



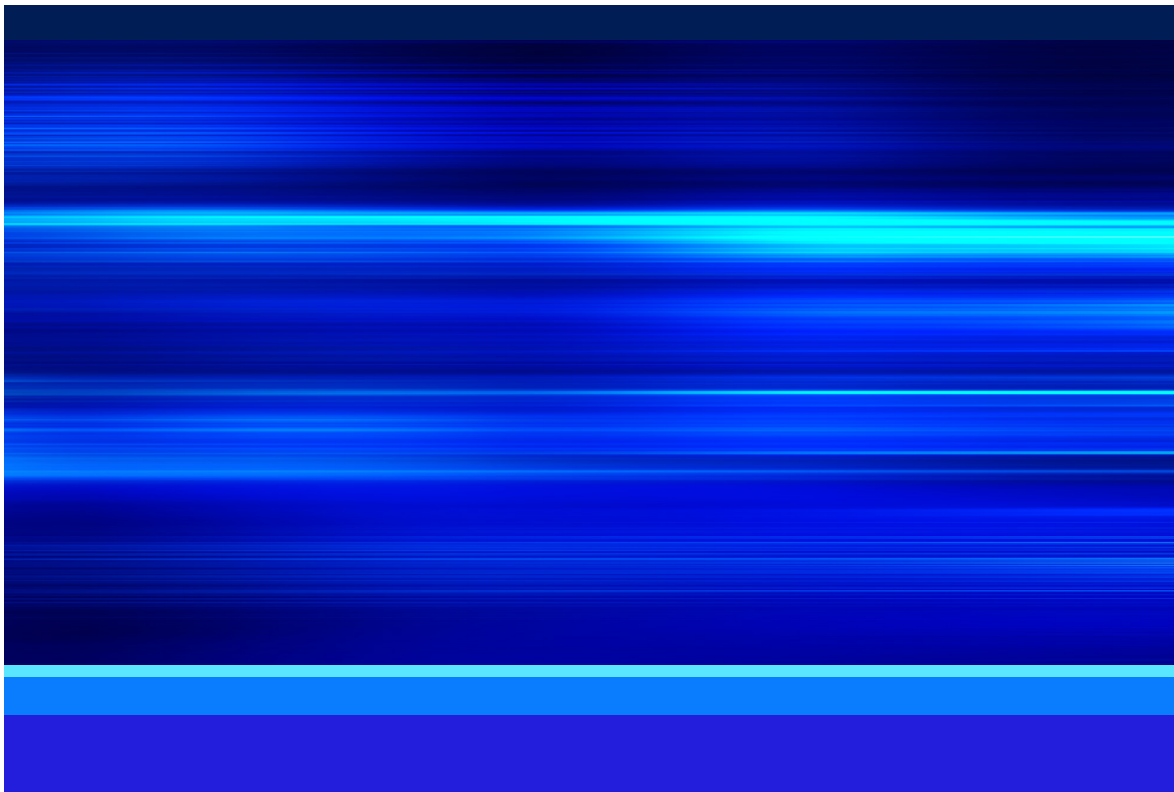
Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

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Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

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Executive Summary

This Recreation Action Plan was prepared to evaluate public access and recreational opportunities in and near the Cache Slough region in southeastern Solano County. The need for the plan was prompted by a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Water Resources, and Solano County (the Partners), executed in 2021, to create a partnership and work collaboratively to develop, evaluate, recommend, and jointly implement solutions to address recreation needs in the area. The Recreation Action Plan is the first step in that process.

Based on MOU guidance, the Partners initiated a public outreach campaign in 2022 to engage with the local community and organizations with interests in the Cache Slough area. Two virtual meetings and one in-person meeting were held between September 2022 and May 2023 to discuss opportunities to address recreation needs and to learn about the constraints to adding new recreation features and access. These general meetings were supplemented by other engagement activities, such as an online survey, phone interviews, and various smaller meetings. Using the feedback received during these meetings, the Partners compiled a list of potential recreation features that could be developed in the area. In addition, the feedback was important for developing criteria used to evaluate the advantages and potential constraints (pros and cons) of each of the features.

This Recreation Action Plan recognizes other important activities that are underway to address the changing landscape in the region. Primarily, the plan recognizes the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership as a collaborative effort to help shape future area use given the important flood control and habitat restoration efforts that are affecting the region. Because the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership identifies recreation as a key pillar to be protected and enhanced, its efforts can help further the goals of this Recreation Action Plan. This is especially relevant to the creation of a multi-benefit project on Little Egbert Tract, just north of Rio Vista, which is expected to be under consideration for approval in 2024. Public input for this Recreation Action Plan expressed strong support for new recreation features in the Little Egbert Tract area, primarily the creation of a new public boat launch in the former "old ferry" area. The Recreation Action Plan recommends that this feature be evaluated for inclusion in the Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project.

The availability of compatible public lands, and other limiting factors, result in few recommendations at this time. Many of the potential recreation features were ranked low and not recommended for further study at this time. However, the Partners are committed to continue engaging with local interests so that recreation remains a priority. This ongoing engagement may yield new opportunities. For example, another multi-benefit project, Lower Peters Pocket, may be advanced for consideration in the next few years. Also, ongoing management of public lands is subject to occasional change and update, and a regional focus on recreation may help loosen the constraints that currently limit public access. Continued engagement with landowners, both public and private, may reveal new opportunities not anticipated at the time this Recreation Action Plan was prepared. Overall, the Recreation Action Plan serves as a framework for the Partners to use in ensuring that these recreation needs and opportunities remain an important consideration in future land use decisions in the region.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
C&E	communication and engagement
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CVFPB	Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Delta	Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
LEJPA	Little Egbert Joint Powers Authority
MOU	memorandum of understanding
the Partners	California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Water Resources, and Solano County

1. Introduction

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was executed in 2021 between California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and Solano County (collectively referred to here as the Partners) to create a partnership and work collaboratively to develop, evaluate, recommend, and jointly implement solutions to address public access and recreational opportunities in or near the Cache Slough region within Solano County. The MOU included statements of each agency's commitment to public recreation, as follows:

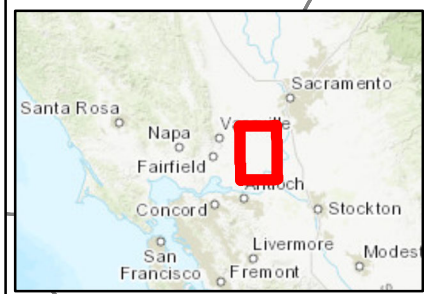
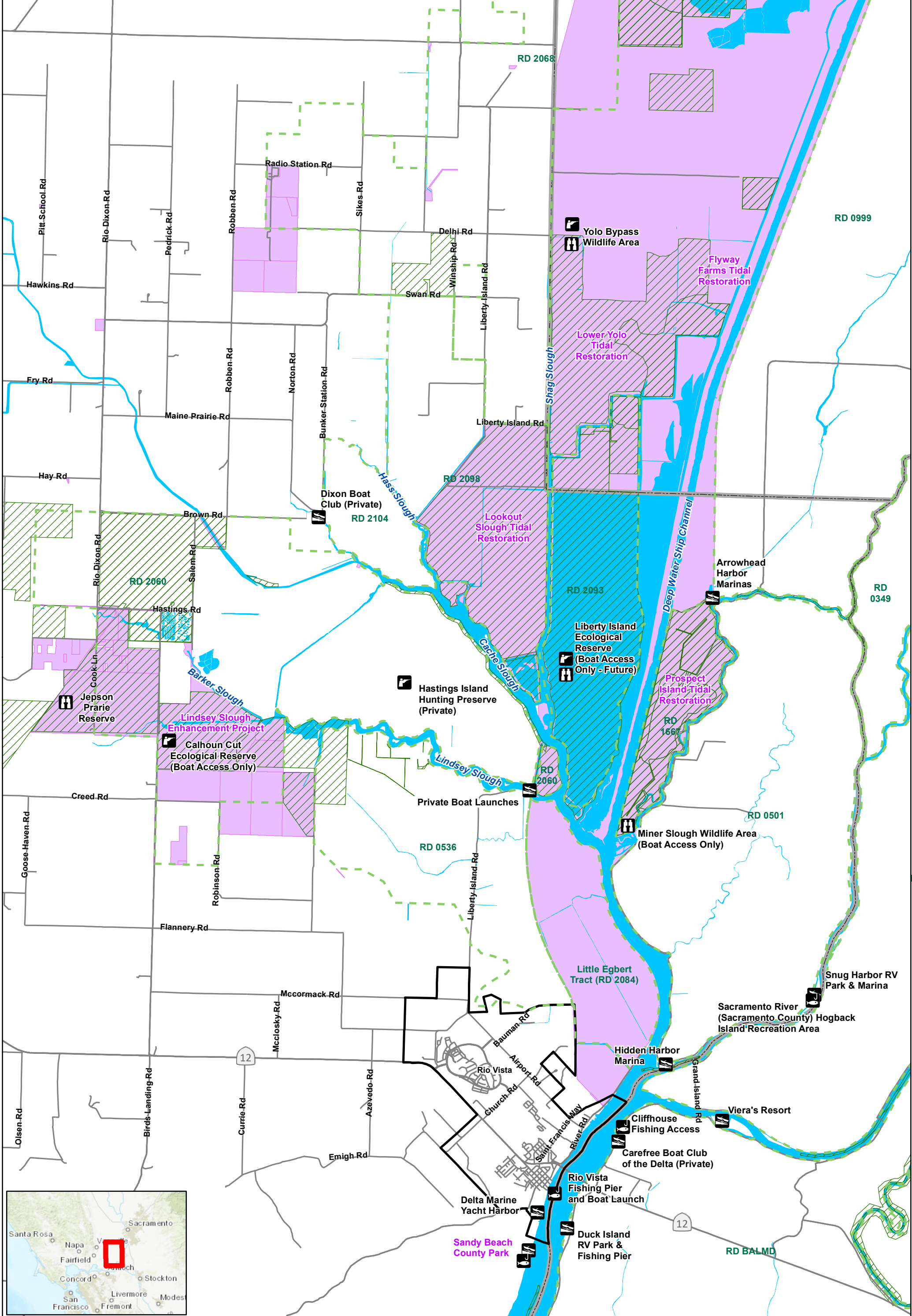
- The mission of CDFW is to “manage California’s diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.” As per Fish and Game Code Section 1801, CDFW has an objective to “maintain diversified recreational uses of wildlife, including hunting, as proper uses of certain designated species of wildlife, subject to regulations consistent with public safety, and a quality outdoor experience.”
- The mission of DWR is to “sustainably manage the water resources of California, in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the state’s people and protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments.”
- Solano County has an objective, adopted in its Solano Parks mission, of “as stewards of Solano County’s natural and cultural resources, we create safe environments and showcase our facilities in order for our visitors to enjoy diverse recreational experiences.”

The MOU was prompted by the reduced public recreational access at the Liberty Island Ecological Reserve, a result of concurrent Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project implementation (CDFW et al. 2021).^[1]

The Cache Slough region, as defined in this plan, encompasses the waterways and land adjacent to waterways bounded to the south by the City of Rio Vista, to the north by the Lookout Slough area, to the west by Highway 113, and to the east by the Solano County–Sacramento County boundary line. Waterways in the region include Shag Slough, Cache Slough, Deep Water Ship Channel, Hass Slough, Lindsey Slough, Barker Slough, Calhoun Cut, and the Sacramento River. Additional areas of interest include the lands adjacent to waterways that are accessible by public roads. The Cache Slough region is not legally defined and does not hold any legal implications. Figure 1-1 shows the general extent of the Cache Slough region.

To identify and evaluate potential public access recreation opportunities in the Cache Slough region, the Partners consulted with various stakeholder groups to solicit input, compiled and evaluated a list of existing and potential recreation opportunities, engaged the public for feedback, and detailed findings and recommendations in this Recreation Action Plan.

¹ The Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project has been updated to include a new boat ramp, which will be publicly accessible for hand-launching watercraft, associated parking areas, and preservation of about 500 feet of Shag Slough for bank fishing. For further information, please visit DWR’s website: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/All-Programs/EcoRestore>.



- Hunting/Fishing
- Marinas and Boat Launches
- Fishing Piers
- Wildlife Viewing
- Reclamation Districts
- City Boundary
- County Boundary
- Habitat Projects
- Public Agency Owned or Habitat Restoration Parcels
- Roads

Figure 1-1. Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Planning Area

Sources: California Department of Technology 2023, ESRI et al. 2023, San Francisco Estuary Institute 2023, Solano County 2023.

2. Existing Setting for Recreation Use

To aid in the identification and evaluation of potential public access recreational opportunities in the Cache Slough region, the Partners solicited input from stakeholders and the public regarding existing recreation activities within the region and reviewed existing regional recreation planning documents.

As shown on Figure 1-1, there are several public recreation facilities within the region, including the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, Liberty Island Ecological Reserve (soon to be boat access only), Jepson Prairie Reserve, Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve (boat access only), Miner Slough Wildlife Area (boat access only), Cliffhouse Fishing Access, and Sandy Beach County Park. Most existing facilities are on land adjacent to the waterways or must be accessed via boat. There are minimal existing public facilities leading to waterways that are accessible via public roads.

Within the region, existing recreation activities include shoreline fishing, motorized boat fishing, waterfowl hunting, nonmotorized boating (kayak, canoe, standup paddle board), and nature viewing. Overall, there is minimal public access for permitted recreation activities. There are several private facilities (hunting areas, marinas) in addition to nonauthorized public access and recreation. Nonauthorized public access and recreation activities include illegal parking along levees and public roads for shore fishing and nonauthorized foot traffic into Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve.

A review was conducted of nine existing regional documents related to recreation and tourism in the general Cache Slough region and greater Sacramento—San Joaquin Delta (Delta). Many of the documents were primarily focused on proposed or desired recreational opportunities, but all contained descriptions of existing features and activities in some capacity. Table 2-1 summarizes the existing recreational resources, facilities, and uses described in these documents.

As documented in these regional recreation planning documents, the greater Cache Slough region within the Delta is used for a wide variety of public recreation, including wildlife observation, boating, fishing, hunting, swimming, picnicking, and camping. Regional trails along roads and levees are used for hiking and biking. Agritourism has been on the rise in the form of wineries, u-pick opportunities, and roadside stands. Cities like Rio Vista function as hubs for many of these activities, with infrastructure such as boat launches, gas stations, equipment rental, food, and lodging. They also serve as cultural hubs and destinations for festivals and fairs.

Table 2-1. Existing Regional Recreation Planning Documents

Document	Date	Overview of Recreation Uses and Facilities	Relevance to Cache Slough Region
City of Rio Vista General Plan	2001	<p>Recreational Uses and Facilities in Rio Vista:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neighborhood, community, and regional parks are used for active and passive recreation, including play areas, sports fields, picnic areas, swimming, camping, and fishing. ▪ Several boat launches provide access to the Sacramento River for boating, water sports, fishing, and other water-based recreation. ▪ An open space network including bicycle and pedestrian paths. ▪ Waterfront Access Plan in development to increase public access to the riverfront within City boundaries. ▪ A golf course. 	<p>The City of Rio Vista, located in the southern area of the Cache Slough region could serve as an access point to the region via bicycle and pedestrian paths and boat launches.</p>
Solano County General Plan	2008	<p>Recreational Uses and Facilities in Solano County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neighborhood, community, and regional parks and preserves are used for active and passive recreation, including play structures, sports fields and complexes, picnic areas, swimming, camping, fishing, hunting, and wildlife observation and nature appreciation. ▪ Bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian paths. ▪ Boating and off-road vehicle facilities. ▪ Cultural facilities and areas of natural and historic value. ▪ Golf courses. 	<p>The Cache Slough region is within Solano County. Solano County operates several existing recreation facilities in the region such as Sandy Beach County Park.</p>
Central Valley Vision Implementation Plan	2009	<p>Recreational Uses and State Park Facilities in the Central Valley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State parks with campgrounds, picnic areas, and trails ▪ Historic sites and parks ▪ Recreation areas on water bodies and land ▪ Vehicular recreation areas ▪ Natural reserves and wildlife areas ▪ Vehicular recreation areas 	<p>Cache Slough region is located within the Central Valley. The recreational opportunities envisioned for the Delta could apply to this region.</p>

Document	Date	Overview of Recreation Uses and Facilities	Relevance to Cache Slough Region
<p>Recreation Proposal for the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh</p>	<p>2011</p>	<p>Recreational Uses and Facilities in the Delta and Suisun Marsh:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parks and wildlife areas support a wide variety of recreation activities, providing opportunities for fishing, hunting, motorized and nonmotorized boating, beach play, swimming and windsurfing, wildlife viewing, picnicking, hiking, biking, and camping (tent, recreational vehicle, and houseboat). Some offer trails and options for driving tours, public fishing and hunting access, and visitor and interpretive centers. ▪ Boating and fishing facilities include a few large public marinas with launch ramps, picnicking areas, and trails. Angling is also available at public fishing piers. Public land may also include access to beach and windsurfing areas, or areas for bank fishing and hunting. ▪ Scenic highways, including State Highway 160 and local roads such as the Delta Loop, state recreational trail routes, railroads, and other transportation corridors connect recreation areas, offer scenic vistas, and link to destinations in other regions. 	<p>The Cache Slough region falls within the Delta. The existing and proposed recreational opportunities identified could apply to the region.</p>
<p>Inventory of Recreation Facilities in the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta</p>	<p>2015</p>	<p>Recreational Resources in the Delta:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public parks, public land, historic sites, legacy communities, agritourism-suitable crops, and wildlife areas, refuges, and reserves. <p>Recreational Facilities in the Delta:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boat launches, marinas, boat storage, transient tie-ups, docks and piers, environmental services, boating and hunting club facilities, trails and paths, driving routes, picnic sites, agritourism sites, visitor information and education centers and museums, nonmotorized boat launch sites, campgrounds, event venues, public restrooms, fishing accesses, and waterfront promenades. <p>Recreational Support in the Delta:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recreation equipment providers, overnight lodging, restaurants and specialty foods, hunting and fishing guides, and recreation and tourism providers. 	<p>This document offers a thorough inventory of recreational facilities and resources in the Delta/Solano County area surrounding the Cache Slough region.</p>

Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

Document	Date	Overview of Recreation Uses and Facilities	Relevance to Cache Slough Region
Suisun Marsh Public Access Study	2018	<p>Recreational Facilities and Public Access in Suisun Marsh:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hunting, boating, pier and bank fishing, nature and wildlife viewing and educational study, picnicking, hiking, biking, and photography. ▪ Marinas, boat harbors, navigable waterways, and trails all provide public access to the marsh and waterfront. ▪ Amenities include parking, hunting blinds, boat ramps and docks, fishing piers, trash receptacles, toilets and restrooms, potable water, benches, picnic tables, and shade structures and trees. 	<p>Much of the public land in Suisun Marsh is established as a sanctuary, conservation area, or dedicated wildlife area with limited human use. The area is separated from the Cache Slough region by undeveloped uplands, but the two regions share a similar natural character in southern Solano County.</p>
Recreation and Tourism in the Delta	2019	<p>Based on interviews at four Delta events, the following recreational activities were identified by interviewees (in order from most to least frequently reported):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hiking and walking, attending festivals and events, scenery and wildlife viewing, dining, historical sightseeing, boating (motorized), driving for pleasure, wine tasting, swimming, visiting museums, birdwatching, kayaking and canoeing, farm visits, beach play, sunbathing, shopping, tent camping, fishing, berry picking, waterskiing, wakeboarding, tubing, road cycling, jet skiing, paddleboarding, sailing, hunting, horseback riding, off-road and mountain biking, geocaching, motorcycle touring, golfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing, and photography. 	<p>The Cache Slough region falls within the Delta. The existing and proposed recreational opportunities identified could apply to the region.</p>

Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

Document	Date	Overview of Recreation Uses and Facilities	Relevance to Cache Slough Region
<p>Economic Sustainability Plan: Recreation and Tourism chapter</p>	<p>2020</p>	<p>In the Delta, people seeking recreation experiences go to private enterprises, including marinas, restaurants, retail establishments, wineries, and farm stands. Public recreation includes scenic driving, hiking, biking, swimming, boating (motorized and nonmotorized), paddle sports, picnicking, day use, fishing, hunting, camping, wildlife viewing, photography, and shopping at farmers' markets.</p> <p>Participation in nonmotorized boating is increasing at a faster rate than motorized, while motorized boating ownership is declining. Younger millennials tend to focus on experiences, group recreation, and shared ownership. Other trends involve the provision of high-end camping, and water recreation-oriented urban redevelopment and development centers.</p> <p>During the ongoing pandemic there are widespread stories of expanded demand for outdoor recreation, including hiking, boating, fishing, and camping.</p>	<p>The Cache Slough region falls within the Delta. The recreational uses identified could apply to the region.</p>
<p>Great California Delta Trail Master Plan</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Existing opportunities for recreation in the Delta in relation to the Great Delta Trail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Master Plan proposes a main trail corridor, supported by local access trails, water launch sites, and adventure hubs. ▪ The main corridor will accommodate pedestrians, bicycles, and equestrians wherever feasible, and prioritize connectivity to boat access sites. ▪ The main route will prioritize connections to Delta Legacy Communities, public transportation, and other important destinations. ▪ The trail will be designed to highlight unique qualities, activities, and destinations in the Delta Region, including farm stands, historic downtowns, river trails, rail-to-trails, bridges, water access, and wetlands. 	<p>The Cache Slough region is located within the Northern and Central Regions of the planning area. The region includes Rio Vista, a proposed Adventure Hub, and could be further integrated into the Great Delta Trail by local access trails or water launch sites.</p>

3. Public Outreach and Engagement

This section introduces the outreach and engagement process, documents engagement activities, and summarizes the feedback received during outreach and engagement.

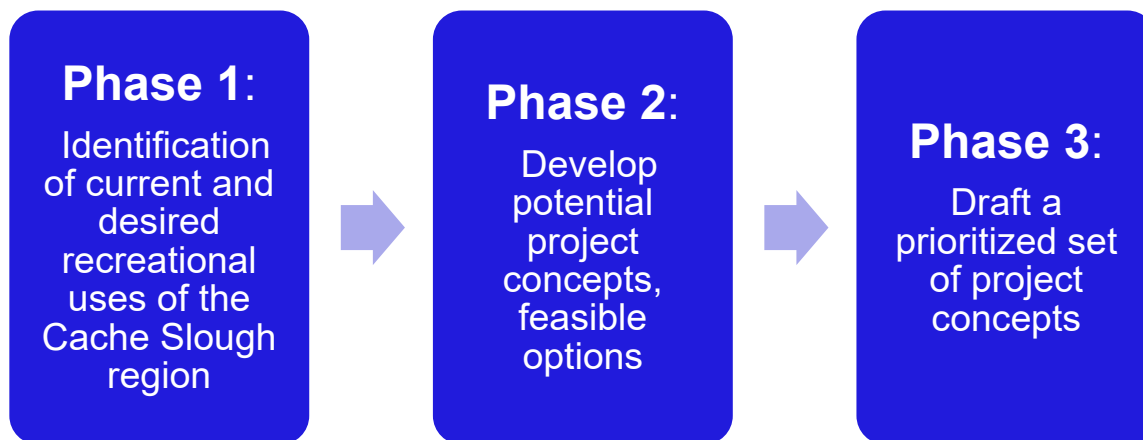
3.1 Introduction

Through a transparent communication and engagement (C&E) effort, the Partners sought to ensure all interested parties and agency partners were fully informed about the project. In August 2022, the Partners prepared a C&E Plan to guide these efforts (Appendix A). The C&E effort was informed by statutory requirements as well as best practice outreach methods used by the Partners.

The C&E approach included the following components: aligning engagement with project milestones and decision points, conducting in-person and virtual meetings to achieve broader engagement, and engaging a wide spectrum of interested parties, such as representatives from local government agencies, State regulatory agencies, regional land protection entities and districts, recreation groups, landowners and agricultural interests, as well as the general public from local communities and visitors.

The engagement process was organized into the following three phases, as shown on Figure 3-1.

Figure 3-1. Public Outreach and Engagement Phases



3.2 Summary of Engagement Activities

Recreation Action Plan development began in Spring 2022, with Partner coordination meetings occurring approximately every 2 weeks for the duration of the project timeline. Sections 3.2.1 through 3.2.3 provide a summary of engagement activities organized by phase.

3.2.1 Phase 1: Current and Desired Recreational Uses

As an initial step, eight interviews were conducted between June and July of 2022 with public agency representatives, elected officials, resource conservation districts, and Delta environmental and recreational organizations. These interviews provided an opportunity to better understand historical, present, and desired future recreation activities in the Cache Slough region.

A kickoff virtual workshop was held on September 14, 2022, to introduce the project; allow Partners to share information around project history, objectives, planning considerations; and collect stakeholder feedback on current and desired recreation uses.

The Partners also conducted an online survey in September and October 2022 and collected 36 responses. The survey was designed to gain a better understanding of current uses of the Cache Slough region and the broader Delta, as well as interests, priorities, and concerns related to potential future recreation opportunities.

The Partners also convened a meeting with local landowners in August 2022, in which Solano County staff provided an overview of the project, its objectives to meet the obligations of the MOU partnership, address the lack of public access and recreational opportunities in the area, and gather feedback to contribute to the development, evaluation, recommendation, and joint implementation of solutions to address public access opportunities in the Cache Slough region.

3.2.2 Phase 2: Project Concepts and Criteria

A second in-person workshop was held in Rio Vista on November 3, 2022, to share input and information received during Phase 1, and to identify and develop project concepts from recreation demand types and planning considerations. Participants were organized into small groups around tables with maps of the Cache Slough region and invited to indicate with markers and sticky notes their ideas and specific locations while engaging in direct conversation with the Partners. During this workshop, the Partners also shared draft criteria that would be used to evaluate project concepts.

3.2.3 Phase 3: Prioritization of Concepts

A third public meeting was held via Zoom on May 4, 2023. At this meeting, Partner agencies presented key content to be included in the Draft Recreation Action Plan, including an analysis of current recreation opportunities identified through previous outreach efforts by stakeholders. A summary of the 10 potential recreation options identified through the public outreach process and developed by the Partners was presented to meeting participants, including the refined evaluation criteria screening process to reach these outcomes.

3.2.4 Ongoing Activities

Throughout the course of the project, a [Cache Slough Region Public Access Recreation website](#) has been made available to the public and updated regularly to reflect current project status. The project website includes background information, a project factsheet, summary documents, and presentation materials from the public workshops.

The Partners developed a list of interested parties relying on resources from each Partner agency, personal knowledge, and relationships within the region using information from other development projects in neighboring parts of the Delta, as well as project partners along the way. The contact list is comprised of more than 150 names of interested stakeholders who were included in outreach and engagement efforts for the project. Notifications were sent to stakeholders periodically, informing them of upcoming meetings and when new materials were added to the website.

3.2.5 Future Engagement

In 2023, the Partners will present this Recreation Action Plan and its findings to the Solano County Board of Supervisors and facilitate managerial review by DWR and CDFW staff.

3.3 Summary of Input Provided

Sections 3.3.1 through 3.3.4 provide a summary of input that informed and shaped the planning process. For the three public meetings, the presentations, meeting summaries, and other materials are available at the [Cache Slough Region Public Access Recreation website](#).

3.3.1 Phase 1: Current and Desired Recreational Uses

A detailed summary of the stakeholder interview effort is provided in Appendix B. Themes from stakeholder interviews are as follows:

- **Capitalize on other planning projects in the area:** Current and future conservation efforts and management activities in the area include the Little Egbert Tract Multi-Benefit Project, the Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project, and other existing multi-benefit projects such as Cullinan Ranch and Cosumnes River Preserve.
- **Promote diverse recreation opportunities:** Consider a range of opportunities that benefit diverse recreation users, including boat launches, fishing piers, and paved roads to new or existing access points. Also promote traditional ecological uses of the land through enrichment activities such as education programs. It was emphasized that planning approaches take a long-term perspective, particularly projects that allow year-round recreational access.
- **Respect local landowners:** Fostering meaningful private-public partnerships is a key strategy to increase public access in the Cache Slough region. It was also noted that using existing public or private infrastructure can help reduce the costs of future access point creation.

A detailed summary of the survey is provided in Appendix C. Themes from the online survey are as follows:

- Current recreation available in the Cache Slough region includes shoreline fishing (specifically in Shag Slough) and some waterfowl hunting.
- Participants enjoy visiting the Cache Slough region year-round.
- Recreational activities enjoyed by respondents include fishing by boat and shore, boating (motorized and paddle-only), hunting, bird watching, nature viewing, hiking, walking, and picnicking.
- Desired community amenities include access points, parking, boat launches (motorized and paddle-only), trails, fish cleaning stations, potable water, restrooms, wildlife habitat.

Themes from the September 14, 2022, kickoff public meeting are as follows:

- Recreational uses of the Cache Slough region that are unavailable or lacking at present include shoreline access for fishing, hiking, picnic and day use sites, public boat launches, hiking and biking trails, environmental education opportunities, wildlife viewing areas, and access to Calhoun Cut Ecological Preserve by foot or car.
- Participants emphasized the desire to have public access points that are accessible by car and foot, not only by boat, reasoning that not everyone can afford to own boats and car access opens more recreation opportunities for a wider audience.
- While brainstorming criteria to evaluate potential recreation concepts, participants mentioned improvements to accessibility, prioritizing multi-benefit restoration projects that incorporate recreation, and prioritizing restoration projects already in the planning process to take advantage of funding opportunities and timelines.

3.3.2 Phase 2: Project Concepts and Criteria

Themes from the November 3, 2022, public meeting are as follows:

- Participant concerns included avoiding public access points near the Dixon Boat Club, being mindful of the flood zone drainage area at the northwestern edge of Cache Slough, speed and wake conflicts between motorboats and paddle boats in deep water areas, safety of boaters in narrow channels and sloughs and associated difficulty of emergency response services, and shallow underwater hazards in the Lookout Slough restoration area.
- Specific locations and ideas from participants include the following:
 - **Public access:** more slough access in general; create paths and launches for kayaks and paddle boards in Shag Slough, Lookout Slough, Calhoun Cut, Lindsey Slough, Barker Slough; and establish National Wildlife Refuge status in the region north of Liberty Island and south of Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.
 - **Parking facilities:** improve parking to be closer to the boat launch sites, near Lindsey Slough Ecological Reserve for fishing and paddle boat launch, near Liberty Island Road north of Lookout Slough Tidal Restoration, and on Prospect Island Tidal Restoration south of Arrowhead Harbor and Marinas.
 - **Fishing:** along Barker Slough shore and along Shag Slough shore.
 - **Seasonal hunting:** allow access in lower Yolo Tidal area west of Shag Slough (waterfowl), Liberty Island Ecological Reserve (waterfowl), Prospect Island Tidal Restoration (snipe hunting), and upland game hunting north of Liberty Island.
 - **Pedestrian or bicycle trail(s):** develop access along Shag Slough (pedestrian), along Lookout Slough levee up to the bridge (pedestrian), and connected to the Great Delta Trail along the Miner Slough Wildlife area; use levees for trails and path; create link trails for multi-day and same-day hiking.
 - **Boat launches:** develop launch at the North end of Liberty Island Road near Little Egbert Tract; develop paddle boat launch at the junction of Jepson Prairie Reserve and Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve.

3.3.3 Phase 3: Prioritization of Concepts

Themes from the May 4, 2022 public meeting are as follows:

- Interest in recreation opportunities in Calhoun Cut, such as seasonal access, but this option ranks low within the evaluation criteria screening exercise because of ecological priorities for the area.
- Emphasis on equitable access, specifically prioritizing opportunities that allow access for more people by foot, car, and others who cannot afford boats.
- Concern over loss of land-based access, in particular loss of access to Liberty Island and a desire to make up for this loss.

4. Potential Recreation Options

The Partners, with public input and engagement, identified a list of potential public access recreation options in the Cache Slough region. The Partners also developed evaluation criteria to be used in scoring and screening the potential options. This section details the evaluation criteria, the list of potential options, and the results of the scoring process.

4.1 Evaluation Criteria

To evaluate potential recreation options and provide implementation recommendations, the Partners developed seven evaluation criteria, which are scored using a high-medium-low scale. More “high” scores indicate the option is more likely to be considered for implementation.

The evaluation criteria capture various planning-level project considerations, including a clear understanding of public safety and maintenance service providers, accessibility from existing public roads, using existing public lands, emphasizing water access, providing multiple use options at a single site, obtaining public support from received feedback, and planning-level project feasibility. Table 4-1 defines each criterion and provides scoring specifications for the high-medium-low scale.

Table 4-1. Evaluation Criteria and Scoring Definitions

Criterion	Definition	High Score	Medium Score	Low Score
Maintenance and Safety	All options must be safe and well maintained. Maintenance costs and a responsible agency should be identified for each option. The score is based on the ability to identify the owner and operator of the facility and their capacity to ensure safety and good maintenance.	The option has a clearly identified operator with capacity to ensure good maintenance, and to either provide or collaborate with public safety services.	There is a likely operator who can help ensure the option is maintained and provide safety services along with other obligations.	Maintenance costs are prohibitive and/or a responsible agency is unable to be identified.
Public Access	The Partners prefer to prioritize options that do not require new public roads or the conversion of private roads to public, although some reasonable accommodations may be needed.	The option is accessible from existing public roads.	The option is accessible from existing public roads but some limited new features and only incidental right-of-way needs to be acquired.	The option is not accessible from public roads unless new features are built requiring a substantial amount of new right-of-way.

Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

Criterion	Definition	High Score	Medium Score	Low Score
Public Lands	The Partners have identified public lands in the Cache Slough region as the most likely areas where public access recreation can be provided. Willing private sellers or a public-private partnership could be considered.	The option can be provided entirely on existing public lands.	The option can be provided mostly on existing public lands but optimizing the facility configuration requires some incidental property acquisition. The option is implemented through an agreement with a willing private seller and/or public-private partnership.	The option requires the acquisition of a large amount of private property.
Water Access	The Cache Slough region includes many waterways of various types. Recreation options should take reasonable advantage of this feature.	The option emphasizes reasonable and appropriate access to watercourses.	The option provides a mix of upland and water-based recreation access.	Recreational features in this option are primarily in upland areas with little to no interface with the water.
Multipurpose	To a reasonable extent, options should provide multiple recreation opportunities at a single site and sufficient facilities and amenities.	The option provides multiple recreation opportunities and sufficient facilities and amenities.	The option is focused on a single recreation opportunity, but with ancillary features that add some other limited opportunities.	The option provides a single recreation opportunity.

Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

Criterion	Definition	High Score	Medium Score	Low Score
Public Support	<p>As detailed in Section 3, the Recreation Action Plan was developed using outreach with the local community, including several public meetings and various other engagement efforts such as an online survey. A key observation of the feedback received was the desire for proposed public access recreation to be compatible with the surrounding land uses given the quiet, agricultural character of the Cache Slough region. The Partners acknowledge that while the outreach efforts were aimed to be widespread, the feedback provided may not be fully representative of public opinion.</p> <p>A score of “unknown” was given to options that did not receive any public feedback.</p>	The feedback received indicates a high level of support of the option.	The feedback received indicates a mixed level of support and opposition.	The feedback provided indicates a low level of support for the option or clear opposition.
Feasibility	<p>Options should be feasible at the planning level for the following components: capital cost; implementation schedule; permitting requirements (e.g., endangered species); and policy, legal, and institutional alignment. While considering project costs and constructability, the Partners will leverage 4-3 any existing facilities or amenities. Complying with existing land uses and easements (e.g., levees, protected ecological reserves) is considered in policy, legal, and institutional alignment feasibility.</p>	The option is feasible at the planning level for all components.	The option is feasible at the planning level; however, specific coordination and/or design features will need to be considered to maintain feasibility.	The option is infeasible at the planning level for one or more component.

4.2 Public Access Recreation Options

To identify and compile a list of potential public access recreation options, the Partners reviewed existing recreation facilities, gathered input from local stakeholders and the public, and developed new conceptual options. As described in Section 2, the Partners identified existing recreation facilities within the Cache Slough region, with the potential of expanding these existing facilities and amenities. As described in Section 3, local stakeholders and the public provided input and feedback on potential opportunities and challenges with existing and new recreation options.

Table 4-2 summarizes the potential public access recreation options identified and brief descriptions. Note that the options are presented in no thematic order. Figure 4-1 shows the general locations of options on a map of the Cache Slough region.

While the Partners acknowledge that several of the potential options have immediate challenges, some of which may warrant immediate elimination, a goal of this Recreation Action Plan is to comprehensively identify all possible options in the Cache Slough region.

Table 4-2. Potential Public Access Recreation Options

Map ID	Option Title	Description
A	Shag Slough East Access and Liberty Island Pedestrian Bridge	As part of the Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project, the existing bridge across Shag Slough to Liberty Island will be decommissioned. This option proposes construction of a new pedestrian bridge to Liberty Island.
B	Lindsey Slough Boat Launch (on or near Little Egbert Tract)	Proposed boat launch would be located at the “Old Ferry” location on or near the northern end of Little Egbert Tract. Option proposes private road and land acquisition to construct a parking lot and boat launch into the Lindsey Slough/Cache Slough channel.
C	Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve Public Access	Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve is owned by CDFW. The reserve currently permits boat-in access but no shoreline or walking access. Public recreators frequently park along State Route 113 and shoreline fish. Option proposes expanding public recreation access in this area.
D	Levee Improvements for Recreation Access	Several levees border the Cache Slough region; some have vehicle access. Option proposes levee and vehicle access improvements to provide public recreation access to water and shoreline. Feasibility is unlikely due to levee maintainers, owners, and regulators (such as CVFPB and local reclamation districts) concerns of levee preservation and safety.
E	Brown Road Boat Launch	Option proposes public boat launch from (extension of) Brown Road, on land south of Dixon Boat Club. Significant concerns about private land and road acquisition.
F	Dixon Boat Club (Bartlett Road) Partnership	Option proposes potential private-public partnership with the Dixon Boat Club at their existing facilities. Option would expand public access at existing facilities and include channel maintenance.

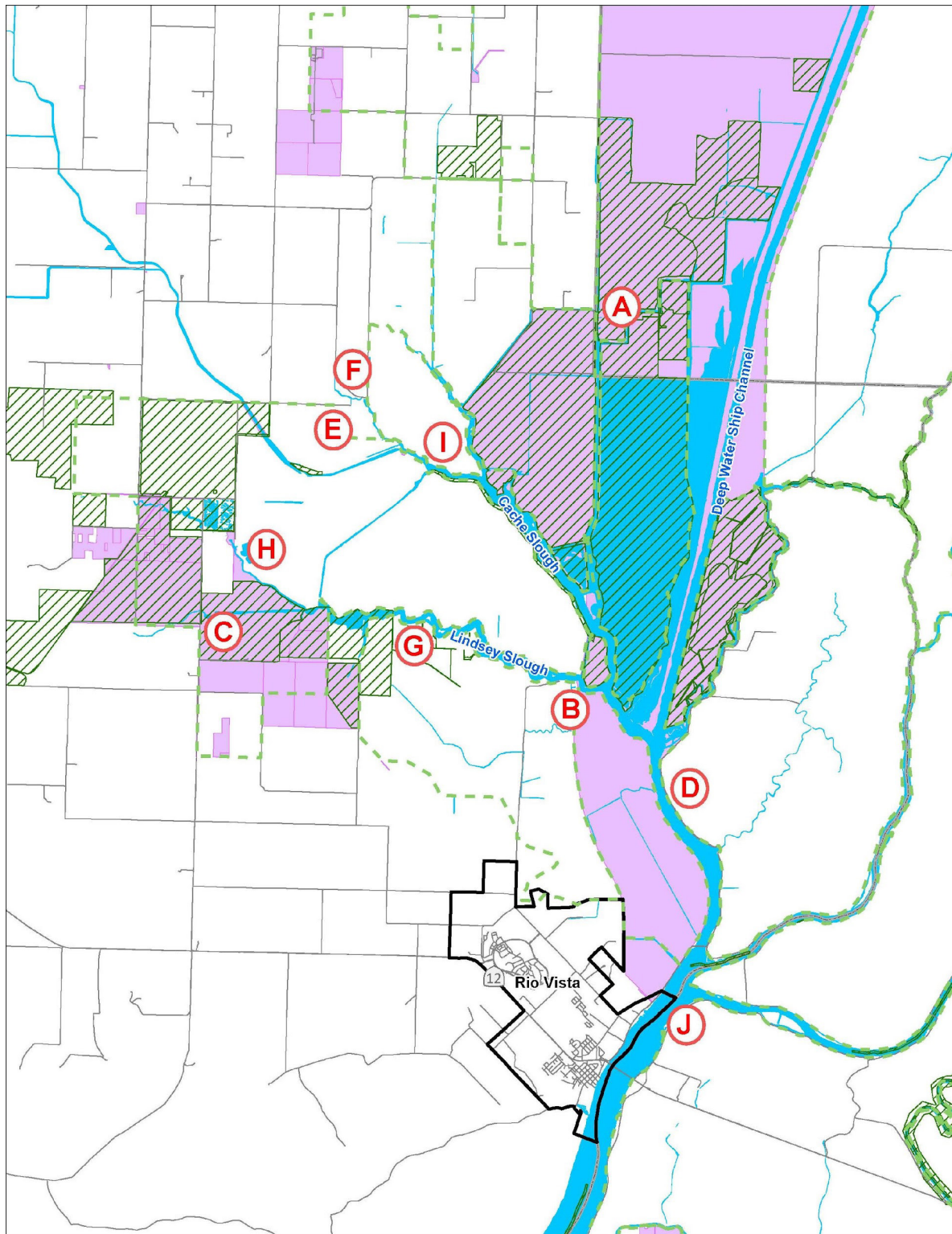
Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

Map ID	Option Title	Description
G	Lindsey Slough South Access	Option would provide water access to Lindsey Slough from the south via the private roads stemming from Robinson and Flannery Roads. Land is owned by CDFW, Solano County Water Agency, and private owners along southern shore of Lindsey Slough.
H	Barker Slough	Option would provide access to Barker Slough near the North Bay Aqueduct pumping plant. The option would allow public access via the pumping plant access road, with public use allowed up to approximately 0.5 mile south of the pumping plant. In that area, facilities would be developed for a personal watercraft boat launch. There does not appear to be sufficient room for a larger facility for a motorized craft boat launch.
I	Lower Peters Pocket	An existing ecological restoration project on Lower Peters Pocket Tract, led by American Rivers, is in the conceptual stage. Option considers adding public access recreation (water-based access only). Project proponents have identified the current landowner as a willing seller but have not identified a buyer.
J	Cliffhouse Fishing Access	Cliffhouse Fishing Access is an existing 1 square mile fishing access owned by CDFW in Sacramento County, east shore of Sacramento River, across from Rio Vista. This option is generally outside of the Cache Slough region. Option proposes expanded public access.

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CVFPB = Central Valley Flood Protection Board

Figure 4-1. Public Access Recreation Options Map



Sources: California Department of Technology 2023, ESRI et al. 2023, San Francisco Estuary Institute 2023, Solano County 2023.

4.3 Options Scoring and Recommendations

After identifying the list of potential public access recreation options, the Partners scored the options using the evaluation criteria presented in Section 4.1. During the screening process, the Partners continued outreach with the public, as detailed in Section 3. The public's additional input was relevant and considered when determining evaluation criteria scores. For example, continued engagement with the Dixon Boat Club heavily influenced the evaluation of option F, Dixon Boat Club (Bartlett Road) Partnership. Table 4-3 provides the high-medium-low scoring results of each option for each evaluation criterion. Detailed option summary tables including evaluation criteria considerations are included in Appendix D.

Cache Slough Public Access Recreation Action Plan

Table 4-3. Summary of Options by Criteria

Map ID and Option Title	Maintenance and Safety	Public Access	Public Lands	Water Access	Multipurpose	Public Support	Feasibility
A. Shag Slough East Access and Liberty Island Pedestrian Bridge	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
B. Lindsey Slough Boat Launch (on or near Little Egbert Tract)	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High	High	Medium
C. Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve Public Access	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
D. Levee Improvements for Recreation Access	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Low
E. Brown Road Boat Launch	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Low
F. Dixon Boat Club (Bartlett Road) Partnership	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
G. Lindsey Slough South Access	Low	Low	Medium	High	High	Unknown	Low
H. Barker Slough	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Unknown	Low
I. Lower Peters Pocket	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	Unknown	Medium
J. Cliffhouse Fishing Access	Medium	High	High	Medium	Medium	Unknown	Low

Overall, none of the options scored consistently high marks across all evaluation criteria. Option B, Lindsey Slough Boat Launch (on or near Little Egbert Tract) appears to be the most potentially feasible and would likely have strong regional recreation benefits. This option is favored by received public feedback and has potential for timely implementation given the concurrent Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project development. However, like other options, public access and land ownership challenges would need to be resolved. The Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project, led by the Little Egbert Joint Powers Authority (LEJPA), is currently in the feasibility stage. The ecosystem restoration-focused project aims to provide several benefits, including flood protection, agriculture preservation, climate change resiliency, and habitat re-establishment. In addition, the feasibility study and project design will consider recreation opportunities on the tract (LEJPA 2023). Given the regional proximity, concurrent timelines, and related recreation goals, option B, Lindsey Slough Boat Launch (on or near Little Egbert Tract) should be considered in LEJPA's efforts.

Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project

The proposed project encompasses the approximately 3,150-acre Little Egbert Tract. Preliminary project alternatives are in development, which will be made available to the public for review and comment during the project's environmental process.

For further information, please visit LEJPA's website:

[https://lejpa.org/project/little_egbert_multi-benefit_project .php](https://lejpa.org/project/little_egbert_multi-benefit_project.php).

While some of the options score decently, these options have critical weaknesses. For example, option A, Shag Slough East Access and Liberty Island Pedestrian Bridge would provide restored walking access across Shag Slough; however, lands to the east are not authorized for public use. Similarly, option C, Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve Public Access, has medium-to-high scores for maintenance and safety, public lands, water access, multipurpose, and public support, but the primary purpose of the Ecological Reserve is to protect rare, threatened, endangered, or fully protected species and specialized habitats with which shore-based recreational uses would be incompatible, as reflected in the low scores for public access and feasibility. Option J, Cliffhouse Fishing Access, provides potential for expanding an existing public access facility; however, the site is located in Sacramento County, which is generally outside of the Cache Slough region area of interest.

Option F, Dixon Boat Club (Bartlett Road) Partnership, would present safety and channel maintenance concerns, site capacity constraints, and low public support resulting in a low option score.

Several options have significant hurdles with private land ownership, a lack of public road access to the site, or significant permitting or public access concerns such as option D, Levee Improvements for Recreation Access; option E, Brown Road Boat Launch; option G, Lindsey Slough South Access; and option H, Barker Slough.

While the upcoming restoration project at Lower Peters Pocket, option I, could provide a recreation opportunity at a centralized location in the Cache Slough region, the project is in conceptual stage and still presents many unknowns, such as not having secured a willing buyer of the tract at this time.

5. Recreation Action Plan Findings and Recommendations

This section documents the key findings derived from the public access recreation option identification and evaluation effort and recommendations moving forward.

5.1 Findings

The Partners' process of identifying potential public access recreation options, developing evaluation criteria, and evaluating each option yielded several key findings. First, there are few immediately feasible public access recreation opportunities in the Cache Slough region. While the Partners, aided by public engagement, were able to develop a list of potential options or sites, a majority of the options had critical weaknesses that deemed them infeasible. While option B, Lindsey Slough Boat Launch (on or near Little Egbert Tract), appears to be potentially feasible, as discussed in Section 4, the option has several unknowns with public access challenges and private land ownership. Further, this process emphasized the continued attention needed to ensure adequate maintenance and safety of any option. The evaluation analysis did not yield any clear decisions on maintenance, safety, or financial pathways for any options.

Second, in general, the Cache Slough region contains a lot of private land, public land that does not permit public recreation, and limited public roads. All these conditions limit the ability to develop potential public access recreation.

Lastly, while none of the options scored particularly high marks, the Partners' effort to identify all potential public access recreation options was important as conditions (for example, funding, land uses, and ownership) may change that may facilitate future implementation.

5.2 Recommendations

Moving forward, the Partners recognize several key recommendations. Most notably, the Partners must continue engagement, both internally and externally, to ensure future recreation outcomes. Additional recommendations for the Partners and other potential proponents include the following:

- A key finding of this Recreation Action Plan was the inability to identify a feasible funding pathway for implementation. The Partners should continue to track potential funding sources and look for opportunities to connect with project concepts.
- The Partners may need to develop creative solutions for addressing long-term operations and maintenance of recreation facilities.
- The Partners should incorporate recreation into future multi-benefit projects, such as the Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project, where it is compatible.
- Other existing regional recreation-focused partnerships and projects can serve as a venue to further recreation development in the Cache Slough region. The primary venue is the Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Master Plan, including projects expected to be implemented pursuant to the Master Plan including the Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project and Lower Peters Pocket.
- The Partners should explore public/private partnerships for additional access points and opportunities (for example, boat launches).

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Appendix A

Communication and Engagement Plan



Cache Slough Region Public Recreation Opportunities Partnership



Communications and Engagement Plan

August 18, 2022



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CA	California
C&E	Communications and Engagement
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
IAP2	The International Association of Public Participation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
RD	Reclamation District

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

In December 2021, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the County of Solano (County), entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work collaboratively to support and engage in a process to develop, evaluate, recommend, and jointly implement solutions to address public access and recreational opportunities in or near the Cache Slough region within Solano County.

This Communications and Engagement (C&E) Plan is intended to inform and guide C&E activities to support the Project. The C&E plan will function as a roadmap for the interested party engagement process; it identifies intended interested party engagement objectives for the project and outlines the specific interested party engagement activities that will be implemented to achieve those objectives. The C&E plan includes a timeline for implementing engagement activities that is directly connected to the environmental milestones of the project.

The C&E plan is intended to be a living document that will be revisited and updated as needed at regular intervals.

1.1 Project Overview

The missions and objectives of each of the MOU Partners reflect a shared desire for both preserving natural resources and advancing diverse and equitable recreational opportunities. To that end, this process will culminate in an Action Plan for enhancing public recreation within the Cache Slough region. The Action Plan will help guide future County and State investments in feasible recreation facilities within the Cache Slough region that are safe, and respect local land uses and landowners. The Action Plan proposes to help guide agency planning efforts engaging a cross-section of stakeholders throughout the region.

CHAPTER 2

Communication & Engagement Objectives and Approach

The MOU Partners will plan and implement a transparent C&E effort to ensure all interested parties and agency partners are fully informed about the Project. This C&E effort is informed by statutory requirements as well as outreach methods that have been effective for similar projects led by the Partners.

2.1 C&E Objectives

MOU Partners have identified the following communications and engagement objectives to support the Project.

- **Engage** all interested parties on public access opportunities and concerns from all perspectives including landowners and agricultural operations, flood and reclamation districts, recreation groups and visitors, and agency representatives. See how to provide input below.
- **Understand** interests and usage to inform County and State priorities for enhancing public access – whether its opportunities for fishing, hunting, hiking, boating, biking or other recreational uses.
- **Input for Action Plan Development** for enhancing public access within the Cache Slough region including feasible options, conceptual design elements, plans for permit compliance and approvals necessary, and future funding.

2.2 C&E Approach

The MOU Partners' approach to engagement for the Project will include the following components:

2.2.1 Align Engagement with Project Milestones and Decision Points

The interested party engagement process will be planned and implemented around the Project timeline and milestones (see Appendix B, page 17). MOU Partners will schedule engagement activities to ensure all relevant interested parties and partners are informed prior to key project milestones. Chapter 4 illustrates the overall Project schedule and how it aligns with various engagement activities.

2.2.2 In-Person, Virtual, and Hybrid Meetings

MOU Partners will plan and implement engagement activities within the context of the State’s public health mandates due to COVID-19 and any other potential health concerns, and it anticipates conducting some meetings, site-visits, and briefings in-person and others virtually via webinar. In addition, whenever feasible and appropriate, MOU Partners will aim to conduct “hybrid” meetings to accommodate participants in-person and those attending remotely. Virtual and hybrid meetings can provide the advantages of increasing the participation and accessibility of participants while reducing the cost and time associated with travel and location expenses.

2.2.3 Spectrum of Participation and Varying Levels of Influence

An important consideration in identifying appropriate engagement activities related to a planning or environmental process is the level of influence that interested party input will have on that process’s final decisions and outcomes. The International Association of Public Participation (IAP2), an organization dedicated to advancing and extending the practice of public participation, has developed a Spectrum of Public Participation which identifies different levels of public influence. These different levels – inform, consult, involve, collaborate, and empower – help define the range of potential interested party influence and provide a helpful reference for a decision-making agency and its interested parties to reach a common understanding of how input will be considered.

While the level of influence can vary for the same activity depending on the circumstances and audience – for example, natural resource agencies will have greater influence on the process, while engagements with the general public may focus on sharing information – the IAP2 Spectrum (see Appendix A) provides a useful framework for the engagement planning process.

CHAPTER 3

Interested Party Audiences and Interests

Table 1 outlines the interested party audiences, audience members, and their interests as they relate to the Project.

Table 1: Interested Party Audiences and Interests

Interested Party Audience	Interests	Audience Members (not exhaustive)
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and providing public services • Addressing local concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solano County Supervisor John Vasquez • Solano County Supervisor Mitch Mashburn • Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville
State and Federal Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for the health and education of Californians • Preserve ecological diversity • Protect natural and cultural resources • Create opportunities for outdoor recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA State Parks • CA Department of Fish and Wildlife • Delta Conservancy • Delta Protection Commission • Delta Stewardship Council • National Marine Fisheries Service • US Fish and Wildlife Service
Regional Entities and Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land protection • Preserve agricultural practices • Assist landowners and residents to manage land, water, and wildlife resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dixon Resource Conservation District • RDs 2060, 2068, 2098 • Solano County Water Agency • Solano Land Trust • Solano Resource Conservation District • Suisun Resource Conservation District

Interested Party Audience	Interests	Audience Members (not exhaustive)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership • Yolo Resource Conservation District
Recreation Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor recreation protection • Wildlife protection • Land conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA Waterfowl Association • Dixon Boat Club • Ducks Unlimited • Liberty Island Access • Other recommendations via 1st round of engagement
Landowners and Agricultural Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural lands protection • Protect the interests of farmers and ranchers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual landowners near the Project site • Farm Burueas
Tribal Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation of Tribal cultural resources • Preservation of Tribal historical resources • Wildlife protection • Land conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community Council • California Valley Miwok Tribe • Confederated Villages of Lisjan Territory • Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation • Patwin • Redding Rancheria • Wilton Rancheria • Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
General Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor recreation protection • Wildlife protection • Land protection and conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General public

CHAPTER 4

Interested Party Engagement Activities

Below is a high-level overview of the Project timeline, including milestones and the engagement activities that will be conducted during the Project. A detailed project schedule is included as Appendix B.

Action Plan development for the Project began in April 2022, with MOU Partner coordination meetings occurring approximately every two weeks for the duration of the Project timeline. The Draft Action Plan is slated to be completed by December 2022, with the Final Action Plan completed in February 2023. CDFW and DWR Directors as well as the Solano Board of Supervisors will be briefed on the Final Action Plan. The engagement activities for this project will occur in three phases, with separate actions and considerations in each phase, listed below:

Phase 1:

- Identification of current and desired recreational uses of the Cache Slough region
- Definition of goals and objectives of recreational uses within the boundaries of the Cache Slough region
- Establishment of engagement mechanisms: workshops, meeting surveys, online meetings, online maps, websites, focus groups, individual calls

Phase 2:

- Develop potential project concepts, feasible options
- Develop criteria for project prioritization
- Identify available resources

Phase 3:

- Draft a prioritized set of project concepts
- Create renderings

Table 2 outlines the engagement activities that the MOU Partners will conduct to support the Project. More detailed descriptions of these activities are included in the text that follows.

Table 2. Key Engagement Activities

Activity	Purpose	Target Audience(s)
4.1 MOU Patners Engagement	Ensure common understanding of Project status and deliver consistent messages externally and amongst Partner agencies' staff	DWR, CDFW, Solano County staff
4.2 Initial Engagement with Agency Partners and Elected Officials	Engage natural resource agencies and elected officials to identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing/planned conservation efforts and management efforts, including those that may influence /prohibit recreation opportunities • Challenges, concerns, priorities and goals for recreation in the region • Funding/resources available for recreation • Recommendations for other groups to engage and means to engage them 	County Supervisors, Recreation Groups, Reclamation Districts, State/Federal Natural Resource and Permitting Agencies
4.3 Meetings with Interested Parties (Focus groups, workshops)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify current/desired uses, goals, objectives, and resources available • Vet concepts, criteria and means for prioritizing projects • Opportunities to provide input on draft final recreation plan and list of project concepts 	Recreation Groups, Reclamation Districts, Regional Entities, State/Federal Natural Resource and Permitting Agencies
4.4 Landowner Outreach	Identify concerns and goals related to existing and potential new recreation opportunities adjacent to private lands	Land owners and agricultural interests
4.5 Tribal Outreach	Identify concerns and goals related to Tribal interests in the Cache Slough region and provide opportunity for Tribes to give input on potential new recreation opportunities	Tribal entities within the project region

4.1 MOU Partners Engagement

MOU Partners will convene regularly throughout the span of the Project to ensure common understanding of Project status and deliver consistent messages externally and amongst Partner agencies' staff. Partner engagement will primarily be conducted through a virtual meeting format, but will also be conducted in various other formats such as in site visits, in-person meetings, and working sessions, as dictated by Project needs. Efforts will be made to ensure that all members are able to engage fully in the process.

4.2 Initial Engagement with Agency Partners, Regional Interests, and Elected Officials

MOU Partners will conduct one-on-one and small group meetings with relevant natural resource agencies, regional interests (reclamation districts and recreation groups), and elected officials to have focused discussions on four main topics: opportunities and challenges in the Cache Slough region of the Delta regarding recreation planning, concerns or issues that are important to address ahead of increased activity in the Cache Slough region, availability of funding or other resources for recreation in the region, and other groups or individuals who should be included in the Project's engagement process as well as how to engage them.

MOU Partners will organize and conduct briefings with these entities on an as requested basis to keep them engaged and updated on the Project. The briefings will help the Partners better understand local community interests and concerns, and it will also assist local officials in providing accurate information to their constituents regarding the Project.

4.3 Meetings with Interested Parties

Consultant staff will conduct outreach efforts to groups listed in Table 2 through a variety of means, including but not limited to online engagement, one-on-one meetings, focus groups, and workshops, to gather information and input on three main topics: current or desired uses, goals, objectives, available resources, concepts, and project prioritization criteria. These engagement efforts will provide interested parties and the public with opportunities to provide input on draft recreation plans and lists of project concepts.

4.4 Landowner Outreach

The MOU Partners and consultant staff will engage with landowners to identify concerns and goals related to existing and potential new recreation opportunities adjacent to private lands.

4.5 Tribal Outreach

The MOU Partners will proactively engage California Native American Tribes in the decision-making process when it comes to identifying and developing project prioritization criteria as well as mitigation for impacts to important Tribal cultural and historical resources. DWR and CDFW will work with their Tribal liaison office and respective liaisons to contact and engage Tribal communities with interest and connection to the Cache Slough region and greater Delta.

CHAPTER 5

Communications Materials

Communications materials are intended to:

- Ensure that consistent and accurate messages are provided to interested parties throughout the planning and implementation of the Project.
- Ensure that all interested parties are aware of the details and benefits of the Project.

5.1 Key Messages

MOU Partners will develop project messages to inform all presentation materials and information products. They will be regularly reviewed for accuracy, consistency, and understandability. Tailored messages will also be developed for use with specific interested party groups based on their interests.

5.2 Information Materials

MOU Partners and consultant staff will originate publicly facing informational materials, pulling from existing documents to the greatest extent possible. As appropriate, the Partners will also determine what materials should be provided in languages other than English. Information materials could include presentations, maps, graphics, and factsheets.

5.3 Website

MOU Partners and consultant staff will create a Project website. The website will be available to the public and updated regularly to reflect current Project status. Information on the website could include Project timelines, summary documents from public meetings, maps, graphics, and factsheets.

CHAPTER 6

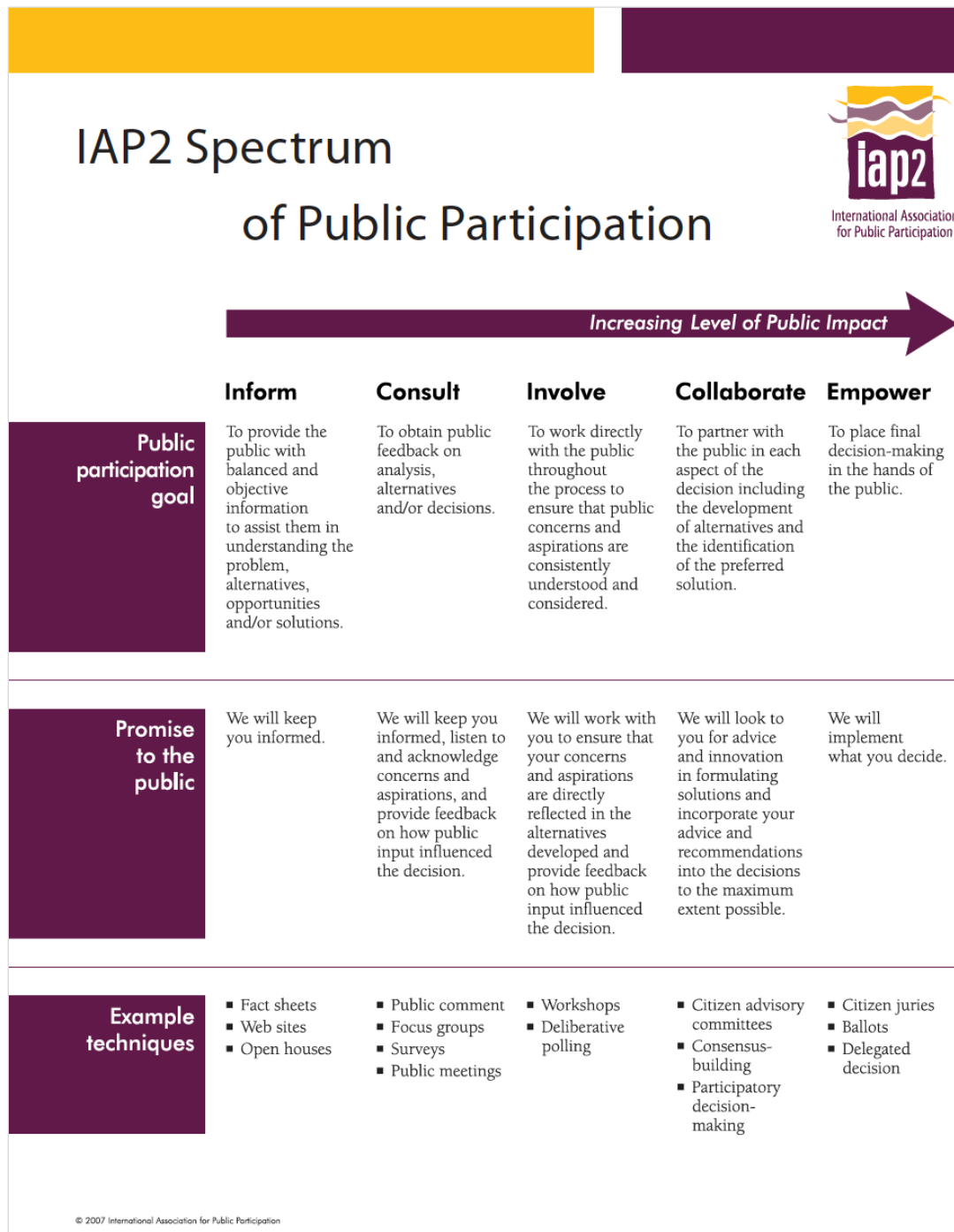
Staff Roles and Responsibilities

Table 3 below identifies specific staff roles with respect to the Project.

Table 3. MOU Partners and Consultant Roles

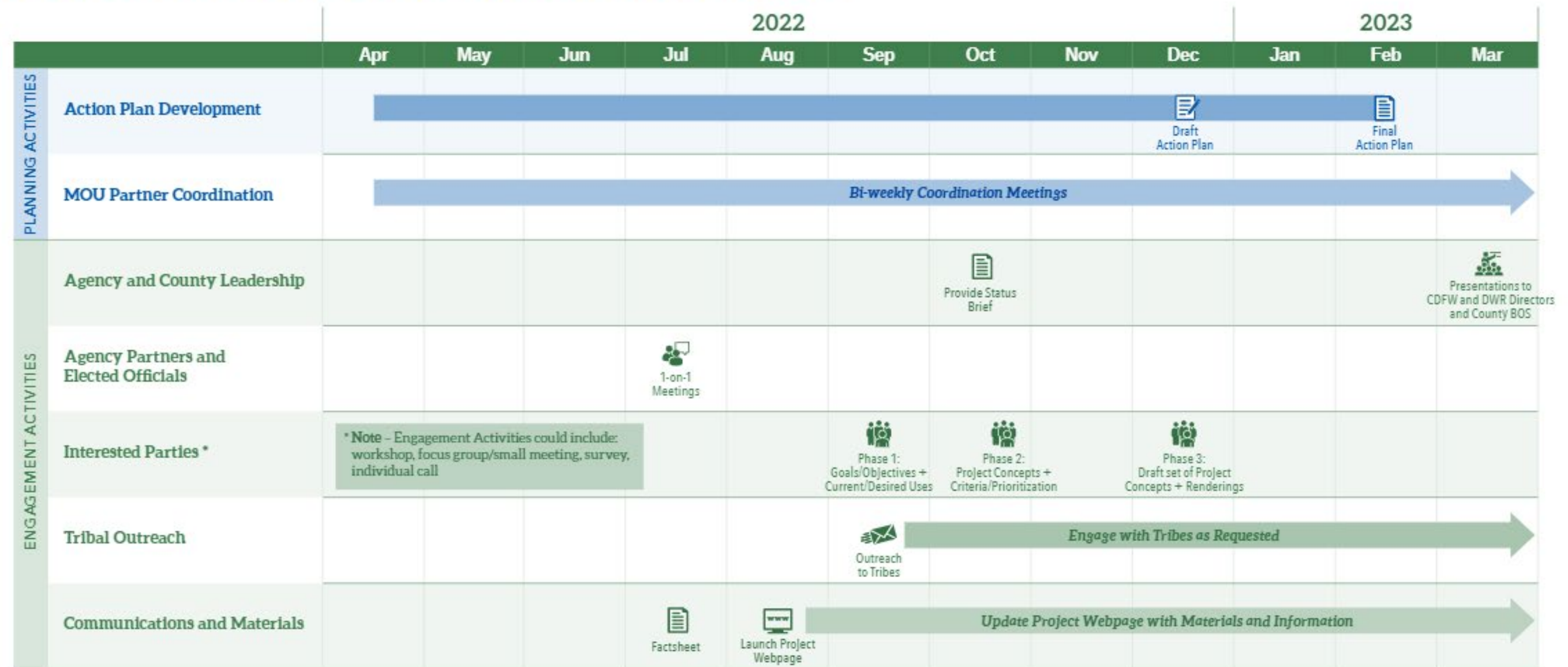
Staff	Position	Role
MOU Partners		
Erin Chappell	CDFW	MOU Partner
Greg Martinelli	CDFW	MOU Partner
Ryan Carrothers	CDFW	MOU Partner
Charlotte Biggs	DWR	MOU Partner
Michael Roberts	DWR	MOU Partner
Chad Fien	DWR	MOU Partner
Misty Kaltreider	County of Solano	MOU Partner
Christopher Drake	County of Solano	MOU Partner
Consultant Roles		
Matthew Franck	Jacobs Engineering	Technical Lead
Katie Stone	Jacobs Engineering	Technical Lead
Rebecca McNeil Freeman	Jacobs Engineering	Technical Lead
Ben Gettleman	Kearns & West	Outreach and Engagement
Marlys Jeane	Kearns & West	Outreach and Engagement
Matt Marvin	Kearns & West	Outreach and Engagement
Grace Person	Kearns & West	Outreach and Engagement

APPENDIX A: IAP2 SPECTRUM OF PARTICIPATION



APPENDIX B: PROJECT SCHEDULE

CACHE SLOUGH RECREATION PLANNING Project Milestones and Engagement Activities



7/14/2022

Appendix B

Stakeholder Interview Summary



Summary of Findings
Initial Engagement with Interested Parties
Cache Slough Public Access and Recreation

I. Overview

The following is a summary of findings from informal discussions conducted by Kearns & West with elected officials, state agencies, conservation districts, and recreation groups in the Cache Slough Complex. A full list of those engaged is included in Appendix A.

High level takeaways from these discussions include:

1. The importance of engaging early and thoroughly with interested parties in the Cache Slough region of the Delta.
2. The importance of respecting landowners and their desires during project visioning and development processes.
3. The importance of proposing projects that benefit all recreation users, not just one group.

II. Feedback Received

This section summarizes key findings related to: existing conservation efforts and management activities; opportunities and challenges associated with recreation planning; recommendations for future outreach activities; funding sources; and reference materials.

1. *Current and future conservation efforts and management activities in the area, particularly pertaining to conservation projects in the area that may impact users of Cache Slough:*
 - Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project
 - Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project
 - Existing multi-benefit projects: Cullinan Ranch, Cosumnes River Preserve

A simultaneously occurring project in the Delta which may impact users of Cache Slough is the Little Egbert Multi-Benefit Project. Interviewees mentioned other projects within the region which may serve as models or templates for future scenarios for Cache Slough, these include Cullinan Ranch and the Cosumnes River Preserve.

2. *Opportunities and challenges for recreation planning:*
 - Early and often notification on project developments and opportunities to engage
 - Project activity alignment with seasonal schedules
 - Optimize seasonal wetlands and traditional ecological uses of the land
 - Long-term perspectives (e.g. year-round access sites)
 - Private/public partnerships (e.g. utilize existing infrastructure)

Interviewees emphasized several considerations for recreation planning, including the effectiveness of early public notification and involvement. When engaging the public, it was noted that community members and other users would be more responsive if engagement activities respected seasonal schedules. For example, agricultural constituents would become more available after the harvest season ends (late October to mid-November) and duck hunting groups would be more responsive after their

own engagement efforts begin at the start of hunting season (late October). It was recommended that outreach efforts to such groups utilize social media platforms such as Facebook in addition to webpages and newsletter posts on government websites.

Another opportunity identified by interviewees include promoting traditional ecological uses of the land through enrichment activities such as education programs. Interviewees also expressed support for recreation improvement projects such as boat launches, fishing piers, and paved roads to new or existing access points. It was emphasized that planning approaches take a long-term perspective, particularly projects that allow year-round recreational access.

Another opportunity identified by interviewees is the potential for private/public partnerships. For example, the Dixon Boat Club has a private boat launch that can be used as a starting point for further recreational development. It was also noted that utilizing existing infrastructure can help reduce the costs of future access point creation.

3. Concerns or issues that are important to address ahead of increased activity in Cache Slough:

- Private land access
- Exploring in private/public partnerships
- Law enforcement mechanisms/site management

The most prominent issue identified among the interviewees was private land access and potential conflicts with local landowners. A common strategy brought up among interviewees for approaching conversations about access points between landowners and the regulatory agencies was to incorporate landowner goals as well as exploring opportunities for public/private partnerships. This could include compromising on long-term leasing deals (e.g. 99-year lease), providing funding opportunities for business development (e.g. agrotourism), and improving unofficial/illegal recreation that may already be occurring on the landowner's property. This last strategy was highlighted by many interviewees, which would involve managing access points via an enforcement mechanism like a ranger or warden. In turn, this would reduce vandalism, trash, and the likelihood of trespassing.

4. Other groups to engage throughout the planning process:

- Recreators (hikers, bikers, boaters, hunters, bird watchers, wind surfers)
- Tribal entities
- Landowners
- Agricultural entities
- Local environmental/conservation groups

5. Potential Funding Sources

The most mentioned funding opportunity for future projects in the Cache Slough region is Regional Parks Program Proposition 68. Other potential funding sources include those from the US Department of Transportation, the National Parks Service, California Grant Programs, the Division of Boating and Waterways, the California Transportation Commission, private sources, and community funding.

6. Reference Materials

Recommended materials to reference in terms of recreation planning priorities, challenges, and screening criteria include the [Great Delta Trail Master Plan](#) and the [Central Valley Vision Document](#).

Appendix A – List of Interviewees

Organization	Name & Role	Date Conducted
CA State Parks	Eddie Guaracha	July 14, 2022
CA State Parks	Catherin Caldwell	July 14, 2022
Dixon Resource Conservation District	Kelly Huff	July 14, 2022
Solano Resource Conservation District	Chris Rose	July 14, 2022
Ducks Unlimited	Aaron Will	July 14, 2022
Solano County Board of Supervisors	Mitch Mashburn	July 15, 2022
Solano County Board of Supervisors	John Vasquez	July 20, 2022
The Delta Conservancy	Campbell Ingram	June 30, 2022
The Delta Protection Commission	Virginia Gardiner	July 15, 2022
Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Partnership	Eric Nagy	June 29, 2022

Appendix C

Online Survey Results

Please contact Marlys Jeane at mjeane@kearnswest.com for accessible survey results.



Cache Slough Region Public Access Recreation Action Plan

38 responses

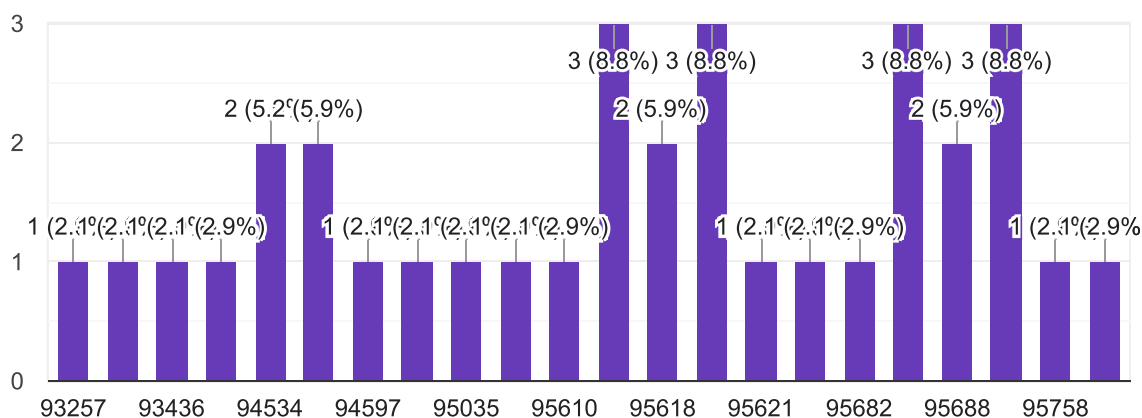
[Publish analytics](#)

Current Recreation Uses

1. Where do you live (zip code)?

[Copy](#)

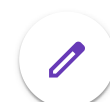
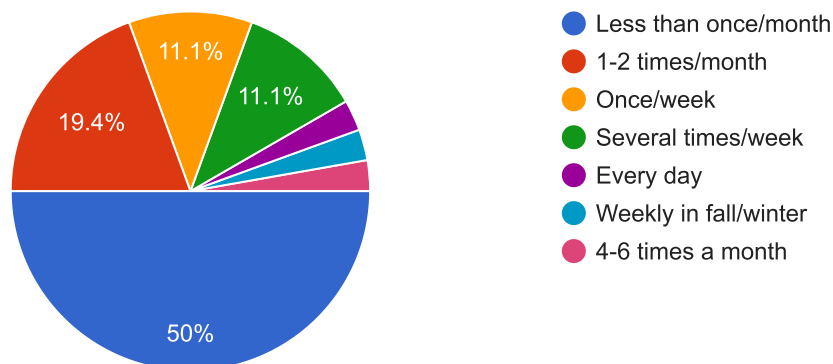
34 responses



2. How often do you recreate in the Cache Slough region?

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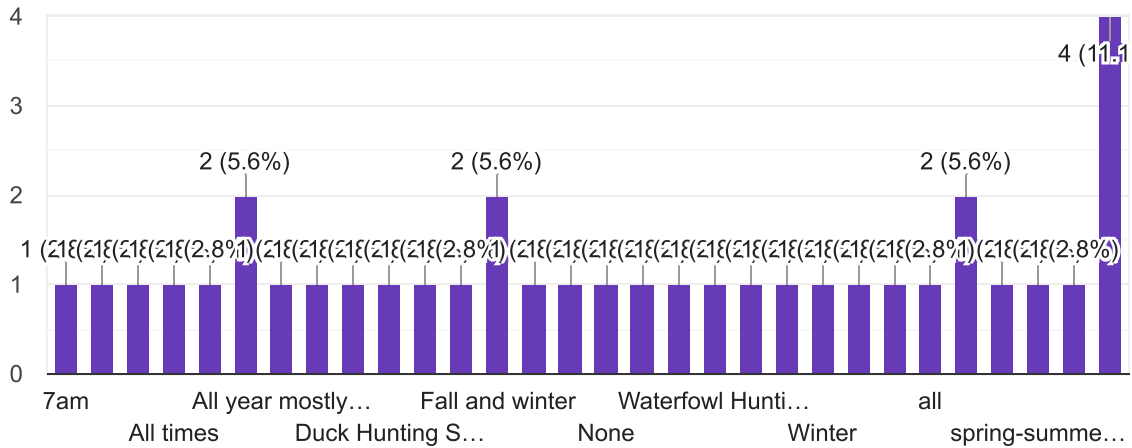
36 responses



3. What time of year do you like to visit?



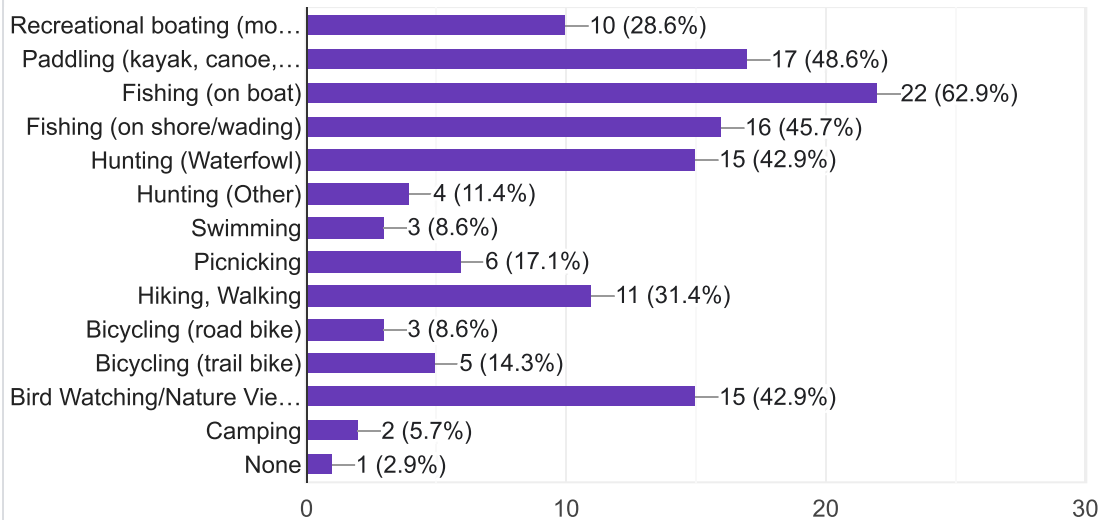
36 responses



4. What recreational activities do you typically do while visiting the Cache Slough or the Delta in general? (choose all that apply)



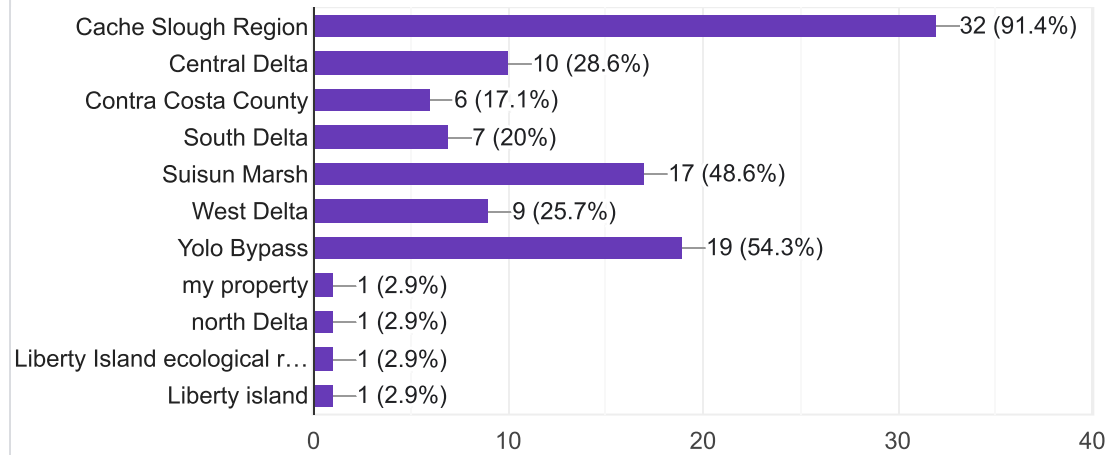
35 responses



5. Where do you typically go when recreating in the Delta? (choose all that apply)



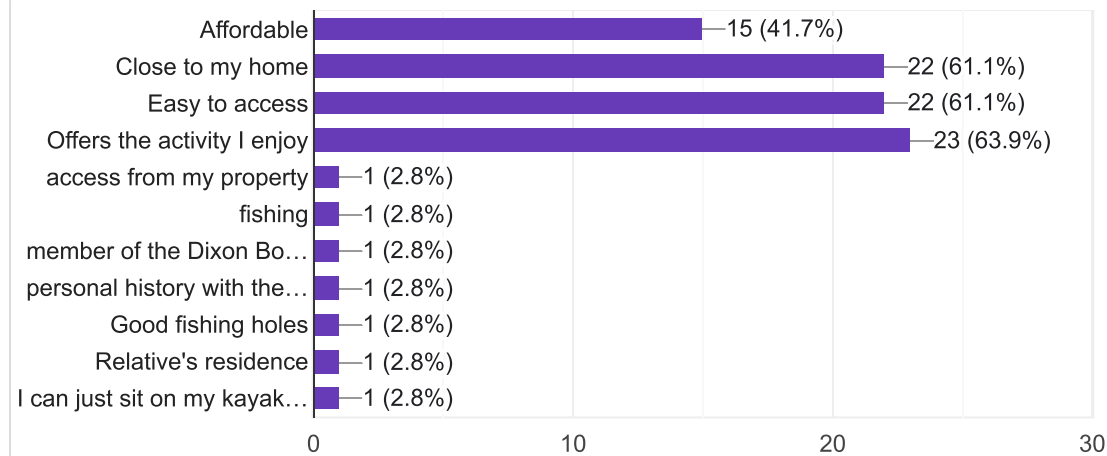
35 responses



6. Why do you go there in particular? (choose all that apply)



36 responses



7. What route do you take to get there?

32 responses

Hwy 113 to Liberty Island Road

I80 or 12

highway 12 and highway 113 and Brown Rd

Deep Water Channel, Dixon Boat Club, Rio Vista area boat ramps

roads from Dixon

Davis Mace Blvd/Levee R or Midway Rd

Hi 80, Hi 12 and Hi 113

Pedrick Road

80 to Mace or Arrowhead Marina

Road

Vasco Rd

Usually I80 corridor

Drive south from Davis, about 30 minutes from my door. One of the closest spots

Río Vista

Various

depends where I am going

Liberty Island road

37 to 80 to 12

80 to Davis, Liberty Island Rd

access is typically via Liberty Island road



hwy

Hwy 113

Interstate 80 mostly or Highway 12

Hiway 12

Liberty

rural back roads bike from davis

However waze tells me to go.

All

I 80 or rio vista,12

Off 80 from davis

Liberty island road

Liberty Island access



8. Are there developed facilities? Please describe.

28 responses

No

Dixon Boat Club

no

No facilities currently.

not sure

NO

yes, clubhouse and ramp

Not any more loss of access to Lib Lsl Bridge and area

Launch ramps

Minimal

Private home, dock, boat

Yes. Boat launch

Most places

boat ramp; picnic tables, outhouses/bathrooms, footbaths

Yes, but there won't be if you don't maintain access to them for restoration purposes!

there are limited unmanaged access areas via Liberty Island road.

2 small benches at public fishing area. No developed facilities for paddling, boating, or waterfowl or upland hunting.

Some of them are developed such as Grizzly Island Preserve but others are not.

Not much, everything is not developed.



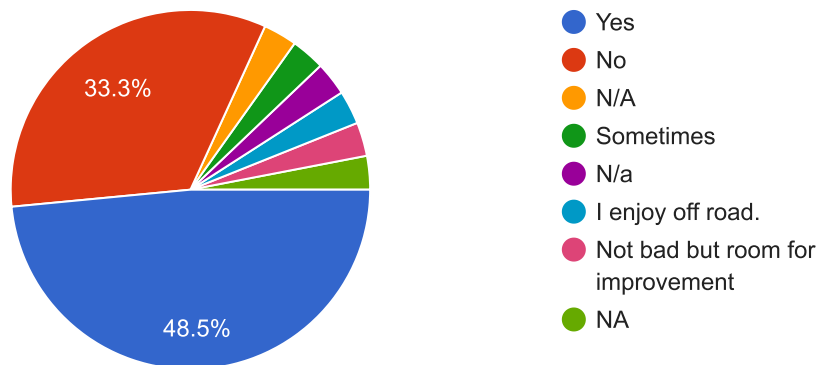
No

Yes

9. Generally, are the existing facilities well maintained?



33 responses

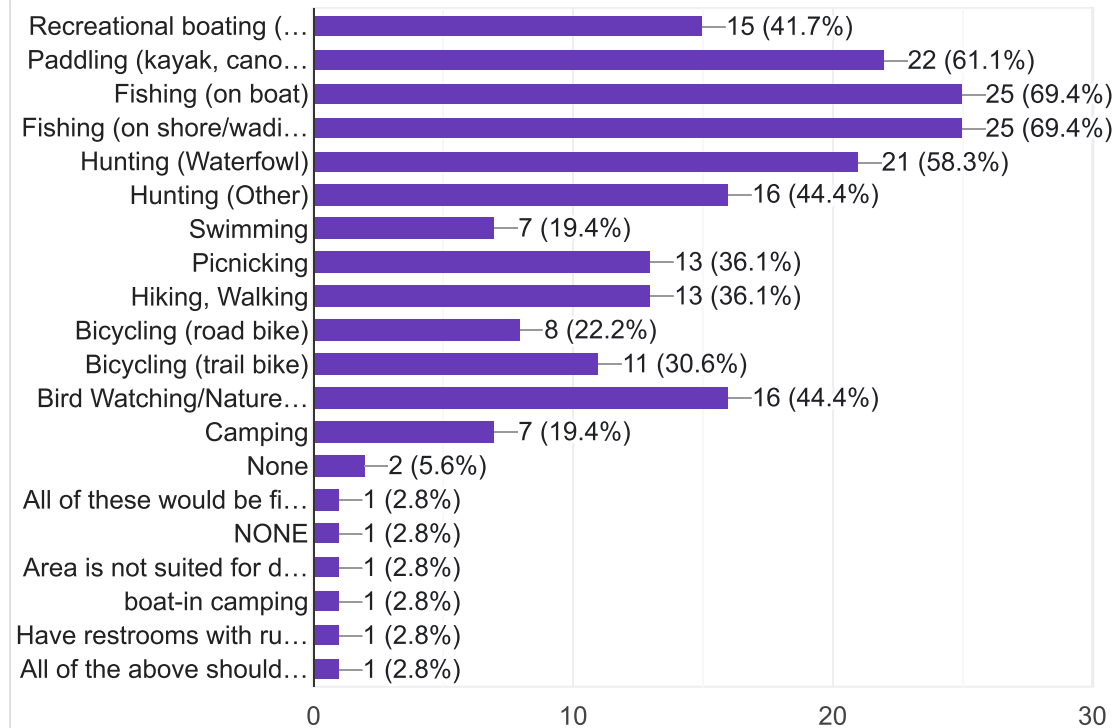


Potential Future Recreation Uses in Cache Slough

10. What recreational uses would you like to see in the Cache Slough region? (choose all that apply)



36 responses



11. Are there any specific locations where you would like to see these uses available?

Please describe in the field below map:

25 responses

no

Liberty Island

Cache Slough/Liberty Island

Access to Lib Isl and Shagg Slough

Cache Slough and deep water channel.

none

lower yolo tidal restoration (shag slough)

Any that don't impact agriculture

No

I would like to see recreational facilities near lookout slough and Liberty island ecological reserve. I would also like to see parking / land access to Lindsey slough and calhoun cut off of highway 113. I would like to see parking and foot access to the water for fishing and kayak launching at prospect island, and yolo bypass near rio vista.

Lookout Slough Tidal Restoration on Liberty island Road

All areas

Lindsey slough, lookout slough, liberty island

Yolo Bypass, Lookout Slough, Liberty Island

All of the above

Liberty Island Ecological preserve

Calhoun Cut

Calhoun, Lindsey, Liberty, Lookout



Any place where these activities are possible. I believe we should we should maximize outdoor recreation opportunities

off road trails begin at end of county roads or levee top gravel trails

None

2084 2093 1667

Shag slough

Liberty Island



12. In your view, what recreational uses are most appropriate for the Cache Slough region?

32 responses

Fishing

Hiking and Road biking

Hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching.

nature viewing and environmental education

fishing and hunting

fishing, boating, kayaking

fishing

fishing, nature viewing, bird watching

Bird and wildlife viewing and fishing

The area is not suitable for uses that require development

Any that don't impact agriculture

Fishing, hunting, and boating.

Waterfowl hunting, fishing

Waterfowl hunting and fishing via boat

Paddling fishing hiking wildlife viewing

see above

Fishing

Hunting, Fishing, kayaking, birdwatching

Waterfowl hunting, boating



kayaking, fishing, sight seeing, hunting

Fishing, hunting, and paddling

Definitely fishing from shore and boat/kayak.

Easy access; boat and vehicle, more developed area, kid friendly

I believe maintaining historical uses are most appropriate

bird watching nature watching.

Huntiny

None

Fishing/boating/picnic

Fishing,hunting,all water recreation

Fishing and hunting



13. Are any of the uses included in question 10 not appropriate? Why?

27 responses

no

No.

No

picnics are nice activities but human activities may also create trash

Bicycling, interference with ag operations

hiking, bicycling and camping for the lack of roads/trails....this is a great "water based" resource so terra firma activities are an unreasonable activity

swimming, tidal currents can be a danger and at times are not obvious

most all of them for sure not bicycling, walking, shore fishing, hunting swimming, or picnicking. There are more ticks in that area than anywhere else.

Swimming. Too dangerous and dirty.

Unknown

Recreational boating: jet ski, etc.

its a big area, so all these uses will fit somewhere

Hard to find good launch spots for kayak fishing

Hiking and biking...there are plenty of hiking and biking trails all over, and very few places to hunt. Would have to remove access to hunters just to give it to hikers/bikers, and hunters are the ones largely funding CDFW.

Camping and swimming. Not friendly place for either.

Cache Slough is too small to be a popular motorized boat area. It will result in overcrowdedness and boating accidents.

Yes



N/a

No, all uses are compatible

hunting danger to others people

None

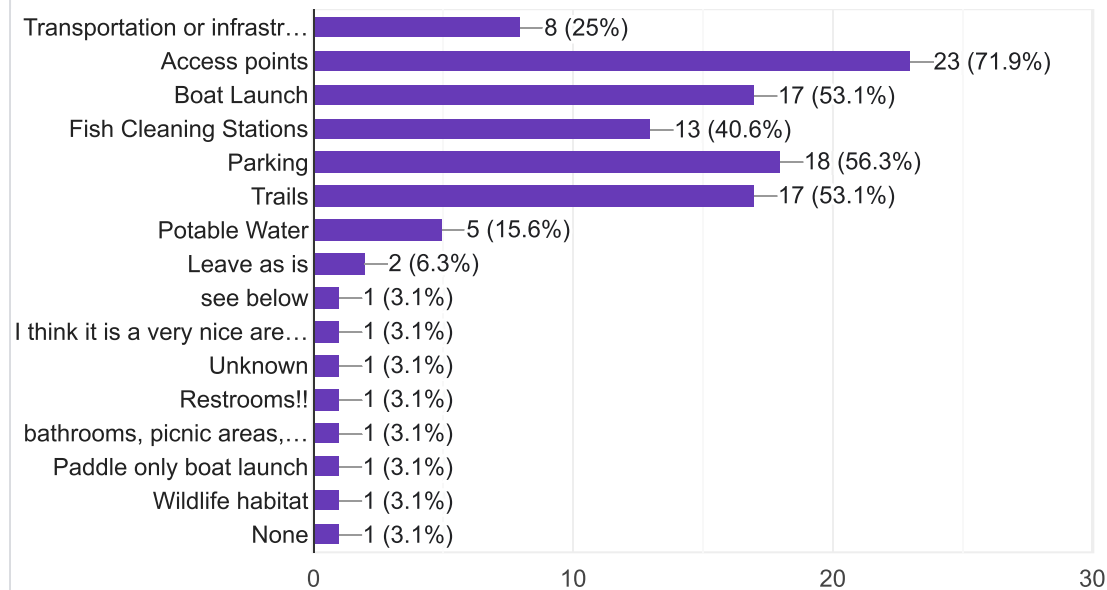
all appropriate

No

14. What specific changes or community amenities would you like to see added to enhance public use and enjoyment of the Cache Slough region?
 This could include: (check all that apply)



32 responses



15. Are there any specific locations where you would like to see new community amenities provided? Please describe in the field below map:

22 responses

no

No

Accessibility

Cache Slough/ Liberty Island

Alternate launch to Arrowhead. That place is a joke! A launch from davis/dixon area.

Liberty island/ lookout slough and Lindsey slough/Calhoun cut, prospect island, and yolo bypass near rio vista.

I would like to see community amenities built into the Lookout Slough Tidal Restoration

Lookout slough, Lindsey slough and liberty island

Lindsay Slough/Calhoun cut kayak launch. More kayak launches on public lands (like those at Napa-Sonoma Marsh).

All of the above

Liberty Island Ecological preserve

Calhoun Cut

Specifically Liberty island preserve. I grew up here and my family were some of the first to live in the town of liberty, working Schene ranch cattle from the start. It's a beautiful, local recreational area which I and many others enjoy.

Calhoun, Lindsey, lookout, Liberty

See answer #11

None

As much as possible

Access to cache slough from public roads



16. Would a day use fee affect your decision to recreate in the Cache Slough region?

Please explain:

31 responses

no

No

Yes

likely

No.

Day use fees are necessary and they should be earmarked to clean up and maintain sites.

No...however someone's always got there hand out for a fee. This should be a fee free area for the people who's taxes are going to pay for this.

No, but there must be enforcement to maintain safety and control litter. Public ramps are littered and break-ins are a common activity.

Yes . Wouldn't use it

As long as a season pass was offered that would be fine.

Possibly. A high fee would discourage recreation.

Possibly, needs to be affordable so all income levels can access

yes, if it was too expensive, but I already pay elsewhere to launch boat or for entry (state parks)

Yes, I am already paying to access with my hunting license, duck stamps, etc.

Absolutely, I would not pay a fee for this area, at that point I would go elsewhere

Yes, but if that's what it takes to keep public access then so be it.

No as long its something we wanna gona one twice a month for my kids

Not if there is a reasonably priced annual option



no must be easy to pay.

Not if it's reasonable and provides noticeable improvements

Yes, too many people .

No. Preferably if open 24 hours

The more access the more beneficial for all shore anglers



17. What concerns do you have, if any, regarding developing new recreational opportunities in the Cache Slough region?

29 responses

If new opportunities aren't developed, public land access will be lost at the Liberty Island Ecological Reserve.

harming wetlands

The mess left behind.

Bringing people into ag areas that may not be familiar with farming and ranching practices may cause problems: trash, interfering with livestock, damaging crops and pasture, damaging fences and gates, theft.

As a member of the Dixon Boat Club I have certain fears that this proposal would somehow adversely affect the future of this organization.

The public via boats already accesses and uses the area. I have no problem with increased access and usage. My problem is the proposed location of the new facility. Of all the massive acreage surrounding the slough, to install a facility directly or very near the existing club would be the death knell for us. There would be immediate issues of loss of access from our ramp and of course security on the property, both the parked boats and the buildings and contents themselves.

trespass

Safety and litter. The shore lines where shore fishing allowed are littered, much which ends up in our waterways.

I think if you develop this area you will have problems with everything trash, dumping stolen cars, crime, noise from parties, homeless encampments, you will need alot of enforcement.

negative effects to the ecosystems/ fishing.

Adverse impacts to agriculture

Spending money that should be redirected to surface water storage

I'm concerned that it won't happen or that the result will be very limited access that provides poor hunting, fishing, and boating access.



My concern is they will discriminate against waterfowl hunting.

Too many people

Maintenance needs to be consistent, educate public to keep clean

that nothing will happen, and its great opportunities will be wasted

Leave it as is please

Trash, so many people leave trash. That's the facilities you really need, good trashcans that don't blow over and are regularly cleaned out by professionals.

no concerns. the biggest concern is losing access.

Calhoun Cut would be overcrowded if done improperly. Paddle only kayak/ canoe launch would be perfect for this area. Safer parking along hwy 113.

I have no problem with flooding the Schene ranch fields for preserve purposes, I just wish the state would still allow us access.

Late night

That traditional uses will be considered incompatible

Loss of hunting and fishing access

Too many people, garbage etc .

Homeless encampments

We just hope that we can still access it and enjoy the area for years to come

Actually losing more area for fishing



18. Is there anything else you would like to share?

15 responses

No

I have lived in Solano County for my entire life and spend a significant amount of time recreating outdoors; specifically hunting and fishing. My most treasured area to hunt and fish is the Liberty Island/Cache Slough area of the North Delta. With the Lookout Slough Restoration Project, foot access to the Liberty Island Ecological Reserve will be lost. This poses a challenge because the nearest public launches are over 10 miles away. A public boat launch in the Cache Slough area would provide access to the Liberty Island Ecological Reserve, the Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve, and the Lookout Slough Restoration Project.

Is there a plan to support protecting private property?

Teri Rice 5303080565

Enforcement is the only answer to maintaining safe, litter free areas for people to get out and enjoy nature.

no

Please allow us to continue to waterfowl hunt in this region

Should have retained more bank at Lookout Slough and provided a better boat ramp.

Don't ban waterfowl hunting!

The entire area has very limited access points. Expanding access to the entire area would be great.

N/A

Please serve the ppl

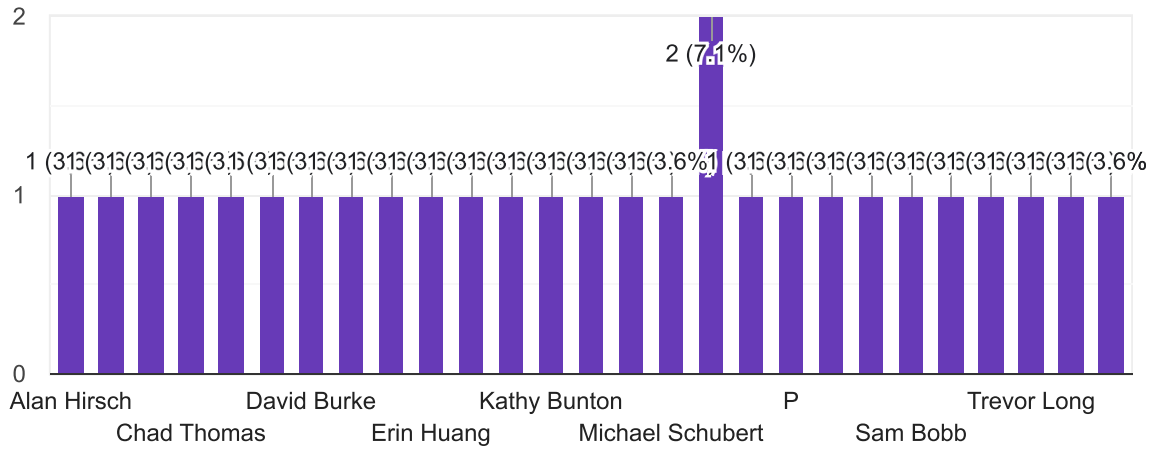
Staying in Touch - OPTIONAL





Name:

28 responses



Appendix D

Detailed Option Summary Tables



Appendix D. Detailed Option Summary Tables

Table D-1. Shag Slough East Access and Liberty Island Pedestrian Bridge Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Unclear which agency would maintain project. ▪ Ongoing bridge maintenance and repairs.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Access along Liberty Island Road to Shag Slough is currently public roads (neighbors have proposed turning southern end of Liberty Island Road to private access only). ▪ Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project is constructing turn-around areas and boat launch; this new access would be combined.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Publicly owned lands are under conservation easements on both sides of Shag Slough (west and east), prohibiting public access and would not allow for new bridge.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Shag Slough and Liberty Island water access. ▪ Spatial constraints may limit water access to fishing and small, personal watercraft.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Mostly limited to providing water access (fishing, hunting, small watercraft).
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Desirable for reconnection to Liberty Island. ▪ Not supported by local landowners and agricultural operators in the area.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Existing conservation easements on both the west and east sides of Shag Slough restrict public access. ▪ Property restrictions on west side of Shag Slough will limit constructability of new bridge. ▪ Unknown permitting feasibility and requirements for pedestrian bridge in the Yolo Bypass floodway designed to convey fast moving flood water. ▪ Bridges are costly (rigorous design standards).

Table D-2. Lindsey Slough Boat Launch (on or near Little Egbert Tract) Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Unclear which agency would maintain project at its proposed location. ▪ Maintenance costs could vary substantially depending on amenities included, which may limit options for a potential operator.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Improvements likely required for Liberty Island Road. A portion of the Liberty Island Road may be private (approximately 0.25 mile), which would require extension of public road for accessibility to the project site. ▪ Depending on land ownership and potential for public access, there may be space for parking and turnarounds.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Solano County parcel data shows that land is currently under private ownership. ▪ Unclear if private owner would be a willing seller or partner. If the owner is unwilling to sell, public access agreements or related coordination may be required to allow access to site.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Boat launches would provide public access to the wide, deep channel of Cache Slough/Lindsey Slough, which is suitable for larger, motorized watercraft. ▪ Option would require adequate launch facilities for large watercraft.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Dependent on private land ownership and potential for land acquisition. ▪ Option may be limited to minor accessory use for dock fishing. ▪ Possible interpretive and handicap access boardwalk or trail. ▪ Potential for a group picnic area on or near the northern portion of the tract close to Rio Vista.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Support expressed by participating public fishing and boating community members.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Depends on private land ownership and potential for land acquisition. ▪ Complex permitting for new boat launch in open water. ▪ High costs of ramp, dock, and associated improvements. ▪ The site is potentially large enough to provide for multiple recreational opportunities.

Table D-3. Calhoun Cut Ecological Reserve Public Access Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Unclear which agency would be responsible for maintenance if option is limited to shoulder parking and expanded shore fishing.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Property is on State Route 113 (Rio-Dixon Road). ▪ No formal or authorized shoulder parking at present. ▪ Public access is limited to water access. There is very limited public access due to CDFW Ecological Reserve classification. Current allowed public access includes waterfowl hunting on waters within the reserve accessible from Lindsey Slough and fishing from boat within the main channel accessible from Lindsey Slough. Land portions are closed with no swimming or other uses allowed. ▪ The Ecological Reserve classification would need to change by the Fish and Game Commission to include “recreation uses allowed.”
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Owned by CDFW.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Walk-in access is prohibited, accessible by kayaking into Calhoun Cut from Cache Slough channel.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Various recreation activities such as nature watching, fishing, hunting, and nonmotorized watercraft. ▪ Adjacent to other nature areas, including Jepson Prairie.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Received public feedback that this area is already used for shoreline fishing.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Challenging process with Fish and Game Commission to revise ecological reserve regulations that currently limit public access. ▪ Challenging process with Caltrans to sanction encroachment (shoulder parking). ▪ The ecological reserve’s primary purpose is ecological benefits with recreation as a secondary consideration, as long as consistent. The property includes several listed species, including the fully protected Black Rail. The risk for disturbance or take is high, particularly during breeding and nesting season, which limits potential for additional shore or land-based activities.

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Table D-4. Levee Improvements for Recreation Access Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Unfavorable by levee maintainers and owners due to safety and levee preservation concerns. ▪ Agreements to provide maintenance and patrols may be unlikely. ▪ Linear features may limit access by emergency vehicles.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Many of the levees are accessible by public roads in the area. ▪ Publicly owned levees, subject to access restrictions, due to safety and levee preservation concerns. Some levees are privately maintained and gated. ▪ Parking and staging features at levee and road interface may require acquisitions or easements.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Levees typically owned by local districts (public) and/or with CVFPB jurisdiction.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ No permitted access for recreation on levees. Shoreline fishing does occur.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Given access restrictions, there is limited potential for recreation options other than walking.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Public support for accessing levees for recreation. ▪ Unfavorable by levee maintainers and owners and CVFPB, due to safety and levee preservation concerns.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Unfavorable by levee maintainers and owners and CVFPB, due to safety and levee preservation concerns. ▪ Property transactions likely required at access points.

CVFPB = Central Valley Flood Protection Board

Table D-5. Brown Road Boat Launch Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Unclear which agency would be responsible for maintenance. ▪ Water channel frequently gets silt and sediment deposits, which reduces capacity. ▪ Safety concerns along shallow and isolated slough for unfamiliar recreators.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Brown Road is public but becomes private when approaching Cache Slough. ▪ Option would require public road improvements.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Requires acquisition of private lands.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Water access into Cache Slough channel near Dixon Boat Club. ▪ Water access allows for nonmotorized shallow-draft watercraft (e.g., kayaks) and motorized watercraft with limited access at low tides. ▪ The water channel is narrow and shallow, which is not ideal for multiple watercraft users, especially motorized.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Limited space for multipurpose recreation.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Adjacent landowners oppose development in this area.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Option is dependent on private land ownership and potential for land acquisition.

Table D-6. Dixon Boat Club (Bartlett Road) Partnership Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Concern of operations and maintenance responsibilities and costs. ▪ Safety concerns along shallow and isolated slough for unfamiliar recreators. ▪ Limited parking available onsite; additional parking would be needed requiring acquisition or partnering with neighboring landowners.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Bartlett Road is a public road with paved public access to Dixon Boat Club gate. ▪ Bartlett Road does not reach the waterway, which does not provide direct boater access.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Private ownership of the Dixon Boat Club. ▪ Nearby Lower Peter's Pocket is a reserve-focused area and could potentially be coupled with recreation access in the future.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Water access using the existing boat ramp for launching motorized boats at Dixon Boat Club. ▪ Water access allows for nonmotorized shallow-draft watercraft (e.g., kayaks) and motorized watercraft with limited access at low tides. ▪ Narrow, shallow water channel is not ideal for multiple watercraft users, especially motorized, and can present safety concerns.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Limited space for multipurpose recreation.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Due to existing facilities (e.g., launch, slips, restaurant), the Dixon Board Club area was suggested as a potential public access option by the public. ▪ Some Dixon Boat Club members were opposed to public water access at the boat club given channel capacity, safety, and private club ownership concerns.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Dependent on private-public partnership potential. ▪ Ability to dredge channel for sedimentation and silt requires extended permitting and approvals, which may be very difficult to obtain. ▪ Ongoing channel maintenance costs may be cost prohibitive. ▪ Access of adjacent privately owned parcels may be needed to provide adequate parking.

Table D-7. Lindsey Slough South Access Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Unclear which agency would be responsible for maintenance.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ No public roads currently provide access to southern shore of Lindsey Slough. ▪ Nearest public road (Robinson Road) is approximately 2–3 miles away from potential water access points.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Public lands in the area owned by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (ecological reserve) have use restrictions. ▪ Other public lands owned by Solano County Water Agency have undetermined uses. This option may require access agreements. ▪ Area contains primarily private lands.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Southern shore provides excellent access to Lindsey Slough in an area more conducive to motorized watercraft.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Expansive recreation only possible with property acquisition or use allowance.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: UNKNOWN. ▪ Public support is unknown regarding this option. This option was developed internally, with no positive or negative feedback from the public.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Highly dependent on private land and potential for land acquisition. ▪ Requires extension of Solano County public roads. With the extension of roads, more extensive permitting needed.

Table D-8. Barker Slough Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Unclear which agency would be responsible for maintenance.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ The road to Barker Slough Pumping Plant is closed to public access. ▪ As a state facility, opening the road to public access might be feasible; however, it is assumed that the road south of the pumping plant is private.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ The roadway and nearby properties are publicly owned but closed to public access. Sacramento–San Joaquin Drainage District has land ownership in the area, with Solano County Water Agency as the facility operator. ▪ Nearby lands are privately owned. Some private lands would need to be acquired for the facility (e.g., parking, turn-around). ▪ Sacramento–San Joaquin Drainage District-owned lands west of Barker Slough do not provide access to the water without disruption to wetland/riparian areas.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ This option provides good water access. Barker Slough is reasonably sized but space limitations on private lands may constrain footprint for launch facility or parking.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Space limitations on private lands constrain ability for more than a small facility.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: UNKNOWN. ▪ Public support is unknown. This option was developed internally, with no positive or negative feedback from the public.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ There are some potential opportunities given existing access road; however, private land acquisition and Solano County Water Agency operations severely limit feasibility. ▪ Any intrusion in wetland/riparian areas would have stringent permitting requirements.

Table D-9. Lower Peters Pocket Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ No identified maintaining agency currently.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ No clear access point from existing roads, even with development of multi-benefit project. ▪ Public access is expected to be limited to boat-in access only.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Lower Peters Pocket restoration project proponents are hopeful for a public agency or land trust to purchase the land.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Provides boat-in access to Lower Peters Pocket.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Limited recreational opportunities due to boat-in access only.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: UNKNOWN. ▪ Public support is unknown as no public input has been provided.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Lower Peters Pocket restoration project is still in conceptual stage. ▪ Potential feasibility depends on how the multi-benefit project is advanced, including habitat restrictions that have yet to be discussed.

Table D-10. Cliffhouse Fishing Access Evaluation

Criterion	Score and Notes
Maintenance and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Currently owned by CDFW and operated by Sacramento County Parks Department. Unclear about roles and responsibilities of expanded access.
Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Site is accessible by public roads.
Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: HIGH. ▪ Currently owned by CDFW.
Water Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Site provides good shoreline fishing access. ▪ Currently, other boat launches are nearby.
Multipurpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: MEDIUM. ▪ Several recreation activities including fishing, windsurfing, and clamming.
Public Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: UNKNOWN. ▪ Public support is unknown as no public input has been provided.
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Score: LOW. ▪ Site is outside of the Cache Slough region, located in Sacramento County.

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife