



- Bay-Delta Management Report

## Summary

---

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

## Purpose

---

Informational

## Detailed Report

---

### Long-Term Delta Actions

#### Bay Delta Conservation Plan

State and federal lead agencies continue to work on addressing the comments received during the public comment period on the Draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement, and Draft Implementing Agreement. Part of this process involves identifying topics that should be covered in the expected Recirculated Draft documents. No formal decision on the scope or timing of the recirculation has been announced yet.

#### Delta Stewardship Council

On October 28-30, 2014, the Delta Stewardship Council and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) jointly sponsored the Biennial Bay-Delta Science Conference. The theme of the conference was "Making Connections," and highlighted how management of the Bay-Delta ecosystem is at a critical juncture. More than 1,000 scientists, managers, and policymakers gathered in Sacramento to discuss the latest advances in scientific information and ideas on water resources management in the Delta, its watershed, and the San Francisco Bay Estuary. Staff participated and provided presentations at the conference. Also on October 30, the Delta Stewardship Council held its October meeting. The agenda included a presentation on an integrated monitoring and assessment framework and an update on the Delta levee investment strategy.

### Near-Term Delta Actions

#### State Water Resources Control Board

As previously reported, staff is participating in the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) process to curtail water use of post-1914 water right holders in the Delta and Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds, in response to ongoing drought conditions. In July, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) 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 interests countered by filing letters alleging that DWR and USBR are illegally diverting water from Delta watersheds. In response to these letters, the SWRCB held an informal workshop on September 24, 2014 to discuss the processes that may be used to determine the sources and quantity of water supplies available for diversion and use within the southern and central Delta. Staff worked with the State Water Contractors to prepare for and participate in the workshop.

Staff is working with state and federal water contractors to develop strategies to protect the State Water Project and the federal Central Valley Project's stored water from illegal diversion, including filing a complaint to the SWRCB or initiating a legal action. Several efforts are underway to evaluate key legal and technical arguments raised by Delta interests in their letters filed with the SWRCB.

### Delta Emergency Preparedness

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has advised that they have recently completed an emergency exercise to evaluate emergency preparedness in the Delta region. The focus of the exercise was communication readiness,

Date of Report: 11/18/2014

## Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

which included the successful testing of their mobile app for information collection and dissemination. The exercise included participation by the ACOE executive and emergency operations staff along with DWR. DWR is currently conducting similar office and field exercises with the ACOE participation.

DWR and ACOE are completing work under their recent Memorandum of Agreement to synthesize their emergency operations procedures. The California Emergency Management Agency is in the process of preparing a broader emergency management plan that considers current DWR and ACOE emergency management plans, as well as other infrastructure and emergency procedures in the Delta and other northern California regions.

The USGS recently published a paper on the surface fault creep rate (gradual movement) of certain faults in the San Andreas system to address stress build up and maximum earthquake magnitudes. Creep is the slow release of strain at or near the earth's surface that occurs, on some faults between earthquakes. Where no creep occurs a fault is considered locked and stress will build up until released by an earthquake. Maximum earthquake magnitudes determined by the recent study are similar to and in some cases larger than those determined in previous evaluations further study will be conducted to determine probabilistic seismic contributions of these faults in the broader context of how they potentially affect the Delta region.