



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for April 2018.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

California WaterFix

On April 10, the Board of Directors voted to provide the additional financing necessary to allow for the construction of the full California WaterFix project. The Board authorized \$10.8 billion for the project to modernize the state's water delivery system. Metropolitan would be responsible for its 47 percent of the State Water Project share of 6000 cfs and fully responsible for the remaining 3000 cfs capacity. Metropolitan's action helps to ensure the project is completed as originally proposed and studied. Metropolitan's portion of financing is expected to cost households in its service area on average up to \$4.80 a month, though that average cost would be reduced as Metropolitan recoups some of its investments from other agencies anticipated to have the need for conveyance. The full project better accomplishes WaterFix's co-equal goals of improving the environment and securing supply reliability. The 9000 cfs capacity allows flexibility to capture the high flows of big storms that climate change is expected to bring and reduces reverse flows in the south Delta that disrupt the Delta's ecology.

The California WaterFix Petition proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) are ongoing. Part 2 of the hearings, which consider the effects of the proposed project on fish and wildlife, resumed on February 22 and are continuing this month. Staff is continuing to review the information presented by hearing participants and is coordinating with State Water Contractors to participate in the hearing.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Science Activities

The second year of field studies for the Salmon Predation Study (Study) is underway at Bouldin Island. This Study was funded by a California Department of Fish and Wildlife grant, with matching funds from Metropolitan. The Study is examining how the number of predators impact juvenile salmon survival, and how the interaction between habitat features and predators impact juvenile salmon survival. The field work for the Study will be completed in May 2018 and a preliminary report of findings will be available in July 2018.

Staff participated in two workshops addressing the Winter-Run Life Cycle Model, which has been used in the recent National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Biological Opinion for California WaterFix. The workshop provides stakeholders an opportunity to understand the model, identify knowledge gaps, and propose improvements. This particular workshop reviewed how stakeholder comments to date have been incorporated into the model, updates to the particle tracking model element, how ocean harvest of salmon is incorporated into the model, and the schedule for completing some of these updates.

Staff participated in a workgroup to identify research needs in the Sutter Bypass to better understand benefits of this habitat to juvenile salmonids. Since the initiation of this group, approximately one year ago, members of the group have started several studies that are currently underway to examine lower trophic level community, fish community, and juvenile salmon growth rates in the Sutter Bypass under flooding and non-

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

flooding conditions. Information from these studies will be presented at the Bay-Delta Science conference in September 2018.

Staff is participating in the Structured Decision Making Process for Scientific Management in the Bay-Delta, which is sponsored by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Delta Science Program. The objective of this effort is to develop a decision support tool to evaluate proposed Bay-Delta management options in a transparent manner. The process is facilitated by Dr. James Peterson of Oregon State University, and it includes consideration of actions to benefit Delta smelt and salmon. The April meeting focused on evaluation of existing decision support models for Delta smelt.

On April 6, staff participated in a workshop sponsored by the Delta Science Program to provide input on the update to the Delta Science Plan. The workshop discussion focused on the policy-science interface, modeling collaboration, integrated monitoring, and adaptive management. The Delta Science Program is expected to release a draft revised Delta Science Plan for public comment in the summer of 2018.

On April 9, staff met with scientists from San Francisco State University, ICF International, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Geological Society, and Resource Management Associates to coordinate our collective Longfin Smelt Prop 1 grant-funded projects. The group discussed new and developing analyses as well as publications.

Staff continued participation in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program, including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). In April, staff provided comments on the draft Delta Smelt Entrainment Study report. The study suggests that factors of water exports, hydrology, precipitation, and abundance correlate with Delta smelt salvage at the water projects Delta pumping plants. The study is organized in three parts, with Part 1 close to completion and ready for CAMT review. Parts 2 and 3 are still being reviewed by the Delta Smelt Scoping Team. Staff also worked with the CAMT salmon subcommittee to develop a comprehensive, long-term research strategy for salmonids in the Delta. To support this effort, the subcommittee is planning a two day in-person workshop to provide an opportunity for researchers and managers to share within and across their groups their science needs, endeavors, and challenges. The objective of the workshop is to facilitate coordinated investigation into the mechanisms behind juvenile salmonid survival to support the development of forecasting and other management-related decision support tools.

Delta Emergency Preparedness

Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has modified the emergency response tool (ERT) to facilitate the analysis of proposed emergency response actions to respond to catastrophic levee failures in the Delta. The ERT has been modified to isolate the effectiveness of selected channels independent of others for conveyance to the export pumps. DWR is using the modified tool to evaluate use of south Delta channels to convey San Joaquin River flows to export facilities ahead of emergency freshwater pathway implementation. Staff will review the results of these studies, and the information will be included in the Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan (DFEMP). DWR is expected to announce the schedule for the completion of the DFEMP soon, after briefing their management.

Metropolitan Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Expenditures

The following is a summary of Metropolitan's cumulative BDCP expenditures updated for the quarter ending March 2018. Staff will continue to provide these on a quarterly basis in the Bay Delta Management Report.

Total (July 2005 – March 2018)

BDCP – Internal MWD	Total Costs (12.75 yrs.)
Labor & Benefits ⁽¹⁾	\$ 28.87M
Professional Services	\$ 5.57M

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

Travel	\$ 1.46M
Other ⁽²⁾	\$ 0.17M
SUBTOTAL	\$ 36.07M
Administrative Overhead	\$ 10.73M
TOTAL	\$ 46.80M

⁽¹⁾ Labor costs include salary, leave and non-leave benefits

⁽²⁾ Other include charges for materials and supplies, trainings & seminars, conferences & meetings, reprographics

Quarterly (April 2017 – March 2018)

	FY16-17 Q4 Apr-Jun 2017	FY17-18 Q1 Jul - Sep 2017	FY17-18 Q2 Oct - Dec 2017	FY17-18 Q3 Jan – Mar 2018
Labor	0.744M	1.181M	0.997M	0.909M
Professional Services	0.290M	0.154M	0.145M	0.264M
Travel	0.053M	0.025M	0.055M	0.046M
Other	0.004M	0.002M	0.002M	0.005M
SUB-TOTAL	1.091M	1.362M	1.199M	1.224M
Admin. Overhead	0.254M	0.383M	0.330M	0.301M
TOTAL	1.345M	1.745M	1.529M	1.525M

California WaterFix 2017 Program Budget and Commitments

With completion of the planning phase in 2017, the BDCP Expenditures report that was a regular section in the monthly Bay Delta Management Report was closed out in October 2017 and is no longer included in this report. In its place, the California WaterFix 2017 Program Budget and Commitments report was established and reports have been included in this monthly Board Report since November 2017. The commitments and expenditures following the completion of the planning phase in 2017 have been for post-Environmental Impact Report work not classified as planning. Expenditures under this 2017 Program Budget were lower than planned, and most of the 2017 Budget was carried forward into a 2018 Program Budget. The funding is being provided by DWR and none of these State funds are State General Funds. The 2018 Program Budget table below shows the budget and commitments as of the end of March 2018:

California WaterFix Program Budget & Commitments		
(in millions)		
2018 Budget	Commitments	Remaining
\$ 133.69	\$ 9.12	\$ 124.57