

Delta Counties Coalition

Contra Costa County · Sacramento County · San Joaquin County · Solano County · Yolo County

"Working together on water and Delta issues"

September 22, 2023

Dear Members of the Delta Congressional Delegation:

As Congress continues to advance appropriations measures for fiscal year 2024, the Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) wants to call your attention to a matter of vital importance to us.

Thanks to your work, Section 8375(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022 amended WRDA '92 by authorizing \$50 million for environmental infrastructure for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California, identified as the five Delta counties that comprise our Coalition.

As you know, the Committee Report accompanying the FY 24 House Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill includes \$150,000 from the Army Corps' construction budget for the "Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, CA (Knightsen Wetland Restoration Project)". This is the only funding in the House-reported bill for the Delta and it is of the utmost priority that this funding be retained as part of legislation that is enacted by the President.

The Committee Report accompanying the companion measure in the Senate similarly includes \$150,000 for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta without specification of where that funding should be spent. We urge in the strongest way possible that this funding be retained and that it be retained without specification as to the projects on which the funds are to be expended so that other worthy projects in the Delta might also move forward in FY '24.

Finally, we would note that the Senate Committee Report includes \$15.376 million, and the House \$9 million, that would be made available for environmental infrastructure projects around the country. Rather than leaving the final approved amount to Corps' discretion for allocation by 60 days after the bill's enactment, we would ask that some or all be specifically made available for projects in the Delta. If that is not possible, we encourage you to provide the higher Senate-approved amount for environmental infrastructure so the Delta Counties will have a better chance of competing successfully for such funds.

September 22, 2023


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Thank you for your steadfast support of the Delta counties and for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Patrick Hume, Supervisor
Sacramento County



Oscar Villegas, Supervisor
Yolo County



Diane Burgis, Supervisor
Contra Costa County



Mitch Mashburn, Supervisor
Solano County



Tom Patti, Supervisor
San Joaquin County