

## BDCP: ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES

# NRDC ALTERNATIVE IS A DISASTER FOR SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AGRICULTURE

# 750,000

acres of farmland will no longer have a water supply in an average year

## NRDC ALTERNATIVE PLAN: WHAT CVP FARMERS CAN EXPECT

South of Delta water supply will be cut to 4 million acre-feet delivery of combined State Water Project (55% share) and federal Central Valley Project (45% share) in an average year.

### CVP SHARE – 1.8 MILLION ACRE-FEET

- 875,000 acre-feet delivered to meet legal commitments to long-term agricultural water rights holders<sup>1</sup>
- 325,000 acre-feet to meet legal baseline (Level 2) commitments to wildlife refuges<sup>2</sup>
- 115,000 acre-feet available for (65 percent) municipal/industrial commitments<sup>3</sup>
- Remaining available water supply – 485,000 acre feet for South-of-Delta Ag Contractors<sup>4</sup>

### IMPACTS FROM THIS WATER SUPPLY CUT

- 485,000 acre-feet of water would be available to irrigate farmland that needs more than 1.8 million acre-feet to remain productive
- 485,000 acre-feet is just 26 percent of the necessary supply for roughly 1 million acres of farmland
- Impacts to Kern County/State Water Project contractors not included
- Increased pressure on groundwater basins, San Joaquin River diversions
- Following

### CONCLUSION

- Delivering 4 million acre-feet of Delta supplies represents roughly a 33 percent decrease from traditional water deliveries for South-of-Delta CVP and SWP users
- Six out of every 10 acres currently farmed with CVP Delta supplies would be in jeopardy
- New storage proposals are not helpful given restrictions to access Delta supplies
- There will be no willingness to pay for new Delta conveyance that results in drastically decreased supplies

## MESSAGE TO FARMERS: TIME TO DO WITHOUT

# NRDC ALTERNATIVE IS A DISASTER FOR SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AGRICULTURE

---

## ASSUMPTIONS

- 4 million acre-feet delivery of combined State Water Project/Central Valley Project in average year
- Traditional sharing between SWP (55 percent ) and CVP (45 percent)
- Ongoing water commitments to San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors (240,000 acres)
- Ongoing CVPIA firm water commitment to public and private wildlife refuges
- Ongoing priority to municipal/industrial users (Santa Clara Valley, Tracy, Avenal, etc)
- 1.2 million acres of farmland served by San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
- South of Delta CVP ag contractors need 1.854 million acre-feet of supply to meet needs

## FOOTNOTES

- <sup>1</sup>Exchange Contractors irrigate 240,000 acres of land ([www.sjrecwa.net/about\\_us.html](http://www.sjrecwa.net/about_us.html))
- San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority irrigates 1.2 million acres of land, including that of the Exchange Contractors
- Exchange Contractors obligated 100 percent of contract supply of 840,000 acre-feet in normal year ([www.sjrecwa.net/history.html](http://www.sjrecwa.net/history.html))
- <sup>2</sup>Refuge Level 2 Contract Water Supply of 271,000 acre-feet. Refuge deliveries do not account for 20 percent carriage losses south of Delta (thus 325,000) ([www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/detail.cfm?RecordID=39804](http://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/detail.cfm?RecordID=39804))
- <sup>3</sup>Municipal/Industrial cuts limited to 50 percent ([www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/documentShow.cfm?Doc\\_ID=2043](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/documentShow.cfm?Doc_ID=2043))
- Full historical M&I is 178,000
- <sup>4</sup>Full South-of-Delta delivery to Ag Service contractors is 1.9 million acre-feet ([www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/detail.cfm?RecordID=39804](http://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/newsrelease/detail.cfm?RecordID=39804))

