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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Second Staff Draft of Delta Plan Released

*Release continues process toward the development of the final Delta Plan*

SACRAMENTO – The second staff draft of the Delta Plan has been released and is posted on the DSC website: [http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/draft\\_delta\\_plans.html](http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/draft_delta_plans.html). This draft puts draft regulations and recommendations – the heart of the Delta Plan – on the table for the Council, stakeholders and the public to discuss and make recommendations for successive drafts.

“This is the continuation of the process that was set in motion last month,” said Joe Grindstaff, Executive Officer of the Delta Stewardship Council. A set of findings provided in the first draft are under review by the Delta Independent Science Board and are not included but will reappear in the third draft. Policies and recommendations that were outlined in the first draft, however, are now more substantial. In addition, the second draft includes new chapters on science and adaptive management, water quality, governance and financing.

“I believe that Council member and stakeholder input will yet again significantly inform and improve this for the third staff draft,” said Joe Grindstaff, Executive Officer of the Delta Stewardship Council. “The final Delta Plan will be a major step toward furthering the coequal goals that will be used to guide actions which impact the Delta.”

The second draft will be the focus of the Stewardship Council meeting March 24-25 in West Sacramento, and issues will be explored in detail at a Council workshop April 14-15. Following these meetings, revisions will be made for a third draft that is expected to be released in mid-April. The same procedure will be followed to produce a fourth draft in May.

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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*

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Then an official public review draft Delta Plan and programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be released in June 2011 as part of the formal review process and solicitation of public comment. It is anticipated that subsequent drafts of the Plan may be necessary to respond to public comments, leading up to the adoption of the final EIR and Delta Plan at the November Council meeting, in time to meet state regulatory requirements.

The Council is expected to adopt a final Delta Plan in November 2011, to meet its statutory deadline to adopt and begin implementation by January 2012, as directed by the Delta Reform Act of 2009.

A copy of the previous drafts of the Delta Plan, as well as all public comments and a full release schedule of subsequent staff drafts can be reviewed at this web address:  
[http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/draft\\_delta\\_plans.html](http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/draft_delta_plans.html)

***About the Council***

Created by the legislature in 2009, the Delta Stewardship Council is composed of members who represent different parts of the state and offer diverse expertise in fields such as agriculture, science, the environment, and public service. Of the seven, four are appointed by the Governor, one each by the Senate and Assembly, and the seventh is the Chair of the Delta Protection Commission. For more information visit <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/>

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