



# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2014

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## Council Names Jessica Pearson New Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO – Jessica R. Pearson, former deputy secretary for the California Natural Resources Agency, has been named Executive Officer of the Delta Stewardship Council (Council). On Thursday (April 24), the Council unanimously chose Pearson, who currently serves as the Council’s legislative and policy advisor. She will assume her new duties May 1.

“I have worked with Jessica for a number of years and am impressed by the skills, talents and knowledge she brings to the position,” said Council Chair Randy Fiorini. “We are now on course to implement the Delta Plan and facilitate a coordinated approach across state, federal and local agencies. Jessica is the right person to lead this effort.

“Jessica has been a key player on a wide variety of resource management issues including the Delta, drought response, climate change and flood policy. Her experience in coordinating efforts across multiple departments is a real asset for the Council,” Fiorini said.

Pearson was appointed senior policy advisor to the Council in 2011 by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and was appointed legislative and policy advisor to the Council in 2012 by Gov. Jerry Brown. She had previously served as Deputy Secretary for Sustainable Resource Management at the California Natural Resources Agency and earlier served three years as Policy Advisor to the Director of the Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Before working at DWR, Pearson served as an Executive Fellow as part of the Capital Fellows Program. Pearson earned a B.A. from U.C. San Diego and a M.S. in Community and Regional Development from U.C. Davis.

### **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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*"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