SWP vs. CVP

• Twenty-nine water contractors including urban and agricultural water agencies, buy water from the SWP with seventy percent going to urban users and thirty percent to agricultural users.

• The Federal CVP provides one-fifth of the state's domestic and irrigation water, approximately seven million acre-feet annually. Ninety percent of this amount goes to agricultural uses.
Completed in 1961
3.5 MM ac-ft of storage
The lake stores winter and spring runoff which is released into the Feather River to meet the Project’s needs. It also provides pumped-storage capacity, 750,000 acre-feet of flood control storage, recreation, and freshwater releases to control salinity intrusion in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and for fish and wildlife protection.
Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant

Provides the lift to take water from the delta to the California aqueduct. The water goes through 4 more pumping plants before reaching the big pumping plant at the foot of the Tehachapi Mountains.

Skinner Fish Facility

Skinner Fish Facility salvages thousands of fish before they can enter the pumps that move water into the California Aqueduct.

Delta Smelt
The SWP’s Edmund G. Brown California Aqueduct is the state’s largest and longest water transport system, stretching 444 miles from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the north to Lake Perris in Southern California. The aqueduct straddles the San Andreas Fault on both its east and west branches. Should there be a rupture on the aqueduct because of an earthquake, State water engineers expect that the aqueduct will be out of commission for a minimum of three months.

The San Luis Unit (largest offstream storage reservoir in the United States) provides storage for the Central Valley and State Water Projects for dry seasons. When water flow through the Delta Division becomes too low, water is released from San Luis into the Delta-Mendota Canal and the California Aqueduct.
The Coastal Branch of the California Aqueduct delivers water for agricultural use to contractors in Devils Den and Berrenda Mesa Water Districts in northwestern Kern County. A more recent addition delivers water for municipal and industrial use to Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

The largest pumping station in the State Water Project, the plant raises the California Aqueduct's water 2,000 feet over the Tehachapi Mountains, after which it is all downhill to Los Angeles. The plant claims to lift water higher than anywhere else in the world.
Pyramid Lake provides regulatory storage for Castaic Powerplant (owned and operated by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power), emergency storage for water deliveries from the West Branch, incidental flood protection, and recreation.

Castaic Lake provides emergency storage in the event of a shutdown of the SWP to the north, regulatory storage during normal operations, fish and wildlife enhancement, and recreation.

New Diamond Valley reservoir ($1.9 billion, 2003) holds as much water (800,000 ac-ft) as Castaic Lake, Lake Mathews, Pyramid Lake, Lake Perris and Lake Skinner combined. Holds both SWP and Colorado River water and nearly doubles storage capacity for Southern California in the event of a drought or major earthquake.
Urban users pay for the majority of the SWP project. MWD users have paid an average of $298/ac-ft. The Kern County Water Agency has paid an average of $45/ac-ft. [Link to report](http://www.citizen.org/documents/SWPreport05.pdf) (10/29/07)

Lake Oroville at 50% due to drought.
Water Exports by Hydrologic Regions
(Average Water Year -- 1990 Development)

- Sacramento River-CV, 8,000,000 af
- San Joaquin-CV, 1,814,000 af
- North Coast, 307,000 af
- Colorado River, 1,194,000 af
- South Lahontan, 425,000 af

Source: Department of Water Resources, Bulletin 100-39
waterresources.ca.gov/centralvalleystudies