

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS  
JUNE 19, 2012**

**ITEM 8**

**SUBJECT**

ORGANIZATION OF FOUR BAY-DELTA TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE (PHASE 2) REVIEW OF THE 2006 WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ESTUARY

**DISCUSSION**

The State Water Board is in the process of conducting a phased review and update of the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) to protect beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta. The Bay-Delta Plan identifies beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta, water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of those beneficial uses, and a program of implementation for achieving the water quality objectives. Phase 1 of that review is focused on southern Delta water quality and San Joaquin River flows. Phase 2 (Comprehensive Review) is focused on other changes that may be needed to the remainder of the Bay-Delta Plan to protect fish and wildlife beneficial uses and is the subject of this informational item.

On April 24, 2012, the State Water Board issued a Save the Dates Notice for four workshops to obtain scientific information on the following topics related to Phase 2 of the State Water Board's review of the Bay-Delta Plan: (1) Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone, (2) Salmonids, (3) Pelagic Organisms, and (4) Analytical Tools for Evaluating the Water Supply, Hydrodynamics, and Hydropower Effects of the Bay-Delta Plan. The information generated through the workshops will augment information developed through earlier reviews and will inform the State Water Board members and staff on what, if any, changes should be made to the 2006 Bay-Delta Plan. The four workshops are tentatively scheduled for August 22, September 5 and 6, and October 1 and 2 of this year. In the Save the Date Notice, the State Water Board requested input from interested persons regarding the organization of the workshops and potential questions to be considered. On June 1, 2012, State Water Board staff met with interested persons to discuss the workshops. Staff also received follow up information after the meeting from interested persons.

In this informational item, Staff will present a proposed format for the four workshops, including potential key technical questions, and potential panel format. Following the presentation, the Board will hear public comments.

More information on the Bay-Delta Program and a short fact sheet describing current efforts are available on-line at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/bay\\_delta/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/).

**POLICY ISSUE**

None at this time. Informational Item.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None at this time. Informational Item.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None at this time. Informational Item.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This item is being brought before the State Water Board for informational purposes only.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012: Comprehensively address water quality protection and restoration of the relationship between water supply and water quality, and describe the connections between water quality, water quantity, and climate change, throughout California's water planning processes.