

Per California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 548.5, the following information will be posted to CalHR's Career Executive Assignment Action Proposals website for 30 calendar days when departments propose new CEA concepts or major revisions to existing CEA concepts. Presence of the department-submitted CEA Action Proposal information on CalHR's website does not indicate CalHR support for the proposal.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Date

2017-12-06

2. Department

Water Resources

3. Organizational Placement (Division/Branch/Office Name)

Executive Division

4. CEA Position Title

Deputy Director, Delta Conveyance

5. Summary of proposed position description and how it relates to the program's mission or purpose. (2-3 sentences)

The Deputy Director, Delta Conveyance, is responsible for overseeing and managing the Department's efforts to implement a solution to provide reliable, clean, and safe water to California businesses, farms, and residents. This position will provide policy and management direction to ensure the reliability of available water supply, eliminate harmful effects of Delta conveyance on the environment, reduce risk to Delta infrastructure, and address climate change impacts of existing and future Delta and State Water Project (SWP) infrastructure.

6. Reports to: (Class Title/Level)

Director / Exempt

7. Relationship with Department Director (Select one)

- Member of department's Executive Management Team, and has frequent contact with director on a wide range of department-wide issues.
- Not a member of department's Executive Management Team but has frequent contact with the Executive Management Team on policy issues.

(Explain):

8. Organizational Level (Select one)

- 1st
- 2nd
- 3rd
- 4th
- 5th (mega departments only - 17,001+ allocated positions)

B. SUMMARY OF REQUEST

9. What are the duties and responsibilities of the CEA position? Be specific and provide examples.

This position will oversee and manage the Department's efforts to implement a solution to provide reliable, clean, and safe water to California businesses, farms, and residents. The existing infrastructure for conveying California's primary source of clean water, including those within the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta, is out of date and inefficient, at risk from flood, earthquakes and climate change, and puts sensitive species at risk of extinction. The specific duties are:

- Formulate, revise, and implement policies and programs regarding the California WaterFix project. Using a matrix approach, consisting of senior technical Department employees, state and federal agencies, and contract staff, coordinate and direct functions, activities, and tasks to produce project deliverables and meet critical deadlines to effectively implement California WaterFix. Provide management direction regarding planning; finance and budgeting; design and construction; environmental permitting, compliance, and mitigation; contracting; and real estate tasks associated with implementing California WaterFix.
- Function as the principal strategic advisor to the Director on priority policy matters related to the implementation of California WaterFix. Represent department and administration policies with the public and stakeholder groups and interface with federal, state and local agencies, boards, commissions, and other departments on California WaterFix related issues and programs. Represent the Department at public meetings, establish and maintain cooperative working relationships, and communicate effectively.
- Coordinate directly with the Department's Office of the Chief Counsel on litigation related to California WaterFix. Collaborate with the SWP Deputy Director to ensure long-term operations of new conveyance infrastructure. Serve as primary point of contact for state and federal water contractor entities, including Joint Power Authorities, also tasked with implementing California WaterFix.
- As directed, represent the Director and assist in presentations and briefings for, and discussions with Congress; the Legislature; the Governor's Office; other federal, state, and local government agencies; and interest groups. Advise and assist the Director in all administrative and management matters and approve and sign documents, correspondence, and reports within area of responsibility. Act for the Director in his absence in any and all matters not specifically prohibited by law. Perform other related duties as assigned by the Director.

The specific efforts to be managed include:

- A program to ensure the reliability of available water supply.
- Actions to eliminate the harmful effects of Delta conveyance on the environment.
- Actions to reduce risk to Delta infrastructure from earthquake and flood.
- Addressing climate change impacts of existing and future Delta and State Water Project infrastructure.
- Managing all levels of stakeholder involvement in any of the above described initiatives.

B. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (continued)

10. How critical is the program's mission or purpose to the department's mission as a whole? Include a description of the degree to which the program is critical to the department's mission.

- Program is directly related to department's primary mission and is critical to achieving the department's goals.
- Program is indirectly related to department's primary mission.
- Program plays a supporting role in achieving department's mission (i.e., budget, personnel, other admin functions).

Description: The program and actions to be managed by this position are essential to meeting the Department's mission of managing and protecting California's water resources, working with other agencies to benefit the State's people, and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the natural and human environments. It is universally acknowledged that the State's primary water supply is at risk. Without the effective management of existing and new programs designed to reduce or eliminate these risks to the supply, environment, and infrastructure, the Department will be unable to sustainably manage this key component of California's water resources. Delta conveyance would fail and the health, safety, and economic impacts affecting more than 25 million Californians left without a reliable water supply would be catastrophic.

B. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (continued)

11. Describe what has changed that makes this request necessary. Explain how the change justifies the current request. Be specific and provide examples.

The Department has been engaged in many complex efforts to address the major problems and risks previously stated. The most recent efforts are the development of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, Cal Waterfix, and Cal Ecoreserve. While these efforts have been effectively managed by the Department's Executive Division, additional new complex initiatives for managing all of the State's water resources are now in the process of implementation. These include the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and highly complex proposed standards for unimpaired flow in the State's rivers. Given the significant management efforts required for these new programs, additional management support at the highest level will be required. This position will provide that management as noted for Delta conveyance.

C. ROLE IN POLICY INFLUENCE

12. Provide 3-5 specific examples of policy areas over which the CEA position will be the principle policy maker. Each example should cite a policy that would have an identifiable impact. Include a description of the statewide impact of the assigned program.

Sustainable Water Supply – Policies will be developed related to maintaining a level of water supply sustainability that is beneficial to both the health and safety of the people of California and protects the environment.

Reducing Risk to Infrastructure and Increasing Efficiency of the Conveyance System – Policy-level decisions will be made related to enhancing water supply infrastructure to ensure the State Water Project remains functional in the face of climate change, sea level rise, increased flooding, and earthquakes.

Mitigation Related to Delta Conveyance and Sustainable Water Supply – Policies and policy-level decisions will be required for mitigation-related actions associated with maintaining a sustainable level of water supply that is beneficial to both the health and safety of the people of California and protects the environment .

Stakeholder Engagement and Involvement – The CEA will engage with various agencies and organizations consulted and involved in the decision making process for the policy areas described previously.

C. ROLE IN POLICY INFLUENCE (continued)

13. What is the CEA position's scope and nature of decision-making authority?

The Director intends to delegate decisions related to the Delta Conveyance program scope, budget, schedule, and stakeholder involvement to this position. In the absence of the Director and Chief Deputy Director, this CEA will act on and approve any and all matters under specific delegation that are not prohibited by law. In addition, the CEA will advise and assist the Director in formulation, revision, and implementation of policies and programs related to Delta conveyance. Further, the CEA will advise and assist the Director in all administrative and management matters, as well as approve and sign documents, correspondence, and reports within designated areas of responsibility.

14. Will the CEA position be developing and implementing new policy, or interpreting and implementing existing policy? How?

As stated previously, there will be existing programs that will be managed by this CEA, as well as new programs and policies designed to address the risks associated with water resources and the Delta.