

In 1959, when the SWP was authorized, the Legislature enacted the Delta Protection Act. (§§ 12200-12220.) The Legislature recognized the unique water problems in the Delta, particularly "salinity intrusion," which mandates the need for such special legislation "for the protection, conservation, development, control and use of the waters in the Delta for the public good." (§ 12200.) The act prohibits project exports from the Delta of water necessary to provide water to which the Delta users are "entitled" and water which is needed for salinity control and an adequate supply for Delta users.³⁷ (§§ 12202, 12203, 12204.)