Message

From: lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov [lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov]
Sent: 7/6/2018 9:55:32 PM
To: Smith, DavidW [Smith.DavidW@epa.gov]
Subject: NOTICE REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF BAY-DELTA PLAN SACRAMENTO/DELTA FRAMEWORK

This is a message from the State Water Resources Control Board.

The State Water Board is developing amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) to protect beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta Watershed. Today the State Water Board issued a framework for updating flow requirements for the Sacramento River, its tributaries, and the Delta and its tributaries, including the Calaveras, Cosumnes and Mokelumne rivers (Sacramento/Delta Framework). The proposed changes provide for a flow regime that supports a connected and functioning ecosystem linking and integrating inflow, cold water habitat, Delta outflow, and interior Delta flow measures with complementary physical habitat restoration and other nonflow measures. The purpose of the Sacramento/Delta Framework is to help keep stakeholders and other interested members of the public informed about the amendments under development by providing additional details about the potential flow requirements, how these new requirements could be implemented, and preliminary information on their potential benefits and water supply effects.

At the same time today, in a separate proceeding, the State Water Board issued a notice of public meeting to consider adoption of proposed amendments to the Bay-Delta Plan and the supporting proposed final Substitute Environmental Document involving flow objectives for the Lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries, the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Rivers, for the reasonable protection of fish and wildlife beneficial uses and revised salinity water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of southern Delta agricultural beneficial uses. By releasing the Sacramento/Delta Framework on the same day as the proposed final Lower San Joaquin River/Southern Delta update, stakeholders and the public are provided a more comprehensive view of how each watershed is being asked to share responsibility for protecting fish and wildlife for the betterment of the entire Bay and Delta ecosystem. The draft Staff Report for the Sacramento/Delta update to the Bay-Delta Plan will be released for public review and comment later this year.

More information is available at
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/

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