

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF
DIRECTORS REGULAR TELEPHONIC MEETING
MINUTES FOR JULY 14, 2022**

The Board of Directors of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority convened at approximately 9:30 a.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California, with Vice-Chair William Bourdeau presiding.

Directors and Alternate Directors in Attendance

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director
Lea Emmons, Alternate for Rick Gilmore

Division 2

Ryan Ferguson, Director
William Bourdeau, Director
Beau Correia, Director (Arrived after item 7)

Division 3

Dan McCurdy, Director (ZOOM, counted for quorum, address listed on agenda)
Chris White, Director - Jarrett Martin, Alternate (Both arrived after item 6)
Cannon Michael, Director (ZOOM, counted for quorum, address listed on agenda)
Ric Ortega, Director

Division 4

John Varela, Director - Aaron Baker, Alternate
Gary Kremen, Director - Richard Santos, Alternate
Jeff Cattaneo, Director

Division 5

Bill Pucheu, Director
Tom Birmingham, Director
Manny Amorelli, Director

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel (ZOOM)
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

Others in Attendance

Frances Mizuno, Mizuno Consulting
Mike Wade, California Farm Water Coalition
Tom Boardman, Westlands Water District
Ellen Hanak, Public Policy Institute of California
Greg Gartrell, Public Policy Institute of California
Mitchell Partovi, The Water Agency

Dana Jacobson, Valley Water

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair William Bourdeau and roll was called.

2. Board to Consider Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that agenda item 11.d will be moved to agenda item 9.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

4. Agenda Items 4-6: Board to Consider: a) Draft June 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes b) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, c) Staff Reports.

On a motion of Director Bill Pucheu, seconded by Director John Varela, the Board accepted the June 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes, Financial Expenditures Reports, and Staff Reports. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Hansen, Emmons, Ferguson, Bourdeau, McCurdy, White, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

ACTION ITEMS

5. Agenda Item 7: Board of Directors to Consider Adopting Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Gavin Newsom (Mar. 4, 2020), Proclaiming the State of Emergency Continues to Directly Impact the Ability of Members of the Legislative Bodies of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority to Meet Safely in Person, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings for Such Legislative Bodies for the Period July 14, 2022 through August 13, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions.

General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd provided a brief overview of this item. After a brief discussion no action was taken.

6. Agenda Item 8: Board of Directors to Consider Recommendation from Water Resources Committee Regarding Adoption of Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation, Petersen (3

a. H.R. 8127 (Schrier), Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

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Amendments of 2022- Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the legislation, introduced by Representative Schrier, and co-sponsored by Congressman Costa and Congressman Garamendi, makes a number of changes to the WIFIA program that the Authority had previously explored as a potential financing mechanism for the Jones Pumping Plant Unit Rewinds that could be of benefit, should it be enacted. Petersen reported that staff is recommending a support and amend position, with suggested amendments to seek clarifying language that would enable project funding applicants to have a negotiable loan term between the projects useful life and 55 years, rather than only those two, for projects with a useful life of over 30 years.

On a motion of Director Tom Birmingham, seconded by Director Lea Emmons, the Board adopted staff recommendation for positions on legislation. The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Hansen, Emmons, Ferguson, Bourdeau, McCurdy, Michael, Ortega, Varela, Kremen, Cattaneo, Pucheu, Birmingham, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	Correia

REPORT ITEMS

7. Agenda Item 9: Executive Directors Report- CVP Operations

Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced Michael Jackson from Reclamation. Jackson provided a brief update on CVP operations. Jackson reported that a number of operational changes were made in the last week, and beginning Sunday, JPP pumping was increased to 3-units. Jackson reported that Delta water quality is looking good and shared information regarding Folsom and Friant operations.

8. Agenda Item 10: Presentation Regarding PPIC Policy Brief: Tracking Where Water Goes in a Changing Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief summary and introduced the presenters Ellen Hanak, and Greg Gartrell from the Public Policy Institute of California. Petersen reported that Hanak and Gartrell will provide an update on the 2017 Delta Accounting Study. Hanak and Gartrell presented a PowerPoint presentation titled "Tracking Where Water Goes in a Changing Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta". Throughout the presentation Hanak and Gartrell answered questions, and participated in board discussion.

9. Agenda Item 11: Report on State and Federal Affairs.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that included in the packet, is a memo with active federal and state legislation being monitored by Authority staff, with Board adopted positions for those pieces of legislation on which the Board has acted.

Petersen reported that last month, Reclamation released Knowledge Based Papers for review and comment, with the intention of describing the current state of scientific knowledge in key management areas within the upcoming ESA consultation and NEPA process on Long-Term Operations. Petersen reported that Reclamation requested review of these documents for additive information and literature to improve the Knowledge Based Papers. Petersen reported that Authority staff submitted two comment letters, with additive literature recommendations for each of the papers, using technical support from consultants through the Authority's Science Program.

Petersen reported that concurrent with the development of the EIS and BA, Reclamation is conducting exploratory modeling to assist in the development of initial alternatives for the Biological Assessment. Petersen reported that recent discussions have involved updates to the 2021 LTO Climate Change Methodology, the Delta Zone of Influence Analysis and the Shasta Operations Analysis.

Dennis Cardoza reported that in the court case *West Virginia vs EPA* the court ruled that EPA over stepped their bounds regulating greenhouse gas emissions.

Bill Ball reported that there's approximately 74 amendments that have been submitted to Rules to Energy and Water, and staff will continue to monitor.

Kristin Olsen reported that state legislature has passed the State Budget bill and an additional 29 budget trailer bills. Olsen reported that once the legislature returns from break they are expected to vote on the climate change trailer bill and the drought relief package.

Petersen reported that on July 12, the State Board announced additional curtailments that impact Water Authority member agencies. Petersen reported that the curtailments are expected to continue through the summer and early fall until significant precipitation occurs. Petersen reported that water supply forecasts will continue to be evaluated regularly to determine if, when, and to what extent the further re-imposition or suspension of curtailments may be appropriate. Petersen suggested that the Committee check the Delta Watershed Curtailment Status List for the current curtailment status of each water right and claim in the Delta watershed. Petersen reported that the Authority staff prepared and submitted comments on the Delta Watershed Emergency Regulation and associated Water Unavailability Methodology, highlighting two points, 1) It is appropriate for the State Board to protect CVP water by ensuring that diversion of stored water, transfer water, and CVP water does not occur unlawfully, and 2) The appropriateness of enforcing water rights to ensure that the burden of dry conditions does not fall disproportionately on CVP water users.

Petersen reported that in May, community partners and State Water Board management and staff came together to develop a Vision and Strategy to develop a Racial Equity Action Plan, which will set

goals for the State Water Board to address racial inequities and identify metrics to measure progress. Petersen reported that the Water Board is inviting the public to provide input on the Racial Equity Action Plan through a series of public engagement workshops across the state. Petersen reported that during each session, Board staff will inform communities about the Water Boards' progress since the Racial Equity Resolution was adopted.

10. **Agenda Item 12: Executive Director's Report.**

- a. **San Luis Transmission Project (STP)** – Executive Director Federico Barajas briefly reviewed the item then introduced Frances Mizuno to provide a status update. Mizuno reported that there has been no additional progress resolving outstanding concerns by other CVP contractors relating to SLTP. Mizuno reported that Reclamation has made a decision not to sign the MOU for this project unless all CVP contractors are in agreement. Mizuno also reported that she was able to reach out to Golden State Clean Energy and they are going to begin looking into additional financing options. Mizuno reported there is a meeting scheduled with Department of Energy and Western Area Power Administration this month to explore available infrastructure funding for transmission projects. Mizuno then referred to the handout provided to the Board which shows the anticipated cost per ac/ft for SLTP based on the latest financing cost of the project.
- b. **B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave introduced Chuck Gardner from Hallmark. Gardner reported that they had their kick-off meeting June 2, and since then, they have developed and begun implementing the 90-day work plan. Gardner reported that the plan consists of getting a handle on the schedule, the budget, find the critical path items, and to start identifying any potential cost impacts. Gardner reported that Reclamation is in the process of providing an updated schedule. Gardner reported that the path forward is to gain an agreement among the investors on the Principles of Agreement (POA) by the first of August, and concurrently hope to receive comments from Reclamation on the April draft of the POA. Gardner reported that staff will use the POA to develop Operations Plan, the Cost Share Agreement for Design, and for Construction. Arroyave reported that the current schedule shows the Record of Decision being executed at the end of December 2022.
- c. **New City of Los Banos Museum/Water Agency Office Complex Project**- Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there was a stakeholder meeting last month,

which provided an opportunity for the architects to get input, and they will be embarking upon the rendering of a preliminary design.

d. **Yuba County Site Tour** – Barajas reported that staff is looking at August 30-31.

II. Agenda Item 13: Chief Operating Officer's Report

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that as of July 10, Jones Pumping Plant has been at 3-units, which includes Yuba transfer water. Arroyave reported staff received confirmation of the final quantities which are C1 4898 af, and C4 23400 af.

12. Agenda Item 14: Update on Water Operations and Forecasts

Westlands Water District's Tom Boardman reported on Shasta and Folsom storage conditions including an explanation of the current release rates and Reclamation's projected carry over storage targets.

Current export rates and Delta conditions were briefly discussed since Reclamation's Michael Jackson had included the information in his report to the Board earlier in the meeting.

San Luis storage conditions were explained which included an estimate of the amount of 2022 Project stored in the reservoir and the projected storage level when the irrigation season ends in late August.

13. Agenda Item 15: Committee Reports.

- a. **Water Resources Committee** – Committee Chair Tom Birmingham reported that the committee met, and addressed agenda items.
- b. **Finance & Administration Committee** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the committee met, and addressed agenda items.
- c. **O&M Committee** – No report.

14. Agenda Item 16: Outside Agency/Organization Reports.

- a. **State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA)**
No report.
- b. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)**
Report included in the packet
- c. **Farm Water Coalition.**

Mike Wade reported that there has been good activity on the Wall Street Journal add that was ran April 2. Wade reported that they have been assisting with the outreach on the Reclamation 120th Anniversary. Wade reported that the DMC project brochure is almost final.

- d. **Association of California Water Agencies**

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No update.

e. **Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley**

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the Blueprint Board met and adopted the Strategic Plan.

f. **SJV CAP**

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that the Draft Term Sheet is ready for circulation and comment.

G. **CVPWA**

Director Anthea Hansen reported that the Financial Committee meets Friday.

15. **Agenda Item 17: Board Member Reports.**

No reports.

16. **Agenda Items 18-19: Closed Session Report.**

Vice-Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:34 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 12:07 p.m., General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd stated that no reportable actions were taken.

17. **Agenda Item 20: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)**

No reports.

18. **Agenda Item 21: Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

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July 29 2022

To: Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
From: Bob Martin, Facilities O&M Director
Subject: O&M Report for July 2022

Operations Department

The C.W. "Bill" Jones Pumping Plant (JPP) operated with 2-3 units for the first 25 days of July. The average rate of pumping for the JPP was 2,356 cfs through July 25th.

Total pumping at the JPP for the first 25 days of July was 116,828 acre-feet. The O'Neill Pump/Generating Plant (OPP) generated 11,318 acre-feet, and pumped 11,786 acre-feet through the first 25 days of July. Zero acre-feet was pumped at the Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie Plant (DCI) and zero acre-feet was reversed from the California Aqueduct to the DMC for the same period of July.

The Federal share in the San Luis Reservoir on July 25th was 180,797 acre-feet as compared to 59,352 acre-feet for July 25th 2021.

For the first 25 days of July, releases from Friant Dam ranged from 230 to 718 cfs with 6,196 AF entering the Mendota Pool. Flows past the Mendota Dam for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) were 0 AF for July.

Canal Operations staff performed open channel and closed-pipe flow measurements, routine patrols, wasteway inspections, flow meter cleaning, bi-weekly meter readings, water samples, well soundings, meter retrofitting, meter maintenance during the month. Coordinated flow measurement with USGS on the DMC was also performed during the month of July.

Control Operations switching/clearance placements performed this month:

- C-22-JP-19D JPP Unit 4 annual maintenance / rewind
- C-22-JP-19B JPP Unit 4 rewind
- C-22-ON-26 OPP Unit 6 annual maintenance
- C-22-ON-34 OPP Unit 4 Control Shaft repair
- C-22-ON-35 OPP Unit 4 Distributor Shaft repair
- C-22-JPP-38 JPP Unit 4 Suction Elbow
- C-22-JPP-39 JPP Unit 5 annual maintenance
- C-22-DM-40 Replace canal gate MP 88.91 Left
- C-22-JPP-39A JPP Unit 5 annual maintenance
- C-22-DM-41 Replace canal gate MP 32.94 Left

Civil Maintenance Department

The Civil Maintenance crews worked on the following projects this month:

- DMC turnout gate replacement at MP 32.94L, 42.53L, and 88.91 L
- Grading of DMC and VWW operating roads
- USBR assistance with TFCF stop log installation and inspections
- JPP trash rack cleaning support
- OPP support
- JPP support
- TFO minor interior repairs
- Fabricate new pressure washer hose reel
- Remove beaver dam on NWW
- Complete repairs to 10' gate at Grasslands
- Install and paint new handrails on DMC turnout steps
- Garbage collection on DMC and wasteways
- Chemical and mechanical weed control on DMC and SLD
- Maintenance and repairs to float lines, signs, fences, guard rails and gates
- Moss removal from flow meters on DMC
- Paint over graffiti on farm bridges
- Pump out silt from turnout at MP 64.32 Right
- Install new trash rack at MP 88.91 Left
- Fill in voids behind liner downstream of Althea
- New employee training on backhoe operation
- Volta Well (East) maintenance
- Fabricate frames and install new "No Fishing" signs at LBFO Gate
- TFO Drainage Improvement Project
- Control Room office improvements (C&I Office)
- TFO underground fiber optic line location
- Install pads at JPP for trash rack garbage bins

Plant Maintenance Department

The Plant Maintenance crews worked on the following projects this month:

Electrical/C&I Staff:

- JPP Unit 5 annual maintenance
- JPP Unit 3 testing unit start (dry run)
- JPP Unit 6 wheel pit float repair
- JPP Unit 3 cooling water RTD
- TFO Control Building office improvements
- JPP trash rack cleaner lighting repair
- JPP Control Building emergency lighting PM
- JPP emergency lighting PM
- TFO UPS battery PM
- Switchgear Building 11A digital fault recorder
- JPP Penstock flowmeter replacement
- Development of new applicant "hands on" testing equipment and procedures
- TFO station service battery PM
- TFO phone service malfunction repair
- JPP rooftop flood lights

- JPP Unit 5 AC/DC lube oil pumps
- Trace and mark electrical lines at JPP trash rack dumpster pad

Mechanical Staff:

- JPP trash rack cleaning
- JPP Unit 4 rewind support
- DCI water systems PM's
- Sexual harassment prevention training
- TFO Control Building office improvements
- JPP motor floor fan repair
- JPP industrial water pump #1 seal repair
- JPP breakroom AC & ducting removal
- TFO sandblast & paint facility cart PM
- OPP Unit 6 annual maintenance
- OPP chain hoist PM
- OPP HVAC PM and repairs
- OPP Unit 6 alignment
- OPP new staff orientation and driver safety training
- OPP Unit 6 RTD calibration
- OPP Unit 4 main leads re-assembly
- OPP Unit 4 governor cabinet and oil piping re-assembly

USBR Support Services

Water Authority crews performed the following work at USBR facilities this month:

- TFF stop log installation and valve replacement inspections
- TFF boom truck support

Engineering Department

The Engineering staff worked on the following O&M projects this month:

- JPP center discharge tube epoxy injection crack repair in outlet box
- OPP Unit 1 enclosure tube repair
- OPP Unit 3 breaker charging coil repair
- OPP Unit 4 distributor leak repair
- JPP spare shaft sleeve purchase (Special Project)
- TSY UZ11A Switchgear Building repairs
- TSY UZ11A Basler Relay setting updates and tests
- DMC seepage monitoring @ MP 20.15L
- TFO drainage next to sandblast building
- Data management of well readings and creation of Warren Act hydrographs
- DCI U3 & U4 SCADA development for pump additions
- OPP station service battery and UPS battery replacement planning
- JPP breakroom AC upgrade

2022 DMC Pump Back Project

- Finalized plans and documented work completed
- Continued working to get final invoice

Land Management Activity Summary

The Engineering staff issued four (4) access permits this month:

- Access permit P2302012 was issued to Panoche Water District to temporarily sleeve a PVC pipeline with a steel pipe allowing trucks to cross over without damaging the existing pipeline located near Milepost 95.50-L on the Delta-Mendota Canal.
- Emergency access permit P2302013 was issued to Firebaugh Canal Water District to repair the existing exposed pipeline located at Milepost 102.93-L on the Delta-Mendota Canal.
- Access permit P2304014 was issued to Westside Hulling Association allowing them to temporarily store almonds on the Westley Wasteway during the harvest season.
- Emergency access permit P2302015 was issued to San Luis Water District to repair the existing underground pipeline located on the outer embankment near Milepost 82.79-R on the Delta-Mendota Canal.

The Engineering staff were involved with the following land management projects this month:

- Development of Land Management requirements for adjacent developments
- Orestimba Creek Recharge Project
- City of Tracy commercial developments
- City of Patterson – Roger Road developments & Baldwin Ranch comments
- International Parkway Bridge Replacement, PROLOGIS -Tracy, CA
- Nees Avenue Bridge Replacement
- Santa Nella County WD pipeline crossing review

Safety Department

The Safety Department worked on the following items this month:

- Provided Job Hazard Analysis support for the crews
- Conduct Weekly Safety Tailgate talks with Maintenance and Operations crews
- Sent out Weekly Safety Tailgate Topics to include 7-1 Job Hazard Analysis, 7-2 Stop Work Authority, 7-3 Working Above Water, 7-4 Working Alone
- Provided safety message for July 2022 Monthly Newsletter – 7/2022 Ergonomics Overview
- Ensured dielectric rubber gloves were tested
- Scheduled hazardous waste pickup
- Provide safety orientation for new hire: Yuren Suarez
- Conducted Incident Investigations and Root Cause Analysis for accidents/incidents
- Provided confined space entry rescue standby at O'Neill Pumping Plant
- Provided safety support for confined space entry at the Tracy Fish Facility

Procurement and Work & Asset Management Department

The Work & Asset Management Department worked on the following items this month:

- Continued training and support with Warehouse Inventory Control Clerk and Buyer
- Work on finalizing all outstanding items/invoices related to Pump Back Project
- Contracts/PO Agreements/LOA's status update:
 - F22-OPP-059 - OPP Main Transformer Rehabilitation. Negotiations in place and vendor submitted revised proposal 7/27 for review and evaluation.
 - F22-JPP-003 – JPP Geotechnical Sampling. Executed 7/25
 - F22-JPP-071- UZ11A Switchgear Bushing Box Replacement - Board approved single source on 2/10. Contract executed 4/14. Project ongoing and waiting for material
 - F22-AB-070 - RFP prepared for Investment Advisory Services. Still pending. Executives/Procurement have been finalizing RFP. Anticipated release date TBD
 - F23-TFO-006 Landscape Maintenance- released RFQ to multiple vendors for 3 year (+ two- 1 year options to renew) agreement. RFQ round 2 released 7/27 with quotes due 8/9/22 at 2 pm
 - LOA No. 17-LC-20-2129 issued to BOR in the amount of \$30,000 on 7/26
 - PO3914 issued for AC replacement in J. Lenhardt office in the amount of \$14,156.13

Ongoing:

- Purchasing in support of the O&M crews, and maintaining/replenishing warehouse stock
- Warehouse receiving, stocking, and distribution
- Invoicing/vendor bills/vendor credits processing, invoice disputes
- Janitorial cleaning & disinfecting per COVID-19 guidelines
- Contract Management/Administration activities, including bi-weekly contract update meetings with Engineering staff
- Developing/implementing purchasing/procurement and asset/inventory procedures/boilerplate templates
- Bi-weekly WAM staff meetings to discuss updates/issues
- Contract invoice payment reviews, invoice disputes as needed, invoice payments
- Continuous testing for improvements to procedures in NetSuite as well as ongoing issues related to NetSuite constraints
- Development of Blanket Contracts and Blanket Purchase Orders/Agreements
- Reviewing/closing out old/open PO's in NetSuite

Information Technology Department

The Information Technology Department worked on the following items this month:

- NetSuite
 - User and Administration
 - Bi-Weekly Implementation Team meetings
- Assisted with monthly FAC, WRC and BOD meetings with Zoom
- Desktop support calls
- Planning server refresh
- Planning laptop refresh

- Planning upgrading/replacing copiers
- Monitor Symantec Anti-Virus management console
- Security updates on servers
- Monitor firewall
- Update additional AV security settings
- Multi Factor Authentication vendor SurePass
- Follow-up meeting with Active Directory threat defense vendor
- Additional meeting with Protective DNS vendor
- 2nd Draft of Cyber Security Incidence Response Plan
- First draft Disaster Recovery Plan
- First draft Business Continuity Plan
- Cyber Security purchase requirements list developed. IT and SCADA
- New phones for SAC office Avaya – completed
- First Net deploying iPhones and iPad SIMS
- Continued mass hard drive data destruction to DOD standards for e-cycle process
- MDM IBM (MAAS360) training and deployment
- Reviewed Infagard dispatches – FBI Cyber Security group
- Cyber Security training and webinars
- WAM servers, prepping for redeployment
- EO&M 10 year budget research, edit and complete for FY24
- Deployed new workstations to OPP
- Repair of failed Avaya phone system in Tracy
- Assist SCADA staff with developing SCADA 10 year plan for EO&M budget
- Closed Ring Central account

HR Department

The Human Resources Department worked on the following items this month:

General Administrative Activities:

- Active Recruitments:
 - Hydro Electric Electrician, Tracy (continued recruitment)
- Interviews:
 - Mechanical (Plant) Engineer, Tracy (interview scheduled)
- Closed Recruitments:
 - Special Programs Manager, Sacramento (candidate selected)
 - Hydro Tech II, Tracy (candidate selected)
- Background checks for PIV cards (continuing)
- New hire orientations

Trainings:

- Remain up to date with COVID-19 compliance
 - Corona Virus 101 Training (new hires)
- Cyber Security Training (all staff)
- Sexual Harassment Prevention Training (all staff)
- Defensive Driving Training (all staff)

Government Reporting:

- Merced County Public Health COVID reporting (as needed)
- Alameda County Public Health COVID reporting (as needed)

Ongoing:

- COVID protocols
- FMLA notices/follow ups
- COBRA notices/follow ups
- Worker's Comp follow ups
- Monthly safety points distribution
- Health benefits eligibility/employee assistance
- Maintain OSHA logs for calendar year
- PIV cards (USBR)
- Wellness program

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EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL (DMC)

Bridge Abutment Repair at MP 92.73 (FY21)

Status: The abutment repair is on hold until PG&E relocates the pipeline. The 6-inch pipe owned by PG&E that crosses under the bridge, adjacent to the abutment, is the main transmission line for the City of Dos Palos. All parties have agreed that it would be a safety hazard to conduct work with the gas line in place, and PG&E is currently planning to remove the existing pipeline from the bridge and HDD install a new pipeline under the canal. PG&E has prepared 90% plans and SLDMWA issued review comments to incorporate into the final plans. Construction is scheduled for September 2022. PG&E, SLDMWA, and Reclamation are meeting monthly to keep the project moving forward. A dive inspection was performed this month to obtain accurate information on the extents of the damage. Staff is in the process of preparing final repair plans, with construction planned for October 2022. Coordination with member districts regarding construction impacts to begin next month.

DMC Subsidence Correction Project

Status: SLDMWA is working closely with Reclamation to complete the tasks identified in the Financial Assistance Agreement that was executed on 9/24/2021 after acquiring Board approval. Phase 1 Geotechnical work was completed last year. CDM Smith was awarded the \$2.4M contract to complete the Feasibility Study, with the Notice to Proceed issued on February 10, 2022. The Feasibility Report is expected to be completed in approximately one year, with certain environmental permitting extending longer if needed. The Final Draft Report is scheduled to be completed by 3/6/2023. CDM subconsultants are nearing completion of their field surveys to feed information into the EA/IS. An initial Administrative Draft of the EA/IS has been prepared and routed internally, with several other deliverables expected in the coming weeks. USBR is interested in conducting a trial lower DMC shutdown to inform the final design of any constraints and conduct a visual inspection of the canal invert. Staff will begin both internal and external discussions regarding the impact next month. The Reclamation led DEC Review is scheduled for the week of August 15th, with a site visit scheduled for August 10th. SLDMWA has coordinated with USBR on a cost estimate for non-contract costs that will inform the DEC Review team.

The DWR Funding Agreement was executed in April for \$3.3M to partially fund Final Design, which includes the future phases of the Geotechnical Investigation.

The SLDMWA continues to provide support to Reclamation as they manage the construction contract with Unico Services to install the two additional pumps at the DMC/CA Intertie Pumping Plant (DCI). The completion of the project has been delayed due to supply chain issues with a capacitor and valves. Final construction and commissioning is scheduled for late September when the final 6" valve is scheduled to be received. All other delayed parts have been received.

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

DMC Turnout Flowmeter Upgrade Program – Phase 2 (FY22)

Status: SLDMWA is in contract with McCrometer for the purchase of 62 Water Specialty flowmeters equipped with telemetry through the SLDMWA single-source procedure. The contract was executed after the January 2022 Board meeting. 52 flowmeters have been delivered and are currently being installed. Final delivery of meters is expected in Fall 2022.

DMC Turnout Flowmeter Upgrade Program – Phase 3

Status: No activity this month. Engineering staff is coordinating with Water Operations for the design data for the flowmeters required with this phase. These measurements will be supplied to McCrometer in order to obtain a final quote and a single-source contract will be pursued. Contract is expected to be executed in Fall 2022.

C.W. "BILL" JONES PUMPING PLANT (JPP)

JPP Excitation System & Control Cabinet Modernization (FY18)

Status: SLDMWA is currently in contract with Reclamation through a Letter of Agreement. Reclamation will be providing the Technical Specifications, along with an Engineer's Estimate. The 60% design is currently being peer reviewed by USBR Denver Office (TSC) and is expected to be sent to the SLDMWA in early August. The 90% plans and estimate is scheduled for completion in October. Recent design topics include the preferred equipment and software requirements for SCADA, hazardous materials management, and excitation cabinet and power transformer general equipment layout.

JPP Wear Ring Purchase (FY22)

Status: Engineering staff is working with mechanical engineering consultant, HCMS, to evaluate whether to purchase new shaft sleeves or to refurbish the existing ones.

JPP Unit No. 4 Rewind

Status: The project is underway and on schedule. There have been some quality control issues with some of the stator coils during the install. All suspect coils have been removed and extensive testing is being done to ensure that the finished product will be of high quality. The rotor poles are currently in Texas at the NEC factory being overhauled. Approximately half of the poles have been completed and the rest should be done on schedule. The second progress payment has been made.

JPP Unit No. 3 Rewind

Status: The initial 40% payment to NEC has been made, and SLDMWA has been reimbursed by USBR for the payment. This allows NEC to purchase the materials to manufacture the stator laminations.

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EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

TSY Switchgear Building UZ11A Repairs (Unplanned Project)

Status: A ground fault incident that damaged the main feeder switchgear and bushing box in switchgear building UZ11A occurred in October 2021. SLDMWA electricians have made partial repairs and investigations have been performed by Reclamation's TSC and Powell (Powell is the company that designed and built the switchgear building). Building UZ11A is currently energized via adjacent switchgear building UZ8A. The contract for Powell to provide the repairs and replacement has been executed. TSC reviewed and approved submittals for long lead items. All long lead items have been ordered by Powell. At the request of Powell, SLDMWA and Reclamation reviewed and approved an alternative for surge arresters due to the long lead time on the original surge arrester. Repairs are scheduled to be performed beginning on September 7th with a completion date of September 28th. The outage request has been sent to CVO and WAPA.

JPP Concrete Slab by Trashrake Dumpster (FY23)

Status: Project is currently in the planning and design phase. A geotechnical investigation is being pursued to characterize the subgrade to ensure an optimum design is implemented for the project. SLDMWA has contracted with Terracon for the geotechnical investigation of the site to provide pavement and subgrade design. Staff will develop the Invitation to Bid utilizing the recommended design. Construction is tentatively scheduled to occur in Spring 2023.

O'NEILL PUMPING/GENERATING PLANT (OPP)

Main Transformers Rehabilitation/Replacement

Status: A Transformer Condition Assessment was performed by TSC in 2019. The transformers were in such poor condition that it was recommended that the transformers were to be refurbished or replaced. A Value Planning Study was conducted in 2020 and concluded to refurbish/rehabilitate the transformers in short term and plan to replace the transformers in the future. Emergency measures were also performed which included replacing (3) obsolete HV bushings (2019) and hot oil reconditioning of the in-service transformers (2020) to ensure transformers remained eligible for rehabilitating. Quarterly oil monitoring was completed in April and the results were acceptable. Next oil monitoring will be in late July or early August.

Work completed by TSC and SLDMWA includes: scope of work, specifications, contract documents, formal solicitation, site visit, and responses to questions. One proposal was received by North American Substation Services, LLC (NASS). The initial proposal did not include the required information, so NASS was given a list of missing information and an extension to provide a revised proposal by July 27, which is currently being reviewed. Contract award is anticipated after August board meeting, pending technical evaluation and Board approval.

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

Arc Flash Hazard Analysis, Facility Rating, & Protective Relays Reviews (Electrical Equipment Periodic Reviews) (FY22)

Status: No activity this month. The Facility Rating Review has been received. The personal protective grounds were upgraded per recommendations from the Facility Rating Review. Performed an inspection of the unit busses. A report of the findings will be provided to TSC per recommendation. The Arc Flash Hazard Analysis final report has been received. The Protective Relays Review is still pending a draft review. SLDMWA continues to provide engineering support to TSC.

OPP Pump Bowl Modification & Replacement (Design and USBR Approval)

Status: A value engineering study has been scheduled for the week of September 19.

UPS Battery Charging System Replacement (FY22)

Status: No activity this month. Installation will be timed concurrent with the outage for the transformer rehabilitation at OPP (April/May 2023). Equipment purchase for this job will occur 6 months prior to the start of the Main Transformer Rehabilitation project.

OPP Station Service Backup Battery System Replacement (FY23)

Status: No activity this month. Equipment purchase for this job will occur 6 months prior to the start of the Main Transformer Rehabilitation project.

TRACY FACILITIES (TFO)

TFO Domestic Water Treatment Plant Replacement (FY20)

Status: No activity this month. Raw water quality test results were provided to package plant vendors for quotes. Vendor quotes received will be evaluated for completeness for future selection. Treatment Plant Drainage: SLDMWA Engineers proposed modifications to the drainage design to prevent ponding in and around the WTP building. Final design and review has been completed and construction by SLDMWA staff began on July 26th.

MULTIPLE FACILITIES

TFO/LBFO/DCI Arc Flash Hazard Analysis (FY22)

Status: Received the project management plan from TSC in August 2021. The LOA process was completed this month, with Reclamation receiving the funds to begin work on the analysis.

SCADA System Evaluation (FY23)

Status: SCADA staff is currently undergoing site discovery and documentation of the existing SCADA System. Research is being conducted on how best to upgrade the system to current standards and then maintain the system with a newly developed 10-year plan. Researching cyber security to ensure new Federal requirements and guidelines are met. Developing a cyber security plan. Staff is

EXTRAORDINARY O&M & CAPITAL PROJECTS

implementing an environment to test software, hardware and reliable communications for plants and canal to make the best selection to use for years to come. Research is also underway to determine if an existing fiber line owned and operated by DWR could be utilized for SLDMWA communication needs.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Water Resources Committee Members and Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

DATE: August 1, 2022

RE: Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities

Background

This memorandum is provided to briefly summarize the current status of various agency processes regarding water policy activities, including but not limited to the (1) Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, including environmental compliance; (2) State Water Resources Control Board action; (3) San Joaquin River Restoration Program; (4) Delta conveyance; (5) Reclamation action; (6) Delta Stewardship Council action; (7) San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint and San Joaquin Valley Water Collaborative Action Plan.

Policy Items

Reinitiation of Consultation on Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project

In August 2016, the Bureau of Reclamation and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) requested reinitiation of consultation with NOAA Fisheries, also known as National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) due to multiple years of drought, low populations of listed species, and new information developed as a result of ongoing collaborative science efforts over the last 10 years.

On Jan. 31, 2019, Reclamation transmitted its Biological Assessment to the Services. The purpose of this action is to continue the coordinated long-term operation of the CVP and SWP to optimize water supply delivery and power generation consistent with applicable laws, contractual obligations, and agreements; and to increase operational flexibility by focusing on nonoperational measures to avoid significant adverse effects to species.

The biological opinions carefully evaluated the impact of the proposed CVP and SWP water operations on imperiled species such as salmon, steelhead and Delta smelt. FWS and NMFS documented impacts and worked closely with Reclamation to modify its proposed operations to minimize and offset those impacts, with the goals of providing water supply for project users and protecting the environment.

Both FWS and NMFS concluded that Reclamation's proposed operations will not jeopardize threatened or endangered species or adversely modify their critical habitat. These conclusions were reached for

several reasons – most notably because of significant investments by many partners in science, habitat restoration, conservation facilities including hatcheries, as well as protective measures built into Reclamation's and DWR's proposed operations.

On Oct. 21, 2019, FWS and NMFS released their biological opinions on Reclamation's and DWR's new proposed coordinated operations of the CVP and SWP.

On Dec. 19, 2019, Reclamation released the final Environmental Impact Statement analyzing potential effects associated with long-term water operations for the CVP and SWP.

On Feb. 18, 2020, Reclamation approved a Record of Decision that completes its environmental review for the long-term water operations for the CVP and SWP, which incorporates new science to optimize water deliveries and power production while protecting endangered species and their critical habitats.

On January 20, 2021, President Biden signed an Executive Order: “Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis”, with a fact sheet¹ attached that included a non-exclusive list of agency actions that heads of the relevant agencies will review in accordance with the Executive Order. Importantly, the NOAA Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinions on the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project were both included in the list of agency actions for review. It's unclear what this agency review will analyze, but staff will be engaged.

On September 30, 2021, Reclamation Regional Director Ernest Conant sent a letter to U.S. FWS Regional Director Paul Souza and NMFS Regional Administrator Barry Thom requesting reinitiation of consultation on the Long-Term Operation of the CVP and SWP. Pursuant to 50 CFR § 402.16, Reclamation indicated that reinitiation is warranted based on anticipated modifications to the Proposed Action that may cause effects to listed species or designated critical habitats not analyzed in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Biological Opinions, dated October 21, 2019. To address the review of agency actions required by Executive Order 13990 and to voluntarily reconcile CVP operating criteria with operational requirements of the SWP under the California Endangered Species Act, Reclamation and DWR indicated that they anticipate a modified Proposed Action and associated biological effects analysis that would result in new Biological Opinions for the CVP and SWP.

Following this action, on October 20, 2021, the SLDMWA sent a letter to Reclamation Regional Director Ernest Conant requesting participation in the reinitiation of consultation pursuant to Section 4004 of the WIIN Act and in the NEPA process as either a Cooperating Agency or Participating Agency.

On February 26, 2022, the Department of the Interior released a Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Hold Public Scoping Meetings on the 2021 Endangered Species Act Reinitiation of Section 7 Consultation on the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project². In response to this, on March 30, 2022, the SLDMWA submitted a comment letter highlighting actions for Reclamation to consider during preparation of the EIS.

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/20/fact-sheet-list-of-agency-actions-for-review/>

² <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-02-28/pdf/2022-04160.pdf>

Last month, Reclamation issued draft copies of the Knowledge Base Papers for the following management topics:

1. Spring-run Juvenile Production Estimate- Spring-run Survival Knowledge Base Document, May 2022
2. Steelhead Juvenile Production Estimate-Steelhead Survival Knowledge Base Document, April 2022
3. Old and Middle River Reverse Flow Management – Smelt, Chinook Salmon, and Steelhead Migration and Survival Knowledge Base Document, May 2022
4. Central Valley Tributary Habitat Restoration Effects on Salmonid Growth and Survival Knowledge Based Paper, March 2022
5. Delta Spring Outflow Management Smelt Growth and Survival Knowledge Base Document, May 2022
6. Pulse Flow Effects on Salmonid Survival Knowledge Base Document, May 2022
7. Summer and Fall Habitat Management Actions – Smelt Growth and Survival Knowledge Base Document, May 2022
8. Shasta Cold Water Pool Management – End of September Storage Knowledge Base Document, May 2022

The Authority provided supplementary material and scientific citations for Reclamation’s consideration during finalization of the Knowledge Base Papers.

Current Milestones

- Virtual Scoping and a Scoping Report (2022)
- Initial Alternatives and Knowledge Base Papers (2022)
- Final Alternatives and Proposed Action (2022)
- Biological Assessment and Public Draft EIS (2023)
- Final EIS (2024)
- Record of Decision (2024)

Exploratory Modeling

Concurrent with the development of the EIS and BA, Reclamation is conducting Exploratory Modeling to assist in the development of initial alternatives for the Biological Assessment. Recent discussions have involved updates to the 2021 LTO Climate Change Methodology, the Delta Zone of Influence Analysis and the Shasta Operations Analysis.

Climate Change Analysis

The exploratory modeling efforts for the LTO Climate Change proposes future climate conditions centered on 2040, with analyses mainly based on the median climate change scenario, and sensitivity scenarios to review the range of modeling uncertainty, including:

- Hot and dry
- Warm and wet
- Extreme heat and dryness
- Warm and dry, and
- Hot and wet

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Activity

Water Unavailability Methodology and Revised Draft Emergency Curtailment Regulation

Background

On August 3, 2021, the State Water Board adopted an [emergency regulation](#) authorizing the curtailment of diversions when water is determined to be unavailable at a water right holder's or claimant's priority of right. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §§ 876– 879.2.) The regulation was approved by the Office of Administrative Law and went into effect upon filing with the Secretary of State on August 19, 2021. The emergency regulation remains in effect for up to one year. The State Water Board plans to consider revision and re-adoption of this emergency regulation on July 20, 2022, in advance of the expiration date of the current regulation.

On April 19, 2022, the State Water Board released draft proposed revisions to the emergency regulation and methodology revisions and solicited public input on both in writing by May 19, 2022, and orally at a public workshop on May 12, 2022. Based on those comments, updates to the methodology and draft emergency regulation were developed.

On July 20, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) revised and readopted an emergency curtailment and reporting regulation for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) watershed. The State Water Board has released a [Notice of Proposed Emergency Rulemaking](#)³ for the revised and readopted emergency regulation and has submitted the emergency regulation to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review and approval.

The finding of emergency, informative digest, and fiscal impact statement associated with the proposed emergency regulation are available on the [Delta Drought webpage](#).

Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update

Background

The State Water Board is currently considering updates to its 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary ("Bay Delta Plan") in two phases (Plan amendments). The first Plan amendment is focused on San Joaquin River flows and southern Delta salinity ("Phase I" or "San Joaquin River Flows and Southern Delta Salinity Plan Amendment"). The second Plan amendment is focused on the Sacramento River and its tributaries, Delta eastside tributaries (including the Calaveras, Cosumnes, and Mokelumne rivers), Delta outflows, and interior Delta flows ("Phase II" or "Sacramento/Delta Plan Amendment").

During the December 12, 2018 Water Board Meeting, the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") and Department of Fish and Wildlife presented proposed "Voluntary Settlement Agreements" ("VSAs") on behalf of Reclamation, DWR, and the public water agencies they serve to resolve conflicts over proposed amendments to the Bay-Delta Plan update.⁴ The State Water Board did not adopt the proposed VSAs in

³ Available at <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/delta/docs/2022/2022-proposed-rulemaking.pdf>

⁴ Available at <https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Blogs/Voluntary-Settlement-Agreement-Meeting-Materials-Dec-12-2018-DWR-CDFW-CNRA.pdf>.

lieu of the proposed Phase 1 amendments, but as explained below, directed staff to consider the proposals as part of a future Delta-wide proposal.

Phase 1 Status: The State Water Board adopted a resolution⁵ to adopt amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary and adopt the Final Substitute Environmental Document during its December 12, 2018 public meeting.

Most recently, on July 18, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP)⁶ and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting for the Proposed Regulation to Implement Lower San Joaquin River Flows (LSJR) and Southern Delta Salinity Objectives in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Bay-Delta Plan).

The CEQA Scoping Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10, 2022, from 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. PST. The meeting will consist of a presentation regarding the development of the proposed regulation, and an opportunity for meeting participants to provide oral comments regarding the scope and information to be included in the draft environmental impact report (EIR). Participants wishing to comment at the scoping meeting may attend the meeting in person at the Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA Headquarters Building or may comment remotely via Zoom. Instructions to participate remotely via Zoom are included in the Notice.

The purpose of the NOP is: (1) to advise responsible and trustee agencies, Tribes, and interested organizations and persons, that the State Water Board or Board will be the lead agency and will prepare a draft EIR for a proposed regulation implementing the LSJR flow and southern Delta salinity components of the 2018 Bay-Delta Plan, and (2) to seek input on significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures that should be addressed in the EIR. For responsible and trustee agencies, the State Water Board requests the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information related to your agency's area of statutory responsibility that must be include in the draft EIR.

Phase 2 Status: In the State Water Board's resolution adopting the Phase 1 amendments, the Water Board directed staff to assist the Natural Resources Agency in completing a Delta watershed-wide agreement, including potential flow and non-flow measures for the Tuolumne River, and associated analyses no later than March 1, 2019. Staff were directed to incorporate the Delta watershed-wide agreement as an alternative for a future, comprehensive Bay-Delta Plan update that addresses the reasonable protection of beneficial uses across the Delta watershed, with the goal that comprehensive amendments may be presented to the State Water Board for consideration as early as possible after December 1, 2019.

⁵Available at

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/rs2018_0059.pdf.

⁶ Available at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/notices/20220715-implementation-nop-and-scoping-dwr-baydelta.pdf

On March 1, 2019, the California Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish and Wildlife submitted documents⁷ to the State Water Board that reflect progress since December to flesh-out the previously submitted framework to improve conditions for fish through targeted river flows and a suite of habitat-enhancing projects including floodplain inundation and physical improvement of spawning and rearing areas.

Since the March 1 submittal, work has taken place to develop the package into a form that is able to be analyzed by State Water Board staff for legal and technical adequacy. On June 30, 2019, a status update with additional details was submitted to the Board for review. Additionally, on February 4, 2020, the State team released a framework for the Voluntary Agreements to reach “adequacy”, as defined by the State team.

Further work and analysis is needed to determine whether the agreements can meet environmental objectives required by law and identified in the State Water Board’s update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

On December 8, the State Water Resources Control Board heard an information item on upcoming actions to update and implement the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Sacramento San Joaquin Delta.

Schedule

Biological Goals

Past Activities

- January 2019 – Independent Science Advisory Panel: Concepts and Ideas for Developing Biological Goals for the Bay-Delta Plan
- September 2019 – Draft Initial Biological Goals for the LSJR for public comment

Current Activities

- Completion of revisions based on public comment to produce a draft Final Biological Goals Report

Future Activities

- Winter/Spring 2022 – Release draft Final Biological Goals Report
- Winter/Spring 2022 – Public Workshop & comment
- Summer 2022 – Board consideration of adoption

LSJR Flow/SD Salinity Implementation Next Steps Assuming Regulation Path (Phase 1)

Spring 2022 – Spring 2023

- Initiate CEQA process
- Draft environmental document and public comment
- Notice of draft regulation
- Final environmental document

⁷ Available at http://resources.ca.gov/docs/voluntary-agreements/2019/Complete_March_1_VA_Submission_to_SWRCB.pdf

Summer 2023

- State Water Board consideration of approval
- Notice of final regulation
- Submission to Office of Administrative Law

Sac/Delta Update: Key Milestones

- Early 2022: expected submittal of proposed voluntary agreement
- Winter – Summer 2022: development of Scientific Basis Report for any voluntary agreement, including public review and comment
- Fall 2022: Draft Staff Report public review and comment
- Winter 2023: Public workshop on Draft Staff Report
- Early Fall 2023: Response to comments and development of proposed final changes to the Bay-Delta Plan
- Late Fall 2023: Board consideration of adoption

Draft Biological Goals for Lower San Joaquin River Flow Objectives

On July 22, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), released a notice that it is seeking public review and comments on [revised draft initial biological goals](#)⁸ for fall-run Chinook salmon in the lower San Joaquin River and its three salmon-bearing tributaries, the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced (“STM”) Rivers (collectively “LSJR”) developed pursuant to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan or Plan), as amended on December 12, 2018.

State Water Board staff also plan to hold a technical workshop to receive input and recommendations on possible revisions and improvements to the revised draft initial biological goals from members, or potential members, of the STM Working Group and the public. The remote [workshop](#) is scheduled to be held on August 4, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, and will include in person and remote participation options.

Workshop Topics

The workshop is offered to seek recommendations and comments from members, or potential members, of the STM Working Group and public on revisions to the revised draft initial biological goals for the LSJR. Staff specifically request input on biological goals that will contribute to meeting the overall goals for salmon populations, including the salmon doubling objective, and inform management of flow conditions to maintain viable native San Joaquin River fish populations migrating through the Delta for the following topics:

1. Definition – The Bay-Delta Plan requires biological goals to be specific, measurable, achievable, result-focused, and time-bound (SMART).
2. Achievability – Sources of additional evidence that inform whether the quantitative values, time-frame, and averaging periods of the revised draft initial biological goals are achievable.

⁸https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/docs/biological_goals/draft-biological-goals-06242022-hard-tracks.pdf

3. Role – The Bay-Delta Plan states that the biological goals will be used to evaluate effectiveness of the program of implementation and inform adaptive methods, the San Joaquin Monitoring and Evaluation Program (not yet initiated), and future changes to the Bay-Delta Plan.
4. Abundance – The use of escapement as the metric for defining the abundance goal, identifying a specific numeric value for abundance and a time-frame for achieving the escapement value, and feasibility of the abundance goal.
5. Salmon Protection Objective – The role of biological goals with respect to the salmon protection objective and the relationship between the salmon protection objective¹ and biological goals.
6. Hatchery Issues – The inclusion of adult hatchery fish as contributing to the abundance goal, feasibility of improving hatchery marking practices for fall-run Chinook salmon, and feasibility of and means for completing and implementing hatchery management plans for fall-run Chinook salmon in San Joaquin River tributary hatcheries.
7. Process – The process for adoption of revised draft initial biological goals and future review and updates to any adopted biological goals.

Written comments on the Revised Draft Initial Biological Goals report must be received by **noon on Monday, August 11, 2022.**

Voluntary Agreements

On March 29, 2022, members of the Newsom Administration joined federal and local water leaders in announcing the signing of a memorandum of understanding⁹ that advances integrated efforts to improve ecosystem and fisheries health within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta. State and federal agencies also announced an agreement¹⁰ specifically with the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors on an approach for 2022 water operations on the Sacramento River.

Both announcements represent a potential revival of progress toward what has been known as “Voluntary Agreements,” an approach the Authority believes is superior to a regulatory approach to update the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

The broader MOU outlines terms for an eight-year program that would provide substantial new flows for the environment to help recover salmon and other native fish. The terms also support the creation of new and restored habitat for fish and wildlife, and provide significant funding for environmental improvements and water purchases, according to a joint news release from the California Natural Resources Agency and the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA). Local water agency managers signing the MOU have committed to bringing the terms of the MOU to their boards of directors for their endorsement and to work to settle litigation over engaged species protections in the Delta.

On June 16, the SLDMWA, Friant Water Authority and Tehama Colusa Canal Authority signed onto the VA MOU.

⁹ Available at <https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/NewsRoom/Voluntary-Agreement-Package-March-29-2022.pdf>

¹⁰ Available at <https://calepa.ca.gov/2022/03/29/informational-statement-state-federal-agencies-and-sacramento-river-settlement-contractors-agree-on-approach-for-2022-water-operations-on-the-sacramento-river/>

Racial Equity Plan

In May, community partners and State Water Board management and staff came together for Visioning and Strategy retreats, as well as a series of Action Planning workshops. The draft Racial Equity Action Plan will set goals for the State Water Board to address racial inequities and identify metrics to measure progress.

The Water Board is inviting the public to provide input on the Racial Equity Action Plan through a series of public engagement workshops across the state. During each session, Board staff will inform communities about the Water Boards' progress since the [Racial Equity Resolution](#) was adopted.

Here are the ways that feedback can be provided:

Statewide Virtual Workshop ([Notice](#))

- July 20, 2022. 5:30-7:30 PM. Zoom.

Regional In Person and Virtual Workshops

- Northern California (Redding, CA): July 21, 2022. 4 – 6:30 PM.
- Southern California (Mecca, CA): July 25, 2022. 4 – 6:30 PM.
- Central California (Visalia, CA): July 27, 2022. 4 – 6:30 PM.

To Register, and for agendas and background materials, click [here](#).

Delta Conveyance

On July 27, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Draft Environment Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the Delta Conveyance Project.

The release of the Draft EIR gives the public an opportunity to formally weigh in on a proposed infrastructure project. The proposal follows Governor Newsom's direction in 2019 to downsize previous concepts for improving Delta conveyance.

The preliminary design of the proposed project and alternatives outlined in the Draft EIR reflect the work of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA), a joint powers authority of local public water agencies participating in the project.

The Draft EIR was prepared by DWR as the lead agency to comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act by evaluating a range of alternatives to the proposed project and disclosing potential environmental effects of the proposed project and alternatives, and associated mitigation measures for potentially significant impacts. No decisions will be made on whether to approve the project until the conclusion of the environmental review process, after consideration of public comments submitted on the Draft EIR and issuances of a Final EIR. At that time, DWR will determine whether to approve the proposed project an alternative or no project.

The documents are hosted on the Draft EIR website¹¹ along with accompanying informational materials that provide more information about the proposed project and the public review process, including public hearing details and commenting opportunities. The materials are available for a 90-day public comment period and closes on October 27, 2022.

Additionally, the Department will hold virtual public hearings on the following dates:

- Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Thursday, September 22, 2022, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Reclamation Manual

Documents out for Comment

Draft Policy

- There are currently no Draft Policies out for review.

Draft Directives and Standards

- There are currently no Draft Directives and Standards out for review.

Draft Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques (FIST)

- There are currently no Facilities Instructions, Standards, and Techniques out for review.

Draft Reclamation Safety and Health Standards (RSHS)

- [RSHS 23 Tunnel and Shaft Construction \(comments by 8/12/2022\)](#)
- [RSHS 43 Lone Worker and Remote Worker Safety \(comments by 8/15/2022\)](#)

Draft Reclamation Design Standards

- There are currently no Design Standards out for review.

Delta Stewardship Council

Appointments

On July 1, 2022, Governor Newsom appointed Jorge Aguilar II as chief counsel and Brandon Chapin as legislative and policy advisor to the Delta Stewardship Council.

Aguilar previously served as a deputy attorney general for the California Attorney General's Office. He was a senior associate at The Saqui Law Group from 2013 to 2015, general counsel at Powerlane Corporation in 2013, and an associate at Sundeen Salinas & Pyle from 2008 to 2013. Before that, he was a staff attorney at the Eviction Defense Center from 2004 to 2007. Aguilar earned a Juris Doctor degree from Washington and Lee University.

Chapin has been the public participation manager at the Council since 2018. He was an associate governmental program analyst at the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy from 2016 to 2018, a

¹¹ <https://www.deltaconveyanceproject.com>

legislative analyst at the California Department of Toxic Substances Control from 2012 to 2016, and a graduate assistant at the California Energy Commission from 2010 to 2012. Chapin earned a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree from California State University, Sacramento.

Delta Crosscut Budget

On July 20, the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) released the 2020-21 Delta Crosscut Budget Report. This includes information from Authority and member agency contributions to the Delta Science Enterprise.

Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley Activity

Background

The Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley (Blueprint) is a non-profit group of stakeholders, working to better understand our shared goals for water solutions that support environmental stewardship with the needs of communities and industries throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

Strategic Planning

The Blueprint's new board of 20 directors and other participants conducted extensive strategic planning, facilitated by Amy Wolfe. It produced a focused Mission and Vision statement as shown below, and crafted the Blueprint's strategic priorities for 2022-2025, deliverables, actions, and timelines. The priorities focus on the following: Advocacy, Groundwater Quality and Disadvantaged Communities, Land Use Changes & Environmental Planning, Outreach & Communications, SGMA Implementation, Water Supply Goals, Governance, Operations & Finance.

The Blueprint Board has also identified quantifiable objectives, timelines for action and systems of accountability. The Large group met on June 22nd to review the 3-year plan and to collect input and support for the plan.

Mission Statement: "Unifying the San Joaquin Valley's voice to advance an accessible, reliable solution for a balanced water future for all."

Vision Statement: "The Water Blueprint serves as the united voice to champion water resource policies and projects to maximize accessible, affordable, and reliable supplies for sustainable and productive farms and ranches, healthy communities, and thriving ecosystems in the San Joaquin Valley."

Committees

The Board established the following official standing committees:

- Technical
- Executive/Budget/Personnel
- Advocacy
- Community/Outreach

Chairs and committee members are being nominated and filled in the next two months, please contact staff if you would like to volunteer.

Executive/Budget/Personnel

The Blueprint has prepared a Scope of Work for a potential solicitation of an Executive Director for the organization and a hiring committee has been formed to look at filling that potential role. Budget implications are still under discussion at the Blueprint Board.

Advocacy

The Blueprint prepared and is transmitting a letter with a SJV funding flyer to highlight and identify needs for state elected and policy makers. It consists of:

- Interregional Water Planning: \$10 million (fish friendly diversions pilot)
- Conveyance: \$835 million
- Regional Resilience and Sustainability: \$1.5 billion
- Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing: \$1 billion

Drinking Water Feasibility

A draft drinking water feasibility study proposal has been prepared by Fresno State/California Water Institute covers 5 counties within the San Joaquin Valley to identify 20 spots that are technically and financially feasible for groundwater recharge that have multiple benefits and specifically DACs with no other options but groundwater. Fresno State, FWA, Self Help, Sustainable Conservation and Leadership Council have been working on this over the past year and are discussing funding opportunities with Senator Feinstein's office and DWR. Friant Contractors/managers are sharing projects they are pursuing and exploring the ability to identify tangible and/or direct benefits to drinking water supplies.

Authority staff is working to expand the scope of this potential study to include communities and projects adjacent to the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Canals, as well as potential funding sources.

San Joaquin Valley Water Collaborative Action Program (SJVV CAP)

The CAP is focused on coming to an agreement on a term sheet¹² with an initial list of desired outcomes and potential solutions to water issues in the San Joaquin Valley. The Plenary group could not come to an agreement on the previous Phase I framework and decision document that was produced and is now focused on trying to come to an agreement on the CAP Term Sheet to move the collaborative effort forward into Phase II. Authority staff is coordinating with member agencies on comments to the draft Term Sheet, which will be discussed at an upcoming Water Caucus meeting in mid-August.

¹² See Appendix

APPENDIX

CAP TERM SHEET
As of June __, 2022

This term sheet developed by CAP members is intended to be an *initial list* of desired outcomes and potential solutions to the water issues in the San Joaquin Valley.

CAP Desired Outcomes

1. **Safe Drinking Water.** All San Joaquin Valley (Valley) residents will have access in a timely manner to safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water no matter the hydrologic conditions.
2. **Sustainable Water Supplies.** Sustainable water supplies will be available to support a diverse economy, thriving ecosystems, the public health, safety and social and cultural fabric of Valley residents and the production and sale and reliable food sources.
3. **Ecosystem Health.** The Valley landscape will increase its habitat areas to support an array of species and healthy aquatic ecosystems, including floodplain, riparian, wetland, on-farm and upland habitat.
4. **Sustainable Agriculture:** California will continue to provide reliable, safe and secure food and fiber with industry-leading protections for workers, in-Valley communities and the environment.
5. **Land Use; Infrastructure; Replenish Aquifers:** California will increase investment in underground water storage, conveyance and other cost-effective and environmentally protective multibenefit infrastructure to deliver water to storage sites, taking into account thriving communities and ecosystems.
6. **Consistent Policies.** Local, state, and federal policies and funding will be aligned to advance this positive vision of the Valley's future and will assure adequate resources for local government to play a vital role in this transformation. Streamlined permitting and regulatory review process will be available for qualified multi benefit projects.
7. **Sound Science.** Decisions will be made using the best available and independent science possible. Adaptive management with monitoring, deployment of the best available technology and outcome accountability will be necessary to maximize the effectiveness of resource decisions.

CAP Solutions Elements

1. **Safe Drinking Water.** Ensure safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water supplies for all Valley residents for short term drought needs and long-term solutions within 10-15 years or sooner, utilizing consolidation and other management tools.
2. **Sustainable Water Supplies.** Eliminate the demand-supply gap and long-term overdraft with co-equal efforts to reduce demand and increase supply by prioritizing projects that will benefit multiple stakeholders.
 - a. **Reduce Demand.** Reduce demand through incentivizing landowners to voluntarily repurpose irrigated agricultural lands to other beneficial uses that requires little or no water, with compensation to landowners for creating public benefits and water rights reserved by landowners, consistent with applicable GSPs.

- b. **Increase Supply.** Increase supply for sustainable agriculture primarily by managing in-Valley and through-Delta flood flows for use and aquifer replenishment, which may provide [TBD AF]/Year on average.
- c. **The Delta.** Conduct a science-based assessment of the Delta with independent scientific experts to-
 - i. Reduce ‘uncaptured outflow’ and determine how much additional water can be available from the Delta during high flow events while protecting ecosystem health, consistent with PPIC May 16 2022 Policy Brief (PPIC Report).¹ As of the above date, the PPIC Report confirms the availability of increased Delta exports in wet years. CAP will support the assessment of increased Delta exports during high flow events in other year types.
 - ii. Assess the reduction of non-flow stressors in the Delta (e.g., predation, invasive plants, urban effluent, agricultural runoff, disease/competition, changes in food etc.). CAP will support the review of existing studies on non-flow stressors to decide next steps and best investment in further research.
 - iii. Explore reservoir reoperation that takes into account leading edge forecasting technology to serve multiple benefits.
 - iv. Forecast the extent to which Delta ecosystem and water supply impacts are expected to be caused by Climate Change to prepare all Californians for this supply risk and the related financial burdens applicable to all Californians (not only water contractors).
3. **Ecosystem Restoration.** Create one of the largest restoration programs targeting [TBD] acres through voluntary land repurposing of a portion of the Valley’s irrigated land to create a range of habitats, (a) with compensation to landowners for creating public benefits, (b) water rights reserved by landowners, consistent with applicable GSPs and (c) without hindering the ability to replenish aquifers for sustainable agriculture.
4. **Coordinated Changes in Land Use.** Assure Valley-wide land use change helps accomplish CAP goals by working through the California Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program and related state programs, while also leveraging federal sources of funding.
5. **Effective Implementation.** Work through the politically diverse CAP coalition to align local, state, and federal policies and funding.

¹ PPIC Policy Brief: Tracking Where Water Goes in a Changing Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, May 16, 2022: “Increasing the amount of water stored during wet periods—whether by taking more water out upstream of the Delta, or making the best use of export facilities—has to be done with care for the environment and other water users. But it is possible to do a better job of storing water during wet years—both above and below ground—without doing harm. Improving the management of wet-year supplies is a critical climate change adaptation strategy. This will require identifying cost-effective investment options and adapting operations and regulatory approaches to facilitate capturing more water in wet times.”

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STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members and Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

DATE: August 4, 2022

RE: Update on Science Program

SUMMARY

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority's ("Water Authority") current science commitments for Fiscal Year 23 (March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023) may be considered in three categories. First, the Water Authority re-budgeted \$282,652 in the current budget to fund five activities and/or studies previously authorized to be funded. Second, the Water Authority began the year with approximately \$2,000 in funds remaining from the State and Federal Contractors Water Agency ("SFCWA") to fund one study initially authorized by SFCWA and transferred to the Water Authority for funding and management, and which has now been completed. Third, the Water Authority has budgeted \$392,500 in the current budget for science studies. More detail regarding the various science commitments is provided below. In total, the Water Authority started the current fiscal year with approximately \$677,152 available to fund science, of which \$284,652 has been obligated.

1. Previous Commitments - \$282,652 in FY 23 Budget

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	FY 23 Budget
Joint Funding of Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making Phase 3	This funding would support management and technical analyses required to conduct Phase 3 for the CSAMP Delta Smelt Structure Decision Making (SDM) project. Technical analyses would include modeling and the application of other analytical tools to evaluate the consequences of proposed management actions for Delta Smelt as well as the evaluation of potential consequences to other resource values including water supply and agriculture. Phase 3 was scheduled to occur from September 2020 to September 2021, but has been delayed.	\$45,400
Joint Funding for CAMT Technical Support	This funding would match State Water Contractor funding obligated for CAMT studies. The Water Authority is currently researching two potential uses	\$105,000

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	for this funding – 1. Continuation of Delta Smelt SDM funding for Phase 3, or 2. Execution of a contract for Salmon Structured Decision Making.	
Development of eDNA monitoring tool for detection of Delta Smelt	Goal to develop an accepted eDNA monitoring tool for species detection in tidally mixed aquatic ecosystems in the Delta, and to advance eDNA aquatic monitoring towards a state-of-science that can be applied in the context of scientific, policy, and regulatory decision-making	\$63,000
Delta Smelt Incidental Take Limit Research	Funds support the evaluation of differences in salvage between pre- and post-BiOp conditions and the determination of how much variance in salvage can be explained by each of the predictor variables. Support provided to ICF Jones & Stokes, Inc., through a cost share with SWC.	\$14,252
CAMT Facilitation and Technical Support	Funds support facilitation and assistance with CAMT and CSAMP meetings. Main contracts with Essex Partnership (Bruce DiGennaro) and Hansen Environmental (Chuck Hansen) held by SWC.	\$55,000

2. SFCWA-Funded Studies Being Managed by the Water Authority - \$0 Remaining

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	SFCWA Funds Remaining
Measuring Impact of Control of yellow Starthistle in the Northern Sac. Valley and Superior California on Watershed Runoff and Groundwater Levels	Study of the water benefits of yellow Starthistle (YST) control. If there appears to be replicable water supply benefit from YST removal, will prepare plan of recommended YST removal in California that results in increased runoff and/or improved groundwater levels. Study completed in May, 2022.	\$0

3. New Science - \$392,500 in FY 23 Budget

Subject	Description of Work / Objective(s)	FY 23 Budget
Science Studies/Efforts		\$392,500
Joint Funding for CAMT Technical Support	This funding would match State Water Contractor funding obligated for CAMT studies. The Water Authority and State Water Contractors are currently jointly researching two potential uses for this funding – 1. Continuation of Delta Smelt SDM funding for Phase 3b, or 2. Execution of a contract for Salmon Structured Decision Making.	\$150,000

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	After deliberation within CAMT/CSAMP, the group has chosen to pursue continued development of the Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making Phase 3b, with the salmon recovery strategy being advanced through in-kind contributions this year.	
CAMT Technical Support	Funds support technical engagement by Hansen Environmental (Chuck Hansen) in CAMT and CSAMP meetings. Contract held by SWC.	\$30,000
Delta Coordination Group Summer Fall Habitat Action Structured Decision Making Facilitation Support	Funds support facilitation and assistance with Delta Coordination Group Structured Decision Making for Delta Coordination Group recommendations to Reclamation and DWR related to Summer Fall Habitat Actions in the Biological Opinions and State Incidental Take Permit. Project jointly funded with State Water Contractors.	\$12,500
SLDMWA Technical, Science and Regulatory Support	<p>Funds will be used for engagement in Science Program, technical or regulatory efforts that arise in FY 2023. Anticipated use includes technical support for the reconsultation on long-term operations of the CVP and SWP, anticipated ESA listing decisions for longfin smelt, yellow-legged frog (and others), and engagement in efforts associated with the Bay-Delta Plan Update.</p> <p>To date, efforts using this funding pool include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Technical Review of Knowledge Base Documents for the Reinitiation of Consultation for the Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project 	\$200,000

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

On July 20, the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee released the 2020-2021 Delta Cross Cut Budget Report¹. This report outlines the amount, category, and funding source for science related spending in the legal Delta.

¹ See Appendix

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