



News Release

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Delta Stewardship Council to Remain an Independent Agency

(Sacramento) – Resources Agency Secretary John Laird said this morning that the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) will not be folded into the Natural Resources Agency as was proposed in Governor Brown’s Reorganization Plan submitted to the Little Hoover Commission in March 2012. Secretary Laird announced the change during a meeting of the Assembly Special Committee on the Governor’s Reorganization Plan.

“The Council agrees with the Administration,” said Phil Isenberg, Chair of the Council. “The decision will allow the Council to remain an independent body as is stated in the Delta Reform Act of 2009. We appreciate this decision by the Governor.”

Section 85200(a) of the Reform Act establishes the Council as an independent agency of the state. As part of a streamlining effort, however, the Reorganization Plan proposed that the Council become an entity within the Natural Resources Agency.

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