

Planning for the future of The Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta

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Prepared as part of the CALFED Science Program's Delta Vision Panel

Reference documents:

The Role of Science in the Delta Visioning Process: Draft Report, June, 2006

Delta Science Panel Report to the CALFED Science Program,

J. Mount, R. Adams, R. Twiss, June, 2006.

(On line at: http://science.calwater.ca.gov/pdf/CSP_delta_vision_process_Twiss_062306.pdf)

“Subsidence, sea level rise, and seismicity in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta”

San Francisco Estuary & Watershed Science, Volume 3, Issue 1, March, 2005.

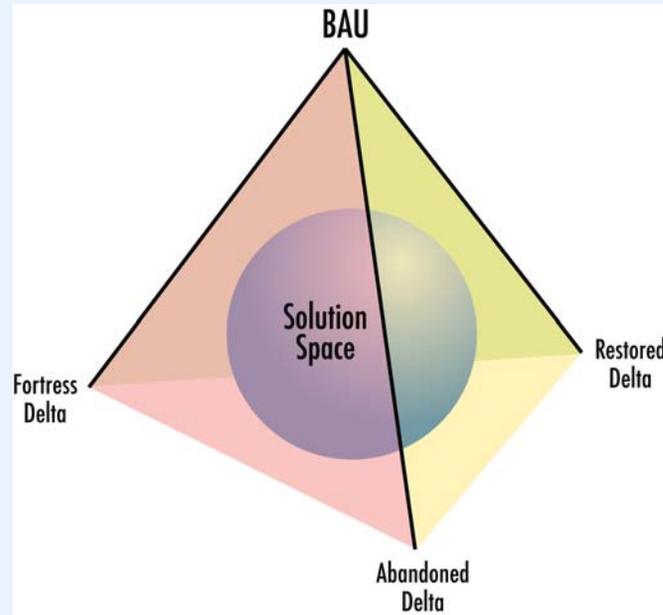
J. Mount, R. Twiss

(On line at: <http://repositories.cdlib.org/jmie/sfews/vol3/iss1/art5/>)

Triangulating a Delta Solution

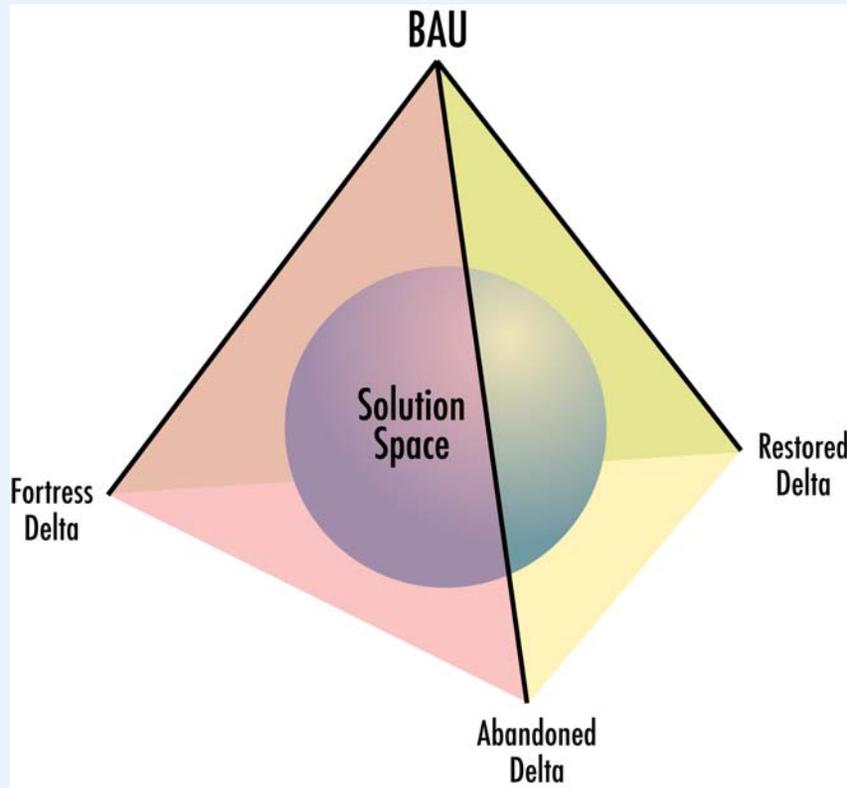
- Subsidence
- Sea Level Rise
- Seismicity
- Runoff Change
- Invasive Species
- Urbanization

- Water Supply
- Farming
- Ecosystem Services
- Transportation/Infra.
- Recreation
- Runoff Disposal



BAU

Business as Usual:
Continued incremental management
upgrade & maintenance;



Fortress Delta:
Massive investment
to resist forces of
change:
The Netherlands
model.

Restored Delta:
Ecosystem
Management
Primacy;
Mimic or
accommodate
forces of change

Abandoned Delta
Not likely by choice, but rational policies
overtaken by the pace of change

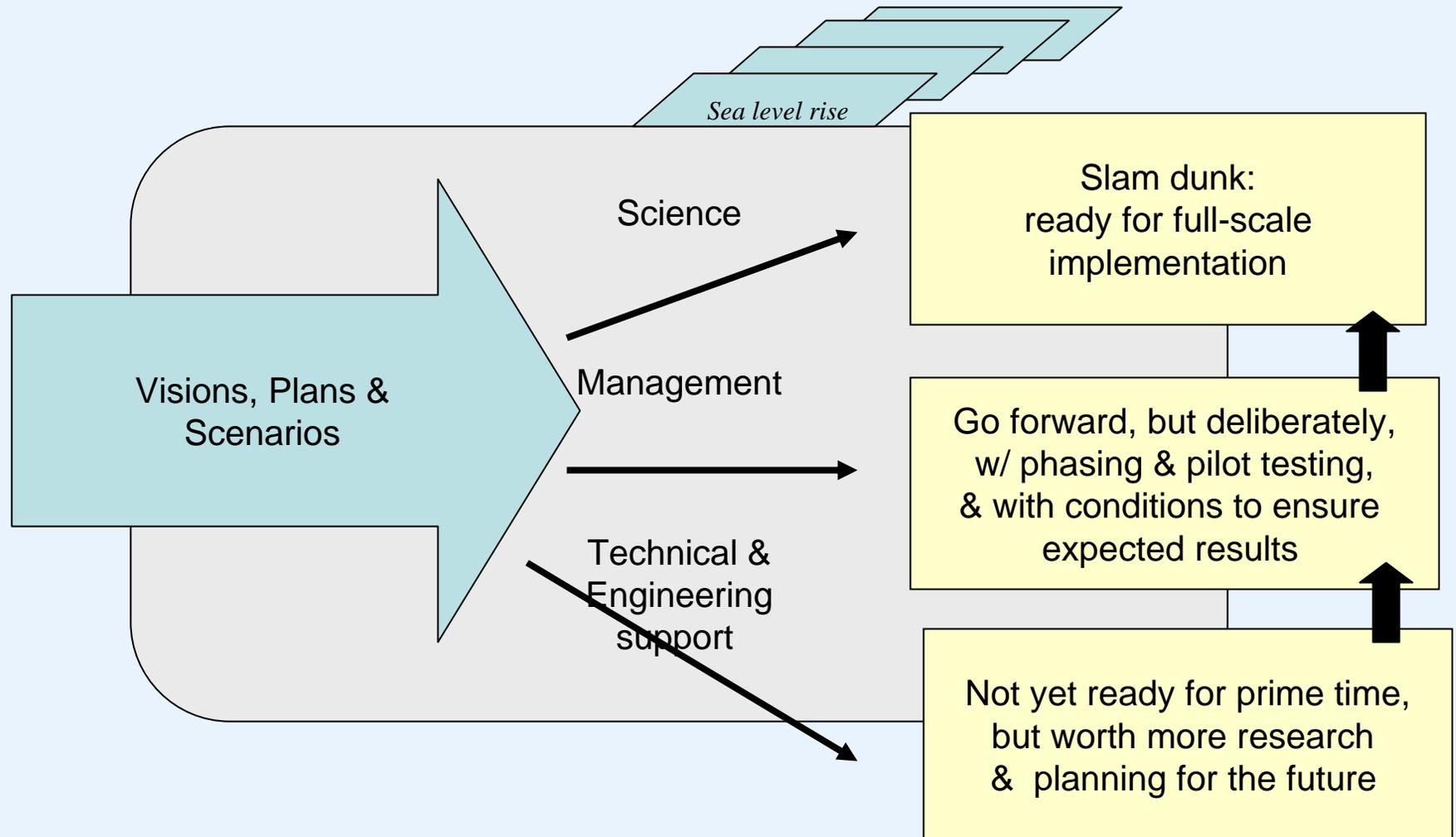
Factors that will guide and test Delta options: six first-order filters



- Subsidence
- Sea Level Rise
- Regional Climate Change
- Seismicity
- Exotics and Ecosystem Change
- Population Growth & Urbanization

Adaptive Management. Given the pace of change, a bold vision process may be looking for slam dunks. There may well be impatience with calls for caution and study. But remember the Healey Diagram*?

Given criteria such as those just mentioned, visions should be given a preliminary vetting:



* Michael Healey, Strategic Plan for Ecosystem Restoration, 1998

Forecasting urbanization in the Delta and periphery:

Should urbanization be treated as manageable?

Or is it an uncontrolled force?

Traditional drivers for the rate and location of urbanization:

- Specific location & housing market
- Proximity to infrastructure
- **Site development costs** (slope, flood-proofing, constraints)
- Proximity to schools, commerce, jobs, & urban services
- Land prices
- **Permits**
- etc.

Today's drivers:

- Regional location & housing market
- **Permits**
- Land prices
- Proximity to highways
- **Site development costs**
- Proximity to urban services
- etc.