



## INFORMATION ITEM

### **California Department of Fish and Wildlife Franks Tract Futures Project**

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**Summary:** Staff from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) and the University of California, Davis will present on the Franks Tract Futures Project, a collaborative decision-making process to develop an enhancement plan for the restoration of Franks Tract.

Today's presentation is for informational purposes. In the future, DFW may determine that a project resulting from this decision-making process may be a potential covered action. Council staff will continue to track this process and provide updates to the Council as needed.

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#### **Background**

The Franks Tract Futures Project (project) is a collaborative decision-making effort to achieve ecosystem, recreation, water quality, and other benefits at Franks Tract in the Delta. The project aims to benefit native and recreationally important species by re-establishing natural ecological processes and habitats, provide enhanced recreational opportunity and other community benefits, and improve water quality.

The project, led by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), in collaboration with the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), began with a feasibility study for achieving ecosystem and water quality benefits at the site. After community input during that initial study, however, DFW decided to undertake a new planning process with additional components of recreational enhancement, navigational concerns, and other community concerns. These additional components are proposed to have equal footing with ecosystem and water quality benefits.

The stakeholder engagement process for this planning effort began in July 2019 with a public meeting. A steering committee was established, made up of state and local agencies, as well as an advisory committee of key stakeholder representatives. Both committees have convened regularly to review and provide input on concepts for the site that addresses all components.

The project is expected to release its final report in July 2020, detailing the chosen multi-benefit concept. After the release of the report, additional public processes will take place as planning, design, and implementation are undertaken. DFW will also identify responsible agencies and funding sources for the recreational, ecological, and water quality aspects of the project.

**Today's Meeting**

At today's meeting, Carl Wilcox, DFW, and Brett Milligan, University of California, Davis, will provide background on the project and the public engagement process.

**Fiscal Information**

Not applicable.

**List of Attachments**

None

**Contact**

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