To those interested in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan,

We appreciate the involvement that many of you have had in the BDCP process to date, and have heard from many of you regarding your interest in interacting with the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). Presently, the California Natural Resources Agency hosts two general public meetings – the management committee, with representatives from the water contractors, agencies, and one non-governmental organization (NGO), and the monthly public meetings with presentations on BDCP progress and public discussion.

In response to interest expressed by several organizations for more interaction with other interest groups, we are revising the public meeting component of BDCP.

Beginning in November, there will be a single public meeting held each month. In order to allow for meaningful discussion between all participants, each interest group will be asked to appoint and send representatives to the meeting. Suggested agenda items from each interest group will be accepted prior to each meeting. Like all BDCP meetings to date, this meeting will be open to any member of the public who wishes to attend.

We are asking each of the interest groups listed below to appoint and send the indicated number of representatives. We ask each of the listed persons to coordinate their interest group, and send us the individual names of those representing their respective group. If at some point in the future someone else takes over the coordination effort for any one interest group, please inform us in advance.

Please appoint individuals who can attend at least one public meeting every month to facilitate the relationships and discussions between those participating in the meetings. We have tried to balance the need for inclusiveness with the need to keep the group small enough to facilitate interactive discussion.

Please send the names of representatives and suggested topics for the public meetings to b.gerbs@resources.ca.gov.

Public meetings are currently scheduled for November 16 and December 14. Visit the BDCP website for meeting information. More meetings will be scheduled in 2012.

The purpose of the meeting will be to facilitate interaction between those interested in BDCP, and does not replace or duplicate the Steering Committee. The public meeting will not focus on development of specific chapters of BDCP, or the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). The purpose of the meeting will be to facilitate interaction between those interested in the BDCP, and to discuss issues of interest to all parties.
Each meeting will last three hours, with the first hour devoted to updates regarding various elements of the BDCP, and the last two hours devoted to topics of general interest. Again, suggestions for topics are welcome. Public comments and questions will be taken at the end of each hour.

If you wish to participate in this effort, please send the names of representatives from the following groups:

- Sacramento County
- San Joaquin County
- Contra Costa County
- Solano County
- Yolo County
- Delta Water agencies (1 representative) (Melinda Terry to coordinate)
- Local Agencies of the North Delta (1 representative)
- Delta RDs and flood control agencies (1 representative) (Melinda Terry to coordinate)
- City of Antioch
- Contra Costa Water District
- Environmental organizations (4 people) (Cynthia Kohler to coordinate)
- Fishing organizations (1 person) (Dick Poole to coordinate)
- Upstream Sacramento River organizations (2 people) (Dave Guy to coordinate)
- Upstream San Joaquin River organizations (2 people) (Ron Jacobsma to coordinate)
- CVP exporters (2 people) (Jason Peltier to coordinate)
- SWP exporters (2 people) (Brent Walthall to coordinate)
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Water Resources
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Army Corps of Engineers

Thank you for your continued interest in this important effort. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jerry Meral
Deputy Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency