



Feasibility Study for a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area

July 2012

Delta
Protection
Commission



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Executive Summary

In Fall 2009, the California State Legislature passed a comprehensive package reforming governance of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and related aspects of statewide water management. In Section 85301 of Senate Bill X7-1 (Delta Reform Act of 2009), the Legislature charged the Delta Protection Commission (DPC) with developing:

“A proposal to protect, enhance, and sustain the unique cultural, historical, recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the Delta as an evolving place....The Commission shall include in the proposal a plan to establish state and federal designation of the Delta as a place of special significance, which may include application for a federal designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area.”

This feasibility study has been undertaken in order to fulfill this legislative mandate, which upon acceptance of this study by the DPC, it will be submitted to a Delta Congressional Representative to introduce legislation to establish a Delta National Heritage Area (NHA). The study inventories and describes resources of the region which are supportive of the proposed NHA's story and themes that make the area a place of national significance. The study also proposes how the NHA will be managed and organized to coordinate heritage area activities. Additionally, local groups who support the NHA are listed, along with letters of support; and organizations who are interested in potentially serving as partners on NHA activities are described, along with letters of partnership commitment.

During the course of this process a separate effort was initiated to establish a Delta NHA. In January 2011, Senator Dianne Feinstein introduced legislation into the Senate, with companion legislation introduced by Congressman John Garamendi into the House of Representatives to designate a Delta NHA, with the DPC as the management entity. The DPC has been monitoring the progress of this legislation while continuing to work on this feasibility study.

A NHA is a place designated by the United States Congress where natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally-distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. These areas tell nationally important stories about our nation and are representative of the national experience through both the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved within them.

The DPC developed this study with a process that incorporated public involvement throughout its entirety. A variety of activities were undertaken to acquire stakeholder input, including: public meetings, public presentations, stakeholder interviews, public review memos, and project study team meetings.

Executive Summary

Proposed mission and vision statements for a Delta NHA have been developed as part of this study. The proposed mission is to: “recognize, enhance, and promote ‘Delta as a Place’ to help cultivate and retain appreciation and understanding of the Delta as an ecological, agricultural, recreational, historical, and cultural treasure”. The proposed vision is “a regional network of partner sites with interpretive/educational components that will be linked where possible and serve as the primary attractions, on existing public properties or on private properties with the voluntary consent and involvement of the landowners”.

Project goals have also been established. The first goal is to “identify the Delta as a region of national significance to educate the public about ‘Delta as a Place’, and build more support for preserving, protecting, and enhancing the Delta”. Other goals are related to economic development, public access, historic preservation, interpretation, and more.

Utilizing public input, five proposed themes have been developed which explain the Delta’s national significance:

1. At the heart of California lies America’s inland delta.
2. Conversion of the Delta from marshland to farmland was one of the largest reclamation projects in the United States.
3. Multi-cultural contributions and experiences have shaped the Delta’s rural landscape.
4. The Delta, California’s cornucopia, is amongst the most fertile agricultural regions in the world.
5. The Delta lies at the center of California’s water resource challenges.

This study discusses four management alternatives and the potential implications: current practices; a Delta NHA; a state designated Delta heritage corridor; and a locally designated Delta Heritage Area.

Two boundary alternatives were proposed in this process. The first boundary alternative was developed by the DPC through identification of the geographical range of heritage resources which support the proposed themes. This boundary alternative includes the Delta’s Primary Zone, as well as add-ons which are adjacent to the Primary Zone. The second alternative is the boundary included in the Delta NHA legislation that was introduced in 2011 by Senator Feinstein and Congressman Garamendi, and includes much of the Legal Delta as well as the Carquinez Strait and Suisun Marsh.

Executive Summary

Based on public input, DPC staff recommends the second boundary alternative with the addition of the City of Rio Vista.

Heritage resources which support the NHA include waterways, levees, natural habitat areas, farmlands, historical and cultural sites, public lands with public access, and recreational resources. This study includes inventory lists, maps and descriptions of these sites.

This study proposes the DPC as the management entity with Technical and Stakeholder Advisory Committees to bring diverse perspectives and expertise to NHA planning and management. Fundraising efforts could be carried out in collaboration with local partners, and a funding matrix illustrates potential sources that could be investigated to meet the required federal match. An overview is given on current DPC projects that are compatible with the NHA. Project supporters are listed, potential project partners are explained, and letters of support and partnership commitment are included.

Measurements to ensure full protection of private property rights are explained which include the enabling legislation, opt-out provisions, existing Right-to-Farm ordinances, and the DPC's Land Use and Resource Management Plan. Finally, the feasibility of a Delta NHA is discussed in the context of the federal NHA criteria which was developed by National Park Service (NPS).



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Chapter 1 — Project Background

In fall 2009, the California State Legislature passed a comprehensive package reforming governance of the Delta and related aspects of statewide water management. The Delta Reform Act of 2009 charged the DPC with developing:

“A proposal to protect, enhance, and sustain the unique cultural, historical, recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the Delta as an evolving place....The Commission shall include in the proposal a plan to establish state and federal designation of the Delta as a place of special significance, which may include application for a federal designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area.”

This charge had its origins in the Delta Vision process, whose recommendations and Strategic Plan formed a major basis of the subsequent legislation. Importantly, the concept of NHA designation for the Delta originated not with the appointed Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force, but with the ‘Delta as a Place’ work group, which was comprised predominantly of Delta residents. Their recommendation to consider the appropriateness of NHA designation for the Delta was included in the Delta Vision Strategic Plan, and ultimately in the legislation.

During the course of this process a separate effort was initiated to establish a Delta NHA. In January 2011, Senator Dianne Feinstein, along with Senator Barbara Boxer, introduced legislation into the Senate for the Delta to receive NHA designation; S. 29, *a bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area* (Appendix 1). Congressman John Garamendi, with co-sponsors Representatives George Miller, Doris Matsui, Jerry McNerney, and Mike Thompson, introduced companion legislation into the House of Representatives; H.R. 486, *a bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area* (Appendix 2). This legislation would designate the Delta as a NHA with the DPC as the management entity. In that capacity, the DPC would be required to write a management plan for the Delta NHA. The DPC has been monitoring the progress of the legislation while continuing to work on this feasibility study. In March 2012, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee’s National Parks Subcommittee conducted a hearing on several bills, including S. 29. At this hearing, NPS staff stated that the Department of the Interior (DOI) recognizes the importance of the Delta’s resources, but recommended deferring action on S. 29 until a feasibility study is complete as DOI believes it would be premature to recommend support for establishment of the Delta NHA without the evaluation of its feasibility. Solano County Supervisor Michael Reagan also testified and stated that Solano County is pleased to support S. 29. and explained the great significance of the Delta ecologically, culturally, agriculturally, historically, economically, and more.

Chapter 1 — Project Background

The work conducted by the DPC for this feasibility study is of value for both the study itself, as well as forming a basis for a NHA management plan, should designation occur.

NHAs are defined by the National Park System Advisory Board as:

“A place designated by the United States Congress where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally-distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. These areas tell nationally important stories about our nation and are representative of the national experience through both the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved within them.”

NHAs are inhabited regions with fully functioning economies. There is no federal management of land or federal land acquisition authority granted with the designation. NHA initiatives are planned and managed by a local entity, rather than the federal government. The NHA designation is as much about enhancement and preservation of a region’s heritage for locals as it is for outside visitors. Specific benefits of NHA designation include limited federal financial assistance, technical assistance from NPS, national recognition, the use of the NPS arrowhead symbol as a marketing strategy, and opportunities to connect with other federal agencies. Obtaining designation as a NHA can help develop partnerships and leverage funds for projects such as interpretive signage, historic preservation, regional marketing, heritage trail development, and more. Many NHAs have received funds from other federal agencies through a variety of programs, primarily the Department of Transportation for road and infrastructure improvements.

Once a NHA is designated by Congress, NPS staff are enlisted as partners with the management entity in planning and implementing NHA activities. NPS enters into a cooperative agreement with the management entity which is a statement of assent to mutually shared goals, which also serves as the legal vehicle through which the federal funds can be passed to the management entity. NPS is only involved in an advisory context, and does not make nor carry out management decisions.

Contacts With Other NHAs

Prior to undertaking the feasibility study process, DPC staff conducted phone interviews with representatives from NHAs in other parts of the country to ask some questions that Delta residents had initially posed. Interview questions were related to: NHA benefits, local concerns, federal involvement, and negative consequences. Below is a brief summary of responses. The full interviews can be found in Appendix 3.

Chapter 1 — Project Background

1. How have other regions benefited from NHA designation?

- Access to federal funds
- Increased capabilities to further leverage funds
- Tax revenues from increased visitor spending
- Increased clout for the region
- Partnering opportunities with NPS
- Collaboration amongst locals across government lines
- Increased recognition of the area's natural and cultural resources

2. How have decisions been made in regards to where to focus efforts on?

- Interested partners
- Public input
- Visions that were developed in the management plan
- Available grant funds

3. Have there been any local people opposed to getting the designation?

- Generally there has been significant local support
- Some opposition at first due to concerns regarding land use, but these went away as people recognized the benefits

4. Have there been any strings attached? Any federal control/restrictions?

- None
- No new federal controls
- No power given to management entity to supersede local decisions
- Communities can opt-out if interested
- Management entity cannot purchase/own land

5. Have there been any negative consequences of getting the designation?

- None
- Support has continued to grow from local community



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Chapter 2 — Study Process

NPS has eight specific steps that are recommended for completion of a feasibility study, as follows:

1. Defining the study area.
2. Public involvement strategy.
3. Determination of the region's contribution to the national heritage and development of potential themes.
4. Natural and cultural resources inventories, integrity determinations, and affected environment data.
5. Management alternatives and preliminary assessment of impacts.
6. Boundary delineations.
7. Heritage area administration and financial feasibility.
8. Evaluation of public support and commitments.

This feasibility study process was developed around these eight steps, with public involvement incorporated throughout the entirety.

Best Practices in NHA Feasibility Studies

It is important to use 'best practices' for guidance and direction of NHA feasibility studies. Early in this process, the DPC received a list from NPS of 'model examples' of existing feasibility studies, which were used to inform the development of this study. These examples included the Crossroads of the American Revolution (New Jersey), Upper Housatonic Valley (Connecticut and Massachusetts), and the Santa Cruz Valley (Arizona).

Crossroads of the American Revolution

The Crossroads of the American Revolution NHA, designated in 2006, encompasses a region of New Jersey incorporating 213 cities and towns within fourteen counties. Its feasibility study was prepared by NPS staff and also serves as a Special Resource Study and Environmental Assessment for the proposed project. The feasibility study includes an extensive overview of the Revolutionary War in New Jersey and serves as an excellent educational resource. A comprehensive public involvement strategy was undertaken which consisted of widespread individual and organizational outreach, a brochure, informational handouts, a website, interviews, presentations, press releases, and public workshops. These methods promoted public understanding of the study and maximized the participation and contributions of interested individuals and organizations. Numerous discussions

Chapter 2 — Study Process

were conducted with local, county, and state elected officials; appointed boards; civic leaders; public administrators; and nonprofit organizations in the study area. The presentations were made to open space committees, chambers of commerce, business and industry associations, tourism organizations, boards of chosen freeholders, municipal governing bodies, and others.

The first set of public meetings involved the project team introducing the concept, reviewing the planning process and giving a brief description of historical events relating to the war in New Jersey. These meetings included opportunities for the public to identify their interests in the project, as well as relevant community resources and activities. A second set of public meetings was held to solicit input on themes and boundaries, identify heritage resources, and assess the desire for continued involvement in the project. Numerous letters of support as well as a petition with hundreds of signatures were collected for the feasibility study. Once drafted, the study was distributed for further public review.

Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area

The Upper Housatonic Valley NHA is the watershed of the upper Housatonic River, extending 60 miles from Kent, Connecticut to Lanesboro, Massachusetts. The feasibility study was prepared by a NPS project team and NHA designation was granted in 2006. The study contains a comprehensive explanation of the region's history (particularly aspects that relate to the NHA themes), an evaluation of the region according to federal criteria, management alternatives, an explanation of the public process, numerous maps and photographs, newspaper articles that covered the process, and much more. The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, Inc. (UHVNHA) was incorporated as a private nonprofit organization in 2000 to create a formal vehicle for promoting the NHA, and served as the local working group throughout the process. Its broad membership includes the region's municipalities and cultural, historical, environmental, civic, educational, and economic development organizations. UHVNHA facilitated a participatory process to develop the feasibility study which consisted of representation including: state and local officials, historians, owners of historical sites, cultural organizations, regional planning commissions, chambers of commerce, local and regional environmental organizations, and other interested citizens. The group organized meetings, public workshops and site visits, and provided extensive published resources to NPS. By utilizing the participatory process, the working group provided critical input on key issues such as geographic scope, interpretive themes, and heritage preservation opportunities.

Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area

The feasibility study for a Santa Cruz Valley NHA in Arizona was completed by the Center for Desert Archeology in April 2005, through a two-year grassroots approach. A stakeholder working group met monthly and provided a solid foundation to conduct efforts such as conceptualization, obtaining local political support, public outreach, fundraising, and coordination with legislation sponsors. In order to build a coalition, the working group identified key local leaders, organizations, agencies, and interest groups. Meetings were set up with leaders or organization representatives to ask for time at upcoming board and membership meetings to make presentations about what a NHA is and how it could benefit the region. Following the presentation, presentees were then invited to join the coalition and in many cases asked to formalize their support with resolutions or letters of support. Additionally, formal resolutions or letters of support were requested from all local governments, tribes, federal and state lands within the proposed boundaries, as well as certain state officials. These efforts proved to be successful as resolutions and letters of support were received from every local government, tribe, federal and state agency or official that was asked. County Boards of Supervisors also wrote formal letters asking Senators and Congressmen to sponsor designation bills in the Senate and House of Representatives. The public outreach process was made a top priority in order to educate local residents and stakeholder groups on NHAs and collect their input for the feasibility study. Outreach methods included: a color brochure, a website, tables at local events, town hall meetings, and press releases.

Best Practices Conclusions

Based on the case studies, best practices were incorporated into this feasibility study, including the following:

1. Involve the public throughout all eight steps of the feasibility study.

Public involvement is one of the most important criteria by which NHA proposals are evaluated on and these case studies are stellar examples in which public input has been incorporated throughout the entirety of the study. In each case study, public involvement efforts resulted in immense support from a variety of stakeholders, hence strengthening the justification of NHA designation for each area.

2) Utilize and expand upon existing DPC outreach.

Since it was established, the DPC has incorporated extensive outreach to involve local groups who represent Delta interests including habitat, agriculture, recreation, and others. For the development

Chapter 2 — Study Process

of the Delta NHA feasibility study, the broad spectrum of stakeholders who may be interested and/or affected by the project include local, regional and statewide historical organizations, cultural interest groups, economic development groups, tourism organizations, landowners, citizen groups, and others.

3) Incorporate a variety of outreach methods.

A wide variety of outreach methods are crucial to educate the public, address any questions or concerns, and provide a means for public input. These methods can include stakeholder interviews, group presentations, public workshops, handouts, internet communications, and more.

4) Request letters of support from stakeholder groups and local governments.

Local public support for NHA designation is one of the most important criteria upon which NHA proposals are evaluated. Formalized documents can be extremely valuable ways to illustrate the widespread and diverse backing for the project.

Chapter 2 — Study Process

Study Area

The Study Area was identified early on in the process and presented at the project's first public meeting. The Study Area boundary includes all of the Legal Delta (defined by California Water Code Section 12220) plus the City of Rio Vista (of which a portion lies within the Legal Delta).

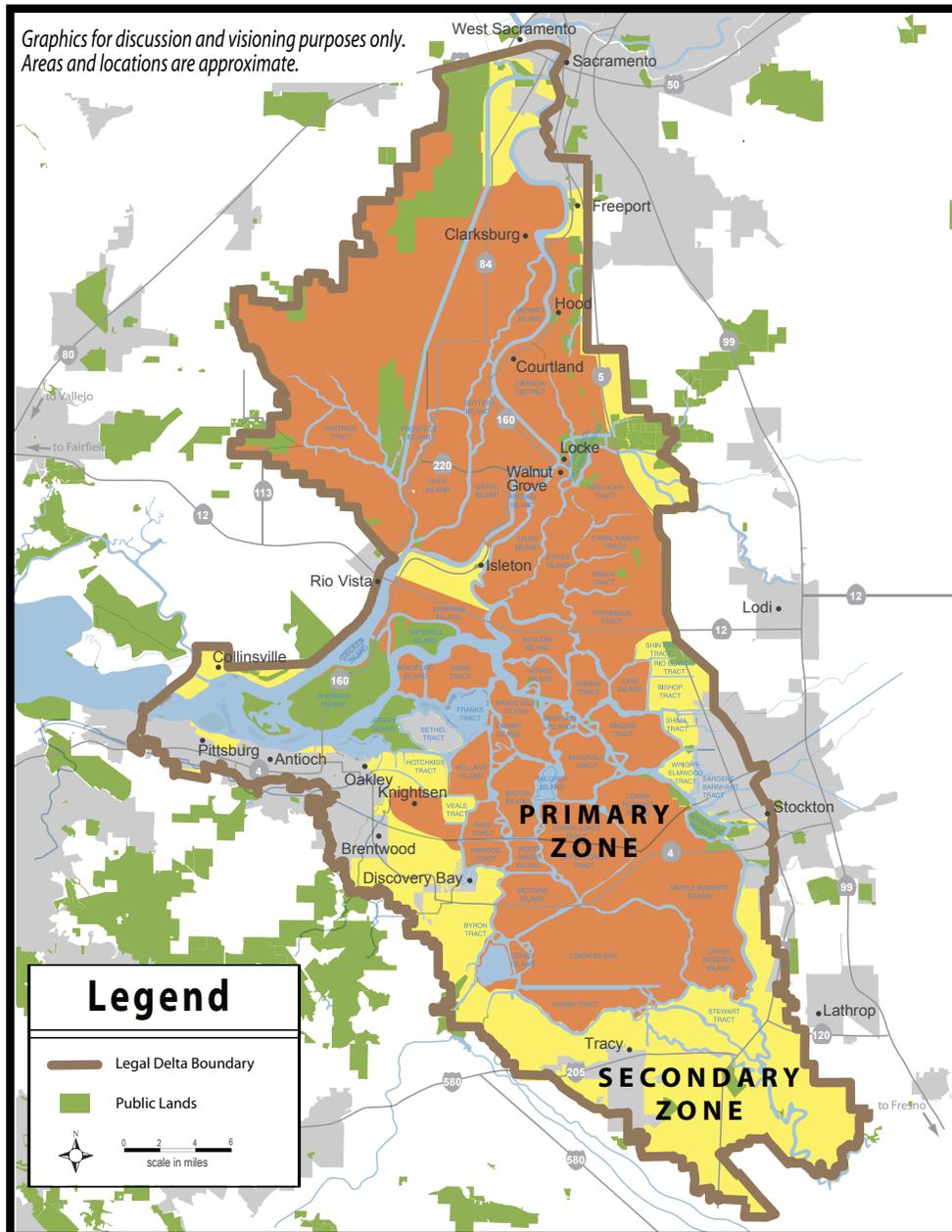


Figure 1. The study area includes the entire legal Delta, plus the City of Rio Vista.

Chapter 2 — Study Process

Public Involvement

Since its inception in 1992, the DPC has utilized its membership to establish, build, and maintain a network of local stakeholders. The membership of the DPC is structured with predominantly local representation, as outlined below.

DPC Membership

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors	Central Delta Reclamation Districts
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors	North Delta Reclamation Districts
San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors	South Delta Reclamation Districts
Solano County Board of Supervisors	Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Yolo County Board of Supervisors	Department of Food and Agriculture
Cities of Contra Costa and Solano Counties	Natural Resources Agency
Cities of Sacramento and Yolo Counties	State Lands Commission
Cities of San Joaquin County	

Local public support for NHA designation is one of the most important criteria upon which NHA proposals are evaluated, and therefore a comprehensive public involvement strategy was undertaken in the beginning of this process. The DPC utilized its existing webpage as a tool to help post and distribute information to the public. A weblink was developed specifically for the feasibility study and documents were posted regularly including meeting notices and minutes, study memos and reports, research summaries, etc. A zoomerang survey was developed and posted to the website for people wanting to submit comments or be put on the mailing list at anytime during the process. The DPC's interested parties email list, which includes hundreds of email addresses of persons from throughout the Delta, was utilized for announcements and updates. An additional email list was also developed for the NHA to assist with outreach to a number of other groups, including historical societies, cultural groups, preservation groups, chambers of commerce, tourism/marketing organizations, and more. Small postcard fliers were developed with a brief explanation on the process and how persons can become involved, which were distributed in public places throughout the Delta, including the DPC's info booth at local festivals, conferences, and trade shows. DPC staff also made a poster presentation on the topic at the 2011 State of the Estuary Conference in Oakland and gave an oral presentation at State Park's 2011 Delta Recreation Tour.

Stakeholder interviews were completed early on. A list of important stakeholders was developed, including persons from groups representing recreational activities, ethnic communities, wildlife

Chapter 2 — Study Process

habitat, local landowners, local political groups, agriculture, local businesses, and Delta history. Background information on NHAs and the interview questions were sent prior to the interviews for stakeholders to be well informed and prepared. About twenty interviewees total were asked a number of questions including what they perceived as potential benefits or detriments to NHA designation, what types of projects they could see stemming from NHA designation, and what the potential themes and affiliated resources of a Delta NHA should be.

A local study team was also developed which included representation from different groups in the Delta, including commerce, agriculture, recreation, and local landowners. The Study Team gave input on the general timeline and scope of activities, the structure of public meetings, preliminary drafts of the study memos, and more.

Six public meetings were held throughout the process. These meetings were announced utilizing a variety of methods including the aforementioned email lists, the DPC's website, fliers, Delta enews, and press releases in local newspapers. Public meeting #1, with about 25 participants, was held in West Sacramento in June 2010 to introduce the NHA concept, discuss the proposed study area, and discuss potential benefits and concerns. Public meeting #2, held in Rio Vista in October 2010, was an interactive workshop for stakeholders to propose themes and identify natural/cultural/historical resources to support those themes. About 40 participants attended this meeting. Public meeting #3 was held in Walnut Grove in July 2011 with about 25 participants, to introduce the synthesized proposed themes, introduce boundary alternatives, discuss the management alternatives, and discuss the mission, vision and goals. The final three public meetings were held in October 2011 in different parts of the Delta (Antioch, Thornton, and Clarksburg) to introduce the draft NHA feasibility study and receive input on boundary alternatives. An average of about 20 participants attended each of these meetings. Detailed notes were taken at the meetings and posted on the DPC's website.



Public Workshop in Rio Vista, October 2010

Numerous presentations/meetings were held throughout the process in order to further introduce the concept, answer any questions, and receive input from organizations who may be affected by, or interested in being involved with a Delta NHA. Handouts were distributed at these presentations with information on how to be involved, and mailing list sign-up sheets were passed around. The

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number of persons who attended these presentations ranged from just a few to around 100, but totaled at least 700 people. Organizations who received presentations/meetings are as follows:

Antioch Historical Society	Restore the Delta
California Farm Bureau	Rio Vista City Council
California Preservation Foundation	Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
California State Parks	Sacramento River Delta Historical Society
California Travel and Tourism Commission	San Francisco Estuary Partnership Implementation Committee
Central Delta Water Agency	San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors
Contra Costa County Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee	San Joaquin County Historical Museum Docent Council
Delta Chambers of Commerce	Solano City County Coordinating Council
Delta Citizens Municipal Advisory Council	Solano County Board of Supervisors
Friends of the Great CA Delta Trail/ Ambrose Park and Recreation District	South Delta Water Agency
Isleton City Council	Sportsmen Yacht Club
Lower Yolo Bypass Planning Forum	State Office of Historic Preservation
North Delta Conservancy	Striped Bass Association
North Delta Water Agency	West Sacramento City Council
Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association	Yolo County Board of Supervisors
Recreational Boaters of California	

Four memos were developed throughout the process on the following topics: Themes; Mission, Vision, and Goals; Boundary Alternatives; and Heritage Area Administration and Financial Feasibility. These memos served as ‘seeds’ of the feasibility study so that interested members of the public could review and provide feedback on specific topics prior to the release of the draft feasibility study in its entirety. These memos were sent to the DPC’s interested parties list and the Delta NHA email list, and posted on the DPC’s website. Public review periods ranged from 30-60 days, which were generally followed by public meetings on the topics.

Chapter 3 — Background on the Region’s Environment

This chapter serves to explain the past and current state of the environment of the proposed NHA, particularly so that readers who are unfamiliar with the region have a better understanding of the Delta as an evolving place and the context of the area which may influence opportunities and constraints for a Delta NHA.

Landscape History of the Delta and its role in the National Story

The Delta is a place of great economic, environmental, historical, and cultural significance. Due to its unique geography and location, the rich natural resources which it is home to, and the point in time in which it was ‘discovered’, the story of the Delta is unparalleled to anywhere else in the nation in regards to how humans have transformed a vast region of natural wetlands into a constructed system of waterways, levees, and farmlands, which play an integral role in supporting the ninth largest economy of the world.

The Delta is formed where the two largest rivers within the State of California meet, the south flowing Sacramento River and the northbound San Joaquin River. The two rivers merge with smaller tributaries and tidal flows to form a unique inland Delta consisting of 1,000+ miles of sloughs and waterways. The Delta, along with the Suisun Marsh, Carquinez Strait, and San Francisco Bay, make up the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas. The Delta watershed encompasses 45 percent of the state’s surface area stretching from the eastern slopes of the Coastal Ranges to the western slopes of the Sierra Nevadas.

The pre-reclamation Delta and Suisun Marsh ecosystem was once one of the most biologically productive and diverse ecosystems on the West Coast. The confluence of the two rivers formed a system of freshwater and brackish marshes from which spread a variety of habitat types: grasslands, seasonal wetlands, oak-woodland savannah, chaparral and riparian habitats. Rich peat soils which dominated the Delta landscape had been formed from centuries of tule and bulrush decay. Natural levees bordered the Delta waterways which were vegetated with oaks, sycamores, walnuts, willows, and more. The region was incredibly rich with a diversity of wildlife prior to human alteration.

The Delta was ‘discovered’ during the Gold Rush era (1848-1855) as the Delta waterways were vital transportation corridors for miners traveling from San Francisco to the mining districts in the Sierra Nevadas. Using the rivers reduced travel time between San Francisco and Sacramento from a typical two to three week trip on land to just under seven days on the rivers. As a result of the increase in visitors to the region, more people became aware of the Delta’s soils which were deemed prime for farming. This led to the Delta becoming home to California’s second ‘gold rush’ and by 1860,

Chapter 3 — Background on the Region's Environment

gold miners found a more stable and reliable fortune tilling the rich peatlands which became some of the most productive agricultural soils in the world. The Swamp and Overflow Land Act (1850) encouraged the reclamation of swampland and soon settlers began draining and reclaiming the Delta marsh. The reclaimed lands were subject to constant flooding, and through the use of Chinese immigrant laborers, farmers began building the first set of levees to hold back the flood waters.

New techniques and important technologies were developed for hydraulic engineering of the Delta which not only were integral to transforming the region from marshland to farmland, but also introduced the world to a new system of dredging. In the late 1870s, the clamshell dredge was invented and soon replaced manual labor in levee development. These steam powered dredges revolutionized levee construction by dredging deep cuts into the river bed to allow for higher, stronger levees. The reclamation period lasted until the 1930s, and by then the Delta was no longer a system of wetlands, but rather a complex system of levees, farmlands, and waterways, which was all accomplished by local landowners.

Agriculture flourished in the Delta due to the highly productive soils and readily available water supply. A large diversity and quantity of crops were produced for local consumption, as well as shipment throughout the world. Numerous specialty crops were produced in the Delta, including Bartlett Pears (about 50 percent of the world's supply was grown in the Delta region around World War I) and asparagus (about 90 percent of the world's supply was grown in the Delta in the early 1900s). As a leading food supplier for the world, the Delta was also an innovative center for agricultural equipment development, and notable inventions include a sugar beet harvester, the asparagus ripper, the asparagus plow and numerous other plows, discs, cultivators, and more. Additionally, the Caterpillar Tractor was developed in the Delta in the early 1900s. Previous tractor models had wheels which were constantly getting stuck in the peaty Delta soils. The Caterpillar Tractor alleviated this problem by running on tracks. This technology is now used throughout the world for agriculture, construction, military, and other applications.

By the late 1850s communities started developing along the banks of the Sacramento River, serving the early farmers and settlers in the area. The towns became agricultural shipping centers and river boat stops, linking the Delta to the rest of the world by shipping freight from the Delta, and supplying Delta residents with food, clothing, and other goods necessary for survival. Two Deep Water Ship Channels were also developed through dredging, the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel and the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, which transverse the Delta to export agricultural goods produced in the Central Valley from the cities of Sacramento and Stockton, respectively. Utilizing

Chapter 3 — Background on the Region’s Environment

the Delta waterways for commerce was of great significance for much of the Central Valley, enabling the development of communities all the way from Redding in the north and Bakersfield in the south; to San Francisco in the west to the Sierra Nevada Foothills in the east.

In 1921, the California State Legislature authorized the development for a state water plan. In 1933, California voters approved the Central Valley Project (CVP), authorizing construction of reservoirs and provide a water barrier to repel seawater intrusion. The CVP was authorized for flood control and navigation, water supply for agriculture and municipal water uses, and hydroelectric power generation. In 1951, California authorized the State Water Project (SWP) to supply water to Southern California’s expanding population. The SWP is the world’s largest publicly funded water and power development and conveyance system. The CVP and SWP are linked to the Clifton Court Forebay which pumps water into the California Aqueduct and the Delta-Mendota Canal which serve California’s highest population centers; the North Bay Area, Silicon Valley, Southern California, and to the Nation’s largest agricultural economy, the San Joaquin Valley.

The center of the Delta’s story is that of a young nation encouraging the reclamation of swampland to create some of the world’s most productive farmlands in the center of California, from which spawned innovations, technologies, and infrastructure unique to the development of the State, as well as other parts of the nation and world. The Delta today is a complex assemblage of resources (natural, cultural, historical, agricultural, economic, recreational, and more) that make a significant contribution to the California’s quality of life and economy. The region can be understood as the combination of land and water and the interactions of goods and people reflecting the historical, cultural, and economic diversity of the region. The rich and fertile soil nourishes the cornucopia; and the maze of levees, sloughs and waterways serve as a recreational playground for boaters and fishermen while providing flood protection to the urban areas surrounding the Delta. While the Delta is no longer the natural system of wetlands which it once was, it still remains an ecological gem for wildlife; as waterfowl have adapted to using the farmlands as habitat, and anadromous fish still travel its waterways between the Pacific Ocean and the Sierra Nevadas. The Delta is the heart of California’s largest water delivery system and provides a portion of the water for 25 million residents, the State’s \$1.7 trillion economy, and more than 3 million acres of productive farmland. What was once a largely uninhabited wetland system in the center of California was shaped, altered, and engineered through human labor and technologies; enabling people to utilize its precious natural resources in ways that are unmatched anywhere else in the world.

Natural Resources and Special Status Species

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

The Delta represents the connection and confluence of a vast watershed, linking inland streams and rivers originating from the Cascade, Coastal, and Sierra Nevada ranges with the San Francisco Bay and Pacific Ocean. Approximately 40 percent of California’s land area and 50 percent of its total stream flow converges at the Delta.

The ecosystem of the Delta was historically very rich, supporting abundant populations of wildlife and fish. However, native wildlife have been impacted by significant changes to the ecosystem over the past 150 years, including loss of habitat, loss of access to upstream habitat from dam construction, diking and draining for reclamation, urbanization, changes in flows, invasive species, pollutants, export pumping, and more. Large mammals such as bear and elk, which historically lived in and around the Delta have either been eliminated or reduced to extremely low numbers. In recent years, pelagic fish populations, such as Delta smelt, have declined to record low levels. Salmon runs have also experienced significant declines in the Delta.

Despite the large scale changes, a number of different habitat types are still found throughout the Delta including: intertidal wetlands, rivers, sloughs, riparian woodlands, scrub, non-tidal wetlands, grasslands, floodplains, and seasonal wetlands. With management practices such as seasonal flooding, Delta farmlands also serve as valuable habitat, particularly for waterfowl and shorebirds. Overall the Delta supports hundreds of species of flora and fauna, including special status species such as:

- Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, Suisun Shrew, Townsend’s Big-Eared Bat, San Joaquin Kit Fox, and Hoary Bat
- Black Rail, Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Sandhill Crane, Song Sparrow, Swainson’s Hawk, and Burrowing Owl
- Giant Garter Snake and Western Pond Turtle
- Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, Green Sturgeon, Delta Smelt, and Sacramento Splittail
- Elderberry Longhorn Beetle

Chapter 3 — Background on the Region’s Environment

Suisun Marsh

Suisun Marsh is the largest contiguous brackish water marsh remaining on the West Coast of North America and is a critical part of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Approximately 200 miles of levees in the Marsh contribute to managing salinity in the Delta. The Marsh encompasses more than 10 percent of California’s remaining natural wetlands and serves as the resting and feeding ground for thousands of birds migrating on the Pacific Flyway, and resident waterfowl. In addition, the Marsh provides important habitat for more than 221 bird species, 45 mammalian species, 16 reptile and amphibian species, and more than 40 fish species. Suisun Marsh supports the State’s commercial salmon fishery by providing important tidal rearing areas for juvenile fish. Special status species include:

- Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, Suisun Ornate Shrew, Harbor Seal
- California Black Rail, California Least Tern, California Brown Pelican, San Pablo Song Sparrow, Western Snowy Plover
- California Red-legged Frog, San Francisco Garter Snake, Northwestern Pond Turtle
- Coho Salmon, Green Sturgeon, Pacific Lamprey, River Lamprey, Tidewater Goby

Carquinez Strait

The Carquinez Strait is the meeting point for freshwater draining from California’s inland and saltwater from the Pacific Ocean. Freshwater flows westward through the Carquinez Strait, draining the Central Valley watersheds, including the Sacramento, San Joaquin, Feather, and American Rivers. Saltwater from the ocean flows in and out with the tide twice daily. The mixing of fresh and salt water creates a transition zone, or “null” zone, which is critical to the health of the region’s ecosystem.

The Strait connects the San Francisco/San Pablo Bay with Suisun Bay and the Delta. It is half-a-mile wide, eight miles long, and in places over 800 feet deep from bluff-top to bedrock bottom. Due to seismic occurrences, the channel bends sharply to the right, then back left as it opens up into the broad triangular basin of Suisun Bay.

The Carquinez Strait area is situated in the Central Coast Floristic Region of the California Floristic Province. The relative stability of the climate makes the region one of the richer areas of endemic taxa in California. Several diverse plant communities are represented in the Carquinez Strait, including foothill and valley grasslands, oak/bay woodlands, central coastal scrub, northern coastal salt marsh,

Chapter 3 — Background on the Region’s Environment

coastal brackish marsh, and coastal and valley freshwater marsh. Special status species include:

- Longtail Wesel, Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, and Suisun Shrew
- American Peregrine Falcon, Salt Marsh Yellowthroat, Bald Eagle, California Gull, Salt Marsh Song Sparrow
- Delta Smelt, Sacramento Splittail, Longfin Smelt
- Suisun Thistle, Bird’s Beak, Marsh Gumplant, California Hibiscus, and Delta Tule Pea

Water

Sacramento-San Joaquin

In California, rainfall runoff and snowmelt are captured in reservoirs to redistribute to urban and agricultural users while meeting environmental requirements. About 75 percent of the State’s water originates north of the Delta and about 67 percent of the State’s water needs occur south of the Delta.

Because the Delta drains the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds, urban stormwater runoff and waste discharges from upstream and adjacent areas enter Delta waterways and cause water quality problems. Low-flow years generally carry higher concentrations of waste discharges and agricultural runoff than do wet years.

Some treated municipal and industrial wastewater, untreated urban storm water, and agricultural runoff and drainage enter the Delta directly. Other urban and agricultural discharges from upstream in the watershed enter the Delta along with the river flows. Seepage onto Delta islands from adjacent channels and drainage from the agricultural lands are released back to the Delta channels at hundreds of locations.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has identified the Delta as impaired by a number of pollutants, including some pesticides, low dissolved oxygen, electrical conductivity (salinity), and mercury. Delta fish have elevated levels of methylmercury, which poses a risk to humans and wildlife that eat the fish on a regular basis.

The daily tidal cycles and the San Joaquin River contribute most of the salinity to the Delta. During periods of high Delta inflows, salinity is low; during periods of low Delta inflows, salinity rises. Salinity in the Delta is managed by a mix of releases from upstream reservoirs, Cross Channel gate

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operations, Delta outflow, and exports from the Delta. The Delta is governed by water quality standards for municipal and industrial uses, agricultural uses, and fish and wildlife, all of which are currently under review by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The combination of organic matter (decaying vegetation), bromide in the seawater, and disinfectants used in water treatment plants, produce disinfection byproducts that may pose health risks.

The SWRCB and the Regional Boards designate beneficial uses of the State’s waters. In the Delta, beneficial uses include: municipal and domestic supply; agriculture; industry; groundwater recharge; navigation; recreation; wildlife habitat; fish migration and spawning; and preservation of rare and endangered species.

Suisun Marsh

Delta water management for agriculture, water supply diversions, and exports; and the salinity of water diverted for waterfowl habitat in the Marsh; officially became linked in the 1978 State Water Board Delta Water Control Plan and the water right decision (D-1485) Suisun Marsh salinity standards. D-1485 required the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to prepare a plan to protect the beneficial use of water for fish and wildlife and meet salinity standards for the Marsh. Initial facilities included improved Roaring River Distribution System facilities to supply approximately 5,000 acres on Simmons, Hammond, Van Sickle, Wheeler, and Grizzly Islands with lower salinity water from Montezuma Slough, and the Morrow Island Distribution System and Goodyear Slough outfall to improve supply of lower salinity water for the southwestern Marsh. These initial facilities were constructed in 1979 and 1980; the required Suisun Marsh Plan of Protection was prepared and approved in 1984.

SWP and CVP projects affect Suisun Marsh salinity by regulating Delta outflow through upstream reservoir storage and releases and Delta exports. D-1485 and the currently applicable D-1641 require DWR and Reclamation to meet various Delta outflow and salinity objectives in the Delta and the Marsh. These objectives limit the allowable exports during some periods of relatively low Delta inflows. The SWRCB suggested in D- 1485 that “full protection of Suisun Marsh now could be accomplished only by requiring up to 2 million acre-feet of freshwater outflow in dry and critical years in addition to that required to meet other standards”. This was strong motivation for DWR and Reclamation to prepare a plan of protection for Suisun Marsh that would use other facilities or management actions to provide appropriate salinity in the Marsh. The Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gate on Montezuma Slough near Collinsville, which began operating in October 1988,

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were constructed by DWR and Reclamation to improve the salinity in the Marsh channels without requiring the additional Delta outflow that the State Water Board had anticipated.

Carquinez Strait

Fresh river water flows westward through the Carquinez Strait, draining the Central Valley watersheds. River and ocean water generally meet and mix around the Carquinez Strait. Because freshwater is lighter than saltwater, the river water tends to float on top of the ocean water. Partial mixing of these waters creates a vertical salinity gradient that is greatest in the winter and in the wet years, when river flows are greater, and can extend for many miles through the estuary. This mixing zone is pushed by the tides up and down the estuary, two to six miles twice daily. Superimposed on this back-and-forth motion is a much smaller downstream flow of the freshwater surface layer, which induces an upstream return current of saltier water near the bottom. This pattern of net flow is known as estuarine or gravitational circulation. The region where the upstream and downstream currents meet and cancel out along the bottom is called the null zone.

Land Use

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

The settlement pattern of the Delta was historically, and currently remains, closely associated with the Delta’s waterways, as well as the configuration of agricultural lands. The Delta is no longer the vast marshland that it historically was and instead is an agriculturally dominated landscape with 1,100+ miles of levees enclosing 57 islands. Due to the rich peat soils, as well as mineral soils at higher locations, the Delta’s farmlands are highly productive and well suited for ongoing agricultural operations.

The Delta’s Primary Zone is a predominately rural landscape as it encompasses the locations where development proposals did not currently exist and where no general plans called for growth at the time the Delta Protection Act was developed in 1992. A handful of small, unincorporated towns are in the Primary Zone, along the Sacramento River, including Clarksburg, Courtland, Hood, Locke, Walnut Grove, and Ryde. These unincorporated towns, sometimes referred to as ‘legacy communities’ possess a rural charm with events, local businesses, and recreational opportunities that are attractive to visitors and locals alike. Rio Vista is located partially

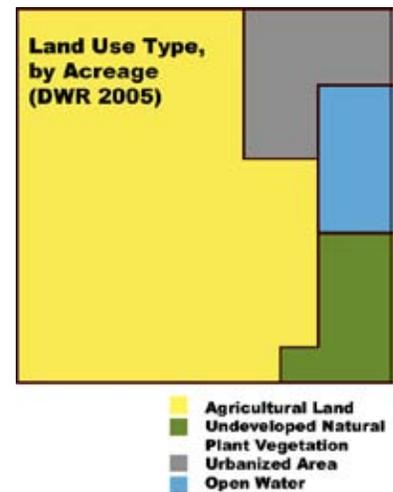


Figure 2. Delta Land Use¹

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within the Primary Zone but not within the Secondary Zone. The Secondary Zone consists of land at the periphery of the Delta, and contains most of the Delta’s urbanized land. One incorporated city, Isleton, and portions of other incorporated cities including Antioch, Elk Grove, Lathrop, Oakley, Pittsburg, Sacramento, Stockton, Tracy, and West Sacramento, are located within or just outside of the Secondary Zone. Current and future population growth increases the demand for developable land in much of the Secondary Zone due to it being near existing population centers of the Bay Area, Sacramento and Stockton. This demand results in the conversion of open space, primarily agricultural land, to residential and commercial uses which is yielding an increase in concern about the potential for urbanization and projects in the Secondary Zone to impact the Primary Zone.

Hundreds of miles of rivers and sloughs lace the region. These waterways provide habitat for many aquatic species and the uplands provide year-round and seasonal habitat for a wide variety of terrestrial species. Some agricultural lands also provide rich seasonal wildlife habitat as thousands of acres of agricultural lands are flooded after harvest and provide feeding and resting areas for resident and migratory birds and other wildlife. Sherman Island, Twitchell Island, Staten Island, portions of the Yolo Bypass (e.g., Vic Fazio Wildlife Area) and McCormack-Williamson Tract are held as conservation lands and are currently operated as farmlands. In addition, the levees are part of a system that protect Delta farmlands, legacy communities, critical infrastructure, and urban peripheries including Sacramento and Stockton.

Suisun Marsh

The values of the Marsh have been recognized as important, and several agencies have been involved in its protection since the mid-1970s. In 1974 the Nejedly-Bagley-Z’Berg Suisun Marsh Preservation Act was enacted by the California Legislature to protect the Marsh from urban development. It required the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) to develop a plan for the Marsh and called for various restrictions on development in the Marsh boundaries. In 1976, the BCDC developed the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan (SMPP), which defined and limited development within the primary and secondary management area for the “future of the wildlife values of the area as threatened by potential residential, commercial, and industrial development”. The primary management area consists of tidal marshes, seasonal marshes, managed wetlands, and lowland grasslands within the Marsh. The secondary management area comprises of upland grasslands and agricultural lands, which provide significant buffer habitat to the Marsh. The SMPP objectives are “to preserve and

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enhance the quality and diversity of the Suisun Marsh aquatic and wildlife habitats and to assure retention of upland areas adjacent to the Marsh in uses compatible with its protection”.

In 1977, the California Legislature implemented Assembly Bill 1717, the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act of 1977, which replaced the 1974 Act and called for the implementation of the SMPP; designated the BCDC as the state agency with jurisdiction over the Marsh; and called for the Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD) to have the primary local responsibility for water management on privately owned lands in the Marsh. In 1984, DWR with cooperation from SRCD, DFG, U.S. Department of the Interior, and Reclamation; published the Plan of Protection for Suisun Marsh, in response to the SWRCB Water Rights Decision 1485, Order 7. The Plan of Protection was a proposal for staged implementation of a combination of activities, including monitoring, a wetlands management program for landowners, physical facilities, and supplemental releases of SWP and CVP reservoirs.

Current land use in the Marsh is a mixture of privately and state-managed lands. Suisun Marsh has approximately 51,416 acres of managed seasonal wetlands. Most of the properties in the Marsh are privately owned duck and hunting clubs with some public recreation lands. Specifically, it is home to public waterfowl hunting areas managed by DFG (13,500 acres) and 158 private duck clubs (37,500 acres). Suisun Marsh is divided between the Primary Management Area and the Secondary Management Area. The Primary Management Area consists of tidal marshes, seasonal marshes, managed wetlands, and lowland grasslands within the Marsh. The intent is for this area to remain in its existing marsh and related uses as provided for in the SMPP. The Secondary Management Area comprises of upland grasslands and agricultural lands, which provide significant buffer habitat for the Marsh. Within this area agricultural practices favoring wildlife use and habitat enhancement are encouraged.

Carquinez Strait

In the 1840s, Mexico divided the region into large land grants. Rancho Canada del Hambre, granted to Teodora de Soto in 1842, included the shoreline from Crockett to near Martinez. To the east, south and west was Rancho El Pinole, granted to Ygnacio Martinez, the Commandant of the Presidio in San Francisco, in 1823. Rancho El Pinole included the present site of Martinez west of Alhambra Creek, as well as the southeastern shore of San Pablo Bay from Crockett to Point Pinole. On the other side of the Strait, Rancho Suscol which included the future sites of both Vallejo and Benicia was granted to General Mariano Vallejo in 1844. The grantees used the land mainly to graze

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large herds of livestock which were gathered in communal rounds-ups near the bayshore, an activity for which the town of Rodeo was later named.

An influx of entrepreneurs into the Carquinez Strait region began with the onset of the Gold Rush in 1848, the end of the Mexican-American War and the admission of California to the United States in 1850. Capitalizing on the litigious outcome of the Land Act of 1851, requiring Californiaos to prove up their claims, the newcomers bought or confiscated land from the grantees, or married into it. With great energy, between 1849 and 1892, the towns of Benicia, Vallejo, Martinez, Crockett, Port Costa, Rodeo and Hercules were founded and platted along the shore of the Bay of the Strait.

Land use in the Strait region ranges from large tracts of open space to dense urban and industrial developments along the waterfront. A number of medium to high density waterfront communities occur along the Strait, including Vallejo, Martinez, Benicia, Crockett, and Port Costa. Many industrial developments can also be found along the Strait, including four of California’s twelve largest oil refineries – Shell, Tosco, Exxon, and Unocal. Other large industrial sites include the C & H Sugar Refinery and the Energy National cogeneration plant, both in Crockett. The region also has many areas of open space developed for tourism and recreation, including a variety of municipal parks, state recreation areas, and regional shorelines.

Maritime-related activities include commercial shipping, as well as ships bound to or returning from ports in Sacramento, Stockton, and the Pittsburg/Antioch areas. Naval vessels also pass though the Strait going to and from the Concord Naval Weapons Station. Municipal wharfs and commercial terminals line both sides of the Strait, serving largely to facilitate the handling of dry bulk goods and petroleum products.

Population

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

The Legal Delta has experienced rapid population growth, increasing by about 54 percent since 1990, compared to 25 percent statewide. This high growth rate is partially from rapid urbanization due to the Delta’s position in the midst of large metropolitan areas in Northern California. The majority of this population growth occurs in the Secondary Zone, with the highest concentrations being in Antioch and Pittsburg to the west, Stockton and Tracy to the southeast and Sacramento and West Sacramento to the north. As the Primary Zone is mainly undeveloped land, its population density is low and generally centered around the legacy communities. Its population has remained relatively

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stable over recent years and was about 12,000 in 2010, roughly the same as in 1990. The following four charts illustrate the composition of age, race, and annual income of the Delta’s population.

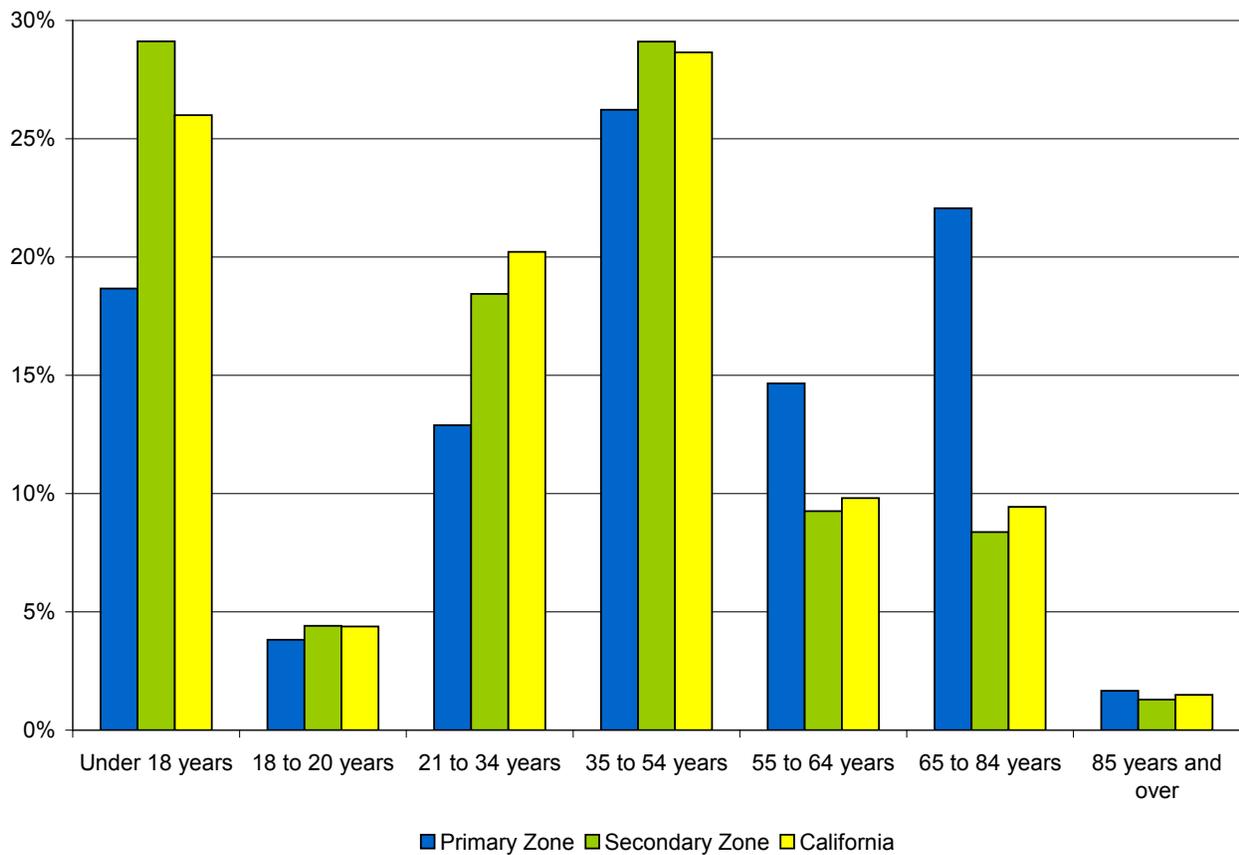


Figure 3. Age Distribution in the Delta²

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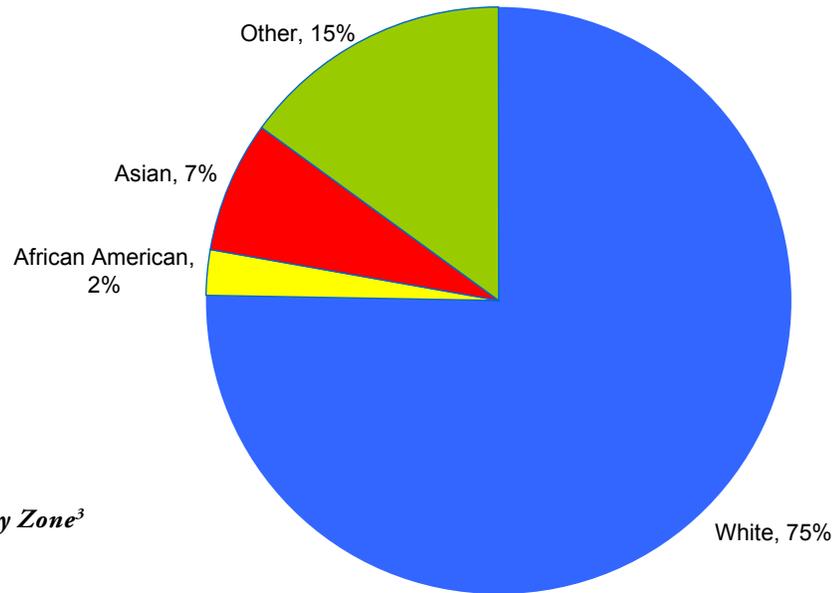


Figure 4. Race in the Primary Zone³

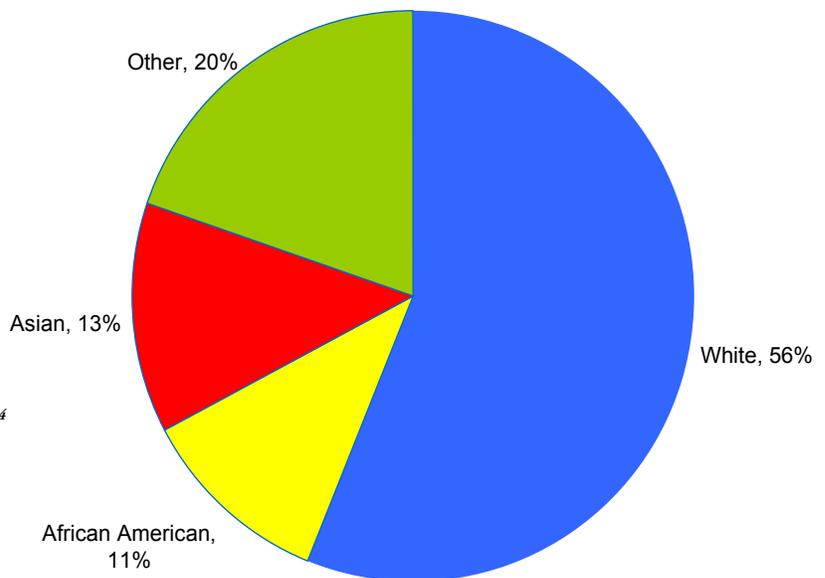


Figure 5. Race in the Secondary Zone⁴

Across all race categories approximately 26 percent of the Primary Zone population and 30 percent of the Secondary Zone population reported being of Hispanic origin.

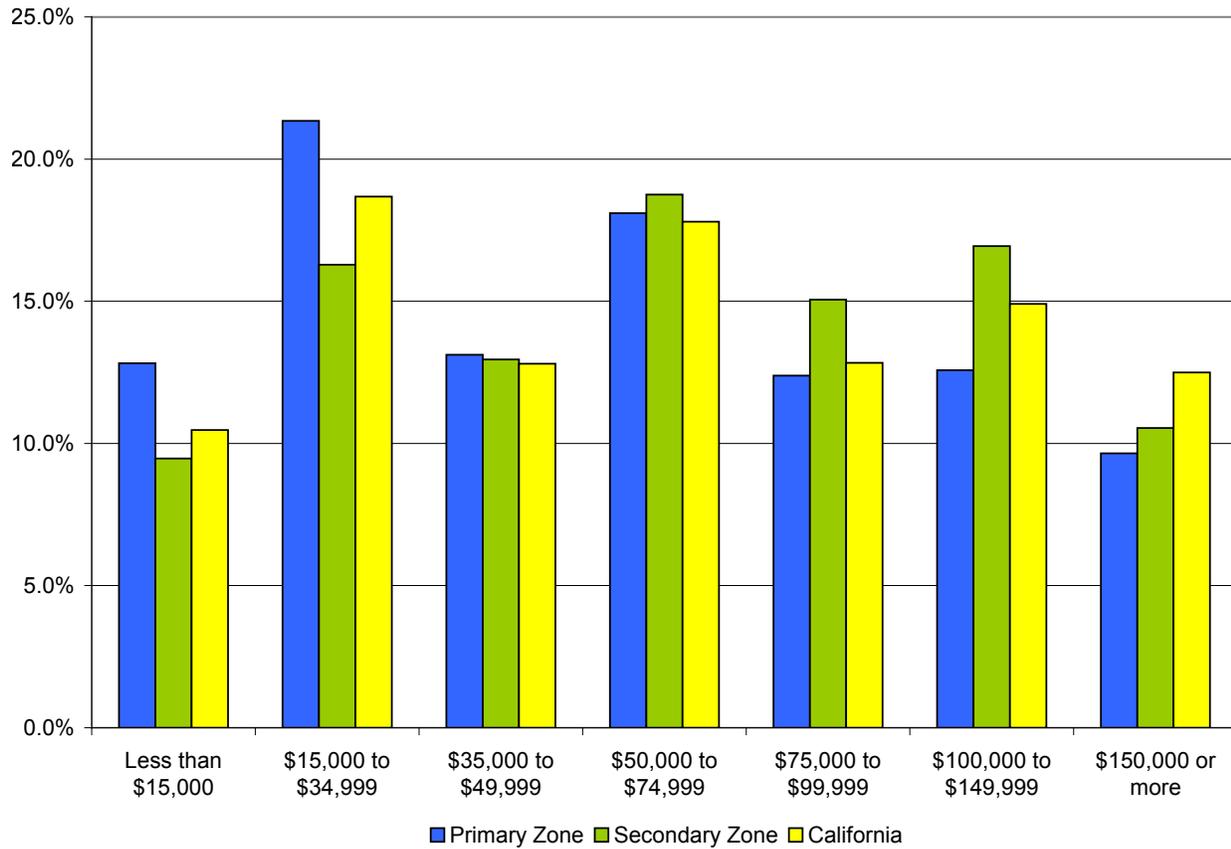


Figure 6. Income Distribution in the Delta⁵

Suisun Marsh

The Suisun Marsh is located within the Suisun City zip code 94585. In 2010, the US Census Bureau estimated the 94585 population at 49,163. The urban population is centered on Suisun City, Rockville, and parts of Fairfield with a population of 35,226. While no urban development exists within the Marsh itself, the DFG Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Complex (comprising more than 15,000 acres of publicly owned lands), includes local residents, families, homes, and private structures protected by a levee system.

Carquinez Strait

Current pattern of suburbanization in the region began in the 1940s and has been on relative par with the rest of the Bay Area. A number of early factors have contributed to the local growth including, expansion of Bay Area communities, population pressure during World War II, increases in income during the war years, the universal use of the automobile, and the Californian ideal of suburban living. The 2010 Census estimated the Strait’s population at 182,045, with population

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numbers contributing from the community areas of Vallejo, Martinez, Benicia, Crockett, and Port Costa. The 2010 population is almost equal, except for a slight decline, to the area’s 2000 population of 182,917.

Business and Industry

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

The Delta’s cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values are inextricably linked to economic activities that are carried out in the Delta. Therefore, maintaining a healthy economy that supports these activities within the Delta is critical to protecting these values.

As an economic place, the Delta is dependent upon agriculture, with recreation and tourism also being important economic drivers. It is estimated that Delta crop and animal production has an economic impact of roughly 9,700 jobs, \$683 million in value added, and \$1.4 billion in output in the five Delta counties. Across all of California, the economic impact of Delta agriculture is approximately 13,000 jobs, \$819 million in value added, and \$1.6 billion in output. When related value-added manufacturing such as wineries, canneries, and dairy products are included with the impact of Delta agriculture, the total economic impact of Delta agriculture is roughly 13,200 jobs, \$1.059 billion in value-added, and \$2.647 billion in economic output in the five Delta counties. Including value-added manufacturing, the statewide impact of Delta agriculture is about 25,000 jobs, \$2.135 billion in value-added, and \$5.372 billion in economic output.

Recreation is an integral part of the Delta economy, generating roughly 12 million visitor days of use annually and approximately \$250 million dollars of visitor spending in the Delta each year. Of the roughly 12 million visitor days spent in the Delta each year, approximately 8 million days are for resource-related activities (e.g., boating and fishing), 2 million days are for right-of-way related and tourism activities (e.g., bicycling and driving for pleasure), and 2 million days are for urban parks-related activities (e.g., picnicking and organized sports). Boating and fishing have the biggest economic impact, and are estimated to generate nearly 80 percent of the recreation and tourism spending in the Delta, including significant expenditures on lodging, meals, supplies, marina services, and fuel. Delta recreation and tourism supports over 3,000 jobs in the five Delta counties. These jobs provide over \$100 million in labor income and over \$175 million in value added to the regional economy. Across all of California, Delta recreation and tourism supports over 5,300 jobs, and contributes about \$353 million in value added.

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The Delta’s cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values are inextricably linked to economic activities that are carried out in the Delta. Therefore, maintaining a healthy economy that supports these activities within the Delta is critical to protecting these values.



Suisun Marsh

Existing land use in the Marsh is zoned as marsh and agriculture, both having a resource conservation overlay. The marsh designation provides for protection of wetland areas and permits aquatic and wildlife habitat, marsh-oriented recreational uses, compatible agricultural activities, and educational/scientific research. The agriculture designation provides areas for farming as the primary use, and allows secondary uses that support the economic viability of agriculture.

Carquinez Strait

Today the characteristic industry of the Carquinez shore is oil refining. Early refineries were connected by pipelines to oil fields in the San Joaquin Valley. The refineries have since expanded in number and currently include terminals at Benicia, Martinez, Ozol, Crockett and Selby. These refineries provide 72 percent of the Bay Area’s refining capacity and 58 percent of its storage capacity.

Transportation and Infrastructure

Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta

Due to the Delta’s location between major population areas, its unique resources (especially water and natural gas), its flat terrain, and general lack of development, the region has high value as a utility and transportation corridor. More than 500 miles of transmission lines and more than 60 substations lie within the Delta boundaries. Within the larger Delta-Suisun Marsh area are approximately 240 operating gas wells. Natural gas pipelines serve local gas fields and regional pipelines. PG&E’s underground natural gas storage area under McDonald Island provides up to one-third of the peak natural gas supply for its service area. Pipelines carry gasoline and aviation fuel across the Delta from Bay Area refineries to depots in Sacramento and Stockton for distribution throughout Northern California and Nevada and provide approximately 50 percent of the transportation fuel used in that region. The Mokelumne Aqueduct, consisting of three pipelines, is the main municipal water conveyance facility for 1.3 million people in the East Bay Municipal Utility District. The aqueduct crosses five Delta islands/tracts (Orwood Tract, Woodward Island, Jones Tract, Roberts Island, and Sargent-Barnhart Tract) protected by levees. Additionally, the Sacramento and Stockton Deep Water Ship Channels both play crucial roles in the international import and export of goods.

Transportation systems traversing around and through the Delta include several railroads, freeways, state highways, and county roads. Additionally, three interstate freeways (Interstates 5, 80, and 580) provide major transportation and trucking routes that pass the periphery of the Delta. The three major state highways in the Delta (State Routes 4, 12, and 160) are typically two lanes, sometimes built on top of levees. Originally meant for lower traffic volumes at moderate speeds, the State highways are now heavily used for regional trucking, recreational access, and commuting. More than 50 bridges, including approximately 30 drawbridges, span the navigable channels.

Suisun Marsh

Many of the Marsh levees serve as important local transportation corridors and protect private and public infrastructure in addition to providing ecological and aesthetic value. Significant examples of public infrastructure protected by locally funded levee maintenance programs are the Union Pacific Railroad, Amtrak Capitol Corridor, the petroleum product pipeline to Travis Air Force Base, other petroleum pipelines, State Route 12, Solano County roads, natural gas production wells, electrical transmission lines, and water conveyance facilities.

Carquinez Strait

Until 1927, the Strait could only be traversed by a series of ferries. In 1927, the Carquinez auto bridge between Vallejo and Crockett opened and the Carquinez Strait Bridge provided the final link in the Pan-American Highway, connecting Canada with Mexico. In 1958, to relieve congestion from Interstate 80, the California State Department of Transportation completed a parallel span 200 feet to the east. The bridge was recently succeeded by the Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge which lies to the west of the former bridges.

Two other bridges of note connect Martinez with Benicia. When completed in 1930, the Southern Pacific Railroad Bridge was the longest and the heaviest double track bridge west of the Mississippi River and boasted a load carrying capacity greater than that of any bridge in the US. A parallel highway bridge carrying Interstate 680, the George Miller, Jr. Memorial Bridge, was complete on the downstream side of the Strait in 1962.

Data Sources

¹Department of Water Resources. "California Water Plan Update 2005." Volume 3. Chapter 12:2

²⁻⁵2005-9 American Community Survey, Census Bureau

Chapter 4 — Mission, Vision, Goals

This chapter contains the proposed mission, vision, and goals for a Delta NHA which were developed via small group discussions during this study's third public meeting.

Mission

Recognize, enhance, and promote 'Delta as a Place' to help cultivate and retain appreciation and understanding of the Delta as an ecological, agricultural, recreational, historical, and cultural treasure.

Vision

A regional network of partner sites with interpretive/educational components that will be linked where possible and serve as the primary attractions, on existing public properties or on private properties with the voluntary consent and involvement of the landowners.

Goals

- 1) Identify the Delta as a region of national significance to educate the public about 'Delta as a Place', and build more support for preserving, protecting, and enhancing the Delta.
- 2) Support economic development of the Delta by drawing visitors to designated partner sites, as well as local markets, restaurants, hotels, campgrounds, bed and breakfasts, hostels, farmstays, and other recreation and visitor facilities.
- 3) Promote heritage tourism, ecotourism, and agritourism, which are aligned with existing activities, infrastructure, and land uses in the Delta. Maintain Delta agriculture while improving public access and developing necessary visitor amenities in the Delta such as public restrooms, garbage receptacles, directional signage, and dockage.
- 4) Make available maps of partner sites which identify waterways and byways to connect the sites.
- 5) Undertake and provide resources for historic preservation projects at partner sites with the consent and involvement of willing landowners.
- 6) Develop interpretive signage to educate the public about the Delta's natural, historical and cultural heritage; and support programs which teach Delta history.



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Chapter 5 — Themes

As part of a NHA feasibility study, it is useful to develop themes which explain the national significance of a region and tell the unique stories of the place. Input on Delta NHA themes was solicited from local stakeholders via interviews and interactive public workshops. Proposed themes represent a synthesis of ideas from the public process. These were developed to be broad enough to incorporate a diversity of ideas, yet succinct enough to tell a unique story of the Delta's heritage.

Background on the Delta

The Delta lies in the heart of California and has been a vibrant center of diverse habitats, communities, industries, innovations, and infrastructure; of distinctive significance locally, regionally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. The unique resources of the Delta have attracted persons from throughout the world to shape and utilize the landscape.

During the last 10,000 years, a rapid rise in sea level following the last ice age inundated the alluvial valley of the Sacramento River forming the landscape now known as the Delta. The confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers formed a system of freshwater and brackish marshes and from there spread a variety of habitat types: grasslands, seasonal oak woodlands, oak woodland-savannah, chaparral, and riparian, which were incredibly rich with wildlife. Native American groups inhabited the Delta; including the Wintun, Maidu and Miwok, but most died of introduced diseases prior to European settlers. Early explorers visited the Delta in the 18th and 19th centuries, and fur traders such as Jedediah Smith trekked into the region due to the abundance of wildlife such as otter, mink, and beaver.

The Gold Rush era (1848-1855) is recognized as the time when the Delta was 'discovered'. Persons traveling its waters from San Francisco to the goldfields of the Sierra Nevada Mountains began to recognize the fertility of the Delta's soils and the high potential for agricultural production. Reclamation began during the 1800's and the extensive system of marshland was converted to a predominantly agricultural landscape, which the Delta remains today.

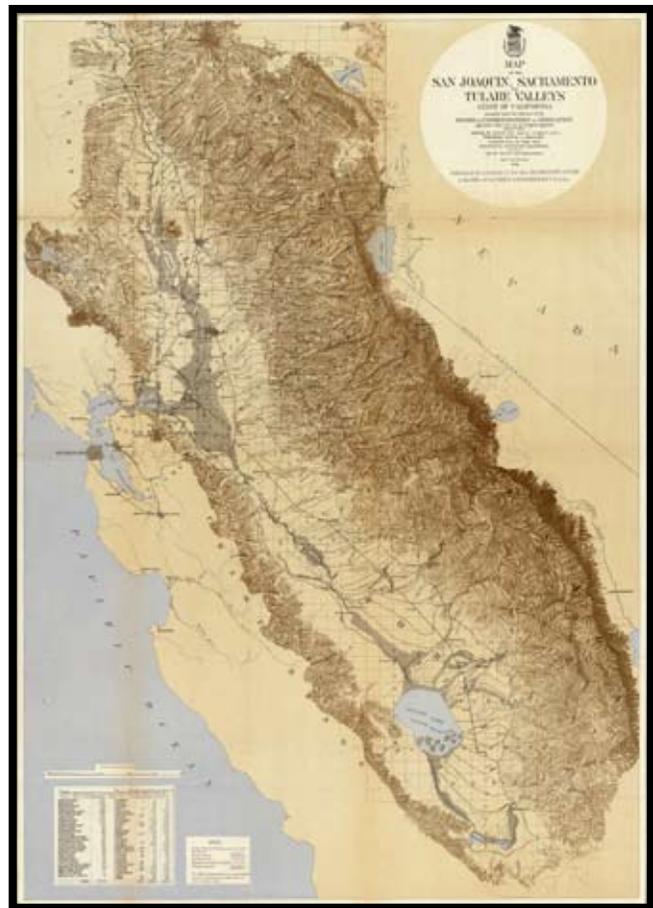
The following five themes detail the unique stories of the Delta, incorporating a broad spectrum of topics, historical and contemporary, centered around the nationally-significant aspects of the Delta's natural and cultural heritage.

Theme 1

At the heart of California lies America's inland delta.

The vast size, unique shape, and geographical location of the Delta have contributed to its importance as an ecological and cultural landscape. It is a rare inland/inverse Delta, the confluence of five rivers, and the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas. It provides important habitat for hundreds of plant and animal species, is a key Pacific Flyway stopover location, and an important corridor for anadromous fish. Native Americans built villages and trading posts along the banks of its waterways prior to European settlement. The waterways of the Delta have been used for recreational purposes dating back to the Gold Rush era. Many influential artists have called the Delta home due to its slower pace of life and close proximity to California population centers. While suburban sprawl has threatened the Delta landscape, legislation such as the Delta Protection Act has helped preserve the Delta's rural character.

The sheer size and distinctive shape of the Delta are landscape features which are unmatched anywhere in the world. The Bay-Delta region is the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas and the second largest estuary in the United States, next to the Chesapeake Bay. The Delta's flat landscape covers about 1,000 mi² and is the only inland Delta in the United States, often referred to as an 'inverse Delta' as the enclosed bay is at the mouth and the deltaic formation spreads inland. The Delta serves as the confluence of five rivers: Sacramento, San Joaquin, Mokelumne, Cosumnes, and Calaveras, and has a vast watershed covering about 40 percent of California's land area. The large size of the Delta and its key geographical location make it an important ecological home, and an essential corridor for a vast diversity of flora and fauna. It is a key stopover location along the Pacific Flyway for a wide variety of bird species. It is also an important corridor

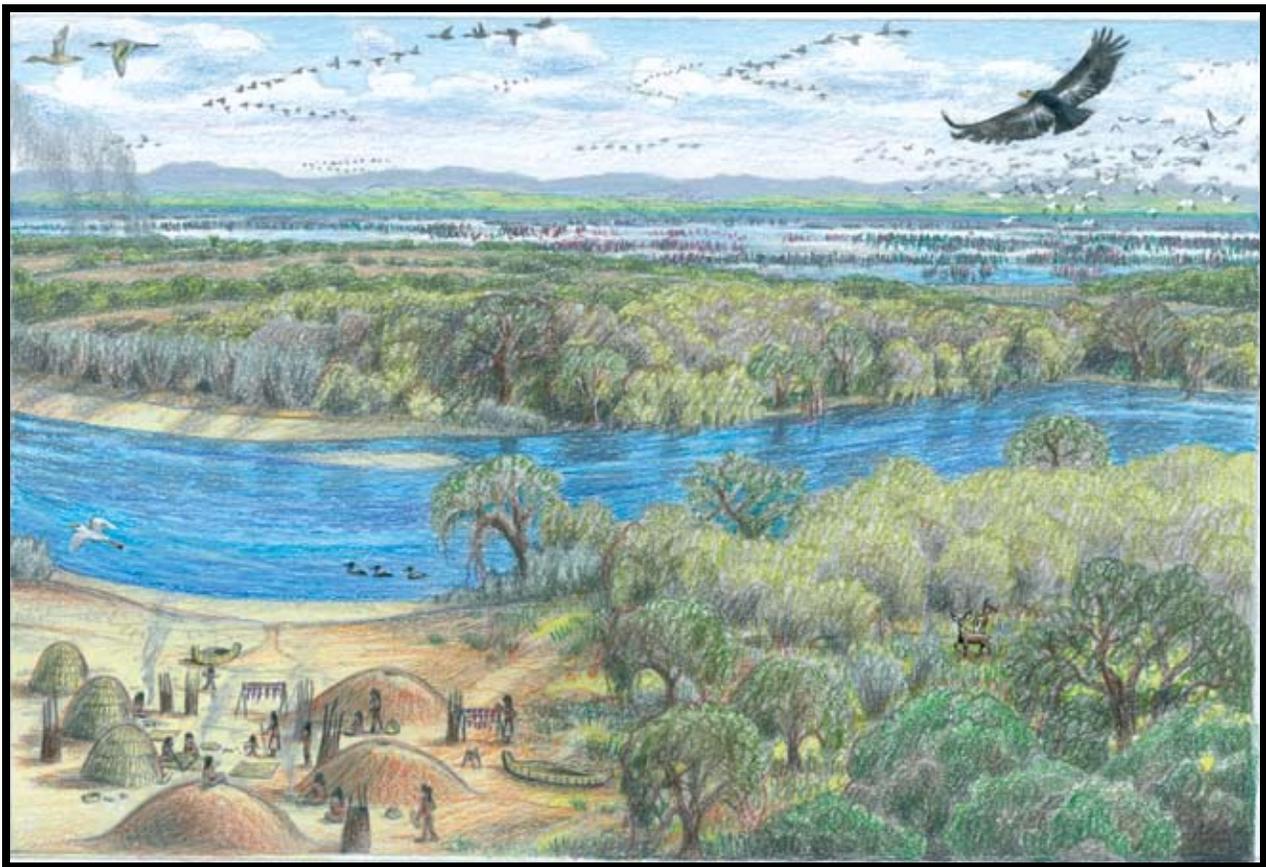


1873 Map Illustrating the large size of the Delta's watershed.¹

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for anadromous fish, such as Chinook Salmon and Steelhead, who transfer large quantities of ocean nutrients into inland ecosystems. The rivers have supported the second largest salmon run on the West Coast (excluding Alaska) and the site of the first Pacific Coast Salmon Cannery is in West Sacramento.

Many Native American tribes built villages and trading posts along the banks of the resource rich Delta rivers. There are remnants of historic Miwok villages in the heart of the Delta; however, most of the Native Americans in the region died of introduced diseases long before European settlement.



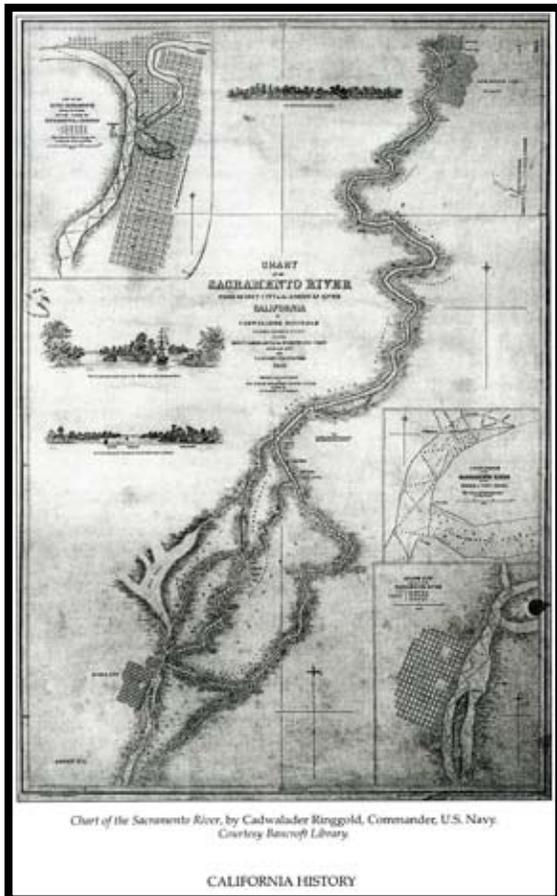
Early Spring scene along the Sacramento River in a pre-Reclamation Delta.

From Bay Nature (www.baynature.org). Original artwork by Laura Cunningham.

The Delta was heavily used as a corridor during the Gold Rush era (1848-1855) due to its prime location between the San Francisco Bay and the Sierra Nevadas, and thousands of forty-niners traveled its rivers on some of the finest steamboats in America. After the Gold Rush era, steamboats continued to travel the waters regularly for recreational purposes and the Delta today remains a prime location for outdoor recreation. Its 1,100+ miles of unique waterways provide opportunities

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for boating, wakeboarding, windsurfing, fishing, birdwatching, and more, to persons who want a leisurely retreat from urban centers that lie adjacent to it (the San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento, and Stockton), as well as to Delta locals. Additionally, many notable artists such as Wayne Thiebaud and Gregory Kondos have called the Delta home.



'Chart of the Sacramento River' used for Gold Rush Navigation, by Cadwalader Ringgold³



Promotional Material, circa 1911⁴

Due to the Delta's location between major Northern California population centers, its flat and open terrain, and its resources such as water and natural gas; it has served as an important conduit for infrastructure which is necessary for Bay Area, Sacramento Region, and Central Valley communities. Hundreds of miles of infrastructure corridors transverse the Delta including power transmission lines, gas pipelines, aqueducts, state highways, railroads, and deep water ship channels.

However, due to the Delta's close proximity to large urban centers, suburban sprawl has been a major threat for quite some time. In the early 1990s it was identified that the valuable resources of the Delta including agricultural land, habitat, potable water, and recreational waterways were being threatened by urban development stemming from peripheral areas. To help put a halt to this problem, the Delta Protection Act of 1992 delineated a Primary and a Secondary Zone of the Delta which consist of approximately 500,000 acres and 238,000 acres, respectively. The Primary Zone is the area in which urban development is extremely limited, and includes waterways, levees, and farmed lands, extending over portions of five counties: Solano, Yolo, Sacramento, San Joaquin and Contra Costa. The Delta Protection Act is a unique approach to large scale protection of a valuable multi-resource landscape.

Theme 2

Conversion of the Delta from marshland to farmland was one of the largest reclamation projects in the United States.

The significant undertaking of reclaiming the Delta from a tule marsh to an agricultural landscape was one of the largest scale reclamation projects in the United States. Innovative equipment was developed for Delta reclamation and used throughout the world for a variety of purposes.

Many travelers who passed through the Delta during the Gold Rush era became aware of the region's fertile peat soils which had been developed from thousands of years of tule decay. Delta islands' had high potential for agricultural production, but in order for farming to be possible, significant changes needed to be made to the landscape. In 1850, the Swamp and Overflow Land Act conveyed ownership of all swamp and overflow lands from the federal government to the State of California. Shortly thereafter most of California's marshes were privately owned, which included almost all of the land in the Delta. The Legislature formed a Swamp Land Commission and authorized the establishment of reclamation districts.

During the reclamation era, many of the large oak trees were cut down and tule marshes disappeared as the soil was cultivated for farming. The first stage of reclamation was done primarily by Chinese laborers who built levees from the island's peat soils via wheelbarrow brigades. No larger mass of human labor was working by hand on any single project in the world, except the Suez Canal. However, it was obvious at these early stages that peat soils were not adequate levee material, and the material shrank when it dried up, which resulted in cracks being formed or levees washing away completely.

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In the 1870's the sidedraft clamshell dredge was developed specifically for building levees in the Delta and surrounding areas. These steam powered dredges collected soil from alluvial channels and won out over competing machines as they were quicker than other types and generally cheaper to manufacture. This led to entrepreneurs in California introducing the world to an entirely new system of dredging. Between 85 and 90 clamshell dredges have been built for levee construction in the central part of California and continue to be used for repair and maintenance of Delta levees. Additionally, equipment developed for Delta reclamation has been used throughout the world for a wide variety of purposes such as assisting with construction of the Panama Canal, deepening the San Francisco Bay and tributaries, dredging coral for outpost construction during World War II in several Pacific Islands, and reclaiming the Tulare Lake Basin.

Reclamation was complete in 1930 at which point the Delta was no longer a system of marshland, but instead the network of waterways and islands which it remains today. 1,100+ miles of levees exist throughout the Delta, enclosing 57 islands which are mainly used for agricultural production.



"Tule Breakers" transforming swamplands into farmland⁵



Sidedraft clamshell dredger constructing levees using alluvial soil.⁶

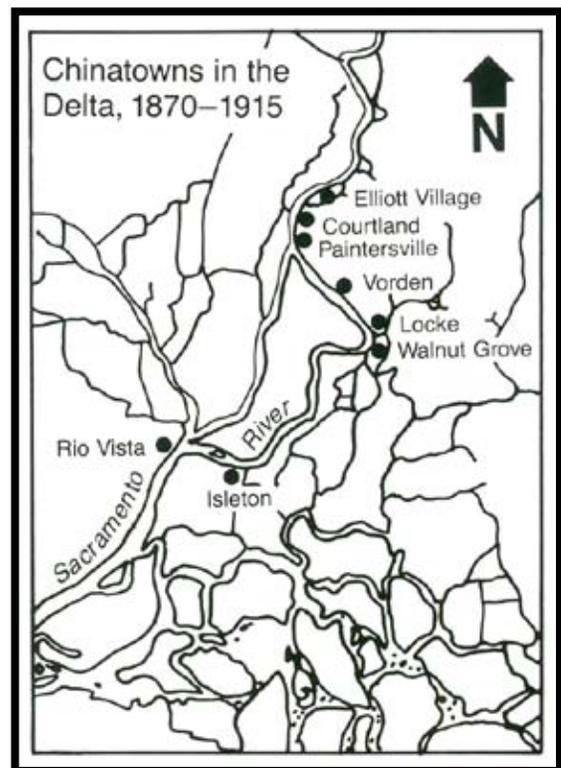
Theme 3

Multi-cultural contributions and experiences have shaped the Delta's rural landscape.

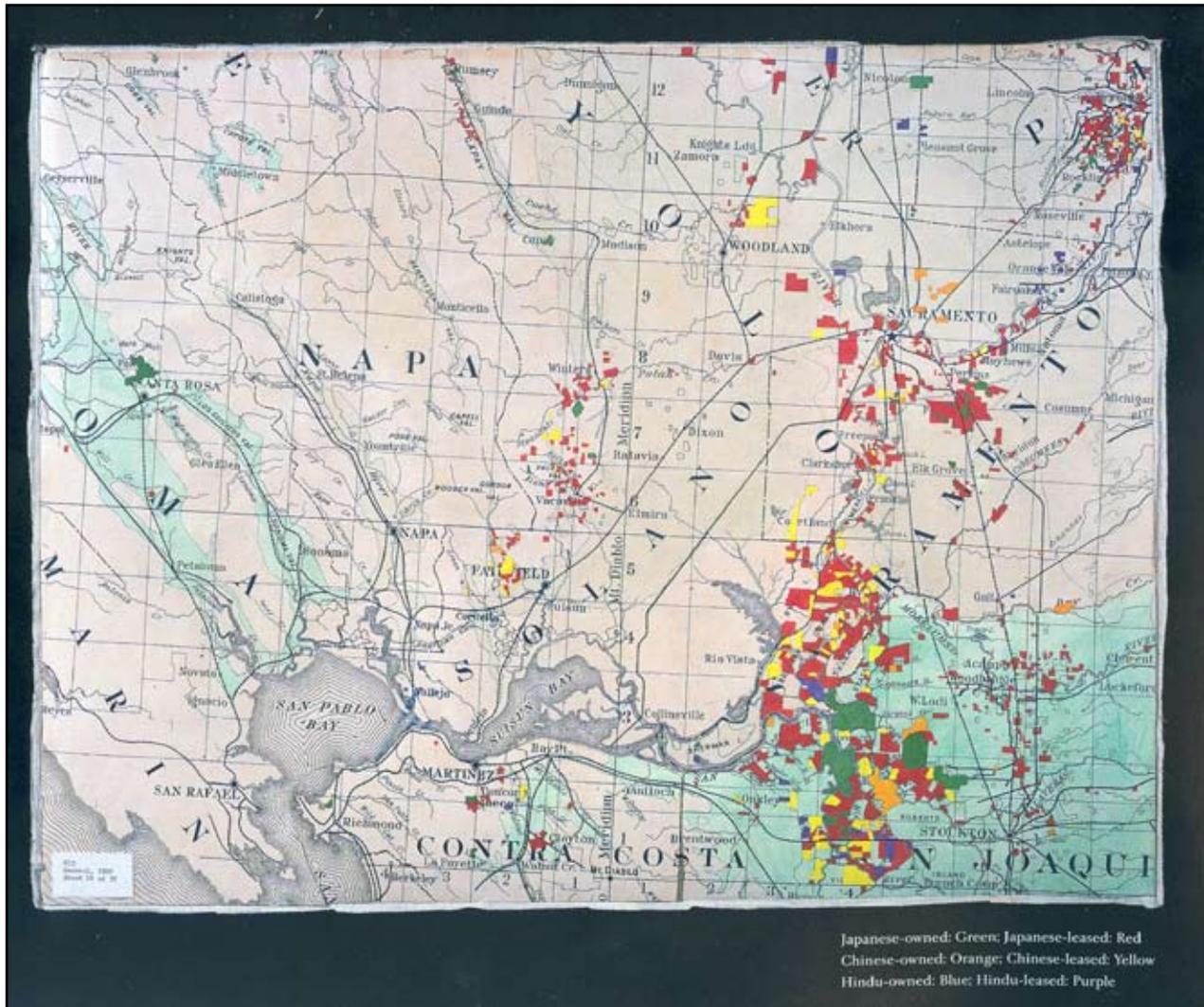
A number of minority groups including Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, East Indians, Portuguese, and Italians have established communities in the Delta and made significant contributions in shaping the Delta into the agricultural landscape that it is today. A handful of historic communities in the Delta reflect the region's diverse heritage.

People of many different ethnic backgrounds have worked closely together since reclamation to make the Delta one of the most productive agricultural regions in the United States. Several ethnic minority groups have established communities in the Delta including Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, East Indians, Mexicans, Portuguese, and Italians. The Delta likely had the largest population of Chinese tenant farmers in California, and Chinese-American farmers have maintained a continuous presence for over one and a half centuries in the Delta, though populations have declined in recent years. Around 12,000 Chinese originally came to the area to work on the transcontinental railroad. When that project was completed in 1869, many were put to work building the first set of Delta levees using wheelbarrow brigades, and other tasks including tule removal and plowing. Once the land was farmable, many Chinese remained as tenant farmers and also provided essential labor in the Delta canneries.

A number of Chinatowns were developed along the Sacramento River from 1870-1915, some of which still remain in existence today as historic districts. The town of Locke is the only town which was built and inhabited exclusively by and for Chinese in the United States, and became a symbol of the Chinese contribution to the nation and the importance of Chinese to California's agriculture. Locke is a National Historic Landmark and a National Register Site. Walnut Grove and Isleton also have historic Chinese districts on the National Register, and Isleton



*Chinatowns in the Delta, 1870-1915*⁷



'Oriental Land Occupation' Map of 1920 shows large clusters of parcels in the Delta which were owned or leased by Asian immigrants.⁸

has an annual Asian celebration to honor the town's diverse heritage. The towns of Courtland and Rio Vista also contain historic Chinese architecture.

Japanese immigrants began arriving to California in the 1890s and a large number came to the Delta. Contributions to Delta agriculture from Japanese-Americans included high quality control standards and successful practices which led towards large-scale agriculture. Their aggressive and hardworking attitudes often helped them to purchase land and make significant progress economically which resulted in a widespread anti-Japanese attitude. Due to the concern that Japanese were dominating some of the 'very best lands in California', the map of 'Oriental Land Occupation' was produced

which brought attention to the large amount of land in Northern California with particularly high concentration in the Delta that was owned or leased by Asian-Americans. This map was used to gain support for a 1920 state law that forbid even the leasing of land by Japanese, which led to other states enacting similar laws, and a 1924 federal law banning Japanese immigration. The legacy of Japanese immigrants in the Delta can be found in the towns of Walnut Grove and Isleton which contain historic Japanese districts, both of which are National Register sites.

A handful of other immigrant groups have made significant contributions to the Delta. Portuguese immigrants reclaimed the areas around Clarksburg and Freeport, creating the Lisbon Reclamation District and manufacturing the first clamshell dredger. Italian settlers are widely known for fishing and farming ventures, and their impact on trade and commerce. Filipino immigrants also played a significant part in Delta agricultural labor and established strong communities.

Theme 4

The Delta, California’s cornucopia, is amongst the most fertile agricultural regions in the world.

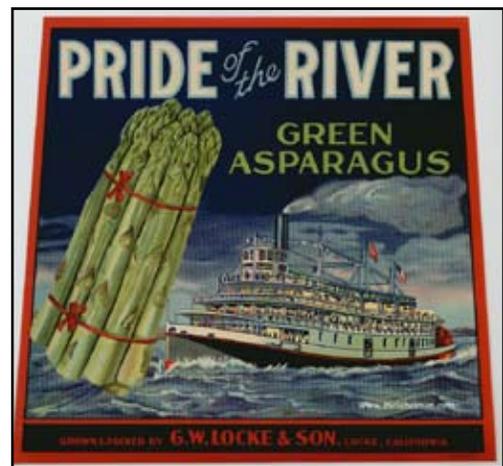
Delta soils are highly productive and support vast diversities and quantities of crops which have contributed billions of dollars to the California economy. A number of specialty crops have been grown in the Delta and exported throughout the world, and the Delta has also been a leading center for development of innovative farm equipment. Current agritourism initiatives are being developed to showcase the Delta’s agricultural economy, and wildlife friendly farming practices are demonstrating how Delta farmland and habitat can coexist.

Due to the high fertility of the Delta’s peat soils, the high water table, and an available water supply, the Delta has been an extremely productive agricultural region since reclamation. Water is pumped directly from Delta channels for irrigation, and ‘trademark’ Delta crops have included Bartlett pears, asparagus, sugar beets and Irish potatoes. A large number of other specialty crops have been grown in the Delta including peaches, plums, cherries, tomatoes, onions, peas, celery, spinach, melons, wine grapes, olives, blueberries, and more. Various seeds and grains have also been produced in the Delta including beans, wheat, sunflower seeds, and safflower. Crops from the Delta have been shipped throughout the nation, as well as other parts of the world for quite some time. The Bartlett Pear market was at its peak around World War I, at which point almost 50 percent of all Bartletts were produced in California, mainly in the Delta. Some of the Delta’s pear trees are over 100 years old, making it one of the oldest pear growing region in California. Until 1930, the Delta was known as

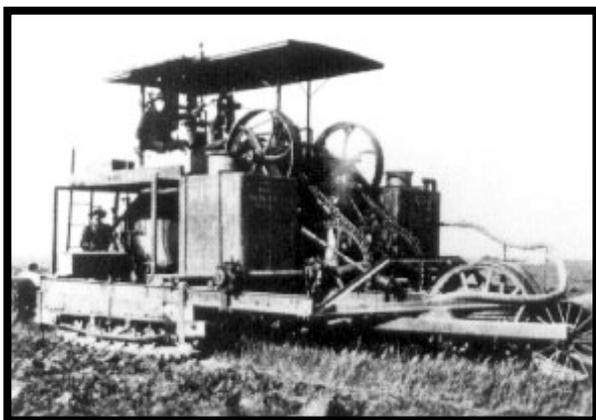
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the asparagus capital of the world, growing 90 percent of the world's supply, for shipment throughout the United States as well as Africa, Europe and Asia. During and after World War II, the Delta produced some of the nation's highest tomato yields per acre. From the beginning, crops were produced for export with waterways serving as early 'highways' to transport goods to Sacramento for the mining communities and San Francisco for shipment overseas. Later, railroads and trucking were utilized to transport crops. Large corporations such as Del Monte, National Cannery, Sun Garden, Heinz Pickle, Libby McNeil, Patt Low and Golden State established canneries in the Delta.

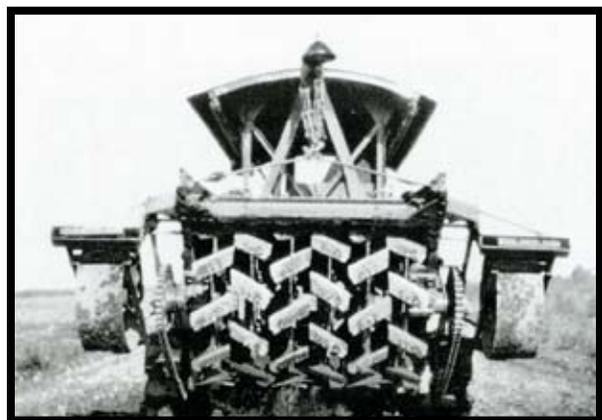
Due to the high agricultural productivity of the Delta, it was an innovative region of equipment invention which revolutionized American farming. Benjamin Holt of Stockton invented several pieces of agricultural equipment, most notably the Caterpillar tractor which had tracks instead of wheels to alleviate the problem of tractor wheels getting stuck in the peaty Delta soils. This design was used throughout the world, for a variety of purposes, such as developing machines that helped end



Produce labels, 1910s- 1930s. ⁹



The original Caterpillar, 1906.¹⁰



Asparagus Plow.¹¹

World War I, tumble the Berlin Wall, build the Hoover Dam, tunnel under the English Channel and help construct cities across the United States. Other notable equipment was invented in the Delta including a sugar beet harvester, the first bean harvester, the asparagus ripper, the asparagus plow, and a number of other plows, discs, backhoes, cultivators, and subsoilers. Many of these inventions were used throughout the U.S.

Agriculture remains the dominant land use in the Delta today, and land use tools are utilized by Delta counties to preserve the agricultural landscape. Recent agritourism initiatives have helped to further enhance the economic value of Delta agriculture and to educate the surrounding urban populations about its importance. Activities in the Delta such as seasonal flooding and working landscapes projects, have ensured that farmland can also support wildlife habitat.

Theme 5

The Delta lies at the center of California’s water resource challenges.

About two-thirds of California’s residents and over seven million acres of the State’s farmland rely on the Delta watershed as a source of potable water. Two major water projects, the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, transfer water from the Delta to Southern California. The Delta relies on the availability of sufficient water flows and water quality for the vitality of the ecosystem, recreation, and production agriculture.

Water transferred from the Delta plays a crucial role in sustaining the State of California, the world’s ninth largest economy. Two-thirds of California’s precipitation falls in the northern part of the state, while Southern California is home to two-thirds of the state’s population. As groundwater and surface water supplies were not sufficient to irrigate the San Joaquin Valley and Tulare Basin; state, federal and local governments engaged in efforts, over the course of decades, to develop a plan to take water from wetter parts of Northern California to the drier part of the state in Southern California. In 1933, during the depths of the Great Depression, the federal government authorized the Central Valley Project (CVP). This led to pumping from the Delta through the Delta Mendota Canal and diversions from the San Joaquin River, which began in 1951. The CVP is the largest, and probably most controversial, water purveyor in California. Implementation of the project led to a significant loss in freshwater wetlands in the Central Valley, as more land was converted to agriculture. Dams and reservoirs were constructed for the project which blocked salmon and steelhead from reaching their native spawning grounds. It altered the timing and flow of California’s major river systems, which

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along with pumping, has had further consequences for anadromous fish, and other native fish species, leading to their decline.

However, the 7 million acre-feet of water from the CVP did not end up being enough for the agricultural needs, as well as the increasing number of municipal and industrial users. Therefore the SWP was developed which also created an integrated system of dams and canals. Most of this project's water was pumped from the southern Delta into the California Aqueduct to supply water for some San Joaquin Valley farms, as well as Southern California Municipalities. Construction began in the late 1950's, with major funding approved in a 1960 bond measure. The bond measure was the largest in the nation's history (authorizing the sale of \$1.75 billion in general obligation bonds), and was voter approved in 1960 by the narrowest election in the state's history. Pumps were installed at Clifton Court in the Southern Delta in 1960 and water flowed through the California Aqueduct to the south. The SWP remains the world's largest publicly built and operated water and power development and conveyance system.



CVP's Delta-Mendota Canal (left), and SWP's California Aqueduct (right) adjacent to Interstate 5 in the San Joaquin Valley.¹²

An additional proposal surrounding Delta water supply was the peripheral canal in the early 1980's, which was opposed by voters on a ballot initiative in 1982. This canal would have more directly linked the northern and southern units of the CVP and SWP, but would dramatically alter Delta flows.

Water diversions of the CVP and SWP have had significant environmental impacts. River flows and water quality have declined and native Delta fish species have plummeted to record lows at times. Federal attention has been given towards declining fish species, which resulted in legal actions to restrict water export from southern pumps. A consensus based program, called the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, was initiated in 1994 to bring opposing parties together, but ended up collapsing for a variety of reasons. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Delta Vision process concluded in 2008 with a suite of strategic recommendations intended to manage the Delta as a sustainable ecosystem that would continue to support environmental and economic functions that are critical to the people

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of California. The Delta Reform Act of 2009 laid out a path for Delta governance to meet the co-equal goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration. This included establishing the Delta Stewardship Council to develop the Delta Plan, a comprehensive plan for Delta management, scheduled to be completed in 2012. The legislation also created the Delta Conservancy to carry out land acquisition and ecosystem restoration projects, and included several mandates for the DPC.

In summary, issues surrounding water resource management in the Delta have been a central focus of policy makers in California for decades, making it perhaps one of the most complex resource challenges in the United States. Mark Twain's quote: "Whiskey is for drinking; water is for fighting over", was supposedly made in California's early days and still holds relevancy as California's water wars continue.

Image Credits

¹California Irrigation Commission, United States; Congress. “Map of the San Joaquin, Sacramento and Tulare Valleys.” Map. David Rumsey Map Collection. 1873. Cartography Associates. 4 Nov. 2008

<<http://www.davidrumsey.com/detail?id=1-1-1635-180047&name=Map+Of+The+San+Joaquin,+Sacramento+And+Tulare+Valleys>>

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³Houston, Alan Fraser, “Cadwalader Ringgold, U.S. Navy. (Sailor, Explorer and Surveyor),” *California History* 79.4 (2000):208-216.

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⁵Bay Institute of San Francisco. *From Sierra to Sea: The Ecological History of the San Francisco Bay-Delta Watershed*. San Rafael, CA: The Bay Institute of California, 1998.

⁶Department of Water Resources. “A Sidedraft-clamshell Dredge Used in Original Levee Construction.” Photo. *Levee Repair-History of Levees*. 05 Feb. 2008. 10 Apr. 2008
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¹²California Department of Water Resources. “Spillway.” 2008. 9 Sept 2011.

Chapter 6 — Management Alternatives

Management alternatives and a preliminary assessment of impacts is one of the eight steps that NPS recommends for the completion of a NHA feasibility study. Four different management alternatives were proposed for discussion in this process: continuation of current practices (no action), a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta NHA, a Delta State Heritage Corridor, and a locally designated Delta Heritage Area. These alternatives and their potential impacts were outlined in a public review memo and local participants discussed the positive and negative implications of each of the four alternatives at a public meeting in July 2011.

Alternative 1

Continuation of current practices

NHA designation would not be pursued under this option; therefore the relevant federal assistance and seed money would not be granted. Efforts for historic preservation, signage, economic development, public education, marketing, and other goals of a Delta NHA could continue to be pursued under their current auspices. The resources currently owned and operated by nonprofits; and federal, state, and local government entities would continue to be maintained and made available for public use under existing policies. There would be no new NPS program dedicated exclusively to providing technical assistance and no additional federal funding. State and local government, private nonprofit organizations and foundations, and for-profit organizations would continue to be the primary sources of funds for the protection and interpretation of heritage resources in the Delta.

Alternative 2

Creation of a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area

This management alternative involves congressional designation of a NHA in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Under this alternative, the NPS would provide technical assistance to the management entity of the NHA. The Delta would achieve national recognition as a place of special significance and would be eligible to receive federal seed money for the NHA. The seed money can be utilized to leverage funds from public and private sources. Existing NHAs leverage an average of \$8 for every \$1 of federal seed money. NHA funds can be utilized to undertake projects outlined in the management plan which could include interpretive signage, historic preservation, and visitor promotion.

While NHAs are not NPS units, NHAs are considered part of the ‘NPS family’. NPS plays an advisory role to the NHA management entity through technical assistance for planning and implementation activities. NHA designation enables the NHA management entity to utilize the NPS arrowhead

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symbol for marketing the region, and a link to the NHA's website is placed on the NPS website to help direct visitors to the region. Additionally, certain grant programs such as the National Park Foundation grants are open to NHAs as well as NPS units.

As stated in the mission statement, a Delta NHA can serve as an opportunity to recognize, enhance, and promote 'Delta as a Place' in order to help cultivate and retain appreciation and understanding by residents and visitors of the Delta. For quite some time the Delta has been a lesser known region of California, and even persons living as close as the San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento region, and Stockton region, know little about the Delta. Designation as a NHA would give national recognition to the role of the Delta in California and American history, and draw attention to the Delta as a place of special significance, both ecologically and culturally. A NHA could help gain visibility of the Delta as a visitor destination nationally and internationally, which can lead to economic development opportunities. Currently, most of the heritage tourism attractions in the Delta such as museums, have limited staff and funding, and a Delta NHA could help increase visitation to these places which could help expand their resources. An increase in visibility could also lead more visitors to State Parks and State Recreation Areas in the Delta, which could help sustain the units economically, and help to improve visitor amenities.

Alternative 3

California Delta Heritage Corridor (State designated)

California State Parks developed a Central Valley Vision Implementation Plan in 2009. This plan recommends establishing five Central Valley driving routes as heritage corridors to draw visitors to heritage attractions. One of the recommended heritage corridors is the California Delta Heritage Corridor, which would link historic Delta towns, recreation sites, ecotourism areas, and agritourism sites. These heritage corridors would be designated under the California Recreational Trails Act, as provided in Public Resources Code Sections 5070.3, 5071, and 5073.

A State Heritage Corridor would, if funds were available, have some of the same potential benefits as a NHA. Benefits may include improved visitor information (maps, wayfinding signs and kiosks, brochures, etc.) and public education about the corridor's historical, natural, and recreational assets. The enhancement of tourism activities in the Delta would be a likely outcome that could assist with economic development. Like a NHA, a State Heritage Corridor could be a valuable tool to educate the public and visitors about the Delta and could help recognize, enhance and promote 'Delta as a Place'. NPS staff would not play an advisory role (unless assistance is granted through a different

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program). A State Heritage Corridor would not be eligible for the seed money that is granted with NHA designation, and there are no apparent sources of state funds to support its planning or implementation now. However, it could still be a valuable symbol of the desires of local organizations to develop partnerships and seek funding from other public/private sources, if local partners choose to use it as a vehicle for those activities.

The State Heritage Corridor designation could still be pursued for the Delta, regardless of whether or not the Delta receives NHA designation. While planning for it would require a separate process, the Delta NHA feasibility study could serve as a valuable reference as it contains information that is potentially relevant to both designations, such as proposed themes, heritage area resources, etc.

Alternative 4

Locally designated Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Heritage Area

A final option is a Delta Heritage Area (DHA) which is designated, planned, and managed by a local entity. Like a NHA, projects could be undertaken, such as historic preservation and interpretive signage which recognize, enhance, and promote ‘Delta as a Place’. Projects which increase visitor amenities in the Delta, such as public restrooms, waste receptacles, and directional signage could still be developed. Like the State Heritage Corridor option, a DHA would not be eligible for the federal financial assistance nor the NPS partnership that NHAs are eligible for. However, federal resources and assistance could still be sought through other programs. A DHA would not receive the national recognition that a NHA would, or the statewide recognition that a State Heritage Corridor would, but still be a tool for the Delta to gain more visibility as a region, which could lead to economic and educational benefits. A DHA would not have to obtain Congressional approval or go through annual congressional funding cycles, and therefore could be initiated more quickly than a NHA.

Evaluation

The four alternatives described above were presented at the July 2011 public meeting and Alternative 2 was the most favored: creation of a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area. Meeting participants recognized the following potential benefits of a Delta NHA:

- A mixture of private and public collaboration that vests control at local level for establishing priorities and allocating federal funds.
- Federal recognition to draw attention to ‘Delta as a Place’.

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- Optimizing the likelihood for success in creating a regionally integrated approach to wildlife habitat, agritourism, recreation, etc., this is significant to achieve economic sustainability for the Delta.

The only con identified at this meeting about a Delta NHA was that concerns have been expressed by some Delta locals about impacts on property rights. Chapter 10 discusses tools that can alleviate these concerns.

Participants of the meeting were generally not in favor of Alternative 1, continuation of current practices, due to lack of local control. Alternative 3, a Delta State Heritage Corridor, was also not generally a favored alternative due to lack of funding capabilities. Alternative 4, a locally designated DHA, was identified by some as the next best alternative to a NHA, but concerns were raised about this option due to the lack of funding and national stature.

Chapter 7 — Conceptual Boundaries

Conceptual boundary delineations, as recommended by NPS guidelines, are an important part of the NHA feasibility study and should be based upon the geographical range of the resources which tell the region's nationally important story. The boundaries of the potential NHA remain conceptual through the feasibility study process, and are not finalized until after a NHA is designated by Congress and a management plan is developed.

Two boundary alternatives were proposed as part of this process. The first boundary alternative was developed by DPC staff based upon the geographical range of heritage resources within the Legal Delta which are supportive of NHA themes. This boundary included the Primary Zone of the Delta, as well as a few add-ons. The second boundary alternative is the boundary that was included in the 2011 Delta NHA legislation introduced by Senator Feinstein and Congressman Garamendi. This alternative includes much of the Legal Delta, as well as the Suisun Marsh and Carquinez Strait.

Based on an inventory of natural and cultural resource sites within the Carquinez Strait and Suisun Marsh, as well as public input; DPC staff has made the recommendation to go with the second boundary alternative, with the addition of the City of Rio Vista. Additionally, the Suisun Marsh Resource Conservation District, the Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust, Contra Costa County, Solano County, and the cities of Benicia and Vallejo, all stated their interest in being included in the NHA and support for the second boundary alternative.

Description of the Recommended Boundary Alternative

As NPS criteria outlines, the NHA boundaries must contain an assemblage of natural, historical, or cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage. Chapter 8 contains inventory lists, maps, and descriptions of resources within the recommended boundary which support the Delta's nationally important story and proposed NHA themes. To further strengthen the case that the Delta is a nationally important landscape, due to the resources which it contains, it is important to note that the Delta Protection Act of 1992 (Act) was developed specifically to help preserve the resources which make the Delta a place of statewide, national, and international significance as declared by the California Legislature. Specifically, Section 29701 of the Act states:

“The Legislature finds and declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a natural resource of statewide, national, and international significance, containing irreplaceable resources, and it is the policy of the state to recognize, preserve, and protect those resources of the delta for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations.”

Chapter 7 — Conceptual Boundaries

The Act calls out the Delta's agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, open space, levee system, cities, towns, settlements, waterways, and marinas, as being resources which contribute to the region's significance. Appendix 4 is Chapter 1 of the Act, with the Legislature's findings and declarations.

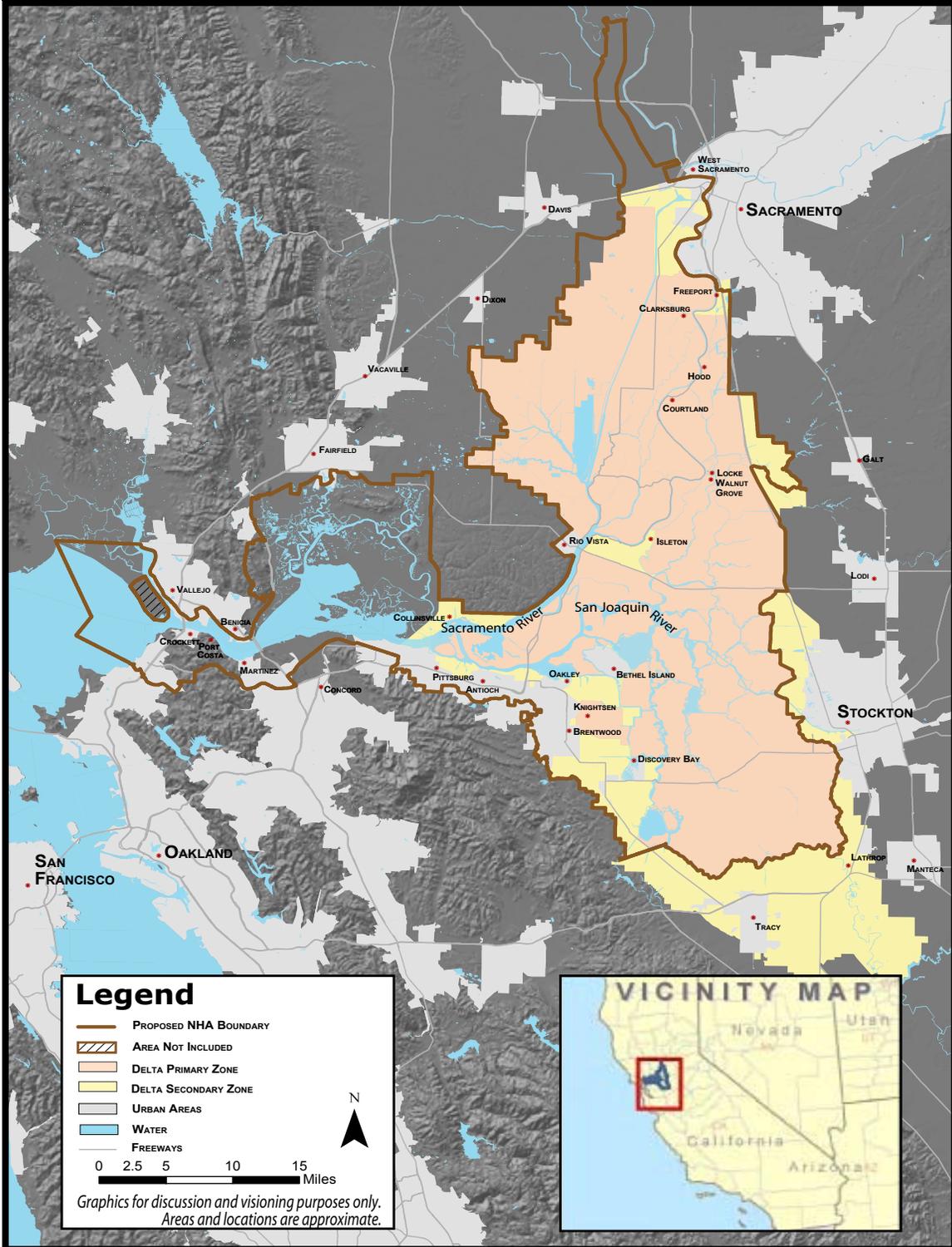
Consideration of this boundary must also discuss how the Suisun Marsh and the Carquinez Strait support the national significance of the proposed NHA. The Suisun Marsh, located directly adjacent to the Delta, is the largest estuarine marsh in the western United States, and is extremely ecologically diverse. The Suisun Marsh Preservation Act of 1977 identifies the Suisun Marsh as a wildlife habitat of nationwide importance. The Marsh was also reclaimed for farming during the same period that the Delta was, though state and federal water projects and upstream diversions led to a decline of agriculture in the Marsh and most of it was then purchased to support waterfowl habitat and hunting. Salinity control gates began operation in Suisun Marsh in 1989 which are used to block salty flood tides from Grizzly Bay, but allow for passage of freshwater into the Delta in order to maintain water quality for the State and Central Valley Water Projects. A number of resources in the Marsh are used for education, interpretation, and recreation, which can be supportive of the Delta NHA, particularly the public lands in the Marsh which are open for wildlife viewing, hiking, birdwatching, photography, hunting, and fishing. In summary, the Suisun Marsh has a history that closely parallels the Delta's history, and is directly linked to its natural and cultural heritage in regards to its habitat and geomorphology, history of reclamation and agriculture, use as a recreation hub, and hydrologic infrastructure. All of these elements support the Delta's nationally significant history, and the proposed NHA themes.

The Carquinez Strait is the link between the San Francisco Bay and the Delta and therefore an integral component of the largest estuary on the West Coast. The geologic creation of the Delta stemmed from sediments trapped inland of the rocky neck of the Strait. It is part of the passage for anadromous fish, as well as a Pacific Flyway stopover location. Historically, it was part of the Gold Rush corridor and home to a fishing industry like the Delta was. Agricultural goods produced in the Delta were processed and stored in grain warehouses, flour mills, and canning facilities that were once prevalent along the Strait. Several communities along the Strait served as key transportation hubs including the first railroad ferry crossing in Port Costa and Benicia. Numerous resources which support the shared history between the Delta and the Strait are still in existence, and discussed in Chapter 8.

Chapter 7 — Conceptual Boundaries

Regional Trails connect these systems together, and urban hubs along the Carquinez Strait could serve as potential gateways for the Delta NHA, drawing visitors from the San Francisco Bay into the Delta. Additionally, including urban communities along the Carquinez Strait into the NHA boundaries as it could open up potential funding sources.

Figure 7. Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Proposed Boundary



Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Criteria for NHA designation states that an area must have an assemblage of natural, historical, and cultural resources which represent nationally-significant aspects of American history, as well as recreational and educational opportunities. This chapter will discuss some of the key resources of the NHA under consideration which support the Delta's nationally important story and proposed NHA themes. First, a general description is given of some of the major landscape resources which span the region and are supportive of the NHA, along with inventory maps of these resources. Then specific historical/cultural resource sites which are supportive of the NHA are listed, mapped, and described, including: National Historic Landmarks, sites on the National Register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Historically Significant Bridges, Museums, and sites from the Carquinez Strait Resource Plan. Local historical/cultural festivals are also described. Public lands with public access as well as recreational resources are also listed, mapped, and described.

Description of Major Resources

This section contains description with quantifications of some of the significant landscape resources which span the proposed NHA, and are relevant to the region's nationally significant story and proposed NHA themes.

Waterways

Natural and Constructed Waterways

Over 1,000 miles of rivers and sloughs exist throughout the Delta which have been the backbone of the Delta's natural ecosystem, key to shaping the region's settlement patterns, vital to the development of the Delta and its role in the American story, and crucial to the continued sustainability of its communities and economy. Five major rivers converge in the Delta: the Sacramento, San Joaquin, Mokelumne, Cosumnes, and Calaveras, from which stem a number of smaller rivers and sloughs. The waterways of the Delta enable a hydrological connection from the Sierra Nevadas and Central Valley, to the San Francisco Bay and Pacific Ocean. The Delta's waterways serve as important habitat for numerous species, key corridors for commerce and recreation, a source of irrigation water for agriculture, and many other purposes. The waterways were utilized during the Gold Rush era for persons traveling to/from San Francisco and the Sierra Nevadas. River corridors served as early 'highways' and the Delta was dependent on these waterways both for import and export. During the Gold Rush, some of the finest steamboats in America traveled the waters of the Delta and continued to do so both for transporting freight and for leisure purposes. Many of the Delta's historic legacy communities began as steamboat landings, where freight was transported to nearby urban centers for

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

consumption or shipment overseas and the Delta's waterways enabled Delta agriculture to be a key component of the world market. Delta farmers continue to pump irrigation water from the Delta channels, which allows for the region's continued capabilities as a leading agricultural producer. Figure 8 is a map of Delta waterways.

It is also important to note that some of the Delta waterways do not follow the natural channels, but were constructed for a variety of purposes such as water circulation or to obtain material for levee construction. The clamshell dredge allowed for deep cuts into the waterways to build higher and stronger levees for flood protection, as well as deeper channels for transportation. The Delta's constructed waterways are highlighted on Figure 9.

The Suisun Marsh, immediately west of the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, is also laced with miles of sloughs and channels which are important for the hundreds of wildlife species who depend on the marsh, as well as its recreational users. Additionally, the Carquinez Strait itself is a waterway that is inextricably linked to the Delta's significant natural and cultural history as it is the only natural outlet for waters of the Central Valley to pass through the San Francisco Bay into the Pacific Ocean. It is a key connection both as a fish and wildlife corridor, as well as a human corridor for commerce and recreation.

Deep Water Ship Channels

Towards the end of the reclamation era, runoff and debris buildup became a large problem throughout the Delta. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) became active in maintaining and improving the Delta shipping lines. From 1899 to 1927, the USACE maintained a seven foot deep water channel between Suisun Bay and Sacramento. In 1946, Congress authorized a project to convert the port in Sacramento to a deep water port. The Sacramento Deep Water Channel was completed by the USACE in 1963 and is 30 feet deep, 200 feet wide, and 43 miles long. Additionally, the Stockton Deep Water Channel, through the San Joaquin River, was dredged nine feet in 1913, and by 1987 it had deepened to 37 feet at low tide. It is also approximately 43 miles long. These channels are integral to the Delta's and the Greater Central Valley's contributions as food suppliers for the nation and world. Most of the Delta's \$1.6 billion and the San Joaquin Valley's \$36 billion of agricultural commodities are exported through the channels. Figure 10 show the Sacramento and Stockton Deep Water Channels.

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Water Development Facilities

As California's population increased and agriculture grew in the San Joaquin Valley, a reliable source of water was needed to sustain these populations and economy. In 1951, the Tracy Pumping Plant in the Southern Delta, began pumping water through the CVP down the Delta-Mendota Canal. The CVP stores and transports water from the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers for use primarily in the San Joaquin Valley for agricultural irrigation. The project delivers approximately 7.4 million acre feet a year through 20 dams and reservoirs, eight power plants, and about 500 miles of canals and aqueducts. At the same time, the SWP was authorized by the California Legislature, and began pumping water in 1967, delivering water through the California Aqueduct.

Figure 11 illustrates major water development facilities in the Delta. Federal facilities are the Central Valley Project's C.W. "Bill" Jones Pumping Plant (formerly known as the 'Tracy Pumping Plant'), Delta-Mendota Canal, and Contra Costa Canal. The Delta Cross Channel, which is located between the towns of Walnut Grove and Locke, plays a key role as it intercepts Sacramento River water as it travels westward and diverts it south through a series of channels, sloughs, and other waterways, from which water travels to the C.W. Bill Jones Pumping Plant. Facilities which are part of the SWP include the California Aqueduct, the Harvey O. Banks Delta Pumping Plant, and the North and South Bay Aqueducts.

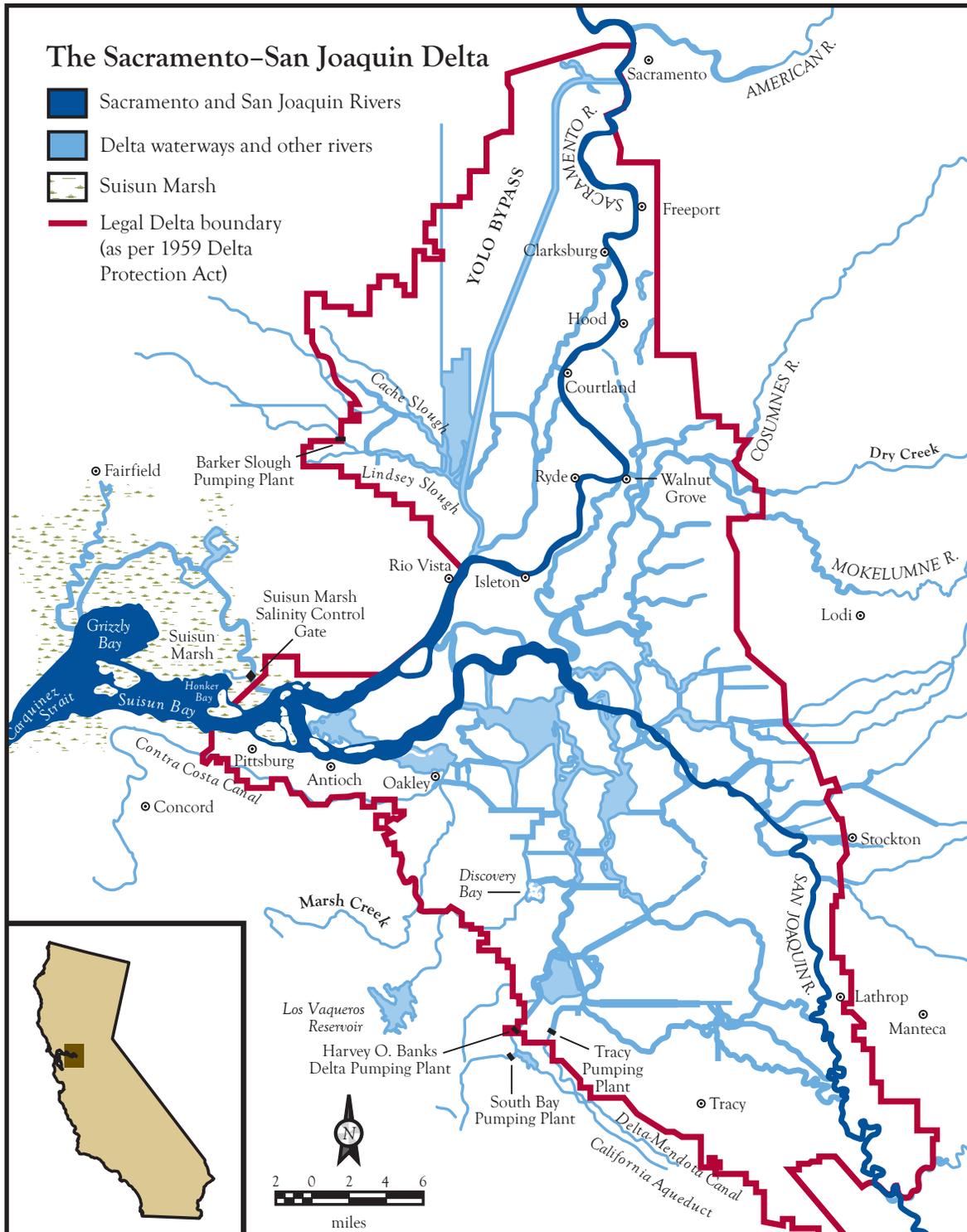


Figure 8. Delta Waterways. Figure Source: Public Policy Institute of California

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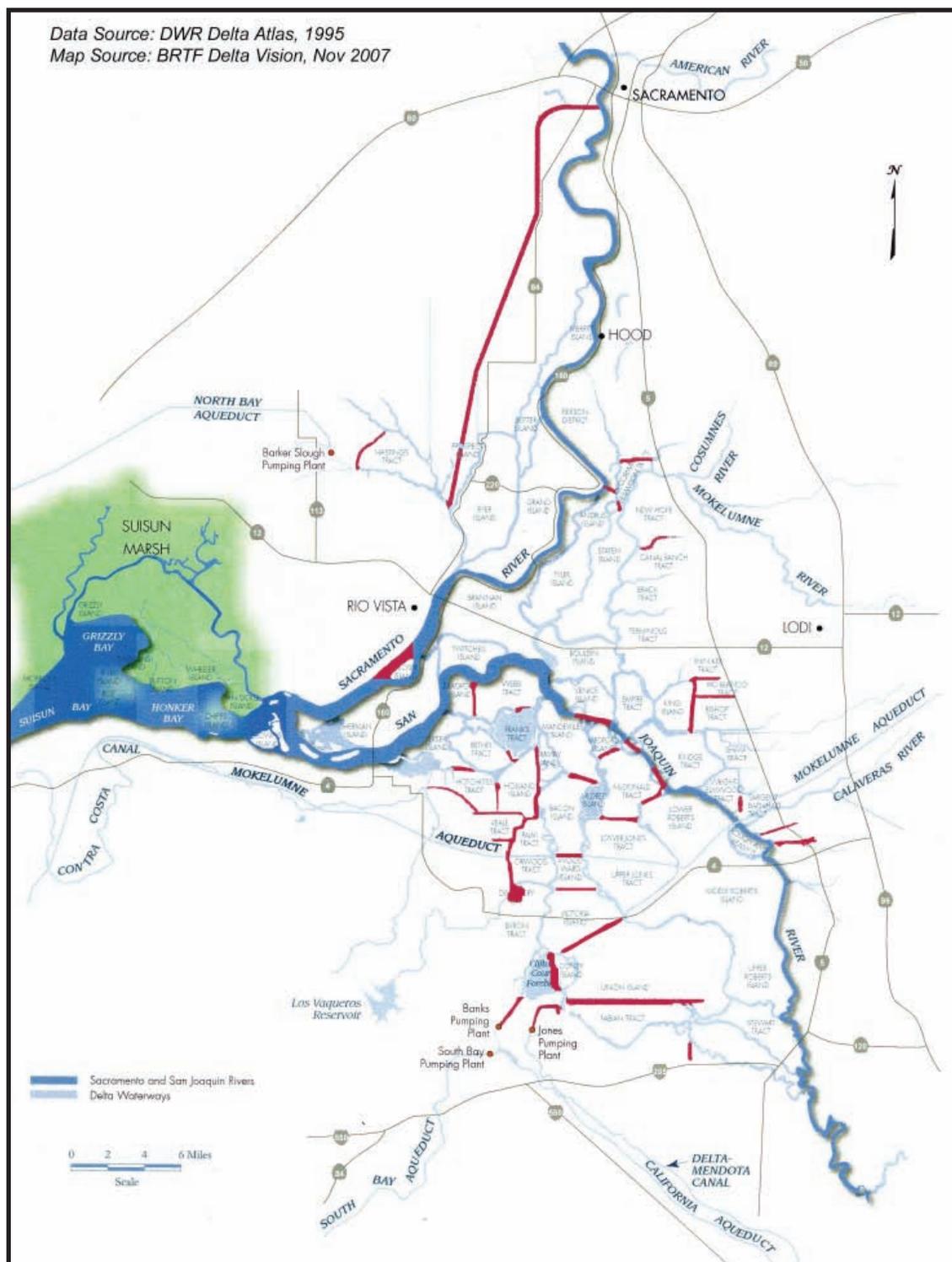


Figure 9. Constructed Waterways. Figure Source: Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force

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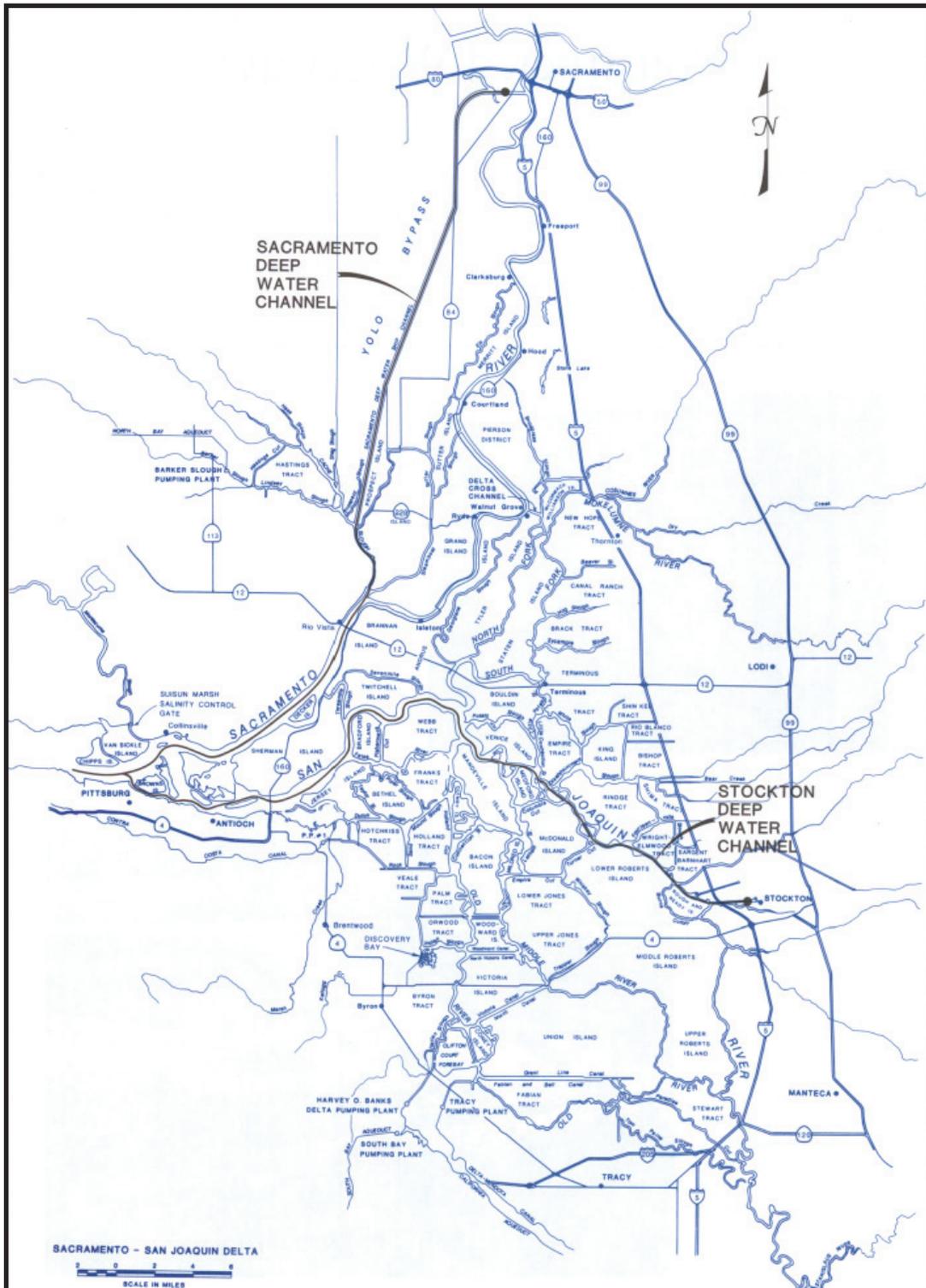


Figure 10. Deep Water Ship Channels. Figure Source: Department of Water Resources

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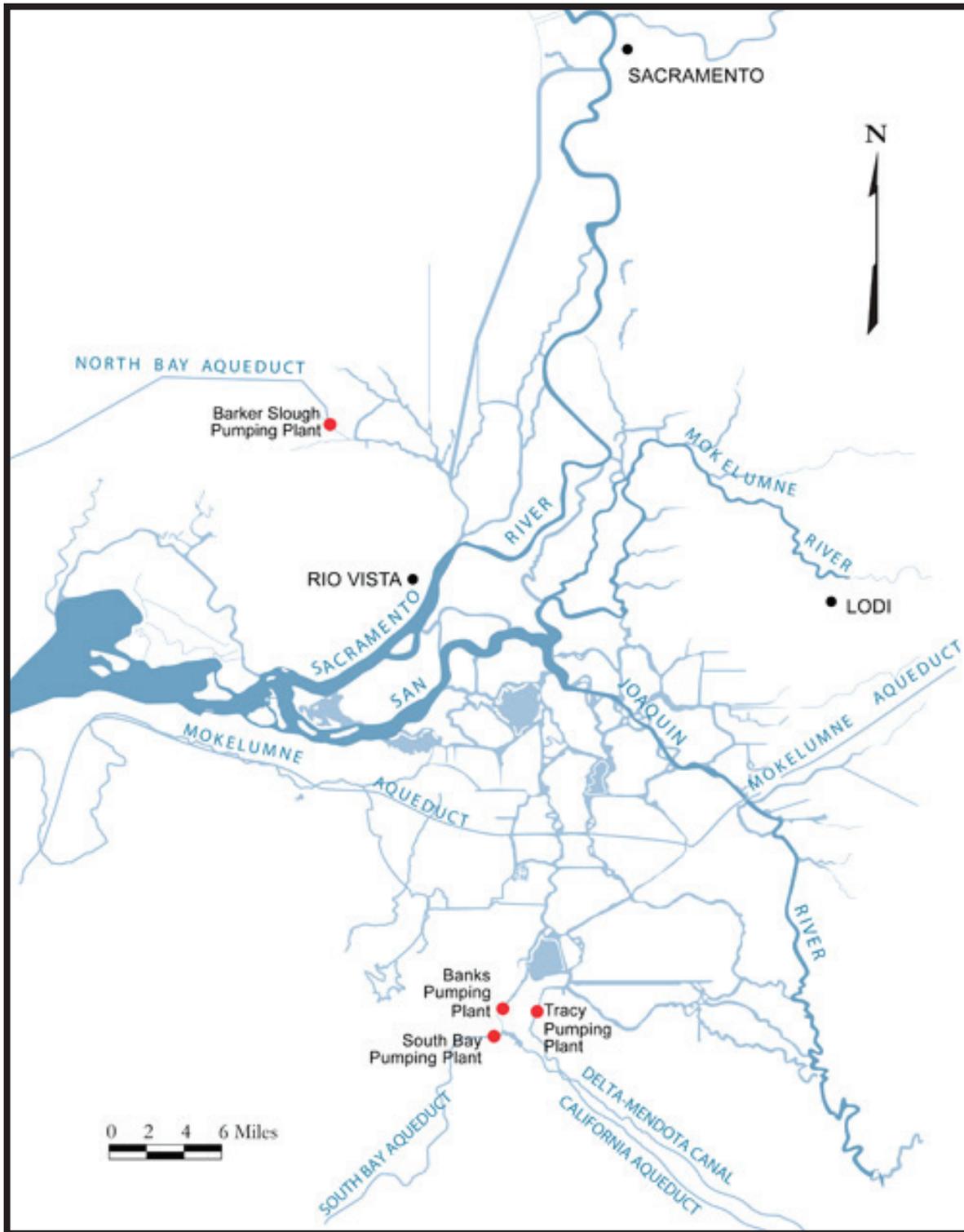


Figure 11. Water Development Facilities. Figure Source: Ecology Law Currents

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Levees

Reclamation led to the development of 1,100+ miles of levees throughout the Delta, enclosing around 57 islands. This vast levee system is crucial, if not critical, to protecting some of the world's most productive farmland; the state's water quality; urban population centers on the periphery of the Delta; legacy communities of the Delta; vital natural resources; and infrastructure including highways 5, 4, 12, and 160, railroads, electrical transmission lines, petroleum pipelines (which supply Northern California and Western Nevada), natural gas pipelines (that provide over 10 percent of the state's natural gas), aqueducts, and the deep water ship channels. Additionally, around 200 miles of levees are found in Suisun Marsh, vital to maintaining to managing the Delta's salinity and protecting over 10 percent of California's remaining natural wetlands which exist in the marsh.

Figure 12 illustrates different categories of Delta levees. Project levees are part of the Sacramento Flood Control Project, which was completed by the USACE in 1960 as part of a plan to transport floodwaters away from protected areas. Nonproject levees protect Delta lowlands which are maintained by local reclamation and levee districts.

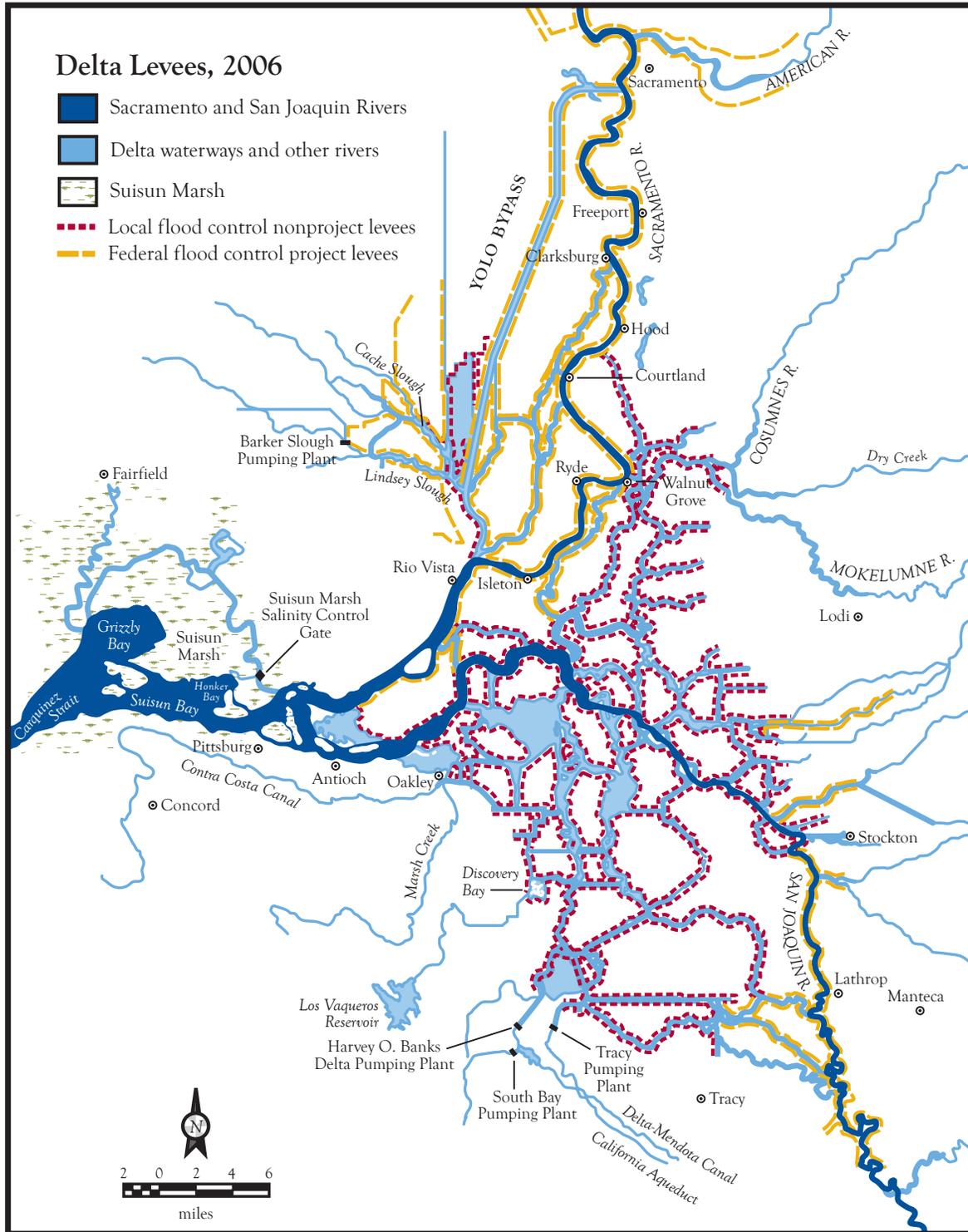


Figure 12. Delta Levees. Figure Source: Public Policy Institute of California

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Habitat

The Delta, Suisun Marsh, and Carquinez Strait are all in and of themselves important habitat resources as they contain valuable ecosystems that are home to hundreds of wildlife species. When linked together they form a corridor for fish and wildlife which connect inland California with the San Francisco Bay and Pacific Ocean, and also provide an important stopover location for birds traveling north/south along the Pacific Flyway. The Delta's Primary Zone, largely free from urban development, is about 500,000 acres in size, and contains a diversity of ecosystems including wetlands, waterways, riparian woodlands, grasslands, and floodplains. Additionally, Delta farmlands also serve as valuable habitat, particularly when best management practices such as seasonal flooding are utilized. Suisun Marsh is about 116,000 acres in size and an incredibly valuable habitat area as it is the largest continuous brackish water marsh on the West Coast of North America, encompassing more than 10 percent of California's remaining natural wetlands and also contains terrestrial grassland ecosystems. Finally the Carquinez Strait, while partially developed, contains valuable habitat types including open water, mudflats, marshes, grasslands, woodlands, and more. Figure 13 shows the different habitat types throughout the proposed NHA boundary.

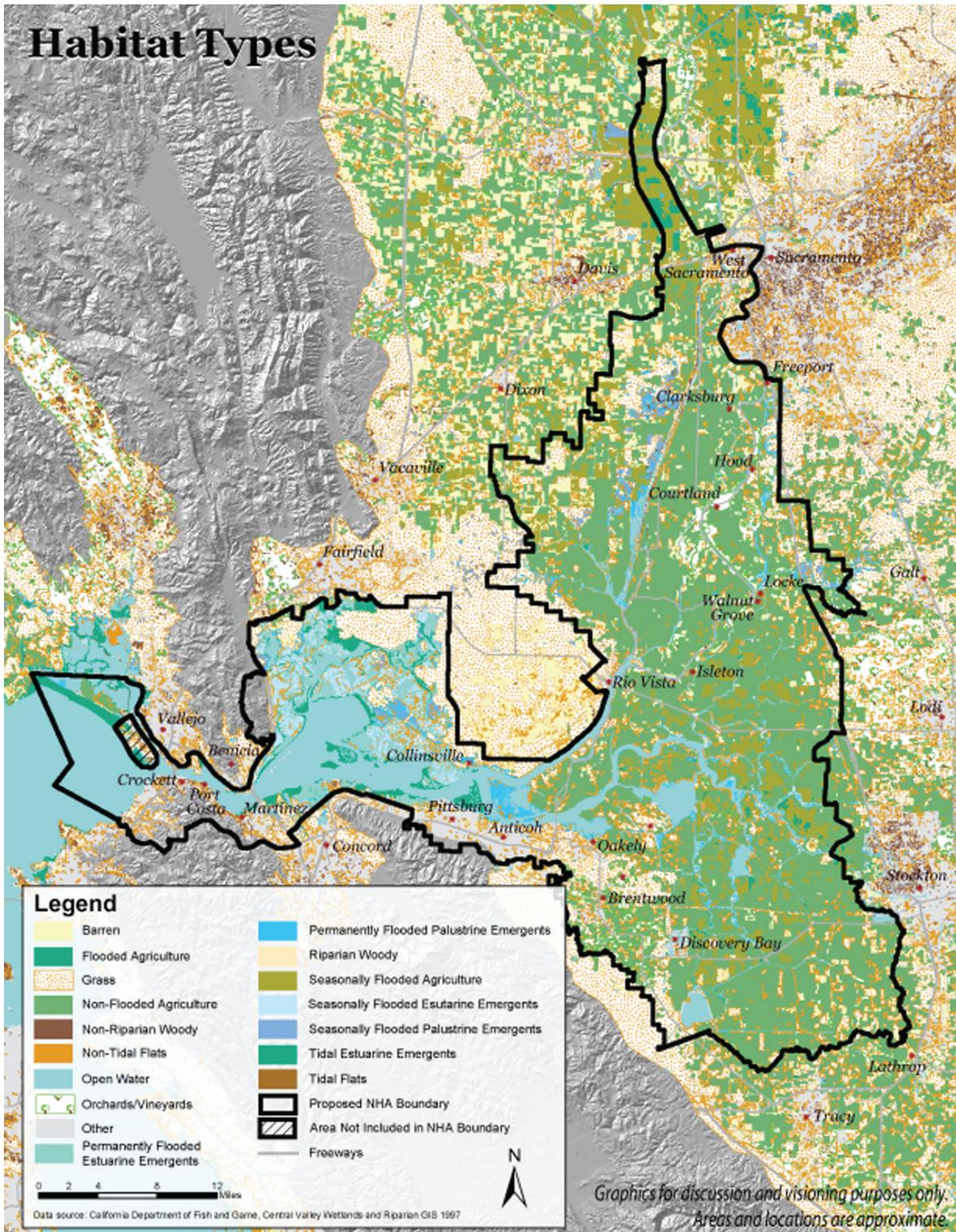


Figure 13. Habitat Types

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Agricultural Resources

The Primary Zone of the Delta is a predominantly agricultural landscape, comprised of about 400,000 acres of productive farmland including orchards, vineyards, fields, and grazing lands. As Figure 14 indicates, the Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program classifies much of the Delta's land as Prime Farmland, meaning it holds the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long term agricultural production. In addition to the farmland itself, agricultural storage and processing facilities exist throughout the region. Agritourism activities such as fruit picking, wine tasting, outdoor education, and more give the public access to the farming culture of the Delta. Agriculture in the Suisun Marsh is limited, but portions of the upland areas are used for grazing (about 20,000 acres), as well as some grain production. While agriculture is not a dominant land use along the Carquinez Strait, the Strait historically played a key role in agricultural processing and storage; with grain warehouses, flour mills, and canning facilities along its shores.

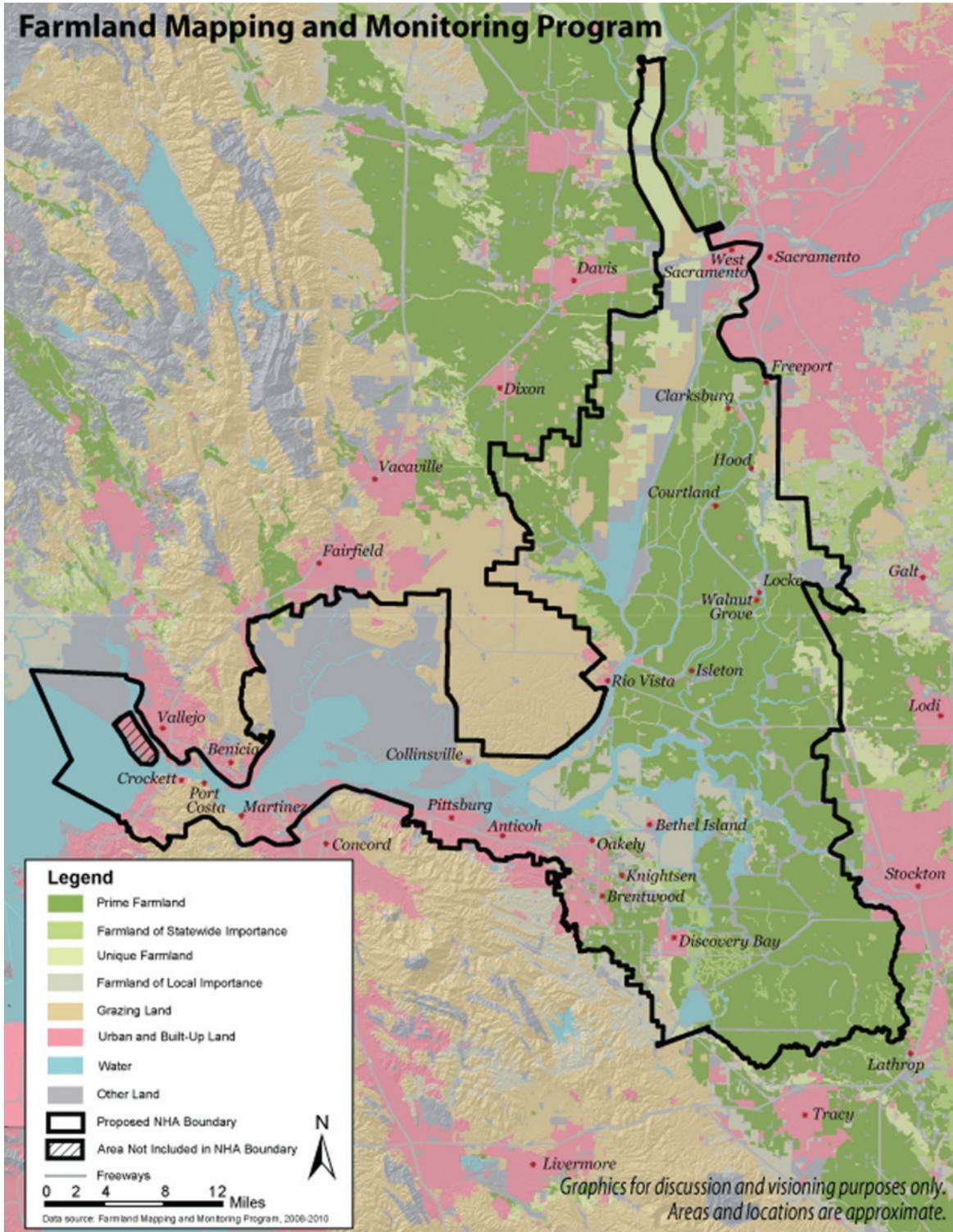


Figure 14. Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

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Historical/Cultural Resource Sites

This section contains an inventory list, map and descriptions of specific sites of historical/cultural importance within the proposed NHA boundary which have relevancy to the Delta's nationally significant story and/or proposed NHA themes. Included in this section are National Historic Landmarks, sites on the National Register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Historically Significant Bridges, and Museums. The Carquinez Strait Resource Plan, which was developed by the Carquinez Strait Resources Coordinating Council and The Planning Collaborative, Inc. in 1998; was a valuable reference document for additional relevant resources along the Carquinez Strait which are also listed, mapped and described. Finally, cultural festivals are described.

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Inventory of Historical/Cultural Resource Sites

County	Resource Name	Address	City/Town
National Historic Landmarks			
Sacramento	Locke Historic District	Locke	Locke
National Register of Historic Places			
Contra Costa	County Hall of Records	725 Court Street	Martinez
Contra Costa	Riverview Union High School Building	1500 West 4th Street	Antioch
Contra Costa	Roswell Butler Hard House	815 West First Street	Antioch
Sacramento	Rosebud Ranch	N of Hood	Hood
Sacramento	Runyon House	12865 River Rd.	Courtland
Sacramento	Delta Meadows Site	Address Restricted	Locke
Sacramento	Locke Historic District	Locke	Locke
Sacramento	Brown, John Stanford, House	13950 CA 160	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Imperial Theatre	Market St.	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Walnut Grove Chinese-American Hist. District	Bounded by C, Tyler, and Bridge Sts., and River Rd.	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Walnut Grove Commercial/Residential Hist. District	Browns Alley and River Rd	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Walnut Grove Gakuen Hall	Pine and C Sts.	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Walnut Grove Japanese-American Hist. District	Bounded by Winnie St., Tyler St., C St., and River Rd	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Isleton Chinese and Japanese Commercial Districts	Bounded by River Rd. and Union, E and H Sts.	Isleton
Solano	Bird and Dinkelspiel Store aka Benjamin Store	2145 Collinsville Road.	Birds Landing
Solano	Hastings Adobe	NE of Collinsville off CA 68	Collinsville
Solano	Vallejo City Hall & County Building Branch	734 Marin St.	Vallejo
California Historical Landmark			
Yolo	First Pacific Coast Salmon Cannery	West Sacramento	W. Sacramento
California Points of Historical Interest			
Sacramento	Jean Harvie School/ Walnut Grove Community Center	14273 River Road	Walnut Grove
Sacramento	Grand Island Mansion	13415 Grand Island Road	Walnut Grove
Solano	Rio Vista & Isleton Portuguese Hall	295 S. 7th Street	Rio Vista
Historically Significant Bridges (determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places)			
Contra Costa/ Solano	Carquinez Strait Bridge	I-80 over Carquinez Strait	Crockett/Vallejo
Sacramento	Freeport Bridge	On Freeport blvd over Sacramento River	Freeport
Sacramento	Isleton Bridge	Near Isleton on S.R. 160 over Sac. River	Isleton
Sacramento	Paintersville Bridge	On S.R. 160 over Sac. River	Courtland
San Joaquin	Bacon Island Road Bridge	Bacon Island Road over Middle River	Stockton
San Joaquin	Middle River Bridge	On S.R. 4 over Middle River	Stockton
San Joaquin	Old River Bridge	On S.R. 4 over Old River	Stockton
Yolo/ Sacramento	Tower Bridge	On S.R. 279 over Sac. River	W. Sacramento/ Sacramento
Museums			
Contra Costa	Antioch Historical Society	1500 W. Fourth Street	Antioch
Contra Costa	Contra Costa Historical Soc./History Center	610 Main Street	Martinez
Contra Costa	Crockett Historical Museum	900 Loring Ave.	Crockett
Contra Costa	Martinez Historical Society/Museum	1005 Escobar	Martinez
Sacramento	Isleton Museum	33 Main Street	Isleton
Sacramento	Locke Board House Museum	13916 Main Street	Locke
Sacramento	Locke Dai Loy Museum	Main Street	Locke
Solano	Dutra Museum of Dredging	345 St. Gertrude Avenue	Rio Vista
Solano	Rio Vista Museum	16 N. Front Street	Rio Vista
Solano	Vallejo Naval and Historical Society Museum	734 Marin St.	Vallejo
Yolo	West Sacramento Historical Society	849 Jefferson	W. Sacramento
Additional Resources from the Carquinez Strait Resource Plan			
Contra Costa	C and H Sugar	830 Loring Avenue	Crockett
Contra Costa	Grangers Wharf and John Eckley Yacht Harbor	Martinez Regional Shoreline	Crockett
Contra Costa	Downtown Port Costa	Downtown Port Costa	Port Costa
Contra Costa	McNeer Warehouse	Port Costa Waterfront	Port Costa



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Descriptions of Historical/Cultural Resources

Photos by DPC, unless noted otherwise

National Historic Landmark

Locke Historical District

Locke, Sacramento County



Built in 1915, the town of Locke is the last vestige of a single Chinese community in the nation. The town was built and inhabited exclusively for and by the Chinese. Many community members helped build the first transcontinental railroad and the extensive levee system throughout the Delta. Locke is composed of four blocks of one- and two-story commercial and residential structures entirely designed in the false-fronted, woodcutter, gothic style which was predominate in the small turn-of-the-century river towns.

National Register of Historic Sites

County Hall of Records

Martinez, Contra Costa County

Martinez has been the seat of Contra Costa County since 1850, when the counties of California were created. Built in 1932, the Contra Costa County Hall of Records is an example of Classical Revival architecture. The purpose of the Hall of Records was to house an increasing mass of county records and to provide additional courtrooms to a growing county. It has been home to numerous documents of great relevancy regarding the settlement of the region including Mexican land grants; survey books of lands and waterways; court cases involving the railroads; and records of the industries which helped form Contra Costa County including: coal mines which kept the riverboats moving, McNear shipping wharfs for wheat and coal, walnut processing, wineries, agriculture departments, and cattle sales.



*Photo source:
Panoramio*

Riverview Union High School Building

Antioch, Contra Costa County

The Riverview Union High School was the first high school built in Contra Costa County in 1911. The development of a high school in Antioch was considered a significant statement about the town's influence as Antioch and Pittsburg were fast growing due to industries which they were home to (agriculture, fishing, and more), while neighboring coal mining communities such as Somersville and Nortonville were declining economically. Its location was significant as it was accessible to major transportation systems in 1911: roads, the railroad, and the river. The school closed in 1931 and the Bureau of Reclamation leased the building in 1936 for the 90 engineers who worked on the Central Valley Project. Currently, the building is home to the Antioch Historical Society and Museum, which includes several displays relevant to Delta history.



Photo source: Noe Hill

Roswell Butler Hard House

Antioch, Contra Costa County

The Roswell Butler Hard House was constructed in 1869 with brick from Antioch's first brick factory. The home served as the meeting place for the first board of trustees for the newly incorporated city, where Roswell B. Hard was elected the first major of Antioch. Mr. Hard played a key role in the growth of Antioch's early government, was very active in local politics and vice president of the Contra Costa Farmers' Club in 1870. Outside of the house is the Cannery Lady Monument, which pays recognition to women's contributions to labor in canneries and packing sheds throughout the rich agricultural and fishing areas of east Contra Costa County.



Photo source: Noe Hill

Rosebud Ranch

Hood, Sacramento County

Built in 1877 by California Senator William Johnston and designed by Sacramento master architect Nathaniel Goodell. The ranch comprises a farm complex typically seen in 19th century Delta farms; complete with smokehouse, barns, bunk houses, pump rooms, and sheds. The house was solely owned and occupied by the Johnston family until 1967 when the house was purchased by well known artist Wayne Thiebaud.



Runyon House

Courtland, Sacramento County

The Runyon House, built in 1868, was home to Solomon Runyon, one of the earliest settlers in the Delta. Runyon became the largest orchardist in the Delta and built his home to reflect the bounties and opportunities found in the Delta.



*Photo source: Prudential
Dunnigan RE*

Delta Meadows Site

Locke, Sacramento County

Delta Meadows represents the cultural and biological remains of a protohistoric Native American village. Remains include faunal, burial, and ceremonial which represent the village life in the Delta prior to development. Additionally, the site contains examples of pre-reclamation Riparian Woodland.



Imperial Theater

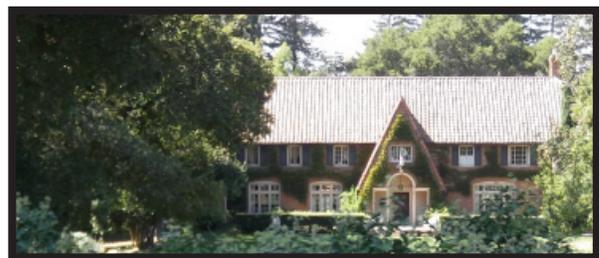
Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

The Imperial Theater, built in 1919, was a source of entertainment for residents in the Delta. The theater was built by Yonekichi Takeda and owned by Mrs. Alex Brown, as exclusionary laws excluded Asian-Americans from owning property at that time. In the late 1930s the theater was purchased by Ray Gilgert. In 1954 a representative of the government of Nationalist China was met by virtually the whole Delta Chinese community in an effort to raise money and denounce communism at the Imperial Theater.

John Stanford Brown House

Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

The Brown house, built in 1925, is a leading example of Tudor Revival architecture which was prevalent in the US throughout the 1910s-30s. The home was designed by noted Sacramento architect Frank “Squeaky” Williams. John Stanford Brown was born and raised in Walnut Grove and was the founding president of the Bank of Alex Brown.



Walnut Grove Chinese-American Historic District

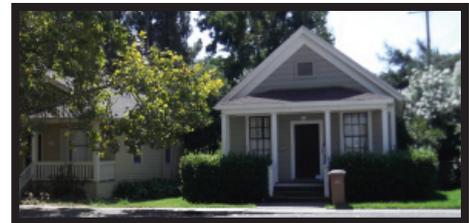
Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

The Walnut Grove Chinese-American Historic District, built circa 1937, served as the commercial and social center for both the Asian residents and for Chinese-American laborers working on the nearby farms and ranches. The district was the final cohesively constructed enclave of the Chinese Americans in the region and the last established Chinatown in the Delta.

Walnut Grove Commercial/Residential Historic District

Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

This district served as the center of the non-Asian commercial district between 1879 and 1923. Its buildings were all built and used by Walnut Grove resident Alex Brown. Some of the oldest commercial and residential buildings in Walnut Grove are located in this district.



Walnut Grove Gakuen Hall

Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

The Walnut Grove Gakuen Hall is the only known example of a Japanese culture and language school designed and built by Japanese as a reaction to the 1921 California public school segregation laws. Out of fear, the Japanese residents banned together and collected donations to construct the Gakuen Hall so that their children would be able to speak and understand the Japanese language and culture if forced to move back to Japan.



Photo source: National Park Service

Walnut Grove Japanese-American Historic District

Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

The Japanese-American District encompasses five acres of land within the town of Walnut Grove. The district was built in 1915 after fire destroyed the previous district. The district includes all the Japanese-American commercial section of town. The buildings are all designed with commercial suites on the first floor and residences on the second.



Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Isleton Chinese and Japanese Commercial Districts

Isleton, Sacramento County

This district served as the commercial and social center for both residents and the Asian-Americans in the surrounding areas. Isleton was the only Asian community constructed in the Delta during the heyday of agriculture in the 1920s, and was the last in a series of Chinese/Japanese American sections of town built on the same site since 1878. The district represents a cohesively constructed enclave of both Chinese-Americans and Japanese-Americans in the area and reflects the time when Asians were an essential component of the agricultural labor force in the Delta. The 1920s press tin siding architectural style is unique to Isleton.



Benicia Capital State Historic Park

Benicia, Solano County

The park is dedicated to California's third capitol building where the California State Legislature and bureaucracy convened from February 3, 1853 to February 24, 1854. It is the only pre-Sacramento capitol that survives. Benicia was California's first city established by Anglo Americans; a port which was an important site for shipping and storing wheat; and a hub of transportation including steamboats, a major railroad ferry, and the Southern Pacific Railroad.



Bird and Dinkelspiel Store aka Benjamin Store

Collinsville, Solano County

In 1869 John Bird constructed a wharf and warehouse on Montezuma Slough. Soon, one mile east of the wharf a community began to evolve. A blacksmith shop came first, and then the store was built in 1875. In this year the town was officially named Birds Landing. The Bird and Dinkelspiel Store is one of the earliest remains of settlement in the Delta.



Photo source: Historic Marker Data Base

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Hastings Adobe

Collinsville, Solano County

The Hastings Adobe, completed in 1846, is the second oldest structure in Solano County. Pioneer Lansford Hastings, author of *The Emigrants Guide to Oregon and California*, claimed the property in hopes to plan a Mormon community named Montezuma City. Hastings lived in the adobe until he abandoned it in 1849. Lindsay Marshall took possession of the property in 1853 and reclaimed over 1,000 acres for farming and ranching. The adobe is currently owned by PG&E.

Vallejo City Hall and County Building Branch

Vallejo, Solano County

The Vallejo City Hall and County Building Branch was built in 1927 and is an example of Spanish Renaissance Revival architecture. The building was designed by Charles Perry. For the first fifty years of its existence, it was the depository for all city and many of Solano County's documents.



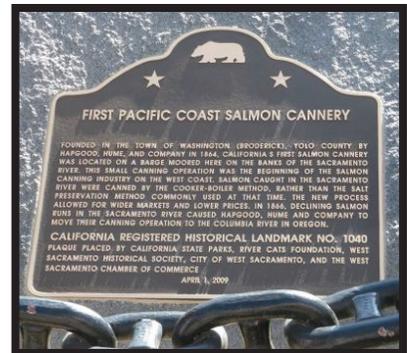
Photo source: Wikipedia

California Historical Landmark

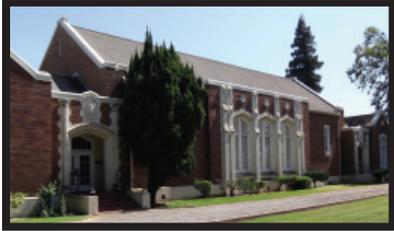
First Pacific Coast Salmon Cannery

West Sacramento, Yolo County

The cannery was founded by Hapgood, Hume and Company in 1864 and was the beginning of the West Coast's salmon canning industry. Salmon caught in the Sacramento River were canned by the cooker-boiler method, rather than the contemporary salt preservation method of that time, which allowed for products to be shipped to wider markets at lower prices.



California Points of Historical Interest



Jean Harvie Community Center

Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

Built from 1924 to 1926, the school was first used for graduation exercises. During World War II it was used by various rationing boards and other wartime services. The school was closed due to the Field Act of 1930, but the building is still used for a variety of community activities.



Photo source: Grand Island Mansion

Grand Island Mansion

Walnut Grove, Sacramento County

The 24,000 square foot mansion boasts 58 rooms, tile roof, and concrete and stucco Mediterranean style. The mansion was designed in 1917 for Louis Meyers and his wife Audrey, daughter of David Lubin of the Weinstock-Lubin department stores, which later became the Weinstock's department store chain. The mansion was built as a place to entertain guests who arrived by riverboat such as author Erle Stanley Garner who wrote several books about the recreating in the Delta. The home has been featured in magazines such as Architectural Digest, Sunset, and National Geographic, and is a popular wedding and reception location.



Photo source: State Office of Historic Preservation

Rio Vista & Isleton Portuguese Hall

Rio Vista, Solano County

Since 1928, this hall has been in continuous use for social events, including the site of the annual “Holy Ghost Festa”. A number of other community and family gatherings are also held regularly at this venue which makes it an important center for Delta residents, particularly in Rio Vista and Isleton.

Historically Significant Bridges

(determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places)

Carquinez Strait Bridge

Contra Costa and Solano Counties

When built in 1927, this bridge was the fourth largest cantilever bridge in the world and the second largest in the U.S. Development of the bridge was of great importance as it provided the final link in the Pan-American Highway, connecting Canada with Mexico.



Photo source: California Department of Transportation

Freeport Bridge

Sacramento and Yolo Counties

Built in 1929, the Freeport Bridge is one of only five modified examples in California of the Strauss Heel Trunnion Bascule Bridge, designed by Joseph Strauss who also designed the Golden Gate Bridge. The main span is 226 feet long and the secondary spans are Warren pony trusses.



Photo source: California Cycling

Isleton Bridge

Sacramento County

This bridge, built in 1923, is also one of the modified examples of the Strauss Heel Trunnion Bascule Bridge in California. The main bascule span is 226 feet long and the secondary spans are reinforced concrete bowstring arches.



Paintersville Bridge

Sacramento County

Built in 1923, the Paintersville Bridge is additionally one of the modified examples in California of the Strauss Heel Trunnion Bascule Bridge. The main span carries the bascule and is 226 feet long. The two secondary spans are through Pratt trusses, each 120 feet in length.



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Bacon Island Road Bridge

San Joaquin County

Built in 1906, this 314 foot long swing bridge is the oldest movable highway spans in California. Although relocated in 1950, the structure remains today in a similar setting and retains a high degree of integrity.

Middle River Bridge & Old River Bridge

San Joaquin County

The Middle River Bridge and its twin, the Old River Bridge, are the oldest unmodified highway swing bridges in the State. They typify the many swing bridges constructed in the Delta in the early decades of the twentieth century.



Tower Bridge

Sacramento/Yolo Counties

Sacramento's Tower Bridge is the only pre-World War II vertical lift bridge in California. Built in 1934-6, the bridge's eight spans total 738 feet in length, 54 feet in width, with four lanes of traffic between steel channel railings across the Sacramento River. The bridge has a steel through truss and reinforced concrete and a steel plate deck girder approach span.



Photo source: California Department of Transportation

Museums

Antioch Historical Society Museum

Antioch, Contra Costa County

Located in Riverview Union High School Building, the Antioch Historical Society Museum contains displays and artifacts to interpret the history of Antioch and East Contra Costa County. Several displays are relevant to the broader Delta region on topics including wildlife, Native Americans, agriculture/canneries, and maritime.

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Contra Costa County Historical Society and History Center

Martinez, Contra Costa County

The History Center is designed to be primarily a living archive as a treasure trove of the records, letters, pictures, maps and books that tell the story of Contra Costa's past. A significant portion of its collection are historical documents from Delta and Carquinez Strait communities. It is intended as a focus for scholarly activity, offering valuable resources available for students and writers of history and a place where teachers can find prime source material on the County's past to share with students.

Crockett Historical Museum

Crockett, Contra Costa County

The Crockett Historical Society was founded in 1976 and opened the Museum in 1981, as part of the celebration of Crockett's 100th anniversary. The Museum is located in the former railroad depot, which was built next to the sugar refinery in 1929 and is still owned by C and H.



Photo source: Walking San Francisco Bay

Martinez Historical Society and Museum

Martinez, Contra Costa County

The Martinez Historical Society was created in 1973 to save the 1890 cottage, Borland House, and its site from deconstruction. Convinced that Martinez's history deserved a repository where papers, documents, photographs and artifacts could be housed, the Historical Society prevailed upon the City of Martinez to join in acquiring use of the Borland House for their purpose. A lease was obtained from the Contra Costa College District, and the Historical Society took possession in February 1974. Items include documentation of early transportation, commerce, agriculture, recreation, and more.



Photo source: Dipity

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Isleton Museum

Isleton, Sacramento County

The Isleton Museum is located in the middle of Main Street Isleton and showcases artifacts from Chinese settlers that founded and migrated to the small city. Near the museum is also the Chinese Laborers Memorial Pavilion, which is a gazebo and small playground with artwork of Chinese scenes.



Locke Boarding House Museum

Locke, Sacramento County

The Locke Boarding House was built in 1915 to rent out to migrant workers in the area. It now serves as an exhibit and research facility operated by California State Parks and the Locke Foundation, with historic photos and artifacts of Locke and Delta Chinese.



Locke Dai Loy Museum

Locke, Sacramento County

A former gambling house in Locke, Dai Loy was closed down in the early fifties by the state government, but now has re-opened as a museum.



Dutra Museum of Dredging

Rio Vista, Solano County

This museum will take one through the Northern California history of the dredging industry and the integral role that the Dutra family played in reclaiming the Delta. Scale models, photographs, and artifacts are key features of the museum.



Photo source: Dutra Museum of Dredging

Rio Vista Museum

Rio Vista, Solano County

The Rio Vista Museum came about as a result of the country's 1976 Bicentennial. People of the surrounding area contributed historical artifacts to the museum to tell the unique history of Rio Vista.



Photo source: Rio Vista Museum

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Vallejo Naval and Historical Society Museum

Vallejo, Solano County

The Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum preserves and exhibits the diverse and exciting history of the City of Vallejo and the former U.S. Naval Shipyard at Mare Island. The Museum is located in Vallejo's historic Old City Hall and features five galleries devoted to community and U.S. Navy history.

West Sacramento Historical Society

West Sacramento, Yolo County

The West Sacramento Historical Society was established in 1993 to preserve the history of West Sacramento and to provide an opportunity for individuals and groups to learn about and experience the rich culture of West Sacramento's past. The historical society established the Museum and Visitor Center, the first museum in West Sacramento on February 20, 2005.

Additional Resources from the Carquinez Strait Resource Plan

C and H Sugar

Crockett, Contra Costa County

Originally the Starr Flour Mill in the 1880s, it was converted to a beet sugar refinery when the international wheat market collapsed, then in 1906 C and H Sugar bought out the beet refinery and converted it to a sugar cane refinery, today the world's largest.



Photo source: Wikipedia

Grangers Wharf and John Eckley Yacht Harbor

Crockett, CA

From Crockett to Port Costa, the shoreline was lined with wharves to load ships with grain and fruit for delivery to Europe in the 1880s. With the Grangers Business Association warehouse remaining in operation until 1933, the Eckley homestead was located here and served as John Eckley's personal yacht harbor and was the site of an Italian fishing port. Some of the original pilings remain along with evidence of washing tanks for fishnets. Currently it is the Eckley Unit of the Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline, where a fishing pier is planned.

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Downtown Port Costa

Port Costa, CA

Originally a terminal for the first railroad ferry crossing, the community has a rich maritime history and now houses quaint shops, restaurants, and a bed and breakfast establishment.

McNeer Warehouse

Port Costa, CA

Built in 1886, this building stored wheat, hay and potatoes and is now used for a variety of businesses.

Local Festivals

Local festivals honor ethnic traditions, agriculture, fisheries and more. Many of the festivals are of great pride to local residents and also attract hundreds, sometimes thousands, of visitors from outside of the region. Cook-offs and other culinary events celebrate farming and often feature trademark crops such as asparagus, dried beans, sweet corn, and pears. Many restaurants highlight fresh local produce or cuisines of various ethnic traditions.

Asian Pacific Spring Festival

Locke, Sacramento County

Presented by the Locke Foundation, this event celebrates Asian Pacific Heritage Month in May with food, music, cultural displays, dragon dances, Mah Jong, Martial Arts demonstrations, Taiko drums, and more.

Bay Point Spring Derby

Bay Point, Contra Costa County

This event, organized by the Bay Point Garden Club, is celebrated annually on Memorial Day and brings together the various cultural groups of Bay Point as well as thousands of visitors from neighboring areas to celebrate the area's heritage. Activities include food, entertainment, crafts, arts, and more.



Photo source: Access Sacramento

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Brentwood Corn Festival

Brentwood, Contra Costa County

Brentwood is a large supplier of Bay Area corn, with a festival to celebrate corn season every July. This family event includes entertainment, a petting zoo, rides, and lots of food!

Courtland Pear Fair

Courtland, Sacramento County

The Pear Fair is a celebration of the annual Bartlett Pear harvest in the Delta. Organized by local community volunteers, the Fair has become a long standing summer tradition in the Delta that reflects the character and lifestyle of rural life, family fun and a wonderful day of entertainment full of various dishes and drinks made of pears. This festival is always the last Sunday in July.

Isleton Asian Celebration

Isleton, Sacramento County

Formerly celebrated as the Chinese New Year, the event was modified in recent years to be more inclusive of Isleton's diverse Asian heritage, and is now held on the first Saturday of March every year.

Isleton Cajun Festival

Isleton, Sacramento County

The Isleton Cajun Festival was developed to continue the traditions which the Isleton Crawdad Festival had celebrated in the town for more than 20 years, once attracting around 200,000 people. The Isleton Cajun Festival began in 2011, and includes food and craft vendors, Zydeco and Cajun music, a carnival for kids, and of course, crawdads.

Rio Vista Bass Derby and Festival

Rio Vista, Solano County

Held in early October, this festival includes the oldest bass derby on the West Coast, a carnival, food, entertainment, water races and activities, raffles, parade, and fireworks.



Photo source: Brentwood Chamber of Commerce



Photo source: Sacramento Bee



Photo source: City of Isleton

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Rio Vista Holy Ghost Festa

Rio Vista, Solano County

This long time Portuguese tradition is a celebration honoring Queen Isabel of Portugal, and a testament to the generosity and love Queen Isabel showed the poor and hungry. There is a parade filled with Queens from the Delta communities and flags and banners that represent the Rio Vista and Isleton Portuguese Club. The festival started in 1899 and continues today, usually on the last weekend of July.

Suisun Marsh Field Day

Suisun Marsh, Solano County

Since 1982, the Suisun Marsh Field Day features renowned waterfowl and wildlife artists, free trap shooting and instruction for children, a BB Gun range, a Junior Duck calling contest, free junior hunting licenses, and more. Field Day is the first Saturday of June.

Vallejo to San Francisco Yacht Race

Vallejo, Solano County

The first mention of an organized race came in 1925 when Pacific Inter-Club Yacht Association organized a cruise to Vallejo on a Saturday, to be followed by a race back on Sunday. This is the official origin of the Great Vallejo Race, now reputed to be the largest inland regatta in the United States, drawing from 300 to 500 boats annually. Now under the aegis of the Yacht Racing Association of San Francisco Bay, it is a two-day race that marks the official opening of the Bay's racing season.



Photo source: Latitude 38

Whaleboat Races

Vallejo, Solano County

Whaleboat racing competition took its current form in the Bay Area in 1965 under the sponsorship of maritime companies, using U.S. Coast Guard “Monomoys” (also known as lifeboats or whaleboats) built in the 1930's and 40's. By 1982, the Bay Area Whaleboat Rowing Association was formed to provide standards for safety and competition as well as coordinate regattas and other activities. The Whaleboat races are typically early September.



Photo source: ITC Rowing

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Yolo Bypass California Duck Days

Yolo Bypass, Yolo County

Duck Days is an annual celebration of California wetlands and wildlife on President's Day weekend. Activities include bird watching and identifying, workshops, bird calling, rice farming demonstrations, decoy carving, and more.



Photo source: The Sacramento Bee

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Public Lands with Public Access

About 74, 000 acres of the Delta and Suisun Marsh are public lands, not including 61,000 acres of open water and 57,000 acres of navigable waterways spread over 700 miles of sloughs and winding channels. Additionally, there are about 7,000 acres of public lands along the Carquinez Strait. These public lands include state parks and recreation areas; ecological reserves and wildlife refuges; fishing areas; and more. Many of these areas support a wide variety of recreation activities; providing opportunities for fishing, hunting, motorized and non-motorized boating, swimming, windsurfing, wildlife viewing, picnicking, hiking, biking, and camping. Some offer trails and options for driving tours, visitor/interpretive centers, and historical sites.

Special district, state, and federal ownership numbers coincide with map on next page

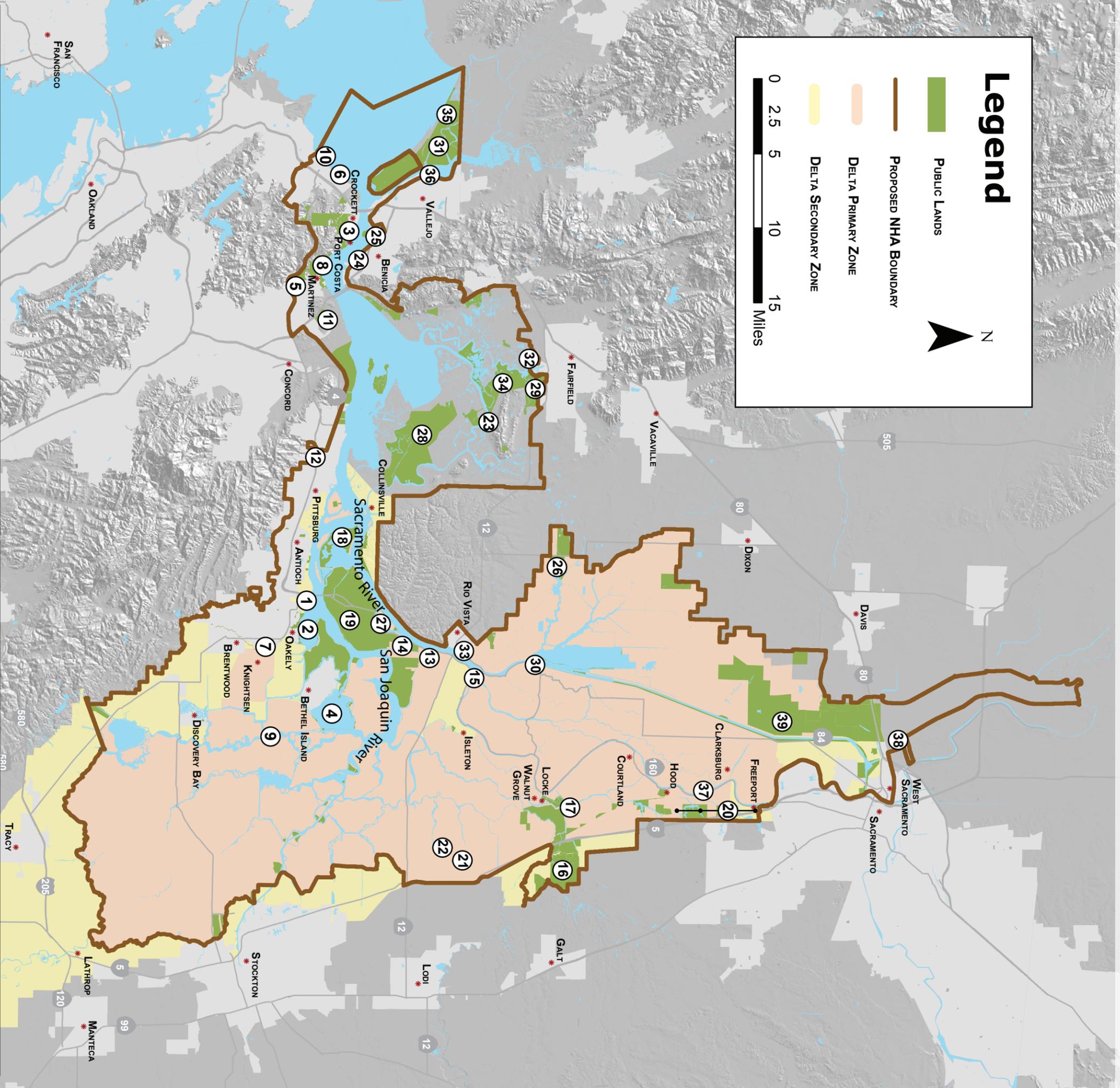
	County	Site Name	Agency
1	Contra Costa	Antioch/Oakley Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District
2	Contra Costa	Big Break Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District
3	Contra Costa	Carquinez Strait Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District
4	Contra Costa	Franks Tract State Recreation Area	California Department of Fish and Game
5	Contra Costa	John Muir National Historic Site	National Park Service
6	Contra Costa	Lone Tree Point	East Bay Regional Parks District
7	Contra Costa	Marsh Creek Trail	East Bay Regional Parks District
8	Contra Costa	Martinez Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District
9	Contra Costa	Rhode Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
10	Contra Costa	San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District
11	Contra Costa	Waterbird Regional Preserve	East Bay Regional Parks District
12	Contra Costa	West Pittsburg Park	Ambrose Recreation and Park District
13	Sacramento	Brannan Island Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
14	Sacramento	Brannan Island State Recreation Area	California Department of Parks and Recreation
15	Sacramento	Cliff House Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
16	Sacramento	Cosumnes River Ecological Reserve (partial)	California Department of Fish and Game*
17	Sacramento	Delta Meadows	California Department of Parks and Recreation
18	Sacramento	Lower Sherman Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
19	Sacramento	Sherman Island	Other State
20	Sacramento	Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/CA Department of Parks and Recreation
21	San Joaquin	White Slough Wildlife Area (partial)	California Department of Fish and Game
22	San Joaquin	Woodbridge Ecological Reserve	California Department of Fish and Game
23	Solano	Belden's Landing Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
24	Solano	Benicia Capitol State Historic Park	California Department of Parks and Recreation
25	Solano	Benicia State Recreation Area	California Department of Parks and Recreation
26	Solano	Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve	California Department of Fish and Game
27	Solano	Decker Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
28	Solano	Grizzly Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
29	Solano	Hill Slough Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
30	Solano	Miner Slough Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
31	Solano	Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
32	Solano	Peytonia Slough Ecological Reserve	California Department of Fish and Game
33	Solano	Rio Vista Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
34	Solano	Rush Ranch Open Space	Solano Land Trust
35	Solano	San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
36	Solano	Vallejo Fishing Pier	California Department of Fish and Game
37	Yolo	Clarksburg Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
38	Yolo	Sacramento Bypass Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
39	Yolo	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game

*The preserve is jointly managed by The Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, Ducks Unlimited, Department of Fish and Game, Department of Water Resources, Sacramento County Department of Parks and Recreation, and the state Wildlife Conservation Board.



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Figure 16. Public Lands with Public Access of the Proposed Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area



Site Key

County	Site Name	Agency	County	Site Name	Agency
Contra Costa	Antioch/Oakley Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District	San Joaquin	White Slough Wildlife Area (partial)	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Big Break Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District	San Joaquin	Woodbridge Ecological Reserve	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Carquinez Strait Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District	Solano	Belders' Landing Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Franks Tract State Recreation Area	California Department of Fish and Game	Solano	Benicia Capitol State Historic Park	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	John Muir National Historic Site	National Park Service	Solano	Benicia State Recreation Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Lone Tree Point	East Bay Regional Parks District	Solano	Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Marsh Creek Trail	East Bay Regional Parks District	Solano	Decker Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Marinez Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District	Solano	Grizzly Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Rhode Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game	Solano	Hill Slough Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline	East Bay Regional Parks District	Solano	Miner Slough Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	Waterbird Regional Preserve	East Bay Regional Parks District	Solano	Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Contra Costa	West Pittsburg Park	Ambrose Recreation and Park District	Solano	Peytonia Slough Ecological Reserve	California Department of Fish and Game
Sacramento	Brannan Island Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game	Solano	Rio Vista Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
Sacramento	Brannan Island State Recreation Area	California Department of Parks and Recreation	Solano	Rush Ranch Open Space	Solano Land Trust
Sacramento	Cliff House Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game	Solano	San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento	Cosumnes River Ecological Reserve (partial)**	California Department of Fish and Game	Solano	Vallejo Fishing Pier	California Department of Fish and Game
Sacramento	Delta Meadows	California Department of Parks and Recreation	Yolo	Clarksburg Fishing Access	California Department of Fish and Game
Sacramento	Lower Sherman Island Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game	Yolo	Sacramento Bypass Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Sacramento	Sherman Island	Other State	Yolo	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	California Department of Fish and Game
Sacramento	Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/ California Department of Parks and Recreation			

Graphics for discussion and visioning purposes only. Areas and locations are approximate.



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Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Descriptions of Public Lands with Public Access

Antioch/Oakley Regional Shoreline

Contra Costa County

A 550 foot pier provides access to great fishing in the San Joaquin River at Antioch/Oakley Regional Shoreline, located just upstream from Highway 160's Nejedly Bridge in Antioch. Fishing, picnicking and kite flying are all favorite activities at this park.



Photo source: East Bay Regional Park District

Big Break Regional Shoreline

Contra Costa County

The Big Break Regional Shoreline is a small bay at the edge of the San Joaquin River and home to a wide variety of species, particularly birds and fish. The Delta Science Center is being developed at Big Break, which will be utilized for educational purposes and include sampling and testing areas for students, an amphitheater, a picnic area, and a walkway with an artistic rendition of the Delta.



Photo source: Sierra Club

Carquinez Strait Shoreline

Contra Costa County

Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline comprises 1,415 acres of bluffs and shoreline along Carquinez Scenic Drive between the town of Crockett and the hillsides overlooking Martinez. This parkland provides a gateway to the Delta along the northern edge of Contra Costa County. The coastal hills rise steeply up to 750 feet above Carquinez Strait. From the highest elevations the view includes the marshland of Benicia State Recreation Area to the north across Carquinez Strait. From atop Franklin Ridge along the Franklin Ridge Loop Trail and the California Riding and Hiking Trail, the horizon is pierced by the peaks of Mt. Tamalpais to the west and Mt. Diablo to the east.



Photo source: East Bay Regional Park District

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Franks Tract State Recreation Area

Contra Costa County

Franks Tract State Recreation Area is only accessible by water and is located southeast of Brannan Island between False River and Bethel Island. Franks Tract flooded in 1936 and again in 1938. Very few land forms remain exposed, with the exception of remnant levees. During the fall and winter, a large variety of waterfowl can be found in Franks Tract due to the Delta's key position in the Pacific Flyway. Year round residents include gulls, great blue herons, terns, swallows, crows, blackbirds, cormorants, and kingfishers.

John Muir National Historic Site

Contra Costa County

The John Muir National Historic Site includes the 14 room Italianate Victorian mansion where naturalist and writer John Muir lived, as well as a nearby 325 acres tract of native oak woodlands and grasslands historically owned by the Muir family.



Photo source: Wikipedia

Lone Tree Point

Contra Costa County

This small park on the Rodeo shoreline provides expansive views of San Pablo Bay with picnic opportunities.



Photo source: merchantcircle.com

Marsh Creek Trail

Contra Costa County

The Marsh Creek Regional Trail, in easternmost Contra Costa County, winds along Marsh Creek through bountiful tracts of farmland. The paved, multi-use trail is about 6.5 miles long and extends from Creekside Park in Brentwood to the wave-lapped Delta shores of Big Break. When completed, the trail will be 14 miles long and will connect the Delta with the wooded foothills of Morgan Territory Regional Preserve and the quiet serenity of Round Valley Regional Park east of Mt. Diablo State Park. Trail users can benefit from several community parks and greenbelts along the way which offer respite from mid-day summer heat.



Photo source: East Bay Regional Park District

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Martinez Regional Shoreline

Contra Costa County

The shoreline park offers visitors a variety of experiences. There are group picnic areas, softball fields, bocce ball courts and soccer fields in the eastern section of the park, operated by the City of Martinez. The East Bay Regional Parks District operates the western section with its quiet open lawns, small family picnic areas, and ponds and creeks. Nearly three miles of trails offer peaceful walks through the marsh and along the shoreline.

Rhode Island Wildlife Area

Contra Costa County

Rhode Island Wildlife Area is a 67 acre island, the perimeter of which contains alder, willow, blackberry and tules. Its habitat provides for river otters, beavers, muskrat; and many species of birds including the nesting wood duck, cinnamon teal, great blue heron, black crowned night heron, common egret, snowy egret, and other riparian associated passerines.

San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline

Contra Costa County

Point Pinole Regional Shoreline is a 2,315 acre parkland next to densely populated Pinole, Richmond, and San Pablo. Trails lead through breezy meadows with wildflowers in season, through aromatic eucalyptus woods, or along bluffs and beaches on San Pablo Bay.



Photo source: East Bay Regional Park District

Waterbird Regional Preserve

Contra Costa County

Waterbird Regional Preserve is a 198 acre area comprised of a wetland and the associated uplands to the east. The focal point of the Preserve is the rich and diverse Al McNabney Marsh, of which the East Bay Regional Park District owns 46 acres in the southern end and Mountain View Sanitary District owns 69 acres in the northern and deeper end.

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Brannan Island State Recreation Area

Sacramento County

Brannan Island State Recreation Area has countless islands and marshes with diverse wildlife habitats and many opportunities for recreation including boating, windsurfing, and swimming. It also has great fishing opportunities for striped bass, sturgeon, catfish, bluegill, perch, bullhead, and more.



Photo source: marinas.com

Cosumnes River Ecological Preserve

Sacramento County

This 46,000 acre nature preserve protects native habitat such as oak tree savanna, riparian oak forest, and wetlands, which are no longer as prevalent in the region due to agricultural development. The preserve was designated as a National Natural Landmark by NPS in 1976. Activities at the preserve include field trips, educational workshops, wildlife viewing, paddling, hiking and fishing.

Delta Meadows

Sacramento County

The area is a prime example of riparian woodlands which were prevalent in the Delta prior to reclamation. Habitat supports wildlife including river otters, Delta smelt and Sacramento chub.

Lower Sherman Island Wildlife Area

Sacramento County

This wildlife area of approximately 3,100 acres, is accessible only by boat, and key activities include hunting and wildlife viewing. The area is home to hundreds of bird species as well as mammals such as river otters, beavers, and minks.

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

Sacramento County

Stone Lakes Refuge acquired its first land in 1994 and was officially designated the 505th unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System. It joined the ranks of other local land management projects, including the Cosumnes River Preserve to the south and the Vic Fazio Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area to the west, to protect and enhance imperiled Central Valley fish and wildlife habitats. Public access recently was enhanced in the refuge with the development of a nature area, an amphitheater, interpretive displays, and a small network of trails to nearby wetlands.

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White Slough Wildlife Area

San Joaquin County

The wildlife area consists of 880 acres of man-made ditches, canals, burrow ponds, freshwater marshes, grassland/upland, and riparian habitat. Ponds were created during the construction of Interstate 5. Activities include hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing.

Woodbridge Ecological Preserve

San Joaquin County

One of the key features of this ecological preserve is its greater Sandhill Crane communities. This species was listed as threatened in 1983. This reserve comprises part of the local wetlands system which provide the largest area of freshwater marsh wintering habitat in the State, not only for Sandhill Cranes but for other waterfowl as well.



Photo source: Department of Fish and Game

Belden's Landing Fishing Access

Solano County

In the 1980s the Department of Fish and Game purchased this site which has a rich history of Native Americans, commerce, agriculture, and more. A public waterway access facility is located where the old ferry crossing carried hunters and fishermen to Grizzly Island and the site of Jim and Mary Belden's Landing, who had purchased the harbor in 1945.



Photo source: Solano County

Benicia State Capitol Historic Park

Solano County

Benicia Capitol State Historic Park is the site of California's third seat of government (1853-54) and is the only pre-Sacramento capitol that survives. The original building has been restored with reconstructed period furnishings and exhibits. The interior includes a board-for-board reconstruction of the building's original floor with ponderosa pine. The desks, three of which are originals, are furnished with a candlestick, a 19th century newspaper, a quill pen, and a top hat.

Benicia State Recreation Area

Solano County

Benicia State Recreation Area covers marsh, grassy hillsides and rocky beaches along the narrowest portion of the Carquinez Strait. Cyclists, runners, walkers, equestrians, and roller skaters enjoy the park's 2.5 miles of road and bike paths. Picnicking, bird watching and fishing are also popular activities.



Photo source: Association of Bay Area Governments

Decker Island Wildlife Area

Solano County

This 648 acre Island is just south of Rio Vista and surrounded by the Sacramento River and Horseshoe Bend. The Island was created in the early 1900s when the Sacramento River was dredged and the spoils were placed on top of existing wetlands.



Photo source: hobiecat.com

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area

Solano County

The Grizzly Island Wildlife Area is temporarily open throughout the year for elk and rabbit hunting. Other activities such as hiking and nature viewing can be undertaken here as well. The area is closed during the winter for seasonal flooding.



Photo source: San Francisco Chronicle

Hill Slough Wildlife Area

Solano County

Hill Slough consists of 1,723 acres of salt tidal marsh, managed marshes, sloughs, and upland grassland. The area supports a wide variety of waterfowl including the pintail, mallard, shoveler, green-winged teal, and wigeon. Raptors such as northern harriers, white-tailed kites, kestrels, and red-tailed hawks can be seen hunting the grasslands. Mammals including raccoons, jackrabbits, and voles make their homes here.

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Miner Slough Wildlife Area

Solano County

The area is 37 acres in size with approximately 10 acres remaining above the water at high tide, making up one small island and a narrow peninsula extending from Prospect Island. Riparian vegetation includes willows, cottonwoods, tules, and blackberries; which support wildlife species, such as beavers, black-crowned night heron, and a variety of waterfowl.

Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Areas

Solano County

This wildlife area consists of over 13,000 acres of saltwater ponds, tidal marshes, and wetlands, just north of San Pablo Bay. Many waterfowl species and shorebirds including the California clapper rail can be found here. Most of the area is accessible only by boat.



Photo source: Yolo Basin Foundation

Peytonia Slough Ecological Preserve

Solano County

The Peytonia Slough Ecological Preserve is a 520 acre open access preserve. Boating, fishing, nature viewing, and hiking are permitted.

Rush Ranch Open Space

Solano County

Rush Ranch is a 2,070 acre open space area located in southern Solano County, bordered on one side by the Suisun Marsh. Rush Ranch has vast open spaces of tranquil rolling grasslands and an abundance of bird and wildlife viewing opportunities.



Photo source: Rush Ranch

San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge

Solano County

The San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge lies along the north shore of San Pablo Bay in Sonoma, Solano, and Napa Counties. The refuge includes open bay/tidal marsh, mud flats, and seasonal and managed wetlands which provide valuable habitat for endangered, threatened, and sensitive species including the California clapper rail, salt marsh harvest mouse and California black rail.

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Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

Yolo County

The Yolo Bypass contains the Vic Fazio Yolo Wildlife Area and was the largest public/private restoration project in the United States west of the Florida Everglades. It forms a valuable wetland for much of the year, is used for agriculture in the summer, and is part of the Yolo Bypass flood control channel.



Photo source: Department of Fish and Game

Recreational Resources in the Proposed NHA

Over 1,000 miles of navigable waterways exist throughout the Delta making it a recreational haven for locals and visitors alike. Specific recreational activities include boating, fishing, windsurfing, hunting, birdwatching, and more. The U.S. Coast Guard and local sheriffs are responsible for law enforcement and public safety throughout the Delta's waterways. Private recreation facilities and other businesses serving visitors also support recreation in the region. There are almost 100 marinas throughout the Delta, some of which offer camping, cabin rentals, picnic facilities, boat launches, houseboat rentals, and fishing access. Private yacht clubs also exist throughout the Delta, as well as a handful of private duck clubs, and a few private golf courses. Private excursion vessels departing from Antioch, Pittsburg, Stockton, Sacramento, Suisun City, and Walnut Grove offer additional ways for visitors to explore the region. Much of the land in Suisun Marsh is owned by private duck clubs though public waterfowl hunting areas are found there as well. Other recreational activities at the Marsh include wildlife viewing, hiking, and canoeing. The Carquinez Strait is also an ideal place for water-based recreation including fishing, boating, and windsurfing.

Restaurants, hotels, wineries, galleries, gift shops, U-picks, and farm stands, exist throughout the Delta which help support the visitor's experience. The Clarksburg appellation in the Northern Delta contains many of the region's wineries, including the Old Sugar Mill with six wineries in one location. The Delta Discovery Center is also a key attraction located outside of Rio Vista, and includes the Delta Farmer's Market. The Delta Loop, a 10 mile scenic drive along the Mokelumne and San Joaquin Rivers is an ideal spot for exploring the Delta by car or boat with marinas, resorts, RV parks, restaurants, bars, gift shops, and more.

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Regional Trail Systems

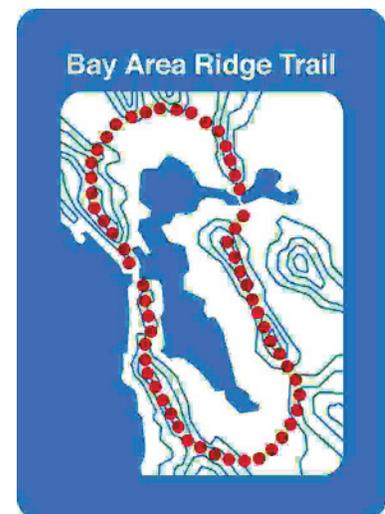
A number of regional trail systems exist throughout the Delta, Suisun Marsh and Carquinez Strait. These trail systems help link the region's recreational, cultural, historical and natural resources sites to one another, and also help connect the region to outside communities.

American Discovery Trail

The American Discovery Trail (ADT) is a multi-use patchwork of existing trails and paved roads. The trail stretches across more than 6,800 miles, and is the only coast-to-coast, non motorized recreational trail. From Discovery Park in Sacramento, the ADT crosses the American River and follows a levee trail along the Sacramento River to Old Sacramento. Leaving Old Sacramento and following city streets, the ADT passes by the magnificent historic state capital building and the Sacramento City Cemetery. After leaving Sacramento, the ADT passes for over 50 miles of the Delta using levee roads, and going through the towns of Freeport, Clarksburg, Locke, Walnut Grove, and Isleton.

Bay Area Ridge Trail

The Bay Area Ridge Trail is a planned 550+ mile multi-use trail (currently over 330 miles are complete) along the hill and mountain ridgelines ringing the San Francisco Bay Area. When complete, the trail will connect over 75 parks and open spaces. The trail is being designed to provide access for hikers, runners, mountain bicyclists, and equestrians. It will be accessible through trailheads near major population centers, and extend into more remote areas. Portions of it are along the Carquinez Strait in Contra Costa and Solano Counties.



The Great California Delta Trail

The Great California Delta Trail is a regional trail system which, when complete, will connect the San Francisco Bay Trail to Sacramento River Trails, crossing through portions of all five Delta Counties. While the trail system is still in the planning phases, Delta trail links have been implemented in Solano County, and adopted in Contra Costa and Sacramento Counties.

Chapter 8 — Supporting Resources

Juan Bautista de Anza Historical Trail

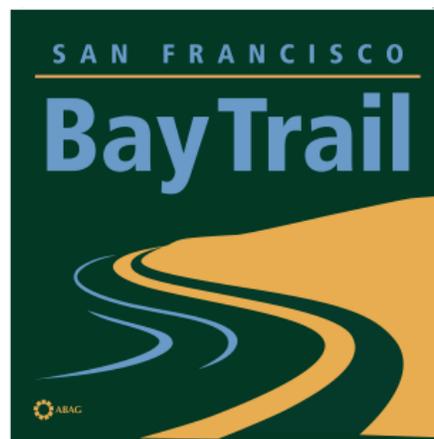
In 1776, as Americans fought for independence in the East, Juan Bautista de Anza led more than 240 people over 1,200 miles to settle Alta California. It was the first overland route established to connect New Spain with San Francisco. The historic trail retraces their footsteps from Nogales, Arizona to San Francisco; and passes along the Carquinez Strait and through the Contra Costa County portion of the Delta.

Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail

This trail crosses the San Francisco Bay to Pacific Crest Trail in the Sierras and passes through East Bay Regional Parkland, Mt. Diablo State Park, and the Stanislaus National Forest. In the Delta it goes through the cities of Antioch, Rio Vista and Isleton. Currently the Delta segment of the trail is in the pre-planning phase and will likely be a water trail along the Mokelumne River.

San Francisco Bay Trail

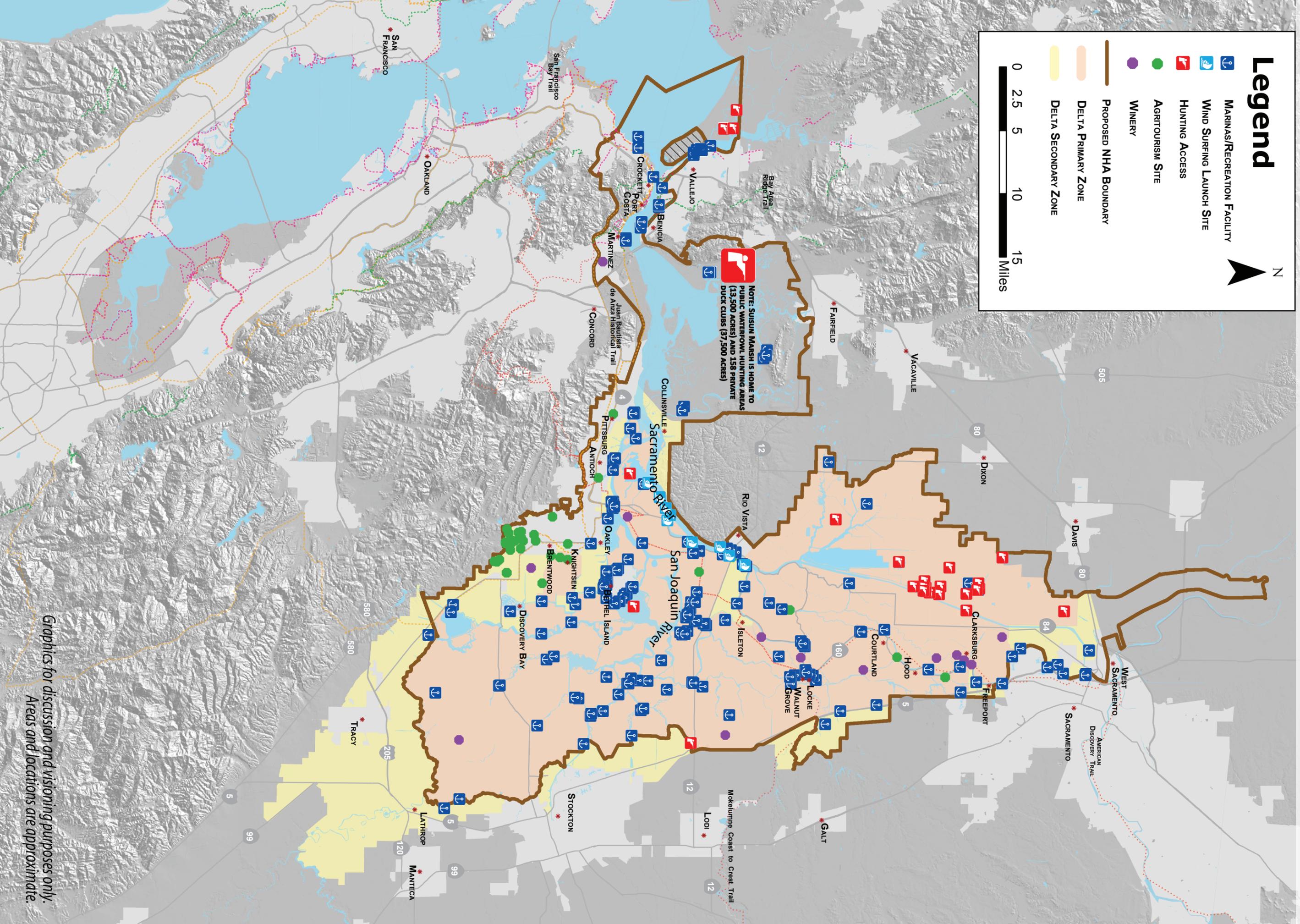
The San Francisco Bay Trail offers access to commercial, industrial and residential neighborhoods; points of historical, natural and cultural interest; recreational areas like beaches, marinas, fishing piers, boat launches, and over 130 parks and wildlife preserves totaling 57,000 acres of open space. It passes through highly urbanized areas like downtown San Francisco as well as remote natural areas like the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The Bay Trail consists of paved multi-use paths, dirt trails, bike lanes, sidewalks or city streets signed as bike routes. The Bay Trail passes through portions of Contra Costa and Solano Counties along the Carquinez Strait, connects to the Bay Area Ridge Trail, and will likely connect to the future Great California Delta Trail.



San Joaquin River Blueway

The San Joaquin River is one of two California rivers to be designated by the federal government as a blueway, a recreational water corridor for a variety of activities including birdwatching, boating, fishing, and more. The San Joaquin River Partnership, a collaborative group of local nonprofit organizations, are developing a public access guide for the San Joaquin River, from the Friant Dam to its confluence with the Sacramento River in the Delta. These efforts intend to help connect local residents, as well as outside visitors, to the waterway in order to facilitate a better understanding and appreciation of the river's ecology and cultural importance.

Figure 17. Recreational Sites of the Proposed Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area



Graphics for discussion and visioning purposes only. Areas and locations are approximate.



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Management Entity

The management entity is the organization responsible for developing the NHA management plan, raising and administering funds, running projects, conducting public outreach, and other necessary work to manage the NHA consistent with the NHA's mission, vision, and goals. NEPA compliance must also be integrated into the management planning process, due to the federal funding involved and the adoption of the management plan by the Secretary of the Interior. Organizations which have served to manage existing NHAs include: nonprofits (the most common type), federal commissions, state agencies, and public corporations. The management entity should be composed of a diverse membership of representatives from local stakeholder groups to ensure that the full spectrum of varied interests is involved in decision making. Representatives from NPS serve on NHA management entities in advisory, non-voting roles.

One key task of the management entity is to acquire funds to meet the 1:1 cash matching requirements for the federal financial awards which may become available upon NHA designation. Specific federal funding amounts for NHAs vary, but the 2011 Delta NHA legislation introduced by Senator Feinstein and Congressman Garamendi authorized \$10,000,000 of which not more than \$1,000,000 may be available for any fiscal year. At a minimum, it can be anticipated that \$150,000 would be granted for the first three years after designation, and additional higher levels of funding could be granted upon approval of the Delta NHA management plan. It may not be possible to identify specific amounts of federal resources during the feasibility study process, but what may be gauged is the past or potential capacity and creativity of the management entity to attract financial support.

This chapter proposes that the DPC serves as the management entity for the Delta NHA, and works with partnership organizations on fundraising.

Proposed Management Entity - Delta Protection Commission

Background on the Delta Protection Commission

The DPC was established by the Delta Protection Act of 1992 and has a mission to adaptively protect, maintain, and where possible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the Delta environment consistent with the Delta Protection Act and the Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta (Plan). This includes, but is not limited to, agriculture, wildlife habitat, and recreational activities. The Plan is the document of which consistency is required by local government general plans whose jurisdictions fall within the Primary Zone.

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The DPC is a locally recognized agency in the Delta and has an extensive network of local stakeholders to whom it conducts regular outreach to. The DPC is governed by 15 members with representation from the following organizations:

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors	Central Delta Reclamation Districts
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors	North Delta Reclamation Districts
San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors	South Delta Reclamation Districts
Solano County Board of Supervisors	Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Yolo County Board of Supervisors	Department of Food and Agriculture
Cities of Contra Costa and Solano Counties	Natural Resources Agency
Cities of Sacramento and Yolo Counties	State Lands Commission
Cities of San Joaquin County	

The DPC was mandated with conducting this feasibility study through the Delta Reform Act of 2009, and the Delta NHA legislation introduced by Senator Feinstein and Congressman Garamendi in 2011 (appendices 1 and 2, respectively) identify the DPC as the NHA management entity. While the proposed NHA boundaries extend beyond the Delta's Primary Zone, this would not extend the DPC's authority outside of the Primary Zone as additional land use authority is not granted with NHA designation. As the NHA management entity, the DPC would play a facilitative role for projects throughout the NHA boundaries, utilizing the NHA management plan as the guiding document. Previously, the DPC has administered projects that fall outside of the Delta, including links of the Delta Trail in the Benicia State Recreation Area and Glen Cove Waterfront in Solano County. Both of these projects included the DPC working in partnership with local organizations to seek funding, and conduct project planning and implementation. NHA projects would be carried out in a similar nature.

Staffing Capabilities

As the management entity, the DPC would be fully responsible for the completion of the NHA management plan within the required three years, in coordination with advisory committees and the interested public (through activities like public meetings similar in nature to such activities which were undertaken for this feasibility study). Based on all of the required elements of a NHA management plan, the DPC does not foresee the need to hire additional staff or consultants to complete the plan within the required three years. Currently the DPC has seven staff positions as

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follows: Executive Director, Associate Governmental Program Analyst (2 positions), Supervising Environmental Planner, Environmental Planner (2 positions), and Office Technician.

One Environmental Planner position would be dedicated to the components of the day-to-day operations of the Delta NHA, including the development of the NHA management plan. Additionally, one Associate Governmental Program Analyst position would be dedicated to help facilitate meetings with various Delta stakeholder groups and the public at large, handling research, writing technical reports, developing and implementing education and/or outreach materials regarding the NHA. The Supervising Environmental Planner would oversee the work of the Environmental Planner and Associate Governmental Program Analyst on the project which would help ensure compatibility between NHA initiatives and other projects which the DPC oversees such as the Great California Delta Trail and Delta Working Landscapes. The Executive Director would provide necessary guidance to ensure completion of the management plan. The Office Technician will continue to provide clerical duties toward the DPC office as a whole, which would include the needs of those of the NHA project. Finally, the remaining Associate Governmental Program Analyst and Environmental Planner position are available to dedicate any/all time necessary to devote to the NHA should the need arise.

Office Space

The DPC currently leases and resides in a 2,400 square foot office space in a building located in the City of West Sacramento within the Delta. The office space includes a private office for the Executive Director and cubicles for the remaining positions, as well as a conference room and kitchenette. Should the need for more space arise, the DPC has the ability to lease the adjacent 2,000 square foot office. All of the necessary equipment and technology is contained in the office the is necessary to complete the NHA management plan including computers with necessary graphic and GIS software, printers, copiers, scanners, fax machines, and more.

DPC Budget

The DPC has had a secure source of state funding to support necessary staff to carry out its mandates since it was established in 1992. Existing staff resources will be utilized to develop the management plan within the required three years; and DPC staff will apply for relevant grants and work with partner organizations on fundraising projects to seek outside financial support to meet the minimum 1:1 matching requirements. Therefore no additional costs are anticipated to be incurred in order to complete the NHA management plan. This section outlines the current California Governor's

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budget for the DPC, which shows funding sources over a three year period of time - 2010-2011 (Prior Year), 2011-2012 (Current Year), and 2012-2013 (Future Year). It is expected that the three year budget to follow NHA designation will be comparable as it is anticipated that the DPC will receive similar amounts of money from the same sources in the foreseeable future

The DPC's budget is funded by the California Environmental License Plate Fund (vehicle code section 5107), the California Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund (vehicle code section 9863), in addition to reimbursements of up to \$82,000 from miscellaneous sources (i.e. administrative support for management of various contracts which is normally 10 percent of said contract). No funding is derived from the State's General Fund.

Budget Breakdown by Fiscal Year

- Fiscal Year 2010-2011 funding totaled \$2,874,000, with \$1,876,000 from the Environmental License Plate Fund, \$173,000 from the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, and \$82,000 from miscellaneous reimbursements.
- Fiscal Year 2011-2012 funding totaled \$1,242,000, with \$927,000 from the Environmental License Plate Fund, \$233,000 from the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, and \$82,000 from miscellaneous reimbursements.
- Fiscal Year 2012-2013 funding totaled \$1,306,000, with \$1,000,000 from the Environmental License Plate Fund, \$224,000 from the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, and \$82,000 from miscellaneous reimbursements.

Fundraising

Fundraising is an integral component of NHAs in order to obtain financial resources to meet the minimum 1:1 matching requirements to the federal funds which are anticipated to be acquired through NHA designation. The funds raised with NHA designation can be used to carry out projects which are outlined in the NHA management plan, as well as for early pilot projects that are undertaken during the first three years of designation while the management plan is being developed, such as signage, marketing, and promotion.

Possible funding sources for the Delta NHA include state and local governments, foundations, philanthropy contributions from corporations, and individuals from the Delta and surrounding area. Current economic conditions have been particularly challenging for federal, state, and local

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governments, and nonprofit organizations; but as other NHAs have shown, obtaining stature and recognition on a national level can help lead to increased funding opportunities.

The DPC has successfully raised grant funding for a variety of past projects. However, should NHA designation occur there are certain grant funds that may be unavailable to the DPC as a state agency, but may be available to nonprofit organizations and other partner organizations of the Delta NHA. As project fundraising is an integral component of NHA management, it is important that the DPC works in close coordination with project partners early on to ensure that sufficient funds can be acquired to meet the matching requirements.

If designation does occur, the DPC will make early efforts to develop Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with interested partner organizations in conjunction with the management plan. These agreements would enable the partner organizations to raise funds for NHA projects and activities that are outlined in the management plan which could be used to meet the matching requirements, even if the DPC does not ‘hold the purse strings’.

For example, interpretive signage about the Delta’s natural heritage is identified as a goal of the Delta NHA and therefore the development of such interpretive signage could be included as an objective in a Delta NHA management plan. In order to meet this objective, the DPC could work with a partner agency who possesses capabilities to develop this signage, such as a local nonprofit environmental organization. A MOU between the DPC and the partner entity could serve as a binding document so that the funds which are raised on behalf of this specific project would count towards matching funds for the Delta NHA. Any funds raised to develop this signage would never have to fall into the hands of the DPC, as with a MOU the funds would still count as matching funds for the Delta NHA.

Nonprofit 501c organizations could serve as key partner organizations to assist with fundraising. Entities organized and recognized as nonprofits are under individual state laws and designated as 501(C)(3) tax exempt organizations by the Internal Revenue Service enjoy certain and significant benefits and advantages, which would be complimentary to the DPC’s capabilities as the management entity. Advantages of working with non profits include:

- Credibility and identity - people and agencies recognize and understand the value of nonprofit entities.
- Legal protection - nonprofit organization governing bodies and individual members of the board as volunteers generally receive some significant legal protection under state law.

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- Structure - the structure of the nonprofit organization ensures control by a board of directors, which operates in the public good, and is representative of those served.
- Tax advantage - charitable gifts to the nonprofit are generally tax deductible.
- Fundraising - nonprofits have the most flexible and powerful structure for obtaining public funds.
- Marketing - nonprofit status for the educational and charitable good of the public is a powerful marketing tool.

In addition to nonprofits, other organizations could serve as partners to assist with fundraising including other state agencies, and county and city governments. A number of organizations have expressed interest in serving as project partners and are outlined in this chapter, although fundraising has not yet been discussed with these organizations. As the management entity, the DPC would initiate discussions with any of these interested organizations early on in the process, as well as other organizations who may be interested in being involved to help support fundraising efforts to undertake projects outlined in the management plan.

A matrix of potential grant funding opportunities can be found in Appendix 5. These funding opportunities are of relevance to a Delta NHA based on the nature of projects which they fund, including: marketing/promotion, historic preservation, education/interpretation, tourism/recreation, and more. Many of these programs offer cash grants and therefore could be potential sources of the 1:1 match requirement for federal funding granted with NHA designation. The matrix outlines the funding organizations, grant names, eligible projects, due dates, award amounts, matching requirements, eligible applicants, and websites. Some of the information outlined in the matrix is taken from previous funding cycles, and therefore specific criteria may have changed.

Advisory Committees

Advisory committees would be developed for NHA management. The advisory committees will ensure that NHA activities are carried out in ways which are closely aligned with the varied interests, capabilities and infrastructure of the region. The NHA management plan would need to be developed within three years upon adoption of the feasibility study by Congress. Upon commencement of the management plan development, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and a Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) would be formed to provide regular input. The TAC will include local agency staff whose jurisdiction fall within the NHA boundaries, including staff from all five Delta counties.

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Members from a spectrum of local stakeholder groups (representing recreation, businesses, cultural and natural resources, landowners, agriculture, etc.) would be invited to serve on the SAC.

Compatible Projects

The DPC facilitates a number of existing projects that hold potential compatibility with a Delta NHA. These projects are all examples of community driven approaches to the conservation of the Delta's resources (ecological, recreational, agricultural, economic, etc.), and therefore reflective of the DPC's capabilities of working with local stakeholder groups on projects that are beneficial to the Delta environment. Means by which a Delta NHA could further enhance these projects are summarized in the sections below.

Abandoned Vessel Removal

The DPC facilitates coordination amongst local government law enforcement officials, resource managers and planners, building officials, and interested parties to develop solutions to the growing environmental and enforcement problems of abandoned vessels in the Delta. The group has developed a list of tools to address the issue and is pursuing further actions to ensure that abandoned vessels are removed throughout the waterways of all five Delta counties. As an expected outcome of NHA designation in the Delta is an increase in visibility of the region as a recreational destination, the Delta NHA will further illuminate the need for clean and navigable waterways which is of utmost importance for water-based recreation in the Delta. A Delta NHA can help draw local, state, and national attention to these issues and potentially identify necessary policy changes and funding opportunities to ensure the safety and navigability of Delta waterways.

Agritourism Programs

The DPC supports programs to encourage agritourism as an economic enhancement method and an educational tool for the sustainability of the Delta. The DPC has assisted the UC Small Farm Program with hosting workshops in the Delta on the topic of agritourism development, incorporated agritourism as an objective in other recreational planning processes, and will continue to pursue opportunities for agritourism programs in the future. Goals of the Delta NHA include the promotion of Delta agritourism, as well as supporting economic development by drawing visitors to sites which may include local markets, farmstays, wineries, and other agritourism ventures. With NHA designation, additional projects can be developed such as interpretive panels, museums, school programs, and more, to educate people not just on current Delta agriculture, but also on its rich agricultural history. The UC Small Farm Program can be a potential partner for agritourism

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initiatives the stem from a Delta NHA by assisting with activities such as education, networking, and marketing to help further enhance and develop Delta agritourism.

California Coastal Cleanup Day

The DPC annually hosts California Coastal Cleanup Day sites along waterways in all five Delta counties. Efforts have led to thousands of pounds of garbage being removed by dozens of volunteers every year. A Delta NHA can help bring further visibility to the necessity of maintaining a clean Delta, and therefore help to attract volunteers to cleanup day sites and bring together potential partners such as the Delta counties, environmental groups, and recreational organizations. These efforts can help further enhance the aesthetic and environmental integrity of the Delta, which can in turn maintain the Delta as an entrancing place for outdoor recreation and tourism.



*2010 Coastal Cleanup Day
Volunteers in Contra Costa County*

Delta Working Landscapes

Delta Working Landscape projects assist farmers in integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration; and include infiltration ditches, levee revegetation, and waterfowl habitat development. These projects have been done in partnership with Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Hart Restoration Inc., local landowners, and reclamation districts. Project implementation has occurred in Clarksburg along Elk Slough and on Lower Jones Tract in Stockton. A Delta NHA will encourage public education about the Delta's ecological and agricultural importance, which can lead to greater recognition of the Delta's resources, establish partnerships between private landowners and participating organizations, and identify funding sources for more projects throughout the Delta. Goals of the Delta NHA include ecotourism and environmental education, and projects such as those could be undertaken at working landscape sites which have visitor access, thus helping with economic diversification in these areas.

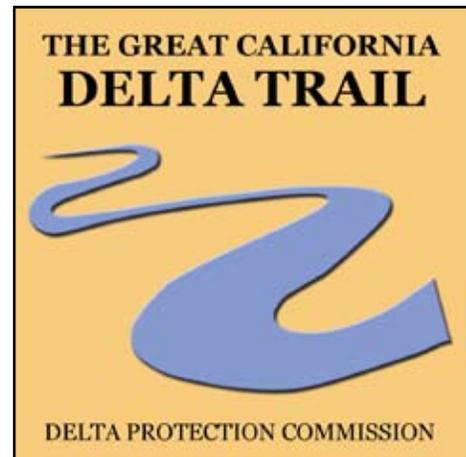
Economic Sustainability Plan

The Delta Reform Act of 2009 required the DPC to conduct an Economic Sustainability Plan (ESP) for the Delta, which was completed in January 2012 by a diverse team including economists, levee engineers, recreation planners, and urban development consultants. The ESP contains a

comprehensive set of recommendations for the future sustainability and economic development of the Delta.

The Great California Delta Trail

Recognizing the unique natural resources of the Delta, the growing demands for public access to these resources, and the increasing recognition of the importance of outdoor recreation in addressing childhood obesity, the California Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, Senate Bill 1556 (Torlakson) supporting the creation of a Delta Trail network to go through portions of all five Delta counties. The DPC has been mandated to undertake the feasibility, planning, and implementation process for the trail. To-date, Delta Trail blueprint reports have been completed for Contra Costa and Solano Counties and are being initiated for the remaining three Delta counties. The Delta Trail can be a way to bring persons to the Delta and direct them to sites of cultural or ecological significance. If NHA designation is granted, the NHA can be used as a regional marketing tool to increase visitation to the Delta, therefore leading to an increase in Delta Trail users which could help establish future Delta Trail links and potentially open up additional funding sources. The Friends of the Great California Delta Trail can serve as a potential partner for NHA initiatives, particularly surrounding NHA sites that are adjacent to Delta Trail links.



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NHA Support

Support for the NHA designation has been expressed by a number of organizations, including the following:

Antioch Historical Society
Bay Point Garden Club
Benicia, City of
California Delta Chambers and Visitors Bureau
California Preservation Foundation
California State Parks
Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust
Contra Costa County
Delta Peddlers Bicycle Club
Dutra Museum Foundation
Friends of the Great California Delta Trail
Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society
Isleton Chambers of Commerce
Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council
Office of Historic Preservation
Recreational Boaters of California
Rio Vista, City of
Sacramento County
San Joaquin County
Solano County
Suisun Marsh Resource Conservation District
UC Small Farm Program
University of the Pacific, Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership
Vallejo, City of
Visit California
West Sacramento, City of
Yolo County

Letters of support can be found in Appendix 7.

Partnership Commitments and Opportunities

Partnership development is a crucial component of planning and management of a NHA. Projects that stem from the partnerships reflect the ownership that local stakeholders hold for the NHA as well as the control and capabilities that are vested at the local level to recognize, maintain and enhance the heritage resources of the region. By collaborating with the partners, projects can be undertaken to help achieve goals that were identified by local stakeholders during this feasibility study process. A handful of organizations have expressed interest in serving as partners to assist with various projects and programs that could support the Delta NHA. These commitments all involve in-kind assistance as staff time is available. These partnerships are summarized below and further detail can be found in the support/commitment letters (Appendix 7). The summaries below also discuss how these activities can help to meet the goals of the Delta NHA, with the goals referenced by number (see Chapter 4 for the full language of each goal).

Bay Point Garden Club

The Bay Point Garden Club hosts the Annual Bay Point Spring Derby on Memorial Day which is a festival and parade celebrating the region's diverse heritage. This festival will closely align with the proposed Delta NHA theme #3: 'Multi-cultural contributions and experiences have shaped the Delta's rural landscape'. A Delta NHA will be a valuable tool to help highlight and attract visitors to the Spring Derby and other cultural events. The Garden Club has agreed to serve as a partner by providing local outreach and awareness to citizens of the Bay Point Region.

Partnering with the Garden Club can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, by helping to educate the public and build awareness for the Delta
- Goal #2, by supporting economic development through local outreach to Bay Point citizens about NHA attractions
- Goal #3, by promoting Delta tourism through local outreach efforts

California Delta Chambers and Visitors Bureau

The Delta Chambers and Visitors Bureau is an organization comprised of local chambers of commerce, visitors bureaus, businesses, and booster clubs; and serves to enhance Delta recreation and tourism. The Delta Chambers can serve as a partner by assisting with outreach to economic and recreation organizations in the Delta, identification of potential NHA partner sites, and assistance with marketing/promoting NHA activities.

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Partnering with the Delta Chambers can help to achieve:

- Goal #2, by helping with economic development through marketing, promotion, and outreach
- Goal #3, by promoting tourism activities which are affiliated with the NHA
- Goal #4, by helping to identify partner sites

California Preservation Foundation

The California Preservation Foundation is the only nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's architectural heritage. The foundation is currently working with the City of Isleton to develop and approve a Historic Preservation Plan and Ordinance to preserve the city's National Register District and increase tourism. The Foundation has offered their technical assistance for a Delta NHA through the Field Services Program. This assistance will help with direct support for historic preservation on NHA sites.

Partnering with the California Preservation Foundation can help to achieve:

- Goal #5, by providing technical assistance to support historic preservation projects in the Delta

Contra Costa County

Contra Costa County is shared by the San Francisco Bay Area and Delta Region, and has an extensive waterfront along the San Francisco Bay, San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Strait, Suisun Bay, and the Delta. A number of the communities in the county lie within the proposed Delta NHA boundary including: Port Costa, Martinez, Pittsburg, Antioch, Oakley, Bethel Island, Knightsen, Brentwood, and Discovery Bay. The County has committed staff time to participate in the TAC that will be developed upon commencement of a Delta NHA management planning process.

Partnering with Contra Costa County through their involvement on the TAC could help to achieve any of the NHA goals, through acquiring their input to help guide NHA initiatives which meet the goals.

Dutra Museum Foundation

The Dutra family has been involved with Delta dredging since 1904, and has played a very active role in levee maintenance and farmland protection. The Dutra Museum is a private collection of materials that interpret the history of clamshell dredging in the Delta. The Museum's collection is closely linked to the proposed NHA theme #2: 'Conversion of the Delta from marshland to farmland was one of the largest reclamation projects in the United States'. The Foundation has agreed to serve

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as partners by providing assistance with projects related to educating and promoting the history of dredging in the Delta.

Partnering with the Dutra Museum Foundation can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, by helping to teach the public about dredging in the Delta and educate them about ‘Delta as a place’.
- Goal #2, by supporting economic development through attracting visitors to the museum and surrounding sites.
- Goal #3, by promoting heritage tourism in the Delta
- Goal #6, by developing programs which teach Delta dredging history

Friends of the Great California Delta Trail

The Friends of the Great California Delta Trail works to gain community support and awareness for links of the Delta Trail and recognizes the unmet recreational needs in the Delta. The Friends of the Great California Delta Trail can assist a Delta NHA through local outreach and building public awareness about the NHA and partner sites that are adjacent to the Delta Trail links.

Partnering with the Friends of the Great California Delta Trail can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, through local outreach and building public awareness, citizens can become better educated about ‘Delta as a place’.
- Goal #2, by helping to draw visitors to partner sites, which can assist with economic development.
- Goal #3, throughout outreach and public awareness efforts, Delta tourism can be promoted, which in turn can lead to improvements in public access and visitor amenities.

Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society

The Historical Society is committed to the preservation and promotion of the history of Isleton and the surrounding Delta area. The Historical Society can serve as partners with tasks including public outreach, and the identification of historical resources which could serve as partner sites.

Partnering with the Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, by educating the public about ‘Delta as a place’ through helping to build awareness about the Delta’s history, particularly through the resources contained in Isleton.
- Goal #2, by supporting economic development through the identification of partner sites in Isleton which could be visitor attractions.

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- Goal #3, by promoting heritage tourism through outreach efforts and the identification of partner sites in Isleton which could be visitor attractions.

Isleton Chamber of Commerce

The Isleton Chamber of Commerce has been working with the city of Isleton and the California Preservation Foundation, on the Historic Preservation Plan and Ordinance to help with preservation and enhancement of Isleton's historic buildings. The Chamber can serve as partners by identifying cultural and historic resources which can serve as partner sites, and local outreach.

Partnering with the Isleton Chamber of Commerce can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, by helping to identify the Delta as a region of national significance, particularly through relevant projects in Isleton.
- Goal #2, by supporting economic development through local activities
- Goal #3, by helping to promote Isleton's tourism attractions and events, which will help to draw more visitors to the Delta

Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council

The Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council is a nonprofit corporation helping to develop and maintain the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail (MCCT) – a 300 mile non-motorized, multi-use trail system roughly following the Mokelumne River from the Sierra crest headwaters, through the Delta, and down to the river's opening at the Carquinez Strait. Currently, the Delta section of the MCCT is in the pre-planning phase. The Council could serve as partners for NHA activities that are related to the planning, recognition, enhancement, and development of the MCCT or resource sites that support the MCCT, which could include the installation of visitor amenities such as public restrooms, garbage receptacles, directional signage, and dockage along the MCCT.

Partnering with the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, by developing a regional trail system can help connect the Delta to sites outside of its boundaries, thus helping to build awareness for 'Delta as a Place'.
- Goal #2, by marketing and implementing a regional trail system can also help support economic development of the Delta by attracting more visitors
- Goal #3, by developing a regional trail system which will help promote Delta tourism
- Goal #4, by identifying the MCCT as a waterway to connect partner sites

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Sacramento County

A number of the Delta's legacy communities are found in Sacramento County, including: Freeport, Hood, Courtland, Locke, Walnut Grove, and Isleton. These rivertowns contain resources reflective of the Delta's rich history, and are important centers to support the Delta's economy. Sacramento County can serve as partners by providing assistance, as staff time allows, with tasks including public outreach, acquiring data for the NHA management plan, and collaboration on NHA projects within the county.

Partnering with Sacramento County through their collaborative efforts could help to achieve any of the NHA goals, depending on what NHA projects the county collaborates on in Sacramento County.

San Joaquin County

San Joaquin County covers much of the southeastern portion of the Delta and its predominantly rural landscape is reflective of the Delta's rich agricultural heritage. Dependent on staff availability, San Joaquin County can serve as partners by serving on the advisory committee, assist with public outreach, and collaborate on projects within the county.

Partnering with San Joaquin County could help to achieve various NHA goals, depending on what local projects are undertaken.

Solano County

Several key places that are part of the proposed Delta NHA lie in Solano County including the City of Rio Vista, the Suisun Marsh, and the northern shoreline of the Carquinez Strait including the communities of Benicia and Vallejo. The County can serve as partners, as staff time and resources allow, to be represented on the advisory committee, and assist with local public outreach and NHA projects within Solano County.

Partnering with Solano County could help to achieve various NHA goals, depending on county-specific NHA projects.

UC Small Farm Program

The UC Small Farm Program assists small and family farms in California so that they remain sustainable, dynamic, and viable parts of their community. The UC Small Farm Program has previously partnered with the DPC to hold workshops on establishing agritourism in the Delta. Efforts such as this closely align with the Delta NHA goals of encouraging Delta agritourism and

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promoting economic development. The Small Farm Program has agreed to partner on NHA activities related to agritourism which may include facilitating discussions and networking, investigating funding sources for agritourism promotion, local outreach, and more.

Partnering with the UC Small Farm Program can help to achieve:

- Goal #1, through agritourism activities, the public can be better educated about the Delta and its significant heritage.
- Goal #2, by encouraging agritourism can lead to economic development of the Delta.
- Goal #3, through promoting agritourism activities to assist with visitor accessibility while maintaining the farming culture of the Delta.

Visit California

Visit California is a nonprofit organization which strives to develop and maintain marketing programs to keep California as a premier travel destination. The organization understands the importance of promoting the Delta to domestic and international travelers to support economic development and public education of the Delta. Visit California can identify and market Delta NHA partner sites on their website.

Partnering with Visit California can help to achieve:

- Goal #2, by marketing Delta NHA partner sites to directly support economic development of the Delta
- Goal #3, by marketing Delta NHA partner sites to promote tourism activities.

Yolo County

Yolo County is a predominantly rural county with a large agricultural economy; that includes the legacy community of Clarksburg, the City of West Sacramento, and much of the Yolo Bypass. Depending on staff and available resources, Yolo County could partner with the Commission to implement the Delta NHA.

Partnering with Yolo County can help achieve various NHA goals, depending on the specific tasks which are undertaken.

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The DPC fully supports the protection of private property rights and the DPC will work to ensure that there will be no negative impacts stemming from NHA activities on private property, should the designation occur. The protection of agricultural integrity and viability in the Delta has been a key priority of the DPC since its formation and will continue to be so regardless of a Delta NHA designation.

Throughout the feasibility study process, stakeholders expressed concerns on a Delta NHA's impacts to private property rights and agricultural practices. Specific concerns have included:

1. Increased land use authority and/or land acquisition authority.
2. Increased restrictions on agricultural practices (e.g., spraying) that could result from an increase in visitors to the region.
3. Increased visitors to the Delta that could cause problems such as vandalism, theft, trespassing, etc., to agricultural areas.
4. Lack of oversight and management in recreational areas that could have negative implications (e.g., solid waste) on farmland.

This section outlines each of these concerns, along with approaches to address them.

Concern #1 - Increased Land Use Authority/Land Acquisition Authority

Concerns have been expressed by local stakeholders that land use authority and/or land acquisition authority will be granted to the management entity with NHA designation. However, research conducted indicates that these authorities are not granted with NHA designation, and enabling legislation and opt-out provisions can further protect private property owners.

Interviews

DPC staff conducted interviews with directors from several existing NHAs regarding private property rights implications. Representatives stated similar concerns have been expressed during their feasibility study processes, however these concerns were alleviated with time as citizens realized that NHAs do not threaten property rights. Summary points of these interviews include:

- NHA designation does not come with federal land use or land acquisition authority, though when using federal money there are certain requirements and restrictions.
- No power is given to management entities which supersede local decisions.
- Property owners can opt-out from being involved in the NHA.

Detailed outlines of these interviews can be found in Appendix 3.

Chapter 10 — Local Protection Measures

GAO Report

A study by the General Accounting Office (GAO), now called the Government Accountability Office, was released in 2004 which amongst other things examined any effects that NHAs have on private property rights.¹ This study was conducted as property rights advocates had raised a number of concerns about the potential effects of NHAs on private property rights and land use. Twenty-four NHAs were in existence at the time and the study concluded:

“...officials at the 24 heritage areas, Park Service headquarters and regional staff working with these areas, and representatives of six national property rights groups that we contacted were unable to provide us with a single example of a heritage area directly affecting-positively or negatively-private property values or use.”

Enabling Legislation

The 2011 legislation for a Delta NHA, introduced by Senator Feinstein and Congressman Garamendi (Appendices 1 and 2 respectively), included private property and regulatory protections as follows:

SEC. 3. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA HERITAGE AREA.

(b) Private Property and Regulatory Protections-

(1) IN GENERAL- Subject to paragraph (2), nothing in this Act--

(A) abridges the rights of any property owner (whether public or private), including the right to refrain from participating in any plan, project, program, or activity conducted within the Heritage Area;

(B) requires any property owner to permit public access (including access by Federal, State, or local agencies) to the property of the property owner, or to modify public access or use of property of the property owner under any other Federal, State, or local law;

(C) alters any duly adopted land use regulation, approved land use plan, or other regulatory authority of any Federal, State or local agency, or conveys any land use or other regulatory authority to the management entity;

(D) authorizes or implies the reservation or appropriation of water or water rights;

(E) diminishes the authority of the State to manage fish and wildlife, including the regulation of fishing and hunting within the Heritage Area; or

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(F) creates any liability, or affects any liability under any other law, of any private property owner with respect to any person injured on the private property.

(2) OPT OUT- An owner of private property within the Heritage Area may opt out of participating in any plan, project, program, or activity carried out within the Heritage Area under this Act, if the property owner provides written notice to the management entity.

The feasibility study for a Santa Cruz Valley NHA in Arizona includes specific language regarding private property and regulatory protections. This is quite similar to the language developed in the Feinstein and Garamendi legislation, with additional measures, as follows:

(b) Private Property Owner Protection-

(1) No privately owned property shall be preserved, conserved, or promoted by the management plan for the National Heritage Area until the owner of that private property has been notified in writing by the management entity and has given written consent for such preservation, conservation, or promotion to the management entity.

(2) Any owner of private property included within the boundary of the National Heritage Area shall have their property immediately removed from within the boundary by submitting a written request to the management entity.

Opt-out provisions

In addition to language in the proposed enabling legislation, existing federal legislation allows property owners to opt out from participation in the NHA. Sec. 127 of Public Law 111-88-Oct. 30, 2009 states:

Any owner of private property within an existing or new National Heritage Area may opt out of participating in any plan, project, program, or activity conducted within the National Heritage Area if the property owner provides written notice to the local coordinating entity.

In summary, no land use authority or land acquisition authority is granted with NHA designation. Enabling legislation can provide further protection if concerns remain, and existing opt-out provisions allow private property owners to opt-out from NHA plans, projects, programs or activities.

Concern #2 - Restrictions on agricultural practices

Some concerns voiced from local stakeholders include that increases in recreational uses of the Delta, which may stem from NHA designation, will trigger nuisance complaints that will lead to restrictions on specific farming practices. Certain agricultural operations may result in noises, odors, dust, chemicals, smoke, and hours of operation, that may be in conflict with recreational activities. While these concerns are certainly valid, existing measures are in place to help protect agricultural practices from being negatively impacted by recreational activities, including Right-to-Farm Ordinances, and the DPC's Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta. A Delta NHA will not impact these as NHA designation has no regulatory authority and cannot supersede existing local and state regulations.

Right-to-Farm ordinances

Each of the five Delta counties have Right-to-Farm ordinances, which were developed to protect landowners from any restrictions stemming from nuisance complaints in areas where non-agricultural land uses exist adjacent to or nearby agricultural lands. Right-to-Farm ordinances would not be impacted by NHA designation. Each of the five Delta counties' Right-to-Farm ordinances can be found in Appendix 6.

Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta

The DPC supports the protection of agricultural practices. The Land Use and Resource Management Plan for the Primary Zone of the Delta (Plan) was adopted by the DPC in 1995 and updated in 2010. It is required that all local general plans within the Primary Zone are consistent with the Plan. Goals and policies of the Plan support agriculture and seek to minimize conflicts between agriculture and recreation. Relevant policies are as follows:

Land Use

Policy 2 - Local government general plans, as defined in Government Code Section 65300 et seq., and zoning codes shall continue to promote and facilitate agriculture and agriculturally-supporting commercial and industrial uses as the primary land uses in the Primary Zone; recreation and natural resources land uses shall be supported in appropriate locations and where conflicts with agricultural land uses or other beneficial uses can be minimized.

Policy 3 - New non-agriculturally oriented residential, recreational, commercial, habitat, restoration, or industrial development shall ensure that appropriate buffer areas are provided

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by those proposing new development to prevent conflicts between any proposed use and existing adjacent agricultural parcels. Buffers shall adequately protect integrity of land for existing and future agricultural uses and shall not include uses that conflict with agricultural operations on adjacent agricultural lands. Appropriate buffer setbacks shall be determined in consultation with local Agricultural Commissioners, and shall be based on applicable general plan policies and criteria included in Right-to-Farm Ordinances adopted by local jurisdictions.

Natural Resources

Policy 1 - Preserve and protect the natural resources of the Delta. Promote protection of remnants of riparian and aquatic habitat. Encourage compatibility between agricultural practices, recreational uses and wildlife habitat.

Recreation & Access: Including Marine Patrol, Boater Education, and Safety Programs

Policy 4 - Encourage new regional recreational opportunities, such as Delta-wide trails, which take into consideration environmental, agricultural, infrastructure, and law enforcement needs, and private property boundaries. Also, encourage opportunities for water, hiking, and biking trails.

Policy 11 - Recognizing existing laws, encourage establishment of Delta-wide law enforcement protocols on local public nuisance and safety issues, such as trespassing, littering, and theft.

The full Plan can be viewed online at: www.delta.ca.gov

Concern #3 - Increased visitors to the region will result in conflicts such as vandalism, theft, trespassing, etc. to agricultural areas.

Objectives of NHA designation include the promotion of tourism and recreational activities, which has triggered concerns amongst private landowners regarding potential conflicts from unwanted visitors on farmlands. Concerns include that persons will engage in activities on private farmlands including trespassing, theft, vandalism, etc. While these concerns are certainly valid, it is also important to remember that many of the proposed projects and resources surrounding NHA designation are focused on the enhancement of existing public lands and historic areas of the Delta, rather than the development of new facilities, and therefore traffic circulation in the Delta for recreation and tourism would presumably follow current patterns.

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As discussed earlier, private property does not need to be included in the NHA and opt-out provisions would be included in the enabling legislation. If a property owner opts-out it would mean that their particular property would not be included in any NHA maps or promotional material, therefore reducing the visibility of their property to visitors and any associated negative impacts.

It is also important to mention that the development of regional trail systems is not included as an objective of NHA designation. However, there are other planning efforts underway for the implementation of regional trails in the Delta. SB 1556 mandated the DPC to complete the feasibility, planning and implementation process for a Great California Delta Trail, which would be a recreation corridor throughout all five Delta counties, connecting to the San Francisco Bay Trail and planned Sacramento River Trails. Currently a blueprint report has been completed for Delta Trail planning in Contra Costa and Solano Counties and a blueprint report for Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo Counties is being initiated. Master Planning will be the next step in the trail planning process, which will identify potential specific links of the Delta Trail. Throughout Delta Trail planning, DPC staff will work closely with local governments, as well as representatives from diverse groups in each county including habitat, agriculture, business, and recreation organizations, to ensure that Delta Trail planning is closely aligned with the varied interests, capabilities and infrastructure of each county. Existing public lands will be identified as key places for Delta Trail implementation. Tools such as fee purchases, easements, licenses, and MOUs can be explored to acquire property access in relevant areas, with the consent and involvement of willing landowners. Water trails will also be a key component of the Delta Trail system and can be a viable option to ensure trail continuity in places where land trails are not feasible; however sensitive habitat and wildlife areas will not be adversely affected by the trail. Buffer zones will be implemented between the trail and places with sensitive wildlife habitat and private uses. Further concerns about the Delta Trail should be brought to the DPC during the Delta Trail planning processes.

Concern #4 - Lack of oversight and management in recreational areas that would have negative implications (e.g., solid waste) on farmland.

An increase in visitors to the Delta could result in an increase in persons who litter, which could travel by water or wind to Delta farmland. While a goal of the Delta NHA is to highlight partner sites for visitor usage, a goal is also to increase visitor amenities (such as waste receptacles, public restrooms, etc.) to accommodate an increase in visitors. Seed money and leveraged funds from NHA designation would likely be funneled to certain partner sites to develop these amenities. Additionally, an increase

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in visitors would also presumably help the partner sites become more economically sustainable, and therefore lead to an increase in staffing to monitor visitor activities.

While it is impossible to predict the specific implications that an increase in visitors to the region will have, it is also important to remember that the DPC is comprised of a predominantly local membership, and the NHA technical and stakeholder advisory committees will be composed of local representation, from groups including agriculture, habitat, and recreation. If negative implications do result from NHA activities, the management entity will work to resolve conflicts.

The following are policies from the Plan which address issues of concern regarding littering and lack of enforcement in recreational areas.

Recreation & Access: Including Marine Patrol, Boater Education, and Safety Programs

Policy 1 - Ensure appropriate planning, development and funding for expansion, ongoing maintenance and supervision of existing public recreation and access areas.

Policy 11 - Recognizing existing laws, encourage establishment of Delta-wide law enforcement protocols on local public nuisance and safety issues, such as trespassing, littering, and theft.

Again, the full Plan can be viewed online at: www.delta.ca.gov

¹United States General Accounting Office. “National Park Service, A More Systematic Process for Establishing National Heritage Areas and Actions to Improve Their Accountability Are Needed.” 2004.



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Chapter 11 — Evaluation According to Federal Criteria

NPS has ten suggested criteria to assess whether an area qualifies as a NHA. This section lists the ten criteria (in italics) and explains a Delta NHA, as outlined in this feasibility study, in the context of each criterion.

1. An area has an assemblage of natural, historic, or cultural resources that together represent distinctive aspects of American heritage worthy of recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continuing use, and are best managed as such an assemblage through partnerships among public and private entities, and by combining diverse and sometimes noncontiguous resources and active communities.

The Delta contains an assemblage of natural, historic, and cultural resources throughout its geographic span which represent the region's nationally significant heritage. These include museums, historic districts, public parks, recreation areas, agritourism facilities, and more. The Delta Protection Act of 1992 was specifically developed to help preserve the resources which make the Delta a places of statewide, national and international significance, including its agricultural lands, wildlife habitat, open space, levees, cities, towns, waterways, marinas and more. These resources are unique and valuable in regards to current activities and future opportunities for conservation, enhancement, continuing use, heritage interpretation and/or education. However many of the facilities open to visitors have limitations in terms of their marketing abilities, hours of operation, and options for expansion due to limited staffing and financial resources. Currently there is no facilitator organization in the Delta which links these different sites together. An organization such as that could help with tasks of regional marketing for tourism and leisure activities, developing physical and organizational linkages, and improving visitor access and understanding. Through public and private partnerships, a Delta NHA could be a tool to help recognize and promote a regional identity, and also help specific sites gain visibility which are valuable parts of the American story.

2. Reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and folklife that are a valuable part of the national story.

As the proposed themes have illustrated, there are many levels in which the Delta's traditions, customs, beliefs, and folklife are a valuable part of the national story. Due to the Delta's geographical location and its precious natural resources, the Delta has attracted persons from around the world who have utilized and shaped the landscape in ways that are unmatched anywhere else in the United States. Techniques and equipment developed for Delta agriculture and reclamation have been used throughout the world to help revolutionize these practices. A number of ethnic groups that established communities in the Delta still recognize their heritage in events or museums, including the Dai Loy Museum in Locke, the Isleton Asian Celebration, and the Rio Vista Holy Ghost Festa. Other annual

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festivals in the Delta reflect the pride that residents have for Delta resources such as; the California Duck Days in the Yolo Bypass, the Courtland Pear Festival, and the Rio Vista Bass Derby.

3. Provides outstanding opportunities to conserve natural, cultural, historic, and/or scenic features.

The Delta is a unique and valuable resource spanning portions of five counties in northern California at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. The Delta is an integral part of California's water system as its watershed provides over twenty-three million Californians and around four million acres of farmland with potable water. Additionally, it is an important habitat area for a large diversity of flora and fauna, an important stopover location along the Pacific Flyway, and a critical corridor for anadromous fish. It is also an incredibly rich agricultural area of regional, national, and international importance.

Despite its significance, the Delta is not well known to outsiders, even to people as close as the San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento region, and Stockton. Many people benefit from the Delta, but are unaware of its existence. A Delta NHA could help educate people about its importance, and could build support in preserving, protecting, and enhancing the Delta.

As discussed, there are many natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources in the Delta. A Delta NHA could be a tool to link the visitor sites together in order to assist with regional marketing, and therefore potentially lead to an increase in recognition of these areas, which in turn could help sustain the sites economically and conserve their resources. Additionally, as outlined in this study, a Delta NHA would be a tool to develop valuable partnerships for undertaking projects aimed at sustaining the Delta's key sites which contribute to the recognition, enhancement, and promotion of 'Delta as a Place'.

4. Provides outstanding recreational and educational opportunities.

The Delta is a predominantly rural landscape lying in the midst of major metropolitan areas, and is a prime area for outdoor recreation by both Delta residents and urban dwellers from the surrounding cities. Ever since steamboats began traveling the Delta's waters during the Gold Rush, the Delta has been used as a major center for outdoor recreation. While numerous public and private recreational facilities exist throughout the Delta, efforts could be made to enhance both physical and organizational linkages amongst these areas for marketing and promotional purposes.

Public education has also been discussed as an important goal of a Delta NHA. Due to the Delta's prime location between urban centers, it can serve as an important educational area both for both

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students in structured educational programs, as well as for leisure travelers. Education projects may include interpretive panels, outdoor learning facilities, museum displays, thematic tours, etc. Topics for education programs could include ecology and wildlife, agriculture, water resources, immigrant communities, reclamation, and more.

5. The resources important to the identified theme or themes of the area retain a degree of integrity capable of supporting interpretation.

The region contains a collection of museums, historic structures, and natural areas which retain integrity for interpretive opportunities to support the understanding, education, and appreciation of the Delta as an evolving place.

6. Residents, business interests, nonprofit organizations, and governments within the proposed area are involved in the planning, have developed a conceptual financial plan that outlines the roles for all participants including the federal government, and have demonstrated support for designation of the area.

The DPC was established by the Delta Protection Act of 1992 and has a mission to adaptively protect, maintain, and where possible enhance and restore the overall quality of the Delta environment which includes but is not limited to agriculture, wildlife habitat, and recreational activities. The DPC has a membership of 15, with predominantly local representation, and if NHA designation is granted the DPC can utilize its membership and existing network of local stakeholders to develop a management plan which is representative of the diverse interests and capabilities of the region. A TAC and a SAC would be formed to ensure that the necessary perspectives and expertise are brought to the table; as well as regular participatory planning activities open to the general public for input throughout the development of the NHA management plan.

This feasibility study has consisted of comprehensive public outreach and engagement with a variety of organizations representing local residents, local businesses, recreation, agriculture, Delta history, local government, and more. Through study team meetings, public meetings, stakeholder interviews, public review memos, public presentations, and more; residents and stakeholders have had significant involvement in the development of this feasibility study.

Due to the current uncertainties of funding from both public and private sources, financial planning for a Delta NHA is conceptual. Specific federal funding awards vary, but at a minimum \$150,000 per year for the first three years can be anticipated, with a likely increase in annual appropriations after the federal approval of a NHA management plan. The management entity must be capable of

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meeting a 1:1 cash matching requirement. The DPC has a strong history of acquiring grant funding for various projects, including the Delta Trail and Working Landscapes, and a good understanding of potential funding sources which could be sought. As the management entity, the DPC will work to develop MOUs with partner organizations to help meet the cash match requirements through fundraising activities.

Support from a variety of stakeholder groups, local governments, agencies, and nonprofits has been expressed for a Delta NHA. The DPC has received numerous letters of support, as well as partnership commitments, which can be found in Appendix 7.

7. The proposed management entity and units of government supporting the designation are willing to commit to working in partnership to develop the heritage area.

Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo counties have all provided letters of support for a Delta NHA, which include commitments to the DPC to participate in various aspects of NHA development.

8. The proposal is consistent with continued economic activity in the area.

Recreation and tourism are key drivers of the Delta economy, with roughly 12 million visitor days of use annually, a direct economic impact of more than a quarter of a billion dollars in visitor spending, and support of about 3,000 jobs in the five Delta counties. Despite its current contributions, significant constraints exist to Delta recreation and tourism, including the lack of a regional identity, and limited access to recreational areas. Goals of a Delta NHA include the identification of the Delta as a region of national significance; the development of necessary visitor amenities to assist with public access; economic development; and the promotion of heritage tourism, agritourism and ecotourism in the Delta.

9. A conceptual boundary map is supported by the public.

Two boundary alternatives had been proposed as part of this process; one consisting of the Delta Primary Zone with a few add-ons, and the other consisting of much of the Legal Delta, plus Suisun Marsh and Carquinez Strait. The topic of the NHA boundary was discussed through the public process and correspondence was received from Delta counties and other entities on the topic. Through these activities and communications, significantly more support was expressed for the second boundary alternative. Therefore DPC staff has made the recommendation to use the second boundary alternative, with the addition of the city of Rio Vista due to the city's relevant resources and their desire to be included.

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10. The management entity proposed to plan and implement the project is described.

The proposed management entity is the DPC, which is a locally recognized agency in the Delta, with a predominantly local membership and an extensive network of local stakeholders to whom it conducts regular outreach to. The DPC would work closely with partner organizations on project planning, implementation, and fundraising. Additionally, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and a Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) would be formed to provide regular input throughout the process. Local agency staff whose jurisdiction includes falls within the NHA boundaries, including staff from all five Delta counties, would be invited to serve on the TAC. Members from a spectrum of local stakeholder groups (representing recreation, businesses, cultural and natural resources, landowners, agriculture, etc.) would be invited to serve on the SAC. Additionally, regular public meetings and workshops would be help to ensure opportunities for public engagement amongst local Delta stakeholders.



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Chapter 12 – Conclusion

This document explains the DPC’s study on the feasibility of a NHA designation in the Delta, including key components such as NHA themes, resources, project partners, management, and conceptual boundaries. To date, local stakeholders have indicated support for the Delta NHA, and have proposed goals which include the identification of the Delta as a place of national significance, economic development, tourism promotion, visitor infrastructure development (public restrooms, directional signage, dockage, and garbage receptacles), historic preservation, interpretive signage, education programs, and more.

In summary, the mission of a Delta NHA includes the recognition, enhancement and promotion of ‘Delta-as-a-Place’. This concept can help to further build a public understanding of the Delta’s rich history; existing communities; natural resources; and sheer importance locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. A Delta NHA will be a locally driven, collaborative approach to resource management, which could help built more support in preserving, protecting, and enhancing the Delta.

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Appendix 1

S. 29, a bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area (Feinstein, 2011)

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 29

To establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 25 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 2011

Mr. REID for Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sacramento-San Joa-

5 quin Delta National Heritage Area Establishment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage

9 Area” means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

10 Heritage Area established by section 3(a).

1 (2) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The
2 term “Heritage Area management plan” means the
3 plan developed and adopted by the management en-
4 tity under this Act.

5 (3) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term “man-
6 agement entity” means the management entity for
7 the Heritage Area designated by section 3(d).

8 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

10 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
11 of California.

12 **SEC. 3. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA HERITAGE**
13 **AREA.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
15 “Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Heritage Area” in the
16 State.

17 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the Heritage
18 Area shall be in the counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento,
19 San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo in the State of California,
20 as generally depicted on the map entitled “Sacramento-
21 San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Proposed
22 Boundary”, numbered T27/105,030, and dated September
23 2010.

24 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described in
25 subsection (b) shall be on file and available for public in-

1 spection in the appropriate offices of the National Park
2 Service and the Delta Protection Commission.

3 (d) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The management entity
4 for the Heritage Area shall be the Delta Protection Com-
5 mission established by section 29735 of the California
6 Public Resources Code.

7 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—

8 (1) AUTHORITIES.—For purposes of carrying
9 out the Heritage Area management plan, the Sec-
10 retary, acting through the management entity, may
11 use amounts made available under this Act to—

12 (A) make grants to the State or a political
13 subdivision of the State, nonprofit organiza-
14 tions, and other persons;

15 (B) enter into cooperative agreements
16 with, or provide technical assistance to, the
17 State or a political subdivision of the State,
18 nonprofit organizations, and other interested
19 parties;

20 (C) hire and compensate staff, which shall
21 include individuals with expertise in natural,
22 cultural, and historical resources protection,
23 and heritage programming;

1 (D) obtain money or services from any
2 source including any that are provided under
3 any other Federal law or program;

4 (E) contract for goods or services; and

5 (F) undertake to be a catalyst for any
6 other activity that furthers the Heritage Area
7 and is consistent with the approved Heritage
8 Area management plan.

9 (2) DUTIES.—The management entity shall—

10 (A) in accordance with subsection (f), pre-
11 pare and submit a Heritage Area management
12 plan to the Secretary;

13 (B) assist units of local government, re-
14 gional planning organizations, and nonprofit or-
15 ganizations in carrying out the approved Herit-
16 age Area management plan by—

17 (i) carrying out programs and projects
18 that recognize, protect, and enhance im-
19 portant resource values in the Heritage
20 Area;

21 (ii) establishing and maintaining in-
22 terpretive exhibits and programs in the
23 Heritage Area;

1 (iii) developing recreational and edu-
2 cational opportunities in the Heritage
3 Area;

4 (iv) increasing public awareness of,
5 and appreciation for, natural, historical,
6 scenic, and cultural resources of the Herit-
7 age Area;

8 (v) protecting and restoring historic
9 sites and buildings in the Heritage Area
10 that are consistent with Heritage Area
11 themes;

12 (vi) ensuring that clear, consistent,
13 and appropriate signs identifying points of
14 public access, and sites of interest are
15 posted throughout the Heritage Area; and

16 (vii) promoting a wide range of part-
17 nerships among governments, organiza-
18 tions, and individuals to further the Herit-
19 age Area;

20 (C) consider the interests of diverse units
21 of government, businesses, organizations, and
22 individuals in the Heritage Area in the prepara-
23 tion and implementation of the Heritage Area
24 management plan;

1 (D) conduct meetings open to the public at
2 least semiannually regarding the development
3 and implementation of the Heritage Area man-
4 agement plan;

5 (E) for any year that Federal funds have
6 been received under this Act—

7 (i) submit an annual report to the
8 Secretary that describes the activities, ex-
9 penses, and income of the management en-
10 tity (including grants to any other entities
11 during the year that the report is made);

12 (ii) make available to the Secretary
13 for audit all records relating to the expend-
14 iture of the funds and any matching funds;

15 (iii) require, with respect to all agree-
16 ments authorizing expenditure of Federal
17 funds by other organizations, that the or-
18 ganizations receiving the funds make avail-
19 able to the Secretary for audit all records
20 concerning the expenditure of the funds;
21 and

22 (F) encourage by appropriate means eco-
23 nomic viability that is consistent with the Herit-
24 age Area.

1 (3) PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OF
2 REAL PROPERTY.—The management entity shall not
3 use Federal funds made available under this Act to
4 acquire real property or any interest in real prop-
5 erty.

6 (4) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—The Fed-
7 eral share of the cost of any activity carried out
8 using any assistance made available under this Act
9 shall be 50 percent.

10 (f) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the management
13 entity shall submit to the Secretary for approval a
14 proposed Heritage Area management plan.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Heritage Area man-
16 agement plan shall—

17 (A) incorporate an integrated and coopera-
18 tive approach to agricultural resources and ac-
19 tivities, flood protection facilities, and other
20 public infrastructure;

21 (B) emphasizes the importance of the re-
22 sources described in subparagraph (A);

23 (C) take into consideration State and local
24 plans;

25 (D) include—

1 (i) an inventory of—

2 (I) the resources located in the
3 core area described in subsection (b);
4 and

5 (II) any other property in the
6 core area that—

7 (aa) is related to the themes
8 of the Heritage Area; and

9 (bb) should be preserved, re-
10 stored, managed, or maintained
11 because of the significance of the
12 property;

13 (ii) comprehensive policies, strategies
14 and recommendations for conservation,
15 funding, management, and development of
16 the Heritage Area;

17 (iii) a description of actions that gov-
18 ernments, private organizations, and indi-
19 viduals have agreed to take to protect the
20 natural, historical and cultural resources of
21 the Heritage Area;

22 (iv) a program of implementation for
23 the Heritage Area management plan by
24 the management entity that includes a de-
25 scription of—

1 (I) actions to facilitate ongoing
2 collaboration among partners to pro-
3 mote plans for resource protection,
4 restoration, and construction; and

5 (II) specific commitments for im-
6 plementation that have been made by
7 the management entity or any govern-
8 ment, organization, or individual for
9 the first 5 years of operation;

10 (v) the identification of sources of
11 funding for carrying out the Heritage Area
12 management plan;

13 (vi) analysis and recommendations for
14 means by which local, State, and Federal
15 programs, including the role of the Na-
16 tional Park Service in the Heritage Area,
17 may best be coordinated to carry out this
18 Act; and

19 (vii) an interpretive plan for the Her-
20 itage Area; and

21 (E) recommend policies and strategies for
22 resource management that consider and detail
23 the application of appropriate land and water
24 management techniques, including the develop-
25 ment of intergovernmental and interagency co-

1 operative agreements to protect the natural,
2 historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and rec-
3 reational resources of the Heritage Area.

4 (3) RESTRICTIONS.—The Heritage Area man-
5 agement plan submitted under this subsection
6 shall—

7 (A) ensure participation by appropriate
8 Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, in-
9 cluding the Delta Stewardship Council, special
10 districts, natural and historical resource protec-
11 tion and agricultural organizations, educational
12 institutions, businesses, recreational organiza-
13 tions, community residents, and private prop-
14 erty owners; and

15 (B) not be approved until the Secretary
16 has received certification from the Delta Protec-
17 tion Commission that the Delta Stewardship
18 Council has reviewed the Heritage Area man-
19 agement plan for consistency with the plan
20 adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council pur-
21 suant to State law.

22 (4) DEADLINE.—If a proposed Heritage Area
23 management plan is not submitted to the Secretary
24 by the date that is 3 years after the date of enact-
25 ment of this Act, the management entity shall be in-

1 eligible to receive additional funding under this Act
 2 until the date that the Secretary receives and ap-
 3 proves the Heritage Area management plan.

4 (5) APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF HERITAGE
 5 AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
 7 days after the date of receipt of the Heritage
 8 Area management plan under paragraph (1),
 9 the Secretary, in consultation with the State,
 10 shall approve or disapprove the Heritage Area
 11 management plan.

12 (B) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—In deter-
 13 mining whether to approve the Heritage Area
 14 management plan, the Secretary shall consider
 15 whether—

16 (i) the management entity is rep-
 17 resentative of the diverse interests of the
 18 Heritage Area, including governments, nat-
 19 ural and historic resource protection orga-
 20 nizations, educational institutions, busi-
 21 nesses, and recreational organizations;

22 (ii) the management entity has af-
 23 farded adequate opportunity, including
 24 public hearings, for public and govern-

1 mental involvement in the preparation of
2 the Heritage Area management plan; and

3 (iii) the resource protection and inter-
4 pretation strategies contained in the Herit-
5 age Area management plan, if imple-
6 mented, would adequately protect the nat-
7 ural, historical, and cultural resources of
8 the Heritage Area.

9 (C) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If
10 the Secretary disapproves the Heritage Area
11 management plan under subparagraph (A), the
12 Secretary shall—

13 (i) advise the management entity in
14 writing of the reasons for the disapproval;

15 (ii) make recommendations for revi-
16 sions to the Heritage Area management
17 plan; and

18 (iii) not later than 180 days after the
19 receipt of any proposed revision of the
20 Heritage Area management plan from the
21 management entity, approve or disapprove
22 the proposed revision.

23 (D) AMENDMENTS.—

24 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
25 approve or disapprove each amendment to

1 the Heritage Area management plan that
 2 the Secretary determines make a substan-
 3 tial change to the Heritage Area manage-
 4 ment plan.

5 (ii) USE OF FUNDS.—The manage-
 6 ment entity shall not use Federal funds
 7 authorized by this Act to carry out any
 8 amendments to the Heritage Area manage-
 9 ment plan until the Secretary has approved
 10 the amendments.

11 (g) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL AGEN-
 12 CIES.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act affects
 14 the authority of a Federal agency to provide tech-
 15 nical or financial assistance under any other law.

16 (2) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—The
 17 head of any Federal agency planning to conduct ac-
 18 tivities that may have an impact on the Heritage
 19 Area is encouraged to consult and coordinate the ac-
 20 tivities with the Secretary and the management enti-
 21 ty to the maximum extent practicable.

22 (3) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Nothing in
 23 this Act—

24 (A) modifies, alters, or amends any law or
 25 regulation authorizing a Federal agency to

1 manage Federal land under the jurisdiction of
2 the Federal agency;

3 (B) limits the discretion of a Federal land
4 manager to implement an approved land use
5 plan within the boundaries of the Heritage
6 Area; or

7 (C) modifies, alters, or amends any author-
8 ized use of Federal land under the jurisdiction
9 of a Federal agency.

10 (h) PRIVATE PROPERTY AND REGULATORY PROTEC-
11 TIONS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
13 nothing in this Act—

14 (A) abridges the rights of any property
15 owner (whether public or private), including the
16 right to refrain from participating in any plan,
17 project, program, or activity conducted within
18 the Heritage Area;

19 (B) requires any property owner to permit
20 public access (including access by Federal,
21 State, or local agencies) to the property of the
22 property owner, or to modify public access or
23 use of property of the property owner under
24 any other Federal, State, or local law;

1 (C) alters any duly adopted land use regu-
 2 lation, approved land use plan, or other regu-
 3 latory authority of any Federal, State or local
 4 agency, or conveys any land use or other regu-
 5 latory authority to the management entity;

6 (D) authorizes or implies the reservation
 7 or appropriation of water or water rights;

8 (E) diminishes the authority of the State
 9 to manage fish and wildlife, including the regu-
 10 lation of fishing and hunting within the Herit-
 11 age Area; or

12 (F) creates any liability, or affects any li-
 13 ability under any other law, of any private
 14 property owner with respect to any person in-
 15 jured on the private property.

16 (2) OPT OUT.—An owner of private property
 17 within the Heritage Area may opt out of partici-
 18 pating in any plan, project, program, or activity car-
 19 ried out within the Heritage Area under this Act, if
 20 the property owner provides written notice to the
 21 management entity.

22 (i) EVALUATION; REPORT.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years be-
 24 fore the date on which authority for Federal funding

1 terminates for the Heritage Area, the Secretary
2 shall—

3 (A) conduct an evaluation of the accom-
4 plishments of the Heritage Area; and

5 (B) prepare a report in accordance with
6 paragraph (3).

7 (2) EVALUATION.—An evaluation conducted
8 under paragraph (1)(A) shall—

9 (A) assess the progress of the management
10 entity with respect to—

11 (i) accomplishing the purposes of this
12 Act for the Heritage Area; and

13 (ii) achieving the goals and objectives
14 of the approved Heritage Area manage-
15 ment plan;

16 (B) analyze the Federal, State, local, and
17 private investments in the Heritage Area to de-
18 termine the leverage and impact of the invest-
19 ments; and

20 (C) review the management structure,
21 partnership relationships, and funding of the
22 Heritage Area for purposes of identifying the
23 critical components for sustainability of the
24 Heritage Area.

25 (3) REPORT.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Based on the evalua-
2 tion conducted under paragraph (1)(A), the
3 Secretary shall prepare a report that includes
4 recommendations for the future role of the Na-
5 tional Park Service, if any, with respect to the
6 Heritage Area.

7 (B) REQUIRED ANALYSIS.—If the report
8 prepared under subparagraph (A) recommends
9 that Federal funding for the Heritage Area be
10 reauthorized, the report shall include an anal-
11 ysis of—

12 (i) ways in which Federal funding for
13 the Heritage Area may be reduced or
14 eliminated; and

15 (ii) the appropriate time period nec-
16 essary to achieve the recommended reduc-
17 tion or elimination.

18 (C) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—On com-
19 pletion of the report, the Secretary shall submit
20 the report to—

21 (i) the Committee on Energy and
22 Natural Resources of the Senate; and

23 (ii) the Committee on Natural Re-
24 sources of the House of Representatives.

1 (j) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—Nothing in this
2 Act—

3 (1) precludes the management entity from
4 using Federal funds made available under other laws
5 for the purposes for which those funds were author-
6 ized; or

7 (2) affects any water rights or contracts.

8 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-
10 priated to carry out this Act \$10,000,000, of which not
11 more than \$1,000,000 may be made available for any fis-
12 cal year.

13 (b) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—The Federal
14 share of the total cost of any activity under this Act shall
15 be determined by the Secretary, but shall be not more than
16 50 percent.

17 (c) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share
18 of the total cost of any activity under this Act may be
19 in the form of in-kind contributions of goods or services.

20 **SEC. 5. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—If a proposed Heritage Area man-
22 agement plan has not been submitted to the Secretary by
23 the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of
24 this Act, the Heritage Area designation shall be rescinded.

1 (b) FUNDING AUTHORITY.—The authority of the
2 Secretary to provide assistance under this Act terminates
3 on the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment
4 of this Act.

○

Appendix 2

H.R. 486, a bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area (Garamendi, 2011)

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 486

To establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 26, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. THOMPSON of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sacramento-San Joa-
5 quin Delta National Heritage Area Establishment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage
9 Area” means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta
10 Heritage Area established by section 3(a).

1 (2) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The
2 term “Heritage Area management plan” means the
3 plan developed and adopted by the management en-
4 tity under this Act.

5 (3) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term “man-
6 agement entity” means the management entity for
7 the Heritage Area designated by section 3(d).

8 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior.

10 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
11 of California.

12 **SEC. 3. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA HERITAGE**
13 **AREA.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the
15 “Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Heritage Area” in the
16 State.

17 (b) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the Heritage
18 Area shall be in the counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento,
19 San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo in the State of California,
20 as generally depicted on the map entitled “Sacramento-
21 San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Proposed
22 Boundary”, numbered T27/105,030, and dated September
23 2010.

24 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described in
25 subsection (b) shall be on file and available for public in-

1 spection in the appropriate offices of the National Park
2 Service and the Delta Protection Commission.

3 (d) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The management entity
4 for the Heritage Area shall be the Delta Protection Com-
5 mission established by section 29735 of the California
6 Public Resources Code.

7 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—

8 (1) AUTHORITIES.—For purposes of carrying
9 out the Heritage Area management plan, the Sec-
10 retary, acting through the management entity, may
11 use amounts made available under this Act to—

12 (A) make grants to the State or a political
13 subdivision of the State, nonprofit organiza-
14 tions, and other persons;

15 (B) enter into cooperative agreements
16 with, or provide technical assistance to, the
17 State or a political subdivision of the State,
18 nonprofit organizations, and other interested
19 parties;

20 (C) hire and compensate staff, which shall
21 include individuals with expertise in natural,
22 cultural, and historical resources protection,
23 and heritage programming;

1 (D) obtain money or services from any
2 source including any that are provided under
3 any other Federal law or program;

4 (E) contract for goods or services; and

5 (F) undertake to be a catalyst for any
6 other activity that furthers the Heritage Area
7 and is consistent with the approved Heritage
8 Area management plan.

9 (2) DUTIES.—The management entity shall—

10 (A) in accordance with subsection (f), pre-
11 pare and submit a Heritage Area management
12 plan to the Secretary;

13 (B) assist units of local government, re-
14 gional planning organizations, and nonprofit or-
15 ganizations in carrying out the approved Herit-
16 age Area management plan by—

17 (i) carrying out programs and projects
18 that recognize, protect, and enhance im-
19 portant resource values in the Heritage
20 Area;

21 (ii) establishing and maintaining in-
22 terpretive exhibits and programs in the
23 Heritage Area;

1 (iii) developing recreational and edu-
2 cational opportunities in the Heritage
3 Area;

4 (iv) increasing public awareness of,
5 and appreciation for, natural, historical,
6 scenic, and cultural resources of the Herit-
7 age Area;

8 (v) protecting and restoring historic
9 sites and buildings in the Heritage Area
10 that are consistent with Heritage Area
11 themes;

12 (vi) ensuring that clear, consistent,
13 and appropriate signs identifying points of
14 public access, and sites of interest are
15 posted throughout the Heritage Area; and

16 (vii) promoting a wide range of part-
17 nerships among governments, organiza-
18 tions, and individuals to further the Herit-
19 age Area;

20 (C) consider the interests of diverse units
21 of government, businesses, organizations, and
22 individuals in the Heritage Area in the prepara-
23 tion and implementation of the Heritage Area
24 management plan;

1 (D) conduct meetings open to the public at
2 least semiannually regarding the development
3 and implementation of the Heritage Area man-
4 agement plan;

5 (E) for any year that Federal funds have
6 been received under this Act—

7 (i) submit an annual report to the
8 Secretary that describes the activities, ex-
9 penses, and income of the management en-
10 tity (including grants to any other entities
11 during the year that the report is made);

12 (ii) make available to the Secretary
13 for audit all records relating to the expend-
14 iture of the funds and any matching funds;

15 (iii) require, with respect to all agree-
16 ments authorizing expenditure of Federal
17 funds by other organizations, that the or-
18 ganizations receiving the funds make avail-
19 able to the Secretary for audit all records
20 concerning the expenditure of the funds;
21 and

22 (F) encourage by appropriate means eco-
23 nomic viability that is consistent with the Herit-
24 age Area.

1 (3) PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OF
2 REAL PROPERTY.—The management entity shall not
3 use Federal funds made available under this Act to
4 acquire real property or any interest in real prop-
5 erty.

6 (4) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—The Fed-
7 eral share of the cost of any activity carried out
8 using any assistance made available under this Act
9 shall be 50 percent.

10 (f) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the management
13 entity shall submit to the Secretary for approval a
14 proposed Heritage Area management plan.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Heritage Area man-
16 agement plan shall—

17 (A) incorporate an integrated and coopera-
18 tive approach to agricultural resources and ac-
19 tivities, flood protection facilities, and other
20 public infrastructure;

21 (B) emphasizes the importance of the re-
22 sources described in subparagraph (A);

23 (C) take into consideration State and local
24 plans;

25 (D) include—

1 (i) an inventory of—

2 (I) the resources located in the
3 core area described in subsection (b);
4 and

5 (II) any other property in the
6 core area that—

7 (aa) is related to the themes
8 of the Heritage Area; and

9 (bb) should be preserved, re-
10 stored, managed, or maintained
11 because of the significance of the
12 property;

13 (ii) comprehensive policies, strategies
14 and recommendations for conservation,
15 funding, management, and development of
16 the Heritage Area;

17 (iii) a description of actions that gov-
18 ernments, private organizations, and indi-
19 viduals have agreed to take to protect the
20 natural, historical and cultural resources of
21 the Heritage Area;

22 (iv) a program of implementation for
23 the Heritage Area management plan by
24 the management entity that includes a de-
25 scription of—

1 (I) actions to facilitate ongoing
2 collaboration among partners to pro-
3 mote plans for resource protection,
4 restoration, and construction; and

5 (II) specific commitments for im-
6 plementation that have been made by
7 the management entity or any govern-
8 ment, organization, or individual for
9 the first 5 years of operation;

10 (v) the identification of sources of
11 funding for carrying out the Heritage Area
12 management plan;

13 (vi) analysis and recommendations for
14 means by which local, State, and Federal
15 programs, including the role of the Na-
16 tional Park Service in the Heritage Area,
17 may best be coordinated to carry out this
18 Act; and

19 (vii) an interpretive plan for the Her-
20 itage Area; and

21 (E) recommend policies and strategies for
22 resource management that consider and detail
23 the application of appropriate land and water
24 management techniques, including the develop-
25 ment of intergovernmental and interagency co-

1 operative agreements to protect the natural,
2 historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and rec-
3 reational resources of the Heritage Area.

4 (3) RESTRICTIONS.—The Heritage Area man-
5 agement plan submitted under this subsection
6 shall—

7 (A) ensure participation by appropriate
8 Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, in-
9 cluding the Delta Stewardship Council, special
10 districts, natural and historical resource protec-
11 tion and agricultural organizations, educational
12 institutions, businesses, recreational organiza-
13 tions, community residents, and private prop-
14 erty owners; and

15 (B) not be approved until the Secretary
16 has received certification from the Delta Protec-
17 tion Commission that the Delta Stewardship
18 Council has reviewed the Heritage Area man-
19 agement plan for consistency with the plan
20 adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council pur-
21 suant to State law.

22 (4) DEADLINE.—If a proposed Heritage Area
23 management plan is not submitted to the Secretary
24 by the date that is 3 years after the date of enact-
25 ment of this Act, the management entity shall be in-

1 eligible to receive additional funding under this Act
2 until the date that the Secretary receives and ap-
3 proves the Heritage Area management plan.

4 (5) APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF HERITAGE
5 AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
7 days after the date of receipt of the Heritage
8 Area management plan under paragraph (1),
9 the Secretary, in consultation with the State,
10 shall approve or disapprove the Heritage Area
11 management plan.

12 (B) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—In deter-
13 mining whether to approve the Heritage Area
14 management plan, the Secretary shall consider
15 whether—

16 (i) the management entity is rep-
17 resentative of the diverse interests of the
18 Heritage Area, including governments, nat-
19 ural and historic resource protection orga-
20 nizations, educational institutions, busi-
21 nesses, and recreational organizations;

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23 farded adequate opportunity, including
24 public hearings, for public and govern-

1 mental involvement in the preparation of
2 the Heritage Area management plan; and

3 (iii) the resource protection and inter-
4 pretation strategies contained in the Herit-
5 age Area management plan, if imple-
6 mented, would adequately protect the nat-
7 ural, historical, and cultural resources of
8 the Heritage Area.

9 (C) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If
10 the Secretary disapproves the Heritage Area
11 management plan under subparagraph (A), the
12 Secretary shall—

13 (i) advise the management entity in
14 writing of the reasons for the disapproval;

15 (ii) make recommendations for revi-
16 sions to the Heritage Area management
17 plan; and

18 (iii) not later than 180 days after the
19 receipt of any proposed revision of the
20 Heritage Area management plan from the
21 management entity, approve or disapprove
22 the proposed revision.

23 (D) AMENDMENTS.—

24 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
25 approve or disapprove each amendment to

1 the Heritage Area management plan that
2 the Secretary determines make a substan-
3 tial change to the Heritage Area manage-
4 ment plan.

5 (ii) USE OF FUNDS.—The manage-
6 ment entity shall not use Federal funds
7 authorized by this Act to carry out any
8 amendments to the Heritage Area manage-
9 ment plan until the Secretary has approved
10 the amendments.

11 (g) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL AGEN-
12 CIES.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act affects
14 the authority of a Federal agency to provide tech-
15 nical or financial assistance under any other law.

16 (2) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—The
17 head of any Federal agency planning to conduct ac-
18 tivities that may have an impact on the Heritage
19 Area is encouraged to consult and coordinate the ac-
20 tivities with the Secretary and the management enti-
21 ty to the maximum extent practicable.

22 (3) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Nothing in
23 this Act—

24 (A) modifies, alters, or amends any law or
25 regulation authorizing a Federal agency to

1 manage Federal land under the jurisdiction of
2 the Federal agency;

3 (B) limits the discretion of a Federal land
4 manager to implement an approved land use
5 plan within the boundaries of the Heritage
6 Area; or

7 (C) modifies, alters, or amends any author-
8 ized use of Federal land under the jurisdiction
9 of a Federal agency.

10 (h) PRIVATE PROPERTY AND REGULATORY PROTEC-
11 TIONS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
13 nothing in this Act—

14 (A) abridges the rights of any property
15 owner (whether public or private), including the
16 right to refrain from participating in any plan,
17 project, program, or activity conducted within
18 the Heritage Area;

19 (B) requires any property owner to permit
20 public access (including access by Federal,
21 State, or local agencies) to the property of the
22 property owner, or to modify public access or
23 use of property of the property owner under
24 any other Federal, State, or local law;

1 (C) alters any duly adopted land use regu-
2 lation, approved land use plan, or other regu-
3 latory authority of any Federal, State or local
4 agency, or conveys any land use or other regu-
5 latory authority to the management entity;

6 (D) authorizes or implies the reservation
7 or appropriation of water or water rights;

8 (E) diminishes the authority of the State
9 to manage fish and wildlife, including the regu-
10 lation of fishing and hunting within the Herit-
11 age Area; or

12 (F) creates any liability, or affects any li-
13 ability under any other law, of any private
14 property owner with respect to any person in-
15 jured on the private property.

16 (2) OPT OUT.—An owner of private property
17 within the Heritage Area may opt out of partici-
18 pating in any plan, project, program, or activity car-
19 ried out within the Heritage Area under this Act, if
20 the property owner provides written notice to the
21 management entity.

22 (i) EVALUATION; REPORT.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years be-
24 fore the date on which authority for Federal funding

1 terminates for the Heritage Area, the Secretary
2 shall—

3 (A) conduct an evaluation of the accom-
4 plishments of the Heritage Area; and

5 (B) prepare a report in accordance with
6 paragraph (3).

7 (2) EVALUATION.—An evaluation conducted
8 under paragraph (1)(A) shall—

9 (A) assess the progress of the management
10 entity with respect to—

11 (i) accomplishing the purposes of this
12 Act for the Heritage Area; and

13 (ii) achieving the goals and objectives
14 of the approved Heritage Area manage-
15 ment plan;

16 (B) analyze the Federal, State, local, and
17 private investments in the Heritage Area to de-
18 termine the leverage and impact of the invest-
19 ments; and

20 (C) review the management structure,
21 partnership relationships, and funding of the
22 Heritage Area for purposes of identifying the
23 critical components for sustainability of the
24 Heritage Area.

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2 tion conducted under paragraph (1)(A), the
3 Secretary shall prepare a report that includes
4 recommendations for the future role of the Na-
5 tional Park Service, if any, with respect to the
6 Heritage Area.

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8 prepared under subparagraph (A) recommends
9 that Federal funding for the Heritage Area be
10 reauthorized, the report shall include an anal-
11 ysis of—

12 (i) ways in which Federal funding for
13 the Heritage Area may be reduced or
14 eliminated; and

15 (ii) the appropriate time period nec-
16 essary to achieve the recommended reduc-
17 tion or elimination.

18 (C) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—On com-
19 pletion of the report, the Secretary shall submit
20 the report to—

21 (i) the Committee on Energy and
22 Natural Resources of the Senate; and

23 (ii) the Committee on Natural Re-
24 sources of the House of Representatives.

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2 Act—

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4 using Federal funds made available under other laws
5 for the purposes for which those funds were author-
6 ized; or

7 (2) affects any water rights or contracts.

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10 priated to carry out this Act \$10,000,000, of which not
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12 cal year.

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14 share of the total cost of any activity under this Act shall
15 be determined by the Secretary, but shall be not more than
16 50 percent.

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18 of the total cost of any activity under this Act may be
19 in the form of in-kind contributions of goods or services.

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22 agement plan has not been submitted to the Secretary by
23 the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of
24 this Act, the Heritage Area designation shall be rescinded.

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2 Secretary to provide assistance under this Act terminates
3 on the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment
4 of this Act.

○

Appendix 3

Interviews with Representatives from Other NHAs

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area

Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor

May 2, 2008

Phone interviews were conducted with representatives from four different NHAs to ask basic questions about NHAs and the effects the designation has had on the communities.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Iowa)

Don Short, Director

1) How has the area benefited from NHA designation?

- A number of ways
- As it is a federal designation by congress, there is a lot of clout
- Increased capabilities to leverage funds
- An increase in visitation to the region which has helped economically
- More tax revenues
- Set up a network of partner sites to tell the story of agriculture
- 106 partner sites, small and large
- Resources are now more easily available to smaller sites
- Signage attracts travelers to rest areas, where information kiosks direct persons to partner sites

2) How have decisions been made on how to focus efforts stemming from NHA designation?

- Received designation in 1996, a long time with limited resources
- Began with 4-5 people in Waterloo, Iowa as the region was very dependent on manufacturing and economic revitalization was necessary
- Other people became involved and it jumped from a 7 county, to a 17 county effort and upon designation it became a 37 county area
- Huge signage effort
- A lot of public involvement was included in the Feasibility Study
- Interpretive plan developed which led to the writing of a management plan

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3) Have there been any local people opposed to getting the designation?

- Not that I know of
- Some opposition as people do not understand NHAs and assumed there were property right issues. But no NHAs have eminent domain. In order to acquire property they would have to go through the market like anyone else would. Silos and Smokestacks do not own any real estate (including our own office building), nor do we plan to.

4) Have there been any strings attached with the designation? Any federal control/restrictions?

- Anytime federal funds are used, we must follow rules of NPS (e.g., NEPA, section 106 for historic preservation). However these are just regulations for spending federal money and would apply for any federal money, regardless of NHA designation.

5) Have there been any negative consequences of getting the designation?

- Just dealing with people's misconceptions of the program as many people did not understand it
- Overall the reception has been very positive

Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor (Pennsylvania)

Allen Sachse, director

1) How has the area benefited from NHA designation?

- Access to NPS funding
- Recognition of significant resources, local agencies recognize importance of resources
- Branded as park service partner

2) How have decisions been made on how to focus efforts stemming from NHA designation?

- Management plan + local partners
- Management plan outlines the time frame for taking certain actions
- Partners were sought out, whoever was within the time frame to compile initiatives
- If partners had projects and local match grants were available, that moved to priority

3) Have there been any local people opposed to getting the designation?

- No, I don't remember any organized or individual opposition
- There was significant local support

4) Have there been any strings attached with the designation? Any federal control/restrictions?

- No new federal controls
- With federal money, there are certain things you can or cannot do
- No power was given to the management entity to supersede local decisions
- Communities did not have to be involved in the NHA if they were not interested
- Management entity could not purchase or own land ourselves. Any properties or things like signage were owned by partners.
- Management entity began as federal commission, but switched to nonprofit in order to have more access to grant funding
- Out of all NPS designations, NHAs carry the least restrictions. For example, with Wild and Scenic Rivers designations, NPS commits more strongly.

5) Have there been any negative consequences of getting the designation?

- Haven't seen any in almost 20 years.
- Has only seen the opposite. The NHA keeps getting more recognition and support.

Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area (Arizonia)

Charles Flynn, director

1) How has the area benefited from NHA designation?

- 3 projects:
 - 110 acre site that was old city landfill was reclaimed and restored into a park with river access
 - 1400 acre wetland restoration project called Yuma East Wetlands with 16 landowners and 28 stakeholders. People that did not get along previously began to cooperate. Initially people were suspicious of federal government. However, it was made clear that this was a cooperative, voluntary venture

which brought people into the loop who had initially been hesitant. So far there have been obvious signs of success. A private foundation also got interested and asked the management entity to expand their geographical scope of wetland restoration to an area where there was a lot of illicit activity/violence. They got an award from an international economic development council.

- Downtown Yuma revitalization strategy. 20 acres of land along the riverfront. Some of the land was in boundary of a national historic landmark. In order to ensure development retains historic character, all parties voluntarily agreed to keep with historic guidelines. This had marketing appeal for the developer. A \$32 million Hilton garden center is under construction which connects to 6 miles of biking trails as well as 5 miles of hiking trails in East Wetlands. This should help further tourism numbers.

2) How have decisions been made on how to focus efforts stemming from NHA designation?

- Usually where willing partners existed as partners gravitated towards projects and helped shape and guide it. The Indian tribe is a strong partner.

3) Have there been any local people opposed to getting the designation?

- No, there was fear about 5 years ago regarding NHAs, but it lessened as people began to see it as voluntary. Farm Bureau got on board who are now strong advocates.

4) Have there been any strings attached with the designation? Any federal control/restrictions?

- None – zero. The only way to get the designation is to make it clear that you won't use federal money for obtaining land. Go through the planning process and as long as the money is being used to advance the plan, it is incredibly flexible.
- In fact there is an example where the NHA was more attractive than a federal alternative that was proposed. Fish and Wildlife Service tried to impose a critical habitat area in the same region. This was viewed by community members as a very restrictive project with minimum benefits in the end. The NHA presented a way to better improve habitat without federal government control. The management entity is a private, nonprofit, community based organization.

5) Have there been any negative consequences of getting the designation?

- No. All about partnerships, collaborations. Only have about \$200,000-\$300,000 in federal funds per year so it is necessary to leverage further funds.

**Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor (Illinois)
Ana Koval, President and CEO of Canal Corridor Association**

1) How has the area benefited from NHA designation?

- Brought everyone together and helped talk across government lines
- Huge effect on how people do business, build partnerships
- Sufficient improvements have been made to the area since receiving the designation in 1984 in regards to tourism increases, natural and cultural preservation, and more. Goals have been sufficiently met. There are more historic buildings and cultural institutions, and more trails. Though there is always more that could be done, it just depends on money.

2) How have decisions been made on how to focus efforts stemming from NHA designation?

- In the reauthorization process, put together a new management plan which developed visions. Many groups were involved and a lot of projects were proposed. We had to decide and tried to spread it over a wide geographic range. Public ends up voting specifically on which projects should be pursued.

3) Have there been any local people opposed to getting the designation?

- Nothing in terms of private property, no local land use authority/restrictions
- Initially there was some hesitation from industry. The area is part of the rust belt and there are a lot of steel mills. There was concern about restricting businesses. However, through public education efforts the business leaders got on board.
- Once designated, no opposition. When getting reauthorized, no opposition as people saw value in working together.

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4) Have there been any strings attached with the designation? Any federal control/restrictions?

- No. Funds have been provided and seed money towards sponsoring projects that fulfill the goals of the legislation (heritage tourism, historic preservation, natural area preservation, economic development). Not allowed to buy land/property.

5) Have there been any negative consequences of getting the designation?

- No, we have a lot of community support which we worked hard to gain.

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Appendix 4

Delta Protection Act, Chapter 1

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

DELTA PROTECTION ACT of 1992: Chapter 1

FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

29700. This division shall be known, and may be cited, as the Johnston-Baker-Andal-Boatwright Delta Protection Act of 1992.

29701. The Legislature finds and declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a natural resource of statewide, national, and international significance, containing irreplaceable resources, and it is the policy of the state to recognize, preserve, and protect those resources of the delta for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations.

29702. The Legislature further finds and declares that the basic goals of the state for the delta are the following:

- a. Protect, maintain, and, where possible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the delta environment, including, but not limited to, agriculture, wildlife habitat, and recreational activities.
- b. Assure orderly, balanced conservation and development of delta land resources.
- c. Improve flood protection by structural and nonstructural means to ensure an increased level of public health and safety.

29703. The Legislature further finds and declares as follows:

- a. The delta is an agricultural region of great value to the state and nation and the retention and continued cultivation and production of fertile peatlands and prime soils are of significant value.
- b. The agricultural land of the delta, while adding greatly to the economy of the state, also provides a significant value as open space and habitat for water fowl using the Pacific Flyway, as well as other wildlife, and the continued dedication and retention of that delta land in agricultural production contributes to the preservation and enhancement of open space and habitat values.
- c. Agricultural lands located within the primary zone should be protected from the intrusion of nonagricultural uses.

29704. The Legislature further finds and declares that the leveed islands and tracts of the delta and portions of its uplands are floodprone areas of critical statewide significance due to the public safety risks and the costs of public emergency responses to floods, and that improvement and ongoing maintenance of the levee system is a matter of continuing urgency to protect farmlands, population centers, the state's water quality, and significant natural resource and habitat areas of the delta. The Legislature further finds that improvements and continuing maintenance of the levee system will not resolve all flood risks and that the delta is inherently a floodprone area wherein the most appropriate land uses are agriculture, wildlife habitat, and, where specifically provided, recreational activities, and that most of the existing levee systems are degraded and in need of restoration, improvement, and continuing management.

29705. The Legislature further finds and declares that the delta's wildlife and wildlife habitats, including waterways, vegetated unveeved channel islands, wetlands, and riparian forests and vegetation corridors, are highly valuable, providing critical wintering habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds using the Pacific Flyway, as well as certain plant species, various rare and endangered wildlife species of birds, mammals, and fish, and numerous amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates, that these wildlife species and their habitat are valuable, unique, and irreplaceable resources of critical statewide significance, and that it is the policy of the state to preserve and protect these resources and their diversity for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

29706. The Legislature further finds and declares that the resource values of the delta have deteriorated, and that further deterioration threatens the maintenance and sustainability of the delta's ecology, fish and wildlife populations, recreational opportunities, and economic productivity.

29707. The Legislature further finds and declares that there is no process by which state and national interests and values can be protected and enhanced for the delta, and that, to protect the regional, state, and national interests for the long-term agricultural productivity, economic vitality, and ecological health of the delta resources, it is necessary to provide and implement delta land use planning and management by local governments.

29708. The Legislature further finds and declares that the cities, towns, and settlements within the delta are of significant historical, cultural, and economic value and that their continued protection is important to the economic and cultural vitality of the

region.

29709. The Legislature further finds and declares as follows:

- a. Regulation of land use and related activities that threaten the integrity of the delta's resources can best be advanced through comprehensive regional land use planning implemented through reliance on local government in its local land use planning procedures and enforcement.
- b. In order to protect regional, state, and national interests in the long-term agricultural productivity, economic vitality, and ecological health of delta resources, it is important that there be a coordination and integration of activities by the various agencies whose land use activities and decisions cumulatively impact the delta.

29710. The Legislature further finds and declares that agricultural, recreational, and other uses of the delta can best be protected by implementing projects that protect wildlife habitat before conflicts arise.

29711. The Legislature further finds and declares that the inland ports of Sacramento and Stockton constitute economic and water dependent resources of statewide significance, fulfill essential functions in the maritime industry, and have long been dedicated to transportation, agricultural, commercial, industrial, manufacturing, and navigation uses consistent with federal, state, and local regulations, and that those uses should be maintained and enhanced.

29712. The Legislature further finds and declares as follows:

- a. The delta's waterways and marinas offer recreational opportunities of statewide and local significance and are a source of economic benefit to the region, and, due to increased demand and useage, there are public safety concerns requiring increased coordination by all levels of government.
- b. Recreational boating within the delta is of statewide and local significance and is a source of economic benefit to the region, and to the extent of any conflict or inconsistency between this division and any provisions of the Harbors and Navigation Code, regarding regulating the operation or use of boating in the delta, the provisions of the Harbors and Navigation Code shall prevail.

29713. The Legislature further finds and declares that the voluntary acquisition of wildlife and agricultural conservation easements in the delta promotes and enhances the traditional delta values of agriculture, habitat, and recreation.

29714. The Legislature further finds and declares that, in enacting this division, it is not the intent of the Legislature to authorize any governmental agency acting pursuant to this division to exercise their power in a manner which will take or damage private property for public use, without the payment of just compensation therefor. This section is not intended to increase or decrease the rights of any owner of property under the California Constitution or the United States Constitution.

29715. To the extent of any conflict or inconsistency between this division and any provision of the Water Code, the provisions of the Water Code shall prevail.

29716. Nothing in this division authorizes the commission to exercise any jurisdiction over matters within the jurisdiction of, or to carry out its powers and duties in conflict with the powers and duties of, any other state agency.

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Grant Funding Matrix

This appendix provides an overview of grant funding opportunities that are of relevance to a Delta NHA. Many of these programs offer cash grants and therefore could be potential sources of the 50 percent match requirement for federal funding granted with NHA designation. Specific projects which are funded through these grants include: marketing/promotion, historic preservation, education/interpretation, tourism/recreation, and more. Information outlined in the matrix is either current at the time this study was developed, or taken from the most recent funding cycle. Therefore it is important to remember specifics may change with time and not all of the organizations may continue to offer grants in the future. However this matrix can still be a valuable tool to guide a fundraising process for a Delta NHA.

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
American Express Foundation	American Express Foundation Fund	Historic preservation and conservation, leadership, community service and engagement	Letters of inquiries are reviewed on an ongoing basis	Varies		Certified tax exempt organizations	about.americanexpress.com/csr/
California Coastal Conservancy	California Coastal Conservancy grant	In coastal areas: trails and other public access, natural resource protection, restoration of urban waterfronts, protection of agricultural land, and resolution of land use conflicts	Ongoing	\$30 million statewide	None	Government agencies, nonprofit organizations	scc.ca.gov/applying-for-grants-and-assistance/forms/
California Council for the Humanities	California Documentary Fund, California Reads' Public Library Grants, and California Story Funds	Film, video, radio, and new media projects that document the California experience; projects which bring Californians together on important topics through books; community-centered, California story based public humanities projects	Varies	From \$500 to \$50,000	1:1 matching of non-federal funds or in-kind services	Tax exempt organizations, organizations with tax exempt organization as a fiscal sponsor, library jurisdictions or support organizations	www.calhum.org/guidelines/guidelines_main.htm
California Cultural and Historical Endowment	California Cultural and Historical Endowment grants	Capital and planning projects which preserve structures to help tell the story and document the contributions of the people of California	Varies	\$118 million has been awarded to 149 projects	Required, but specific amount may vary and can include in-kind assistance	Nonprofits, state and local government entities	www.library.ca.gov/grants/cche/
California State Parks Foundation	California State Parks Foundation Competitive Grants	Volunteer efforts and recognition; education and interpretation; natural and cultural resource protection; capacity building	August 1, November 1, February 1, May 24	Usually range from \$200-\$6,000	None	Nonprofits, California state park units and park agencies	calparks.org/programs/competitive-grant/
California State Parks Division of Grants and Local Services	Statewide Park Program, Nature Education Facilities Program	Various park, recreation, and resources related projects	July 1	Varies	None	Cities, regional park districts, joint power authorities, counties, nonprofit organizations	www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1008

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
California Department of Transportation	Transportation Enhancements Grants	Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities), historic preservation, rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals), preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails), establishment of transportation museums, and more	Varies	\$60 million statewide	11.47% non-federal match	Local, state, and federal agencies; nonprofit organizations (with a Department of Transportation partner)	www.dot.ca.gov/hq/TransEnhAct/TransEnact.htm
The Conservation Alliance	Conservation Alliance Grant Program	Protection of specific wildlands or waterways for their habitat and recreational values with citizen engagement	May 1 and November 1	\$10,000,000 has been awarded to around 350 projects	None	Nonprofit organizations nominated by an Alliance Member	www.conservationalliance.com/grants
Giles W. and Elise G. Mead Foundation		Projects which emphasize sustainable use of natural resources	Submit letters of inquiry by March, July, October	Past grants have ranged from \$15,000 to \$125,000			www.gilesmeadfoundation.org/
Institute of Museum and Library Services	Numerous different grants	Ongoing museum programs, exhibitions, or activities; research, institutional planning, collections management, purchase of equipment or services, or other activities that support efforts of museums to upgrade and integrate new technologies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Native American tribes, historical societies, libraries, professional associations, regional organizations, state or local government, museums, and more	www.imls.gov/applicants/available_grants.aspx

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
National Endowment for the Humanities	America's Historical and Cultural Organizations Planning and Implementation Grants	Engagement of citizens in thoughtful reflection upon culture, identity, and history	January 11	Generally do not exceed \$400,000	Not required, but NEH is rarely able to provide full costs	Nonprofit organizations, state and local government agencies, and tribal governments	www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/AHCO_Implementati onGuidelines.htm
National Endowment for the Humanities	Preservation and Access Education and Training Grants	Education and training projects which help preserve and establish access to cultural heritage collections	June 30	Typically \$125,000 per year for two years	Not required, but NEH is rarely able to provide full costs	Nonprofit organizations, state and local government agencies, and tribal governments	www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/pe t.html
National Historical Publications and Records Commission	Electronic Records Project	Historic archiving	June	Max of \$200,000	Cost sharing is required and can include indirect expenses, in-kind contributions, non-Federal third party contributions, and earned income	State, county, city, and township governments; public and state controlled institutions of higher education; tribal governments; nonprofits; and private institutions of higher education	www.archives.gov/grants/

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
National Park Foundation	Active Trails Fund	Promotion of healthy lifestyles while protecting/enhancing trail resources	April 1			National Park System units, affiliated areas, regional, service and program offices, National Heritage Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Landmarks, and National Trails	www.nationalparks.org/npf-at-work/our-programs/active-trails/
National Park Foundation	America's Best Idea Grants	Projects which seek to reach traditionally underserved groups and empower them to create strong, lasting bonds of stewardship with the National Parks				National Park System units, affiliated areas, regional, service and program offices, National Heritage Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Landmarks, and National Trails	www.nationalparks.org/npf-at-work/our-programs/best-idea-grants/
National Park Foundation	Impact Grants	Various	September 16	Up to \$10,000	N/A	National Park System units, affiliated areas, regional, service and program offices, National Heritage Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Landmarks, and National Trails	www.nationalparks.org/npf-at-work/our-programs/impact-grants/

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
National Park Foundation	Park Stewards Programs	Opportunities for high school teachers and students to explore and become stewards of national parks				National Park System units, affiliated areas, regional, service and program offices, National Heritage Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Landmarks and National Trails	www.nationalparks.org/npf-at-work/our-programs/stewards/
National Park Service	Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program	River conservation, open space preservation, trail and greenway planning and development	August 1st	In-kind assistance	N/A	Community groups, nonprofits, local, state and federal agencies	www.nps.gov/arc/hive/pwro/rtca/
National Trust for Historic Preservation	National Trust Preservation Fund	Preservation planning and educational efforts, intervention funds for preservation emergencies	February 1, June 1, and October 1	\$500 to \$5,000 (larger grants may be available)	1:1 cash match	Public agencies, 501(c)(3), and other nonprofit organizations	www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/nonprofit-public-funding.html
National Trust for Historic Preservation	Johanna Favrot Fund	Preservation or recapture of an authentic sense of place	February 1	\$2,500 to \$10,000		Nonprofit organizations and public agencies	www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/nonprofit-public-funding.html
National Trust for Historic Preservation	Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors	Preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors	February 1	\$2,500 to \$10,000		Nonprofit organizations and public agencies	www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/nonprofit-public-funding.html

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
Teichert Foundation	Teichert Foundation grants	Culture and the arts, education, environmental planning and preservation, civic improvement, and historical restoration; in areas of operation including Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo counties	February and August	Grants range from \$3,000 to \$7,500.			www.teichert.com/grant-requirements.cfm
Tourism Cares for America	Tourism Cares Worldwide Grant Program	Conservation, preservation, restoration, or education at tourism-related sites of exceptional significance	Letter of inquiry – March, application - July	Two groups of six Worldwide Grants at \$10,000		Nonprofit, tax exempt 501 (c) (3) organizations	www.tourismcares.org/grants
U.S.D.A.	Farmers Market Promotion Program	Improvement and expansion of farmer's markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, and other direct producer to consumer market opportunities	July 1	\$5,000 - \$100,000.	Not required	Agricultural cooperatives, producer networks, producer associations, local governments, nonprofits, public benefit corporations, economic development corporations, regional farmers' market authorities, and Tribal governments	www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/FMP
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Environmental Education Grants	Environmental education	November	\$2 to \$3 million nationwide	25% match	Local education agencies, college or universities, state education or environmental agency, nonprofit organization, or noncommercial educational broadcasting entity	www.epa.gov/environed/grants.html

Organization	Grant program/fund	Eligible Projects	Due Date	Award Amount	Matching	Eligible Applicants	Website
Wildlife Conservation Board	Public Access Program	Development of fishing piers or floats, access roads, boat launching ramps, trails, boardwalks, interpretive facilities and lake or stream improvements	Continuous	\$1 million statewide	None	Cities, counties and public districts or corporations	www.wcb.ca.gov/Access/grants.html

Appendix 6

Right-to-Farm Ordinances

Contra Costa County

Sacramento County

San Joaquin County

Solano County

Yolo County

Chapter 820-2 - GENERAL

Sections:

[820-2.002 - Short title.](#)

[820-2.004 - Findings.](#)

[820-2.006 - Definitions.](#)

[820-2.008 - Nonapplicability.](#)

820-2.002 - Short title.

This division shall be known and may be cited as the Right To Farm Ordinance.

(Ord. 97-38 § 2).

820-2.004 - Findings.

- (1) It is the declared policy of this county to enhance and encourage agricultural operations within the county. It is the further intent of this county to provide to its residents proper notification of the county's recognition and support, through this division, of the right to farm. (County General Plan, Section 8-7).
- (2) Where non-agricultural land uses extend into agricultural areas or exist side by side, agricultural operations frequently can be the subjects of nuisance complaints. As a result, agricultural operators may be forced to cease or curtail their operations. Such actions discourage investments in farm improvements, to the detriment of adjacent agricultural uses and the economic viability of the county's agricultural industry as a whole. It is the purpose and intent of this division to prevent the loss to the county of its agricultural resources by clarifying the circumstances under which agricultural operations may be considered a nuisance.
- (3) An additional purpose of the ordinance codified in this division is to promote a good-neighbor policy by requiring notification of purchasers and users of property adjacent to or near agricultural operations of the inherent potential problems associated with such purchase or residential use. Such concerns may include, but are not limited to, the noise, odors, dust, chemicals, smoke, and hours of operation that may accompany agricultural operations. It is intended that, through mandatory disclosures, purchasers and users will better understand the impact of living near agricultural operations and be prepared to accept attendant conditions as the natural result of living in or near rural areas.
- (4) The ordinance codified in this division is intended to carry out and advance the county's agricultural resources goals, policies, and implementation measures as set forth in the conservation element of the county general plan.

(Ord. 97-38 § 2).

820-2.006 - Definitions.

As used in this division, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given in this section:

- (1) "Agricultural land" means all that real property within the unincorporated area of the county currently used for agricultural operations, zoned for agricultural use, designated for agricultural purposes by the county general plan, or upon which agricultural operations may in the future be established, including publicly-owned land designated for park, recreation, open space, watershed, or other public purposes.
- (2) "Agricultural operation" means and includes the present and future application and use of agricultural technology (including the application of agricultural chemicals) for, but not limited to, the cultivation and tillage of the soil; dairying; the production, irrigation, frost protection, cultivation, growing, harvesting, and processing of any agricultural commodity, including viticulture, horticulture, timber or apiculture; the raising of livestock, fur-bearing animals, fish or poultry; and any commercial agricultural practices performed incident to or in conjunction with such operations, including preparation for market, delivery to storage or to market, or delivery to carriers for transportation to market.
- (3) "Agricultural processing operation" means and includes the canning or freezing of agricultural products, the processing of dairy products, the production and bottling of wine, the processing of meat and egg products, the drying of fruits and grains, the packing and cooling of fruits and vegetables, and the storage or warehousing of any agricultural products, and shall include processing for wholesale or retail markets of agricultural products.
- (4) "Continuous operation" means at least thirty days of agricultural processing operations per year.
- (5) "Proper and accepted customs and standards" means compliance with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations governing agricultural operations or agricultural processing operations with respect to the condition or effect alleged to be a nuisance.

(Ord. 97-38 § 2).

820-2.008 - Nonapplicability.

This division is not to be construed as in any way modifying, invalidating, or abridging federal law or regulation, or state law as set out in the California Civil Code, Health and Safety Code, Fish and Game Code, Food and Agricultural Code, Division 7 of the Water Code, or any other applicable provision of federal or state law relative to nuisances; instead, it is only to be utilized in the interpretation and enforcement of the provisions of this code and county regulations.

(Ord. 97-38 § 2).

Sacramento County Code

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[Title 14 AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND WATER USE AND CONSERVATION](#)

[Chapter 14.05 AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES](#)

14.05.300 Notification.

a. Within one year of the date of adoption of the ordinance codified in this chapter, the Director shall cause notice to be mailed to owners of all property designated for agricultural use in the General Plan as well as adjacent to such property, located within the unincorporated area of Sacramento County, advising the owners that the Board of Supervisors has adopted a "Right-to-Farm Ordinance." The Board of Supervisors may elect to mail copies of this notice every three to five years with the annual tax bill as funds are available for such distribution. The notice may be in the form of a brochure, flyer, or some similar condensed document which outlines the general provisions of the ordinance and includes, substantially, the following statement:

"The Board of Supervisors of Sacramento County, on July 10, 1990, adopted a Right-to-Farm Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to insure that established agricultural operations which are operated in a manner consistent with proper and accepted customs and standards be allowed to continue. Residents of property which are adjacent to land which is zoned for agricultural use or which is designated on the Sacramento County General Plan for agricultural use may be subject to inconveniences or discomfort from the pursuit of agricultural operations including but not limited to cultivation, plowing, spraying, fertilizing, pruning, and harvesting which occasionally generates dust, smoke, noise and odor; from the noise, odors, and other features attributed to the keeping of farm animals; and from the conduct of farming activities during typical working hours, as well as late in the evening, early in the morning, or 24-hours a day during certain times and seasons of the year. The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors has designated areas within its boundaries for agricultural uses and has adopted policies supporting continued agricultural production. Residents within these areas and on adjacent property should be prepared to accept such inconvenience and recognize that these uses will occur. If, however, an agricultural operation is being conducted in a manner which does not appear to be consistent with accepted agricultural practices, any person may file a complaint with the office of the Agricultural Commissioner, located at 4137 Branch Center Road, Sacramento, California."

b. For the purpose of mailing such notice the Director may utilize addresses from postal service zip code lists which include all property designated for agricultural use on the General Plan and property adjacent to property so designated. Failure to receive such notice shall not relieve any property owner or resident from any of the terms of this chapter. (SCC 0802 § 2, 1990.)

6-9004 - RIGHT TO FARM NOTICE.

- (a) To provide all property owners with constructive notice of San Joaquin County's right-to-farm policy, the ordinance codified in this chapter shall be recorded with the Clerk-Recorder of the County. The Clerk-Recorder's Office shall keep a copy of the right-to-farm ordinance prominently displayed in the Clerk-Recorder's Office.
- (b) For all discretionary approvals of parcel maps or subdivision maps involving agricultural land, or real property located adjacent to agricultural land, the San Joaquin County Community Development Department shall include as a condition of approval that the final recorded map shall contain the following statement: "All persons purchasing lots within the boundaries of this approved map should be prepared to accept the inconveniences or discomforts associated with agricultural operations or activities, such as noise, odors, insects, dust or fumes. San Joaquin County has determined that such inconveniences or discomforts shall not be considered to be a nuisance."
- (c) The San Joaquin County Community Development Department shall provide all applicants for building permits for new residential construction or mobile home placement with a "right-to-farm notice" in substantially the form provided in Subsection (e) of this section.
- (d) The Treasurer-Tax Collector of the County shall mail a copy of the "right-to-farm notice" in substantially the form provided in Subsection (e) of this section to all owners of real property in San Joaquin County with the annual secured 2004-2005 tax bill and every year thereafter, so long as such notice does not increase the Treasurer-Tax Collector's administrative costs.
- (e) The "right-to-farm notice" shall contain, and be substantially in the form of, the following:

**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY RIGHT-TO-FARM
NOTICE**

The County of San Joaquin recognizes and supports the right to farm agricultural lands in a manner consistent with accepted customs, practices, and standards. Residents of property on or near agricultural land should be prepared to accept the inconveniences or discomforts associated with agricultural operations or activities, including but not limited to noise, odors, insects, fumes, dust, the operation of machinery of any kind during any twenty-four (24) hour period (including aircraft), the application by spraying or otherwise of chemical fertilizers, soil amendments, seeds, herbicides, and pesticides, the storage of livestock feed and other agricultural commodities, and the storage, application and disposal of manure. San Joaquin County has determined that inconveniences or discomforts associated with such agricultural operations or activities shall not be considered to be a nuisance. San Joaquin County has established a grievance committee to assist in the resolution of any disputes which might arise between residents of this County regarding agricultural operations or activities. If you have questions concerning this policy or the grievance committee, please contact the San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner at [contact telephone number to be inserted].

- (f) The San Joaquin County Community Development Department shall be responsible for the printing and related cost of the "right-to-farm notice" set forth in Subsection (e) of this section and shall supply the Treasurer-Tax Collector and the Clerk-Recorder with notices as needed.

(Ord. 4217 § 1 (part), 2004)

CHAPTER 2.2
AGRICULTURAL LANDS AND OPERATIONS

§ 2.2-10.	Definitions
§ 2.2-20.	Findings and policy
§ 2.2-30.	Nuisance
§ 2.2-40.	Notice to purchasers of real property
§ 2.2-50.	Installation of signs
§ 2.2-60.	Agricultural grievance committee
§ 2.2-70.	Severability

Sec. 2.2-10. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions in this section govern the construction of this chapter in order for more effective interpretation and enforcement.

Agricultural lands. Agricultural lands are those land areas of the county specifically classed and zoned as exclusive agricultural (A) districts, limited agricultural (A-L) districts, park (P) districts, watershed and conservation (W) districts, and marsh preservation (MP) districts, as those districts are defined in Chapter 28 of this Code and such other land actually used for agricultural operations.

Agricultural operations. Agricultural operations means and includes, but is not limited to, cultivation and tillage of the soil; burning of agricultural waste products; lawful and proper use of agricultural chemicals including, but not limited to, the application of pesticides and fertilizers; and production, irrigation, pruning, growing, harvesting and processing of any agricultural commodity, including horticulture, timber, apiculture, the raising of livestock, fish, poultry; and commercial practices performed as incident to or in conjunction with such agricultural operation, including preparation for market, delivery to storage or market, or to carriers or transportation to market.

(Ord. No. 1270 §1; Ord. No. 1378, §1)

Sec. 2.2-20. Findings and policy

It is the declared policy of this county to conserve and protect both intensive and extensive agricultural land, and encourage agricultural operations within the county, and to specifically protect those lands for exclusive agriculture use or uses which do not interfere with agricultural operations. Where nonagricultural uses, especially residential development, extends into agricultural areas or exist side by side, agricultural operations have often become the subject of nuisance complaints. As a result, agricultural operations are sometimes forced to cease or curtail operations and many others are discouraged from making investments in farm improvements, to the detriment of adjacent agricultural uses and economic

viability of the county's agricultural industry as a whole. It is the purpose and intent of this section to reduce the loss to the county of its agricultural resources by limiting the circumstances under which agricultural operations may be considered a nuisance. This section is not to be construed as in any way modifying or abridging state law as set out in the California Civil Code, Health and Safety Code, Fish and Game Code, Food and Agricultural Code, or Division 7 of the Water Code relative to nuisances; but, rather, is only to be utilized in the interpretation and enforcement of the provisions of this Code and county regulations.

The further purpose of this Code is to promote a good neighbor policy between agriculturalists and residents by advising purchasers and residents of property adjacent to or near agricultural operations of the inherent potential problems associated with such purchase or residence, including, but not limited to, the sounds, odors, dust, and chemicals that may accompany agricultural operations so that such purchasers and residents will understand the inconveniences that accompany living side by side to agriculture, and be prepared to accept such problems as the natural result of living in or near rural areas.

(Ord. No. 1270, §1; Ord. No. 1378, §1)

Sec. 2.20-30. Nuisance

No preexisting or future agricultural operation or any of its appurtenances conducted or maintained for commercial purposes and in a manner consistent with proper and accepted customs and standards on agricultural land shall become or be a nuisance, private or public, due to any changed condition of adjacent land uses in or about the locality thereof; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply whenever a nuisance results from the negligent or improper operation of any such agricultural operation or its appurtenances, or if the agricultural activity or appurtenance obstructs the free passage or use in the customary manner of any navigable lake, river, stream, canal or basin, or any public park, square, street or highway.

(Ord. No. 1270, §1; Ord. No. 1378, §1)

Sec. 2.2-40. Notice to purchasers of real property

Notice concerning this chapter may be given to purchasers of real property in the County of Solano by including the following notice with any preliminary title report and any grant deed, quitclaim deed, or land sale contract returned to the grantee by the Recorder after recording:

Notice to Purchaser of Real Property

Solano County is an agricultural county with many areas zoned for agricultural operations. The presence of farms and ranches yields significant aesthetic and economic benefits to the residents of

the County. Thus, the County's agriculture must be protected, including in areas where it is near residential development. To do this, Solano County has enacted Chapter 2.2 of its County Code, which provides that properly conducted agricultural operations will not be deemed a nuisance.

The ordinance further requires the County to give notice of the Ordinance and its provisions to buyers of real property located in Solano County. Accordingly, you are hereby notified that if the property you are purchasing is located close to agricultural lands or operations, you may be subject to inconvenience or discomfort from the following agricultural operations: cultivation and tillage of the soil; burning of agricultural waste products; lawful and proper use of agricultural chemicals including, but not limited to, the application of pesticides and fertilizers; and production, irrigation, pruning, growing, harvesting, and processing of any agricultural commodity, including horticulture, timber, apiculture, the raising of livestock, fish, poultry, and commercial practices performed as incident to or in conjunction with such agricultural operation, including preparation for market, delivery to storage or market, or to carriers or transportation to market. These operations may generate dust, smoke, noise and odor.

If you live near an agricultural area, you should be prepared to accept such inconveniences or discomfort as a normal and necessary aspect of living in a county with a strong rural character and a healthy agriculture sector.

To assist in resolving problems between residential and agricultural land use, an Agricultural Grievance Committee has been created in Solano County to arbitrate and mediate disputes concerning agricultural operations. For information concerning where agricultural operations are located in relation to your property, you may contact the Solano County Department of Environmental Management, 675 Texas Street, Suite 5500, Fairfield. For questions concerning the specific kinds of agricultural operations in your area, including their use of fertilizers and pesticides, and information on the

Agricultural Grievance Committee, you should contact the Solano County Agricultural Commissioner, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield.

This notice is given for informational purposes only and nothing in the Ordinance or this Notice should be deemed to prevent you from complaining to any appropriate agency or taking any other available remedy concerning any unlawful or improper agricultural practice.

(Ord. No. 1270, §1; Ord. No. 1378, §1; Ord. No. 1630, §1)

Sec. 2.2-50. Installation of signs

The county may install or permit the installation of signs at the entry of or within established farming areas zoned as "agricultural land" to notify and explain to purchasers that some of the land in this area is being used for agricultural purposes and that the producers' interests are protected by law. The prospective purchaser of such land or a residence is advised to check local agencies as to any regulation or requirements which may affect agricultural property and of inherent potential problems associated with a purchase of such property or a residence in areas zoned as an "agricultural land" and of the likely effects of such agricultural operations.

(Ord. No. 1270, §1; Ord. No. 1378, §1)

Sec. 2.2-60. Agricultural grievance committee

There is hereby established the Solano County Agricultural Grievance Committee which shall arbitrate and mediate disputes involving agricultural land and issue opinions on whether agricultural operations constitute nuisance. The committee shall have five regular and five alternate members serving three-year terms appointed by a majority vote of the board of supervisors. Two regular and two alternate members familiar with agricultural practices shall be appointed from persons recommended by the board of directors of the Solano County Farm Bureau, who shall be persons receiving not less than a majority of their income from farming. One regular and one alternate member familiar with rural residential living, and one regular and one alternate member familiar with urban living shall be appointed, who shall be county residents. One regular and one alternate public member recommended by the other four members of the committee shall be appointed to represent the general public. Four members shall constitute a quorum. Alternates shall replace only their associate regular member when absent. The members shall draw lots to determine the expiration date of the term of each member so that three terms of regular and associate alternate members expire on December 31, 1987, and two terms of regular and associate alternate members shall expire on December 31, 1986. The committee shall select a chairman who shall preside over meetings. The

agricultural commissioner shall be the secretary, who shall call meetings when the need arises or as determined by the chairman, and shall maintain minutes of each meeting. A farm advisor from the University of California Cooperative Extension Service, Solano County, may serve as technical advisor to the committee. Any interested party may apply to the committee for mediation and arbitration involving disputes over agricultural operations or for an opinion whether agricultural operations constitute a nuisance by contacting the agricultural commissioner.

(Ord. No. 1270, §1; Ord. No. 1378, §1)

Sec. 2.2-70. Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this chapter is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the remaining portions of the chapter.

(Ord. No. 1270, §1; Ord. 1378, §1)

Chapter 6
AGRICULTURE

Sections:

**Article 1. Right to Farm: Dispute Resolution:
Notice to Purchasers of Nearby Properties**

- 10-6.101 Definitions.**
- 10-6.102 Property operated farm not a nuisance.**
- 10-6.103 Construction with other laws.**
- 10-6.104 Resolution of disputes.**

Article 2. Agricultural Nuisances

- 10-6.201 Purpose and Findings.**
- 10-6.202 Definitions.**
- 10-6.203 Effect on other laws.**
- 10-6.204 Administration and enforcement.**
- 10-6.205 Nuisance Abatement.**
- 10-6.206 Form of Notice to Abate.**
- 10-6.207 Service Procedures.**
- 10-6.208 Appeals: Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board.**
- 10-6.209 Appeals.**
- 10-6.210 Appeals: Notice.**
- 10-6.211 Appeals: Recommendations.**
- 10-6.212 Appeals: Decision.**
- 10-6.213 Appeals: Removal.**
- 10-6.214 Summary Abatement.**
- 10-6.215 Right of entry of certain persons.**
- 10-6.216 Abatement costs.**
- 10-6.217 Collection of costs.**
- 10-6.218 Notice of abatement lien.**

Article 3. Organic Certification

- 10-6.301 Purpose and Findings.**
- 10-6.302 Definitions.**
- 10-6.303 Program Authority and Fees.**
- 10-6.304 Eligibility.**
- 10-6.305 Certification Criteria.**
- 10-6.306 Enforcement.**

**Article 1. Right to Farm: Dispute Resolution:
Notice to Purchasers of Nearby Properties**

Sec. 10-6.101. Definitions.

As used in this article the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Agricultural Land" means those land areas of the County specifically classed and zoned as Agricultural Preserve (A-P), Agricultural Exclusive (A-E), and Agricultural General (A-1), as those zones are defined in the Yolo County Zoning Ordinances.

(b) "Agricultural activity, operation, or facility or appurtenances thereof" means and includes, but is not limited to, the cultivation and tillage of the soil, dairying, the production, irrigation, frost

protection, cultivation, growing, harvesting, and processing of any commercial agricultural commodity, including timber, viticulture, agriculture or horticulture, the raising of livestock, fur-bearing animals, fish or poultry, and any practices performed by a farmer or on a farm as incident to or in conjunction with such operations, including the application of pesticides, use of farm equipment, storage or preparation for market, delivery to storage or to market, or to carriers for transportation to market. (§ 2, Ord. 1133, eff. January 2, 1992)

Sec. 10-6.102. Property operated farm not a nuisance.

(a) No agricultural activity, operation, or facility, or appurtenances thereof, conducted or maintained on agricultural lands for commercial purposes, and in a manner consistent with proper and accepted customs and standards, as established and followed by similar agricultural operations in the same locality, shall be or become a nuisance, private or public, due to any changed condition in or about the locality, after the same has been in operation for more than three (3) years if it was not a nuisance at the time it began.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply if the agricultural activity, operation, or facility, or appurtenances thereof obstructs the free passage or use, in the customary manner, of any navigable lake, river, bay, stream, canal, or basin, or any public park, square, street, or highway.

(c) This section shall not invalidate any provision contained in the Health and Safety Code, Fish and Game Code, Food and Agricultural Code, or Division 7 (commencing with Section 13000) of the Water Code, if the agricultural activity, operation, or facility, or appurtenances thereof, constitute a nuisance, public or private, as specifically defined or described in any such provision.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, no action, alleging that an agricultural operation has interfered with private property or personal well-being, shall be maintained unless the plaintiff has sought and obtained a decision of the agricultural grievance committee provided in Section 10-6.104 of this chapter or a decision has been sought but no decision is rendered within the time limits provided in said section. This subsection shall not prevent a public agency from enforcing the provisions of other applicable laws without first resorting to the grievance procedure. (§ 2, Ord. 1133, eff. January 2, 1992)

Sec. 10-6.103. Construction with other laws.

This chapter shall take precedence over all ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions

or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith. (§ 2, Ord. 1133, eff. January 2, 1992)

Sec. 10-6.104. Resolution of disputes.

(a) Should any controversy arise regarding any inconveniences or discomfort occasioned by agricultural operations which cannot be settled by direct negotiation of the parties involved, either party may submit the controversy to a grievance committee as set forth below in an attempt to resolve the matter prior to the filing of any court action.

(b) Any controversy between the parties shall be submitted to the grievance committee within thirty (30) days of the later of the date of the occurrence of the particular activity giving rise to the controversy or the date a party became aware of the occurrence.

(c) The grievance committee shall consist of five (5) members appointed from the community at large by the Board of Supervisors, and serving at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors, two (2) of whom shall be engaged in the commercial practice of agriculture, two (2) of whom shall have no financial interest in any agricultural property or operation, and one of whom shall have knowledge of and expertise in agricultural production practices. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum of the grievance committee, and no decision shall be valid or binding unless taken upon a majority vote of the members present. The Yolo County Agricultural Commissioner shall be the Secretary who shall call meetings as the need arises and shall maintain minutes of each meeting. The committee shall adopt rules of procedure governing the conduct of its meetings. Members of the committee shall receive no compensation for carrying out these duties.

(d) The effectiveness of the grievance committee as a forum for resolution of disputes is dependent upon full discussion and complete presentation of all pertinent facts concerning the dispute in order to eliminate any misunderstandings. The parties are encouraged to cooperate in the exchange of pertinent information concerning the controversy.

(e) The controversy shall be presented to the committee by written request of one of the parties within the time limits specified. Thereafter the committee may investigate the facts of the controversy but must, within twenty-five (25) days, hold a meeting to consider the merits of the matter and within five (5) days of the meeting render a written decision to the parties. At the time of the meeting both parties shall have an opportunity to present what each considers to be pertinent facts. No party bringing a complaint to the committee for settlement or resolution may be represented by counsel unless the opposing party is also represented by counsel. The time limits provided in this subsection for action by the

committee may be extended upon the written stipulation of all parties in a dispute.

(f) Any reasonable costs associated with the functioning of the grievance committee process shall be borne by the participants. The Board of Supervisors may, by resolution, prescribe fees to recover those costs. (§ 2, Ord. 1133, eff. January 2, 1992)

Article 2. Agricultural Nuisances.

Section 10-6.201. Purpose and Findings.

(a) Under Section 25842 of the Government Code, the Board of Supervisors may provide for the control or destruction of gophers, squirrels, vermin, other wild animals, noxious weeds, plant diseases, and insects injurious to fruit or fruit trees, vines, vegetables, or plant life. These items are considered to be Agricultural Nuisances. Section 25845 of the Government Code provides that the Board of Supervisors may establish by ordinance a procedure for the abatement of a nuisance.

(b) At present, the enforcement provisions of the Food and Agriculture Code are set forth in Chapters 6 and 7, Part 1, Division 4. These provisions call for a lien to be recorded on the subject property within 120 days in the event of non-payment. If no payment is received within 120 days of recording the district attorney is required to foreclose on the lien or the lien ceases to exist. This enforcement provision is onerous and virtually impossible to implement.

(c) The Board finds that prompt and effective control of Agricultural Nuisances is essential to protect our agricultural operations. An ordinance with reasonable enforcement provisions is essential to accomplish this. This ordinance provides for the collection of unpaid abatement costs by the Treasurer-Tax Collector with the same priority as other County taxes as provided for under Section 25845(d) of the Government Code.

Section 10-6.202. Definitions.

For the purposes of this Chapter, unless otherwise apparent from the context, certain words and phrases are defined as follows:

(a) "Abatement" shall include the eradication, destruction, or control, to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Commissioner, of the Agricultural Nuisance.

(b) "Agricultural Nuisance" include, but are not limited to, gophers, squirrels, vermin, other wild animals, noxious weeds, plant diseases, and insects injurious to fruit or fruit trees, vines, or vegetable or plant life.

(c) "County Code" means the Yolo County Code.

(d) "Person" means any natural person, firm, joint venture, joint stock company, partnership, association, club, company, corporation, business trust, organization, or the manager, lessee, agent, servant, officer or employee of any of them.

(e) "Responsible Person" is the person having control of or acting as an agent for the property. The term "Responsible Person" includes but is not limited to a property owner, tenant, or a person with a legal interest in, or possession of, real property where a nuisance occurs or exists.

Section 10-6.203. Effect on other laws.

The provisions of this chapter are not the exclusive regulation of Agricultural Nuisances within the unincorporated area of the County. The provisions of this chapter shall supplement and be in addition to the other regulatory codes, statutes, and laws heretofore or hereafter enacted by the County, the State, or any other legal entity or agency having jurisdiction.

Section 10-6.204. Administration and enforcement.

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the provisions of this chapter shall be administered and enforced by the Agricultural Commissioner. In the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter, the Agricultural Commissioner or his designees may enter upon both private and public property to determine whether an Agricultural Nuisance exists pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

Section 10-6.205. Nuisance Abatement.

Whenever an Agricultural Nuisance is ascertained to exist by the Agricultural Commissioner, the Agricultural Commissioner shall notify the person having control of or acting as an agent for the property, to abate or remove such nuisance within thirty (30) calendar days. Upon neglect or refusal of such person to comply with such notice, the Agricultural Commissioner may abate such nuisance, and the person having control of such premise or place, shall be liable to the County of Yolo for the cost of such abatement as provided for in Section 10-6.216.

Section 10-6.206. Form of Notice to Abate.

The form of all Notices to Abate given under this Chapter shall be as follows:

- (a) All notices shall be in writing;
- (b) All notices shall include a description of the premises sufficient for identification;

(c) All notices shall include a statement as to what Agricultural Nuisance exists on the property and why the notice is being issued;

(d) All notices shall state that the Responsible Person has thirty (30) calendar days to abate the Agricultural Nuisance;

(e) All notices shall inform the Responsible Person of the right to appeal to the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board in writing within fifteen (15) days of receiving the Notice to Abate; and

(f) All notices shall include notification that should the Responsible Person fail to abate the Agriculture Nuisance, the Agricultural Commissioner or his designee shall have the right to abate such nuisance, and that the Responsible Person shall be liable to the County of Yolo for the cost of such abatement as provided for in Section 10-6.216.

Section 10-6.207. Service Procedures.

A Notice to Abate or Remedy shall be served in the following manner:

(a) Personal Service. In any case, where a Notice to Abate is issued:

(1) The Agricultural Commissioner or his designee shall attempt to locate and personally serve the Responsible Person and attempt to obtain the signature of the Responsible Person on the Notice to Abate.

(2) If the Responsible Person served refuses or fails to sign the Notice to Abate, the failure or refusal to sign shall not affect the validity of the Notice to Abate or of subsequent proceedings.

(b) Service of Notice to Abate by Mail and Posting. If the Agricultural Commissioner is unable to locate the Responsible Person after reasonable efforts, the Notice to Abate shall be mailed by certified mail, postage prepaid with return receipt to the owner of the land as shown on the last equalized County assessment roll, to the last registered legal owner of record, and any other address that is reasonably calculated to give the Responsible Person actual notice of the Notice to Abate. The Agricultural Commissioner shall also post the Notice to Abate on the subject real property within the County. Service shall be effective upon mailing or posting, whichever is later.

Section 10-6.208. Appeals: Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board.

The Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board shall consist of the same members as the Right To Farm Grievance Committee established in Section 10-6.104(c) of the Yolo County Code.

Section 10-6.209. Appeals.

The Responsible Person may request a hearing in writing with the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board within fifteen (15) calendar days of service of notice to abate or remove. A request for a hearing shall temporarily suspend the obligation to abate or remove the Agricultural Nuisance demanded in the Notice until the appeal has been heard. Such hearing shall take place as soon as practicable after the request is made. The right to an appeal shall be deemed waived if the Responsible Person fails to request an appeal within fifteen (15) calendar days of service of the Notice to Abate.

Section 10-6.210. Appeals: Notice.

The

Notice of a hearing shall be mailed at least ten (10) days before the hearing by certified mail, with return receipt, to the person requesting the hearing. Notice shall also be provided to the owner of the land as shown on the last equalized County assessment roll and to the last registered and legal owner of record. If any of such notices are returned undelivered by the United States Post Office, the hearing shall be continued to a date not less than ten (10) days from the date of such return.

Section 10-6.211. Appeals: Recommendations.

All hearings held pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be held before the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board, which shall hear all facts and testimony it deems pertinent. Such facts and testimony may include testimony on the condition of the property, or part thereof, and the circumstances concerning the Agricultural Nuisance. The Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board shall not be limited by the technical rules of evidence. The person requesting the appeal may appear in person at the hearing, or present a written statement in time for consideration at the hearing, and deny responsibility for the Agricultural Nuisance on the land, with his or her reasons for such denial.

The Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board may recommend to the Board of Supervisors such conditions and other actions as it deems appropriate under the circumstances to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including, but not limited to, a delay in the time for removal of the Agricultural Nuisance, if, in its opinion, the circumstances so justify. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board may determine that the property, or part thereof, is an Agricultural Nuisance, and recommend that the nuisance be removed from the property and disposed of as provided for in this chapter. The Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board may also

determine the administrative costs and the cost of removal to be charged against the owner of the parcel of land on which the Agricultural Nuisance is located in accordance with Section 10-6.216. The recommendation of removal shall include a description of the property, or part thereof, the correct assessor's parcel number and the Agricultural Nuisance to be removed from the property. If a written presentation is made to the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board, the person providing the written presentation shall be notified in writing of the recommendation.

Section 10-6.212. Appeals: Decision.

The Board of Supervisors may adopt the recommendation of the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for hearing at a regular Board meeting.

Should the Board of Supervisors adopt the recommendation of the Agricultural Nuisance Appeals Board, notice of the decision shall be provided to the person who requested the hearing, as well as the owner of the land as shown on the last equalized County assessment roll and to the last registered and legal owner of record.

Should the Board of Supervisors set the matter for hearing at a regular Board meeting, notice of the hearing shall be mailed to the person who requested the hearing. Notice shall also be provided the owner of the land as shown on the last equalized County assessment roll and to the last registered and legal owner of record. Notice shall be given at least ten (10) days before the hearing by certified mail, with a return receipt. If any of such notices are returned undelivered by the United States Post Office, the hearing shall be continued to a date not less than ten (10) days from the date of such return.

Section 10-6.213. Appeals: Removal.

Unless otherwise provided for at the hearing, within fifteen (15) days after the adoption of the decision declaring the property, or parts thereof, to be an Agricultural Nuisance, the Agricultural Nuisance must be removed or remedied.

Section 10-6.214. Summary Abatement.

Consistent with California Government Code Section 25845(a), nothing in this Section is intended to prohibit the summary abatement of an Agricultural Nuisance by the Agricultural Commissioner, if the Agricultural Commissioner determines that the Agricultural Nuisance constitutes an immediate threat to public health or safety.

Appendix 7

Letters of Support and/or Commitment

Antioch Historical Society

Bay Point Garden Club

Benicia, City of

California Delta Chambers and Visitors Bureau

California Preservation Foundation

California State Parks

Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust

Contra Costa County

Delta Peddlers Bicycle Club

Dutra Museum Foundation

Friends of the Great California Delta Trail

Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society

Isleton Chamber of Commerce

Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council

Office of Historic Preservation

Recreational Boaters of California

Rio Vista, City of

Sacramento County

San Joaquin County

Solano County

Suisun Resource Conservation District

UC Small Farm Program

University of the Pacific, Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership

Vallejo, City of

Visit California

West Sacramento, City of

Yolo County



Antioch Historical Society

1500 West 4th Street, Antioch, CA 94509

Non-Profit #94-2457532

(925) 757-1326 Museum * (925) 757-0308 Fax



October 5, 2011

Michael Machado
PO Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of the Antioch Historical Society, I am writing to express support of a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, for which the Delta Protection Commission (DPC) is conducting a feasibility study. The Antioch Historical Society recognizes the NHA as a method to gain more visibility of the diverse historical and cultural resources of the Delta, which are a valuable part of the national story.

The Antioch Historical Society Museum is located in the former Riverview Union High School, situated just south and within view of the San Joaquin River. This building opened in 1911 as the first union high school in Contra Costa County, and is now on the National Register of Historical Places. Museum exhibits highlight the history of Antioch and East Contra Costa County, and include several displays relevant to Delta history on topics including wildlife, Native Americans, agriculture, canneries, and maritime history. A Delta NHA will be a way to help further public education on topics such as these, as well as help people gain an understanding of the Delta and the communities that lie within it.

Once again, the Antioch Historical Society expresses strong support for a Delta NHA and looks forward to future opportunities to be involved in NHA activities.

Sincerely,

Robert Martin
President

Bay Point Garden Club

P.O. Box 5386
Bay Point, CA 94565
(510) 610-9155

September 28, 2011

The Honorable Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Senator Machado

On behalf of the Bay Point Garden Club (BPGC), I am writing to express my strong support and commitment for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The BPGC can potentially serve as a partner for a Delta NHA by assisting the management entity with tasks such as local outreach, and utilizing our website to bring awareness to NHA activities.

The BPGC is an organization that helps instill community pride among its residents in Bay Point, an unincorporated area located in the Delta. The club organizes the Bay Point Spring Derby, an annual event celebrated on Memorial Day. It brings together the many different cultural groups that reside in the community to celebrate their proud heritage. For the past five years, it has attracted thousands of participants and visitors from other neighboring areas.

The Bay Point Spring Derby and the Delta NHA are compatible in many ways. Both projects are valuable tools to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education.

We give full support for a Delta NHA and look forward to partnering with the Delta Protection Commission to further pursue this effort.

Sincerely yours,



Mae Cendaña Torlakson

MAE CENDANA
TORLAKSON
President

EVA GARCIA
Vice President

DI WYNN-BUSBY
*Project Coordinator
Secretary*

SARAH BELMORE
Treasurer

TRISH DAYE-ROA
Board Member

LORRAINE HARMS
Auditor

JOHN M. WILSON
Project Foreman

GLORIA MAGLEBY
Founder



December 6, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Mr. Machado and Commissioners:

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Benicia strongly continue to support inclusion of the Benicia/Vallejo area of the Carquinez Strait as part of the Delta National Heritage Area. The recent Department of Parks and Recreation draft Delta Recreation Plan highlights the Carquinez Strait's roles with its water access, historic assets and cities positioned to provide needed services.

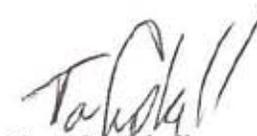
The City Council supports the Delta Protection Commission's desire to enhance the Delta as a place and promote the Delta economy.

Our City is proud that our area of southern Solano County is rich with resources that embody the diversity and value of the Delta.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Patterson
Mayor



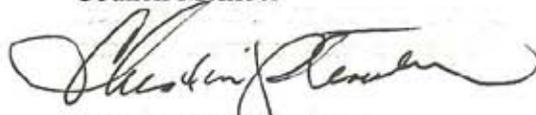
Tom Campbell
Vice Mayor



Mark Hughes
Council Member



Alan Schwartzman
Council Member



Christina Strawbridge
Council Member



P.O. Box 1118 • Rio Vista, CA 94571 • Phone (916) 777-4041 • Fax (916) 777-4042
[REDACTED] • www.californiadelta.org

September 28, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of the California Delta Chambers and Visitor's Bureau, I am writing to express my strong support and commitment for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Delta Chambers can potentially serve as a partner for a Delta NHA by assisting the management entity with tasks such as local outreach to economic and recreation organizations in the Delta, identification of potential NHA partner sites, and marketing/promoting NHA activities and partner sites via our website.

The Delta Chambers is an organization of chambers of commerce, visitors bureaus, businesses, and boosters in the Delta, with members who have established roots in the Delta due to a love for this boating and fishing paradise. Established over forty years ago, the Delta Chambers strives to enhance enjoyment for visitors to the Delta, while protecting and preserving the area's fragile beauty.

A Delta NHA will be a valuable tool to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education. Since the Delta NHA is a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development, it is imperative that there be public-private partnerships to support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects to tell the "Delta story".

Again, on behalf of the Delta Chambers, I am writing to express support for a Delta NHA and look forward to partnering with the DPC to further pursue this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Wells".

Bill Wells
Executive Director
info@californiadelta.org



October 5, 2011

Submitted Electronically

Michael Machado, Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

RE: FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of California Preservation Foundation (CPF), we are pleased to offer this letter of support for continuing to explore and seek designation for the Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area (NHA).

CPF is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse cultural and architectural heritage. Established in 1977, CPF works with its extensive network to provide statewide leadership, advocacy and education to ensure the protection of California's diverse cultural heritage and historic places.

Since 2009, CPF has been actively working with the City of Isleton to develop and approve a Historic Preservation Plan and Ordinance to preserve their National Register District and increase local heritage tourism. We have been following the progress of this study as it relates to Isleton and have discussed the positive impacts that a National Heritage Area would have in the Delta with Alex Westhoff. CPF supports the creation of a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area to promote heritage and recreational tourism for the whole region.

National Heritage Areas have a proven success for increasing and diversifying local and regional economies. Through this designation a regional approach will be developed for this sensitive environment and allow for access to limited funds only available through this program. A Delta National Heritage Area will be unlike any other NHA in the United States which could draw National attention.

5 3RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

CPF@CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG
WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

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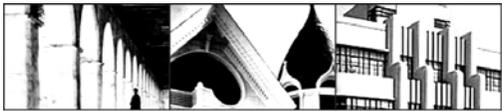
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

CPF would like to offer our assistance to the Delta Protection Commission through our Field Services Program. Please let us know if you would like our assistance or if you have any questions or comments. Feel free to contact me at jgates@californiapreservation.org or by phone at 415-495-0349 x 204.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer M. Gates". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jennifer M. Gates, AICP
Field Services Director
In Partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation



CALIFORNIA
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION

California Preservation Foundation

5 Third Street, Suite 424
San Francisco, California 94103

T: 415.495.0349 x204

F: 415-495-0265

E: jgates@californiapreservation.org

www.californiapreservation.org

California Preservation Foundation: Field Services

Field Services is a brand new program offered by the California Preservation Foundation, in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to provide on-site technical assistance and direct support to property owners, developers, local officials, local organizations and others with information and tools essential for successful preservation projects and initiatives.

The goal of the Field Services program is to provide assistance to communities comprised of local governments with limited time, budget, personnel and expertise to create effective preservation policies and encourage the incorporation of historic preservation into community planning through increased advocacy and education statewide.

How Field Services Can Help?

The Field Services Director can help to:

- Assess local preservation needs;
- Coordinate alliances and develop partnerships;
- Provide guidance on solution based strategies;
- Interact locally to provide on-site assistance;
- Convene meetings, workshops, presentations, etc. to assist with advocacy and education efforts in local communities; and
- Provide linkages to consultants, informational resources, and potential financial sources.

The California Preservation Foundation also maintains close working relationships with the State Office of Historic Preservation, California State Parks, National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Park Service and hundreds of design professionals throughout California.

The Field Services program is made possible through the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) Partners in the Field challenge grant and the generous support of California Preservation Foundation's members and donors.

The **California Preservation Foundation** (CPF) is the only statewide non-profit historic preservation education and advocacy membership organization in California. CPF serves as an essential link in the state's historic preservation network, and emphasizes educational programs, advocacy and information exchange through a quarterly newsletter, the Preservation Design Awards, the Annual California Preservation Conference, workshops and publications addressing critical preservation issues.

Jennifer M. Gates, AICP, **Field Services Director** for CPF, is a graduate from the University of Pennsylvania with a Master of City Planning and a Master of Science in Historic Preservation. With focuses on preservation planning and community and economic development she has always had an interest in the diverse aspects of preservation. Her experience includes working for Oklahoma Main Street Center, the National Park Service National Historic Landmarks program, and in both private and public sectors with downtown revitalization and preservation planning. Most recently, Jennifer worked for the City of San Clemente, a Certified Local Government and Preserve America community, as a preservation planner.



September 29, 2011

Michael Machado
PO Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

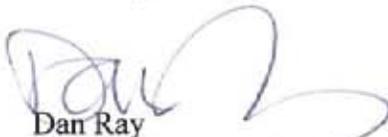
Dear Mr. Machado:

I am writing to express California State Park's strong support of a National Heritage Area (NHA) in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

California State Parks' *Central Valley Vision Implementation Plan* and our *Recreation Proposal for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh* both endorse the creation of an NHA in the Delta. What impresses us most about the project is the commitment to a broad, collaborative planning process which will ensure that many businesses, organizations and the public will be involved in planning for the development of an NHA. An NHA will promote the region's identity by improving recreational access to the Delta from nearby cities to the Delta's waterways, recreational facilities, and historic towns.

California State Parks looks forward to working with the DPC to see the NHA in the Delta approved and fully effective. Let me know how we can help this effort succeed.

Sincerely,



Dan Ray
Chief, Planning Division



November 23, 2011

Mr. Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of the Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust we are writing to provide our support of the Delta National Heritage Area (NHA) and support Boundary Alternative 2 which was included in the Delta NHA legislation introduced by Senator Diane Feinstein and Congressman John Garamendi. We believe that the inclusion of the Carquinez Strait, the water gateway to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, will provide a comprehensive story of the areas rich natural and cultural resources, shared history, and recreational opportunities.

We also support the designation of the Delta Protection Commission as the managing entity for the Delta National Heritage Area, and support making planning funds available to local jurisdictions to help develop local plans supportive of the strategies developed for the National Heritage Area.

The Delta and Carquinez Strait share a rich history of natural and historic resources, geography and development. We believe that designation as a National Heritage Area is in the best interest of Delta and the Strait and will provide the structure to highlight the regional identity of the area.

It is the mission of the Trust to further the preservation, promotion, and recognition of the Carquinez Strait as an important State and National resource and recreation area. Therefore it has been a long standing goal of the Trust to receive a National Heritage designation for the Carquinez Strait region. We hope to be working cooperatively in the future with the Delta Protection Commission on this matter.

Sincerely

Bonnie Silveria, President
Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 106
Martinez, California 94553

John Gioia, 1st District
Gayle B. Uilkema, 2nd District
Mary N. Piepho, 3rd District
Karen Mitchoff, 4th District
Federal D. Glover, 5th District

Contra Costa County



David Twa
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 335-1900

January 10, 2012

The Honorable Don Nottoli
Chair
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Chair Nottoli:

Contra Costa County fully supports the Delta Protection Commission's effort to establish the Delta National Heritage Area. Along with that support is a commitment of County staff time to participate in the technical advisory committee that will be created to help move the process forward.

The Delta Protection Commission has made considerable progress on this concept, most recently by performing the feasibility study that includes the details of the National Heritage Area (NHA).

As the County's representative on the Commission I have seen the work that has gone into this effort to date, and I look forward to the next steps in the process. I also appreciate the Commission's responsiveness to our earlier input on various aspects of the NHA. The current proposal addresses the issues we brought up in our previous Board letter on this subject. We believe the proposal will provide for a vibrant NHA that reflects regional and local history and culture.

Our staff will be available as needed to provide local input and assistance. If you or your staff have questions or need further information, please have your staff contact John Greitzer at (925) 335-1201.

Thanks for your efforts to move this important project forward.

Sincerely,

Mary N. Piepho
Chair

G:\Conservation\Water Agency\Delta Protection Commission\Natl Heritage Area Study\CC BOS support letter Jan 10 2012.doc

C: Members, Board of Supervisors

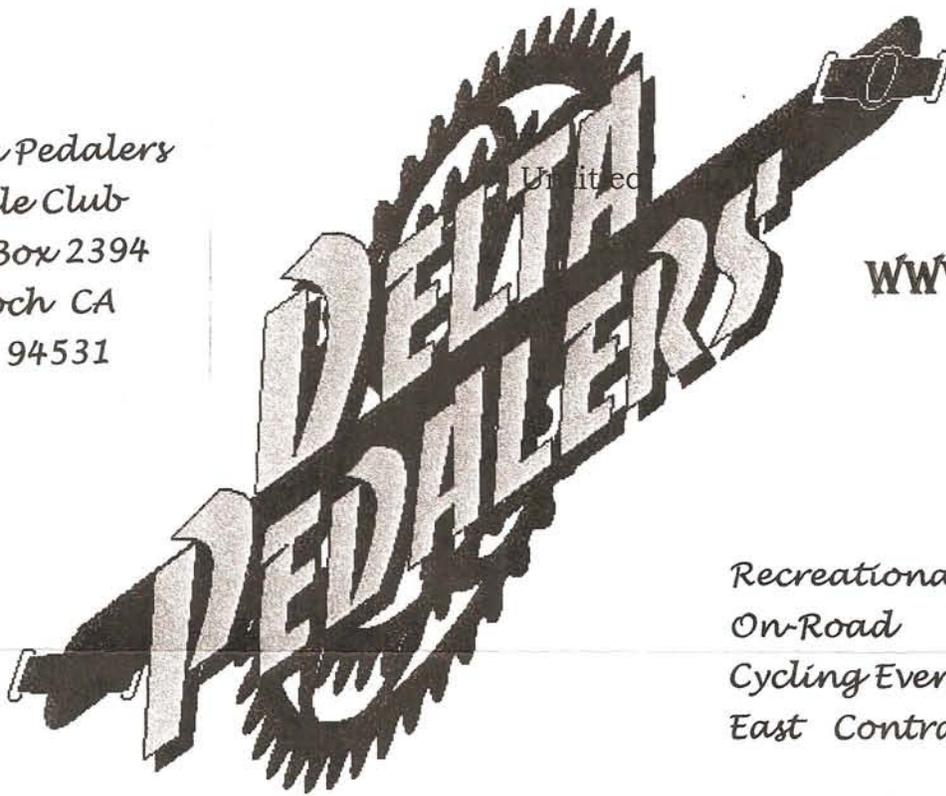
M. Machado, Executive Director, Delta Protection Commission

L. DeLaney, County Administrator's Office

J. Greitzer, Dept. of Conservation and Development

D. Brown, Coordinator, Delta Counties Coalition

Delta Pedalers
Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 2394
Antioch CA
94531



WWW.DELTAPED.ORG

*Recreational Bicycle Touring
On-Road On-Trail
Cycling Events.....Local Rides
East Contra Costa County*

To: Delta Protection Commission
c/o Alex Westhoff

The Delta Pedalers is a cycling club located in Eastern Contra Costa County. We are a bicycle touring club sponsoring bike rides throughout the week. We also support cycling advocacy and cycling events in the East County area.

We support the designation of a National Heritage Area (NHA) in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

This area is a special place for us. We ride our bicycles there regularly. We appreciate the unique cultural, historical, recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the Delta.

We feel that the federal designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area will protect, enhance, and help to sustain this favorite portion of our back yard.

Sincerely,

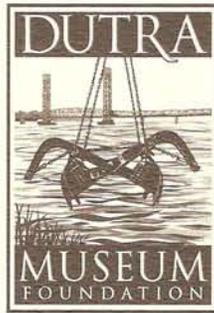
Bruce "Ole" Ohlson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce 'Ole' Ohlson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Bruce" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "'Ole'" and "Ohlson".

Delta Pedalers Bicycle Club

October 21, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690



Dear Mr. Machado,

The Dutra Museum Foundation is writing to express support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Foundation recognizes a NHA in the Delta as a valuable tool to assist with public education and preservation of the Delta's history; and a way to attract more visitors to the Delta's historical sites, which could have economic benefits.

The Dutra family has been involved in the dredging business since 1904, and levee maintenance by the Dutra Group continues to play a vital role in protecting the Delta's rich farmland from flooding. The Dutra Museum of Dredging in Rio Vista, contains a private collection of materials that interpret the history of sidedraft clamshell dredging in the Delta. Items in our collection include historic photographs, log books, maps, antique tools and artifacts, scale models of dredges and more.

We believe that a Delta NHA can assist our mission of educating and promoting an understanding of the history of dredging, the value of developing and reclaiming the California Delta and the significant role the Dutra Group and the Dutra family has played within this field. We appreciate that one of the proposed themes for the Delta NHA is about Delta reclamation and discusses the important role that the sidedraft clamshell dredge played not just in the Delta, but in other parts of the world as well.

The Delta NHA is an approach to heritage preservation that is driven by the local community, and therefore public-private partnerships are crucial to support historic preservation and education projects. If Delta NHA designation does occur, the Dutra Museum Foundation could potentially serve as partners with the management entity on projects related to preservation and interpretation of the history of dredging in the Delta. Depending on the availability of Foundation members, we could offer technical and advisory assistance on projects related to the promotion and marketing of sites related to dredging history, and the development of educational materials about the topic.

Once again, the Dutra Museum Foundation expresses strong support for a Delta NHA and looks forward to being involved with NHA activities and projects.

Sincerely,

Janet Bennett and Patty Bruce
Co-Directors



Friends of the Great California Delta Trail

September 26, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of the Friends of the Great California Delta Trail, I am writing to express my strong support and commitment for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for which the Delta Protection Commission is conducting a feasibility study.

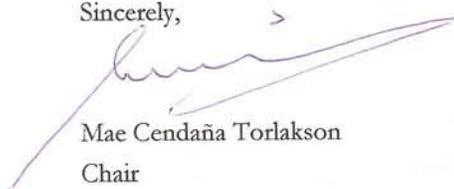
The Friends of the Great California Delta Trail can potentially serve as a partner for a Delta NHA by assisting the management entity with tasks such as local outreach including utilizing our website to raise public awareness about the NHA activities and partner sites – particularly sites that are adjacent to existing or proposed Delta Trail links.

The Friends of the Great California Delta Trail was developed to help gain community support and awareness for links of the Delta Trail. The Friends of the Delta Trail recognizes that there are unmet recreational needs throughout the Delta including hiking/biking trails, wildlife observation/education facilities, and historical/cultural interpretive facilities.

The Delta Trail and the Delta NHA are compatible in many ways, and both projects are valuable tools to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education. Since the Delta NHA is a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development, it is imperative that there be public-private partnerships to support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects to tell the “Delta story”.

On behalf of the Friends of the Great California Delta Trail, I am writing to express strong support for a Delta NHA and look forward to partnering with the Delta Protection Commission to pursue this effort further.

Sincerely,


Mae Cendaña Torlakson
Chair



October 6, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society (IBAHS). The IBAHS is in full support of a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Isleton Historical Society can potentially serve as a partner for a Delta NHA by assisting the management entity with tasks such as identification of cultural/historic resources, identification of potential partner sites and local outreach.

The IBAHS is an organization which is committed to the preservation and promotion of the history of Isleton and the surrounding Delta area.

A Delta NHA will be a valuable tool to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education. Since the Delta NHA is a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development, it is imperative that there be public-private partnerships to support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects to tell the "Delta story".

Again, on behalf of the IBAHS I am writing to express support for a Delta NHA and look forward to working with the DPC to further pursue this effort.

Sincerely,



Karen Franscioni
President
Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society
P.O. Box 933
Isleton CA 95641
916-777-6906

ISLETON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

23 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 758

ISLETON, CA 95641

Phone (916) 777-4800 / FAX (916) 777-4800

Home Page: www.isletonchamber.com**November 30, 2011**

**Michael Machado, Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690**

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of the Isleton Chamber of Commerce, we are writing to express strong support from the Isleton Community to acknowledge great benefits in seeking a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Designation. Isleton has many preserved 19th Century era storefronts along historic Main Street, currently on the National Park Service Historic Registry as the Asian American Historic District. One of the historic district's storefronts is occupied by the Isleton Chamber of Commerce. Our Chinese "Tong" Building (social and fraternal organization) was featured on a July 2008 episode of the PBS program History Detectives.

The Isleton Chamber of Commerce established in 1935, has been working closely with the City of Isleton, the Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society and also the California Preservation Foundation to develop and approve a Historic Preservation Plan and Ordinance to preserve our National Historic District and increase local heritage tourism. The Chamber of Commerce can potentially serve as a partner for the NHA by assisting in identifying cultural and historic resources, being a potential partner site, and outreach within the community.

A Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area will be a valuable tool to recognizing the "Delta-as-a-Place" gaining visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education.

The Isleton Chamber of Commerce looks forward to actively participating with the Delta Protection Commission in assisting to help and build more support for preserving, protecting, and enhancing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Since rely,

**Jean Yokotobi
President**



December 5, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

The Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council fully supports a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. We understand NHA will offer the Delta visibility and recognition as a place of significant national importance. We recognize the NHA is a tool to support the preservation and enhancement of the region's recreational, ecological, historical and agricultural resources, and the vital role it can play for economic sustainability and public education.

The Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council is a nonprofit corporation helping to develop and maintain the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail – a 300-mile non-motorized, multi-use trail system roughly following the Mokelumne River through six counties from its headwaters at the Sierra crest down to the river's opening near Martinez at Carquinez Strait in the Bay Area. 150 miles are in various stages of completion. The trail's Delta segment follows the Mokelumne River through the Delta. Activities along this segment could include kayaking, floating, boating, bird watching, and possibly land trail activities where feasible. The MCCT can support proposed themes for the Delta NHA, particularly theme 1 – 'At the Heart of California Lies America's Inland Delta.' A significant component of this theme is the Delta's unique landscape as a confluence of five rivers, which includes the Mokelumne River. The MCCT can be a valuable resource to help further gain appreciation of the Mokelumne River in its current state, as well as its natural and cultural history.

The Delta segment of the MCCT is in the pre-planning phase with the Trail Council working with public and private agencies and individuals to determine alignment through the Delta region, map the trail, and secure funding to construct the trail segment. The MCCT could serve as partners for NHA activities that are related to the planning, recognition, enhancement, and development of the MCCT or resource sites that support the MCCT. The development of visitor amenities such as public restrooms, garbage receptacles, directional signage, and dockage is included as a goal for the Delta NHA, and the Trail Council could potentially serve as partners to meet this goal on projects that lie along the MCCT.

Once again, we strongly urge your favorable consideration to designate the Delta as a NHA and look forward to future collaborative opportunities.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Boblet

Mary Boblet
Secretary/Treasurer

www.mc2ct.org

PO Box 142, Glencoe, CA 95232

The Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation

Tax ID # 68-0365565

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

1725 23rd Street Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@parks.ca.gov



October 3, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

RE: National Heritage Area Designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), I am writing to express my support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, currently the subject of a Delta Protection Commission (DPC) feasibility study.

The mission of OHP is to provide leadership and promote the preservation of California's irreplaceable and diverse cultural heritage. OHP is the state agency primarily responsible for administering and implementing historic preservation programs in California, and either administers or influences most state and federal preservation programs.

OHP supports this project, as a NHA is a valuable tool to bring more visibility and recognition to the historic and cultural resources sites of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Historic preservation opportunities have been discussed throughout the Delta NHA feasibility study process and have been recognized as a potential goal of a Delta NHA. OHP recognizes the potential for historic preservation projects throughout the Delta, particularly within the Legacy Communities along the Sacramento River. A Delta NHA will also be a way to increase recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education.

Again, on behalf of OHP, I am writing to express support for a Delta NHA. If you have any questions or need future assistance, please contact Jay Correia of my staff at (916) 445-7008.

Sincerely,

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer



RBOC
Protecting your boating interests.

925 L Street • Suite 220
Sacramento CA 95814
916.441.4166

www.rbo.org

Linda Bendsen
President

Cleve Hardaker
Vice President - South

Jack Michael
Vice President - North

Bob White
Secretary - Treasurer

Anne Sacks
Past President

Legislative Advocates
Jerry Desmond
Executive Vice President

Jerry Desmond, Jr.
Director of
Government Relations

September 27, 2011

Mr. Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
PO Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of the Recreational Boaters of California [RBOC], I am writing to express my strong support for a National Heritage Area [NHA] designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, for which the Delta Protection Commission is developing a feasibility study.

RBOC is the nonprofit boater advocacy organization that works to protect and enhance the interests of the state's recreational boaters before the legislative and executive branches of state and local government. RBOC is in its 43rd year as a statewide organization promoting the enjoyment, protection, and responsible use of our waterways.

RBOC firmly believes that this project is closely aligned with our principles to protect and enhance the recreation and boating interests of California including the Delta. What impresses us most about this project is the commitment to establish a federal recognition of the Delta due to its assemblage of cultural and historical resources. NHA designation has the potential to help gain visibility to the role the Delta has served in the nation by being an important location for water based recreation, dating back to the Gold Rush era in the 1850s. A Delta NHA can also link recreational and historic sites of the Delta, utilizing the waterways as corridors.

Recreational Boaters of California gives full support for the application for the NHA designation and looks forward to being involved in the collaborative planning and implementing process.

Sincerely,

Linda Bendsen

Linda Bendsen, President

C: RBOC Board of Directors

RBOC/2011/Delta/RBOC National Heritage Letter 9-27-11



CITY OF RIO VISTA

One Main Street, Rio Vista, California 94571
Phone (707) 374-6451 Fax: (707) 374-5063

September 20, 2011

Delta Protection Commission
14215 River Road – PO Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

To Whom it May Concern:

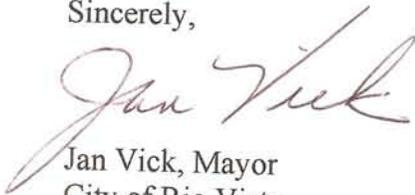
The City Council of the City of Rio Vista unanimously supports the creation of a National Heritage Area for the Delta, including the City within its boundaries.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a special place of great importance to the state for agriculture, recreation and a rich heritage of many cultures. *Rio Vista has always been an integral part of that place, even though the city is not within the current legal Delta boundary. Since it's original establishment in the 1850's, Rio Vista has been a vital key in supporting the agriculture of the area, transportation – both by land and water – and a center for recreation and culture. A National Heritage Area would focus attention on the Delta, enhance the unique values of the Delta, and, as is expressed in the Mission Statement, would “cultivate and retain appreciation and understanding of the Delta as an ecological, agricultural, recreational, historical and cultural treasure.”*

The City of Rio Vista is encouraged by the focus on the Delta as a significant place that must be protected in all its facets. The designation as a National Heritage Area would signal this importance to the rest of the state and even to the nation.

As this process goes forward, the City of Rio Vista will continue to support the creation of an NHA.

Sincerely,



Jan Vick, Mayor
City of Rio Vista



ROBERTA MacGLASHAN
SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT
macglashanr@saccounty.net

Ted Wolter
Chief of Staff
woltert@saccounty.net

(916) 874-5491
FAX (916) 874-7593

CHAIR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

700 H STREET, SUITE 2450 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

December 19, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of Sacramento County, I am writing to express support of a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as is currently being studied by the Delta Protection Commission (Commission). A Delta NHA will be a valuable tool to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, this assisting with economic development and public education.

As understood, the NHA designation can provide opportunities for projects such as historic preservation, development of visitor amenities, enhancement of recreation areas, and others which will help support the Delta. A Delta NHA can help recognize, enhance, and promote "Delta-as-Place" in order to build awareness of the Delta and its important resources.

Communities located in Sacramento County, including Freeport, Hood, Courtland, Locke, Walnut Grove, and Isleton, have played important roles in the history of the Delta. Often referred to as "Legacy Communities," they are filled with a rich and diverse cultural heritage that can be valued and appreciated by visitors and locals alike. These communities remain crucial centers to sustain the Delta and support economic drivers of the region including agriculture, recreation, and tourism. Historic resources can be found throughout these communities, which are supportive of the Delta's national significance.

Again, on behalf of Sacramento County, I am writing to express support for a Delta NHA. Sacramento County looks forward to partnering with the Commission to further pursue this effort and, as staffing allows, could provide support for tasks such as local public outreach, acquiring relevant data for a NHA management plan, and collaboration on NHA projects within Sacramento County. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 874-5491. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Roberta MacGlashan
Chair, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors



Steve J. Bestolarides
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
Representing the Third District

JESSICA KNISELY
Legislative Assistant
44 N. San Joaquin Street
Suite 627
Stockton, CA 95202
Ph: 209-468-3113
Fax: 209-468-3694

May 24, 2012

Michael Machado, Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 210
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of San Joaquin County, I am writing to express support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta which is currently being studied by the Delta Protection Commission (Commission). The Commission was mandated to conduct this feasibility study by the Delta Reform Act which specified that the Commission must develop:

"A proposal to protect, enhance, and sustain the unique cultural, historical, recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the Delta as an evolving place....The Commission shall include in the proposal a plan to establish state and federal designation of the Delta as a place of special significance, which may include application for a federal designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area."

A NHA can serve as a valuable tool to help the Delta gain recognition as a place of special significance, obtain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, assist with public education, enhance the region's economy, and more.

San Joaquin County looks forward to partnering with the Commission on this effort through a commitment of staff time and other resources, as available, to be a part of developing the Management Plan and assistance through the advisory committee, public outreach activities, and collaboration on NHA projects within San Joaquin County.

Respectfully yours,


Steve J. Bestolarides
Supervisor, Third District

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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County Administrator
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(707) 784-6100
Fax (707) 784-6665

675 Texas Street, Suite 6500
Fairfield, CA 94533-6342
<http://www.co.solano.ca.us>

May 30, 2012

Michael Machado, Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 210
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of Solano County, I am writing to express support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta which is currently being studied by the Delta Protection Commission (Commission). The commission was mandated to conduct this feasibility study by the Delta Reform Act which specified that the Commission must develop:

"A proposal to protect, enhance, and sustain the unique cultural, historical recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the Delta as an evolving place....The Commission shall include in the proposal a plan to establish state and federal designation of the Delta as a place of special significance, which may include application for a federal designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area."

A NHA can serve as a valuable tool to help the Delta gain recognition as a place of national significance, obtain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, assist with public education, enhance the region's economy, and more. The Commission has made considerable progress on the feasibility study and has incorporated public involvement throughout its development.

Solano County looks forward to partnering with the Commission on this effort through a commitment of staff time and other resources as available, to be a part of developing the Management Plan and assistance through the advisory committee, public outreach activities, and collaboration on NHA projects within Solano County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda J. Seifert", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Linda J. Seifert, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors



September 30, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of the Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD), I am writing to express support of the Delta National Heritage Area (NHA) and request that the Suisun Marsh be included in the conceptual boundaries for the Delta NHA. On July 14th 2010, the SRCD Board of Directors considered the proposal to include the Suisun Marsh into of a Delta NHA and was supportive of the concept, but expressed concerns about how a Delta NHA may impact existing land use, recreation, and public agency future regulatory authority.

The Suisun Marsh is located at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and is directly adjacent to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The two regions hold a shared heritage in many ways: geographically, ecologically, culturally, and recreationally. The 1977 Suisun Marsh Preservation Act protected the Suisun Marsh as the largest estuarine marsh in the western United States. It is extremely diverse ecologically as it is home to a great diversity of plants, fish, birds, and other wildlife. It also includes one of the best remaining examples of a brackish tidal marsh. Like the Delta, Suisun Marsh was significantly altered in the late 1800's and early 1900's by the construction of levees for the development of agriculture. However, increased salinity resulting from the development of the State and Federal water projects and upstream diversions led to the decline of productive agriculture in the Marsh. As a result, most of the Marsh was purchased by public and private interests to support wintering waterfowl habitat and waterfowl hunting.

A number of resources exist in Suisun Marsh which are being used for educational, interpretive, and/or recreational purposes, and can also support a Delta NHA. The California Department of Fish and Game's Grizzly Island Wildlife Area and the Solano Land Trust's Rush Ranch have properties open to the public for wildlife viewing, hiking, bird watching, photography, hunting, and fishing.

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Martha Rocha
Education Coordinator

SUISUN RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2544 Grizzly Island Road
Suisun, CA 94585-9539
(707) 425-9302
(707) 425-4402 FAX
srcd@suisunrcd.org
www.suisunrcd.org

Again on behalf of the SRCD, I am writing to express support of the concept of a Delta NHA and request that the Suisun Marsh be included within the conceptual boundaries. SRCD looks forward to working with Delta Protection Commission to identify the opportunities and constraints that this proposal may bring to the Delta and Suisun Marsh. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Chappell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steve" being more prominent than the last name "Chappell".

Steve Chappell
Executive Director

September 28, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
PO Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

I am writing on behalf of the UC Small Farm Program to express support and commitment for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, for which the Delta Protection Commission is conducting a feasibility study. Our support is conditional on the inclusion of language regarding Private Property and Regulatory Protection similar to that included in pages 15 and 16 of your Preliminary Abridged Draft dated August, 2011. Such language needs to be incorporated into enabling legislation for a Delta NHA, to ensure that the property rights of private property owners are not impaired by the creation of the NHA.

The UC Small Farm Program envisions a California agriculture in which small and family farms remain dynamic, viable components of their communities. This vision is reinforced by the Delta NHA's goals which include supporting the Delta's economic development by drawing visitors to designated sites, and promoting heritage tourism, ecotourism, and agritourism in the Delta.

Depending on staff availability, the UC Small Farm Program could serve as a partner to the NHA management entity, by working together on projects that would further enhance Delta agritourism. This could include outreach and education to local farmers, facilitating discussions and networking opportunities for interested persons on agritourism opportunities, and investigating funding sources for Delta agritourism marketing and promotion.

Once again, the UC Small Farm Program expresses its support for a Delta NHA and looks forward to partnering with the DPC to plan and implement this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Shermain Hardesty, Ph.D.
Director, UC Small Farm Program

January 1, 2012

Michael Machado
Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
PO Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. ~~Machado~~ MKZ

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the National Heritage Area Feasibility Study report and its findings. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region was the heart of early California. Native people lived there for 10,000 years and developed a sustainable society that is the envy of those concerned about the environment today. Every period of California history since Spanish exploration relied on the Delta for resources, agriculture and transportation. Parallel to the river culture of the Mississippi, the California Delta created its own heritage communities and folk tales, ethnic enclaves and devoted narrators. A trip up and down the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers is a trip through every era of California's history.

The NHA Feasibility study focuses attention of five significant themes: changing use of land, reclamation, multiculturalism, agriculture, and water. These themes underscore the interrelationship between nature and human settlements as well as the many ways nature has been the occasion for community cooperation and conflict. If sensitively managed, the California Delta can become a premier location for revealing America's enduring, yet changing, engagement with the environment. This region is special because the engagement has been long (over 10,000 years) and, as man has attempted to make dramatic modifications of nature, nature has responded with events that have forced significant human adaptation. The story of the Delta is of a long dialogue between the forces of nature and the determination of men. While men have invented bridges, tractors, dredge equipment, ships, and crops to tame this environment, nature has responded with flooding, earthquakes, and the rise and fall of native and non-native flora and fauna. The Delta story is a tale with no clear end in sight, but on its conclusion rests the future of California and the American West.

The timing of this initiative is fortuitous. In recent years the systems put in place in the mid-twentieth century for the distribution of water

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from the Delta region to the rest of California have proven to be inadequate politically, economically, and environmentally. As the many stakeholders wrangle, there is a growing risk that the heritage of the region will be sacrificed in the compromises among those who fight to control its water. In addition to helping to make assessable an important part of the history of California, a Delta NHA can provide a voice for residents and those committed to cultural and environmental preservation. Too often the Delta region has been dictated to by boardrooms across California and the nation.

Finally, the creation of an NHA provides a vehicle for stimulating a significant economic engine for the region: cultural, agricultural, and environmental tourism. The Delta sits in the middle of a region bounded by such tourist magnets as San Francisco, Napa Valley, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, and the Monterey Peninsula. The area already has visitors pouring in. The Delta could easily become another "blockbuster" attraction. Yet it has a special story to tell: not only of the rich history of California, but of the way agriculture and the environment have complemented each other, in the past and yet today. For example, the small farm and recreational facilities established in the Delta complement the "eat local" movement firmly established in Northern California.

In sum, then, just as the NHA which was established along the Erie Canal in New York resulted in creating a tourist attraction which rivals the Statue of Liberty in the number of visitors, so a Delta NHA has the promise of creating a destination that would insure that Northern California remains a "go to" place for a new generation interested in sustainability and the production of local food.

I look forward to the next steps in the process of establishing a NHA. The University of the Pacific is the only university physically on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as its campus rests along the Calaveras River. Therefore the interest of the University in this venture is real and personal. Further, the development of a National Heritage Area could provide an excellent reservoir of projects and studies in the social sciences and humanities as well as the natural sciences for our students!

Please let me know how I can help further this worthy effort. As you know, the University is currently pursuing grant resources and partnerships to increase the visibility of Delta narratives and to stimulate cultural organizations that currently struggle in Delta communities. I know from personal experience that these organizations and the cultural institutions in Stockton, Lodi, and Sacramento that are cooperating with them would be further

strengthened should a National Heritage Area be created for the Delta.
We look forward to that brighten future!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RB' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Robert Benedetti
Executive Director
Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership

cc: Margit Aramburu, Natural Resources Institute



CITY OF VALLEJO

OSBY DAVIS
MAYOR

555 SANTA CLARA STREET • P.O. BOX 3068 • VALLEJO • CALIFORNIA • 94590-5934 • (707) 648-4377

December 6, 2011

Mr. Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P. O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Mr. Machado:

The Vallejo City Council at its meeting of August 17, 2010 voted unanimously to support the efforts of Carquinez Strait Preservation Trust to include within the geographic boundaries of the Delta National Heritage Area (NHA) the Carquinez Strait area as described in the Carquinez Strait Resource Plan (1998).

We believe that inclusion of Vallejo's urban waterfront in the NHA boundaries would be beneficial to the City of Vallejo's community and economic development efforts. Vallejo's natural, scenic, historic, cultural, and recreational resources as well as architectural buildings, distinctive landscapes, and ferry service offers abundant resources to the overall NHA.

The NHA and Vallejo each share a rich history and are dotted with historic communities made up of historic homes, commercial structures and colorful characters significant in our State's history. Today the Delta and Strait are linked through a network of national, state, and regional trails. The geographic proximity, climate, history, and ecology, of two regions are complimentary and together tell a unique story of what we call "the inland coast".

We request you include the Carquinez Strait within the National Heritage Area boundaries at the December 8, 2011 meeting.

Sincerely,


Osby Davis, Mayor



October 17, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of Visit California, I am writing to express support and commitment for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Visit California can potentially serve as a partner for a Delta NHA by assisting the management entity with promotion of NHA sites via our website.

Visit California is a non-profit organization with a mission to develop and maintain marketing programs - in partnership with the state's travel industry - that keep California top-of-mind as a premier travel destination. We work jointly with the State of California's Division of Tourism to implement the annual marketing plan, which promotes California as a premier leisure travel destination.

The importance of tourism to California as an economic driver cannot be understated, as it is California's fourth largest employer and fifth largest contributor to the gross state product. A Delta National Heritage Area will be a valuable tool to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education.

We look forward to continuing to work to promote this wonderful area to our domestic and international visitors.

Sincerely,

Caroline Beteta
President and Chief Executive Officer
Visit California

CHAIR
Traci Stevens

*Acting Secretary, Business
Transportation and Housing Agency*

VICE CHAIR
Mike Gallagher
Marketing Committee

*Co-CEO and Founder,
CityPass, Inc.*

VICE CHAIR
Rusty Gregory
Executive Committee

*Chairman & CEO, Mammoth
Mountain Ski Area, LLC.*

CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER
Kathy Turner

*Vice President, Legislative and
Government Affairs, Enterprise
Holdings*

PRESIDENT & CEO
Caroline Beteta



October 5, 2011

CITY HALL

1110 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento, CA 95691

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City Manager**

**City Clerk
Information Technology**
(916) 617-4500

**Community Development
Planning/**

Development Engineering
(916) 617-4645

Building
(916) 617-4683

Redevelopment
(916) 617-4535

**Housing & Community
Investment**

(916) 617-4555

Economic Development
(916) 617-4880

Public Works

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(916) 617-4850

Engineering
(916) 617-4645

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(916) 617-4645

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(916) 617-4575

Refuse & Recycling
(916) 617-4590

Utility Billing
(916) 617-4589

Human Resources

(916) 617-4567

Parks & Recreation

(916) 617-4620

FIRE

2040 Lake Washington Blvd.
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 617-4600
Fax (916) 371-5017

POLICE

550 Jefferson Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95605
(916) 617-4900

Code Enforcement
(916) 617-4925

PUBLIC WORKS

Operations

1951 South River Road
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 617-4850

Michael Machado, Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado,

On behalf of the City of West Sacramento, I am writing to express my support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The California Delta is the essence of a NHA as defined by the National Park Service "a place where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape..."

Members of our community are proud to serve as active stewards of the Delta and therefore recognize the numerous benefits that a NHA designation will have. A Delta NHA will be a tool to help the Delta gain visibility to help people understand the region, its valuable assets and plentiful resources. This designation can lead to projects including historic preservation, environmental education, recreation, and heritage tourism; all of which can strengthen the region and its communities.

A handful of important historical resources lie within West Sacramento with relevancy to Delta history; including the First Pacific Coast Salmon Cannery, the Tower Bridge, the Port of West Sacramento, and the West Sacramento Historical Society. The Yolo Bypass, along the city's western edge, is of great importance for habitat and flood protection purposes for the Delta. Resources such as these are supportive of the Delta's national significance, and can be used to tell the stories of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Again, on behalf of West Sacramento, I am writing to express full support for a Delta NHA. If you have any questions or need future assistance, please contact me at (916) 617-4500. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Cabaldon
Mayor



COUNTY OF YOLO

Board of Supervisors

District 1, **Michael H. McGowan**

District 2, **Don Saylor**

District 3, **Matt Rexroad**

District 4, **Jim Provenza**

District 5, **Duane Chamberlain**

625 Court Street, Room 204 ▪ Woodland, CA 95695

(530) 666-8195 ▪ FAX (530) 666-8193

www.yolocounty.org

County Administrator, **Patrick S. Blacklock**

Deputy Clerk of the Board, **Julie Dachtler**

July 10, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Mike Machado
Executive Director
Delta Protection Commission
2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 210
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Re: Yolo County Support for a Delta National Heritage Area

Dear Director Machado:

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation encompassing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and certain nearby areas, including the Yolo Bypass, as described in currently available feasibility study documents prepared by the Delta Protection Commission.

As we understand it, the Commission was encouraged to conduct a feasibility study by the Delta Reform Act, which specified that the Commission must develop:

A proposal to protect, enhance, and sustain the unique cultural, historical, recreational, agricultural, and economic values of the Delta as an evolving place.... The Commission shall include in the proposal a plan to establish state and federal designation of the Delta as a place of special significance, which may include application for a federal designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area.

Our review of the feasibility study indicates that an NHA can serve as a valuable tool to help the Delta (and other areas included within the proposed NHA) gain recognition as a place of national significance, obtain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, assist with public education, enhance the region's economy, and more. The Commission appears to have engaged in significant public outreach during the course of its development. The Board of Supervisors encourages such outreach to continue with respect to any legislation proposed to establish the NHA. Similarly, following its establishment, strong public outreach should be integral to the development and implementation of an NHA management plan.

Additionally, we note with interest that the feasibility study calls for the Commission to serve as the "management entity" for the NHA if it is established. Going forward, the County strongly

Mike Machado

July 10, 2012

Page 2 of 2

encourages the Commission to work closely with the Delta Conservancy to ensure that NHA management is coordinated closely with its activities, many of which overlap with the proposed purposes of the NHA. The County will consider partnering with the Commission in implementing the NHA to the extent it has available staff and other resources.

Finally, as the Commission is aware, some landowners are concerned that a Delta NHA could adversely affect their property rights. The Delta NHA legislation introduced by Senator Feinstein included an "opt-out" provision to address this concern. The Board of Supervisors believes that this provision (or similar language) is an important component of any legislation that authorizes a Delta NHA. We encourage the Commission to work with the County to ensure that opt-out language is included in any Delta NHA legislation going forward.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed Delta NHA and look forward to its successful establishment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Provenza", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Provenza, Chair

Yolo County Board of Supervisors

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