PANEL ONE: GOVERNANCE AND LEGISLATION

What will be the tangible outcomes of the co-equal goals? How is this anything more that feel-good, vague intent language? How does co-equal goals reconcile with the Peripheral Canal?

Are co-equal goals realistic? Those that have will undoubtedly resist giving up for the greater good of the whole...

If the $11.4 billion bond is not approved by the people, can the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) (including tunnel/canal) be implemented? How will mitigation be funded?

How many alternative water sources has the Metropolitan Water Agency looked at besides the Sacramento River? We fear they will soon call it the Los Angeles River!

Now that we know how flawed the water package is, do you expect revisions in connection with the budget process?

What is the position of Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) regarding pipe-to-pipe water recycling (direct use of recycled water for domestic use)?

Why isn’t it a requirement to belong to the BDCP that one had to affirm support for the Peripheral Canal?

How do the new statutes in the water package address the legal and environmental impacts which have resulted from the failure of Department of Water Resources to ever apply for or get a take permit under California Endangered Species Act?

How do we change the water bond from GO to revenue bonds?

Why is Delta community participation in the BDCP so limited? And why were they excluded from legislative negotiations, or were they?

Do you think elected representatives from the Delta region should have been included in the legislative process and the development of the water bills?

Regarding the 20% reduction which actually only applies to urban use; do you think it should apply to agriculture? If it did, wouldn’t the lack of supply and dependence on the Delta be solved?

Given the need for funding—how would you allocate costs between water users and the general public, i.e. is current bond measure reasonable?

How will “sustainability” and “reliable” water supplies for exports affect “area of origin” laws and purposes?
What are your views for protecting “area of origin” water rights in part using the power of the Public Trust Doctrine and duties of the State Water Resources Control Board?

What percentage of Met’s total water use comes from the Delta/Northern California?

Where in project does BDCP put water into the Delta for fish?

You state that we need to build storage for fish to provide water at the right time and the right temperature; what do we do to help the fish until the storage is built? Is it too late for the fish?

How much are your constituents willing to pay (dollars per acre foot) for new water supplies?

Does the new water package look at balancing the fiscal/economic impacts to farms vs. impacts to fish?

Mention of one knob—this can also mean using only the Sacramento River to fix the problem. Is your group going to support a balance of water supply to the Delta from both sides of the Delta—more San Joaquin River water to help the South Delta?

Why is comprehensive statewide groundwater management omitted, except for “monitoring”?

What’s your international perspective? There are deltas all over the world with the same problems; we could learn from each other.

Regarding supply reliability—why is desalination not being more critically considered especially since renewable energy can now come into play?

Senator Wolk stated that the “State Water Contractors control the State Water Project”. Since the State Water Contactors pay for 100% of the State Water Project, why do you feel they should not have control?

Why should anyone believe that there will not be a cross Delta conveyance facility that meets the demands of southern California and Central Valley water and land interests?

Three choices: a) stabilize State population; b) increase price of water; c) reduce exports and regulate groundwater. Success equals two of the preceding.

Did the Delta Protection Commission ever produce the “comprehensive long-term resources management plan” they were charged with? Where can I find that information?

What happens if the water bond doesn’t pass?

The bills created four or five new agencies/commissions/boards. Why are these necessary? Are they necessary?

Aren’t co-equal goals contradictory? How can you extract and sustain without guaranteed in-stream flows?

We have seen prior attempts to solve the conflicts between Delta exports and ecosystem health. Co-equal goals were articulated in the CALFED mantra “we all get better together”. Why do you think this new legislative package has any greater chance of success?
Was the $400 million water tunnel built through San Bernardino/Riverside Mountains in anticipation of a new Peripheral Canal proposed dual delivery system by Delta Vision and BDCP?

Isn’t the primary factor affecting the “reliability” of the water supply to central and southern California the periodic applications of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)? We’ve managed to deal effectively with droughts in all past years. Only now, with the Delta smelt ESA, is water supply a problem.

**PANEL TWO: ECONOMICS**

What are relative benefits to the California economy of the Delta fisheries, agriculture, etc. as compared with the benefits to the State of the export user agriculture, urban uses, businesses, etc?

What is the approximate present value/cost of the State and federal expenditures on the repair, restoration, and maintenance of Delta levees?

Is there a net economic benefit from water allocated for fisheries purposes?

What is the value of water? Is water priced too cheap?

What elements of a viable water market are missing? Suggestions to create a viable water market?

How many acres in the San Joaquin Valley are planted in cotton?

Weren’t there actually water transfers out of places like the Kern area during the drought? How does this re-inform your water economics theory?

What actions, if any will be taken to curtail the profit-making resulting from sales and transfers of water by farmers and various agencies? In other words, how do we put an end to water profiteering in California?

What are the impacts of allowing “privatizing public water”? Is this made legal under SB 8? What can be done to change this law/policy?

Should we be very careful of water transfers and take a lesson from Wall Street and the CDO [collateralized debt obligation] debacle—risks are not well understood—fancy modeling mixed with money may shatter our economic and social stability, especially food production? California has the best soils in the world; it would be a shame to pave over superior farmland as a result of economic benefit to urban uses.

Please define “farm job”—production (on farm)? processing (including packing sheds)? other (trucking, fertilizer, agriculture banking, etc)?

What’s the real price of water? If scarcity is reflected in the price, then it would be in the interest of everyone to conserve water? And adopt conservation measures or change techniques?

Is your $100 per acre foot figure calculated using current export levels? additional acre feet of water to be exported? what quantity of water was used to calculate? As “reduced dependency on Delta “ is in legislation, does it make sense to pay $11 billion or $40 billion to get less water more reliably?

What are the fish/salmon, boating, and recreation adding to the economics of California?
Have the newly planted acres been incorporated into the equation with the number of acres being fallowed? I’ve only observed wine vineyards being planted across from fallowed fields.

How many non-farm jobs were actually related to agriculture? Processing? Trucking? Packing?

Do you think that a full benefit/cost analysis should be conducted on the option of building a peripheral canal?

Has anyone analyzed the costs and benefits of transfer infrastructure in light of the long-term unreliability of the Sacramento River as a source of supply and the depletion of the non-rechargeable Lower Tuscan Aquifer?

If we don’t get water to famers down south and most of them go under, how will this impact the California economy?

Please address “fallowing” impacts of a permanent crop environment of almonds or wine grapes as opposed to an open field row crop environment.

How does the cost of salt water conversion compare with the $100-$400 per acre foot cost of the legislative package?

What are the economics of developing an ocean supply of water (desal) to supplement surface water? Routinely? During droughts?

Has the Department of Water Resources given any update on how much of their allotted funds from the 2006 bond have been distributed? How much of the total bond monies from 2006 bond have been utilized in the Delta?

**PANEL THREE: SCIENCE AND RESEARCH**

Does the search for perfect science get in the way of making public policy (given many variables related to ecological/economic models)?

Why with all the research in the Delta do we need a law to get agencies to develop a flow regime for the Delta?

Why didn’t Department of Fish and Game ever require Department of Water Resources to have a California Endangered Species Act permit?

How are the current minimum outflows for the Delta determined in the BDCP? They range 9,000-15,000 cfs, where 11,000 cfs is the magic number, will that be secured? How often does the Sacramento River even exceed 11,000 cfs?

How do we keep the Delta smelt alive while we wait for improvements to the habitat and flow? Are we tilting at windmills here? Can they be saved? What are the odds?

If we are not going to protect the Delta smelt or the winter salmon then how far up the food chair are we willing to destroy? What is the next step for salmon?

What are the statistics on saving fish and ecosystems on seasonally flooded tidal marshlands?
Not one mention today about the sewage treatment water being dumped into the Delta. What role does this play in the Delta fish decline?

The State expends millions of dollars every five years to synthesize the data and social expectations of the State’s water (California Water Plan). Should the State also synthesize environmental/ecological information into a five year Ecosystem Plan?

If water quality is not there for fish species, it does not matter what you do for mitigation of habitat (tidal habitat, restoration, etc). What about urban dischargers, i.e. ammonia levels, urban storm runoff, medicine, etc?

In the 1960s-1970s, a larger capacity (23,000 to 30,000 cfs) Peripheral Canal was evaluated to (1) provide a flood bypass channel and (2) allow for strategically located turnouts to Delta channels. Have the benefits of such a design been re-considered?

Do any of you believe that water exports from the Delta do not exceed water available to the Delta?

Given the millions of dollars already spent in studying the Delta and water supply issues, when will it be possible to set legally enforceable water export standards for the Delta?

How can California citizens get involved to help find solutions to the water crisis in the State?

This Conservation Plan being very complex with issues—has such a plan been implemented anywhere in the world with success (restoring fish, ecosystem, reliable water, and within the budget that is said will be)?

Given the value of our water resources and the need for proper and responsible management, are the hundreds of water agencies throughout the State held accountable? Audited? And punished if they are irresponsible (State oversight vs. ratepayers)?

**PANEL FOUR: LEGAL**

If a canal or tunnel is built, who should operate it? How do we ensure adequate oversight to protect the Delta ecosystem?

Given the 1982 results of the Prop 9 peripheral canal ballot measure – is it clear there is legal authority to implement a Delta peripheral canal project? If so why? Please explain.

Would it be smarter to focus on land use policy rather than water use policy to reduce EDU’s by 20% in water poor areas?

For Nomellini – How should a Delta agreement be brokered for a sustainable future for California?

Is the Delta Stewardship Council replacing the Delta Protection Commission? If not, how do they differ/complement each other?

For Somach – What “unintended consequences” do you foresee in the Delta legislative package?

With all the lawsuits that appear certain, when might the canal/ tunnel be completed, if ever?

Does the bond fairly distribute the costs between water users and the public? Does the bond include costs for past harm created by the projects?
If you could write one law to benefit water management statewide, what would it be?

Without accurate measuring and reporting of water use, how do you propose to ensure that senior water right holders in a watershed receive the amount of water they have a right to? What information would be available to prove that junior water right holders are infringing on the rights of senior water right holders?

Co-equal goals – how can we run two systems (Delta and a conveyance) with exactly the same water supply? Without more storage it’s not possible!!

What does the term “co-equal goals” mean to Northern California (North of Sacramento)? And to water right holders/users?

How constitutional is it to have a Delta Stewardship Council that controls an area and people who had no say in who is put on the Council?

Impact on water rights – is there a role for the law on “area of origin” rights?

What is the impact of the 2009 legislation on water rights?

For Somach – How should California govern and steward its total water resources and supplies?

For Somach – Looking out five to ten years, where will we be in this process? (i.e. Moving towards a comprehensive solution? Heading toward valley-wide adjudication?)