

AGENDA ITEM 8: Delta Stewardship Council/Delta Plan update

Prepared by: Erik Vink

Presented by: Randy Fiorini (Chair) and Cassandra Enos-Nobriga (Deputy Executive Officer for Planning), Delta Stewardship Council

Requested Action: Receive report on Delta Stewardship Council/Delta Plan update

Over the past half-year, the Delta Stewardship Council has outlined efforts to update the Delta Plan (adopted in 2013) in the areas of Conveyance, Storage, and Operations, Ecosystem Restoration, and the Delta Levees Investment Strategy.

At its May 26, 2016 meeting, the Council approved a contract with the firm MWH Americas to assist the Council in the development of multiple Delta Plan amendments. Subsequent to that decision, Sacramento Superior Court Judge Michael Kenny invalidated the Delta Plan in a tentative ruling on June 23 based on inadequacies in two areas:

- The lack of legally enforceable, quantifiable targets for achieving reduced Delta reliance, reduced harm from invasive species, restoring more natural flows and increased water supply reliability, and
- Inadequate “promotion” of options to improve the way water projects move water across the Delta.

The Council has stated their likely intention to appeal Judge Kenny’s ruling.

Council Chair Randy Fiorini and Deputy Executive Officer for Planning Cassandra Enos-Nobriga will report to the Commission on recent Council efforts related to the Delta plan update and the Delta Levees Investment Strategy.