

INFORMATION ITEM

Delta Watermaster Update

Summary: Delta Watermaster Michael Patrick George will report on his office's activities related to the Delta Plan, focusing on efforts to address the current drought.

BACKGROUND

The Office of the Delta Watermaster was created by the Delta Reform Act of 2009 (Water Code §85230). The Delta Watermaster is a special master for the Delta, appointed to a four-year term by the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), and regularly reporting to the Water Board and the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) (Water Code §85230(d)).

As Watermaster, Mr. George is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day administration of water rights and, when necessary, taking enforcement action related to water diversions in the Delta. The Watermaster also confers with and assists the Water Board and the Council as they carry out legislative mandates to enhance the Delta ecosystem and improve statewide water supply reliability.

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

The Watermaster will discuss the current priorities of his office at today's meeting. First, Mr. George will provide an overview of the current water right curtailment and reporting orders in the Delta in response to the current drought. He will also discuss the use of consistent data that enables the implementation of the Delta Alternative Compliance Plan (meeting the requirements of the Water Board's diversion measurement regulations).

Other topics the Watermaster will touch on include updates on water quality control planning, details regarding a water conservation and quality protection pilot program in the Delta, and efforts underway to build engagement capacity in the Delta.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Not applicable.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

None

CONTACT

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