



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for December 2017.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

California WaterFix

On December 6, the California Natural Resources Agency held an Industry Day in Sacramento for firms interested in providing services related to the design and construction of the California WaterFix project. Four solicitations for services were issued for engineering design management, right-of-way and real property services, survey and right-of-way engineering, and geotechnical services. These are the first request for services issued for the program.

Staff is continuing its engagement with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and other public water agencies on project implementation and cost/benefit tools, such as long-term transfers.

The California WaterFix Petition proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) are ongoing. Part 2 of the hearings will address the effects of the proposed project on fish and wildlife, including consideration of appropriate Delta flow criteria. Opening briefs for Part 2 were submitted to the SWRCB on November 30, 2017, and Part 2 of the California WaterFix hearing will commence January 18, 2018. Staff is reviewing testimony and preparing for the hearing.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Science Activities

Staff continued participation in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program, including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team. December meetings focused on Delta smelt issues. Staff participated in the Delta Smelt Scoping Team process to develop a decision support tool for the Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy, and develop management questions that would guide development of a long-term monitoring program to inform management actions for Delta smelt. DWR is planning to implement two Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy actions in 2018 – the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gate action and the North Delta food web action. These actions are hypothesized to improve habitat conditions and provide greater access to food resources. Staff is providing input to the monitoring plan for the Suisun Marsh Salinity Gates action and to the comprehensive U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Directed Outflow Project for 2018, which will include monitoring of Delta smelt habitat factors throughout the spring to fall 2018 period.

Bay-Delta Initiatives staff person Corey Phillis published [a paper in the peer-reviewed journal *Biological Conservation*](#) identifying important and overlooked juvenile habitats of winter-run Chinook salmon. The study was a collaboration with scientists from NOAA Fisheries, UC Davis, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The publication was featured in [an article in the *Sacramento Bee*](#), including quotes from Corey and his coauthors.

On December 6, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife announced the selection of 39 projects to receive funding from its Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)

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Restoration Grant Programs. Seven projects were awarded funding in the scientific studies category. Staff assisted in the development and/or offered budgeted financial support for three of seven selected projects. These three projects are focused on the effects that pesticides have on juvenile salmonids that rear on floodplains; juvenile salmon distribution, abundance, and growth in restored Delta marsh habitats; and the impacts that export operations have on juvenile salmon survival, entrainment, and predation mortality.

Delta Emergency Preparedness

Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan

DWR is currently testing a revised Emergency Response Tool (ERT) model that has been disaggregated so that various channel closure, pathway or other response scenarios can be simulated independent of the full Delta regional analysis. Testing has been conducted with the California Civil Air Patrol to characterize emergency conditions on the ground, and simulate response scenarios using ERT modeling capabilities.

Sheet pile with up to 120 feet installed length, consisting of large pipe pile and intermediate sheet pile between the pipe segments, is expected to be delivered to the Stockton stockpile site by the second quarter 2018. This piling would be capable of closing the deepest levee breaches and would be a redundant measure to rock closures in emergency conditions. With the pile delivery, stockpiles for purposes of emergency response should be almost complete. DWR plans to stockpile additional rock, bringing the total to more than 400,000 tons or enough to close three major breaches. In addition to stockpiled materials, the stockpile sites include four loading and offloading sites for rock, sheet pile, and other materials.

Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Expenditures

Overall

With completion of the planning phase, the following October 2017 report totals expenditures through the end of the planning phase as shown below. This report showed the funding and commitments based on: (1) funding agreements between DWR and the state and federal water contractors; (2) funding from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) under a Federal Funding Agreement; and (3) funds made available by DWR. The funding agreements between DWR and the water contractors are the December 2008 Funding Agreement and July 2010 Supplemental Funding Agreement. Prior to these two funding agreements, an additional \$13.5 million was expended under the November 2006 BDCP Cooperative Cost-Share Agreement for startup costs related to development and review of the BDCP and consulting resources necessary to prepare the BDCP. In addition to these funding agreements, DWR and USBR have provided additional planning funds. None of the state funds are state general fund dollars. To date, \$14.4 million of additional funds have been received and made available to the budget and are included in the table below.

Metropolitan's Share. Metropolitan's commitment under this program remains at \$63 million.

Funding Agreements	Total Project (in millions) as of October 2017		
	Budget	Commitment	Remaining
TOTAL	\$ 254.0	\$ 261.6	(\$7.6)

* November 2006 BDCP Cooperative Cost-Share Agreement totaling \$13.5 million is not included in the above table.

California WaterFix 2017 Program Budget and Commitments

With the planning phase completed as described above, the California WaterFix budget for the remaining portion of Calendar year 2017 was established. Expenditures under this budget have been lower than planned. Most of the 2017 Budget will carry forward to 2018. The table below shows the budget and commitments which reflect all post-EIR approval program costs not classified as planning:

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Funding Agreements		Total Project (in millions) as of November 2017		
		Budget	Commitment	Remaining
Program Administration		\$ 16.17	\$ 3.97	\$ 12.2
Design & Construction	Tunnel & Shafts	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.41
	Utilities, Power, & Roads	\$ 4.03	\$ 0.13	\$ 3.90
	Geotech. Design Studies & Drilling	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.47
Contingency		\$ 3.64	\$ 0.00	\$ 3.64
TOTAL		\$ 24.73	\$ 4.11	\$ 20.62