

Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force Meeting September 18, 2008

Summary of Main Discussion Themes – Stakeholder Coordination Group: Wednesday, September 17, 2008

1. Governance

- Seems like most of the “fixes” are aimed at local government agencies yet it is State and Federal agencies that have mostly contributed to problems in the Delta
- Greater equity is needed between the proposed limitations on local government and those on State and Federal government to meet CDEW Plan objectives
- The divestiture of operating the state water project from DWR should be reinstated in the Strategic Plan
- The goal should be streamlining, not creating another layer of government
- The new CDEW Council must be given sufficient authority otherwise this entire effort will repeat of the mistakes of CalFed
- Concern exists about the composition of the Council having a sufficient understanding of the Delta to make wise decisions
- The realities associated with implementing some aspects of the plan, such as bringing water quality standards in compliance with the CDEW Plan, need to be given greater attention

2. Delta as Place

- The Delta should be elevated as the third co-equal goal
- If protecting the Delta as a place is supposed to be the “third leg of the stool,” along with water supply reliability and the ecosystem, it seems a little shorter than the other two
- Concerns exist about flood control options in the Delta, especially Roberts Island on the San Joaquin; clarity is needed on the priority areas for achieving greater flood control
- More needs to be done to integrate the discussion of flood management with the other benefits of flood control
- Priority and early implementation should be given to bringing all levees to the PL 84-99 protection; otherwise, breaches are likely

3. Ecosystem

- Suisun Marsh seems to be treated as a “solution area:” more accurate numbers and timeframes are needed for restoration goals
- From the second to the fourth draft, emphasis on terrestrial and other “non-fish” components of the ecosystem plan has been minimized; the language of the second draft needs to be reinstated
- Some are not convinced dual conveyance will help the ecosystem; this needs greater substantiation

4. Water Supply and Reliability

- Storage is stated as critical to achievement of the co-equal goals, but there does not seem to a provision for sufficient storage
- Clarity is needed concerning proposed fall and spring flow patterns; presumably it is not the intention for patterns to hold for the entire range of time suggested