November 13, 2014

To: Randy Fiorini, Chair, Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee and Delta Stewardship Council

From: Delta Independent Science Board

Subject: Presentation of the Interim Science Action Agenda to the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee

On November 17, 2014, the Delta Science Program (DSP) will be presenting their recently developed Interim Science Action Agenda (ISAA) to the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC). We urge the DPIIC to view the ISAA as a credible, balanced, and technically sound agenda for regional science activities, and to use it accordingly when you discuss shared implementation of science actions that will support improved policy and management decisions in the Delta.

The Delta Independent Science Board (DISB) reviewed an earlier draft of the ISAA, and provided comments to the DSP on October 8, 2014 (attached). Most of our comments were considered and are reflected in the final ISAA that you will discuss on November 17. Some of our comments were directed toward changes needed in a final Science Action Agenda, which should become a foundational document for prioritizing science actions in the Delta (with the caveat that the Science Action Agenda will be a living/changing document, in accordance with the need for flexible and adaptive management).

The DISB believes that acceptance and use of the ISAA would be a meaningful step towards achieving shared, collaborative science in the Delta, as has been called for several times, including very recently in the Governor’s California Water Action Plan. Please do not hesitate to ask the DISB for any clarifications or additional information that would be of assistance as you consider the ISAA.