

AGENDA ITEM 6: Executive Director report – October 20, 2016

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Presented by: Erik Vink

Requested Action: **Receive report**

Executive Director Report
October 20, 2016

Program and Project Update

1. **Delta Waterways Cleanup:** Commission staff participated in the Delta Waterways Cleanup (part of the statewide Coastal Cleanup effort) on September 17th by serving as site captains at five cleanup sites: the Bridge District-Sacramento River in West Sacramento (Yolo County), Buckley Cove Park in Stockton (San Joaquin County), Kellogg Creek in Discovery Bay (Contra Costa County; in partnership with Friends of Marsh Creek), a water-based cleanup site at Sandy Beach Park (Solano County), and a Delta Loop site at Korth’s Pirates Lair Marina (Sacramento County). Over 350 volunteers participated in this year’s cleanup and cleaned up almost fourteen tons of garbage.

2. **Delta Flood Safety Fair:** The 3rd annual Delta Flood Safety Fair will be held this Saturday, October 22nd from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Delta Farmers’ Market on Highway 12 at Highway 160. The 2017 Flood Preparedness Calendar was mailed directly to every address in the Primary Zone (and selected areas of the Secondary Zone) starting the first week of October – thanks again to DWR’s Division of Flood Management for partnering with us on this valuable program.

3. **Delta Protection Advisory Committee:** The Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) will meet on October 25th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Walnut Grove Library. The Committee will discuss the findings and recommendations of the Delta Flood Risk Management Assessment District Feasibility Study, the update of the Commission’s Land Use and Resource Management Plan, the Delta Leadership Program and the Delta Stewardship Council’s Delta Levee Investment Strategy. DPAC Chair Mark Pruner will report back on the meeting at the November 17th full Commission meeting.

4. **Delta Levee Investment Strategy (DLIS):** At its August 25th meeting, the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) discussed a draft amendment to Delta Plan Chapter 7 “Reduce Risks to People, Property, and State Interest in the Delta” to implement the Delta Levee Investment Strategy. The Commission staff submitted a comment letter, outlining several areas of concern in the staff report and the amendment, including the need to coordinate with the Commission’s staff as it concludes the Delta Flood Risk Assessment Feasibility Study (DFRMDFS). The Council will consider a revised staff report and revised amendment language at its October 27th meeting, and they may approve the revised amendment (as is or with small changes) and open a public comment

period. For the Commission’s November 17th meeting, staff will prepare a comment letter and position on the Council’s proposed Chapter 7 amendment for the Commission’s consideration and possible adoption.

5. **SB 554 (Wolk) Delta Levee Maintenance:** Water Code Section 12986 provides 75 percent reimbursement for Delta levee maintenance costs in excess of \$1,000 per mile. SB 554 (as enrolled) would have extended the sunset on this reimbursement rate from July 1, 2018 to July 1, 2020. As written, the rate is reduced to 50 percent as of July 1, 2018 unless new legislation passes. Commission staff sent support letters for the bill to Senator Wolk on February 5, 2016 and to Governor Brown on September 26, 2016. The Governor’s veto message on September 30th stated that he considered the bill to be premature because of the planning and policy studies underway (DLIS and DFRMDFS), and because the current 75 percent reimbursement rate does not sunset until July 1, 2018.
6. **Proposition 1 and Delta Conservancy Consultation:** Proposition 1 requires the Delta Conservancy to consult with the Commission on its grant-making activities. The Conservancy accepted applications for 2016-2017 grants between September 1st and September 30th. Conservancy Board approval of concept proposals is scheduled for November 21, 2016 and approval of full proposals is targeted for the April 26, 2017.

Upcoming Events:

October 22 – Delta Flood Safety Fair, Delta Farmers Market (Hwy 12 @ Hwy 160)

www.delta.ca.gov/Flood_Prep

November 1-2 - Science Enterprise Workshop, sponsored by Delta Stewardship Council

<http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/event-detail/13602>

November 4 - First Friday Gallery Walk, Walnut Grove

www.facebook.com/events/721593197962722/

November 4-6 - 20th Annual Sandhill Crane Festival, Lodi www.cranefestival.com

November 17 – Delta Protection Commission meeting, Knightsen www.delta.ca.gov

December 3 - Delta Reflections Lighted Boat Parade, Marina West Yacht Club www.mwyc.org

December 4 - First Friday Gallery Walk, Walnut Grove

www.facebook.com/events/721593197962722/

December 10 - Bethel Island Lighted Boat Parade, San Joaquin Yacht Club

<http://bethelisland-chamber.com/event/lighted-boat-parade>

December 10 - Discovery Bay Lighted Boat Parade, Discovery Bay Yacht Club

<https://dbyc.com/event-2075526>