



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Rights

1001 I Street, 14th Floor ♦ Sacramento, California 95814 ♦ 916.341.5300
P.O. Box 2000 ♦ Sacramento, California 95812-2000
Fax: 916.341.5400 ♦ www.waterrights.ca.gov



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Consideration of the Pelagic Organism Decline in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary

Commencing on Thursday March 22, 2007, and continuing on
Friday, March 23, 2007, if necessary
All sessions will commence at 10:00 a.m. unless announced otherwise
at
Joe Serna, Jr. /Cal-EPA Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California

SUBJECT OF WORKSHOP

The purpose of this workshop is to receive information and conduct detailed discussions regarding the Pelagic Organism Decline (POD) in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta).¹

The goal of the workshop is for the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to collect information that may be used in updating the current Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). As a result of this workshop, the State Water Board will, if there is adequate justification, use the collected information in a proceeding to update the Bay-Delta Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Bay-Delta includes the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Suisun Marsh, and the embayments upstream of the Golden Gate. The Delta and Suisun Marsh are located where California's two major river systems, the Sacramento and the San Joaquin rivers, converge to flow westward to meet the incoming seawater tides flowing through the San Francisco Bay. The watershed of the Bay-Delta is a critical source of water supply for much of California. The watershed is a source of drinking water for two-thirds of the State's population; it supplies some of the State's most productive agricultural areas; and it provides water for fish, wildlife, and other public trust uses of water within and upstream of the Estuary.

In recent years there has been a marked decline in numerous pelagic fishes in the Delta and in Suisun Bay.

¹ A quorum of the members of the State Water Board may be present at the workshop.

The State Water Board conducted a periodic review of the Bay-Delta Plan in 2004. Subsequently, the State Water Board conducted a multi-day workshop to receive additional information on selected issues relating to the Bay-Delta Plan.

Currently the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) through its POD work team and other interested parties are conducting studies to evaluate the potential causes of the decline.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION IN THE WORKSHOP

The State Water Board's Division of Water Rights staff is seeking to obtain information regarding the POD in addition to the information it received during the workshop regarding the 2004 review of the Bay-Delta Plan. At this workshop, the State Water Board Division of Water Rights staff request that the IEP POD work team and any other participants present detailed, specific, current information they have on POD, including:

- 1) A progress report on current studies and available results, including the results of work conducted to investigate the effects on pelagic organisms resulting from food web changes, the establishment of invasive species, water exports, changes in salinity, and contaminant load in the Suisun Marsh and Estuary;
- 2) Proposed studies and a projected timeline for implementation;
- 3) The status of the scientific peer review of the work plan prepared by the POD work team; and
- 4) Interim actions the State Water Board should consider based on currently available information.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

To ensure a productive and efficient workshop, and to ensure that all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be given time limits. Participants with similar comments are requested to make joint presentations.

The workshop will be informal. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants, but the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

Participants are required to provide their written materials, including scopes of work and study plans, by March 2, 2007. At the workshop, participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. The State Water Board requests that 15 copies of written comments be sent to:

Ms. Gita Kapahi, Chief
Bay Delta/Special Projects Unit
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Hand and special deliveries can be dropped at:

Division of Water Rights - Records Unit
1001 "I" Street, 2nd floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Participants are encouraged to also submit their comments electronically. Any documents submitted electronically must be in Adobe™ Portable Document Format (PDF). Electronic submittals to the State Water Board of documents less than 15 megabytes in total size (incoming mail server attachment limitation) may be sent via electronic mail to: gwilson@waterboards.ca.gov, with a subject of "Pelagic Organism Decline Workshop". Electronic submittals to the State Water Board of documents greater than 15 megabytes in total size should be sent by regular mail in PDF format on compact disk (CD™) media.

Each participant is requested to bring additional copies of any written submittals to the workshop for the use of the other participants.

INFORMATION REGARDING WORKSHOP

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Gita Kapahi, Chief, Bay-Delta Unit, at (916) 341-5289 or Barbara Leidigh, Staff Counsel IV, at (916) 341-5190.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

The enclosed map shows the location of the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal EPA) Building and public parking sites in Sacramento. The Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal EPA) Building, Coastal Hearing Room is accessible to persons with disabilities.

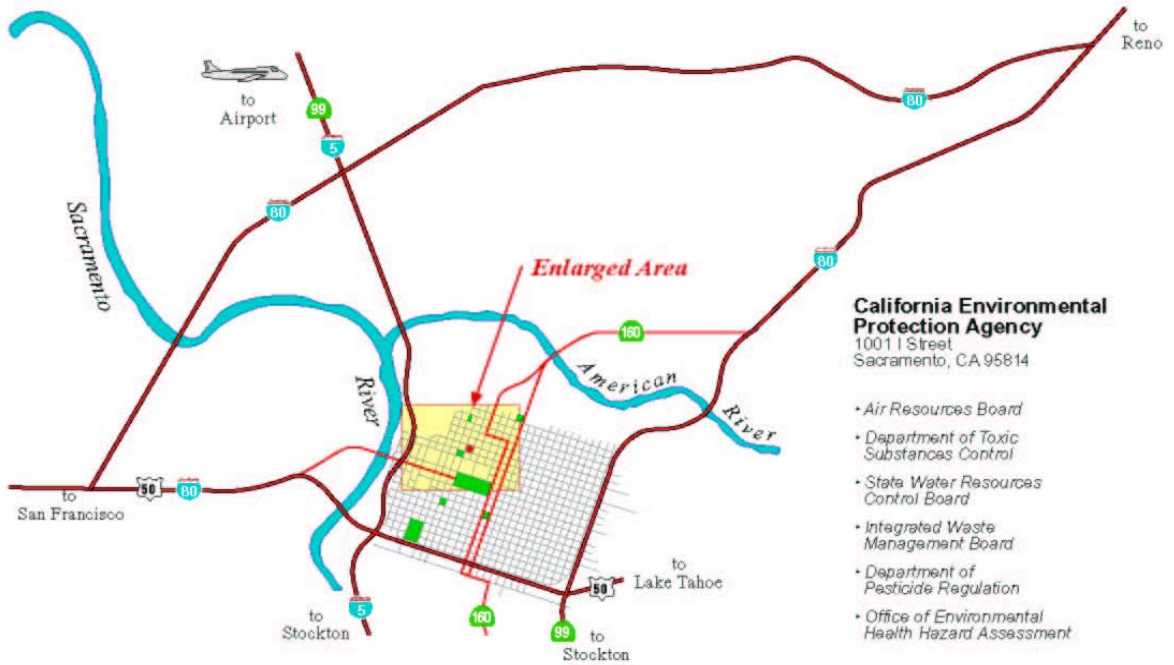
Due to enhanced security precautions at the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal EPA) Building, all visitors are required to sign in prior to attending any meeting. Visitors can sign in and obtain badges in the Visitor and Environmental Services Center, which is just inside and to the left of the building's public entrance. Visitors may be asked to show valid picture identification. Valid identification can take the form of a current driver's license, military identification card, or state and federal identification cards. Depending on the size and number of meetings scheduled on any given day, the security check-in could take from three to fifteen minutes. Please allow adequate time to sign in before being directed to your meeting.



Song Her
Clerk to the Board

Date: February 13, 2007

Enclosure: Map



Parking Lot Locations



Parking Lot Locations

- Lot 1 (7th & G St.)
- Lot 2 (7th & G St.)
- Lot A (7th & Capitol)
- Lot C (14th & H St.)
- Lot G (3rd & L)
- Lot H (10th & L)
- Lot I (10th & I, 11th & I)
- Lot K (6th & J/L, 7th & K)
- Lot P (2nd & I)
- Lot U (5th & J)
- Lot W (2nd & I St.)