

DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION

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November 16, 2018

Chair Randy Fiorini and Members
 Delta Stewardship Council
 980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Grizzly Slough Floodplain Restoration Project and McCormack-Williamson
 Tract Restoration Project (North Delta Project) (C20186)

Dear Chair Fiorini and Councilmembers,

The Delta Protection Commission (Commission), in its role representing Delta communities and advising the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) on protecting and enhancing the unique Delta values, provides the following comments on the North Delta Project Certification of Delta Plan Consistency (Certification Number C20186).

The Commission works to protect, maintain, enhance, and enrich the overall quality of the Delta environment and economy, with a focus on agriculture, recreation, heritage, and natural resources. The Commission has a role set forth in Public Resources Code section 29773 to review and provide comments and recommendations to the Council on any significant project or proposed project within the scope of the Delta Plan, including actions by State and federal agencies, that may affect the Delta's unique cultural, recreational, and agricultural values.

The Department of Water Resources has certified that the North Delta Project is consistent with the Delta Plan. The certification describes the net regional flood control and ecological benefits that restoration on McCormack-Williamson Tract will provide including reducing the "surge effect" that can occur when McCormack-Williamson Tract levees overtop or breach.

Delta restoration projects can create problems with seepage on adjoining islands. In response to DP P2 (CCR section 5011), any seepage affecting neighboring landowners should be fully mitigated. In the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) submitted with Certification Number C20186, Impact FC-2 is identified as a significant impact. Although a monitoring program is described in Mitigation Measure FC-1, the Commission believes that DP P2 requires measures that can be activated in the event that seepage becomes a problem.

While seepage impacts and mitigation is identified in the Draft EIR, it is not included in *The Delta Plan Certification of Consistency – Detailed Findings* report that was submitted as part of the Consistency Determination. Further discussion of the intent to monitor and mitigate any seepage effects should be provided.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. Please contact Melinda Dorin at (916) 375-4882 for any questions regarding the comments provided.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Vink'.

Erik Vink
Executive Director

cc: Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and Commission member