

Delta Independent Science Board Report

Summary: Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB) Chair Dr. Richard Norgaard will report on the Delta ISB's May 3-4 meeting and May 17 teleconference and present memos for the March meeting of the Delta ISB.

Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB)

Dr. Norgaard will brief the Council on the Delta ISB's May meetings. The first meeting was held on May 3-4, and the second was a teleconference on May 17, 2012. At the May 3-4 meeting, the Delta ISB received:

- A presentation on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) adaptive management program;
- A report on the Delta Science Program's Independent Scientific Review Panel on the BDCP Effects Analysis held April 30-May 1; and
- An update on the Interagency Ecological Program's workshop held in April.

The Delta ISB also discussed:

- A preliminary draft charge prepared by the Lead Scientist for the Delta ISB's upcoming review of the BDCP Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). The Lead Scientist will incorporate their suggestions and bring it back for further refinement at their June 8 teleconference.
- The NRC report "Sustainable Water and Environmental Management in the California Bay-Delta". The Board decided that a memo describing their view on the report should be prepared and submitted to the Council and delegated finalizing the memo to Chair Norgaard (Attachment 1).
- The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update and the Delta ISB's responses to five questions posed by a SWRCB Deputy Director regarding the San Joaquin River flow objectives phase of the Plan Update (Attachment 2); and
- Preparation of a Work Plan that will guide the Delta ISB's activities over the next year (Attachment 3).

As a result of their discussions at the May 3-4 meeting, the Delta ISB determined that they needed to meet again to finalize and approve a memo to the State Water Resources Control Board regarding questions posed by the SWRCB during the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan update and to discuss their draft work plan for the coming year. This meeting was conducted as a public teleconference on May 17.

In addition, Chair Norgaard will present two memos previously scheduled to be discussed at the Council's March 15-16 Meeting: 1) to legislators explaining the need for stable funding for the Delta Science Program, and 2) to the Delta Stewardship Council presenting key findings from the Delta ISB meetings of October 20-21 and December 1-2 (Attachments 4 and 5). Chair Norgaard will present the memos at the May Council meeting since he was unable to attend the March 15-16 Council meeting.

The Delta ISB meeting notices and materials are posted online at:
<http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-board/isb-meetings>.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1: Memo - Commentary on the National Research Council Report, *Sustainable Water and Environmental Management in the California Bay-Delta*

Attachment 2: Memo - Delta ISB Responses to SWRCB Flow Questions

Attachment 3: Delta ISB Projected Work Plan

Attachment 4: Memo - The Delta Science Program Requires Stable Funding, March 14, 2012

Attachment 5: Memo - Key Issues for Delta Science: A Report of the Delta Independent Science Board, March 14, 2012

Contact

Dr. Richard Norgaard
Delta Independent Science Board, Chair

Phone: (916) 445-5511