

**DP P2 (23 CCR Section 5011) Respect Local Land Use When Siting Water or Flood Facilities or Restoring Habitats.**

- (a) Water management facilities, ecosystem restoration, and flood management infrastructure must be sited to avoid or reduce conflicts with existing uses or those uses described or depicted in city and county general plans for their jurisdictions or spheres of influence when feasible, considering comments from local agencies and the Delta Protection Commission. Plans for ecosystem restoration must consider sites on existing public lands, when feasible and consistent with a Project's purpose, before privately owned sites are purchased. Measures to mitigate conflicts with adjacent uses may include, but are not limited to, buffers to prevent adverse effects on adjacent farmland.*
- (b) For purposes of Water Code Section 85057.5(a)(3) and Section 5001(j)(1)(E) of this Chapter, this policy covers proposed actions that involve the siting of water management facilities, ecosystem restoration, and flood management infrastructure.*

The Project Site is located on Sherman Island in southwest Sacramento County, owned by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Historically, the project area was a marsh that was diked off from the Sacramento River and drained between 1850 and 1873 to facilitate agriculture. As a result of more than 130 years of farming practices, irrigation, and exposure of soils to air, the Island has subsided as much as 16 ft. A high-water table currently makes the Project Site unsustainable for long-term agriculture.

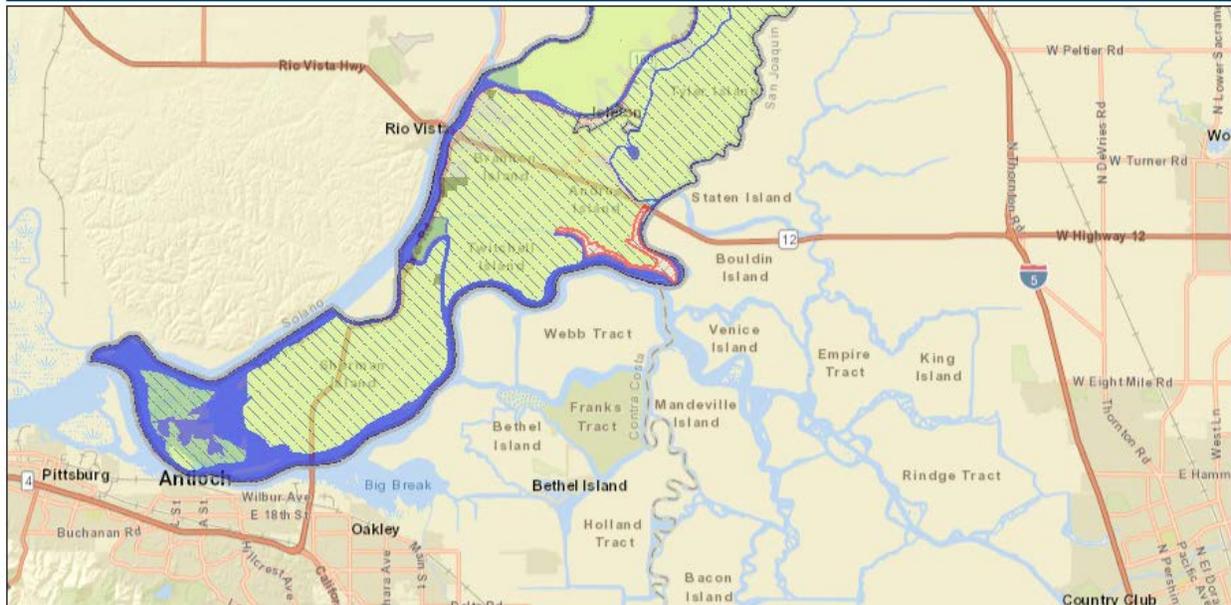
Before the Delta was diked, drained, and farmed, it was subject to significant seasonal fluctuations in freshwater inflows, which worked in concert with large tidal ranges. Natural levees were formed by sediments deposited during spring floods and stabilized by vegetation. Dominant vegetation within the natural levees included tules - marsh plants that live in fresh and brackish water. Decomposing tules and reed vegetation formed the peat soils over thousands of years. In waterlogged conditions, decaying tules decompose slowly to release carbon dioxide and methane, which is trapped in the soils by water. Once the soil was diked and then dried, the peat soils decompose, which leads to compaction and subsidence.

Subsidence has reduced the distance from the soil surface to the water table. The resulting high-water table makes the Site mostly unsustainable for crop production, although portions of the Site are currently used for corn and safflower production and pasture. Ongoing research over the past several decades shows that restoring wetlands will mitigate the impacts of subsidence, greenhouse gas emissions, and provide excellent habitat for native species.

A more detailed description of the site can be found in the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Sherman Belly Wetland Restoration Project, Section 1.3 Project Background and History, and Section 2 Agriculture Resources, and Section 10 Land Use and Planning.

The Project would not conflict with the land classification of AG-80 open space/agriculture. There are no Williamson Act contracts on the Project site.





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|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| SPA - Special Planning Areas          | MHP-Mobile Home Park Zoned Area                    | <b>Flood</b>   |
| NPA - Neighborhood Preservation Areas | PD-Planned Development (Interim)                   | Flood Zone     |
| PC-Parkway Corridor Zoned Area        | PDC-Planned Development County Initiated (Interim) | Natural Stream |
| SM-Surface Mining Zoned Area          |  |                |



1" = 19036'

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