

Delta Vision Background

- Delta Vision was created by Executive Order of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on September 17, 2006, to find a durable vision for sustainable management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, so it could continue to support environmental and economic functions critical to the people of California.
- In February 2007, the Governor appointed the independent Delta Vision "Blue Ribbon" Task Force chaired by Phil Isenberg, with members: Monica Florian, Thomas McKernan, Sunne Wright McPeak, Raymond Seed, Richard M. Frank and William K. Reilly. The Task Force was assisted in its work by a 43-member Stakeholder Coordination Group representing a broad range of interests, appointed by Secretary for Resources Mike Chrisman.
- Although it builds upon work done through the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, Delta Vision broadened the focus of past Delta efforts to recommend actions that will address the full array of natural resource, infrastructure, land use and governance issues necessary to achieve a sustainable Delta.
- Delta Vision was based on a growing consensus among scientists, supported by recent legislation and other information, indicating that:
 - Environmental conditions and current Delta "architecture" are not sustainable;
 - Current land and water uses and related services dependent on the Delta are not sustainable based on current management practices and regulatory requirements;
 - Current environmental conditions and current and ongoing services (e.g., utility, transportation and water conveyance services) are reliant on an aging and deteriorating levee system;
 - Major "drivers of change" that are largely outside of our control will impact the Delta during the coming decades, including seismic events, land subsidence, sea level rise, regional climate change and urbanization;
 - The current fragmented and complex governance systems within the Delta are not conducive to effective management of the fragile Delta environment in the face of the cumulative threats identified above; and
 - Failure to act to address identified Delta challenges and threats will result in potentially devastating environmental and economic consequences of statewide and national significance.
- The Task Force issued its report, *Our Vision for the California Delta*, in December 2007, which identified its vision for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Task Force is currently working on the second step of its two-year charge, to develop a strategic plan that will implement its vision for the Delta, by the end of October 2008. It is expected that legislation to implement its recommendations will be introduced in the 2009 legislative session.

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph. 916.653.5656 Fax 916.653.8102 <http://resources.ca.gov>

