

State Water Board's Regulatory History and Bay-Delta Phase 2 Process

Delta Stewardship Council Meeting
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Water Quality Control Planning

- Water Quality Control Plans
- The Bay-Delta Plan or the...
 - Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary
- Beneficial uses, objectives, program of implementation, and monitoring
- Updated periodically
- Not self-implementing

History

- 1960s: Water rights for CVP and SWP with reservation of jurisdiction to develop water quality requirements
- 1971: D-1379 – Monitoring and interim water quality standards to be met by CVP and SWP
- 1978: Delta Plan and D-1485 – Updated water quality standards for the Delta and established water right requirements
- 1991: Bay-Delta Plan for Salinity

History Continued

- 1992: Draft D-1630 – Not adopted
- 1995: Bay-Delta Plan – Basis for current Bay-Delta Plan objectives
- 2000: D-1641 – Implements 1995 Bay-Delta Plan
- 2006: Bay-Delta Plan – Updates 1995 Bay-Delta Plan identifies emerging issues
- 2009: Bay-Delta Plan Periodic Review Staff Report recommends issues for further review
- 2010: Delta Flow Criteria Report

Delta Flow Criteria Report Conclusions

- Flow and physical habitat interact in many ways, but are not interchangeable. Current flows are insufficient to protect public trust resources.
- Inflows should generally be provided from tributaries to the Delta watershed in proportion to their contribution to unimpaired flow unless otherwise indicated.
 - 75% Unimpaired Delta Outflow, Jan-Jun
 - 75% Unimpaired Sacramento River inflow, Nov-Jun
 - 60% Unimpaired San Joaquin River Inflow, Feb-Jun
- A strong science program and a flexible management regime are critical to improving flow criteria.

Bay-Delta Activities

- Phase 1: San Joaquin River flows and southern Delta salinity objectives and program of implementation
- Phase 2: Comprehensive update of the rest of the Bay-Delta Plan
- Phase 3: Implement the Bay-Delta Plan through water rights
- Phase 4: Develop and implement flow objective for high priority Delta tributaries

Phase 2: Comprehensive Update Focused on Fish and Wildlife

- “Protect” San Joaquin River flows through Delta
- Delta outflow
- Sacramento River flow
- Exports/imports
- Delta Cross Channel Gate closures
- Suisun Marsh
- Reverse flows on Old/Middle River
- Floodplain habitat
- Monitoring and special studies program
- Program of implementation

Phase 2: Public Workshops Fall 2012

- Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone
- Bay-Delta Fishery Resources
- Analytical Tools for Evaluating Water Supply, Hydrodynamic, and Hydropower Effects

Phase 2: Role of Workshops

- Delta Science Program workshops to address areas of uncertainty:
 - Delta Outflow and Related Stressors
 - Feb 10-11, 2014
 - Interior Delta Flows and Related Stressors
 - April 16-17, 2014
- Scientific Basis Report
 - Release Report / Hold Workshop
 - Fall 2014

Scientific Basis Report

- Describes the scientific basis for proposed changes to the Bay-Delta Plan
- Does not address policy and other issues
- Developed by technical staff and consultants
- Informed by workshop reports, scientific literature, original analysis, public process
- Peer-reviewed pursuant to statute

State Water Board Timeline for the Phase 2 Update of the Bay-Delta Plan

