

CALFED Brown Bag Seminar Series Presents

**Planning for Sustainable Tourism in Delta
Landscapes: Three International Case Studies**
Alex Westhoff, UC Berkeley



**April 14, 2009
12 noon to 1 p.m.
CALFED Offices
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA**

This is the story of a tourist's quest for a sustainable delta through international research. In the fall of 2008, Alex Westhoff visited three different river deltas impacted by tourism in different ways: the Okavango Delta in Botswana, the Ebro Delta in Spain and the Danube Delta in Romania.

The objective of his research was to uncover lessons learned on sustainable tourism planning that could possibly be applied to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. He conducted focused interviews with local stakeholders at each delta to acquire their perspectives on tourism and sustainability. During this research, both positive and negative impacts of tourism were determined and evaluations were made on whether or not the tourism planning process was conducted in a sustainable manner.

During the course of the trip, Westhoff had a variety of unique experiences: spotting wild elephants and hippos, viewing pink flamingos and visiting multicultural fishing villages. However exotic the landscapes and experiences were, there were definite parallels that could be drawn to the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta. Westhoff's research was through the Geraldine Knight Scott Traveling Fellowship that he was awarded from the University of California, Berkeley, Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning.

An educational series dedicated to ideas for California's Delta

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