

**Delta Protection Commission Meeting
September 15, 2022**

AGENDA ITEM 9: Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) report

Prepared by: Bruce Blodgett

Presented by: Mariah Looney, Chair

Requested Action: **Receive DPAC report**

Type of Action: Information Only

Background: The Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) met virtually on August 30 and received updates on the National Heritage Area from Blake Roberts, the Delta Conveyance Project from Virginia Gardiner, and received an update on Commission staff activities.

NHA activities regarding the management plan are moving forward. It is anticipated that the final report will go to the Commission in early 2023. Input is welcome regarding plan goals and objectives and identifying historically and culturally significant locations throughout the study area.

The Delta Conveyance Project EIR comment period started on July 27 and will conclude on October 27. Staff has coordinated the review of the document and will discuss the project with the full Commission on September 15 and will likely hold a special Commission meeting on October 20 to finalize comments. The Commission will also submit a letter to Department of Water Resources (DWR) asking for in-person hearings in the Delta, so Delta residents can better address their concerns with the project.

DPAC members as of August 2022 are: Chair Mariah Looney (Delta organization); Vice-Chair Russ Ryan (Delta water exporter), Robyn Brown and Aaron Pellarin (Delta business); Craig Watanabe and Gary Mello (Delta agriculture); Todd Bruce and Morris Lum (Delta recreation); Chris Elias (Delta flood entity); Anna Swenson (Delta general public); Erin Chappell and Edward Hard (State agency); Jim Cox (Delta conservation/habitat non-governmental entity); Sam Garcia (Delta utility/related infrastructure); and Douglas Hsia (Delta cultural preservation). DPAC members may designate an alternate to attend meetings in their absence.

Relationship to Vision 2030 (Commission strategic plan):

Education and Outreach (Strategic Theme)

O.1 Ensure consistent, proactive communications between and among Delta interests and decision makers.

1.4 Support an active and engaged Delta Protection Advisory Committee structure, including utilizing expert work groups, to provide recommendations to the Commission.