

2014-16 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan Revision PROCESS OUTLINE

1. Overview

The revision of the current CCMP is guided by the following key objectives:

- Implement a focused and strategic revision process that results in a list of less than 50 priority actions
- Increase coordination and integration between Bay and Delta
- Acknowledge key publicly-vetted goals and actions developed since initial CCMP was created
- Include measurements to track progress for all actions (based, to the extent possible, on currently available data and on targets that have high public interest) and develop tracking tool
- Integrate the State of the Estuary Report, State of the Estuary Conference, SFEP's Strategic Plan and the CCMP – Plan, Implement, Monitor, Assess (adaptive management cycle – see Figure 1, below)

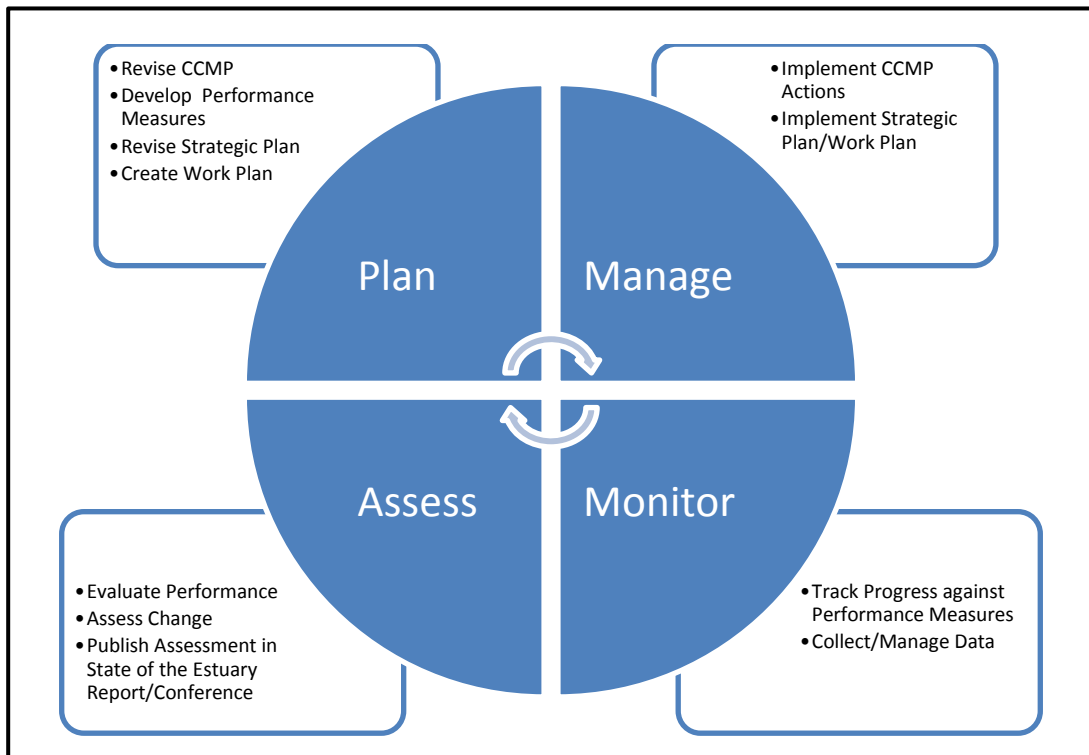


Figure 1. Adaptive Management Cycle for SFEP

2. Roles and Responsibilities

SFEP Implementation Committee (IC): Provide overall guidance, interim input, and final approval of revised CCMP.

IC CCMP Steering Committee: Comprised of volunteers from IC. The Steering Committee will guide and direct the overall update, as representatives of the IC. The Steering Committee will also help with the formation of Program Area Subcommittees (see below) by participating directly within subcommittees and/or helping to identify other appropriate individuals from outside SFEP staff, the IC and the Steering Committee to join subcommittees. Steering Committee members who participate within subcommittees will assist with developing content for the revised CCMP. All Steering Committee members will review draft content.

Program Area Subcommittees: Five working Program Areas (see #4, below) comprised of Steering Committee members, SFEP staff, and outside experts. Serve as working committees to develop draft goals, actions and performance indicators for the revised CCMP with overall guidance on process and format provided by SFEP staff.

SFEP Staff: Manage entire CCMP revision process, including: developing agendas for and facilitating Steering Committee meetings; providing guidance for and participating directly on Program Area Subcommittees; and compiling and editing all content.

General Public: Interested parties not on the Steering Committee or Program Area Subcommittees will provide feedback and comments on interim products as well as on the final draft of the revised CCMP. SFEP will engage partners and interested parties through the SFEP website, meetings, workshops, and email mailing lists.

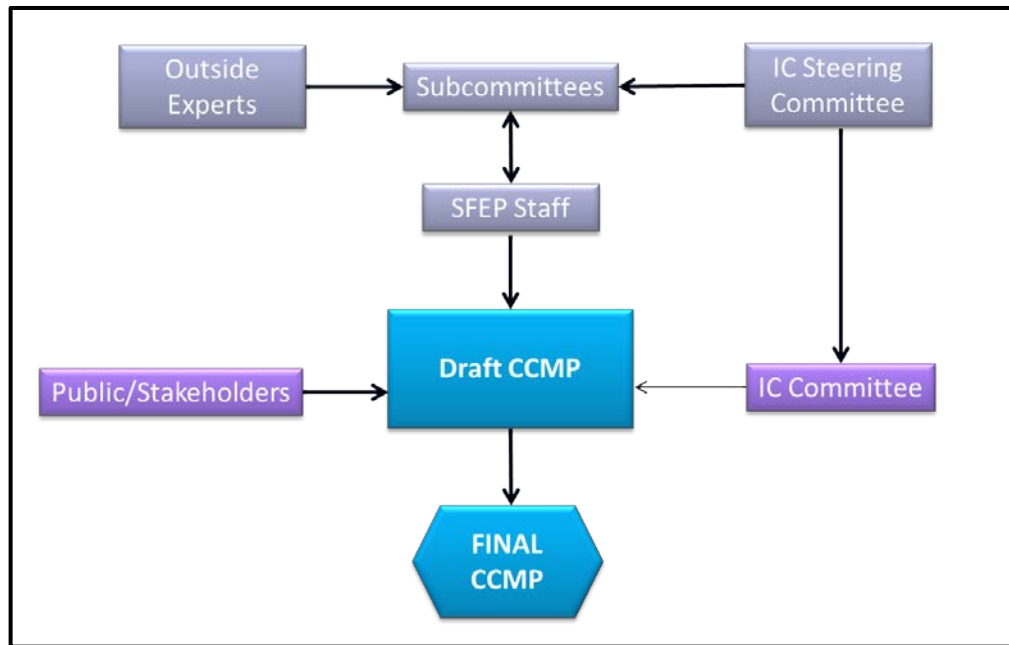


Figure 2. CCMP Revision Flowchart

3. Content Development Process

SFEP first completed its CCMP in 1993. It was updated in 2007, through a process of updating background information, deleting goals and actions that were no longer relevant, and adding new goals and actions. The current revision of the CCMP is a major revision of both content and format. However, the process will include an analysis of the current CCMP in terms of what has been accomplished, what has not been accomplished but is no longer relevant, and what still needs to be accomplished. In addition, the revision will draw upon the major regional policy documents and action plans that have been developed since 1993 and will recognize and incorporate as appropriate goals and policies within those plans. In addition, SFEP is currently revising its 2011 State of the San Francisco Bay report. The revised report (the 2015 State of the Estuary Report) will identify key challenges in the Estuary that the CCMP should address.

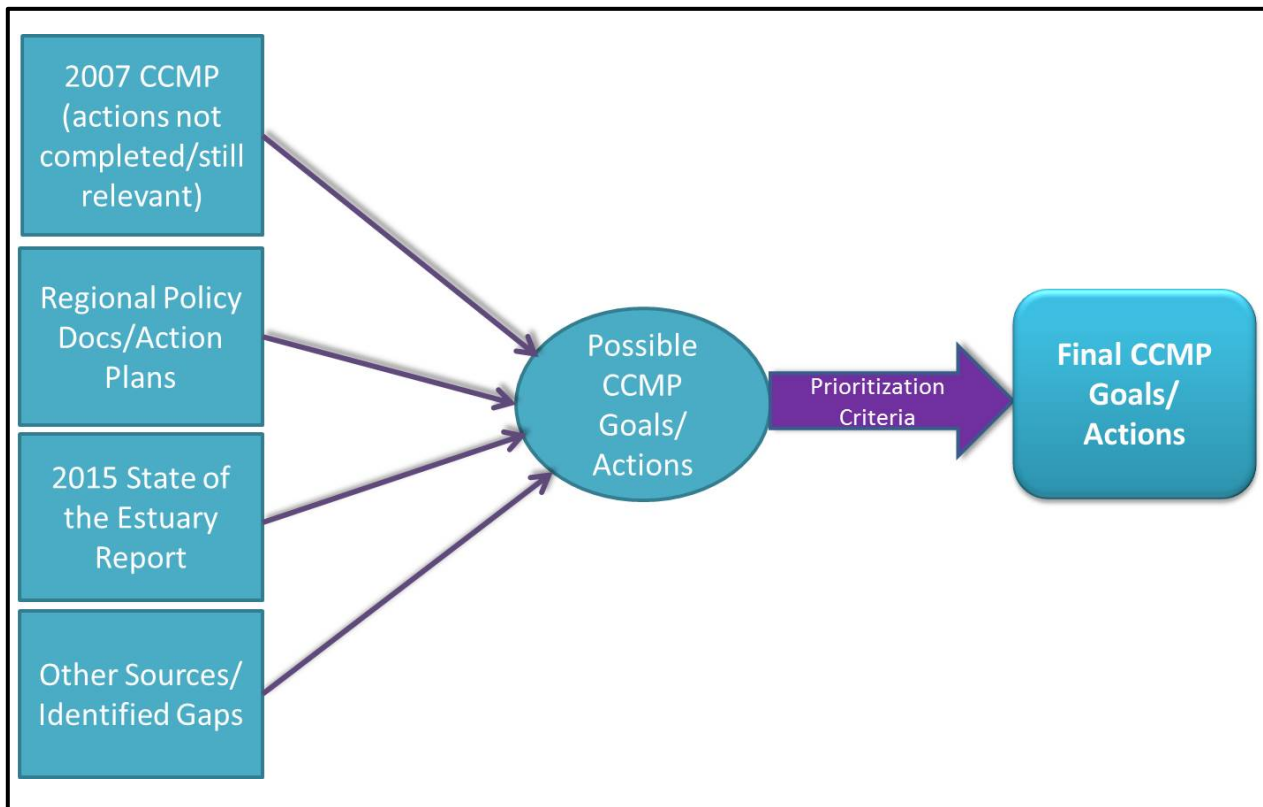


Figure 3. CCMP Goals and Actions Flowchart

4. Revised Program Areas

The working program areas for SFEP’s new CCMP come directly from the 2011 State of the Bay Report, which is based on the guidance of the US EPA’s Science Advisory Board on the key attributes of an estuary. The key attributes of a healthy estuary are interacting parts of an ecosystem that influence each other directly and indirectly.

Subcommittees will be formed based on the five following program areas. In addition, it is expected that each subcommittee will be further broken down into topic area working committees as needed to develop specific objectives and actions.

- a. **Water.** Water includes both the amount of water and its chemical quality.
- b. **Physical Habitats.** The physical habitats of the Estuary include tidal marshes and tidal flats, upland transitional zones, managed ponds, estuarine open water, subtidal habitat, and the local watersheds that drain to the Bay.
- c. **Living Resources.** The living resources of the Estuary include invertebrates, fish, birds, and other wildlife.
- d. **Ecological Processes.** The active processes that link the physical, biological and chemical components of the Estuary, such as the cycling of nutrients and predator-prey interactions that are part of the food web.
- e. **Stewardship.** Individual and community actions that reduce adverse impacts on the ecosystem. Stewardship includes actions by volunteers as well as regulators, managers, and the regional community, such as cities, counties, and industry.

Climate change considerations will be integrated into all of the program areas.

5. Timeline

The revision process commenced in January, 2015 and the new CCMP is expected to be completed, approved, and distributed by April 1, 2016.

