



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
A California State Agency

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Date: October 17, 2013
To: Delta Stewardship Council Members
From: Christopher Knopp, Executive Officer
Subject: Upcoming Council Meeting on Oct. 24-25

Chair
Phil Isenberg

Members
Frank C. Damrell, Jr.
Randy Fiorini
Gloria Gray
Patrick Johnston
Hank Nordhoff
Frank L. Ruhstaller

Executive Officer
Christopher M. Knopp

The upcoming Council meeting will be held at the Westin Sacramento, 4800 Riverside Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95822, formerly known as La Rivage. The agenda and supporting materials for the meeting are attached. Some additional handouts may be provided at the meeting.

As we move into Delta Plan implementation, we have a lot of business to attend to so this is a two-day meeting. As usual, our first item of business will be to go into a Closed Session to discuss pending litigation regarding the Delta Plan. I expect this portion of the meeting will only take an hour.

When we reconvene in open session Thursday, we'll focus on four distinct aspects of Delta Plan implementation. The Delta Watermaster will discuss California's Area of Origin laws, the principles embodied in them, and their relevance to projects and programs in the Delta. We'll also have the third in a continuing series of presentations on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), this time focusing on costs, sources of funding, and regulatory assurances.

Next, we'll hear from a panel of state agencies who will discuss with us various aspects of levee and flood risk management, including the levee assessment called for in the Delta Reform Act and the Delta Plan, how that relates to the Department of Water Resources draft Framework for Integrated Flood Management Risks in the Delta and Suisun Marsh, as well as other emergency preparedness programs and projects. We'll end the day with an update on the Delta Plan Implementation Committee.

On Friday we'll again start the day with a Closed Session for a personnel matter. This will take about 90 minutes. Back in Open Session, staff will brief the Council on the Covered Actions Regulatory Process, including an overview about the consistency certification and appeals processes and how it fits within the administrative procedures for appeals adopted by the Council in 2010. As part of that discussion, I'm proposing that you amend Delegation of Authority to the Executive Officer to include elements of the appeals process.

After that, we'll devote the remainder of the day to science, including a briefing on an informative set of essays published in our Online Journal focused on the joint statement of Governor Brown and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar: last year that "Science will guide how to best restore the ecosystem and how much water can be exported." Those essays will guide a discussion of how the Delta Science Plan, as it moves into its implementation phase, may contribute to removing the barriers to more effective science-policy interactions and building the necessary support foundations to achieve the coequal goals. Finally, we'll focus on the Science Plan, asking the Council to receive and accept the proposed final draft.

As always, time for public comment on these agenda items, as well as any item of relevance to the Council, will be available. If I can answer any questions or provide any information, please contact me at (916) 445-4500 or chris.knopp@deltacouncil.ca.gov

"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