
State Water Resources Control Board

TO: Parties Interested in the Sacramento/Delta Update to the Bay-Delta Plan

DATE: January 3, 2025

SUBJECT: OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN WORKING MEETINGS ON DRAFT SACRAMENTO/DELTA UPDATES TO THE BAY-DELTA PLAN

This letter is to notify potentially interested persons that staff from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) will hold a series of technical working meetings to receive further input from the water community, including water users, environmental groups, and California Native American Tribes, on draft updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Bay-Delta Plan) following a multi-day public workshop held in late 2024. The draft updates to the Bay-Delta Plan are focused on the portions of the plan relevant to the Sacramento River watershed, Delta eastside tributaries (including the Calaveras, Cosumnes, and Mokelumne Rivers), and Delta (Sacramento/Delta) for the reasonable protection of fish and wildlife beneficial uses.

The purpose of the working meetings is for staff to receive specific input on the October 2024 [draft Sacramento/Delta updates](#) to the Bay-Delta Plan, which include regulatory provisions based on the Board's September 2023 [draft Staff Report](#) and provisions based on voluntary agreements (VAs) proposed by public water agencies and state and federal agencies known as the [Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Proposal](#). These meetings are intended to allow time for technical dialogue between staff and participants. The input received during these meetings will help to inform a revised draft of proposed updates to the Bay-Delta Plan for additional public comment and Board consideration.

To allow as much time for discussion as possible, staff will not be providing detailed presentations at each of the working meetings. For additional background information, refer to the staff presentations from the Board workshops on the draft Sacramento/Delta updates to the Bay-Delta Plan. Recordings of the prior workshop days held on [November 20](#), [November 22](#), [December 3](#), and [December 12](#), 2024, are available on the [Board's website](#).

The working meetings are intended to be informal discussions between State Water Board staff and interested parties and will not include the opportunity for general comments, which were heard during the workshop on December 12, 2024. A second opportunity for general oral comments before the State Water Board will be provided during the workshop on January 23, 2025. See the [notice](#) for additional information on

how to participate in the January 23 workshop and submit written comments on the draft updates to the Bay-Delta Plan.

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

The staff-led working meetings will be conducted virtually and will not include a physical meeting location. Each meeting will include brief introductions from staff on the topics that will be covered that day, followed by discussions on those specific topics. A quorum of the State Water Board will not be present, and no Board action will be taken during any of the working meetings.

To facilitate a productive discussion, interested persons should review and be familiar with the October 2024 [draft updates](#) to the plan prior to participating in the meetings. In particular, the notes to reader and boxes included in the draft updates identify options and other issues under consideration that the Board is interested in seeking input on.

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss what specific changes, if any, should be made to the draft Sacramento/Delta updates to the Bay-Delta Plan, including the draft objectives and draft program of implementation text and associated plan appendices. The State Water Board is still in the process of considering proposed VAs and provisions that could apply absent approved VAs. Participants should come prepared to discuss both pathways described in the draft Bay-Delta Plan. Comments not pertaining to the above topics should be reserved for the other public comment processes discussed above.

If you wish to participate in the working meetings you must register for all of the meetings you are interested in attending using the individual links provided in the table below. After registering, you will receive separate emails containing the Zoom information to join each of the meetings for which you register.

The table below includes the date and time, topics, and links to register for each meeting:

Date and Time	Topic	Registration
January 16, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Purpose and overall approach to working meetings	Meeting #1
January 28, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Inflow objective and program of implementation, including possible changes to the percent of unimpaired flow range under the regulatory pathway (Section 4.4.2.2)	Meeting #2
January 29, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Cold water habitat objective and program of implementation, including specific reservoir carryover storage requirements (Section 4.4.2.3)	Meeting #3

Date and Time	Topic	Registration
January 30, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Inflow-based Delta outflow objective and program of implementation, including possible exclusion of Delta lowlands from curtailments (Section 4.4.3.2)	Meeting #4
February 4, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Methodology to determine water unavailability and implement Bay-Delta Plan in conformance with water right priorities (Section 4.4.4) ¹	Meeting #5
February 5, 2025 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Monitoring and evaluation for regulatory provisions (Section 4.5 and Appendix A)	Meeting #6
February 13, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Provisions for continuation, modification, or termination of VAs (Section 4.4.10.9)	Meeting #7
February 19, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	VA habitat commitments and accounting provisions (Section 4.4.10.4, Section 4.4.10.5, and Appendix B)	Meeting #8
February 20, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Monitoring and evaluation for VA provisions (Section 4.4.10.6)	Meeting #9
February 27, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	VA flow commitments and accounting (Sections 4.4.10.1 through 4.4.10.3)	Meeting #10
March 4, 2025 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Tribal provisions (Chapter 2 and Sections 4.4.10.8, 4.5.3, and 4.5.4)	Meeting #11

Additional follow-up working meetings may be scheduled as appropriate, including within the general January through March time period identified above. Additional notice will be provided for any additional meetings.

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

¹ Please note that section 4.4.4 of the draft plan updates, to be discussed on February 4, 2025, identifies the development of an implementation methodology to determine when water is not available at water right holders’ priorities of right. The purpose of the February 4 meeting will be to receive input on the specific text included in the draft Bay-Delta Plan. State Water Board staff will be holding subsequent public meetings and comment processes to discuss and receive input on the specific details of the methodology. Staff anticipates this process to begin prior to adoption of the Sacramento/Delta updates to the Bay-Delta Plan in order to further inform possible updates to the Bay-Delta Plan.