

**Delta Protection Commission Meeting
May 21, 2020**

AGENDA ITEM 8: Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) appointments

Prepared by: Erik Vink

Presented by: Erik Vink

Requested Action: **Consider appointments to DPAC**

Type of Action: Action

DPAC background: Public Resources Code section 29753(a) requires the Commission to appoint at least one advisory committee to provide recommendations regarding the diverse interests in the Delta. The statute further states that “the advisory committee shall include representatives of state agencies and other stakeholders with interests in the Delta’s ecosystem, water supply, and socioeconomic sustainability, including, but not limited to, its recreational, agricultural, flood control, environmental, and water resources, and state, local and utility infrastructure. The Commission shall encourage participation of various federal agencies, including the United States Bureau of Reclamation, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and others as appropriate.”

Based on the DPAC Charter (last revised by the Commission in September 2019), DPAC consists of 15 voting members and additional ex-officio members consisting of public agency representatives and other Delta interests. The Commission appoints members to DPAC. According to the Charter, DPAC seats with appointments expiring in May 2021 are to be filled in terms ranging from one to three years, with subsequent appointments to those seats to be made for three-year terms. This will provide for staggered appointments to DPAC in the future, so that in May of each year there will be five DPAC seats up for appointment by the Commission.

At present, 13 of the 15 DPAC voting seats are up for appointment. Commission staff solicited applications for DPAC and the Commission received 24 applications. Commission Chair Oscar Villegas and Vice-Chair Don Nottoli met with Executive Director Vink to review the applications and make the following recommended appointments to DPAC:

- Delta Business Representative (1 year term) Gilbert Labrie (current DPAC)
- Delta Business Representative (2 year term) Barbara Daly (current DPAC)
- Delta Agriculture Representative (1 year term) David Strecker (current DPAC)
- Delta Agriculture Representative (3 year term) Lindsey Liebig (Sacramento Co. Farm Bureau)
- Delta Recreation Representative (3 year term) Todd Bruce (Delta recreationist)

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- Delta Habitat/Conservation NGO Representative (1 year term) Craig Watanabe (current DPAC)
- Delta Habitat/Conservation NGO Representative (2 year term) Jim Cox (CA Striped Bass Assoc.)
- State Agency Representative (1 year term) Jim Starr (current DPAC)
- State Agency Representative (3 year term) Edward Hard (current DPAC)
- Delta Flood Entity Representative (2 year term) Chris Elias (San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency)
- Delta Organization Representative (3 year term) Mariah Looney (Restore the Delta)
- Delta General Public Representative (2 year term) Mark Pruner (current DPAC)
- Delta Utilities and Related Infrastructure Representative (2 year term) Sam Garcia (current DPAC)
- Ex-officio Delta Cultural Preservation Representative (3 year term) Douglas Hsia (Locke Foundation)

A full list of the DPAC applicants is attached.

Requested Action: Appoint the individuals named above as DPAC member for terms expiring in May 2021, May 2022, or May 2023, as indicated above.

DPAC members as of May 2020 are: Chair Mark Pruner (Delta organization); Vice-Chair Barbara Daly and Gilbert Labrie (Delta business); David Strecker and Reni Della Maggiore (Delta agriculture); Kathy Bunton and Linda Gifford (Delta recreation); Melinda Terry (Delta flood entity); Sam Arditi (Delta general public); Jim Starr and Edward Hard (State agency); Craig Watanabe and VACANT (Delta conservation/habitat entity); Sam Garcia (Delta utility/related infrastructure); and Russ Ryan (Delta water exporter). DPAC members may designate an alternate to attend meetings in their absence.

Relationship to Vision 2030 (Commission strategic plan):

Education and Outreach (Strategic Theme)

O.1 Ensure consistent, proactive communications between and among Delta interests and decision makers.

1.4 Support an active and engaged Delta Protection Advisory Committee structure, including utilizing expert work groups, to provide recommendations to the Commission.