

**Delta Protection Commission Meeting
November 18, 2021**

AGENDA ITEM 8: Executive Director report

Prepared by: Erik Vink

Presented by: Erik Vink

Requested Action: **Receive report**

Type of Action: Information Item

Commission Update

Delta Conveyance Project: Commission staff met October 21 with Department of Water Resources Delta Conveyance Office (DCO) staff on the status of their Environmental Impact Report (EIR) studies for the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP). Soil investigations are continuing, but as noted below engineering is generally considered complete for the purpose of the environmental review. Analysis of potential impacts and measures to reduce or mitigate them are underway, and a public Draft EIR is still expected in April to May 2022. The next coordination meeting is set for December 9, 2021.

Commission staff also continue to monitor meetings of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board and Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC). The September 22 SEC meeting was eventful, with a number of SEC members voicing growing frustration following a tense air quality impacts presentation. Several members have recently resigned from the SEC (including Restore the Delta’s Barbara Barrigan-Parilla, announced at the meeting). At the meeting conclusion, DCA announced the intention to “sunset” the SEC after a final meeting in December, explaining that engineering is complete for the purpose of environmental review. A number of SEC members expressed the view that the SEC has been valuable as a means for engaging with the DCA, despite their frequent dissatisfaction with content and process.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) initiated the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation on historic and cultural resources that will be required for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. The October 21, 2021 meeting included participation by Commission and Delta counties staff as well as interested parties from the public. This initial meeting introduced the consultation process and discussed development of a Programmatic Agreement, which the Corps explained is the process they follow in the event they are not able to fully evaluate (and therefore avoid or mitigate) all

potential impacts to historic resources. The Corps does not itself collect data but relies on resource information provided by the applicant (DWR) and their consultant. The Commission has provided the Corps a preliminary narrative report on cultural resources in the conveyance project area compiled from numerous sources in our records as well as interviews with local experts. Staff will continue to encourage and gather input from local experts and plans to keep the interested public informed through an occasional newsletter.

Delta National Heritage Area: The Delta Heritage Forum was held online on November 3 with 79 registrants. Sessions included an update on the Delta National Heritage Area, a workshop on heritage adventures, a review of interpretation and interpretive themes in the Delta and Carquinez Strait, and a workshop on the management plan. Sessions are currently available for viewing through the Commission website. Commission staff, Point Heritage Development Consulting, and California State Parks staff met with the NHA Advisory Committee and three of the four task groups in September and October. The NHA Management Plan Advisory Committee will next meet on December 2.

Delta Leadership Program: The 5th edition of the Delta Leadership Program will commence on January 7, 2022 and conclude on April 22, 2022. Nominations are due by November 19, and we hope to convene a diverse group of approximately 20 emerging leaders from throughout the region. Chair Nottoli and Vice Chair Winn have agreed to review the nominations, and will be joined by Delta Regional Foundation President Mike Campbell.

Broadband in the Delta: Commission staff are continuing to work with public and non-profit partners to identify local needs and opportunities, in anticipation of future grant funding opportunities. The federal broadband grant results are expected to be announced by NTIA on November 15, 2021.

We are still encouraging Delta residents to use the California Public Utilities Commission CalSPEED application to validate internet download and upload speeds throughout the Delta. Data collected in part from these validations was instrumental for the grant application to identify areas that have inadequate capacity or adoption rates due to cost.

Delta Waterway Cleanup: The Delta Waterway Cleanup is part of California Coastal Cleanup Day and was held on Saturday, September 18, 2021. Commission staff organized and hosted three cleanup locations this year: the Broadrick Boat Ramp in Yolo County, Bethel Island in Contra Costa County, and the Tower Bridge/Riverfront Promenade in Sacramento County with nearly 90 volunteers attending. It is estimated that approximately 150 bags of trash were removed from these areas along our Delta waterways. Commission staff also promoted other cleanup locations in Solano and San Joaquin County sending in another dozen volunteers to support those efforts. Commission staff developed a new Delta Waterway Cleanup logo which

was printed on tubular bandanas (buffs) donated by Regional Sans and provided to volunteers as a gift for their efforts. Commission staff would like to give a special thank you to our partners and supporters: The City of West Sacramento, the Sacramento Picks It Up Group, DMB Community Life, Sacramento City Councilmember Katie Valenzuela and staff, Yolo County Supervisor Oscar Villegas and staff, Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery, Cache Creek Conservancy, City of Davis Public Works, Solano Resource Conservation District, San Joaquin County Public Works, and the California Coastal Commission.

Commission Land Use Comments: There were no land use comment letters prepared by Commission staff from September 9 through November 10, 2021.

Commission Staffing: The Commission is currently advertising to fill all three of its vacancies: Office Technician (to assist with front of office work, act as Clerk), Associate Governmental Program Analyst (to provide internal administrative, contract, and grant support), and Senior Environmental Planner (to lead land use review and other regional economic development efforts).

Upcoming Events:

November

November 18 – Delta Stewardship Council Meeting

<http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings>

November 30 (proposed) - Great California Delta Trail Master Plan (public comment workshop)

<http://delta.ca.gov/calendar/>

December

December 2 – Delta NHA Management Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

<http://delta.ca.gov/NHA>

December 8 (proposed) - Great California Delta Trail Master Plan (public comment workshop)

<http://delta.ca.gov/calendar/>

December 11 – Lighted Boat Festival - Bethel Island

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=426296412242094>

December 11 – Lighted Boat Festival - Discovery Bay

<https://dbyc.com/event-4505594>

December 16 to 17 – Delta Stewardship Council Meeting

<https://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings>

January

January 4 – Delta Protection Advisory Committee Meeting

<http://delta.ca.gov/delta-protection-advisory-committee>

January 20 (proposed) – Delta Protection Commission Meeting

<http://www.delta.ca.gov/commission-meetings>

January 26 – Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

<http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/board-meeting-materials>

January 27 (anticipated) – Delta Stewardship Council Meeting

<https://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings>

Delta Protection Commission Projects Update – November 18, 2021

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Commission Staff Lead</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Current Status</i>
Delta Conveyance Project (Delta tunnel)	Virginia Gardiner	Tracking DWR environmental review process and tunnel design and engineering work through meetings with DWR, Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA), and Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC)	Commission staff continues to meet with DWR staff regularly to learn more about current efforts on the project and monitors the DCA and SEC meetings. Staff also monitors the U.S Army Corps of Engineers NEPA process. On October 22, Commission staff participated in a meeting on the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 cultural resources consultation process hosted by the Corps and attended by representatives of Sacramento, San Joaquin and Yolo counties as well as interested members of the public.
Great Delta Trail Master Plan	Virginia Gardiner	Developing Delta trail plan to provide a framework for local and state agency trail development decisions	The Draft Master Plan will be presented to the Commission at the November meeting with a request to release the draft for public review. Following release, two public comment workshops will be held on November 30 and December 8, with close of comments on December 16.
National Heritage Area Management Plan	Blake Roberts	Long-term plan for Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area initiated in 2020	The Delta Heritage Forum was held online on November 3 with 79 registrants. Sessions included an update on the Delta National Heritage Area, a workshop on heritage adventures, a review of interpretation and interpretive themes in the Delta and Carquinez Strait, and a workshop on the management plan. Sessions are currently available for viewing through the Commission website. Commission staff, Point Heritage Development Consulting, and California State Parks staff met with the NHA Advisory Committee and three of the four task groups in September and October. The NHA Management Plan Advisory Committee will next meet on December 2.

DPC November 18, 2021 meeting – Agenda Item 8 (Executive Director Report)

Delta Adapts: Creating a Climate Resilient Future	Virginia Gardiner	Technical Advisory Committee - Review of Technical Memos	Commission staff provided comments on the draft vulnerability assessment in a March 16, 2021 letter to the Council. The Final Vulnerability Assessment has been published; the next phase of Delta Adapts will seek to develop an adaptation strategy and build a climate change resilience “toolkit.” Council staff are meeting with stakeholders beginning in November 2021.
“Welcome to the Delta” Signs	Virginia Gardiner	Delta Five-Year Marketing Plan (joint effort of Commission and Delta Conservancy)	“Welcome to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area” sign fabrication should be complete late 2021, followed by installation by the CA Conservation Corps at 11 locations around the Delta selected by the Delta Marketing Task Force. Caltrans encroachment permits for sign installation from Districts 3, 4 and 10 are in process.
Delta Community Action Plan Implementation	Blake Roberts	Implementation of plans created by Delta legacy communities	The Commission final report on potential physical improvements for Delta legacy communities along the Sacramento River, including Isleton, Walnut Grove, Locke, Courtland, and Freeport, is now available on the Commission website.
North Delta Interpretation	Blake Roberts	Interpretive planning for 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse and surrounding community	Commission staff are working with the Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse to complete oral histories in the North Delta.
Delta Marketing Campaign	Stacy Hayden		With a continued increase in visitors to the Visit CA Delta website, Commission staff are continuing to work on the website to offer a more robust platform with a wider range of content. There will be an increase in collaboration in 2022 between the Delta Marketing Campaign efforts and the development of an interim Communications Plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area. Commission staff are also developing a scope of work to contract placement of the remaining Delta Recreation Maps at several Visit California visitor center locations and other targeted sites.

DPC November 18, 2021 meeting – Agenda Item 8 (Executive Director Report)

Workgroups and Forums	Commission Staff		Ongoing work groups include Delta as Place Interagency Work Group, Delta Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Advisory Committee, and Delta Marketing Task Force.
-----------------------	------------------	--	--

Budget and Spending for Delta Protection Commission - FY 21/22

SALARIES & WAGES (ESTIMATED)	Year to Date Spent	Budget Amount	Remaining	% Remaining
Land (Ag, LURMP) & Water	\$ 43,191	\$ 169,072	\$ 125,880	74%
Economic Sustainability	\$ 32,704	\$ 108,720	\$ 76,016	70%
Levees/Emergency Response	\$ 17,889	\$ 60,150	\$ 42,261	70%
Recreation	\$ 63,850	\$ 217,316	\$ 153,466	71%
Delta Heritage (General)	\$ 27,312	\$ 145,061	\$ 117,749	81%
Delta Heritage (NHA)	\$ 54,741	\$ 126,247	\$ 71,505	57%
Outreach & Education	\$ 49,693	\$ 165,061	\$ 115,368	70%
Administration & Capacity Building	\$ 55,662	\$ 210,364	\$ 154,702	74%
SUBTOTALS; SALARIES AND WAGES	\$ 345,044	\$ 1,201,991	\$ 856,948	71%
CONTRACTS AND INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS (*, **)	\$ 65,904	\$ 785,288	\$ 719,385	92%
GENERAL EXPENSE	\$ 27,787	\$ 192,880	\$ 165,093	86%
SUBTOTALS; OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 93,690	\$ 978,168	\$ 884,478	90%
Grand Total Expenses for FY 21/22	\$ 438,734	\$ 2,180,159	\$ 1,741,425	80%
SubTotal (ELPF) in FY 21/22	\$ 361,769	\$ 1,480,000	\$ 1,118,231	76%
SubTotal (HWC) in FY 21/22	\$ 76,965	\$ 255,000	\$ 178,035	70%
Subtotal (FTF for Federal FY 20)	\$ (1,207)	\$ (49,569)	\$ (48,362)	98%
Subtotal (FTF for Federal FY 21)	\$ -	\$ (107,000)	\$ (107,000)	100%
Carryover from Prior Years (*, **)		\$ 487,472		
Budget Totals (including all FTF)		\$ 2,379,041		

Figures reflect regular budget projection as of October 31, 2021

* Budget Change Proposal for \$200,000 was approved in FY 2018-19 budget - <https://esd.dof.ca.gov/dofpublic/viewBcp.html> - and then renewed in AB 128, Chapter 21 on file June 28, 2021

** Budget Change Proposal for \$200,000 was approved in FY 2019-20 budget - <https://esd.dof.ca.gov/dofpublic/viewBcp.html>

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

3rd Quarter 2021 (July through September)

WEBSITES

Delta Protection Commission

5,882 Pageviews | 2,797 Users

Top 5 Pages:

Rank	Page Title	Pageviews
1.	Home Page	1,467
2.	Delta Waterway Cleanup	598
3.	NHA (National Heritage Area)	489
4.	Commission Meetings	255
5.	Staff	171

Visit CA Delta

39,484 Pageviews | 19,202 Users

Top 5 Pages:

Rank	Page Title	Pageviews
1.	Home Page	5,447
2.	Best of the Delta	2,496
3.	Calendar: Pittsburg Seafood & Music Fest	1,892
4.	What to Do: Water Recreation/Boat Rentals	1,614
5.	Places to Stay: Camping/ RV Parks	1,484

FACEBOOK **Visit CA Delta**

1,523 followers

Top post:

👉 Are you ready for this?

We have the (many) winners of the 5th Annual Best of the Delta survey! Congratulations to all the places, organizations, and businesses that make the Delta the "Heart of California!"



[See full Facebook post with list of winners.](#)

Posted August 13:

3,527 people reached, 553 engagements

TWITTER **Visit CA Delta** @visitCADelta

3,912 Tweet Impressions | 216 followers

Top tweet:

Thanks, KCRA 3 for this feature on the history of Bogle Vineyards in Clarksburg - ow.ly/micp50Fm1Rt. For more places to taste wine and other beverages check out www.visitcadelta.com/eat-and-drink/wineries-and-wine-tasting #VisitCADelta



Posted July 12: 1,167 impressions, 7 engagements

TWITTER

Delta Protection Commission @CA_DPC

9,131 Tweet Impressions | 386 followers

Top tweet:

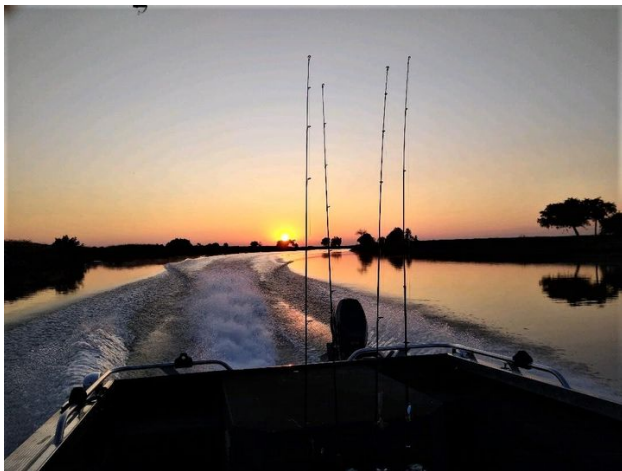
We have a short but important #DeltaHappenings for you this week.

It includes:

- 📍 An alternate Commission meeting tomorrow
- 📍 National Heritage Area public workshops
- 📍 The Delta Waterway Cleanup

📄 Read it: conta.cc/3iktTKY

📷 Delta Photo of the Week by Brad Summaria



Posted August 4: 1,324 impressions

FACEBOOK

Delta Protection Commission

578 followers

Top post:

31 You Are Invited! **31**

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Open House And Public Workshop

We invite you to attend either of two public workshops on the management plan process for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta NHA.

Share your ideas to preserve, celebrate, and share the important stories and places of the Delta and Carquinez Strait.

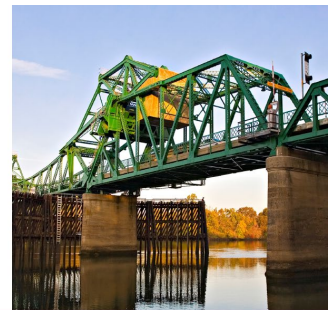
YOU ARE INVITED!

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Open House And Public Workshop

We invite you to attend either of two public workshops on the management plan process for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta NHA.

Share your ideas to preserve, celebrate, and share the important stories and places of the Delta and Carquinez Strait.

For more information:
Blake.Roberts@delta.ca.gov
530.650.6572
www.delta.ca.gov/NHA



Plan to attend a meeting at one of these locations.

Monday, August 30, 2021

Benicia

Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall

1150 1st Street

Open House: 5:15 PM to 6:00 PM

Meeting: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Walnut Grove

Jean Harvie Community Cent

14273 River Road

Open House: 5:15 PM to 6:00 PM

Meeting: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

See full Facebook post with list of winners.

Posted August 20:

682 people reached, 15 engagements

INSTAGRAM

Delta Protection Commission

843 followers

Top post:

In this week's [#DeltaHappenings](#) email, we are sharing ways you can get involved! You can...

- ✈ Share your input at the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area public workshops
- ✈ Sign up to be a volunteer at one of the Delta Waterway Cleanup sites
- ✈ Save the date for the Delta Heritage Forum (or even volunteer to be part of the planning efforts!)

There are also grant opportunities available!

- ✈ The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy is offering Ecosystem Restoration & Water Quality grants
- ✈ California State Parks has Outdoor Equity grants

If you missed our alternate Commission meeting on August 5 you can watch that and also get caught up with our other videos on our YouTube channel.

And last but not least, we share a weekly Delta Fact and a weekly update on Harmful Algal Blooms.

📄 Get all the details and links here:
<https://conta.cc/3jXvXrT>

📷 Delta Photo of the Week by Erik Vink, Executive Director of the Delta Protection Commission

Stacy Hayden (right) presenting Iva Walton (left) with a [#BestoftheDelta](#) certificate at the California Delta Chamber mixer. Iva's Mei Wah Beer Room won first place for Best Tasting Room. The Commission would like to congratulate all of the winners of this year's Best of the Delta survey! You can see them all on the Visit CA Delta website.

...continued



Posted August 18:
26 likes, 210 people reached

INSTAGRAM

Visit CA Delta

1,326 followers

Top post:

It's #FreeGIVINGFriday! Today we're highlighting more organizations in the Delta where you can volunteer your time for the benefit of your community and region.

Food Banks and Food Closets garner the most attention during holiday seasons, but they are necessary resources year-round in all communities. It's hard to believe in a region dominated by agriculture, there is still a need to provide food to area residents, especially fresh fruits and vegetables. Volunteers are constantly needed to help source food donations, receive and organize them, and distribute them to those in need. It takes a lot of people power!

Here's a short list of food banks in the Delta region. Please consider volunteering your time to these worthy organizations. If you know of another resource not on our list, please add it in the comments!

- Yolo Food Bank – yolofoodbank.org
- Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services – sacramentofoodbank.org
- River City Food Bank – rivercityfoodbank.org
- Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano – foodbankccs.org
- Emergency Food Bank - Stockton/San Joaquin, California – stocktonfoodbank.org
- Rio Vista Food Pantry – riovistafoodpantry.org

#VisitCADelta #FoodPantry #FoodCloset #SacDelta #SacramentoDelta #SacramentoSanJoaquinDelta #CaliforniaDelta

...continued



Posted July 9

12 likes, 340 people reached