



Posting Date: November 4, 2019

MEETING NOTICE

Delta Independent Science Board Meeting

Thursday, November 14, 2019
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST

Meeting Location

Park Tower, Second Floor Conference Room
980 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Teleconference Location

2406 Lalor Road, Oregon, WI 53575

Webcast

The meeting will be webcast at <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov>. Webcast signal may be intermittent due to internet infrastructure at the meeting location.

Meeting Materials

Materials referenced in this notice are available on the [events web page](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/events.html) at <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/events.html>. Members of the public are encouraged to visit the events web page to view the meeting materials. A limited number of copies of these materials will be available at the meeting.

Purpose

The Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB) will meet regarding its current reviews and efforts, which includes taking potential action on two agenda items. The highlights are described in this section, and all of the agenda items are listed on the Agenda, below. The Delta ISB will discuss, and may take action on, its review of the preliminary public draft of the Delta Plan Ecosystem Amendment to ensure it is based on the best available scientific information (pursuant to Water Code section 85308(a)), including the process for completing a review. The Delta ISB will also discuss a draft of the “Ecology during Rapid Environmental Change” paper, which is intended to inform new thinking about the implications of rapid environmental change for undertaking ecological research and management. Based on this discussion, the Delta ISB may take action to decide whether to have this draft serve as a background piece for an upcoming panel discussion at a Delta ISB meeting, and whether the final draft of the report should be a Delta ISB product.

Other highlights include presentations by ESSA Technologies Ltd. and CBEC eco engineering on Interim Monitoring Inventory Report (Report #2), which provides a summary of monitoring activities in the Delta, and by the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) on its upcoming effort to review IEP monitoring program elements. Both presentations will help inform the findings and recommendations of the Delta ISB’s monitoring enterprise review on how well monitoring programs are meeting the informational needs of management agencies (see [prospectus](#)).

In addition, the Delta ISB will meet in closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 11126(a)(1), to consider the matter of appointment of a Delta lead scientist. Afterwards, the Delta ISB will report out on the closed session. For more information about the meeting, refer to the agenda on the next page.

Agenda

The agenda items listed below may be considered in a different order pursuant to the determination of the Delta ISB chair. Times listed on the agenda are approximate only. At the direction of the Delta ISB, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated upon and may be subject to action.

9:00 a.m. ~ Meeting starts

1. Welcome and Declarations
2. Delta ISB Chair Report and Business Matters
3. Presentation: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Strategy (by Harriet Ross, Assistant Planning Director, and Jeff Henderson, Planning Director, Delta Stewardship Council)
4. Council Chair and Executive Officer Report
5. Update on the Science Needs Assessment (by Jay Lund, Delta ISB Chair Elect)
6. Discussion and Potential Action: Delta ISB Review of the Preliminary Public Draft of the Delta Plan Ecosystem Amendment (**Action Item**)
Pursuant to Water Code section 85308(a), the Delta ISB will discuss its review of the preliminary public draft of the Delta Plan Chapter 4 Ecosystem Amendment to ensure it is based on the best available scientific information, and the process for completing a review. The Delta ISB may take action on the review substance and/or process.
7. Delta Lead Scientist Report
Dr. John Callaway will report on recent advances in Delta science and research, including an overview of the [State of the Estuary Report](#), [Friedman et al. \(2019\)](#), and [Kimmerer et al. \(2019\)](#).
8. Discussion: Thoughts on the State of the Estuary Conference
Individual Delta ISB members who attended the [State of Estuary Conference](#) from October 21 to 22, 2019, will share items of interest with the Delta ISB.

11:30 a.m. ~ Closed Session

9. Closed Session (Personnel Matters): Appointment of the Delta Lead Scientist (Not Open to the Public)
The United States Geological Survey and the Delta Stewardship Council are in the process of recruiting the next lead scientist for the Delta Science Program, whose term would begin in fall 2020. Pursuant to Water Code section 85280(b), the Delta lead scientist is appointed by the Delta Stewardship Council after consultation with the Delta ISB. On October 29, 2019, the Delta lead scientist interview panel, an advisory committee to the Delta ISB, met in closed session at its public meeting to review applications received and determined that there were qualified applicants to move forward with the process of appointing a Delta lead scientist. Based on the action of the advisory committee, the Delta ISB will meet in closed session on November 14 to discuss the qualifications and expertise of the applicants that are being considered for appointment. Information from this closed session will help inform future actions of the interview panel in selecting applicants for interviews.

(This closed session is authorized under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (a).)

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. ~ Lunch

1:00 p.m. ~ Reconvene Open Session

10. Report out on Closed Session and Next Steps for Appointing the Delta Lead Scientist
The report out will include any next steps for the process that were determined by the interview panel at its October 29, 2019, meeting.
11. Presentation: Overview of Interim Monitoring Inventory Report (Report #2) to Inform the Delta ISB's Monitoring Enterprise Review (by Marc Neltiz, Senior Systems Ecologist, ESSA Technologies Ltd., and Jai Singh, Senior Ecohydrologist, CBEC eco engineering)
12. Presentation: Review of IEP's Long-Term Monitoring Program Elements (by Steve Culberson, IEP Lead Scientist, and Stephanie Fong, IEP Coordinator Chairperson)
13. Delta ISB Updates on Reviews
 - a. IEP Review
At its September 2019 public meeting, the Delta ISB took action and approved the content of its review with agreed upon edits on IEP's ability to provide science supporting management of the Delta. Delta ISB Member Vince Resh will provide an update on the status of formatting the report for publication.
 - b. Water Supply Reliability Review
The Delta ISB is undertaking a review of the scientific efforts and methods for estimating and evaluating water supply reliability that could identify areas for improved coordination and future research.
 - c. Ecosystems (Non-native Species) Review
The Delta ISB is in the process of reviewing the adequacy of the science to predict and explain the effects of non-native species in Delta ecosystems, and the potential for controlling current and future invaders.
14. Discussion and Potential Action: Draft Paper on "Ecology during Rapid Environmental Change" ([Action Item](#))
The Delta ISB will discuss a draft of the "Ecology during Rapid Environmental Change" paper, which is intended to inform new thinking about the implications of rapid environmental change for undertaking ecological research and management. Based on this discussion, the Delta ISB may take action to decide whether to have this draft serve as a background piece for an upcoming panel discussion at a Delta ISB meeting, and whether the final draft of the report should be a Delta ISB product.
15. Planning Session: Ideas for Future Reviews
Based on ideas at the planning session at the October teleconference, the Delta ISB will continue its discussion on the idea of drafting a retrospective of the Delta ISB and the Delta Science Program.
16. Preparation for Upcoming Delta ISB Meetings
17. Review of Items for Follow-up
18. Public Comments
The Delta ISB will take public comments on topics within its jurisdiction that are not on the agenda.

5:00 p.m. ~ Meeting adjourned

References

Friedman, W.R., B.T. Martin, B.K. Wells, P. Warzbok, C.J. Michel, E.M. Danner, and S.T. Lindley. 2019. Modeling composite effects of marine and freshwater processes on migratory species. *Ecosphere* 10(7). Article e02743. Available at <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ecs2.2743>

Kimmerer, W., F. Wilkerson, B. Downing, R. Dugdale, E.S. Gross, K. Kayfetz, S. Khanna, A.E. Parker, and J. Thompson. Effects of drought and the emergency drought barrier on the ecosystem of the California Delta. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science* 17(3). Available at <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0b3731ph>.

Additional Information

- If you have any questions, please contact Edmund Yu at 916-445-0637 or Edmund.Yu@deltacouncil.ca.gov.
- Members of the public shall be provided an opportunity to address the Delta ISB on any agenda items except closed session items and those items for which the public has already been afforded such opportunity at an earlier meeting. In addition, comments during the Public Comment period shall be limited to matters within the Delta ISB's jurisdiction and not on the agenda. Reasonable time limits may be established for public comments (Government Code Sections 11125.7).
- If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Human Resources Office, Delta Stewardship Council at (916) 445-5511, TDD (800) 735-2929.