

**4444 West Undine Road
Stockton, CA 95206**

July 25, 2013

Delta Stewardship Council
c/o Phil Isenberg, Chair
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Priority Habitat Restoration Areas
Lower San Joaquin River Floodplain

Dear Mr. Isenberg and Council Members:

The Delta Independent Science Board states, in its April 25, 2013 report "Habitat Restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh": "There should be regular communication between those who are affected by restoration (i.e., landowners) and those who are implementing and overseeing the restoration."

In the spirit of such communication, I am bringing you an aerial view of Reclamation District 544, also known as "Upper Roberts Island". This land is noted on your Figure 4-8 "Recommended Areas for Prioritization and Implementation of Habitat Restoration Projects" (Agenda item 9, Attachment 2), as part of the "Lower San Joaquin River Floodplain".

Several things need to be remembered about Upper Roberts Island:

- 1) It is above sea level, and has never flooded since its reclamation in the 1870's.
- 2) It is prime farmland, dedicated to diversified crops.
- 3) It is home to a community of landowners, some of whom represent the sixth generation of their families on this land.

I am urging you to do more than consider computer models and simulations when designating lands for "habitat restoration". A deeper understanding of the nature of the South Delta landscape must inform your decisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



Rogene Reynolds

Ph: (209) 992-8090
Em: sail240@clearwire.net

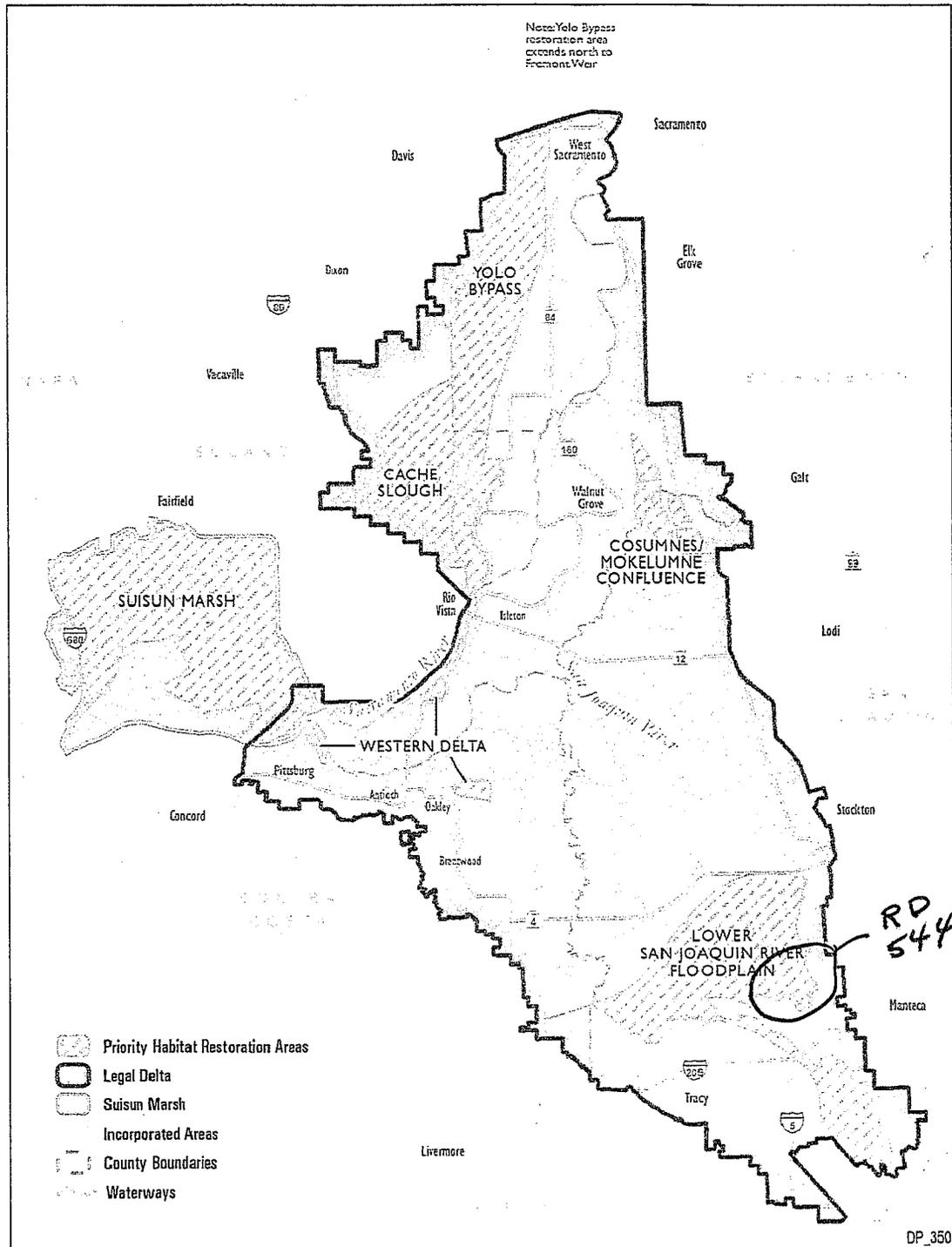


Figure 4-8
Recommended Areas for Prioritization and Implementation of Habitat Restoration Projects
 Priority Habitat Restoration Areas are large areas within which specific sites may be identified for habitat restoration based on assessments of land use and other issues addressed through further feasibility analysis.
 Source: DFG 2011