

ITEM: 18

SUBJECT: 2014 Delta Strategic Work Plan

BOARD ACTION: Information Item

BACKGROUND: In 2008 the State Water Resources Control Board, San Francisco Bay and Central Valley Water Boards jointly adopted a Strategic Work Plan for Activities in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Strategic Work Plan). The purpose of the 5-year Strategic Work Plan was to coordinate and prioritize actions, establish key deliverables and time schedules, and identify existing and needed resources. The 2008 Strategic Work Plan is now 5-years old and has become dated. Many of the activities assigned to the Central Valley Water Board have been accomplished while new actions are being recommended by the Delta Stewardship Council and others.

The draft 2014 Strategic Work Plan is an update of the 2008 Plan. The new Plan is restricted to actions that may significantly benefit Delta water quality. Like the 2008 Work Plan, it has been written for a 5-year time period and identifies high priority projects, timelines and deliverables, and resource needs.

The draft 2014 Strategic Work Plan includes nine projects for the Central Valley. Four of these are a carryover from work begun under the 2008 Strategic Work Plan, three are new projects recommended by the Delta Stewardship Council, and two are the result of multiple new Clean Water Act 303(d) listings and/or Regional Board staff recommendations.

The four carryover projects from the 2008 Strategic Work Plan projects are:

- Implementing the Mercury Control Program in the Delta,
- Reviewing the control program for low oxygen levels in the Stockton Ship Channel,
- Developing and implementing a sustainable Regional Monitoring Program and,
- Evaluating control actions to address chronic low oxygen concentrations in Old and Middle Rivers.

Significant progress has been made on all these projects except for low oxygen levels in Old and Middle Rivers. Lack of progress on the Old and Middle Rivers project is due to a lack

of staff resources.

The three new projects being recommended by the Delta Stewardship Council in their recently adopted Delta Plan are:

- Developing and implementing a Nutrient Study Plan for the Delta,
- Adopting a Basin Plan amendment for pyrethroid insecticides in sediment and water in the Delta and,
- Maintaining a current list of all new projects to increase beneficial reuse of wastewater in the Central Valley and identifying impediments to additional reclamation.

The nutrient study plan will require additional resources to carry out.

Finally, the two new projects being recommended by Board staff are:

- Adopting a Diuron herbicide Basin Plan amendment for the Delta and
- Conducting a toxicological assessment of current use fungicides and herbicides on pelagic primary production in the Delta.

Assessment of current use fungicides and herbicides will also require contract resources.

Resources exist to continue work on the ongoing projects. However, additional funds will be required to successfully carry out the proposed new work.

RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item.

Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review \_\_\_\_\_

6/7 February 2014  
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