

The Delta Plan: On to Implementation

Presentation to MCWRA and ACWA Region 3




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June 19, 2013






DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



First, a reminder regarding what the Delta Plan is

-  It's a broad based approach for restoring water supplies, Delta ecology, and preserving Delta as a place that seeks to achieve this through balance.
 - *New Rules/Covered Actions/Appellate Role*
 - *Interagency Coordination to achieve coequal goals*
 - *Accountability*
 - *Unbiased Science, Adaptive learning*
-  It relies on unbiased, independent science to succeed.
-  It is the structure that all other Plans can fit under.

What will the Delta Plan and DSC do?

-  Ensures that future actions will help attain the coequal goals. (Covered Actions and the DSC's appellate role)
-  Serve as a facilitator to resolve issues among Delta Agencies and improve accomplishment. (Implementation Committee)
-  Serve to provide unbiased information;
 - *How are the agencies doing?*
 - *Where are we wrt achieving coequal goals?*
 - *Provide unbiased scientific information*
 - *Provide timely use of adaptive management results*

What's next?

-  Implement the plan
 - *Consistency determinations / appeals*
 - *Emphasize conservation of water, reuse, local supplies*
 - *Complete the Science plan*
 - *Develop more storage*
 - *Begin restoration of depleted habitats*
 - *Encourage more aggressive treatment of invasive species*
 - *Complete a levee assessment*
-  Oh, aggressively defend against lawsuits

Delta Science Plan

Independent, unbiased

One Delta, One Science

- *Coordination among State and Federal science programs*
- *Provide a Delta focus for research and monitoring*

Best Available Science

- *Peer reviews*

Adaptive Management

- *Quality control*
- *Centralized conceptual models*
- *Synthesis*
- *Management / Policy interface*

Implementation of the Delta Plan




- Delta Reform Act: “The Council shall establish and oversee *a committee of agencies responsible for implementing the Delta Plan*. Each agency shall coordinate its actions pursuant to the Delta Plan with the council and the other relevant agencies.” (Water Code § 85204)

Delta Protection
Commission







Implementation Committee (IC)

an alternative to litigation

-  Composed of:
 - *7 Federal agencies*
 - *7 State agencies*
 - *4 Delta agencies*
-  Led by Delta Stewardship Council
 - *DSC provides staff support*
-  Meets twice a year
 - *More if needed*

Primary Role of the Implementation Committee

-  Speed accomplishment in the Delta through interagency coordination
-  Charter work groups to address specific issues
-  Take action on Work Group recommendations
-  Provide a forum for the exchange of science learnings with Management




Work Groups

- No restrictions on who can be on a work group.
- Established to solve specific issues in defined time periods.
- Work group may retain responsibility to follow up on decisions, to provide local accountability.

How are Work Group issues selected?

- 🌊 The public, through the Delta Stewardship Council
- 🌊 The DSC
- 🌊 Member agencies (State, Federal, Delta)

How do I get on a work group?

-  Contact the DSC following a meeting and let us know of your interest.
-  Agencies may offer subject matter experts.
-  Regardless, this is a commitment.

Lawsuits

7 Lawsuits

Broad spectrum of issues



Key subjects:

- *Violation of 2009 DRA*
 - *Exceeded authority*
 - *Failed to fulfill authority*
- *Violation of CEQA*
 - *Shotgunning for an issue*
 - *Stop BDCP*

Substantive?

- *Not in my opinion, but I don't get to decide.*

Who benefits from litigation?

-  “Without the delta Plan in place, the tunnels cannot win approval for the needed permits. This is the opening salvo in what will be an epic battle over California's water future”
 - Mike Jackson, attorney for C-WIN
-  What's so important that we must delay implementation for?

Questions?

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