



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Office of the General Manager

• Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

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

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Sites Reservoir

At the November 17 Joint Reservoir Committee and Sites Authority Board meeting, the Sites Authority Board approved a resolution to certify the Final Environmental Impact Report and approved the Sites Reservoir Project as described in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings. The Sites Authority Board also directed the Executive Director of the Sites Authority to file a Notice of Determination and certify the CEQA record of proceedings.

Delta Conveyance Related Joint Powers Authorities

At the November 16 regularly scheduled Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) Board meeting, the board approved an amendment to the bylaws authorizing the DCFA Board to adopt a policy that authorizes the disclosure of information disclosed in a DCFA closed session consistent with Government Code requirements. Amending the bylaws to include this policy will allow for the sharing of information with members' legislative bodies and their legal counsel and allow those agencies to take action accordingly.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Science Update

Science staff is reviewing the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Draft Staff Report and Substitute Environmental Document released by the State Water Resources Control Board on September 28, 2023. The deadline for written comments has been extended to January 19, 2024.

Additionally, staff participated in the Delta Science Programs Workshop: Exploring Scientific and Management Implications of Upper Trophic Level Foodwebs in the Delta and served on the panel on Ecosystem Management in the Delta panel. Additional panel members included CDFW, California Department of Water Resources, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Delta Conservancy, and the United Auburn Indian Community. The goal of this workshop was to determine the management needs for decision support tools of foodweb models for managing the Delta and Suisun Bay.

Delta Islands

Metropolitan's Multi-Benefit Landscape Restoration Planning Grant for its Delta Islands from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is in its final phase of developing conceptual plans and basis of designs for six recommended pilot projects and scientific research studies for Bouldin Island. The primary objective of this grant

Date of Report: 1/9/2024

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

is to assist in identifying opportunities on Metropolitan's Islands in addressing land subsidence, habitat restoration, carbon sequestration, sustainable agricultural practices, and water quality/reliability.

Final edits to the draft grant agreement for the Multi-Benefit Landscape Restoration Project on Webb Tract were completed, and the agreement is going through the state's administrative review process. Staff has executed three consultant agreements for design, environmental planning, and public outreach and the final consultant agreement for scientific studies is expected to be completed in early December 2023.