



## INFORMATION ITEM

### Delta Watermaster Update

---

**Summary:** Delta Watermaster Michael Patrick George will report on his office's activities related to the Delta Plan, focusing on efforts to address the current drought.

---

#### BACKGROUND

The Office of the Delta Watermaster was created by the Delta Reform Act of 2009 (Water Code §85230). The Delta Watermaster is a special master for the Delta, appointed to a four-year term by the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) and regularly reporting to the Water Board and the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) (Water Code §85230(d)).

The Delta Watermaster 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 Delta 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 Delta Watermaster will discuss the current priorities of his office. First, Mr. George will provide an overview of the current drought and water year 2023 dry-year risk mitigation planning. This will include a status update on the Delta dry-year response plan.

Mr. George will also discuss how the Delta fits into the current process of developing voluntary agreements related to the update and implementation of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary. This discussion will include how drought impacts Delta water quality, how to address threats to fish and wildlife, and the tradeoffs involved with the timing of water conservation actions.

Mr. George's term as the Delta Watermaster will end on December 31, 2022. As part of his presentation, he will describe the process for recruiting and selecting his successor.

#### FISCAL INFORMATION

Not applicable.

**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

None

**CONTACT**

Abbott Dutton

Assistant Deputy Executive Officer for Communications

[abbott.dutton@deltacouncil.ca.gov](mailto:abbott.dutton@deltacouncil.ca.gov)