

Study Authorization, Public Law 106-554 Appendix D Division B

SEC. 103. (a) In General. – The Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a feasibility study for a Sacramento River, California, diversion project that is consistent with the Water Forum Agreement among the members of the Sacramento, California, Water Forum dated April 24, 2000, and that considers –

- (1) consolidation of several of the Natomas Central Mutual Water Company's diversions;
- (2) upgrading fish screens at the consolidated diversion;
- (3) the diversion of 35,000 acre feet of water by the Placer County Water Agency;
- (4) the division of 29,000 acre feet of water for delivery to the Northridge Water District;
- (5) the potential to accommodate other divisions of water from the Sacramento River, subject to additional negotiations and agreement among Water Forum signatories and potentially affected parties upstream on the Sacramento River; and
- (6) an inter-tie between the diversions referred to in paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) with the Northridge Water District's pipeline that delivers water from the American River.

(b) Required Components. – The feasibility study shall include –

- (1) the development of a range of reasonable options;
- (2) an environmental evaluation; and
- (3) consultation with Federal and State resources management agencies regarding potential impacts and mitigation measures.

(c) Water Supply Impact Alternatives. – The study authorized by this section shall include a range of alternatives, all of which would investigate options that could reduce to insignificance any water supply impact on water users in the Sacramento River watershed, including Central Valley Project contractors, from any delivery of water out of the Sacramento River as referenced in subsection (a). In evaluating the alternatives, the study shall consider water supply alternatives that would increase water supply for, or in, the Sacramento River watershed. The study should be coordinated with the CALFED program and take advantage of information already developed within that program to investigate water supply increase alternatives. Where the alternatives evaluated are in addition to or different from the existing CALFED alternatives, such information should be clearly identified.

(d) Habitat Management Planning Grants. – The Secretary of the Interior, subject to the availability of appropriations, is authorized and directed to provide grants to support local habitat management planning efforts undertaken as part of the consultation described in subsection (b)(3) in the form of matching funds up to \$5,000,000.

(e) Report. – The Secretary of the Interior shall provide a report to the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives and to the Committee on

Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate within 24 months from the date of enactment of this Act on the results of the study identified in subsection (a).

(f) Authorization of Appropriations. – There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out this section \$10,000,000, which may remain available until expended, of which –

- (1) \$5,000,000 shall be for the feasibility study under subsection (a); and
- (2) \$5,000,000 shall be for the habitat management planning grants under subsection (d).

(g) Limitation on Construction. – This section does not and shall not be interpreted to authorize construction of any facilities.