

DRAFT 9/2/14 – SUBJECT TO CHANGE
For Review and Adoption by the DSC at the September 25, 2014 Meeting

August 28, 2014
DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
Big Break Visitor Center at the Delta
69 Big Break Road, Oakley, CA 94561

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, August 28, 2014, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m., August 28, 2014, by Chair Randy Fiorini. Chair Fiorini introduced the new Council member, Aja Brown. Ms. Brown was appointed to the Council by Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, replacing Gloria Gray, whose term expired. Next, Chair Fiorini introduced a new legal intern, Cody Phillips. Next, Chair Fiorini introduced Robert Doyle, General Manager of the East Bay Regional Park District. Mr. Doyle welcomed the Council and made brief opening remarks about the development of the parks in the East Bay and how the projects were funded. Mr. Doyle explained how the East Bay Regional Park District partnered with many state and federal agencies for grants in the completion of the visitor center. Mr. Doyle then introduced Supervising Naturalist, Mike Moran, who briefly described the duties of the volunteers and docents.

2. Roll Call – Establish a Quorum (Water Code §85210.5)

Roll call was taken and a quorum established at 1:32 p.m. The following members were present: Patrick Johnston, Frank Damrell, Randy Fiorini, Phil Isenberg, Susan Tatayon, Aja Brown, and Larry Ruhstaller.

3. Chair's Report

Chair Fiorini gave a brief overview of the morning's field trip to the habitat restoration efforts at two sites on the Antioch Dunes and one site at Dutch Slough. Next, Chair Fiorini noted the passage by the Legislature of a water bond for the voters' consideration in November general election and also stated he had been interacting with multiple agencies in preparation for the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee meeting scheduled for November. Finally, Chair Fiorini made brief remarks about recent meetings he and other California water officials had in the state of Idaho, which had just concluded the largest general stream adjudication in western water history, reaching, after 27 years, a landmark resolution of more than 158,000 claims in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA). He said it illustrated how others managed conflict and that he would prepare a written report on the subject and distribute it to the Council.

4. Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer's Report was presented by Jessica Pearson. Ms. Pearson discussed the schedule for the day. She stated there would be an update on the Council's Levee Investment Strategy that would focus on the role and composition and establishment of an independent review panel. Ms. Pearson made brief comments on the Covered Action Workshop that was held in Clarksburg earlier in the week. Approximately 20 people attended the workshop, which was the third in a series that have occurred in the last few months. Ms. Pearson also updated the Council on recruitment efforts for 12 positions, primarily in science and announced two hires – Chief Information Officer Dorothy Takahashi and Senior Engineer Anthony Navasero, Ms. Pearson made brief remarks on BDCP stating revisions will be made in response to comments and changes in design. Ms. Pearson stated a revised draft and draft EIR was expected in early 2015.

Legislative Update

Jessica Pearson gave the Legislative Update. Ms. Pearson noted the inclusion of a water bond bill summary in the binders and made brief remarks about the water bond that will appear on the November ballot. The water bond is for \$7.5 billion. Next, Ms. Pearson discussed the August bill tracking report that was handed out at the meeting and is posted on the Council website at http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Item_4aAugust%20Bill%20Tracking%20Report_0.pdf

Legal Update

There was no Legal Update provided at the meeting.

5. Lead Scientist's Report

Dr. Peter Goodwin presented the Lead Scientist's Report. First, Dr. Goodwin welcomed Mayor Brown on behalf of the science community. He then made brief comments on the Science Action Agenda and development of the State of the Bay Delta Science. Dr. Goodwin also discussed the Napa earthquake and stated that there had been no reports of damage in the Delta. Dr. Goodwin stated the fault line that triggered the quake had been determined to be inactive but that determination was now being redefined.

Dr. Goodwin discussed a letter from Secretary Laird, David Murillo, Regional Director of the Bureau of Reclamation, Ren Lohenfener, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and William Stelle of NOAA Fisheries, in which they write to request that Dr. Goodwin convene an Independent Scientific Review Panel to review existing information and prepare a summary analysis of the long-term effects (economic, ecological, social, etc.) of continuing the current course of actions relating to the Delta. The letter and Dr. Goodwin's response are posted on the Council website at <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Item%205%20Corresponde>

[nce%20to%20Peter%20Goodwin%20from%20John%20Laird,%20et%20al%20and%20Response%20from%20Peter%20Goodwin.pdf](#)

Dr. Goodwin then requested Meiling Roddham, the Council's Sea Grant State Fellow, to join him at the panel table. He announced Ms. Roddham's departure, saying she had accepted a position with the National Marine Fisheries Service. The Council members thanked her for her service and many contributions to the Science Program and Chair Fiorini and Dr. Goodwin presented Ms. Roddham with a certificate of appreciation for her contributions. Following the presentation, Ms. Roddham provided a summary of the current numbers related to Delta water and environmental management. *By the Numbers*, is posted on the Council website at

http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Item_5_Attach_1_1.pdf

Throughout the discussion of Lead Scientist's Report, Dr. Goodwin heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

Throughout the presentation of Item 5, Dr. Goodwin heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

6. Adoption of July 25, 2014 Meeting Summary (Action Item)

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any questions, suggestions or comments from the Council or public regarding the July 25, 2014 meeting summary. There were none.

Motion: (Offered by Isenberg; seconded by Damrell) to approve the July 25, 2014 Meeting Summary.

Vote: (6/0: Damrell, Ruhstaller, Fiorini, Isenberg, Tatayon, Johnston) (Brown abstained from vote) and the motion was adopted.

The video showing this vote can be found on the linked agenda at:

<http://cal-span.org/cgi-bin/archive.php?player=silverlight&owner=DSC&date=2014-08-28> at 53:36.

7. Endorsement of Habitat Issue Paper (Action Item)

Jessica Davenport, program manager for ecosystem restoration and land use and Dr. Lauren Hastings of the Council's Delta Science Program presented Agenda Item 7. Ms. Davenport began by briefing the Council on the background of the issue paper. The issue paper presented was revised from the draft that was first presented to the Council in January. The draft paper was based on input from stakeholders and agency staff and, she said, builds on the oversight session the ISB held in July 2013 and incorporates ideas from the Delta Science Plan and the draft Delta Restoration Framework. The issue paper focuses the Council's work and encourages others to focus their work in key areas designed to spark progress toward the implementation of the habitat restoration portions of the Delta Plan over the next two years. Among other

staff actions, one explained by Dr. Hastings is to convene scientific experts to provide independent review of restoration project designs and adaptive management plans with a landscape context. Dr. Hastings and Ms. Davenport described other Council staff actions as well as the actions of other agencies and stakeholders.

Throughout the discussion of the survey of habitat restoration efforts and proposed areas of focus for future work, Ms. Davenport and Dr. Hastings heard Council members' comments, answered questions and provided clarification.

Motion: (Offered by Johnston; seconded by Damrell) to endorse the Issue Paper – Restoring Habitat with Science and Society in Mind and allow staff to make non-substantive changes.

Vote: (7/0: Damrell, Ruhstaller, Fiorini, Isenberg, Tatayon, Johnston, Brown) and the motion was adopted.

The video showing this vote can be found on the linked agenda at:
<http://cal-span.org/cgi-bin/archive.php?player=silverlight&owner=DSC&date=2014-08-28> at 1:26:47.

8. Delta Levee Investment Strategy Update

Cindy Messer, deputy executive officer for planning and Dr. Peter Goodwin presented Agenda Item 8, the monthly update on the progress on the development of the Delta levee Investment Strategy. Ms. Messer began by giving a brief summary and background information on the item. Ms. Messer stated the report heard at today's meeting was another in a series of presentations on the Council's activities related to the Delta Levee Investment Strategy and focused on formation of an independent review panel to ensure the strategy is based on the best scientific and other technical information available.

Dr. Goodwin described activities the Delta Science Program would undertake convening and coordinating the independent panel and its activities, in accordance with the Delta Science Program's policy and procedures for independent scientific review that are included in the Delta Science Action Plan, and were provided to the Council as Attachment 1. As stated in the Delta Science Program's policy and procedures for independent scientific reviews, the Delta Lead Scientist (Dr. Goodwin) will make the final selection of the review panel members and will finalize the charge.

Recommendations on members and the charge were developed through two meetings that included staff from the Council and from the Department of Water Resources, the Delta Protection Commission and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board. From those meetings, Dr. Goodwin approved a list of nominations for the panel and he and the Science Program staff are contacting the nominees to secure their participation. Dr. Goodwin stated the first member of the board is Dr. James K Mitchell, who will chair the panel. Dr. Goodwin described Dr. Mitchell's background and stated the next steps in the process will be to fill the remaining panel member positions.

Throughout the presentation of Agenda Item 8, Ms. Messer and Dr. Goodwin heard Council members' comments, answered questions, and provided clarification.

9. Public Comment

Chair Fiorini asked if there were any members of the public who wished to comment. There were none.

10. Preparation for Next Council Meeting – Discuss (a) expected agenda items; (b) new work assignments for staff; (c) requests from Council members; and (e) confirm next meeting date – September 25-26, 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.