
State Water Resources Control Board

February 28, 2020

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OF A DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE OPERATIONS PLAN FOR THE SOUTHERN DELTA SALINITY OBJECTIVE AS REQUIRED BY THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ESTUARY WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is seeking written public comments on an initial draft Comprehensive Operations Plan submitted by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR).

BACKGROUND

The San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Plan) establishes water quality objectives for the protection of beneficial uses in the Bay-Delta watershed. In December 2018, the State Water Board approved modifications to the southern Delta salinity objective and program of implementation in the Bay-Delta Plan for the reasonable protection of agricultural beneficial uses. The program of implementation requires USBR and DWR to submit a Comprehensive Operations Plan that describes actions to fully address impacts of State Water Project and Central Valley Project export operations on southern Delta water levels and salinity conditions to the State Water Board for approval. In pertinent part, the Bay-Delta Plan requires the State Water Board Executive Director to act on the Comprehensive Operations Plan after providing notice and opportunity for comment.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The initial draft Comprehensive Operations Plan is attached to the email distribution list for this Notice and is also available upon request from the State Water Board.

As required by the 2018 Bay-Delta Plan, DWR and USBR consulted with the South Delta Water Agency and Contra Costa Water District regarding the initial draft Comprehensive Operations Plan. DWR and USBR are revising the initial draft Comprehensive Operations Plan in response to the consultation process. Public comments received in response to this Notice will be reviewed by DWR and USBR and may result in additional revisions to the initial draft Comprehensive Operations Plan. A revised draft Comprehensive Operations Plan will be made available to parties who

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

submit timely comments consistent with Notice requirements for submission of written comments.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comment letters on the initial draft Comprehensive Operations Plan must be received by Tuesday, March 30, 2020. The State Water Board requests that comment letters on the Comprehensive Operations Plan be submitted via email to Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov (please note that the email capacity is less than 50 megabytes total). Please title the subject line: “Comment Letter – Bay-Delta Plan Comprehensive Operations Plan.” Electronic submission by email in pdf text format is preferred. The State Water Board appreciates submissions that conform to Universal Accessibility and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 standards, located at: <http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/>.

FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS

Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the Bay-Delta Plan must sign up for the Lyris email distribution list. To sign up for the Lyris distribution email list, access the Email List subscription form, select the box for “Bay-Delta Notices” (located within the section entitled “Water Rights”), and provide the required information. The subscription form is located at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on this matter, please direct questions to Erin Foresman at phone number (916) 341-5359 or via email to erin.foresman@waterboards.ca.gov.