

# DELTA CONSERVATION FRAMEWORK

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## December 1, 2016 Workshop Summary

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The following provides a summary of the Delta Conservation Framework (Framework) public workshop held on the evening of December 1, 2016. The December 1 public workshop was attended primarily by local community members and landowners concerned about the Framework. The workshop included an overview presentation of the public workshop series conducted to date on the Framework. This included a summary of the previous public workshops held through the Delta Restoration Network to develop portions of the document, including the purpose, vision, principles, goals, and strategies that address the need for 1) integration of conservation and community goals, 2) conservation of ecosystem processes to promote function, and 3) addressing conservation implementation challenges and establishing good-neighbor practices. The aim of all six public workshops held was to capture input and feedback from the Delta stakeholder community throughout a 6 month period to directly inform the upcoming first draft of the Framework document. In all prior Framework public workshops participants provided their feedback in small groups and discussion topics were subsequently shared with the entire group through summary reports by a group member. In this workshop a majority of attending community members declined to follow this proposed workshop structure. Instead, individual comments were offered as a part of a large group discussion. A list of workshop participants is provided below, followed by a summary of the comments received during the workshop.

### Workshop Participants

Amanda Bohl (Delta Stewardship Council), Kathy Bunton (Delta Kayak Adventures), Barbara Daly (North Delta Cares), Bruce DiGennaro (Essex Partnership), Campbell Ingram (Delta Conservancy), Brooke Jacobs (CDFW), Patrick Johnston (Delta Stewardship Council), Russ van LobenSels, Andrew March (Rep. Garamendi), Tim Neuharth (Steamboat Acres), Mark Pruner (Delta Resident), Christina Sloop (CDFW), Nicky Suard (Delta business owner), Don Thomas (Sacramento Co. DWR), John Viano (Contra Costa Farm Bureau), Bill Wells (Delta Chambers & Visitor Bureau), Carl Wilcox (CDFW), Mark Wilson (Wilson Vineyards).

### Comments

- EcoFunction slide inappropriately puts eco benefits on top of other benefits.
- Who will be involved in developing the plan? The plan seems vague and unrealistic.

- Avoid more regulations and impacts on agriculture.
- How do we create a more productive approach? => ID win-wins.
- Creating more burden with this effort.
- The Framework is being created by agencies and NGOs. There should be more landowner involvement.
- Question timing – why now?
- Plan appears to be already “baked”.
- Just one more plan with limited input from local landowners.
- Difficult to have a large Eco Plan without displacing agriculture.
- Provide for preservation of agriculture.
- Agriculture is the economic engine of the Delta.
- What would be a multi-benefit agriculture friendly project?
  - Flood protection combined with seasonal agriculture and recreation (hunting) with additional wildlife benefits – example Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
- The document must be locally initiated and developed.
- This process is a waste of time.
- Delta Conservancy should develop its own policy.
- Develop locally with local support.
- Modify outreach strategy.
- Institutionalize input over time through ongoing public input as the DCF is implemented.
- See other habitat conservation plans and Caltrans plan.
- Don’t draw any lines on maps relative to regions.
- Add to Purpose for Framework: Inform Federal Funding Priorities.
- Recognize agriculture as the backbone => protect and preserve – list first.
- Maintain productivity.
- Any reference to coequal goals should include qualifier language from the Delta Reform Act.
- Plan in terms that recognize history and landscapes.
- Consider certified organic sustainable growers.
- Can we use agricultural byproducts in a productive way that might provide ecological benefits?
- The Delta Conservancy already has an implementation checklist. Do we need another one?
- Don’t need a big, top down plan. Good projects come organically – bottom up.
- Incorporate public access. Examples: Sears Point, Eden Landing in Bay Area.
- Reach out to East Bay Regional Parks District.

- Document failures and lessons learned. Monitor performance and share information.
- Replant habitat on levees (e.g. Sacramento River).
- Reach out – tap into existing meetings.
- No more PowerPoint.
- Recognize that recreation and tourism are important economic drivers.
- Acknowledge and recognize the historical significance of the Sacramento River.