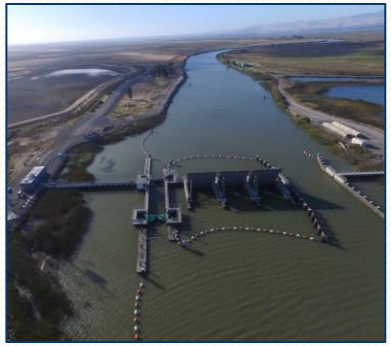
CDFW Invites Agencies and Stakeholders
to Help Develop a

25 Year

Delta Conservation Framework

for the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta, Yolo Bypass and Suisun Marsh
by 2017



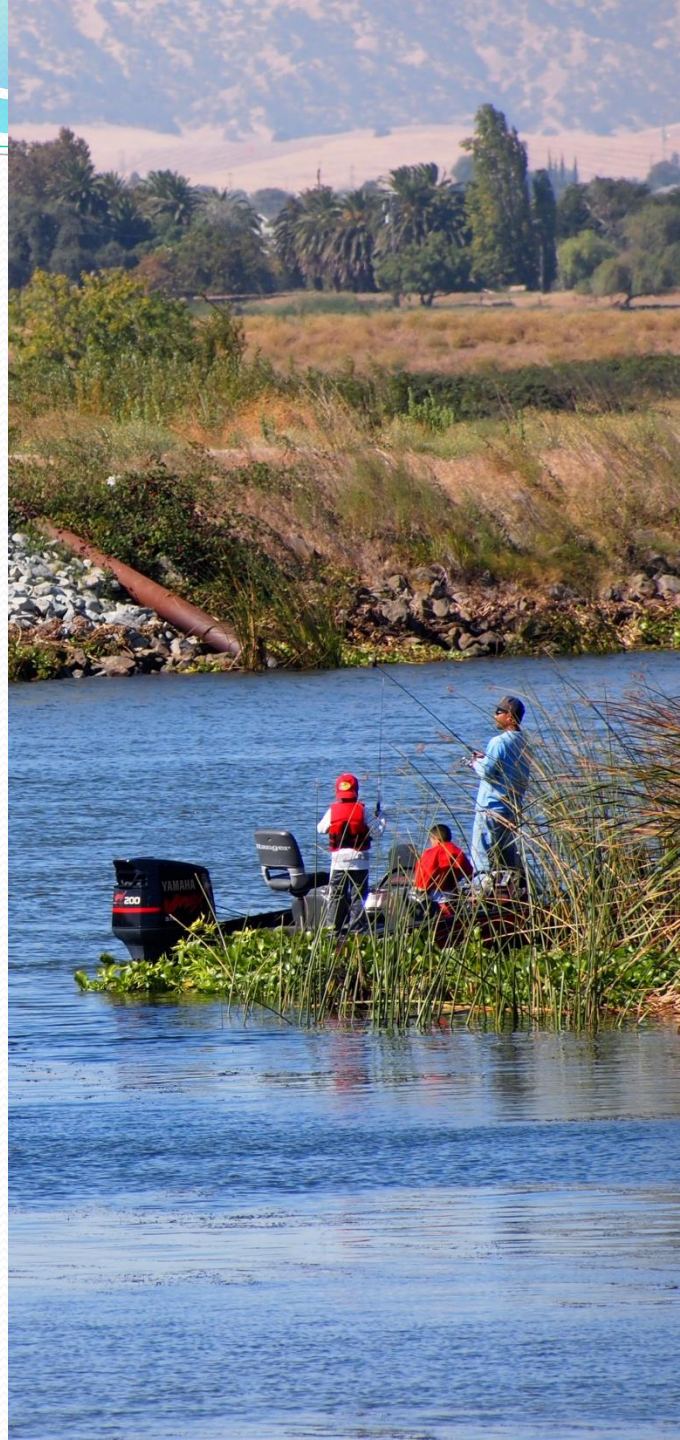
Photos: C. Sloop – Bird'sEyeView, CDFW

Stakeholder Engagement

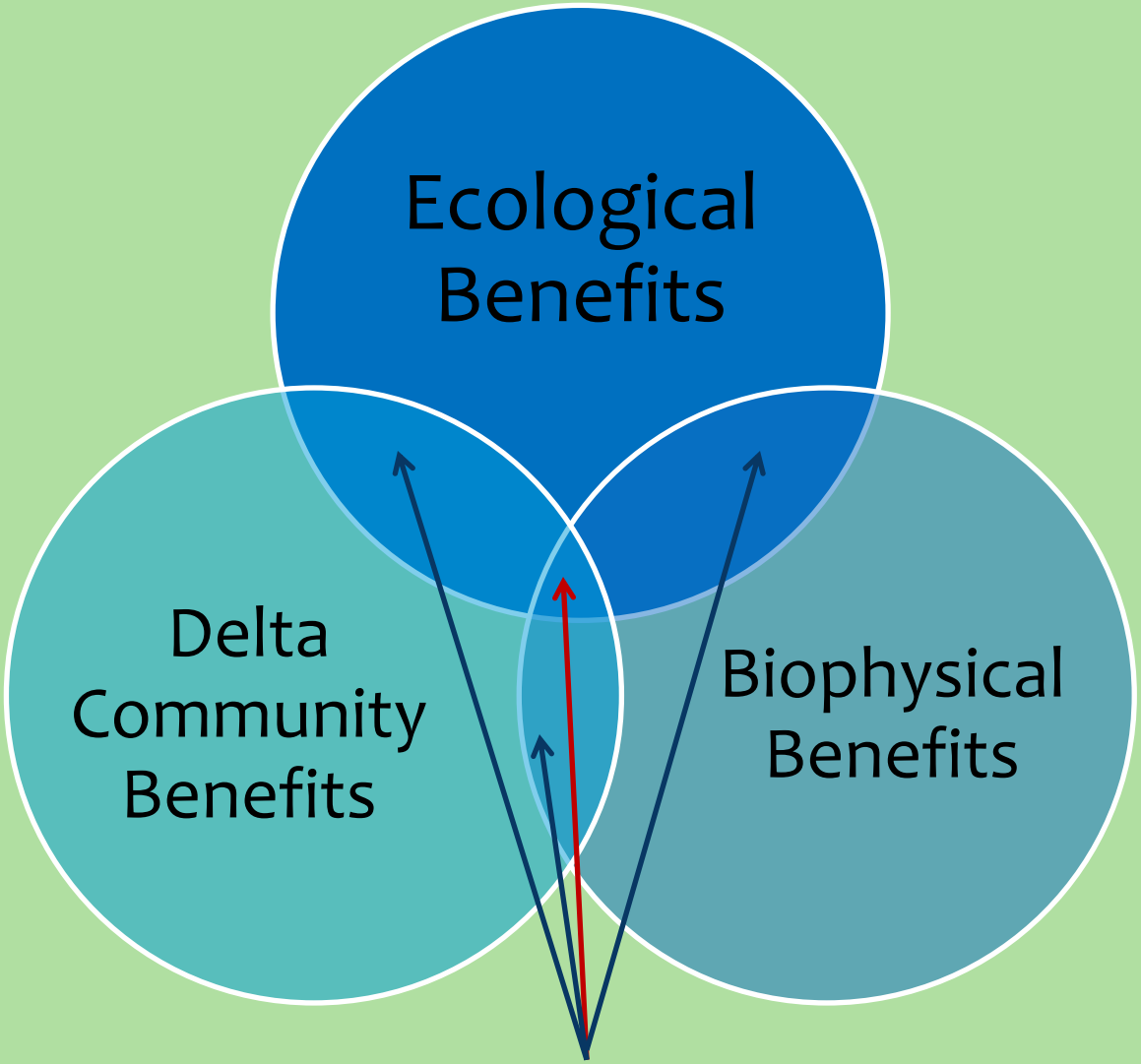
1. **Four public workshops:**
   a) August 18, 2016
   b) September 21, 2016
   c) October 20, 2016
   d) November 30, 2016
2. **30-day public review of document**

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Vision, Purpose, Principles, Outline and Integration**
   a) Overview
   b) Small Group Engagement (Break Out 1)
   c) Group Discussion
3. **Challenges and Opportunities**
   a) Overview
   b) Small Group Engagement (Break Out 2)
   c) Group Discussion
4. **Next Steps**



ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION



Multiple Benefits

Vision for a Future Delta

A vibrant Delta community within an ecologically dynamic mosaic of working landscapes and network of resilient ecosystems that support self-sustaining native fish, wildlife, and plant communities.

Vision for a Future Delta

The integration of ecosystem conservation actions into the Delta's rich cultural and economic fabric means:

- **Expanded, enhanced, and interconnected aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems that are characterized by natural variation suited for the various life stages of native fish and wildlife communities;**

Vision for a Future Delta

The integration of ecosystem conservation actions into the Delta's rich cultural and economic fabric means:

- **Delta residents and visitors actively engaging in the region's unique natural resource values through outdoor recreation activities, including boating, hunting, angling and birding;**

Vision for a Future Delta

The integration of ecosystem conservation actions into the Delta's rich cultural and economic fabric means:

- **The Delta as a multi-use landscape mosaic where agricultural productivity and economic vitality is achieved in a manner that advances the needs of both wildlife and people;**

Vision for a Future Delta

The integration of ecosystem conservation actions into the Delta's rich cultural and economic fabric means:

- **A levee system that affords improved flood protection while providing increased habitat value for fish and wildlife;**

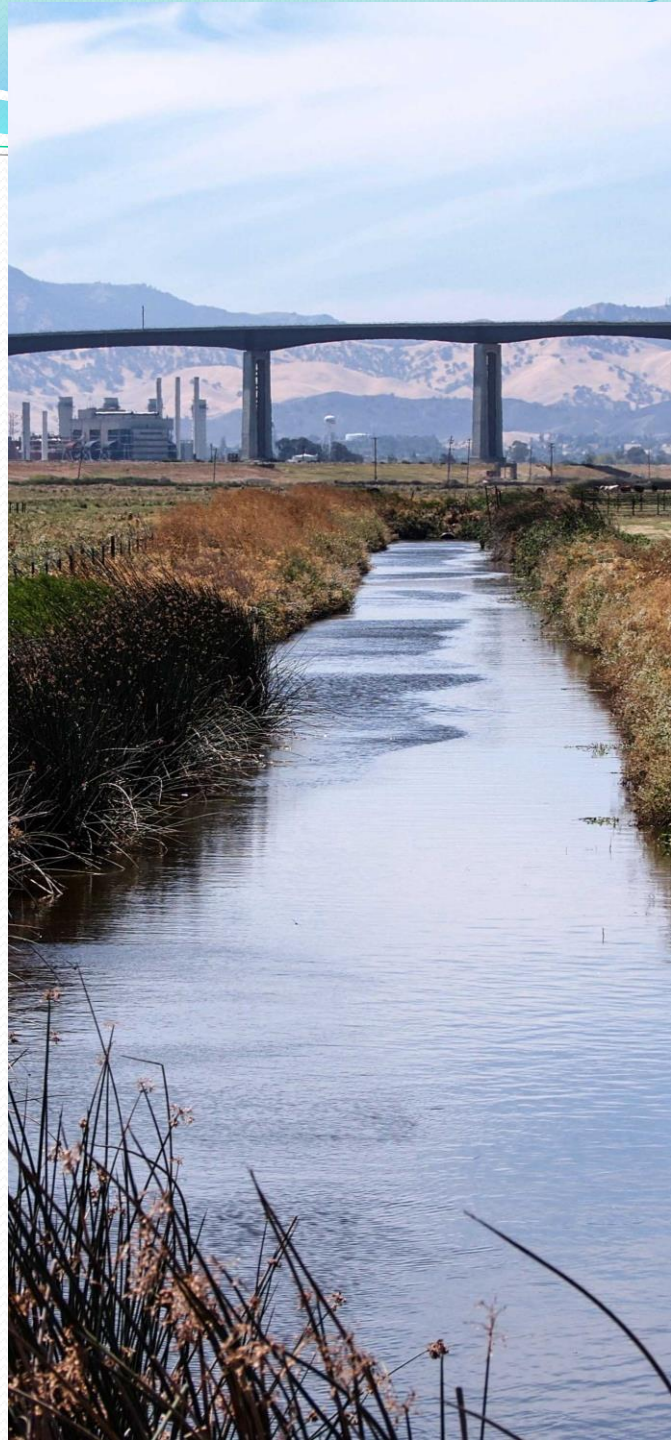
Vision for a Future Delta

The integration of ecosystem conservation actions into the Delta's rich cultural and economic fabric means:

- **Delta ecosystems and communities that are resilient and adapt to impacts from continuing changes in climate and land use.**

Delta Conservation

Strategies and related actions for the protection, enhancement, restoration, and adaptive management of Delta ecosystems and their ecological functions and biophysical processes to benefit human and natural communities



Focal Ecosystems and Habitats

AQUATIC

- Fluvial Systems
- Tidal Perennial Aquatic
- Nontidal Perennial Aquatic

TRANSITIONAL

- Managed Wetlands
- Floodplains
- Channel Margins
- Valley Foothill Riparian
- Marsh Transition Zone
- Upland Transitional Corridors

TERRESTRIAL

- Agricultural Lands
- Central Valley Grassland
- Vernal Pool Complexes & Alkali Seasonal Wetlands

Draft Purpose

- Serve as the long-term continuation of ***California EcoRestore***
- *Support Delta conservation project implementation by* ***informing planning, permitting and grant making***
- Promote improvements for Delta **ecosystem function,** and integrated **multi-benefits for human and natural communities**
- Inform *the* ***amendment of the ecosystem elements of the Delta Plan***

Draft Purpose

- **Help pinpoint key subjects and priorities for grant programs** by CDFW, SSJDC, and others
- *Provide stakeholders opportunities to* ***help articulate ecosystem goals and conservation strategies***
- Build on **past planning documents** and **existing efforts**
- *Serve as* ***high-level guidance*** *for more focused* ***regional conservation strategies***

Draft Purpose

- **Acknowledge possible solutions for recognized challenges** and other barriers to conservation project implementation

- ***Solicit and integrate agency and stakeholder feedback*** *to ensure alignment with HCPs/NCCPs and other conservation opportunities*
  - *CVJV, CV Habitat Exchange, NRCS,…*

- Provide guidance on **incorporating adaptive management** into Delta conservation projects

Draft Principles

Central Premise:

The conservation of Delta ecosystems will benefit both natural and human communities.

1. **Focus conservation practices on promoting ecological function.**
2. ***Recognize the Delta as a place with unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values.***
3. **Provide increased environmental benefits, project cost savings, and consistent and integrated support for decision-making, evaluation of success, environmental compliance and permitting.**

Consistency with Existing Plans

California Water Action Plan

Action 3: Achieve the Coequal Goals for the Delta

- Water reliability
- Ecosystem restoration

Action 4: Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems

Action 8: Increase Flood Protection

The Delta Plan

- Implement habitat restoration in priority areas
- Respect local land use when siting restoration projects

State Wildlife Action Plan

- Ecological function

Draft Outline

Introduction

- Historical Context, Vision, Purpose, Principles

Planning Approach

- Conceptual Framework, Community Engagement, Partner Roles

Planning Integration and Consistency

- Planning Foundation, Existing Plans, Future Efforts

Conservation Focus

- Ecosystem Pressures, Conservation Focus, Goals and Objectives

Potential Solutions for Recognized Challenges

- Conservation Strategies, Actions and Anticipated Opportunities

Integrating Delta Conservation and Science

- Adaptive Management & Research Needs

Conservation Opportunity Regions

- Geographic Planning Focus

Region-Specific Priorities for Ecosystem Conservation

- Description, Focus, and Priority Recommendations

Workshop 1

Introduction

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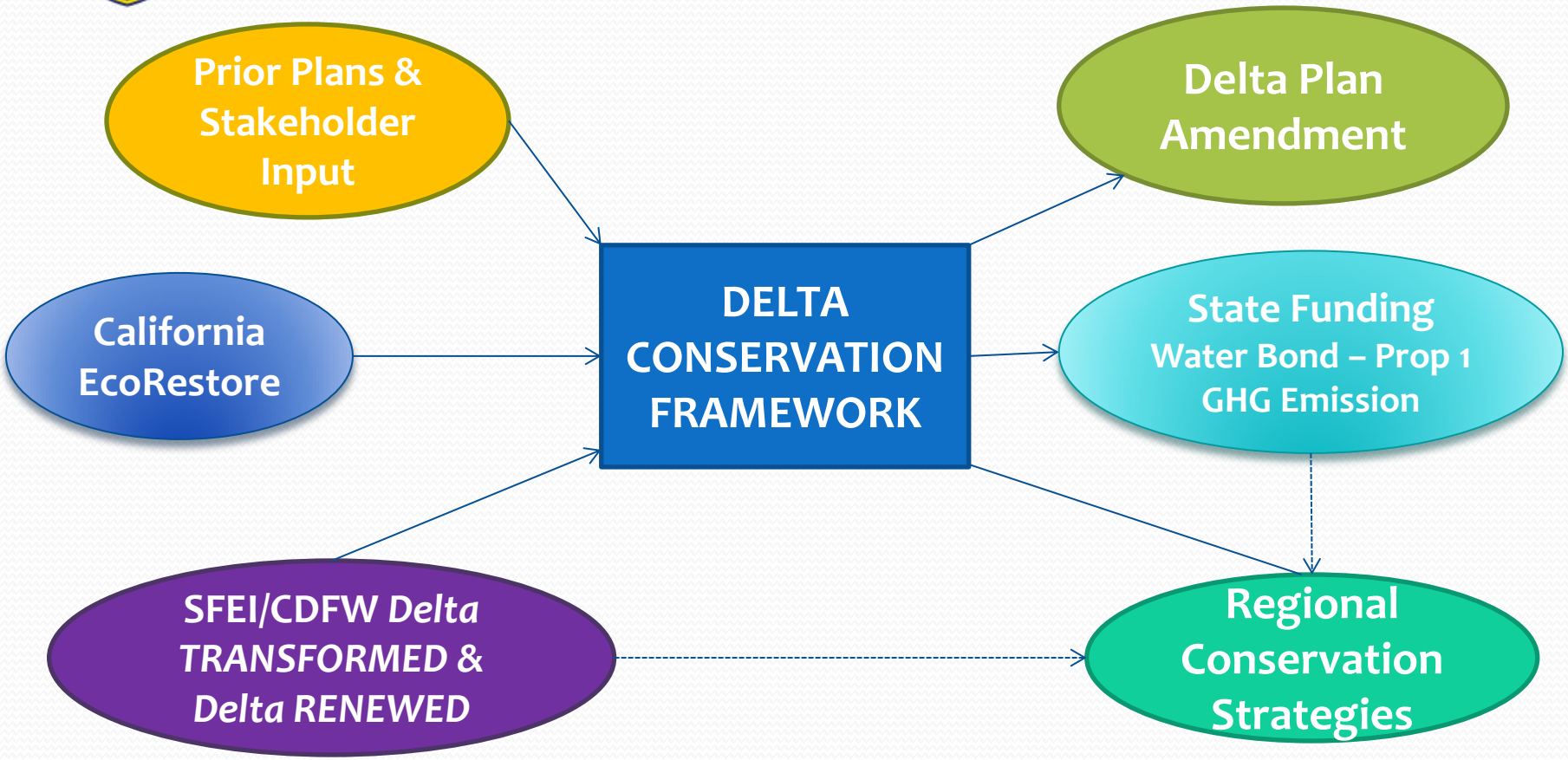
Planning Context



Workshop 2

Introduction

- Historical Context, Vision, Purpose, Principles

Planning Approach

- Conceptual Framework, Community Engagement, Partner Roles

Planning Integration and Consistency

- Planning Foundation, Existing Plans, Future Efforts

Conservation Focus

- Ecosystem Pressures, Conservation Focus, Goals and Objectives

Potential Solutions for Recognized Challenges

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Workshop 2

Conservation Goals & Objectives

No NEW Acreage Targets

Focused on *Ecosystem Function* and *Desired Conservation Benefits, including*

ECOLOGICAL

- Native-dominant Communities
- Special Status Species Recovery
- Sustained Migratory Bird Habitats
- Habitat Connectivity
- Diverse Mosaics of Complementary Habitat Types

DELTA COMMUNITY

- Agricultural Sustainability
- Flood Protection
- Outdoor Recreation

BIOPHYSICAL

- Subsidence Reversal
- Carbon Sequestration
- Functional Channels and River Corridors
- Improved Flows and Water Quality

MULTI-BENEFIT

- Wildlife–friendly Farming
- Subsidence Reversal
- Carbon Sequestration
- Native-dominant Communities

Integrating Ecosystem Function

- across geographic and time scales
- in conjunction with Delta community goals

Workshop 3

Introduction

- Historical Context, Vision, Purpose, Principles

Planning Approach

- Conceptual Framework, Community Engagement, Partner Roles

Planning Integration and Consistency

- Planning Foundation, Existing Plans, Future Efforts

Conservation Focus

- Ecosystem Pressures, Conservation Focus, Goals and Objectives

Potential Solutions for Recognized Challenges

- Conservation Strategies, Actions and Anticipated Opportunities

Integrating Delta Conservation and Science

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Conservation Opportunity Regions

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- Description, Focus, and Priority Recommendations

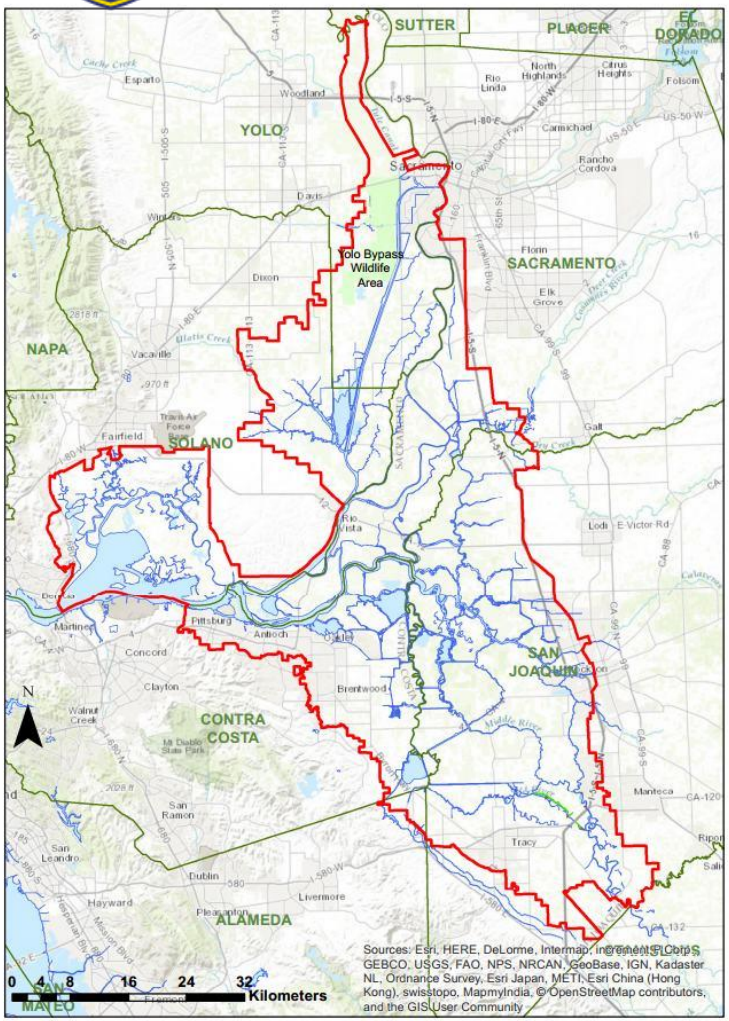
Workshop 3

Geographic Planning Area

Anticipated Opportunities

- Available public lands with long-term potential
- Opportunities with willing private landowners

Geographic Planning Area



Source: State of California

- **Northern Yolo Bypass**
- **Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta**
  - **North-Delta:** Cache & Lindsey Sloughs, Southern Yolo Bypass
  - **North-East Delta:** Mokelumne/Cosumnes confluence; McCormack-Williamson tract
  - **South Delta:** San Joaquin river floodplain
  - **West Delta** – Eastern Contra Costa County, Delta Islands - Frank's tract and surrounding islands
- **Suisun Marsh/Bay**

Workshop 4

Introduction

- Historical Context, Vision, Purpose, Principles

Planning Approach

- Conceptual Framework, Community Engagement, Partner Roles

Planning Integration and Consistency

- Planning Foundation, Existing Plans, Future Efforts

Conservation Focus

- Ecosystem Pressures, Conservation Focus, Goals and Objectives

Potential Solutions for Recognized Challenges

- Conservation Strategies, Actions and Anticipated Opportunities

Integrating Delta Conservation and Science

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Conservation Opportunity Regions

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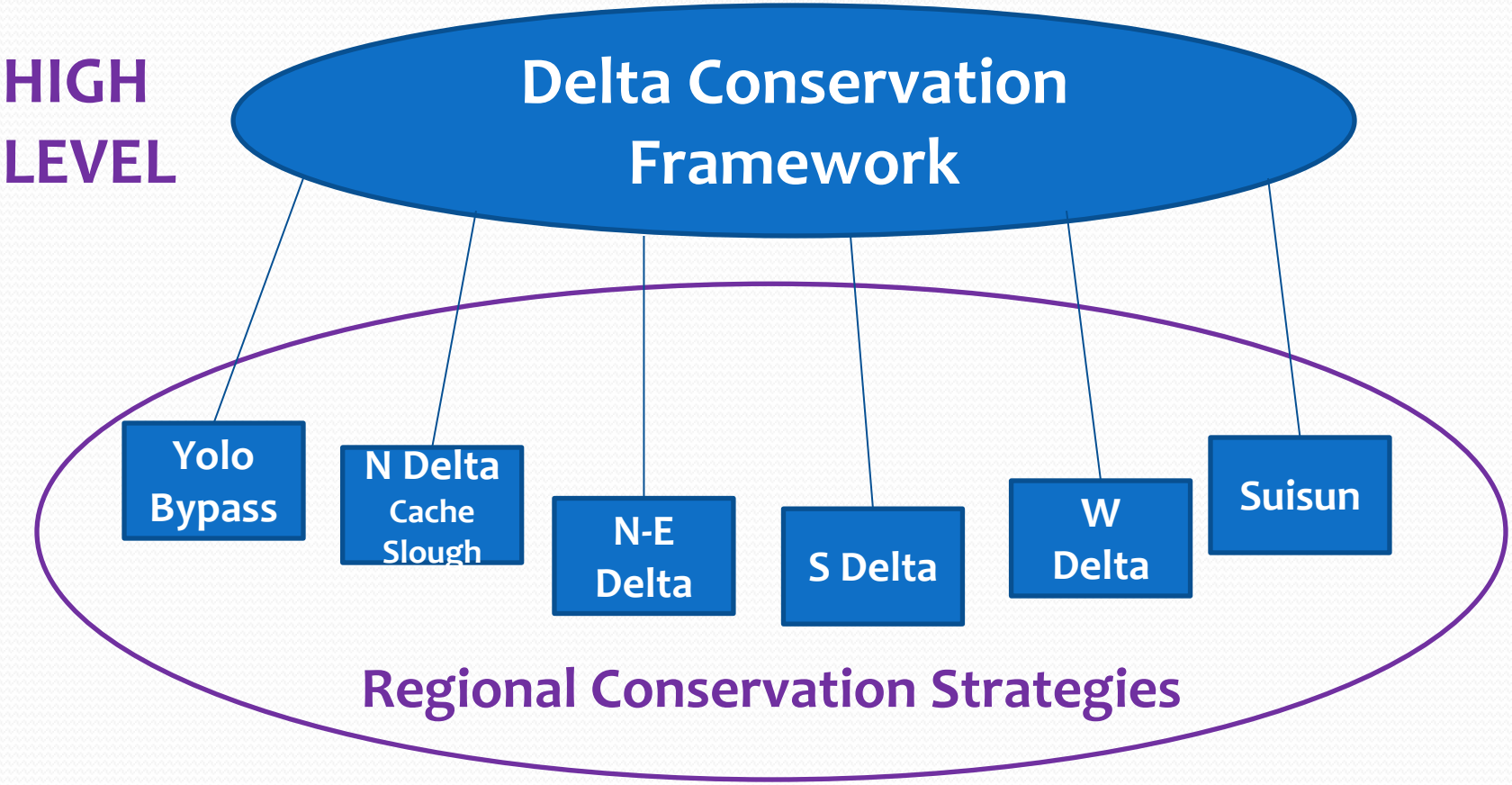
Region-Specific Priorities for Ecosystem Conservation

- Description, Focus, and Priority Recommendations

Conceptual Diagram



Small Group Engagement 1

Vision, Purpose, Principles

1. *Brief introductions*
2. *Review & provide input: Capture feedback on flip chart (35 min)*
3. *Share results with large group (5 min)*

Small Group Engagement 1

Draft Outline

1. *Review draft outline*
2. *Provide input on designated flip chart (5 min)*
3. *Follow up with more feedback after workshop*

Small Group Engagement 1

Planning Integration and Consistency

1. *Review reference list*
2. *Provide input on designated flip chart (5 min)*
3. *Follow up with more feedback after workshop*

List of Materials

1. Delta Conservation Framework *Vision, Purpose, Principles*
2. *Draft Outline*
3. Planning Consistency and Integration – *References Table*
4. *Solutions for Recognized Challenges Table*

Breakout Groups

1. Amanda Bohl – *Delta Stewardship Council*
2. Brooke Jacobs – *CDFW*
3. Campbell Ingram – *Delta Conservancy*
4. Charlotte Biggs – *DWR*
5. Jessica Davenport – *DSC*
6. Daniel Huang – *DSC* & Randi Logsdon - *CDFW*

Photos: C. Sloop – Bird'sEyeView

Small Group Engagement 2

Potential Solutions for Recognized Challenges

1. ***Brainstorm: Capture feedback on flip chart (40 min)***
   a) *Add to list of recognized challenges*
   b) *Each group chooses and articulates solutions to 4 challenges*
   c) *Capture actual examples where possible*
2. ***Share results with large group (5 min)***

Delta Conservation Challenges - DRAFT

- Climate change adaptation
- Invasive species management
- Integration of flood management & conservation
- Land protection
- Resources for long-term land management

Finding Solutions to Delta Conservation Challenges DRAFT

- Balancing conservation and Delta community goals
- Building local support for conservation
- Avoiding and minimizing adjacent agricultural-conservation land conflicts
- Funding support
- Complexity and duration of conservation permitting processes

Next Steps

Upcoming Stakeholder Workshops:

- **September 21, 2016**
  Proposed Topic: **SETTING GOALS & OBJECTIVES, FINDING STRATEGIES & ACTIONS**

- **October 20, 2016**
  Proposed Topic: **EVALUTING SUCCESS – DEFINING CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY REGIONS**

- **November 30, 2016**
  Proposed Topic: **INTEGRATION WITH REGIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGIES**

Public Document Review

- 30- Day

Photos: C. Sloop – Bird'sEyeView