

Talking Points Re: South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (“SSHCP”) and the BDCP

- The SSHCP has been in process for in excess of 13 years.
- The SSHCP is multi-jurisdictional and includes the County of Sacramento, The City of Elk Grove, the City of Rancho Cordova, The City of Galt, The Sacramento County Water Agency, the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District and the Regional Transportation Connector JPA.
- The SSHCP has involved the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, The Corps of Engineers, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- The SSHCP attempts to cover issues associated with the Federal and State ESA’s as well as addressing Clean Water Act Section 404 and 401 issues.
- The SSHCP has worked with a Stakeholder group that includes affected landowners, the business community, developers/builders, agricultural interests, and a wide and diverse environmental community including the Nature Conservancy and the Native Plant Society, to name only a few.
- In the development of the SSHCP we have worked with Members of Congress and the heads of the affected State and Federal agencies that are involved, including extensive meetings in Sacramento and in Washington D.C.
- The SSHCP and associated documents are planned to be published in the Federal Register late fall or early winter, 2010.
- Time imperatives associated with critical infrastructure and requirements of relevant Biological Opinions require that the SSHCP be completed by mid- to late 2011.
- There is overlap in the area covered by the SSHCP with areas being dealt within the BDCP, including areas designated under the BDCP for diversion, conveyance and storage structures associated with the Peripheral Canal. [See Map.](#)
- While the SSHCP has attempted outreach to the BDCP, other than a “check the box” contact with the head of the Sacramento County Water Agency there has been no formal contact by BDCP with anyone involved with preparation of the SSHCP. We are still willing to cooperate. Stuart Somach, who heads up the SSHCP effort, can be contacted at 916-446-7979.
- We are willing to cooperated and coordinate with the BDCP effort. However, we are not interested in “integrating” the SSHCP with the BDCP. (The SSHCP, for example does not deal with aquatic species.)