

Drought and the Delta: A Report by DWR on Current Water Year Conditions and Impacts on the Reliability of California's Water Supplies and the Delta Ecosystem

Summary: Deputy Director Paul Helliker from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) will provide an overview on the current status of water operations in the Delta and any impacts resulting from dry conditions in the Sacramento Valley.

Background

Deputy Director Paul Helliker from the Department of Water Resources will provide an overview on the current status of water operations in the Delta and any impacts affecting operations as a result of dry conditions in the Sacramento Valley. Mr. Helliker will present information on; (1) reservoir storage; (2) potential impacts on deliveries or allocations; and, (3) expedited water transfers as a result of this year's dry conditions.

Mr. Helliker will also provide information regarding a letter sent by DWR and the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to the State Water Resources Board (SWRCB) in May 2013 regarding unprecedented dry conditions in the Sacramento Valley and needed actions to protect cold water pool resources for fisheries purposes and the SWRCB's response letter (to also be discussed as part of Agenda Item 8: Update from the Delta Watermaster).

Given the current challenging conditions for this region, staff propose to invite representatives from DWR, BOR, other agencies, and affected stakeholders, to provide regular updates on drought condition water operations, and the related impacts on water supplies and the Delta ecosystem to the Council at its monthly meetings now through the end of 2013 and beyond as needed and as conditions remain dry.

Contact

Cindy Messer
Deputy Executive Officer, Delta Plan

Phone: (916) 445-0258