Delta Plan Five-Year Review Draft Recommendations Report

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Today's Discussion

 Review Draft Recommendations Report

 Discussion and Council feedback



Five-Year Review Objectives

- Reflect on the successes and challenges of initial efforts across agencies to implement the Plan
- Focus the Council's near-term future efforts to implement the Plan
- Identify planning topics and emerging issues that may inform future Plan updates

Five-Year Review Process



Council Retreat Priorities

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Recommendations addressing Council Priorities

Expand the Council's role as it relates to DPIIC

Update and strengthen the Council's communications strategy to ensure consistency

Link DPIIC agenda items to priority recommendations and Admin PMs Expand the use of Council meetings to communicate upcoming and ongoing early consultations

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Council Retreat Priorities

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Recommendations addressing Council Priorities

Gain a better understanding of the Council's brand, core messages, and audience

Provide more outreach to continue to build goodwill in the Delta

Be more proactive in outreach and communication with project proponents in early consultation

Better communication and outreach theme; preparing a Public Participation Plan Identify priority topics for research to include in future Science Action Agendas

Understand how our

research informs actions

to improve the Delta,

consistent with our goals

Draft Recommendations Report

(7)

Draft Recommendations Report



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Accomplishments

- Implementing a new regulatory authority through covered actions
- Amending and updating the Delta Plan
- Coordinating implementation across federal and state agencies by creating and overseeing a DPIIC
- Supporting Delta Plan through BAS for long term Delta management
- Advancing funding

General Finding and Recommendations

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Questions to Consider

- Is there anything missing that you would like to see included?
- Do you concur with the general and specific findings of the report?
- Which specific recommendations reflect your priorities and what you would like to see the Council focus its efforts on in the next five years?

Overall Conclusion

- The Delta Plan in its current form is effectively guiding the actions of local and state agencies
- Does not require immediate significant changes to ensure successful implementation
- Implementation activities should be focus of staff resources over the next five years
- A stable and consistent plan and regulatory framework supports sustained implementation
- Communication with partner agencies and stakeholders a focus of everything we do

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Specific Findings and Recommendations

Strengthen Plan Implementation

Covered actions:

outreach and early consultation administrative procedures adaptive management best available science

Performance measures:

Delta Plan recommendations implementation tracking output/outcome performance measures

Staff development and technological advancement

Chapter 4

Specific Findings and Recommendations; Key Planning Topics

Covered Actions: Outreach and Early Consultation

- Be more proactive in outreach and communication with project proponents in early consultation.
- Expand the use of Council meetings and reports to communicate upcoming and ongoing early consultations and certifications of consistency.



Covered Actions: Administrative Procedures

 Review the administrative procedures for appeals to identify what, if any, procedural changes may be warranted based on covered actions and appeals to date.



Covered Actions: Adaptive Management

- Enhance outreach on adaptive management.
- Focus early consultation on project-specific needs.
- Work with other agencies to develop tools and information recommended in the Delta Conservation Adaptive Management Action Strategy.



Covered Actions: Best Available Science

- Enhance outreach to project proponents in order to provide support in early consultation for best available science considerations.
- Identify priority topics for research to include in future Science Action Agendas.



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A Performance Measures: A Delta Plan Recommendations and Administrative Performance Measures

- Develop specific strategies and approaches for outreach, engagement, and collaboration with implementing agencies.
- Build on existing tracking and monitoring system to improve performance measures tracking.
- Continue to manage Delta Plan in alignment with evolving legislative and administrative priorities.



Performance Measures: Output and Outcome Performance Measures

- Monitor and track output/outcome performance measures.
- Use PMs to communicate with partner agencies and the public about priority Delta Plan recommendations and progress toward accomplishing them.



Staff Development and Technological Advancement

- Focus resources and efforts on the development of staff capacity, expertise, and IT infrastructure improvements.
- Deploy new analytical tools to support management and policy decisions, with specific focus on synthesis, visualization and communication, performance measures tracking, and covered action analyses.



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Key Planning Topics and Emerging Issues

Climate Change Risks to the Delta

Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities

Delta as an Evolving Place

Federal Coordination and Participation

Chapter 4

Specific Findings and Recommendations; Key Planning Topics

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Climate Change Risks to the Delta

- The Delta Plan recognizes climate change as a global stressor, but effects to the Delta are discussed generally and with limited focus on management strategies to address vulnerabilities.
- The Council has already begun a climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategy for the Delta. This work will help identify and characterize vulnerable assets and services in the Delta.



Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities

- Improving conditions for DAC and EJ are important priorities for the State.
- The recommended issue paper, led by the Council with broad engagement with the community, would investigate: best available science on EJ and DAC issues related to the Delta and the potential policy responses the Delta Plan could offer.



Delta as an Evolving Place

- Current treatment of Delta as Place issues puts considerable focus on the current character of the Delta and may not be adequately resilient to the changes facing an evolving Delta.
- The recommended issue paper, lead by the Council with broad engagement with the community, would investigate: best available science on Delta as place issues and the potential policy responses the Delta Plan could offer.



Federal Coordination and Participation

- "The council shall develop and implement a strategy to...engage participation of the federal agencies".
- Delta Plan calls for "all hands on deck" approach, but covered action process only covers State and local activities.



Federal Coordination and Participation

- If the Delta Plan were approved under CZMA, the Council would be authorized to review activities of federal agencies affecting the Delta.
- Recommended issue paper would investigate: Do we need an additional mechanism to improve federal coordination, what is the most appropriate mechanism?



Questions to Consider

- Is there anything missing that you would like to see included?
- Will the recommended issue papers provide useful information to the Council?

Next steps

- Finalize Report and bring to Council for final endorsement. (October)
- Operationalizing the Five-Year Review Findings and Recommendations.
 - Implement recommendations and priority activities
 - Develop priorities and timelines for more resource intensive activities through work plan discussions