

Update from the State Water Resources Control Board's Delta Watermaster

Summary: Craig M. Wilson, Delta Watermaster will present a report on current requirements to bypass stored water under Water Rights Term 91.

Background

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), as the State's principal water resources regulatory agency, has statutory authority to help implement and enforce many types of regulatory policies and recommendations that will likely be included in the Delta Plan. California Water Code Section 85320 (d) directs the State's Delta Watermaster to submit regular reports to the State Water Board and to the Council on water issues.

The Delta Watermaster, Craig Wilson, has recently drafted a report that was presented to the State Water Board on December 4, 2012 entitled: *Term 91: Stored Water Bypass Requirements*. The report 1) describes how Term 91 is currently used to require certain junior water rights holders to not divert from waters downstream of State and Central Valley Water Project reservoirs when water is being released to comply with water quality standards in the Delta or its watershed, 2) notes how wider use of Term 91 could improve water quality in the Delta, and 3) recommends the State Water Board expand use of Term 91 requirements to all water rights holders on a phased basis in accordance with relative water rights priorities.

Mr. Wilson will brief the Council on this report and engage in a discussion with Council members.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1: Term 91: Stored Water Bypass Requirements Report

Attachment 2: Excerpts from "Final Environmental Impact Report for Implementation of the 1995 Bay/Delta Water Quality Control Plan"

Contact

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