CDFW Invites Agencies and Stakeholders to Help Develop a

*Long-Term*

**Delta Conservation Framework**

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

2017-2050
Stakeholder Engagement

Four Public Workshops:

1. August 18, 2016
   VISION, PURPOSE, PRINCIPLES – SOLUTIONS TO CHALLENGES

2. September 21, 2016
   SETTING CONSERVATION TOPICS & GOALS, FINDING STRATEGIES

3. October 20, 2016
   CONSERVATION ACTIONS & EVALUATING SUCCESS
   DEFINING PLANNING BOUNDARY & CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY REGIONS

   Proposed Topic: INTEGRATION WITH REGIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

30-day public review of document
## Stakeholder Participation in Workshops

### State
- CA Natural Resources Agency
- CA Department of Fish & Wildlife
  - Water Branch
  - Watershed Restoration Grants Branch
  - Region 3
  - Interagency Ecological Program
- CA Department of Water Resources
- Delta Stewardship Council
- Delta Science Program
- SSJ Delta Conservancy
- Delta Protection Commission

### Federal
- US Bureau of Reclamation
- Central Valley Joint Venture
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- SF Bay NERR

### County
- Sacramento
- San Joaquin
- Solano
- Solano County Water Agency
- Solano RCD – Suisun RCD
- Metropolitan Water District

### Academic
- UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz

### NGOs
- San Francisco Estuary Institute
- The Freshwater Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- Yolo Basin Foundation
- Yolo Habitat Conservancy

### Consulting Firms
- Douglas Environmental
- ESA
- Flow West
- MBK Engineers/Reclamation Districts
- Mosaic Associates
- The Catalyst Group – Delta Vision Foundation

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Photos: C. Sloop – Bird’sEyeView, CDFW
Delta Conservation Framework

Further Outreach

- Federal Agencies (NOAA, USFWS, USACE)
- Delta Stewardship Council
- Delta Five-County Coalition
- East Contra Costa Habitat Conservancy
- Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development
- Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
- Discover the Delta
- CA Delta Chambers & Visitors Bureau
- Return the Delta
- North Delta Cares
- Snug Harbor
- Anglers
- American Rivers
Planning Context

- Prior Plans & Stakeholder Input
- Delta Plan Amendment
- State Funding Water Bond – Prop 1 GHG Emission
- Regional Conservation Strategies
- SFEI/CDFW Delta TRANSFORMED & Delta RENEWED
- California EcoRestore
Vision for a Future Delta

A mosaic of towns, agricultural landscapes, managed wetlands, and resilient ecosystems where people prosper and healthy fish, wildlife, and plant communities thrive.
Delta Conservation Framework

Purpose

I. Forum for collaborative engagement and broad buy in

II. Long-term extension of *California EcoRestore*

III. Shared vision, overarching goals & strategies for Delta conservation

IV. Potential solutions to recognized challenges

V. Inform regional conservation strategies

VI. Informs State funding priorities

VII. Basis for amendment of the ecosystem elements of the Delta Plan
Central Premise: The conservation of Delta ecosystems will benefit both people and the environment

1. Building Community
2. Promoting Ecological Function
3. Providing Multiple Benefits
4. Focusing On People And Place
5. Increasing Efficiency (Process And Cost)
6. Highlighting Need for Funding
Delta Conservation

Implementing strategies and related actions for Delta stakeholder integration and the protection, enhancement, restoration, and adaptive management of Delta ecosystems and their ecological functions to benefit human and natural communities
Integrating Ecosystem Function

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

Ecological Benefits

Delta Community Benefits

Biophysical Benefits

Multiple Benefits
Consistency with Existing Plans

- EcoRestore
- Delta Renewed - Draft report SFEI/CDFW Delta Landscapes Project
- California Water Action Plan
- The Delta Plan/Delta Reform Act
- State Wildlife Action Plan
- Economic Sustainability Plan for the SSJ Delta
- Strategic Vision 2030 for the Delta
- CCMP for the San Francisco Estuary
- Suisun Marsh Plan
- CV Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy
- CVJV Implementation Plan
- ERP Conservation Strategy
- Human Use of Restored and Naturalized Delta Landscapes
Conservation Topics

DELTA COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

FUNCTIONAL DELTA ECOSYSTEMS
Process Overview

WHY?
- Purpose & Principles
- Vision

WHAT?
- Conservation Topics
- Goals
- Solutions

HOW? WHO? WHEN? WHERE?
- Strategies
- SMART Objectives
- Actions

“A goal without a plan is a wish!”

IMPLEMENTATION
- Outcome
Overarching Goals & Strategies

**GOAL A: Integrate Regular Stakeholder Communication and Socio-Economic Considerations into Delta Conservation Planning and Implementation Processes.**

**Strategy A1:** Build **Partnerships** and Develop Collaborative Practices and Forums

**Strategy A2:** Consider **Delta Socio-Economic Factors** in Conservation Planning, Implementation and Management to Support Economic Vitality and Highlight Conservation Related Contributions.
Overarching Goals & Strategies

GOAL B: Build a Program that Promotes Public Education and Outreach Focused on Delta Community Integration with Ecosystem Conservation

Strategy B1: Determine Responsible Entity and Build Delta Education and Outreach Program

Strategy B2: Develop and Run Local, State, and National Campaigns to Promote the Delta and the Importance of Conservation
Overarching Goals & Strategies

**GOAL C: Develop Multi-Benefit Focused Conservation and Land Management Solutions to Balance Environmental and Human Needs**

*Strategy C1*: Incorporate Conservation Goals with Levee Maintenance and Flood Management Practices to Provide Additional Habitat and Improve Existing Habitats along Delta Channels, River Corridors, and Riparian Zones

*Strategy C2*: Support Sustainable *Wildlife-Friendly Agriculture* to Provide Connectivity and Additional Foraging and Roosting Habitats for Wildlife and Migratory Birds

*Strategy C3*: Reverse Land Subsidence by Implementing “*Carbon Farming*” Projects where High Organic Matter Building Plants Sequester Carbon and Build Up Soils Over Time
Overarching Goals & Strategies

GOAL C: Develop Multi-Benefit Focused Conservation and Land Management Solutions to Balance Environmental and Human Needs

Strategy C4: Advance State Agency Land Management Processes and Procedures

Strategy C5: Develop Action Guidelines for Assuring Reliable Water Supply for In-Delta Uses When Implementing Conservation

Strategy C6: Integrate Solutions for Improving Water Quality into Conservation Project Planning and Implementation
GOAL D: Protect, Restore, Enhance and Sustain the Physical Processes that Create and Maintain Connected, Resilient and Diverse Aquatic and Terrestrial Delta Ecosystems and their Transitional Zones at a Scale and Landscape Configuration that Supports Prime Ecological Function and that Integrates with Human Needs.

Strategy D1: Protect Delta Ecosystems and Transition Zones with Potential for Conservation and Human Benefits

Strategy D2: In Designated Conservation Lands Restore, Enhance and Manage Ecosystem Processes to Improve Function and Habitat Quality for Life History Support for Resident and Migratory Wildlife
GOAL E: Create Conditions Conducive to Meeting or Exceeding the Goals in Existing Species Recovery Plans

- **Strategy E1**: Optimize the Level of Wildlife Population and Ecosystem Connectivity at Multiple Scales
- **Strategy E2**: Optimize the Level of Ecosystem Function at Multiple Scales to Support a Thriving Delta Food Web
Overarching Goals & Strategies

**GOAL E: Create Conditions Conducive to Meeting or Exceeding the Goals in Existing Species Recovery Plans**

- **Strategy E3:** Develop and Implement Coordinated and Proactive Approaches for the Early Detection, Rapid Response, and Long-Term Control and Management of Harmful Invasive Species.
- **Strategy E4:** Optimize the Level of Co-Benefits for Human Use of Conservation Areas and **Reduced Adverse Effects on Delta Wildlife from Human Disturbance**
Overarching Goals & Strategies

**GOAL F: Build Climate Change Adaptation Considerations and Adaptive Management Approaches into Planning and Implementation of Delta Conservation Projects.**

**Strategy F1:** Develop Resources and a Suite of Recommended Management Actions for Integrating Delta Climate Change Adaptation into Delta Conservation and Community Planning

**Strategy F2:** Directly Integrate Adaptive Management into Conservation Project Planning
GOAL G: Improve the Capacity and Approaches for Permitting Processes in the Context of Delta Conservation Implementation.

**Strategy G1:** Develop Regional Permitting Frameworks for the Delta Conservation Opportunity Regions

**Strategy G2:** Directly Engage with Permitting Agencies to Find Ways to Improve the Permitting Process for Conservation-related Projects
Overarching Goals & Strategies

**GOAL H: Develop Mechanisms to Secure Long-Term Funding for Continued Conservation Implementation and Long-Term Management of Conservation Lands.**

**Strategy H1:** Integrate with Existing Short-Term State Funding Opportunities

**Strategy H2:** Develop Long-Term Funding Support for Delta Conservation and Adaptive Management

**Strategy H3:** Develop Tools for Effectively Broadcasting Available Funding Opportunities
Small Group Engagement 1

Evaluating Success of Goal-based Strategies

8 Overarching Goals with the following nested components for each goal:

- **Strategies** (relative to reaching a specific goal)
- **SMART objectives**
  (Relative to a given strategy - specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time-sensitive)
- **Example actions** (relative to a strategy to reach given objective)
- **Example indicators/performance measures**
  (relative to objective-based actions within strategies)
Small Group Engagement 1

Evaluating Success of Goal-based Strategies

1. Review of overarching goals & associated strategies & actions
2. For each goal-based strategy capture:
   1. Additional objectives or actions
   2. Indicators/performance measures for actions
   3. Research needs – ecological & socioeconomic
Breakout Groups

1. Brief introductions (5 mins)
2. Review materials (10 mins)
3. Provide input on 2 Goals: Capture feedback on flip chart (30 mins)
4. Share results with large group (5 min each group)
Small Group Engagement 2
Planning Region & Mapping Conservation Opportunity Regions (CORs)

- Define planning region for Delta Conservation Framework
- Define conservation opportunity regions with focus on criteria such as:
  - Public lands and protected areas/easements
  - Existing regional conservation focus areas & current efforts
  - Ecological value and potential for community benefit
  - Agricultural land use, elevation, landforms, hydrology, infrastructure
  - Connectivity (within “Delta” and linking to upper and lower watershed)
- Opportunities roughly defined by region
1. Review criteria & maps (10 min)
2. Provide input & draw “fuzzy” outlines on large map (45 min)
3. Share results with large group (5 min each group)
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Bring your friends, colleagues and neighbors!