

Appendix I: Public Workshops

11. November & December Public Workshop Overview

Two virtual workshops were held on November 30th and December 8th, 2021. Both were held from 6-7:30 pm on Zoom. There were a total of 21 non-project team attendees across the two workshops. The workshops were promoted through the Delta Happenings e-newsletter, through social media, and through postings in stores and public locations throughout the Delta.

The three desired outcomes of the workshop were to (1) build shared understanding of project background and planning context; (2) share plan findings and recommendations for community input and comment; and (3) clarify questions and respond to any specific concerns or interests.

The workshops were structured to provide an overview of the plan followed by an opportunity for attendees to comment. The public comment period, facilitated by National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, used four probing questions to assist the conversation. Below is a summary of comments from each workshop grouped by question and/or topic.

12. Comments from November 30th Public Workshop

Question 1: When you think about Special Places in the Delta, what comes to mind?

History/Legacy Communities: Thinks about the past, the history of California and all the Delta has provided; Rich History and Places to Discover; Repository of California History (that is amazing!); Legacy Communities in the North and Central Delta.

Water Resources: Watershed Ecosystem is unparalleled resource for our state and our country.

Recreation Activities: Biking, hiking, canoeing, and camping; Locke, bridges, vineyards, pear orchards, and Pear Fair; Favorite Fishing Holes that people can access through Delta Trails.

Question 2: Are there any missed trail or water launch site opportunities, or additional recommendations, you'd suggest?

Water Trails: Identifying Actual Water Trails; Some launch sites are not suitable at all ex. some are closed to the public; Improve water launch sites at or near Delta Meadows near Delta Cross Channel, Snodgrass Slough, Locke, Walnut Grove, and create greater water connectivity to Cosumnes River Preserve.

Features/Amenities: Everyone's favorite...bathrooms; Considering access to pet waste disposal/cleanup; Dog stalls? That's interesting. > Dog stations!

Maintenance: Planning should consider trash collection and removal.

Branding: I love the medallions but wish that the caption on the bottom had more presence (e.g. was in caps or?).

Newer Communities: Consideration of the non-legacy communities of the Delta, ensuring that they'll have access and greater use of trails.

Bridges: Including the Orwood Bridge (recently rebuilt) in the Master Plan, east of Brentwood ~ Great Delta Park.

Question 3: What challenges, if any, do you see with the proposed recommendations?

Accommodating New Use: Use of non-traditional forms of transportation like: e-bikes, scooters, Segway's and renters along the trail; How would regulations need to change along the delta trail?; Electric car chargers.

Signs/Communication: Diversity in trail users; Finding a way to include those who do not speak English through signs.

Liability/Trespass: Private property rights/liability; Fears from agricultural interests, including trespassing, crop theft, liability from operations like crop dusting.

Maintenance: Ongoing maintenance - at every level (dog poop, restrooms, trash etc.); who will fund? Who will provide? Who will monitor?

Partnership & Collaboration: All trail segments will require significant coordination, input, and support input from neighboring landowners, particularly agricultural interests; Developing a good neighbor checklist for Master Trail Plan, guidance to intertwine public access and ecosystem protection; Doing justice to all of the cultural groups that inhabit and/or have inhabited and/or work and or worked in the Delta; Partnering with Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail to traverse across the valley to Camanche Dam/ Fish Hatchery; Instilling a sense of ownership and pride with local communities.

Trail Access and Linkages: Integrating trails with ecosystem restorative sites in the Delta; Parking; Links from east to west; Add more emphasis on waterways/ water trails in addition to land trails.

Question 4: What other Adventure Hub opportunities would you like to see developed?

Overnight/Multi-day: Very cool and nice if there were plans to identify places that people could camp or stay overnight for multi-day trips

Long Distance Rides and Runs: Marathon / half marathon termini; Sacramento Century Bike ride through the Delta.

Food and Drink: Wine tasting; We developed a list of restaurants, their hours, locations, whether on the water, what they specialized.

Agritourism: Agritourism in general (production, processing, distribution, picking etc.)

History and Culture: Relive the path to the Gold Rush from Martinez to the foothills; Cultural hub- tribal ceremonies, historic landmarks, National Heritage Area Process; Locke has an annual Chinese festival every Spring season; The 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse will feature an extensive exhibit on indigenous peoples.

Guided Adventures: There would also be valuable in identifying organizations that offer led/guided "adventures" from the adventure hubs, particularly those who do so for under-served communities and populations.

Single and Multi-modal: Boat rentals, bicycle rentals, horse rentals - being able to use one mode of transportation to access the delta while being able to take advantage of others.

Scavenger Hunt: Regional scavenger hunt, visit multiple sites in a day and take a photos.

Clarifying Questions and Other Comments Received

Water Trails: Differences between number of trails in September Plan and the newest copy (specifically water launch sites)?; Penny is visiting sea-kayaking sites and taking photos; Water trails have different characteristics in different areas; access points, having specific features mentioned, Recommendation Delta Water Trail Plan needs to be developed/ Difference for those between beginners/advanced. People who use the sites need to be educated with signage (e.g. Water Trail Interpretive Program in Lake Tahoe, rep from the boating commission, lots of models to pay attention to).

Equestrian Use: Equestrian, multi-use trails in high use areas, access for other use; Clarify in final version that equestrians are in the legislation.

Other Opportunities: Work with CalTrans to incorporate plans for state highways that pass through the delta (e.g. improving bridges and intersection of 160 and 12; Bike facilities at 164 in the plan, required to consider bike and pedestrian access in all of their projects, on different schedules); Southern and Eastern regions, job is to simply make current trails be a part of the delta trail system, support with designations and give recommendations; Feasibility Study for Isleton, Sacramento County Area; corridor is an interesting opportunity; Less engagement with State Parks, less capacity; Delta meadows presents a great opportunity with possible Prop 68 grant funding.

13. Comments from December 8th Public Workshop

Question 1: When you think about Special Places in the Delta, what comes to mind?

Nature/Natural Resources: Sunset viewing spots; Learning about ecology; Fascinating Sloughs.

Recreation: Elks Slough for kayaking, swim spots, motorboating, sailing and birdwatching.

Historic/Cultural Resources: Bridges!; Old Sugar Mill and Area Wineries; Delta Welcome Center at remodeled 1883 schoolhouse; Cultural history; Grand Island.

Economic Opportunity: Connects the Bay area with the existing American River Trail creates a world class trail from the Bay to the Sierra mountains; Creates a worldwide destination trail that brings economic opportunities to all the communities along the trail

Question 2: Are there any missed trail or water launch site opportunities, or additional recommendations, you'd suggest?

Water Trails/Launch Sites: Water trails in North/Central Delta Elk Slough, Mokelumne River, Snodgrass Slough Stone Lakes; More boat launching opportunities, smaller spots even for non-motorized vessels; Related supportive facilities for boat launching/ water safety.

Active Transportation: A complete trail from Sac to the Bay creates an alternative route between these areas; Trails should be looked at as transportation corridors; Communities can look to transportation funding as possible funding; Working with Cal Trans and provisions for shoulders/bike paths in the right-of-way (e.g. Hwy 120); Many European communities create bikeways separate from roads as part of their transportation network instead of using open space money.

Trail Connectivity: Farm and/or winery trail - would need participation and capacity on the Board - potentially reaching out to high school youth; Bringing in the San Joaquin River Trail to Delta Trail; Connecting the Delta to other trail systems

Other: Learning spots at important areas that show notable history or ecology; Bridges!

Question 3: What challenges, if any, do you see with the proposed recommendations?

Trespass: The trails, particularly the main trail, appear to be adjacent to broad swaths of private property (including working farms, ranches, etc.). Is there a plan for making sure that trail users are not able to leave the trail?; We farm near Hood, and do have problems with people "picnicking/fishing at a lovely site near on our property near the railroad cut slough - I would hate to see this increasing.

Safety: Traffic in general, congestion, less safe for pedestrians (CalTrans); Safe passage concerns; Bicyclists are impacted by dangerous spots; Providing alternate routes.

Funding: Funding needs to come from nontraditional sources; Bikeways need to be funded as a transportation source.

Natural Resource Protection: Will there be steps to make sure trail users near restoration areas do not leave trash/walk in sensitive areas/etc.?; Providing protections to ensure folks using trail are not impacting resources and areas; Concerns about dogs on the trail.

Agricultural Operations: Challenges with adjoining agricultural land uses, practices, peak spraying seasons, harvest activities, etc.

Question 4: What other Adventure Hub opportunities would you like to see developed?

Historic Resources/Area: Clarksburg Sugar Mill; 1883 Clarksburg schoolhouse; Potentially developed in conjunction with heritage area planning; Encouraging further exploration.

Needed Support Facilities: Identifying establishments that offer bathrooms, meals, drinks, entertainment; Coffeehouse, food trucks (Clarksburg).

Park Spaces: Delta Meadows State Recreation Area is underutilized.

Economic Opportunity: Economic opportunities along the whole trail from the Bay to the mountains can create worldwide destinations.

Clarifying Questions and Other Comments Received

Trespass/Management Guidance: Are there plans to address potential trespass on private property? Any guidance documentation? How will implementation be encouraged/supported at the local level? Any guidance being provided to farmers/growers in the Delta with respect to trail development and implementation impacts?

Grower in the area is concerned about the impact of the trail, dust, and other nuisances to their property; Memorandum of Understanding's (MOU) as a potential way to make agreements with landowners, create easements and ensure that there is distance between trail and private property.