RESOLUTION OF THE DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL TO ADOPT REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE DELTA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION MANAGEMENT (CAL. CODE REGS., TIT. 23, § 5001 ET SEQ.)

Resolution 2024-06

WHEREAS, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 (Wat. Code, § 85000 et seq.; Delta Reform Act) creates and directs the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) to develop an enforceable, comprehensive, long-term management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Suisun Marsh (collectively, the Delta) referred to as the Delta Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Delta Reform Act declares it is the intent of the Legislature to provide for the sustainable management of the Delta ecosystem, to provide for a more reliable water supply from the Delta, and to establish a governance structure that will direct efforts across state agencies to develop a legally enforceable Delta Plan (Wat. Code, § 85001, subd, (c).); and

WHEREAS, the Delta Reform Act, among other things, requires a state or local public agency that proposes to undertake a covered action, and before initiating the implementation of that covered action, to prepare a written certification of consistency with detailed findings as to whether the covered action is consistent with the Delta Plan and to submit that certification to the Council (Wat. Code, § 85225.); and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2022, the Council, as a lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.), adopted Resolution No. 2022-05, which (a) certified the PEIR Addendum as State Clearinghouse No. 2020050219 for the 2022 amendments to the Delta Plan, Chapter 4; (b) adopted Findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations; (c) adopted and incorporated the new mitigation measures identified in the PEIR Addendum and in the Findings; and (d) adopted the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Delta Plan, Chapter 4, amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Council filed a Notice of Determination for the PEIR Addendum with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's State Clearinghouse on June 23, 2022, and the 30-day statute of limitations expired without challenge; and

WHEREAS, the Council has the power to "adopt regulations or guidelines as needed to carry out the powers and duties identified in [the Delta Reform Act]" (Wat. Code, § 85210, subd. (i).); and

WHEREAS, also on June 23, 2022, with the adoption of Resolution No. 2022-05, the Council directed Council staff to initiate a regular rulemaking consistent with the

Administrative Procedure Act (Gov. Code, § 11340 et seq.) for the regulatory Delta Plan policies that were amended or added into the Delta Plan, Chapter 4 amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Notice of Proposed Action was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on March 29, 2024, initiating the regular rulemaking process for the proposed ecosystem regulation (Office of Administrative Law File No. Z2024-0318-02); and

WHEREAS, Council staff published on the Council's website the Notice of Proposed Action, proposed regulatory text, Initial Statement of Reasons, and Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement beginning March 29, 2024, and distributed to interested parties through the Council's listserv and U.S. mail; and

WHEREAS, Council staff accepted written comments during the public comment period, running from March 29, 2024, through May 17, 2024, inclusive, and accepted oral comments at a public hearing held May 14, 2024, at the Natural Resources Agency headquarters at 715 P Street in Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, Council staff has reviewed all oral and written public comments received during the public comment period and has summarized and responded to those comments in the Final Statement of Reasons;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Delta Stewardship Council as follows:

Section 1. The Executive Officer, or their designee, is authorized to take the actions necessary to make effective these regulations for the Delta Plan (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 5001 et seq.) relating to the Delta ecosystem restoration management in substantially the same form as presented in Attachment A.

Section 2. The Executive Officer, or their designee, is authorized to execute and deliver any documents and take any steps, including making any changes to these regulations to secure approval by the Office of Administrative Law, that the Executive Officer, or their designee, may deem necessary or advisable to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

Section 3. This resolution takes effect immediately upon approval.

ATTACHMENT A (Mockup of Proposed Regulatory Language)

CERTIFICATION

On a motion by Councilmember _____, seconded by Councilmember _____, and a vote of the Council, the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council by the following vote at a regular meeting of the Delta Stewardship Council on August 22, 2024.

Burgis		
Damrell		
Hueso		
Lee		
Mehranian		
Miller		
Zingale		
Dated: August 22, 2024		

Emma Askea

Clerk of the Board of the Delta Stewardship Council

Attachment A

State of California Delta Stewardship Council 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814

California Code of Regulations, Title 23. Water Division 6. Delta Stewardship Council

Amendment of Sections 5001, 5002, 5003, 5004, 5005, 5006, 5007, 5008, 5009, 5010, 5011, 5012, 5013, 5014, and 5015; Addition of Section 5005.1 and Appendix 3A, Appendix 4A, and Appendix 8A

Proposed Amendment to Existing Regulation

REGULATIONS TEXT MODIFICATIONS KEY

Proposed amendments to the regulatory text are identified as follows:

- Existing CCR Text ----- No underline or strikethrough
- Regulation text deletions in the 50-day noticed comment period (03/29/2024) ----- single strikethrough
- Regulation text additions in the 50-day noticed comment period (03/29/2024) ----- single underline
- After the 50-day comment period closed, regulation text deletions ----- double strikethrough
- After the 50-day comment period closed, regulation text additions ----- double underline

Section 5001. Definitions.

As used in this division, the terms listed below shall have the meanings noted:

(a) "Adaptive management" means a framework and flexible decision-making process for ongoing knowledge acquisition, monitoring, and evaluation leading to continuous improvement in management planning and implementation of a project to achieve specified objectives.

(b) "Agricultural water management plan" means a plan prepared, adopted, and updated by an agricultural water supplier pursuant to the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act, Water Code section 10800 et seq.

(c) "Agricultural water supplier" under the Water Code refers to both agricultural retail water suppliers and agricultural wholesale water suppliers, but not the California Department of

Water Resources or the United States Bureau of Reclamation, and includes both of the following:

(1) A water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water to 10,000 or more irrigated acres, excluding recycled water; and

(2) A water supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of the water right, that distributes or sells water for ultimate resale to customers.

(d) "Base Flood" means the flood that has a 1-percent probability of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (also referred to as the 100-year flood).

(e) "Base Flood Elevation" (BFE) means the water surface elevation associated with the base flood.

(f) "BDCP" means the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, which was a habitat conservation plan proposed by the Department of Water Resources, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Bureau of Reclamation.

(f)(g) "Best available science" means the best scientific information and data for informing management and policy decisions. Best available science shall be consistent with the guidelines and criteria found in Appendix 1A.

(g)(h) "Central Valley Flood Protection Board" or "Board" means the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (formerly The Reclamation Board) of the Resources Agency of the State of California as provided in Water Code section 8521.

(i) "CEQA" means the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.).

(i) "Certification of consistency" means a written statement as described in Water Code section 85225.

(h)(\underline{k}) "Certifying agency" means, for the purposes of article 5, a State or local public agency that proposes to undertake a covered action.

(i)(!) "Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place. In addition, "achievement" for the purpose of determining whether a plan, program, or project meets the definition of a "covered action" under section 5001(k)(o) is further defined as follows:

(1) "Achieving the coequal goal of providing a more reliable water supply for California" means all of the following:

(A) Better matching the state's demands for reasonable and beneficial uses of water to the available water supply. This will be done by promoting, improving, investing in, and implementing projects and programs that improve the resiliency of the state's water systems, increase water efficiency and conservation, increase water recycling and use of advanced water technologies, improve groundwater management, expand storage, and improve Delta conveyance and operations. The evaluation of progress toward improving reliability will take into account the inherent variability in water demands and supplies across California;
(B) Regions that use water from the Delta watershed will reduce their reliance on this water for

reasonable and beneficial uses, and improve regional self-reliance, consistent with existing

water rights and the State's area-of-origin statutes and Reasonable Use and Public Trust Doctrines. This will be done by improving, investing in, and implementing local and regional projects and programs that increase water conservation and efficiency, increase water recycling and use of advanced water technologies, expand storage, improve groundwater management, and enhance regional coordination of local and regional water supply development efforts; and (C) Water exported from the Delta will more closely match water supplies available to be exported, based on water year type and consistent with the coequal goal of protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. This will be done by improving conveyance in the Delta and expanding groundwater and surface storage both north and south of the Delta to optimize diversions in wet years when more water is available and conflicts with the ecosystem are less likely, and limit diversions in dry years when conflicts with the ecosystem are more likely. Delta water that is stored in wet years will be available for water users during dry years, when the limited amount of available water must remain in the Delta, making water deliveries more predictable and reliable. In addition, these improvements will decrease the vulnerability of Delta water supplies to disruption by natural disasters, such as, earthquakes, floods, and levee failures.

(2) "Achieving the coequal goal of protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem" means successfully establishing a resilient, functioning estuary and surrounding terrestrial landscape capable of supporting viable populations of native resident and migratory species with diverse and biologically appropriate habitats, functional corridors, and ecosystem processes.

(3) "Achieving the coequal goals in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place" means accepting that change, including change associated with achieving the coequal goals, will not cease, but that the fundamental characteristics and values that contribute to the Delta's special qualities and that distinguish it from other places can be preserved and enhanced while accommodating these changes. In this regard, the following are core strategies for protecting and enhancing the unique values that distinguish the Delta and make it a special region: (A) Designate the Delta as a special place worthy of national and state attention;

(B) Plan to protect the Delta's lands and communities;

(C) Maintain Delta agriculture as a primary land use, a food source, a key economic sector, and a way of life;

(D) Encourage recreation and tourism that allow visitors to enjoy and appreciate the Delta and that contribute to its economy;

(E) Sustain a vital Delta economy that includes a mix of agriculture, tourism, recreation, related industries and business, and vital components of state and regional infrastructure; and

(F) Reduce flood and other risks to people, property, and other interests in the Delta. (j)(m) "Commercial recreational visitor-serving uses" means a land use designation that describes visitor-serving uses, accommodations, restaurants, and shops, that respect the rural character and natural environmental setting. These uses also include campgrounds and commercial recreational facilities.

(n) "Council" means the Delta Stewardship Council created pursuant to Water Code section 85200.

(k)(o)(1) "Covered action" means a plan, program, or project that meets all of the following criteria (which are collectively referred to as covered action screening criteria):

(A) Is a "project," as defined pursuant to section 21065 of the Public Resources Code;

(B) Will occur, in whole or in part, within the boundaries of the Delta or Suisun Marsh;

(C) Will be carried out, approved, or funded by the State or a local public agency;

(D) Will have a significant impact on achievement of one or both of the coequal goals or the implementation of government-sponsored flood control programs to reduce risks to people, property, and State interests in the Delta; and

(E) Is covered by one or more provisions of the Delta Plan, which for these purposes, means one or more of the regulatory policies contained in Article 3.

(2) "Covered action" does not include any plan, program, or project that is exempted pursuant to Water Code section 85057.5(b).

(3) A State or local public agency that proposes to carry out, approve, or fund a plan, program, or project that may be subject to this chapter must determine whether that proposed plan, program, or project is a covered action. That determination, which is subject to judicial review, must be reasonable, made in good faith, and consistent with the Delta Reform Act and this chapter.

(4) Nothing in the application of the definition of a "covered action" shall be interpreted to authorize the abrogation of any vested right whether created by statute or by common law. (p) "CVP" means the federal Central Valley Project described in Water Code section 11100 et

<u>seq.</u>

(H)(\underline{a}) "Delta" means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as defined in section 12220 of the Water Code and the Suisun Marsh, as defined in section 29101 of the Public Resources Code. (m)(\underline{r}) "Delta Plan" means the comprehensive, long-term management plan for the Delta to further the achievement of the coequal goals, as adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council in accordance with the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.

(n)(s) "Designated Floodway" means those floodways, as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 4 (i), under the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

(t) "Disadvantaged community" means communities described in Health and Safety Code section 39711.

 $(\Theta)(\underline{u})$ "Encroachment" means any obstruction or physical intrusion by construction of works or devices, planting or removal of vegetation, or by any means for any purpose, into or otherwise affecting a floodway or floodplain.

 $\frac{(p)}{(v)}$ "Enhancement" or "enhancing," for purposes of section 5001 $\frac{(i)}{(l)}(2)$, means improving existing desirable habitat and natural processes. Enhancement may include, by way of example, flooding the Yolo Bypass more often to support native species or to expand or better connect existing habitat areas. Enhancement includes many fish and wildlife management practices, such as managing wetlands for waterfowl production or shorebird habitat, installing fish screens to reduce entrainment of fish at water diversions, or removing barriers that block migration of fish to upstream spawning habitats.

(w) "Environmental justice" has the same meaning as in Government Code section 65040.12(e).

 $\frac{(q)(x)}{x}$ "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors.

(r)(y) "Floodplain" means any land area susceptible to being inundated by flood waters from any source.

(s)(z) "Floodplain values and functions" has the same meaning as set forth in 33 Code of Federal Regulations section 320.4(/)(1).

(t)(aa) "Floodproofing" means any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes, or adjustments appropriate for residential structures, which reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to real estate, improved real property, or structures with their contents.
 (u)(bb) "Floodway" means the portion of the floodplain that is effective in carrying flow (that is, the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that convey flood waters).

(v)(cc) "Government-sponsored flood control program to reduce risks to people, property, and State interests in the Delta" means any State or federal strategy, project, approval, funding, or other effort that is intended to reduce the likelihood and/or consequences of flooding of real property and/or improvements, including risks to people, property, and State interests in the Delta, that is carried out pursuant to applicable law, including, but not limited to the following:

(1) State Water Resources Law of 1945, Water Code section 12570 et seq.;(2) Sacramento-San Joaquin River Flood Control Projects (Flood Control Act of 1941, P.L. 77-

228);

(3) Local Plans of Flood Protection prepared pursuant to the Local Flood Protection Planning Act (Water Code section 8200 et seq.), that are consistent with the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan pursuant to Water Code section 9612;

(4) Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (Water Code section 9600 et seq.);

(5) Subventions Program, Special Projects Program (Water Code section 12300 et seq.);

(6) Way Bill 1973-Subventions Program, Special Projects Program (Water Code section 12980 et seq.);

(7) Central Valley Flood Protection Board Authority (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Division 1); and

(8) National Flood Insurance Program (National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq., P.L. 90-448).

(w)(dd) "High Priority islands or tracts" means the tracts of land listed under "High Priority" in the Table (Delta Levees Investment Strategy Priorities) of Section 5012 of this title and depicted in Appendix P to the Delta Plan.

(x)(ee) "Levee improvement" means any activity that is not levee operation and maintenance, and that is intended to reduce the probability of flooding or the addition of a feature that did not previously exist. Examples of levee improvements include changing levee geometry to reach a higher level of protection, providing riprap where none previously existed, and other similar activities.

(y)(ff) "Levee operation and maintenance" means any activity to retain or maintain the intended functions of flood control facilities and of existing encroachments or needed to keep the system functioning properly. Examples of maintenance activities include mowing, tree and brush trimming and removal, revetment restoration, rodent control, spraying, painting, coating,

patching, burning, and other similar activities but does not include any significant excavation or any excavation during flood season.

(z) "Nonnative invasive species," for purposes of section 5009, means species that establish and reproduce rapidly outside of their native range and may threaten the diversity or abundance of native species through competition for resources, predation, parasitism, hybridization with native populations, introduction of pathogens, or physical or chemical alteration of the invaded habitat.

(gg) "Nonnative invasive species" means, for purposes of section 5009, species that are all of the following:

(1) Establish and reproduce rapidly outside of their native range.

(2) May threaten the diversity or abundance of native species through competition for resources, predation, parasitism, hybridization with native populations, introduction of pathogens, or physical or chemical alteration of the invaded habitat.

(aa)(<u>hh</u>) "Nonproject levee" means a local levee owned or maintained by a local agency or private owner that is not a project facility under the State Water Resources Law of 1945, chapter 1 (commencing with Water Code section 12570) and chapter 2 (commencing with section 12639 of Part 6 of the Water Code).

(ii) "Oak woodland" has the same meaning as in Fish and Game Code section 1361. (bb)(jj) "Other Priority islands or tracts" means the tracts of land listed under "Other Priority" in the Table (Delta Levees Investment Strategy Priorities) of Section 5012 of this title and depicted in Appendix P to the Delta Plan.

(cc)(kk) "Person" means, for purposes of article 5, any person, firm, association, organization, partnership, business trust, corporation, limited liability company, or company, and state or local public agency.

(dd)(<u>//</u>) "Project levee" means a federal flood control levee that is a project facility under the State Water Resources Law of 1945, chapter 1 (commencing with Water Code section 12570) and chapter 2 (commencing with section 12639 of Part 6 of the Water Code).

(ee)(mm) "Proposed action" means a plan, program, or project that meets the covered action screening criteria listed in section $5001\frac{k}{0}(1)(A)$ through (D). Proposed action is also a "covered action," and therefore subject to compliance with the regulatory policies contained in Articles 2 and 3-if the proposed action meets the covered action screening criterion listed in section $\frac{50115001(k)(0)}{1}(E)$.

(ff)(nn) "Protection" or "protecting," for purposes of section 5001(i)(/)(2), means preventing harm to the ecosystem, which could include preventing the conversion of existing habitat, the degradation of water quality, irretrievable conversion of lands suitable for restoration, or the spread of invasive nonnative species.

(oo) "Recreational benefits" means, for the purposes of section 5005.1, a category of social benefits that are derived by individuals or groups that recreate in the Delta and the business operations and communities that recreation supports, including, but not limited to, those listed in Table 2-2 in Appendix 3A.

(gg)(pp) "Regulated stream" means those streams identified in Table 8.1 of California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 112, under the jurisdiction of the Board.

(hh)(<u>qq</u>) "Restoration" or "restoring," for purposes of section 5001(i)(1)(2), has the same meaning as in Water Code section 85066. Restoration actions may include restoring interconnected habitats within the Delta and its watershed, restoring more natural Delta flows, or improving ecosystem water quality.

(iii)(<u>rr</u>) "Setback levee" means a new levee constructed behind an existing levee which allows for removal of a portion of the existing levee and creation of additional floodplain connected to the stream. In the Delta, a "setback levee" may not necessarily result in removal of the existing levee.

(jj)(ss) "Significant impact" for the purpose of determining whether a project meets the definition of a "covered action" under section 5001(k)(0)(1)(D) means a substantial positive or negative impact on the achievement of one or both of the coequal goals or the implementation of a government-sponsored flood control program to reduce risks to people, property, and State interests in the Delta, that is directly or indirectly caused by a project on its own or when the project's incremental effect is considered together with the impacts of other closely related past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future projects. The following categories of projects will not have a significant impact for this purpose:

(1) "Ministerial" projects exempted from CEQA, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(1);

(2) "Emergency" projects exempted from CEQA, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(2) through (4);

(3) Temporary water transfers of up to one year in duration.

(4) Other projects exempted from CEQA, unless there are unusual circumstances indicating a reasonable possibility that the project will have a significant impact under Water Code section 85057.5(a)(4), as further defined by this section. Examples of unusual circumstances could arise in connection with, among other things:

(A) Local government general plan amendments for the purpose of achieving consistency with the Delta Protection Commission's Land Use and Resource Management Plan; and

(B) Small-scale habitat restoration projects, as referred to in CEQA Guidelines, section 15333 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, proposed in important restoration areas, but which are inconsistent with the Delta Plan's policy related to appropriate habitat restoration for a given land elevation (section 5006 of this chapter).

(kk) "Very-High Priority islands or tracts" means the tracts of land identified under "Very-High Priority" in the Table (Delta Levees Investment Strategy Priorities) of Section 5012 of this title and depicted in Appendix P to the Delta Plan.

(tt) "Special status species" means either of the following:

(1) Meets the definition of endangered, rare, or threatened species as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15380.

(2) Is designated a species of special concern by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(uu) "SWP" means the State Water Project operated by the Department of Water Resources. (III)(vv) "Urban area" means a developed area in which there are 10,000 residents or more. (mm)(ww) "Urbanizing area" means a developed area or an area outside of a developed area that is planned or anticipated to have 10,000 residents or more within the next 10 years. (nn)(xx) "Urban water management plan" means a plan prepared, adopted, and updated by an urban water supplier pursuant to the Urban Water Management Planning Act, Water Code section 10610 et seq.

(oo)(<u>vv</u>) "Urban water supplier" refers to both "urban retail water suppliers" and "urban wholesale water suppliers":

(1) "Urban retail water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

(2) "Urban wholesale water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that provides more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at wholesale for municipal purposes.

(zz) "Very-High Priority islands or tracts" means the tracts of land identified under "Very-High Priority" in the Table (Delta Levees Investment Strategy Priorities) of Section 5012 of this title and depicted in Appendix P to the Delta Plan.

(pp)(aaa) "Water supplier" refers to both "urban water suppliers" and "agricultural water suppliers," but for purposes of section 5003, does not include agricultural water suppliers during the time that they may be exempted by section 10853 of the Water Code from the requirements of Parts 2.55 and 2.8 of Division 6 of the Water Code.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 85210, 85225.30 and 85306, Water Code. Reference: Section 15380, California Code of Regulations; <u>Section 65040.12</u>, <u>Government Code</u>; <u>Section 1361, Fish</u> and Game Code; Section 39711, Health and Safety Code; Section 21050, Public Resources Code; <u>and</u> Sections 10608.12, 10853, <u>11100</u>,85020, 85052, <u>85053</u>, 85054, 85057.5, 85058, 85059, 85066, <u>85200</u>, 85225, 85300, 85302 and 85308, Water Code.

Section 5002. Detailed Findings to establish consistency with the Delta Plan.

(a) This policy specifies what must be addressed in a certification of consistency filed by a State or local public agency with regard to a covered action. This policy only applies after a "proposed action" has been determined by a State or local public agency to be a covered action because it is covered by one or more of the regulatory policies contained in Article 3. Inconsistency with this policy may be the basis for an appeal.

(b) Certifications of consistency must include detailed findings that address each of the following requirements:

(1) Covered actions, in order to be consistent with the Delta Plan, must be consistent with this regulatory policy and with each of the regulatory policies contained in Article 3 implicated by the covered action. The Delta Stewardship Council acknowledges that in some cases, based upon the nature of the covered action, full consistency with all relevant regulatory policies may not be feasible. In those cases, the agency that files the certification of consistency may nevertheless determine that the covered action is consistent with the Delta Plan because, on whole, that action is consistent with the coequal goals. That determination must include a clear identification of areas where consistency with relevant regulatory policies is not feasible, an explanation of the reasons why it is not feasible, and an explanation of how the covered action

nevertheless, on whole, is consistent with the coequal goals. That determination is subject to review by the Delta Stewardship Council on appeal;

(2) Covered actions not exempt from CEQA must include all applicable feasible mitigation measures adopted and incorporated into the Delta Plan as amended April 26, 2018, which is here by incorporated by reference, (unless the measure(s) are within the exclusive jurisdiction of an agency other than the agency that files the certification of consistency) or substitute mitigation measures that the agency that files the certification of consistency finds are equally or more effective;

(3) As relevant to the purpose and nature of the project, all covered actions must document use of best available science;

(4) Ecosystem restoration and water management covered actions must include adequate provisions, appropriate to the scope of the covered action, to assure continued implementation of adaptive management. This requirement shall be satisfied through both of the following:(A) An adaptive management plan that describes the approach to be taken consistent with the adaptive management framework in Appendix 1B; and

(B) Documentation of access to adequate resources and delineated authority by the entity responsible for the implementation of the proposed adaptive management process.

(c) A conservation measure proposed to be implemented pursuant to a natural community conservation plan or a habitat conservation plan that was:

(1) Developed by a local government in the Delta; and

(2) Approved and permitted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife prior to May 16, 2013, is deemed to be consistent with sections 5005 through 5009 of this chapter if the certification of consistency filed with regard to the conservation measure includes a statement confirming the nature of the conservation measure from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85225, 85225.10, 85020, 85054, 85302(g) and 85308, Water Code.

Section 5003. Reduce Reliance on the Delta Through Improved Regional Water Self-Reliance. (a) Water shall not be exported from, transferred through, or used in the Delta if all of the following apply:

(1) One or more water suppliers that would receive water as a result of the export, transfer, or use have failed to adequately contribute to reduced reliance on the Delta and improved regional self-reliance consistent with all of the requirements listed in paragraph (1) of subsection (c);

(2) That failure has significantly caused the need for the export, transfer, or use; and(3) The export, transfer, or use would have a significant adverse environmental impact in the Delta.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(<u>+)(o)(1)(E)</u> of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action to export water from, transfer water through, or use water in the Delta, but does not cover any such action unless one or more water suppliers would receive water as a result of the proposed action.

(c)(1) Water suppliers that have done all of the following are contributing to reduced reliance on the Delta and improved regional self-reliance and are therefore consistent with this policy: (A) Completed a current Urban or Agricultural Water Management Plan (Plan) which has been reviewed by the California Department of Water Resources for compliance with the applicable requirements of Water Code Division 6, Parts 2.55, 2.6, and 2.8;

(B) Identified, evaluated, and commenced implementation, consistent with the implementation schedule set forth in the Plan, of all programs and projects included in the Plan that are locally cost effective and technically feasible which reduce reliance on the Delta; and

(C) Included in the Plan, commencing in 2015, the expected outcome for measurable reduction in Delta reliance and improvement in regional self-reliance. The expected outcome for measurable reduction in Delta reliance and improvement in regional self-reliance shall be reported in the Plan as the reduction in the amount of water used, or in the percentage of water used, from the Delta watershed. For the purposes of reporting, water efficiency is considered a new source of water supply, consistent with Water Code section 1011(a).
(2) Programs and projects that reduce reliance could include, but are not limited to, improvements in water use efficiency, water recycling, stormwater capture and use, advanced water technologies, conjunctive use projects, local and regional water supply and storage projects, and improved regional coordination of local and regional water supply efforts.
NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 10608, 10610.2, 10610.4, 10801, 10802, 85001(c), 85004(b), 85020(a), 85020(d), 85020(h), 85021, 85022(d)(1), 85022(d)(5), 85023, 85054, 85300, 85302(d), 85303 and 85304, Water Code.

Section 5004. Transparency in Water Contracting.

(a) The contracting process for water from the State Water Project and/or the Central Valley Project must be done in a publicly transparent manner consistent with applicable policies of the California Department of Water Resources and the Bureau of Reclamation referenced below.
(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(k)(0)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy covers the following:

(1) With regard to water from the State Water Project, a proposed action to enter into or amend a water supply or water transfer contract subject to California Department of Water Resources Guidelines 03-09 and/or 03-10 (each dated July 3, 2003), which are attached as Appendix 2A; and

(2) With regard to water from the Central Valley Project, a proposed action to enter into or amend a water supply or water transfer contract subject to section 226 of P.L. 97-293, as amended or section 3405(a)(2)(B) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Title XXXIV of Public Law 102-575, as amended, which are attached as Appendix 2B, and Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior to implement these laws. NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85021, 85300 and 85302, Water Code.

Section 5005. Delta Flow Objectives.

(a) The State Water Resources Control Board's Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan flow objectives shall be used to determine consistency with the Delta Plan. If and when the flow

objectives are revised by the State Water Resources Control Board, the revised flow objectives shall be used to determine consistency with the Delta Plan.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section $5001\frac{(k)(0)}{(1)(E)}$ of this chapter, the policy set forth in subsection (a) covers a proposed action that could significantly affect flow in the Delta.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85054, 85086, 85087, 85300 and 85302, Water Code.

Section 5005.1. Disclose Contributions to Restoring Ecosystem Function and Providing Social Benefits

(a) A complete certification of consistency for a covered action subject to this section shall disclose and include both of the following documents:

(1) Appendix 3A, Section 1, which requires all of the following:

(A) Demonstration if the covered action has one or more of the priority attributes.

(B) Disclosure of the covered action's contribution to the restoration of a resilient, functioning Delta ecosystem.

(C) Identification of the Ecosystem Restoration Tier identified in Appendix 3A, Section 2, that is associated with the covered action based on the listed priority attributes.

(2) Appendix 3A, Section 2, which requires both of the following:

(A) Identification of the social benefits that would be provided by the covered action.

(B) Disclosure of supporting information in the categories of cultural benefits, recreational benefits, agricultural benefits, and natural resource benefits.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(o)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy applies to a covered action that includes protection, enhancement, or restoration of the ecosystem.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210, Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85054, 85210(h), 85300, 85302, 85308, Water Code.

Section 5006. Restore Habitat at Appropriate Elevations

(a) Habitat restoration must be carried out consistent with Appendix 3, which is Section II of the Draft Conservation Strategy for Restoration of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecological Management Zone and the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley Regions (California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2011). The elevation map attached as Appendix 4 should be used as a guide for determining appropriate habitat restoration actions based on an area's elevation. If a proposed habitat restoration action is not consistent with Appendix 4, the proposal shall provide rationale for the deviation based on best available science.

(a) A complete certification of consistency for a covered action subject to this section shall disclose and include all of the documentation required by Appendix 4A, which includes all of the following:

(1) A completed Appendix 4A.

(2) The rationale, based on best available science, for any inconsistency with Appendix 4A, Table 1.1, and how that covered action is nevertheless consistent with the coequal goals of the Delta Plan.

(3)(A) An explanation, based on best available science, for a covered action that takes place in whole or in part in the Intertidal Elevation Band and Sea Level Rise Accommodation Band, of how the action is designed to accommodate each of the following:

(i) Future marsh migration.

(ii) Anticipated sea level rise.

(iii) Tidal inundation.

(B) If the action described in this paragraph does not implicate one or more of the elements set forth in subparagraph (A), explain for each of those elements why it does not.

(C) The information required to be provided pursuant to this paragraph may be included in an adaptive management plan if a plan is required pursuant to section 5002.

(4)(A) An explanation based on best available science, for a covered action that takes place in whole or in part in the shallow Subtidal Elevation Band or the Deep Subtidal Elevation Band, of how the action is designed to safeguard against levee failure over the design life of the covered action.

(B) The information required to be provided pursuant to this paragraph may be included in an adaptive management plan if a plan is required pursuant to section 5002.

(b)(<u>1</u>) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section $5001\frac{(k)(0)}{(1)}(E)$ of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that includes habitat restoration.

(2) For a covered action that had a Notice of Preparation, Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration published prior to the effective date of the changes made to this section,

those changes shall become operative two years after the effective date of those changes.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85054, 85210(h), 85300, 85302, 85308, Water Code.

Section 5007. Protect Opportunities to Restore Habitat

(a)(1) Within the priority habitat restoration areas depicted in Appendix 5, significant adverse impacts to the opportunity to restore habitat as described in section 5006, must <u>shall</u> be avoided or mitigated.

(b)(2) Impacts referenced in subsection (a) will Any impacts described in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to be avoided or mitigated if the project is covered action as designed and implemented so that it will would not preclude or otherwise interfere with the ability to restore habitat as described in section 5006.

(c) Impacts referenced in subsection (a) shall be mitigated to a point where the impacts have no significant effect on the opportunity to restore habitat as described in section 5006. Mitigation shall be determined, in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, considering the size of the area impacted by the covered action and the type and value of habitat that could be restored on that area, taking into account existing and proposed restoration plans, landscape attributes, the elevation map shown in Appendix 4, and other relevant information about habitat restoration opportunities of the area.

(3) If the impacts referenced in paragraph (1) are mitigated rather than avoided, those impacts shall be mitigated to the extent that the project has no significant impact on the opportunity to restore habitat as described in section 5006.

(d)(b)(1) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(++)(0)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy covers proposed actions in the priority habitat restoration areas depicted in Appendix 5. It does not cover proposed actions outside those areas.

(2) For a covered action that had a Notice of Preparation, Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration published prior to the effective date of the changes made to this section, those changes shall become operative two years after the effective date of those changes.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85054, 85300, 85302, Water Code.

Section 5008. Expand Floodplains and Riparian Habitats in Levee Projects

(a) Levee projects must evaluate and where feasible incorporate alternatives, including the use of setback levees, to increase floodplains and riparian habitats. Evaluation of setback levees in the Delta shall be required only in the following areas (shown in Appendix 8):

(1) The Sacramento River between Freeport and Walnut Grove, the San Joaquin River from the Delta boundary to Mossdale, Paradise Cut, Steamboat Slough, Sutter Slough; and the North and South Forks of the Mokelumne River, and

(2) Urban levee improvement projects in the cities of West Sacramento and Sacramento. (b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(k)(1)(E) of this Chapter, this policy covers a proposed action to construct new levees or substantially rehabilitate or reconstruct existing levees.

(a)(1) A certification of consistency for a project subject to this section that is located in the setback levee evaluation areas depicted in Appendix 8A shall evaluate, and the levee project where feasible shall incorporate, alternatives that would increase floodplains and riparian habitats.

(2) For purposes of this paragraph, Appendix 8A depicts the Sacramento River between the Deepwater Ship Channel and Steamboat Slough, the San Joaquin River from the Stanislaus River confluence to Rough and Ready Island, the Stanislaus River, the Cosumnes River, Middle River, Old River, Paradise Cut, Elk Slough, Sutter Slough, and the North and South Forks of the Mokelumne River.

(b) A certification of consistency for a project subject to this section that is an urban levee improvement project in the cities of Sacramento or West Sacramento shall evaluate alternatives that would modify all or a portion of the original levee prism to physically expand the width of the channel.

(c)(1) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(4)(c)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that includes any of the following: (A) Constructing a new flood control work. (B) Making permanent a structural change or improvement that enhances the function of a flood control work.

(C) Changing the level of protection of a flood control work.

(D) Adapting a flood control work for new or different use.

(2) For a covered action that had a Notice of Preparation, Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration published prior to the effective date of the changes made to this section, those changes shall become operative two years after the effective date of those changes. NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85054, 85300, 85302 and 85305, Water Code.

Section 5009. Avoid Introductions of and Habitat Improvements for Invasive Nonnative Species (a) The potential for new introductions of or improved habitat conditions for nonnative invasive species, striped bass, or bass must be fully considered and avoided or mitigated in a way that appropriately protects the ecosystem.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(4+)(o)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that has the reasonable probability of introducing or improving habitat conditions for nonnative invasive species.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85300, 85302 and 85305, Water Code.

Section 5010. Locate New Urban Development Wisely

(a) New residential, commercial, and industrial development must be limited to the following areas, as shown in Appendix 6 and Appendix 7:

(1) Areas that city or county general plans, as of May 16, 2013, designate for residential, commercial, and industrial development in cities or their spheres of influence;

(2) Areas within Contra Costa County's 2006 voter-approved urban limit line, except no new residential, commercial, and industrial development may occur on Bethel Island unless it is consistent with the Contra Costa County general plan effective as of May 16, 2013;

(3) Areas within the Mountain House General Plan Community Boundary in San Joaquin County; or

(4) The unincorporated Delta towns of Clarksburg, Courtland, Hood, Locke, Ryde, and Walnut Grove.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), new residential, commercial, and industrial development is permitted outside the areas described in subsection (a) if it is consistent with the land uses designated in county general plans as of May 16, 2013, and is otherwise consistent with this chapter.

(c) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(<u>H)(o)(1)(E)</u> of this chapter, this policy covers proposed actions that involve new residential, commercial, and industrial development that is not located within the areas described in subsection (a). In addition, this policy covers any such action on Bethel Island that is inconsistent with the Contra Costa County general plan effective as of May 16, 2013. This policy does not cover commercial recreational visitor-serving uses or facilities for processing of local crops or that provide essential services to local farms, which are otherwise consistent with this chapter.

(d) This policy is not intended in any way to alter the concurrent authority of the Delta Protection Commission to separately regulate development in the Delta's Primary Zone. NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85300, 85302 and 85305, Water Code.

Section 5011. Respect Local Land Use when Siting Water or Flood Facilities or Restoring Habitats

(a) Water management facilities, ecosystem restoration, and flood management infrastructure must be sited to avoid or reduce conflicts with existing uses or those uses described or depicted in city and county general plans for their jurisdictions or spheres of influence when feasible, considering comments from local agencies and the Delta Protection Commission. Plans for ecosystem restoration must consider sites on existing public lands, when feasible and consistent with a project's purpose, before privately owned sites are purchased. Measures to mitigate conflicts with adjacent uses may include, but are not limited to, buffers to prevent adverse effects on adjacent farmland.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(<u>H</u>)(0)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy covers proposed actions that involve the siting of water management facilities, ecosystem restoration, and flood management infrastructure.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85054, 85300 and 85305, Water Code.

Section 5012. Prioritization of State Investments in Delta Levees and Risk Reduction

(a) Fund levee operation and maintenance. For the purposes of Water Code Section 85306, State investments in levee operation and maintenance of Delta project levees and nonproject levees shall be prioritized as follows:

(1) For project levees, funding should be prioritized to ensure levees are operated and maintained in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations, Title 33, Part 208.10 and applicable federal Operation and Maintenance manuals, active in federal Public Law 84-99 Rehabilitation Program, and consistent with Central Valley Flood Protection Board Resolution No. 2018-06 for Acceptable Operation and Maintenance of the State Plan of Flood Control.

(2) For nonproject levees, funding should be prioritized to ensure levees are operated and maintained to protect the Delta's physical characteristics.

(b) Delta levees investment strategy. The priorities listed in the Table 1 below and depicted in Delta Plan Appendix P dated August 2021, which is incorporated by reference, shall guide State discretionary investments in the improvement of Delta levees. The California Department of Water Resources' funding decisions are subject to its consideration of the benefits, costs, engineering considerations, and other factors. As the California Department of Water Resources selects levee improvement projects for funding through its levee funding programs, it should fund projects at the Very-High priority islands or tracts, before funding projects at High Priority or Other Priority islands or tracts. If available funds are sufficient to fully fund levee improvement projects at the Very-High Priority islands or tracts, then funds for levee improvement projects on High Priority islands or tracts should be funded and after those

projects have been fully funded, then levee improvement projects at Other Priority islands or tracts may be funded.

Very High Priority	Bacon Island, Bethel Island, Bishop/DLIS-14 (North Stockton), Brannan-Andrus, Byron Tract, DLIS-19 (Grizzly Slough Area), DLIS-28, DLIS-33, DLIS-63 (Grizzly Island Area), Drexler Tract, Dutch Slough, Hastings Tract, Hotchkiss Tract, Jersey Island, Jones Tract (Upper and Lower), Maintenance Area 9 North, Maintenance Area 9 South, McCormack-Williamson Tract, McDonald Island, McMullin Ranch, Middle and Upper Roberts Island, New Hope Tract, North Stockton, Paradise Junction, Reclamation District 17, Ryer Island, Sherman Island, Staten Island, Terminous Tract, Twitchell Island, Union Island West, Upper Andrus Island, Victoria Island, Webb Tract.
High Priority	Bouldin Island, Brack Tract, Bradford Island, Cache Haas Area, Central Stockton, Clifton Court Forebay, DLIS-01 (Pittsburg Area), DLIS-07 (Knightsen Area), DLIS-08 (Discovery Bay Area), DLIS-20 (Yolo Bypass), DLIS-22 (Rio Vista), DLIS-26 (Morrow Island), DLIS-29, DLIS-30, DLIS-31 (Garabaldi Unit), DLIS-32, DLIS-39, DLIS-41 (Joice Island Area), DLIS-44 (Hill Slough Unit), DLIS-55, DLIS-59, Egbert Tract, Fabian Tract, Glanville, Grand Island, Holland Tract, Honker Bay, Kasson District, Libby McNeil, Little Egbert Tract, Lower Roberts Island, Mandeville Island, Mossdale Island, Netherlands, Palm-Orwood, Paradise Cut, Pearson District, Pescadero District, Rindge Tract, River Junction, Shima Tract, Stewart Tract, Sunrise Club, Tyler Island, Union Island East, Veale Tract, Walnut Grove, Woodward Island, Yolano.
Other Priority	Atlas Tract, Bixler Tract, Canal Ranch Tract, Chipps Island, Coney Island, Dead Horse Island, DLIS-06 (Oakley Area), DLIS-10, DLIS-15, DLIS-17, DLIS-18, DLIS-25, DLIS-27, DLIS-34, DLIS-35, DLIS-36, DLIS-37 (Chadbourne Area), DLIS-40, DLIS-43 (Potrero Hills Area), DLIS-46, DLIS-47, DLIS-48, DLIS-49, DLIS-50, DLIS-51, DLIS-52, DLIS-53, DLIS-54, DLIS-56, DLIS-57, DLIS-62, Drexler Pocket, Ehrheardt Club, Empire Tract, Fay Island, Glide District, Holt Station, Honker Lake Tract, King Island, Lisbon District, Medford Island, Mein's Landing, Merritt Island, Peters Pocket, Pico- Naglee, Prospect Island, Quimby Island, Randall Island, Rio Blanco Tract, Rough And Ready Island, Shin Kee Tract, Stark Tract, Sutter Island, Venice Island, Walthall, West Sacramento, Wetherbee Lake, Winter Island, Wright-Elmwood Tract.

(c) Annual Report.

(1) The California Department of Water Resources shall submit a written annual report, as described in paragraph (2), to the Council, as well as present the report to the Council, on State funds distributed or provided by the California Department of Water Resources within the legal Delta. At least 45 days prior to the oral presentation before the Council, and no later than March 1 of each calendar year, the California Department of Water Resources shall submit the written annual report to the Council and make the report publicly available.
 (2) The report shall include:

(A) A description of all discretionary State funding for levees awarded by the California Department of Water Resources, during the reporting year; including both of the following:

(i) Levee improvement.

(ii) Levee operation and maintenance.

(B) A list of each levee improvement project proposal submitted to the California Department of Water Resources for funding, regardless of whether the California Department of Water Resources awarded funding to the project;

(C) A list of the improvement projects awarded funding, the funding level awarded, the local cost share, and the applicable priority of the island or tract from Table 1 in subsection (b), where the levee improvement project is located;

(D) A description, for each awarded project, of changes (when completed) to levee geometry, the specific locations of those changes, and expected changes in the level of flood protection provided or standard achieved;

(E) If the California Department of Water Resources awards funds for any levee improvement project that is inconsistent with the priorities identified in subsection (b), the annual report shall identify for each project: how the funding is inconsistent with the priorities, describe why variation from the priorities is necessary, and explain how the funding nevertheless protects lives, property, or other State interests, such as infrastructure, agriculture, water supply reliability, Delta ecosystem, or Delta communities;

(F) A summary of the California Department of Water Resources' rationale for levee improvement project proposals submitted, but not awarded funding during the reporting year; and

(G) A summary of all previous California Department of Water Resources funded levee improvement project activities completed during the reporting year and location of those activities.

(d) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(++)(o)(1)(E) of this Chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that involves discretionary State investments in Delta flood risk management, including levee operations, maintenance, and improvements. Nothing in this policy establishes or otherwise changes existing levee standards. NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 85210 and 85306, Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85022, 85054, 85057.5, 85300, 85305, 85306, 85307 and 85309, Water Code.

Section 5013. Require Flood Protection for Residential Development in Rural Areas

(a) New residential development of five or more parcels shall be protected through floodproofing to a level 12 inches above the 100-year base flood elevation, plus sufficient additional elevation to protect against a 55-inch rise in sea level at the Golden Gate, unless the development is located within:

(1) Areas that city or county general plans, as of May 16, 2013, designate for development in cities or their spheres of influence;

(2) Areas within Contra Costa County's 2006 voter-approved urban limit line, except Bethel Island;

(3) Areas within the Mountain House General Plan Community Boundary in San Joaquin County; or

(4) The unincorporated Delta towns of Clarksburg, Courtland, Hood, Locke, Ryde, and Walnut Grove, as shown in Appendix 7.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section 5001(++)(0)(1)(E) of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that involves new residential development of five or more parcels that is not located within the areas described in subsection (a). NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85300, 85305 and 85306, Water Code.

Section 5014. Protect Floodways

(a) No encroachment shall be allowed or constructed in a floodway, unless it can be demonstrated by appropriate analysis that the encroachment will not unduly impede the free flow of water in the floodway or jeopardize public safety.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section $5001\frac{(k)}{(0)}(1)(E)$ of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that would encroach in a floodway that is not either a designated floodway or regulated stream.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85300, 85302 and 85305, Water Code.

Section 5015. Floodplain Protection

(a) No encroachment shall be allowed or constructed in any of the following floodplains unless it can be demonstrated by appropriate analysis that the encroachment will not have a significant adverse impact on floodplain values and functions:

(1) The Yolo Bypass within the Delta;

(2) The Cosumnes River-Mokelumne River Confluence, as defined by the North Delta Flood Control and Ecosystem Restoration Project (McCormack-Williamson), or as modified in the future by the California Department of Water Resources or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (California Department of Water Resources 2010); and

(3) The Lower San Joaquin River Floodplain Bypass area, located on the Lower San Joaquin River upstream of Stockton immediately southwest of Paradise Cut on lands both upstream and downstream of the Interstate 5 crossing. This area is described in the Lower San Joaquin River Floodplain Bypass Proposal, submitted to the California Department of Water Resources by the partnership of the South Delta Water Agency, the River Islands Development Company, Reclamation District 2062, San Joaquin Resource Conservation District, American Rivers, the American Lands Conservancy, and the Natural Resources Defense Council, March 2011. This area may be modified in the future through the completion of this project.

(b) For purposes of Water Code section 85057.5(a)(3) and section $5001\frac{(k)(0)}{(1)(E)}$ of this chapter, this policy covers a proposed action that would encroach in any of the floodplain areas described in subsection (a).

(c) This policy is not intended to exempt any activities in any of the areas described in subsection (a) from applicable regulations and requirements of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 85210(i), Water Code. Reference: Sections 85020, 85300, 85302 and 85305, Water Code.

Appendix 3A. Disclosing Contributions to Restoring Ecosystem Function and Providing Social Benefits

Section 1. Priority Attributes and Ecosystem Tier

<u>Appendix 3A, Section 1, Subsection 1.6 (Ecosystem Restoration Tier) requires the</u> identification of the appropriate Ecosystem Restoration Tier for the covered action, based on the selections in Subsections 1.1 through 1.5 of Section 1.

Restoring Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes

- <u>1.1.1</u> In **Field 1** of **Table 1-1** below, select the ecosystem type(s) that the covered action proposes to restore, if any. Select all that apply.
- <u>1.1.2</u> In Field 2 of Table 1-1 below, select the corresponding hydrological, geomorphic, and/or biological process(es) that the covered action proposes to restore, if any. Select all that apply.

Table 1-1. Priority Attribute 1 – Restoring Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes Selections

Row	Field 1.	Field 2.
Number	Ecosystem Type	Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes
1	□ <u>Tidal wetland</u>	 <u>Full tidal action and complex variable patterns of tidal</u> <u>inundation</u> <u>Sediment delivery, scour, and accretion</u> <u>Channel formation</u> <u>Delivery of organic and nonorganic compounds which</u> <u>support nutrient cycling, primary productivity, plant growth,</u> <u>and peat formation</u> <u>Native vegetation recruitment, growth and succession,</u> <u>primary production, and higher trophic-level interactions</u>
2	□ <u>Nontidal wetland</u>	 <u>Temporary or permanent inundation through natural hydrologic connections to surface and/or groundwater, but does not include managed wetlands</u> <u>Hydric soil development through organic matter accumulation and/or terrestrial sediment delivery</u> <u>Delivery of organic and nonorganic compounds which support nutrient cycling, primary productivity, plant growth, and peat formation</u> <u>Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, and higher trophic-level interactions</u>
<u>3</u>	□ <u>Willow thicket</u>	 <u>Temporary or seasonal floodplain inundation</u> <u>Floodplain sediment delivery, scour, and accretion which results in complex floodplain micro-topography</u> <u>Unrestrained (natural) stream channels which allow cutbank and point-bar formation, meander migration, and the development of shaded riverine aquatic habitats</u> <u>Delivery of organic and nonorganic compounds which support nutrient cycling, primary productivity, plant growth, and floodplain soils</u> <u>Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, and higher trophic-level interactions</u>
4	□ <u>Willow riparian</u> scrub or shrub	 Temporary or seasonal floodplain inundation Floodplain sediment delivery, scour, and accretion which results in complex floodplain micro-topography Unrestrained (natural) stream channels which allow cut- bank and point-bar formation, meander migration, and the development of shaded riverine aquatic habitats Delivery of organic and nonorganic compounds which support nutrient cycling, primary productivity, plant growth, and floodplain soils Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, and higher trophic-level interactions

Table 1-1. Priority Attribute 1 – Restoring Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes Selections (contd.)

Row	Field 1.	Field 2.
Number	Ecosystem Type	Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes
<u>5</u>	□ <u>Valley foothill</u> riparian	 Temporary or seasonal floodplain inundation Floodplain sediment delivery, scour, and accretion which results in complex floodplain micro-topography Unrestrained (natural) stream channels which allow cut- bank and point-bar formation, meander migration, and the development of shaded riverine aquatic habitats Delivery of organic and nonorganic compounds which support nutrient cycling, primary productivity, plant growth, and floodplain soils Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, and higher trophic-level interactions
<u>6</u>	□ <u>Vernal</u> <u>pool</u> <u>complex</u>	 Water inputs from precipitation, runoff, groundwater or subsurface flow that cause temporary inundation and saturation with water Morphology (surface area, volume, depth, depth to hardpan) which supports hydrology, chemical processes, and native species colonization and persistence Hydrology and hydrogeomorphic setting that supports appropriate wetland soil development Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, higher trophic-level interactions, and appropriate pool substrates
<u>7</u>	□ <u>Alkali</u> seasonal wetland complex	 Water inputs from precipitation, runoff, groundwater or subsurface flow that cause temporary inundation and saturation with water Morphology (surface area, volume, depth, depth to hardpan) which supports hydrology, chemical processes, and native species colonization and persistence Hydrology and hydrogeomorphic setting that supports appropriate wetland soil development Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, higher trophic-level interactions, and appropriate pool substrates

Table 1-1. Priority Attribute 1 – Restoring Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes Selections (contd.)

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes
<u>8</u>	□ <u>Wet meadow</u>	 Water inputs from precipitation, runoff, groundwater or subsurface flow that cause temporary inundation and saturation with water Morphology (surface area, volume, depth, depth to hardpan) which supports hydrology, chemical processes, and native species colonization and persistence Hydrology and hydrogeomorphic setting that supports appropriate wetland soil development Native vegetation recruitment, growth, succession, primary production, higher trophic-level interactions, and appropriate pool substrates
<u>9</u>	□ <u>Stabilized interior</u> dune vegetation	 <u>Readily draining substrates</u> <u>Wind-driven geomorphic processes</u> <u>Movement, scour, and deposition which supports</u> recruitment, growth, and succession of native dune scrub vegetation communities
<u>10</u>	□ <u>Oak woodland</u>	 Fire disturbance or fire disturbance analogue (e.g., grazing) which maintains vegetation dynamics conducive to oak recruitment and other vegetation dynamics
<u>11</u>	□ <u>Grassland</u>	Fire disturbance or fire disturbance analogue (e.g., grazing) which maintains vegetation dynamics conducive to oak recruitment and other vegetation dynamics

<u>1.1.3</u> In **Table 1-1**, above, each row in **Field 1** lists an ecosystem type, and in the same row in **Field 2** are the corresponding hydrological, geomorphic, and biological processes that a covered action could restore.

Based on the ecosystem type(s) selected in **Field 1**, would the proposed action restore any corresponding hydrological, geomorphic, and biological processes in **Field 2**?

□ <u>Yes</u>

 \Box <u>No (continue to Section 1.2)</u>

<u>1.1.4</u> If the answer to **Section 1.1.3** is "Yes," describe how the proposed action would restore the selected hydrological, geomorphic, and biological process(es) selected in **Table 1-1** above, and attach supporting documentation.

Being Large-Scale

- 1.2.1 In **Field 1** of **Table 1-2** below, select the ecosystem type(s) that the covered action proposes to restore. Select all that apply.
- 1.2.2 In Field 2 of Table 1-2 below, select the corresponding area where the covered action proposes to restore hydrological, geomorphic, and biological processes. For every row that is selected in Field 1, make a corresponding selection in Field 2.

Row	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> Proposed Restored Area
<u>Number</u>		
1	□ <u>Tidal wetland</u>	□ <u>> or = 500 acres (large-scale)</u> □ <u>< 500 acres</u>
2	□ <u>Nontidal wetland</u> (including managed wetland)	$\Box \ge \text{or} = 500 \text{ acres (large-scale)}$ $\Box \le 500 \text{ acres}$
<u>3</u>	□ <u>Willow thicket</u>	 □ > or = 200 acres (large-scale) □ < 200 acres □ Floodplain ratio¹ > or = 6 (large-scale) refer to table notes for methodology □ Floodplain ratio¹ < 6
4	□ <u>Willow riparian scrub</u> or shrub	 □ > or = 200 acres (large-scale) □ < 200 acres □ Floodplain ratio¹ > or = 6 (large-scale) refer to table notes for methodology □ Floodplain ratio¹ < 6
<u>5</u>	□ <u>Valley foothill riparian</u>	 <u>> or = 200 acres (large-scale)</u> <u>< 200 acres</u> <u>Floodplain ratio¹ > or = 6 (large-scale) refer to table</u> <u>notes for methodology</u> <u>Floodplain ratio¹ < 6</u>
<u>6</u>	□ <u>Vernal pool complex</u>	$\Box > or = 40 \text{ acres (large-scale)}$ $\Box \leq 40 \text{ acres}$
<u>7</u>	Alkali seasonal wetland complex	□ <u>> or = 40 acres (large-scale)</u> □ <u>< 40 acres</u>
<u>8</u>	□ <u>Wet meadow</u>	$\Box \ge \text{or} = 40 \text{ acres (large-scale)}$ $\Box \le 40 \text{ acres}$
<u>9</u>	Stabilized interior dune vegetation	□ <u>> or = 1.5 acres (large-scale)</u> □ <u>< 1.5 acres</u>

Table 1-2. Priority Attribute 2 – Being Large-Scale Selections

Table 1-2. Priority Attribute 2 – Being Large-Scale Selections (contd.)

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> Proposed Restored Area
<u>10</u>	□ <u>Oak woodland</u>	$\Box \ge \text{or} = 40 \text{ acres (large-scale)}$ $\Box \le 40 \text{ acres}$
<u>11</u>	□ <u>Grassland</u>	$\Box \ge \text{or} = 40 \text{ acres (large-scale)}$ $\Box \le 40 \text{ acres}$

Notes:

¹<u>Method to calculate the floodplain ratio</u>

a. Existing bankfull channel width (use the mean of at least six cross sections): meters

b. Protected, restored, or enhanced floodplain width: meters

c. Floodplain ratio (divide [b] by [a])

Based on the selection(s) made in Field 2, would any selected restoration area for the covered action be large-scale?

□ <u>Yes</u>

 \Box No (continue to Section 1.3)

1.2.4 If the answer to Section 1.2.3 is "Yes," describe the area of each ecosystem type that the covered action proposes to restore, corresponding to the selections in Table 1-2 above, and attach supporting documentation.

^{1.2.3} In Table 1-2, above, each row in Field 1 lists an ecosystem type(s), and the corresponding row in Field 2 lists the restoration area that would be considered largescale.

Improving Connectivity

<u>1.3.1</u> In **Field 1** of **Table 1-3** below, select the aspect(s) of connectivity that the covered action proposes to improve. Select all that apply.

Table 1-3. Priority Attribute 3 – Improving Connectivity Selections

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> <u>Aspects of Connectivity</u>	
1	Creates or reestablishes hydraulic and hydrologic connections to marsh or floodplain ecosystems	
2	Reduces distance between patches of similar ecosystem types	
<u>3</u>	Reduces distance between patches of different ecosystem types used by species for refuge or life history needs	
<u>4</u>	Protects, restores, or enhances wetland and riparian transgression/migration space	
<u>5</u>	Removes or remediates barriers (dams and diversions) to fish migration	

<u>1.3.2</u> Selecting at least one Aspect of Connectivity in **Table 1-3** above indicates that the proposed action would improve connectivity. Based on the selection(s) in **Table 1-3**, would the covered action improve connectivity?

□ <u>Yes</u>

- \Box <u>No (continue to Section 1.4)</u>
- <u>1.3.3</u> If the answer to **Section 1.3.2** is "Yes," describe how the covered action would improve the aspect(s) of connectivity selected in **Field 1** of **Table 1-3** above, and attach supporting documentation.

Increasing Native Vegetation Cover

- <u>1.4.1</u> In **Field 1** of **Table 1-4** below, select the ecosystem type(s) that the covered action proposes to restore. Select all that apply.
- <u>1.4.2</u> In **Field 2** of **Table 1-4** below, select the corresponding native vegetation community or communities for which the covered action would increase cover. Select all that apply.

<u>Row</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> <u>Native Vegetation Community</u> (VegCAMP CaCode)
1	□ <u>Tidal wetland</u>	 Schoenoplectus (acutus, californicus) Alliance (52.128.00) Typha (domingensis, latifolia) Alliance (52.050.00) Juncus effuses (soft rush marshes) Alliance (45.561.00) Juncus articus (Baltic and Mexican rush marshes) Alliance (45.562.00) Eleocharis macrostachya Alliance (45.230.00) Sarcocornia pacifica Alliance (52.215.00) Distichlis spicata Alliance (41.200.00) Other
2	Nontidal wetland (including managed wetland)	 Schoenoplectus (acutus, californicus) Alliance (52.128.00) Typha (domingensis, latifolia) Alliance (52.050.00) Juncus effuses (soft rush marshes) Alliance (45.561.00) Juncus articus (Baltic and Mexican rush marshes) Alliance (45.562.00) Eleocharis macrostachya Alliance (45.230.00) Other
<u>3</u>	□ <u>Willow thicket</u>	 Salix gooddingii Alliance (61.211.00) Salix laevigata Alliance (61.206.00) Salix lasiolepus Alliance (61.201.00) Salix lucida Alliance (61.204.00) Salix exigua Alliance (61.209.00) Cornus sericea (red osier thickets) Alliance (80.100.00) Rosa californica Alliance (63.907.00) Acer negundo (box-elder forest) Alliance (61.440.00) Sambucus nigra (blue elderberry stands) Alliance (63.410.01) Other

Table 1-4. Priority Attribute 4 – Increasing Native Vegetation Cover Selections

<u>Row</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> <u>Native Vegetation Community</u> (VegCAMP CaCode)
<u>4</u>	□ <u>Willow riparian scrub or</u> <u>shrub</u>	 Salix gooddingii Alliance (61.211.00) Salix laevigata Alliance (61.206.00) Salix lasiolepus Alliance (61.201.00) Salix lucida Alliance (61.204.00) Salix exigua Alliance (61.209.00) Cornus sericea (red osier thickets) Alliance (80.100.00) Rosa californica Alliance (63.907.00) Acer negundo (box-elder forest) Alliance (61.440.00) Cephalanthus occidentalis (button willow thickets) Alliance (63.300.00) Other
5	□ <u>Valley foothill riparian</u>	Quercus agrifolia Alliance (71.060.00) Quercus lobata Alliance (71.040.00) Quercus (agrifolia, douglasii, garryana, kelloggii, lobata, wislizeni) Alliance (71.100.00) Quercus wislizeni Alliance (71.080.00) Juglans hindsii and hybrids special stands Alliance (61.810.00) Salix gooddingii Alliance (61.211.00) Salix laevigata Alliance (61.205.00) Salix laevigata Alliance (61.201.00) Salix laevigata Alliance (61.204.00) Salix exigua Alliance (61.209.00) Acer negundo (box-elder forest) Alliance (61.440.00) Cornus sericea (red osier thickets) Alliance (80.100.00) Rosa californica Alliance (63.907.00) Platanus racemosa Alliance (61.130.00) Populus fremontii Alliance (61.130.00) Cephalanthus occidentalis (button willow thickets) Alliance (63.300.00) Other
<u>6</u>	□ <u>Vernal pool complex</u>	 Lasthenia fremontii – Downingia bicornuta (Fremont's goldfields – Downingia vernal pools) Alliance (42.007.00) Eryngium aristulatum Alliance (42.004.00) Other

Table 1-4. Priority Attribute 4 – Increasing Native Vegetation Cover Selections (contd.)

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> <u>Native Vegetation Community</u> (VegCAMP CaCode)
<u>7</u>	□ <u>Alkali seasonal wetland</u> complex	 <u>Cressa truxillensis – Distichlis spicata (alkali weed - saltgrass playas and sinks) Alliance (46.100.00)</u> <u>Lasthenia fremontii – Distichlis spicata (Fremont's goldfields – saltgrass alkaline vernal pools) Alliance (44.119.00)</u> <u>Allenrolfea occidentalis (iodine bush scrub) Alliance (36.120.00)</u> <u>Sporobolus airoides (alkali sacaton grassland) Alliance (52.060.00)</u> <u>Leymus cinereus – Leymus triticoides (creeping rye grass turfs) Alliance (41.080.00)</u> <u>Frankenia salina (alkali heath marsh) Alliance (52.500.00)</u> <u>Other</u>
<u>8</u>	□ <u>Wet meadow</u>	 Lasthenia californica – Plantago erecta – Vulpia microstachys (California goldfields – dwarf plantain – six-weeks fescue flower fields) Alliance (44.108.00) Leymus cinereus – Leymus triticoides (creeping rye grass turfs) Alliance (41.080.00) Ambrosia psilostachya (western ragweed meadows) Alliance (33.065.00) Lotus purshianus (Spanish clover fields) Provisional Herbaceous Alliance (52.230.00) Juncus effusus (soft rush marshes) Alliance (45.561.00) Juncus articus (Baltic and Mexican rush marshes) Alliance (45.562.00) Other
<u>9</u>	□ <u>Stabilized interior dune</u> <u>vegetation</u>	 Lupinus albifrons (silver bush lupine scrub) Alliance (32.081.00) Baccharis pilularis (coyote brush scrub) Alliance (32.060.00) Lotus scoparius (deer weed scrub) Alliance (52.240.00) Other
<u>10</u>	□ <u>Oak woodland</u>	 Quercus agrifolia Alliance (71.060.00) Quercus lobata Alliance (71.040.00) Quercus (agrifolia, douglasii, garryana, kelloggii, lobata, wislizeni) Alliance (71.100.00) Quercus wislizeni Alliance (71.080.00) Quercus douglasii Alliance (71.020.00) Other

Table 1-4. Priority Attribute 4 – Increasing Native Vegetation Cover Selections (contd.)

Table 1-4. Priority Attribute 4 – Increasing Native Vegetation Cover Selections (contd.)

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> <u>Native Vegetation Community</u> <u>(VegCAMP CaCode)</u>
<u>11</u>	□ <u>Grassland</u>	 Lasthenia californica – Plantago erecta – Vulpia microstachys (California goldfields – Dwarf plantain –six-weeks fescue flower fields) Alliance (44.108.00) Leymus cinereus – Leymus triticoides (creeping rye grass turfs) Alliance (41.080.00) Nassella pulchra Alliance (41.150.00) Eschscholzia californica (California poppy fields) Alliance (43.200.00) Amsinckia (fiddleneck fields) Alliance (42.110.00) Plagiobothrys nothofulvus (popcorn flower fields) Alliance (43.300.00) Other

Note:

VegCAMP is the California component of the National Vegetation Classification system, maintained by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in collaboration with other agencies and organizations.

<u>1.4.3</u> Refer to both **Table 1-2** and **Table 1-4** for this section. On what share of the aggregate area(s) selected in **Field 2** of **Table 1-2** would the covered action increase the cover of the native vegetation community or communities selected in **Field 2** of **Table 1-4**?

□ <u>At least 75% of the aggregate area (increases native vegetation cover)</u>

□ Less than 75% of the aggregate area

<u>1.4.4</u> Based on the selection in **Section 1.4.3** above, would the covered action increase native vegetation cover?

 \Box <u>Yes</u>

- □ <u>No (continue to Section 1.5)</u>
- <u>1.4.5</u> Describe how the covered action would increase cover of the native vegetation communities selected in **Table 1-4**, across the area selected in **Section 1.4.3**, and attach supporting documentation. If the selection(s) in Table 1-4 include "Other," identify and describe those native vegetation communities here.

Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species

- <u>1.5.1</u> In **Field 1** of **Table 1-5** below, select the ecosystem type(s) that the covered action proposes to restore. Select all that apply.
- <u>1.5.2</u> In Field 2 of Table 1-5 below, select the corresponding special-status species whose recovery would be contributed to by the proposed action. Select all that apply.

<u>Table 1-5. Priority Attribute 5 – Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species</u> <u>Selections</u>

Row	Field 1.	Field 2.
Number	Ecosystem Type	Special-Status Species
1	□ <u>Tidal wetland</u>	California least tern (Sterna antillarum browni) Ridgway's rail (Rallus obsoletus) California black rail (Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus) Suisun song sparrow (Melospiza melodia) Tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor) White-tailed kite (Elanus leucurus) Salt marsh harvest mouse (Reithrodontomys raviventris) Suisun shrew (Sorex ornatus sinuosus) California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii) Western pond turtle (Actinemys marmorata) Giant garter snake (Thamnophis gigas) Green sturgeon (Acipenser medirostris) Delta smelt (Hypomesus transpacificus) Longfin smelt (Spirinchus thaleichthys) Chinook salmon (Central Valley fall/late fall-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Sacramento River winter-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) Delta mudwort (Limosella subulata) Mason's lilaeopsis (Lilaeopsis masonii) Slough thistle (Cirsium crassicaule) Delta tule pea (Lathyrus jepsonii) Suisun marsh aster (Symphyotrichum lentum) Soft bird's beak (Choropyron molle ssp. molle) Side flowering skullcap (Scutellaria lateriflora) Other special-status species

Table 1-5. Priority Attribute 5 – Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species Selections (contd.)

Row	Field 1.	Field 2.
<u>Number</u>	<u>Ecosystem Type</u>	Special-Status Species
2	Nontidal wetland (including managed wetland)	 California least tern (Sterna antillarum browni) Ridgway's rail (Rallus obsoletus) California black rail (Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus) Suisun song sparrow (Melospiza melodia) Tricolored blackbird (Agelaius tricolor) White-tailed kite (Elanus leucurus) Salt marsh harvest mouse (Reithrodontomys raviventris) Suisun shrew (Sorex ornatus sinuosus) California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii) Western pond turtle (Actinemys marmorata) Giant garter snake (Thamnophis gigas) Delta mudwort (Limosella subulata) Mason's lilaeopsis (Lilaeopsis masonii) Slough thistle (Cirsium crassicaule) Delta tule pea (Lathyrus jepsonii) Suisun marsh aster (Symphyotrichum lentum) Soft bird's beak (Choropyron molle ssp. molle) Side flowering skullcap (Scutellaria lateriflora) Other special-status species
<u>3</u>	□ <u>Willow thicket</u>	 Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus) Western yellow-billed cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus) Yellow-breasted chat (Icteria virens) Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni) San Joaquin kit fox (Vulpes macrotis mutica) Riparian woodrat (Neotoma fuscipes riparia) Riparian brush rabbit (Sylvilagus bachmani) Chinook salmon (Central Valley fall/late fall-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Central Valley spring-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Sacramento River winter-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (Desmocerus californicus dimorphus) Other special-status species

Table 1-5. Priority Attribute 5 – Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species Selections (contd.)

Row	Field 1.	Field 2.
Number	Ecosystem Type	Special-Status Species
<u>4</u>	□ <u>Willow riparian scrub or</u> <u>shrub</u>	 Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus) Western yellow-billed cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus) Yellow-breasted chat (Icteria virens) Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni) San Joaquin kit fox (Vulpes macrotis mutica) Riparian woodrat (Neotoma fuscipes riparia) Riparian brush rabbit (Sylvilagus bachmani) Chinook salmon (Central Valley fall/late fall-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Central Valley spring-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Sacramento River winter-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (Desmocerus californicus dimorphus) Other special-status species
<u>5</u>	□ <u>Valley foothill riparian</u>	 Least Bell's vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus) Western yellow-billed cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus) Yellow-breasted chat (Icteria virens) Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni) San Joaquin kit fox (Vulpes macrotis mutica) Riparian woodrat (Neotoma fuscipes riparia) Riparian brush rabbit (Sylvilagus bachmani) Chinook salmon (Central Valley fall/late fall-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Central Valley spring-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Chinook salmon (Sacramento River winter-run) (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (Desmocerus californicus dimorphus) Other special-status species

Table 1-5. Priority Attribute 5 – Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species Selections (contd.)

Row	Field 1.	Field 2.
<u>Number</u>	Ecosystem Type	Special-Status Species
		□ <u>Greater sandhill crane (<i>Grus canadensis</i>)</u>
		California red-legged frog (<i>Rana draytonii</i>)
		California tiger salamander (Ambystoma
		<u>californiense)</u> Giant garter snake (<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>)
		□ Vernal pool tadpole shrimp (<i>Lepidurus packardi</i>)
		□ Longhorn fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta longiantenna</i>)
<u>6</u>	Vernal pool complex	□ <u>Vernal pool fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>)</u>
		□ <u>Mid-valley fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta mesovallensis</i>)</u>
		□ Conservancy fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta conservati</i> o)
		□ California linderiella (<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>)
		□ Legenere (Legenere limosa)
		Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop (Gratiola heterosepala)
		□ <u>Dwarf downingia (<i>Downingia pusilla</i>)</u>
		\Box Other special-status species
		□ Greater sandhill crane (Grus canadensis)
		California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii)
		□ <u>California tiger salamander (<i>Ambystoma</i></u>
		<u>californiense)</u>
		□ <u>Giant garter snake (<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>)</u>
		□ <u>Vernal pool tadpole shrimp (<i>Lepidurus packardi</i>)</u>
_	🗆 Alkali seasonal wetland	□ Longhorn fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta longiantenna</i>)
<u>7</u>	complex	 Vernal pool fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta lynchi</i>) Mid-valley fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta mesovallensis</i>)
		□ Conservancy fairy shrimp (<i>Branchinecta mesovaliensis</i>)
		□ California linderiella (<i>Linderiella occidentalis</i>)
		□ Legenere (<i>Legenere limosa</i>)
		□ Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop (<i>Gratiola heterosepala</i>)
		□ Dwarf downingia (<i>Downingia pusilla</i>)
		□ Other special-status species
	□ <u>Wet meadow</u>	□ <u>Carquinez goldenbush (<i>Isocoma arguta</i>)</u>
		Alkali milkvetch (Astragalus tener)
<u>8</u>		□ <u>Heckard's peppergrass (<i>Lepidium latipes</i> var.</u>
		<u>heckardii)</u>
		□ Brittlescale (<i>Atriplex depressa</i>)
		□ <u>Heartscale (<i>Atriplex cordulata</i> var. <i>cordulata</i>)</u>
		□ Delta button celery (<i>Eryngium racemosum</i>)
		□ <u>San Joaquin spearscale (<i>Atriplex joaquiniana</i>)</u>
		□ Other special-status species

<u>Table 1-5. Priority Attribute 5 – Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species</u> <u>Selections (contd.)</u>

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Ecosystem Type	<u>Field 2.</u> Special-Status Species
<u>9</u>	□ <u>Stabilized interior dune</u> vegetation	 Lange's metalmark butterfly (Apodemia mormo langei) Antioch Dunes evening primrose (Oenothera deltoides howellii) Contra Costa wallflower (Erysimum capitatum) Other special-status species
<u>10</u>	□ <u>Oak woodland</u>	 Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsonii) California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii) California tiger salamander (Ambystoma califonriense) Western pond turtle (Actinemys marmorata) Other special-status species
<u>11</u>	□ <u>Grassland</u>	 <u>Greater sandhill crane (Grus canadensis)</u> <u>White-tailed kite (Elanus leucurus)</u> <u>Yellow-breasted chat (Icteria virens)</u> <u>Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsonii)</u> <u>Western burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia)</u> <u>California red-legged frog (Rana draytonii)</u> <u>California tiger salamander (Ambystoma californiense)</u> <u>Western pond turtle (Actinemys marmorata)</u> <u>Giant garter snake (Thamnophis gigas)</u> <u>Other special-status species</u>

<u>1.5.3</u> In **Table 1-5** above, each row in **Field 1** lists ecosystem type(s), and the corresponding row in Field 2 lists the special-status species for which a covered action could contribute to their recovery.

Based on the selection(s) made in **Field 2**, would the covered action contribute to the recovery of special-status species?

□ <u>Yes</u>

 \Box <u>No (continue to Section 1.6)</u>

<u>1.5.4</u> If the answer to Section 1.5.3 is "Yes," describe how the covered action would contribute to the recovery of the special-status species corresponding to the selections in Table 1-5 above, and attach supporting documentation. If the selection(s) in Table <u>1-5 include "Other," identify and describe those special-status species in the area</u> provided below.

Ecosystem Restoration Tier

<u>1.6.1</u> Field 1 of Table 1-6.1, below, lists Priority Attributes 1 through 5. The corresponding row in Field 2 of Table 1-6.1 lists the selection in this Appendix 3A made in Sections 1.1 through 1.5, above, on whether the covered action would have the applicable Priority Attribute.

Complete Field 3 of Table 1-6.1, by copying the responses from the corresponding sections in Sections 1.1. through 1.5 of this Appendix 3A form, as indicated in Field 2.

Table 1-6.1. Summary of Responses

<u>Row</u> Number	Field 1. Priority <u>Attribute</u>	Field 2. Section Number	<u>Field 3.</u> Response to Section
<u>1</u>	Restoring Hydrological, Geomorphic, and Biological Processes	<u>1.1.3</u>	□ <u>Yes</u> □ <u>No</u>
<u>2</u>	Being Large-Scale	<u>1.2.3</u>	□ <u>Yes</u> □ <u>No</u>
<u>3</u>	Improving Connectivity	<u>1.3.2</u>	□ <u>Yes</u> □ <u>No</u>
<u>4</u>	Increasing Native Vegetation	<u>1.4.4</u>	□ <u>Yes</u> □ <u>No</u>
<u>5</u>	Contributing to the Recovery of Special-Status Species	<u>1.5.3</u>	□ <u>Yes</u> □ <u>No</u>

<u>1.6.2</u> Add the number of "Yes" responses in **Table 1-6.1** Field 3, and then select the corresponding number in **Field 1** of **Table 1-6.2**, below. The corresponding value in **Field 2** of **Table 1-6.2** is the covered action's ecosystem restoration tier.

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> <u>Number of "Yes" Responses in Table</u> 1-6.1, Field 3, Rows 1 through 5	<u>Field 2.</u> Ecosystem Restoration Tier
<u>1</u>	□ <u>1</u>	□ <u>Tier 5</u>
<u>2</u>	□ <u>2</u>	□ <u>Tier 4</u>
<u>3</u>	□ <u>3</u>	□ <u>Tier 3</u>
<u>4</u>	□ <u>4</u>	□ <u>Tier 2</u>
<u>5</u>	□ <u>5</u>	□ <u>Tier 1</u>

Section 2. Social Benefits and Delta as Place

Social Benefits

Appendix 3A, Section 2, Subsections 2.1 through 2.4 (Social Benefits) require the identification of the social benefits that would be provided by the covered action, and the disclosure of supporting information, in each of the following four categories:

- 2.1 Cultural Benefits
- 2.2 Recreational Benefits
- 2.3 Agricultural Benefits
- 2.4 Natural Resource Benefits

Cultural Benefits

- 2.1.1 In **Field 1** of **Table 2-1** below, select the types of cultural benefits that the covered action would provide. Select all that apply.
- 2.1.2 In **Field 2** of **Table 2-1** below, select the specific cultural benefits that the covered action would provide. Select all that apply.

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Types of Cultural Benefits	<u>Field 2.</u> Specific Cultural Benefits
<u>1</u>	□ <u>Ecocultural resources</u>	 <u>Supports long-term resilience of tribal ecocultural resource species</u> <u>Engages tribes in a way that respects sovereignty and protects or enhances access to natural resources</u> <u>Provides education on ecocultural resources through interpretive signage, facilities, or funding for interpretive personnel/events</u> <u>Supports responsible ecotourism, agritourism, sportfishing, hunting, or other cultural activities</u> <u>Involves the public in stewardship of ecocultural resources during project implementation or monitoring</u>
<u>2</u>	☐ <u>Human health and well-</u> being	 Improves air quality, water quality, or environmental quality in a manner that is expected to protect or enhance human health and well-being Provides public access to lands for exercise, relaxation, and/or appreciation of natural beauty
<u>3</u>	□ <u>Environmental justice</u>	 Redresses existing environmental inequities by targeting action and resources for disadvantaged and disproportionately impacted communities Engaged and co-planned with disadvantaged communities Improves access for safe subsistence fishing Improves environmental conditions (e.g., air quality or water quality) for at-risk groups

Table 2-1. Cultural Benefits Selections

2.1.3 Based on the types of cultural benefits selected in **Field 1** of **Table 2-1**, and the specific cultural benefits selected in **Field 2**, would implementation of the covered action result in cultural benefits?

- \Box Yes
- □ <u>No</u>
- 2.1.4 If the answer to **Section 2.1.3** is "Yes," describe how the covered action would provide the types of cultural benefits and specific cultural benefits selected in **Table 2-1**, and then attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with tribes, local communities, or experts.

2.1.5 If the answer to Section 2.1.3 is "No," but the proposed action would provide cultural benefits not listed in the table above, describe the cultural benefits that the action would provide, and attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with tribes, local communities, or experts.

Recreational Benefits

2.2.1 In Field 1 of Table 2-2 below, select the specific recreational benefits that the covered action would provide. Select all that apply.

Table 2-2. Recreational Benefits Selections

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Specific Recreational Benefits	
1	Provides opportunities for land-based recreational activities such as hiking and wildlife observation	
<u>2</u>	Provides opportunities for water-based recreational activities such as nonmotorized and motorized boating	
<u>3</u>	Connects users to the Great California Delta Trail System	
<u>4</u>	□ Includes public facilities such as restrooms	
<u>5</u>	Contributes to species populations in a way that benefits recreational fishing (e.g., salmon, sturgeon), nature study, and wildlife observation (e.g., birdwatching)	
<u>6</u>	Enhances public access to recreation (e.g., provides parking) while mitigating traffic impacts on neighboring agricultural and private lands	

- 2.2.2 Based on the specific recreational benefits selected in **Field 1** of **Table 2-2**, would implementation of the covered action result in recreational benefits?
 - □ <u>Yes</u>

□ <u>No</u>

2.2.3 If the answer to **Section 2.2.2** is "Yes," describe how the covered action would provide the specific recreational benefits selected in **Table 2-2**, and then attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or <u>experts.</u>

2.2.4 If the answer to Section 2.2.2 is "No," but the proposed action would provide recreational benefits not listed in the table above, describe the recreational benefits that the proposed action would provide, and attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or experts.

Agricultural Benefits

2.3.1 In **Field 1** of **Table 2-3** below, select the specific agricultural benefits that the covered action would provide. Select all that apply.

Table 2-3. Agricultural Benefits Selections

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Specific Agricultural Benefits	
1	Protects or enhances ecological systems supportive of agriculture such as supporting pollination or natural pest control	
<u>2</u>	\Box Conserves or improves soils in a manner that benefits agricultural land use	
<u>3</u>	Restores natural processes and communities that would reduce flood risk to neighboring agricultural lands	
<u>4</u>	□ Improves local water quality	
<u>5</u>	Recharges groundwater, increasing the water supply available in an aquifer, in locations that do not have high water tables	
<u>6</u>	Prevents increases in subsurface water levels, in locations with high water tables that interfere with agricultural activities	

- 2.3.2 Based on the specific agricultural benefits selected in **Field 1** of **Table 2-3**, would implementation of the proposed action result in agricultural benefits?
 - □ <u>Yes</u>
 - □ <u>No</u>
- 2.3.3 If the answer to Section 2.3.2 is "Yes," describe how the covered action would provide the specific agricultural benefits selected in Table 2-3, and then attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or experts.

2.3.4 If the answer to Section 2.3.2 is "No," but the covered action would provide agricultural benefits not listed in the table above, describe the agricultural benefits that the action would provide, and attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or experts.

Natural Resource Benefits

2.4.1 In **Field 1** of **Table 2-4** below, select the specific natural resource benefits that the covered action would provide. Select all that apply.

Table 2-4. Natural Resource Benefits Selections

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Specific Natural Resource Benefits	
1	Reduces flood risk by reducing peak water elevations	
<u>2</u>	Reduces flood risk by reducing operations and maintenance requirements on flood control works	
3	Reduces flood risk by reversing subsidence	
<u>4</u>	Reduces carbon emissions by reversing subsidence	
<u>5</u>	□ Mitigates climate change by sequestering carbon or other greenhouse gases	
6	□ <u>Reduces heat island effects</u>	
<u>7</u>	□ Increases native species habitat	
<u>8</u>	Enhances biodiversity of native species	

- 2.4.2 Based on the specific natural resource benefits selected in **Field 1** of **Table 2-4**, would implementation of the covered action result in natural resource benefits?
 - □ <u>Yes</u>
 - □ <u>No</u>
- 2.4.3 If the answer to Section 2.4.2 is "Yes," describe how the covered action would provide the specific natural resource benefits selected in Table 2-4, and then attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or experts.

2.4.4 If the answer to Section 2.4.2 is "No," but the proposed action would provide natural resource benefits not listed in the table above, describe the natural resource benefits that the action would provide, and attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or experts.

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2.4.5 If the answers to Section 2.1.3, Section 2.2.2, Section 2.3.2, and Section 2.4.2 are <u>"No," explain how the proposed action would protect and enhance the unique cultural,</u> recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place <u>(California Water Code section 85054)</u>, and then attach supporting documentation. Cite any relevant literature or consultations with local communities or experts.

Appendix 4A. Protecting, Restoring, and Enhancing Habitats at Appropriate Elevations

A certification of consistency for any covered action that is subject to Section 5006 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations must include a completed Appendix 4A as well as the documentation and information required by Appendix 4A.

- 1.1.1 In Field 1 of Table 1-1 below, select the elevation band in which the project is located. If the project is located in more than one elevation band, select all applicable elevation bands.
- 1.1.2 In Field 2 of Table 1-1 below, select the type of conservation action that would be implemented by the project or a portion of the project. If more than one type of conservation action would be implemented by the project, or a portion of the project, select all applicable conservation actions.

Row	<u>Field 1.</u> Elevation Bands	Field 2. Conservation
<u>Number</u>		<u>Actions</u>
		Protection, restoration, or enhancement of:
<u>1</u>	□ <u>Upland elevation band</u>	□ <u>Grassland</u>
		□ <u>Seasonal wetlands</u>
		\Box Upland and lowland river floodplain
		Protection, restoration, or enhancement of:
		Upland and lowland river floodplain
<u>2</u>	Floodplain elevation band	□ <u>Nontidal wetlands</u>
		□ <u>Annual flooding regimes</u>
		□ <u>Geomorphic processes</u>
		Protection, restoration, or enhancement of:
		□ <u>Grassland</u>
		□ <u>Seasonal wetlands</u>
<u>3</u>	\Box Sea level rise accommodation band	\Box Upland and lowland river floodplain
		□ <u>Annual flooding regimes</u>
		□ <u>Geomorphic processes</u>
		□ Emergent wetlands
		□ <u>Migration space</u>

Table 1-1. Elevation Bands and Conservation Actions

<u>Row</u> Number	<u>Field 1.</u> Elevation Bands	Field 2. Conservation Actions
4	□ Intertidal elevation band	Protection, restoration, or enhancement of: □ Tidal wetlands □ Tidal inundation regimes □ Migration space
<u>5</u>	□ Shallow subtidal elevation band	☐ <u>Subsidence halting¹</u> ☐ <u>Subsidence reversal¹</u>
<u>6</u>	□ <u>Deep subtidal elevation band</u>	 <u>Subsidence halting[±]</u> <u>Subsidence reversal[±]</u> <u>Agricultural practices that support</u> wildlife

Table 1-1. Elevation Bands and Conservation Actions (contd.)

Note:

⁴ This is an outcome based activity. Please see the regulatory definitions of *subsidence halting* and *subsidence reversal* in 23 CCR 5001. If this activity is selected, explain in Section 1.1.4 how the covered action would result in this outcome.

<u>1.1.3</u> In **Table 1-1**, above, each row in **Field 1** lists the elevation band that is appropriate for the corresponding conservation actions listed in the same row in **Field 2**.

Based on the selected elevation band(s) in **Field 1** and the selected corresponding appropriate conservation action(s) in **Field 2**, is (are) the proposed conservation action(s) selected in **Field 2** appropriate for the selected elevation band(s) selected in **Field 1**? Do not select "Yes" if there is no selection in **Field 2** corresponding to each selected elevation band in **Field 1**.

□ <u>Yes</u>

□ <u>No</u>

<u>1.1.4</u> If the answer to **Section 1.1.3** is "Yes," provide supporting evidence to demonstrate that the selections are accurate and describe such evidence below.

<u>1.1.5</u> If the answer to **Section 1.1.3** is "No," based on best available science, provide a rationale for the inconsistency and explain how the conservation action is nonetheless at an appropriate elevation, and therefore consistent with this policy.

Agenda Item: 4 Meeting Date: August 22, 2024

APPENDIX 8A. PRIORITY LOCATIONS TO EVALUATE PHYSICAL EXPANSION OF CHANNEL WIDTH

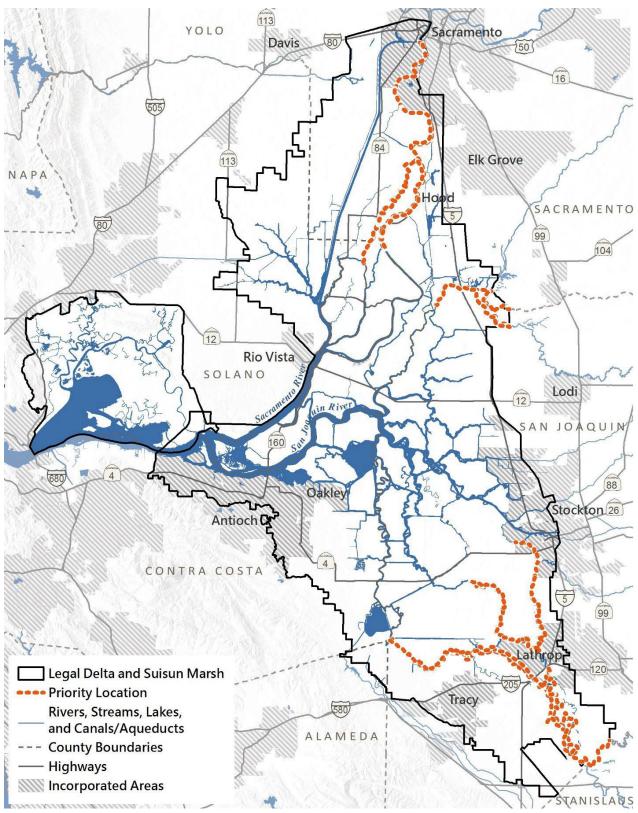


Figure 1. Priority Locations to Evaluate Physical Expansion of Floodplains

Figure 1. Priority Locations to Evaluate Physical Expansion of Floodplains (contd.)

Figure 1 is a map that identifies the Priority Locations to Evaluate Physical Expansion of Floodplains within the Delta, corresponding to the requirements of Ecosystem Restoration Policy 4 (ER P4). Priority locations are shown along select waterways in upstream portions of the Delta. The priority locations are:

- <u>the Sacramento River between the Deepwater Ship Channel and Steamboat Slough, including</u> <u>urban levees in West Sacramento and Sacramento;</u>
- Elk Slough;
- Sutter Slough, from Miner Slough to Elk Slough;
- <u>the Cosumnes River and the Mokelumne River, from the boundary of the Delta to the confluence</u> <u>with Snodgrass Slough;</u>
- the San Joaquin River from the Stanislaus River confluence to Rough and Ready Island, including urban levees in Stockton and levees that run through Lathrop;
- the portion of the Stanislaus River that is within the boundary of the Delta;
- <u>Middle River, from the Old River confluence to the midpoint between Howard Road and Tracy</u>
 <u>Boulevard;</u>
- <u>Old River, from the San Joaquin River confluence to Hammer Island, including levees that run</u> <u>through Lathrop; and</u>
- Paradise Cut.

Alternative formats of this map are available upon request.