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Posted Date: January 17, 2020 ([Revised January 29, 2020](#))

## **Revised Meeting Notice of the Delta Independent Science Board**

Thursday, January 30, 2020 (Day 1)  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST

Friday, January 31, 2020 (Day 2)  
8:30 AM to 11:00 AM PST

The notice has been revised to add a teleconference location in Berkeley, California. Please see purple text.

### **Meeting Location**

Park Tower, Second Floor Conference Room  
980 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

### **Teleconference Location**

2406 Lalor Road, Oregon, WI 53575

[1198 Keith Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94708 \(New Location\)](#)

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### **Webcast**

The meeting will be webcast at <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov>.

### **Meeting Materials**

Materials referenced in this notice are available on the [events web page](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/events) at <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/events>. Members of the public are encouraged to visit the events web page to view the meeting materials. A limited number of copies of these materials will be available at the meeting.

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### **Purpose**

The Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB) will meet regarding its current reviews and efforts. This will include discussion of the Delta ISB's draft memorandums on its review of the Delta Stewardship Council's preliminary public draft of the Delta Plan Ecosystem Amendment and the Delta Social Science Task Force's Draft Social Science Strategy for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Based on the discussion of each item, the Delta ISB may take action on the approval of the content of each draft memorandum for each review for submission after the meeting.

Other highlights include a presentation by ESSA Technologies Ltd., CBEC eco engineering, and PAX Environmental Inc. on its preliminary evaluation of monitoring programs in the Delta, including potential gaps and areas of overlap, to inform the Delta ISB's recommendations for its monitoring enterprise review. In addition, the Delta ISB will moderate a panel discussion

with leading experts on the challenges of conducting ecological research to inform management in times of rapid environmental change.

This section describes the highlights. For more information about the meeting, refer to the agenda below.

## **Agenda**

The agenda items listed below may be considered in a different order pursuant to the determination of the Delta ISB chair. Times listed on the agenda are approximate only. At the discretion of the Delta ISB, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated upon and may be subject to action.

### ***Day 1: Thursday, January 30, 2020***

~ 9:00 AM: Meeting Starts

1. Welcome and Declarations
2. Delta ISB Chair Report and Business Matters
3. Delta Lead Scientist Report

Dr. John Callaway will report on recent advances in Delta science and research, including an overview of an article on the complex life histories discovered in Delta smelt ([Hobbs et al. 2019](#)).

4. Council Chair and Executive Officer Report
5. Discussion and Potential Action: Delta ISB's Review of the Draft Social Science Strategy for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (**Action Item**)

The Delta Social Science Task Force, coordinated by the Delta Stewardship Council and the UC Davis Coastal and Marine Sciences Institute, is accepting comments on the [Draft Social Science Strategy for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta](#) through January 31, 2020. At the meeting, the Delta ISB will discuss its draft memorandum commenting on the Draft Social Science Strategy. Based on the discussion, the Delta ISB may take action to approve the content of the memorandum for submission to the Delta Social Science Task Force after the meeting.

6. Delta ISB Updates and Discussion on Current Activities
  - a. Science Needs Assessment

Based on the endorsement of the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee and the recommendations from the Delta ISB, the Delta Stewardship Council is planning a public Science Needs Assessment Workshop. The workshop will identify key science needs to provide long-term management insights in the context of rapidly changing environments and recommendations for organizing the science enterprise to better address complex and changing problems.

b. Interagency Ecological Program Review

The Delta ISB has completed its review on the Interagency Ecological Program's ability to provide science to support management of the Delta (see [final review](#)), and will discuss recent and upcoming outreach efforts.

c. Water Supply Reliability Review

The Delta ISB is undertaking a review of the scientific efforts and methods for estimating and evaluating water supply reliability that could identify areas for improved coordination and future research.

d. Ecosystems (Non-native Species) Review

The Delta ISB is in the process of reviewing the adequacy of the science to predict and explain the effects of non-native species in Delta ecosystems, and the potential for controlling current and future invaders.

7. Public Comments

The Delta ISB will take public comments on topics within its jurisdiction that are not on the agenda.

~ 11:00 AM: Closed Session

8. Closed Session (Personnel Matters): Appointment of the Delta Lead Scientist (Not Open to the Public)

The United States Geological Survey and the Delta Stewardship Council are in the process of recruiting the next lead scientist for the Delta Science Program, whose term would begin in fall 2020. The Delta lead scientist is appointed by the Delta Stewardship Council after consultation with the Delta ISB, pursuant to Water Code section 85280(b).

The Delta ISB will meet in closed session to discuss the matter of appointing a Delta lead scientist, including progress and status.

(This closed session is authorized under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (a).)

~ 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM: Lunch

~ 1:00 PM: Reconvene Open Session

9. Report out on Closed Session & Next Steps for Appointing the Delta Lead Scientist

10. Panel Discussion: Ecology During Rapid Environmental Change

The Delta ISB will moderate a panel discussion on scoping out and addressing the challenges of conducting ecological research to inform management in times of rapid environmental change. Panelists include leading experts Carrie Kappel, Jeff Mount, Melanie Harsch, Margaret Palmer, Sam Luoma, and Tessa Hill. To help stimulate discussion at the meeting, the Delta ISB has drafted a [discussion paper](#) on the topic.

~ 5:00 PM: Day 1 Adjourned

## **Day 2: Friday, January 31, 2020**

~ 8:30 AM: Meeting Starts

11. Welcome Back and Reconvene

12. Presentation: Overview of the Interim Comprehensive Synthesis Report (Report #3) to Inform the Delta ISB's Monitoring Enterprise Review

The Delta ISB is in the process of conducting a review on the monitoring enterprise. To help inform the development of the Delta ISB's recommendations, ESSA Technologies Ltd., CBEC eco engineering, and PAX Environmental Inc. are in the process of developing an inventory of monitoring activities. At the meeting, Marc Nelitz of ESSA Technologies Ltd., Jai Singh of CBEC eco engineering, and Tom Lagerquist of PAX Environmental Inc. will provide an overview of the interim comprehensive synthesis report, which will identify potential gaps and areas of overlap among monitoring activities based on the current inventory.

13. Discussion and Potential Action: Review of the Draft Delta Plan Ecosystem Amendment (**Action Item**)

The Delta ISB will discuss its draft memorandum on its review, pursuant to Water Code section 85308(a), of the preliminary public draft of the proposed amendment to Delta Plan Chapter 4 (Protect, Restore, and Enhance the Delta Ecosystem). Based on the discussion, the Delta ISB may take action on the approval of the content of the memorandum for submission to the Delta Stewardship Council after the meeting.

14. Discussion and Potential Action: Planning Future Delta ISB Reviews (**Action Item**)

The Delta ISB will continue its discussion on future review topics, and may take action on next steps for selecting future review topics.

15. Preparation for Upcoming Delta ISB Meetings

16. Review of Items for Follow-up

17. Public Comments

The Delta ISB will take public comments on topics within its jurisdiction that are not on the agenda.

~ 11:00 AM: Day 2 Adjourned

## **References**

Hobbs, J.A., L.S. Lewis., M. Willmes, C. Denney, and E. Bush. 2019. Complex life histories discovered in a critically endangered fish. *Scientific Reports* 9. Article number: 16772. Available at <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-019-52273-8>.

## **Additional Information**

- If you have any questions, please contact Edmund Yu at 916-445-0637 or [Edmund.Yu@deltacouncil.ca.gov](mailto:Edmund.Yu@deltacouncil.ca.gov).
- Members of the public shall be provided an opportunity to address the Delta ISB on any agenda items except closed session items and those items for which the public has already been afforded such opportunity at an earlier meeting. In addition, comments during the Public Comment period shall be limited to matters within the Delta ISB's jurisdiction and not on the agenda. Reasonable time limits may be established for public comments (Government Code Sections 11125.7).
- If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Delta Stewardship Council's Human Resources Office at (916) 445-5511, TDD (800) 735-2929.