

**DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL  
DELTA PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES – PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

November 9, 2015  
Sacramento Public Library  
Galleria East Conference Room  
828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**MEETING SUMMARY**

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**9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**Chapter 4 – Protect, Restore, Enhance the Delta Ecosystem**

**Call to Order**

Facilitator: Bill Foster, Consultant to the Delta Stewardship Council

**Welcome and Opening Comments**

Cindy Messer, Deputy Exec. Officer, Planning, Performance, and Technology Division

Dr. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Exec. Officer, Delta Science Program

**Overview of Performance Measures including draft Staff Refinement Recommendations**

Discussion Facilitator: Megan Brooks, Environmental Scientist, Performance Management Office

Supported by:

Jessica Davenport, Program Manager, Ecosystem Restoration and Land Use

Daniel Huang, Environmental Scientist, Ecosystem Restoration and Land Use

**Public Comments**

Following the overview of each performance measure listed for this chapter, attendees were asked for comments. The following is a synthesis of the types of comments received. Working 'short' titles are used for Performance Measure reference only. See workshop review document for complete wording and recommended refinements:

- ✓ Ref # 4.28 – Adopt Delta Flow Objectives
  - See 4.31 comments.
  
- ✓ Ref # 4.31 – Measured progress towards restoring in-delta flows
  - Consider the US EPA letter to US Bureau of Reclamation, dated October 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 (attached), which graded the BDCP Supplemental Draft

Environmental Impact Statement 'inadequate'.

- The Council is an independent entity. Best to not bind measures to fit other programs or initiatives. They should try to fit the Delta Plan.
  - The wording change from “healthy” to “healthier” flows seems contrary to coequal goals.
  - Consider significant developments since the adoption of the Delta Plan. For example the Water Board is years behind scheduling flow objectives (behind Delta Plan targets).
  - Consider the Delta Ecological Flows Tool as data source.
  - Clarify what is expected to be accomplished with the “Flow” related measures. If the aim is fish doubling for example, clarify what changes in flow and other stressors would accomplish this goal.
- ✓ Ref # 4.27 – Number of acres of habitat restored
- Consider higher targets for restoration acreage.
  - Consider not limiting to biological opinions. Consider Eco-Restore targets.
  - Consider measures for tracking against Proposition 1.
  - Measures will change over time as we learn more from restoration.
- ✓ Ref # 4.30 – Progress toward achieving “doubling goal” for wild CV salmon
- Consider a San Joaquin River reference point.
- ✓ Ref # 4.32 – Progress toward occurrence & use of protected & restored habitat by native spp.
- Thousands of acres that were to be restored are no longer identified for restoration, per CA-Water Fix.
- ✓ Ref # 4.36 – Percent of hatchery fish that are marked and tagged
- Ratio between hatchery and native salmon is unclear. We would want to increase both. For example, we could see an increase in percent of total native fish but still have disastrous levels of both native and wild. Percent or the ratio may not be as important as reaching a desired level.
- ✓ The other performance measures received no comment.

**10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

**Chapter 6 – Improve Water Quality to Protect Human Health and the Environment**

**Call to Order**

Facilitator: Bill Foster, Consultant to the Delta Stewardship Council

**Welcome and Opening Comments**

Cindy Messer, Deputy Exec. Officer, Planning, Performance, and Technology Division

Dr. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Exec. Officer, Delta Science Program

**Overview of Performance Measures including draft Staff Refinement Recommendations**

Discussion Facilitator: Megan Brooks, Environmental Scientist, Performance Management office

Supported by: Sam Harader, Program Manager, Delta Science Program

**Public Comments**

Following the overview of each performance measure listed for this chapter, attendees were asked for comments. The following is a synthesis of the types of comments received. Working 'short' titles are used for Performance Measure reference only. Please see the workshop review document for complete wording and recommended refinements:

- ✓ Ref # 6.22 – Meet control plan objectives
  - Consider the potential impact of the tunnels project.
  - Include SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Plan, it applies to Suisun Marsh.
- ✓ Ref # 6.26 – Lessen harmful algal blooms
  - Consider a more general measure as there are other harmful algae besides microcystis.
  - Consider the US EPA letter to US Bureau of Reclamation, dated October 30<sup>th</sup> 2015 (attached), which graded the BDCP Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement 'inadequate'. The tunnels have potential impacts including increasing export reliability and water quality, but decreasing amount of water available in the Delta.
  - Consider the tradeoffs between water quality and habitat.
- ✓ Ref # 6.28 – Protect groundwater beneficial uses
  - Water quality problems can be highly localized, and so consider localized (not Delta-wide) water quality measures where possible.

- Groundwater well data can be difficult to collect due to most being private.
- ✓ Ref # 6.18 – Meet dissolved oxygen standards
  - Add 6mg/L from September through November. A lot has changed due to low flow conditions.
- ✓ Ref # 6.24 – Reduce inorganic nutrients
  - Constituent concentration levels are important, more important than loading.
  - Consider including both loading “and/or” concentration. Lower flows result in higher concentration, but same load.
  - Consider the effect of inorganic nutrients on Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs).
- ✓ Ref # 6.25 – Reduce measureable toxicity
  - Consider that bio-indicators can be hard to set a baseline for.
  - Naturally occurring elements like selenium can be difficult to reduce, and loads vary with flow levels. Concentration may be more important than load. Concentration has biological effect but load is the management side.
- ✓ The other performance measures received no comment.

**12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**

**Chapter 5 – Protect and Enhance the Unique Cultural, Recreational, Natural Resource, and Agricultural Values of the California Delta as an Evolving Place**

**Call to Order**

Facilitator: Bill Foster, Consultant to the Delta Stewardship Council

**Welcome and Opening Comments**

Cindy Messer, Deputy Exec. Officer, Planning, Performance, and Technology Division

Dr. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Exec. Officer, Delta Science Program

**Overview of Performance Measures including draft Staff Refinement Recommendations**

Discussion Facilitator: Megan Brooks, Environmental Scientist, Performance Management Office

Supported by: Jessica Davenport, Program Manager, Ecosystem Restoration and Land Use

**Public Comments**

Following the overview of each performance measure listed for this chapter, attendees were asked for comments. The following is a synthesis of the types of comments received. Working 'short' titles are used for Performance Measure reference only. Please see the workshop review document for complete wording and recommended refinements:

- ✓ Ref # 5.25 – No further Delta rural farmland loss
  - In future Delta Plan updates, consider using the Delta Protection Commission's (DPCs) definition of 'urban'.
  - Consider tracking agricultural acreage lost to restoration conversion as well as losses due to urban development.
- ✓ The other performance measures received no comment.

**2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

**Chapter 7 – Reduce Risk to People, Property, and State Interests in the Delta**

**Call to Order**

Facilitator: Bill Foster, Consultant to the Delta Stewardship Council

**Welcome and Opening Comments**

Cindy Messer, Deputy Exec. Officer, Planning, Performance, and Technology Division

Dr. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Exec. Officer, Delta Science Program

**Overview of Performance Measures including draft Staff Refinement Recommendations**

Discussion Facilitator: Paul Levy, Environmental Scientist, Performance Management Office

Supported by: Dustin Jones, Supervising Engineer, Water Resource Management and Risk Reduction

**Public Comments**

Following the overview of each performance measure listed for this chapter, attendees were asked for comments. There were no comments.

**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Chapter 3 – A More Reliable Water Supply for California**

**Call to Order**

Facilitator: Bill Foster, Consultant to the Delta Stewardship Council

**Welcome and Opening Comments**

Cindy Messer, Deputy Exec. Officer, Planning, Performance, and Technology Division

Dr. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Exec. Officer, Delta Science Program

**Overview of Performance Measures including draft Staff Refinement Recommendations**

Discussion Facilitator: Paul Levy, Environmental Scientist, Performance Management Office

Supported by: Kevan Samsam, Supervising Engineer, Water Resource Management and Risk Reduction

**Public Comments**

Following the overview of each performance measure listed for this chapter, attendees were asked for comments. There were no comments.

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