



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for April 2022.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Delta Conveyance

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is continuing to develop a public Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act for the Delta Conveyance Project. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as part of its permitting review under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. DWR and USACE are planning to release draft environmental documents for public review in mid-2022.

Joint Powers Authorities

During a Special Board of Directors meeting on April 8, the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Board of Directors approved a resolution to extend virtual board and committee meetings pursuant to AB 361.

The regularly scheduled April 21 meeting of the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority was cancelled.

Sites Reservoir

At their April meetings, the Sites Project Authority Board and the Sites Reservoir Committee were presented an update to the Amendment 3 project agreement approval process (agencies approving continuation of funding for completion of planning process), including estimated participation levels. Current participants have all reported back and there is approximately 1,000 acre-feet of unsubscribed capacity. There is an approved "waiting list" for new participants who have submitted letters of interest prior to March 31. Sites Reservoir staff will reach out to existing participants for interest in making voluntary reductions to accommodate increased U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) investment and "waiting list" capacity.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Regulatory Activities

On April 4, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) approved in part the Temporary Urgency Change Petition that DWR and Reclamation jointly filed in March in response to critically dry conditions in the Bay-Delta watershed. The State Water Board Order allows temporary changes for Delta outflow and Delta salinity requirements during the April 1 to June 30, 2022, timeframe.

Staff continued to participate in the collaborative groups called for in the 2019 Biological Opinions for the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project, and in the 2020 Incidental Take Permit for long-term operation of the SWP, to address science needs and inform management and operation of the water projects. In April, staff continued collaboration with the state and federal agencies to develop conceptual models for steelhead that can inform development of a monitoring program and directed studies for steelhead populations within the San Joaquin Basin. Staff also worked with the Delta Coordination Group to implement an expert elicitation to evaluate the impacts of the Summer-Fall Habitat Actions on the occurrence of contaminants and their effects on

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Delta smelt and their prey. The results of the expert elicitation will be used in the Structured Decision-Making effort for 2022 to evaluate the North Delta Food Web Subsidy Action and the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gate Action.

Science Activities

Staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team. In April, activity focused on discussion of a draft CSAMP Progress Report and priorities for the next year. CSAMP also received briefings on the impacts of thiamine deficiency on Central Valley salmon and on the Delta Science Program's Science Action Agenda.

Staff continued collaboration with non-government environmental organizations and public water agencies on the CSAMP Salmon Recovery Initiative. In April, the project team continued presentations to interested parties throughout the Central Valley to make them aware of the project and ask for their participation in Phase 2 of the process. At the second large presentation, over 100 interested parties including tribal groups, conservation groups, water agencies, and state and federal agencies joined the meeting. The project team is now in the information collecting phase to collect information on existing projects to benefit salmon and potential habitat restoration. Phase 2 is focused on soliciting actions planned to aid in salmon recovery, and in phase 3, those actions will be analyzed to see which actions best achieve salmon recovery while meeting other objectives (e.g. cost, water supply, ag production, etc.).

Staff co-authored a scientific paper that reported on results from a study evaluating the bioavailability of pesticides in juvenile Chinook salmon habitat in the Sacramento River watershed. The study was funded by a Prop 1 grant with cost-share from Metropolitan. The paper published on March 30 in the journal *Environmental Science & Technology* ([Dietary Exposure to Bifenthrin and Fipronil Impacts Swimming Performance in Juvenile Chinook Salmon \(*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*\) | Environmental Science & Technology \(acs.org\)](#)) evaluated the swimming performance of Chinook salmon exposed to environmentally relevant concentrations of two pesticides commonly used in the Central Valley. The study found that juvenile salmon exposed to the pesticides had significantly reduced swimming performance and had impacts to their metabolism. These types of effects may have significant impacts on juvenile salmon abilities to avoid predators and forage for food.

Metropolitan Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix & 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 March 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 – March 2022)

BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP Internal MWD	Total Costs (16.75 yrs.)
Labor & Benefits ⁽¹⁾	\$ 36.41M
Professional Services	\$ 7.13M
Travel	\$ 1.79M
Other ⁽²⁾	\$ 0.18M
SUBTOTAL	\$ 45.51M
Administrative Overhead	\$ 13.27M
TOTAL	\$ 58.78M

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

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

Quarterly Summary (April 2021 – March 2022)

	FY20-21 Q4	FY21-22 Q1	FY21-22 Q2	FY21-22 Q3
	Apr-Jun 2021	Jul-Sep 2021	Oct-Dec 2021	Jan-Mar 2022
Labor	0.353M	0.301M	0.286M	0.244M
Professional Services	0.009M	0.003M	0.009M	0.045M
Travel	0.001M	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M
Other	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M
SUB-TOTAL	0.363M	0.304M	0.295M	0.289M
Admin. Overhead	0.131M	0.104M	0.100M	0.086M
TOTAL	0.494M	0.408M	0.395M	0.375M

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

Quarterly Summary (April 2021 – March 2022)

	FY20-21 Q4	FY21-22 Q1	FY21-22 Q2	FY21-22 Q3
	Apr-Jun 2021	Jul-Sep 2021	Oct-Dec 2021	Jan-Mar 2022
TOTAL	0.002M	0.004M	0.002M	0.003M