

Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Management Plan

Today's Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Delta NHA Management Plan Interpretive Component Overview
- Interpretive Themes: Overview & Activity
- Goals and Objectives: Overview & Activity
- Q & A



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Delta NHA Interpretive Plan Component of the Management Plan

- Required element of the SSJDNHA management plan.
- Interpretive planning will result in the development of an interpretation framework consistent with NPS's and NAI's best management practices.
- The framework will include the statement of significance; a matrix of primary and secondary interpretive themes; a summary of interpretive facilities, programs, media, and personnel; identification of audiences and visitor needs; and opportunities, challenges, and recommendations.
- Because NHAs rely on shared heritage as a unifying concept that engages partners in regional conservation efforts, the interpretive framework is a key organizing element of the management plan.



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Why do Interpretive Planning?

- Interpretation facilitates connections between visitors and a resource
- Interpretive themes help define the “why”
- Interpreters are visitor experience specialists
- Interpretive planning provides a content roadmap to help guide education programs and visitor experiences
- Includes recommendations for interpretive methods, collaboration, and next steps



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Interpretive Themes

- Themes organize stories to communicate messages about the place and what it means
- Connect the past to the present
- Convey the significance of a place
- Foster opportunities to think critically
- Incorporate multiple perspectives



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Interpretive Themes

- Types of themes - primary, subtheme, supporting themes
- Stories give voice to the theme.
- Further work on theme development will be done by interpretive staff at site-specific locations



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Example of how to use interpretive themes

One interpretive goal for the Park was to provide orientation at the five key destinations and visitors a glimpse of the stories interpreted at the site.

Angel Island State Park, U.S. Immigration Station Interpretive themes example

- There was a difference in immigration policy practiced on the East Coast versus the West Coast. While the Statue of Liberty welcomed immigrants to Ellis Island, Angel Island was considered the Guardian of the Western Gate and enforcer of immigration policies.
- The US Immigration Station was located on Angel Island to enforce the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act. The design of the facility reinforced discriminatory practices and prejudice towards non-white immigrants.

Orientation panels at the Immigration Station


Discover

Memories Live On
 Much of the original Immigration Station is gone, but the memories live on in the poems inscribed on the barracks walls and in the hearts of the immigrants' families.

While You Are Here

- 1 Ask older relatives about your family story. Did any of your ancestors pass through Angel Island or Ellis Island?
- 2 Listen to a poem in Cantonese inside the barracks.
- 3 Can you find the foundations of the employee cottages designed by Julia Morgan, a famous Californian architect?
- 4 Specific to the North Island pine: Here will be some best like, look for this type of tree.
- 5 Ring the fog bell on the wharf.

Safety Starts Here
 The Immigration Station is built on a steep hill. For your safety, please must be left here. The paved road will take you across the station while the dirt path provides you with a relaxing and quiet experience.



US Immigration Station

Fencing Out Freedom

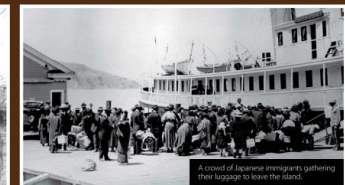
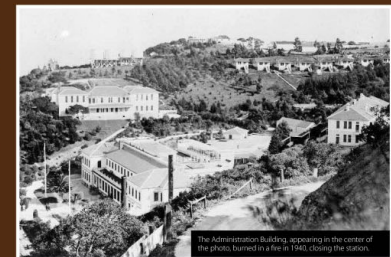
Although it is often compared to Ellis Island, Angel Island was not a place of welcome. Instead, it was used to keep immigrants, especially those from China, out.

The US Immigration Station opened in 1910. Over the next 30 years, it processed nearly a million people. Most were processed quickly on board their ships. Some European and Japanese immigrants were held a few days. Some Chinese immigrants also moved on quickly; however, many spent up to several months in detention.

While on the island, families were separated. Sometimes women and children could walk around, but men

were kept crammed in the barracks or a small fenced area. Conditions were unsafe and unsanitary.

Some who were forced to stay here wrote poems of sorrow, anger, and hope on the walls.



Did You Know?

- In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, barring Chinese immigration. The law was repealed during World War II, when the United States and China became allies.
- In response to the exclusion act, a thriving black market arose to help Chinese immigrants enter the country. "Paper sons and daughters" used forged papers and memorized facts to try to claim kinship with US citizens.
- Multiple complaints about fire safety were recorded between 1910 and when the administration building burned down in 1940.
- The poems were almost lost in the 1970s when the detention center was slated to be torn down. Their rediscovery helped spur a campaign to save the building and its poetic inscriptions.

State Parks designed orientation panels at the Immigration Station Entrance area that presented an overview of the site's history, what to look for, and a map of the area.

Draft Themes for the Delta NHA

Theme 1: The Delta's Natural Environment

Formed where the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers meet, the Delta is the largest freshwater tidal estuary on the West Coast of the Americas, where the convergence of fresh and ocean water creates essential habitats for plants and wildlife.

Subtheme topics include:

Physical processes of the Delta, Ecology, and the watershed



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Theme 2: A Changing Landscape

The garden of the Delta has been altered by people and machines, affecting many through history and making it an important resource for our State.

Subthemes Topics include:

Land reclamation, Reclamation Technologies and Techniques, and Reclamation Challenges



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Theme 3: Recognizing Native Peoples

Theme 3: TBD

Subtheme topic ideas from previous workshops

- Indigenous peoples who call the Delta home
- Impact of settlement and water reclamation on tribal culture and lands
- Perseverance, challenges, and outcomes
- Living cultures
- Land management values and practices
- Tribal contributions to California and the Nation



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Theme 4: People's Stories

Bringing their own ambition and skills to the Delta, each cultural and ethnic community shaped the region's agriculture and industry and continues to leave an indelible imprint on the landscape.

Subtheme topics include:

Immigrant Communities and Livelihoods, Delta workers



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Theme 5: Agriculture

The Delta's topography, water, soils, and Mediterranean climate make it one of the nation's most productive agricultural regions with the ability to grow a large variety of crops.

Subtheme topics include:

Farming practices,
Agricultural industry,
Challenges to growing
food, Other related
industries (e.g., canning,
fishing)



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Theme 6: The Importance of Water

The Delta is California's oasis, and as such lies at the center of the state's challenges and opportunities in allocating its finite freshwater resources across an infinite number of needs.

Subtheme topics include:

Conservation, water management, and stewardship



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Draft Supporting Themes

Supporting Theme 1: (Military History)

A place of both defense and defiance, the military installations of the Delta and Carquinez Strait tell a story of local contributions to the U.S. military.

Supporting Theme 2: (Transportation and Related Industries)

The Delta's maze of interconnected waterways and levees creates a vital transportation corridor from the Central Valley to the Pacific Ocean.



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Draft Supporting Themes

Supporting Theme 3: Gold Rush

The Delta was heavily used as a corridor during the Gold Rush era (1848-1855) due to its prime location between the San Francisco Bay and the Sierra Nevadas, and thousands of forty-niners traveled its rivers on some of the finest steamboats in America.

Supporting Theme 4: (Rural and Urban Centers)

Like the rivers and streams interlaced through the Delta, the small farming communities and larger metropolitan areas are interconnected and influence each other.



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Draft Supporting Themes

Supporting Theme 5: (Art)

As a location of solace and inspiration, many writers and artists have called the Delta home.

Supporting Theme 6: (Recreation)

The Delta's waters and rural communities provide a retreat from our busy lives and reconnect us to the land and each other.

Supporting Theme 7: (Energy Production)

The Delta Region is a source of fossil fuel production, but its emerging sustainable energy industries are growing.



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Themes Breakout

Breakout Activity

- Select which theme resonates most with you or your site.
- Discuss how the theme ties into your site.
- What are partnership or collaboration opportunities to tell this story among multiple sites?



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Goals and Objectives Overview

Goals

- Sustain the region's purpose and significance
- Are broad
- Address how interpretation complements and interacts with other management responsibilities



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Goals and Objectives Overview

Objectives

- Identify desired visitor experiences
- Measurable
- Emphasize desired outcomes
- Extend visitors' involvement and benefit the site or community



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Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: ORIENT

Interpretation will orient visitors to the Delta National Heritage Area and encourage exploration.

Objective 1: Trip Planning

Visitors will easily locate information about SSJDNHA sites, programs, and events while planning their visit.

Objective 2: On-site orientation and trail interpretation

Improve interpretation and wayfinding signage along land and water trails, towns, and SSJDNHA interpretive sites



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Goals and Objectives Breakout

Group Activity

If you had all the money in the world what could you do with this objective?
What are the opportunities among organizations?

What are the barriers in reality? What might be needed to overcome those barriers?



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Q&A

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