

Delta Levees Investment Strategy Update

Summary: Staff will provide an update on activities leading to the development of the Delta Levees Investment Strategy (DLIS). The DLIS will inform prioritization of State investments in levee operation, maintenance, and improvements in the Delta in accordance with Water Code section 85306.

Background

For today's briefing, staff will provide updates on the development of the DLIS as well as other parallel DLIS-related activities.

Outreach and Coordination

In February, the project team met with Caltrans staff, Delta Protection Commission (DPC) staff, and members of the DPC's Advisory Committee to discuss best available data – as well as comments received from stakeholders – on proposed Delta as Place methodology to be used in the project's computer-assisted decision support tool. In addition, Council staff met with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) staff to discuss recent USACE activities in and/or upstream of the Delta, as well as future coordination opportunities during the development of the DLIS.

Response to Independent Scientific Review Panel (Panel) Report

Council staff have completed the review of the recommendations about the DLIS' computer-assisted decision support tool from the Independent Review Panel (Panel) with our agency partners and have determined a course of action to address these comments, allowing us to move into the next phases of the DLIS project, as detailed below.

Next Steps

DLIS Development

The following tasks are either in progress or will begin in the near future:

- Arcadis is completing a final report describing the methodology to be used in the analysis.
- Arcadis is developing a list of Delta islands/tracts ranked by risk for stakeholder review and Council consideration.
- When the above tasks are complete, Arcadis will develop levee improvement investment concepts (e.g., increased height/width improvements, set-back levees and other "green" improvements, etc.), through an interactive process with

stakeholder groups (e.g., flood management experts, water users, environmental groups, and others).

- Staff is organizing a workshop with county flood management agencies to obtain information on costs to implement non-structural measures that could reduce flood risks for Delta communities.

Contact

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