

Proposal for Phase 2 Bay-Delta Workshops

Submitted by
State Water Contractors
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority



I Determination of stakeholder groupings for presentations at workshops

It is proposed that there be seven stakeholder groups, as follows:

- State and federal regulatory agencies/ fishery agencies
- State and federal resource management agencies
- NGO/ environmental organizations
- In Delta interests
- State Water Project/Central Valley Water Project ("SWP-CVP") contractors
- San Joaquin Valley interests
- Sacramento Valley interests

The SWP-CVP water contractors respectfully request 1.5 hours for the presentation of their technical information at each workshop.

II. Proposed Key Issues/Workshops Notice

Key Issues proposed for inclusion in the notice for the workshops:

Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone

Key Issue:

1. How have the Sacramento-San Joaquin River watershed, the Bay-Delta ecosystem, and ocean conditions changed over time?
2. How have the different trophic levels (including fish, zooplankton, and phytoplankton) of the watershed, ecosystem, ocean changed over time?
3. What factors contributed to these species changes and what is the relative importance of those factors?

When answering question (1), (2), and (3), please consider physical, chemical, biological, hydrologic, and hydraulic changes.

Pelagic species

Key Issues:

1. What are the most important factors affecting the abundance of each life stage of pelagic fishes of concern?
2. How has each of these factors changed over time?
3. How do these factors relate to ecosystem changes and to each other?

Salmonids

Key Issues:

1. What are the most important factors affecting the abundance of each life stage of each salmonid of concern?
2. How has each of these factors changed over time?
3. How do these factors relate to ecosystem changes and to each other?

Evaluation Methods

Key Issues:

1. What types of analyses should be completed to estimate potential effects of changes to the Water Quality Control Plan?
2. What tools are available to complete those analyses?

When answering questions (1) and (2), consider the Water Board's need to assess all beneficial uses and public trust values, including fish abundance, water supply, hydroelectric power production, groundwater levels and quality, greenhouse gas emissions, including economic and social.

III Pre-submittals

Each party/group of parties wishing to submit scientific/technical information must file with the Water Board a notice of intent to participation by July 1, 2012. The Water Board will distribute a service list to participants not later than July 15, 2012.

Each participant that files a notice of intent may file with the Water Board and serve on the other participants scientific/technical information that responds to the Key Issues in the Water Board's notice. Any party who files and serves such materials shall identify the name of the presenter(s) on whose behalf the materials are submitted; and shall provide the CV of such presenter(s). All materials shall be filed with the Water Board and served on other participants not less than 21 days prior to the Workshop. The Water Board will seek to post the material on its website not less than 14 days prior to each workshop. Policy statements are not part of these proceedings.

Oral testimony shall be limited to the identified presenter(s). At each workshop, the presenter(s) shall provide a summary of the written submittal and responses to the submittals of other participants.

Each party/group of parties is encouraged to include with the scientific/technical information an executive summary (not more than 5 pages) that provides brief responses to the workshop questions.

Pre-submittal material will be due two weeks before the workshop. All materials must be filed with the Water Board in electronic format (preferably PDF) and simultaneously served on all participants. The Water Board will post on its website all submissions at least one week before the date of the workshop.

IV Workshop Procedures

Each group of participants will be given a specified period of time during the workshop to: (i) briefly summarize the written submissions, (ii) identify areas of agreement and areas of disagreement with the written submissions by other participants, and (iii) offer explanations for the agreements/disagreements.

Any presenter using visual materials (*i.e.*, PowerPoints, maps, graphs, etc.) during the workshop that were not included in the written submission shall (i) explain why such materials were not provided 21 days prior the workshop, (ii) must bring __ paper copies (in color) to the workshop, and (iii) must file with the Water Board and serve on other participants electronic copies of those materials immediately after the workshop.

The Water Board will reserve approximately __ hours of time in addition to the time allocated to groups of participants to allow Water Board members and staff to ask follow-up/clarifying questions of the presenters. Questions may be asked at any time during the workshop, at the discretion of the Chair.

A court reporter will be present at each workshop. Transcripts of the workshops shall be made available upon request at fees established by the court reporter.

V Post Workshop

Within two weeks after each workshop, the facilitator shall prepare, file with the Water Board, and serve on the participants, a draft report summarizing the areas of agreement and disagreement, and will seek to explain the reasons(s) the presenters disagreed.

Within two weeks after the filing and service of each report, the facilitator shall convene a meeting of the workshop participants to discuss the contents of the report, with the intent of achieving consensus among workshop participants as to what they agreed upon, what they disagreed upon, and the specific reasons for each disagreement.

Participants will have 30 days after the release of each of the facilitator's report to send comments on the report to the facilitator. The facilitator shall finalize each report after consideration of comments received from the participants, again, attempting to produce a consensus report. Upon completion of all workshops, the facilitator will prepare a closing, summary report.