

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

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Bruce Wolfe)  
MEETING DATE: May 9, 2018

**ITEM:** 6

**SUBJECT:** **San Francisco Bay Joint Venture** – Presentation on the Development and Implementation of the Joint Venture’s Climate Change Policy White Paper by Beth Huning, Joint Venture Coordinator, and Arthur Feinstein, Joint Venture Government Affairs Committee Chair

**DISCUSSION:** The San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (the JV) is one of 18 Joint Ventures around the country. Its boundaries largely match the boundaries of our Region, with the primary exceptions being that the Russian River Watershed and the Santa Rosa Plain in the North Coast Region and the eastern Contra Costa County watersheds in the Central Valley Region are geographically part of the JV, while Suisun Marsh is part of the Central Valley Joint Venture.

Joint Ventures were originally established as stakeholder partnerships to address the need for waterfowl conservation and wetland protection under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and have since broadened their focus to include the protection and restoration of habitats for all birds. The JV’s objectives are aligned with the Board’s since they include the restoration and enhancement of wetlands, riparian habitat, and associated uplands on both public and private lands using non-regulatory techniques and the improvement of habitat management on publicly- and privately-owned wetlands, riparian habitat, and associated uplands through the use of cooperative management agreements and voluntary incentive programs.

Consistent with its objectives, the JV has prepared a “white paper” that synthesizes ongoing climate change planning processes that are occurring within the JV’s boundaries and identifies priority agencies and processes for the JV and its partners (which the Board is one of) to be engaged in. In doing so, this paper calls out time-sensitive opportunities for regulatory and policy discussions that would impact restoration activities throughout our Region and highlights where the JV and its partners can be most effective in influencing these planning processes. The white paper is available at [JV Climate Change White Paper](#)

Our efforts to review our policies and regulations to determine how we can more effectively address climate change impacts and wetland and stream restoration is called out in the white paper, as are six other climate change policy initiatives underway in our Region. Beth Huning and Arthur Feinstein will present the white paper and discuss how the JV can best provide input on our – and others – work on climate change policy.

**RECOMMEN-  
DATION:** This is an information item and no action is necessary.