



DRAFT

**SUMMARY AUGUST 22, 2024
DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING**

For review and adoption by the Council at the September 26, 2024, meeting.

All meeting materials, presentations, and comment letters are available at
<https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings>

MEETING SUMMARY

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Julie Lee called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM on August 22, 2024, at the California Natural Resources Agency Building at 715 P Street, Room 221, Sacramento, CA 95814.

2. ROLL CALL – ESTABLISH A QUORUM (WATER CODE §85210.5)

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established. The following councilmembers were present and in person: Hueso, Mehranian, Miller, and Lee.

The following councilmember was present and remote: Zingale

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE DELTA SYSTEM ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION MANAGEMENT (CAL. CODE REGS., TIT. 23, § 5001 ET SEQ.) (RESOLUTION 2024-06) (ACTION ITEM)

Jeff Henderson, Deputy Executive Officer for Planning and Performance, provided background on the Ecosystem rulemaking process, the response to comments received, and the staff recommendation to adopt the proposed regulatory amendments.

Chair Lee provided an overview of the content of the agenda item, the documents being voted on, and the process for public comment. Councilmember Zingale and Henderson discussed the public engagement process and the response to comments.

Chair Lee explained the process for the public to provide public comment and asked for public comment.

Public Comment

Osha Meserve, representing local agencies of the North Delta, thanked staff for their work on this effort and shared some concerns and areas for improvement in the process.

Motion (adopt Resolution 2024-06): offered by Councilmember Mehranian, seconded by Vice-Chair Miller.

Vote: 5/0 - The motion was adopted (Burgis: Absent, Damrell: Absent, Hueso: Aye, Mehranian: Aye, Miller: Aye, Zingale: Aye, Lee: Aye)

Councilmember Mehranian commended staff for all their work on this process.

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at <https://bit.ly/4ecEaDw>, minute 00:02:35.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (ACTION ITEM)

a. Adoption of June 27, 2024, Meeting Summary

b. Consideration and Possible Approval of a new Federal Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Resolution 2024-07)

Chair Lee presented the agenda item for adopting the consent calendar.

Councilmember Mehranian recused herself from the vote due to her absence the month prior.

Chair Lee asked for public comment

There was no public comment.

Motion (approve the consent calendar): offered by Councilmember Hueso, seconded by Vice-Chair Miller.

Vote: 4/0 - The motion was adopted (Burgis: Absent, Damrell: Absent, Hueso: Aye, Mehranian: Recused, Miller: Aye, Zingale: Aye, Lee: Aye)

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at <https://bit.ly/4ecEaDw>, minute 00:21:52.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT (INFORMATION ITEM)

Chair Lee provided an overview of the Delta Independent Science Board meeting she attended the week prior and reported on her meeting with Sacramento County Supervisor Pat Hume, which she attended with Policy and Legislative Advisor Brandon Chapin.

Chair Lee closed with an announcement that September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

Chair Lee asked for public comment.

There was no public comment.

The agenda item is viewable on the linked agenda at <https://bit.ly/4ecEaDw>, minute 00:23:44.

7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT (INFORMATION ITEM)

Executive Officer Jessica Pearson began thanking staff for their work on the rulemaking package for the ecosystem regulations, and announced the upcoming release of the Tribal and Environmental Justice Paper in September. Pearson

reported there were no new covered actions since the last Council meeting, and provided an overview of a comment letter Council staff submitted to the United States Army Corps of Engineers regarding their Best Practices for Vegetation Management on Levees.

Pearson closed by highlighting the Outreach Highlights Report and Active Projects List included in the Councilmember packets and online.

a. Legal Update

There was no legal update.

b. Legislative Update

There was no legislative update.

The item is viewable on the linked agenda at <https://bit.ly/4ecEaDw>, minute 00:24:49.

8. LEAD SCIENTIST REPORT (INFORMATION ITEM)

Delta Lead Scientist Lisamarie Dr. Windham-Myers shared Delta Science Program updates, including feedback on the Draft Grand Challenges to Delta Science, which is part of the five-year update to the Delta Science Plan.

Dr. Windham-Myers highlighted a research project funded by the Delta Science Program, "Evaluating the Early Detection and Rapid Response Process for Aquatic Weeds", and a presentation on the Delta Science Program peer review of the Long-Term Operations for the Central Valley Project and State Water Project Fish and Aquatic Effects Analysis.

Dr. Windham-Myers reviewed upcoming conferences and events including:

- 2024 California Water and Environmental Modeling Forum (CWEMF) Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom, CA on September 23-25, 2024. CWEMF is a non-profit, non-partisan organization whose mission is to increase the usefulness of models for analyzing California's water & environment related problems.

- 2024 Bay Delta Science Conference which will be held in-person at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center (1401 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814) from September 30 to October 2, 2024. Windham-Myers provided an overview of each day and the featured talks and events of the conference.

Dr. Windham-Myers closed with a review of the By the Numbers Report.

Chair Lee asked for public comment.

There was no public comment.

The item is viewable on the linked agenda at <https://bit.ly/4ecEaDw>, minute 00:27:46.

9. PREPARATION FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council meeting will take place on September 26. Please refer to the posted meeting notice 10 days before the meeting for further information or updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

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