

Subcommittee on Bay-Delta

Briefing on Delta Island Collaborative Landscape Planning

Item 3c April 25, 2023



"This feedback-heavy style of decision-making attributes to a leadership change at Metropolitan Water District that prioritizes innovation, inclusion, collaboration, and partnerships"

The Estuary Magazine, Mar 2023



Overview

- 2016 purchase
- 31 sq. mi.; 20,400 acres
- Bouldin/Bacon Islands
- Webb/Holland Tracts



Multi-Benefit Restoration Planning

Overview

- California Department of Fish & Wildlife Grant (\$1.088 M)
- Objectives
 - Address subsidence reversal, carbon sequestration, ecosystem restoration, sustainable economic and agriculture practices
 - Utilize an innovative Structured Decision-Making Process
- Collaboration
 - Local Delta advisors
 - Technical experts
 - Public feedback
- Metropolitan Board
 - Updates



Delta Advisors



- Miwok
- Point Blue Conservation Science
- California Audubon Society
- The Nature Conservancy
- Ducks Unlimited
- California Waterfowl Association
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Metropolitan Water District
- Delta Conservancy
- Department of Water Resources
- Delta Stewardship Council
- Delta Protection Commission
- San Francisco Estuary Institute
- East Bay Parks





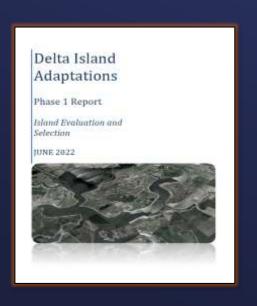
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Technical Experts

- UC Merced (economics)
- CSU Chico State (human ecology)
- UC Davis (greenhouse gas dynamics)
- UC Davis (paludiculture)
- GEI (tidal wetlands)
- SFEI (landscape scenario planning)
- Natural Resources Group (Delta farming)
- MBK Engineers (levee/flood risks)
- Hydrofocus (wetlands, subsidence reversal)
- Delta Conservancy (Delta-wide public lands)
- Metropolitan (agriculture/rice farming)



Planning Activities Schedule



- Phase I (2021 2022)
 - Community outreach
 - Facilitated landscape-scale scenario planning
 - Preference starting choice Bouldin Island
 - Phase I Report (completed)



- Phase 2 (2022 2024)
 - Community outreach
 - Bouldin Island multi-use opportunities
 - Future pilot projects/research recommendations

• Recommendations for future pilot projects, research/scientific studies, and other

Next Steps

• Final Conceptual Plans/Project Outcomes Report (Mar-2024)

• Advance landscape scenario planning for Webb Tract, Bacon Island & Holland Tract

