



## ● Bay-Delta Management Report

### Summary

---

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for January 2023.

### Purpose

---

Informational

### Detailed Report

---

#### Long-Term Delta Actions

##### Delta Conveyance

The public comment period for the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) closed on Friday, December 16, 2022. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is in the process of reviewing and responding to comments received on the Draft EIR and plans to issue a Final EIR in late 2023.

On December 16, 2023, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) released the public Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the DCP. The USACE held three virtual public meetings in January to receive comments from affected federal, state, regional, and local agencies, Native American tribes, other interested private organizations and the public on the project and the draft document. The USACE extended the comment period by 30 days until March 16, 2023.

##### Joint Powers Authorities

On January 13, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Board of Directors held a special meeting and approved extending a resolution authorizing virtual Board and Committee meetings pursuant to AB 361.

During the January 19 meeting of the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) new board officers were elected, with the President as Paul Sethy (Alameda County Water District), Vice President as Russell Lefevre (Metropolitan), Secretary as Robert Cheng (Coachella Valley Water District), and Treasurer as Katano Kasaine (Metropolitan).

##### Sites Reservoir

In their January joint meetings, the Sites Project Authority Board (Authority Board) and the Sites Reservoir Committee (Reservoir Committee) authorized the Authority Board to enter into a Financial Assistance Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) securing the FY22 \$80 million Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act storage funds allocated to the Sites Reservoir Project. The Authority Board and Reservoir Committee also reviewed and confirmed key points of response to Reclamation's December 16, 2022, letter indicating interest in participation in the Sites Reservoir Project at 16 percent and discussed steps of converting from supply-based participation to storage allocation-based participation in the project.

#### Near-Term Delta Actions

##### Regulatory Activities

On January 5, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) released the *Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement in Support of Proposed Voluntary Agreements for the Sacramento River, Delta, and Tributaries Update to the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Water Quality Control Plan* (Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement). The SWRCB held a Board Workshop on January 19, and public comments on the Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement are due February 8, 2023. The Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement documents the science supporting the provisions included in the proposed Voluntary Agreements

## Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

(VAs) and is the first step to considering the VAs as an alternative for the Sac/Delta Update and implementation of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Plan). Staff is reviewing the Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement and coordinating with the State Water Contractors (SWC) to develop comments. The next steps in the Sac/Delta Update to the Bay-Delta Plan include:

- Spring 2023: Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement revised to address public comments and submitted for independent peer review,
- Spring 2023: SWRCB releases Draft Bay-Delta Plan Update Staff Report for public comment,
- Spring/Summer 2023: Public workshop on Draft Staff Report,
- Spring/Summer 2024: Release of final draft Staff Report including responses to comments and proposed Sac/Delta changes to the Bay-Delta Plan, and
- Summer/Fall 2024: State Board consideration of adoption of the Sac/Delta Update to Bay-Delta Plan.

Staff coordinated with SWC to develop a near-term monitoring program to determine if Delta smelt and longfin smelt are present in the South Delta turbidity field, and to evaluate the effects of the 2019/2020 Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Permit Early Winter Pulse Protection Action (EWPPA). The monitoring includes coordination with DWR and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and utilizes environmental DNA monitoring methods to determine whether smelt are present in the south Delta and to inform the efficacy of the EWPPA. On January 18, the SWC Board of Directors approved funding to implement the monitoring.

### Science Activities

Staff worked with researchers from UC Davis to complete the first Delta Smelt Pilot Propagation Study. The study involved using impoundments on Bouldin Island for use in Delta Smelt Cage Studies. The study successfully demonstrated impoundments as a viable tool for aquaculture of Delta smelt on Metropolitan's Delta Islands properties in the effort to produce more Delta smelt for supplementation into the wild. The second deployment is scheduled for the beginning of February 2023.

### Delta Island Activities

Staff is developing several grant proposals for proposed projects on the Delta Islands, including wetland/habitat restoration projects on Bouldin Island and Webb Tract, funding for a Phase I Delta Smelt study, funding for construction of Phase II of the Delta Smelt Project, and is pursuing a planning grant for a proposed integrated research, training, and education center on Bouldin Island.

### **Metropolitan Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix and EcoRestore/Delta Conveyance Project (BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP) Expenditures**

The following is a summary of Metropolitan's cumulative BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP expenditures updated for the quarter ending December 2022. This report includes the total internal costs related to the BDCP, the CWF-CER alternatives, and the subsequent DCP efforts with the state administration.

Staff will continue to provide this report on a quarterly basis in the Bay Delta Management Report.

### **Total (July 2005 – December 2022)**

<b>BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP Internal MWD</b>	<b>Total Costs (17.50 yrs.)</b>
Labor & Benefits <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 37.24M
Professional Services	\$ 7.13M
Travel	\$ 1.79M
Other <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 0.18M
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 46.34M</b>
<u>Administrative Overhead</u>	<u>\$ 13.49M</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 59.83M</b>

Date of Report: 2/14/2023

## Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

(1) Labor costs include salary, leave and non-leave benefits

(2) Other includes charges for materials and supplies, trainings & seminars, conferences & meetings, reprographics, and other incidental expenses

### Quarterly Summary (January 2022 – December 2022)

	<b>FY21-22 Q3</b>	<b>FY21-22 Q4</b>	<b>FY22-23 Q1</b>	<b>FY22-23 Q2</b>
	<b>Jan-Mar 2022</b>	<b>Apr-Jun 2022</b>	<b>Jul-Sep 2022</b>	<b>Oct-Dec 2022*</b>
Labor	0.244M	0.272M	0.283M	0.273M
Professional Services	0.045M	0.001M	0.000M	0.001M
Travel	0.000M	0.000M	0.002M	0.000M
Other	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>0.289M</b>	<b>0.273M</b>	<b>0.285M</b>	<b>0.274M</b>
Admin. Overhead	0.086M	0.091M	0.062M	0.064M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.375M</b>	<b>0.364M</b>	<b>0.347M</b>	<b>0.338M</b>

The following is a summary of the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority costs for member's share of administrative expenses:

### Quarterly Summary (January 2022 – December 2022)

	<b>FY21-22 Q3</b>	<b>FY21-22 Q4</b>	<b>FY22-23 Q1</b>	<b>FY22-23 Q2</b>
	<b>Jan-Mar 2022</b>	<b>Apr-Jun 2022</b>	<b>Jul-Sep 2022</b>	<b>Oct-Dec 2022*</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.003M</b>	<b>0.002M</b>	<b>0.002M</b>	<b>0.002M</b>

\* Includes slight adjustment due to transition from accrual to cash basis reporting