

# California

Bay Delta

Bay Area

Urban water use by South California Los Angeles

Summary by Eddy Moors



## Exposure

- Sea level rise is happening (2.2 cm /10 yrs at Golden Gate Bridge)
- Tectonic activity
- Extreme temperatures (Sep 2010 record high in LA)
- Change in the timing of water availability, e.g. snow melt takes place earlier in the year (this can not be resolved by increasing the storage capacity)

## Measures

- Peripheral canal:
  - transport water from north to south bypassing the inner delta.
  - Restore tidal effects in the inner delta,
  - assure a more robust water supply to the south;

Urban water use has the biggest opportunities to reduce present use

- Regional projects are part of the solution, e.g. recycling of water by injecting in the groundwater system
- Developing compact, mixed use communities are stimulated
- Governance: Delta Stewardship Council (nov '09):
  - more reliable water supply & ecosystem restoration

## Messages

- Water use and distribution: ecology vs agriculture vs urban use (North is supplier, South is user)
- Mitigation & adaptation (19% of the electric energy is used to pump water). Business with a sustainability objective.
- We will not move, so we will adapt to the challenges, which may result in a new landscape possibly with different species;
- Concentrate on how fast and where population grows;
- Governance: stay out of the courtrooms!



