

December 22, 2025

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Wade Crowfoot,

In accordance with the State Leadership Accountability Act (Leadership Accountability), the Delta Protection Commission submits this report on the review of our internal control and monitoring systems for the biennial period ending December 31, 2025.

Should you have any questions please contact system, admin, at (555) 555-5555, slaatest123@yahoo.com.

GOVERNANCE

Mission and Strategic Plan

Mission: We protect, maintain, enhance, and enrich the overall quality of the Delta environment and economy. We do this with a focus on agriculture, recreation, and natural resources, while remaining mindful of the importance of the Delta to all Californians.

Strategic Goals:

WATER

W.1 Support Delta water solutions that reduce reliance on Delta fresh water supplies, provide through-Delta fresh water conveyance to protect Delta water quality and water rights, and protect and enhance the Delta's natural resources, recreation, agriculture, adjacent urban areas, and economies.

1.1 Create or disseminate products (e.g. white papers, videos, brochures, etc.) to inform and educate the public, opinion leaders, and policymakers on the benefit of through-Delta conveyance on water quality, water rights, and regional ecosystem and economy.

1.2 Work with Delta-supportive interests to identify alternative solutions for water supply reliability in California.

1.3 Analyze proposals for addressing water supply reliability for compatibility with Delta values.

A.1 Protect and enhance long-term viability of commercial agriculture.

1.1 Support infrastructure projects that promote efficient agricultural operations, accessibility for agritourism, and movement of agricultural goods.

1.2 Promote agricultural crops and cultural practices that reduce or eliminate continued subsidence of Delta peat soil.

1.3 Support diversified approaches to agritourism for the benefit of Delta growers.

AGRICULTURE

A.2 Protect agricultural lands from inappropriate development.

2.1 Implement the Land Use and Resource Management Plan (LURMP) and update it to address current conversion challenges in the Delta, such as proposed industrial-scale alternative energy developments and large-scale habitat restoration.

2.2 Advocate for the use of existing public lands and lands owned by conservation entities for habitat restoration to minimize the conversion of productive Delta agricultural land.

2.3 Advocate for appropriate land usage through the consultation process on Delta Conservancy restoration projects.

A.3 Support wildlife-friendly farming and agriculture-friendly habitat restoration.

3.1 Promote and disseminate “good neighbor” policies to Delta farms and environmental entities.

LEVEES AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

L.1 Partner with local, state, and federal governments to improve emergency preparedness and response to protect Delta communities, property, and infrastructure.

1.1 Support development of a Delta-wide Unified Emergency Plan.

1.2 Support Levee Maintaining Agencies in collaborative efforts (e.g. emergency preparedness and response, levee standards, regional funding, public education, communication) and advocate for inclusion of Levee Maintaining Agencies in levee prioritization and other Delta-wide decision-making processes.

L.2 Advocate for reliable funding for Delta levee maintenance and improvements.

2.1 Seek pro-Delta implementation of levee funding in state bond acts and other sources.

2.2 Advocate with all agencies to prioritize levee funding for minimum DWR Bulletin 192-82 level of protection for the entire Delta.

2.3 Promote a levee funding strategy that incorporates financial support from private and public sources, including contributions from previous non-contributors ("beneficiaries pay").

2.4 Pursue Delta-supported improvements to the Delta Levee Subvention and Special Projects Programs.

2.5 Advocate at the federal, state, and local level to ensure availability of levee repair and recovery funding for damages after Delta flood events.

L.3 Work to ensure that Delta residents are represented in decision-making processes.

REGIONAL ECONOMY

E.1 Lead the implementation and ongoing updates of the Economic Sustainability Plan.

E.2 Identify regional community needs and opportunities to maximize Delta regional benefits.

2.1 Assess and monitor infrastructure needs for the Legacy Communities and surrounding areas, including recreation and tourism business needs.

2.2 Advocate for necessary infrastructure improvements with state and local government and other partners.

E.3 Facilitate regional economic development projects using the Delta Investment Fund and other funding sources.

3.1 Develop and maintain a plan for Delta Investment Fund spending and seek support for it through state appropriations and other sources.

3.2 Pursue the development of Delta regional economy studies and trend reports to assist with decision-making and funding opportunities.

E.4 Identify and address environmental factors that negatively impact the economic sustainability of the Delta.

4.1 Partner with local government and state agencies to control invasive aquatic species and harmful algal blooms which negatively impact recreation, tourism, and water supply.

4.2 Support and create partnerships to develop consistent, regular sediment management within Delta channels and waterways to benefit recreational boating access, agricultural diversions, and ecological conditions.

E.5 Assist local efforts to improve broadband and cellular phone service in the Delta.

DELTA HERITAGE

H.1 Protect the Delta's distinctive character and land uses through implementation of the Land Use and Resource Management Plan (LURMP).

H.2 Protect and promote the tribal, cultural, and historical resources of the Delta.

2.1 Implement the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

2.2 Advance recognition of the national significance and unique stories of the Delta and support implementation of associated projects, e.g. the Delta Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Corridor and 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse restoration.

H.3 Support local governments in preparing and implementing Community Action Plans that emphasize the vitality and preservation of Legacy Communities.

H.4 Promote and enhance the Delta's heritage of natural resources, such as wildlife habitat, scenic value, soils, and water.

4.1 Facilitate the designation of State Highway 160 as a National Scenic Byway.

4.2 Facilitate habitat restoration and enhancement projects consistent with Delta values.

RECREATION AND TOURISM

R.1 Partner with public agencies and private entities to increase and expand recreation and tourism in the Delta to all.

1.1 Maintain current Delta recreation resource inventory.

1.2 Identify recreation needs and constraints and apply available resources to meet them, including public-private partnerships and multiple use of appropriate Delta lands.

1.3 Extend the Great California Delta Trail by continuing planning, support, and collaboration efforts.

1.4 Develop partnerships to promote the Delta as a unique destination region to potential visitors, in-state, nationally, and internationally.

R.2 Encourage protection of private lands from unauthorized recreational uses by promoting and educating users on recreational opportunities on public lands and private recreation facilities.

R.3 Promote and encourage Delta-wide coordination and collaboration on boating, boating safety, and related programs.

3.1 Coordinate partnerships that reduce abandoned vessels in Delta waterways by improving title transfer procedures, implementing incentives and penalties to prevent abandonment, and developing abatement funding sources.

3.2 Partner with US Coast Guard, local law enforcement agencies, and others on a coordinated marine patrol strategy that improves Delta boating safety and emergency response.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

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

1.1 Develop, implement, and maintain a proactive Delta Protection Commission Communication and Outreach Plan that covers all Commission program areas with a clear message, coordinated with all partners.

1.2 Respond to emerging issues of importance in the Delta in a prompt, effective and transparent manner, with a high degree of flexibility.

1.3 Foster two-way communication throughout the Delta.

1.3.1 Actively seek input and opinions from the diverse populations of the Delta to inform decisions impacting the region.

1.3.2 Provide a forum for residents, businesses, and Delta interests to participate in decisions affecting the Delta.

1.3.3 Foster communication between Delta interests for improved, coordinated action.

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

1.5 Collaborate with partners on communicating about shared projects (e.g. Delta Awareness Campaign, flood awareness and preparedness, abandoned vessel abatement, and invasive species).

1.6 Collaborate with the science community to enhance the use of social science data in Delta decision-making.

COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

C.1 Support Commission members, so that each member can operate at their most effective level.

1.1 Develop and implement a Commissioner Orientation program.

1.2 Ensure well-informed and prepared Commission members.

1.3 Provide training to Commission members to help them fulfill the Commission's appellate function on land use decisions appealed to the Commission.

C.2 Encourage subcommittees as needed to advance Commission Initiatives (e.g. Strategic Plan Subcommittee).

C.3 Recruit, develop, and maintain effective Commission staff.

3.1 Develop and regularly update a Vision 2030 Implementation Plan, corresponding staff Work Plans, and Individual Development Plans to implement Commission initiatives.

3.2 Annually review staffing needs, expertise, and organizational capacity. Evaluate long-term needs for positions and levels of expertise and ensure that staff have necessary resources and training to successfully perform their functions.

3.3 Strive for a diverse and inclusive Commission workplace.

FUNDING

F.1 Continuously research, identify, and develop funding sources to support Commission operations and worthy and compatible activities in the Delta.

1.1 Partner with Delta Regional Foundation on programs that support the Delta region.

1.2 Identify and secure funding for Commission priorities by pursuing grants, partnerships, and federal or state appropriations, including the Delta Investment Fund.

1.3 Use federal appropriations granted to the Delta National Heritage Area to leverage additional funding.

Control Environment

The Commission is governed by a 15-member Commission.

Information and Communication

Staff weekly reviewed a variety of news sources and distributes the sources internally and externally.

On Mondays, DPC's PIO reviews news sources from the previous seven days and pulls articles that are relevant to the work we do. Links to these articles are then added to an email that is sent on Mondays to all DPC staff and Commissioners.

Every other Monday, DPC's PIO creates an expanded email that includes some of the news articles, as well as upcoming events and feature articles. This email is sent to staff, Commissioners, and an external listserv.

MONITORING

The information included here discusses the entity-wide, continuous process to ensure internal control systems are working as intended. The role of the executive monitoring sponsor includes facilitating and verifying that the Delta Protection Commission monitoring practices are

implemented and functioning. The responsibilities as the executive monitoring sponsor(s) have been given to: Amanda Bohl.

Management and staff regularly reviews processes and performance:

- 1) The Executive Director meets weekly with all staff to monitor and evaluate all work products.
- 2) The 2026 agency workplan includes a review of all agency policies and procedures and the development of a scope to perform needed updates.

RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The following personnel were involved in the Delta Protection Commission risk assessment process: executive management, middle management, and staff.

The following methods were used to identify risks: brainstorming meetings, ongoing monitoring activities, questionnaires, and consideration of potential fraud.

The following criteria were used to rank risks: likelihood of occurrence, potential impact to mission/goals/objectives, timing of potential event, potential impact of remediation efforts, and tolerance level for the type of risk.

RISKS AND CONTROLS

Risk: Workforce Planning

As a small state agency, the lose of one position is felt agency-wide. Similarly, because we're so small, it can be challenging to find the time to cross-train.

Control: Control 1

Making the time to cross-train and when hiring new staff, ensuring that we're both filling workforce gaps and hiring generalists.

CONCLUSION

The Delta Protection Commission strives to reduce the risks inherent in our work and accepts the responsibility to continuously improve by addressing newly recognized risks and revising risk mitigation strategies as appropriate. I certify our internal control and monitoring systems are adequate to identify and address current and potential risks facing the organization.

Amanda Bohl, Executive Director

CC: California Legislature [Senate, Assembly]
California State Auditor
California State Library
California State Controller
Director of California Department of Finance
Secretary of California Government Operations Agency