



DRAFT

**SUMMARY DECEMBER 19, 2024
DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING**

For review and adoption by the Council at the January 23, 2025, meeting.

All meeting materials, presentations, and comment letters are available at
<https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings>

MEETING SUMMARY

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Julie Lee called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM on December 19, 2024, at the California Natural Resources Building at 715 P Street, Room 221, Sacramento, CA 95814.

2. ROLL CALL – ESTABLISH A QUORUM (WATER CODE §85210.5)

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. The following councilmembers were present: Burgis, Damrell, Hueso, Mehranian, Zingale and Lee.

Vice Chair Miller joined the meeting during agenda item 3.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON APPEALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY NUMBER C20242 FOR THE 2024-2026 PROPOSED GEOTECHNICAL ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF A DECISION ON APPEAL. (ACTION ITEM)

The Council held a public hearing on appeals of Certification of Consistency Number C20242 for the 2024-2026 Proposed Geotechnical Activities, submitted to the Council by the Department of Water Resources on October 8, 2024.

A link to the hearing notice, along with materials submitted by the parties, were posted at:

https://coveredactions.deltacouncil.ca.gov/profile_summary.aspx?c=456af51a-3643-48bf-8e0e-6007cbe609dc.

Chair Lee (Presiding Officer) and Councilmembers Diane Burgis, Frank Damrell, Ben Hueso, Maria Mehranian, Gayle Miller and Daniel Zingale were present for the hearing.

The Council Clerk provided an overview of the public comment process.

Chair Lee opened the hearing and explained the hearing process.

Jeff Henderson, Deputy Executive Officer of Planning for the Delta Stewardship Council, provided a brief overview of the certification and appeal process.

The order of presentations was as follows:

i. San Francisco BayKeeper et al. (Appeal No. C20242-A1), represented by:

• Eric Buescher

ii. South Delta Water Agency (Appeal No. C20242-A2), represented by:

• Dan Nomellini, Jr.

The hearing briefly recessed between presentations to address technical difficulties.

iii. County of Sacramento et al. (Appeal No. C20242-A3), represented by:

• Louinda V. Lacey, Kelley M. Taber

iv. San Joaquin County et al. (Appeal No. C20242-A4), represented by:

• Osha Meserve, Tom Keeling

v. Delta Protection Commission, represented by:

• Bruce Blodgett

vi. California Department of Water Resources, represented by:

• Karla Nemeth, Carrie Buckman, Andrew Finney, Chris Butcher, Katherine Marquez

Councilmembers and Council staff asked questions of the parties after each presentation.

Chair Lee asked for public comment.

Public Comment

Krystal Moreno a representative of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians commented on the impact of the proposed activities on tribal communities, including tribal consultation and ongoing challenges with the proposed activities.

Kyle Griffith with Californians for Water Security commented on the importance of the Delta Conveyance project and the geotechnical activities.

Cintia Cortez with Restore the Delta commented on the Council's responsibility to protect tribes and Environmental Justice communities through policies, and laws.

Chris Martin with the Los Angeles County Business Federation commented on the need to continue the geotechnical work for the state's water supply.

John McHale on behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies of California commented on the importance of the geotechnical activities.

Taneicia Herring on behalf of the California- Hawaii NAACP commented in support of the geotechnical work and the Delta Conveyance Project.

Duane Martin, a rancher and resident of the Delta commented on how the geotechnical activities affect his business.

Ivan Senock commented on the need for tribal consultation and the need to use best available science and resources to consider the impacts of the Delta Conveyance Project.

Amber McDowell with the Sacramento Farm Bureau commented on the effect of the Delta Conveyance Project on farmers and Delta residents.

The hearing was transcribed by a certified electronic court reporter. The complete transcript of the hearing is also available upon request by reaching out to California Reporting LLC at (510) 313-0610.

Chair Lee directed staff to prepare draft findings for the Council's consideration at a future meeting and adjourned the hearing at 01:41 pm.

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at bit.ly/42fnVIX, minute 00:02:17.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Lee asked for public comment.

There was no public comment.

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at bit.ly/42fnVIX, minute 03:55:19.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (ACTION ITEM)

a. Adoption of November 21, 2024, Meeting Summary

Chair Lee presented the agenda item for adopting the consent calendar.

Chair Lee asked for public comment

There was no public comment.

Motion (approve the consent calendar): offered by Councilmember Mehranian, seconded by Councilmember Burgis.

Vote: 7/0 - The motion was adopted (Burgis: Aye, Damrell: Aye, Hueso: Aye, Mehranian: Aye, Miller: Aye, Zingale: Aye, Lee: Aye)

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at bit.ly/42fnVIX, minute 03:55:54.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT (INFORMATION ITEM)

Chair Lee asked Councilmember Burgis to share updates from the Delta Protection Commission's recent public meeting including an update on her re-election as the Chair of the Delta Protection Commission.

Chair Lee asked for public comment.

There was no public comment.

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at bit.ly/42fnVIX, minute 03:56:58.

7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT (INFORMATION ITEM)

Executive Officer Jessica Pearson shared there have been no new covered actions filed, and no new comment letters issued since the last Delta Stewardship Council meeting.

Pearson closed with an overview of the Outreach Highlights Report.

a. Legal Update

There was no legal update.

b. Legislative Update

There was no legislative update.

Chair Lee asked for public comment.

There was no public comment.

The item is viewable on the linked agenda at bit.ly/42fnVIX, minute 03:59:15.

8. PREPARATION FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council meeting will take place on January 23, 2025. Please refer to the posted meeting notice 10 days before the meeting for further information or updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

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