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DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
A California State Agency

JOE PAUL GONZALEZ, COUNTY CLERK
BY *Juan C. Padilla*
DEPUTY CLERK

Project: Delta Plan Amendments, Delta Stewardship Council
Date Issued: November 1, 2017

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DELTA PLAN AMENDMENTS DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Notice is hereby given by the Delta Stewardship Council (Council), as the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), that the Delta Plan Amendments Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (Draft PEIR) is available for public review and comment. This Notice of Availability (NOA) has been prepared for the Draft PEIR, in compliance with Section 15087 of the CEQA Guidelines.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Proposed Project consists of three amendments to the Delta Plan:

- ◆ Pursuant to Water Code sections 85305 and 85306, updated and new Delta Plan recommendations or regulations regarding strategic investment in Delta levees for the purposes of risk reduction, including repeal of interim Delta Plan policy RR P1. These proposed revisions are referred to as the Delta Levee Investment and Risk Reduction Strategy (DLIS) Amendment.
- ◆ Pursuant to Water Code section 85304, "promotion of options for new and improved infrastructure relating to Delta water conveyance, storage, and the operation of both to achieve the coequal goals," this proposed amendment is referred to as Conveyance, Storage Systems, and the Operation of Both (CSO) Amendment and includes an amendment to WR R12.
- ◆ Pursuant to Water Code sections 85211 and 85308(b)-(d), proposed revisions to the Delta Plan performance measures to enable the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) to track progress in meeting the objectives of the Delta Plan. The Council proposes to amend Appendix E of the Delta Plan to include revised output and outcome performance measures. The proposed performance measures contain quantified or otherwise measurable targets to be used as indicators of whether the Delta Plan is meeting its objectives. These proposed revisions are referred to as the Performance Measures (PM) Amendment.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 (Delta Reform Act, or Act), requires the development of a legally enforceable, comprehensive, long-term management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta), referred to as the

Delta Plan. The Delta Plan, adopted by the Council in 2013, and amended in 2016, is a legally enforceable, comprehensive, long-term management plan for the Delta and the Suisun Marsh that furthers the coequal goals (Water Code section 85300(a)). As defined in Water Code section 85054:

'Coequal goals' means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.

Several components of the Delta Plan require amendment due to changes in circumstances and conditions in the Delta, and prior commitments made in the Delta Plan adopted in 2013. These proposed amendments are the subject of the PEIR's environmental analysis.

The location of the Proposed Project is defined by the purposes and uses of the Delta Plan, which are described in the Delta Reform Act, and for the purpose of the CEQA analysis includes the area affected by the Proposed Project, which consists of the Primary Planning Area and the Extended Planning Area. The Primary Planning Area is defined as the legal boundaries of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Suisun Marsh as defined in Water Code Section 85058. The Extended Planning Area is defined by the watersheds that contribute flows to the Delta (including areas within the Delta watershed upstream of the Delta and the Trinity River watershed) and areas of California with places of use receiving water from or conveyed through the Delta (State Water Project and Central Valley Project service areas). The Primary and Extended Planning Areas are shown in Figure 1.

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Draft PEIR examines the potential significant environmental effects of the Proposed Project. The Council is not proposing specific projects at specific locations, nor would the proposed amendments require them. The Proposed Project, which comprises amendments to the Delta Plan, is a programmatic plan for achieving the coequal goals and the eight inherent objectives in the Delta. At a programmatic level, the Draft PEIR reviews the physical environmental effects of potential types and locations of reasonably foreseeable actions taken by others in response to the Proposed Amendments. It does not provide project-level environmental review for any specific projects because project-level CEQA review would be conducted by the lead agencies for later, specific actions undertaken in response to the Delta Plan's policies, recommendations and performance measures. The Draft PEIR identifies significant impacts on aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources; air quality and greenhouse gases; biological resources (aquatic and terrestrial); cultural resources; geology, soils, and seismicity; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use and planning; noise; recreation; transportation, traffic, and circulation; tribal cultural resources; and utilities and public services. Implementation and enforcement of

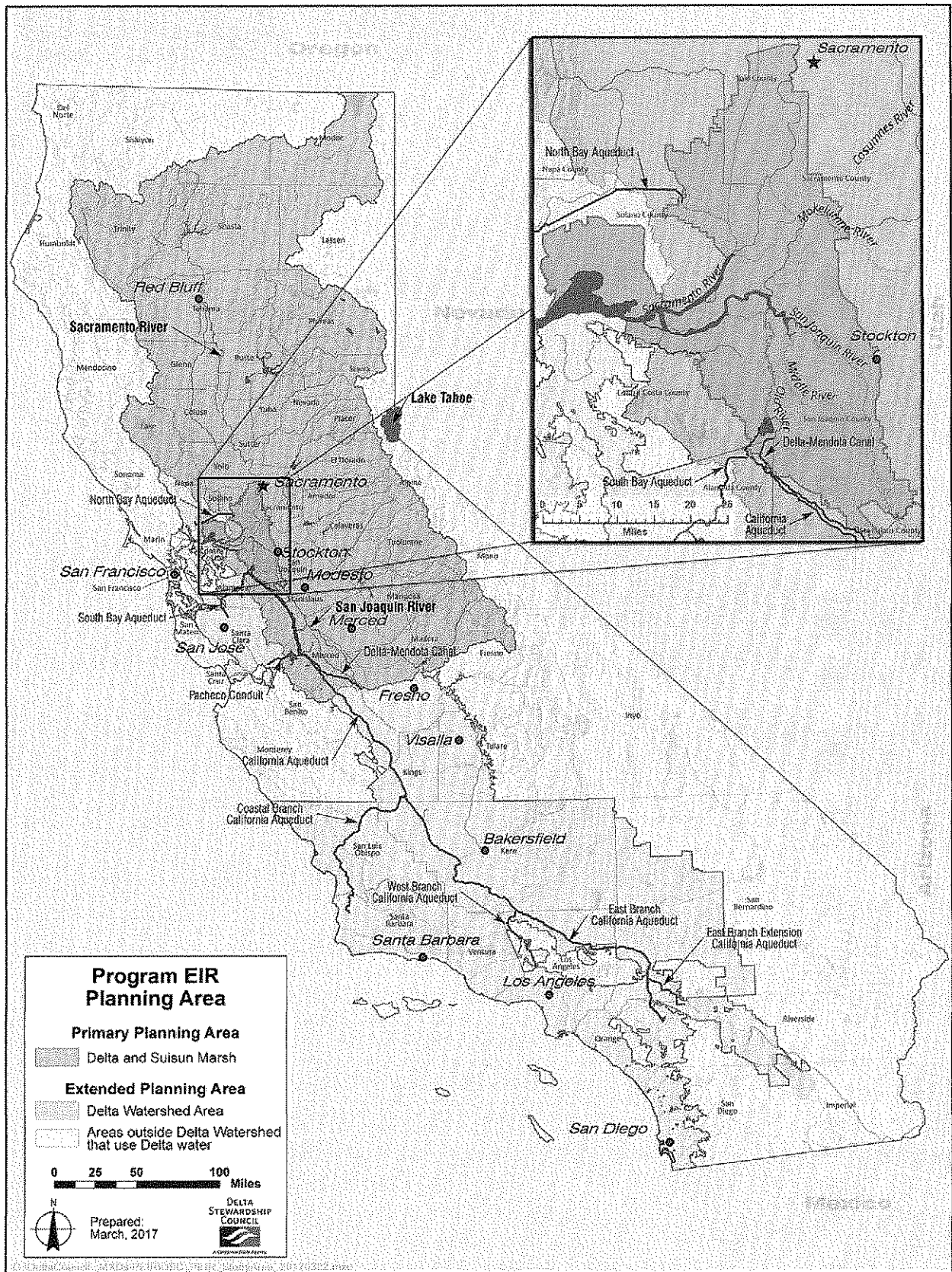


Figure 1. Planning Areas for Proposed Delta Plan Amendments PEIR

mitigation measures would be within the responsibility and jurisdiction of public agencies other than the Council. Therefore, many of the impacts analyzed in the Draft PEIR are identified as significant and unavoidable.

PRESENCE OF LISTED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SITES

The Primary and Extended Planning Areas contain numerous sites listed on the "Cortese List" of hazardous materials sites (California Government Code Section 65962.5). It is not known what actions taken by others in response to the proposed amendments would be located on a site listed on the Cortese List. Therefore, specific sites cannot be identified at this time, but would be addressed in the CEQA review of specific response actions by other agencies.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comments on the Draft PEIR's environmental analyses are requested and invited from responsible agencies, organizations, and interested parties. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public. E-mailed comments will be accepted from November 1, 2017 through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2017. Mailed comments must be postmarked by Monday, December 18, 2017. Written comments should be sent to:

Delta Stewardship Council
980 9th Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Comments may be emailed to: deltaplanPEIR@deltacouncil.ca.gov

PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Delta Stewardship Council is holding two open houses to facilitate public review of the Draft PEIR:

Wednesday, November 1, 2017
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
San Joaquin County Agricultural
Commissioner's Office
2101 E. Earhart Avenue, Suite 100
Stockton, California 95206
Presentations: 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 2, 2017
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Tsakopoulos Library Galleria
828 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Presentations: 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

A public hearing is scheduled to receive comments on the Draft PEIR:

Thursday, December 14, 2017
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Civic Center Galleria
1110 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento, California 95691

The public hearing will be available as a live webcast at www.deltacouncil.ca.gov. A stenographer will record verbal comments at the public hearing, and written comments will also be accepted.

DRAFT PEIR AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Draft PEIR is available for public review and download online at www.deltacouncil.ca.gov. Digital copies of the document are available for public review at the following locations during normal business hours:

Delta Stewardship Council
980 9th Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Fresno Central Library
2420 Mariposa Street
Fresno, California 93721

Sacramento Public Library
828 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Beale Memorial Library
701 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield California 93301

Cesar Chavez Central Library
605 N. El Dorado Street
Stockton, California 95202

Los Angeles Central Library
630 W 5th Street
Los Angeles, California 90071

Solano County Library - Rio Vista Library
44 S 2nd Street
Rio Vista, California 94571

Santa Barbara Central Library
40 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library
150 E San Fernando Street
San Jose, California 95112

San Diego Central Library
330 Park Boulevard
San Diego, California 92101

Shasta County Public Library, Redding Library
1100 Parkview Avenue
Redding, California 96001