



## **INFORMATION ITEM**

### **Delta Watermaster Update**

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**Summary:** Delta Watermaster Michael Patrick George will report on his office's activities related to the Delta Plan, including diversion measurement regulations, Delta water use and rights, and channel maintenance.

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#### **BACKGROUND**

The Office of the Delta Watermaster was created as part of the Delta Reform Act of 2009. The Watermaster is an independent officer of the State, appointed to a four-year term by the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), and reports jointly to the Water Board and the Delta Stewardship Council (Council).

As Watermaster, Michael George is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day administration of water rights and, when necessary, taking enforcement action related to water diversions in the Delta. The Watermaster also confers with and assists the Water Board and the Council as they carry out legislative mandates to enhance the Delta ecosystem and improve statewide water supply reliability.

#### **TODAY'S PRESENTATION**

At today's meeting, the Council will learn about progress made on the Watermaster's 2020 workplan initiatives. Topics that Mr. George will cover in his presentation include:

- Delta Alternative Compliance Plans with diversion measurement regulations;
- Quality assurance of Annual Reports on Delta Water Use;
- Clarifications of water rights in the Delta;
- Challenges in maintaining Delta channels and the risks associated with deferring maintenance; and
- Reducing reliance on the Delta, with a highlight on a San Diego case study.

Mr. George will also touch on preparations his office is making to prepare for future drought conditions.

#### **FISCAL INFORMATION**

Not applicable.

#### **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

None

**CONTACT**

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