Disclaimers

• I am not speaking for the SWRCB or the DSC
• I am not presenting State policy
• I am expressing personal observations and opinions, except where specifically referenced to published materials
• The co-equal goals:

‘Coequal goals’ means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place. (CA Water Code §85054)
Role of the Delta Watermaster

- The Office of the Delta Watermaster was created as part of the Delta Reform Act of 2009
- The Watermaster is an independent officer of the State
- Appointed to a four-year term by the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board)
- Reports jointly to the Water Board and the Delta Stewardship Council
- The Watermaster is responsible for:
  - Overseeing day-to-day administration of water rights located in the Delta
  - Implementing legislative mandates relating to water in the Delta
  - Improving water supply reliability, resiliency and predictability
  - Advising the Council and the Board on Delta Policy
Drought Year Water Actions

- Water availability analyses
  - Coordinated with the Division of Water Rights
  - Compare forecasts of water supply and demand
  - Alert diverters to potential insufficiency
  - Administer curtailments under the priority system
- 2015 Voluntary Diversion Reduction Program
  - Report Posted on Watermaster Website
- Comparative Study of Methods for Determining Consumptive Use of Water within the Delta
Recent Developments

- Yolo Bypass Memorandum of Understanding Executed
- Court Upholds Statutory Requirement for Consistency with Delta Plan
- Court Rules against Delta Water Rights Claimant
- Water Board Dismisses Enforcement Actions against BBID and WSID
A Peek into the Future

- Measurement of agricultural diversions
- Petition for change in Projects’ water rights for WaterFix (Hearings begin on July 26)
- Updates for the Delta Water Quality Control Plan and the Delta Plan
- Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- Balancing among Priorities, Riparians, Public Trust and Reasonable Use
- Metropolitan to Acquire Delta Islands
- Litigation, Cooperation or Some of Each?
Questions?

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