

Chapter 5

Environmental Commitments (Modified BDCP Conservation Measures)

5.1 Environmental Commitments Modified from BDCP Conservation Measures

As a non-HCP alternative, Alternative 4A achieves compliance with federal and state endangered species laws through Section 7 of the ESA and Section 2081 of CESA, rather than through ESA Section 10 and NCCPA Section 2835. As such, different terminology has been adopted to reflect the difference in permitting strategies under state and federal endangered species laws. These repackaged and limited elements of the original BDCP Conservation Measures are instead referred to as “Environmental Commitments” (ECs). As noted, these Environmental Commitments are actions primarily intended to satisfy CEQA, CESA Section 2081, and ESA Section 7. To minimize confusion, they are numbered to track the parallel BDCP Conservation Measures: Environmental Commitments 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, and 16, as summarized in Table 5-1.

Table 5-1. Environmental Commitments under Alternative 4A

Environmental Commitment 3: Natural Communities Protection and Restoration	
Valley/Foothill Riparian	103 acres
Grassland	1,060 acres
Vernal Pool Complex and Alkali Seasonal Wetland Complex	188 acres
Nontidal Marsh	119 acres
Cultivated Lands	11,870 acres
Total:	Up to 13,340 acres
Environmental Commitment 4: Tidal Natural Communities Restoration	
Environmental Commitment 6: Channel Margin Enhancement	Up to 4.6 levee miles
Environmental Commitment 7: Riparian Natural Community Restoration	Up to 271 acres
Environmental Commitment 8: Grassland Natural Community	Up to 2,092 acres
Environmental Commitment 9: Vernal Pool and Alkali Seasonal Wetland Complex Restoration	Up to 48 acres
Environmental Commitment 10: Nontidal Marsh Restoration	Up to 832 acres
Environmental Commitment 11: Natural Communities Enhancement and Management	At sites protected or restored under Environmental Commitments 3–10
Environmental Commitment 12: Methylmercury Management	At sites restored under Environmental Commitment 4
Environmental Commitment 15: Localized Reduction of Predatory Fishes	At north Delta intakes and at Clifton Court Forebay
Environmental Commitment 16: Nonphysical Fish Barrier	At Georgiana Slough