

***DRAFT 11/26/14 – SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
For Review and Adoption by the DSC at the December 18, 2014 Meeting***

**November 20, 2014  
DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL  
Park Towers Second Floor Conference Room  
980 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, California 95814  
MEETING SUMMARY**

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***Thursday, November 20, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.***

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. on November 20, 2014 by Chair Randy Fiorini.

**2. Roll Call – Establish a Quorum (Water Code §85210.5)**

Roll call was taken and a quorum established at 9:05 a.m. The following members were present: Patrick Johnston, Frank Damrell, Randy Fiorini, and Susan Tatayon. The following members were absent: Phil Isenberg, Aja Brown, and Larry Ruhstaller.

**3. Adoption of October 30, 2014 Meeting Summary (Action Item)**

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any questions, suggestions or comments from the Council or public regarding the October 30, 2014 meeting summary. There were none.

**Motion:** (Offered by Damrell; seconded by Johnston) to approve the October 30, 2014 Meeting Summary.

**Vote:** (4/0: Damrell, Johnston, Fiorini, Tatayon) and the motion was adopted.

*The video showing this vote can be found on the linked agenda at: <http://cal-span.org/cgi-bin/archive.php?player=silverlight&owner=DSC&date=2014-11-20> at 01:50.*

**4. Chair's Report**

Chair Fiorini gave a brief overview of the day. Chair Fiorini reported the Bay Delta Science Conference had been a success. Chair Fiorini reported on his participation at the Society of Civil Engineers Conference on November 7 in Long Beach and at the Western Governor's Drought Forum, which he found to be very informative.

Finally, Chair Fiorini reported on his participation in interviews for the Executive Fellows Program.

## 5. Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer's Report was presented by Chief Deputy Dan Ray. Mr. Ray provided a brief overview of the expectations for the day, saying that a major focus of the meeting would be to look back at what we have learned, and are learning, from the drought and look forward to preparations for winter.

Mr. Ray also said one of the themes of the day's panels would be conservation. He discussed a USGS report showing that nationwide water use was lower than it had been in 45 years even though the population had grown by 105 million people. He then highlighted some local water conservation efforts and water supply achievements.

Mr. Ray stated the California Water Plan's 2013 Update was released and one of the key objectives was to align with key Delta Plan recommendations and stated there was a Delta Regional Report and many of the Resources Management Strategies would benefit the Delta and further the coequal goals.

Mr. Ray concluded the Executive Officer's Report by announcing five new staff members who have joined the Council – Lita Byrdie, in the Performance Management Group; Darcy Austin, Howaseong Jin, Jiro Ariyama and Yumiko Henneberry, all joining the Science Program.

### Legislative Update

There was no Legislative Update provided at the meeting. The legislature is currently in recess.

### Legal Update

There was no Legal Update presented at this meeting.

## 6. Lead Scientist's Report

Dr. Goodwin presented the Lead Scientist's Report. He briefed the Council on the annual independent scientific review of water project actions as required by the Biological Opinions and an independent scientific review of Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT) studies about Delta smelt entrainment that was organized and hosted by the Science Program. Dr. Goodwin stated a more detailed briefing would be presented at the December meeting.

The staff report for the Lead Scientist's Report is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_6\\_2014\\_1120\\_Lead\\_Scientist%27s\\_Report\\_shv2.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_6_2014_1120_Lead_Scientist%27s_Report_shv2.pdf)

At the conclusion of the Lead Scientist's Report, Dr. Goodwin invited Sam Harader to the panel table to provide a summary of the current numbers relating to Delta water and environmental management. *By the Numbers* is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_6\\_Attach\\_1\\_By\\_the\\_Numbers.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_6_Attach_1_By_the_Numbers.pdf)

Throughout the discussion of the Lead Scientist's Report, Dr. Goodwin and Sam Harader heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

## **7. Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee Update**

The Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) update was presented by Taryn Ravazzini. Ms. Ravazzini briefed the Council on DPIIC's second meeting that was held on November 17. Ms. Ravazzini reported DPIIC had approved the Guiding Principles presented to them at the meeting and were moving forward with efforts to assist with aquatic weeds in the Delta.

The staff report for the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee Update is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_7\\_Delta\\_Plan\\_Interagency\\_Implementation\\_Committee\\_v2.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_7_Delta_Plan_Interagency_Implementation_Committee_v2.pdf) and the attachments are posted at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_7\\_Attach\\_1\\_Packet\\_Agenda.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_7_Attach_1_Packet_Agenda.pdf); [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_7\\_Attach\\_2\\_GuidingPrinciples\\_DPIIC\\_10312014.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_7_Attach_2_GuidingPrinciples_DPIIC_10312014.pdf) and [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_7\\_Attach\\_3\\_DPIIC\\_Charge\\_Objects.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_7_Attach_3_DPIIC_Charge_Objects.pdf)

Throughout the presentation of the DPIIC update, Ms. Ravazzini heard Council members' comments and provided clarification.

## **8. Climate Change and California's Water – What Challenges Can We Anticipate?**

Agenda Item 8 was presented by Dr. Rainer Hoenicke. Dr. Hoenicke introduced Dr. Dan Cayan, a researcher at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Water Resources Division of USGS. Dr. Cayan provided an overview of climate variability in California and the current state of knowledge related to climate impacts on water, wildlife, health and agriculture in California.

The staff report for Agenda Item 8 is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_8\\_11-20-14\\_staff\\_report\\_draft\\_v4.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_8_11-20-14_staff_report_draft_v4.pdf)

Dr. Cayan presented a PowerPoint that is posted on the Council's website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_8\\_Cayan\\_PowerPoint\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_8_Cayan_PowerPoint_Presentation.pdf)

Throughout the presentation, Dr. Hoenicke and Dr. Cayan, heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment. There were none.

At the conclusion of Agenda Item 8, the Council recessed from 10:27 until 10:40 a.m.. Without objection, the Council took Agenda Item 13 out of order and it was heard next.

### **13. Seeking Approval of the Delta Pursuant to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act**

Agenda Item 13 was presented by Dan Ray. Mr. Ray provided a briefing on submitting the Delta Plan for approval pursuant to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act and the next steps required in preparing a submittal.

The staff report and attachment for this item is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_13.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_13.pdf) and [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_13\\_Attach\\_1\\_CZMA\\_Final\\_Memo.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_13_Attach_1_CZMA_Final_Memo.pdf)

Throughout the discussion of Item 13, Mr. Ray heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment. There were none.

At the conclusion of Agenda Item 13, without objection the Council returned to Agenda Item 9.

### **9. 2014 Water Year Review – A Review of the Third Year of the Drought**

Agenda Item 9 was presented by Kevan Samsam. Mr. Samsam provided brief introductory remarks. The staff report for this item is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Drought\\_Item.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Drought_Item.pdf)

Mr. Samsam was joined by John Leahigh of the State Water Project Office, Department of Water Resources; Mike Chotkowski, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Eric Oppenheimer of the State Personnel Board.

Mr. Leahigh summarized the SWP's operations for the year and presented a PowerPoint that is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_1\\_Leahigh\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Panel_1_Leahigh_Presentation.pdf)

Mr. Oppenheimer summarized California's successful efforts to conserve water and increase water efficiency and the regulatory actions to protect water rights. Mr. Oppenheimer's PowerPoint presentation is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_2\\_Oppenheimer\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Panel_2_Oppenheimer_Presentation.pdf)

Without Council objection due to scheduling issues, Karla Nemeth of the California Natural Resources Agency joined the panel and discussed available options if the drought continues into a fourth year. Ms. Nemeth's PowerPoint presentation is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_3\\_DSC\\_Karla%20Nemeth\\_The%20Impacts%20of%20California%27s%20Drought.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Panel_3_DSC_Karla%20Nemeth_The%20Impacts%20of%20California%27s%20Drought.pdf)

Following Ms. Nemeth, Mike Chotkowski summarized the impacts the drought has caused to California's Fish and Wildlife.

Next, Mr. Samsam introduced the second panel, Mary Scruggs, with DWR; Bill Croyle, the Drought Manager with DWR; and Tom Gohring of the Sacramento Water Forum.

Ms. Scruggs briefed the Council on the droughts impact on groundwater use and provided an overview of the 2014 package of groundwater management legislation. Ms. Scruggs' PowerPoint presentation is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/12/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_3\\_DSC\\_Mary%20Scruggs%2011-20-14.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/12/Item_9_Panel_3_DSC_Mary%20Scruggs%2011-20-14.pdf)

Bill Croyle provided a summary of 2014's water transfer season. Mr. Croyle's PowerPoint presentation is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_4\\_Bill%20Croyle\\_Water%20Transfers%20112014.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Panel_4_Bill%20Croyle_Water%20Transfers%20112014.pdf)

Next, Tom Gohring provided an update on the drought's potential impacts to Sacramento's water supplies. Mr. Gohring's PowerPoint presentation is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_3\\_Tom%20Gohring\\_DSC%2011-20-14.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Panel_3_Tom%20Gohring_DSC%2011-20-14.pdf)

At the conclusion of the second panel, the Council recessed for lunch at 1:16 p.m. and returned at 1:45 p.m. continuing with Agenda Item 9.

Mr. Samsam was joined by the final panelists, Charles Rabamad, Assistant Director for Recovery at the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) and Dr. Dick Howitt, professor emeritus of agriculture and resource economics at UCD Center for Watershed Sciences. Mr. Rabamad provided opening remarks addressing the impacts of the drought that have required response by Cal OES and provided insight on how the continued impacts will be addressed if the drought continues into a fourth year.

Finally, Dr. Howitt briefed the Council on the drought's impact to California's agricultural economy. Dr. Howitt presented a PowerPoint that is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_9\\_Panel\\_4\\_Howitt\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_9_Panel_4_Howitt_Presentation.pdf)

During the panel presentations, Mr. Samsam and the panelists heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification. Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment. There were none.

## **10. 2014 Winter Season Preview**

Agenda Item 10 was presented by Dustin Jones. Mr. Jones summarized the purpose of the agenda item to provide information regarding the potential for flood conditions in the upcoming year and a status assessment of the Delta's flood readiness. The staff report for this item is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_10\\_2014\\_Winter\\_Season\\_Preview\\_cm\\_DJ\\_v2.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_10_2014_Winter_Season_Preview_cm_DJ_v2.pdf)

Mr. Jones was joined by the first panel, Cindy Matthews of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and David LeBlanc of the Bureau of Reclamation. Ms. Matthews presented a PowerPoint that is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_10\\_Panel\\_1\\_Matthews\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_10_Panel_1_Matthews_Presentation.pdf). Next, Mr. LeBlanc presented a PowerPoint that is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_10\\_Panel\\_1\\_LeBlanc\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_10_Panel_1_LeBlanc_Presentation.pdf)

The second panel included Dave Mraz and John Paasch of the Department of Water Resources; Michael Cockrell of San Joaquin County OES; and Roger Ince of Sacramento County OES. Mr. Cockrell provided a PowerPoint presentation that is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_10\\_Panel\\_2\\_Cockrell\\_Presentation.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_10_Panel_2_Cockrell_Presentation.pdf)

Throughout the presentation of Agenda Item 10, Mr. Jones and the panelists heard Council members' comments, provided clarification and answered questions. At the conclusion, Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment. There were none.

## **11. Interim Science Action Agenda (Action Item)**

Lindsay Correa and Sam Harader presented Agenda Item 11. Ms. Correa summarized the item where the staff was requesting the Council receive and accept the proposed final Interim Science Action Agenda (ISAA). The staff report for this item is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_11\\_Science\\_Action\\_Agenda.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_11_Science_Action_Agenda.pdf) and the final Interim Science Action Agenda is posted on the Council website at

[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_11\\_Attach\\_1\\_ISAA\\_final\\_110714.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_11_Attach_1_ISAA_final_110714.pdf)

A memo to Chair Fiorini from the Delta Independent Science Board in support for the Interim Science Action Agenda was handed out at the meeting. The memo that was originally handed out at the DPIIC meeting on November 17, stated the ISB found the ISAA to be credible, balanced and technically sound as a near-term basis for guiding regional science activities in the Delta. The memo is posted on the Council website at <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/2014-11-14-DISB-Letter-in-Support-of-ISAA.pdf>

Throughout the presentation of the final Interim Science Action Agenda, Ms. Correa and Mr. Harader heard Council members' comments, provided clarification and answered questions.

Following the presentation of Item 11, Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment before a motion and vote would be entertained.

### **Public Comment – Agenda Item 11**

Rogene Reynolds, South Delta resident, read a letter she provided to the Council members regarding the Delta Independent Science Board's review of BDCP's EIR/EIS. Ms. Reynolds' letter, addressed to Chair Fiorini, is posted on the Council website at <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/docs/delta-stewardship-council-november-20-2014-meeting-agenda-item-11-public-comment-rogene>. Ms. Reynolds concluded her comment by reminding the Council that we are all stewards of the Delta and also share the Delta.

Following the Public Comment for Item 11, Chair Fiorini asked if there was a motion to accept the proposed final Interim Science Action Agenda.

**Motion:** (Offered by Damrell; seconded by Johnston) to receive and accept the proposed final Interim Science Action Agenda.

**Vote:** (4/0: Damrell, Fiorini, Johnston, Tatayon) and the motion was adopted.

*The video showing this vote can be found on the linked agenda at: <http://cal-span.org/cgi-bin/archive.php?player=silverlight&owner=DSC&date=2014-11-20> at 5:57:20.*

## **12. Delta Levee Investment Strategy Update**

Cindy Messer and Dustin Jones presented Agenda Item 12. Ms. Messer began by providing background information on the Delta Levee Investment Strategy. The report is a part of a continuing series of updates on the Council's activities related to the Delta Levee Investment Strategy. An overview of the project schedule and key tasks were discussed. Ms. Messer also discussed how key topics and questions outlined in the Issue Paper would be addressed as well as next steps and other activities related to the Delta Levee Investment Strategy, including activities such as putting together an independent scientific review panel, communication strategy and outreach efforts.

Mr. Jones made brief comments on the data compilation and review and stated a more detailed briefing would be heard at the December meeting.

The staff report for Item 12 is posted on the Council website at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_12\\_Delta\\_Levees\\_Investment\\_Strategy.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_12_Delta_Levees_Investment_Strategy.pdf) and the attachment is posted at [http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item\\_12\\_Attachment\\_1\\_Summary\\_Table\\_of\\_Issue\\_Paper\\_Questions.pdf](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2014/11/Item_12_Attachment_1_Summary_Table_of_Issue_Paper_Questions.pdf)

Throughout the presentation of Item 12, Ms. Messer and Mr. Jones heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment on Item 12. There were none.

#### **14. Public Comment.**

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any other members of the public who wished to comment. There were none.

#### **15. Preparation for Next Council Meeting – Discuss (a) expected agenda items; (b) new work assignments for staff; (c) requests from Council members; and (d) confirm next meeting date – December 18, 2014.**

**The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.**