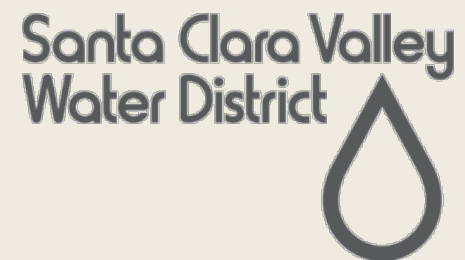
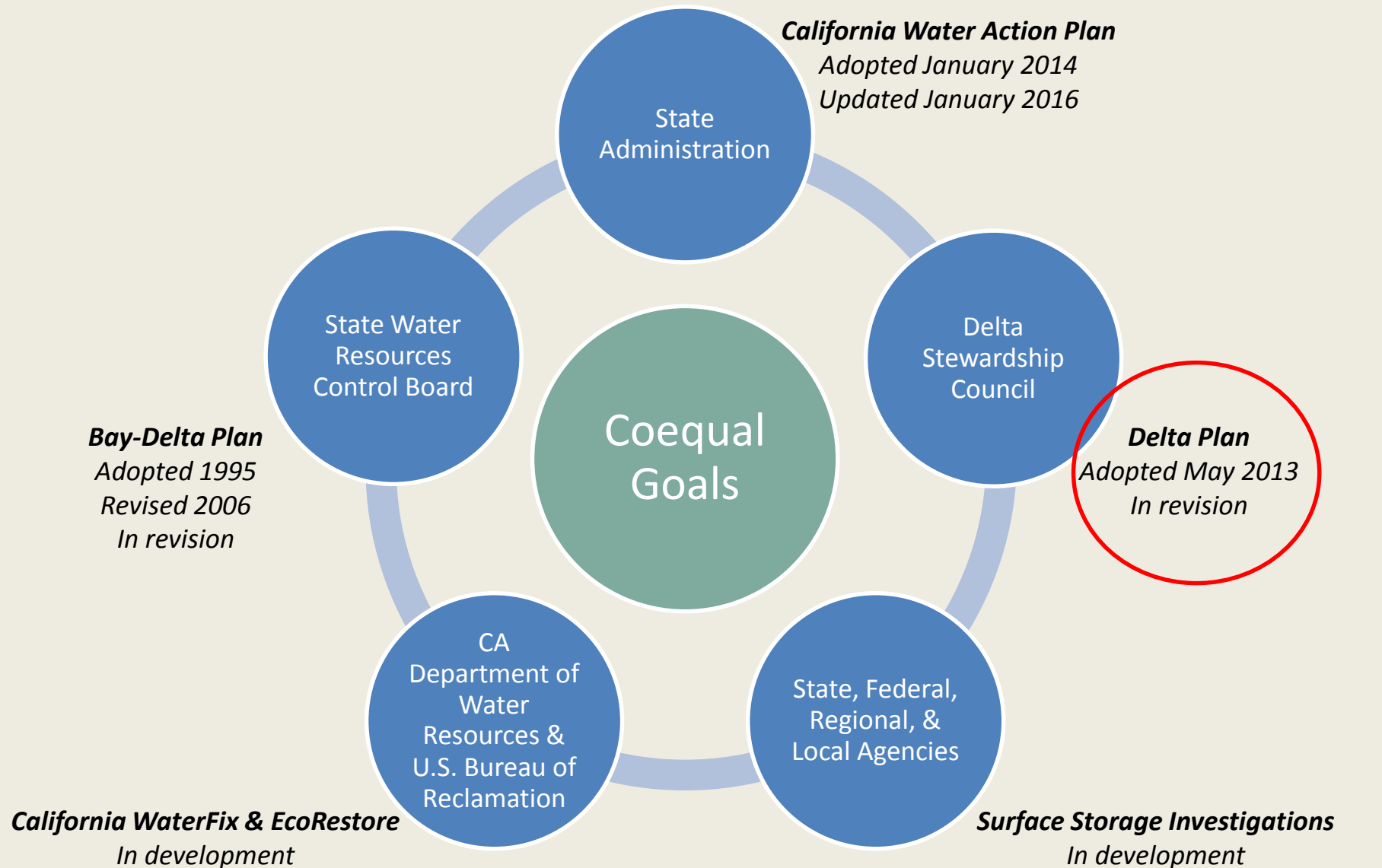


# Updated Information on Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan

May 9, 2017



# Key State planning efforts



# Background on Delta Plan

- A comprehensive, long term management plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
- Developed by the Delta Stewardship Council under its authority from the 2009 Delta Reform Act.
- Adopted May 16, 2013.
- Contains 73 recommendations to “call attention to tasks being done or to be done by others.”
- Contains 14 regulatory policies “that anyone undertaking a significant project in the Delta must meet.”

# Charges of the Delta Stewardship Council

- Develop quantifiable or otherwise measurable targets associated with achieving the objectives of the Delta Plan.
- Determine, on appeal, if a state or local agency's project within the Delta is consistent with the Delta Plan.
- Determine, on appeal, whether the Bay Delta Conservation Plan meets statutory criteria for inclusion in the Delta Plan.

# Delta Plan litigation timeline

- May 2013: The District joins suit challenging adoption of Delta Plan.
  - Six other lawsuits filed by other parties.
- May 2016: Sacramento County Superior Court invalidated the Delta Plan.
  - Required enforceable “quantified or otherwise measurable targets.”
  - Required to promote options for water conveyance and storage systems.
- Fall 2016: Delta Stewardship Council files appeals with 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court of Appeals.
  - Invalidation stayed.
- Spring 2018: Appeal hearings to occur.

# Overview of amendments

- The Delta Plan is to be revised every 5 years or sooner as circumstances change.
- Three proposed Amendments are currently being considered
  1. The Delta Levee Investment and Risk Reduction Strategy amendment
  2. An amendment promoting options for Delta conveyance, storage, and operations.
  3. An amendment to the Delta Plan's performance measures.

# Schedule for Amendment Process

- March 16, 2017: Notice of Preparation for an EIR analyzing the proposed amendments.
- April 17, 2017: Comments on Notice of Preparation due.
- April 20, 2017: Release of updated Discussion Drafts for amendments.
- Summer 2017: Release of a Draft EIR.
- Fall/Winter 2017: Release of a Final EIR.
- Winter 2017: Decision on proposed amendments.

# Recommended District positions regarding Delta Plan

- The Delta Plan should promote conveyance, storage and operations that improve flexibility to maximize benefits for water supplies and the Delta ecosystem.
- Increased flexibility is needed in storing supplies that have a nexus to the Delta, especially considering the expected effects of climate change.

*(District CWF Principle: The Delta solution should achieve the coequal goals)*



# Recommended District positions regarding Delta Plan

- The Delta Plan should not exceed the authority given to the Delta Stewardship Council under the 2009 Delta Reform Act.
- Local water agencies should have sole discretion over local water management decisions, subject to applicable laws and regulations.

*(District CWF Principle: Governance structures related to a long term Delta solution must protect the value of the District's imported water assets)*

# Recommended positions regarding Delta Plan

- The Delta Plan amendment should encourage the Department of Water Resources and the Bureau of Reclamation to pursue dual-conveyance options for the Delta.

*(Principle: Continuing to rely on through-Delta conveyance is not sustainable)*

- Improved regional self-reliance for regions that receive some or all of their water from the Delta watershed is a form of reduced reliance on the Delta.

*(Principle: Participation in a dual conveyance option should be part of a comprehensive plan that includes improved water supply reliability through increased regional self-sufficiency)*

# Recommended positions regarding Delta Plan

- Improved regional self-reliance for regions that receive some or all of their water from the Delta watershed is a form of reduced reliance on the Delta.

*(Principle: Participation in a dual conveyance option should be part of a comprehensive plan that includes improved water supply reliability through increased regional self-sufficiency)*

- The Delta Plan should promote cost allocation and funding approaches that fairly distribute costs to all beneficiaries.

*(Principle: The District favors a flexible cost allocation approach that maximizes the opportunity for discretionary allocations of cost based on incremental benefits)*