



**Delta
Stewardship
Council**

A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

11 4, 2022

Andrea Lobato, P.E.
Delta Levees Program
Department of Water Resources
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

715 P Street, 15-300
Sacramento, CA 95814

916.445.5511
DELTACOUNCIL.CA.GOV

CHAIR
Virginia Madueño

VICE-CHAIR
Vacant

MEMBERS
Frank C. Damrell, Jr.
Christy Smith
Maria Mehranian
Don Nottoli
Daniel Zingale
Julie Lee

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Jessica R. Pearson

Delivered via [email]: <mailto:Andrea.Lobato@water.ca.gov>

RE: Comments on September 2022 Draft of the 2022 Projects Solicitation Package for Multi-benefit Projects

Dear Ms. Lobato:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the September 2022 Draft of the 2022 Projects Solicitation Package for Multi-benefit Projects (2022 PSP). The Delta Stewardship Council (Council) recognizes the objective of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) 2022 PSP to solicit applications for multi-benefit projects which promote levee improvement, habitat enhancement, emergency response, seismic resiliency, and/or export water supply reliability to further the goals of the California Water Action Plan and the Water Resilience Portfolio 2020.

The Council is an independent state agency established by the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, codified in Division 35 of the California Water Code, sections 85000-85350 (Delta Reform Act). The Delta Reform Act charges the Council with furthering California's coequal goals of providing a more reliable water supply and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Sacramento-San Joaquin River

Andrea Lobato, P.E.
Delta Levees Program Manager
September 2022 Draft of the 2022 Projects Solicitation Package for Multi-Benefit
Projects
11 04, 2022
Page 2

Delta (Delta) ecosystem. (Water Code, § 85054.) The Delta Reform Act further states that the coequal goals are to 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 Council is charged with furthering California's coequal goals for the Delta through the adoption and implementation of the Delta Plan. (Wat. Code, § 85300.)

Pursuant to the Delta Reform Act, the Council has adopted the Delta Plan, a comprehensive long-term management plan for the Delta and Suisun Marsh that furthers the coequal goals.

In addition to furthering the coequal goals, the Delta Reform Act requires the Delta Plan to attempt to reduce risks to people, property, and State interests in the Delta by promoting effective emergency preparedness, appropriate land uses, and strategic levee investments (Wat. Code, § 85305(a)); and to recommend priorities for State investment in levee operation, maintenance, and improvements in the Delta, (Wat. Code, § 85306).

COMMENTS ON THE 2022 PSP

Please refer to the attached document for specific comments and edits associated with the September 2022 draft PSP. We appreciate that the Delta Levee Program has incorporated the Delta Levees Investment Strategy prioritization in its scoring criteria.

CLOSING COMMENTS

As DWR proceeds with finalizing the 2022 PSP for multi-benefit projects, the Council invites DWR to engage with Council staff as needed to discuss any project changes that may develop with the finalization of the 2022 PSP. Council staff are available to discuss issues outlined in this letter and its attachment as DWR proceeds in the next stages of its project and solicitation. Please contact Erin Mullin at (916) 902-6482 or Erin.Mullin@deltacouncil.ca.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Henderson, AICP

Andrea Lobato, P.E.
Delta Levees Program Manager
September 2022 Draft of the 2022 Projects Solicitation Package for Multi-Benefit
Projects
11 04, 2022
Page 3

Deputy Executive Officer
Delta Stewardship Council

Attachment: 2022 Multi Benefit PSP_Council Edits document