

# Delta Voice

*Highlighting unique values of "Delta as Place"*



*Spring 2014*

## Contents

- [1] Discovering Today's "Delta Brand"
- [2] The Great California Delta Trail
- [4] Delta Reads
- [6] Upcoming Events

## Discovering Today's "Delta Brand"

As seen in Delta Voice's Fall 2013 issue, the Delta has been branded as a unique destination for decades. Delta Protection Commission (DPC) and Delta Conservancy staff have been busy partnering on the development of a modern "Delta Brand," which will be used to market the Delta as a destination, agricultural hub, cultural landscape, and support the proposed Delta National Heritage Area. Augustineldeas (AI), a full service brand strategy and marketing agency is assisting with this effort.

AI embraces the philosophy that brands are not created, but rather discovered, and has therefore structured a Delta "brand discovery process" which has included public workshops, focus groups, individual meetings, and small group interviews. Common themes have emerged about the region's uniqueness and idiosyncrasies, including its waterways and farmed lands, scenic vistas, historic bridges and towns, birdlife, fun and funky marinas and restaurants, and much more. While the Delta is generally visited for its rural nature and tranquil beauty, many feel that the experience would improve with increased directional signage, visitor maps, tour routes, and promotional material.

DPC will seek public input on three alternative logos which AI is currently creating for presentation at the May DPC meeting. To receive notification on public input opportunities, please provide your name and email address to [dpc@delta.ca.gov](mailto:dpc@delta.ca.gov) if you are not already on the DPC email list. Also check [delta.ca.gov/DelHAI](http://delta.ca.gov/DelHAI) for updates.

## Bay Delta Conservation Plan Review

The Draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and associated Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement are available for public review.

Comments are now due **JUNE 13, 2014**.

More information: [baydeltaconservationplan.com](http://baydeltaconservationplan.com)

# The Great California Delta Trail & Events

State legislation (SB 1556, Torlakson) directed the DPC to establish a Delta regional trail system, connecting the San Francisco Bay Trail with Sacramento River Trails. As the Delta Trail facilitator organization, the DPC seeks to link trails that are already being planned or managed at the local level. Read on for a look at the region's existing and planned trails.

After completing the Delta Trail Blueprint Report for the Delta's Western Region (Contra Costa and Solano Counties) in 2012, DPC is focused on the **Delta Trail Blueprint Report for the Eastern Delta Counties:** Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo. In September 2013 a revised Vision, Goals and Policy Section was released based on input from the April 2013 public workshop of the joint Stakeholder and Technical Advisory Committees. In reviewing participant input, **several themes emerged**, including:

- Increasing and improving trail infrastructure (e.g., parking, restrooms, levee improvements)
- Avoiding impacts to private property including agricultural lands and operations
- Prioritizing trail safety
- User etiquette guidelines
- Water trail routes



Clarksburg Branch Line Trail Ribbon Cutting, January 2014

The next components of the Eastern Region Blueprint Report include draft Descriptive Settings and Policy Context, which will be distributed for public review and comment this spring.

In the meantime, trail related events and planning activities are happening throughout each Delta county!

## Yolo County

This past January, West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon inaugurated a 1.25 mile dedicated Class I trail stretch of the **Clarksburg Branch Line Trail**, that starts at the intersection of Jefferson Blvd. and South River Road, running southward. This paved multi-use trail utilizes the old **Yolo Short Line Railroad** right-of-way, and provides an alternative route for commuting and leisure. The trail also provides a parallel non-paved lane for equestrian riders. The Clarksburg

Branch Line Trail continues south past Southport Town Center, providing an alternate route to its stores, and runs behind River City High School and the West Sacramento Recreation Center. The trail is a successful implementation of a "Rails-to-Trails" project, identified in



West Sacramento's 2013 Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Master Plan and received funding assistance from Sacramento Area Council of Governments. Now residents and visitors get to enjoy this multi-use trail, which provides a great community amenity to students, shoppers, commuters, bicyclists, equestrians and people out for a stroll, and offers an alternative to traveling on Jefferson Boulevard, one of West Sacramento's busiest roadways.

## Sacramento County

The City of Sacramento has been exploring next steps to complete the remaining segments of the **Sacramento River Parkway**, which has been adopted as a segment of the Delta Trail, and runs from the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers, south to community of Freeport. City officials are considering a variety of different approaches to complete the Parkway, including everything from acquiring recreational access easements from willing property owners to developing a two-lane protected bike path along Riverside Boulevard to connect segments.

### San Joaquin County

Stockton's Public Works Department is seeking funds to update the **Stockton Bicycle Plan**, which includes a map of the current and future bike way systems. The **San Joaquin Bicycle Coalition** is actively following this process and engaging community members to share suggestions on improvements to the Stockton's Bicycle Plan.

### May 12-16 is Bike Week 2014.

**Valley Bike Commute** is providing maps of existing bike routes for communities surrounding the south Delta, including Tracy, Stockton, Ripon, Lathrop, Lodi, Escalon and Manteca. Valley Bike Commute is a partnership between the San Joaquin Council of Governments, Stanislaus Council of Governments, and Merced County Association of Governments to support bicyclists and pedestrians. For more information check out [www.valleybikecommute.com](http://www.valleybikecommute.com).

The **Stockton Bicycle Club** is organizing its **36th annual Delta Century** event traversing rural Delta roads of the San Joaquin Valley, passing scenic vineyards and farms, and even includes a ferry ride across Steamboat Slough. The event will take place on **Sunday, May 4, 2014** at Jessie's Grove Winery, 1973 West Turner

Road in Lodi. Last year the 35th Delta Century registered 420 riders and donated \$9,200 to seventeen local charities, making a strong contribution to the region. Registration is at [www.stocktonbikeclub.org](http://www.stocktonbikeclub.org)

### Contra Costa County

The **San Francisco Bay Trail** marked its **25th Anniversary** at the Bay Model Visitor Center in Sausalito. Also, later this year the East Bay Regional Park District will open a **new 1.7-mile stretch of Bay Trail** along Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline, which provides a **gateway to the Delta region** along the northern edge of Contra Costa County and views of the marshlands at Benicia State Recreation Area across the Strait. This is a significant connection between the Carquinez Bridge and the George Miller Jr. Memorial Bridge, and another step closer to a complete **Carquinez Scenic Loop Trail** around the Strait that includes the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

### Solano County

Suisun City now can tout that **two** of their **existing boating facilities**, Suisun City Marina and Downtown Suisun City, are designated as part of the **Bay Area Water Trail**. The Water Trail Project Management Team, consisting of the State Coastal Conservancy, Association

of Bay Area Governments, Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways, made the designation early this March. Both sites are used by motorized and non-motorized boaters, are located in the **downtown waterfront district** near shops, restaurants and hotels, and provide a combination of amenities including: launch ramps, docks, restrooms, parking, and a loading/unloading area. They also provide access to Suisun Channel, Suisun Marsh, and **Delta waterways** - which are popular for bird watching and fishing. Designated sites provide educational materials about safety and sensitive wildlife and habitat and are featured on the Water Trail Website ([sfbaywatertrail.org](http://sfbaywatertrail.org)), which offers information for trip planning. Also, Suisun City is now eligible to apply for Water Trail construction grants.



### Bikeway Facility Definitions (Caltrans)

**Class I** - Bike Paths (completely separate from traffic)

**Class II** - Bike Lanes (on-street marked bike lanes)

**Class III** - Bike Routes (a street with signs denoting that it is a bicycle route)



Kayaker Suisun City. Photo Credit: Suisun City



Marina in Suisun City. Photo Credit: Suisun City

**Delta Reads** In 1994, the DPC compiled a bibliography of books and narratives about the Delta's geography, history, and people. With the help of the Delta community, this list has now been updated. These books are of utmost importance as we strive to better understand the Delta as a place of special significance, and shed light on its unique history to inform future decisions.

## Non-Fiction

Aiello, Marti, 2004. **Pittsburg**. 128 pages, images and story for the towns impact and contribution to the Gold Rush and other eras.

Arreola, Daniel D., 1975. **The Chinese Role in the Making of the Early Cultural Landscape of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta**. 15 pages.

California State Lands Commission, 1988. **A Map and Record Investigation of Historical Sites and Shipwrecks Along the Sacramento River Between Sacramento City and Sherman Island**. 438 pages.

Chan, Sucheng, 1986. **This Bitter Sweet Soil**. 583 pages, the Chinese in California agriculture 1860-1910.

Church, Idella R., 1958. **This Is Our Town – Rio Vista Centennial 1858-1958**. 90 pages.

Costello, Julia G., and Maniery, Mary L., 1998. **Rice Bowls in the Delta**. 98 pages, Artifacts recovered from the 1915 Asian Community of Walnut Grove.

Dana, Julian, 1939. **The Sacramento – River of Gold**. A wealth of information about the life and times of the Sacramento River including stories about fascinating characters.

Dillon, Richard; and Simmons, Steve, 1982. **Delta Country**. 134 pages, some maps and pictures.

Gardner, Erle Stanley, 1965. **The World of Water: Exploring the Sacramento Delta**. 160 pages, an interesting look at the 1960's Delta boating lifestyle.

Gardner, Erle Stanley, 1967. **Gypsy Days on the Delta**. 271 pages, lots of pictures.

Gardner, Erle Stanley, 1969. **Drifting Down the Delta**. 205 pages, lots of pictures, explores the 1,000 miles of inland waterways.

Gillenkirk, Jeff and Motlow, James, 1987. **Bitter Melon**. 144 pages, pictures and stories from Locke, the last rural Chinese town in America.

Gregory, Tom, 1912. **Solano & Napa Counties**. 1043 pages, historical with biographical sketches of the leading men and women of the counties.

Hardeman, Nicholas P., 1986. **Harbor of the Heartlands**. 275 pages, lots of pictures.

Harvie, Jean, 1980. **Discover the Dai Loy Gambling Hall Museum**. 14 pages.

Hutchings, James M., 1862. **Scenes of Wonder and Curiosity in California**. 272 pages, includes good descriptions of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers.

Johnson, Stephen; Haslam, Gerald and Dawson, Robert, 1993. **The Great Central Valley**. 253 pages, lots of pictures, informative, good history.

Kelley, Robert, 1989. **Battling the Inland Sea: Floods, Public Policy, and the Sacramento Valley**. 420 pages, good history of reclamation along the Sacramento River.

Korth, Josephine B., 1978. **Wind Chimes In My Apple Tree**. 303 pages, memoir of author growing up.

Leung, Peter, 1984. **One Day, One Dollar**. 89 pages, Locke California and the Chinese Farming Experience in the Sacramento Delta.

Mabalon, Dawn, 2013. **Little Manila Is in the Heart**. 464 pages, history of Stockton's Little Manila which was the center of community life for Filipinas/os who were a vital part of San Joaquin Delta agriculture.

MacMullen, Jerry, 1944. **Paddlewheel Days in California**. 157 pages, Steamboats and Tugboats in the Delta with photos and drawings.

Shelton, William, 1984. **Bailing Dust**. 140 pages, tells the story of young boy's life in the Delta.

Shine, Steven Martin, 1978. **Early Years to Golden Years in Rio Vista**. 142 pages.

Thompson, John, 1957. **The Settlement Geography of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California**. 660 pages, dissertation on human settlement of the Delta.

Thompson, John and Dutra, Edward A., 1983. **The Tule Breakers**. 368 pages.

Vann, Vicki., 2004. **Delta Delectables and Delights, a How-To Cookbook for Delta Fish and Other Dishes**.

Walters, Shipley, and Heringer, Robert, 1988. **Clarksburg: Delta Community**. 84 pages.

## Fiction

Allen, Arthur, 1952. **Stories of the Sacramento River Delta**. 39 pages.

Brandeis, Gayle, 2010. **Delta Girls**. 324 pages, fictional story of the desperate lives of two women in the Delta farming community.

Chambers, Dewey W., 1982. **Tales of the Delta Folk**. 60 pages, folk tales and stories written for children.

Ryan, Shawna Yang, 2007. **Locke 1928**. 272 pages, reprinted by Penguin Books in 2009, and retitled as **Water Ghosts**, a fictional story of that era.

## Art/Photography

Antioch Historical Society, 2005. **Antioch**. 128 pages, vintage images of agriculture, deep-water shipping and other industries to present times.

Bonnet, Wayne, 2009. **Down River: Sacramento to the Golden Gate – A Pictorial Record: 1840-1940**. 144 pages.

Crawford, Bruce, 2003. **Isleton (Images of America)**. 128 pages, includes photos and stories of the rich culture and history of the town.

Gregory, Carol Ann, 2001. **Sacramento's Greenhaven/Pocket Area (Images of America)**. 128 pages, Lots of old photos of when this was a farming community related to the Clarksburg and Lisbon district areas.

Hecteman, Kevin, 2009. **Sacramento Southern Railroad (Images of America)**. 128 pages.

Jensen, Carol A., 2006. **Brentwood (Images of America)**. 128 pages.

Jensen, Carol A., 2006. **Bryon Hot Springs (Images of America)**. 128 pages, sometimes called the "Carlsbad of the West," after the famed European health spas, this is a historical look at the resort.

Jensen, Carol A., 2007. **The California Delta (Images of America)**. 128 pages, draws from local museums, private collections, and the archives of Hal Schell.

Minick, Roger, 1969. **Delta West – The Land and People of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta**. 124 pages, beautiful photographs and fascinating text.

Schell, Hal, 1979. **Dawdling on the Delta**. 208 pages, lots of pictures focused on recreation.

Pezzaglia, Philip, 2013. **Towns of the Sacramento River Delta (Images of America)**. 138 pages.

*Thank you to all of those who contributed! DPC is building a reference library, and welcomes any contributions - particularly out-of-print books.*

Pezzaglia, Philip, 2011. **Riverboats of Northern California (Images of America)**. 128 pages.

Pezzaglia, Philip, 2005. **Rio Vista (Images of America)**. 128 pages, historical look from prior to city incorporation to early 1900's.

Schell, Hal, 1982. **Delta Images**. 128 pages, a picture tour of the Delta.

Schenker, Heath, 1999. **Picturing California's Other Landscape; The Great Central Valley**. 200 pages, features 150 years of paintings, photographs, tourist and advertising art, and maps.

Wolfe, Jane, 2003. **Delta Primer: a field guide to the California Delta**. 195 pages, story of the land and water through a deck of playing cards.

Wyeth, Morgan, 2009. **In and Around the Delta – A Photographic Journey**. 118 pages.

Yogi, Stan, 2007. **Highway 99: A Literary Journey Through California's Great Central Valley**. 545 pages.

## Travel/Pamphlets

Bohakel, Charles, 1979. **The Historic Delta Country: A Guidebook to State Highway 160, the bayou of the West**. 44 pages.

Graham, Kathleen, 1982. **Discovering Locke**. 17 pages.

Graham, Kathleen, 1982. **Discovering Walnut Grove**. 39 pages.

Graham, Kathleen, 1982. **Discovering the Sacramento River Delta**. 35 pages.

Graham, Kathleen, 1987. **Discover Paintersville, Vorden and Ryde**. 23 pages.

Jensen, Carol A., 2007. **East Contra Costa County (Postcard History Series)**. 128 pages.

Weitze, Karen J., 1984. **Terminus California in the Heartland of the San Joaquin Delta**. 21 pages.

**Notice any Delta books NOT listed? Please email to [dpc@delta.ca.gov](mailto:dpc@delta.ca.gov)**

## Upcoming Events!

### March

29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>: Bud Break & Barrel Tasting Weekend, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

### April

4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>: Sacramento County Creek Week. [creekweek.net](http://creekweek.net)

9<sup>th</sup>: California Delta Chambers & Visitors Bureau April Mixer. [californiadelta.org](http://californiadelta.org)

12<sup>th</sup>: Delta Waterways Cleanup (three sites). [delta.ca.gov](http://delta.ca.gov)

12<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>: Asparagus Festival, Stockton. [asparagusfest.com](http://asparagusfest.com)

### May

4<sup>th</sup>: Delta Century Cycling Tournament, San Joaquin Valley. [stocktonbikeclub.org](http://stocktonbikeclub.org)

10<sup>th</sup>: Asian Pacific Spring Festival, Locke. [locke.ca.com](http://locke.ca.com)

10<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>: Bike Week 2014 (Valley Bike Commute). [valleybikecommute.com](http://valleybikecommute.com)

20<sup>th</sup>: Sacramento River Delta Historical Society Meeting, Walnut Grove. [srdhs.org](http://srdhs.org)

22<sup>nd</sup>: Delta Protection Commission Meeting, Walnut Grove. [delta.ca.gov](http://delta.ca.gov)

30<sup>th</sup>: Holland Union Gakuen (Japanese Language School) Charrette, Clarksburg. [delta.ca.gov](http://delta.ca.gov)

### June

13<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for comments on BDCP + EIR/EIS [baydeltaconservationplan.com](http://baydeltaconservationplan.com)

14<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

14-15<sup>th</sup>: Isleton Cajun & Blues Festival. [isletoncajunfestival.net](http://isletoncajunfestival.net)

### July

12<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

24<sup>th</sup>: Delta Protection Commission Meeting, Discovery Bay. [delta.ca.gov](http://delta.ca.gov)

27<sup>th</sup>: Courtland Pear Fair. [pearfair.org](http://pearfair.org)

### August

9<sup>th</sup>: Taste of the Delta, Tower Park Resort. [tasteofthedelta.com](http://tasteofthedelta.com)

9<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

### September

13<sup>th</sup>: Delta Blues Festival, Antioch. [deltabluesfestival.net](http://deltabluesfestival.net)

13<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

16<sup>th</sup>: Sacramento River Delta Historical Society Meeting, Walnut Grove. [srdhs.org](http://srdhs.org)

20<sup>th</sup>: Delta Waterway/Coastal Cleanup, Sites TBA. [delta.ca.gov](http://delta.ca.gov)

25<sup>th</sup>: Delta Protection Commission Meeting, Clarksburg [delta.ca.gov](http://delta.ca.gov)

### October

4-6<sup>th</sup>: Antique and Classic Boat Society Annual Gathering, Delta Loop. [bandwresort.net](http://bandwresort.net)

5<sup>th</sup>: Delta Wine & Art Faire, Clarksburg. [californiadelta.org](http://californiadelta.org)

11<sup>th</sup>: Delta Days Art Walk, Old Sugar Mill. [oldsugarmill.com](http://oldsugarmill.com)

TBD: Giant Pumpkin Festival, Elk Grove. [yourcsd.com/pumpkinfestival](http://yourcsd.com/pumpkinfestival)

TBD: Bass Derby & Festival, Rio Vista.

For more special events, check out the Delta Chambers calendar: [californiadelta.org](http://californiadelta.org)  
Have an event you would like listed? Please send to [dpc@delta.ca.gov](mailto:dpc@delta.ca.gov)



## Delta Protection Commission

2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 210  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

[www.delta.ca.gov](http://www.delta.ca.gov)