

# Preliminary Water Supply Estimates for Delta Conveyance Project

Overview of Scenarios and Draft Modeling  
Results

Prepared for the State Water Contractors

August 26, 2020

# Preliminary DCP Water Supply Analysis

- DWR is currently developing the Delta Conveyance Proposed Project.
- At this time, DWR has not defined the project operations and has not completed regulatory processes that may impact project operations.
- Coarse estimate of water supply changes using CalSim II.
- Estimates will change as Delta Conveyance Project is further defined, permitting is completed and modeling is refined.

# Purpose

- Assess the improvement and continuity of the State Water Project (SWP) delivery reliability and resiliency under the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP)
- To inform upcoming decision on funding for DCP Planning Costs

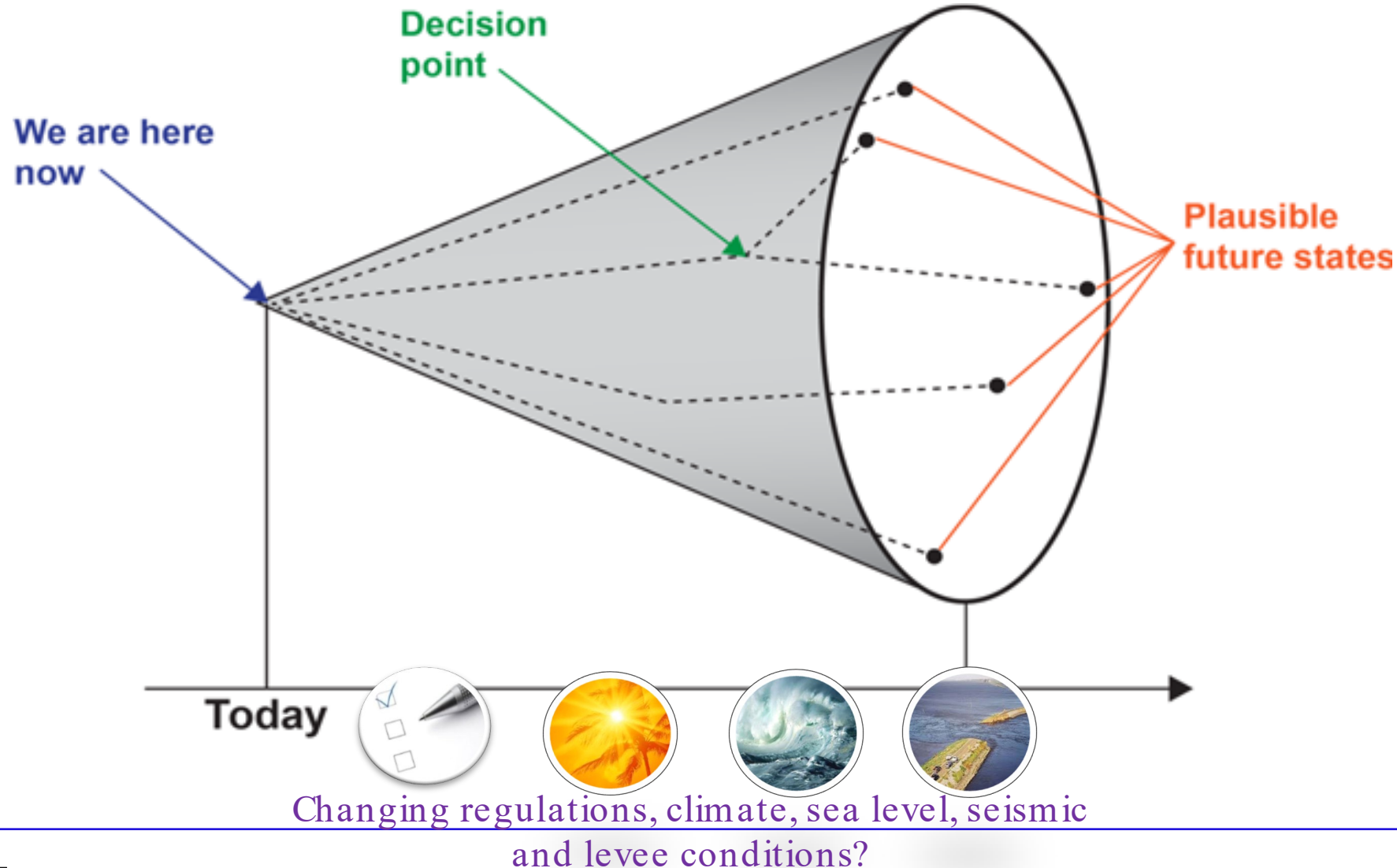
# Scope

- Coarse estimate of the potential SWP water supply changes with the DCP under a range of existing and future scenarios (with and without DCP) simulated with CalSim II
- Key question to be answered- How will DCP improve or ensure resiliency of SWP delivery reliability under future:
  - different regulatory conditions?
  - climate change and sea level rise?
  - seismic events that disrupt levee system?

# Overall Approach

- Strategic planning approach
- Use of high-level assumptions
- Use of available models, tools, and data
- Preliminary assessment to support early decisions
- SWC- an internal effort

# Scenario Approach to Understanding DCP Performance



- Understand that the DCP will be constructed and operated under future conditions
- Unknown exact future conditions
- Scenarios help us explore plausible futures

# Scenarios

- 5 combinations of regulatory, climate and sea level, and seismic/levee system
- Each scenario simulated with and without DCP
- DCP operational alternatives:
  - More restrictive (all scenarios)
  - Less restrictive (Scenario 2 only)

Scenario	Regulatory Condition	Climate and Sea Level Change	Seismic and Delta Levee System
Scenario 1A – Existing (2019 BiOps)	2019 DEIR PP	Existing	Existing
Scenario 1B – Existing (2020 ITP)	2020 ITP	Existing	Existing
Scenario 2 – Current Trends	2020 ITP	2035 median projection, plus 45 cm SLR	Existing
Scenario 3A – More Restrictive South Delta	2020 ITP + Restrictive South Delta Exports	2035 median projection, plus 45 cm SLR	Existing
Scenario 3B – Increased Delta Outflow Requirements	2020 ITP + Increased Delta Outflow	2035 median projection, plus 45 cm SLR	Existing
Scenario 4 – Rapid Climate and Sea Level Change	2020 ITP	2035 median projection, plus 140 cm SLR	Existing
Scenario 5 – (Seismic Risk) Delta Levee System	2020 ITP	2035 median projection, plus 45 cm SLR	Seismic Disruption

# Scenarios 1 and 2– Existing and Current Trends

## Scenario 1 – Existing\*

- Regulatory Conditions
  - D-1641 + 2019 Biological Opinion (1A)
  - D-1641 + 2019 Biological Opinion + 2020 ITP (1B)
- Climate and Sea Level Change
  - Existing
- Seismic and Delta Levee System
  - Existing

## Scenario 2 – Current Trends\*

- Regulatory Conditions
  - D-1641 + 2019 Biological Opinion + 2020 ITP
- Climate and Sea Level Change
  - 2035 median projection, plus 45 cm SLR
- Seismic and Delta Levee System
  - Existing

*\*Based on DWR's SWP LTO EIR Modeling.*

# Scenario 3 – Future Increased Operational Restrictions

## *Hypothetical future regulatory scenarios*

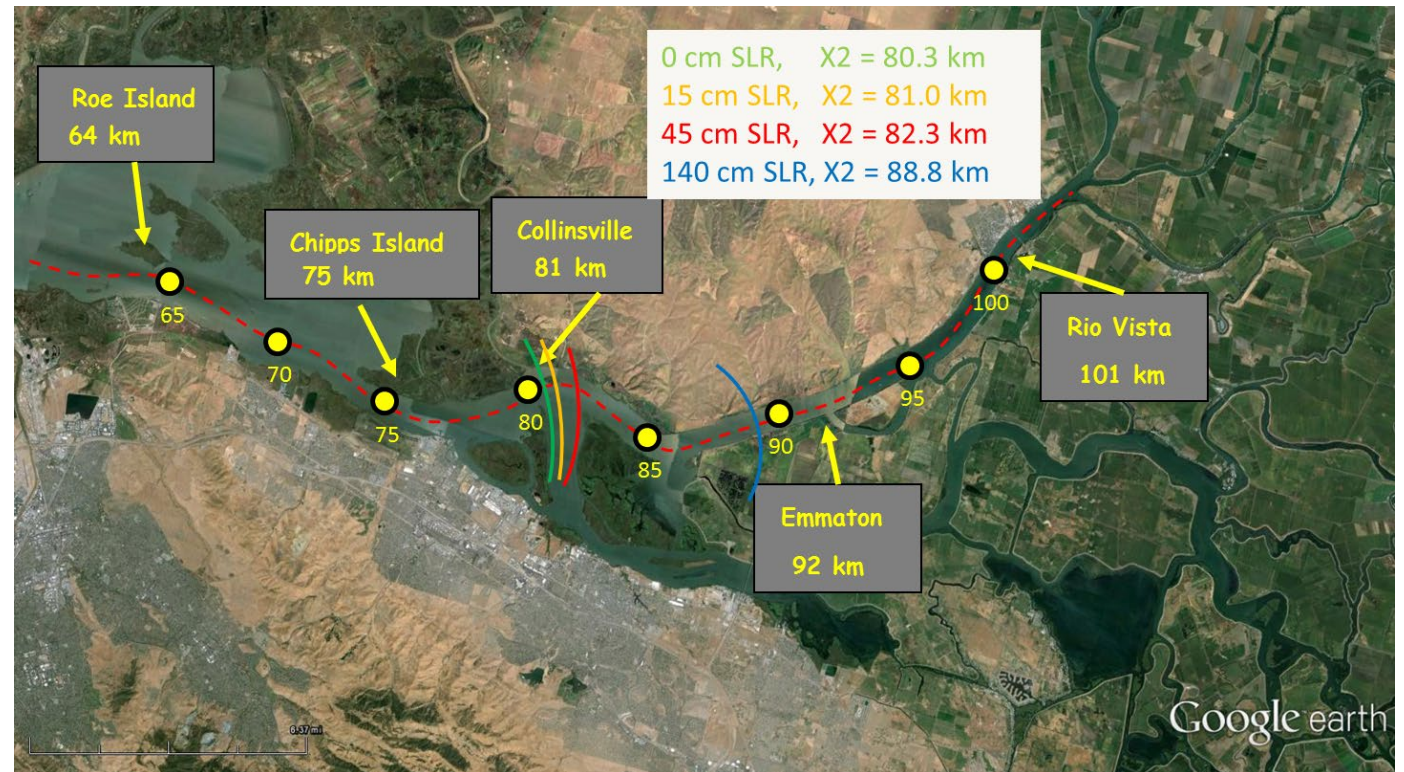
- More Restrictive South Delta (3A)\*
  - 2020 ITP
  - Further restrictions on South Delta diversion
    - Dec-June: OMR > -2,000 cfs
    - Oct-Nov: OMR > -5,000 cfs
    - July- Sep: OMR > -5,000 cfs
- Climate and Sea Level Change
  - 2035 median projection, plus 45cm SLR
- Seismic and Delta Levee System
  - Existing
- Increased Outflow Requirements (3 B)\*
  - 2020 ITP
  - Increased outflow requirements
    - Jan-Jun
    - 55% unimpaired flow Sacramento R
    - 40% unimpaired flow San Joaquin R
    - Requirement is limited to 44,500 cfs
    - Met with export cuts and upstream releases
- Climate and Sea Level Change
  - 2035 median projection, plus 45cm SLR
- Seismic and Delta Levee System
  - Existing

*\*Hypothetical assumptions were used for purposes of this analysis.*



# Scenario 4 – Rapid Climate and Sea Level Change

- Regulatory Conditions
  - 2020 ITP
- Climate and Sea Level Change\*
  - 2035 median projection
  - 140 cm sea level rise
  - Modified delta flow-salinity relationships due to increased tidal prism
  - X2 position moves inland by 8-9 km
  - When salinity control is not possible through Delta outflow, exports limited to H&S levels (1500 cfs)
  - Sacramento releases for salinity control are limited to 12,000–15,000 cfs depending on water year type
  - South delta exports restricted when EC at Clifton Court Forebay Intake is above water quality threshold (900 EC) to avoid pumping water with an EC above 1,250
- Seismic and Delta Levee System
  - Existing

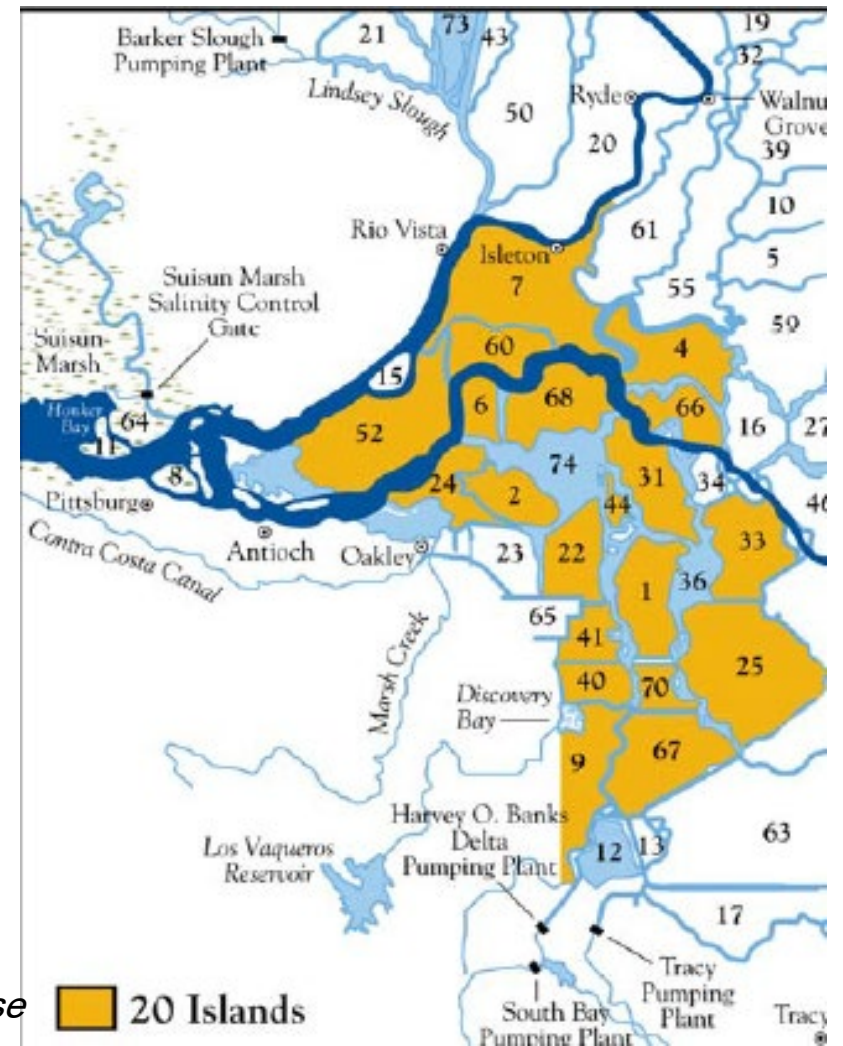


*\*Future water quality requirements and beneficial uses under a rapid climate and sea level rise scenario are unknown. Hypothetical assumptions were used for purposes of this analysis.*

# Scenario 5 – Seismic and Levee System Integrity

- Regulatory Conditions
  - 2020 ITP
- Climate and Sea Level Change
  - 2035 median projection; 45 cm sea level rise
- Seismic and Delta Levee System
  - Consistent with assumptions in DRMS (2009) and DFEMP (2018)
  - Adopting 20 island failure scenario
  - Substantial changes to tidal prism and interior delta salinity due to island flooding
  - Assume prolonged or extended changes to delta
  - Similar operational assumptions as Scenario 4\*

*\*Future water quality requirements and beneficial uses under a rapid climate and sea level rise scenario are unknown. Hypothetical assumptions were used for purposes of this analysis.*



# Delta Conveyance Project Assumptions

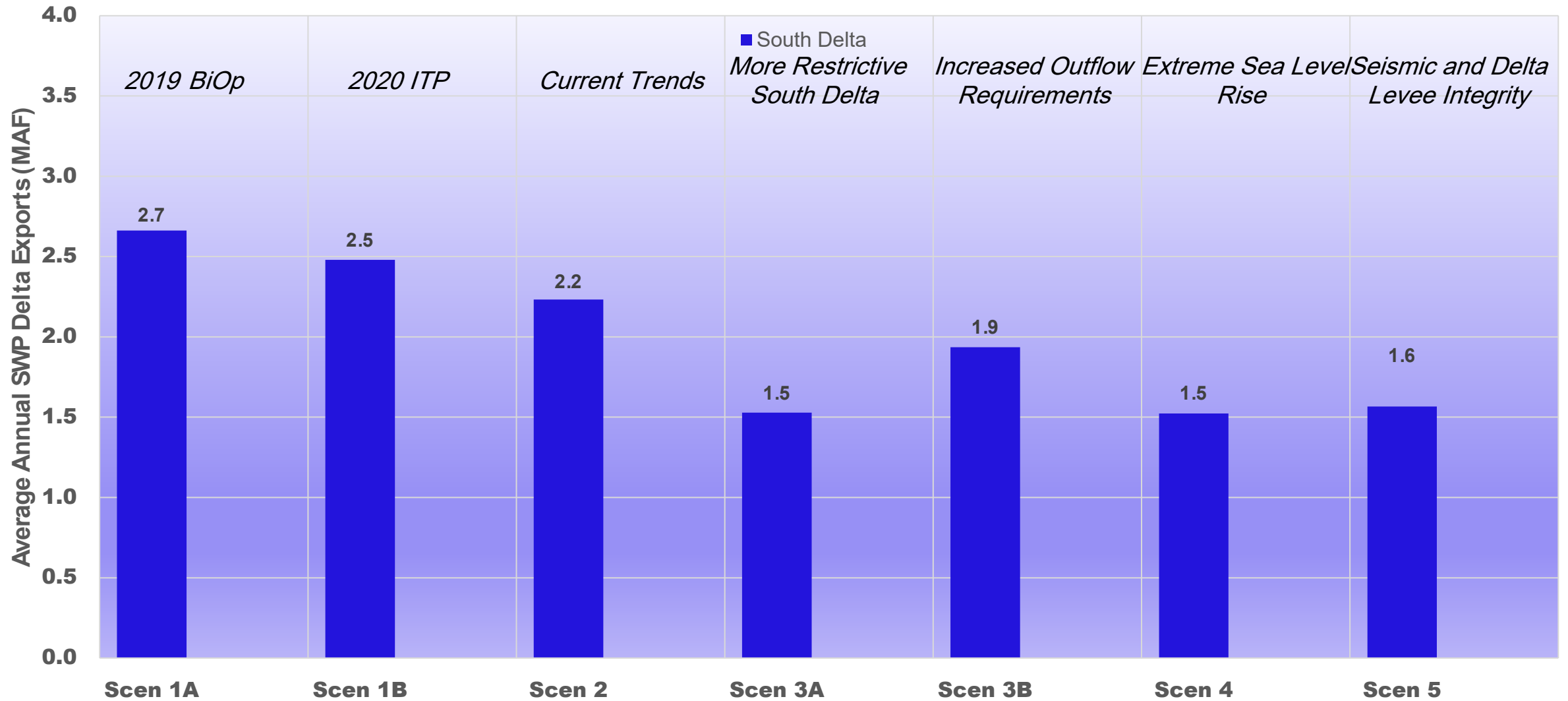
- Based on “California Water Fix” operational criteria\*
- Delta Conveyance proposed capacity of 6,000 cfs only for SWP
- “Less” and “More” Restrictive operational scenarios

*\*At this time, DWR has not defined the project operations and has not completed regulatory processes that may impact project operations. Hypothetical assumptions were used for purposes of this analysis.*

Operating Criteria	Period	Less Restrictive	More Restrictive
North Delta Diversion	Dec – Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CWF Level 1,2,3</b> bypass flow criteria (applicable all the time except during pulse protection period)</li> <li>• <b>Single pulse</b> protection (Low level pumping of 6% or 600 cfs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CWF Level 1</b> bypass flow criteria (applicable all the time except during pulse protection period)</li> <li>• <b>Unlimited pulse</b> protection (Low level pumping of 6% or 600 cfs)</li> </ul>
	Jul – Sep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5,000 cfs bypass flow criterion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5,000 cfs bypass flow criterion</li> </ul>
	Oct – Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7,000 cfs bypass flow criterion unless pulse is triggered, after which Level 1 bypass flow criteria applies.</li> <li>• Single pulse protection (Low level pumping of 6% or 600 cfs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7,000 cfs bypass flow criterion unless pulse is triggered, after which Level 1 bypass flow criteria applies.</li> <li>• Single pulse protection (Low level pumping of 6% or 600 cfs)</li> </ul>
E/I ratio	Oct - Sep	NDD part of <b>inflow</b> calculation	NDD part of <b>export</b> calculation

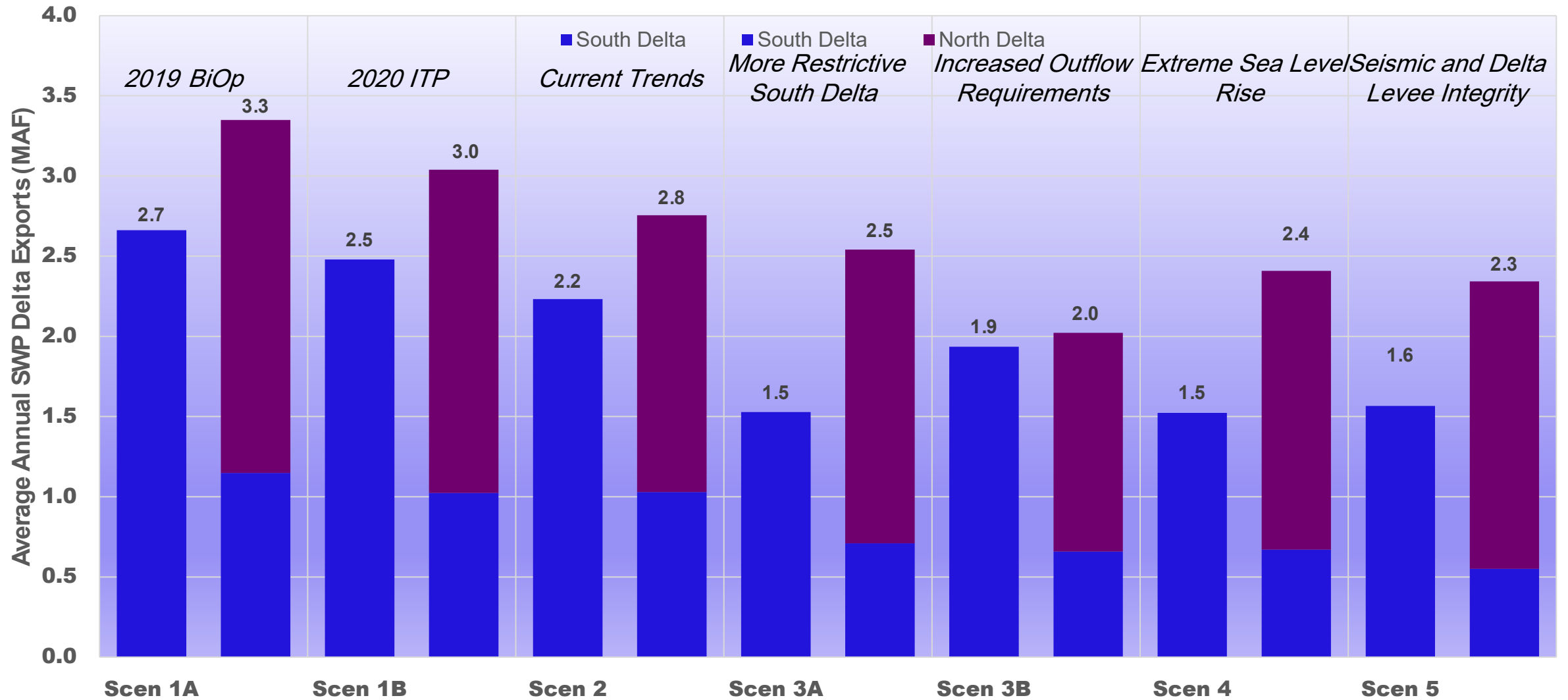
# Delta Water Supply Analysis – What Could the Future Look Like?

SWP Delta Exports



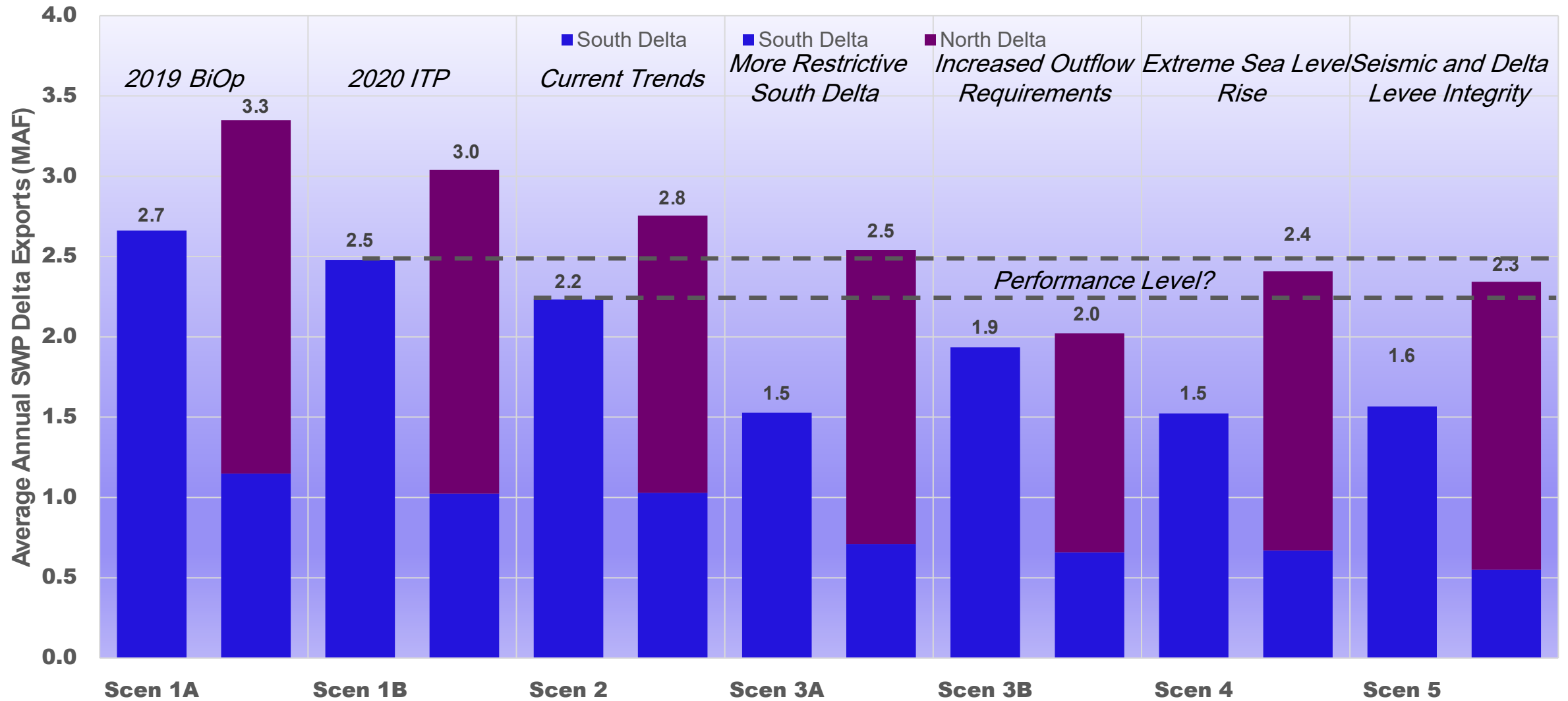
# Delta Water Supply Analysis – What Could the Future Look Like?

SWP Delta Exports



# Delta Water Supply Analysis – What Could the Future Look Like?

SWP Delta Exports



# Key Findings

- DCP provides potential to increase SWP reliability or offset losses under many plausible future risk scenarios
  - 100 TAFY to 1.0 MAFY under tightening regulatory restrictions
  - 700 TAFY under seismic risks and long-term delta island flooding
  - 900 TAFY under extreme sea level rise
- Future is unknown, but will likely consist of blends of climate/ hydrology, regulatory, seismic/ levee, and other risk drivers
- Future scenarios demonstrate increased water system **Resilience** with DCP

*System resilience is defined as the capacity to respond, absorb, adapt to, and recover from disruptive events*

*- Haines 2009, Risk Analysis*

*“... intended to strengthen the resilience of water systems, thereby helping communities prepare for disruptions, to withstand and recover from shocks, and to adapt and grow from these experiences.”*

*- California Water Resilience Portfolio 2020*