



**Delta Stewardship Council**

A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

# **OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY**

**DELTA ADAPTS: CREATING A CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE**

**JANUARY 2021**





## Overview

Throughout the Delta Adapts process, various outreach and engagement activities were undertaken to ensure that Delta-region stakeholders were adequately informed of the initiative's progress and had the chance to provide input to help shape Delta Adapts. These outreach activities align with the Delta Stewardship Council's (Council) Public Participation Plan, which outlines the Council's strategies and procedures for ensuring public participation in Council initiatives.

## Types of Engagement Activities

Outreach and engagement activities undertaken throughout the Delta Adapts process included Stakeholder Work Group (SWG) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings, stakeholder briefings and presentations, meetings with community-based organizations, Delta Stewardship Council meetings, and various public outreach materials. In addition to these activities, Council staff and consultants worked closely with dozens of agency partners and consulted with many scientists and experts throughout the process of developing the Delta Adapts technical analyses. **Figure 1** shows the various engagement activities undertaken.

**Figure 1** Types of engagement activities for Delta Adapts



## Stakeholder Work Group

To promote the exchange of information between diverse Delta stakeholders, the Council established a SWG with members including community-based organizations, local and regional government agencies, state agencies, utility companies, water districts, and environmental organizations. SWG members reflected the broad range of stakeholder interests in the Delta. The SWG has met two times, on October 2, 2019 and December 10,

2020, to provide input on key assets to be considered in the analysis, data to be used, how to structure the analysis to be most useful, and to provide preliminary feedback on draft vulnerability assessment results. It is anticipated that the SWG will meet one or two additional times in 2021. **Appendix 1** lists the attendees to the two SWG meetings. A total of 61 SWG members have been engaged so far.

### Technical Advisory Committee

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) provided expert knowledge, review, and guidance throughout the development of Delta Adapts. The TAC was comprised of experts from public agencies, academic institutions, non-profit organizations, the private sector, and individuals with particular knowledge of climate change, the Delta, and its resources. The TAC met both as a larger group and in smaller group briefings on particular technical subjects (e.g. flood analysis, ecosystem analysis, water supply analysis, and equity analysis). **Appendix 2** lists members of the TAC.

### Stakeholder Briefings

Throughout the Delta Adapts process, Council staff briefed various stakeholder groups, including other state agencies, regional agencies, local governments, water agencies, flood control agencies, and community-based organizations. Additionally, Council staff presented at various events to raise awareness about Delta Adapts. The focus of these briefings varied by audience, ranging from general presentations on Delta Adapts to more focused, technical briefings and discussions about specific subjects, as discussed in more detail below. In total, Council staff gave over 70 stakeholder presentations and briefings.

### General Presentations

Council staff presented to various agencies and working groups and at several events. These presentations included general overviews of Delta Adapts and briefings covering several technical topics. A total of 19 general presentations were given. **Appendix 3** lists the general presentations given throughout the Delta Adapts process.

### Topic Specific Presentations, Briefings, and Discussions

In addition to the generalized Delta Adapts presentations and briefings, several topic specific briefings were held with stakeholders to allow for more targeted and detailed discussions of more technical elements of the Delta Adapts analysis and findings. Council staff briefed local governments, flood control agencies, and other interested stakeholders on draft flood maps in order to ground-truth the data and analysis and seek recommendations for improvements. For example, through these briefings, Council staff were notified that the levee heights used in the flood model for several locations did not reflect current levee heights (due to recent levee improvements). In these cases, Council staff updated the model to reflect accurate levee heights. Council staff also revised the flood maps based on feedback that some Delta islands with less than 6 inches of levee overtopping could be protected from flooding through flood-fighting.

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In addition to the flood analysis briefings, Council staff briefed various stakeholder groups on the ecosystem and water supply analyses. A total of 34 topic specific technical briefings were given. **Appendix 4** lists the topic specific presentations and briefings.

### Meetings with Community-Based Organizations

Throughout the Delta Adapts process, Council staff engaged with community-based organizations (CBOs) and service providers serving vulnerable communities throughout the Delta. The goals of this outreach were to establish relationships with Delta CBOs and to foster a dialogue between CBOs and the Council, as well as to better understand the vulnerabilities faced by the communities these organizations serve and receive input on the best ways to conduct equitable and inclusive public outreach. Council staff compiled an initial list of CBOs recommended by partner agencies. Council staff emailed and called these CBOs; phone calls and in-person meetings were held with those interested. From these meetings, additional CBOs were recommended and added to the Council's list of organizations to contact.

In total, Council staff reached out to 53 CBOs and service providers and consulted with 19 of these organizations. A range of CBOs representing various vulnerable populations and geographic areas throughout the Delta region were contacted; **Appendix 5** lists all CBOs contacted as well as the CBOs whom Council staff met with.

Council staff incorporated the valuable feedback from these conversations. For example, CBOs emphasized the issue of meeting fatigue and encouraged the Council to piggyback on existing community events when planning outreach events. Council staff were also encouraged to work with CBOs when planning outreach events, since these organizations already have relationships with their communities. Other feedback that Council staff incorporated included adding a food access indicator to the social vulnerability index, adding evacuation routes to the list of assets considered in the vulnerability assessment, and creating additional outreach materials and events, including a video, educational activities, and public workshops. Incorporating this feedback, Council staff have continued to meet with CBO staff for ideas and guidance on public engagement.

### Tribal Engagement

California Native American Tribes and tribal communities have sovereign authority over their members and territory, and a unique relationship with the Delta and California's resources. The Council understands that all California tribes and tribal communities, whether federally recognized or not, have distinct cultural, spiritual, environmental, economic and public health interests, and unique traditional cultural knowledge of California resources.

It is the Council's duty to ensure effective government-to-government engagement between the Council and Native American tribes and tribal communities, and to provide the opportunity for meaningful input into efforts that may affect tribal communities,

including the Delta Adapts initiative. To provide the opportunity for input, the Council sent letters to all tribes and tribal communities who had indicated interest in receiving updates from the Council. The letters described the Delta Adapts initiative and explained the ways that tribes and tribal communities could get involved or obtain more information. The intent of these letters was to invite open, inclusive, and regular communication, and to seek, discuss, and consider the views of California Native American tribes and tribal communities related to climate change in the Delta. **Appendix 6** lists the tribes and tribal communities contacted.

## Public Engagement

### Educational Video, Factsheets, Frequently Asked Questions, and Webpage

Throughout development of Delta Adapts, various public outreach materials were prepared. Some outreach materials were geared towards a general audience, while others were created for and disseminated to a specific audience. These materials included multiple fact sheets, Frequently Asked Questions, and an educational video shared on the Council's website and disseminated through the Council's CBO partners. Additionally, a Delta Adapts webpage was created to provide information and updates about Delta Adapts. The webpage can be accessed at [deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan/climate-change](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan/climate-change).

### Periodic Updates at Council Meetings

Council staff provided periodic updates during monthly Council meetings throughout the Delta Adapts development process, with four presentations made to the Council. Members of the public had the opportunity to receive information and provide input during each of these public meetings. For meeting materials and summaries, visit [deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/council-meetings).

### Key Collaborators for Developing Methods, Identifying Data and Tools, and Evaluating Results

In addition to the outreach activities described above, Council staff and consultants worked with dozens of agency partners and consulted with many scientists and experts throughout the process of developing the Delta Adapts technical analyses. These agencies and individuals provided sustained, ongoing contributions over numerous interactions with Council staff and deserve special acknowledgement for the time, energy, and expertise they contributed. **Appendix 7** lists these agencies and individuals, organized by technical topic.

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## Appendix 1: Stakeholder Work Group (SWG) Meeting Attendees

- Angel Abarca, City of Lathrop
- Will Anderson, Contra Costa Water District
- Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, Restore the Delta
- Nathan Bengtsson, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- Paulina Benner, City of West Sacramento
- Charles Bergson, City of Isleton
- Tom Burke, South Delta Water Agency
- Irene Calimlim, Fathers & Families of San Joaquin
- Joel Campos, San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG)
- Yair Chaver, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- Chandra Chilmakuri, State Water Contractors
- Samantha Cohen, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- Dale Crossley, Solano County Water Agency
- Deirdre Des Jardins, California Water Research
- Renee DeVere-Oki, Sacramento Area Council of Governments
- Jit Dua, California Valley Flood Protection Agency
- Lance Eckhart, San Geronio Pass Water Agency
- Connor Everts, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
- Nedzlene Ferrario, Solano County
- Shannon Fiala, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- Glenn Gebhardt, City of Lathrop
- Ashley Goldlist, San Joaquin Council of Governments
- Julie Haas-Wajdowicz, City of Antioch
- Jennifer Hargrove, Sacramento Council of Governments
- Rachel Hartofelis, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Association of Bay Area Governments
- Nina Hawk, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Ryan Hernandez, Contra Costa County
- Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising-Stockton
- Campbell Ingram, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
- Misty Kaltreider, Solano County
- John Kearns, Suisun City
- Justine Kimball, Ocean Protection Council
- Lindsey Liebig, Sacramento County Farm Bureau
- Jody London, Contra Costa County
- John Lundgren, Sacramento County
- Brenna Mahoney, Pacific Gas & Electric
- Osha Meserve, Soluri Meserve
- Will Nelson, Contra Costa County
- Randall Neudeck, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Jennifer Nevills, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

- Thomas Niesar, Alameda County Water District
- Lynnea Ormiston, Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)
- Tristan Osborn, City of Stockton
- Scott Petersen, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
- April Robinson, San Francisco Estuary Institute
- Heather Rock, Pacific Gas & Electric
- Hector Rojas, City of Pittsburg
- Josh Russo, Watermen's Alliance
- Sam Safi, Regional San
- Greg Sandlund, City of Sacramento
- Jose Setka, East Bay MUD
- Lisa Shipley, Solano County Farm Bureau
- Lorenzo Siemann, CivicSpark Fellow, City of Antioch
- Lydia Smith Vaughn, San Francisco Estuary Institute
- Greta Soos, City of Sacramento
- David Tilley, City of West Sacramento
- Erik Vink, Delta Protection Commission
- Matt Walsh, Solano County
- Rachel Wigginton, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- Jay Ziegler, The Nature Conservancy
- Tom Zuckerman, Central Delta Water Agency

Organizations/agencies invited but did not attend:

- City of Brentwood
  - City of Oakley
  - City of Rio Vista
  - City of Tracy
  - Caltrans
  - Central Valley Flood Protection Board
  - River Islands
  - Community Medical Centers
  - Common Ground
  - California Natural Resources Agency
  - California Office of Emergency Services
  - Environmental Defense Fund
  - Faith in the Valley
  - North Delta Water Agency
  - PUENTES
  - Reinvent South Stockton Coalition
  - Rise Stockton
  - River Partners
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DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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- San Joaquin County
- San Joaquin County Farm Bureau
- Suisun City Climate Change Commission
- Third City Coalition
- Yolo County Farm Bureau
- Zone 7 Water Agency

## Appendix 2: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members

- John Andrew and Lindsay Correa, California Department of Water Resources Climate Change Program
  - Dana Brechwald, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
  - Casey Brown, University of Massachusetts Hydrosystems Research Group
  - Dan Cayan, Scripps Institute of Oceanography
  - Gilbert Cosio, MBK Engineers
  - Steve Deverel, Hydrofocus
  - Virginia Gardiner, Delta Protection Commission
  - Michael George, State Water Resources Control Board Delta Watermaster
  - Ted Grantham, UC Berkeley Natural Resources Conservation
  - John Herman, UC Davis School of Engineering
  - Nuin-Tara Key, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
  - Noah Knowles, United States Geological Survey
  - Josue Medellin-Azuara, UC Merced
  - Brett Milligan, UC Davis Department of Human Ecology
  - Stuart Siegel, San Francisco State University
  - Brian Vaughn and Michael Kent, Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency and Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials Commission
  - Sam Veloz, Point Blue
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### Appendix 3: Presentations

- Delta Agency Science Workgroup Meeting (9/6/2018)
- State Water Resources Control Board Meeting (10/10/2018)
- Integrated Modeling Steering Committee Meeting (11/28/2018)
- Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) Quarterly Technical Advisory Council Meeting (12/7/2018)
- Briefing to Nancy Vogel (9/12/2019)
- Delta Independent Science Board (9/14/2019)
- Metropolitan Water District (9/14/2019)
- Department of Water Resources (12/9/2019)
- San Joaquin Climate Summit (2/26/2020)
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board (7/22/2020)
- Delta Conveyance (8/5/2020)
- State Water Resources Control Board (10/1/2020)
- Delta Protection Commission and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (10/7/2020)
- California Natural Resources Agency (10/12/2020)
- Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (10/26/2020)
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife (10/29/2020)
- Local Agencies of the North Delta (11/9/2020)
- San Francisco Estuary Partnership (11/17/2020)
- State Water Project Contractors (12/16/2020)

In addition to the above presentations, council staff met with the following agencies:

- California Air Resources Board
- California Office of Planning and Research
- California Strategic Growth Council
- San Joaquin Council of Governments
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

## Appendix 4: Topic Specific Briefings, Presentations, and Discussions

### Flood Specific Briefings

- Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (9/8/2020)
- San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (9/8/2020)
- District Engineers (5 presentations), (9/9/2020 – 9/23/2020)
- Contra Costa Water District (9/10/2020)
- West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (9/14/2020)
- North Delta Water Agency, Central Delta Water Agency, and South Delta Water Agency (9/14/2020)
- Restore the Delta (9/15/2020)
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board (9/16/2020)
- Department of Water Resources staff engaged in the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (9/21/2020)
- State Water Contractors and Metropolitan Water District (9/21/2020, 11/30/2020)
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board Coordinating Committee (9/23/2020)
- Department of Water Resources (9/28/2020)
- Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee (10/2/2020)
- City of Lathrop (11/3/2020)
- City of Manteca (11/3/2020)
- City of Stockton (11/3/2020)
- Ocean Protection Council (11/4/2020)
- Contra Costa County (11/3/2020)
- California Water & Environmental Modeling Forum (11/17/2020)

### Water Supply Specific Briefings

- Department of Water Resources staff engaged in Delta modeling (7/24/2020)
- State Water Contractors (4/7/2020, 9/21/2020)
- Contra Costa Water Agency (11/3/2020)

### Ecosystem Specific Briefings

- Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Estuarine Ecology Team (10/17/2019)
  - IEP Climate Change Project Work Team (2/4/2020)
  - State Water Board (10/1/2020)
  - Delta Protection Commission and Delta Conservancy (10/7/2020)
  - Department of Water Resources, Delta Levees Program (10/29/2020)
  - IEP Tidal Wetland Monitoring Project Work Team (12/11/2020)
  - State Water Contractors (12/16/2020)
  - Interagency Adaptive Management Integration Team (12/18/2020)
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## Appendix 5: Community-Based Organizations Contacted and Consulted

### Community-Based Organizations Contacted:

- Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment
- Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)
- Bryte and Broderick Community Action Network
- Catholic Charities of Stockton
- Clean Water Action
- Coalition of Mexican-American Organizations (COMA)
- Common Ground
- Community Medical Centers
- Community Resource Project
- Community Water Center
- Delta Community Services
- Delta Learning Center
- Ensuring Opportunity
- Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
- Faith in the Valley
- Fathers & Families of San Joaquin
- La Familia
- Little Manila Rising
- Opportunity Junction
- Public Health Advocates
- PUENTES
- Reinvent South Stockton Coalition
- Restore the Delta
- Rio Vista CARE
- RioVision
- Rise Stockton
- Rising Sun Center for Opportunity
- Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center
- Sacramento Housing Alliance
- San Joaquin Pride Center
- Shores of Hope
- Slavic Assistance Center
- Slavic Community Center
- Solano County Family and Children's Services
- South County Services
- Sow a Seed Foundation
- Sustainable Solano
- Third City Coalition
- University of the Pacific Latino Outreach

- VIVO of Stockton
- With Our Words
- Yolo County Children's Alliance

#### Other Organizations Contacted

- First 5 Contra Costa
- First 5 San Joaquin
- First 5 Yolo
- First 5 Association
- Local Government Commission
- River Delta School District
- Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Authority
- Solano Resource Conservation District
- Sunrise Movement
- Valley Vision
- Yolo County Library

#### Organizations Consulted

- Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment
  - Common Ground
  - Community Medical Centers
  - Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
  - Faith in the Valley
  - Fathers & Families of San Joaquin
  - First 5 Association
  - First 5 Yolo
  - Little Manila Rising
  - Local Government Commission
  - PUENTES
  - Reinvent South Stockton Coalition
  - Restore the Delta
  - Rio Vista CARE
  - Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Authority
  - Slavic Community Center
  - Sunrise Movement
  - Third City Coalition
  - Yolo County Children's Alliance
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## Appendix 6: Tribes Contacted

- Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians
- California Valley Miwok Tribe
- California Valley Miwok Tribe: Sheep Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California
- Hoopa Valley Tribe
- Wilton Rancheria
- Winnemem Wintu Tribe
- Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
- Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation

## Appendix 7: Key Collaborators for Developing Methods, Identifying Data and Tools, and Evaluating Results

Delta Stewardship Council staff and consultants worked with dozens of agency partners and consulted with many scientists and experts throughout the process of developing the Delta Adapts technical analyses. The collaborators listed below include only the individuals and agencies that provided sustained ongoing contributions over numerous interactions with Delta Adapts staff and deserve special acknowledgement here for the time, energy, and expertise they contributed.

### Flood Analysis:

- California Department of Water Resources (Romain Maendly, Eric Tsai, Nicky Sandhu)
- United States Geological Survey (Noah Knowles)
- Central Valley Flood Protection Board

### Water Supply Analysis

- California Department of Water Resources (Romain Maendly, Wyatt Arnold)
- United States Geological Survey (Noah Knowles)

### Ecosystem Analysis

- United States Geological Survey (Karen Thorne, Kevin Buffington)
  - San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (Stuart Siegel)
  - Point Blue Conservation Science (Sam Veloz, Kristen Dybala, Tom Gardali)
-