



980 NINTH STREET, SUITE 1500
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
HTTP://DELTACOUNCIL.CA.GOV
(916) 445-5511

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

A California State Agency

April 22, 2015

Chair
Randy Fiorini

Members
Aja Brown
Frank C. Damrell, Jr.
Phil Isenberg
Patrick Johnston
Mary Piepho
Susan Tatayon

Ms. Rogene Reynolds
4444 West Undine Road
Stockton, CA 95206

Executive Officer
Jessica R. Pearson

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

Thank you for your letter dated April 1, 2015 regarding an attachment to a staff report provided to the Council at its March 26 meeting (Agenda item 11-Delta levees investment strategy update, Attachment 2 map titled "Land and Water Use in an Eco-Friendly Future Delta"). Chairman Fiorini has asked me to provide a response to your letter and information regarding the origins and purpose of the attachment.

The attachment was a map that was originally included in a Public Policy Institute of California report titled "Comparing Futures for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta" published in 2008. The report can be found at the following Internet link (http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_708EHR.pdf). This report assesses how the Delta may change in the future and how California can respond to expected changes to meet state economic and environmental objectives. The report focused on a central question for long-term Delta policy: Which water management strategies best meet the goals of environmental sustainability and water supply reliability? Many other decisions concerning California's water management, the Delta aquatic environment, and Delta land use depend on the answer to this question. The report provided an integrated analysis of these issues in a series of technical appendices and summarized the results and their policy implications in this report. These analyses led to some conclusions regarding the desirability of various long-term alternatives for the Delta from a scientific and technical perspective. The map itself was used to describe key types of habitats that could be restored in the Delta and where those habitat types might be located. It illustrated possible integration opportunities between ecosystem restoration and current land uses.

The map was provided as an attachment to the March 26 Council meeting staff report in response to a request by the Council to see this document after hearing about it at the March 11 technical/policy workshop on risk management. You may recall that at the workshop one of the expert panelists, Dr. Jeff Mount, described the map during his presentation and suggested it could be an additional source of information for the Council as it contemplates the ecosystem restoration as part of the levee investment strategy. The map was not provided to the Council

"Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall 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."

– CA Water Code §85054

Ms. Rogene Reynolds

April 22, 2015

Page 2

or stakeholders on March 11. During his presentation and follow-up discussion with the Council, Dr. Mount reiterated the need to think "big picture" and described the need to concentrate ecosystem restoration efforts within the Delta where maximum benefits to fish and wildlife could be derived and how this might interact with current land uses. In addition, Dr. Mount pointed out that consideration will need to be given in a Delta levee investment strategy as to the various alternatives for levee investments in conjunction with ecosystem restoration (e.g., improve levees, move levees, cease improvements to levees in cases where restoration of an island is the desired outcome).

After the March 11 workshop staff located this document and then provided it for the Council to review as part of their meeting materials at the March 26 meeting. This map, as well as the report it is contained in, are currently part of our larger bibliography of informational sources for the Delta levee investment strategy, but are not products generated by the Delta levee investment strategy or the Council.

We hope this helps to clarify what the document is and why it was part of the March 26 Council meeting package. Please let me know if you have any additional questions or need more information.

Sincerely,



Cindy Messer
Deputy Executive Officer