

Update on Delta Stewardship Council and Draft Delta Plan EIR

Bay-Delta Committee
Item 9-1, January 24, 2012

Status & Process



- Draft EIR released Nov. 4
- 90 day review/comment period, ending Feb 2
- Public hearings – 7 statewide

EIR Proposed Project/ Draft Delta Plan



- 12 proposed policies, including:
 - Covered action process
 - Flow proceedings by SWRCB
 - Reduced reliance actions
- 61 recommendations

Key Concerns with Proposed Project/Draft Plan

- Regulates/reviews local water supply resource investments and planning
- Implies reduced Delta diversions compared to present
- Creates additional BDCP approval requirements
- Bases consistency determinations on local actions
- Dictates SWRCB schedule for Delta flow objectives
- Lacks strategic levee investment strategy

How we will review the EIR



- Is the draft adequate under CEQA?
- How does the draft address BDCP?
- Does the draft provide a fair analysis of the environmental impact of the proposed plan and each alternative?
- Does the Council have the legal authority to accomplish its proposed plan?

Next Steps

- Committee discussion today/ongoing Board updates
- File comments by February 2 in coordination with other water agencies
- March/April – Council to release 6th Draft Plan
- April/May – Final Delta Plan and EIR released
- May – Council votes to approve Plan & certify EIR