

August 23, 2016

Contact: Keith Coolidge (916) 801-6098  
Eric Alvarez (916) 275-7923

## **Council Appeals June 24 Ruling of Sacramento County Superior Court**

The Delta Stewardship Council today (Tuesday) appealed a June 24 ruling of the Sacramento Superior Court that invalidated the Council's Delta Plan over what the court said were the Delta Plan's lack of enforceable, quantifiable targets for some of its performance measures and the failure to adequately promote options for conveying water across the Delta.

The Delta Plan is the only comprehensive management plan designed to achieve the State's coequal goals of improving statewide water supply reliability and protecting and restoring the Delta ecosystem in a way that protects and enhances the unique character of the Delta.

"The Plan's 14 regulations provide significant protections for the Delta that would be lost if the plan were invalidated for even a short period of time," said Jessica R. Pearson, Council executive officer.

"Those protections include a requirement that new projects to divert water from the Delta, including WaterFix, certify that beneficiaries have first reduced their reliance on the Delta through development of alternate supplies, and a requirement prohibiting new development in Delta floodplains," she said.

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*"Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place."*

*– CA Water Code §85054*