

## SWRCB Develop Flow Criteria for the Delta Ecosystem (\*-SWRCB-001-20100904-1)

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**Staff Recommendation:** Proposed action be included in the Interim Plan and also be deemed complete.

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### **Background**

Water Code §85086 (b), (c), (d) and (e) requires the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to develop new flow criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) ecosystem that are necessary to protect public trust resources. The purpose of the flow criteria is to inform planning decisions for the Delta Plan and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. The statute specifies that the flow criteria shall not predetermine any issue that may arise in the SWRCB's subsequent consideration of a permit. SWRCB prepared an August 3, 2010 report detailing the development of the flow criteria. The report was transmitted to the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) on August 25, 2010 and SWRCB made a presentation to the Council at its August 26, 2010 meeting. The SWRCB report provides information regarding flows necessary to protect public trust resources in the Delta.

In developing the report, SWRCB followed the guidelines recommended for best available science including use of peer reviewed publications, scientific expert opinion and informal external review. However, the flow criteria report may not have been subjected to formal independent external peer review.

Staff recommends that the proposed action be included in the Interim Plan and also be deemed complete.

### **List of Attachments**

- Attachment 1 – Committee Recommendation Options Submittal Form
- Attachment 2 – Checklist for Completeness
- Attachment 3 – Application for Consideration of a Plan or Project

### **Contact**

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