



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

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

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

California WaterFix

In addition to Metropolitan's Board voting on July 10 to support Metropolitan's participation in the California WaterFix project, several other milestones were achieved during the month of July. On July 18, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for California WaterFix. The document analyzes several proposed changes designed to reduce the project's footprint, and minimize impacts on environmental resources in the Bay-Delta, including wetlands and other water resources and local communities. Public comments will be accepted on the draft Supplemental EIR/EIS through September 17, 2018.

The Delta Reform Act, as implemented by the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC), requires a project proponent to certify through a Consistency Determination that proposed covered actions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta are consistent with the co-equal goals identified in the Delta Reform Act and all applicable Delta Plan policies. On July 27, DWR formally submitted the Certification of Consistency with the Delta Plan for California WaterFix to the DSC. The July 27 filing opened a 30-day period for public review and appeal, closing August 26, 2018.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) proceedings for the California WaterFix petition for additional point of diversion are ongoing. The evidentiary portion of Part 2 of the hearings, which consider the effects of the proposed project on fish and wildlife, concluded on April 25, 2018. The rebuttal phase starts on August 2, 2018, with the presentation of rebuttal testimony and cross examination. Staff is coordinating with other State Water Project contractor agencies to prepare rebuttal testimony and participate in the hearings.

Joint Powers Authorities

Two new public joint powers authorities have been formed to aid in the implementation of California WaterFix—Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) and Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (Finance Authority). On July 19, the DCA held its second meeting since formation and approved a budget for FY 2018/19. The Finance Authority held its first meeting on July 19, at which it selected its Board officers and authorized executing an agreement for services of Brian Thomas as Interim Executive Director. Randy Record, Metropolitan's Chairman of the Board, was selected as Board President for the Finance Authority. Gary Kremen, representing Santa Clara Valley Water District, was selected as Vice President, and Jeff Davis, representing San Geronio Pass Water Agency was selected as Secretary. On July 27, the Finance Authority submitted a letter of interest to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program for assistance in financing California WaterFix.

Near-Term Delta Actions

State Water Resources Control Board

On July 6, the SWRCB released its draft final Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP) amendments for the Lower San Joaquin River and Southern Delta as part of the Phase 1 process. The draft final proposal would revise water flow objectives in the Lower San Joaquin River and its major tributaries, the Stanislaus, Tuolumne

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and Merced Rivers, and would amend southern Delta salinity objectives. Staff coordinated with the State Water Contractors (SWC) to develop and submit comments to the SWRCB on July 27. A SWRCB meeting to receive public comments and consider adoption is scheduled for August 21-22.

Also on July 6, the SWRCB issued a Phase 2 Framework document for updating flow requirements for the Sacramento River, its tributaries, and the Delta and its tributaries, including the Calaveras, Cosumnes and Mokelumne Rivers. The Framework document proposes tributary flow requirements for February to June based on percent of unimpaired flow, provides a narrative objective for cold water flows from reservoirs for the protection of salmon, describes new objectives for fall Delta outflow and interior Delta flows that are drawn from requirements from existing biological opinions, and provides additional guidance on implementation of voluntary agreements. For Phase 2, a draft proposed plan and staff report analyzing alternatives is expected to be released later this year for public review and comment.

Science Activities

Staff organized and participated in a meeting with state and federal agencies to discuss how Chinook salmon loss and salvage at the State Water Project/Central Valley Project are calculated and reported. In the past there have been inconsistencies in how loss and salvage are reported and the group discussed ways to streamline this process and how to better present results on public platforms, such as SacPAS or Bay Delta Live.

One of the actions in the state's Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy is to operate the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gates to improve habitat conditions for Delta smelt. DWR has been actively working to obtain permits and align resources to implement the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gate action starting August 1, 2018. Staff is coordinating with DWR to provide input on the monitoring program for the action. DWR obtained final permits for the project in mid-July. SWC will supplement DWR's operations and monitoring program with additional monitoring to evaluate the effects of the action.

Staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). In July, the CSAMP Policy Group received a presentation on the results of the Delta Smelt Entrainment Study, evaluating factors associated with salvage of adult Delta smelt. The Entrainment Study suggests that abundance, exports, hydrology, turbidity, and precipitation significantly correlate with salvage of Delta smelt. The study also found that proportional entrainment is low in recent years suggesting recent operations may have reduced entrainment risk. The CSAMP Policy Group discussed possible uses and limitations of the study results and more work is expected to fully understand the usefulness and applicability. Staff is participating in the CAMT salmon subcommittee, which is summarizing information gathered/learned from the CAMT Delta Salmonid Research Workshop that was held in June 2018 and identifying recommendations for scientific salmonid studies that CAMT could support.

Delta Emergency Preparedness

Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan

DWR continues to develop and refine the Emergency Response Tool (ERT), which is a modeling tool to facilitate the analysis of proposed emergency response actions to respond to catastrophic levee failures in the Delta. In July, DWR completed ERT studies using sheet pile for freshwater pathway breach closures and found that pathway restoration and export outage could be reduced by a couple of months. DWR stated that with ERT refinements, they will determine minimum reservoir releases and optimum flow durations from Sacramento River and San Joaquin River reservoirs in conjunction with pathway restoration to achieve export resumption.

DWR completed a study to reduce costs of sheet pile acquisition for deep levee breach closures and increase efficiency of installation. DWR would increase pile thickness to accommodate expected corrosion and facilitate welding for field installation in lieu of purchasing coated sheet pile. This mode of acquisition will allow sheet pile closure of two to three levee breaches.

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Metropolitan Bay Delta Conservation Plan – California WaterFix & EcoRestore (BDCP/CWF-CER) Expenditures

The following is a summary of Metropolitan’s cumulative BDCP/CWF-CER expenditures updated for the quarter ending June 2018. In April 2015, the California WaterFix & EcoRestore proposed approaches were defined. This report includes the total internal costs related to the BDCP as well as the CWF-CER alternatives. Staff will continue to provide this report on a quarterly basis in the Bay Delta Management Report.

Total (July 2005 – June 2018)

BDCP/CWF-CER Internal MWD	Total Costs (13 yrs.)
Labor & Benefits ⁽¹⁾	\$ 30.17M
Professional Services	\$ 5.82M
Travel	\$ 1.52M
Other ⁽²⁾	\$ 0.17M
SUBTOTAL	\$ 37.68M
<u>Administrative Overhead</u>	<u>\$ 11.16M</u>
TOTAL	\$ 48.84M

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

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

Quarterly Summary (July 2017 – June 2018)

	FY17-18 Q1	FY17-18 Q2	FY17-18 Q3	FY17-18 Q4
	Jul-Sep 2017	Oct-Dec 2017	Jan-Mar 2018	Apr-Jun 2018
Labor	1.181M	0.997M	0.909M	1.295M
Professional Services	0.154M	0.145M	0.264M	0.252M
Travel	0.025M	0.055M	0.046M	0.060M
Other	0.002M	0.002M	0.005M	0.003M
SUB-TOTAL	1.362M	1.199M	1.224M	1.610M
<u>Admin. Overhead</u>	<u>0.383M</u>	<u>0.330M</u>	<u>0.301M</u>	<u>0.427M</u>
TOTAL	1.745M	1.529M	1.525M	2.037M