

Update on Delta Stewardship Council and Draft Delta Plan

Special Committee on Bay-Delta
Item 4b

May 24, 2011



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



Background

Water Policy Package (Nov 2009)

- Four policy bills
 - Delta policy, plan and governance
 - Groundwater monitoring & reporting
 - Water conservation
 - Surface water measurement
- \$11.14 billion water bond



Delta Reform Act 2009 (SBX7-1)

● Goals

- Achieve coequal goals of water supply reliability & Delta ecosystem restoration
- Protect & enhance the Delta environment as an evolving place
- Balance conservation & development of Delta land resources
- Improve flood protection

● Tasks

- Develop Delta Plan (by January 1, 2012)
- Develop performance measures to track progress
- Determine project consistency with the Delta Plan
- Determine whether BDCP meets Reform Act criteria



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

A California State Agency



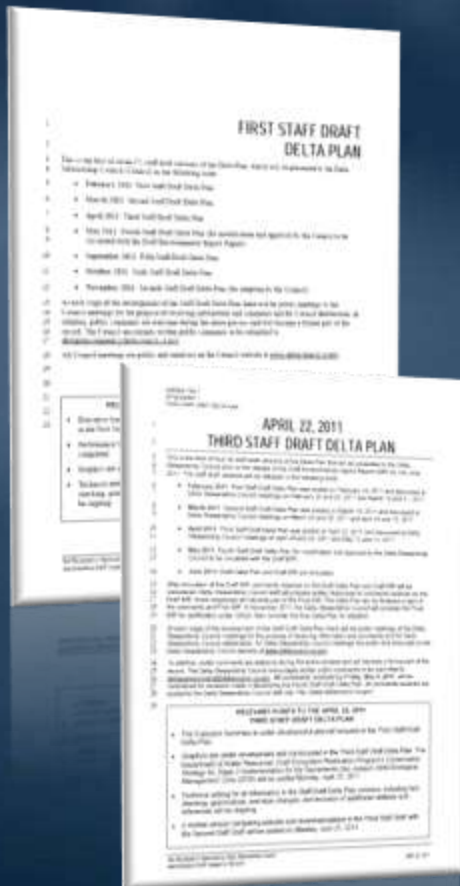
Appointed Council Members

- Phil Isenberg, Chair (Sacramento)
- Gloria D. Gray (Inglewood)
- Randy Fiorini (Turlock)
- Patrick Johnston (Stockton)
- Felicia Marcus (Emeryville)
- Hank Nordhoff (Del Mar)
- Don Nottoli (Galt)



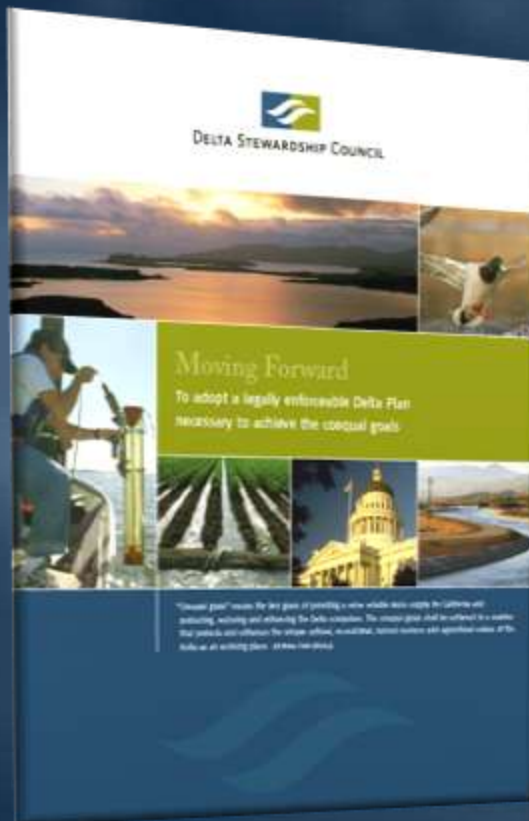
Delta Plan Status

- Draft Plan releases
 - Feb 14 – First Draft
 - Mar 18 – Second Draft
 - Apr 22 – Third Draft
- Stakeholder panels on water mgmt, in-Delta, ecosystem, and emergency preparedness
- Plan includes policies & recommendations
- Delta Independent Science Board is reviewing scientific findings





Delta Stewardship Council Outreach



- Website
- Newsletters
- White papers
- Meeting videos
- Brochures
- Workshops



Delta Stewardship Council

MWD Comments on Third Draft Delta Plan

- Key Concerns
 - Asserts regulatory authority not authorized in Reform Act
 - Bases consistency determination on local actions, rate structures
 - Establishes consistency reviews for SWP contracts and water transfers; requires specific public process
 - Overrides SWRCB program for Delta flows; veto projects if SWRCB flows not done on Council timeline
 - Adds Bay-Delta Conservation Plan approval requirements



Delta Stewardship Council

Coalition Third Draft Comments

- Seventeen signatories (water users, counties, agriculture & business groups)
- Key Comments
 - Focus on a comprehensive Delta Plan, not a new regulatory agency
 - Coordinate with existing agencies to identify their contributions to the Delta Plan and determine gaps that should be addressed to achieve coequal goals
 - Base Delta Plan policies on good science & include a workable adaptive management program



Delta Stewardship Council

Other Key Stakeholders Providing Comments

- 50 comment letters submitted to Council on Third Draft Delta Plan including:
 - State/Federal Contractors
 - The Bay Institute; Environmental Defense Fund; NRDC
 - South & Central Delta Water Agencies; Delta Counties
 - ACWA; San Joaquin River Group; Northern California Water Agencies
 - Water Agencies: EBMUD, CCWD
 - Regional Council of Rural Counties
 - Numerous State & Federal agencies



Delta Stewardship Council

Revised Near-Term Schedule for Delta Plan

Date	Delta Plan Activity
May 13-June 3	Council staff revises Plan to incorporate Council direction & public comments
June 13	Council releases 4 th Draft for review
June 16	Special Council meeting to discuss overall Delta Plan approach; review 4 th Draft
June 23-24	Council meeting: Action to revise 4 th Draft and circulate Public Draft EIR



Delta Stewardship Council

Delta Plan & EIR Schedule

Month	Delta Plan and EIR
Jan 2011	Scoping meetings
Jun 2011	Public Draft EIR & Delta Plan
Jun – Aug 2011	Public review period
Nov 2011	Draft Final EIR & Delta Plan
Dec 2011	Final EIR & Delta Plan



Summary

- Staff will continue to comment on Drafts
- Coordinating with other Delta watershed users
- Staff will provide regular Board updates