



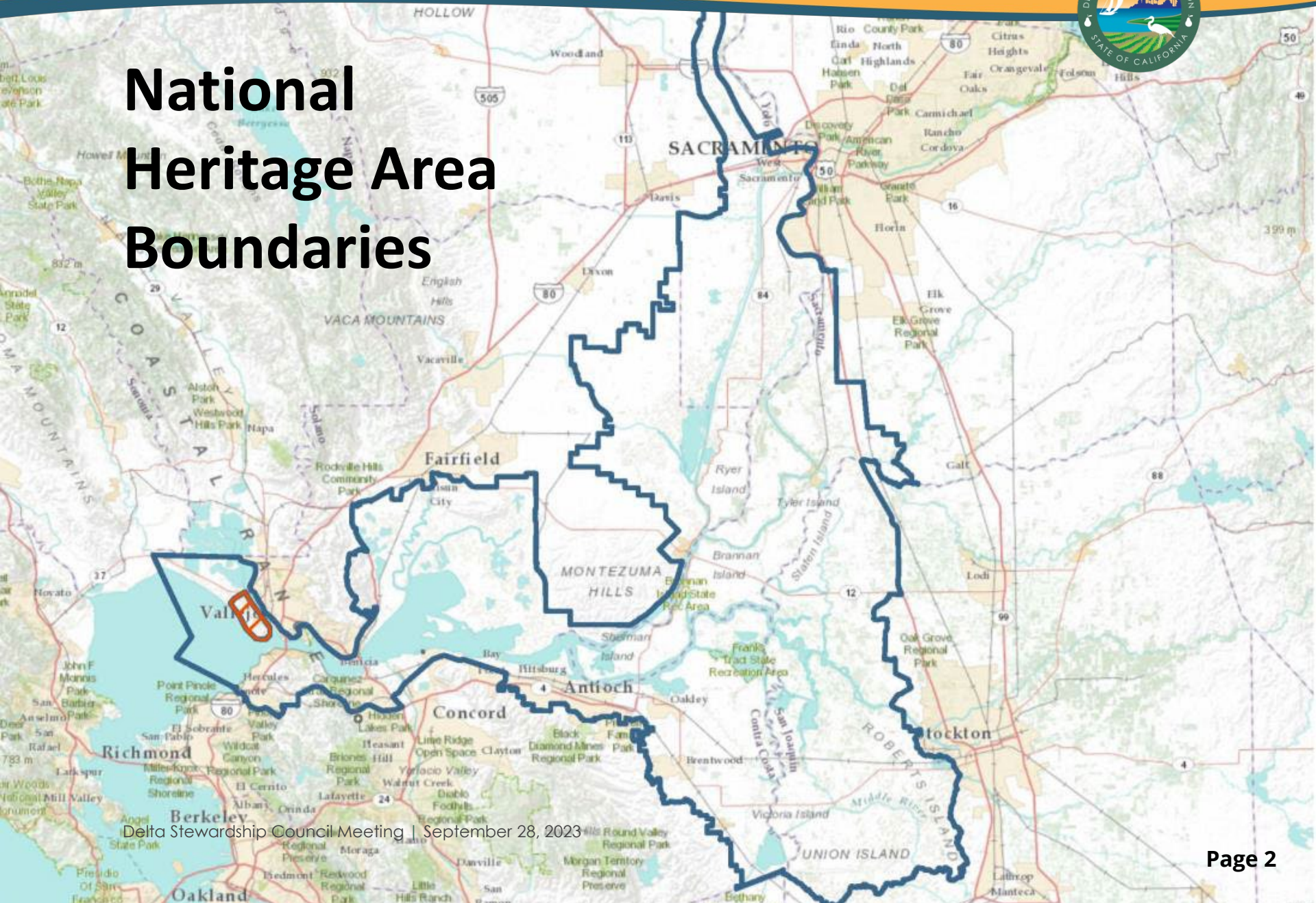
# Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Management Plan Update

## Delta Stewardship Council Meeting

### September 28, 2023



# National Heritage Area Boundaries





# Responsibilities of Local Coordinating Entity

- Develop management plan
- Public outreach during and after planning process
- Assist governments, nonprofits, and others in implementing plan
- Submit annual report to Secretary of Interior



# Management Plan Outreach to Date

- NHA Advisory Committee
- NHA Advisory Task Groups
  - Heritage Development and Tourism
  - Interpretive
  - Organization
  - Resource Stewardship
- Tribal Consultation
- Public Workshops
- Delta Heritage Forum
- Online Surveys and Interviews



# Management Plan Chapters

1. Introduction
2. Interpretation
3. Resource Stewardship and Enhancement
4. Heritage Development and Tourism
5. Partnerships
6. Business Plan
7. Implementation Plan



# Interpretive Themes

Defined as the core ideas or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting an area. They inspire emotional connection and provoke deeper thought and reflection.



# Interpretive Themes

**Theme 1, Water: Precious Lifeblood for the Delta and California:** The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is California's oasis, located at the center of the state's water challenges and opportunities, and a water passage between the Pacific Ocean and inland California.

**Theme 2, The Beating Heart of Natural California:** The Delta lies at the center of California's biological and physical environment, supporting numerous biologically diverse species and connecting freshwater from throughout California to the Pacific Ocean.

**Theme 3, Abundance, Diversity, Resistance, and Survival – Native Americans in the Delta:** Native Americans thrived in the Delta prior to European settlement, developing complex and diverse societies, deeply rooted in the landscape, that have endured despite existential threats.  
*(Draft Currently Under Review During Tribal Consultation)*



# Interpretive Themes

**Theme 4, The Delta Emerges as California's Cornucopia:** Through capital, human labor, and technology, the Delta's lush vegetation became one of the nation's most productive agricultural regions, with the ability to grow a large variety of crops, farmed by large and smaller operations.

**Theme 5, Cultural Influences of the Delta – Enduring Legacies of American, Asian, European, and Latin American Immigrants:** Bringing their own ambition and skills to the Delta, cultural and ethnic communities from Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the United States shaped the region's agriculture and industry during the late 19th century and early 20th century and continue to leave an indelible imprint on the landscape.





# Interpretive Themes

**Supporting Theme 1, Northern California's Inland Defense (1850s-1940s):** A place of both defense and defiance, the military installations of the Delta and Carquinez Strait tell a story of local support for U.S. military operations throughout the Pacific and incalculable sacrifice by African American sailors.

**Supporting Theme 2, The Creative Inspiration of the Delta (1900s-Present):** Distinctive urban, rural, and aquatic landscapes, labor and leisure, and relaxed lifestyle have drawn many writers and artists to the Delta for solace and inspiration.

**Supporting Theme 3, Delta as Recreational Retreat (1950s-Present):** The Delta's waters and rural communities provide a retreat from our busy lives and reconnect us to the land and each other.



# Key Outcomes of National Heritage Area

- Recognizes national significance of the Delta
- Source of pride for residents
- Federal funding
- Access to National Park Service expertise
- Opportunity to learn from and partner with other National Heritage Areas
- Assists in branding and economic development



# Key Outcomes of Management Plan

- Describes stories to communicate to visitors and residents
- Identifies important resources to tell these stories
- Provides focus for future work through goals, objectives, and strategies
- Engages potential partners in implementation
- Explores possible organizational arrangements



# Council Involvement Opportunities

- Combine funds to reimburse tribal involvement
- Join funds and staff on heritage-related projects
- Partner to raise public awareness of environmental issues and ecosystem restoration
- Assist Delta Science Program with developing network of partners



# Management Plan Schedule

## September-December 2023

- Complete draft management plan
- Initial National Park Service review
- NHA Advisory Committee meetings
- Commission consider public release of draft plan
- Beginning of public review period for plan and CEQA/NEPA document



# Management Plan Schedule

## January-March 2024

- Completion of public review period for plan and CEQA/NEPA document
- Commission consider approval of plan and CEQA/NEPA document
- Submit final plan for National Park Service/ Department of Interior review by March 12, 2024



# Completed NHA Projects

- Community Action Plans
- Community Design Study
- Delta Anthology
- Delta Design Study
- Delta Narratives and Curriculum
- Heritage Projects Feasibility Studies



# Current NHA Projects

- America 250 (2026)
- Delta Heritage Courier
- Delta Heritage Forum
- Junior Ranger program
- Marketing plan update
- Passport program
- Operation Pollination
- Welcome, wayfinding, and interpretive signs





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