



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for July 2021.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Delta Conveyance

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is continuing to develop an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act.

DWR conducted the first of four technical webinars to inform the public and interested stakeholders about the current progress related to preparation of the Draft EIR. The first webinar on July 14 provided the public information on the operations of the State Water Project and Delta Conveyance. The remaining three webinars will continue to feature presentations from technical staff about the approaches, methodologies, and assumptions to be used in conducting impact analyses in the Draft EIR. All webinars are recorded and will be made available on DWR's website. Information about impact findings and specific mitigation measures is not available at this time but will be included in future outreach efforts following publication of the public Draft EIR. More information regarding the webinars is available on DWR's website.

Joint Powers Authorities

During the July 15, Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Board of Directors Meeting, the board approved an initial budget adjustment for fiscal year (FY) 2021/22. The budget change increased the adopted FY 2021/22 budget from \$21.5 million to \$23.5 million using funds remaining from last FY.

The Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (DCFA) regularly scheduled July meeting was cancelled.

Sites Reservoir

In July meetings, the Sites Project Authority Board and the Sites Reservoir Committee authorized the release of the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIR/SDEIS), including authorizing the Executive Director to file a Notice of Completion with the State Clearinghouse and complete other noticing requirements to initiate the public review process. Release of the RDEIR/SDEIS to the public is anticipated in late August 2021.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Regulatory Activities

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 (ITP) for Long-term Operation of the SWP, to address science needs and inform management and operation of the water projects. In July, staff continued work with state and federal agencies to develop a Juvenile Production Estimate for Spring-run Chinook salmon as a condition as required by the ITP. Current efforts are focused on developing a problem statement through focused discussions on what triggered the problem, why a decision must be made, and why the decision matters. These discussions are to ensure that the multiple state, federal, and water agencies participating in this effort all agree on why we need to develop a monitoring program to estimate juvenile production of spring-

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run, and agree on what the goals and objectives of this effort are before working on the details of a monitoring program. In August 2021 a final version of the problem statement will be circulated to the group for approval.

Science Activities

Staff continued collaboration with the State Water Contractors (SWC) Science Program. On July 15, the SWC released its FY 2020/21 Science Report ([FHA200621_SWC_Annual_Report_Fact_Sheet_C3.indd](#)) highlighting the importance of investing in research to provide a more reliable water supply for California while protecting, restoring and enhancing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta ecosystem.

Staff also continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). At the July 20 meeting, CAMT discussions focused on the potential roles and responsibilities of a proposed Delta smelt science program manager that would assist CAMT with the interface between the investigators who generate the science and the managers who use the science. CAMT also discussed a possible approach to develop recommendations regarding Delta monitoring needs.

Staff is leading a CSAMP effort to collaboratively develop a scientific definition of salmon recovery, expressed as a suite of clear, measurable objectives and landscape level quantitative targets. Staff is planning and participating in a series of technical workshops with experts in salmonid ecology to develop this definition. Some of the outcomes of those workshops include: (1) the decision to use the viable salmonid population (VSP) concept as a base for establishing objectives for recovery of salmonids in a broad sense; (2) identification of four parameters that are key to evaluating population viability status -- abundance, population growth rate, population spatial structure, and diversity; (3) agreement that goals to recover salmon should go beyond delisting of the species and include supporting long-term harvest; (4) that goals should be distinguished between fish of hatchery and non-hatchery origins; and (5) that the group consensus on these goals is desired. The workshop participants will reconvene in October 2021 to review, complete, and finalize these objectives.

UC Davis researchers completed a study funded by Metropolitan to develop methods for identifying the sources of important zooplankton food for juvenile Chinook salmon. The researchers analyzed the feasibility of using genomic sequencing, a laboratory procedure that determines the unique DNA fingerprint of an organism, to identify which floodplains are the source of *Daphnia pulex* (*D. pulex*), which is an important zooplankton food resource for juvenile Chinook Salmon. They observed that *D. pulex* from the Butte, Knaggs, and Cosumnes basins have a genetic signature that is distinctive and clearly differentiated from one another. These results could ultimately be applied to quantify production and export of fish food generated in off-channel habitats, such as floodplains, and evaluate how the fish food moves through the system under a variety of management actions such as habitat restoration, pulse flows, managed agricultural floodplains, and other actions.

Staff also participated in other collaborative Delta science forums to provide input to workplans and studies, including the Delta Independent Science Board and the Delta Science Program Science Actions Workshop for development of the 2022-2026 Science Action Agenda.

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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 June 2021. 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 – June 2021)

BDCP/CWF-CER/DCP Internal MWD	Total Costs (16.0 yrs.)
Labor & Benefits ⁽¹⁾	\$ 35.58M
Professional Services	\$ 7.07M
Travel	\$ 1.79M
Other ⁽²⁾	\$ 0.18M
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SUBTOTAL	\$ 44.62M
Administrative Overhead	\$ 12.98M
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TOTAL	\$ 57.60M

⁽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 (July 2020 – June 2021)

	FY20-21 Q1	FY20-21 Q2	FY20-21 Q3	FY20-21 Q4
	Jul-Sep 2020	Oct-Dec 2020	Jan-Mar 2021	Apr-Jun 2021
Labor	0.350M	0.437M	0.327M	0.353M
Professional Services	0.101M	0.031M	0.200M	0.009M
Travel	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M	0.001M
Other	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M	0.000M
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SUB-TOTAL	0.451M	0.468M	0.527M	0.363M
Admin. Overhead	0.117M	0.148M	0.121M	0.131M
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TOTAL	0.568M	0.616M	0.648M	0.494M

The following is a summary of the DCFA costs for member’s share of administrative expenses:

Quarterly Summary (July 2020 – June 2021)

	FY20-21 Q1	FY20-21 Q2	FY20-21 Q3	FY20-21 Q4
	Jul-Sep 2020	Oct-Dec 2020	Jan-Mar 2021	Apr-Jun 2021
TOTAL	0.003M	0.003M	0.003M	0.002M