

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – OFFICE OF THE DELTA WATERMASTER
JUNE 21, 2023**

ITEM 10

SUBJECT

OFFICE OF THE DELTA WATERMASTER: PERIODIC REPORT.

DISCUSSION

The Delta Watermaster will provide a regular report to the Board including:

- I. Delta Alternative Compliance Plan – DeltaACP.com
 - a. Implementing the Delta Alternative Compliance Plan
 - b. Three options for SB 88 legal compliance:
 - i. Purchase and install meters on points of diversion with accreditation from a registered CA Engineer
 - ii. Submit an Individual Alternative Compliance Plan
 - iii. Sign up for the Delta Alternative Compliance Plan
 - c. Moving to implementation using OpenET – what have we learned via DeltaACP.com from user feedback
 - d. Capturing/organizing useful data – status report
 - e. Next phase science projects – Delta Science Consortium

- II. Delta Drought Response Pilot Program
 - a. Initiated by Boards of Three Delta Water Agencies; Convened by Office of the Delta Watermaster
 - b. Objective: Collaborative Drought Planning
 - c. Project Elements: 33 Delta projects and 8850 acres enrolled in 2022 program:
 - i. Delta-wide regional project portfolio
 - ii. Facilitated by water agencies and state
 - iii. Implemented by water users across Delta
 - iv. Three components:
 1. Water conservation actions
 2. Water quality protection
 3. Data improvements
 - v. Estimated water conservation ranged from 3,300 to 5,500 acre-feet across all project acres
 - d. For 2023 Water Year: 61 projects enrolled in program/16,116 acres testing water savings practices; 6400 acres enrolled to support migratory bird habitat objectives
 - i. Program budget: \$10.8 million
 - ii. Year 2 projects provide comparison across extremely dry year to an extremely wet year

iii. Added implementation of field level measurements through a contract with UC Davis

III. Ongoing Lower San Joaquin Flood Risk

- a. Agency Coordination/Risk Assessment
- b. Research efforts: what will we learn this year

IV. How the Delta Fits among Proposed Voluntary Agreements

- a. Drought Impacts as a Threat to Delta Water Quality
- b. Ameliorating Threats to Fish and Birds are on Different Schedules
- c. Timing of Water Conservation Actions Involve Tradeoffs
- d. Delta Independent Science Board – Science Must Be Integrated, Inclusive and Transparent to Assess Voluntary Agreements

V. Science Collaboration

- a. State Water Board and Delta Stewardship Council Science Collaboration
 - i. Science Action Agenda
 - 1. One Delta/One Science
 - 2. Linking Science to Action
 - 3. Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee

POLICY ISSUE

None.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None.