

North/East Delta Improvements Group Meeting

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

9:00-11:00AM

Rm 335, Resources Building

Expected Outcomes:

Update group on North Delta Improvement Efforts. Receive Agency and Stakeholder input on North Delta Issues.

- **Introductions and Last Meeting Minutes**
- **Review Group Role**
- **Discussion of System Capacity Issues**
- **Solution Criteria Matrix Review**
- **White Paper Technical Section Revisions**
- **Update on Status of McCormack-Williamson Tract**
- **Discuss Next Meeting Date and Agenda**

Draft Meeting Notes
CALFED Bay-Delta Program North Delta Improvements Sub-Team
September 29, 1999 at 9:00 am in Room 1142 of the Resources Building

Attendance List:

Margit Aramburu, Delta Protection Commission
Tracie Billington, CALFED
Valerie Calegari, The Nature Conservancy
Scott Cantrell, Dept of Fish and Game
Robert Clark, Northern California Water Agency
Rob Cooke, CALFED
Gilbert Cosio, MBK Engineers
Craig Crouch, Sacramento County Water Resources Division
Dick Daniel, CALFED
Paul Devereux, SAFCA
Bellory Fong, CALFED
Walt Hoppe, private citizen
Gwen Knittweis, CALFED (chair)
Grant Kreinberg, SAFCA
Mark Kubite, Ensign and Buckley Consulting Engineers
Michael Norris, DWR Central District (minutes)
Sally Shanks, Staten Island
James Smith, East Bay Municipal Utilities District
Stan Soliday, Corps of Engineers
Keith Whitener, The Nature Conservancy

Gwen Knittweis convened the meeting and had the group introduce themselves. There were no comments on the previous 8-18-99 meeting minutes from the sub-team.

Gwen Knittweis presented the next agenda item dealing with the distribution of the White Paper. The differences from the previous version were pointed out. There was a general comment on the "basin-wide approach" which had been incorporated into the current work. The description of the work being done by the Mokelumne-Cosumnes Watershed Alliance is on pages 4-5. The hydrology section has been revised.

Gwen presented an overhead that showed the various scenarios. Some but not all have been modeled because of cost considerations. They include:

- Dredging the North Fork and South Fork as far as Hog Slough and usage of McCormack-Williamson Tract.
- South Fork bypass (east bypass) and usage of McCormack-Williamson Tract.
- North Fork bypass (west bypass) and usage of McCormack-Williamson Tract.
- Tyler Island west side bypass and usage of McCormack-Williamson Tract.
- Staten Island peak flow management and usage of McCormack-Williamson Tract.

Rob Cooke thought it was safe to assume that some dredging in the North Fork would be

mandatory. Sally Shanks thought the South Fork needed dredging more but Rob noted it was more sensitive environmentally. Sally made an argument for not dredging the North Fork if weir systems are maintained. Rob, Margit, and Sally discussed the dredging issue for North versus South Forks of the Mokelumne River. Of note, the sedimentation issue was discussed for the north and South Forks.

Gil Cosio noted that depending on how McCormack-Williamson Tract is flooded, certain issues such as sedimentation and even the meander of the channel could conceivably change. Other features like setbacks only change the flood event according to Sally and other events will continue to occur. Gwen noted that Jeff Mount's group from UC Davis recently received a Category III grant and will be looking at sedimentation issues. Margit felt that the efforts from that group would probably follow the North Delta group discussions and may not be useful to the North Delta group. Sally felt that dredging on the South Fork is a separate issue entirely and as sedimentation continues to occur, it will affect the rest of the system.

Dick Daniel noted his concerns from an environmental perspective. To optimize habitat benefits, we shouldn't plan on dredging the South Fork because of the wonderful habitat features already there. Other features of the system can improve the sediment issues. Dick summarized by saying we should investigate what has to be done to the system to meet the flood management issues and then plan on dredging the South Fork only as a last resort.

Craig Crouch thought the reasons for not dredging the South Fork should be well documented so we can defend our stand later. Gwen thought that matter could be a separate White Paper.

Gwen reviewed the criteria list on page 15 of the White Paper. The White Paper will be presented to the Levee and Channel Technical Team. Walt Hoppe asked about the time period for finishing the final draft of the White Paper and Gwen thought it might be the end of this year. Walt also asked about the White Paper being submitted to upper management when funding is requested. Gwen thought the White Paper might be a document of its own and would be submitted in some form to upper management.

Bellory Fong presented the next agenda item dealing with the CALFED Environmental Restoration Plan (ERP) objectives in the North Delta. She differentiated between North Delta habitat and East Delta habitat and reviewed the different actions. According to Bellory, the East Delta habitat is actually more along the lines of what the group is referring to geographically as "North Delta".

Margit and Dick discussed options for Georgiana Slough. Dick noted that efforts supported by Category III funding recently received by Jeff Hart's group would be the focus for the next several years. Craig discussed the potential use of electrical barriers for keeping fish out of Georgiana Slough based on its use in the Great Lakes region for keeping out Goby. Dick didn't feel that application would work in the Delta. Dick felt we could increase juvenile fish survival by increasing shade and cover and this is what he

wants to pursue.

Grant Kreinberg asked about the compatibility of the actions being discussed with other actions being proposed by groups such as the Corps and the Nature Conservancy and Rob replied that that was a good question. Jim Smith noted he is working with the Corps on the EBMUD project but everyone has to continue talking about this issue. Gwen finished discussion on this agenda item by noting we may have to change the title of the sub-team for "north" to "northeast". There are no clear linkages between "north" and "east" and it is unclear if we should be looking for any.

Gwen Knittweis presented the next agenda item dealing an update on environmental agency coordination and input. Grant discussed the need to bring in additional agencies as well as the ones that are already participating.

Gwen Knittweis presented the next agenda item dealing with an update on the progress of the Mokelumne-Cosumnes Watershed Alliance (MCWA). There was a recent meeting of that group in Walnut Grove and Gwen discussed it. The e-mail reflector list has been updated so that others can track the progress of that group. Also, issues dealing with web pages and newsletters were discussed. Gwen introduced Tracie Billington from CALFED who will coordinate that group. There is an upcoming meeting of that group in the Elk Grove on Wednesday December 15, 1999.

Gwen Knittweis presented the next agenda item dealing with an update of the status of McCormack-Williamson Tract. The purchase is in escrow and fund transfer could occur any day. Gwen discussed potential options such as creation of shallow water habitat on McCormack-Williamson Tract. She has heard there is potential for interim planting until actual studies and environmental documentation is done.

Gwen Knittweis presented the next agenda item dealing with an update of the Delta Dredge and Reuse Strategy. The Delta reuse action came out of a Category III grant. Margit discussed that the Integration Panel designated a \$500,000 action in 12-97. The money was passed on to Fish and Game to manage and has been divided into three projects. The result of the work is expected to streamline the application process for dredging and provide necessary information so that the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) can issue a General Permit for dredging. Margit reported they previously came close to getting a General Permit but the RWQCB turned them down because more environmental documentation was needed. The current effort is a two-year study. Sally wondered if we can link back to what was originally desired back in 1990 which was something that was "affordable" and "available".

The next meeting of the sub-team will be on Tuesday October 26, 1999 from 9-11.

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North Delta Improvements Scenarios Evaluation Matrix

(October 18, 1999)

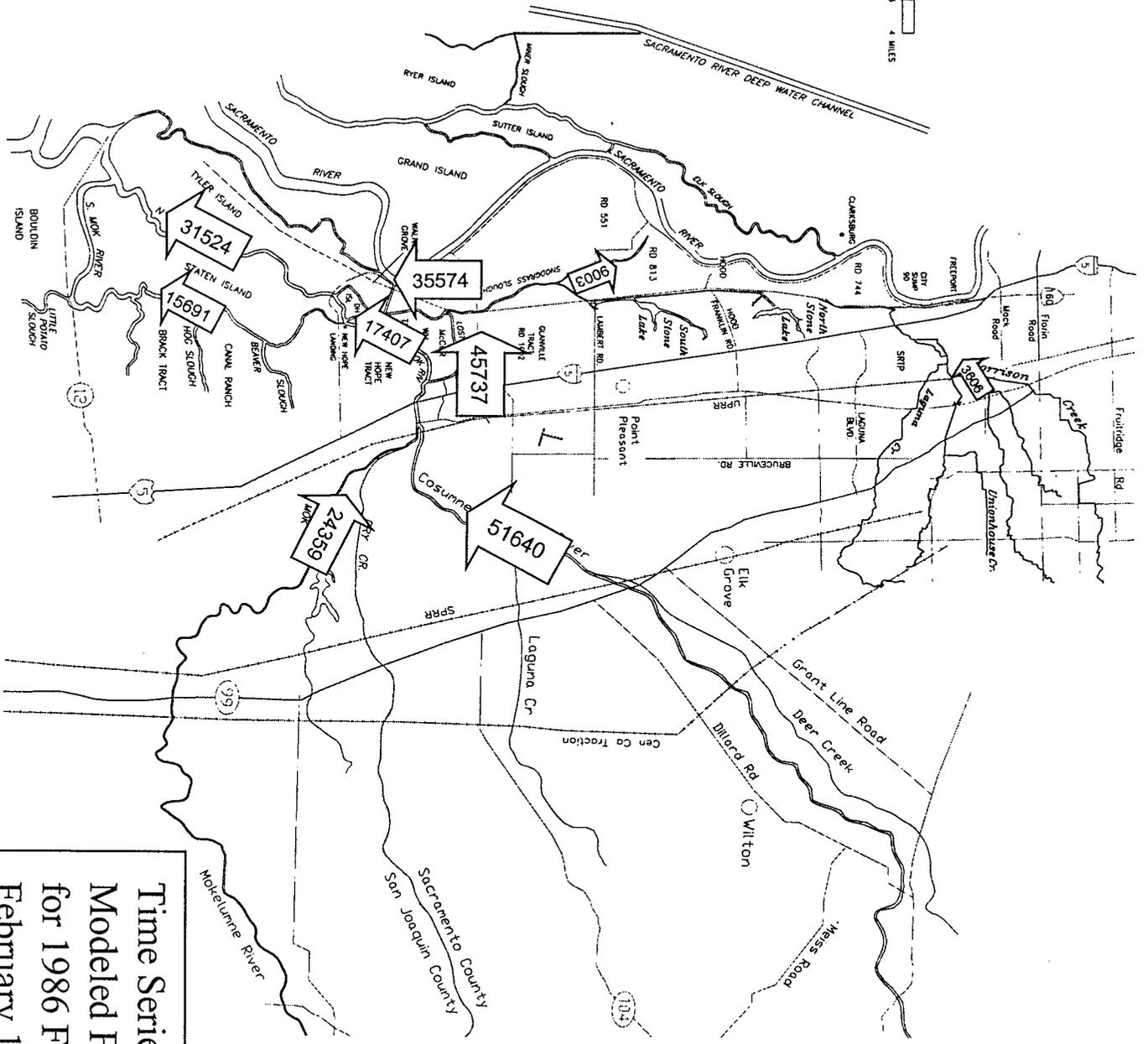
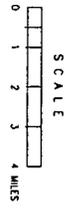
	Scenario	Dredging/Levee Raising	S. Mokelumne Bypass	N. Mokelumne Bypass	Tyler Island Bypass	Staten Island Floodway
Evaluation Criteria	Compatibility with CALFED and other ongoing programs and projects.					
	a. General					
	b. CALFED ERP					
	c. CALFED MSCS					
	d. CALFED Water Quality Program					
	Regulatory acceptability.					
	Environmental benefits.					
	Flood control benefits.					
	Water supply reliability benefits.					
	Cost.					
	Potential to secure cost-sharing and funding.					
	Avoidance or minimization of the taking of farmland out of production.					
	Ability to address growth-inducing impacts.					
	Ability to address seepage concerns.					
	Ability to address fisheries impacts.					
	Community/Local Government Buy-In					
	Ability to address Upstream/Downstream Hydraulic Impacts					
	Ability to address economic impacts.					
	Maintenance requirements.					
	Compatibility with desirable Delta hydrodynamic patterns					
Community/Local Government Buy-In						
Impact to Levee Integrity						
Protection of existing wildlife use						
Impacts to farming activities						

Key: H,M,L

H= Provides great benefits or highly responsive to criteria.

M= Provides benefit or is responsive to criteria.

L= Provides low benefits or not responsive to criteria.



Time Series
Modeled Flows
for 1986 Flood -
February 18@2pm

North Delta Region
Urban Areas and
Land Managed/Potentially Managed
for Conservation

Administrative Draft
Not for Public Review

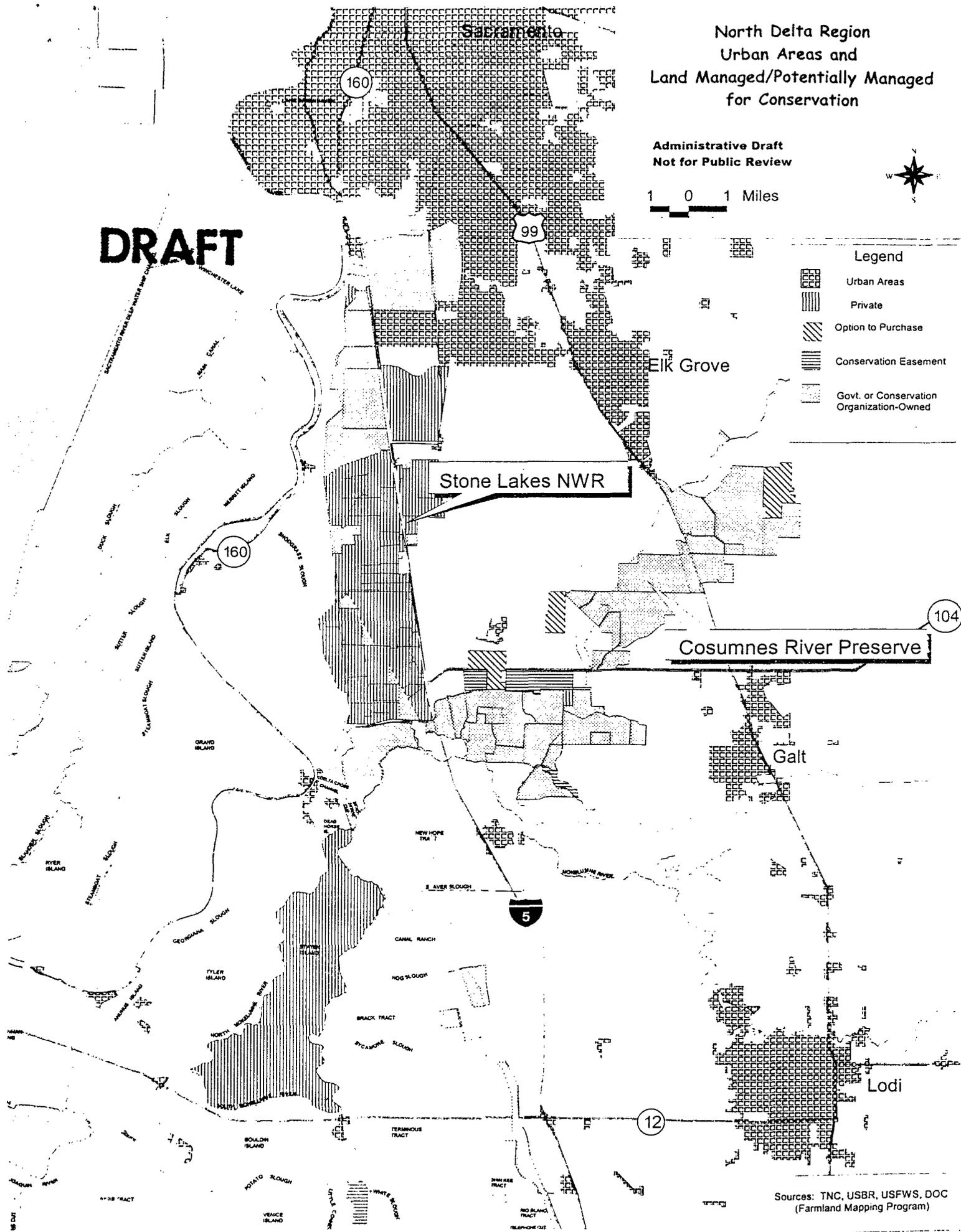
1 0 1 Miles



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Legend

-  Urban Areas
-  Private
-  Option to Purchase
-  Conservation Easement
-  Govt. or Conservation Organization-Owned



Sources: TNC, USBR, USFWS, DOC
(Farmland Mapping Program)

STONE LAKES NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE PROJECT AREA

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



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LEGEND	
	Refuge Project Boundary
	Refuge Lands
	Other Public Lands
	Railroad
	Freeway
	Roads
	Streams
	Open Water

