

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Tom Mumley)  
MEETING DATE: January 30, 2008

ITEM: 15

SUBJECT: **Consideration of a Resolution Specifying Actions the Water Boards Will Take to Protect Beneficial Uses of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento San Joaquin Delta Estuary**

DISCUSSION: In response to mounting concerns related to beneficial uses of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta), staff from the State Water Board, Central Valley Water Board, and the San Francisco Bay Water Board (collectively referred to as the Water Boards) have convened a Bay-Delta Team to coordinate the Water Boards' activities in the Bay-Delta. The Team has identified activities that the Water Boards are or could be doing to address impacts to beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta. The Team has also prepared a resolution (Appendix A) for consideration by the Water Boards that identifies specific water quality and water rights activities the Water Boards intend to take with regard to the Bay-Delta to address recent pelagic organism (e.g., the delta smelt) declines and other significant Bay-Delta issues. The resolution also directs staff to prepare a strategic workplan to assure coordinated and timely implementation of actions. The State Water Board and Central Valley Water Board adopted the resolution in December 2007.

Although most of the Bay-Delta area of concern is within the Central Valley Region, there is a portion of the Delta in the San Francisco Bay Region, and many of the concerns also apply to Suisun Bay and the Suisun Marsh in the San Francisco Bay Region. Also, even though most of the specified actions are water quality actions by the Central Valley Water Board or water rights actions by the State Water Board, there are a number of water quality actions for consideration by the San Francisco Bay Water Board. These include implementation of the San Francisco Bay mercury TMDL, development and implementation of San Francisco Bay TMDLs for PCBs and selenium, issuance of permits for cooling water discharges in Pittsburg, and participation in the development of the Suisun Marsh Habitat Management, Preservation, and Restoration Plan. Notwithstanding the importance of the specific actions, continued participation on the Bay-Delta Team is paramount. Also of note is that this is the first time the two Regional Water Boards and the State Water Board have considered essentially the same adoption action.

**RECOMMEN-** Adopt the resolution  
**DATION:**

**APPENDICES:** A. Tentative Resolution