

California's Delta

A strategy for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

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Governor's Executive Order

- Established by Governor's Executive Order S-17-06**
- Blue Ribbon Task Force**
 - ✓ **Develop a long-term vision for the Delta and a plan to implement that vision.**
 - ✓ **Our Vision for the California Delta (November 2007)**
 - ✓ **Delta Vision Strategic Plan (October 2008)**
- Delta Science Advisors**
- Delta Stakeholder Coordination Group**



Delta Vision Committee

- ❑ Called for by the Governor's Executive Order to make recommendations for implementing the Delta Vision and Strategic Plan by December 31, 2008
- ❑ Membership includes: Secretary for Resources (chair); the secretaries of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency; Department of Food and Agriculture; the California Environmental Protection Agency; and the President of the Public Utilities Commission.



Near Term Actions – Use Existing Authorities

- ❑ **Recognize the co-equal goals**
 - ✓ **Restore Delta ecosystem**
 - ✓ **Create reliable water supply for California**
- ❑ **Enhance and protect life and property in the Delta**
 - ✓ **Develop multi-agency Delta Flood Emergency Operations Plan (OES, DWR, DPC)**
 - ✓ **Increase Delta emergency preparedness – continue stockpile of food and response materials**
 - ✓ **Complete Delta Levee Policy Investment Plan**



Near Term Actions – Use Existing Authorities (cont.)

- ❑ Complete Bay-Delta Conservation Plan
- ❑ Complete CALFED Storage Investigation Studies
- ❑ Continue working with the Legislature for water bond funding
- ❑ Update Bay-Delta regulatory flow and water quality standards
- ❑ Implement existing programs to manage, control and reduce other stressors such as introduced species, contaminants, unscreened diversions



Near Term Actions – Use Existing Authorities (cont.)

- ❑ Complete Delta ecosystem restoration projects at Dutch Slough, Meins Landing, Yolo Bypass and Hill Slough
- ❑ Direct DWR to complete analysis to determine most efficient and cost effective operations of SWP and statewide water management functions.
- ❑ Complete evaluations of Delta gates and barriers that provide multiple objectives (water quality, supply and ecosystem functions); obtain permits for and construct those that are viable.
- ❑ Complete assessments for new conveyance and Delta ecosystem restoration through BDCP.



Longer Term Actions Requiring Possible New Authorities

Water Supply Reliability

- ✓ Move forward with new conveyance and new ecosystem restoration projects; ecosystem projects may require public funding.
- ✓ Improve water diversion and use reporting.
- ✓ Strengthen water rights accountability.
- ✓ Increase water use efficiency.
- ✓ Enhance/expand the Water Resources Control Board's water rights accountability.
- ✓ Encourage regional self-sufficiency, promote alternative supplies and increase local and regional water storage capacity.



Longer Term Actions Requiring Possible New Authorities (cont.)

❑ Ecosystem Restoration

- ✓ State, federal and local Delta agencies to integrate the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program into a proposed Delta Plan that would identify funding and direct restoration of large areas.
- ✓ Secure funds to expand implementation of invasive species programs.
- ✓ Require the Water Boards and DFG to expand evaluations of stressors on the aquatic habitat.
- ✓ Secure funds for DFG and the SWRCB to complete assessments of upstream inflow needs.



Longer Term Actions Requiring Possible New Authorities (cont.)

□ The Delta

- ✓ Achieve federal designation of parts as a National Heritage Area; expand the state recreation Area network in the Delta.
- ✓ Establish a Delta Investment Fund.
- ✓ Develop a Delta regional economic development plan.
- ✓ Accelerate land use policies for at risk areas in the Delta.



Longer Term Actions Requiring Possible New Authorities (cont.)

□ Governance and Funding

- ✓ **Modify interim governance for the Delta; establish a Delta Policy Group.**
- ✓ **Develop an enforceable Delta plan in coordination with state, federal and local agencies.**
- ✓ **Evaluate establishing long-term governance for the Delta.**
- ✓ **Enhance the Delta Protection Commission.**
- ✓ **Establish a Delta Conservancy.**
- ✓ **Implement strategic finance for Delta sustainability and to support core resource management activities of departments of Fish and Game, Water Resources and the Water Resources Control Board.**



Next Steps

- Review findings of two public workshops.
- Finalize recommendations to Governor due by December 31, 2008.
- Work with Administration and Legislature to develop legislation to implement new policies and structures.