

**From:** [Ingram, Campbell](#)  
**To:** [Grindstaff, Joe@DeltaCouncil](#); [Delta Plan Comments@Deltacouncil](#)  
**Cc:** [Messer, Cindy@DeltaConservancy](#)  
**Subject:** Delta Conservancy Comments on April 22nd, 3rd draft of the DSC Delta Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 09, 2011 4:57:49 PM

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Dear Joe,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Draft. We apologize for being a bit past the May 6<sup>th</sup> deadline. We look forward to continued coordination with the Delta Stewardship Council. If you require any additional information or clarification of the following comments, please let us know.

◆ **Page 68, lines 3 – 17, ERR2** – Reference to economic sustainability has been removed from previous drafts. Given that economic sustainability is included in our legislation we recommend that it be included here. “Develop and adopt criteria for prioritization and integration of large-scale ecosystem restoration in the Delta, with economic sustainability and use of best available science as foundational principles.”

◆ **Page 108, Lines 22-25.** Targeted finance plans should be developed for major Delta Plan activities (habitat restoration, flood risk reduction, regional water supply investments, and water conveyance.) Beneficiaries and stressors should be identified in each of these areas, and user fees should be developed to match these stressors and beneficiaries with planned investments in each of these areas. Who will develop these plans (DSC, multi-agency efforts by topic)?

◆ **Pages 110, 111 and 112.** It is not clear which funding sources are for funding projects and which are for funding operations. Further, it is not clear if the \$50 million is a onetime allocation or ongoing.

◆ **Page 110, lines 17-21. Continuing the existing operational duties imposed by the 2009 Delta Protection Act.** The Act created the Delta Stewardship Council (which includes the Delta Science Program and Independent Science Board) and the Delta Conservancy, and modified the duties of the existing Delta Protection Commission. Annual costs for the operation of all of these functions are approximately \$XX million per year. What do these annual estimates include (operations, project implementation, etc.)?

◆ **Page 111, lines 19-21. FP R1.** No less than \$50 million should be allocated from existing bond funds, or from any new funds authorized by voters to the Delta Conservancy to commence implementation of the ecosystem restoration portion of the Delta Plan. Is this a onetime allocation or annual, is it start up for operations or does it include project funds, and how would it impact spending of much greater available funding if bonds pass. If project funds, how will priorities be established for implementing restoration projects (the 5 high priority areas defined for ecosystem restoration)? What is the timeline envisioned that these funds will cover in the implementation process (5 years, 10 years, longer)?

◆ **Page 112, lines 14-16 FP R4** The Legislature should allocate \$50 million of Prop. 1E funds to the Department of Water Resources and direct the Department to begin the acquisition of land or easements for the proposed San Joaquin/South Delta Flood Plain. Is this a one time or annual

allocation and how does it affect future bond funding? The Department of Water Resources should consider partnering in this effort with the Department of Fish and Game and the Delta Conservancy who will share responsibility for implementing ecosystem restoration efforts in the San Joaquin/South Delta Flood Plan.

◆ **Page 112, lines 26-33. FP R7** User Fees/Stressors Fees to support the coequal goals and the Delta Plan.

- The Legislature should grant the Council the authority to develop reasonable fees for beneficiary, and reasonable fees for those who stress the Delta ecosystem, and apply such fees to the operational costs of the Council, the Delta Conservancy and the Delta Protection Commission to allow implementation of the Delta Plan. What are the envisioned mechanisms for estimating, dividing and transferring funds to the Delta Conservancy for operational costs?
- The costs of operations of the Council, Delta Conservancy, and Delta Protection Commission should be advanced for a period of ten (10) years. As previously discussed, the unified budget of the new governance structure is approximately \$XX million. Please provide a more detailed description of the “unified budget”. Who will estimate required dollar amount, how will the dollars be divided between the agencies and over what time? What will the annual operational estimates include?

Thank you,

Campbell

**Campbell Ingram**

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