



Division of Multi-Benefit Initiatives

Background

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has been undergoing a significant reorganization. One of the purposes for the reorganization is to create an institutional structure to support landscape level planning and implementation of multi-benefit projects, with a focus on the Delta and Central Valley. Another purpose is to better align planning for flood protection, water management, and habitat projects across state agencies.

Multi-benefit projects are a priority for the Commission—one of the Commission’s draft Strategic Plan objectives calls for promoting multi-benefit projects. In addition, the Commission engaged in extensive discussions with stakeholders about the importance of landscape scale planning and multi-benefit projects in the two listening sessions on the Resilient Water Portfolio (June 19 and August 27, 2019). In its recommendations on the contents of the Portfolio, the Commission recommended supporting the development of multi-benefit projects to achieve statewide and regional goals. The Commission also recommended an assessment of whether the State has the right tools to promote multi-benefit projects.

Kris Tjernell, DWR’s Deputy Director for the Integrated Water Management Program, will brief the Commission on the purpose, structure, and activities of the new Multi-Benefit Initiatives Division, created through the reorganization.

This is an informational item.

Contact

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