



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
March 25, 2020

PROGRAM UPDATE

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

Nutria Eradication:

The Executive Officer attends monthly Nutria Interagency Eradication Team meetings. The latest Department of Fish and Wildlife report is included as attachment 2. The Board will receive a full briefing on the Program status at the July meeting.

Delta Mercury Exposure Reduction Program:

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and Conservancy staff are working collaboratively to post fish consumption advisories in the Delta. To date, 85 signs have been posted at 69 sites in the five Delta counties. Delta MERP will wrap up in May of 2020. Staff presented an overview of the six-year program to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board at their February Board meeting and will make a presentation at this meeting under Agenda Item 8. Staff will host a final stakeholder meeting on April 23, 2020.

Delta Subsidence and Carbon Emissions:

The first third party validation and verification of Delta carbon credits for managed wetlands is nearing completion and will be the first wetland credit certification in the nation, allowing the sale or retirement of carbon credits. The Conservancy has funded this effort for three managed wetlands totaling 1,600 acres on Sherman and Twitchell Islands, which are owned by the Department of Water Resources. The Conservancy is currently working to support the validation and verification of two additional projects in the Delta and Suisun Marsh. An article explaining carbon credits was published in *Western Water* and can be found here: <https://www.watereducation.org/western-water/can-carbon-credits-save-sacramento-san-joaquin-delta-islands-and-protect-californias>.

Water Resilience Portfolio:

Governor's Executive Order Number N-10-19 calls for the development of a Water Resilience Portfolio to guide the Administration's water policy. A draft of the Portfolio was released in January and comments submitted by the Conservancy's Executive Officer are attached as agenda item 5, attachment 3. The final Portfolio is expected to be released in the coming weeks.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Through an interagency agreement, staff have been working with the Delta Protection Commission (Commission) to implement elements of the Five-Year Delta Marketing Plan and the Delta Sign Plan, which was a recommendation in the Marketing Plan. The Commission is pursuing the installation of 11 “Welcome to the Delta” signs in Caltrans rights-of-way around the Delta. In November 2019, the Commission applied to Caltrans Region 3 for an encroachment permit needed to post the first sign. The permit was denied. The Commission is working with Caltrans to determine if any signs can be placed in their rights-of-way. If not, the Commission and the Conservancy will work together to determine next steps. The Commission has already entered into an agreement with the California Conservation Corps for installation of the signs, should that be possible.

The Delta Marketing Plan also recommended creation of a Delta Recreation Map. In November, the Commission printed 6,500 recreation maps. The Conservancy is working with the Commission on a distribution plan for the maps.

Creek Week 2020:

The Delta Conservancy will lead four cleanup sites in the Delta on April 18, 2020. The sites are located at the Bufferlands on Morrison Creek, along the bank of the Sacramento River on Sherman Island, at the edge of Suisun Marsh on the Grizzly Island Trail in Suisun City, and at Delta Meadows in historic Locke. These cleanup events are held in coordination with the Sacramento Area Creeks Council’s Creek Week. Volunteer recruitment is ongoing.

BOARD PACKET FORMAT CHANGES

The Delta Conservancy has made changes to our Board meeting documents to ensure ADA compliance and all documents are accessible once posted on the Delta Conservancy website. Format updates include new letterhead and more simplified tables. These changes were made in order to ensure that all text is a minimum of size 12-point font, all colors have a high-enough contrast, color is not the only way information is communicated, and that all documents can be read by assistive technology.

PROGRAM AND POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 15, 2020:

The next Program and Policy Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 15, 2020. We do not have any items for the PPS agenda at this time. Unless a need arises during this meeting, we will cancel the April 15th PPS meeting.

FORM 700 COMPLIANCE:

A completed Form 700, Statement of Economic Interests, is due by April 1, 2020 for all Board Members, Board Member Alternates, and Liaison Advisors. Forms are completed on the Fair Political Practices Commission online portal. Reminders went out this week from our Board Liaison.

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

None

DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE

(Attachment 8)

CORRESPONDENCE

Executive Officer comments on the Governor's Draft Water Resilience Portfolio (Attachment 3)

Executive Officer comments on the Delta Stewardship Council's Amendment to Chapter 4 of the Delta Plan (Protect, Restore, and Enhance the Delta Ecosystem) (Attachment 4)

Letter dated February 28, 2020 from East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy regarding Prop 1-1709 Knightsen Wetland Restoration and Flood Protection Project (Knightsen) (Attachment 5)

Letter dated February 13, 2020 from Knightsen Town Community Services District regarding (Knightsen) (Attachment 6)

Letter enclosure dated September 11, 2019 from Knightsen Town Community Services District regarding (Knightsen) (Attachment 7)

CONTACT

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