

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS  
JANUARY 19, 2023**

**ITEM 8**

**SUBJECT**

UPCOMING ACTIONS TO UPDATE AND IMPLEMENT THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA.

**DISCUSSION**

The San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Plan) establishes water quality objectives to protect beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta watershed, including fish and wildlife, municipal, and agricultural uses, and a program of implementation to achieve these objectives. The Bay-Delta watershed is a critical part of California's water supply system and provides habitat for fish, wildlife, and species with high ecological, economic, and cultural importance. In response to sharp declines and chronically low abundance of multiple native and migratory fish populations, the State Water Board initiated two proceedings to review and update the Bay-Delta Plan flow and water quality objectives for protecting fish and wildlife beneficial uses. The first proceeding, referred to as the Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR)/Southern Delta update, was adopted. That update also included revised salinity objectives for the protection of agricultural beneficial uses in the southern Delta. The second proceeding, referred to as the Sacramento/Delta update, is focused on developing flow related objectives for the reasonable protection of fish and wildlife on the Sacramento River and its tributaries, Delta eastside tributaries (including Calaveras, Cosumnes, and Mokelumne rivers), Delta outflows, and interior Delta flows.

This Informational Item provides an update on the current timeline for completing the Sacramento/Delta update to the Bay-Delta Plan, including consideration of proposed voluntary agreements (VAs), and for implementing the 2018 Bay-Delta Plan amendments for LSJR flows and southern Delta salinity, including consideration of a recent VA proposal for the Tuolumne River.

**POLICY ISSUE**

None at this time. Informational Item.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None at this time. Informational Item.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None at this time. Informational Item.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This item is being brought before the State Water Board for informational purposes only.