Overview

Many of the activities assigned in 2008 to the Central Valley Water Board were accomplished while new actions have been recommended by the Delta Stewardship Council. The 2014 Delta Strategic Plan contains nine projects. Four of these continue work begun under the 2008 Strategic Work Plan, three are new projects recommended by the Delta Stewardship Council, and two are new priorities identified by the Central Valley Water Board. The 2014 Delta Strategic Plan identifies priority projects, timelines and deliverables, and resource needs for 2014-2019.

Resources to implement the 2014 Delta Strategic Work Plan include 5.5 staff from multiple programs (TMDLs, Basin Planning, NPS and Delta Section). All staff are located in the Rancho Cordova Water Board office.

Goals
The goals of the Delta Program are to continue coordination with the State Water Board and San Francisco Bay Regional Board regarding planning and permits that affect Delta water quality and to implement the 2014 Delta Strategic Work Plan, which identifies the following projects:

- Implement the Mercury Control Program in the Delta
- Review the control program for dissolved oxygen in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel
- Develop and implement a sustainable Regional Monitoring Program
- Evaluate actions to address low dissolved oxygen in Old and Middle Rivers
- Develop a Delta Nutrient Study Plan (new)
- Adopt a Basin Plan amendment for pyrethroid insecticides in the Delta (new)
- Document current and potential beneficial reuse of wastewater in the Central Valley (new)
- Adopt a Basin Plan amendment for diuron herbicide in the Delta (new)
- Conduct an assessment of toxicity of current use fungicides and herbicides (new)

Accomplishments: Fiscal Year 2015-2016

**Delta Nutrient Research Plan**
The Nutrient Research Plan will identify research needed to determine whether additional nutrient management will help solve Delta water quality problems. Staff and stakeholders worked with technical experts to complete supporting documents on the effects of nutrients on harmful algal blooms and aquatic weeds as well as on multi-compartment computer modeling. Goal statements for a fourth paper on nutrient controls on primary production were also completed.

**Dissolved Oxygen Control Programs**
- **Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel** – Staff’s analysis showed that aeration reduced instances of non-compliance with dissolved oxygen objectives to less than 3%. In 2015, the Board directed stakeholders to develop an agreement to continue operation of the aerators. Staff continued monthly tracking dissolved oxygen conditions and aeration system operations.
- **Old and Middle Rivers** – Staff completed data collection and initial evaluation of dissolved oxygen conditions in Old and Middle Rivers and Grant Line Canal.

**Toxicity of Current Use Fungicides and Herbicides**
Staff began a 3-year contract with UC Davis to test toxicities of fungicides and herbicides to native algae.
Accomplishments: Fiscal Year 2015-2016, continued

Delta Regional Monitoring Program
Delta municipal and MS4 permittees, 3 Irrigated Land Coalitions, State and Federal Water Contractors, and the Central Valley Water Board formed the Delta Regional Monitoring Program (RMP). Accomplishments included: amendment of permits to enable permittee participation; completion of a charter and governance structure; identification of assessment questions for monitoring and data analysis; and development of monitoring designs for 4 priority areas (pathogens, current use pesticides, mercury, and nutrients). Implementation of monitoring was staged to match financial resources. Pathogen and pesticide monitoring began in April and July, 2015, respectively. Mercury monitoring is scheduled to start in FY 16/17. Nutrient efforts will begin with synthesis of existing data. The map at right shows the RMP monitoring design.

Implemented Under TMDL and NPS Programs:
- Delta Mercury Control Program
- Pyrethroid Basin Plan Amendments
- Diuron Basin Plan Amendment
- Beneficial Reuse of Water Evaluation

Performance Targets for FY 2015-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delta Nutrient Research Plan white papers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4th paper delayed due to conflicts in scheduling expert panel workshop)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockton ship channel dissolved oxygen data evaluation</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old and Middle Rivers dissolved oxygen white paper for public review</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Delayed due to loss of key staff)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticide toxicity to algae executed contract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiation of monitoring by Delta RMP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder meetings for RMP and Nutrient Research Plan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>&gt;10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Major stakeholder meetings held as scheduled; increased number of stakeholder technical committee and work group meetings)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>