



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
A California State Agency

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Date: June 4, 2012
To: Delta Stewardship Council Members
From: Joe Grindstaff
Executive Officer
Subject: Meeting, June 14-15, 2012

Chair
Phil Isenberg

Members
Randy Fiorini
Gloria Gray
Patrick Johnston
Felicia Marcus
Hank Nordhoff
Don Nottoli

Executive Officer
P. Joseph Grindstaff

The agenda and supporting materials for our June meeting are attached. Some additional handouts may be provided at the meeting. This is the first of two Council meetings that will be held in June. The second is set for June 28-29, 2012 and will be held in West Sacramento.

Closed Session (not open to the public) (Agenda Item 4)

We'll discuss the recruitment process for my replacement in closed session. Space at our Holiday Inn venue, however, is limited, which means the main room for our Council meeting also will be used for the closed session. Only Council members and certain staff members may be present. I apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

Delta Independent Science Board Report (Agenda Item 8)

Chair Richard Norgaard will brief the Council on the Delta ISB's final memos discussed at the June 8 public teleconference. These included a final memo on the ISB's review of the final staff draft of the Delta Plan and a final memo on integrating BDCP science. The Delta ISB also discussed ideas about how to approach its review of the BDCP Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement when it is released.

I expect the Council will complete discussion of these reports Thursday morning.

Delta Plan (Agenda Item 9)

The final staff draft of the Delta Plan was released on Monday, May 14. It is the sixth in an iterative series of drafts that reflect staff's recommendation for an enforceable Delta Plan that meets the requirements of the Delta Reform Act and direction provided by the Council.

Initially staff walked the Council through the draft at the May 24, 2012 meeting on what has changed between the fifth draft released last August and the latest iteration. Now, staff has assembled two panels of stakeholders to assist in review and discussion of the final staff draft.

"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

As part of the review process, each panelist will have time to make a brief presentation on their overall impression of the draft plan, as well as what they believe to be the key issues in the final staff draft. To the extent they feel these issues have not be adequately addressed, they will have the opportunity to present specific changes to the Council.

The final staff draft Delta Plan will be reviewed chapter by chapter, starting with Chapter 2 on Thursday. The discussion will continue and be the sole agenda item on Friday.

Per the direction of the Chair at the May 24, 2012 meeting, a "Council Action List" with final changes based on Council direction will be available as an attachment to this staff report and, based on this meeting's outcome, will be updated and brought to the Council for approval at the June 28-29 meeting.

Staff will then proceed to make changes per Council direction. Staff will also provide a "Staff Errata List" of intended staff changes to the final staff draft for Council review at this upcoming meeting.

Changes to the final staff draft Delta Plan, approved by the Council at the June 28-29 meeting, would then serve as the basis for recirculating a supplement to the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) describing environmental impacts of the final draft plan. It also would serve as the basis for submittal of policies to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) as part of the process to give those policies regulatory effect.

These steps lead to a presentation in the fall of a final Delta Plan, its final EIR, and implementing regulations to the Council for adoption by November/December 2012.

Public Comment

Time for public comment on all agenda items will be available.

The June 14-15 meeting will be held in the California Room at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, 300 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. If I can answer any questions or provide any information, please contact me at (916) 445-4500 or jgrindstaff@deltacouncil.ca.gov