



- Bay-Delta Management Report

## Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for July 2014.

## Purpose

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Informational

## Detailed Report

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### Long-Term Delta Actions

#### Bay Delta Conservation Plan

The public comment period for the Draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and the accompanying Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR/EIS) concluded on July 29. Metropolitan staff completed several months of DEIR/EIS review, coordination with other public water agencies, and development of detailed comments, and submitted a comprehensive set of comments on July 29.

#### Delta Stewardship Council

The Delta Stewardship Council (Council) met on July 25, and the meeting focused on activities of the Delta Science Program. As discussed in previous reports, the Delta Science Program organized two independent science expert panels to review scientific reports, receive presentations, and identify the best available science regarding Delta outflows and interior Delta flows that would assist the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in their efforts to revise and update the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. At the Council meeting, representatives from the two expert panels and the SWRCB presented the findings from the two panels. The Council also received updates on implementing the performance measures in the Delta Plan and on progress of getting the Delta Levee Investment Strategy underway.

The Council also has started their recruitment process for the Lead Scientist position of the Delta Science Program. The Lead Scientist is the principal liaison between the Delta Science Program, Independent Science Board, and the Council.

### Near-Term Delta Actions

#### State Water Resources Control Board

The state administration proclaimed a State of Emergency in January 2014 to address the record dry conditions around the state. In response to this proclamation, SWRCB issued a statewide notice of water shortages and potential for future curtailment of water right diversions, and held a workshop in May 2014 to discuss potential options for curtailing water use. Metropolitan staff monitored this workshop, collaborated with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and other water contractors, and provided input to the SWRCB. Notices of curtailment were issued in May 2014 to all post-1914 water right holders in the Delta and Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds, instructing them to cease diversions. Due to limited response to the curtailment notice, emergency regulations were instituted in July 2014 to curtail post-1914 water right holders. The emergency regulations also allow for curtailment of senior water right holders on a case-by-case basis. On July 23, DWR and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation submitted a letter to the SWRCB requesting that it use its statutory authority to obtain information from certain Delta water users to support their assumed right to water or require curtailment as unauthorized diversions.

### Delta Emergency Preparedness

Metropolitan completed review of DWR's interagency draft Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan and coordinated with the State Water Contractors to submit comments to DWR. DWR expects to release the final

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document by late 2014. DWR's Working Group of federal, state, and local emergency response agencies continue to provide input.

DWR also continues to develop emergency rock stockpile sites in the Delta, with the goal of doubling rock stockpiles at their Stockton and Rio Vista storage sites. At Stockton, DWR will complete site development, build at least two permanent water-land access load-out facilities, and add a warehouse for a total of three major warehouses by 2015. This will allow stockpiling of fabric lined wire cages and plastic muscle wall (similar in appearance to freeway k-rails), filled with soil and water respectively in actual emergencies, along with sand bags and visqueen plastic sheeting to rapidly restore levee freeboard. In West Sacramento, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has stockpiled fabric lined wire cages, large super sacks, and rapid deployment flood walls for closure of breaches and restoration of freeboard. A DWR contract will be issued to purchase large sheetpile as a redundant construction measure for rock in order to close deep levee breaches. Combined, these stockpiles could close several deep breaches and restore several miles of levee slumping from a major earthquake, to facilitate development of an emergency freshwater pathway.

DWR and USACE are updating and integrating their internal procedures, including coordinating their emergency response tactics and field data collection modeling to assess and guide resources in actual emergencies.