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January 20, 2024

To whom it may concern,

The **East Bay Regional Park District** (Park District) is pleased to provide this **letter of commitment** to the program implementation of the **Sacramento San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area** (SSDNHA).

The Park District is a system of beautiful parklands in Alameda and Contra Costa counties to the east of San Francisco. The system comprises 73 parks spanning across 125,000 acres; 1,250 miles of trails; 55 miles of shoreline. We manage and preserve natural and cultural resources for all to enjoy and protect. The regional parks are ideal for healthful recreation and environmental education. The SSDNHA includes large areas of northern, western, and eastern Contra Costa County, including District parklands, trails, facilities, and programming.

The East Bay Regional Park District's mission is to preserve a rich heritage of natural and cultural resources and provide open space, parks, trails, safe and healthful recreation and environmental education. An environmental ethic guides the District in all of its activities. This parallels the mission of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta NHA to protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, and natural resources and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving, living landscape.

The Park District will continue to commit to the following efforts to develop the SSDNHA:

- Maintain representation on pertinent committees.
- Provide meeting facilities and resources (Big Break Visitor Center at the Delta, virtual capabilities).
- Provide District staff and resources to assist developing and implementing pertinent aspects of the SSDNHA management plans, including field staff for public, school and agency training and programming.
- Include SSDNHA branding and information on appropriate informational and interpretive material (signage, brochures, website).
- Incorporate SSDNHA into existing District interpretive and recreational programming, including program collaboration with SSDNHA staff and partners.
- Provide letters of support and other for appropriate SSDNHA initiatives (grants, proposals, collaborations, funding, legislation).

Applications of these efforts to specific SSDNHA Management Plan strategies are listed on following pages.

The Park District and SSDNHA have parallel missions and many overlapping duties and opportunities. The Park District will continue efforts to support strategies specified here consistent with Park District rules, policies, procedures, and in the course of Park District activities. If you have any questions, please contact Interpretive and Recreation Services Manager, Mike Moran at 510-544-2552 or mmoran@ebparks.org.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Landreth (Jan 18, 2024 20:47 PST)

Sabrina Landreth, General Manager
East Bay Regional Park District

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Application of Specific SSDNHA Management Plan strategies

Maintain representation on pertinent committees

Strategy 1.1.1 Continue the Interpretive Planning Task Group to support NHA interpretive planning and projects.

Strategy 2.2.1 Share educational information developed by partners about conservation strategies and environmental issues.

Strategy 2.3.1 Develop a committee to advise on cultural projects.

Strategy 2.4.1 Consider the development of a Tribal land acknowledgement.

Strategy 3.1.1 Convene tourism partners to create a regional network to develop a sustainable tourism program.

Strategy 3.1.2 Conduct market research to gather more information on current visitors and to identify new target audiences.

Strategy 3.4.2 Communicate identified needs for the development and maintenance of infrastructure (communications, transportation, lodging, etc.) to the California State Legislature.

Strategy 4.1.1 Conduct partner gatherings, enabling active engagement and fostering participation in networking and collaborative initiatives.

Strategy 4.3.2 Act as a clearinghouse of information to support NHA partners.

Strategy 4.3.3 Conduct in-person and virtual visits and meetings with state agencies that service the NHA and local governments, community groups, and organizations in the NHA.

Strategy 4.3.4 Enlist National Heritage Area Advisory Committee members to act as information ambassadors.

Strategy 5.2.3 The NHA Management Plan Advisory Committee will be involved in the implementation of the management plan in a restructured role, provide counsel on recommendations for policy, process, and governance, and act as ambassadors to the partners and communities in the NHA.

Strategy 5.2.4 The DPC staff and the NHA Advisory Committee will establish task groups, as necessary, in order to implement specific goals, objectives, and strategies of the management plan.

Provide meeting facilities and resources

(Big Break Visitor Center at the Delta, virtual capabilities)

Strategy 1.1.2 Encourage collaborative opportunities among NHA interpretive providers to develop and implement interpretive programs and media.

Strategy 1.1.7 Connect people with volunteer opportunities at NHA sites.

Strategy 1.3.2 Promote the area's agricultural heritage through exhibits, programs, and events, including culinary experiences.

Strategy 1.3.3 Highlight the work of past, present, and upcoming artists and writers whose work includes the NHA through exhibits, presentations, and artist-in-residency programs.

Strategy 2.4.5 Support educational programs to facilitate intergenerational knowledge of Tribal histories, cultural traditions, and traditional ecological knowledge.

Strategy 3.1.1 Convene tourism partners to create a regional network to develop a sustainable tourism program.

Strategy 4.1.1 Conduct partner gatherings, enabling active engagement and fostering participation in networking and collaborative initiatives.

Strategy 4.1.5 Continue the Delta Leadership Program

Strategy 4.3.3 Conduct in-person and virtual visits and meetings with state agencies that service the NHA and local governments, community groups, and organizations in the NHA.

Strategy 5.1.1 The Delta Protection Commission supports the NHA partnership network

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Provide District staff and resources to assist developing and implementing pertinent aspects of the SSDNHA management plans, including field staff for public, school and agency training and programming

Strategy 1.1.1 Continue the Interpretive Planning Task Group to support NHA interpretive planning and projects.

Strategy 1.1.2 Encourage collaborative opportunities among NHA interpretive providers to develop and implement interpretive programs and media.

Strategy 1.1.3 Broaden interpretive content and resources through scholarly research into the NHA's interpretive themes.

Strategy 1.1.4 Provide technical assistance to NHA interpretive providers to develop interpretive plans and projects.

Strategy 1.1.5 Provide virtual and in-person interpretive training to NHA partners to enhance interpretation skills, interpretive site management, exhibit development, and related skills.

Strategy 1.1.7 Connect people with volunteer opportunities at NHA sites.

Strategy 1.1.8 Explore grants and other funding opportunities for interpretive planning and projects.

Strategy 1.2.1 Promote Delta-wide themed special events, such as "Delta Days" or "Delta250" at NHA sites.

Strategy 1.2.2 Prepare an interpretive sign plan to aid in the placement, design, funding, and placement of interpretive panels in the NHA.

Strategy 1.2.4 Develop thematic trail messaging that connects interpretive sites throughout the NHA.

Strategy 1.3.1 Develop interpretive content, programs, and materials that place the NHA in the context of state and national history and economy.

Strategy 1.3.2 Promote the area's agricultural heritage through exhibits, programs, and events, including culinary experiences.

Strategy 1.3.4 Share natural resource-themed interpretive content, including existing water education programs and training, with NHA sites and along established land and water trail networks.

Strategy 1.4.2 Collaborate with Native American Tribes to develop interpretive content about traditional Indigenous land management practices and perspectives.

Strategy 1.4.3 Establish a funding source for Native American Tribes and other cultural groups to assist with their time and expenses related to developing interpretive programs and educational content for the NHA.

Strategy 1.4.4 Develop interpretive content and programs that describe the connections of cultural groups to the NHA landscape.

Strategy 1.4.5 Promote NHA-themed interpretive materials and programs through cultural organizations.

Strategy 1.5.1 Connect schools to existing NHA curriculum and educational program opportunities.

Strategy 1.5.2 Provide funding to develop additional NHA interpretive programs and educational content tied to California Content Standards for education

Strategy 1.5.3 Encourage the development, promotion, and implementation of citizen science programs.

Strategy 1.5.4 Sponsor hands-on experiences and field trips for students related to the NHA's interpretive themes.

Strategy 2.1.1 Document historic resources and cultural landscapes in the Delta.

Strategy 2.1.3 Support designations of historic resources, including the development of best practices.

Strategy 2.1.4 Provide information and coordinate training to educate residents and leaders, including elected officials, about preservation and its benefits.

Strategy 2.1.5 Support the existing groups and organizations that promote historic preservation through grants, technical assistance, and collaborative stewardship.

Strategy 2.1.7 Create a fund to preserve historic places and landscapes (existing standard District land acquisition)

Strategy 2.1.9 Study and support expansion of NHA boundary

Strategy 2.2.1 Share educational information developed by partners about conservation strategies and environmental issues.

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Strategy 2.2.2 Recruit volunteers and coordinate activities and events to clean up the region's landscapes and waterways and combat invasive species.

Strategy 2.4.2 Continue to engage California Native American Tribes in the planning and implementation of NHA projects and programs.

Strategy 2.4.3 Facilitate documentation, interpretation, and right of access to places with meaning for or traditional use by Native people.

Strategy 2.4.4 Provide opportunities to document, interpret, and practice traditional lifeways based on the region's natural environment.

Strategy 2.4.5 Support educational programs to facilitate intergenerational knowledge of Tribal histories, cultural traditions, and traditional ecological knowledge.

Include SSDNHA branding and information on appropriate informational and interpretive material (signage, brochures, website)

Strategy 1.1.2 Encourage collaborative opportunities among NHA interpretive providers to develop and implement interpretive programs and media.

Strategy 1.1.4 Provide technical assistance to NHA interpretive providers to develop interpretive plans and projects.

Strategy 1.2.1 Promote Delta-wide themed special events, such as "Delta Days" or "Delta250" at NHA sites.

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Strategy 1.3.1 Develop interpretive content, programs, and materials that place the NHA in the context of state and national history and economy.

Strategy 1.3.2 Promote the area's agricultural heritage through exhibits, programs, and events, including culinary experiences.

Strategy 1.3.4 Share natural resource-themed interpretive content, including existing water education programs and training, with NHA sites and along established land and water trail networks.

Strategy 1.4.2 Collaborate with Native American Tribes to develop interpretive content about traditional Indigenous land management practices and perspectives.

Strategy 1.4.4 Develop interpretive content and programs that describe the connections of cultural groups to the NHA landscape.

Strategy 1.4.5 Promote NHA-themed interpretive materials and programs through cultural organizations.

Strategy 2.2.1 Share educational information developed by partners about conservation strategies and environmental issues.

Strategy 2.4.5 Support educational programs to facilitate intergenerational knowledge of Tribal histories, cultural traditions, and traditional ecological knowledge.

Strategy 3.1.5 Use media and social media to generate awareness and visitation.

Strategy 3.2.1 Adapt the Delta wayfinding plan to include the NHA and install signage, where appropriate, to promote the NHA.

Strategy 3.2.5 Create orientation exhibits for welcome centers and other locations.

Strategy 3.3.3 Coordinate with the Great Delta Trail to develop and distribute educational materials on bicycle safety.

Strategy 4.3.7 Continue to manage and expand the National Heritage Area's web presence.

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Incorporate SSDNHA into existing District interpretive and recreational programming, including program collaboration with SSDNHA staff and partners

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Strategy 1.1.3 Broaden interpretive content and resources through scholarly research into the NHA's interpretive themes.

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Strategy 1.1.5 Provide virtual and in-person interpretive training to NHA partners to enhance interpretation skills, interpretive site management, exhibit development, and related skills.

Strategy 1.1.7 Connect people with volunteer opportunities at NHA sites.

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Strategy 1.5.1 Connect schools to existing NHA curriculum and educational program opportunities.

Strategy 1.5.3 Encourage the development, promotion, and implementation of citizen science programs.

Strategy 1.5.4 Sponsor hands-on experiences and field trips for students related to the NHA's interpretive themes.

Strategy 2.2.1 Share educational information developed by partners about conservation strategies and environmental issues.

Strategy 2.2.2 Recruit volunteers and coordinate activities and events to clean up the region's landscapes and waterways and combat invasive species.

Strategy 2.4.4 Provide opportunities to document, interpret, and practice traditional lifeways based on the region's natural environment.

Strategy 2.4.5 Support educational programs to facilitate intergenerational knowledge of Tribal histories, cultural traditions, and traditional ecological knowledge.

Strategy 3.1.7 Consider developing receptive tour services for groups.

Strategy 3.2.3 Develop history-focused activities and connect experiences to recreational activities.

Strategy 3.3.2 Promote and encourage Delta-wide coordination and collaboration on boating, boating safety, and related programs.

Strategy 4.1.5 Continue the Delta Leadership Program.

Strategy 4.2.3 Provide staff time and direct funding to carry out projects and programs that align with the management planning goals.

Strategy 4.2.4 Support educational initiatives, including research scholarships and service-learning opportunities to K-12 and college students and citizen science opportunities.

Strategy 4.3.1 Continue to hold the annual Delta Heritage Forum.

Strategy 4.3.3 Conduct in-person and virtual visits and meetings with state agencies that service the NHA and local governments, community groups, and organizations in the NHA.

Provide letters of support and other for appropriate SSDNHA initiatives (grants, proposals, collaborations, funding, legislation)

Strategy 1.1.8 Explore grants and other funding opportunities for interpretive planning and projects.

Strategy 1.2.3 Fund plaques for National and California Register sites in the NHA.

Strategy 2.1.5 Support the existing groups and organizations that promote historic preservation through grants, technical assistance, and collaborative stewardship.

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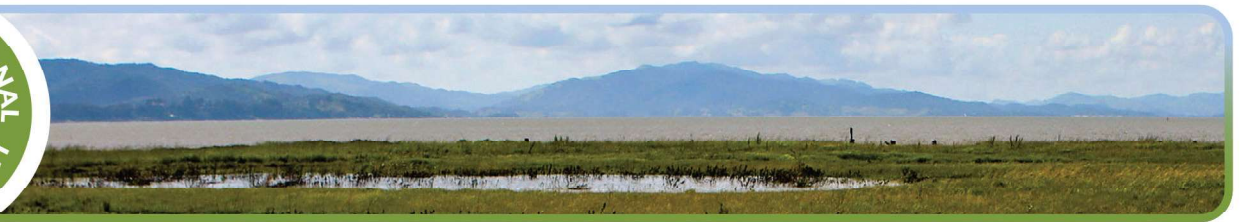
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Strategy 2.2.3 Support development of a virtual and physical “collaboratory,” a hub for a network of agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations, communities, and industry to better address major modeling, data, and management issues.

Strategy 2.3.2 Support initiatives to do ethnography and spoken history, and to document culture and living traditions.

Strategy 2.4.5 Support educational programs to facilitate intergenerational knowledge of Tribal histories, cultural traditions, and traditional ecological knowledge.

Strategy 3.3.3 Coordinate with the Great Delta Trail to develop and distribute educational materials on bicycle safety.

Strategy 4.2.2 Provide staff support to seek outside grants and funding.

Strategy 5.1.2 The DPC will operate a grant program to advance projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta NHA.

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