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Receive information on various habitat conservation efforts occurring throughout Solano County;
Discuss and provide general recommendations as deemed necessary.

..body

Published Notice Required? Yes No

Public Hearing Required? Yes No

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information on various habitat conservation efforts occurring throughout Solano County;
Discuss and provide general recommendations as deemed necessary.

DISCUSSION:

Attachments A and B to this report contain a summary and location of various public and private habitat restoration projects proposed, underway or completed in Solano County and links to web sites. Attachment C contains a list of State agencies advancing the habitat restoration efforts in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh and localized agencies affected or knowledgeable about the impacts of avian species and aircraft.

The Chair and staff will be leading a discussion on this subject. No action will be taken at this hearing, though Commissioners may make individual comments, observations, or suggestions and recommendations. The Chair may also assign tasks to ad hoc committees, such as the ad hoc Wildlife Committee.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Habitat Project Summary & Map of public and privately owned restoration projects
in the Cache Slough region of Yolo Bypass

Attachment B: Habitat Restoration and Agency Summary

Attachment C: Public Agency Contact List

ATTACHMENT A
Habitat Conservation & Restoration Projects Summary & Map
1/20/2022

The table and associated map (Figure 1) highlight public and private habitat conservation and restoration areas in the eastern portion of Solano County. This summary does not include all habitat and conservation lands in the region, but highlights areas of interest by state and local entities.

Map #	Project Name	Description	Project Proponents	Project Status
Projects Under Development				
1	Lower Yolo Ranch Yolo Bypass	1,682 acres tidal wetlands. Funded by the State Water Project (SWP)	Fish Restoration Program, Dept. of Water Resources (DWR)	EIR complete 2013. Construction started 2020
2	Lookout Slough Cache Slough	3,400 acres tidal wetlands. Funded by the SWP.	Fish Restoration Program, DWR	EIR complete. Permits & start construction 2022
3	Little Egbert Multi-benefit Project	3,480 acres Tidal wetlands & flood protection	Little Egbert Joint Powers Authority & Westervelt	Project Planning & design 2022
4	Peter's Pocket	879 acres Tidal wetlands & flood protection	American Rivers	Feasibility Study 2022
12	Petersen Ranch	13.5 acres restoration of riparian habitat for cattle management	Solano Resource Conservation District	In construction
Completed Projects				
5	Suisun Marsh Projects Funded by the State Water Project (SWP).	Wings Landing - 254 acres Broadmoor Is – 744 acres Arnold Slough – 182 acres Tule Red – 662 acres	Fish Restoration Program, DWR	Completed 2019
6	Flyway Farms Yolo Bypass	359 acres tidal wetlands. Funded by the SWP	Fish Restoration Program, DWR	Completed 2018
7	Prospect Island Yolo Bypass	1,360 acres tidal wetlands. Funded by the SWP.	Fish Restoration Program, DWR	Completed 2020
8	Lindsay Slough Calhoun Cut	1,300 acres riparian/vernal pool wetlands.	Cal Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW)	Completed 2014
9	Liberty Island	4,450 acres tidal marsh	Cal Dept. of Fish and Wildlife	1998
10	Jepson Prairie Preserve	1,569 acres, vernal pool & valley floor grasslands	Solano Land Trust	1997
11	Wilcox Ranch & surrounding conservation lands	Wilcox Ranch - 3,420 acres Muzzy Ranch - 1,390 acres	Nature Conservancy (1,562 ac)	1990s
13	Decker Island	140 acres tidal wetland	Fish Restoration Program, DWR	Completed

Attachment B
Summarization of some of the known public initiatives and efforts for various restoration projects or programs

- A. Department of Water Resources and US. Bureau of Reclamation.** As part of the 2008 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and 2009 National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinions for the long-term coordinated operations of the State Water and Federal Central Valley projects, 8,000 acres is to be restored in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to provide endangered aquatic species habitat.
- B. Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC)** developed a restoration subcommittee (see Exhibit A) to help accelerate the state's progress towards Delta restoration. The DPIIC consists of members from the Delta Stewardship Council, California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Department of Water Resources, Cal EPA, Cal. Natural Resources Agency, Central Valley Flood Protection Board, Delta Protection Commission, NOAA Fisheries, SWRCB, Delta Conservancy, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Bureau of Reclamation, Dept of Interior, US EPA, US Fish & Wildlife, USGS, and the SF Bay Conservation & Development Commission. The goals of the DPIIC are to align the Delta Plan co-equal goals through four key elements: water supply reliability, Delta ecosystem health and restoration, Delta as a Place, and best available science. These goals were identified in Chapter 4 of the Delta Plan¹. Areas of priority for habitat restoration are shown in Figure 4-8 of the Delta Plan (see Exhibit B).
- C. California EcoRestore Projects** is a 25-year conservation framework for the Delta, Yolo Bypass and Suisun Marsh to accelerate conservation actions through the Delta Conservation Framework² to guide conservation efforts beyond 2040. EcoRestore is an initiative to advance at least 30,000 acres of habitat restoration projects for aquatic, sub-tidal, tidal, riparian, flood plain, and upland areas in the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta through a multi-agency coordination. According to the EcoRestore website³, the proposed acreage is designated in two initiatives: 25,000 acres are associated with existing mandates pursuant to federal biological opinions for ongoing operations of the State Water Project and Central Valley Project systems and 5,000 acres supported by Prop. 1 grants through the Delta Conservancy, DWR, and Dept of Fish and Wildlife for local governments, non-profits and other entities. Project map showing proposed targets is listed on the EcoRestore web site <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/California-EcoRestore> (see Exhibit C)
- D. Solano County Water Agency – Solano Multispecies Habitat Conservation Plan⁴** is being developed to comply with State and Federal endangered species regulations and for future urban growth development of infrastructure and ongoing operations of flood control, and irrigation infrastructure by the permitting authority or plan participants over the next 30 years. The HCP goals are to establish a Reserve System for approximately 25,000 to 30,000 acres of reserves, preserves, open space lands, and cooperative habitat restoration areas for various covered species. (See Exhibit D for figure depicted protected lands in the Solano HCP)

1. The entire Delta Plan can be found on-line at: <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan> and Chapter 4 can be found on-line at <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan/2013-ch-04.pdf>
2. Delta Conservation Framework 2018-2050 can be found at <https://wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/watersheds/dcf#41062401-public-workshop-series>
3. California EcoRestore website can be found at <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/California-EcoRestore/What-is-California-EcoRestore>
4. The Solano County Water Agency Habitat Conservation Plan can be found at <https://www.scwa2.com/solano-multispecies-habitat-conservation-plan/>

DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee

October 2021



Delta Plan Interagency
Implementation
Committee

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Background

Broad, landscape scale changes are necessary to restore ecosystem functions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh. While coordination among State, federal, and local agencies on ecosystem restoration has dramatically improved through forums such as the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee and the Interagency Adaptive Management & Integration Team, **slow progress has been made in protecting and restoring the Delta and Suisun Marsh ecosystems.** To implement restoration at the pace and scale necessary to meet the goals set out in the proposed revisions to Chapter 4 of the Delta Plan and to implement the Water Resilience Portfolio, Cutting Green Tape Initiative, and the Governor's California Biodiversity Initiative, **we must better coordinate our ecosystem restoration plans and actions with local stakeholders and reduce or remove existing barriers** to building larger, more connected restoration projects at the right locations.

Purpose

Identify and implement strategies for reducing barriers to landscape-scale restoration and increase estuary-wide restoration coordination.

Structure

- **A subcommittee** consisting of key DPIIC agency representatives
- **Task force(s)**, as needed to work on specific activities
- **A regular forum** (similar to the former Delta Restoration Network) that welcomes all stakeholders to participate in restoration coordination

Initial Workplan

- **Identify gaps** in our knowledge of restoration opportunities by looking at existing restoration plans and identifying if additional planning efforts are needed
- **Integrate efforts** with [Delta Landscape Scenario Planning Tool](#)
- **Assess status** of other efforts to tackle barriers to restoration and identify the gaps that need to be filled

Agency Support



Initial staffing will be coordinated by the Delta Stewardship Council and Delta Conservancy. It is anticipated, however, that funding from DPIIC agencies will be sought to hire staff or contract with a consultant to support the subcommittee's efforts.

Timeline



Winter 2022: Initial subcommittee meeting, with subsequent bi-annual or quarterly meetings.

Spring 2022: Special subcommittee meeting to provide a venue for project proponents to share early concepts (pre-permitting and California Environmental Quality Act), get feedback from the community, share best practices and lessons learned, and discuss general coordination.

Recommended Areas for Prioritization and Implementation of Habitat Restoration Projects

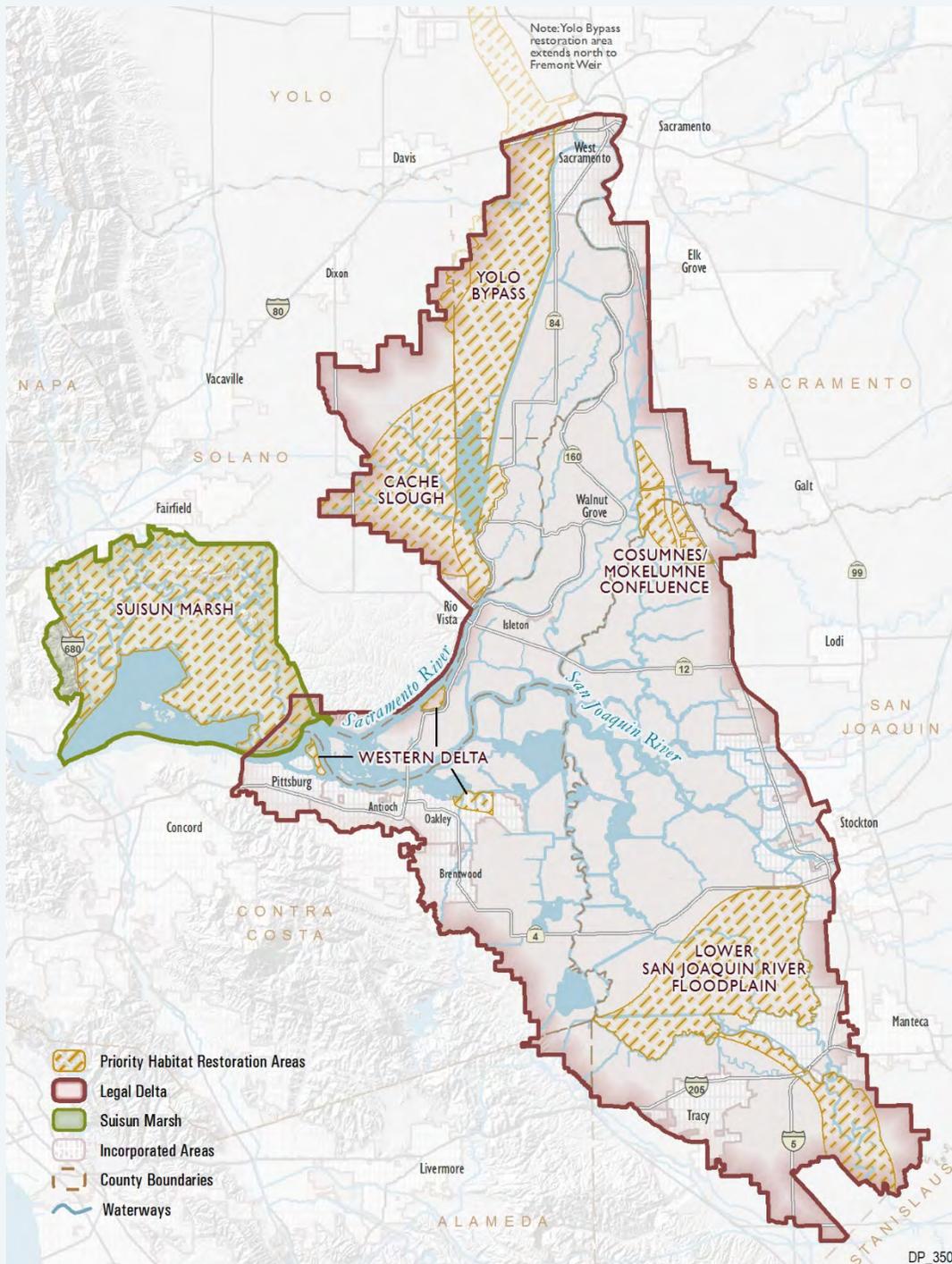
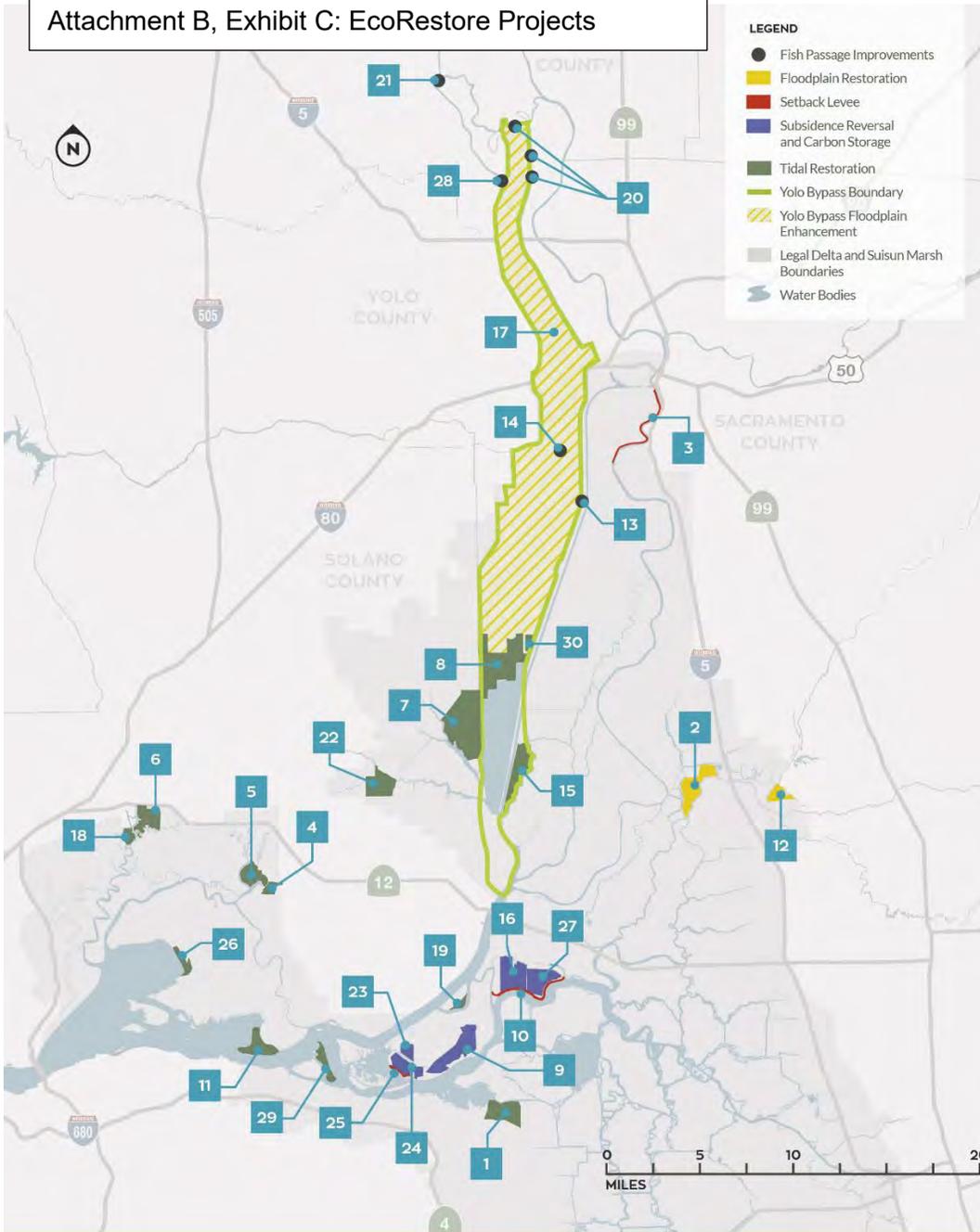


Figure 4-8

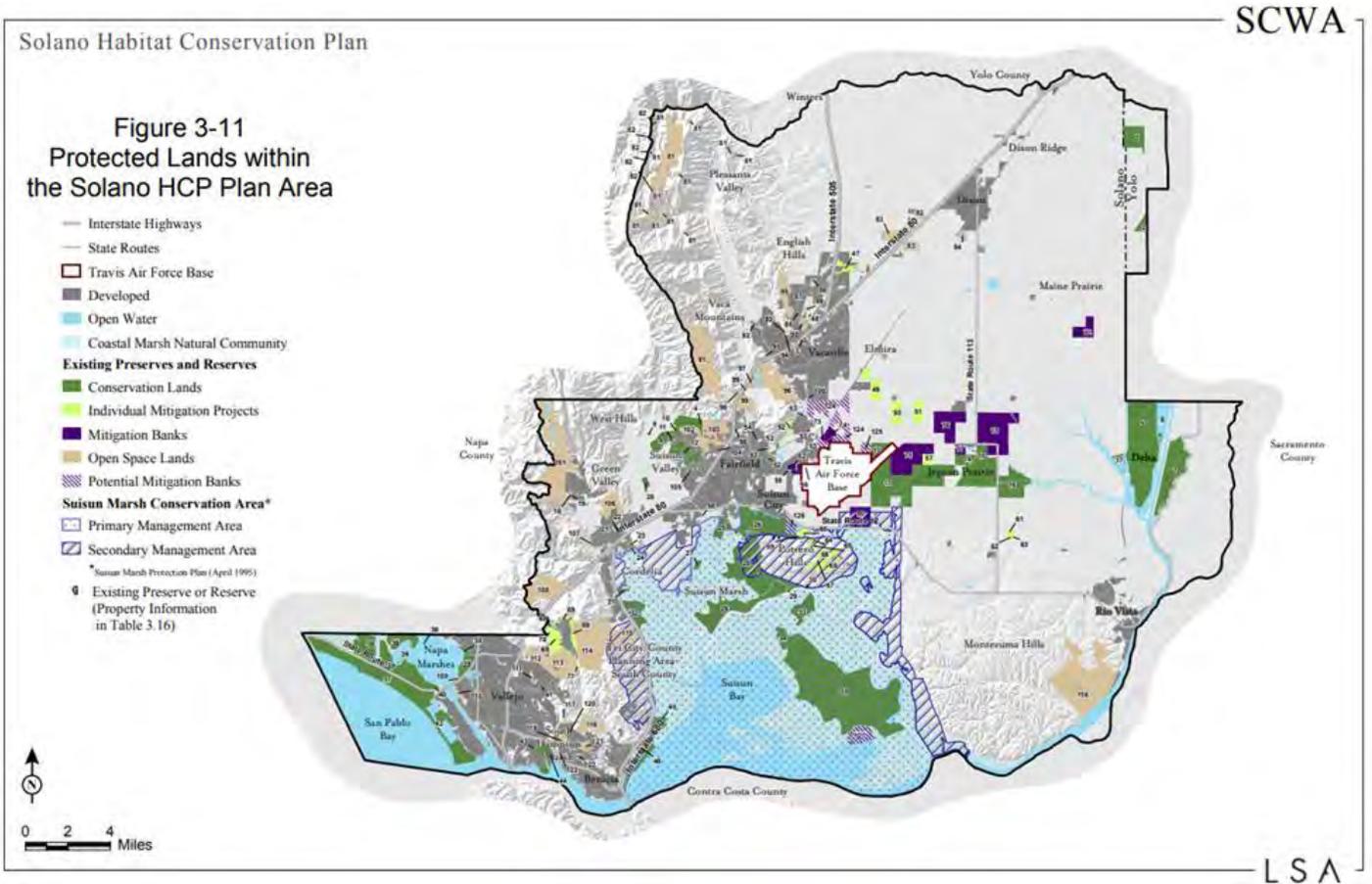
Priority habitat restoration areas are large areas within which specific sites may be identified for habitat restoration based on assessments of land use and other issues addressed through further feasibility analysis.

Source: DFG 2011

Attachment B, Exhibit C: EcoRestore Projects



CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION		CONSTRUCTION PLANNED FOR 2021		COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION	
1	Dutch Slough	11	Chippis Island	19	Decker Island
2	McCormack Williamson Tract	12	Grizzly Slough	20	Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage Modification
3	Southport Levee Improvement	13	Lisbon Weir	21	Knights Landing Outfall Gate
CONSTRUCTION PLANNED FOR 2020		14	Lower Putah Creek Realignment	22	Lindsey Slough
4	Arnold Slough	15	Prospect Island	23	Sherman Island: Mayberry Farms
5	Bradmoor Island	16	Twitchell Island: West End	24	Sherman Island: Whale's Mouth
6	Hill Slough	17	Yolo Bypass Floodplain Restoration	25	Sherman Island: Mayberry Slough
7	Lookout Slough	18	Wings Landing	26	Tule Red
8	Lower Yolo Ranch			27	Twitchell Island: East End
9	Sherman Island: Whale's Belly Wetland			28	Wallace Weir Fish Rescue Facility
10	Twitchell Island: Levee			29	Winter Island
				30	Yolo Flyway Farms



https://www.scwa2.com/documents/hcp/figures/Figure3-11_SolanoProtectedLands.pdf

Attachment C

Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta Habitat Restoration Agency Contact List

Agency	Leadership	Contact
CA Natural Resources Agency <i>Oversees and Supports Delta Stewardship Council, Department of Water Resources and Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>	Wade Crowfoot Secretary for Natural Resources	916 653 5656
Delta Stewardship Council <i>Develop and implementation of the Delta Plan</i>	Jessica Pearson Executive Officer Susan Tatayon, Executive Director & Chair, DPIIC (Term expires Feb 2, 2022)	916 445 5511
Department of Water Resources <i>Funding and Implementation of habitat and flood projects</i>	Karla Nemeth, Director	Lea Garrison, Administrative Secretary 916 653 7007 lea.garrison@water.ca.gov
	Kris Tjernell, Integrated Watershed Management Program	916 653 5791
Department of Fish and Wildlife <i>Manage wildlife, fish and plant resources and their habitats</i>	Chuck Bonham, Director	916 445 0411
California EcoRestore <i>Multi agency initiative to advance critical habitat restoration in Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Yolo Bypass and Suisun Marsh</i>	Mike Roberts, Special Assistant for Delta Restoration	916 606 8940 michael.roberts@resources.ca.gov
Local		
Solano County Water Agency <i>Develop Solano County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan</i>	Chris Lee, Assistant General Manager	CLee@scwa2.com 707 455-1105
Suisun Resource Conservation District <i>Habitat restoration in Suisun Marsh</i>	Steve Chappell, Executive Director	707 425 9302, Schappell@suisunrcd.org
Rio Vista Airport Manager	Robin Borre, Director Public Works, City of Rio Vista	707 374 6451
Federal		
Travis Air Force Base	Scott McLaughlin, Deputy Operations Group Commander	(707) 424-1067. Scott.mclaughlin.1@us.af.mil