



INFORMATION ITEM

San Francisco Estuary Partnership and Estuary Blueprint Update

Summary: Staff from the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) will provide the Council with details regarding the update to the Estuary Blueprint, a comprehensive conservation and management plan for the San Francisco Estuary.

BACKGROUND

SFEP was established in 1988 by the State of California and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act's National Estuary Program when the San Francisco Estuary was designated as an *estuary of national significance*. SFEP is a collaboration of local, state, and federal agencies, NGOs, academia, and business leaders working to protect and restore the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. SFEP's work is guided by the development and implementation of the [Estuary Blueprint](#), a comprehensive, collective vision for the Estuary's future. The Estuary Blueprint maps out the regional actions needed for a healthy, resilient San Francisco Estuary. The Estuary Blueprint seeks to: 1) sustain and improve habitats and living resources; 2) improve water quality and increase water quantity; 3) increase resiliency to climate change; and 4) champion the Estuary.

Created in 1993 under the title "Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan" (CCMP), the document has undergone several updates. The most recent update was completed in 2016. SFEP is now updating the Estuary Blueprint for 2022-2026 priority actions.

The 2022 update is being conducted with five guiding principles in mind: 1) remain aspirational yet feasible; 2) expand and deepen multi-sectoral engagement; 3) integrate further along geographies and plans; 4) focus on equity; and 5) include clarity and responsibility.

The Estuary Blueprint and the Delta Plan are sister documents. While the Estuary Blueprint is not regulatory and is not required to file consistency, it is important that the two documents be complementary. The Council supports and partners with SFEP (see Fiscal Information, below) and serves on the SFEP Implementation Committee; Special Assistant for Planning and Science Amanda Bohl is the current vice-chair of the Implementation Committee.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOPIC

The 2022 Estuary Blueprint update has been underway for the past year through a collaborative, multi-stakeholder process. Council staff has been actively engaged in

updating actions relevant to the Delta, including minimizing the impact of invasive species, increasing carbon sequestration, improving riparian and in-stream habitats, and ensuring compatibility with the Delta Plan.

SFEP anticipates the completion of the updated Estuary Blueprint in 2022.

FISCAL INFORMATION

The Council's current contract with SFEP (through the Association of Bay Area Governments) is for \$946,246.40 and supports science communication; planning and tracking of estuary status and trends (including updating the Estuary Blueprint); the State of the Estuary Conference; and project management and coordination. During its July 2021 meeting, the Council approved an amendment to the current contract that shifted funds from FY 20 to FY 21. The staff reports relating to the current contract are included as attachments 2 and 3.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Estuary Blueprint Update - <https://www.sfestuary.org/estuary-blueprint-update/>
- Attachment 2: August 2020 Delta Stewardship Council meeting staff report - <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/pdf/council-meeting/meeting-materials/2020-08-27-item-6b-new-abag-contract-2020.pdf>
- Attachment 3: July 2021 Delta Stewardship Council meeting staff report - <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/pdf/council-meeting/meeting-materials/2021-07-15-Item-5c-Action-item-ABAG-A1-CLEAN-ADA.pdf>

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