

Ecosystem Work Group Progress Report

Report out by the Ecosystem Work Group

Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force
20 March 2008

Key Points

- **Ecosystem Strategic Plan**
 - Preparation underway using final product template
 - Framing around Vision and documents and concepts approved at February BRTF
 - Primary focus at this time
- **Near-Term Actions**
 - Will tackle in parallel and secondary to Strategic Plan
 - Based in part on Dec 2007 *Foundation Concepts and Initial Activities* report by Siegel

Ecosystem Recommendations from Vision

- Delta should function as element of a healthy estuary
 - Improve physical habitats (7 objectives)
 - Improve ecological processes (3 objectives)
 - Reduce stressors (5 objectives)
- Eco Work Group is incorporating all these objectives explicitly into Eco Strategic Plan

Ecosystem Categories from February Task Force Meeting

- Five categories from Task Force
 - Land
 - Water
 - Habitat
 - Organisms
 - Place
- Eco Work Group is incorporating all these categories explicitly into Eco Strategic Plan

Ecosystem Strategic Plan Elements

1. Recommendations

*3/10 EWG
meeting focus*



2. Linking Delta Vision Goals to Delta Problems for State of California

3. Desired Ecosystem Characteristics, Delta Vision Objectives, Targets

4. Strategies and Actions to Achieve Targets

5. Evaluating Effectiveness of Strategies / Adaptive Management

*2/21 performance
measures
meeting focus*



Potential Performance Measures (very rough at this time)

- **Land**
 - 100,000 acres of intertidal restoration (actual acreage being refined)
- **Water**
 - Flow and channel geometry that provide necessary physical and ecological processes
- **Habitats**
 - Mosaic of connected tidal marshes, floodplains, open water, riparian, grasslands, etc. distributed geographically throughout Delta
- **Organisms**
 - Viable populations of native estuarine species
- **Place**
 - Work group has not advanced yet on this topic

An Example: Dendritic (Branching) Channels

Next presentation by Jon Burau
(USGS) and Chris Enright (DWR)