Bypass. Recognize and protect important flood capacity and conveyance benefits; and wildlife population and habitat benefits provided by agriculture in the Yolo Bypass. Complement or at a minimum, have a neutral impact on agricultural operations within and adjacent to the Yolo Bypass.

Goal 3: Managed Wetland Operations. Maintain or improve public and private managed wetland operations in and adjacent to the Yolo Bypass. Recognize and protect the important avian, aquatic, and upland habitat benefits provided by managed wetlands in the Yolo Bypass. Complement, enhance or at a minimum, have a neutral impact on managed wetlands within and adjacent to the Yolo Bypass.

Goal 4: Existing Easements and Management Plans. Recognize and uphold all existing land management plans, agreements, and covenants that have been entered into by public and private Yolo Bypass landowners. Complement or at a minimum, have a neutral impact on existing habitat/conservation, agricultural, flowage, vegetation management, minerals management easements, agricultural leases, and agricultural and land management plans within the Yolo Bypass.

Goal 5: Mosquito and Vector Control Operations. Maintain or improve mosquito/vector control operations within the Yolo Bypass to be consistent with and in compliance with existing best management practices. Provide for additional vector control fees to affect mosquito and vector control agencies if new activities within the Yolo Bypass increase the costs of vector control activities.

Goal 6: Managed and Unmanaged Wildlife Habitat. Ensure that proposed land and water management opportunities in the Yolo Bypass protect and enhance upland/aquatic habitats and ecological processes and are consistent with Goals 1 – 5. Ensure that all current and future tidal wetland restoration activities are consistent with Goals 1-5 and include affected stakeholder input.

Goal 7: Recreational Use. Ensure responsible, legal, and respectful recreational use of public and private lands within the Yolo Bypass consistent with adjacent landowner private property rights, local laws, and public safety.

Goal 8: Education Use. Ensure that current and future land management activities do not impede access to public and private lands used for educational programs within the Yolo Bypass.

Goal 9: Emergency Response and Law Enforcement. Maintain, or where appropriate, increase emergency response services within the Lower Bypass. Support expanded law enforcement in the Yolo Bypass necessary to ensure public safety, private property rights and compliance with Department of Fish and Game regulations and other applicable laws.

Goal 10: Noxious Invasive Species. Minimize the spread and impact of noxious/nuisance invasive species in the Yolo Bypass. Where noxious/invasive species are established, provide management of these species to minimize their impact on surrounding areas. Recognize and balance the presence of existing non-native species that provide habitat, recreational, and economic benefits to the Lower Sacramento Valley / Delta Region.

Goal 11: Water Quality. Consistent with the Federal Clean Water Act, the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Central Valley Basin Plan, (as administered by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board) and the North Delta Water Agency contract, maintain water quality standards within the Yolo Bypass. Characterize and control the production, discharge, and transport of contaminants that will impact the Beneficial Uses of the Yolo Bypass and Delta (as defined in the Basin Plan).

Goal 12: Mitigation/Compensation for Habitat Development. Promote and achieve impact avoidance for projects affecting existing landowners and land uses. When impact avoidance is shown to be infeasible, provide full mitigation/compensation for any unavoidable adverse impacts associated with habitat development to landowners in and adjacent to the Yolo Bypass, consistent with the Planning Forum document entitled, "[Local Impacts From Habitat Conversion And Delta Infrastructure Projects And Suggested Solutions.](#)"

Goal 13: Develop Finance Plan for Unavoidable Impacts from New Land Management Plans: Mandate that a finance plan and agreement must be in place and funded to cover third party assurances and protections for in-Delta residents and water users, for the ongoing management of the restored habitat, and for payment of all local taxes and assessments. The finance plan and agreement must be an adequate, reliable, and permanent financing mechanisms (ie: endowment, annuity, or dedicated stream of revenue not dependent on appropriation by Congress or the California State Legislature) that is funded to last for the life of the Plan (ie: 50 years if BDCP HCP) or a lump sum payment.