



Historical Events Data Sheet

- 1957** The California Water Plan creates a framework for making water decisions.
- 1960** Log jams and sediments from lumber harvesting clogged most salmon habitat.
- 1965** Draining and filling San Francisco tidal land halted, 77% of wetlands destroyed.
- 1968** US established Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; 1,900 miles of California rivers (about 7%) are under wild and scenic protection.
- 1970** National Environmental Policy Act established the Endangered Species Act.
- 1972** The Federal Clean Water Act improves quality of municipal and industrial effluent, urban and agricultural runoff remain a major pollutants source.
- 1975** 28% of state population lives in San Francisco Bay and the Central Valley watershed.
- 1976** Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act gave federal authority over ocean fishing 3 to 200 miles from shore and created the Pacific Fishing Management Council (PFMC).
- 1976-77** California drought years (1977 the driest on record).
- 1979-80** Woody riparian habitat along Sacramento River decreased to 2% of historic levels and valley riparian vegetation less than 10% of historical level.
- 1987-92** California drought years.
- 1992** Central Valley Project Improvement Act gave 800,000 acre-feet of water for environmental use and ecosystem restoration for Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (AFRP).
- 1994** Delta Accord signed to protect listed fish species, including Chinook Salmon, steelhead, and Delta Smelt.
- 1998** 20% of state population lives in the 9-county San Francisco Bay Area, 17% reside in remaining 28 counties of the Central Valley watershed.
- 2005-06** NOAA documented a collapse of the marine food chain structure resulting largely from a weak and delayed upwelling of cold and nutrient rich water that typically greets and sustains the juvenile salmon when they reach the ocean.
- 2006** Bay Delta Conservation Plan provided for conservation of Delta fisheries while supplying water to 25 million Californians.
- 2007-08** California drought years.
- 2008** Inland and Ocean Salmon Fishing Season closed for commercial and recreational fishing.
- 2010** Commercial and recreational fishing resumes.

Historic Event References:

From the Sierra to the Sea: The Ecological History of the San Francisco Bay-Delta Watershed by The Bay Institute, July 1998
California's Rivers: A Public Trust Report, prepared for the California State Lands Commission 1994
California Department of Fish and Game publication: Pacific Salmon: King of California Fish, 2009
Outdoor California Magazine Special Issue: Salmon Crisis, July-August 2009