

Draft Bay Delta Conservation Strategy

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee
August 17, 2009
Item 6b

Process of Conservation Strategy Development

- BDCP Planning Agreement – Oct 2006
- Points of Agreement supporting new conveyance facility – Nov 2007
- Independent Science Reports
 - BDCP Conservation Principles – Nov 2007
 - Terrestrial Species – Nov 2009
 - Adaptive Management – Feb 2009
- Outline of Conservation Strategy elements – Dec 2008
- Draft Conservation Strategy (Chapter 3) – August 2009

Elements of Conservation Strategy

- Goals and Objectives
 - Goals - broad guiding principles
 - Objectives – specific and measurable – address specified “problem statements”
- Conservation Measures
 - Dual Conveyance with Operations Criteria
 - Habitat Restoration
 - Other Stressors
- Monitoring and Research Program
- Adaptive Management Program

DRAFT

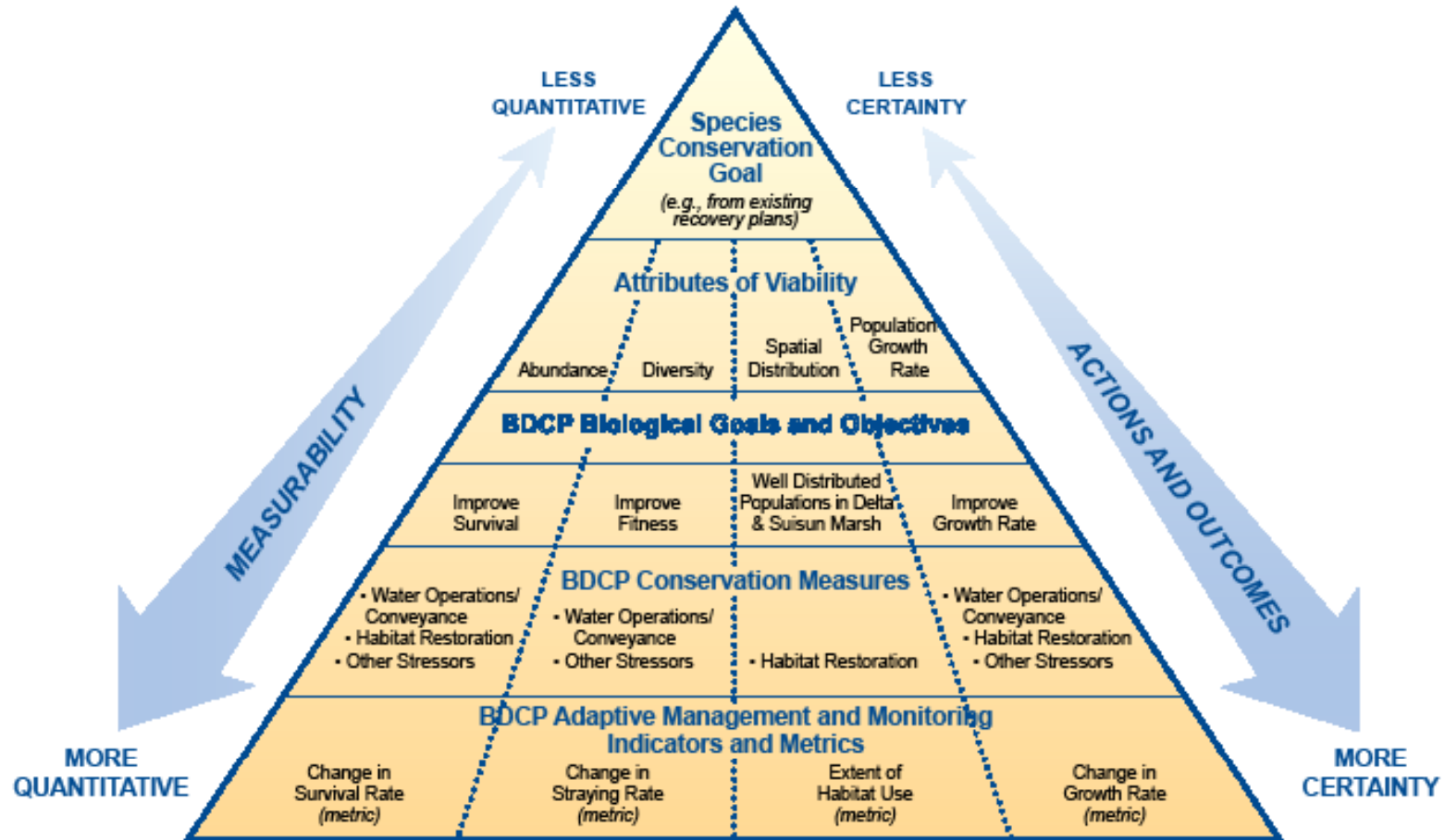


Figure 3.3
Biological Goals and Objectives: Relationships with Broader Goals, Conservation Measures, Adaptive Management, and Monitoring

Implementation Timeframe

- Near-Term Implementation
 - Following authorization/permitting
 - Prior to operational isolated conveyance (i.e., through Delta operations only)
- Long-Term Implementation
 - Begins at start of dual operations (North Delta and South Delta diversion facilities)
 - Runs through end of permits

Existing and proposed new water control facilities

New North Delta diversions (5 diversion points)

New Canal/Tunnel – 15,000 cfs

Dual operations with existing South Delta diversions (SWP and CVP)

Flexible operations - North and South Delta diversions

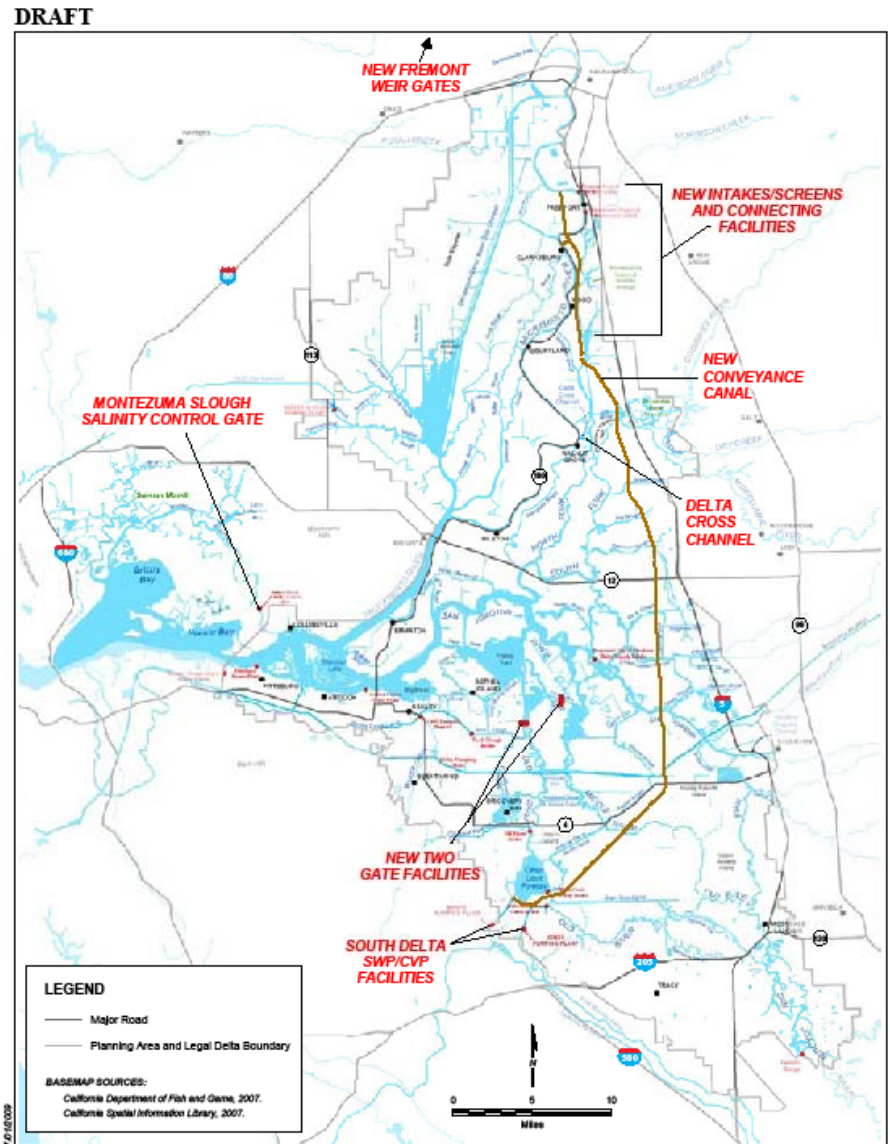


Figure 3.4
Water Operations Control Facilities in the Delta (Existing and New)

Physical Habitat Conservation Measures

Restoration goal of 80,000 acres

Tidal marsh – 65,000 acres

Riparian – 5,000 acres

New floodplain habitat – 10,000 acres

Enhanced floodplain habitat – Yolo Bypass

Preservation of existing and restoration of terrestrial and non-tidal wetland habitat to support wildlife and plants

DRAFT

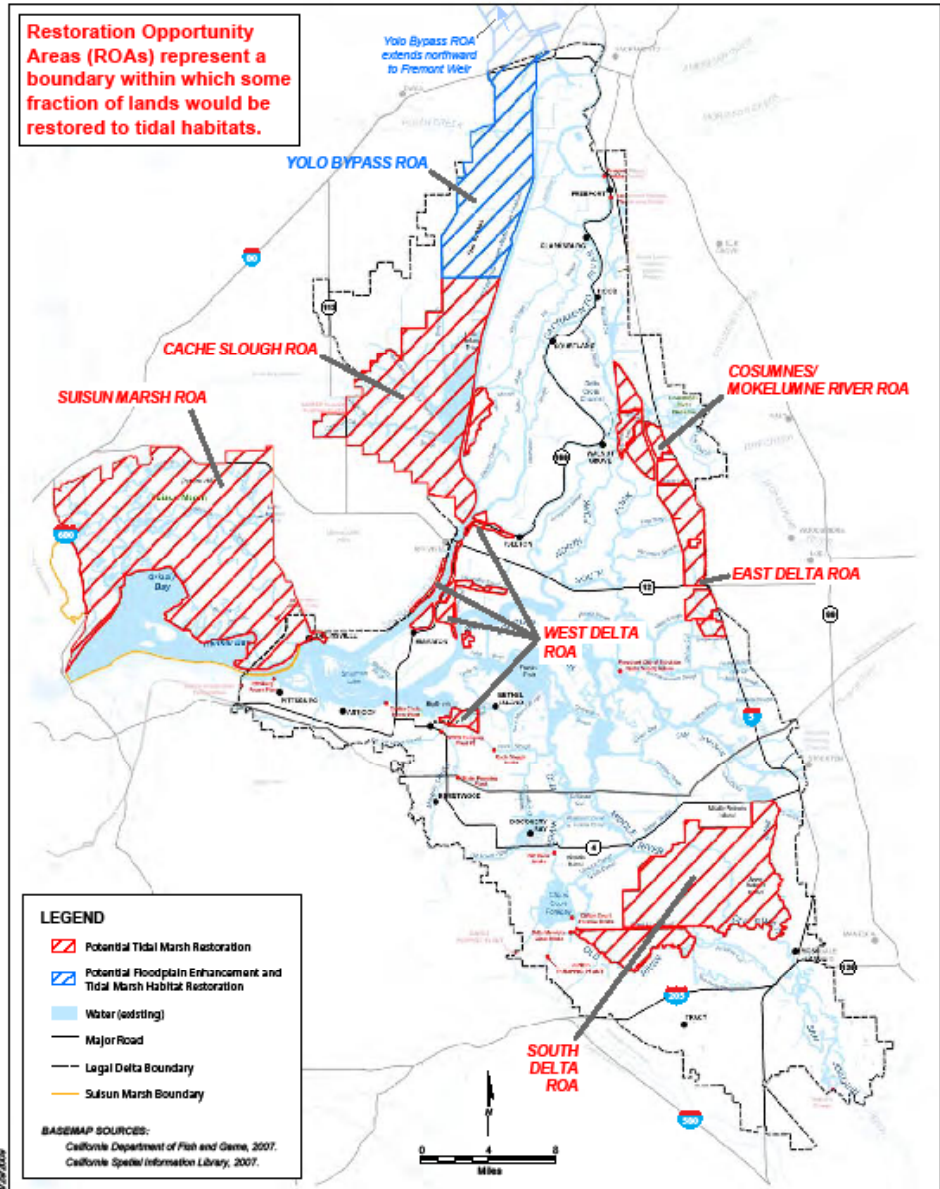


Figure 3.1
Restoration Opportunity Areas (ROAs)

Other Stressors Conservation Measures

- Reduce toxic contaminants
- Reduce low dissolved oxygen areas
- Reduce the risk and improve response to new invasions by non-native species
- Reduce the number of non-native predators
- Reduce illegal harvest of covered species
- Improve hatchery management
- Reduce wild salmon loss to commercial fisheries
- Expand propagation programs for Delta and longfin smelt
- Reduce entrainment at non-project diversions
- Improve out-migrating salmon survival by redirection with non-physical barriers

Reduce toxic contaminants and low dissolved oxygen areas

- Wastewater facilities (23): ammonia, endocrine disruptors, pesticides
- Stormwater/Urban run-off: oil and grease, pesticides
- Methylmercury input from upstream and in-Delta sources
- Agricultural run-off: pesticides, herbicides
- Stockton Deepwater Ship Channel – low DO area
- Managed seasonal wetland – low DO areas



Reduce the risk of and improve response to new invasions by non-native species

- More inspection stations
- More inspections of watercraft & trailers
- More wash stations
- Education programs
- Rapid detection and response program

DRAFT

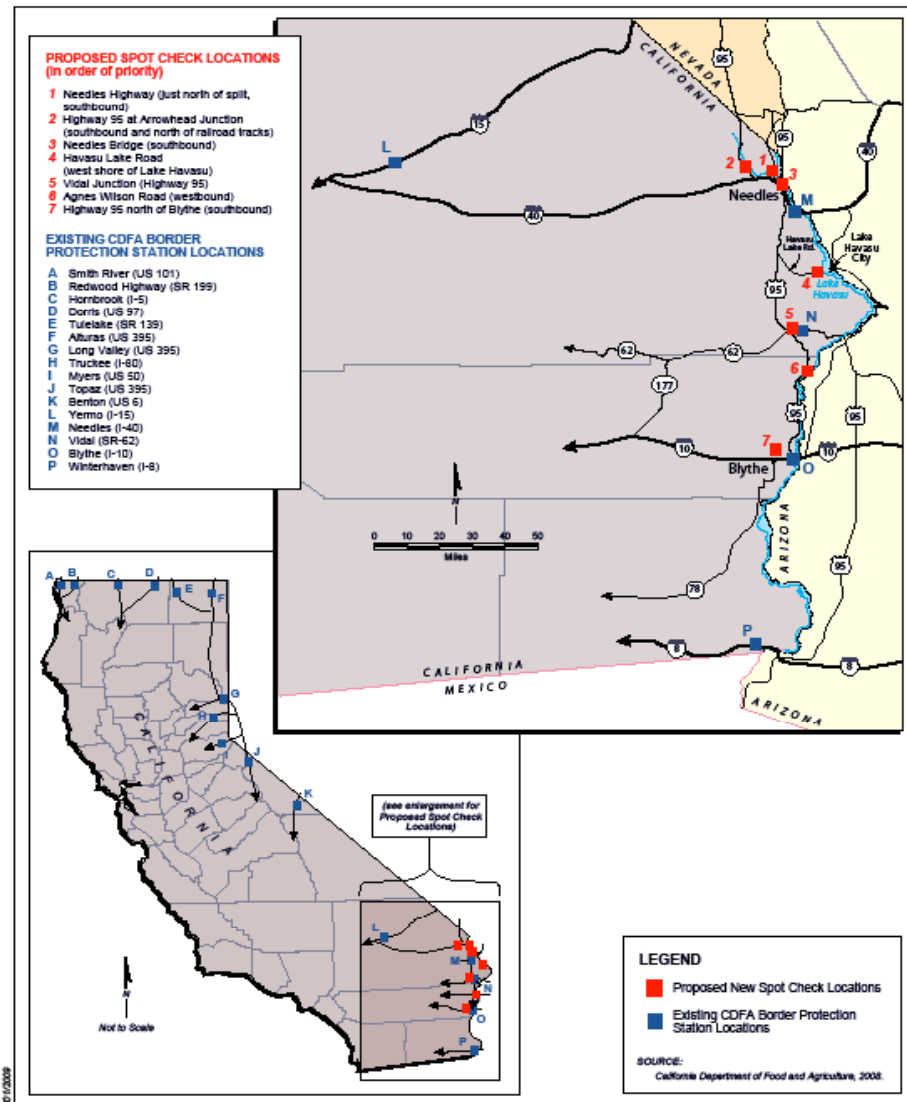


Figure 3.6 Existing CDFA Border Protection Station Locations and Proposed New Spot Check Locations in California

Reduce the number of non-native predators

- Remove submerged aquatic and floating aquatic vegetation that supports predator habitat
- Increase harvest of non-native predators
- Local predator control at high predator density locations

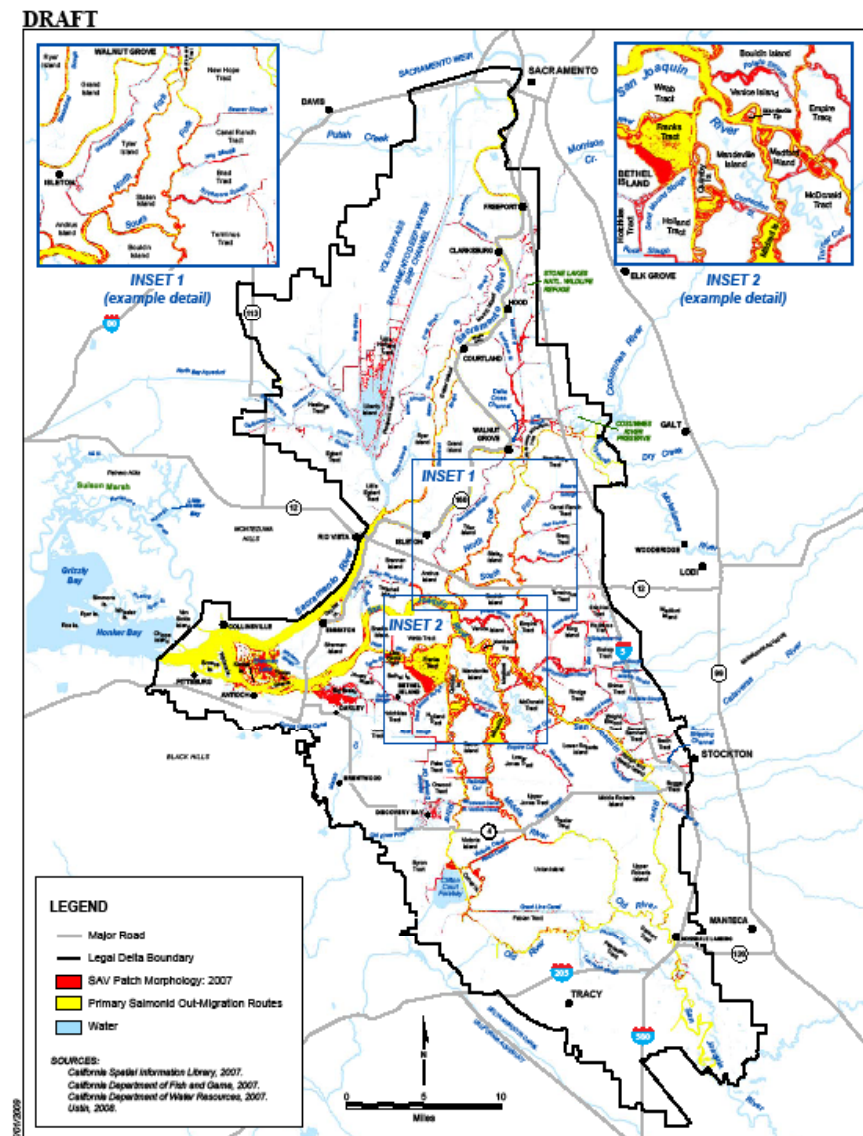


Figure 3.8
Overlap of SAV 2007 Distribution and Primary Salmonid Outmigration Routes

Improve survival of out-migrating salmon by redirection with non-physical barriers

DRAFT

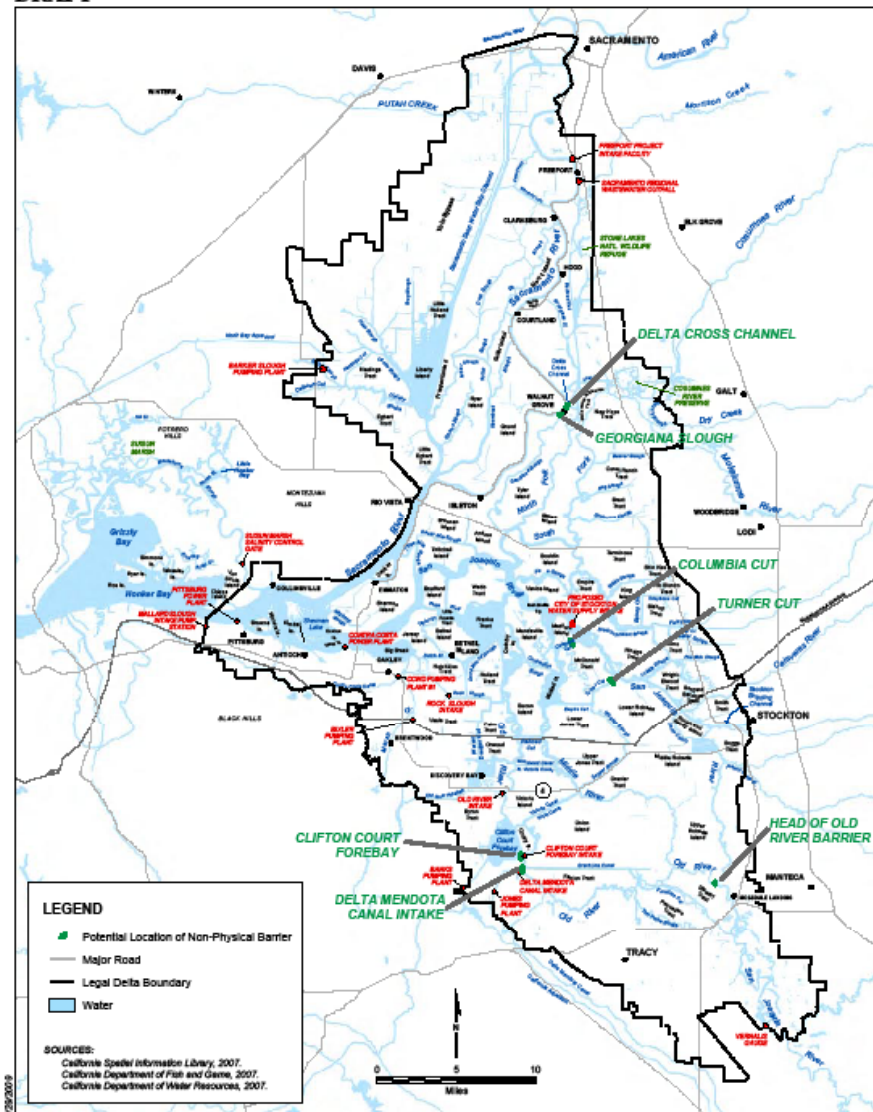
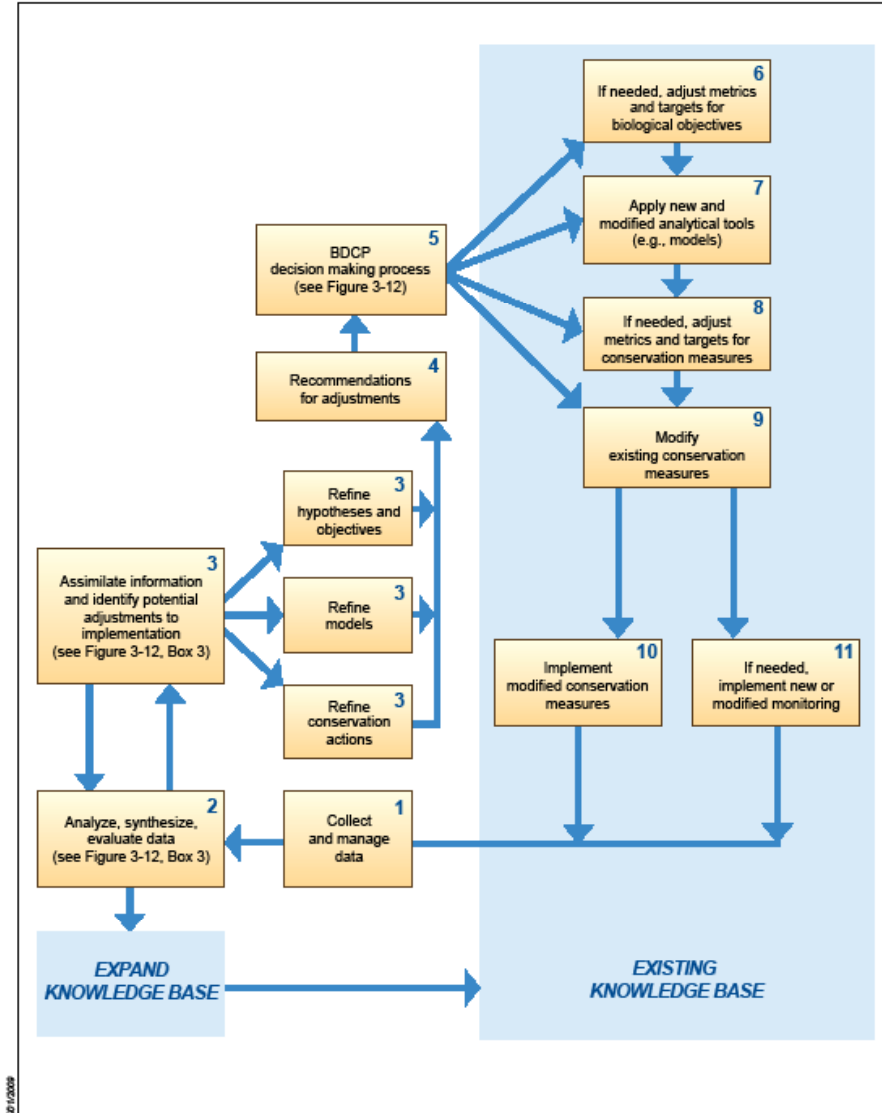


Figure 3.10
Potential Locations of Non-Physical Barriers

DRAFT



2012/02/08

Figure 3.11
BDCP Adaptive Management Process Framework

BDCP Adaptive Management Process

Transparent
Science based

BDCP Decision Making Process

Routine:

- Smaller changes
- Faster
- Less process

Non-routine:

- Larger changes
- Slower
- More process

DRAFT

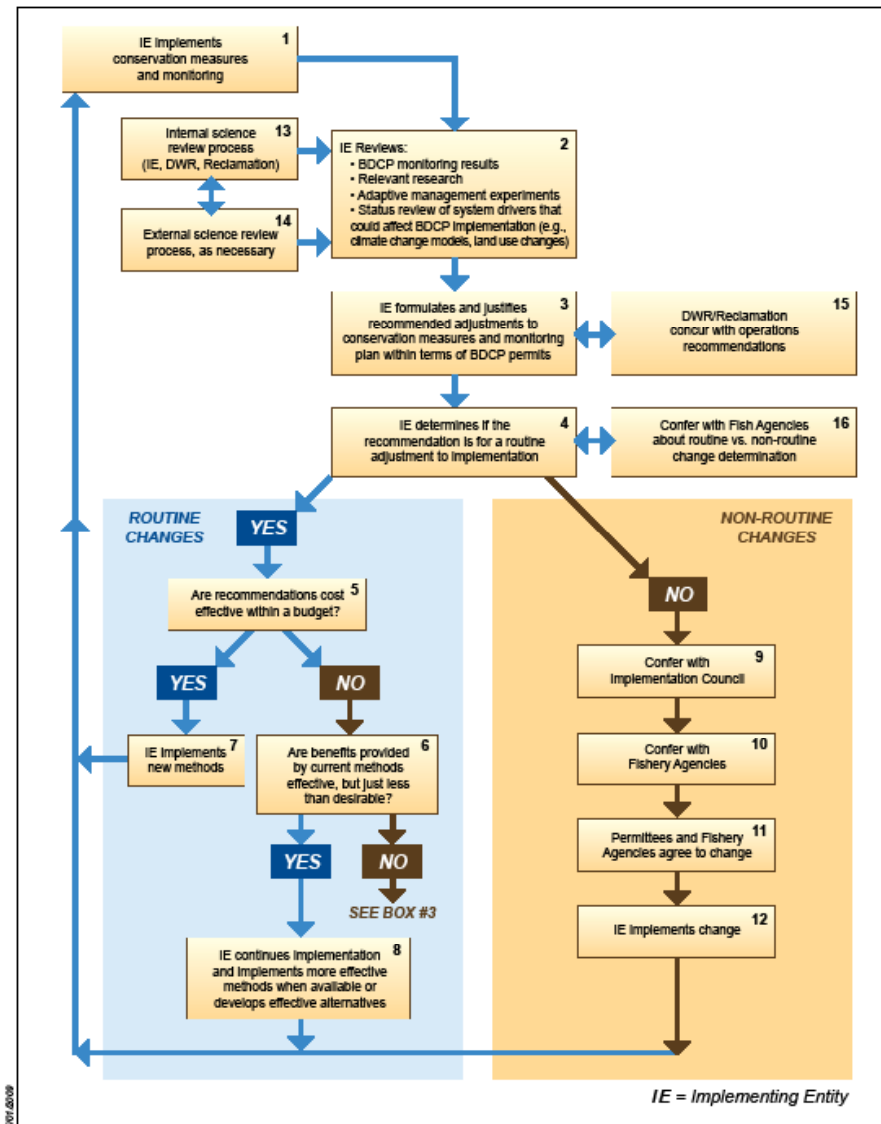


Figure 3.12
BDCP Adaptive Management Decision Making Process

Conclusion

- Comprehensive Conservation Strategy
- Addresses a wide range of the most important stressors on covered fish species and the aquatic system
- Terrestrial resources conservation measures will be included
- Learning and flexibility built into the strategy
- Working draft document
 - – Full BDCP Administrative Draft by end of 2009
- Much progress
- Still much more to do...