
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF BOARD WORKSHOP ON PROPOSED VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS RELATED TO SACRAMENTO/DELTA UPDATE TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/ SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ESTUARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) will hold a multiday public workshop to discuss voluntary agreements (VAs) proposed by water users and state and federal agencies currently being considered in the process to update the Sacramento River and Delta components of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan).¹ The purpose of the workshop is for the VA parties to provide a detailed overview of the VA proposal, receive input and answer questions from Board members, and receive input from the public.

Although a quorum of the Board is expected to be present at the workshop, the State Water Board will not take any formal action. The workshop will include both a physical meeting location and an option to participate remotely as described below.

April 24–26, 2024, beginning at 9:00 am

Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

And via Video and Teleconference

BACKGROUND

In 2022, the State Water Board received a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) proposing VAs for updating and implementing the Bay-Delta Plan. In September 2023, the State Water Board released a [draft Staff Report](#) evaluating the VAs (see Chapter 9 and Appendix G) and other possible alternatives for updating the Bay-Delta Plan. The State Water Board has not made a decision regarding whether to incorporate the VAs into the proposed Sacramento/Delta updates to the Bay-Delta Plan. This workshop, along with other comments received during the process to consider Sacramento/Delta updates to the Bay-Delta Plan, will inform whether and how to incorporate the VA proposal into the Sacramento/Delta updates to the Bay-Delta Plan.

¹ The Tuolumne River components of the VA proposal are being considered separately. See the State Water Board's [website](#) for additional information.

State Water Board staff are also in the process of developing draft possible changes to the Sacramento/Delta components of the Bay-Delta Plan, including specific draft regulatory text for the program of implementation for public review and comment, including a public workshop following release of the draft possible changes. The input received on the draft Sacramento/Delta Bay-Delta Plan amendments will inform the final proposed amendments, which will be brought before the State Water Board for consideration at a future Board meeting.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The MOU, term sheet, and other supporting documents describing the proposed VAs, as developed by the VA parties, can be found in [Appendix G1](#) of the draft Staff Report. VA parties are currently in the process of developing additional draft components of the VA proposal. These documents are anticipated to be made publicly available on the State Water Board's File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site on, or shortly after, March 29, 2024. Notification of receipt of the additional VA documents and instructions for accessing these documents will be provided on the State Water Board's [Proposed VAs webpage](#) and by email to subscribers of the Board's [Bay-Delta Notices email list](#) (listed under Water Rights).

AGENDA

The three-day workshop will include introductory presentations each day; six detailed sessions over the three days on specific key components of the VA proposal; and opportunities for general public comments at the end of the second and third workshop days (April 25 and 26). Each of the six detailed sessions will include: (1) a detailed overview presentation from VA parties on the specific identified components of the VAs, (2) public panel presentations on the topics covered in that session, and (3) an opportunity for Board member questions and discussion.

April 24, 2024

- **Day 1 Introduction**
 - Board member opening remarks and staff introduction to the workshop
 - Overview of VA proposal from VA parties
- **Session 1: Integration of VA Flow and Non-flow Measures** – discussion of how VA flow and non-flow assets were developed and are intended to be integrated to benefit native fish
 - Overview presentation from VA parties
 - Panel presentations
 - Board discussion
- **Session 2: Flow Measure Accounting** – discussion of proposed adaptive measures for implementing VA flows and proposed accounting for flow assets
 - Overview presentation from VA parties
 - Panel presentations
 - Board discussion

April 25, 2024

- **Day 2 Introduction**
 - Brief Board member opening remarks and staff presentation
- **Session 3: Non-flow Measure Accounting** – discussion of the proposed VA accounting protocols for non-flow measures, including for spawning, rearing, floodplain, bypass, and tidal wetland non-flow measures
 - Overview presentation from VA parties
 - Panel presentations
 - Board discussion
- **Session 4: Science Plan** – discussion of the proposed VA Science Plan, including the proposed approaches for evaluating outcomes of the flow and non-flow measures
 - Overview presentation from VA parties
 - Panel presentations
 - Board discussion
- **Individual Public Comments** (anticipated to begin after 2 pm)

April 26, 2024

- **Day 3 Introduction**
 - Brief Board member opening remarks and staff presentation
- **Session 5: Governance and Participation** – discussion of the proposed VA governance structure for decision making, coordination of VA efforts, engagement with other interested participants, and State Water Board regulatory oversight
 - Overview presentation from VA parties
 - Panel presentations
 - Board discussion
- **Session 6: Enforcement, Accountability, Transparency, and Implementation** – discussion of the proposed VA legal instruments for enforcement, accountability, and transparency and next steps for implementing the VAs
 - Overview presentation from VA parties
 - Panel presentations
 - Board discussion
- **Individual Public Comments** (anticipated to begin after 2 pm)

PARTICIPATION

This workshop is being organized to allow for a detailed discussion of VA components. The VA parties will be providing detailed presentations and the public will also have the opportunity to provide more detailed presentations on the session topics during the panel presentation portions of each session.

If you would like to provide a panel presentation, please email SacDeltaComments@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line "VA Workshop Panel Request" no later than **April 5, 2024**, with the following information: (1) the names, affiliations, and email addresses of each member of the panel; (2) whether each panel member will present in person or remotely; and (3) the session the panel is requesting to present at. The panel presentations should be limited to the topics covered in that session as described in the agenda. Panel presentations will be limited to **10-20 minutes** (depending on the number of panel requests) unless otherwise directed. Participants that would like to make a PowerPoint presentation during their panel presentation must submit their PowerPoint presentation to SacDeltaComments@waterboards.ca.gov no later than **noon on April 22, 2024**.

For those who wish to provide an individual comment, those comments will be heard at the end of the second and third workshop days on April 25 and 26, 2024. Individual comments will not be heard the first day of the workshop on April 24, 2024. Individual public comments will be limited to 3 minutes unless additional time is otherwise provided. If you wish to make an individual comment, please fill out a [virtual speaker card](#). For those that plan to participate virtually, the Clerk to the Board will respond to your form one day before the workshop with the information needed to join the meeting.

For those who only wish to watch the meeting, a webcast will be available at youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/ and video.calepa.ca.gov/ (closed captioning available) and should be used unless you intend to comment.

If you have questions about how to participate in the workshop, please email staff at SacDeltaComments@waterboards.ca.gov.

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

The State Water Board will not be accepting written comments related to this workshop, however, an opportunity to provide written comments will be provided when the State Water Board releases draft regulatory text for the program of implementation later this year.

FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS

To receive future email notifications about the Bay-Delta Plan processes, [subscribe](#) to the "Bay Delta Notices" topic (listed under Water Rights). Any change in the date, time, and place of the public meetings described above will be noticed via the email subscription list.

AVAILABILITY OF LANGUAGE SERVICES

To request oral interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by contacting the Office of Public Participation at (916) 341-5254 or OPP-LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov.

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: TTY (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

VISITING THE CALEPA BUILDING

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in at the security guard station located just inside the main entrance. Visit the [CalEPA website](#) for additional information on traveling to the CalEPA Building.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this notice, email SacDeltaComments@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date March 8, 2024



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board