



Delta Stewardship Council

A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 17, 2021

To: Delta Stewardship Councilmembers

From: Jessica R. Pearson, Executive Officer

Subject: Upcoming Council Meeting – June 24, 2021¹

CHAIR

Susan Tatayon

MEMBERS

Frank C. Damrell, Jr.
Virginia Madueño
Maria Mehranian
Don Nottoli
Christy Smith
Daniel Zingale

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jessica R. Pearson

This month, the Council will shift gears a bit and may take action on a few of the Council's highest priority initiatives.

First, the Council will consider the approval of 34 contracts for 16 research projects as a part of the 2021 Joint Delta Science Proposal Solicitation Notice (PSN). A collaborative effort with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and facilitated by California Sea Grant, the recommended projects through this PSN directly respond to high-priority science action areas identified in the 2017-2021 Science Action Agenda and span a range of management-relevant work on the topics of harmful algal blooms, food webs, climate change, fish life cycles, social science integration, and more. The total funding from this joint solicitation, including funds from Reclamation, is approximately \$9.6 million. This significant effort is emblematic of the Council and Delta Science Program's leadership of collaborative science efforts in the Delta and will forge lasting partnerships for Delta science.

The Council will also consider the approval of the final Vulnerability Assessment for the Delta and Suisun Marsh developed through Delta Adapts. Council staff will present an overview of the feedback received during the public comment period and outline findings that the vulnerability assessment is exempt from CEQA. This final vulnerability assessment represents three years of hard work and collaborative effort from the Council, its staff,

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¹ This month's meeting will be conducted remotely per Governor's Executive Order N-08-21 issued June 11, 2021. The Council continues to prioritize opportunities for remote participation by the public while also undertaking measures to reduce community transmission of COVID-19. Please see the meeting notice for details.



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stakeholders, community-based organizations, and the public to develop the Delta's first-ever climate change vulnerability assessment.

Lastly, we will hear from the Department of Water Resources on their efforts to construct a salinity barrier on the West False River near its confluence with the San Joaquin River in eastern Contra Costa County. Similar to the 2015 Barrier, this new Barrier seeks to reduce salinity intrusion in the Delta resulting from the current drought.

If I can answer any questions or provide any other information in advance of the meeting, please contact me at (916) 445-4500 or jpearson@deltacouncil.ca.gov.