

“Drought: economy vs. environment?”

Panel of Experts Will Discuss “Balancing the State’s Coequal Goals During a Drought” at Tomorrow’s Delta Stewardship Council Meeting

SACRAMENTO – The Delta Stewardship Council Thursday (Jan. 23) will discuss trade-offs that might occur as a result of the Drought declaration last Friday. How should the state balance uses of a dwindling supply of water and meet its co-equal goals for the Delta: a reliable supply of water and a healthy and vibrant ecosystem? Is economy vs. the environment really a fair characterization?

Bill Croyle from the Department of Water Resources, recently named to head the State’s drought task force, will elaborate on preparations for coordinating drought response measures with other agencies. Craig Wilson, the State Water Resources Control Board’s Delta Watermaster, will discuss how the dry year may affect water quality standards and the administration of water rights in the Delta and its tributaries. The Bureau of Reclamation’s Elizabeth Kiteck will explain how the dry year is affecting federal water operations and the ability to both serve water users and protect fish and wildlife. And Tom Gohring, executive director of the Water Forum, will highlight drought-related impacts and trade-offs that are affecting the American River Watershed.

Also, after completing his four-year term as chair of the Council, Phil Isenberg is stepping down and the Council will elect his successor. Isenberg’s term as a member of the Council runs for two more years.

WHAT: Delta Stewardship Council Meeting
WHEN: Thursday, January 23, 2014 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: Park Tower Plaza, Second Floor Conference Room
980 Ninth Street (9th & J Streets), Sacramento, CA
AGENDA LINK: <http://goo.gl/DF8RFt> (Refer to Item 12)
WEBCAST LINK: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/>
CONTACT: Eric Alvarez 916.445.5383 office, 916.275.7923 cell
eric.alvarez@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