



980 NINTH STREET, SUITE 1500
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
WWW.DELTACOUNCIL.CA.GOV
(916) 445-5511

Delta Independent Science Board

November 14, 2013

To: Phil Isenberg, Chair, Delta Stewardship Council

From: Delta Independent Science Board

Subject: Implementation of the Delta Science Plan

Chair
Tracy Collier, Ph.D.

Chair Elect
Jay Lund, Ph.D.

Past Chair
Richard Norgaard, Ph.D.

Members
Brian Atwater, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Canuel, Ph.D.
Harindra Fernando, Ph.D.
Judy Meyer, Ph.D.
Vincent Resh, Ph.D.
John Wiens, Ph.D.

The Delta Science Plan charts a much-needed path for enabling the Delta science community to support the coequal goals for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. It addresses long-standing obstacles to collaboration across and within the dozens of governmental and non-governmental entities that produce or use Delta science. It designs innovative bridges between science and policy. It outlines ways of making adaptive management work. It gives form to recommendations of an insightful 2012 report from the National Research Council.

Achieving the Plan's vision of "One Delta, One Science" will require broad political and financial support. Dozens of governmental and non-governmental entities share responsibility for putting the Plan into action. This means building the Plan into each entity's funding objectives and expectations.

To be effective, the Delta Science Plan will require the engagement of, among others, the Delta Stewardship Council, State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Water Resources, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Delta Conservancy, Delta Protection Commission, California Natural Resources Agency, and the California Environmental Protection Agency. Leadership must come from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, NOAA Fisheries, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and from other public and private entities, including the State and Federal Contractors Water Agency and the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District.

State and federal regulatory authorities could promote the Plan's effectiveness by providing incentives for using the Plan as a framework for resolving scientific disputes. For our part, we will use the Plan as guidance for our mandated evaluations of agency science programs and of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

We urge prompt action on the Plan's priorities, with recognition that the Plan has the flexibility to adapt while moving forward. We commend the Delta Science Program for preparing the Plan and the Delta Stewardship Council for accepting it. We look forward to discussing next steps when we meet with you later this month.

Phil Isenberg, Chair, Delta Stewardship Council

November 14, 2013

Page 2

cc: Chris Knopp, Executive Officer, Delta Stewardship Council
Dan Ray, Chief Deputy Executive Officer, Delta Stewardship Council
Cindy Messer, Deputy Executive Officer, Delta Stewardship Council
Taryn Ravazzini, DP Implementation Coordinator, Delta Stewardship Council
Chuck Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Carl Wilcox, Policy Advisor to the Director for the Delta, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mark Cowin, Director, Department of Water Resources
Laura King Moon, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Water Resources
Matt Rodriguez, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency
John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
Gerald Meral, Deputy Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer, Delta Conservancy
Erik Vink, Executive Director, Delta Protection Commission
Maria Rea, Assistant Regional Administrator for the West Coast Region, NOAA Fisheries
Jeff McLain, Manager, California Central Valley Area office, NOAA Fisheries
Felicia Marcus, Board Chair, State Water Resources Control Board
Tom Howard, Director, State Water Resources Control Board
Caren Trgovcich, Chief Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board
Tambour Eller, Deputy for Programs and Project Management (Sacramento District), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Arijs Rakstins, Deputy for Programs and Project Management (San Francisco District), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tanis Toland, Ecosystem Restoration Regional Technical Specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
BG C. David Turner, Commander, South Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
COL Michael Farrell, Commander, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
LTC John K. Baker, P.E., Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tim Vendlinski, Senior Policy Advisor, Bay Delta Program Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
David Murillo, Director of the Mid-Pacific Region, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Sue Fry, Area Manager, Bay-Delta Office, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Ren Lohofener, Regional Director of the Pacific Southwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mike Chotkowski, Field Supervisor for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mark Sogge, Regional Director, U.S. Geological Survey
Jeff Keay, Deputy Regional Director, Pacific Region, U.S. Geological Survey
Lee Case, Ecosystems Sciences Coordinator, Pacific Region, U.S. Geological Survey
Prabhakar Somavarapu, District Engineer, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
Linda Dorn, Environmental Program Manager, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
Byron Buck, Executive Director, State and Federal Contractors Water Agency
Val Connor, Science Program Manager, State and Federal Contractors Water Agency