

Statutory Mission and Organization of the Delta Stewardship Council

Background

At the April 1, 2010 Council meeting, Chair Isenberg provided a brief background and history regarding the formation of the Council. The legislation (SB X7 1) which formed the Council essentially transferred the responsibilities, staff and duties of CALFED Bay-Delta Program (CBDP) to the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC).

This report outlines the three main program areas from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program that have since been transferred to the Council for continuance. Those program areas include: Program Performance and Tracking, Strategic Planning and Delta Science Program.

Program Performance and Tracking designed, developed, and implemented the CALFED Project Performance Information System (CPPIS) which tracked various levels and degrees of administrative and performance data for CALFED programs and projects. Data was collected from CALFED Implementing Agencies through the web or automated downloads and then organized and delivered to various stakeholders through core and custom reports.

The process of collecting program and project level details and fulfilling reporting responsibilities will continue in the future, and includes the ability to enhance the CPPIS to satisfy "still to be determined" Delta Plan requirements and Delta Stewardship Council needs.

Strategic Planning consisted of annual program plans for each program area (water supply reliability, water quality, ecosystem restoration and levees). This function has been consolidated under the Council into the comprehensive Interim Plan and Delta Plan. CALFED also produced annual reports for each of the program areas. Under the Council this type of reporting will most likely develop in the form of progress reports per Interim Plan and Delta Plan work plans and performance measures and targets.

Delta Science Program is continuing the same vision, mission and objectives of funding research grants and fellowships, supporting peer review panels and synthesis workshops, communicating science through various means and coordinating with agencies to incorporate science into planning and implementation activities. This includes numerous ongoing science contracts, grants, and sponsorship of workshops, science panels and a biannual science conference.

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Under the Council, the Delta Science Programs purview will be to broaden beyond CALFED to include other Bay-Delta programs and efforts including IEP, BDCP and Delta Conservancy, science support for Delta Stewardship Council and development of Delta Plan. The Delta Independent Science Board's (ISB) scope is reduced from insight, foresight and oversight to oversight only, specific responsibility to review BDCP draft EIR; periodic review of each science program to ensure that all Delta scientific research, monitoring, and assessment programs are reviewed at least once every four years.

All staff and funding from CDBP are transferred to the Council. The 10/11FY budget proposes 54 permanent staff (seven are council members) and four temporary positions funded by the General Fund, special funds and bond funds.

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