



Linda S. Adams
*Secretary for
Environmental Protection*

State Water Resources Control Board



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Executive Office

Charles R. Hoppin, Chairman
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July 21, 2010

To: Informational Proceeding to Develop New Flow Criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecosystem Necessary to Protect Public Trust Resources - Interested Persons

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF FLOW CRITERIA FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ECOSYSTEM

Water Code section 85086 requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) to develop, within nine months of enactment of the requirement, new flow criteria to protect public trust resources for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) ecosystem. The statute further requires the State Water Board to submit its flow criteria determinations to the Delta Stewardship Council within 30 days of their development. The purpose of the flow criteria is to inform planning decisions for the Delta Plan and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. The statute specifies that the flow criteria shall not be considered predecisional with regard to the State Water Board's subsequent consideration of a permit.

In accordance with Water Code section 85086, the State Water Board conducted a public process in the form of an informational proceeding, held on March 22-24, 2010, to develop the flow criteria. The State Water Board has considered the information submitted in connection with that proceeding, and has prepared a draft report determining flow criteria for the Delta ecosystem necessary to protect public trust resources. In developing the flow criteria, the State Water Board reviewed existing water quality objectives and used the best available scientific information. The flow criteria include the volume, timing, and quality of flow necessary under different hydrologic conditions.

The draft report is located on the State Water Board's web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/deltaflow/draft_report.shtm

A resolution to approve the draft report is scheduled for consideration by the State Water Board at its Board meeting on Tuesday, August 3, 2010. The State Water Board issues formal notice with the location and time of public meeting approximately ten days prior to such meetings. All State Water Board notices of public meeting and agendas are posted on the State Water Board's website, at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml.

If you cannot access the draft report online, you may request a copy by contacting Phil Crader, Senior Environmental Scientist, at pcrader@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5438.

California Environmental Protection Agency

The Board will consider oral comments at the Board meeting. If you want the Board to consider written comments prior to the meeting, they must be received by **12:00 Noon on Thursday, July 29, 2010**. Written comments are to be addressed and submitted to:

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

You may also submit your comments to Ms. Townsend by fax at (916) 341-5620, by email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, or by hand delivery to the following address:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
Executive Office
State Water Resources Control Board
Cal/EPA Headquarters
1001 "I" Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-2828

Couriers delivering comments must check in with lobby security and have them contact the Executive Office on the 24th floor at 916-341-5600.

Please include in the subject line, "**COMMENT LETTER – DRAFT DELTA FLOW CRITERIA REPORT.**" Any faxed or emailed items must be followed by a mailed or delivered hard copy with an original signature.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Phil Crader, Senior Environmental Scientist, at pcrader@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5438.

Sincerely,


Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board