Delta Stewardship Council
A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

DRAFT

SUMMARY OCTOBER 15, 2026

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

For review and adoption by the Council at the November 19, 2026, meeting.

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

MEETING SUMMARY

Day 1

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM on October 15, 2026, at the Courtyard by Marriott, Cal Expo, Sacramento, California 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 in person: Burgis, Eggman, Mehranian, Miller, Patterson, Zingale, and Lee.

3. HEARING ON APPEALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES REVISED CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY NUMBER C20257 FOR THE DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

The Council held a public hearing regarding three appeals of the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Delta Conveyance Project Revised Certification of Consistency with the Delta Plan on Remanded Items, number C20262 (Certification). A link to the hearing notice can be found here: https://deltacouncil.app.box.com/s/8z90kooz5iopvw4k5tl16799kgqwolld.

The hearing was transcribed by a certified transcriptionist. The final transcript will be available on the Covered Actions portal and is available for purchase directly from Conway Transcription Services. The video recording is available on the Council's YouTube channel. (www.youtube.com/@DeltaCouncil), along with an archive of meetings and workshops hosted by the Council.

Documents related to the Certification and appeals, including the transcript are available here: https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/covered-actions/delta-conveyance-project. An email address for all covered actions and questions is: coveredactions@deltacouncil.ca.gov.

Chair Julie Lee, Vice-Chair Gayle Miller, Diane Burgis, Susan Eggman, Maria Mehranian, Ann Patterson, and Daniel Zingale were present.

The order of the hearing went as follows:

i. *Opening of the hearing and explanation of the process by Presiding Officer Chair Lee*
ii. *Twin Cities Group*
    a. *Osha Meserve, Duane Martin, David Shultz*
iii. *Sacramento Area Sewer District*
    a. *Christoph Dobson, Kelly Taber*

Councilmember Burgis asked clarifying questions about maps used in the presentation, habitat requirements, and recycled water infrastructure.

iv. *San Joaquin County et al.*
    a. *Osha Meserve, Paul Canepa, Sabrina Snyder, Emily Pappalardo,*
v. *Delta Protection Commission*
    a. *Oscar Villegas, Amanda Bohl*
vi. *Department of Water Resources*
    a. *Tom Gibson, Chris Butcher, Katherine Marquez, Gwen Buchholz, Ellen Preece*

Councilmember Zingale, Councilmember Mehranian, and Councilmember Burgis asked clarifying questions about Tom Gibson's opening remarks.

Councilmember Zingale, Marquez, and Butcher discussed how the record supports that the proposed Twin Cities complex location would have fewer impacts on Stone

Lakes National Wildlife Preserve and sandhill crane habitat than alternative sites. Councilmember Eggman asked a clarifying question about the activity of sandhill cranes and the location of the Twin Cities complex. Councilmember Patterson and Marquez discussed the siting evaluation criteria for the Twin Cities complex site and existing land uses and planning of the Twin Cities complex at the time that DWR approved the project. Councilmember Patterson and Taber discussed the December 2022 letter in the record and the timing of Sacramento City Sewer communication with DWR throughout the Environmental Impact Report process. Councilmember Mehranian, Marquez, and Butcher discussed the amount of land that would be affected by the project and the timing of those affects, why they do not consider the project as part of the Delta ecosystem, mitigation measures, and alternatives considered through the California Environmental Quality Act process. Councilmember Patterson, Meserve, and Marquez discussed golden mussel management and Delta Plan policy ER P5. Councilmember Miller, Marquez, Preece, and Meserve discussed golden mussel management and ER P5 and how the record supports those conclusions. Councilmember Burgis, Butcher, and Marquez discussed Delta Plan policy DP P2, the analysis of Harvest Water as an existing use, existing land use conflicts at the Twin Cities complex, alternate tunnel sites, road usage during the construction of the project, potential impacts and mitigation of those potential impacts on adjacent land, how impacts were analyzed on a time scale, and temporary versus long term impacts. Councilmember Burgis and Marquez discussed current golden mussel mitigation and effects, financial analysis of adaptative management of the golden mussel. Councilmember Burgis and Meserve discussed San Joaquin County's appeal claims concerning golden mussel management. Councilmember Burgis facilitated additional points from each of the appellant groups and DWR. Taber stated that conflicts with harvest water and Sacramento Area Sewer District have not been meaningfully reduced by DWR; Meserve agreed with Taber's comments and elaborated on DWR's land use and siting analysis in reference to DP P2 and flow and diversion scenarios as it relates to ER P5. Butcher responded to comments made by appellants including the analysis of how to meet consistency with DP P2 and reviewed the process undergone to do so; Marquez responded to claims made about design and management of the project to mitigate golden mussels and diversion and flow claims. Councilmember Eggman and Marquez discussed future and current funding sources for the

eradication of golden mussels, the efficacy and uncertainty of the mitigation measures for the scale of the project, plans for monitoring of the facilities and future management techniques for golden mussels if they get into the facility. Councilmember Eggman, Butcher, Marquez, and Taber discussed the materials provided by Sacramento Area Sewer District and how those were used in the analysis and siting of the Twin Cities complex. Councilmember Eggman, Brian Young, Environmental Program Manager with SacSewer, and Taber discussed construction timeline and current status of the Harvest Water project. Councilmember Eggman and Butcher discussed the process for removing existing homes on the project site locations.

Councilmember Miller left the meeting at this time.

Chair Lee and Marquez discussed management of the tunnel including whether it would be dewatered, how it would be inspected, the intake locations, whether golden mussels are currently at those locations, current management plans at those intake locations, and fish screen management at the project. Chair Lee and Meserve discussed how the project could be compliant with ER P5. Chair Lee and Butcher discussed the timing of the approval of the Twin Cities complex location, any conflicts with groundwater recharge at the Twin Cities site, the presence of homes at alternative sites, and the decision and analysis of the alternative sites and how the final site was selected. Chair Lee and Marquez discussed existing permits, easements or contracts in place for Harvest Water at the Twin Cities Complex prior to the approval of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the project. Chair Lee and Marquez discussed flooding concerns in the area. Chair Lee and Preece discussed restrictions on copper treatment for golden mussel mitigation. Meserve and Marquez clarified the flooding conditions of the DCP project according to the Delta Conveyance Authority. Taber provided citations to the record (RDCP.v2.27.00017) concerning prior knowledge of SacSewer's interest in the Twin Cities complex for its Harvest Water project. Councilmember Zingale asked clarifying questions about some facts on the alternative site analysis. Councilmember Mehranian, Marquez, and Butcher discussed flooding mitigation for the DCP project, property rights and easements for the project, and clarified certain road closures during the construction of the project.

The item is viewable on the linked agenda at 00:12:07: https://rebrand.ly/m2kt9d3.

Chair Lee concluded the hearing and provided guidance and clarification on the public comment process. Chair Lee directed the staff to prepare a draft determination for the Council's review within 60 days of the hearing.

The hearing will be transcribed by a certified transcriptionist.

Public comments were received from the following individuals:

Vice President of the Board for the Zone 7 Water Agency, Sarah Palmer, Supervisor Pat Hume, Sacramento County Supervisory, District 5, Vice Mayor Darren Suen, City of Elk Grove, Maureen Martin, Metropolitan Water District, Chandra Chilmakuri, State Water Contractors, David Schultz, Valerie Berkley, LA Area Chamber of Commerce, Laura Hidas, Alameda County Water District, Evelyn Reyes, San Gabriel Municipal Water District, Chris Wilson, Los Angeles County Business Federation, Kyle Griffith, Californians for Water Security, Adrian Covert, Bay Area Council.

5. PREPARATION FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Chair Lee adjourned the meeting and reminded the public that the Council remains subject to ex parte communications restrictions in the Delta Conveyance Project appeal.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

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