

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL 2021 PRIORITIES: PROGRESS UPDATE						
Timeframe	2021				January 2022: Progress Update	
STRENGTHEN AND IMPLEMENT THE DELTA PLAN						
Delta Levees Investment Strategy (DLIS)	2014- 2021		Review and deliberate updated decision support tool results	Revised Rulemaking Public Hearing	Revised Rulemaking Adoption	DLIS rulemaking was withdrawn in March 2020 to evaluate new levee condition (LiDAR elevation) data. Council staff presented the results of the evaluation to the Council in May 2021, and the Council authorized staff to reinstate the rulemaking process in August 2021. Staff anticipates conducting a public hearing for the rulemaking process in Spring 2022 and an effective regulation date in Fall 2022.
Delta Plan Ecosystem Amendment	2017-2021			Draft Environmental Impact Report	Final Environmental Impact Report/Amendment Adoption	The Council released a Draft PEIR for public review in September 2021, and the public comment period ended in November 2021. Staff anticipates releasing the Final PEIR in June 2022 and conducting a public hearing to adopt the Ecosystem Amendment in Summer 2022, to be followed by rulemaking.
Delta Adapts	2018-2021	Draft and Final Vulnerability Assessment Report Adaptation Strategy Scope			Draft Adaptation Strategy	The Council released a draft Vulnerability Assessment in January 2021 for public review and comment, and endorsed the Vulnerability Assessment final report in June 2021. Staff has initiated preparation of the accompanying Adaptation Strategy, supported by a Stakeholder Working Group and several topic-specific focus groups. Completion of the Adaptation Strategy is anticipated in 2023.
Implementation of the Delta Plan Five-Year Review Report	2020-2021	Environmental Justice White Paper Scope		Administrative Performance Measures Updates		Environmental Justice Issue Paper. Staff presented a workplan for the Environmental Justice (EJ) Issue paper to the Council in February 2021, and has convened an EJ Expert Group to guide preparation and review of the issue paper. Completion of the EJ Issue Paper is anticipated in 2023. Appeals Procedures. Proposed revisions to the Council's Appeals Procedures were circulated for a 90-day public review period in December 2021. Staff anticipates convening a Council workshop to review the procedures in early 2022. Following the workshop, staff will present the proposed revisions to the Council for adoption. Performance Measures Outreach. Council Staff completed data updates and enhancements to the online Performance Measures Dashboard and coordinated with several agencies to update Administrative Performance Measures.

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Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC)	Ongoing					DPIIC met virtually in March, July, and October. The March meeting focused on nature-based climate adaptation and the creation of an interagency task force to help refine recommendations related to the Delta Independent Science Board's Science Needs Assessment. The July meeting featured a panel on ecosystem-based management during drought and science updates related to the Science Action Agenda, social science integration, and the Delta Crosscut Budget. The October meeting continued the discussion on ecosystem-based management during drought with a multi-agency panel as well as endorsement of the formation of the DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee.
Covered Actions	Ongoing	Covered action early consultation, certifications, and appeals as received				<p>In 2021, the Council received 10 certifications of consistency for covered actions. Appeals were submitted by four parties for DWR's Lookout Slough Habitat Restoration Project. The Council's findings remanded this covered action in part, on the issues of best available science used to estimate recreational use and project siting for recreational access to address Delta as Place considerations. The Council conducted hearings on this appeal in May 2021 and July 2021, and DWR submitted a recertification for this project in December 2021.</p> <p>Additionally, Council staff distributed 16 detailed comment letters to identify potential covered actions and to ensure state and local agencies are aware of the Delta Plan's requirements and how they may apply to their work. This outreach is part of our early consultation process, which successfully engages state and local agencies regarding certification of consistency requirements.</p>

BUILD CAPACITY FOR ONE DELTA, ONE SCIENCE						
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Delta Science Proposal Solicitation Notice			Funding Recommendations Presented to the Council			Contracting is underway for the 16 projects selected for funding.
State of Bay Delta Science					Edition Chapters submitted for Peer Review	All chapters of the next edition have been drafted and are undergoing initial review and revision. All chapters will be submitted for Peer Review to the San Francisco Estuary of Watershed Sciences in the first half of 2022.
2021-2025 Science Action Agenda (SAA)	2020-2021				Draft SAA finalized, undergoing DISB review	Final draft of the SAA was released for public comment. The comment period closed on 1/21/22. Final 2022-2026 SAA anticipated by April 2022.
Bay-Delta Science Conference			All-virtual conference, April 6 - 9. Conference theme: Building Resilience through Diversity in Science			The 11th Biennial BDSC took place virtually on April 6 - 9, 2021, and saw the highest level of attendance (1,691 in the conference's history).
Adaptive Management Forum		All-virtual forum, February 3 - 5				The 2nd biennial Adaptive Management Forum took place February 3 - 5, 2021. The 2021 Adaptive Management Forum provided a collaborative platform to synthesize lessons learned from ecosystem restoration and water management projects and strengthen the connection between scientists and decision-makers on relevant science. Closing plenary speakers Drs. Letitia Grenier and Laurel Larsen offered transformative visions for science, governance, and community engagement to galvanize continued progress in adaptive management. All recordings are available on Maven's Notebook. The third biennial Adaptive Management Forum will be held in the first quarter of 2023.
Delta Science Tracker			Soft Launch of Science Tracker prototype			The Delta Science Tracker web platform has been developed, which will be a comprehensive tool for tracking and summarizing science activities and funding in the Delta. The public launch is anticipated in the first quarter of 2022.
Science Funding and Governance Initiative - Recommendations and Actions	2018-2021		Science Needs Assessment	Delta Crosscut Budget Report	Develop scope for critical review of science funding	The Science Needs Assessment was delayed due to the reduced capacity of the Delta ISB during 2021. The second Delta Crosscut Budget Report was released with broad inter-agency support and participation. Development of a scope for a critical review of science funding was indefinitely put on-hold due to changing priorities and capacity.
Monitoring Enterprise Review					Final Report from DISB	The Delta ISB released the public draft of the Monitoring Enterprise Review in September 2021 and the comment period closed on October 15, 2021. The Delta ISB is completing its final product for release in the first quarter of 2022.