

STATE WATER CONTRACTORS

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

Securing our Water, Restoring the Delta, Creating Jobs

State and federal agencies are crafting a plan to restore the ecosystem of the troubled Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and modernize the water supply system that helps to sustain 25 million Californians, 3 million acres of agriculture and California's statewide economy. The effort is known as the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and is a habitat restoration plan that includes the construction of a twin-tunnel water conveyance system that would protect water supplies from the destruction and saltwater invasion that an earthquake could cause. The tunnels would also separate the delicate ecosystem from the state's water operations. BDCP is a long-term solution. The habitat conservation efforts will span 50 years and the tunnels will improve California's water supply reliability for at least that long. In addition to being designed to secure the water supply and restore the Delta ecosystem, the BDCP will also be a major job generator for the Delta region and California as a whole. The California Natural Resources Agency released an **updated study**, conducted by UC Berkeley Professor David Sunding of the Brattle Group, that outlines the anticipated local and statewide jobs created under the BDCP. Some of the study's major findings are outlined below.

BDCP Would Result In More Than 136,000 New Jobs

121,000 JOBS

CREATED FROM CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF TUNNELS

Construction

Over the 7.5 year

construction period

related facilities, more

of the tunnels and

than 110,000 jobs would be created. The construction, design and materials manufacturing sectors

would all experience direct job creation

benefits.

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Operation & Maintenance

Once the project is constructed, the state will need to hire people for the operation and maintenance of what will be the centerpiece of California's water infrastructure. **This would create an additional 11,000 jobs over the course of at least 40 years.**

GENERATES NET GAIN OF NEARLY

HABITAT RESTORATION



15,000 JOBS

Over the 50 year life of the plan, the construction, planning, operations and maintenance, and land acquisition related to **habitat restoration would result in a net gain of nearly 15,000 jobs.**

JOBS CREATED DIRECTLY IN DELTA REGION

Under BDCP, some agricultural land in the Delta region will be converted to habitat. The intensive work associated with habitat restoration will ultimately result in the net gain of 15,000 jobs. The habitat restoration **would generate over a billion dollars in wages in the Delta region**. These figures take into account the impacts of agricultural land retirement.

The majority of the construction, operation and maintenance jobs will also be based in the Delta region.

Having a secure water supply for the 25 million Californians and millions of acres of farmland that rely on water from the Delta is important to California's economy. This reliability, coupled with an additional 136,000 jobs, illustrates the necessity of the BDCP.

Read the full study <u>here</u>. For more information please visit www.baydeltaconservationplan.com or www.swc.org.