



Implementation of the Delta Plan: A Key Component of the Water Resilience Portfolio

- ▶ **Shared goal.** Furthering the state’s coequal goals – the aim of the Delta Plan – is critical to a water resilient California.
- ▶ **Forum for collaboration and integration.** Implementation of the Delta Plan, in part through DPIIC, relies upon the coordination and partnerships envisioned in the principles of the Water Resilience Portfolio.
- ▶ **Foundational tools for resilience.** The Delta Plan relies upon a diversified portfolio of actions, underpinned by an adaptive management framework that responds to the dynamic conditions of the system.
- ▶ **Practical.** The Delta Plan leverages current policies, authorities, and investments across the Delta in a manner that complements existing efforts by others.
- ▶ **Responsive and relevant.** Guided by the best available science, the Delta Plan must be reviewed at least every five years, ensuring that the Plan remains responsive to changes associated with management decisions, as well as the natural environment.
- ▶ **Performance management.** Many of the Delta Plan’s performance measures support the principles of the Water Resilience Portfolio.

[The Delta] is a critically important natural resource for California and the nation. It serves Californians concurrently as both the hub of the California water system and the most valuable estuary and wetland ecosystem on the west coast of North and South America.

Water Code Section 85002

Delta Plan

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- Long-term management plan with capacity to adapt and evolve
- Portfolio of actions implemented collaboratively
- Based on the best available science
- More than 160 performance measures
- Legally enforceable

Water Resilience Portfolio

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Executive Order N-10-19 requires the Portfolio to embody the following principles:

- Prioritize multi-benefit approaches
- Utilize natural infrastructure
- Embrace innovation and new technologies
- Encourage regional approaches
- Incorporate successful approaches from other parts of the world
- Integrate investments, policies, and programs across state government
- Strengthen partnerships with public and private agencies, and other stakeholders

Implementing the Delta Plan

The Delta Reform Act requires the Delta Plan to include:

- ▶ Regulatory requirements that projects occurring in the Delta that significantly impact the coequal goals:
 - Be based on the best available science, including climate science;
 - Include a formal adaptive management strategy;
 - Demonstrate reduced reliance on the Delta through improved regional self-reliance; and
 - Respect local land use by avoiding or mitigating impacts on Delta communities.
- ▶ Recommendations essential to furthering the coequal goals, including:
 - Expanding urban and agricultural water management plans to include an element that demonstrates reduced reliance on the Delta;
 - New and improved water conveyance that enhances the Delta the ecosystem and is operated in a manner that protects Delta communities; and
 - Operating Delta water management facilities using adaptive management.
- ▶ A coordinated suite of restoration actions aimed at getting projects on the ground and improving Delta ecosystem function.¹
- ▶ Priorities for state investments in Delta levees to reduce risk to people, property, and state interests.
- ▶ Measurable targets (performance management) associated with achieving Delta Plan objectives.

Contact

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Delta Reform Act (Water Code 85000 et seq.)

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85020. Policy Objectives. The policy of the State of California is to achieve the following objectives that are inherent in the coequal goals for management of the Delta:

- Manage the Delta's water and environmental resources and the water resources of the state over the long term.
- Protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.
- Restore the Delta ecosystem, including its fisheries and wildlife, as the heart of a healthy estuary and wetland ecosystem.
- Promote statewide water conservation, water use efficiency, and sustainable water use.
- Improve water quality to protect human health and the environment consistent with achieving Delta water quality objectives.
- Improve the water conveyance system and expand statewide water storage.
- Reduce risks to people, property, and state interests in the Delta through emergency preparedness, appropriate land uses, and investments in flood protection.

¹ Draft Delta Plan Ecosystem amendment currently under development.