



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Bay-Delta Resources

• Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for May 15, 2026–June 15, 2026.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Decide on Sites Reservoir and Protect our Bay-Delta Interests

Delta Conveyance Project

On May 26, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) received the National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion for Delta Conveyance Project construction and construction-related maintenance activities. Together with the Biological Opinion previously issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this important milestone completes the federal Endangered Species Act process for Project construction activities.

The fifth amendment to the Delta Conveyance Project funding agreement is expected to be executed by July 1, 2026. The amendment would modify the payment plan, deferring a portion of near-term payments to later in 2027 and 2028, to better align payments with expenses for projected Delta Conveyance Project work. Under the amended agreement, Metropolitan's total amount of payments would be the same as was authorized by the Board in 2024, and all other terms of the agreement would remain in effect.

Sites Reservoir

At the May 22 Sites Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meeting, the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board authorized the Executive Director to execute an Operations Agreement with DWR and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The agreement establishes a framework for coordinated operation of the Sites Project to ensure that diversions, releases, and conveyance activities do not adversely affect Central Valley Project or State Water Project operations, water rights, or regulatory compliance. The Reservoir Committee and the Authority Board also accepted the tentatively agreed terms in the Contract for Administration of Public Benefits (CAPB) with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and DWR, while withholding final determination on delivery quantities, including those for emergency response, until issuance of the final water right and contingent upon no substantial changes to the CAPB terms resulting from public comments.

Advance Science and Multi-Benefit Solutions That Improve the Sustainability of the Delta and Inform Regulation

Metropolitan received four construction proposals for the Webb Tract Restoration. Staff is currently verifying references for the apparent low bidder. Staff presented *Use of the Governor's Cutting the Green Tape Initiative* at the Association of California Water Agencies Spring Conference. On May 19, Legislative Services joined Bay-Delta Initiatives staff on Bouldin Island for a site visit. On June 10-11, representatives from the Central Arizona Project joined Bay-Delta staff for a tour of Lake Oroville and the Delta, including Bouldin Island.

Metropolitan staff provided support to DWR with the Change of Point of Diversion hearings before the State Water Resources Control Board.

Date of Report: 7/14/2026

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Metropolitan staff published a paper titled “A Dendritic Strontium River Isoscape for Fisheries Applications in the Sacramento River Basin, California, USA.” The information from this paper is applicable to managing out-migrating Chinook Salmon and can be used to prioritize management actions.