



A freshly planted rice field on Staten Island

ACTION 2025

Delta Protection Commission

Annual Report



Letter from the Chair



March 19, 2026

Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor of California
Honorable Members, California State Legislature
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: 2025 Delta Protection Commission Annual Report

Dear Governor Newsom,

Pursuant to the provisions of Public Resources Code Section 29780, I am proud to submit the 2025 Delta Protection Commission Annual Report for your review.

It is our mission to support agriculture, recreation, cultural heritage, and natural resources in the Delta. We advance that mission by implementing our Strategic Plan (Vision 2030) while adapting to challenges and opportunities.

Among our 2025 accomplishments: Our Management Plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area – emphasizing protection and promotion of the Delta’s vibrant culture and history – was approved by the U.S. Department of Interior; we released the first quinquennial update of our Socioeconomic Indicators Report; our staff initiated a critically important study of the impacts of converting farmland for habitat restoration and flood control projects; we published a report on the value of rice as a Delta crop that sustains agriculture while stopping subsidence and reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and we continued to meet our core statutory mission of monitoring land use proposals to ensure they are consistent with our land use plan for the Delta.

With the support of all the Commission members, it is an honor to offer you the Delta Protection Commission 2025 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Diane Burgis
Chair

Background

The [Delta Protection Act](#) was adopted by the Legislature in 1992 and last amended in 2009. The Delta Protection Act declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is “a natural resource of statewide, national, and international significance, containing irreplaceable resources, and that it is the policy of the State to recognize, preserve, and protect those resources of the Delta for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations.”

The Delta Protection Commission was created under the 1992 Act to recognize and protect the unique cultural, recreational, natural, and agricultural resources of the Delta, and the 2009 amendments to the Act further defined it as “the appropriate agency to identify and provide recommendations to the Delta Stewardship Council on methods of preserving the Delta as an evolving place.” With this mandate, the Commission focuses on the oversight of Delta land use and resource management; levees and emergency response; the support of Delta agriculture, recreation, tourism, and local economic development; and the protection of Delta historic, cultural, and natural resources.

The 15 members of the Commission include a member of the County Board of Supervisors from each of the five primary Delta counties (Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo); three elected city council members representing cities throughout the Delta; representatives from North, Central, and South Delta reclamation districts; and representatives from the California State Transportation Agency, California Natural Resources Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and California State Lands Commission. Two ex officio members represent the California State Senate and the California State Assembly.

As required by Public Resources Code Section 29780, each year the Commission submits to the Governor and the state Legislature this Annual Report, describing the progress Commission actions have made toward fulfilling the requirements of the Delta Protection Act.

2025 Actions

Agriculture

Rice Report

Commission staff produced [a report on the role rice farming can play](#) in reducing subsidence and carbon emissions in the Delta, providing nutrients for endangered salmon in Delta rivers, and supporting the Delta's critically important agricultural economy.

Farmland Conversion Study

Commission staff launched a study examining the impacts of Delta farmland conversions associated with water supply, flood control, and habitat projects. Preliminary research indicates that, in recent years, more Delta farmland has been converted for such projects than for urban development, and that additional conversions are planned to meet state ecosystem, climate, and water management goals. Changes to farmland use can create challenges for farmers, reclamation districts, local governmental entities, and Delta communities that rely on agricultural operations.

[Preliminary results of the study \(PDF\)](#) were presented at [public workshops](#) held July 15 and 17, and to the Delta Protection Commission at its [regular meeting on July 17](#). Several speakers highlighted their concern about the impact of the aggregate loss of farmland in the Delta. Commission staff also invited written public feedback, and a formal public comment period was held from July 18 through September 8. Staff received numerous written comments from farmers, reclamation districts, partner agencies, local governments, and other stakeholders.

Staff anticipate finalizing the study in 2026. In the meantime, conversations are already underway with other state agencies about ways to protect productive farmland while also meeting important state and regional environmental, climate, flood management, and water supply objectives.

Land & Water

Commission staff reviewed local government and other agency agendas and public notices to identify projects that fall under the Commission's purview, then reviewed those projects for consistency with the [Land Use and Resource Management Plan \(LURMP\)](#) and the Delta Protection Act. As needed, Commission staff submitted comment letters to various entities on land use projects, detailed later in this report in the [Land Use Project Comment Letters section](#).

Delta Conveyance Project

The Delta Conveyance Project (DCP), proposed by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), would create a 45-mile tunnel starting on the Sacramento River at the town of Hood and ending at the Bethany Reservoir west of Tracy, near the community of Mountain House in the South Delta. It would deliver water to the State Water Project.

In 2025, the Commission continued its [yearslong involvement](#) in commenting on the DCP at various junctures at which public comment was invited: Notice of Preparation (2020), draft EIR (2022), draft EIS (2023), Certification of Consistency with the Delta Plan for proposed geotechnical activities (2024), National Historic Preservation Act process with Army Corps of Engineers (2023-25), and Certification of Consistency with the Delta Plan (October 2025). It culminated in November with the Commission's appeal of the project's Certification of Consistency.

National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires a federal agency funding or permitting a project to consider the project's effects on properties that are included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. For the Delta Conveyance Project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is responsible for carrying out Section 106, and the Programmatic Agreement outlines how it intends to comply.

Staff provided [comments \(PDF\)](#) to the Corps regarding its draft Programmatic Agreement as presented to the consulting parties in a meeting on July 10. [The final Programmatic Agreement \(PDF\) is here](#). Staff expressed serious concerns in four areas: (1) The phased development of Areas of Potential Effects (APEs) and potential resulting cumulative impacts of the project; (2) lack of acknowledgement of the National Heritage Area in the recitals; (3) late notification of and inadequate time for all consulting parties to provide feedback and comment at each stage; and (4) the need to include local history and culture experts including tribal experts in each phase.

Certification of Consistency

Following DWR's certification of consistency filing with the Delta Stewardship Council, the Delta Protection Commission joined 10 other entities in appealing certification.

The Commission's appeal focused in particular on inconsistency with Delta Plan policies and recommendations regarding "Delta as Place." [The Commission's appeal \(PDF\)](#) stated, "If carried out as proposed, the DCP will irrevocably alter the rural character of the Delta, its economic pillars (agriculture and recreation), and its cultural heritage.

"This represents a significant adverse impact on the achievement of one or both of the coequal goals (*of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem*), since the coequal goals must be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place. The DCP purports to achieve water supply reliability, but at the expense of the Delta" (parenthetical section added).

The Delta Stewardship Council held hearings on the appeals in late February 2026 and was expected to issue a decision within 60 days.

Regional Economy

Socioeconomic Indicators Report

The Commission released its [2025 Socioeconomic Indicators Update \(PDF\)](#) on March 21. The report – the second in an ongoing series providing a scorecard of key measures of wellbeing in the Delta – highlighted a variety of changes from 2017 to 2022:

- The unemployment rate dropped by 5.4 percentage points in the Secondary Zone, from 12.4% to 7%.
- The 7% unemployment rate in the Delta was slightly higher than the statewide rate of 6.5%, but substantially lower than the San Joaquin Valley rate of 9.3%.
- Both median household and median individual incomes for the Delta increased over the previous period and were higher than the state's as a whole.
- Land in agricultural production from 2017 to 2022 increased by over 10% over the 2011-2016 study period.
- Continuing trends from the previous period, higher value crops were being planted, with corn coverage dropping and almonds increasing.

- In 2022, 350,000 acres of land in the Primary Zone were in active agriculture: Top crops by total land cover were alfalfa, corn, grapes, clover/wildflowers, and winter wheat.

The update serves as a scorecard for the region's economy and quality of life, and can be used by residents, elected officials and others to identify priorities or needs for additional information.

Recreation & Tourism

Great California Delta Trail System

The Great California Delta Trail is envisioned as a continuous regional recreation corridor extending around the Delta, including the shorelines of five Delta counties, and linking trail systems from Sacramento to the San Francisco Bay.

The Delta Protection Commission was designated by the Legislature as the party responsible for developing a master plan for the Delta Trail, and acts as a coordinator working in partnership with local parks, recreation, and trails organizations to coordinate planning and implementation. Trail segments are conceived, developed, built, and managed locally.

Website

In 2025, Commission staff created a new [Great Delta Trail webpage](#) that provides key details about designated segments, links to information about annual trail events, information about designating trails as part of the system, and links to the Trail Master Plan.

Clarksburg Branch Line Trail Extension

The Commission continued to participate in outreach efforts for the Clarksburg Branch Line Trail Extension, a proposed 6.4-mile addition to the Clarksburg Branch Line Trail that would extend the trail from West Sacramento to the town of Clarksburg. The extension would be a Class I paved multi-use (bicycling, walking, and horseback-riding) trail within a rail corridor purchased by the City of West Sacramento in 2005.

The Commission has a memorandum of understanding with West Sacramento, Yolo County, and the Yolo Transportation District to assist with outreach and engagement, provide guidance on the Delta Trail Master plan criteria for designation, and contribute to project implementation, reviews, design, and discussion.

Public comments and feedback relating to desired features have included rest areas, strong safety design measures, and providing for adequate consideration of equestrian needs. Concerns expressed related to design and management issues have included avoiding interference with agricultural operations, the potential for homeless population encroachment, and litter.

Project proponents have been engaged on surveys and studies, environmental clearance, and alternative analyses based on community input.

Striped Bass Regulations

At the urging of the Delta Protection Advisory Committee and the California Striped Bass Association, the Commission sent a letter in July urging the California Fish and Game Commission to approve a slot limit for striped bass in an effort to maintain a robust recreational fishery.

Existing regulations allowed take of striped bass 18 inches or larger. Following several years of analysis and discussions with stakeholders, the Department of Fish and Wildlife proposed allowing legal take of striped bass from 18 inches minimum to 30 inches maximum, with the goal of protecting larger, mature fish.

The Fish and Game Commission rejected the proposed slot limit in October.

Heritage

The Commission is the local coordinating entity for the [Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area \(NHA\)](#), which was established by Congress in 2019.

National Heritage Area Management Plan

The U.S. Department of Interior approved the NHA Management Plan on January 16, 2025, kicking off implementation of NHA programs described in the plan. The Management Plan outlines [themes and storylines](#), which are central to the NHA's role in telling the region's story to Delta communities, adjacent regions and visitors from afar. It also [sets goals and delineates strategies](#) for achieving them.

Following approval, the Management Plan was [honored with a Planning Excellence Award](#) from the Sacramento Valley Section of the American Planning Association.

Tourism Branding and Marketing Plan

In August, Commission staff [launched the development of a Tourism Brand and Marketing Plan](#) for the National Heritage Area that will help promote sustainable tourism and

economic development in the region. The rollout of the plan will include public outreach, market research, and the creation of a brand toolkit. The project is expected to be completed by late June 2026.

Partnership Program

Commission staff enlisted and signed memoranda of agreement with [15 community partners](#) for the National Heritage Area:

- California Delta Chambers & Visitors Bureau
- California State Parks
- Clarksburg Schoolhouse
- Contra Costa County Historical Society
- Contra Costa County Library
- Crockett Chamber of Commerce
- Crockett Museum
- Dutra Museum Foundation
- East Bay Regional Park District
- Locke Foundation
- RioVision
- Sacramento Public Library
- Solano County Library
- West Sacramento
- Yolo County Library

The Commission also entered into a new cooperative agreement with the National Park Service.

The partnership program is critical to achieving the goals of the National Heritage Area. The Commission coordinates the NHA, but partners, such as museums, parks, cultural attractions, agritourism destinations, landmark businesses and more, promote economic development and quality of life for residents and provide authentic experiences for visitors.

Partners help the NHA by agreeing to help with pertinent NHA strategies. The NHA helps partners by promoting partnerships, sharing branding materials, supporting partner projects, and providing visitor-attracting passport stamping stations.

Passport Program

The Delta National Heritage Area has joined more than 40 other NHAs, in addition to nearly all parks in the National Park System, in the [Passport to Your National Parks Program](#).

The program is simple: Travelers can purchase a passport book that they get stamped whenever they visit a participating NHA or park in the National Park System. The stamp records the name of the NHA, the city or town where the stamping station is located, and date of the visit. It's just like getting an official passport stamped when entering another country.

Commission staff developed the program in 2025, securing stamping station sites, creating [associated web pages](#), and designing and producing displays for stamping stations. A delay in receipt of stamps ordered from the non-profit education partner of the National Park Service pushed the launch to February 2026.

Communications

The Commission's communications team maintains three websites, sends two regular newsletters, produces original website content, distributes occasional press releases, and maintains five social media accounts. Social media is used primarily to expand the reach of DPC newsletters and website contents, and to share posts about issues of importance of Delta residents.

Websites

Two key 2025 website initiatives are covered under the [Recreation and Tourism](#) and [Heritage \(Passport Program\)](#) sections. Two more are covered here:

VisitCADelta Website

Staff undertook a major update of the Commission's VisitCADelta.com website, which aims to help visitors explore the Delta's cultural, historic, and recreational riches.

The site had fallen out of date due to insufficient staffing. Nearly 600 recreational venues and resources had to be reviewed, their website and contact information updated, and expired resources deleted. A plan for continued maintenance is in place.

Delta Event Promotion

The Commission's Economic Sustainability Plan aims, among other things, to boost the identity and visibility of the Delta as a destination. The plan identifies Delta event promotion as one way to help achieve that goal.

The Commission has promoted events through its biweekly *Delta Happenings* and bimonthly *Delta Heritage Courier* newsletters. In 2025, however, staff created a [website-based calendar on the VisitCADelta website](#), which now hosts information about community events throughout the legal Delta and the Delta National Heritage Area. This calendar can be updated at any time because it is not bound by the same deadlines as the newsletters, so it never goes out of date, and it's almost never too late to add an upcoming event. In addition, viewers can click on maps that make it easy to get directions.

Staff plans to increase promotion and visibility of the calendar in 2026.

Newsletters

Staff sent 30 [newsletters](#) in 2025: six editions of the bimonthly *Delta Heritage Courier*, a heritage- and culture-oriented newsletter with 625 subscribers; and 24 editions of the biweekly *Delta Happenings*, a general-interest newsletter with 1,525 subscribers.

Despite differing audiences and content, both newsletters aim to deepen people's connection the Delta. They enjoy unusually high open rates of 40% and click rates (percentage of readers clicking on links) of 13.5%.

Original Website Content

Original website content serves multiple purposes: raising awareness about important Delta issues, deepening readers' connection to the Delta, and promoting the Commission's good work. Some articles are picked up by local media, expanding their reach.

In 2025, in addition to the report about the value of farming rice in the Delta mentioned in the [Agriculture section](#), staff published photo galleries from the Commission's Delta Leadership Program (covered in the [next section](#)) and [Chinese New Year in Locke](#), and an [article explaining a series of weekend long bridge closures](#) on one of the Delta's two east-west highways.

Press Releases

Commission staff issued 10 press releases in 2025:

- Three related to the search for (and appointment of) an executive director. News of the appointment was picked up by the Contra Costa News, Capitol Morning Report, and two news aggregators.
- Three about National Heritage Area news (approval of the NHA Management Plan, launch of brand and marketing planning, and an award for the management plan). The management plan approval release was picked up by a news aggregator, the brand and marketing plan release was picked up by the Fairfield Daily Republic and one news aggregator, and the award release was picked up by the Brentwood Press.
- One concerning the release of the Commission's Socioeconomic Indicators Update, which was picked up by a news aggregator.
- Two concerning openings on the Delta Protection Advisory Committee (one about an extended application deadline, the other about appointments).

- One concerning the Commission’s appeal of the Delta Conveyance Project certification of consistency with the Delta Plan, which was picked up by the Fairfield Daily Republic, the Contra Costa News, the Daily Kos, and two news aggregators.

Leadership & Development

Executive Director

The Commission sought a change in leadership in early 2025, launching a major search for a new Executive Director. An Interim Executive Director, Daniel K. Ray, served from February through September, and led the staff in several major initiatives promoting agriculture and implementing National Heritage Area programs. In October, a second Interim Executive Director, Holly Heyser, finished the transition to permanent Executive Director Amanda Bohl, who began on October 20.

Finance and Administration Manager

Commission Clerk Heather McClure was promoted to Finance and Administration Manager in September, ending an eight-month vacancy.

A Departure

Eight-year DPC veteran Virginia Gardiner retired at the end of December. Her accomplishments at the Commission include the Visitor Preference Survey, Economic Sustainability Plan Recreation and Tourism Chapter update, Great California Delta Trail Master Plan, and the Socioeconomic Indicators update.

With her departure, 3 of the Commission’s budgeted 8.5 staff positions were vacant at the end of 2025. But with a new Executive Director on board, staff is moving quickly to fill them.

Public Bodies

Commission staff are directed and advised by a 15-member [Commission](#) and two committees: The [Delta Protection Advisory Committee](#) and the [Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Advisory Committee](#).

[Agendas, meeting materials and approved minutes are available here.](#)

Commission

The Commission was created by the 1992 Delta Protection Act, with 11 members representing Delta counties, cities, and reclamation districts; and 4 representing state

agencies. It includes two Ex Officio members, one each from the state Senate and Assembly.

The Commission normally meets every other month, but it held many additional meetings in 2025, related to the change in leadership as well as the Delta Conveyance Project certification of consistency. Meeting dates in 2025 were (links go to agendas and materials):

- [January 16](#)
- [February 25](#)
- [March 20](#)
- [May 15](#)
- [July 17](#)
- [July 23 \(Executive Director Selection Ad Hoc Committee\)](#)
- [September 4](#)
- [September 18](#)
- [November 3](#)
- [November 13 \(continued to November 17\)](#)

Delta Protection Advisory Committee

The Delta Protection Advisory Committee was created in compliance with the [Delta Reform Act of 2009](#) to provide recommendations on diverse issues: the Delta's ecosystem, water supply, socioeconomic sustainability, recreation, agriculture, flood control, environment, water resources, utility infrastructure, and other Delta issues. It meets every other month. Meeting dates in 2025 were (links go to agendas and materials):

- [February 11](#)
- [April 1](#)
- [June 3](#)
- [Aug. 5](#)
- [December 2](#)

NHA Advisory Committee

The 15-member Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Advisory Committee was created by the Commission in 2024 to guide implementation of the NHA Management Plan. The Committee met every other month in 2025, but is switching to quarterly meetings in 2026. Meeting dates in 2025 were (links go to agendas and materials):

- [February 26](#)
- [April 23](#)
- [June 25](#)
- [Aug. 20](#)
- [October 29](#)
- [December 17](#)

Delta Leadership Program

In cooperation with the Delta Leadership Foundation, Commission staff operated the [Delta Leadership Program](#) for the ninth year. Nineteen people completed the program, which is designed to identify and cultivate regional leaders. One 2025 participant – LeighAnn Davis – was subsequently appointed by the Commission as an alternate on the [Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Advisory Committee](#), on which two other program alumni also serve. Seven alumni serve on the Commission’s [Delta Protection Advisory Committee](#).

The 2026 class of 15 participants was selected in December, and the program began January 9. The 2026 class includes a DPC staff member: Senior Environmental Planner Rachel Vanderwerff.

Land Use Project Comment Letters

Multiple Counties

Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Master Plan

The Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Master Plan was issued by the California Department of Water Resources and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, both members of the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership. The purpose of the plan is to guide continued project planning and implementation consistent with the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and its Conservation Strategy, inform the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Yolo Bypass System Comprehensive Study, and support continued efforts to advance the goals of the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership.

Zone(s): Primary Zone and Secondary Zone

Project Size: Approximately 53,000 acres

Farmland Conversion: Indeterminate – proposed policies may convert farmland, but the total quantities are unknown at this time.

Comments: Staff recommended that the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership review the plan for compliance with Land Use and Resource Management Plan policies, particularly when applied to proposed local government projects. Reductions in agricultural productivity and land conversion need to be addressed through mitigation, including replacing converted farmland at a minimum target 1:1 ratio, as specified in Delta Plan Appendix O.

Sacramento County

Delta Cross Channel Gate Improvement Project

Staff provided comments to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on its Environmental Assessment for the Delta Cross Channel Improvement Project. Located on the Sacramento River between Locke and Walnut Grove, the gate was originally constructed in 1951 as a controlled diversion channel to manage water quality and flows in the central and southern Delta, and to help reduce salinity intrusion rates in the western Delta. It has also become an important management tool to prevent listed salmonids and other fish from being diverted toward and entrained in the massive pumps of the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) in the south Delta. When open, Sacramento River flows are partially diverted into Snodgrass Slough and the Lower Mokelumne River, to the CVP and SWP. The open gate also offers a shortcut for recreational boaters to access parts of the eastern and south Delta. The aging structure needs updating. Improvements will include automating the gate for full remote operation and reliability, and to improve safety, and will formalize existing bank fishing and non-motorized watercraft launch with a new public access ramp.

Zone(s): Primary Zone

Project Size: 21 acres

Farmland Conversion: None

Comments: Comments offered general support for the project, especially for the proposed public access ramp for non-motorized watercraft launch and fishing, which would enhance recreational opportunities for Locke, Walnut Grove, and beyond. Staff also recommended including reference to the Great California Delta Trail, and

adherence to the “Good Neighbor” practices included in the Delta Plan’s Appendix Q2 for the adjacent agricultural operation. Finally, staff encouraged continued coordination with California State Parks as they move forward with the General Plan process for the adjacent Delta Meadows Park Property.

Delta Meadows Park Classification and General Plan

Staff provided comments on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) issued by the California Department of Parks and Recreation for this important and long-awaited project. The Delta Meadows Park Property is located within the Primary Zone about 20 miles south of Sacramento, nestled between the communities of Walnut Grove and Locke. Part of State Parks’ Diablo Range District, the property covers approximately 519 acres including portions of Snodgrass Slough and the historic Locke Boarding House.

Zone(s): Primary Zone

Project Size: 519 acres

Farmland Conversion: None

Comments: Staff recommended the EIR discuss reference documents prepared by the Commission, highlighting the Economic Sustainability Plan’s recommendations for economic development in the Locke-Walnut Grove area and the National Heritage Area Management Plan objectives and strategies for built and natural resources. These are important resources on “Delta as Place” values that should be considered in the classification of the property and development of its General Plan, and provide guidance on avoiding, minimizing or mitigating possible impacts on the resources of the Primary Zone.

Solano County

Cache Slough Mitigation Bank

Solano County is lead agency for an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the private commercial Cache Slough Mitigation Bank located within the Primary Zone on approximately 330 acres at the southern reach of the Yolo Bypass at the confluence of Cache Slough, Sacramento River, and Steamboat Slough, northeast of Rio Vista.

Zone(s): Primary Zone and Secondary Zone

Project Size: Approximately 330 acres

Farmland Conversion: None

Comments: Staff encouraged the County to review the Project for compliance with Land Use and Resource Management Plan policies, and consider potential project impacts to levees and surrounding properties, including nearby agriculture operations. Recommended mitigations or project modifications included appropriate buffers and setbacks to adjacent agriculture parcels, avoidance of seepage onto adjacent parcels from creation of new riparian habitat, implementation of “good neighbor” policies and practices, and robust community outreach during construction regarding traffic and other impacts.

Rio Vista 2045 General Plan Update

The Rio Vista 2045 General Plan Update and Draft Environmental Impact Report comprises comprehensive updates to the required elements under the State Planning and Zoning Law, as well as other optional elements that the City has elected to include. The updated plan consolidates goals and policies to guide development and conservation in Rio Vista through 2045. The city includes a portion of the Primary Zone.

Zone(s): Primary Zone

Project Size: Citywide

Farmland Conversion: Indeterminate – proposed land use designations may convert farmland, but the total quantities are unknown at this time.

Comments: Staff noted that the plan appears to be consistent with the Land Use and Resource Management Plan, particularly since it allows continued grazing in Open Space/Natural Resources sections of the City’s Primary Zone lands. Staff also appreciated the plan’s support for biological diversity, cultural heritage, energy and water conservation, flood protection, open space, recreation, and water quality.

Suisun City Expansion Project

The City of Suisun City issued a Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Suisun Expansion Project. The Project would expand the boundaries of Suisun City through annexation of 22,873 acres of unincorporated Solano County land. Within the annexation area, the project would establish the Suisun Expansion Area Plan and the Suisun Expansion Specific Plan. The proposed Specific Plan would establish the General Plan designation and zoning to guide development of a new 15,737-acre community in Suisun City.

Zone(s): Primary Zone and Secondary Zone

Project Size: 22,873 acres (675 acres in the Primary Zone)

Farmland Conversion: Indeterminate – proposed land use designations within the Primary Zone would be open space/agriculture.

Comments: Staff are concerned about potential project impacts on the Primary Zone, particularly agriculture, cultural resources, land use, natural resources, public services, recreation, transportation, and water quality. Development on such a large scale near the Primary Zone can have lasting and potentially destructive effects on the rural and agricultural character of the region. The Commission urges the project proponent to review the project for compliance with Land Use and Resource Management Plan policies. We also recommend that the EIR discuss how the project's integration into the Great California Delta Trail could potentially have environmental impacts.

2025 Membership

Commissioners

Diane Burgis, Chair

Supervisor, Contra Costa County

John Vasquez, Vice Chair

Supervisor, Solano County

Oscar Villegas

Supervisor, Yolo County

Patrick Hume

Supervisor, Sacramento County

Steven Ding

Supervisor, San Joaquin County

Anissa Williams

Mayor, City of Oakley

David Kent (departed February 2026,
replacement to be determined)

Vice-Mayor, City of Isleton

Cameron Bregman

Mayor, City of Lodi

James Paroli

Representative, Central Delta Reclamation
Districts

Tom Slater

Representative, North Delta Reclamation
Districts

Vacant

Representative, South Delta Reclamation
Districts

Toks Omishakin

Secretary, California State Transportation
Agency

Karen Ross

Secretary, California Department of Food
and Agriculture

Wade Crowfoot

Secretary, California Natural Resources
Agency

Matthew Dumlao

Executive Officer, California State Lands
Commission

Ex Officio Members

Honorable Jerry McNerney

California State Senate

Honorable Rhodesia Ransom

California State Assembly

Commission Staff

Amanda Bohl

Executive Director

Virginia Gardiner (retired December 2025)

Program Manager

Blake Roberts

Program Manager

Rachel Vanderwerff

Senior Environmental Planner

Heather McClure

Finance and Administration Manager

Holly Heyser

Information Officer (DPC)

Kira O'Donnell

Information Officer (NHA)



Delta Protection Commission

2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 200

West Sacramento, CA 95691

www.delta.ca.gov