Appendix 29A
Environmental Justice Community Survey Report

This appendix provides the survey findings for the *Your Delta, Your Voice* environmental justice community survey summarized in Chapter 29, *Environmental Justice*. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) conducted this survey between September 20 and December 18, 2020. The purpose of the survey was to gather the perspectives of members of low-income, minority, indigenous, historically burdened, and otherwise underrepresented or disadvantaged communities (including limited English speakers) who live or work in the Delta. Participation was not restricted to these groups, however, and people across the socioeconomic spectrum and from areas throughout out the state responded.

The survey was available in English, Spanish, and Chinese, the languages most spoken in the Delta. It was publicized by means of a dedicated webpage (YourDeltaYourVoice.org), a webpage on DWR's website, social media posts on DWR's Facebook page and other platforms, and email blasts to DWR's mailing list of more than 8,000 people. In addition, the survey outreach team engaged more than 390 community-based organizations and made presentations to encourage organizations to help publicize the survey and drive participation.

This appendix is provided for informational purposes. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not require an analysis of environmental justice; however, state legislation, executive orders, and policies instruct state agencies to consider the impacts of their actions on environmental justice (minority and low-income) communities. DWR has included Chapter 29 in this Draft Environmental Impact Report to document consideration of environmental justice concerns and disclose potential effects of the Delta Conveyance Project (project) on environmental justice communities. Furthermore, DWR has prepared an environmental justice analysis that includes the information necessary to comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) because the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is a regulatory agency for major aspects of the project and is the federal lead agency for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement in compliance with NEPA.

SURVEY FINDINGS



Environmental Justice Community Survey

Report prepared by Ag Innovations for the
California Department of Water Resources
Delta Conveyance Project

Published May 2021

Ag Innovations
101 Morris St #212, Sebastopol, CA 95472
www.aginnovations.org
(707) 823-6111
genevieve@aginnovations.org

Ag Innovations is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that facilitates collaboration and community engagement related to the complex agricultural and natural resource challenges facing California today. Ag Innovations has been supporting environmental justice outreach for the Delta Conveyance Project since January 2020.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS 1

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 5

Who Responded to the Survey? 5

Survey Outreach 5

About the Survey 6

Survey Highlights 7

CHAPTER 1. SURVEY PARTICIPATION & REPORTING APPROACH 10

Chapter Highlights 10

1.1 Introduction 10

1.2 What Do We Mean by Disadvantaged Community? 10

1.2.1 Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Respondents 11

1.2.2 Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) Respondents 12

1.3 How Have We Determined Who Lives or Works in the Delta Region? 13

1.4 Combining Categories: DAC & SDAC Participants Who Live or Work in the Delta Region 14

1.5 Participation Characteristics: Who We Heard From 15

1.5.1 Ethnicity 15

1.5.2 Household Income 17

1.5.3 Primary Spoken Language 19

1.5.4 Increased Participation in the Public Process 21

CHAPTER 2. PARTICIPANT PRIORITIES FOR THE DELTA REGION 23

Chapter Highlights 23

2.1 Introduction 23

2.2 Priority Ranking Results 24

2.3 Participant Comments on their Priorities 25

2.3.1 Delta-region DAC & SDAC Respondents 25

2.3.2 Native American Respondents 28

2.3.3 All Respondents 28

CHAPTER 3. THE DELTA TODAY: BEST FEATURES & CONCERNS 31

Chapter Highlights 31

3.1 Introduction 31

3.2 The Best of the Delta Region 32

3.3 Concerns about the Delta Region 34

3.4 Participant Comments on Life in the Delta 37
3.4.1 Delta-region DAC & SDAC Respondents 37
3.4.2 Native American Respondents 40
3.4.3 All Respondents 40
CHAPTER 4. COMMUNITY ECONOMIC WELLBEING 42
Chapter Highlights 42
4.1 Introduction 42
4.2 Employment & Income 43
4.2.1 Working in the Delta 43
4.2.2 Employment Type 44
4.2.3 Economic Stability 47
4.3 Needed Services 48
4.3.1 Delta-region DAC & SDAC Respondents 48
4.3.2 Native American Respondents 51
4.3.3 All Respondents 51
CHAPTER 5. EXPERIENCING DELTA'S WATERWAYS & NATURAL AREAS 53
Chapter Highlights 53
5.1 Introduction 53
5.2 Participant Responses, by the Numbers 53
5.2.1 Frequency of Visits to the Delta's Natural Areas & Waterways 53
5.2.2 Typical Outdoor Activities 55
5.2.3 Enhancing Experiences in Nature 57
5.3 Participant Comments 60
5.3.1 Delta-region DAC & SDAC Respondents 60
5.3.2 Native American Respondents 63
5.3.3 All Respondents 63
CHAPTER 6. DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT OPINIONS 65
Chapter Highlights 65
6.1 Introduction 65
6.2 Project Opinions 65
6.3 Project Concerns 66
6.3.1 Delta-region DAC & SDAC Respondents 67
6.3.2 Native American Respondents 69
6.3.3 All Respondents 70
6.4 Project Benefits 70
6.4.1 Delta-region DAC & SDAC Respondents 71

6.4.2 Native American Respondents 72
6.4.3 All Respondents 72
CHAPTER 7. SPECIAL PLACES 73
Chapter Highlights 73
7.1. Introduction to the Mapping Exercise 73
7.2. Overview of All Mapping Input 77
7.3 Input by Map Marker Type 83
7.3.1 Outdoor Activities 83
7.3.2 Fishing 90
7.3.3 Historic & Cultural Resources 94
7.3.4 Businesses, Services & Gathering Places 99
7.3.5 Other Special Places 104
APPENDIX A. SURVEY OUTREACH 108
A.1 Purpose & Overview 108
A.2 Highlights 108
A.3 Who We Reached 109
A.4 Goals, Results & Lessons Learned 109
A.4.1 Goal #1: Increase overall visibility and survey participation 109
A.4.2 Goal #2: Increase participation by DAC members who live or work in the Delta 111
A.4.3 Goal #3: Increase participation by non-English speakers 116
A.4.4 Goal #4: Increase internet & Digital Devise 118
A.5 Conclusions 119
A.6 Attachments: Sample Outreach Materials 120
APPENDIX B. ANALYTICAL METHODS & ASSUMPTIONS 121
B.1 Defining Disadvantaged Community Members 121
B.1.1 An Inclusive Approach 122
B.1.2 Ethnicity 123
B.1.3 Income 123
B.1.4 Location 124
B.1.5 Summary of All Criteria Used to Define DAC & SDAC Respondents 127
B.2 Defining the Delta Region 128
B.2.1 Working in the Delta Region 129
B.2.2 Living in the Delta Region 129
B.3 Bringing It Together: Delta-Region Disadvantaged Community Respondents 133

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Survey development, outreach, and production of this report was led by Ag Innovations, but we could not have done it alone and deeply appreciate the contributions of volunteers and agency staff.

Many community organizations, school districts, and individuals volunteered time and resources to generate survey participation, including those who truly went above and beyond to spread the word about the survey. We could not have achieved the robust response that we did without these many generous and passionate efforts.

The survey design and this report also could not have been completed without the hard work and dedication of many public servants. These products were developed at the direction of and in partnership with the California Department of Water Resources.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Fall 2020, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) launched an environmental justice community survey entitled ***Your Delta, Your Voice***. The survey was live from September 30 through December 11, 2020. Survey development and outreach was led by Ag Innovations and supported by numerous partners and agency staff.

The survey had the following goals:

1) to gather information from disadvantaged communities in the Delta region about how they work, live, recreate and experience the Delta,
2) to understand how the community values and uses its natural, economic, and social resources, and
3) increase awareness of the proposed project and interest in participating in public engagement among disadvantaged community members in the Delta region.

These goals were pursued in order to inform the proposed Delta Conveyance Project environmental review and planning process, with a particular emphasis on the environmental justice chapter of the CEQA Environmental Impact Report. Ag Innovation's intent was to faithfully reflect the input and perspectives gathered via the survey within this report.

In January 2021, DWR began developing a Delta Conveyance Project Community Benefits Program. The information gathered from the survey will also be used to inform DWR's efforts to work towards community benefits in the Delta region, although that was not part of the original intent of the survey as the program did not exist at that time.

Who Responded to the Survey?

The survey sought direct input from disadvantaged communities, or historically burdened, underrepresented, people of color, and low-income communities of interest, including indigenous and Tribal members—that may be disproportionately affected by the proposed Delta Conveyance Project—in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region (Delta). For simplicity, we refer to these communities as "disadvantaged communities" (DAC) and "severely disadvantaged communities" (SDAC) throughout this report, and we defined the "Delta-region" as slightly larger than the Delta.

Of the 2117 survey participants, 979 were categorized as living or working (or both) in the Delta region. Of those, 540 were categorized as disadvantaged community (DAC) respondents, and 166 of them were further subcategorized as severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) respondents. For more information on how Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents were identified and categorized, please refer to chapter 2 and Appendix B: Analytical Assumptions.

Survey Outreach

We promoted the survey in English, Spanish, and Chinese on DWR's website and via postcards, eblasts, social media posts, radio, and more. To disseminate the survey as widely as possible and capture the attention of minority, low-income, or otherwise vulnerable community members who live and work in the Delta, we also conducted extensive grassroots outreach to build partnerships with community-based organizations, local leaders, schools, social service providers, and Tribes. Many volunteered to distribute flyers at school meals distribution sites and food banks, post the survey to social media, send postcards and text messages, and more. More details on the outreach goals, results, and lessons learned can be found in Appendix A.

About the Survey

The survey was designed in MetroQuest (www.metroquest.com). It was designed to be highly interactive and engaging, ask many questions in a short amount of time, and to perform equally well on computers, smartphones, and tablets. The survey was made available in English, Spanish, and Chinese. A hotline was provided to respond to inquiries and provide assistance as needed, such as for those who do not have access to or comfort with digital devices. A demonstration of the survey can be found here (http://demo.metroquestsurvey.com/fc5r5w).

The survey invited participants to provide information about their priorities, favorite aspects and concerns about the Delta, economic wellbeing, experiences in nature, and project opinions. It also contained a mapping exercise that enabled participants to share the locations of the places that matter most to them as well as to share their thoughts about these places, how they interact with them, and more. The survey contained quantitative questions – such as multiple choice, ranking, checkboxes, etc. – that allowed participants to make choices among the available options. It also included many open-ended questions and other opportunities to provide input in their own words.

The survey was organized into five sections, each of which were tied to the following screens.

- Screen 1: Welcome and Overview
  This screen describes the purpose, goal, and potential timeline of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project.

- Screen 2: Priorities: What's important to you?
  This screen provides respondents an opportunity to rank six of twelve different possible priorities, in response to the question, "What is most important to you for maintaining or improving the quality of your life in the Delta? ," with an option to suggest another priority and provide comment.

- Screen 3: Special Places: Places that matter to you
  This screen was an opportunity to drag markers onto a map-based survey. This screen was intended to help the state investigate potential impacts and understand more about historic and cultural sites, fishing, gathering spots, outdoor activities, businesses or services, or other special places in the statutory Delta.

- Screen 4: Delta Community Needs
  This screen included four sub-screens of multiple choice and open-ended questions about what respondents like best and have concerns about the Delta region; economic wellbeing and identifying social services; experience in nature, including frequent activities and what would make respondents spend more time visiting Delta waterways or natural areas; and the respondents' opinion about the project, including concerns about its effects as well as inquiring about potential benefits.

- Screen 5: Demographics
  This screen included multiple choice questions about ethnicity, language, zip code, income, and how the respondent learned about the Delta Conveyance project. This information was used during the survey outreach effort to target outreach and to analyze the survey afterwards.

Survey Highlights

Following are global highlights from the survey.

1. People who live in the Delta region recreate, fish, and travel to visit friends, restaurants, and other towns by boat. Day-to-day life happens on the water, and the Delta's waterways are central to the region's identity.
   Many Delta-region DAC participants indicated that they routinely gather and recreate on the water as well as travel via the water. In fact, of the outdoor activity sites participants added to the Special Places map, most were places where they participated in water activities. In addition, when participants placed gathering spots and businesses on the map, one of the most common types was restaurants located at marinas.

2. Fishing in the Delta is a way of life. For 90% of the fishing locations respondents identified, they indicated that they eat fish from the Delta four or more times per week.
   After outdoor activity sites, the second most frequently chosen sites were locations where participants fish. At 90% of the fishing locations identified by Delta-region DAC respondents, the respondent indicated that they or their family eat fish from the Delta four or more times per week. For almost half (47%) of the fishing spots identified, the respondent indicating fishing throughout the year. In comments there was a strong desire for "fishing to continue," and many spoke about how fishing is "a way of life."

3. Throughout the survey, participants consistently expressed interest in the natural environment; clean air and drinking water; maintenance of flows and water quality in the Delta waterways; and healthy habitat for fish, migrating birds; and other wildlife.
   Survey responses also mentioned water quality concerns related to diversion of Delta water flows, harmful algal blooms or invasive species, trash, and pollution. Participants felt these issues impacted the continued health of the Delta, and the local community, economy, agriculture and recreation.

4. There is a strong desire to preserve the Delta and the communities that make up the Delta.
   There is concern that construction impact would alter the way of life in the Delta, as well as present risks to important places in the Delta, including historic sites such as Locke, historic homes, fishing sites, businesses, and other places. The town of Locke was by far the most identified historic site in the "Special Places" mapping section. Many respondents drew a connection between preserving regional agriculture – including multi-generational farms – and preserving the history of the Delta and its community.

5. The majority of Delta-region DAC respondents visit the Delta's waterways and natural areas at least monthly. More than half spend their time hiking, walking, or running or participating in water activities, such as boating, fishing, and swimming.
   More than 60% of Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents visit the Delta's waterways and natural areas at least once per month. More than half of Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents participate in hiking, walking or running (59%) or water activities (53%) most frequently.[1] The region's SDAC participants similarly chose indicated participating in hiking, walking in running most frequently (58%). For this subset of respondents, there was a much larger gap between this most frequent activity and other activities. For SDAC participants, only 40% indicated participating in water activities most frequently, and in fact, 42% indicated that their most frequent activity is just hanging out (picnicking, sunbathing, etc.). In response to a question about what would make them want to spend more time outdoors, 68% of Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents selected "better

[1] Note that respondents could select their first and second most frequent activity, so responses total to more than 100%.

parks, trails, or other recreational amenities." Participant comments focused strongly on wanting clean, safe, accessible outdoor recreation, particularly around walking and biking trails, parks, and fishing spots.

6. Two thirds of Delta-region DAC respondents indicated that additional community services are needed in the Delta. Services to support the homeless (e.g., affordable housing and other basic services) and the food insecure (e.g., food banks) were the most frequently cited.
   In addition to services for related to food and homeless residents, other services frequently identified included youth programming, health and medical services, affordable and quality housing, mental health and substance abuse programs, and senior services, and accompanying facilities to support these services.

7. There was a strong "no tunnel" sentiment expressed by Delta-region DAC respondents in several comment sections of the survey. Simultaneously, 95% of Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) selected "I don't know enough to have a strong opinion at this time" in response to the question, "what is your opinion about the proposed project?"
   The "no tunnel" sentiment against the Delta Conveyance Project was a theme throughout comments and was related to concerns about the Delta Conveyance Project benefiting only places outside of the Delta, and potential impacts to the natural environment, community and economy of the Delta. Concerns about the tunnel were extensive throughout the survey. However, of the Delta-region DAC and SDAC group who answered the question, "what is your opinion of the proposed project," 95% responded, "I don't know enough to have a strong opinion at this time."

8. Almost three-quarters of Delta-region DAC respondents said "no benefits" in response to the question "What potential benefits [of the Delta Conveyance Project] could you see for your community?"
   Nearly 70% of Delta-region DAC and SDAC commenters stated that no benefits are possible for the Delta region from the project. Others suggested that there would be 'short term' jobs, or reflected a hope that that the project could support cleaner water, air and restoration. At the time of the survey, the DWR Community Benefits program was not in existence.[2]

9. The survey drew in new participation.
   In response to a survey question that asked, "Have you ever participated in a public process related to a Delta tunnel proposal?," more than 60% of both Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents responded "no." This indicated that there was significant increased participation from those who had never participated in the Delta Conveyance Project planning process before.

10. Outreach by individual community leaders generated more survey participation than any other outreach approach.
    We did extensive, traditional outreach as well as what face to face outreach we could in a time of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, local leaders were the most important means for inviting participation from disadvantaged communities in the Delta. (Read more in Appendix A). From that experience and others, it was clear that working with embedded community leaders and organizations was an effective avenue for outreach in the community.

[2] As of 2021, DWR is developing a Community Benefits Program (https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-Program) for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project which will ultimately identify and implement commitments, if the Delta Conveyance Project is approved, to help protect and enhance the cultural, recreational, natural resource and agricultural values of the Delta. More information can be found about the Delta Community Benefits Program at https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-Program.

The survey input was rich and varied, with strong themes around the preservation of the Delta, its water ways, and way of life; about the Delta community and how it uses and depends on the Delta; and concerns about the impact of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project on the Delta.

This report provides an overview of survey participation, including key definitions, as well as a summary of the responses and comments for each section for DACs, SDACs and all respondents. It also includes two appendices: Appendix A outlines survey outreach and marketing methods, including lessons learned and samples of outreach collateral; Appendix B details analytical assumptions of the survey and report.

CHAPTER 1. SURVEY PARTICIPATION & REPORTING APPROACH

Chapter Highlights

- Two-thirds of survey respondents provided sufficient demographic information to make a determination as to whether they lived or worked in the region and could be considered a member of a disadvantaged community (DAC).
- Of the 2117 survey participants, 979 were categorized as living or working (or both) in the Delta region. Of those, 540 were categorized as DAC respondents, and 166 of them were further subcategorized as severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) respondents.
- Two-thirds (66%) of DAC respondents from the Delta region identify as an ethnicity other than white, and 53% of Delta-region SDAC respondents identify as other than white.
- Nearly one-fifth (19%) of Delta-region DAC respondents and 23% of those subcategorized as SDAC respondents report a primary language other than English.
- This survey was the first time participating in a public process related to a Delta tunnel-related proposal for at least that at least 557 respondents, 230 of which were Delta-region DAC respondents. The highest increases in participation came from respondents who identify themselves as an ethnicity other than white or primarily speak a language other than English.

1.1 Introduction

The Fall 2020 *Your Delta, Your Voice* Environmental Justice Survey aimed to gather the perspectives of members of low income, minority, indigenous, historically burdened, and otherwise underrepresented or disadvantaged communities (including limited English speakers) who live or work in the Delta. For simplicity, we routinely refer to these communities as disadvantaged communities (DACs) throughout this report.

Though we targeted our outreach to communities of color, low-income communities, limited English speakers, and other underrepresented communities in the Delta region, we did not restrict survey participation. Consequently, we heard from people across the socio-economic spectrum and from areas throughout out the state.

In this report, we summarize all the input we received. We also put a special emphasis on the voices of DAC respondents who live or work in the Delta. Survey participants were offered the opportunity to provide demographic information – related to ethnicity, income, where they live and work, and more. For those who provided sufficient information, we used it to make decisions about who should be categorized as DAC members who live or work in the Delta.

This chapter summarizes (1) how we decided if a survey participant should be considered a DAC member, (2) how we decided whether they live or work in the region, (3) and who participated in the survey in terms of:

- Delta-region DAC status
- Ethnicity, income, and language
- Prior participation in Delta Conveyance Project or other Delta tunnel-related planning processes.

1.2 What Do We Mean by Disadvantaged Community?

There are many ways to define underserved, disadvantaged, and historically burdened communities. We looked to the laws, regulations, and other guidance to make decisions about whether a survey respondent should be defined as a DAC member.

In California, there are two mapping tools – one created by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and another by the state Environmental Protection Agency – that generate maps of DACs. These tools define DACs very differently. DWR's *Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool*[3], which was created to support implementation of several state regulations, defines DACs as communities with a median ***household income*** that is less than 80% of the statewide median.[4] It further defines a subcategory of DACs – severely disadvantaged communities (SDACs) – as communities with a median household income that is less than 60% of the statewide median.[5]

The other mapping tool, *CalEnviroScreen 3.0*,[6] was developed to identify DACs as required by SB 535 California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The model identifies DACs using a wide range of ***environmental, health, and socioeconomic factors***, such as poverty and unemployment rates, linguistic isolation, housing cost burdens, exposure to polluted conditions and toxic release sites, asthma and cardiovascular disease rates, and more.

Another regulation that shapes how the Delta Conveyance Project considers disadvantaged communities is the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). NEPA contains environmental justice requirements related to public engagement and evaluation of potential project impacts that may disproportionately affect ***minority, low-income, and indigenous populations***.[7]

Consistent with the state mapping tools and NEPA, we categorized survey participants as DAC members based on their ***household income, ethnicity, and residential location***. Two-thirds of survey respondents provided this information.

1.2.1 DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (DAC) RESPONDENTS

Survey respondents who provided sufficient information were classified as members of DACs if they met ***any*** of the following criteria:

- Identified their ethnicity as other than white
- Indicated a household income of less than $60,000 (approximately 80% of the statewide median household income)
- Live in a zip code that substantially overlaps a DAC-designated area in either CalEnviroScreen or DWR's Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool ***and*** their income is less than $75,000. (Appendix B provides details on the rationale for capping the income.)

[3] Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool: https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/

[4] "'Disadvantaged community' means a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income." (Water Code § 79505.9). Accessed May 6, 2021: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=79505.5&lawCode=WAT

[5] "'Severely disadvantaged community' means a community with a median household income of less than 60 percent of the statewide median household income." (Water Code § 13476). Accessed May 9, 2021: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WAT&sectionNum=13476.&highlight=true&keyword=severely%20disadvantaged

[6] CalEnviroScreen 3.0: https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30

[7] *Technical Guidance for Assessing Environmental Justice in Regulatory Analysis*. US EPA (2016). Accessed March 2, 2021: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/ejtg_5_6_16_v5.1.pdf. Also, Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994: *Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*. Federal Register, vol. 59, no. 32 (February 16,1994). Accessed March 2, 2021: https://www.archives.gov/files/federal-register/executive-orders/pdf/12898.pdf

1.2.2 SEVERELY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (SDAC) RESPONDENTS

DAC survey respondents who provided sufficient information were further categorized as members of severely disadvantaged communities (SDACs) if they met ***either*** of the following criteria:

- Indicated a household income of less than $45,000 (approximately 60% of the statewide median household income)
- Live in a zip code that substantially overlaps an SDAC-designated area in DWR's Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool ***and*** their household income is less than $60,000. (Appendix B provides details on the rationale for capping the income.)

Disadvantaged Community Members	Severely Disadvantaged Community Members
Non-white ***or*** Household income is less than $60,000 ***or*** Live in a CalEnviroScreen or DWR DAC zip code ***and*** household income is less than $75,000	Household income is less than $45,000 ***or*** Live in a DWR SDAC zip code ***and*** household income is less than $60,000

Though survey participants were encouraged to provide demographic information to support an understanding of the distinct perspectives of disadvantaged community members, one-third of respondents did not provide sufficient information for us to determine whether they fell into a DAC or SDAC category. Because some of these participants would certainly meet this survey's definition for disadvantaged community members, we consistently report survey findings for all participants – as well as for DAC and SDAC participants – throughout this report.

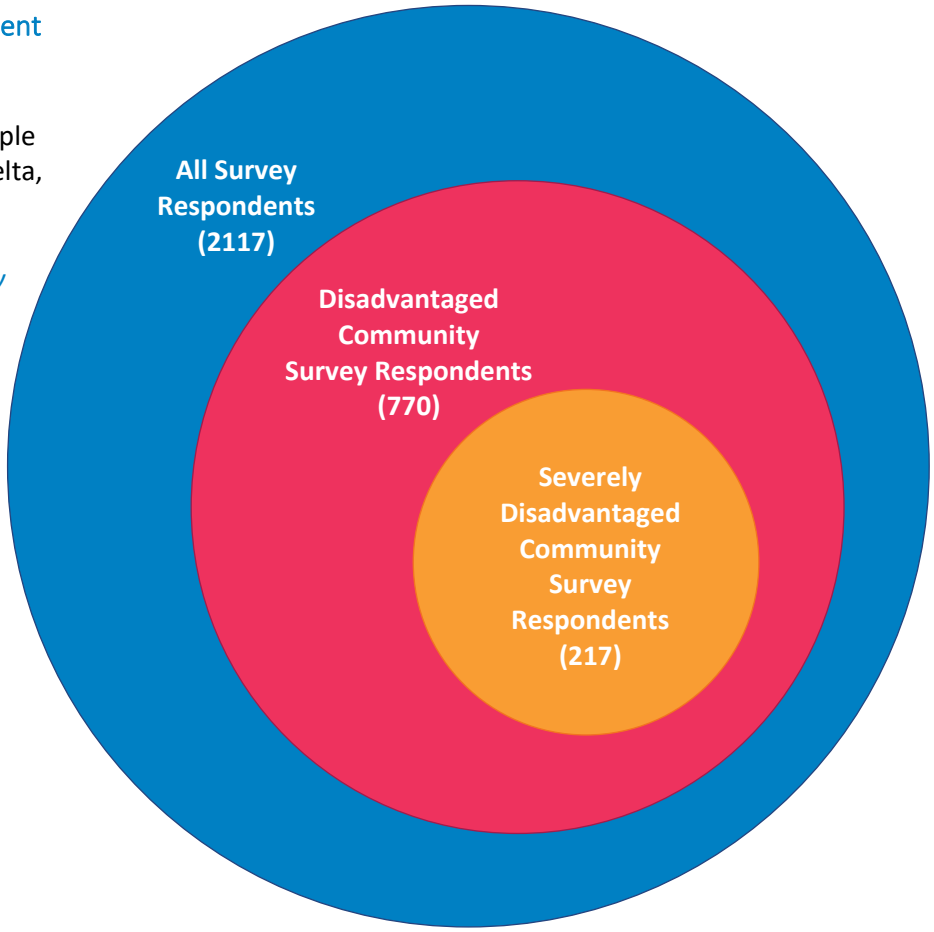
Of the 2117 survey participants, 770 were categorized as DAC participants. Of those, 217 were further subcategorized as SDAC participants. Figure A illustrates the nested relationship between survey participant categories and subcategories.

Figure A. Survey Respondent Categories: DAC & SDAC

All Respondents: 2117 people participated in the Your Delta, Your Voice survey.

Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Respondents: Of all respondents, 770 have been categorized as DAC members.

Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) Respondents: 217 of the DAC respondents have been further categorized as SDAC members.



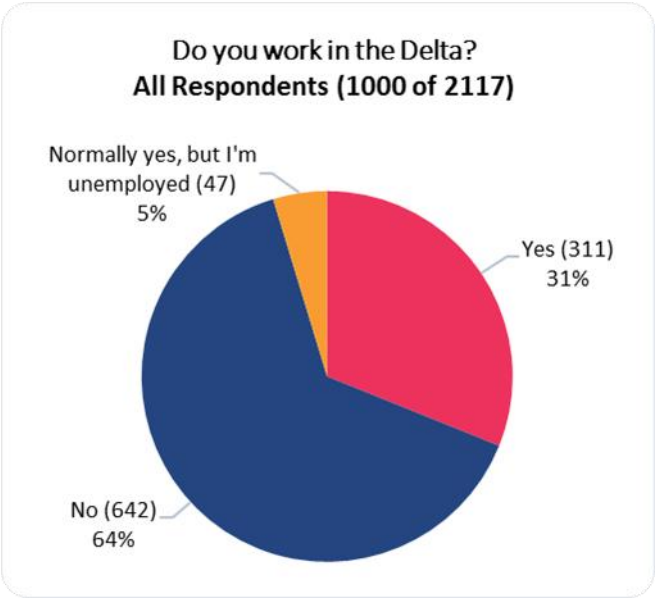
1.3 How Have We Determined Who Lives or Works in the Delta Region?

The survey explicitly set out to gather the perspectives of those who live or work in the Delta region. We used the residential zip codes participants provided and their answers to the question "Do you work in the Delta region?" to determine whether a survey participant lives or works in the Delta region.

Almost half of survey respondents responded to the question about whether they work in the Delta region. Of those, 36% (358 respondents) indicated that they either work in the Delta region or normally work in the region, but are currently unemployed.

Survey participants were also asked for their residential zip code, and 61% of respondents provided a zip code. A zip code was classified as a Delta region zip code if it overlapped:

- The Statutory Delta (Primary and/or Secondary Zones)
- A 5-mile buffer around the Statutory Delta (See Appendix B for rationale and further details.)



Using this approach, we categorized 66% of those who provided zip codes (859 respondents) as living in the Delta region.

In total, 979 respondents were categorized as living or working (or both) in the Delta region. Figure B illustrates the relationship between those who live or work in the region.

Figure B. Survey Respondents Who Live or Work in the Delta Region

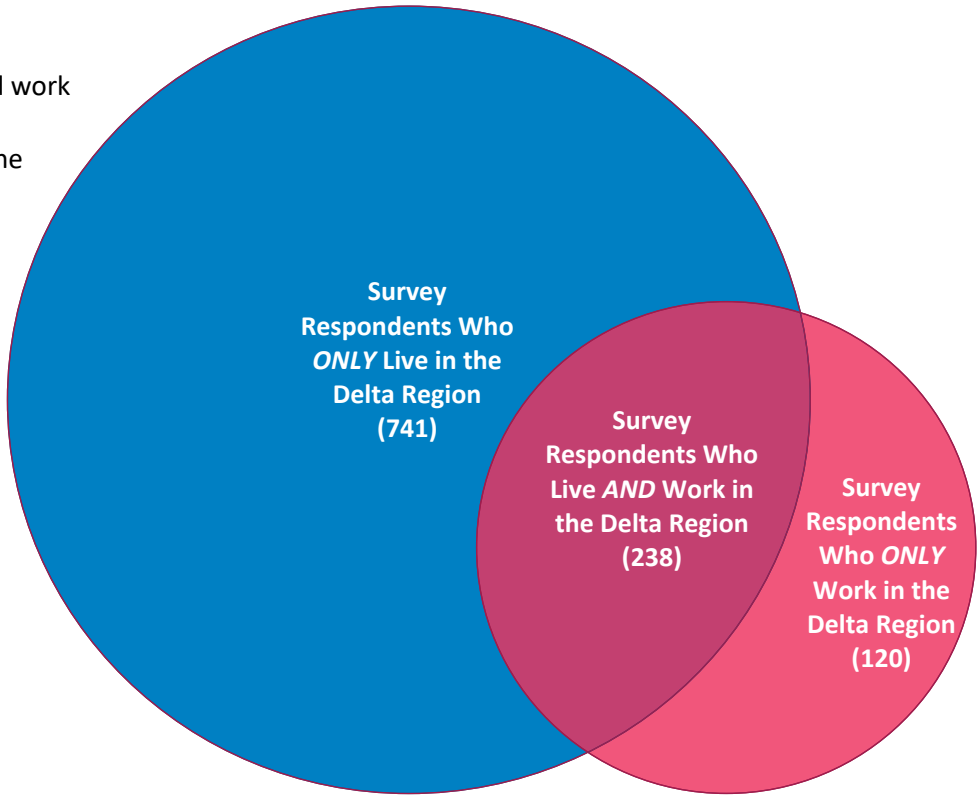
979 Respondents Live or Work in the Delta Region:

Of these,

- 238 ***both*** live and work in the region
- 741 ***only*** live in the region
- 120 ***only*** work in the region

In total, of the 2117 survey respondents,

- 859 indicate living in the region
- 358 indicate working in the region



1.4 Combining Categories: DAC & SDAC Participants Who Live or Work in the Delta Region

In our final analysis, we identify which participants are ***both*** a DAC or SDAC participant ***AND*** live or work in the Delta region. We call these two groups:

- Delta-region DAC Respondents
- Delta-region SDAC Respondents

Throughout this report, you will find charts, tables, and written summaries that report input we received from all of the following three groups.

1. All Survey Participants (2117)
2. Delta Region DAC Participants (540)
3. Delta Region SDAC Participants (166)

Figure C illustrates the relationships between these three sets of participants.

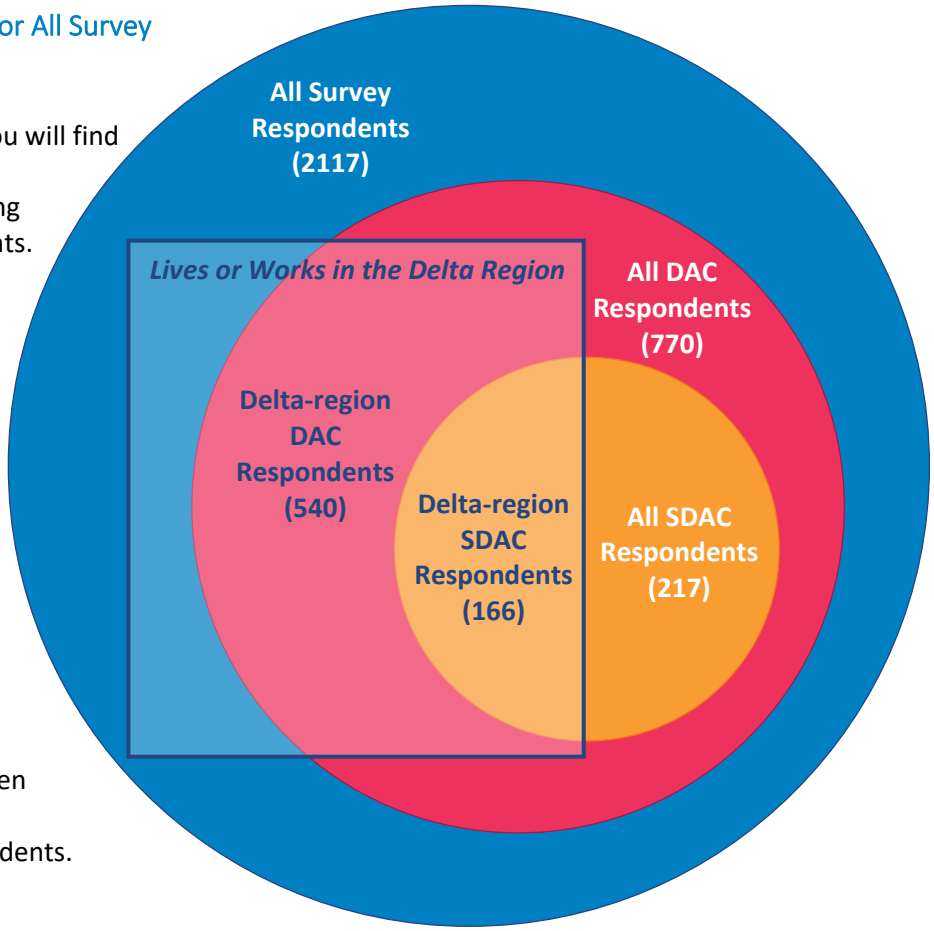
Figure C. Reporting Sets for All Survey Findings

Throughout this survey, you will find charts, tables, and written summaries for the following 3 sets of survey respondents.

All Respondents: 2117 people participated in the Your Delta, Your Voice survey.

Delta-region DAC Respondents: 540 survey participants have been categorized as Delta-region DAC Respondents.

Delta-region SDAC Respondents: 166 have been further subcategorized as Delta-region SDAC Respondents.



1.5 Participation Characteristics: Who We Heard From

The survey generated diverse participation, including new participation by disadvantaged community members who have never previously participated in a public planning process related to the Delta Conveyance Project or other Delta tunnel-related proposals.

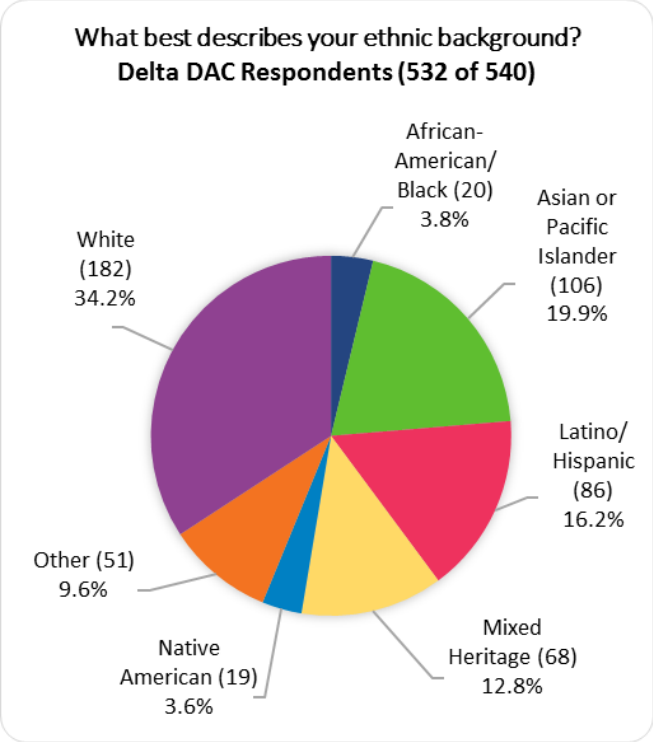
The following summarizes respondent characteristics for All Participants, Delta-region DAC Participants, and Delta-region SDAC Participants based on the information they provided about their:

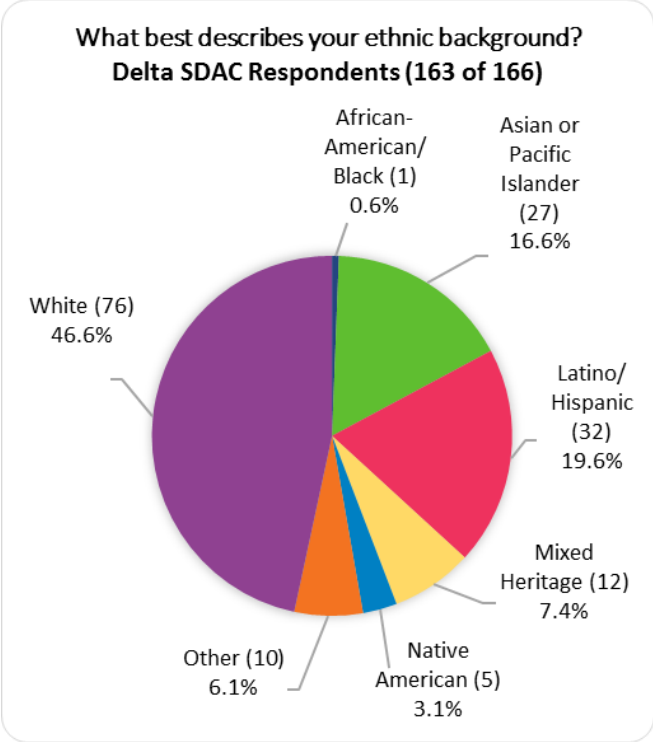
- Ethnicity
- Annual household Income
- Primary Spoken Language
- Previous Delta "Tunnel" Public Process Participation Experience

1.5.1 ETHNICITY

Of the 540 Delta-region DAC participants, 532 provided ethnicity information. Of these, 163 responses came from those categorized as SDAC respondents. The following charts compare the ethnic composition for both

groups. Two-thirds (66%) of Delta-region DAC respondents identify as an ethnicity other than white, and 53% of Delta-region SDAC respondents identify as an ethnicity other than white.

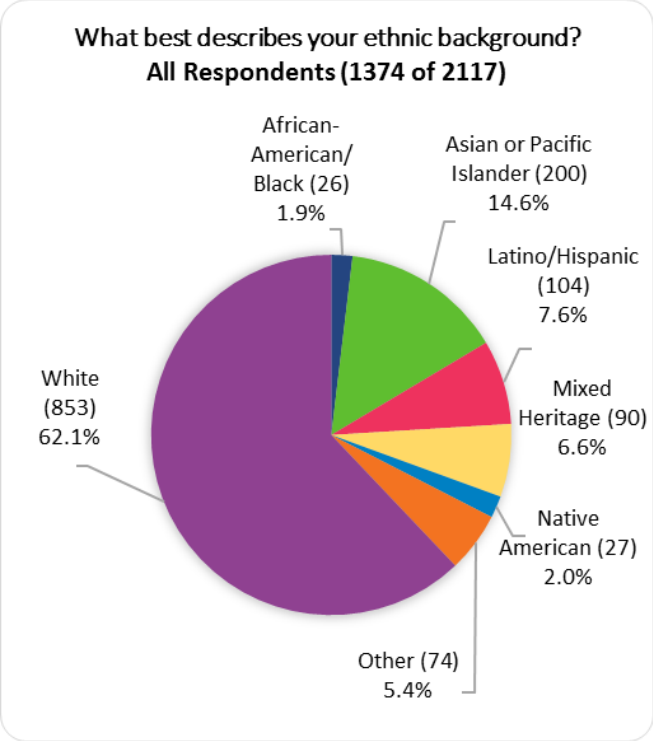




Delta DAC Ethnicity	Number of Participants	Percent
African-American/ Black	20	3.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	106	19.9%
Latino/Hispanic	86	16.2%
Mixed Heritage	68	12.8%
Native American	19	3.6%
Other	51	9.6%
White	182	34.2%
Total who Provided Ethnicity	**532**	
No Ethnicity Info	8	
Total Delta DAC	**540**	

Delta SDAC Ethnicity	Number of Participants	Percent
African-American/ Black	1	0.6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	27	16.6%
Latino/Hispanic	32	19.6%
Mixed Heritage	12	7.4%
Native American	5	3.1%
Other	10	6.1%
White	76	46.6%
Total who Provided Ethnicity	**163**	
No Ethnicity Info	3	
Total Delta SDAC	**166**	

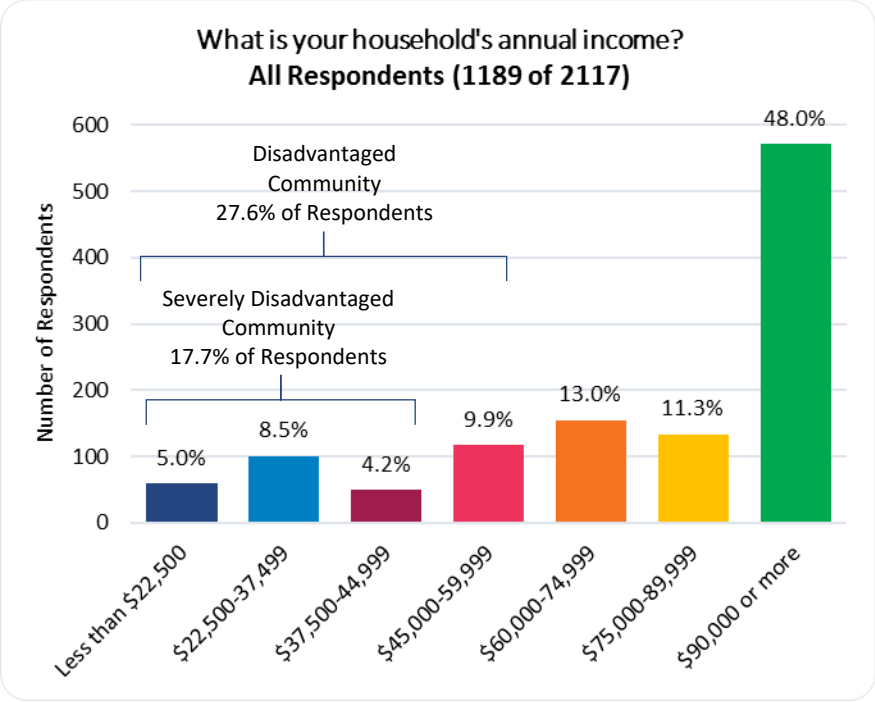
Of the full set of survey respondents, 65% (1374) provided ethnicity information. Almost two-thirds (62%) of all respondents identify as white, and 38% identify as an ethnicity other than white.



All Respondents Ethnicity	Number of Participants	Percent
African-American/ Black	26	1.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	200	14.6%
Latino/Hispanic	104	7.6%
Mixed Heritage	90	6.6%
Native American	27	2.0%
Other	74	5.4%
White	853	62.1%
Total who Provided Ethnicity	**1374**	
No Ethnicity Info	743	
Total	**2117**	

1.5.2 HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Household income information was provided by 56% of survey respondents. As shown in the following chart, of participants who provided income information, 28% of all respondents are considered DAC members, while 18% of all respondents are considered SDAC members based on income alone. (Note: Due to the complex relationship between income and DAC status, we are presenting information for all respondents prior to that of Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents.)



All Respondents Household Income	DAC Status by Income Alone	Number of Participants	Percent
Less than $22,500	DAC & SDAC	60	5.0%
$22,500-37,499	DAC & SDAC	101	8.5%
$37,500-44,999	DAC & SDAC	50	4.2%
$45,000-59,999	DAC	118	9.9%
$60,000-74,999		155	13.0%
$75,000-89,000		134	11.3%
$90,000 or more		571	48.0%
Total who Provided Income		**1189**	
No Income Info		928	
Total		**2117**	

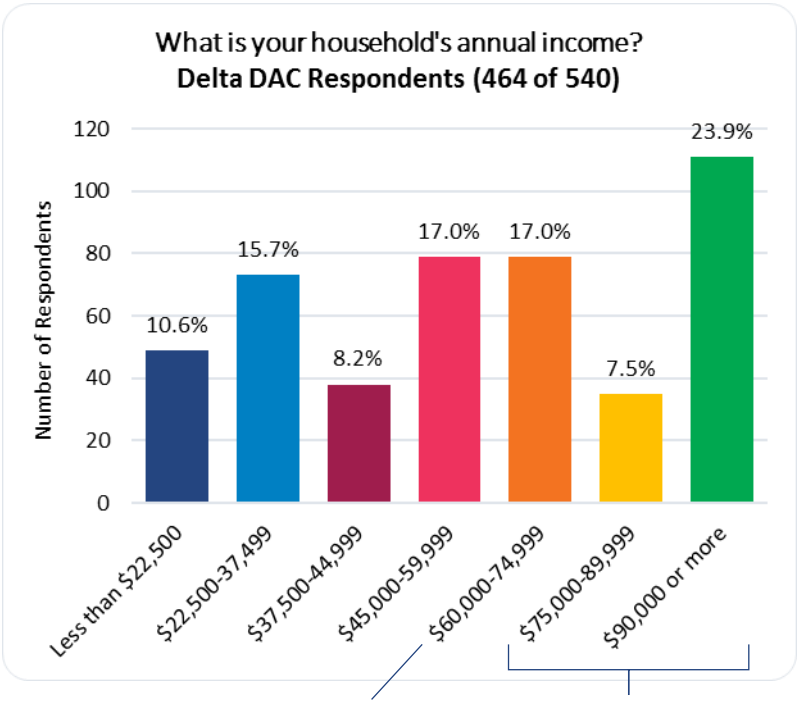
SDAC 17.7% of those who provided income

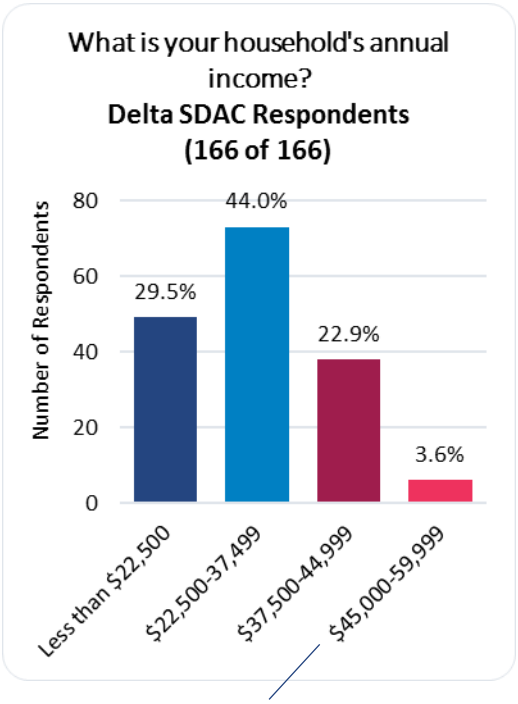
DAC 27.6% of those who provided income

* Thresholds for DAC & SDAC designation based on income:

- DAC = Household income less than 80% of statewide median (approximately $60,000)
- SDAC = Household income less than 60% of statewide median (approximately $45,000)

Because ethnicity and zip codes were also criteria used to determine DAC-status, not all respondents categorized as DAC or SDAC members have low household incomes. Of the Delta-region DAC participants who responded to this question, 52% have household earnings of less than $60,000. The remaining 48% are categorized as DAC respondents based on either their ethnicity (identifying as something other than white) and/or their residential location (living in a CalEnviroScreen or DWR DAC-designated area), though an income cap was applied to the latter (reference sections 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 above for details).





Those earning $60K - 75K lives in a DWR DAC zip code.

Those earning $75K or more Identify as other than white.

DAC respondents with household incomes of $60,000 or more are designated as DAC for a reason other than income.

Those earning $45K - 60K live in a DWR SDAC zip code. (They are not designated as SDAC based on income alone.)

Delta DAC Household Income	Number of Participants	Percent
Less than $22,500*	49	10.6%
$22,500-37,499	73	15.7%
$37,500-44,999	38	8.2%
$45,000-59,999	79	17.0%
$60,000-74,999	79	17.0%
$75,000-89,000	35	7.5%
$90,000 or more	111	23.9%
Total who Provided Income	**464**	
No Income Info	76	
Total	**540**	

* Household income categories highlighted in pink are less than 80% of the statewide median, making these participants DAC members (and in some cases, SDAC members) based on income alone.

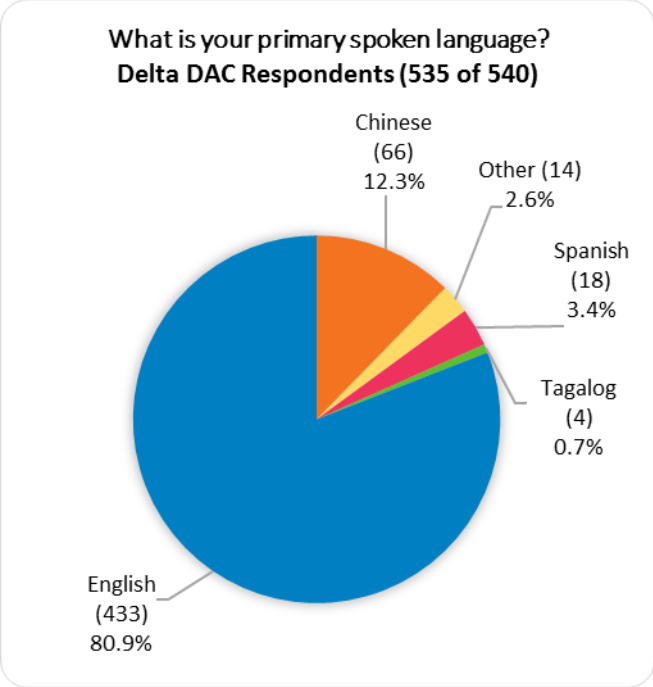
Delta SDAC Household Income	Number of Participants	Percent
Less than $22,500*	49	29.5%
$22,500-37,499	73	44.0%
$37,500-44,999	38	22.9%
$45,000-59,999	6	3.6%
$60,000-74,999	0	0%
$75,000-89,000	0	0%
$90,000 or more	0	0%
Total who Provided Income	**166**	
No Income Info	0	
Total	**166**	

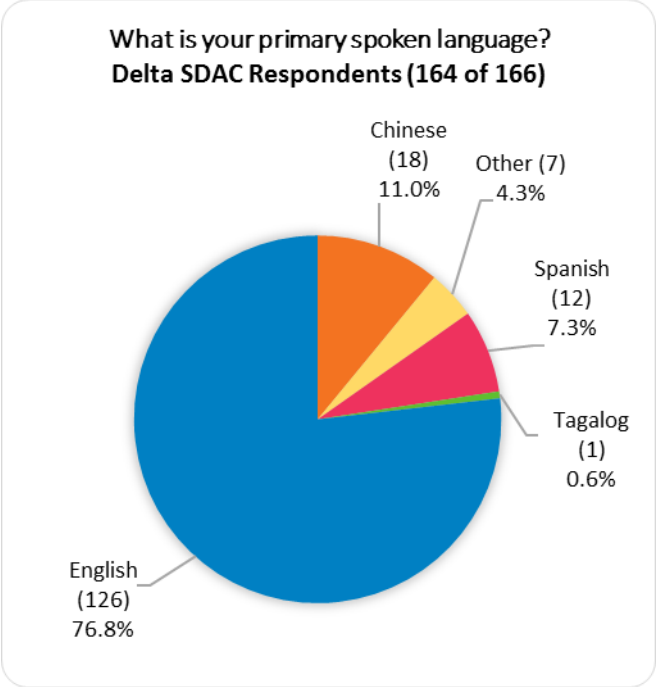
* Household income categories highlighted in orange are less than 60% of the statewide median, making these participants SDAC members based on income alone.

Almost all (96%) of Delta-region SDAC respondents earn less than $45,000 per year, the maximum income for SDAC designation. The remaining 4% are categorized as SDAC respondents because their residential zip codes are located in a DWR-designated SDAC area.

1.5.3 PRIMARY SPOKEN LANGUAGE

Of Delta-region DAC participants, 535 (including 164 SDAC participants) provided information about their primary spoken language. The following charts compare the primary spoken language of Delta-region DAC and SDAC participants.

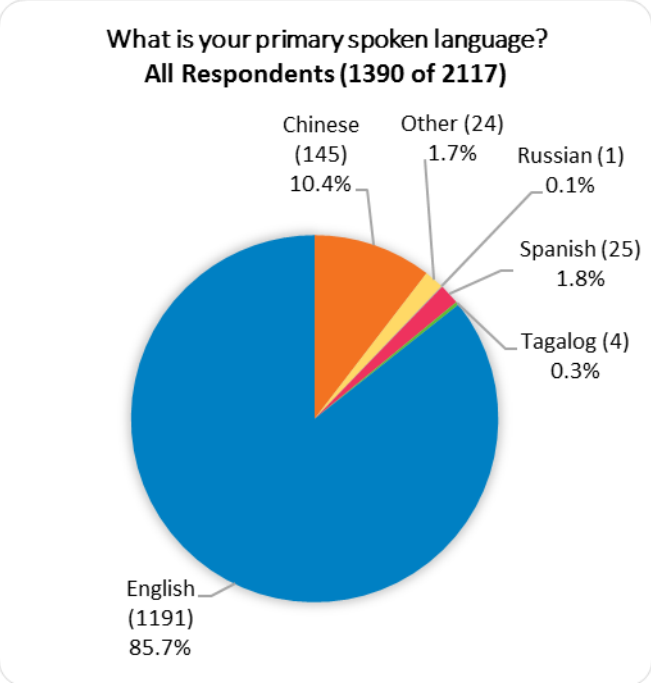




Delta DAC Spoken Language	Number of Participants	Percent
English	433	80.9%
Chinese	66	12.3%
Spanish	18	3.4%
Tagalog	4	0.7%
Russian	0	0%
Vietnamese	0	0%
Hmong	0	0%
Other	14	2.6%
Total who Provided Language	**535**	
No Language Info	5	
Total	**540**	

Delta SDAC Spoken Language	Number of Participants	Percent
English	126	76.8%
Chinese	18	11.0%
Spanish	12	7.3%
Tagalog	1	0.6%
Russian	0	0%
Vietnamese	0	0%
Hmong	0	0%
Other	7	4.3%
Total who Provided Language	**164**	
No Language Info	6	
Total	**166**	

Of the full set of survey respondents, 66% (1390) provided information about their primary spoken language. (Note: The language options provided on the survey reflect the seven most commonly spoken languages in the Delta region.[8]) Even though our criteria for DAC and SDAC designation did not include language, the portion of Delta region survey participants whose primary language is other than English increases from 14% for all participants to 19% for Delta-region DAC participants and 23% for Delta-region SDAC participants.

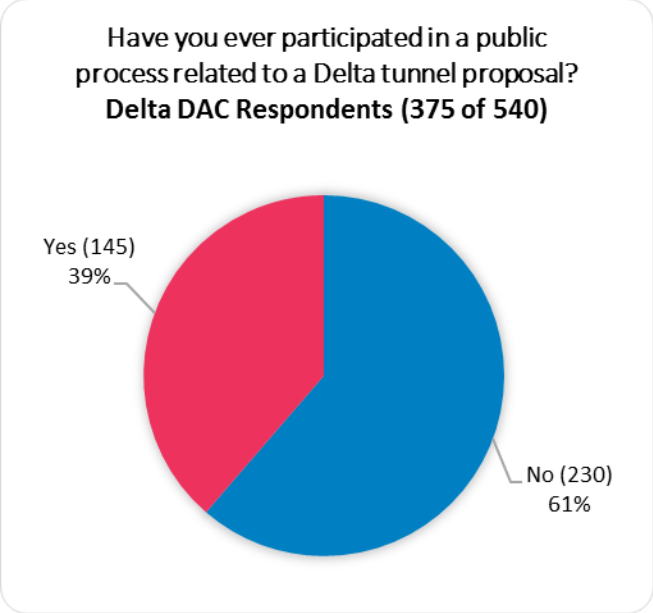


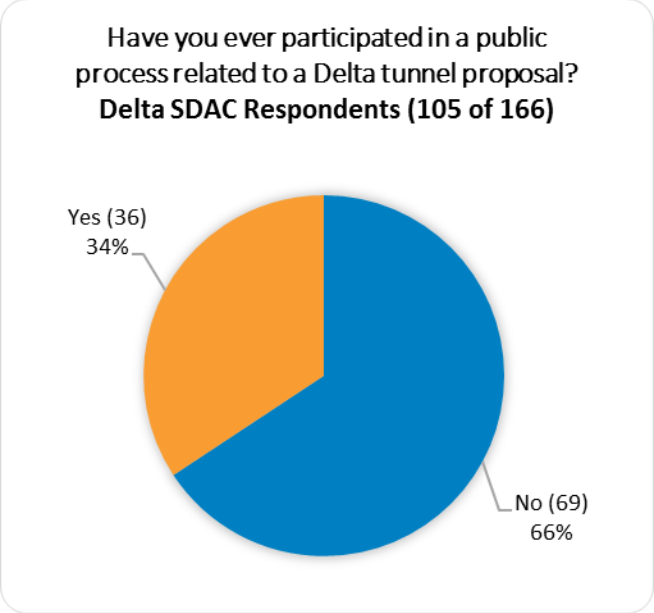
All Respondents Spoken Language	Number of Participants	Percent
English	1191	85.7%
Chinese	145	10.4%
Spanish	25	1.8%
Tagalog	4	0.3%
Russian	1	0.1%
Vietnamese	0	0%
Hmong	0	0%
Other	24	1.7%
Total who Provided Language	**1390**	
No Language Info	727	
Total	**2117**	

[8] American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2009-2013)

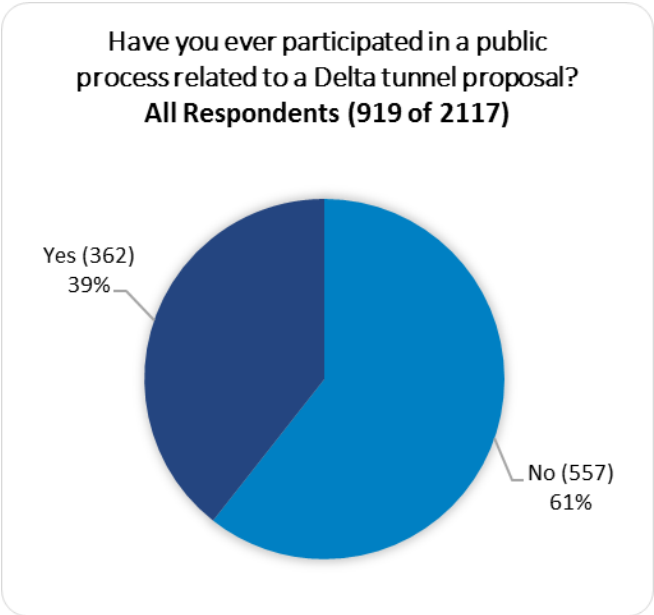
1.5.4 INCREASED PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC PROCESS

An important goal of this survey was to engage members of disadvantaged communities who are historically underrepresented in the Delta Conveyance Project and other public planning processes. The survey posed the question, "Have you ever participated in a public process related to a Delta tunnel proposal?"





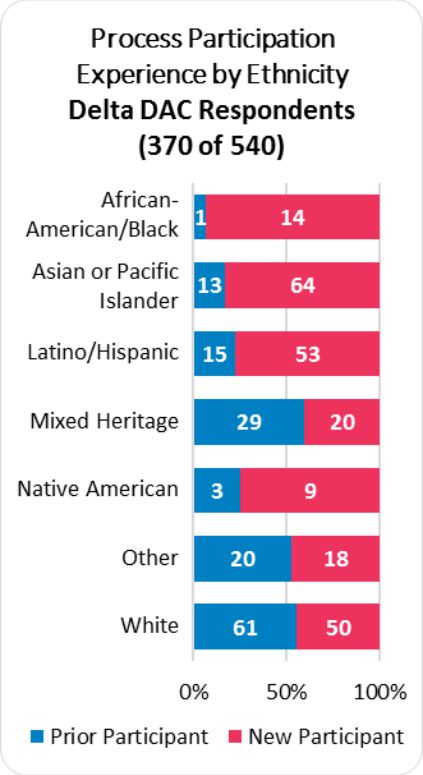
While only about two-thirds of Delta-region DAC participants responded to this question, 61% indicated that they have never previously participated in a Delta tunnel-related planning process. Of those categorized as SDAC respondents, 66% were new to Delta-tunnel related public participation. In raw numbers, this means that at least 230 Delta-region DAC respondents (69 of them being further categorized as SDAC respondents) are new participants in Delta tunnel-related public planning processes.

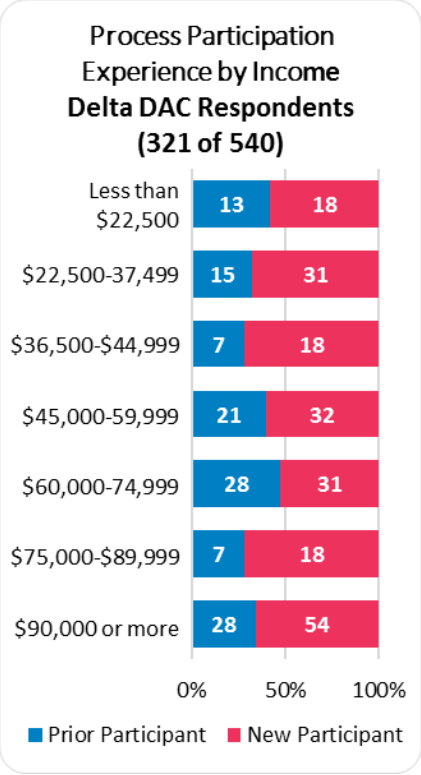


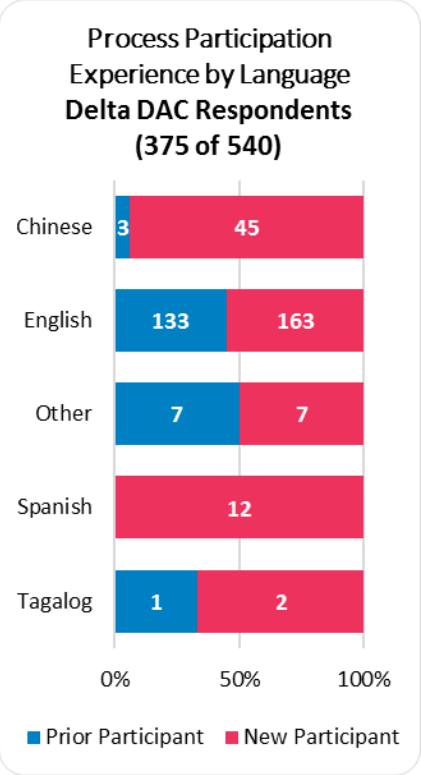
Among all survey participants, at least 557 (61% of those who responded to this question) are new Delta tunnel-related public process participants.

The following three charts summarize the demographic characteristics of Delta-region DAC Respondents who provided information about their prior process participation experience.

- By ethnicity, the greatest proportional increases in participation were from those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander (64 new participants compared to 13 prior participants), Latino/Hispanic (53 new/15 prior), African-American/Black (14 new/1 prior), and Native American (9 new/3 prior).
- By household income, more than half of those in every income category are new participants.
- Across all spoken language groups, half or more have never previously participated in a Delta tunnel-related public process. Nearly all who primarily speak Chinese (45 out of 48) were new participants, and all those who primarily speak Spanish (12) are also new participants.


Process Participation Experience by Ethnicity
Delta DAC Respondents (370 of 540)
African-American/Black
1
14
Asian or Pacific Islander
13
64
Latino/Hispanic
15
53
Mixed Heritage
29
20
Native American
3
9
Other
20
18
White
61
50
0%
50%
100%
Prior Participant
New Participant


Process Participation Experience by Income
Delta DAC Respondents (321 of 540)
Less than $22,500
13
18
$22,500-37,499
15
31
$36,500-$44,999
7
18
$45,000-59,999
21
32
$60,000-74,999
28
31
$75,000-$89,999
7
18
$90,000 or more
28
54
0%
50%
100%
Prior Participant
New Participant


Process Participation Experience by Language
Delta DAC Respondents (375 of 540)
Chinese
3
45
English
133
163
Other
7
7
Spanish
12
Tagalog
1
2
0%
50%
100%
Prior Participant
New Participant

CHAPTER 2. PARTICIPANT PRIORITIES FOR THE DELTA REGION

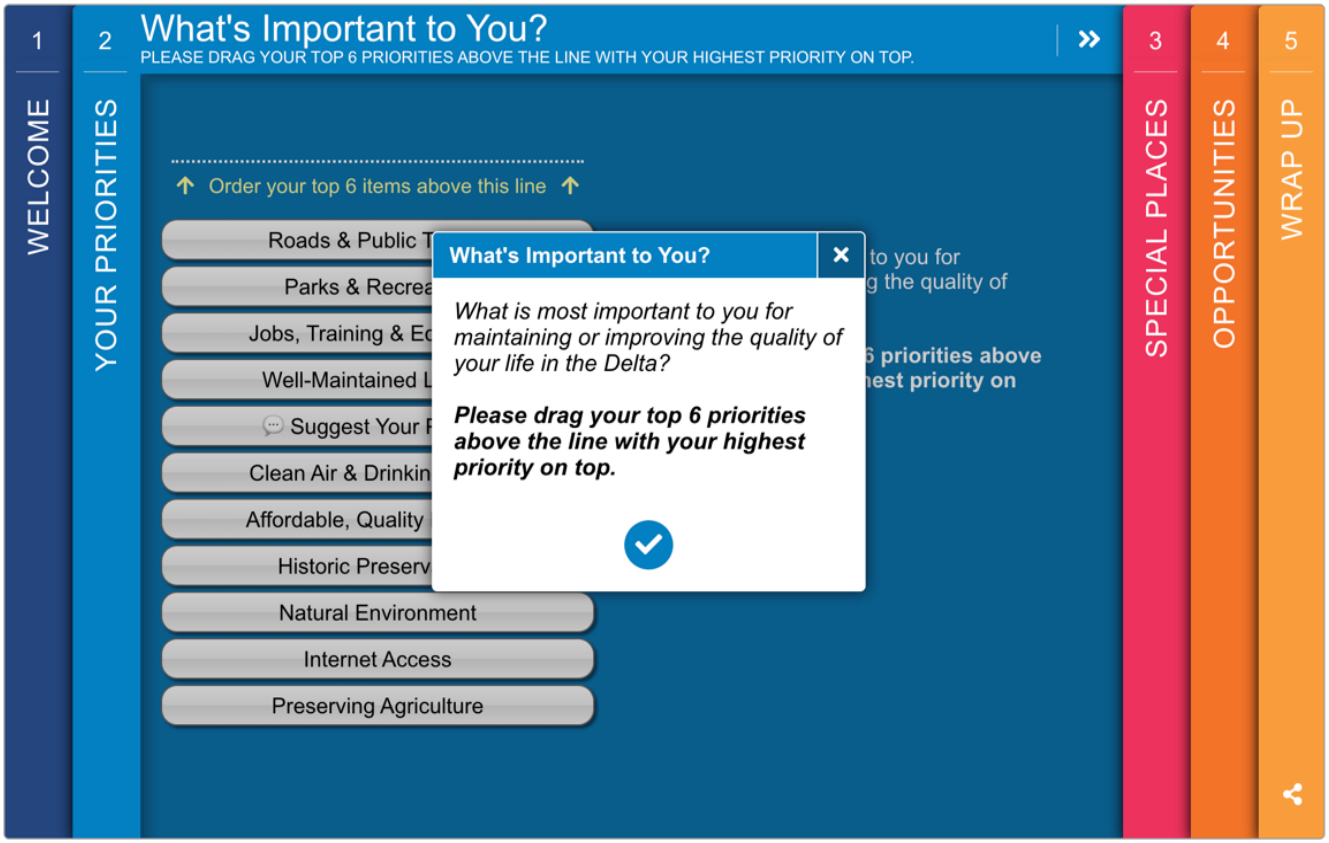
Chapter Highlights

In the ranked priorities described below, the top priority for Delta-region DAC and SDAC participants was **clean air and drinking wate**r, with the **natural environment** as a second priority. **Levee maintenance** and **agricultural preservation** were ranked third and fourth, respectively, and when including all survey participants, those remained the top priorities, although the order shifted.

Participants offered additional comments related to clean air and drinking water, levee maintenance, homelessness and encampments on the levees that negatively impact water quality, fishing, the ability to safely swim in clean water, and traffic and road maintenance. They are also very concerned that the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and its construction could generate traffic, noise, and air pollution and that water diversion could impact the quality of the water used by farmers, residents, and to support the region's water-based recreational activities and culture.

2.1 Introduction

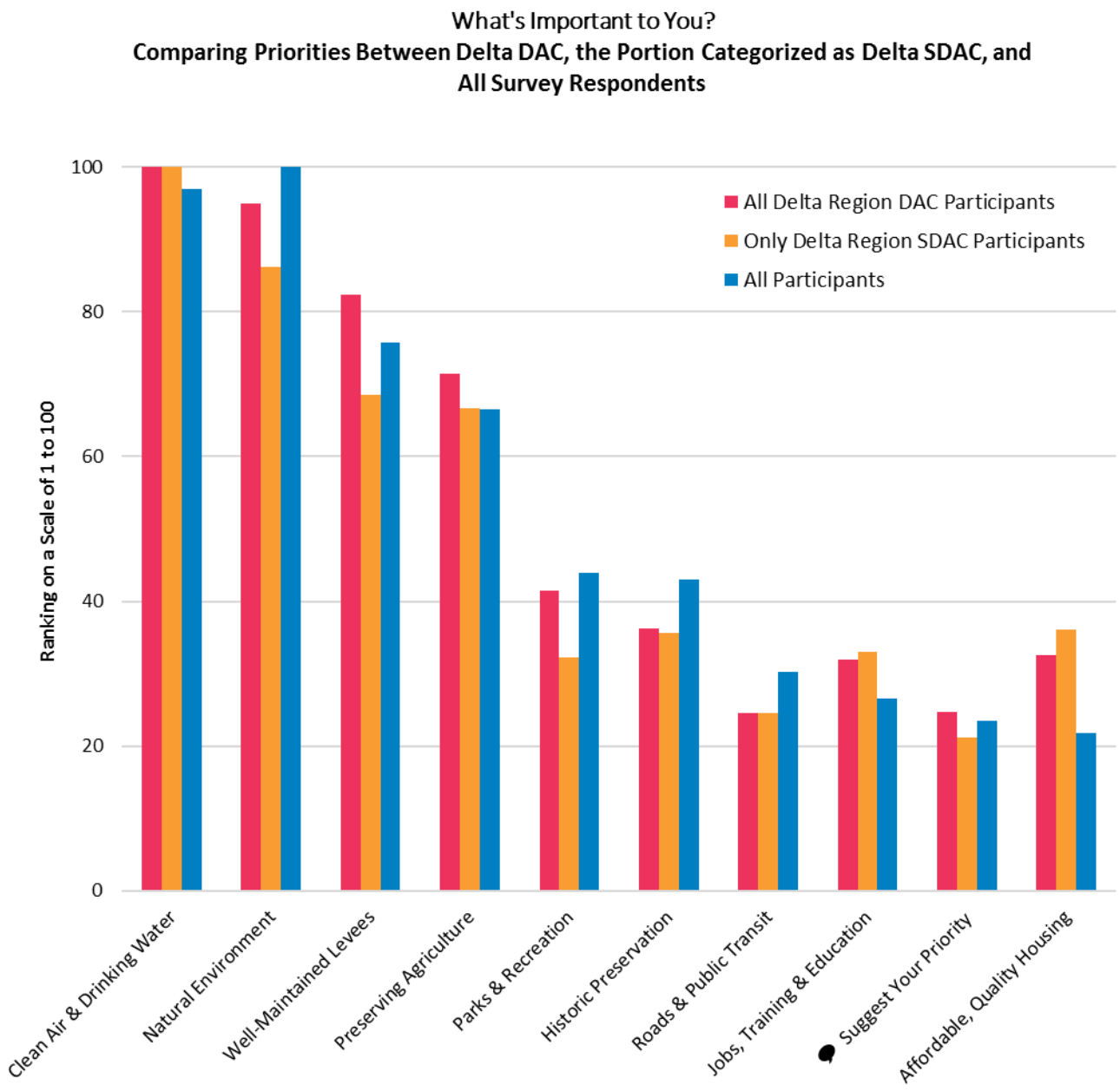
In the first section of the survey, participants were asked "What is most important to you for maintaining or improving the quality of your life in the Delta?" They were provided the opportunity to rank their top six priorities from a menu of ten priorities,[9] to suggest their own additional priority, and to provide comments.



[9] The ranking exercise presented the list of priority options to survey participants in random order to prevent biasing survey results.

2.2 Priority Ranking Results

Results from the priority ranking question represent weighting of priorities to account for both the number of times a priority was ranked and how high the priority was ranked on a scale of 1 to 6, 1 being the participant's highest priority. Weighting was accomplished by multiplying the average ranking by the number of times a priority was ranked. Results were normalized on a scale between 0 to 100.



The **natural environment**, **clean air and water**, **well-maintained levees**, and **agricultural preservation** ranked the highest. Some variation can be seen among participant groups. For example, the top priority for Delta-region disadvantaged community (DAC) and severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) participants was **clean air and drinking water**, with the **natural environment** coming in as a second priority. When looking at the answers of all respondents, the reverse is true, with **natural environment** ranked as the top priority.

Though ranked less frequently and/or with lower scores, it is notable that Delta-region SDAC participants who respectively **affordable housing** and **jobs, training, and education** higher than Delta-region DAC participants, who also ranked them higher than all survey participants.

2.3 Participant Comments on their Priorities

502 participants (24% of all survey respondents) provided comments. Of these, 132 were from Delta-region DAC respondents, including 41 SDAC respondents.[10]Participants commented on the priorities listed among the ranking options as well as on new priorities they generated through their comments. Top themes among both types of comments are summarized below.

More people provided comments related to the **natural environment** priority than any other. For all respondents, a **"no tunnel"** theme generated the second most comments. However, for Delta region-DAC respondents, **preserving the Delta and its community** was the theme that received the second most comments after natural environment.

All major themes are summarized below.[11]

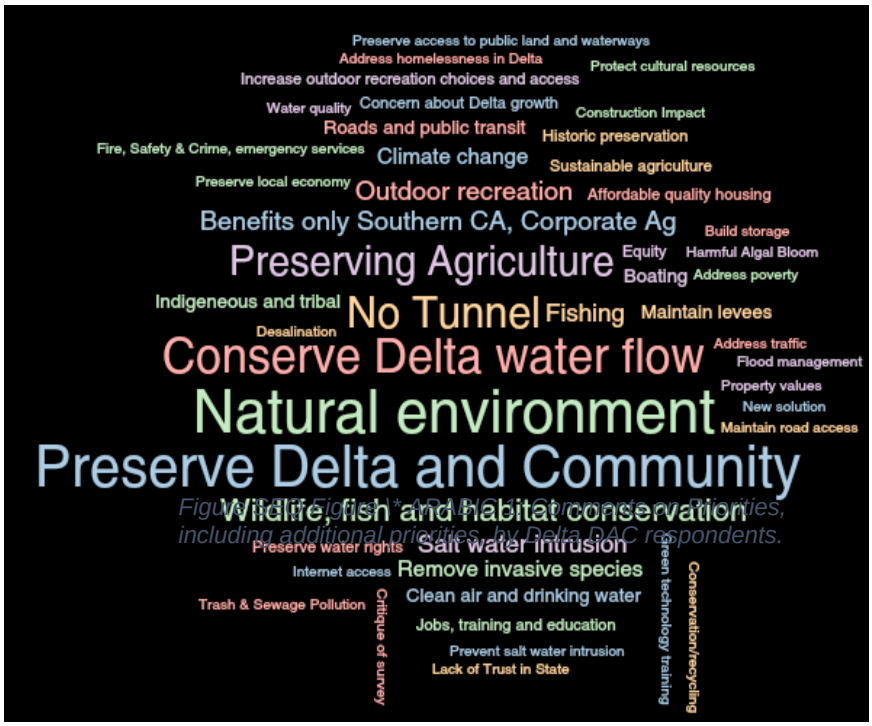


*Figure [TBD: Figure 4 * ARABIC]: Comments on Priorities, including additional priorities, by Delta DAC respondents.*

2.3.1 DELTA-REGION DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents provided the most comments for the following priorities, in order of frequency: the natural environment, preserving the Delta and its communities, parks & recreation clean air & drinking water that also tied with "no tunnel" (participant generated priority), and preserving agriculture. Preserving the Delta and its communities and "no tunnel" are themes that emerged from the comments that were distinct from the options provided in the ranking list.

Comment themes about priorities from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents

[10] It is important to note that many comments related to more than one theme, and were coded for each theme in order to comprehensively capture their input.

[11] Comments were submitted via mobile phones, tablets, and computers. Many contained spelling and other errors. For readability, misspellings and minor typos were corrected. For all other errors, we used "[sic]" so as not to risk misinterpreting the commenter's intent.

Priority: Natural Environment – 63 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 16 SDAC)

It was clear that Delta-region DAC respondents value the **natural environment,** mentioning it in 48% of their comments. In comments focused on protecting the natural environment, respondents spoke of **protecting Delta water flow**, **access to clean water**, **protecting wildlife, salmon and other fish habitat** alongside **environmental restoration and conservation**, **invasive species**, and concern over **the diversion of Delta water.** They also commented that protecting Delta water flows would decrease **salinity** concerns and **harmful algal blooms**, as well as conserve wildlife and habitat. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Protecting the Natural Environment of the Delta. Its healthiness affects the entire region."
- "We need to protect our environment"
- "Clean Air and drinking water to be conserved and reserved including the underground water tables and existing reservoirs."
- "With the salinity of the delta waterways already increasing, diverting more fresh water would be a bad idea."
- "Wildlife habitat; management of invasive species; prevention of entrance of new invasives."
- "less diversions from the delta. Exporting water out of the delta is increasing the salinity and making harmful algae blooms worse."
- "Preserve the fresh water quality in the delta and keep fish thriving. Prevent destruction of the delta by intruding brackish water & reduced water flow."

Added Priority: Preserve Delta and its Community – 21 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 7 SDAC)

Delta-region DAC Respondents stated in 16% of comments that the **region's beauty and ambience**, the **communities and families of the Delta**, its **history and culture**, **small town feel** and its **agricultural foundation** were important and essential. Respondents worried that the tunnel would change the quality of life as well as potential physical concerns such as **traffic**, **noise**, and **air and water quality**. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "To maintain the integrity, and unique beauty of the Delta. This project will do a lot of damage to the roads, the daily life of those living in the Delta agriculture, Livelihood of those dependent on agricultural richness of the Delta. It will greatly impact recreation and commerce in the still very much alive communities along the Delta."
- "maintain quality of life in the Delta"
- "Where me and family have grown up"
- "Our culture and the culture that feeds the community"
- "Preserve the Delta as it is. Do not take away additional land to create water storage."
- "Ambiance of Delta Life"

Priority: Parks & Recreation –19 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 7 SDAC)

Comments about outdoor recreation made up 14% of Delta-region DAC comments, and ranged from **waterways** to **parks**, to **modernizing local recreation**, to **fishing and fisheries**. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Accessibility to state parks and recreational sites without being charged $15+."
- "Outdoor education opportunities focusing on the Delta region for families and youth."
- "Modern recreation activities and centers for youth, adults, and elders."
- "Improved fishery in the Delta"
- "One of the top Bass fisheries in the world will be ruined if the tunnels are built."
- "Boating and Fishing"

Priority: Clean Air & Drinking Water –14 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 2 SDAC)

Delta-region DAC comments related to **Clean Air and Drinking Water** were in about 11% of comments, and extensively referenced clean water, and focused primarily on water for the environment. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Clean water for Northern California"
- "Clean natural river."
- "Clean, fresh water in the Delta. Protect the fish and wildlife for fishing and hunting."
- "Clean Air and drinking water to be conserved and reserved including the underground water tables and existing reservoirs. The very idea that such an absolute necessity as 'Clean Air & Drinking Water' being among the list of items to consider "what ranking does anyone give this item" - is a ridiculous question. In other words ...if it isn't an absolute non-negotiable number 1 priority ...then any debate on other "priorities" would be meaningless. Or would just mean, revert the state to a desert."
- "Maintaining more than 50% of Sacramento river fresh water flow going all the way to the Bay to protect the river and Bay environments."

Added Priority: No Tunnel – 14 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 4 SDAC)

Statements about "**no tunnel**" were mentioned in 11% of Delta-region DAC comments, mentioning **Delta water flow**, concerns about **saltwater intrusion**, and about **moving water** from the Delta to support farming or cities in Southern California. Respondents also noted that the tunnel would damage Delta roads, levees, water flow, Delta farms, and communities. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "No new tunnels. Less water taken from the delta."
- "I do not want to see more of northern California water going south. I feel that more should be done to recapture water, and conserve water, especially in southern California where they don't conserve and they water golf courses in the dessert [sic]."
- "16 years of pile driving, thousands of large trucks traveling our roads, tons of sludge deposited on productive farmland, the total disruption of life for residents and visitors to the delta for fishing and other recreation will cease. The billions of dollars to build this ill-conceived project is unjustifiable. It is a very bad idea and will likely destroy the delta and most likely the livelihoods of the farmers and ranchers who have settled, improved and lived here for generations."
- "With the salinity of the delta waterways already increasing, diverting more fresh water would be a bad idea. "
- "This project is not feasible at the current high capacity. It needs to be much smaller sized tunnel, so that it does not significantly affect the normal water flow through the delta, but it ensures that there is always a flow towards the bay."
- "You need to find another way then these tunnels. You are taking the path that is easiest. You know you are mainly taking our water for LA. You stated the rising Ocean levels so if you take our water the delta will be full of salt water."

Priority: Preserving Agriculture – 12 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 4 SDAC)

Delta-region DAC concerns about preserving agriculture were about 9% of comments, and pointed to **preserving farmland and farmers**, as well as the **water they need for farming**. In the comments below, concerns about water rights and the environment are expressed. There were also several comments reflecting a desire to move to **sustainable agriculture**. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Good agriculture land has become scarce, this project jeopardizes farmer water rights in the Northern CA delta."
- "Preserving agriculture includes preserving a natural environment. Our farmland is being destroyed and it needs to stop.
- "Environmentally responsible agriculture. Working with the environment instead of manipulating it."

- "Preserving Regenerative Agriculture is very important to me! ...currently our typical agricultural practices release so much CO2 into the atmosphere when the till the land and turn their soil to dirt (after years of pesticides and a lack of bio diversity)"

Other comments: Other comments related to ways to improve the Delta and concerns about preserving the Delta region's quality of life, environment, and history and culture. One commenter advocated for the use of green technologies, such as micro-hydropower systems and rooftop solar, as well as for developing training and employment opportunities in this sector.

2.3.2 NATIVE AMERICAN RESPONDENTS

Ten (10) Native American respondents provided a variety of comments, 7 of whom live or work in the Delta. The following summarizes the themes in their comments.

Priority: Natural Environment – 5 comments

Comments relate to water quality and flows, salmon, other wildlife, and the role of indigenous people in stewarding these resources.

- "To preserve the salinity levels of the delta. Any change will drastically alter ALL species. What if the seals start living up the delta full time? Gross."
- "More natural flow of run-off water to the ocean."
- "The preservation, protection and of salmon and other fishes in the rivers. Native American Rights!"
- "Restoring stewardship back into the hands of Indigenous peoples"

Added Priority: Indigenous Stewardship of Land, Culture, and the Environment – 4 comments

Comments relate to stewardship and restoration of ecosystems (two that cross over with the Natural Environment priority and are listed there) and cultural sites as well as the traditional and sacred connection between tribes and the landscape.

- "Ecocultural Restoration and Indigenous Stewardship. I would prioritize funding and facilitating Indigenous projects to restore the Delta for climate resilience, biodiversity, self-governance opportunities, traditional cultural continuity, access, and ownership. I would also seek to restore and rehabilitate traditional cultural landscapes and properties which have been desecrated by past actions."
- "Tribal Cultural Resources & Sacred Sites"

Added Priority: No Tunnel – 3 comments

- "No new tunnels. Less water taken from the delta."
- "Do not construct a new diversion in the delta, it will harm the environment and Tribal cultural resources. Native American Tribes don't want more water diverted out of our rivers"
- "no increase in flow of water to unsustainable agriculture and large city growth, based on paper water!"

2.3.3 ALL RESPONDENTS

The full group of respondents provided the most comments related to the following priorities, in order of frequency: 1) natural environment, 2) "no tunnel," 3) parks & recreation, 4) preserving the Delta and its communities, and 5) preserving agriculture.

Priority: Natural Environment – 145 comments

The most frequent comments (29% of all comments) relate to **wildlife** (specifically fish and birds), **habitat conservation**, maintaining **Delta water flows**, and reducing **saltwater intrusion**. Some comments include:

- "Reserve and preserve and conserve SOIL, FRESH WATER, the WATER TABLE, AIR, and ANIMALS, FISH, INSECTS, REPTILES and PLANTS in their respective native habitats."

- "The uniqueness of the area where you can fish salmon and find seals swimming."
- "Habitat and water for migratory waterfowl"
- "Great Grandfather watched green sturgeon against the white sand bottom of the lower Sacramento River. Population pressure and greed have fouled our own nest."
- "killing deltas ecosystem ... depleting our salmon, smelts, created algae issues"
- "Preserving fresh water flow to reduce, not increase, salinity in the delta which would be devastating. Repair levees instead of tunneling and reducing flows."
- "maintain an adequate supply of water in the channels of the Delta to support agriculture, recreation and the environment"
- "Preserving and protecting the natural waterways and sloughs of the delta. Keeping the water fresh without salt water intrusion. Keeping the flyway waterway for migrating birds. Keeping the fisheries. Keeping the water for Northern California rather than subsidizing the Southern California lifestyles. Water is being diverted now for agricultural necessities."
- "Defend against increasing salinity in Delta waters to prepare for climate caused rise sea water."

Added Priority: No Tunnel – 61 comments

"No tunnel" comments (12% of all comments) primarily focused on the harm further diversion would cause to local communities and how the project **only benefits Southern California** cities and farms, with some comments suggesting alternative solutions. Some comments include:

- "Sucking water out of this area to farm a desert down south would harm this area greatly. So many hard working families would be effected. Spend the money (that no one has) on other alternative solutions for So Cal to get water, like a desalination plant."
- "Most important to me would be to not have the tunnels at all. This is our home our lifestyle and our family you're destroying with these tunnels."
- "implementation of water conservation instead of a tunnel"
- "The large tunnels would be too easy to abuse… Mark Arax is an expert on the problem and suggested 10 fixes in the Dreamt Land (this is a must read for people making decisions). Smaller tunnels are an important part of the fix. Ironclad usage policies would be important. CA, there is limited water and we can't have unlimited farming/growth."
- "I do not think we should be shipping water to the desert, LA. They/we should recycle wastewater. It's abundant and exactly where we need it."
- "You do not want to ship the Delta water down to LA, all the chemicals that's in the water is harmful to human beings. What California needs to do is build three dams, the Auburn Dam where the hydroelectric plant next to it, Cosumnes River Damned hydraulic Electric Plant next to it, Dam in Mokelumne River put a hydroelectric plant next to it. One, we get clean water out of it, 12 million acre feet. 2, this will help our electrical grid tremendously here in the state of California."
- "Observance of the requirements of the Delta Reform Act, specifically reduced reliance on water from the Delta through statewide strategy of investing in improved regional supplies, conservation and water use efficiency. Water Code § 85021."
- "Most important to me would be to not have the tunnels at all. This is our home our lifestyle and our family your destroying with these tunnels."

Priority: Parks & Recreation – 43 comments

Comments referencing parks & recreation made up 9% of comments by all respondents and predominantly discussed **maintaining fishing** and additional **access to waterways**. Some comments include:

- "Public Access"
- "Boat access and dredging."
- "fish/wildlife"
- "Fishing and natural resources"
- "More natural open land without people."

- "This should include bike access, particularly along state- and county-maintained roads and levees"

Added Priority: Preserve Delta and its Community – 33 comments

Of all respondents, a focus on the region's **beauty and ambience**, and **way of life** were mentioned in 7% of comments.

- "The Delta region is a snapshot of California from the past, and it is disappearing quickly"
- "Our culture and the culture that feeds the community"
- "preserve the beauty of the delta."
- "maintain an adequate supply of water in the channels of the Delta to support agriculture, recreation and the environment"
- "It's important save the water for the delta current users"
- "Most important to me would be to not have the tunnels at all. This is our home our lifestyle and our family your destroying with these tunnels."
- "I want to preserve the beauty of the delta. The uniqueness of the area where you can fish salmon and find seals swimming. There are so many different birds that fish in and around the river. We do not need tunnels disturbing the natural life that in habits this area. We live here for all these reason to be closer to nature and the tunnels would ruin what this area has been for so generations. There is a harmony to this area where fresh water meets salt water."

Priority: Preserving Agriculture – 28 comments

Preserving agriculture was a theme in 6% of the comments from all respondents. Comments reflect agriculture's connection to the region's heritage, the dependence of farming on the maintenance of water flows and quality (salinity appears again), and the reliance of hard-working families and farmers on the protection of agriculture in the Delta.

- "Preserving agriculture includes preserving a natural environment."
- "Good agriculture land has become scarce, this project jeopardizes farmer water rights in the Northern CA delta."
- "Protect farmers in Delta"
- "Support & prioritize farms & agriculture along the Sacramento River, where water does not need elaborate water conveyance systems to travel hundreds of miles. Do not build tunnels."
- "As more water is removed more salt water will make its way up the Delta. Agriculture does not do well with salt water. To keep salt water coming up the Delta you must have the flow to keep it back "
- The Delta has been a natural cornucopia of agriculture for many generations. By diverting water away from the delta, it is allowing salt water to infiltrate our natural source of irrigation and threatens our livelihood growing crops on this land. This will be made worse as climate change raises sea levels and diminishes snowfall, so the solution should NOT be to export more water from the Delta.
- "The tunnels would take away fresh water we use to farm this land. This area is greatly made up of farmlands for many generations, we can grow just about anything here because of the clay rich soil which is in part to the water table. Sucking water out of this area to farm a desert down south would harm this area greatly. So many hard working families would be effected."

Participants offered additional comments related to clean air and drinking water, levee maintenance, homelessness and encampments on the levees that negatively impact water quality, fishing, the ability to safely swim in clean water, and traffic and road maintenance. They are also very concerned that the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and its construction could generate traffic, noise, and air pollution and that water diversion could impact the quality of the water used by farmers, residents, and to support the region's water-based recreational activities and culture.

CHAPTER 3. THE DELTA TODAY: BEST FEATURES & CONCERNS

Chapter Highlights

- Qualities that Delta-region DAC – including SDAC – respondents like best about the Delta region are its beautiful, rural landscape; the quality of the natural environment; a slower lifestyle & small-town feel; acess to outdoor activities; and the history and culture of the area.
- Top concerns of Delta-region DAC – including SDAC – respondents are drinking water quality, levee maintenance & flooding, and quality of the natural environment.
- Of the Delta-region DAC respondents, about 27% had comments on the natural environment, and 24% gave comments appreciating the Delta, with a desire to preserve it. These comments ranged from concern of potential diversion of Delta water flow and its potential impact to fish, wildlife, and their habitat, as well as a concern about saltwater intrusion. Comments connected habitat and water quality to their way of life, to the region's local economy and their livelihoods.

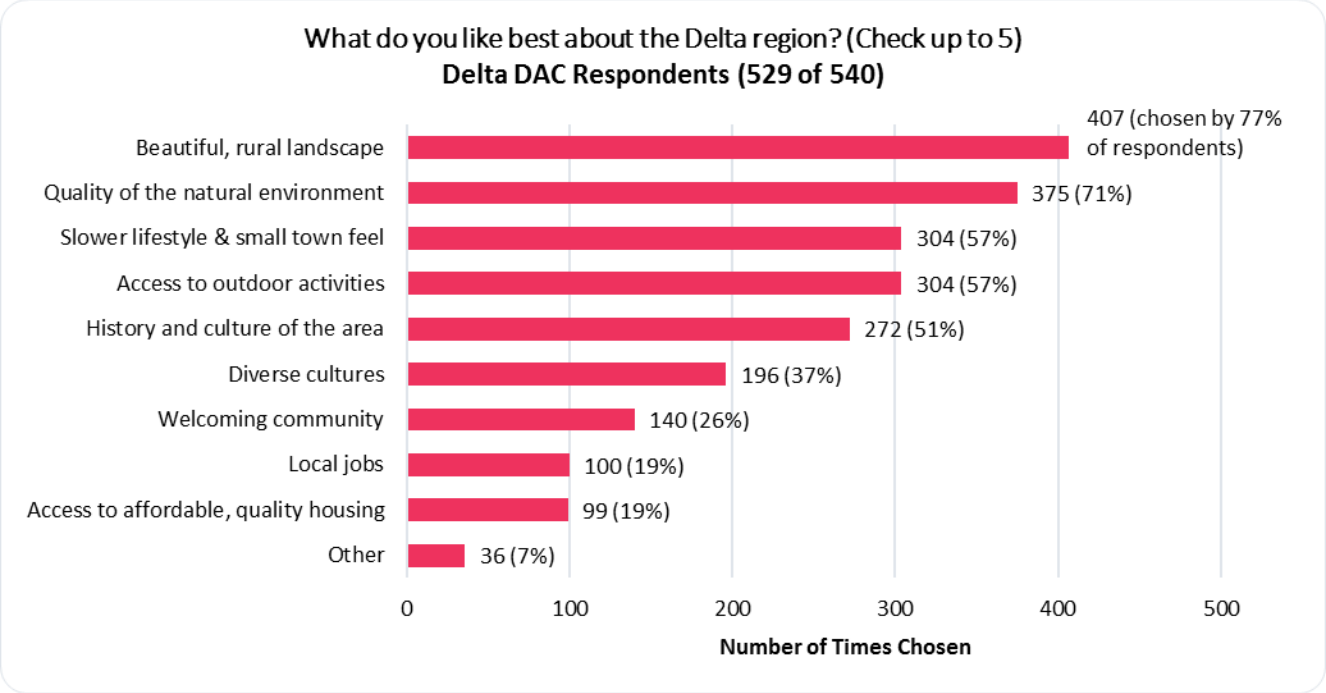
3.1 Introduction

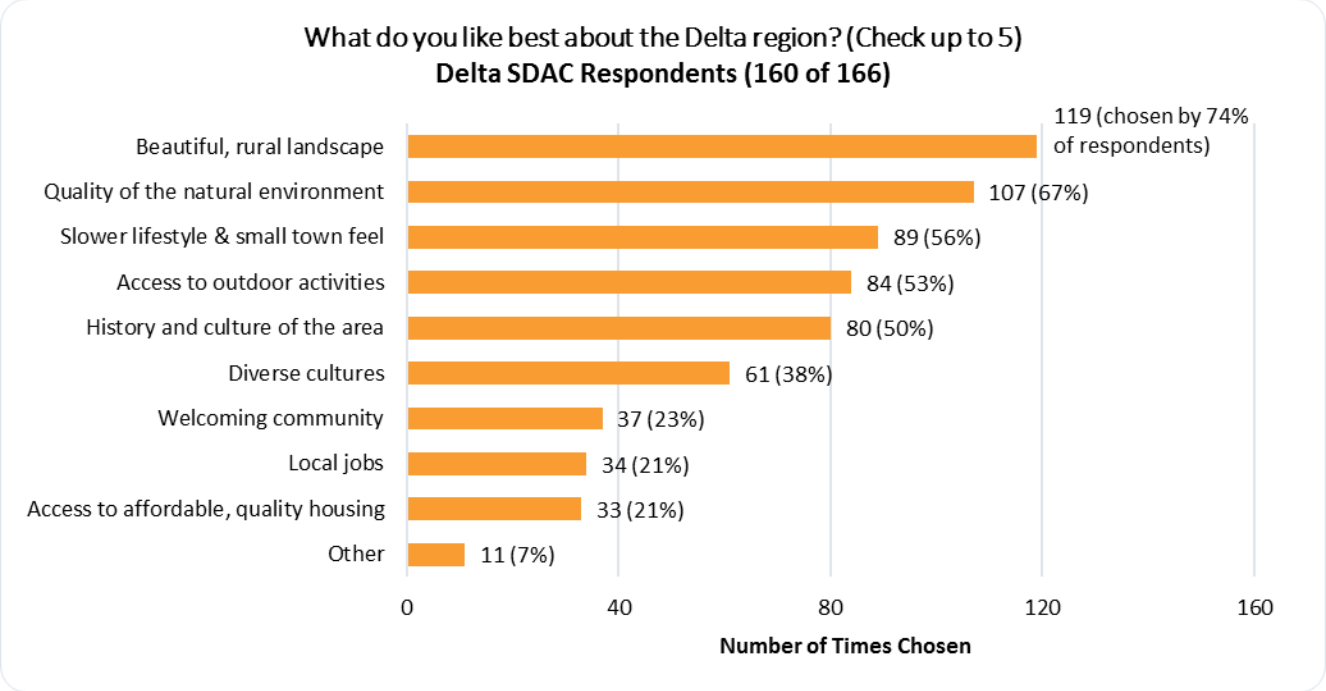
This section summarizes responses to the following questions which aimed to understand what respondents like best and the concerns they have about the Delta region as it exists today.

1. What do you like best about the Delta region? (Choose up to 5)
    - Local jobs
    - Welcoming community
    - Access to affordable, quality housing
    - Access to outdoor activities
    - Quality of the natural environment
    - Diverse cultures
    - Slower lifestyle & small-town feel
    - History and culture of the area
    - Beautiful, rural landscape
    - Other
2. What, if any, concerns do you have about living or working in the Delta? (Chose up to 5)
    - Local jobs
    - Non-welcoming community
    - Access to affordable, quality housing
    - Access to outdoor activities
    - Quality of the natural environment
    - Air quality
    - Drinking water quality
    - Access to internet
    - Levee maintenance & flooding
    - Quality of roads
    - Traffic
    - Public transit (buses, etc.)
    - Other
3. Would you like to say more? (open comment)

3.2 The Best of the Delta Region

In total, 1521 survey participants responded to the question, "What do you like best about the Delta region?," including 529 Delta-region DAC respondents (160 of whom were further categorized as SDAC respondents).



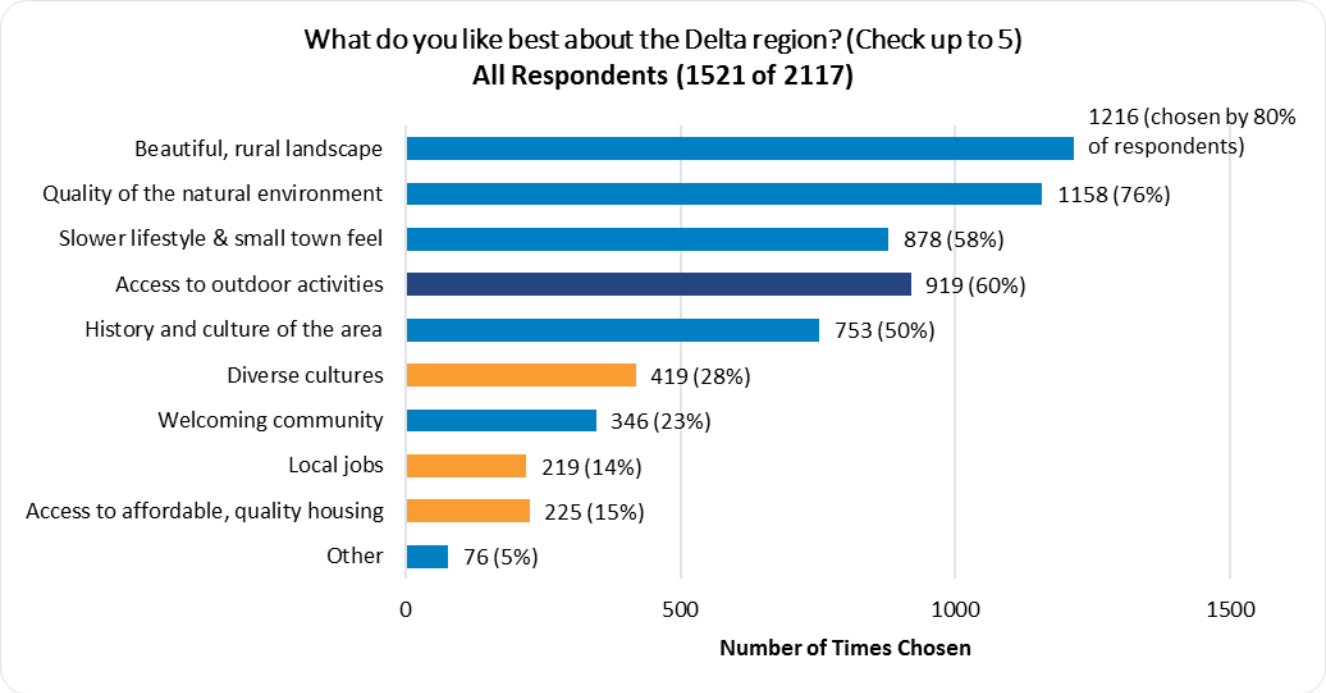


The top five qualities selected by all categories of respondents were identical, but in a slightly different order. All chose **beautiful, rural landscape** most frequently, followed by **quality of the natural environment**. Delta-region SDAC respondents chose **slower lifestyle & small-town feel** third and **access to outdoor activities** fourth most frequently. These same two qualities tied in third and fourth place for Delta-region DAC

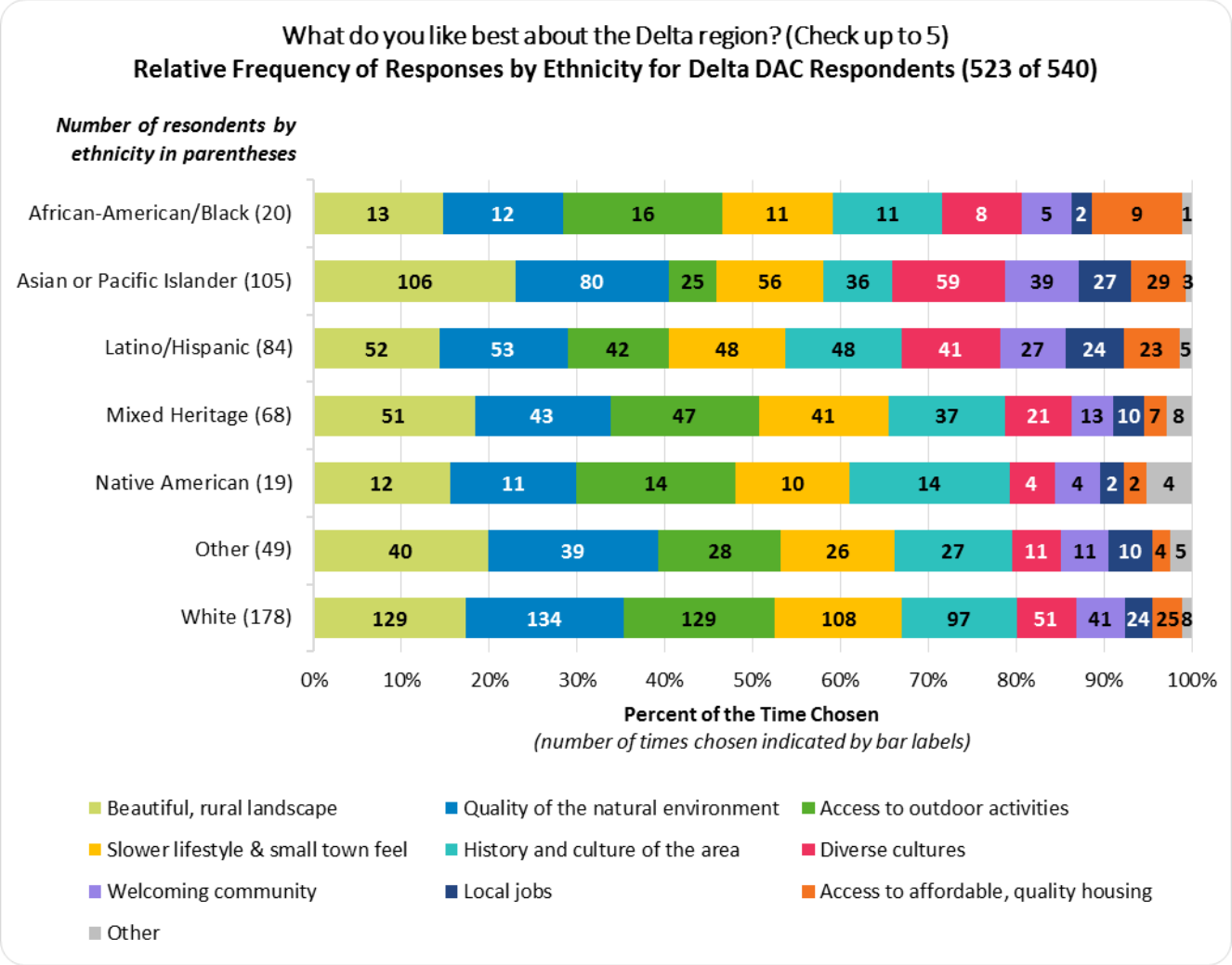
respondents and were reversed for all survey respondents. **History and culture of the area** was the fifth most frequently selected quality among all participant categories.

All respondents differed from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents in that they emphasized in their selections the top five qualities. In contrast, for Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents selected all qualities, including the bottom five qualities, at a higher rate. This suggests a relatively stronger appreciation for diverse cultures, welcoming community, local jobs, access to affordable housing, and 'other' for DAC participants from the region.

The differences highlighted by the gold bars below underscore this pattern. While 37% of Delta-region DAC (38% of SDAC) selected **diverse cultures** as one of their top qualities for the region, and 19% of Delta-region DAC (21% of SDAC) selected **local jobs** as well as **affordable, quality housing**, these options were selected much less frequently among all survey participants. Of all respondents, only 28% selected diverse cultures, 15% affordable housing, and 14% local jobs.



As can be seen in the chart below, there are modest differences in the frequency of responses by survey participants of different ethnicities. **History and culture of the area** ties with **access to outdoor activities** as the top response for Native American Respondents. Respondents identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander were the only group who selected **diverse cultures** among their top five qualities, selecting this characteristic as their third most appreciated quality.

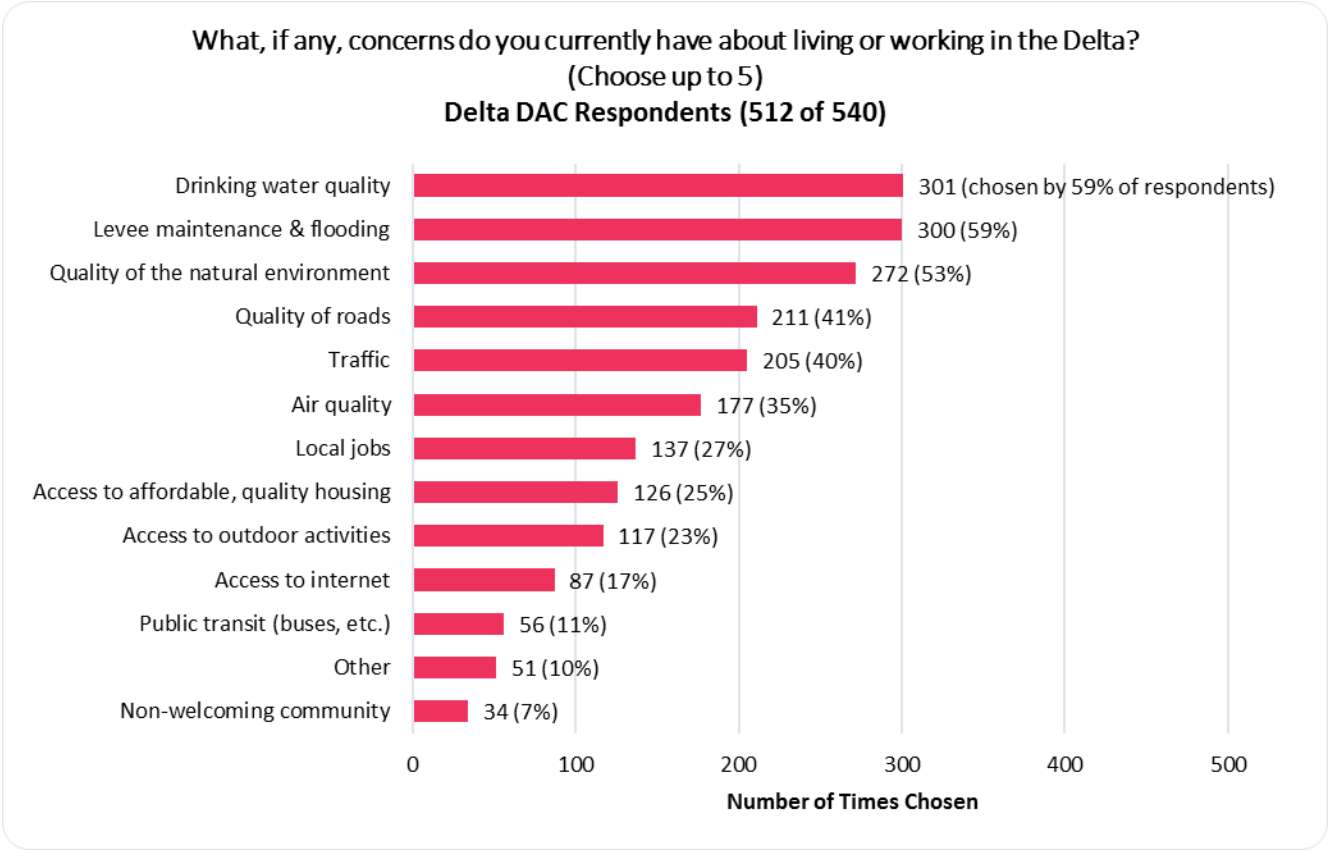


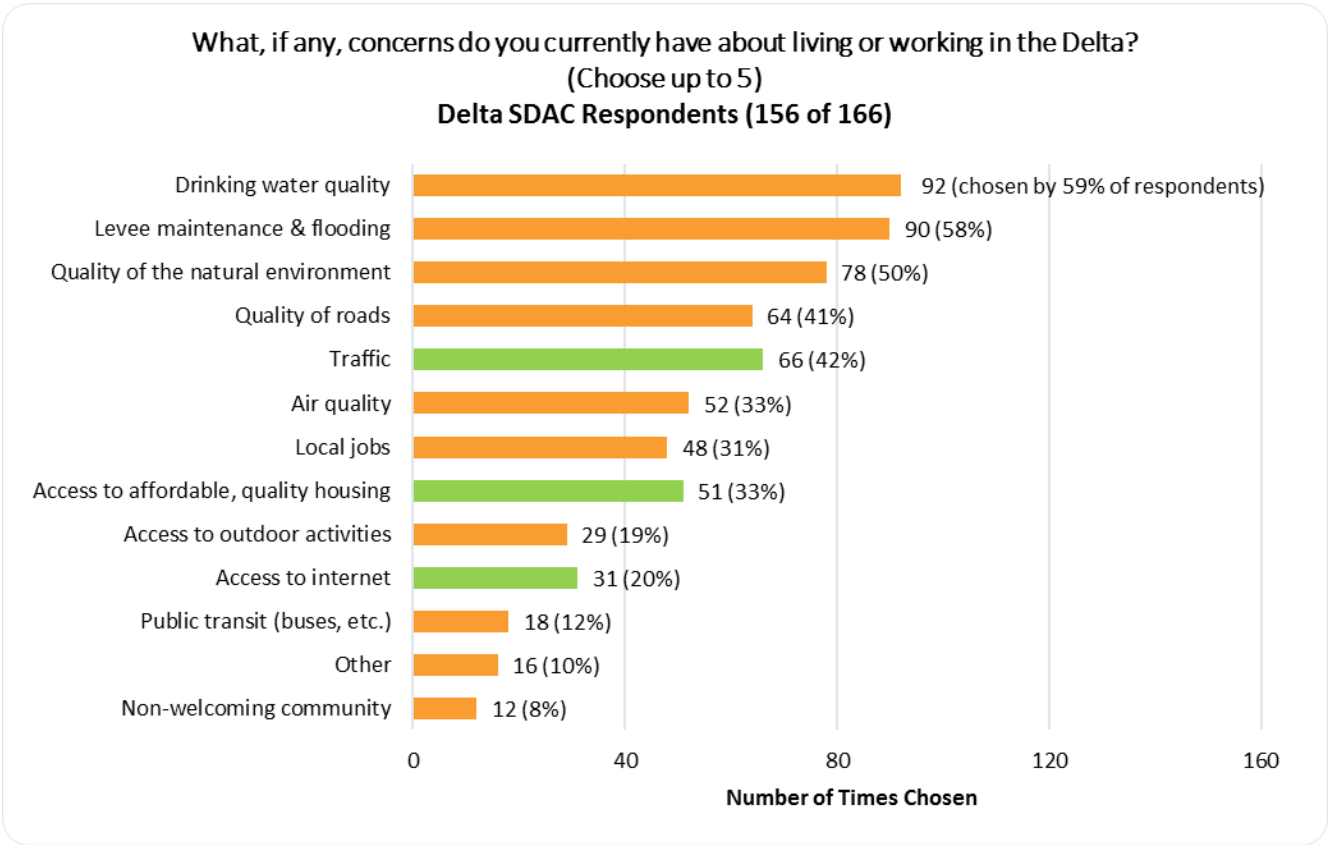
3.3 Concerns about the Delta Region

In total, 1427 survey participants responded to the question, "What, if any, concerns do you have about living or working in the Delta region?," including 512 Delta-region DAC respondents (156 of whom were further categorized as SDAC respondents).

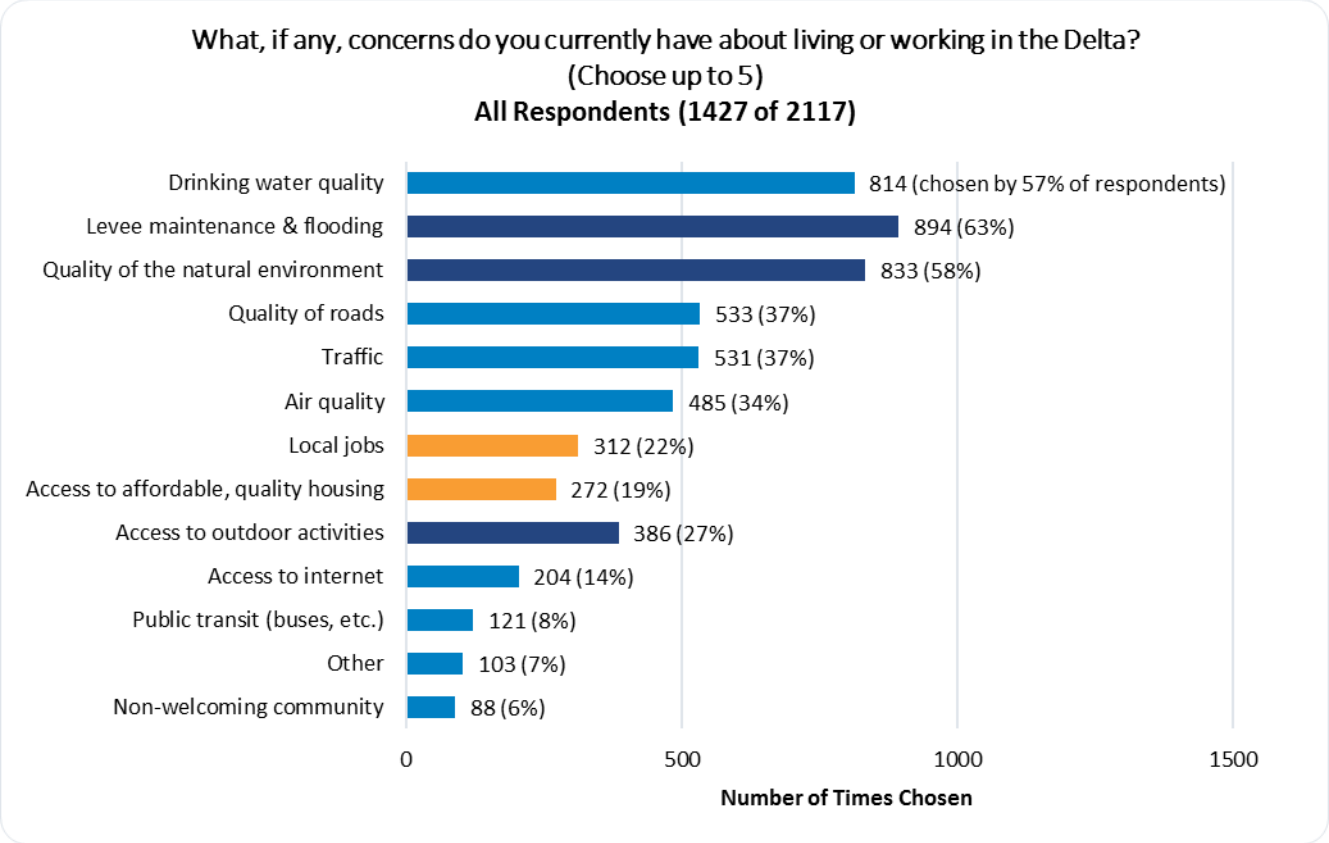
Delta-region DAC respondents – including SDAC respondents – listed **drinking water quality**, **levee maintenance & flooding**, and the **quality of the natural environment** as their top three concerns.

Beyond these top concerns, there is some variation in responses between all Delta-region DAC respondents and those further categorized as SDAC respondents, highlighted by the green bars in the chart below. Though not a significant difference, the region's DAC respondents selected the **quality of roads** as their fourth most frequent concern, whereas SDAC respondents selected **traffic** slightly more frequently. While these concerns rank in the bottom half of the list in both cases, Delta-region SDAC respondents expressed more concern about **affordable housing** and **internet access** than the region's DAC respondents as a whole.


What, if any, concerns do you currently have about living or working in the Delta?
(Choose up to 5)
Delta DAC Respondents (512 of 540)
Drinking water quality
Levee maintenance & flooding
Quality of the natural environment
Quality of roads
Traffic
Air quality
Local jobs
Access to affordable, quality housing
Access to outdoor activities
Access to internet
Public transit (buses, etc.)
Other
Non-welcoming community
301 (chosen by 59% of respondents)
300 (59%)
272 (53%)
211 (41%)
205 (40%)
177 (35%)
137 (27%)
126 (25%)
117 (23%)
87 (17%)
56 (11%)
51 (10%)
34 (7%)
0
100
200
300
400
500
Number of Times Chosen

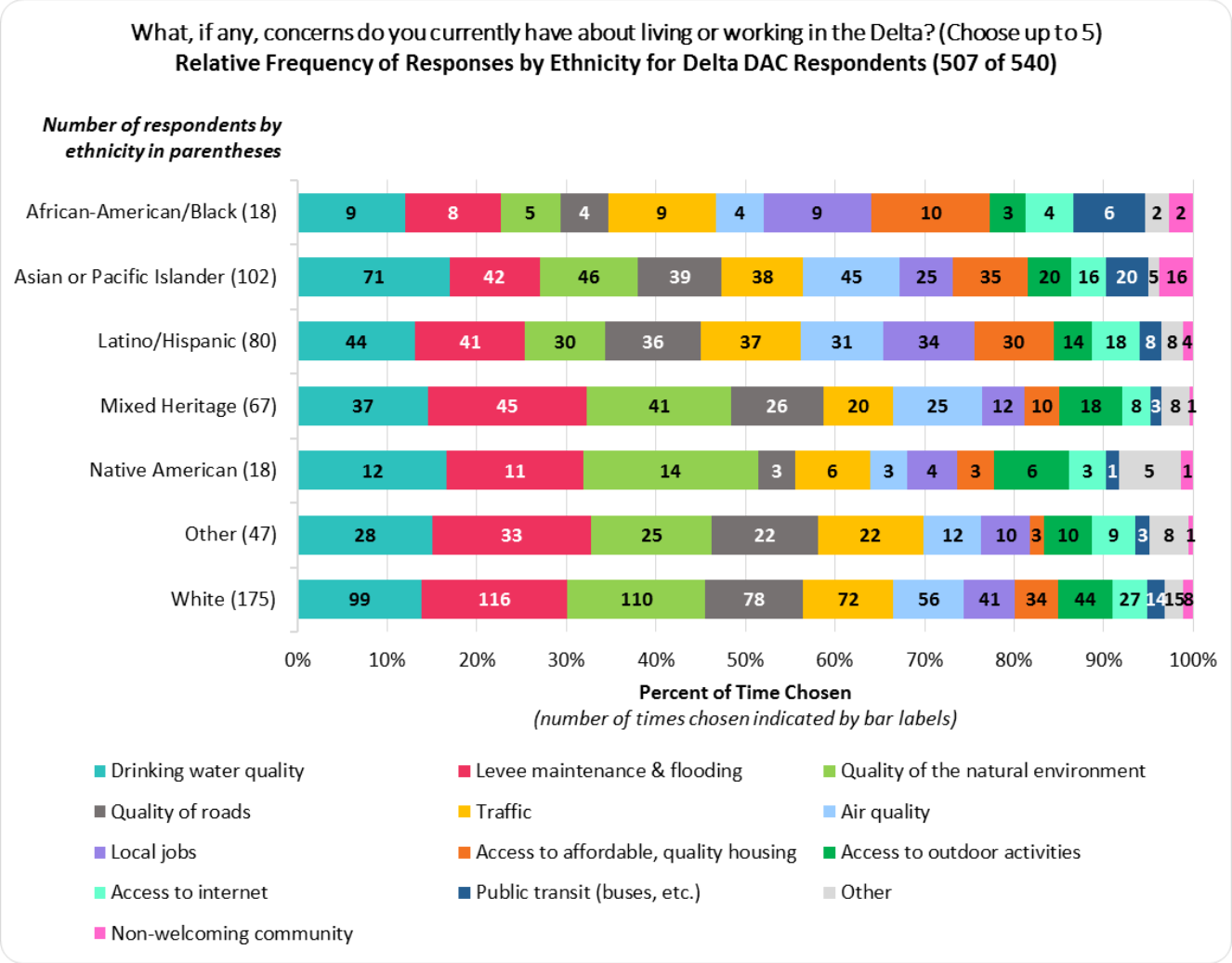

What, if any, concerns do you currently have about living or working in the Delta?
(Choose up to 5)
Delta SDAC Respondents (156 of 166)
Drinking water quality
Levee maintenance & flooding
Quality of the natural environment
Quality of roads
Traffic
Air quality
Local jobs
Access to affordable, quality housing
Access to outdoor activities
Access to internet
Public transit (buses, etc.)
Other
Non-welcoming community
92 (chosen by 59% of respondents)
90 (58%)
78 (50%)
64 (41%)
66 (42%)
52 (33%)
48 (31%)
51 (33%)
29 (19%)
31 (20%)
18 (12%)
16 (10%)
12 (8%)
0
40
80
120
160
Number of Times Chosen

There are notable differences in the order of several concerns between Delta-region DAC respondents and all respondents. **Drinking water quality** is the top concern for the region's DAC – and SDAC – respondents, whereas this concern comes in third for all survey respondents. There is also significantly more concern about **local jobs** and **affordable housing** among the region's DAC respondents compared to all respondents, who selected **access to outdoor activities** more frequently than both of these.



There is some variation in responses among participants of different ethnicities. A few highlights include:

- Respondents identifying as Asian/Pacific Islander or Native American selected **drinking water quality** as a concern more frequently than others.
- African-American/Black, Latino/Hispanic, and Asian/Pacific Islander respondents expressed more concern about **local jobs** and **affordable housing** than others did.
- Native American, Mixed Heritage, Other, and White respondents showed more concern about **levee maintenance & flooding** and the **quality of the natural environment** than others.
- Though selected less frequently than any other option, those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander were most likely to identify a **non-welcoming community** as a concern.
- Though ranked lower on the list of concerns among Native Americans, **"other"** was chosen at a higher rate than among others. In the comments, Native Americans referred to **indigenous stewardship of the natural environment**. Please see participant comments below for additional information.



3.4 Participant Comments on Life in the Delta

Almost 20% (414) of survey participants provided comments regarding benefits and concerns in response to the question, "Would you like to say more?" Of these, 172 (42%) were provided by DAC respondents from the Delta region, 53 (13%) of whom were categorized as SDAC respondents.[12]

3.4.1 DELTA-REGION DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

In the Delta, 47 (27%) of Delta-region DAC comments mentioned the natural environment.
Other top themes were preserving the Delta & Community (24% Delta-region DAC); comments about "no tunnel" (12% of Delta-region DAC), along with other comments about preserving the local economy, agriculture, and traffic and road conditions.

All major themes are summarized below.[13]

*Figure SEQ Figure * ARABIC 1: Comments on Priorities, including additional priorities, by Delta DAC respondents.*

[12] It is important to note that many comments related to more than one theme, and were coded for each theme in order to comprehensively capture their input.

[13] Comments were submitted via mobile phones, tablets, and computers. Many contained spelling and other errors. For readability, misspellings and minor typos were corrected. For all other errors, we used "[sic]" so as not to risk misinterpreting the commenter's intent.

Theme 1: Natural environment – 47 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 11 SDAC)

n this set of comments, 27% of Delta-region DAC mentioned the **natural environment,** which included concerns about the **diversion of Delta water flow** and its potential impact to **fish, wildlife, and their habitat**, as well as a concern about **saltwater intrusion.** Comments connected habitat and **water quality** to their **way of life**, to the region's **local economy** and their livelihoods, as well as a concern about general **environmental impact**. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:



Comment themes about the Delta region's best qualities and concerning issues from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents

- "We all need to preserve our CA Delta for our environmental health & personal well-being as well as future generations."
- "BEST ABOUT REGION: That wild salmon were a key socio-economic resource for the Sacramento region"
- "I fear for the disturbance to the multitudes of migratory birds and to the abundant wildlife in the Delta area."
- "Preservation of the aquaculture, concerns about NATURAL freshwater flow and increase of upriver salinization"
- "Keep salination out of the San Joaquin Delta area."
- "The present delta water quality in and around san joaquin river is bad and full of algae due to already lack of fresh water getting to the system from the dams and run offs. More water does not need to be taken out of the system. It's already affecting the wild life."

Theme 2: Preserve the Delta & Community – 41 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 14 SDAC)

Of the Delta-region DAC, 24% mentioned a desire to **preserve the Delta**, including its way of life, beauty and lifestyle, and citing concerns about the proposed Delta Conveyance Project **harming the Delta**. Some comments include:

- "I support the cleanup and preservation of the Delta"
- "The Delta should be a vibrant community where people can attain health and enjoy the great natural beauty around them."
- "The Delta is our Home... the noise is going to be unbearable for 13 years...our whole way of Life will change...it's been in the family for 4 generations ..."

Theme 3: No Tunnel – 21 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 7 SDAC)

Of the Delta-region DAC comments, 12% mentioned "**no tunnel**," and advocated for alternatives, such as **water conservation and recycling, desalination,** and **building water storage.** Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "The Delta is one of the few places in the country with its own ecosystem. The tunnel project will ruin the Delta. The people dependent on the Delta for commercial business, food, and recreational activities will all suffer. The most affected will be the underserved as they'll lose a viable source of food to feed their families."
- "Only concern are these tunnels. They would destroy our town."
- "The solution is to build more storage to keep water in times of abundance and have it on demand. Storage is needed. Please look to the LADWP for storage ideas and plans; they are building major storage. that is the future - constant conveyance is the past."
- "It greatly concerns me that the ten or more years of Delta Tunnel construction will destroy our quality of life here, as well as being incredibly costly when there are alternatives such as conservation, better farming practices, and recycling of waste water."
- "I believe we need to live with nature, lower our impacts, limit infrastructure intrusion, NO large infrastructure"

Other Delta-Region DAC Themes:

There were a cluster of other prominent themes included **preserving Delta agriculture** (18 Delta-region DAC mentions), **preserving local economy** (16 Delta-region DAC mentions), **roads, traffic and public transport** (17 Delta-region DAC mentions), and **outdoor recreation** (16 Delta-region DAC mentions).

Survey Questions

"What do you like best about the Delta region?"

"What if any concerns do you currently have about living or working in the Delta?"

Comments about **preserving the Delta agriculture** and **preserving local economy** were many times tied and made up about 10% of Delta-region DAC comments. Comments about preserving the local economy were focused on maintaining local agriculture, a lack of investment in the Delta, the failure of local fisheries, and concern about impacts to local businesses and property values. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Agricultural production, creates revenue, tax dollars and jobs for thousands."
- "Very rich generational agricultural history and pride. Many pear trees that are over 100 years old. Prime agricultural productive land for economy. Great integration of wildlife with ag production to help both flourish."
- "Tunnels will destroy generations of farms, homes, history and all our livelihoods."
- "Fishing' In 1960 the fish population was 17 million. It's now after 60 years of pumping down to 4 million. We have lost 23 of our fishery. It seems like the canary in the coal mine that the Delta needs MORE water flow not less."
- "Fishing is a huge industry here, which creates jobs and boosts the economy."
- "There is an extreme lack of investment in the Delta -- for decades."
- "Do not destroy our way of life and crater home Resale values in the Pocket and Greenhaven neighborhoods by years of construction, drilling that will cause structural damage to homes, destroy air quality, create noise nuisances, destroy levee walking areas all to suck the river dry like the Los Angeles River."
- "The delta conveyance will destroy the environment and force many small business to close for good."
- "This is our home that you want to build these tunnels this will change our landscape of our homes drop property values and impact our community."

Comments regarding **roads, traffic and public transport** related to traffic, speeding, and the impact of large trucks, and alternatives to road transit such as ferries, and were mentioned in about 10% of Delta-region DAC comments. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Our rural roadways are dangerous at best & neglected on a regular basis. In an emergency they may be rendered unusable."
- "Control speeding through Freeport"
- "Stop the reckless driving on the levee roads."
- "fixed roads especially Hwy 4 with more lanes towards Stockton"
- "hwy 12 is a night mare"
- "I would like to see more public transportation in the area similar to Sacramento and the Bay Area."
- "A ferry system would be great to see. Levee improvement and support is important with CA earthquakes and the Big One coming."

Of the Delta-region DAC, 9% of comments related to outdoor recreation, specifically focused on supporting **fishing** along with **access to outdoor recreation** and **walking and bike trails**. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Quality and safety of subsistence fishing."
- "More organized river access areas are needed along the levees. For example, fishing access spots need fenced boundaries with trash cans provided to reduce littering. Litter and illegal dumping is becoming a big issue along the rivers"
- "Not enough places to view wildlife, launch non-motorized craft, or hike."
- "As Americans age and retire we need to design accessibility for those over 65 to enjoy back country camping, hiking, fishing, and other outdoor activities. An active senior is a healthy senior."
- "We need better pedestrian & bicycle access throughout the region."

Other themes included river access, homeless encampments, safety and crime.

3.4.2 NATIVE AMERICAN RESPONDENTS

Ten (10) Native American respondents provided comments on this question. The top themes of these comments were related to **the natural environment** (5 mentions), the relationship of the Delta to **Indigenous and Tribal culture** (4 mentions), and **protecting cultural resources** (2 mentions). Comments included:

- "My ancestors have lived in the Delta since time immemorial. It is beyond frustrating to see the level of destruction of the landscape and degradation of water that has happened, and continues to happen here."
- "I'm Miwok, Indigenous to the delta. The Delta is the lifeblood of our culture and existence as Miwok people. These tunnels would destroy the entire ecosystem and culture."
- "Keep the fishing in this area as natural as it should be."
- "what are the impacts to the local tribes??"
- "Lots of speeding traffic now. Fewer police in view."

3.4.3 ALL RESPONDENTS

The priorities of all respondents expressed in comments on questions related to this theme were led by **care for the natural environment**, with more than 50% (208 mentions) regarding some aspect of the natural environment. Of that, there were 55 comments that mentioned **habitat**, including protection of fish, wildlife, and migratory birds and their habitat, special mention of Salmon and Delta smelt, and 49 comments expressing a concern about the **diversion of the Delta water flow**.

Other priorities expressed by more than 40 respondents (nearly 10%) included comments **about valuing access to outdoor recreation**, including **fishing, boating, swimming, birding and wildlife**; concern about the **local economy**, including harming local businesses and jobs and property values; and ways **to improve the Delta**, with a significant number of comments about **trash and underwater debris** in the Delta.

Delta-region DAC comments were representative of the comments shared by all respondents, above.

CHAPTER 4. COMMUNITY ECONOMIC WELLBEING

Chapter Highlights

- About half of Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents who answered the question, “do you work in the Delta?” do not work in the Delta. About 16% DAC participants reported being unemployed.
- The top sectors of employment for Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents are education; farming, fishing, or food-related; or other work.
- Two thirds of Delta-region DAC respondents shared that additional services are needed in the Delta. The type of services most frequently identified were homeless services and food banks or food security
-

4.1 Introduction

This chapter summarizes responses to the following questions which aimed to understand the employment and economic experiences of respondents who work in the Delta.

1. Do you work in the Delta? (select one)
    - Yes
    - No
    - Normally yes, but I am currently unemployed
2. If you work or are seeking work, what do you typically do? (select one)
    - Education
    - Food, farming & fishing
    - Engineering or technology
    - Healthcare or social work
    - Own a business
    - Government job
    - Work in a restaurant or store
    - Office worker
    - Recreation or entertainment
    - Construction
    - Manufacturing or warehousing
    - Transit or waste management
    - Not applicable
    - Other
3. If you work, does your income meet your needs? (select one)
    - Yes, I’m financially comfortable
    - Yes, but not with much extra
    - No, at times I need support
4. Are there services that are needed in your community, such as a food bank or other social support? If yes, please say more. (open comment)

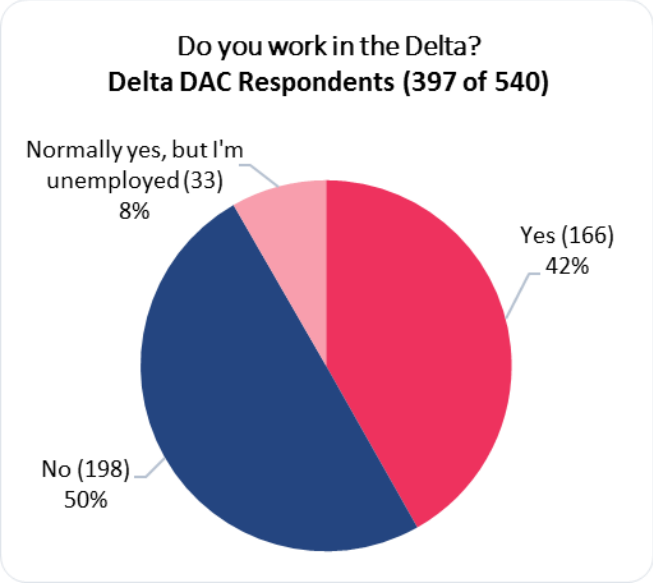
4.2 Employment & Income

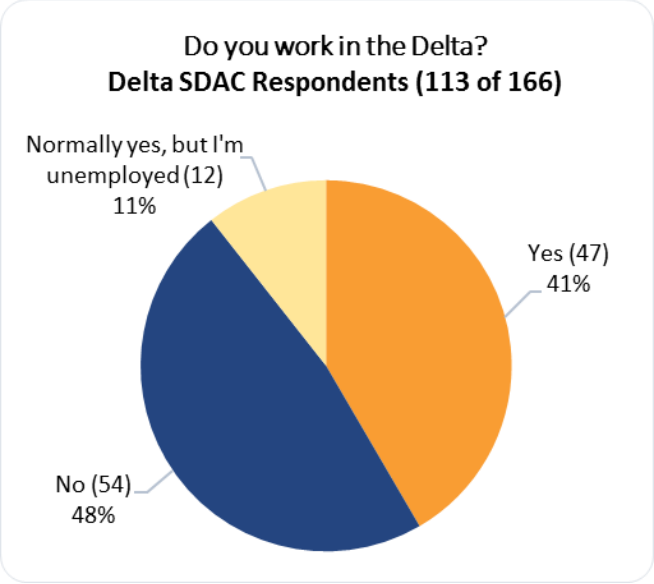
This section provides a quantitative analysis of survey participant responses to the first three questions above.

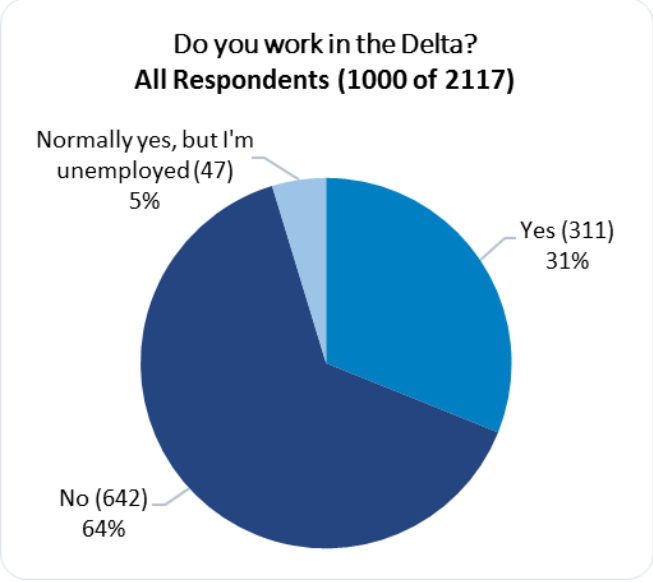
4.2.1 WORKING IN THE DELTA

Slightly under three-fourths (397) of Delta-region DAC participants responded to the question "Do you work in the Delta region?" Of those, 50% indicated that they either work in the Delta region (42%) or normally work in the Delta region but are currently unemployed (8%). Slightly more than half (52%) of Delta-region SDAC respondents also either work or typically work in the Delta, with an 11% unemployment rate at the time of the survey. The unemployment rate may have been influenced by the fact that the survey took place in the midst of the COVID pandemic.

Among all respondents who work in the Delta, only 5% were unemployed at the time of the survey, less than half the unemployment rate of Delta-region SDAC respondents.







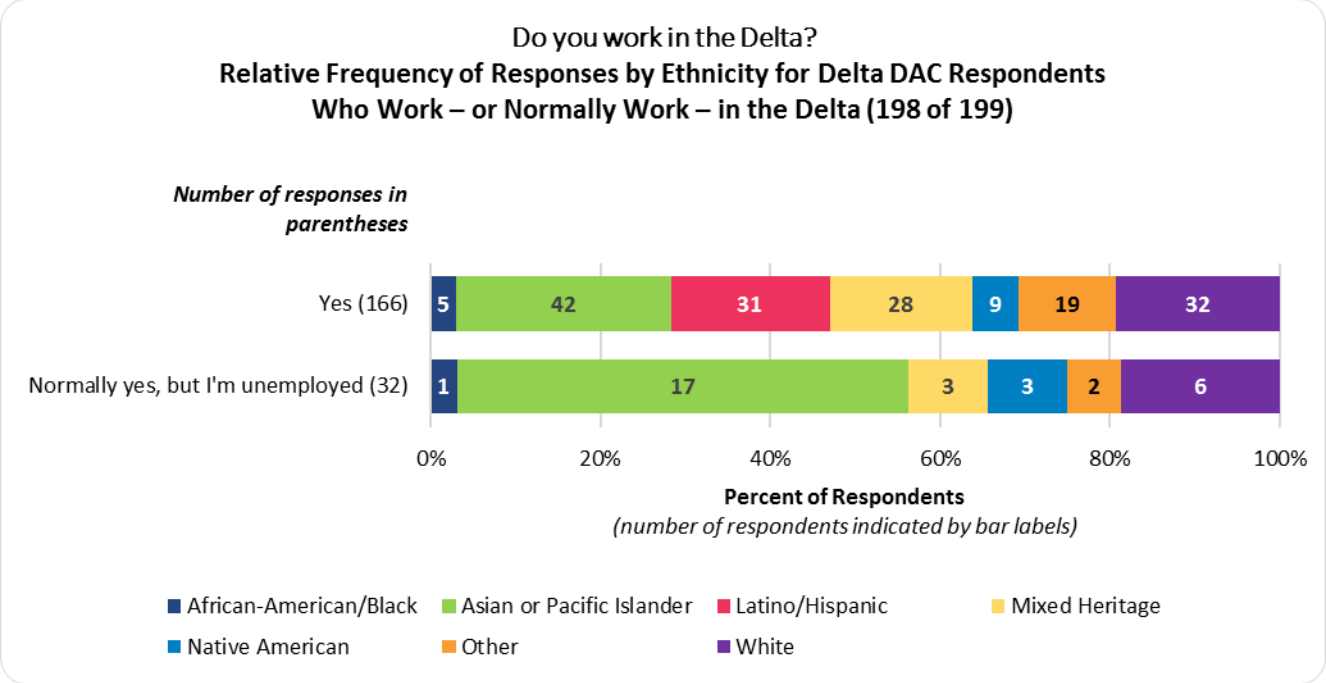
Employment status for Delta-region DAC respondents who work in the Delta – or normally work in the Delta but are unemployed – varies by participant ethnicity.

Not one of the 31 Latino respondents were unemployed at the time of the survey.

On the other end of the spectrum, those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander are experiencing much higher unemployment rates. Of the 59 Asian participants who responded to this question, 17 (29%) were unemployed. They make up over half of the respondents who indicated being unemployed.

Variation was more modest for those with other ethnic identities. The following shows unemployment rates for the remaining Delta-region DAC respondents who work in the region, presented in order of the number of respondents.

- 16% of White respondents (38) indicated being unemployed.
- 10% of Mixed Heritage respondents (31) indicated being unemployed.
- 10% of those identifying with another ethnicity (21) indicated being unemployed.
- 25% of Native Americans (small sample of 12) indicated being unemployed.
- 17% of African-Americans (very small sample of 6) indicated being unemployed.

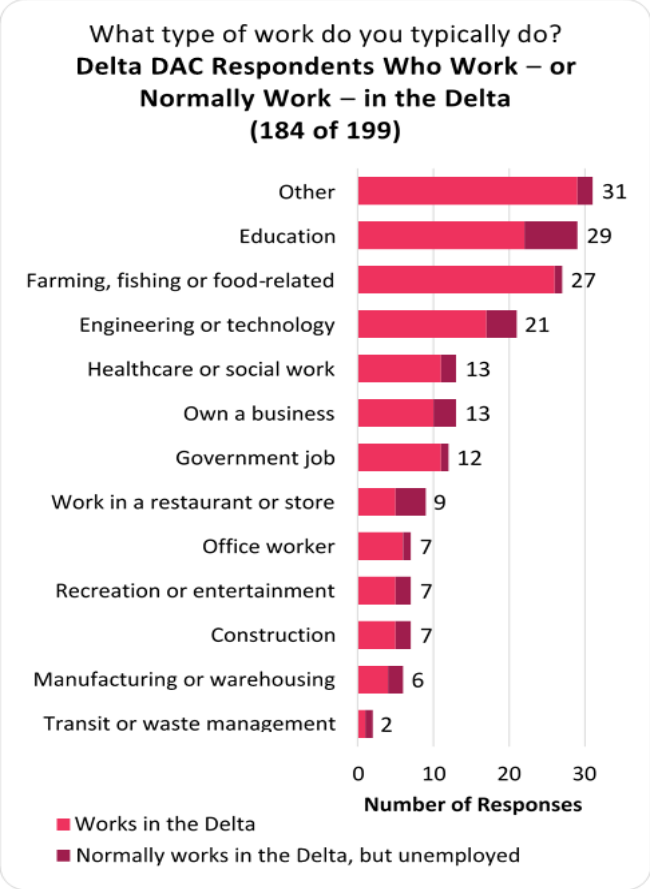


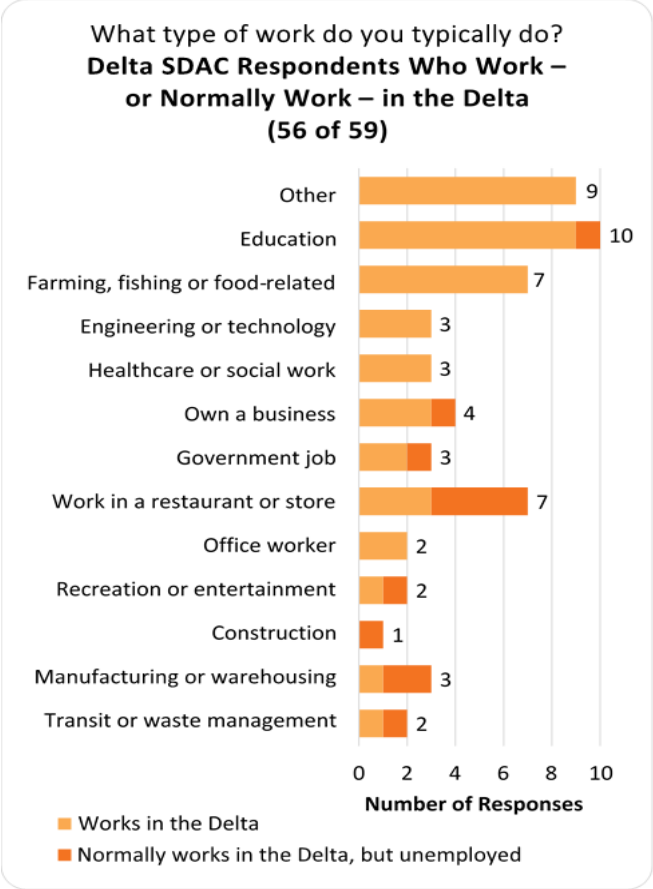
4.2.2 EMPLOYMENT TYPE

The following two charts reflect responses to the question "If you work or are seeking work, what type of work do you typically do?" for Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents. 92% of Delta-region DAC respondents answered this question, and among those 95% of SDAC respondents answered this question.

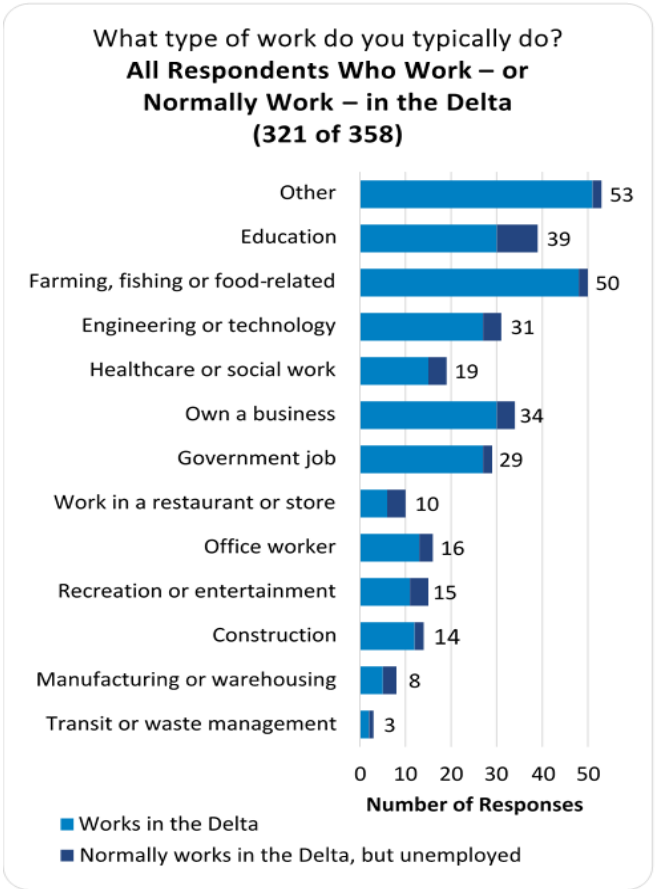
The top two sectors in which DAC an SDAC work are education and an industry other than the 12 answer options provided for this question.[14] Exactly two-thirds of both groups of respondents work in these industries, roughly half in each. Farming, fishing, or food-related employment is the third most common industry in which Delta-region DAC respondents work. For SDAC respondents, this industry as well as the restaurant and retail industry tie for third place. Both DAC and SDAC respondents indicated working in other industries in roughly similar rates.

[14] Of the 31 Delta-region DAC respondents that indicated working in some other industry, seven indicated that they are retired. Six more indicated working in journalism, accounting, real estate, nature tourism, videography and other media.





In parallel, the top three industries in which all respondents work is also education; farming, fishing or food-related; or other types of work. Compared to Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents, 29% of all respondents work in these industries. Notably, a significantly higher ratio of all respondents own a business or work in government.

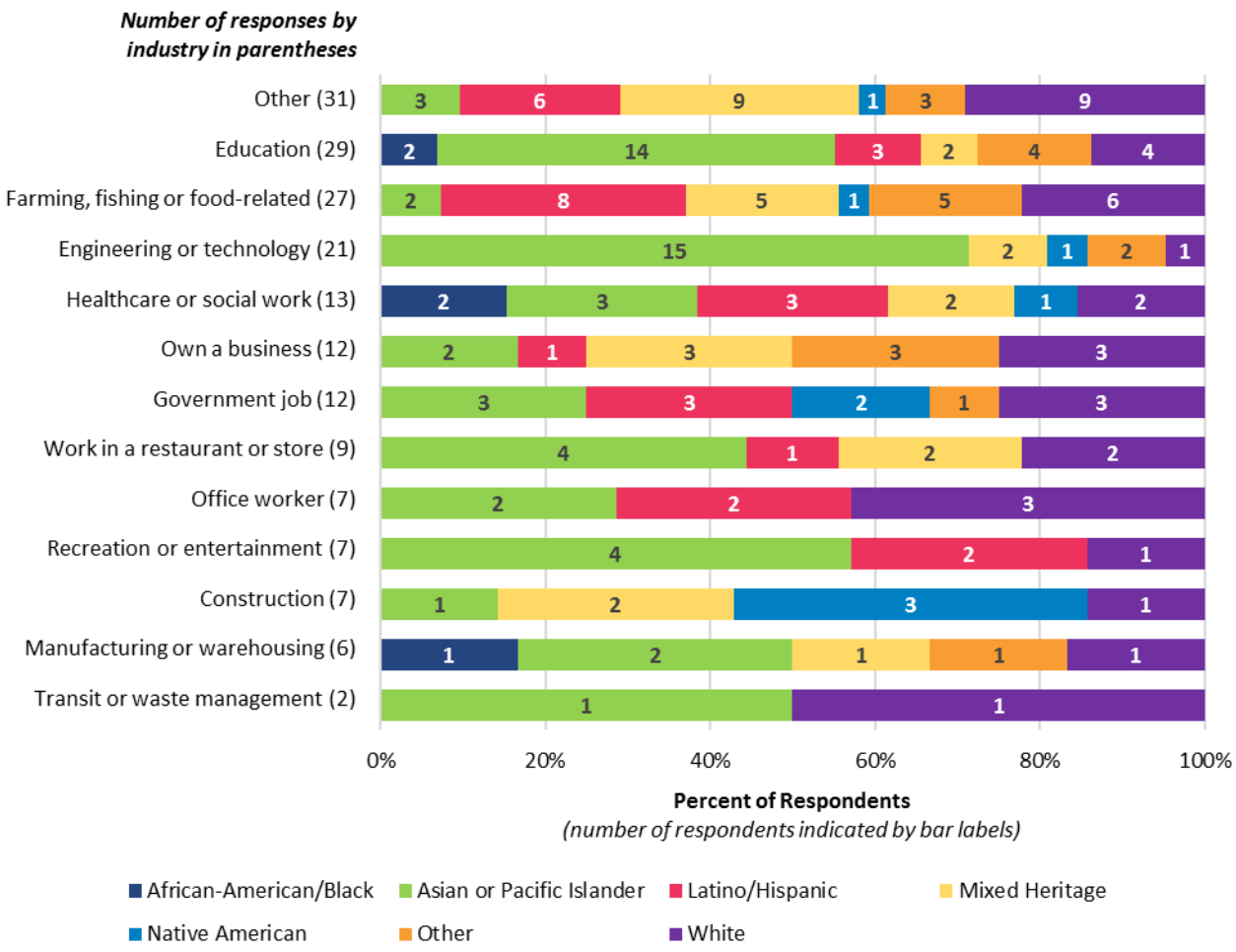


The primary industries in which Delta-region DAC respondents work varies by ethnicity. The following represent the more substantial differences.

- A very high rate of respondents identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander work in engineering or technology, education, recreation or entertainment, and restaurant or retail.
- Compared to others, Latinos participate in farming, fishing, or food related work. None indicate working in education, engineering or technology, construction, or transit or waste management.
- Similarly, Native Americans work in construction at higher rates than others. There are also several industries in which no

Native-American respondents work. However, the sample size was small (only 12 Native American participants responded to this question).

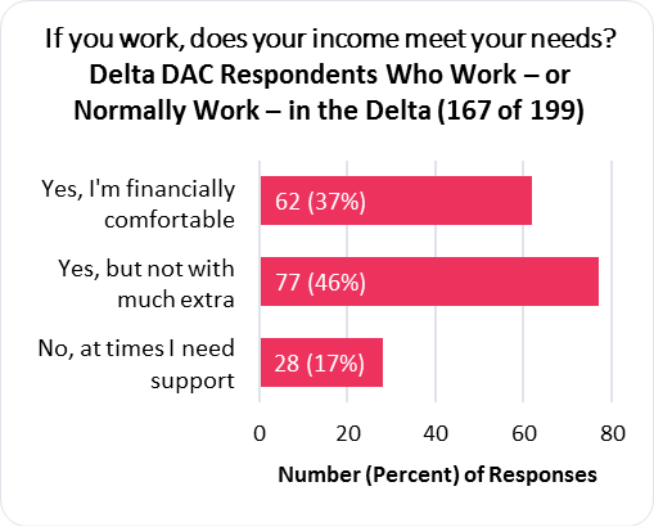
- Of all industries, African-Americans respondents only indicated working in manufacturing or warehousing, healthcare or social work, or education. Again, however, the sample size is very small (only 6 African-American participants responded to this question).
- Respondents identifying as white indicate higher rates of participation in office work and transit or waste management than others, however these industries represent a low share (extremely low for transit or waste management) of the sectors in which respondents participate.



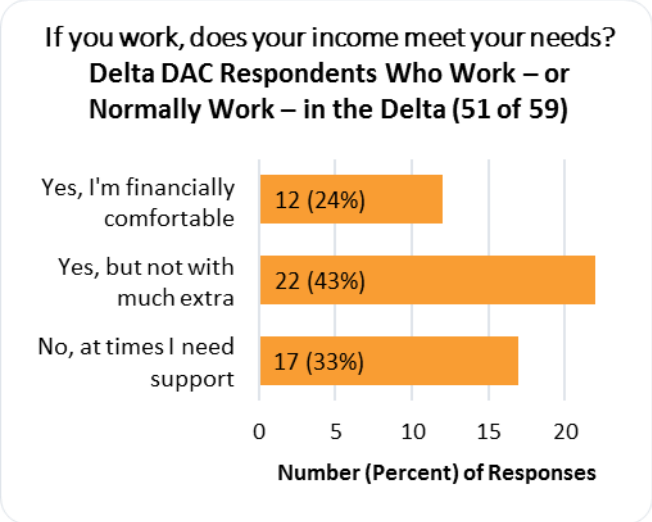
4.2.3 ECONOMIC STABILITY

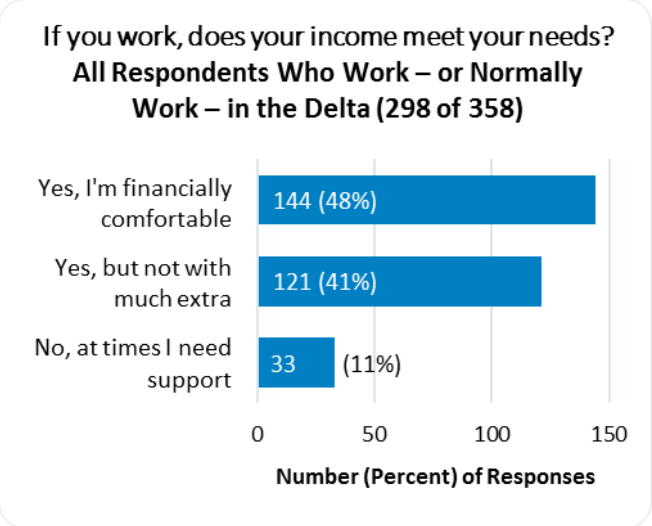
A high share (84%) of Delta-region DAC respondents who work or typically work (when employed) in the Delta responded to the question "Does your income meet your needs?" Of those, 86% of SDAC participants respondent to this question.

The most frequent response was "yes, but not with much extra" for DAC (46%) and SDAC (43%) respondents. The next most frequent answer was "yes, I'm financially comfortable" (37%). However, this rate was quite a bit lower for SDAC respondents (24%), and perhaps unsurprisingly, they are experiencing economic hardship at a much higher rate. 33% of SDAC respondents answered "no, at times I need support" (33% compared to 17% of Delta-region DAC respondents as a whole).



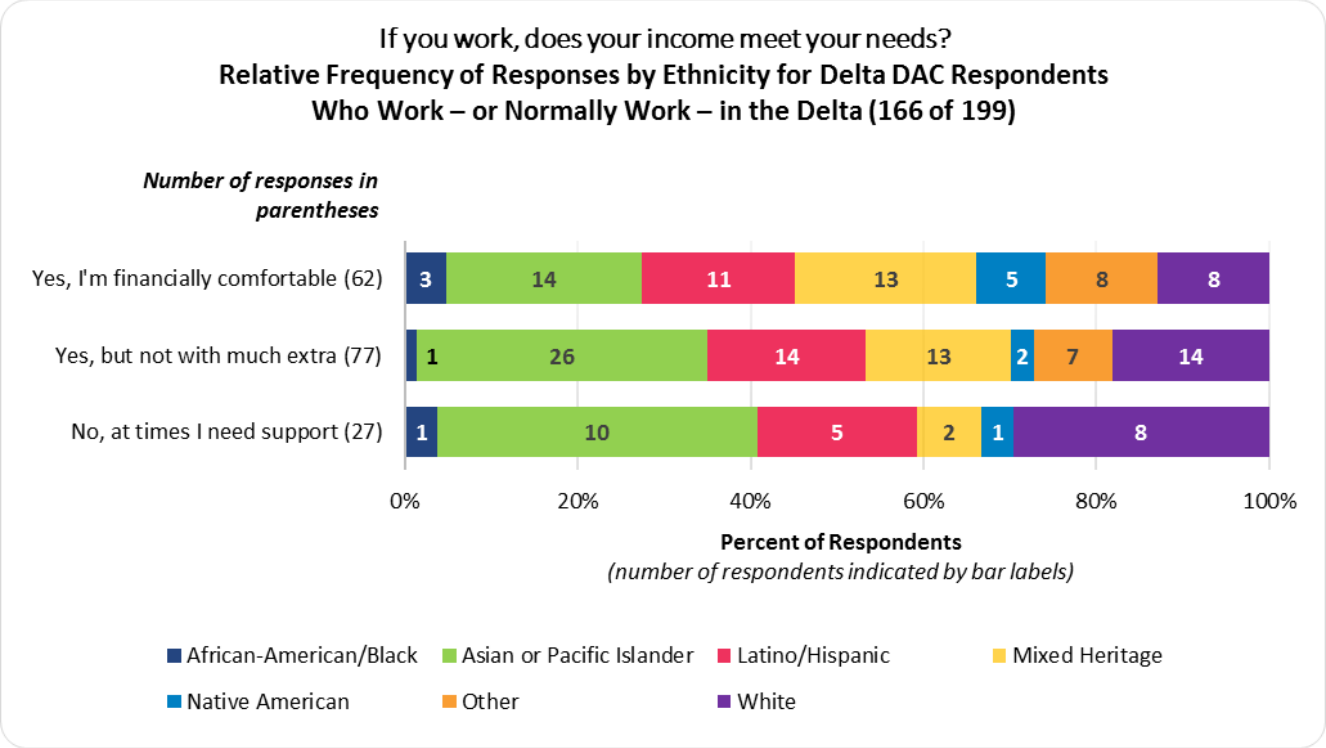
Among all participants, almost half indicated that they are financially comfortable, and only 11% indicated that at times they need support.





Responses to this question also varies by respondent ethnicity. On one end of the spectrum, few Delta-region DAC respondents identifying as mixed heritage (7%) indicate that they find themselves needing support, and on the other, a high rate of white respondents (27%) indicated needing support. The following describes the rate of response indicating a need for support among respondents by other ethnicities, in order of the number of respondents.

- 20% of Asian or Pacific Islander respondents (50) sometimes need support.
- 20% of African-American respondents (5) sometimes need support.
- 17% of Latino respondents (3) sometimes need support.
- 13% of Native American respondents (8) sometimes need support.



4.3 Needed Services

Survey participants were asked: "Are there services needed in your community, such as a food bank or other social support? If yes, please say more." There were 119 responses to that question by Delta-region DAC participants, including 43 SDAC participants.[15]

All major themes are summarized below.[16]

4.3.1 DELTA-REGION DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

Of Delta-region DAC respondents, 80 (67%) felt that "**services are needed**" when they responded to this question; including 26 SDAC respondents (22%). There was also a secondary theme of "**no services needed**," mentioned by 23 (19%) Delta-region DAC respondents.

Theme #1: Social services needed

Social services were wide-ranging. Within comments affirming that services are needed, many spoke in general terms about social assistance, but **homeless services and housing** and **food banks or food security** were mentioned most often. Other themes included **children's/teen programs**, and **health and medical services**, a need for **a variety of different facilities**, **mental health and substance abuse programs**, **affordable quality housing,** and **senior services,** as seen in the word cloud.

Below are sub-themes related to "social services needed."

[15] It is important to note that many comments related to more than one theme, and were coded for each theme in order to comprehensively capture their input.

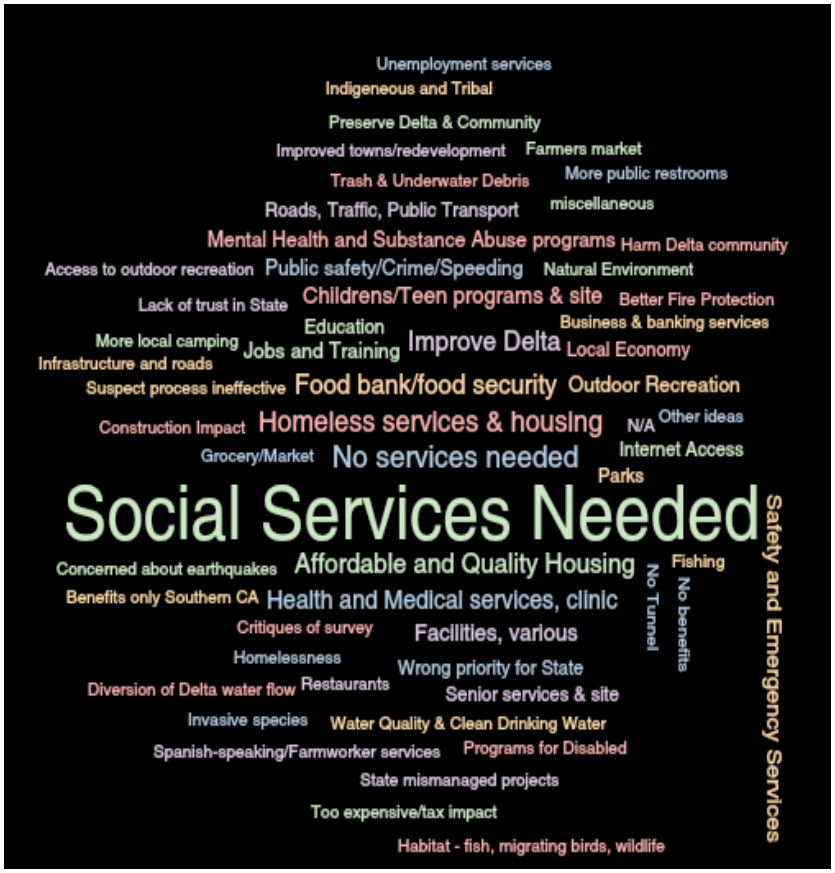
[16] Comments were submitted via mobile phones, tablets, and computers. Many contained spelling and other errors. For readability, misspellings and minor typos were corrected. For all other errors, we used "[sic]" so as not to risk misinterpreting the commenter's intent.

Homelessness Services – 20 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 8 SDAC)

Many spoke in general terms about social assistance, but issues with **homelessness** and **homeless services** were mentioned 20 times (17%).

It is important to note that comments about homeless services and mental health/substance abuse were many times commented on together. Comments on homelessness were also connected with safety and pollution. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- "Services for the homeless, elderly, unemployed, underemployed, mentally challenged, undocumented and other vulnerable populations are DESPERATELY needed in East Contra Costa County. We as a community cannot grow and thrive until we ALL have access to affordable food, shelter and healthcare."
- "The city of Stockton's homeless population has steadily grown in recent years. Many of the camps are located along waterways that feed the Delta including the Calaveras River and Mormon Slough. Limited opportunities for education, high poverty, chronic unemployment and soaring housing costs along with mental health and substance abuse issues all contribute to this growing challenge. Short term, a large construction project in the Delta might give some relief. It will not solve the problem."



Comment themes about needed services from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents.

- "Youth resources, better parks, and more housing for houseless community"
- "Sheltering the homeless to get them off the streets, where they are polluting the waterways and committing crimes which damage the fabric of our Community"
- "Our homeless population is growing. We need more shelters, mental health services and drug/alcohol treatment facilities."
- "Better mental health and homeless services."

Food Banks, Access & Security – 19 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 7 SDAC)

Food banks and **food security** was also identified as a social service needed by 16% of Delta-region DAC respondents. Some Delta-region DAC and SDAC comments include:

- Around the area I know that there is high demand for volunteers working at food banks because people are having a real shortage of food supplies at home and the money to pay for it."

- "Yes, we often go to the food bank in Woodland and some others not really in the Delta area though they are near."
- "Yes, food banks and other basic resource organizations are needed in our community."
- "I think COVID is driving the need for improved food security, jobs, etc.; but this time represents a truly unique era."

Affordable, Quality Housing – 16 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 7 SDAC)

Of Delta-Region DAC respondents, 13% identified a need for **better designed low-income housing**, as well as more **affordable housing for purchase** were shared. Others mentioned a need for affordable housing in general or for the homeless population. Some comments included:

"I am fortunate to rent but there is a dire lack of affordable suburban home for purchase."

- "Yes. Many Bethel Island residents are on fixed incomes. They need affordable food and housing."
- "Low income housing/ rental with the ability to own."
- "housing for homeless and mentally disabled."
- "Affordable senior housing"

Health and Medical Services – 14 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 5 SDAC)

Of Delta-region DAC respondents, 12% identified a need for **access to medical services and facilities**. Other comments included:

- "No md [sic]. No hospital. No urgent care or er [sic]."
- "more access to equitable healthcare"
- "Medical services"
- "Federally qualified health centers and clinics for the medically indigent should be a priority in this community."
- "A small well funded health clinic would be nice."
- "More healthcare resources."

Youth Programs and Services – 14 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 4 SDAC)

Of Delta-region DAC respondents, 12% identified a need for **additional programming for youth, many times in conjunction with other services**. Other comments included:

- "Yes. The majority of our programs are designated for women. We need programs for men, single fathers, and youth."
- "More playgrounds."
- "UPGRADE SCHOOL CAMPUSES. School bussing, sports, PE, Art"
- "more community and educational activities especially for children."
- "mental health, environmental education, afterschool programs, extracurricular activities for kids"
- "youth centers"
- Affordable childcare and after school programs. Mentorship. Outreach and programs for teens"

Senior Services – 6 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 2 SDAC)

Of Delta-region DAC respondents, 5% identified a need for **senior services,** with additional comments by all respondents. Comments included:

- "We are retired...we need public transportation into South Sacramento...our income meets our needs...we need delivery of hot food delivered from restaurants in Locke, Isleton, Rio Vista and Sacramento."
- "We also have a high percentage of senior citizens, but no support services are available to address isolation and difficulty of driving to needed medical and grocery shopping. We need transit service to access these."
- "Quality senior services in Isleton."

- "senior center"

Some associated comments on the need for senior services by all respondents include:

- "COC Outreach in Antioch takes good care of the less fortunate in out community. we need more of this in and around the delta."
- "assisted living facility nursing homes"
- "As Americans age and retire we need to design accessibility for those over 65 to enjoy back country camping, hiking, fishing, and other outdoor activities. An active senior is a healthy senior."

Survey Question

"Are there services that are needed in your community, such as a food bank or other social support? If yes, please say more."

Theme #2: No services needed – 23 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (5 SDAC)

Of the Delta-region DAC respondents, 23 (19%) mentioned that **no services are needed**. Typically, comments were simply statements saying that no services are needed. Some comments included:

- "WE have a lot of support in Stockton,"
- "they already exist."
- "We have many volunteer club's, 2-3 churches & Yolo county visiting services that offer free cheese vegetables turkey translating assistance & more."
- "No, our community offers this support."

4.3.2 NATIVE AMERICAN RESPONDENTS

Four (4) Native American respondents gave comments on this question; all live or work in the Delta. Three offered the following comments:

- "More healthcare resources."
- "Isleton and delta towns alike are disproportionately low income compared to the large cities that extend their zoning and tax collection zones to cover the low income and agricultural area. This leads to a significant tax load increase on properties and multiple mandatory tax programs, that the counties do not divide and spend equally."
- "Food bank, senior center"

4.3.3 ALL RESPONDENTS

Of the group of all respondents, 264 respondents (which includes DAC and SDAC responses) provided comments in response to the question, "Are there services needed in your community, such as a food bank or other social support? If yes, please say more." Of all respondents, 146 (55%) stated that they felt services were needed in the Delta. Priorities matched DAC and SDAC sentiments, with the top priority being that **social services are needed** in the Delta region. including the need for a **food bank** (39 mentions); **homeless services** with 31 mentions, and **health and medical services** (25 mentions); **a grocery or market** (10 mentions). Also of note, although commented on less frequently, were **facilities and services related to mental health and substance abuse, seniors, children, and teens**.

Sentiments expressed by all respondents were well represented in the Delta-region DAC comments above, with one exception: the desire for a local grocery or market. This was a theme echoed by some DAC respondents, but was a stronger theme for all respondents.

Comments regarding the desire for a **local grocery or market** include:

- "Year around produce and fish at a market"
- "stores conveniently located"
- "We desperately need a full service high quality grocery in our own town (Pittsburg)."
- "Quality Grocery store"

- “more business restaurants super market”
- “Another market”
- “A grocery store or Variety store Water”
- “Whole food store”

All respondents also shared comments expressing “**no services are needed**” in the Delta, totaling 42 mentions (15%) expressing the sentiment that services were adequately provided, and some concern about too much government involvement.

Other strong but secondary priorities included **affordable and quality housing**, and supporting more **jobs and training**.

CHAPTER 5. EXPERIENCING DELTA'S WATERWAYS & NATURAL AREAS

Chapter Highlights

- 70% of Delta-region DAC respondents (65% of those categorized as SDAC) visit the Delta's natural areas and waterways at least once per month.
- The most frequent activity they participate in is hiking, walking, or running (selected by nearly 60% of DAC and SDAC respondents). This is followed by water activities and "just hanging out."
- Two-thirds (66%) of Delta-region DAC respondents (including 60% of SDAC respondents) indicate that better parks, trails, or other recreational amenities would encourage them to spend more time outside in the Delta. This was followed by safer waterways and swimming. Notably, 34% of SDAC responses indicated an interest in more welcoming places.
- Comments also focused on clean, safe, accessible outdoor recreation, an appreciation for the Delta, and the natural environment. They also mentioned issues related to clean water in the area with pollution from boaters and marinas and homeless encampments.

5.1 Introduction

The following questions aimed to understand how respondents experience the Delta's natural areas and waterways and what, if anything, might improve their experience.

1. Do you spend much time visiting the Delta waterways and natural areas? (select one)
    - Yes, at least once per month
    - Now and then
    - No
2. If yes, what do you do most frequently? (select multiple)
    - Water activities (boating, swimming, fishing…)
    - Hiking, running, walking
    - Just hanging out (picnicking, sunbathing...)
    - Birding, hunting, or wildlife viewing
    - Bicycling
    - Other (please say more below)
3. What, if anything, would you make you spend more time in the Delta? (Choose up to 2)
    - Better parks, trails, or recreational amenities
    - Safer waterways & swimming
    - Nearby places to shop & eat
    - More welcoming places (sometimes I don't feel welcome or safe)
    - Other (please say more below)
4. Would you like to say more? (open comment)

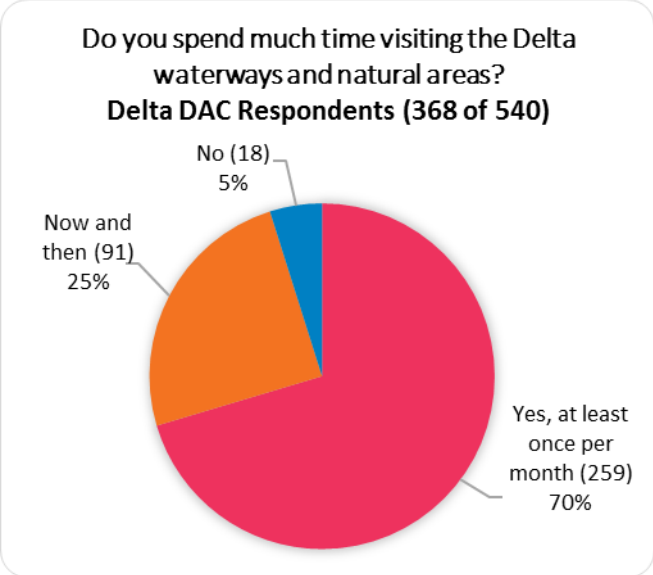
5.2 Participant Responses, by the Numbers

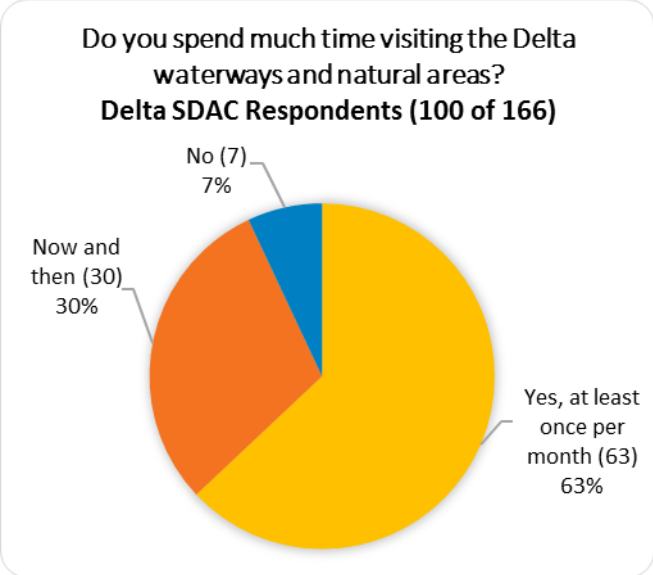
This section provides a quantitative analysis of survey participant responses to the first three questions above.

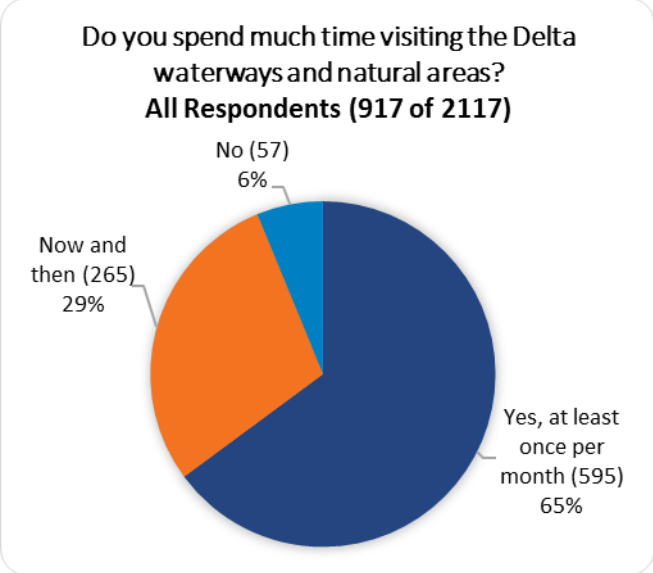
5.2.1 FREQUENCY OF VISITS TO THE DELTA'S NATURAL AREAS & WATERWAYS

Of the 917 survey participants who responded to "Do you spend much time visiting the Delta waterways and natural areas?" nearly two-thirds (65%) visit Delta waterways and natural areas at least monthly. Delta-region DAC participants indicate visiting the region's natural areas at a slightly higher rate (70%), though those of them categorized as SDAC visit at a slightly lower rate (63%). Only 5-7% of participants – across all categories –

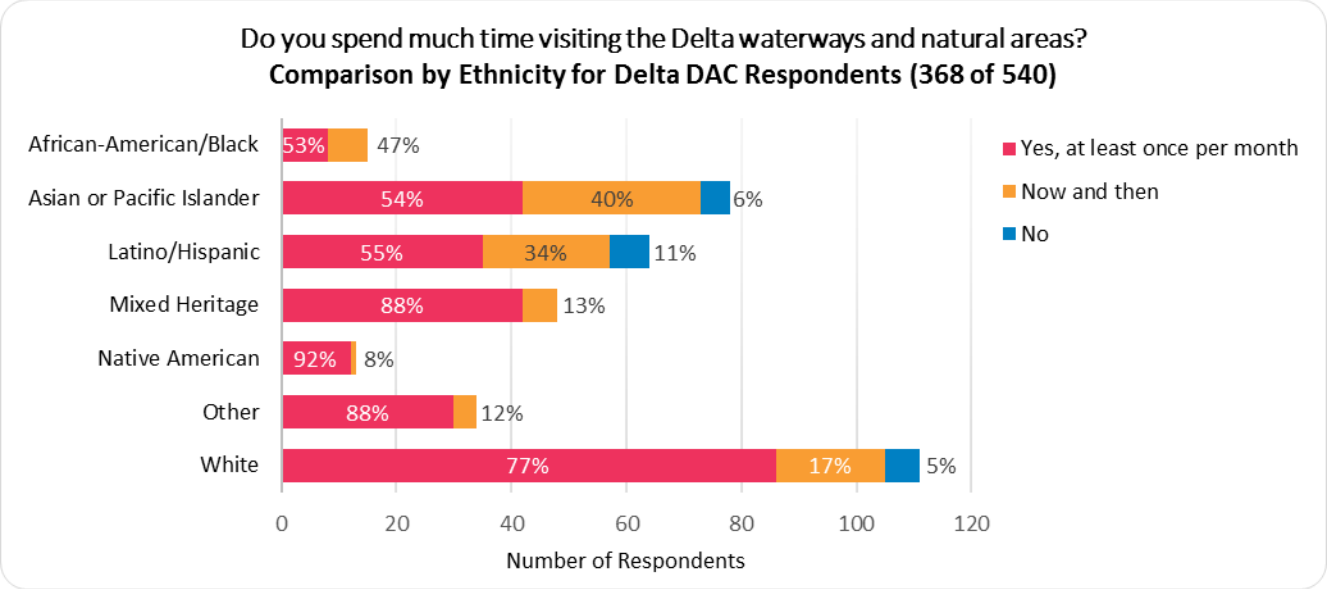
indicate that they never visit the region's waterways and natural areas. Likewise, 65% of all respondents reported visiting the Delta at least once per month.







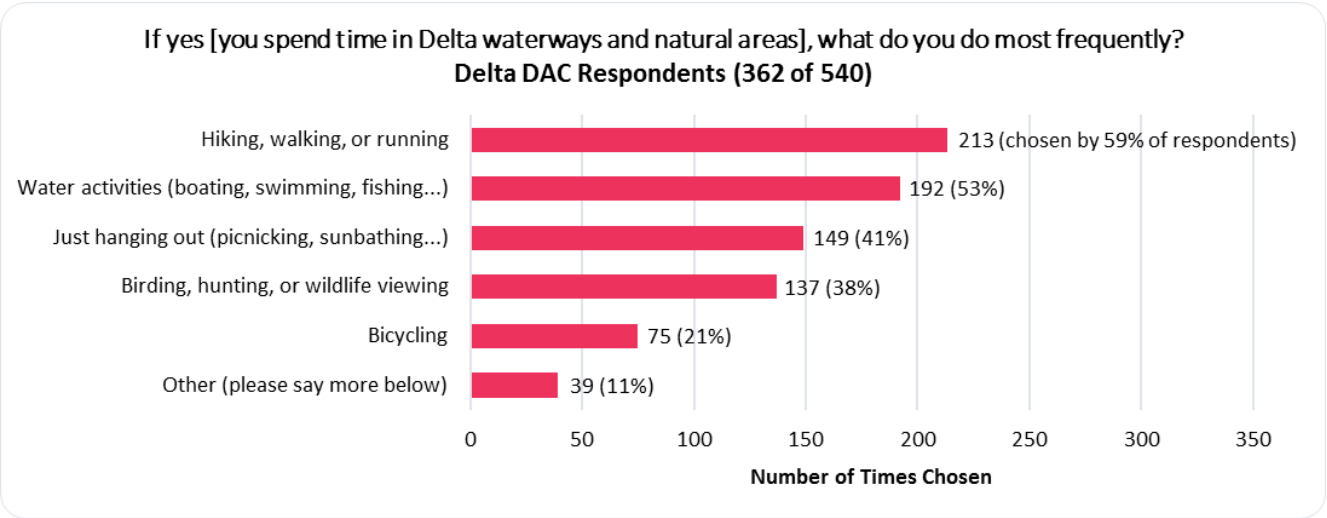
Among the region's DAC participants, there is some variation across ethnicities. At least half of the respondents reported visiting the Delta's waterways or natural areas at least monthly regardless of ethnic identity, though the highest rates of visitation occur among respondents identifying as Native American, White, Mixed Heritage, or Other.

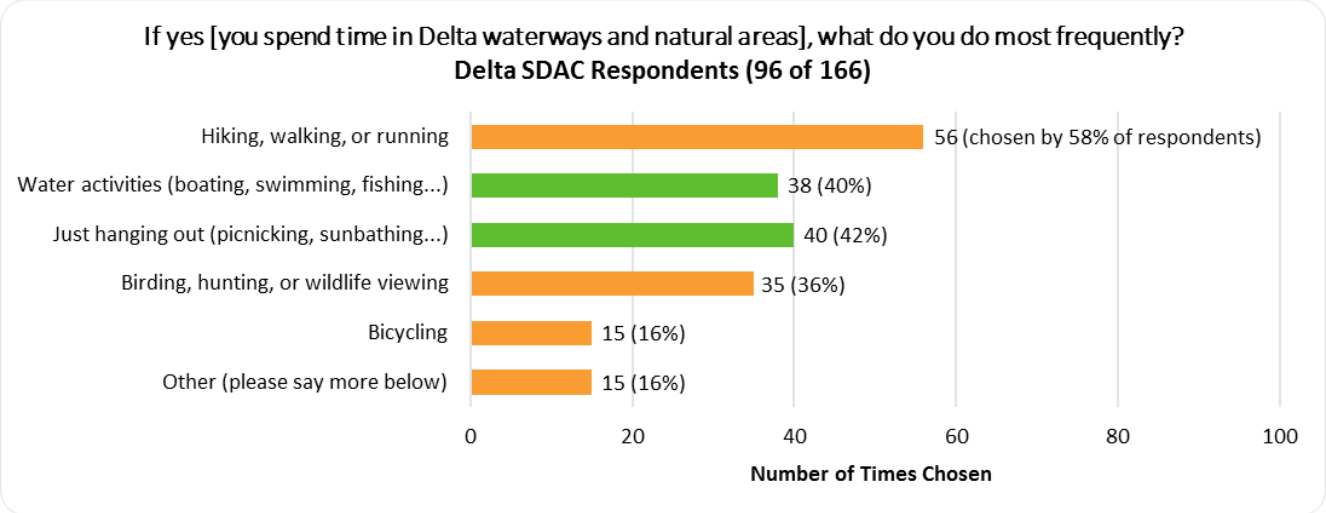


5.2.2 TYPICAL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

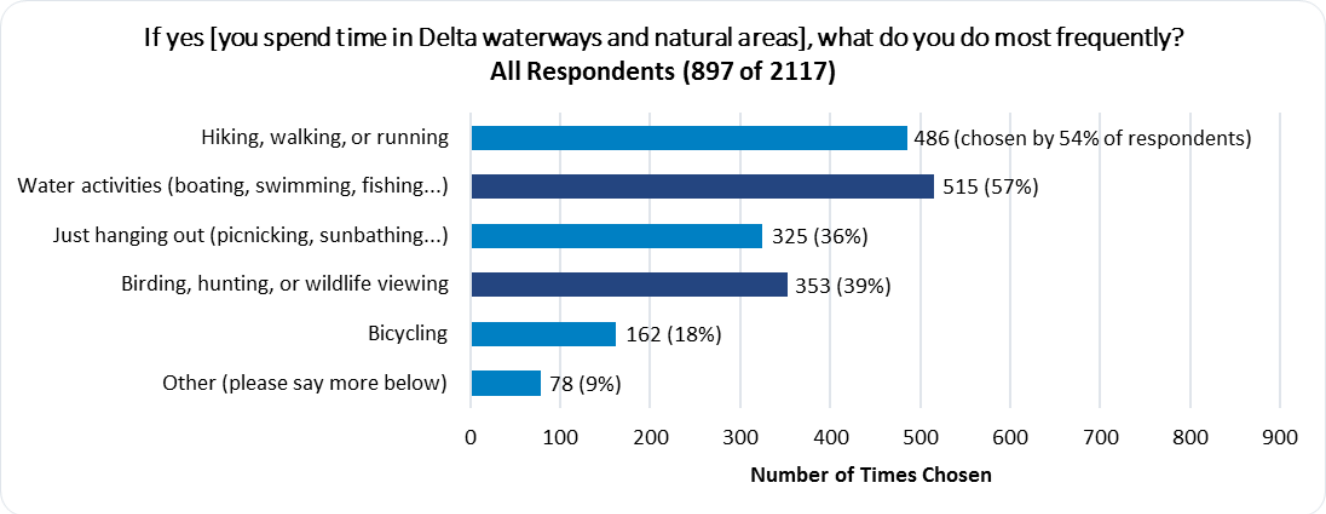
Following up on the first question, participants were asked: "If yes [you spend time visiting waterways and natural areas], what do you do most frequently?"

Among DAC participants from the Delta region – as well as the subset categorized as SDAC – **hiking, walking or running** was the most frequently selected activity (59% of Delta-region DAC and 58% of SDAC respondents). For Delta-region DAC participants, **water activities** are a close second (53% of participants chose this option). However, only 40% of SDAC participants indicate participating in water activities, preferring hiking, walking or running by a significant margin. Instead, Delta-region SDAC participants chose **just hanging out (picnicking, sunbathing, etc.)** as their second-most frequent activity.



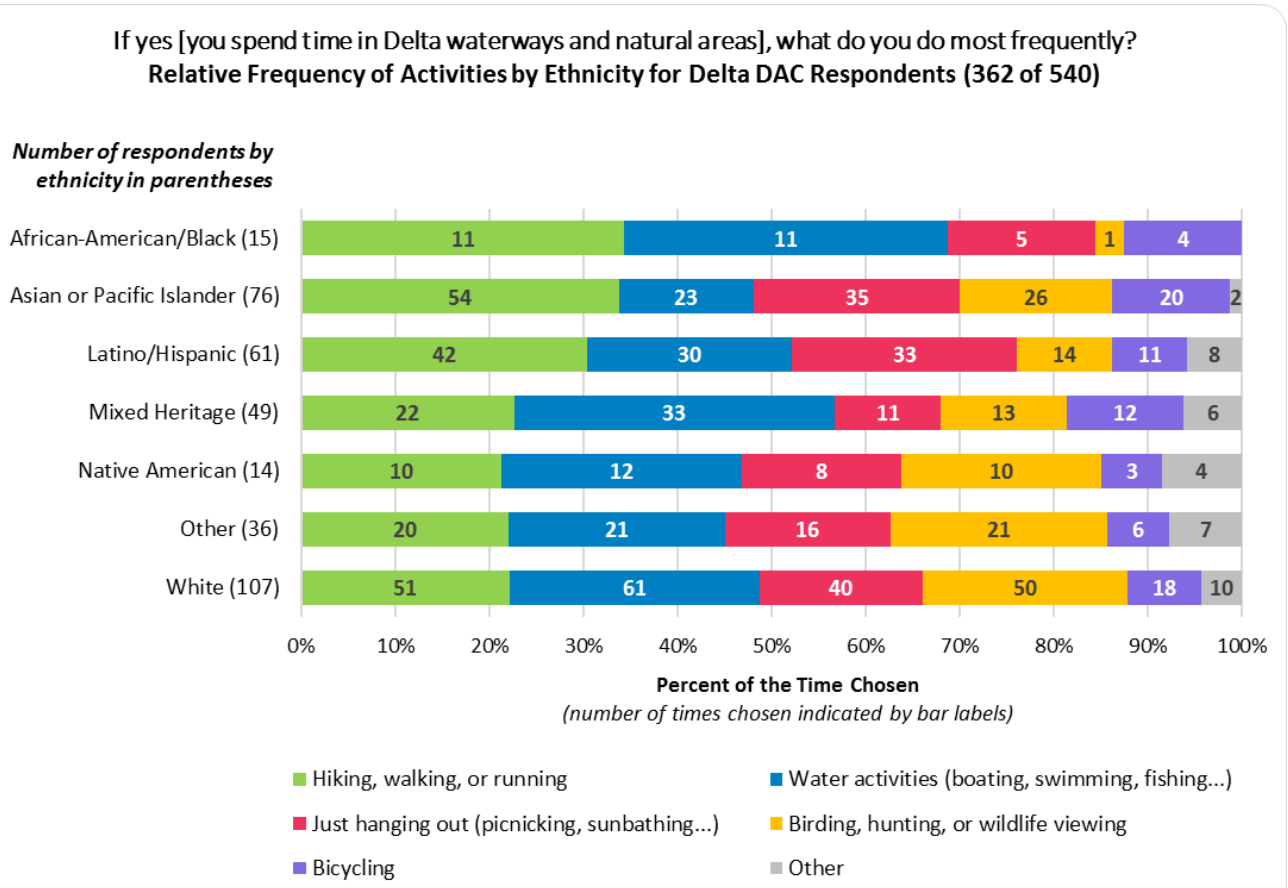


Water activities was the most frequently chosen activity chosen among all survey participants with hiking, walking, or running as a close second. Though Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents, respectively, selected **just hanging out** as their 3rd or 2nd most frequent activity, this activity came in fourth place among all survey participants. **Birding, hunting, or wildlife viewing** was the third most frequently selected activity by all respondents, compared to being the fourth by Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents.



There is quite a bit of variation in activities chosen by participants of different ethnicities.

- Those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islanders and Latino/Hispanic participants selected **hiking, walking or running** as their most frequent activity more than other activities. Their second most frequent activity is **just hanging out**.
- Respondents identifying as Mixed Heritage and White (as well as Native American and Other, but by negligible margins) selected **water activities** as their most frequent activity.
- For those identifying as Native American, White, or Other, **birding, hunting or wildlife viewing** ties with **walking, hiking, or running** as the second most frequently chosen activity.

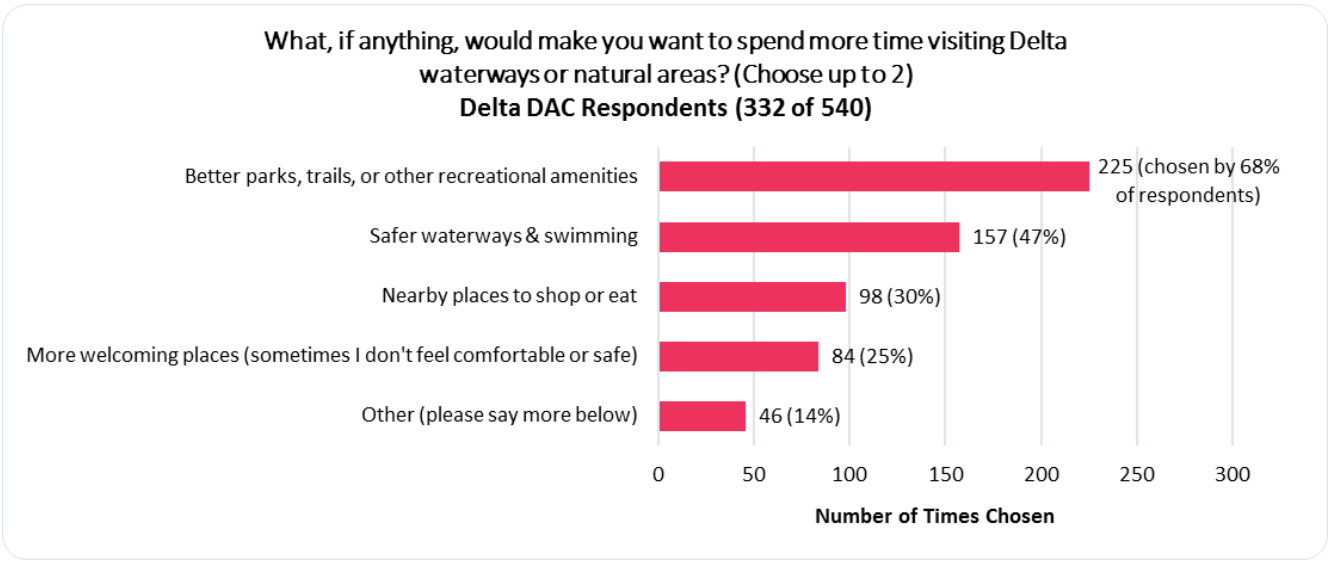


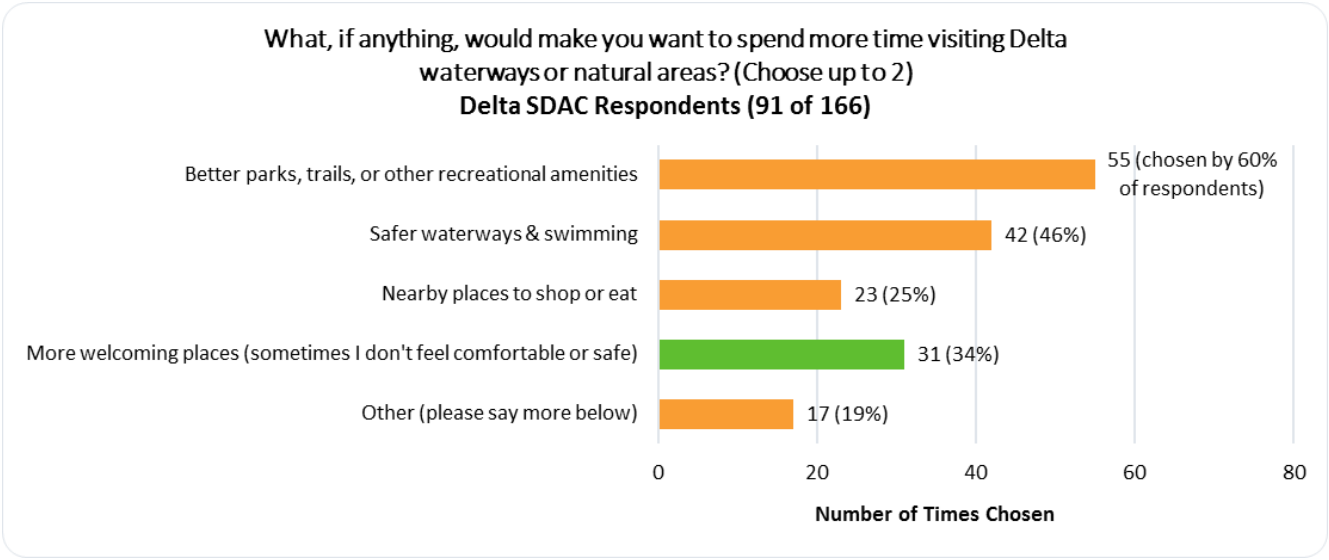
5.2.3 ENHANCING EXPERIENCES IN NATURE

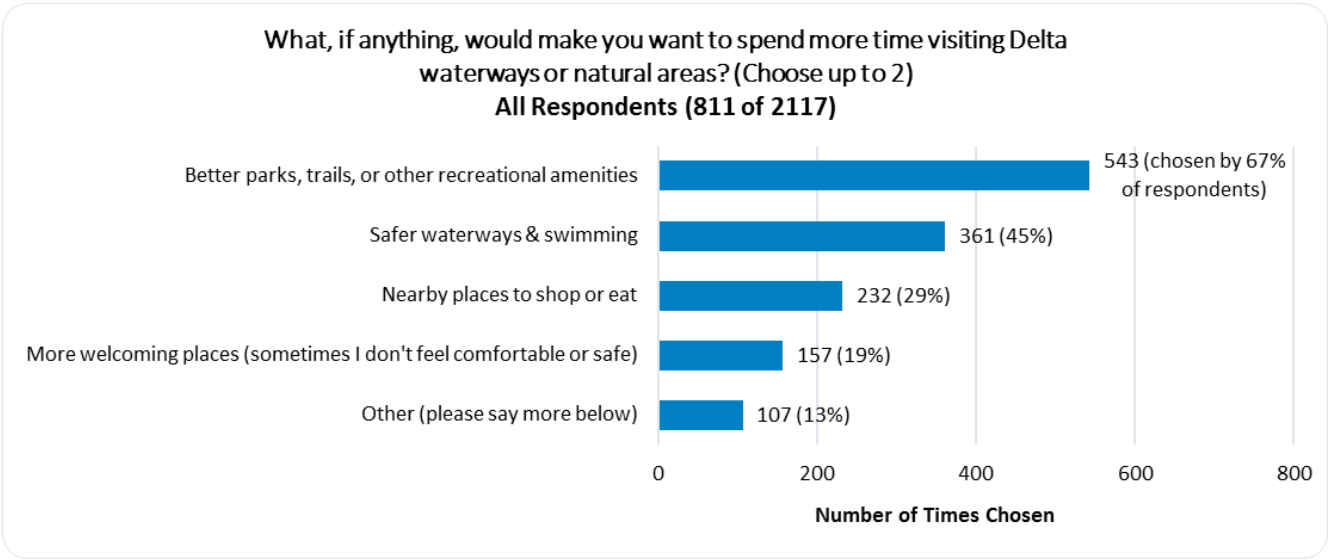
To get a better understanding of how DAC participants experience the Delta's waterways and natural areas, the survey asked: "What, if anything, would make you want to spend more time visiting Delta waterways or natural areas? (Choose up to 2)."

Slightly more than two-thirds of Delta-region DAC respondents (as well as all respondents) selected **better parks, trails or other recreational amenities**, making it the most frequent selection. It was also the most frequent choice by SDAC participants, though at a slightly lower rate (60%). For Delta-region DAC respondents – including SDAC – the second most frequently selected choice was **safer waterways & swimming**. The third most frequently chosen option diverged for Delta-region DAC respondents and the subset further categorized as SDAC. DAC respondents selected **nearby places to eat or shop** 30% of the time, whereas those categorized as SDAC selected **more welcoming places (sometimes I don't feel comfortable or safe)** 34% of the time.

Responses from all respondents were extremely similar to those of Delta-region DAC respondents.


What, if anything, would make you want to spend more time visiting Delta waterways or natural areas? (Choose up to 2)
Delta DAC Respondents (332 of 540)
Better parks, trails, or other recreational amenities
225 (chosen by 68% of respondents)
Safer waterways & swimming
157 (47%)
Nearby places to shop or eat
98 (30%)
More welcoming places (sometimes I don't feel comfortable or safe)
84 (25%)
Other (please say more below)
46 (14%)
0
50
100
150
200
250
300
Number of Times Chosen

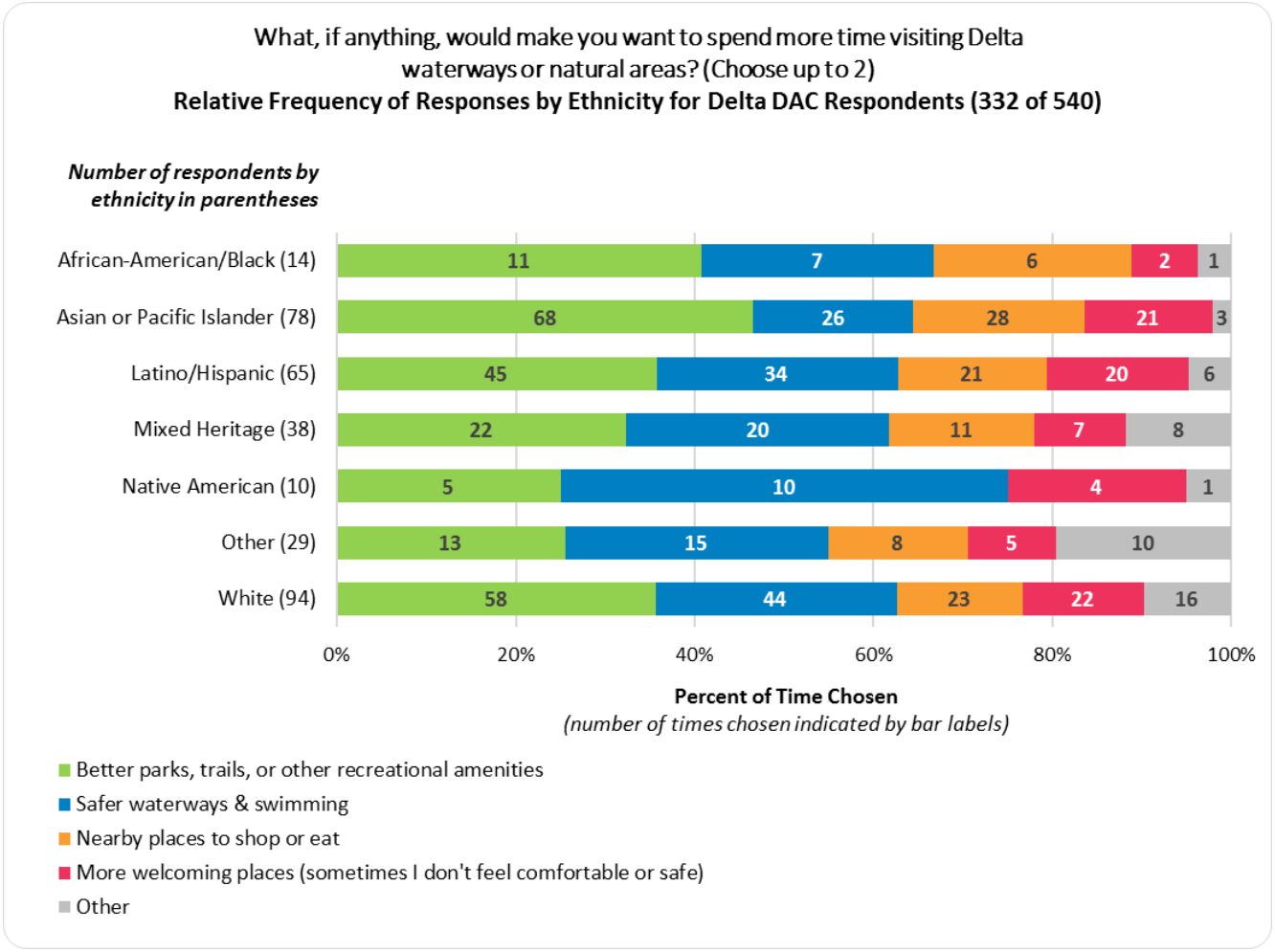

What, if anything, would make you want to spend more time visiting Delta waterways or natural areas? (Choose up to 2)
Delta SDAC Respondents (91 of 166)
Better parks, trails, or other recreational amenities
55 (chosen by 60% of respondents)
Safer waterways & swimming
42 (46%)
Nearby places to shop or eat
23 (25%)
More welcoming places (sometimes I don't feel comfortable or safe)
31 (34%)
Other (please say more below)
17 (19%)
0
20
40
60
80
Number of Times Chosen


What, if anything, would make you want to spend more time visiting Delta waterways or natural areas? (Choose up to 2)
All Respondents (811 of 2117)
Better parks, trails, or other recreational amenities
543 (chosen by 67% of respondents)
Safer waterways & swimming
361 (45%)
Nearby places to shop or eat
232 (29%)
More welcoming places (sometimes I don't feel comfortable or safe)
157 (19%)
Other (please say more below)
107 (13%)
0
200
400
600
800
Number of Times Chosen

Comparing the relative frequency of responses among survey participants by ethnic identity reveal both similarities and modest differences. All but those identifying as Native American or Other identified **better parks, trails, or other recreational amenities** more often than any of the other options as something that would encourage them to spend more time in Delta natural areas. For Native Americans and those identifying as another ethnicity, **safer waterways and swimming** was the most frequently selected option.

These two choices were the top two most frequently selected options for all groups except those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islanders. For them, as well as for African-Americans, **nearby places to shop or eat** received an equal or nearly equal number of responses compared to safer waterways and swimming as the second most frequently chosen option.

While **more welcoming places** was selected fewer times than the three choices above for all ethnic groups, it was still chosen relatively frequently by those identifying as Native American (40% of the time), Latino/Hispanic (31% of the time), and Asian or Pacific Islander (27% of the time).



5.3 Participant Comments

Two hundred eighty-eight (288) respondents, or 13%, provided additional comments. These included, including 126 Delta-region DAC respondents, of which 36 are SDAC respondents. The following summarizes major themes as **clean, safe accessible, well-maintained outdoor recreation**; **preserving the Delta**; concerns about the **natural environment**; and other comments.[17]

5.3.1 DELTA-REGION DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

In their comments, Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents were aligned with those of all respondents in placing a strong emphasis on **clean, safe, accessible outdoor recreation**, **preserving and appreciating the Delta,** and restoring the **natural environment, including water quality.** The impact of trash and pollution from boaters and homeless encampments was a theme throughout.

Many spoke about their experience in nature in the Delta, and wrote about a spectrum of activities including photography and birding, fishing and hunting, kayaking and boating, hiking, and more.



Comment themes about experiencing the Delta region's natural areas and waterways from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents

Theme #1: Clean, Safe, Accessible, Theme 1: Well-maintained Outdoor Recreation – 48 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 16 SDAC)

The largest number of comments regarded outdoor recreation, with 38% of Delta-region DAC comments. There was a strong desire throughout comments for clean, safe, accessible, well-maintained opportunities for outdoor recreation, whether it was parks, bicycling, trails, fishing, hunting, hiking, or wildlife viewing.

- "Serious effort to create more accessibility to the waterways. Hiking and bicycling"
- "I would spend more time in the Delta if the Antioch Bridge were less dangerous and scary for a bicyclist. Wider marked shoulders on Highway 160 between the Antioch Bridge and the Rio Vista Bridge. An open and accessible sidewalk on one side or the other of the Rio Vista Bridge that is handicapped accessible. Good access to both ends of both sidewalks of the Three Mile Island Bridge. These are easily fixable."
- "Trail connections for biking safely are needed. Attack dogs should be banned."
- "Maintenance of the facilities, trails, roads, bathrooms, etc. Retaining and sharing the history of the region, including of Native Americans. Keeping the water clean and healthy. Keeping the area clean!"

[17] It is important to note that many comments related to more than one theme, and were coded for each theme in order to comprehensively capture their input. In addition, spelling and other errors. For readability, misspellings and minor typos were corrected. For all other errors, we used "[sic]" so as not to risk misinterpreting the commenter's intent.

- "Parks need to be maintained better, whether it is city, county, or state jurisdiction. Even federal (Stone Lakes)."
- "Vagrants living along public trails makes me and my children feel unsafe."
- "I wish I could enjoy more outdoor activities, but I feel very insecure, we have too many homeless people who produce (most of them) a lot of trash, take drugs on the street and one does not feel safe walking with our young children and see unpleasant situations. Some of these people are aggressive and in the same way it makes one very insecure about being attacked by someone."
- "My main issue with the parks is that I don't believe that there are enough activities designed for adults. Almost all of the equipment is designed for small children. Adding more amenities adults could use like outdoor fitness equipment (walkers, stationary bikes, treadmills, seated chest presses, etc.) or a regular playground large enough to fit adults (like the playground in Oxford Circle Park in Davis) would be appreciated. I think every park should have a restroom."
- "In Lodi there is the Lodi Lake, privately owned by the City. It is only welcoming or safe for seniors at a certain hour of the morning on weekdays. There isn't any priority in Lodi for any open space to just go for a walk. Except the newer plain 'walking track' on Lower Sacramento Rd with no trees. You can't even just go walk around the track at a school."
- "more places you can go with your family."
- "More Dog parks"

Delta-region DAC respondents also spoke about the need for **clean, safe, accessible waterways** that could support **swimming, fishing and other water activities**. Some comments included:

- "so the delta was a place of fun and fishing but now the water is so dirty can't spend time or eat the fish."
- "Cleaner and healthier water to swim and do other water activities."
- "restore recreational fisheries as lack of water has reduced significantly"
- "Swimming is important here. Keep waterways clean!"
- "Cleaner water. The homeless population needs to be moved away from our waterways."
- "Due to the homeless situation and the e.coli in the water, many of the people I know now are not comfortable swimming in the water."
- "More public fishing access and better maintenance of the access we do have. They are dirty / nasty pits with full garbage cans and filthy damaged porta pottys and rest rooms. I think all the park personnel do is lock and unlock the gates and empty the money if entrance fees are charged."
- "When I go kayaking, I seem to stay away from the larger waterways in the Delta because too many boats are going too fast. Maybe some more signage or buoys to deter boats that speed. Love to hike too. Maybe offer some more trails."

Theme 2: Preserve the Delta – 29 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 6 SDAC)

Delta-region DAC respondents (23%) also shared an appreciation of their experience in nature in the Delta, speaking to its **beauty,** its **uniqueness,** and the **wide range of outdoor activities possible** there. Some comments included:

- "The natural state and it's beauty is enough for me :)"
- "the delta is an incredibly unique place to recreate. it is open water within 1 hour of the 5 largest metropolitan areas in the USA. preserving the outdoor opportunities it gives the surrounding areas is an important part of public policy."
- "Where I go the trails are wonderfully maintained. I feel safe. I bring my own food if needed, or I'm close enough to fast food/restaurants."
- "Kiteboarding, windsurfing, winging, and almost any other wind and water sport and activity. I am outside doing something everyday on or off the water."

- "I love enjoying the beauty of the Delta by simply being surrounded by nature in the largest Delta on the West Coast of north and south America. I often take rides into the Delta. I have extensively boated the Delta as well."
- "I live in a Delta community on the shores of the San Joaquin River. I am out on the water at least once a week sometimes more. I enjoy all the recreational opportunities the Delta has to offer year round."
- "Photography. Studying the history of the area. This query is a set up to beg a wetlands attachment to putting in the tunnel near Rio Vista or Isleton."
- "I love enjoying the beauty of the Delta by simply being surrounded by nature in the largest Delta on the West Coast of north and south America. I often take rides into the Delta. I have extensively boated the Delta as well."

Theme 3: Natural Environment – 22 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 12 SDAC)

Delta-region DAC respondents mentioned natural environment 22 times (17%) in their comments. Comments here focused on the **diversion of Delta water flow** (8 mentions), the need for **restoration** (7 mentions), **protection of fish, including salmon, wildlife, migratory birds, and their habitat** (5 mentions), and other comments mentioning **algal blooms, invasive species, and saltwater intrusion**.

Comments about **water quality, invasive species**, and **saltwater intrusion** included:

- "More restored natural environments with areas for people to respectfully recreate"
- "Water quality is already very poor, and makes swimming uncomfortable to dangerous. Very little public land is available, and even less in the form of native wetlands. Levees choke out natural river runs, and need to be set back -- which would add considerable public land access and safer walking and biking, in addition to dramatically increasing habitats. And water entering the system from the North must be allowed more free flow through the system, to ensure better water quality and amounts."
- "Less water pollution and salt intrusion."
- "I advocate for ecological balance, fish ladder passageway for salmon to return to upper Yuba River, and upper Sacramento river. Provide indigenous habitat for salmon to spawn and enhance their populations."
- "The weeds and algae have become a big problem in the bays. The State has done a better job in the last couple of years but the water in our bay is still marginal for swimming."
- "Stop using Roundup to kill the water hyacinth."
- "the sloughs get pretty jammed up with hyacinth."
- "Less Hazardous Algae Blooms."
- "Also more aquatic weed control (but not more herbicide spraying, please!)"
- "Must protect the river flow (which also affects temperature) to not lose the salmon runs which are critical to all aspects of our natural environment."
- "I would like to see more water flow, not less. Invasive species are taking over and will get worse if clean water is diverted from the heart of the Delta."

Other Themes:

There were a range of miscellaneous issues that respondents identified as needing improvement in the Delta. Delta-region DAC respondents spoke about **homeless encampments (7 mentions)** and the issues of **pollution and safety**, already shared above. Some additional comments focus on **aging infrastructure and amenities needed** in the Delta. This theme was echoed by all respondents.

- "Would like to see the state identify underwater obstacles in Franks tract."
- "More and better maintenance on fisheries reduce homeless on the river and lower pollution"
- "Too many marinas are barely hanging on – crappy boat ramps, silted in slips, dodgy tenants. Better fishing would help too. Stripers + salmon are depleted, bass + panfish are poisoned with mercury and farm runoff."

- "The parks and public boat launches out here are often in disrepair. It is hard to find great eating/drinking spots that you can boat to."
- "There is a dire need for places to eat on the delta."

5.3.2 NATIVE AMERICAN RESPONDENTS

Seven (7) Native American respondents gave comments on this question, all of whom live and/or work in the Delta. There were four (4) mentions of **traditional practices and Tribal gathering**, **concerns about the natural environment**, and **difficult access**. There was one **"No Tunnel"** statement, and one who shared they spend time **farming**. Another comment was made about how **social services are neglected** within the smaller towns of the Delta due to their tax zoning. Some comments include:

- "I use natural areas of the delta to retain connection to the landscape and waters through traditional activities (hunting, fishing, and plant gathering), but much is contaminated. These places are so rare and threatened by existing uses (e.g., poor water stewardship, recreation, etc.). Access to these places is often difficult, and restricted mostly to areas under federal or state ownership. None of the areas are particularly in good ecological health, and I worry about their long-term health."
- "More protected areas where Indigenous peoples can gather foods and medicines"
- "tribes spend a lot of time in the delta gathering"
- "Safe fish and water for cultural and subsistence food of Tribes"

5.3.3 ALL RESPONDENTS

Two hundred eighty-eight (288) respondents left comments, including Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents.

Survey Question

"Would you like to say more?"

In reference to questions asking about 'your experience in nature in the Delta,' and 'what, if anything, would make you want to spend more time visiting Delta waterways or natural areas?'

The most comments related to all respondents were regarding **outdoor recreation**, with 96 (33%) mentions of outdoor recreation, including general comments appreciating for outdoor recreation in the Delta, including **walking and bike trails** (20 mentions), **fishing** (16 mentions), **birding** (12 mentions) and **swimming and water sports** (11 mentions), and some mention of equestrian access.

- "The Delta is a world class destination for windsurfing, kiteboarding, SUP, wingers and foilers because of the wind, tides and fresh water... no great white sharks."
- "Please invest in off street bicycle infrastructure. The levee roads are extremely dangerous for cyclists."
- "Other than wine tasting or bars, there are few places for families to eat and hang out after birding. The few cafes have lousy parking on busy highways."
- "MUCH better access. There is an incredible lack of public access for public recreation and hunting."
- "Cleaner water and more accessible levee water ways .All levees expect Marinas are private now need a park on Bethel Island."

The second highest number of comments among all respondents focused on the **natural environment** (71 mentions, 25%), with particular issues regarding protecting **fish, wildlife, and migrating birds and their habitat** (25 mentions), and concern about the potential impact of the **diversion of the Delta water flow** (19 mentions). Other related, less frequent messages were that **restoration is needed** in the Delta, concerns about **harmful algal blooms**, and **invasive species**.

- "my livelihood and recreation are dependent on healthy salmon populations. Much more attention needs to be paid to the health of fish runs."

- “Improved water quality, for fish, recreation and human and animal health would increase time spent on the waterways.”
- “We need to do whatever is needed to restore the salmon runs. They are a fraction of what they were in my earlier lifetime.”
- “Many water ways are polluted.”
- “We need adequate freshwater flows to support fish populations and reduce algae blooms associated with low flows/warm water. Using a tunnel or other conveyance to divert Sacramento water around the Delta can only make things worse for our already decimated fish populations.”
- “This isn't about me or anyone else vising the delta, it is about preserving the waterways for salmon to navigate up and downstream at both ends of their lifecycle.”
- “Better water quality, more fish, more wildlife and reduced health concerns for water contact sports such as water skiing and swimming.”
- “Priority/law abidance by water exporters and managers to CVPIA and restoration of the delta habitat that support the fisheries and the delta food chain as required by law. The delta has been converted into a rock lined reservoir for water conveyance.”

The third highest number of comments among all respondents were related to **preserving the Delta** (64 mentions, 22%). Several respondents expressed both **admiration of and concern for preserving its scenic beauty and its communities**. There was also a desire to **improve the Delta** with strong emphasis on **cleaning up trash and underwater debris**, **homelessness**, and **having more amenities such as restaurants and wineries**.

- “We love the Delta waterways as they are.”
- “The Delta is not a place for shopping or entertainment. It is a place to enjoy and treasure nature, the waterways of every description, the small ferries, the wildlife, the bridges... Maintain it, but no "improvements" for shopping kinds of tourists. It is a place for slowing down the pace of life and watching nature. It is a place to appreciate the waters that flow from the Sierra to the Delta, and into the Bay.”
- “Less People. Do not build our small town into a city. Leave it alone”
- “I'm happy with all the area currently offers”
- “The parks and public boat launches out here are often in disrepair. It is hard to find great eating/drinking spots that you can boat to.”
- “shop, buy food, rest...I would like to see a dock at the town of Locke”

Other themes were water quality, homeless encampments, trash and pollution.

CHAPTER 6. DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT OPINIONS

Chapter Highlights

- 95% of Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents (and 97% of all respondents) indicate having unformed opinions about the project, suggesting an opportunity and need for education and further engagement.
- When asked about concerns about the proposed project, major themes included concern for the natural environment, preserving the Delta and community, water quality, and construction impact.
- When asked if they could see any benefits to the proposed project, more than two thirds of those who left comments said "no benefits."

6.1 Introduction

This section summarizes responses to the following questions which aimed to understand the respondents' opinions about the Delta Conveyance Project proposal and to gather their thoughts about potential effects or benefits of the project.

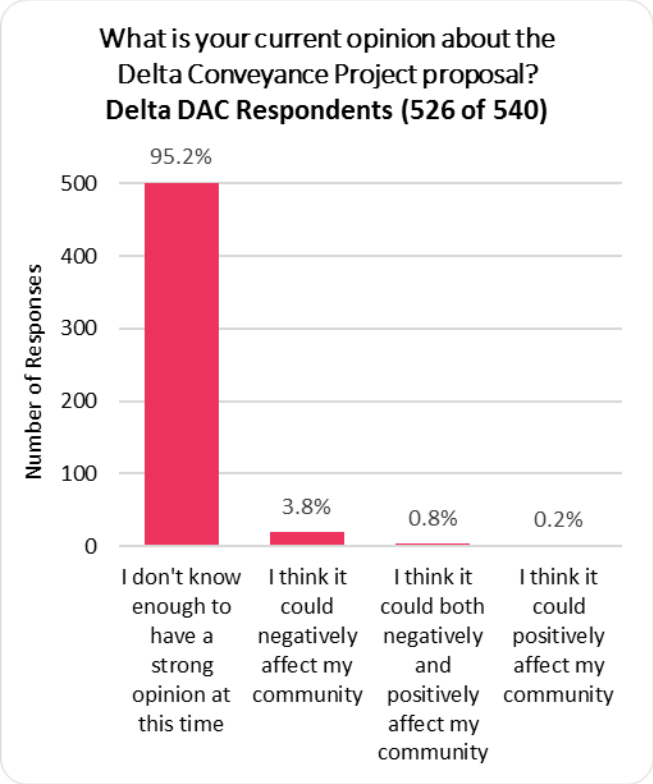
1. What is your current opinion about the Delta Conveyance Project proposal? (select one)
    - I don't know enough to have a strong opinion at this time
    - I think it could positively affect my community
    - I think it could negatively affect my community
    - I think it could both negatively and positively affect my community
2. What concerns do you have about the potential effects of the proposal on your community? (open comment)
3. What potential benefits of the proposal could you see for your community? (open comment)

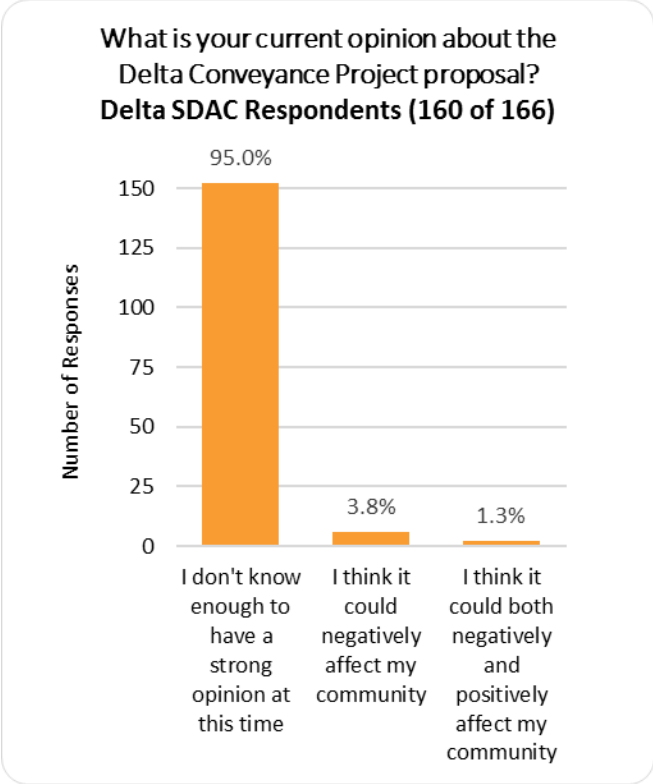
In early 2021, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) launched a Community Benefits Program to engage community members in developing a framework for investing in the Delta's cultural recreational, natural and agricultural values if the Delta Conveyance Project is approved. Input from this survey will be one source of input into that process. In April and May, 2021, DWR hosted a series of Community Benefits Program workshops. For more information, please visit https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-Program.

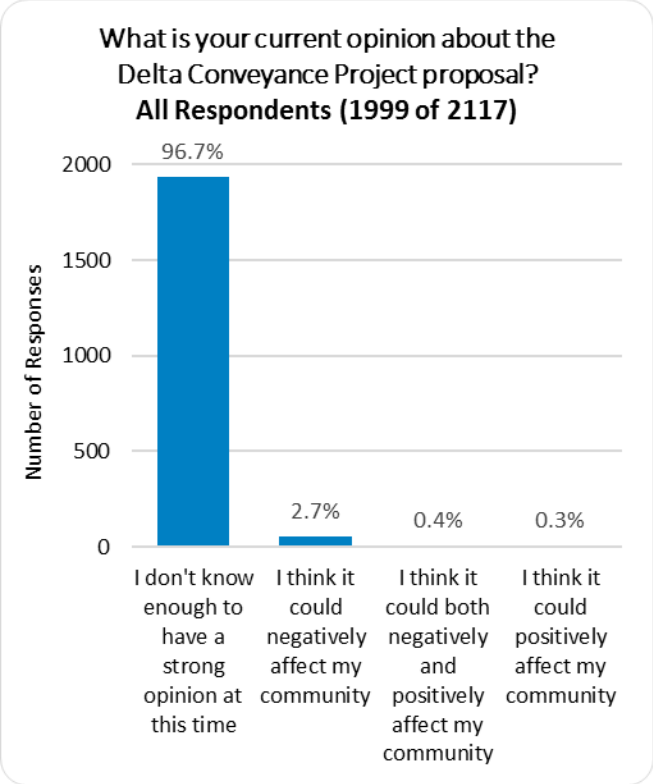
6.2 Project Opinions

The vast majority (94%) of survey participants responded to the question, "What is your current opinion about the Delta Conveyance Project proposal?" Of Delta-region DAC and SDAC respondents, 95% chose, "I don't know enough to have a strong opinion at this time," and 4% chose "I think it could negatively affect my community." The response rate was similar for all survey participants: 97% indicated not knowing enough to have a strong opinion, and 3% believed it could have negative effects.

This near unanimous response suggests a genuine opportunity and need for additional community education and engagement related to the potential effects and benefits of the project.







6.3 Project Concerns

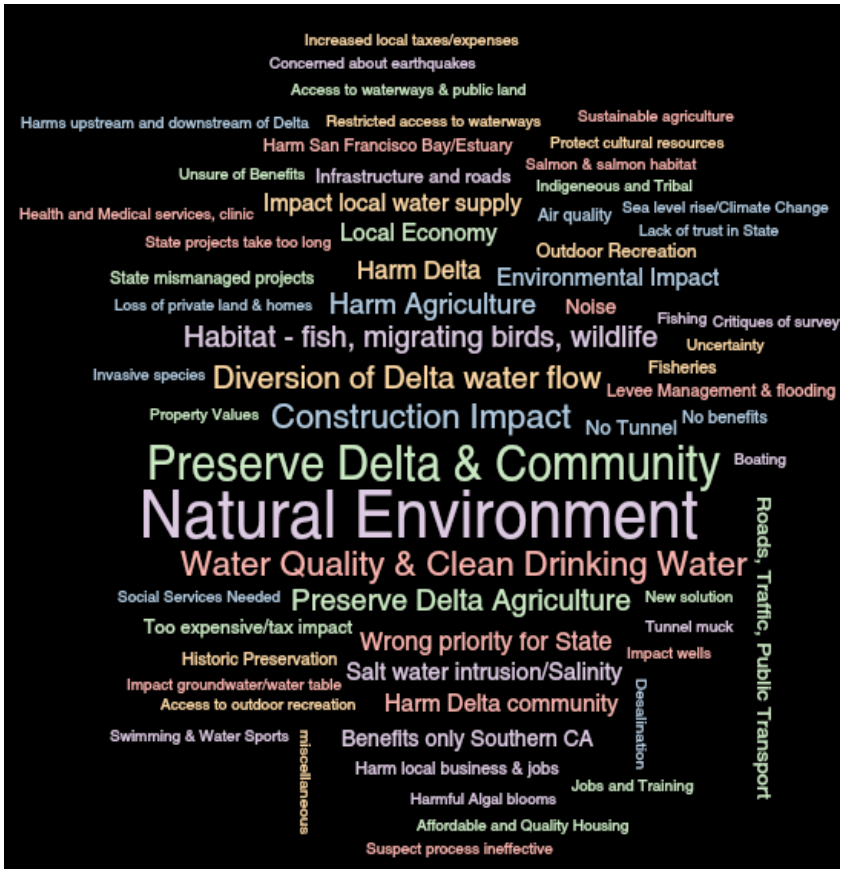
This question received 583 comments in response to the question, “What concerns do you have about the potential effects of the proposal on your community?” Of that total, 230 DAC participants from the Delta offered comments in this section, including 63 respondents categorized as severely disadvantaged (SDAC).

6.3.1 DELTA-REGION DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

The word cloud captures themes from Delta-region DAC comments. Prominent themes in comments included the natural environment; preserving the Delta quality of life; and construction impact.

Theme 1: Natural Environment – 149 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 59 SDAC)

The highest number of Delta-region DAC comments (65%), were related to the **natural environment**. Top themes identified by Delta-region DAC respondents were **protecting the natural environment** (64 DAC mentions), the **diversion of Delta water flow** (60 DAC mentions) and **habitat for fish, migrating birds, and wildlife** (52 DAC mentions).



Comment themes about project concerns from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents.

Following are some representative comments.

- "Further damaging our fragile aquatic ecosystem"
- "Environmental/wildlife damages and negative impacts for underrepresented communities such as farmworkers and any one that works and lives in the Delta."
- "Especially during the summer months if we've had a bad rain season the water flow is down causing stagnant water and even toxic algae blooms. If the tunnels were built it would further damage the natural water flows, take from delta area farmers and the communities that rely on fresh water for drinking."
- "Disturbance of the Bay salt line and all species impacted."
- "Upsetting the natural balance of the environment that will ultimately affect the quality of life in the region. Our reality is an interwoven tapestry of many natural factors. My concern is for making decisions that are based on an inadequate understanding of how interconnected all the different parts of our environment are."
- "Disturbation[sic] of long -establish farmers' property, some of the last naturally fertile land in CA. Disruption of fisheries and water quality. Expenditure of enormous amounts of fresh water, for concrete and sand, which may have to be imported."
- "Destroy natural habitats, upset balance of nature"
- "Degradation of marine species, habitat and drinking water quality"
- "This would completely destroy the ecosystem- no fishing and would destroy Miwok culture"
- "Killing more of our fisheries and further degrading the quality of water in the Delta."

- "It is unclear how the project will support the SF Bay area, and the delta. we have Harmful Algal Blooms, collapse of fishing, unhealthy toxins in our fish, sacred sites and cultural resources. How will this project improve the conditions in the Bay Area."

Theme 2: Preserving the Delta community, quality of life, beauty, and lifestyle – 97 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 20 SDAC)

The second highest number of comments (42%) were regarding **preserving the Delta** and its **community**, **quality of life**, and beauty. Many of the comments were wide-ranging, concerned about harming the Delta, and related to **agriculture**, **community**, **habitat**, and **levees**.

- "Destruction of historic sites, destruction of well water supplies, hazards to navigation, destruction of Delta roadways, water pollution, air pollution, destruction of Delta agricultural lands, displacement of family farmers and their way of life, destruction of natural habitat for fish and wildlife. disposal of sludge from tunneling, over a decade of construction and the ruination of Delta life for its residents."
- "Damage to the natural & historic value. Damage to local water quality & environments. Damage to roads & levees. Loss of prime agricultural area."
- "Worry about lasting damages to the land and farm land wildlife habits that will be displaced. It will disturb more living things that help keep ecological life in balance."
- "Disruption during construction, loss of fresh water for recreation, fishing, agriculture, loss of historic farms, cause migration of people from delta because of threats to quality of life."
- "I live in HOOD !! Major construction zone. Dewatering, pile driving, noise pollution, air pollution.... our quiet, peaceful delta town is going to be overrun by large construction. Not to mention, what if there is heavy rainfall during construction... how will the levees be protected and reinforced?"
- "Cut off from timely emergency services during construction. Damage to surrounding roads and levees from detoured traffic. River water height and salinity coming up river more due to draw out from tunnel. Disruption of Sandhill Crane and other wildlife, damage to ecosystem. Raw untreated water leaking from tunnel into water table- contaminating drinking water. Historic victorian homes damage. Economic killed from 16 years of construction. Permanent ag land loss. Unsightly shafts in air."

Theme 3: Water Quality & Clean Drinking Water – 68 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 21 SDAC)

The fourth highest number of comments (30%) were related to **water quality** and **clean drinking water**. Connections were made between impacts to the **natural environment**, concern about the **diversion of water flow**, and its **impact on drinking water**, **farms**, **fishing**, and the **community**.

- "Especially during the summer months if we've had a bad rain season the water flow is down causing stagnant water and even toxic algae blooms. If the tunnels were built it would further damage the natural water flows, take from delta area farmers and the communities that rely on fresh water for drinking."
- "Water quality, natural environment, Delta health, reduced fishing tourism income"
- "Water quality of Delta depends on historic flows of fresh water. Diversion would diminish fresh water for Delta."
- "The tunnels will divert clean fresh water from the Delta before it arrives to help flush salinity, especially during droughts. This happened many times during the last drought when salinity reached risky levels for some crops in the area."
- "contributing to poorer quality drinking water and environment."
- "not enough freshwater flows to protect region"
- "Without improved water purveyance, the Delta cannot sustain Agriculture"

Theme 4: Construction Impact – 63 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 14 SDAC)

DAC respondents (27%) highlighted concerns about **environmental impact**, alongside **noise**, **impacts of trucks**, etc., to **infrastructure and roads**, and **air quality**.

- "Traffic, noise, air pollution, impacts to wildlife (especially sandhill cranes & other migratory waterfowl), impacts to agriculture (pear farmers!), loss of small town feel. Water needs to remain in the Delta for people, fish, wildlife and the environment generally!"
- "Vibrations from digging equipment, damage to levees and traffic congestion from truck hauling dirt from conveyance building site, destroying the eco system and the quality of drinking water, preventing the amount of water needed to protect agriculture from being available, imminent domain destroying family homes."

Survey Question

"What concerns do you have about the potential effects of the proposal on your community?"

- "The proposed area will further pollute and destabilize South Stockton, which already has dangerously high rates of pollution, asthma, and other health factors."
- "Destruction of historic sites, destruction of well water supplies, hazards to navigation, destruction of Delta roadways, water pollution, air pollution, destruction of Delta agricultural lands, displacement of family farmers and their way of life, destruction of natural habitat for fish and wildlife. disposal of sludge from tunneling, over a decade of construction and the ruination of Delta life for it's residents."
- "There will be great disruption to the tranquility of the community, especially the length of time it will take to complete the building of the tunnel."
- "High frequency drilling noise, pollution, garbage, truck traffic on our rural roads, barge traffic on our quiet waterways, disturbance to wildlife."

Other concerns expressed in comments ranged from preserving local agriculture, the local economy, impacts to outdoor recreation, and fisheries.

6.3.2 NATIVE AMERICAN RESPONDENTS

Eleven (11) Native American respondents provided comments when answering this question, 10 of whom live or work in the Delta. The concerns mentioned most were the **natural environment** (10 mentions), in particular the **diversion of Delta water flow** and **impact by construction**. **Harming the Delta** (6 mentions) as well as **harming Delta communities**, **impacting local water supply**, and **protecting cultural resources** were also mentioned. **Other Indigenous and Tribal concerns** were mentioned (6 mentions). **Fishing** and **harming agriculture** both were mentioned twice each. Roads and speeding were also mentioned (3 mentions). Finally, two (2) commenters stated that they believed it was the wrong priority for the state to address its water concerns. It should be noted that responses attributed to people identified as Native American/Indigenous are also considered DAC and/or SDAC.

- "I'm Miwok, Indigenous to the delta. The Delta is the lifeblood of our culture and existence as Miwok people. These tunnels would destroy the entire ecosystem and culture."
- "Enough water, erosion, expense to residents, safety of the tunnel, damage to cultural and natural resources, damage to biological resources, damage to traditional methods."
- "The construction damaging the environment, the work vehicles traveling the old roads, the effects on the wildlife, the effects on the water levels, water quality, our drinking water."
- "Ruining the delta with the pipes and trenching"
- "It will turn the south delta into a swamp."
- "Without improved water purveyance, the Delta cannot sustain Agriculture"
- "I'm concerned that the project will have a disproportionate impact upon agriculture in my community."

6.3.3 ALL RESPONDENTS

Comments from all respondents (583 respondents) again closely aligned with those of the Delta-region DAC respondents (240 respondents). There were 318 mentions of the **natural environment**, 228 mentions of **preserving the Delta's quality of life, beauty and lifestyle**, many simultaneously mentioning preserving Delta agriculture, and 147 mentions of **concern about construction impact**.

Concerns about impacts to **the natural environment**, **preserving Delta's quality of life and local communities**:

- "I fear that too much water will be shipped away from the Delta impacting the natural environment."
- "Improving the environment in the delta for the people and fish."
- "concern that the delta conveyance will cause damage to the environment and will too costly for the benefit"
- "Delta tunnels would destroy local jobs, destroy the environment, kill wildlife and fish, destroy the water quality."
- "Major boating routes, nesting for wide varieties of water fowl, ability to transit from the southern routes to Sacramento via the water. The eastern route has a potentially huge impact on well water in the local communities, as well as exposure to toxic chemicals - such as mercury from 19th century mining operations that has sunk and silted over."
- "My biggest concerns are the negative impacts of this project on wildlife, endangered species, algae blooms and the general degradation of what is left of the natural world in the Delta as a result of the inevitable reduction of water flows through the Delta."
- "Devastation to local residents quality of life from noise and pollution, as well as to farms, businesses, and to migratory birds."
- "Destruction of the access, livability and health of the delta."

Concerns about **construction impacts** of the Delta Conveyance Project:

- "Giving the current proposal, the town of Hood will be surrounded by construction on all sides limiting my community to access to shopping, medical, etc."
- "Do not destroy our way of life and crater home Resale values in the Pocket and Greenhaven neighborhoods by years of construction, drilling that will cause structural damage to homes, destroy air quality, create noise nuisances, destroy levee walking areas all to suck the river dry like the Los Angeles River."
- "Invasive and detrimental construction"
- "Cut off from timely emergency services during construction. Damage to surrounding roads and levees from detoured traffic. River water height and salinity coming up river more due to draw out from tunnel. Disruption of Sandhill Crane and other wildlife, damage to ecosystem. Raw untreated water leaking from tunnel into water table- contaminating drinking water. Historic Victorian homes damage. Economic killed from 16 years of construction. Permanent ag land loss. Unsightly shafts in air."
- "The disruptive construction and industrial vehicles hurt many small communities."

Other themes on comments ranged from concern of the local economy (77 mentions), the proposal being the wrong priority for the state (73 mentions), and roads, traffic and public transport (44 mentions).

6.4 Project Benefits

Five hundred three (503), or 45%, of all respondents left comments in response to the question, "What potential benefits of the proposal could you see for your community?" Two hundred seven (207) DAC participants from the Delta offered comments in this section, of which 60 respondents were categorized as severely disadvantaged (SDAC).

6.4.1 DELTA-REGION DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

In the word cloud following, which includes the range of themes shared by Delta-region DAC respondents on this question, the theme of **no benefits** stands out, along with a range of other themes in response to this question, including benefits of jobs and training and both concerns as well as hope for improvement to the natural environment.



Comment themes about potential project benefits from Delta-region DAC (including SDAC) respondents.

Theme 1: No benefits – 146 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 37 SDAC)

More than two thirds (71%) of Delta-region DAC respondents commented that there are no benefits that will come from the project. Comments include:

- "I don't think there is any benefit for any community along the proposed route of the tunnel"
- "There are no benefits for HOOD !!"
- "NONE"
- "The benefits to the Delta have not been identified."
- "NO positive benefit."

Theme 2: Jobs and training – 22 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 6 SDAC)

Of the Delta-region DAC participants who responded to this question, 22 (11%) commented on the possibility of additional jobs, training opportunities, and improved revenue for local merchants. Some also commented that new jobs would be "short term" or "temporary," expressing skepticism about this being a long-term gain.

- "I see this project bringing temporary construction jobs as well as maintenance jobs to my area"
- "It might bring temporary jobs during the building process but nothing more."
- "Workforce development."
- "The temporary bennies[sic] are construction jobs."
- "Short term will bring more jobs to the area."

Theme 3: Natural environment – 18 comments from Delta-region DAC respondents (including 6 SDAC)

Of the Delta-region DAC participants who responded to this question, 18 (9%), including 6 SDAC respondents, provided comments related to the natural environment, with a strong emphasis on habitat. Some offered hope that it this effort could restore the natural environment, while others were concerned about the impact on the natural environment

- "Retaining natural balance and wildlife."
- "A cleaner and safer community."
- "the long term destruction of nature/natural resources."
- "I see more harm to the natural environment of the delta estuary if these tunnels are built."

Other comments talked about a hope for improved water quality through the project (12 Delta-region DAC mentions), a concern that the project only benefits Southern California (10 Delta-region DAC mentions), and comments stating 'no tunnel' (10 Delta-region DAC mentions).

6.4.2 NATIVE AMERICAN RESPONDENTS

Survey Questions

"What potential benefits of the proposal could you see for your community?"

Eight (8) Native American respondents provided comments on this question; all live or work in the Delta. Five stated that they believed there would be "No benefit." Some thought that there could be cleaner water, union jobs, and boon to the local tourism industry. Comments included:

- "A hopeful resurgence of state and community programs derived from the taxes and profits of the tunnel could beautifully revive the delta into a booming tourism industry. However a increase of salinity in the water will destroy any progress towards the traditional tourism we see now."
- "Additional jobs and improved state revenue"
- "Cleaner water. Otherwise there is no benefit."

6.4.3 ALL RESPONDENTS

The number and distribution of comments related to specific themes from all respondents was similar to those from Delta-Region DAC and SDAC respondents, with **no benefits** mentioned 365 times (73%), **natural environment** mentioned 53 times (11%), **jobs and training** mentioned 53 times (11%), and **water quality and clean drinking water** mentioned 27 times (5%). Comments on no benefits were represented well by comments above shared by the Delta-Region DAC respondents.

However, some comments from all respondents that identified additional **benefits regarding water quality** included:

- "With climate change and the probability of a large earthquake, fresh water supply could be negatively impacted. This project will help fix the issue."
- "Increased access to recreational activities, cleaner air and water"
- "If the co-equal goal of water quality flows are controlled locally, we could have better water quality and improved flood protection."
- "Access to safe drinking water"

CHAPTER 7. SPECIAL PLACES

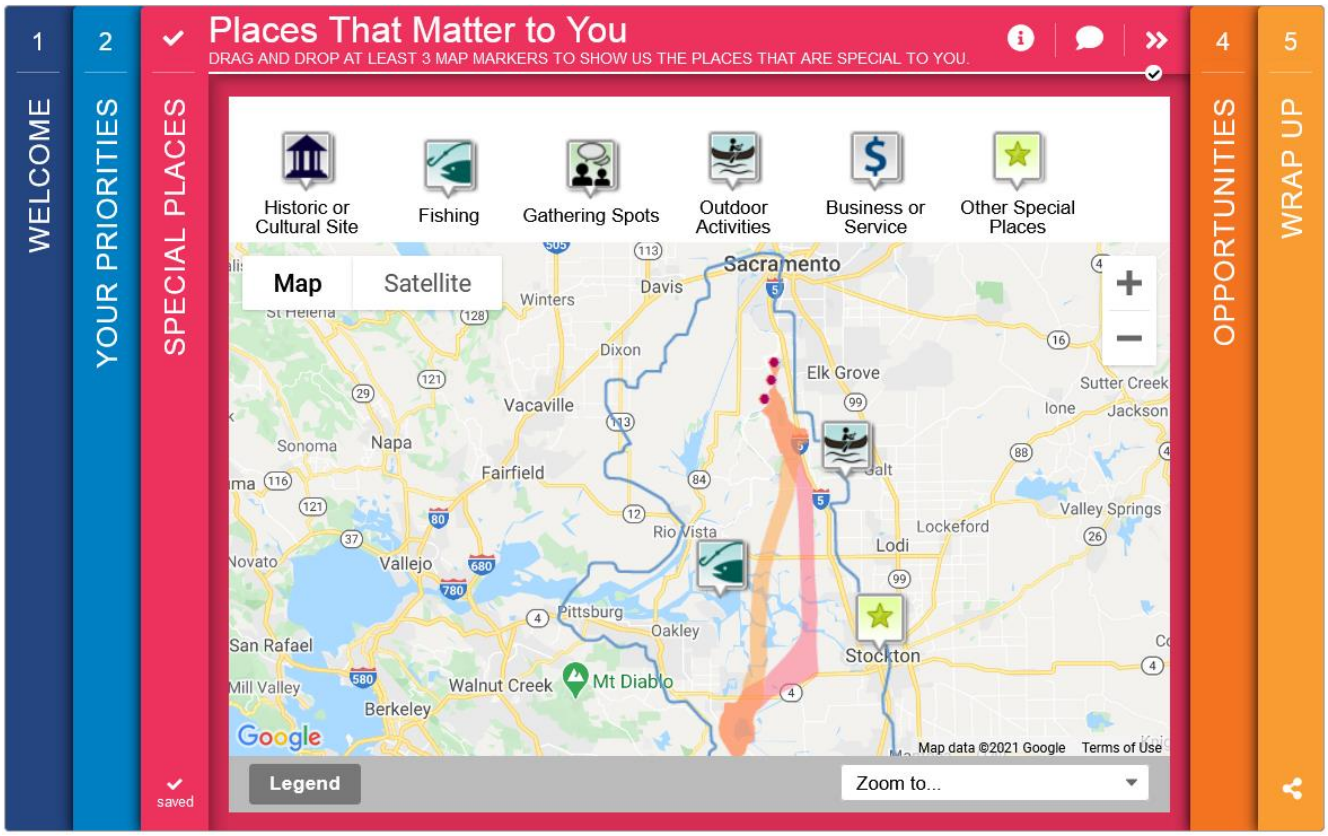
Chapter Highlights

- People love life on the water – it's part of their identity, and is a connection they feel deeply and that affects their everyday lives. For Delta region DAC respondents, Outdoor Activities map markers represented 28% of all map markers, where more than one third (38%) participate in a wide variety of water activities. People described boating to dinner on the waterfront, meeting with friends on the Delta, the peaceful surroundings, and the wildlife.
- Fishing in the Delta is a way of life, with many eating fish regularly. For 90% of the map markers placed by Delta-region DAC respondents, the respondent indicated that they or their family eat fish from the Delta four or more times per week, and almost half (47%) throughout the year. In comments there was a strong desire for "fishing to continue," and many spoke about how fishing is "a way of life."
- There was a concern about wildlife, including (salmon, birds, and other), habitat, and estuary and ecosystem health themes. Respondents expressed concerns about deteriorating water conditions, and those who are most interested in wildlife were also very concerned about negative impacts on habitat and expressed interest in habitat protection and improvements.
- There is a strong sense of agricultural and small-town heritage and history. Respondents described small towns, unique layers of history, old mansions, multigenerational farms, homes, and the people who steward and care for these special places.
- About Locke: Historic and cultural sites were described as landmarks and destinations by Delta DAC participants, and of that the top site identified (41%) was the town of Locke. There is wide spread passion and appreciation for the town's character and history of the Chinese community that settled it. There is also a strong desire for its preservation that is shared through the diversity of Delta communities. The message about these cultural sites, including Locke, was unambiguous. Nearly all of those responses (96%) were "needs improvement."
- Concern about construction impacts: There was also concern that the construction of the DCP would damage the Delta, including historic sites, such as vibrations destroying old architecture and foundations, deterioration of water quality in the waterways but also the quality of municipal water supplies and well water, habitat destruction, damage to the fabric of whole towns along the river, and there would be risk to favorite fishing sites.

7.1. Introduction to the Mapping Exercise

In order to get a more detailed understanding of the current environmental setting and how those who live and work in the Delta value, use, and otherwise connect to places in the region, the Fall 2020 *Your Delta, Your Voice* Environmental Justice Survey included a map-based exercise where participants were invited to place map markers on places and sites that have special significance to them. As can be seen in the survey screenshot below, participants could choose from the following six map marker types.

- Historic or Cultural Site
- Fishing
- Gathering Spots
- Outdoor Activities
- Business or Service
- Other Special Places

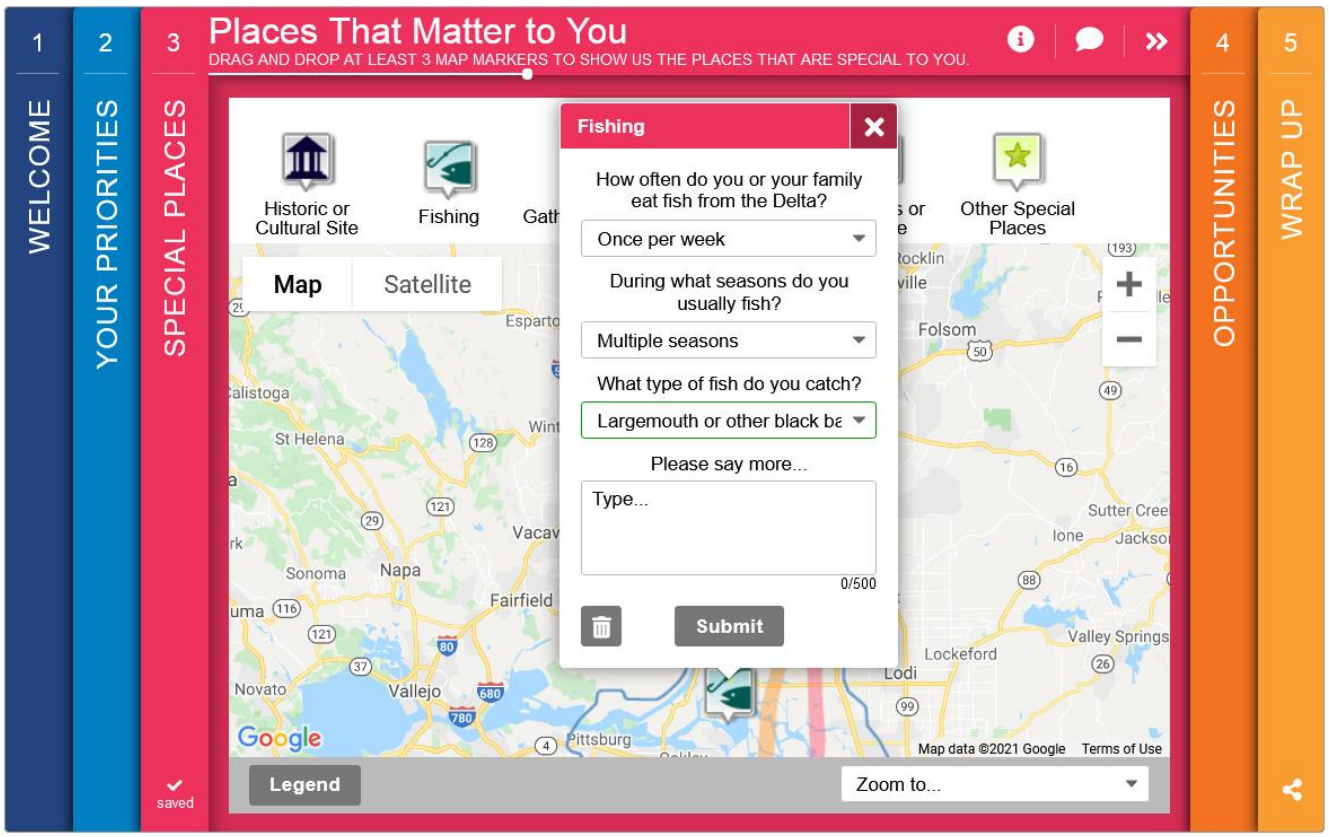


Survey participants could place as many points as they wished, and were able to zoom in or out, move around the map, and drag points, as needed. To provide context, the map included a simplified version of the Legal Delta Boundary and the alternative Delta Conveyance Project proposals (the Central and Eastern Corridors and 3 potential intake sites) as described in the January 2020 Notice of Preparation.[18]

Once a survey participant dropped a map marker on the map, a window would pop open with a series of questions about the site. For example, as can be seen in the following screenshot, when dropping a "fishing" map marker, participants were offered the opportunity to answer the following four questions:

1. How often do you or your family eat fish from the Delta?
2. During what seasons do you usually fish?
3. What type of fish do you catch?
4. Please say more…

[18] Since the survey was released, proposed project alternatives have evolved, and DWR has released updated maps. The maps in this chapter that summarize survey input include the up-to-date alternatives.



The questions for each map marker type are summarized in the table below.

Map Marker Drop Down Questions

Historic or Cultural Site

1. What's here? (select one)
   - Historic landmark or destination
   - Special cultural place
   - Place of worship
   - Museum
   - Cultural resource (confidential)
   - Historic resource (confidential)
   - Other (please specify below)
2. What's the condition of this site? (select one)
   - Very well kept
   - Okay, could be better
   - Needs improvements
3. What's this place called? (open comment)
4. Please say more… (open comment)

Gathering Spot

1. What's here? (select one)
   - Restaurant, café, or bar
   - Park or playground
   - Community or senior center
   - Farmers' market
   - Grocery or convenience store
   - Farm supply store
   - Post office
   - WiFi hot spot
   - Library
   - Other (please specify below)
2. What's this place called? (open comment)
3. Please say more… (open comment)

Business or Service

1. What's here? (select one)
   - Restaurant, café, or bar
   - Marina or recreation business
   - Service (food bank, clinic…)
   - Store
   - WiFi hot spot
   - Community or senior center
   - Farmers' market
   - Farm/food processing business
   - Hotel or tourism destination
   - Community garden
   - Library
   - Post office
   - Other (please specify below)
2. What's this place called? (open comment)
3. Why is it important? (open comment)

Outdoor Activities

1. What do you usually do here? (select one)
   - Water activities (boat, swim…)
   - Walking, running, or hiking
   - Relaxing or picnicking
   - Bicycling
   - Hunting or wildlife viewing
   - Attending outdoor events/festivals
   - Other (please specify below)
2. What's the condition of this site? (select one)
   - Very well kept
   - Okay, could be better
   - Needs improvements
3. What's this place called? (open comment)
   Please say more… (open comment)

Fishing

1. How often do you or your family eat fish from the Delta? (select one)
   - I don't eat what I catch
   - 4 or more times per week
   - 2-3 times per week
   - Once per week
   - 1-3 times per month
   - Less than once per month
2. During what seasons do you usually fish? (select one)
   - Summer
   - Fall
   - Winter
   - Spring
   - Multiple Seasons
3. What type of fish do you catch? (select one)
   - Striped bass
   - Catfish or bullheads
   - Sunfish (such as bluegill)
   - Salmon
   - Sturgeon
   - Largemouth or other black bass
   - Carp
   - Other
4. Please say more… (open comment)

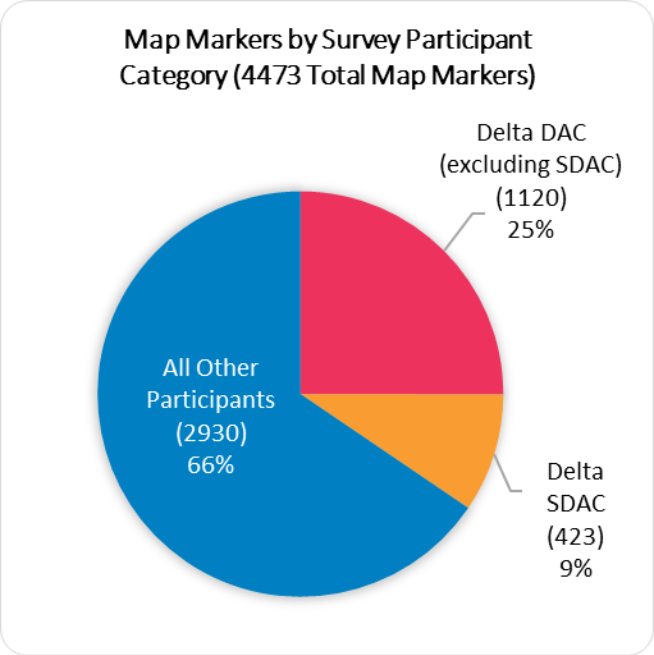
Other Special Place

1. What's here? (open comment)
2. What makes it special? (open comment)

7.2. Overview of All Mapping Input

In total, survey participants placed 4473 map markers. Approximately one-third (34%) of those markers were placed by disadvantaged community (DAC) respondents who live or work in the Delta, just over one-quarter of whom were categorized as severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) respondents.

For Delta-region DAC participants, the Outdoor Activities map marker was the most popular type, making up 28% of all markers placed on the map. This was followed in order by: Fishing Spots (18%), Historic & Cultural Sites (17%), Gathering Places (15%), Businesses & Services (12%), and Other Special Places (11%).



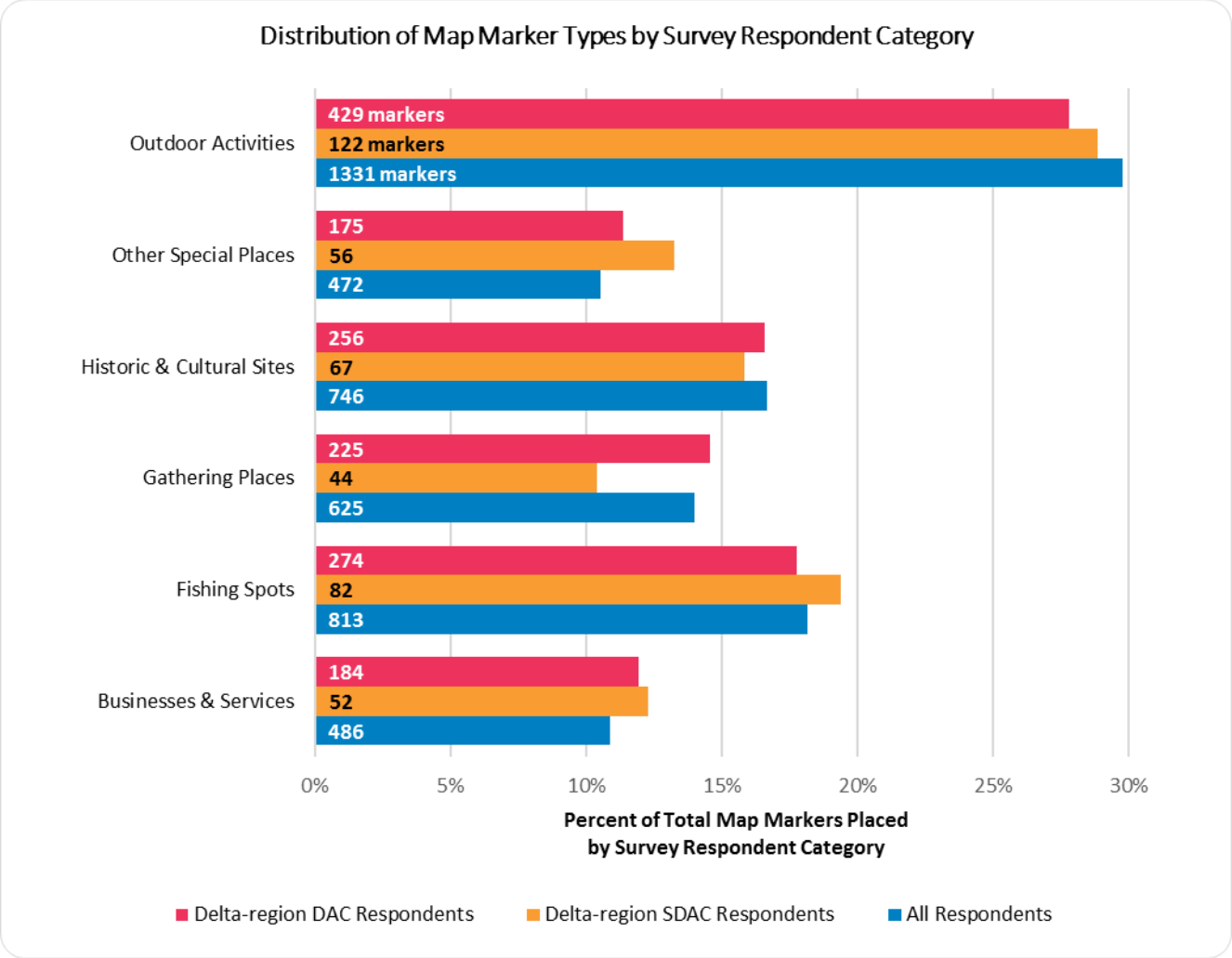
This breakdown was nearly identical for all respondents. For them, the Outdoor Activities map marker represented 30% of all map markers, followed by Fishing Spots (18%), Historic & Cultural Sites (17%), Gathering Places (14%), Businesses & Services (11%), and Other Special Places (11%).

There are areas with a notably high density of special places. The following are particularly saturated areas.

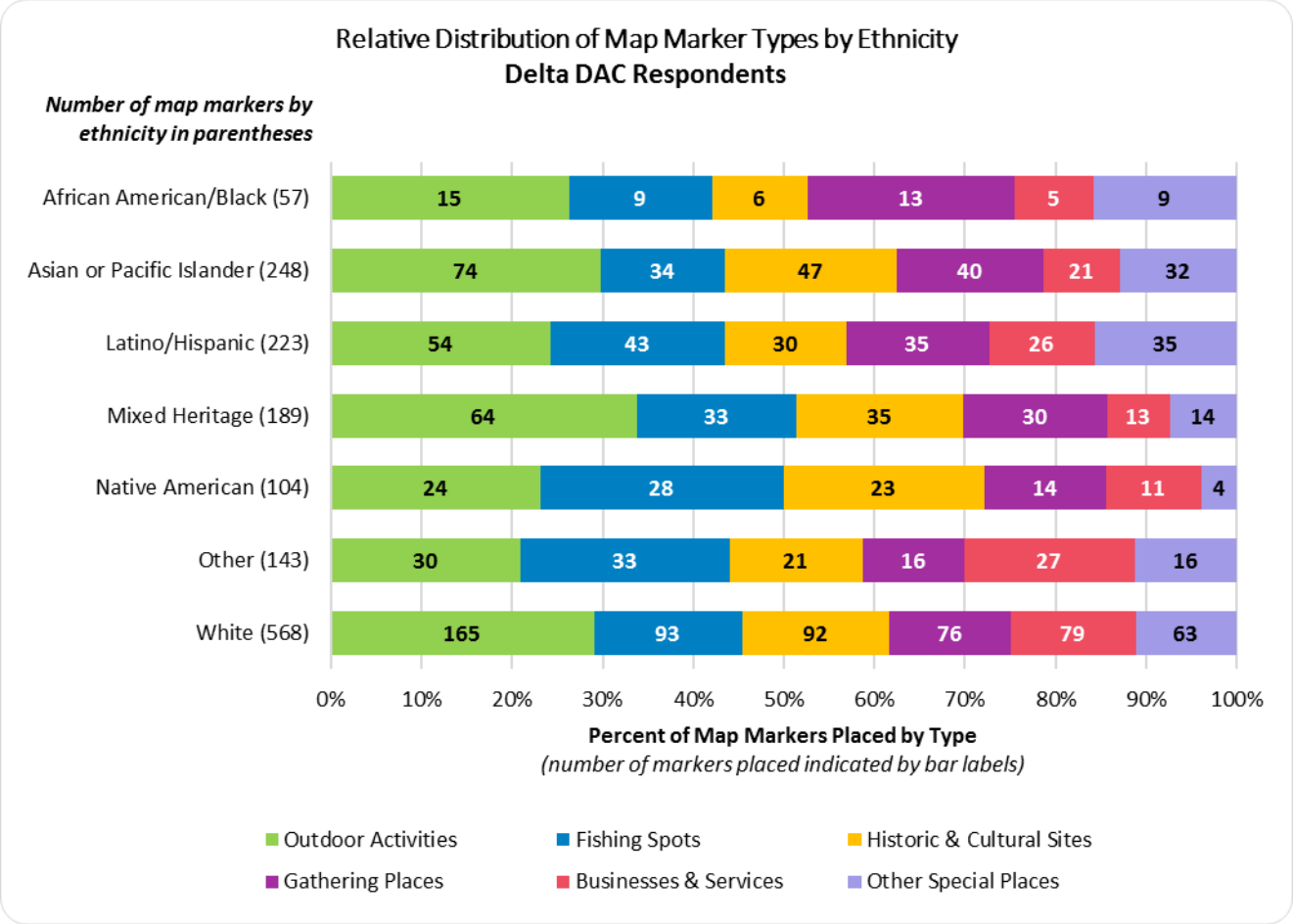
- The stretch from Clarksburg to south of Walnut Grove. The site types in this area are diverse. However, compared to the rest of the Delta, there is a greater concentration of businesses and services between Clarksburg and Courtland.
- Locke. This historic Chinese settlement received an extraordinary quantity of historic and cultural site markers from ethnically diverse respondents.
- The area around Bethel Island, with fishing and outdoor activities making up most of the site markers.
- The area along waterway corridors. One might expect a very high quantity of fishing sites on the waterways. There is. However, the map marker types along these stretches are actually quite diverse.

Map Markers by Type for Delta-region DAC Participants

Map Marker Type	Delta DAC Respondents		Delta SDAC Respondents		All Respondents	
	Map Markers	Percent of Total	Map Markers	Percent of Total	Map Markers	Percent of Total
Outdoor Activities	429	28%	122	29%	1331	30%
Fishing Spots	274	18%	82	19%	813	18%
Historic & Cultural Sites	256	17%	67	16%	746	17%
Gathering Places	225	15%	44	10%	625	14%
Businesses & Services	184	12%	52	12%	486	11%
Other Special Places	175	11%	56	13%	472	11%
Total Map Markers	**1543**	100%	**423**	100%	**4473**	100%



As can be seen in the table below, there is a bit more variation among participants by ethnicity. Most people placed the Outdoor Activities map markers most frequently. However, those identifying as Native American and Other placed Fishing map markers most frequently. In addition, the map marker types placed second most frequently varied by ethnicity, with Historic & Cultural Sites placed second by Asian or Pacific Islander, Mixed Heritage selecting; fishing spots placed second by Latino/Hispanic, and White; and Gathering Places selected by African Americans; and Outdoor Activities selected second by Other and Native American.



The following three maps show the locations of map markers by participant category (Delta-region DAC or otherwise), ethnicity, and map marker type.[19]

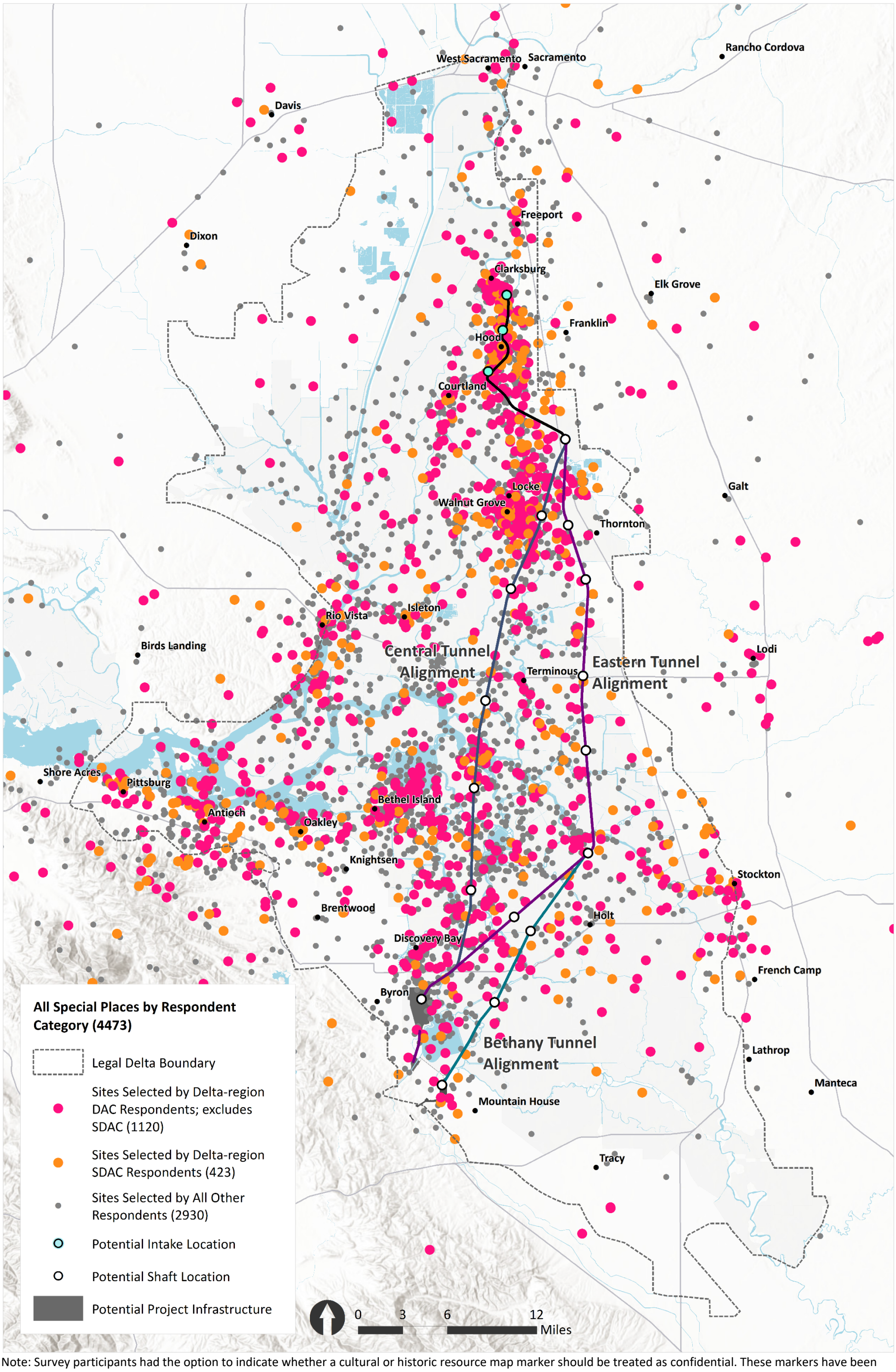
One important takeaway from these maps is that there are areas with a very high density of special places. Particularly saturated areas include the stretch from Clarksburg to south of Walnut Grove, the area around Bethel Island, and along waterway corridors. That said, there are abundant sites throughout the region, many that received thoughtful comments about how survey participants experience these places and what makes them special.

It is important to recognize that a high density of map markers in a certain area might indicate numerous special places in that area, or it might indicate fewer special sites that are valued widely enough that they were chosen by multiple survey participants.

This chapter provides a high-level overview of the input we received from survey respondents. Quantitative data is summarized in full – in the text, charts, tables, and maps. The survey also generated extensive comments. Not all could be included. We have captured as robust a selection of comments as possible (highlighting the range of perspectives) for sites that were identified more than once, and sometimes dozens of times.

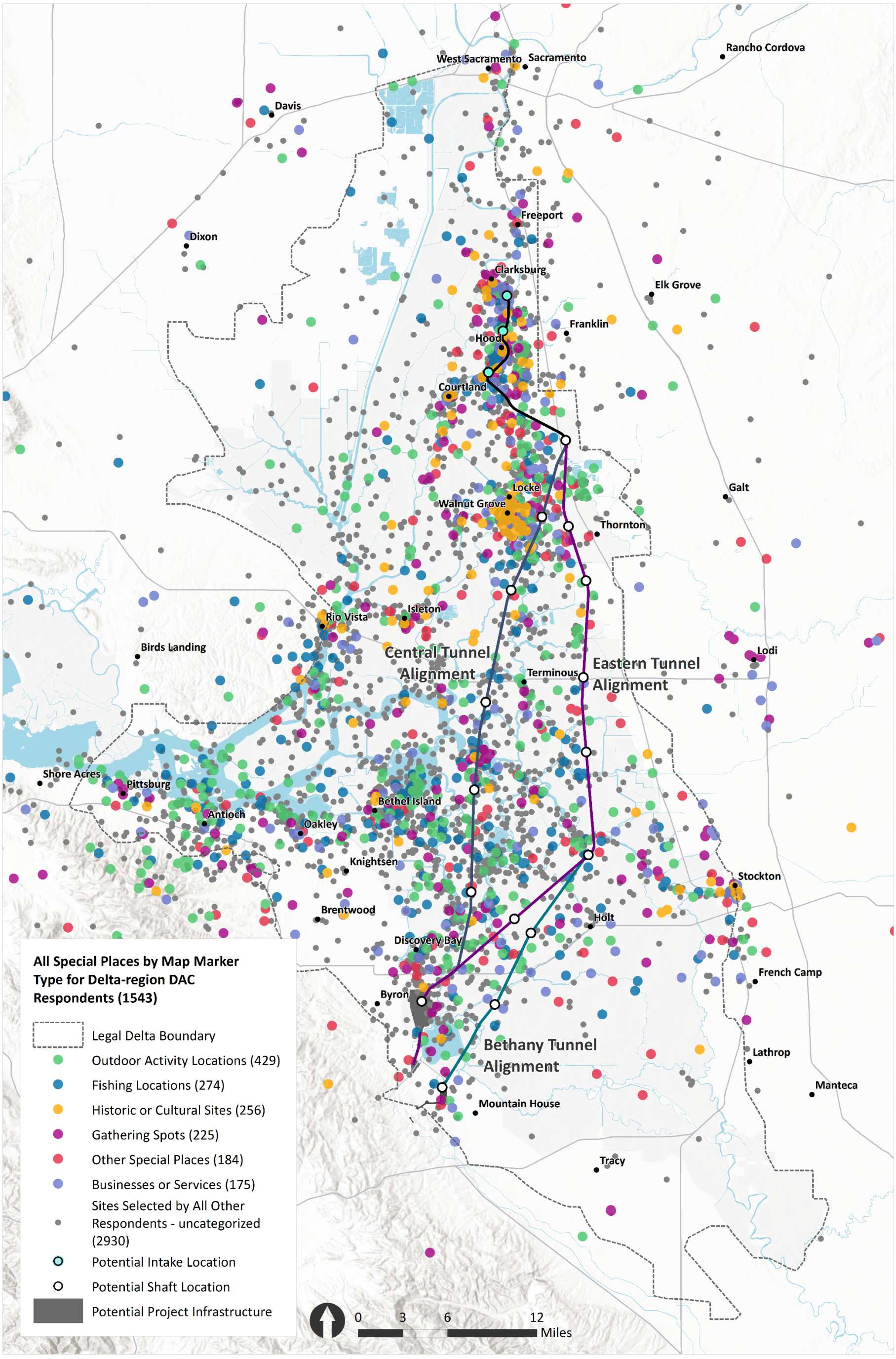
[19] Due to some map markers being placed at quite a distance from the Delta, the maps in this chapter don't display every marker. They do, however, show 91% of the map markers.

Map 1. What Places Matter to You? All Map Markers by Survey Respondent Category



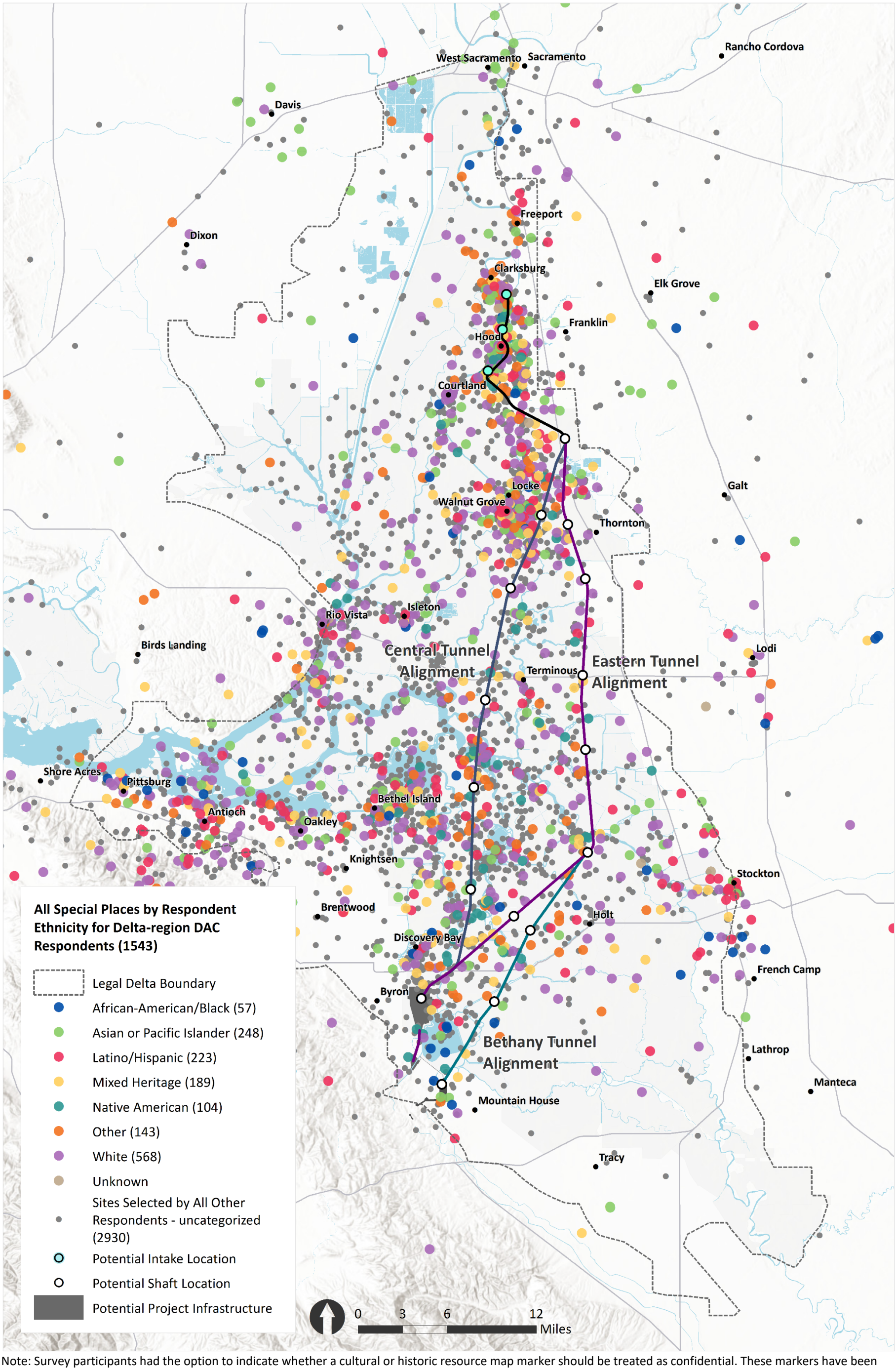
Note: Survey participants had the option to indicate whether a cultural or historic resource map marker should be treated as confidential. These markers have been removed from this map.

Map 2. What Places Matter to You? All Map Markers by Type for Delta-region Disadvantaged Community Respondents



Note: Survey participants had the option to indicate whether a cultural or historic resource map marker should be treated as confidential. These markers have been removed from this map.

Map 3. What Places Matter to You? All Map Markers by Ethnicity for Delta-region Disadvantaged Community Respondents



Note: Survey participants had the option to indicate whether a cultural or historic resource map marker should be treated as confidential. These markers have been removed from this map.

7.3 Input by Map Marker Type

The following summarizes by map marker type the input we heard from disadvantaged community members who live or work in the Delta. In most cases, we do not separately report out what we heard from the remaining survey participants nor the portion of Delta-region DAC respondents who were categorized as SDACs. The summaries that follow are presented in order of the frequency with which the map marker was selected by survey participants.

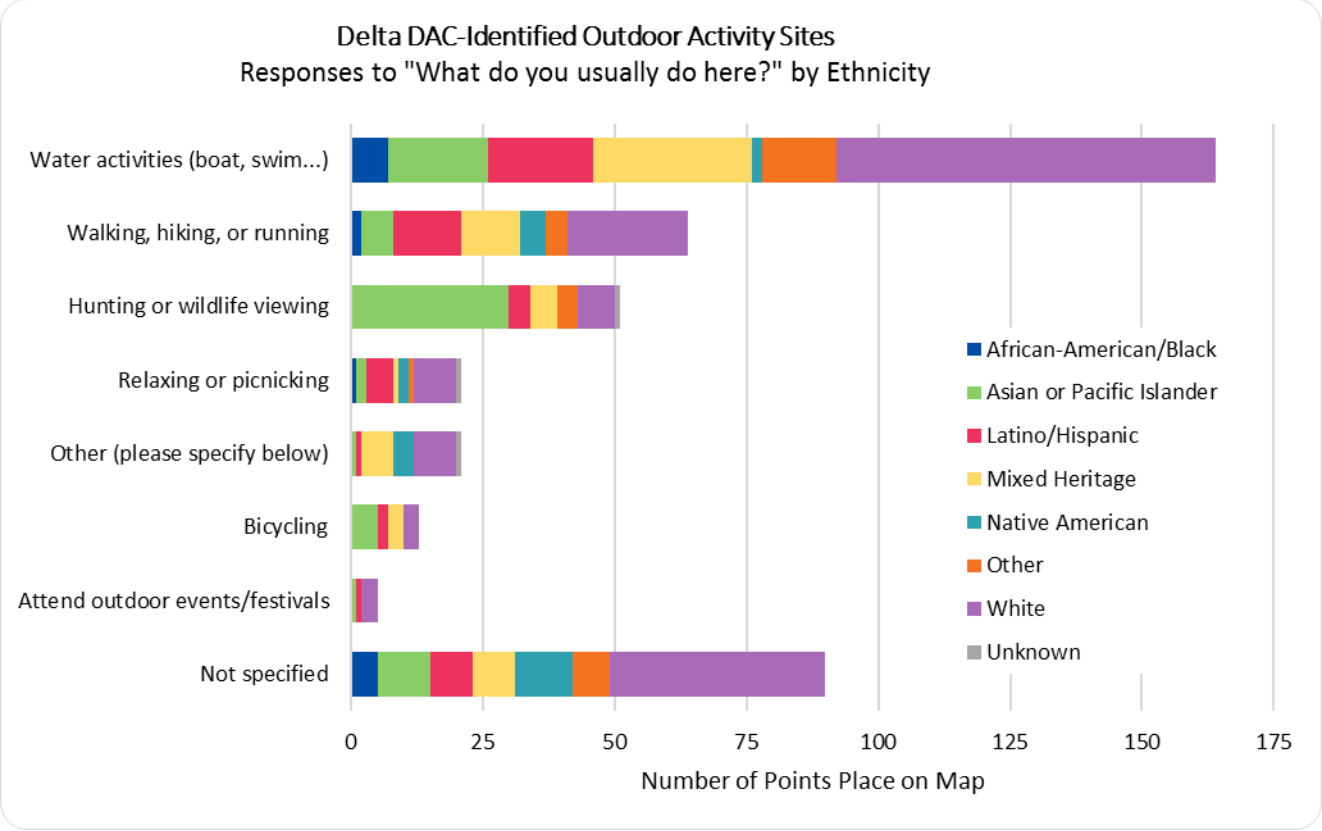
7.3.1 OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

DAC respondents (295 respondents) from the Delta region placed 429 outdoor activity markers on the map. 122 of these came from those categorized as SDAC respondents. All other survey respondents placed 902 additional outdoor activity map markers, for a total of 1331 outdoor activity map markers.

Question 1: What do you usually do here?

Delta-region DAC participants indicated that they usually participate in water activities at 38% of these sites. This was followed by 15% for walking, hiking, or running and 12% for hunting or wildlife viewing. Many provided additional details in the comments, including noting that they participate in multiple activities as well as water activities not listed in the drop-down menu (fishing, kayaking, canoeing, windsurfing, kiteboarding, paddle-boarding, and water skiing – including competitively), camping, backpacking, birdwatching (especially viewing sandhill cranes), taking in wildflowers, viewing jellyfish, taking vacations, and visiting historic sites like mines and an old graveyard.

As shown in the chart immediately below, there is some variation between survey respondents of different ethnicities. One that especially stands out is the very strong participation in hunting and wildlife viewing (including birdwatching) by those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander. They make up more than half of the respondents who selected this as their usual activity.

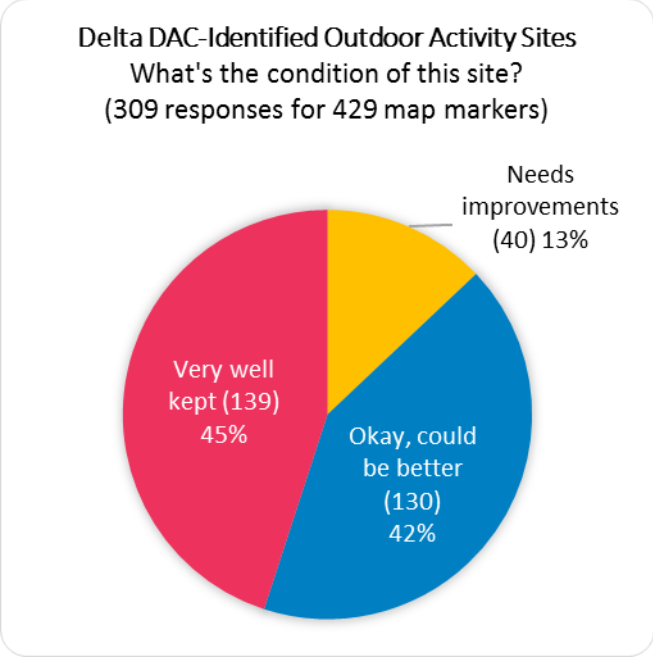


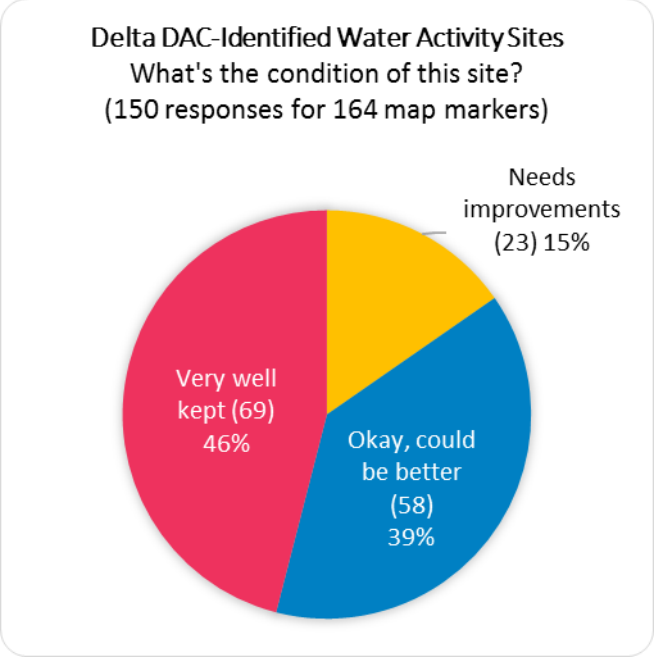
Usual Activity	Black	Asian	Latino	Mixed Heritage	Native American	Other	White	Not Specified	Total	Percent
Water activities (boat, swim...)	7	19	20	30	2	14	72		164	38%
Walking, hiking, or running	2	6	13	11	5	4	23		64	15%
Hunting or wildlife viewing		30	4	5		4	7	1	51	12%
Other		1	1	6	4		8	1	21	5%
Relaxing or picnicking	1	2	5	1	2	1	8	1	21	5%
Bicycling		5	2	3			3		13	3%
Attend outdoor events/festivals		1	1				3		5	1%
Not specified	5	10	8	8	11	7	41		90	21%
Total Map Markers	15	74	54	64	24	30	165	3	429	100%

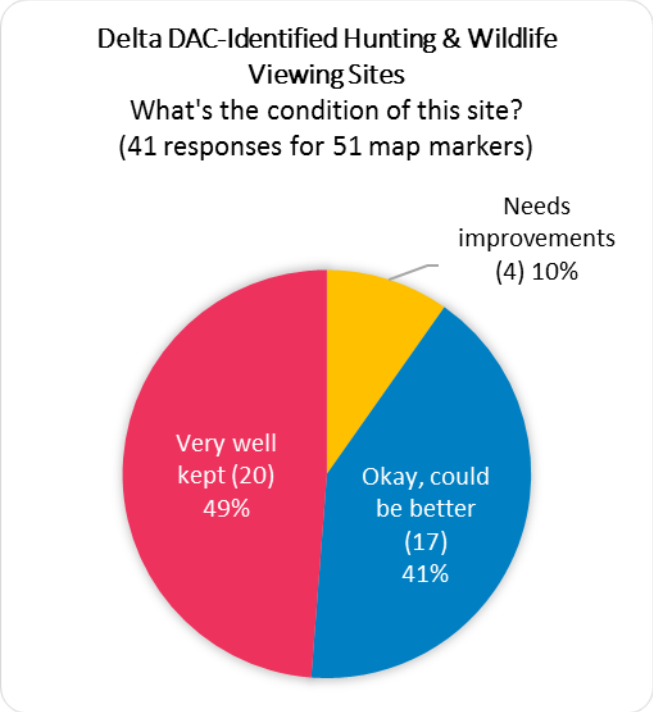
Question 2: What's the condition of this site?

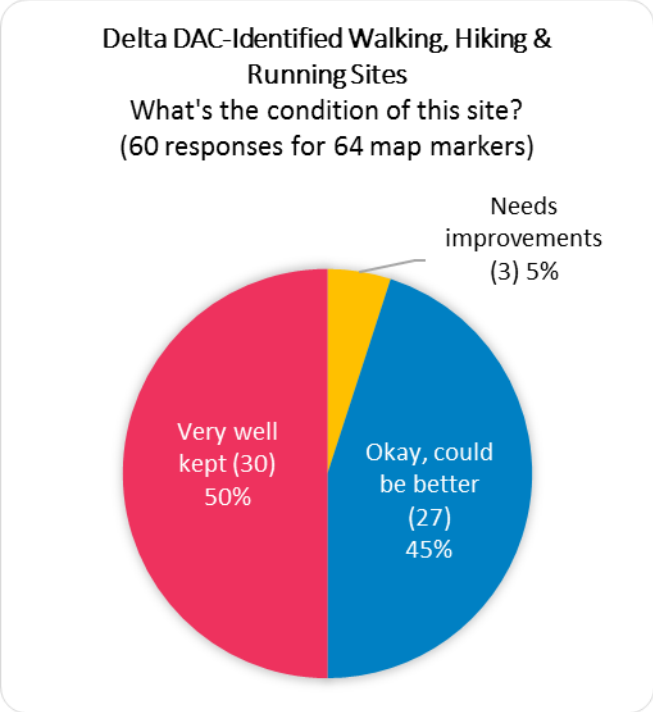
For outdoor activity map markers, survey participants were asked about the condition of the site. The following four charts summarize responses across all activities as well as for the top three activities: water activities; walking, hiking, or running; and hunting or wildlife viewing.

Between 5% (hunting and wildlife viewing sites) to 15% (water activities sites) indicate that there is a need for site improvements. Between 45 to 50% indicate that sites are very well kept. The remainder falls somewhere in between – it's "okay, could be better."









Questions 3 & 4: Site Names & Participant Comments

Survey participants were asked to provide site names and offered the opportunity to share additional comments. Respondents provided site names for 772 of the outdoor activities map markers, with comments for many. Delta-region DAC respondents provided 257 of those site names. Those that were named multiple times are listed in the table below along with a selection of participant comments. Key themes include:

- Given the very high proportion of the map markers associated with water activities, there are unsurprisingly a lot of comments about rivers, waterways, sloughs, waterfronts, shores, boat launches, and other supportive facilities. People enjoy being on the water, boating to a destination such as a waterfront restaurant, or watching birds or other wildlife from their boats, canoes, kayaks, and more.
- Many participants also named gathering destinations along waterfronts – mainly marinas that are combined with restaurants. These same destinations were also named by those placing business and gathering site markers on the map.
- Survey participants also showed abundant enthusiasm for open spaces and areas that support wetland wildlife, including sandhill cranes. There are a number of significant regional parks and wildlife preserves along shorelines, on Delta islands, on working lands, as well as inland destinations such as Mt. Diablo or Black Diamond Mines. Respondents report hiking, picnicking, canoeing, kayaking, kitesurfing, biking, photographing wildlife, and birdwatching from water as well as from land.
- Respondents who primarily participate in water activities expressed concerns about deteriorating water conditions – increasing salinity, water hyacinth overgrowth, impacts on water flows, or trash that needs to be cleaned up. There is a strong desire to ensure they will be able to continue enjoying time on the water. Those who are most interested in wildlife were also very concerned about negative impacts on habitat and expressed an interest in habitat protection and improvements.

Outdoor Activities Sites & Comments from Delta-Region DAC Participants

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	**Number of times named**	**Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)*[20]**
Waterways & Water Activities (54)		
Water activities, waterways, and sloughs, generally	14	• We travel 1000 miles of waterways here • delta sloughs are great boating places to get lost in, to view nature and enjoy California • Love being on a boat in the Delta. • Boating with friends and family to restaurants like Union Point, and Orowood from Byron or Discovery Bay • The delta is so unique in its recreational opportunities, please ensure that it is there for future generations to play in. • Delta waterways needs to be preserved. • Losing use of waterways would adversely affect everyone who works and uses them • Control aquatic weeds. Improve water flow and quality
Entire Delta*	13	• Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers - the entire river system is home to numerous types of wildlife and waterways. • I think we could do a better job preserving the wildlife and natural resources. Currently we are focused on it as tourist attraction, and I think it needs to be about preserving nature. • The entire Delta needs to be protected and cared for. Old and abandoned structures cover most waterways. • There's lots of trash, roads are a bit rough, it's a scary place • My Home. THE DELTA… We Live and Boat Here all YEAR! • This is where we live and work and play. No tunnels!!!! • The Tunnel will lead to the delta becoming a salt water mess harming farming, recreational boating and fishing. Taking fresh water out of the Delta is foolish. • Not enough water flowing through delta.
Sacramento River & sloughs	9	• Water activities are an important economic resource for this entire area. The waterways have not been maintained well by the State even though we pay for that maintenance. • Year around outdoor waterway for boating, vacationing, houseboating and enjoyment. • Home to lots of wildlife • protect river flows and access to water for agriculture
Old River	4	• The water hyacinth… is starting to choke off the width of the accessible water • water hyacinth is taking over the river
Georgiana Slough*	3	• One of the best paddling areas in the Delta but powerboat speed limits need more enforcement. Also more public access to shoreline desperately needed! • This whole slough should have a no-wake designation and be closed to onboard power boats on certain days to promote non-motorized water sports like paddling.
San Joaquin River	3	• … do something to relocate the homeless away from the water. They are a threat to water quality and levee safety IN all areas • The water quality needs improvement
Beaches/shores	3	• Sandy Beach… Nearby water access for a fun day on the river • shore clean ups
Steamboat Slough*	2	
Indian Slough	2	
Snodgrass Slough	2	• waterski, picnicking cycling
Open Spaces, Land & Water Recreation & Wildlife Preserves (92)		
Cosumnes Wildlife Preserve	8	• My family loves to come out and walk the area to see all of the waterfowl during migration. Great area for birds to safely stop, feed, rest on their long trip. • Well maintained, safe trails. Excellent public access for kayaking, canoeing. Peaceful place to observe nature. • Great place to bird watch
Frank's Tract*	8	• Natural Waterfowl and wildlife area • Canoeing, fishing, kayaking • Increasing Water hyacinth growth degrades use and enjoyment of this area. • More water flow… Decreased salinity year round • SO MANY POSSIBILITIES BUT NO ONE HAS THE MONEY OR THE WILL.
Delta Meadows River Park/"The Meadows"*	8	• The Meadows. A traditional place where houseboaters gather in a temporary community each summer… This is a legendary place for many people in the north delta. Everyone has a memory of going there with friends and family. It is still used extensively throughout the summer season. • Pristine waterway for vacationing houseboaters • Beautiful waterways and TREES • Beautiful, natural, quiet
Big Break Regional Shoreline	7	• This area is wonderful to have not only for outdoor recreation like walking, picnics and kayaking but is a great place to go to learn. • I find this to be a quiet, majestic for romantic couples to date. • I love to go kayaking here. • It's a lovely place
Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge*	7	• Regularly see majestic Sand Hill Cranes and multitudes of migratory birds. Well maintained educational site for annual school nature activities. • Great spot for kid education and natural area for wildlife • Separate natural area from public, limited hunting to help waterfowl species. • This area cannot support long term construction that will threaten water quality, quality of life and rob the area of fresh water essential to the health of the Delta.
Contra Loma Regional Park*	7	• I love hiking here • The pool here is amazing during the Summer and all of the hiking and fishing area make it a wonderful place to spend time.

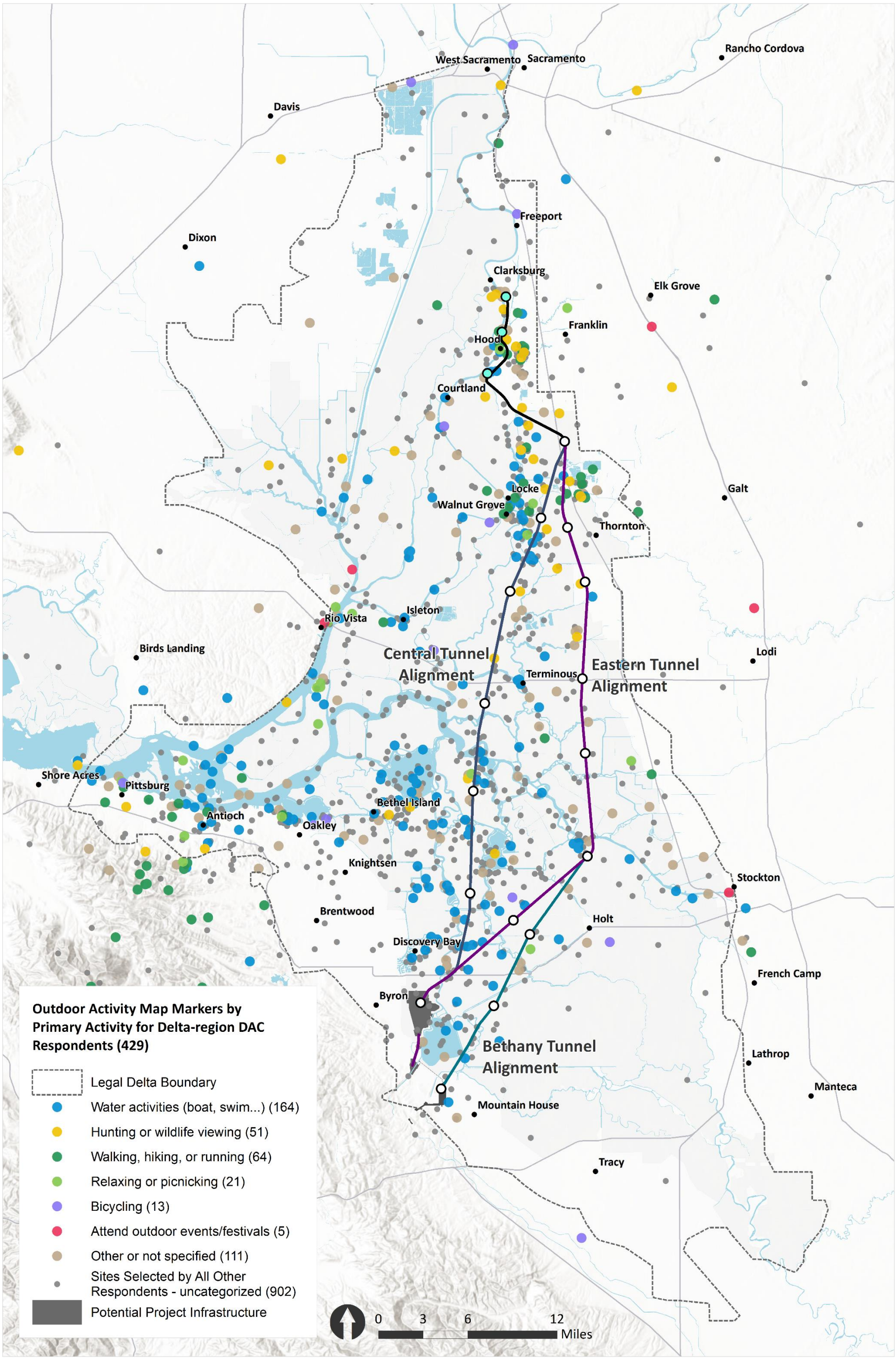
[20] Comments were submitted via mobile phones, tablets, and computers. Many contained spelling and other errors. For readability, spelling and other errors. For readability, misspellings and minor typos were corrected. For all other errors, we used "[sic]" so as not to risk misinterpreting the commenter's intent.

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	Number of times named	Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)*[20]
Sherman Island	7	• This is apparently one of the best places in the world to go Kitesurfing. All of these things remain in the balance. If we destroy the Delta, we destroy the economic well-being of cities on the Delta. • Kiteboarding, windsurfing, winging, paddleboarding, kayaking, boating, fishing, bird watching are just a small list of things I enjoy in this area year-round. • It is important to maintain the flows of the Sacramento River through the delta. Decreased flow will mean more build up and less recreation opportunities, or more expensive maintenance.
Brannan Island State Recreation Area*	6	• It's a wonderful area where many families go to get away, spend family time, and appreciate the natural beauty nearby. • Great cluster of marinas & boating services. Need more public shoreline access, including free public paddlesports launch sites & fishing & picnic access. Hiking trails needed as well! • Wonderful area to enjoy the river • Diverting water away from the Delta will worsen the water quality
Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve*	5	• This hidden gem became "known" with covid19. So many people now have a peace within them as them walk/hike/bike the hills of Antioch • I love the mines, old grave yard, history, hiking trails. • Need more hiking places like this… • We are lucky enough to have a regional park in Pittsburg/Antioch. Community members walk, run, and bike these trails. • Local place to go hiking, get exercise and a mental health break.
Woodbridge Ecological Reserve/Sandhill Crane Preserve*	5	• My family loves to come out and walk the area to see all of the waterfowl during migration. Great area for birds to safely stop, feed, rest on their long trip. • Regularly see majestic Sand Hill Cranes and multitudes of migratory birds. Well maintained educational site for annual school nature activities. • These magical birds need their habitat while wintering here. • Lots of people use this location to raise awareness of cranes and this is a winter home for the cranes. • Amazing spot to view these wonderful creatures
Birding & waterfowl sites (unspecified)*	5	• Jepson Prairie… Bird watching, wild flowers, educational tours and more • One can do photography, cycling and take a walk
Wildlife Sanctuary/Preserve	4	
Mount Diablo	4	• There's hiking trails all along and around this mountain. • Love this place • Camping
Staten Island*	3	• Sandhill cranes - wildlife viewing… Also farming for bird habitat • Birdwatching
Marsh Creek Regional Trail	2	• Areas surrounding Marsh Creek trails… Lots of trails and parks for outdoor activities… Hiking, biking, jogging, running
Dow Wetlands Preserve	2	
Round Valley Regional Preserve	2	• Foot Trail
Delta Loop (on Brannan Island)	2	• the levees need work and some marinas are run down.
Waterfront Destinations: Places to Stop & Start		
Discovery Bay*	8	• Discovery Bay and surrounding waterways, we boat, water ski, and enjoy time with friends and family on the water. Very healing for mind, body and soul. • The waterways for Discovery Bay Houses on the water have deteriorated dramatically over 20 years, awful plants, more green water - doesn't look healthy • Only place to do water sports, bigger size fishing and boating.
Antioch Marina & waterfront/shoreline	6	• We go here as a family to fish and kayak.
Pittsburg Marina & waterfront	6	• It's a recreational and community site that has served Pittsburg residents for decades. • Need more variety of organized recreational activities on the water
Marinas and boating clubs, generally*	4	• This is the heart and soul of most everyone I know. • We travel by Boat to many waterfront businesses
Rio Vista (including river access points and shoreline)*	4	• …we've been boating, water skiing and fishing and hunting the Delta from Stockton to heading all the way to the Golden Gate bridge. The Delta around Stockton to Rio Vista is difficult to navigate due to plant overgrowth in the water as well as trash in the water and on the levees • A new diversion will harm river access point and recreation downstream
Orwood Resort*	3	• Boating with friends and family to restaurants like Union Point, and Orwood from Byron or Discovery Bay • This is an important public resource.
Stockton water activities (including Stockton Water Ski Club and Port Stockton Boaters)*	3	
Diablo Water Ski Club*	3	• We need to be able to boat from Discovery Bay to Diablo Water Ski club without obstruction, construction, or detours. • Competition water ski facility
Tower Park Marina	3	
Wimpy's Marina and Café (Wimpy's on the Delta)*	2	• Place to watch boats, fishermen, wildlife (birds) etc. on slough • These businesses will all be adversely impacted
Giusti's Place*	1	
Bob's Burgers (Bob's at the Marina)	2	• We travel by Boat to many waterfront businesses
Sugar Barge Resort*	2	
Delta Yacht Club	2	
B & W Resort	2	
Moore's Riverboat ("The Riverboat")	2	

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	**Number of times named**	**Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)*[20]**
Hogback Island Access	2	
Other Sites		
Bike lanes & trails	6	• I enjoy cycling here, usually from Sacramento to Davis or even farther • The 30 miles of river shore bike lane is very good • Delta bike trails… Condition, mapping, connections • American River Bike Trail… Provides recreational opportunities away from automobile traffic in a natural setting with fresh air produced by vegetation and to observe wildlife in their natural habitat. • Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh… New wetlands development
Jellystone Park*	2	• What happens to the water quality if fresh water is diverted under or around our community? • Our area will become stagnant without the naturally flowing water. Wildlife will be adversely affected to fill the swimming pools of the wealthy residents of So. Cal.!
Levee walking paths	2	
Bethel Island*	2	
Farmland*	2	
Folsom Lake	2	
Walnut Grove*	2	

The map on the following page shows the outdoor activities map markers by usual activity type for Delta-region DAC Participants. Unsurprisingly, given the high frequency of participation in water activities, map markers prominently follow the Delta's waterways.

Map 4. Delta Disadvantaged Community Outdoor Activity Sites: What do you usually do here?



7.3.2 FISHING

DAC respondents (206 respondents) from the Delta region placed 274 fishing markers on the map. 82 of these came from those categorized as SDAC respondents. All other survey respondents placed 539 additional fishing map markers for a total of 813 fishing map markers.

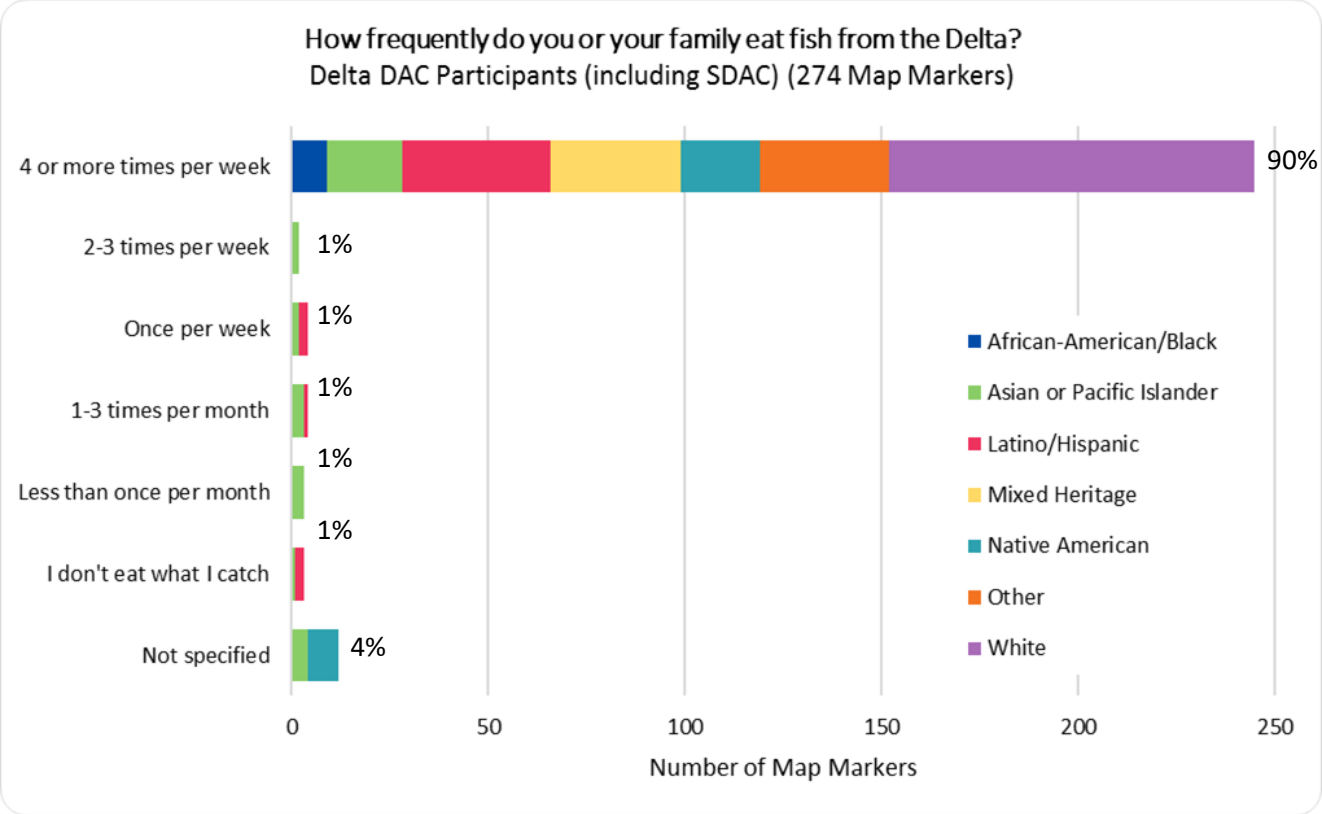
Question 1: How often do you or your family eat fish from the Delta?

These map markers revealed a remarkable pattern. For 90% of the map markers placed by Delta-region DAC respondents, the respondent indicated that they or their family eat fish from the Delta four or more times per week. Because survey takers could place multiple map markers, we also ran this calculation after removing any instances in which survey takers answered this question for more than one map point. This resulted in the same 90% proportion indicating that they eat fish from the Delta four or more times per week.

Options	Number of Responses	Percent of Total
4 or more times per week	246	90%
1-3 times per month	4	1%
Once per week	4	1%
I don't eat what I catch	3	1%
Less than once per month	3	1%
2-3 times per week	2	1%
Not specified	12	4%
Grand Total	274	100%

This suggests that subsistence fishing plays a central role in the lives of those (206 respondents) who chose to add fishing site markers to the map.

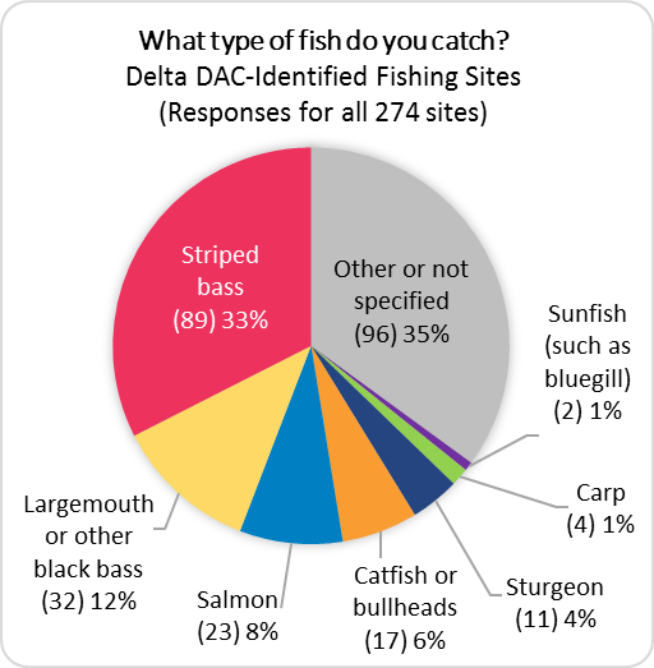
The following two charts summarize, respectively, fish consumption frequency by ethnicity for Delta-region DAC participants and fish consumption frequency for all participants.



Question 2: What type of fish do you catch?

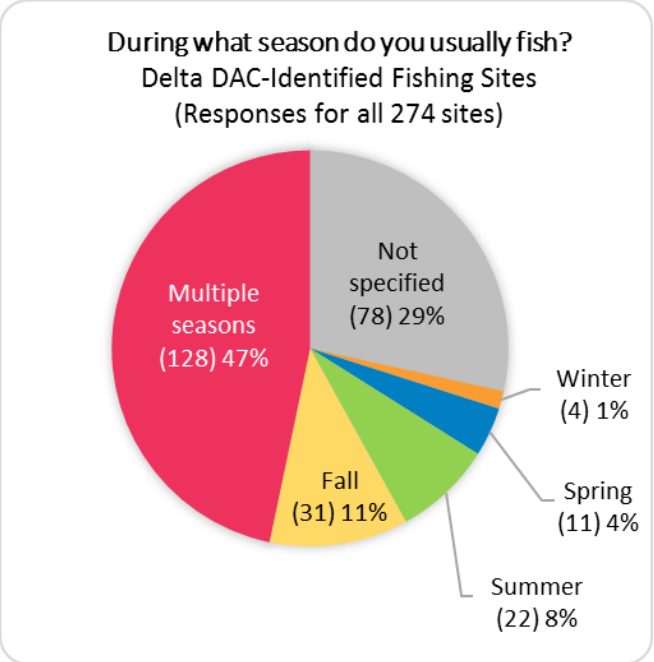
For the type of fish, one-third (33%) of respondents indicated catching striped bass, one-third (35%) did not specify, and the remainder chose from the other drop down options in this order: largemouth or other black bass (12%), salmon (8%), catfish or bullheads (6%), sturgeon (4%), carp (1%), and sunfish (such as bluegill) (1%).

This question did not offer an option to indicate multiple species. However, in 35 comments, the respondent indicated fishing for multiple species, depending on the season. Some listed two or more, some said "all of the above," or added an "also" to their original selection. In addition to the fish species listed above, other fish named in those comments were smallmouth bass, perch, and trout.



Question 3: During what seasons do you usally fish?

With regard to fishing seasons, almost half (47%) of Delta-region DAC respondents indicated fishing during multiple seasons, 29% did not specify, and the remaining participants chose fall (11%), summer (8%), spring (4%), and winter (1%).



Question 4: Participant Comments

Survey participants were invited to share comments about fishing sites. Delta-region DAC respondents provided 78 comments. Key themes include:

- A desire for "fishing to continue" (19 mentions)
- Fishing as central to the Delta economy, family traditions, and way of life (7 mentions)
- Concerns about the impact of water quality (contaminants and salinity) on the safety of fish for consumption (7 mentions)
- Concerns about threats to salmon and an interest in species recovery (5 mentions)
- Concerns about declining fish populations (5 mentions)

In Their Own Words

Delta-Region DAC Respondents on Fishing in the Delta

"My family has fished the Delta for over a hundred years."

"Fishing has extremely deteriorated over the last 20 years and we are now leery to eat the fish that we catch…"

"I have been fishing since I was a little girl. We used to eat the fish we caught. I don't trust the water quality anymore but the nostalgia the fishing is still very important to me"

"Fishing is a way of life for many of us on the Delta waters. It's why we choose to live here."

"Fishing…is central to the life, business and economy of the Delta"

"I'm a Plains Miwok this is our ancestral homelands and we're still here utilizing the land."

"Our family and many friends spend time fishing in the Delta. Especially in this COVID time, it's been a safe way to de-stress, connect with nature, and (when fish bite) provide some protein."

"The Rio Vista bass derby is such a fun community event and serves the Town of Rio Vista well. Many people come and some from out of the area spending money there. Salinity in the water will drive fish away."

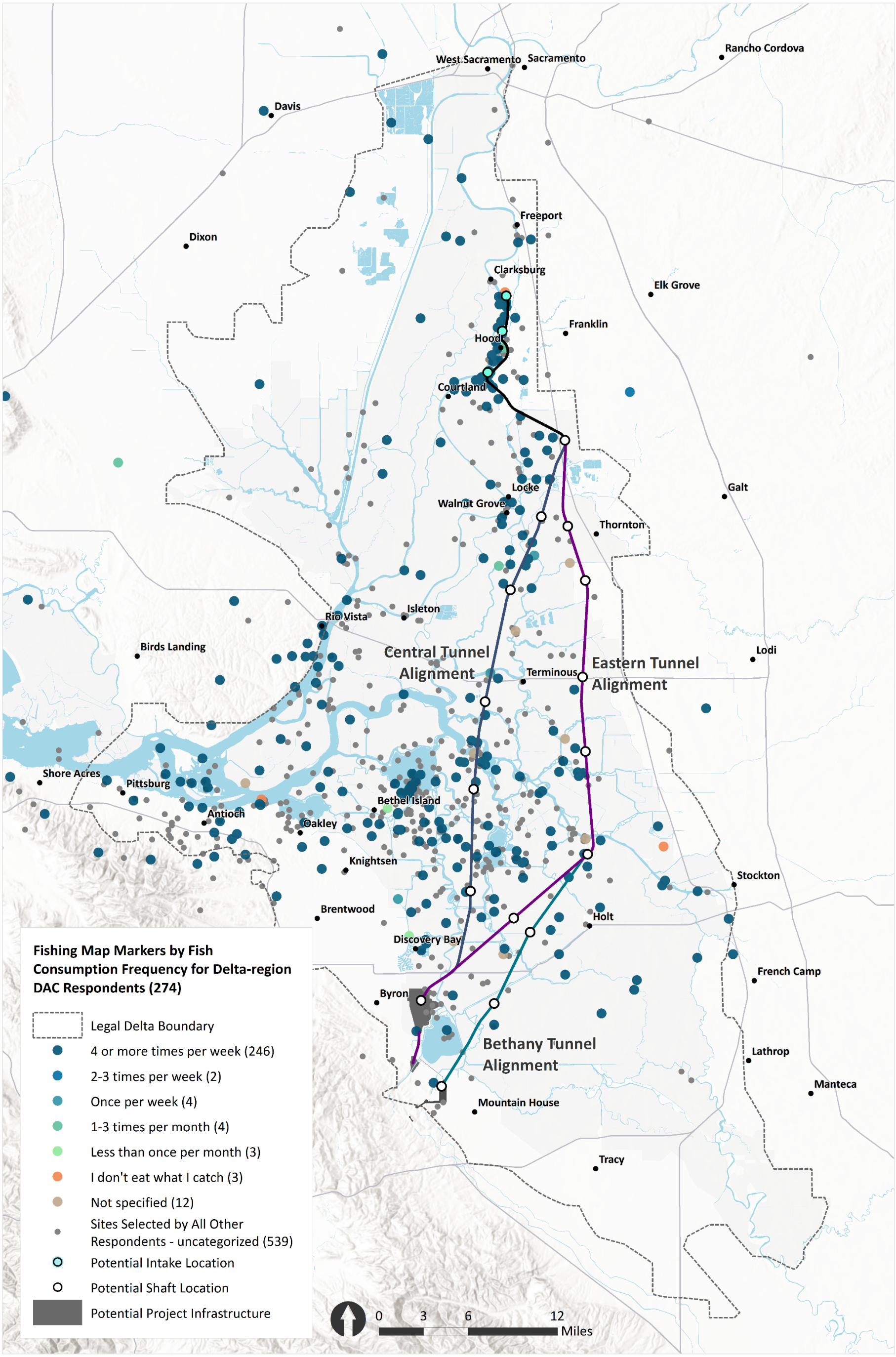
"…salmon are more critically necessary for our CA Delta waterways from an ecological viewpoint. I hope that you both work cooperatively with both our Native-American Tribes & fisherman organizations as farmers to restore our CA Delta environmental system."

"We don't eat because of the mercury. If the salinity of water changes this far up the delta. It will destroy all fresh water dependent fish…"

Proposed intakes are at my favorite fishing spots!

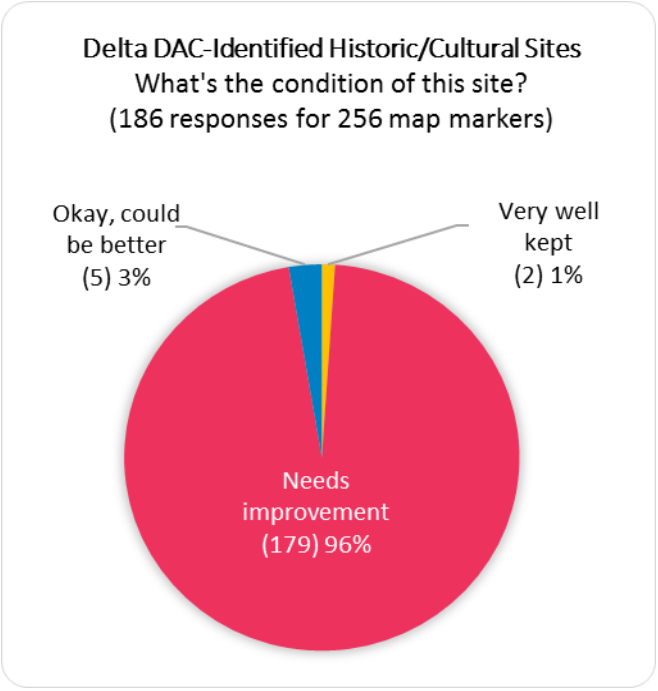
The map on the following page shows fishing map markers by fish consumption frequency for Delta-region DAC Participants. There are notable concentrations of site markers on the Sacramento River between Clarksburg and Courtland and in the waterways surrounding Bethel Island, Antioch, and south of Rio Vista.

Map 5. Delta Disadvantaged Community Fishing Sites: How frequently do you or your family consume fish from the Delta?



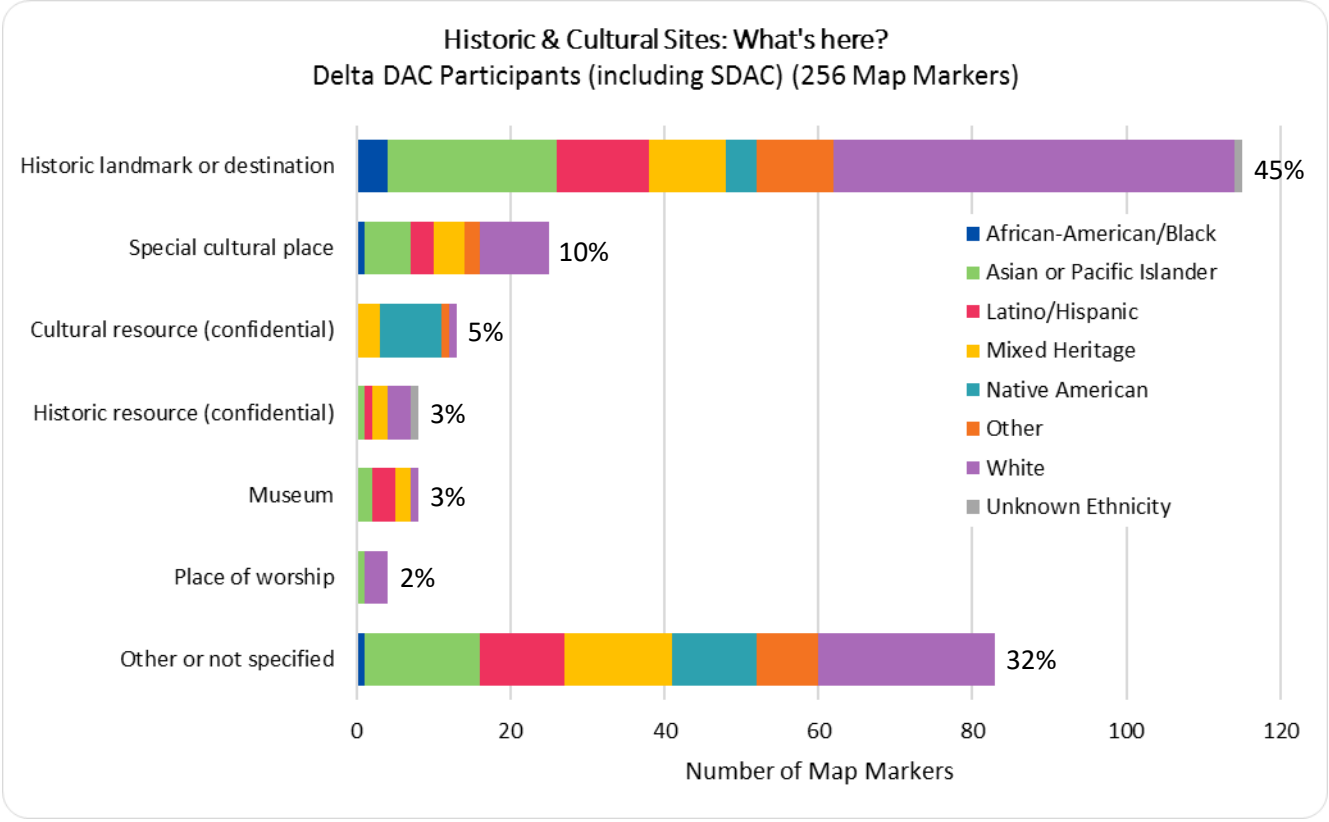
7.3.3 HISTORIC & CULTURAL RESOURCES

DAC respondents (204 respondents) from the Delta region placed 256 historic and culture site markers on the map. Sixty-seven (67) of these came from those categorized as SDAC respondents. All other survey respondents placed 490 additional historic and cultural site markers for a total of 746.



Question 1: What's Here?

Almost half (45%) of these sites were described as historic landmarks or destinations, and nearly one-third (32%) were described as other or not specified. For the remaining sites, 10% were described as special cultural places, 5% as confidential cultural resources, 3% as confidential historic resources, 3% as museums, and 2% as places of worship. As shown below, a significant proportion of those marked as confidential cultural resources came from survey respondents identifying as Native American.



Question 2: What's the condition of this site?

Survey participants were invited to provide information about site conditions. Responses were provided for 70% (187) of the historic and cultural resources map markers placed by Delta-region DAC participants.

The message was unambiguous. Nearly all of those responses (96%) were "needs improvement." (The other two options were "very well kept" and "okay, could be better.")

This suggests a potentially strong interest in future community investments.

Questions 3 & 4: Sites Names & Participant Comments

Survey participants were asked to provide site names and offered the opportunity to share additional comments. Respondents provided site names for 407 of the historic and cultural resources map markers, with comments by many. Delta-region DAC respondents provided 149 of those site names. Those that were named multiple times are listed in the table below along with a selection of participant comments. Key themes include:

- By far, the top site identified was the town of Locke. Remarkably, 41% of the named map markers placed by Delta-region DAC respondents were the town of Locke. There is wide spread passion and appreciation for the town's character and history of the Chinese community that settled it. There is also a strong desire for its preservation. As a note, the Delta-region DAC participants who identified Locke are a diverse group: 46% white, 19% Asian or Pacific Islander, 14% mixed heritage, 11% Latino/Hispanic, 6% other, and 3% African-American/Black.
- The next most frequently mentioned sites were the town of Walnut Grove (often identified in conjunction with Locke), indigenous people's lands and resources, Al the Wops (historic restaurant in Locke), and Delta's historic river (legacy) towns generally.
- Other types of sites included historic commercial or public buildings, Victorian or otherwise historic homes, multigenerational family farms, and small businesses.
- Preservation and concern about the impact of construction was cited several times.

Participants other than Delta-region DAC (either otherwise identified or without sufficient information to identify) also shared passionate information about a number of these sites, so their comments are also included in the table below and noted.

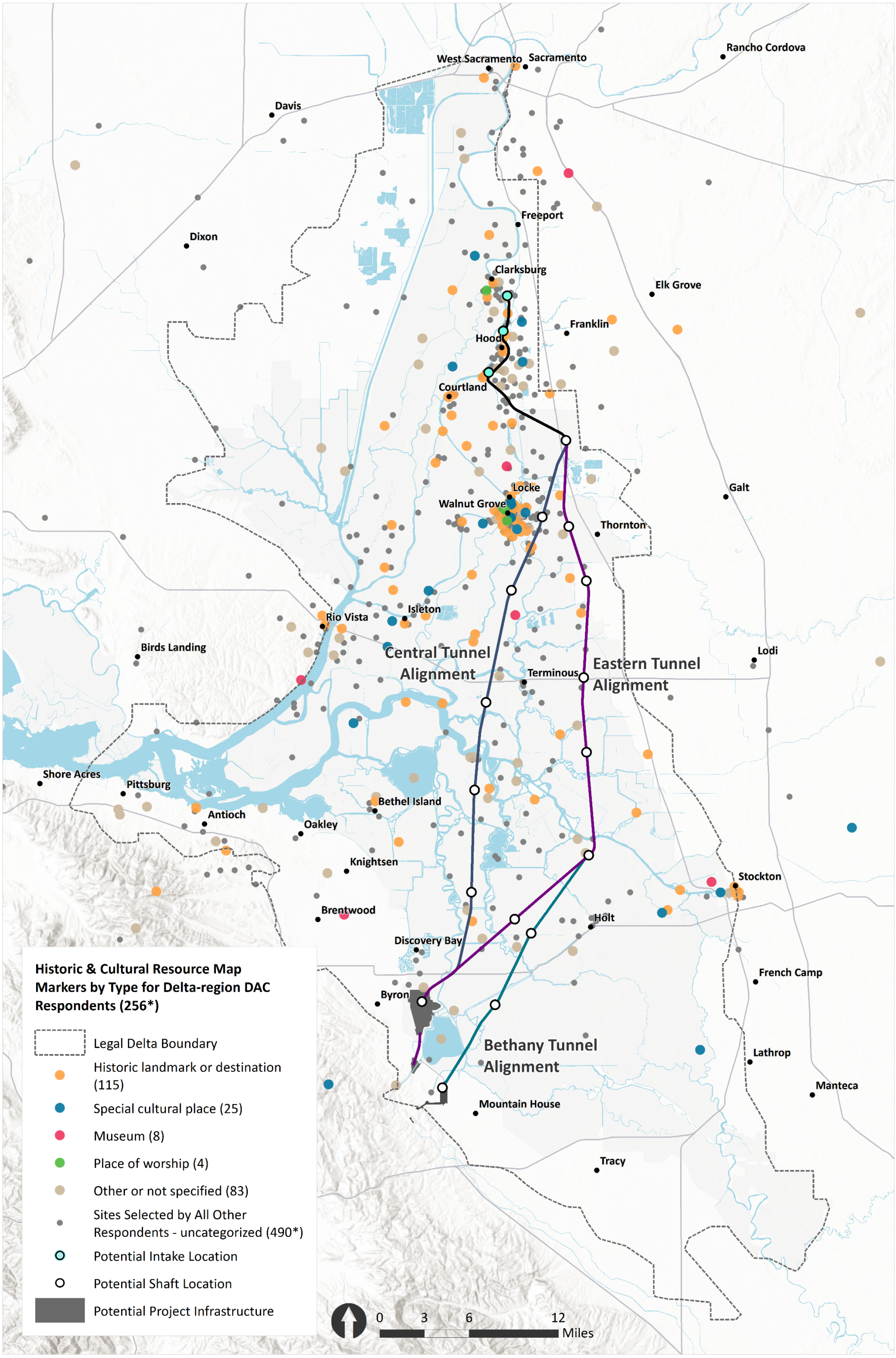
Historic & Cultural Resources Sites & Comments

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	Number of Times Named		Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)* Comments from non-Delta DAC participants noted
	Delta DAC Participants	Non-Delta DAC Participants or Unknown	
Legacy Communities			
Town of Locke*	55	84	• Locke is an amazing historic town not like any other in the U.S. which was built by the Chinese for the Chinese. • It is built on reclaimed swamp land like the other towns in the Delta. The foundations are not good…the town will probably crumble if construction happens. • There are state maintained and supported facilities at Columbia and Sutter's Mill. Locke deserves at least as much attention. • Captures the history of the Chinese in the reclamation of the Delta. This are will suffer from extended construction, disruption to quality of life, transit issues...for what, to meet water grab of South Valley farmers and MWD. • Chinese New Year Festival is a cultural treasure, as well as the historic buildings that deserve preservation. • Needs help in preservation of historic Chinese settlement • If the Delta Water Conveyance is built, there has to be a plan to relocate the buildings or protect them from the pile and tunnel boring and truckloads of excavations vibrations, etc. (not DAC) • The Lock and Walnut Grove areas need to be preserved. Digging tunnels will destroy the remaining buildings. (not DAC) • Locke is a National Historic Landmark, the highest honor a historic district can receive on the national level. (not DAC)
Towns of Locke & Walnut Grove (cited as a pair)	6	16	
Town of Walnut Grove*	5	9	• This is a staple of Delta history and would be destroyed with weakening levies. • East Walnut Grove contains three different historic districts. (not DAC)
Town of Isleton	3	8	• This is a unique location and destination if it had more attractions. Near the delta for tourists, visitors.
Town of Hood	3	7	• World War II veterans and their families. Working class people LIVE HERE !!! • The small-town atmosphere should be maintained but upgraded. The standard of living needs to be raised… (not DAC)
Town of Rio Vista	4	5	• (With Isleton) “Captures early life & agriculture, boating & fishing, good restaurants. Unique rivertowns.” (not DAC)
Town of Courtland	2	5	• Courtland home of the annual Pear fair in close proximity to many wineries Several Historical buildings in and around Courtland many diverse cultures are apparent by these buildings also home to a county library (not DAC)
Town of Clarksburg	1	4	• Densely populated small community with deeply guarded history (not DAC)
Bethel Island, Frank's Tract, and Knightson*	2	2	• (About Bethel) The most populated of the western most islands. Historic home of Warren and Ann Bethell. Burial grounds for Bay Miwok and Hells Angels.
Town of Holt	1	1	
Legacy communities, generally (sometimes expressed as a long list of legacy communities)	7	12	• The Delta has a rich history in the development of California starting in the gold rush era. Delta agriculture fed the growing State and…those farms and orchards are still in the hands of family farmers passed down through generations. • We cannot minimize the value of our history in California. The Sacramento and San Joaquin Delta are home to many historical landmarks that must be preserved. • These are all legacy towns that will negatively impacted by the tunnel. Residents and businesses are all on well water and may lose their homes and businesses…L.A. should do more desal like Orange County!
Other Sites			
Tribal sites/resources	7	13	*Details confidential*
Al the Wops (Locke)*	7	5	
Delta region/“The Heart of the Delta”*	3	4	• The delta region has a lot of history and is slowly deteriorating and as water quality erodes, so goes the history (not DAC) • The entire area needs to be protected and preserved, this can only happen if all water is allowed to continue to flow THROUGH the Delta. To remove water is to sound the death knell on California’s historic Delta region. (not DAC)
Historic & Victorian homes (including Rosebud Mansion, Elliott's, Mulligan's residence, and other unnamed homes)	3	4	• Generational family farm, active community members • In addition to the concerns expressed for towns, these historic homes will be Irreparably harmed by ugly industrial diversion facilities adjacent to them, along with a tremendous drop in land values. (not DAC) • Our home was built in the 1890's and has always been admired by the visitors to the delta as an example The Victorian Period. (not DAC)
Stockton & its port and waterfront*	3	2	• Port of Stockton...Scenic and maritime • The USS Lucid is being preserved for its obvious unique history. The Weber…now hosted at the R & G's Dock supports…the community for nearly half a century. • Stockton Ironworks, shipbuilding remnants…Dilapidated but historical buildings (not DAC)
Ryde Hotel (Walnut Grove)	1	5	• Historic hotel with many colorful stories and visitors in the past • Great Art Deco landmark that has an amazing history between prohibition, Hollywood stars, and President Hoover (not DAC)
Old Town Sacramento	1	5	•
1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse (currently under restoration)	2	3	• Will be visitor center, museum/ educational site, community gathering place. Also preserves portion of Ylamne Native homeland.
Greene & Hemly farm and historic mansion (Courtland)*	2	3	• 171 years in one family…Peace, viewshed will be ruined • Historic Delta residence, the only one located on the River side of the road (no road between it and the river), very visible and beautiful from opposite side of the river. Owned by…pear farmers who have farmed here over 100 years. (not DAC)

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	Number of Times Named		Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)* Comments from non-Delta DAC participants noted
	Delta DAC Participants	Non-Delta DAC Participants or Unknown	
			• Most beautiful setting in the Delta. Featured in art by Gregory Kondos (not DAC) • This house is a landmark on the delta. A home that has been surround by pear orchards and occupied for over seven generations. The only house on the river that is not separated by the river road. (not DAC)
Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve*	2	1	
Giusti's Place (Walnut Grove)*	1	2	• generational family business. One of the few places to get great food. economic support to community.
Mormon Slough*	2		• A nexus of cultural site oft forgotten by Stocktonians, Mormon Slough is currently experiencing green algal blooms unlike any seen in the entire Delta. It would be great to reclaim this location for local cultures. There is also an opportunity for a park here as the city has a small park at the location that is currently overrun by our city's massive homeless problem. Displacement would be a key factor in this reclamation. There are plans to move city hall a block away from here. • Needs water quality improvements, flow improvements, and habitat/nature areas/public access
Jean Harvie Community Center (Walnut Grove)	2		
East Contra Costa Historical Society & Museum (Brentwood)	2		• This is an important site to area school children.
Downtown Antioch	1	1	• downtown Antioch could be a beautiful historic part of town, but is not kept up…
Dutra Museum of Dredging (Rio Vista)	1	1	• Wonderful outside displays of dredging equipment in a nice setting of Dutra home. Only information that I knew of regarding the Pearl River Delta Chinese who were brought in to build the levees... (not DAC)
Discovery Bay*	1	1	• Common destination for boating
Bob Hope Theater (Stockton)	1	1	• It is known throughout the region as a Cultural destination. Movies, plays, Musical reviews and guest artists are a strong cultural history at the theater. (not DAC)
Old Sugar Mill*	0	4	• Speaks of the historic Agriculture of the Delta and reuse & revitalization of an iconic infrastructure (not DAC) • Home to 21 wineries and eateries (not DAC)

The map on the following page shows historic & cultural site map markers by type for Delta-region DAC Participants. Note the high density of sites in the Locke and Walnut Grove area and how other sites run through and between the historic river legacy communities.

Map 6. Delta Disadvantaged Community Historic & Cultural Sites: What's here?



Note: Survey participants had the option to indicate whether a cultural or historic resource map marker should be treated as confidential. These markers have been removed from this map.

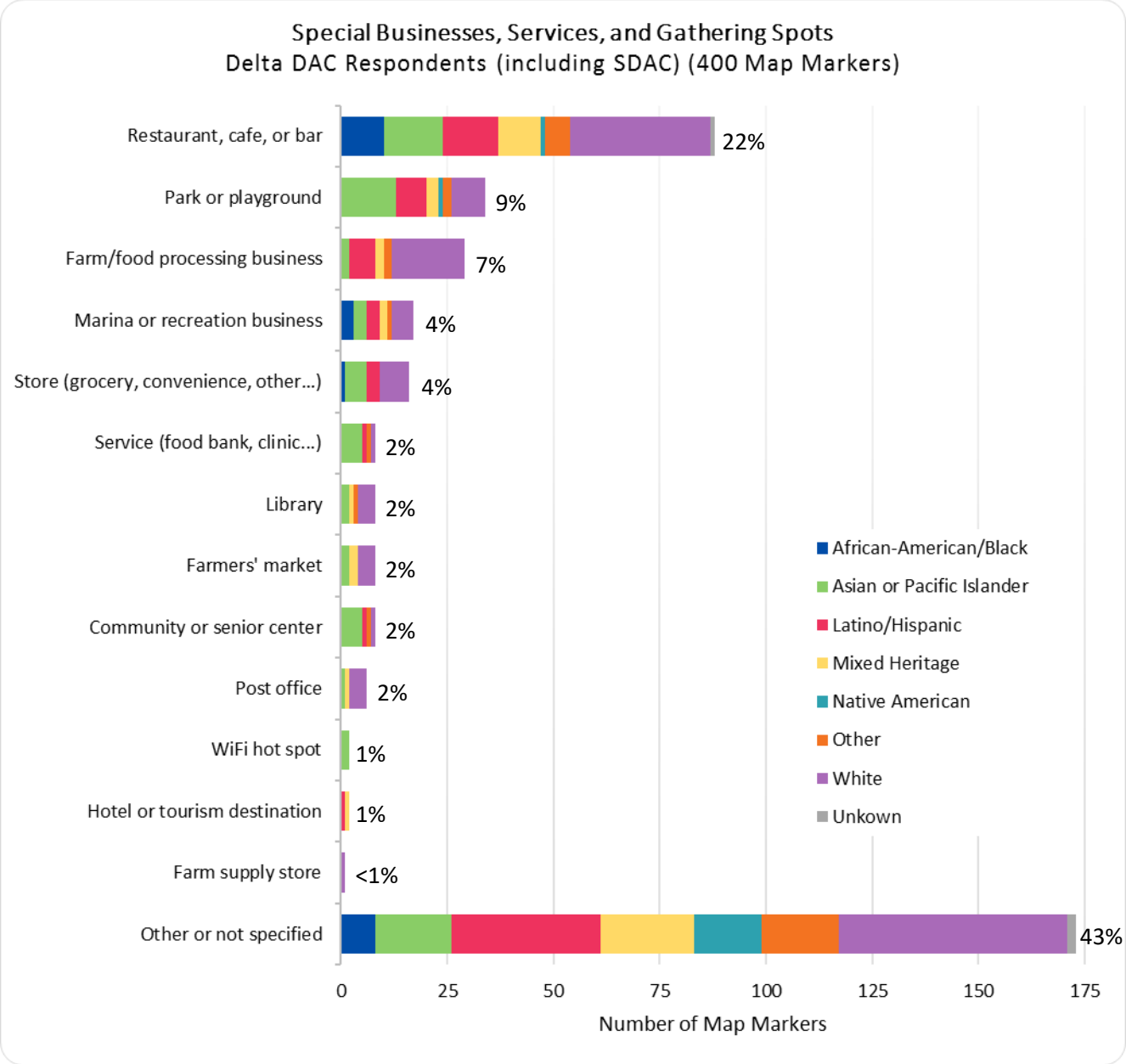
7.3.4 BUSINESSES, SERVICES & GATHERING PLACES

The Special Places mapping exercise offered both Gathering Spot map markers and Business & Service map markers. There was significant overlap between the sites identified for these types of map markers, so we combine the results below.

DAC respondents (302 respondents) from the Delta region placed 225 gathering spot markers and 175 business & service markers on the map. Of these, 44 and 56 came from those categorized as SDAC respondents. All other survey respondents placed 400 gathering spot and 311 business & service markers on the map, for a total of 1111 map markers.

Question 1: What's here?

Though 43% of respondents did not identify the type of site they placed on the map, of those who did, a very significant portion were restaurants, cafes, or bars. This was followed by parks or playgrounds (which included a range of open spaces), farms or food processing businesses, marinas or recreation businesses, and stores.



Questions 2 & 3: Site Names & Participant Comments

Survey participants were asked to provide site names and offered the opportunity to share additional comments. Respondents provided site names for 697 of the businesses, services, and gathering spots map markers, with comments for many. Delta-region DAC respondents provided 256 of those site names. Those that were named multiple times are listed in the table below along with participant comments. Key themes include:

- Combined marinas and restaurants – or restaurants otherwise on the water – are incredibly popular destinations for gathering and important and widely appreciated local businesses. Participants speak of boating to dinner and launching their boat at the same place they return to gather with friends. The names of these destinations come up again and again under all types of map markers, and survey respondents routinely show familiarity with and respect for the business owners. Survey respondents identify these destinations as a unique feature of the region, critically important to local economies, and vulnerable to changes in the quality of boating conditions. Several express concern about deteriorating waterway conditions that could prevent them from boating to their favorite restaurants.
- The agricultural and winery sectors also generated a high proportion of map markers. Food production and the agricultural landscape are widely valued, and there is strong recognition that growing, food processing, packing, and other aspects of the agricultural sector provides thousands of jobs and have supported families to establish multigenerational legacies in the region.
- The third most common type of site chosen was the legacy communities themselves. Comments focused on the small town or downtown character of these places and the amenities that serve local community members.

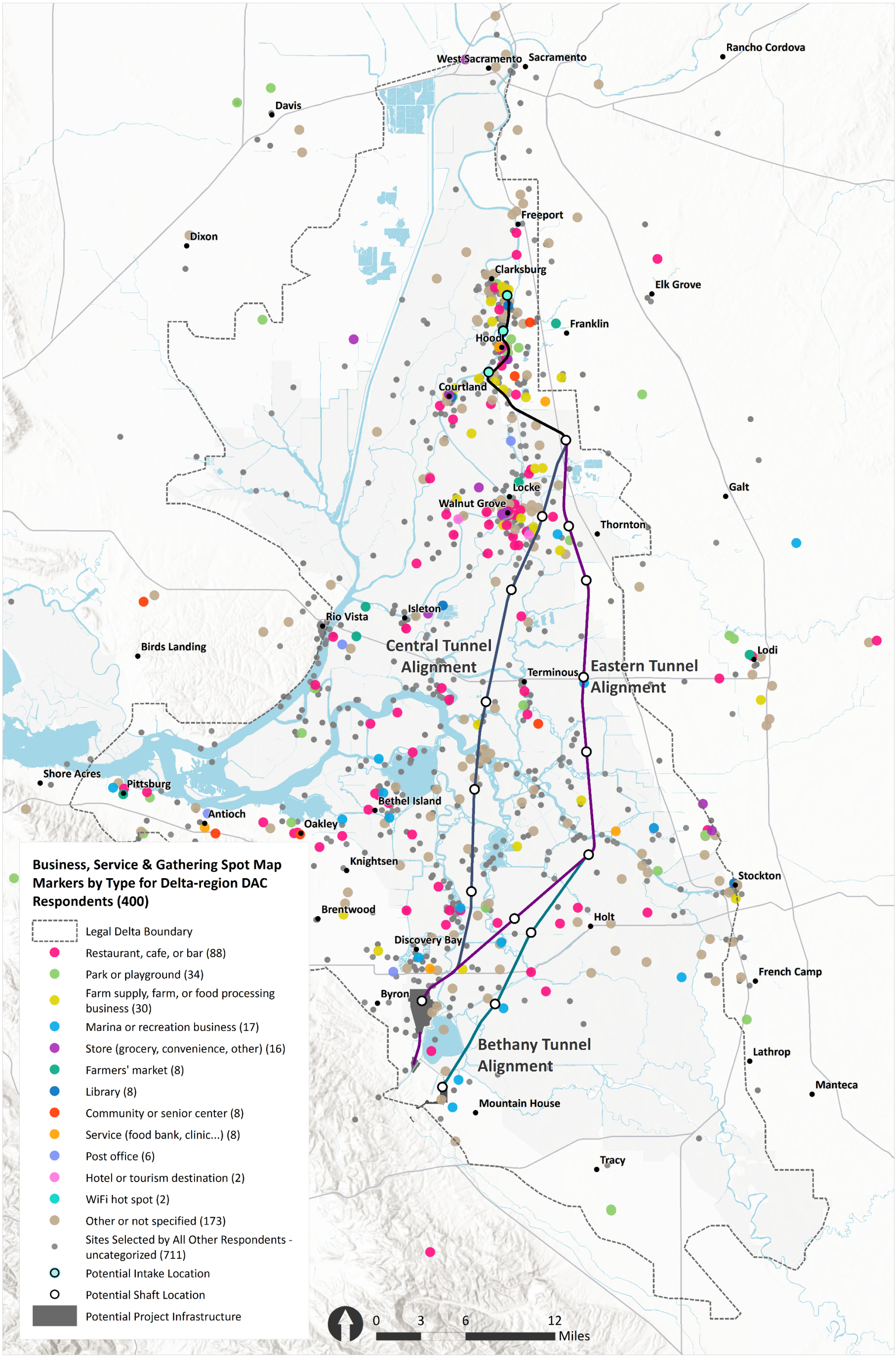
Businesses, Services, and Gathering Spots Sites & Comments from Delta-Region DAC Participants

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	**Business/Service and/or Gathering Spot**	**Number of times named**	**Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)***
Restaurants on the Water / Combined Restaurants & Marinas			
Restaurants on the Water, generally*	Both	5	• Restaurants and marinas provide an experience to people locally and visitors to show the value and impact of this beautiful resource... They are important to the environment, preservation, recreation and economy in the Delta. • restaurants to visit via boat or road • The restaurants and bars provide employment for delta residents and draw $$ from outside the area. The tunnels would adverse affect … these businesses • Food, Boats Launch Ramps. Our friend's own these businesses • If the construction happens, we won't be able to give these people our business by boat. They have already suffered a lot from Covid shut downs.
Orwood Resort (Brentwood)*	Both	9	• My favorite bicycle riding stop • Friends that live at the trailer park and all over the delta come here for breakfast before a big fishing day. They won't be able to get there if the construction goes through. • Restaurant, camping, boat dock, boat ramp • It's a huge benefit to the community. Do not mess with it or the land and water within a days boat ride of it.
Giusti's Place (Walnut Grove)*	Both	8	• Family owned for 4 generations. People come from all other the state to return to this location. ONE of a very FEW restaurants that you can boat to! • Great history, great food and a wonderful place to meet. • Fourth generation ownership. Best food on the Delta. Great location on the Mokolome Slough
Wimpy's Marina Café (Walnut Grove)*	Both	5	• They *[Wimpy's and Mel's, below]* exemplify what the Delta is all about...good food and relaxing in waterfront restaurants! • I launch my boat at both wimpys and new hope landing and meet friends at wimpys before or after a day on the water • active members in community. economic supporter for community. jobs.
Bob's at the Marina ("Bob's Burgers") (Stockton)*	Both	2	• Lovely area to gather
Korth's Pirates Lair (Isleton)*	Both	2	
Sugar Barge (Bethel Island)*	Both	2	
Moore's Riverboat ("The Riverboat") (Isleton)*	Both	2	
Union Point Marina Bar & Grill (Stockton)*	Both	2	
Windmill Cove Resort (Stockton)	Both	2	• A place for people to gather and enjoy nature and good food, music…. Our way of life in the Delta must be preserved. Wildlife, just a mile from town, needs a fresh water habitat free from salt water.
Other Restaurants (21)			
Mel's Mocha & Ice Cream (Walnut Grove)	Both	7	• Family run business. Vital to our community • This is where everyone gets their ice cream • Best ice cream!
Hood Ranch Kitchen (Hood)	Both	5	• People come from all over to enjoy good food. This and other businesses would be greatly impacted by construction traffic and noise. • economic support for community. • Very few restaurants in the Delta. Must keep as many alive and thriving so we have some choice.
Al the Wops (Locke)*	Both	1	• Historical dive bar
Other Marinas (11)			
Rivers End Marina	Both	2	• This is where many Recreational boaters enter the Delta from the Tracy and Tri Valley area.
Other marinas and boating clubs (Port Stockton Boaters Club, Stockton Sailing Club, Antioch's Sportsmen Yacht Club, etc.)*	Both	9	
Wineries & Vineyards (13)			
Wineries & VIneyards, generally	Both	7	• Lodi is one of the wine capitals of the world. • Great Agro-tourism… Too many wineries to list individually • Carlsbad Winery… Country style, BBQ, drinking, music and outdoor activities • River Road Exchange… Cold storage for many of the local wineries' wine. economic support for community.
Old Sugar Mill	Both	2	• Many wineries in the area have their product for sale here, wedding and other events also take place in this historic complex. • Gathering of wineries in amazing historic buildings.
Bogle Vineyards	Both	2	• Summer concert series with excellent music and food.
Scribner Bend Vineyards	Both	2	• It is a wedding venue and functioning winery • economic support of community. Generational family farm. Active community member.
Agricutural Industry: Growing & Food Processing (28)			
Greene & Hemly*	Business	3	• Huge economic importance for jobs and money in local economy. Provides large amounts of food also. • This is an iconic, historic farm and major job source for many in the delta. Destruction of the ranch is unacceptable for shipment of water south. This is a sustainable farm.

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	Business/Service and/or Gathering Spot	Number of times named	Participant Comments *(Direct Quotes)*
R Kelley Farms	Business	2	• Great spot for fresh fruits and veggies. One of few African American farmers. • Produces specialty Southern and Asian crops. Important economic support for community. Active community member.
Other Farming Operations	Business	21	• Klein Family Farms & Greg Paul Produce… locally grown potatoes and asparagus and other crops, produced with local workers. As well as packing shed that employs local people. • Kay Dix… Employees 1000+ people during harvest many jobs will be lost and low income families will be affected!!!!! • The pear industry in Courtland, CA… The local economy would suffer from salinity in water. • David Elliott and Sons… Huge economic support by providing many jobs and money. Provides large quantities of food. • Zuckerman Heritage Farms… Major employer and significant underground gas storage sight. • Pear Fair… Annual large festival that is a large economic importance for the community. • Farming provides jobs and income for the area. The tunnels would reduce an important economic resource for our area • Agricultural is important for a number of different reasons in this area. One of the best quality of dirt anywhere in the world. Disturbing it will do more harm than good.
Delta Farmers' Market (Isleton)	Both	2	• Great spot. Needs support by slowing down traffic, beautifying intersection, linking the farm stands. Bike lanes from Isleton. • Fresh local food!
Towns & Services/Amenities (37)			
Town of Walnut Grove*	Both	9	• Important gathering place and hub for many local services. Deep rural character & ambience. Would be heavily impacted by major construction. • Walnut Grove is an incredible destination on the California Delta • Small town atmosphere at its best • My grandparents brought my mom on wknds as young as 5 I heard stories of catching turtles in Potato Slough… We lived on a boat for 7yrs at Giusti's… my uncle water skiing at dusk in The Meadows… • This is our livelihood you building these tunnels will forever change the landscape and turn us into a ghost town
Town of Isleton*	Both	4	• Isleton is a town that has struggled for years and is finally becoming a great place to live and enjoy many different kinds of businesses. • People live here and need a viable support community of a variety of businesses and services as it is 17 miles to either Suisun City, or Lodi, or Stockton. It serves many needs including expansion for medical clinic, copying facilities, coffee shops … and low cost housing in the downtown area.
Town of Locke*	Both	4	• Friends live here and have businesses • IT HAS THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT PLACE FOR TOURISTS, BUT NEVER REACHED ITS POTENTIAL.
Bethel Island*		4	• Many businesses, post office and historical site of old post office. • Numerous restaurants, bars, stores and boating/fishing services. • Used to have so many more restaurants and fun places. It has gone downhill
Discovery Bay*	Both	4	• Discovery Bay. I remember boating and fishing in the bay. Beautiful area • Discovery Bay is a special place to live • Taken over by harmful blue algae
Antioch*	Both	3	• We need to bring business to the beautiful downtown areas
Courtland Market	Both	3	
Town of Rio Vista*	Both	2	
Courtland Library	Both	2	• One of just a few spots that provide books, internet, and services for the community. Greatly used by students and adults for further education.
Courtland Post Office	Both	2	
Clarksburg Community Library	Both	2	• Reading & everything any library offers to serve the public!
Downtown/Old Town Pittsburg*	Both	2	• Small business hub with historical and cultural significance
Other SItes			
Home	Gathering	7	
Mandeville Point	Gathering	3	• This is a community place where thousands of people meet every year on different occasions. It would be heartbreaking if you destroy this. • Popular anchorage and host area to the annual Hilton fireworks.
Brannan Island State Recreation Area*	Gathering	3	• The park and many surrounding levee areas
Hood Community Park	Gathering	2	• Only playground nearby for Hood and surrounding Delta residents. Community gathering area.
Grand Island Mansion*	Gathering	2	
Big Break Regional Shoreline*	Gathering	2	• Educational resources re the Bay, Delta fish and wildlife and historical events.

The map on the following page shows businesses, services, and gathering sites type for Delta-region DAC Participants. These sites are fairly dispersed, but there is a strong concentration in the Locke/Walnut Grove area as well as in legacy communities along the water.

Map 7. Delta Disadvantaged Community Businesses, Services, and Gathering Sites: What's here?



7.3.5 OTHER SPECIAL PLACES

To capture other types of places survey participants value, an "Other Special Places" map marker was provided. DAC respondents (120 respondents) from the Delta region placed 184 special places markers on the map. 52 of these came from those categorized as SDAC respondents. All other survey respondents placed 288 additional map markers, for a total of 472 special places map markers.

Survey participants were asked to provide site names and offered the opportunity to share what makes it special. Respondents provided site names for 386 of the map markers, with comments for many. Delta-region DAC respondents provided 153 of those site names. Those that were named multiple times are listed in the table below along with participant comments. Key themes highlighted survey participant values as well as their concerns about risks that could affect those values: their homes, farms, water supply, neighborhoods, and the health of ecosystems and wildlife.

- One-quarter (37) of the named map markers placed by Delta-region DAC respondents were for personal and family homes. Major themes in the comments related to multigenerational family histories and farms, historic homes, life on the water, and concerns about economic survival and loss of properties.
- Wildlife (salmon, birds, and other), habitat, and estuary and ecosystem health themes were connected to 29 map markers (9 of those were wood duck boxes, noted by the same survey participant).
- The third most frequent site type was agricultural lands, the farming sector, and individual farms. Participant comments connected these sites to the livelihoods and the local economy and the region's heritage.
- The remaining sites – described in the table below – varied. Among them, the peaceful quality of life and scenic beauty in the Delta were qualities that made several sites special. There were also map markers representing concerns about hazardous algal blooms as well as about flood and water supply risks and the potential impact on individual lives and communities. Some comments called attention to communities needing additional investments.

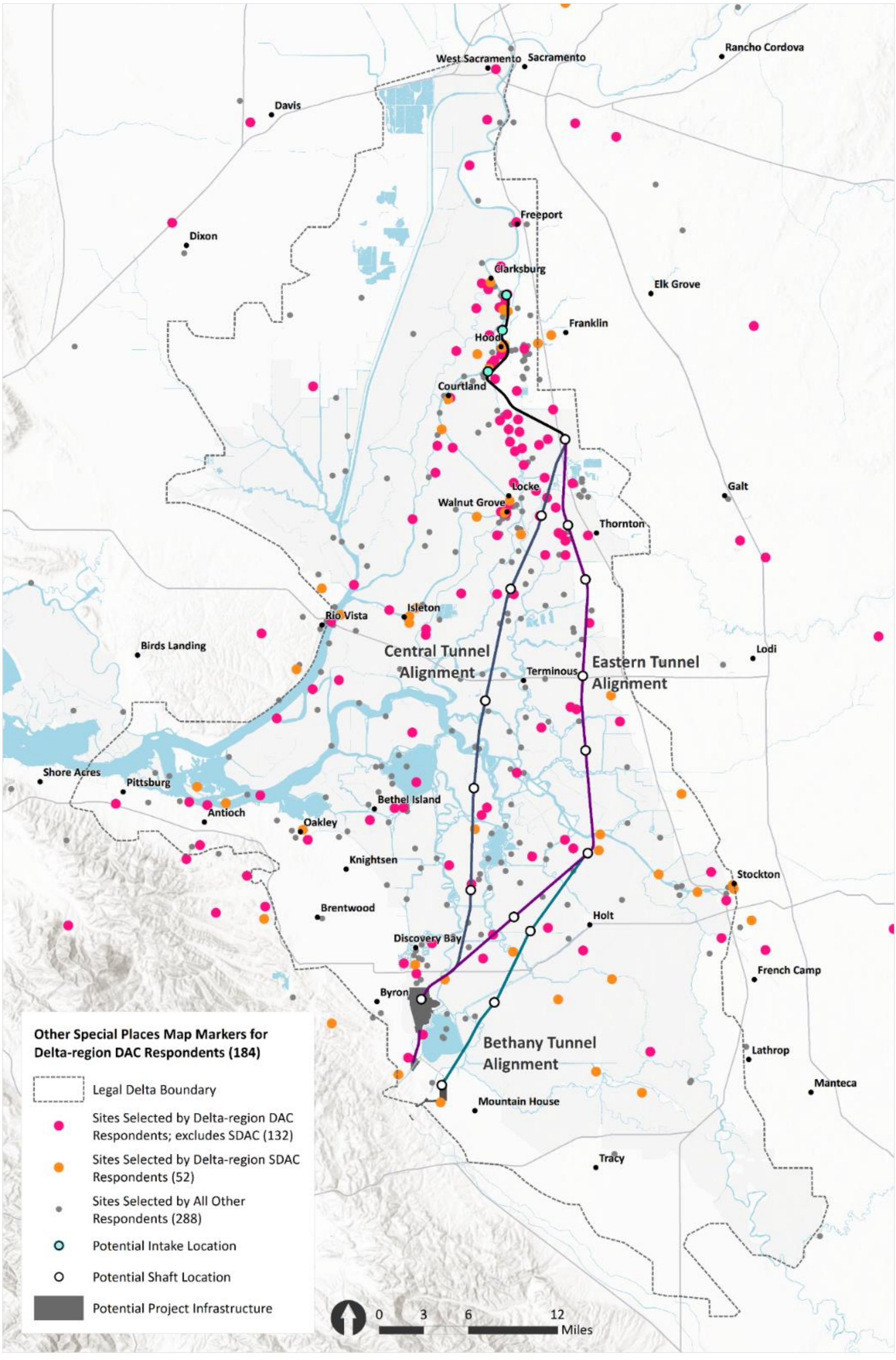
Other Special Places & Comments from Delta-Region DAC Participants

Name of Site *also mentioned for other types of map markers	**Number of times named**	**Why is it special? *(Direct Quotes)***
Family home*	37	Multigenerational history and farming • Great, great grandfather's farm, established 1861…Family and regional history • 5 generations of our family has lived here...we live here, now...we are afraid you might want our land...but we don't want to live thru 13 years of construction, either • This is where we raise our family our community where we know everyone's first name where our kids took their first steps. • the house that has belong to my wife's family since 1890 will be destroyed • We live there...4 generations Living on the water • There are not a lot of places in CA that you can live on the water. • Beautiful place to live IF the water remains untouched. • Homes backing up to the river in Riverlake and Marriott Park Economic survival & property loss • It is a disadvantaged community that needs a lot of investments. • It's where I live and have a mortgage • residential home on sandy base. Vibrations from construction with shake house apart… Family friend, an active community member, generational family, farmer. Other • Where I'm starting to build my family • I live here!
Wildlife, Habitat & Ecosystem Health*	29	Salmon migration waterways • The already threatened salmon migration will be further hurt by additional water diversion • Sacramento/American river systems…anadromous fisheries Bird habitat/birding • Whooping Crane site…on flyway • Critical habitat for sandhill Cranes • Sacramento-San Joaquin River/Bay Delta Estuary…biological diversity • I go birding throughout the Delta. When I was young and able, I'd get out and walk; now that I'm handicapped, I generally use my binoculars from my car. Estuary habitat • Delicate balance of salt and fresh water provides a barrier for saltwater intrusion into the delta and a delicate habitat for wildlife. • Habitat; marshes; mixing of salt and fresh water… I'm concerned about the impacts on salt marshes and the other places in the Delta where the natural system is supposed to handle the movement of salt vs. fresh water. Specific wildlife preserves • Woodbridge Ecological Reserve • Stone Lakes Wildlife Refuge • Cosumnes River Wildlife Preserve Other wildlife/habitat • Wood Duck Boxes Program: From Stone Lakes down to Twin Cities Rd, the North Delta Conservancy monitors over 300 Wood Duck Boxes along the sloughs to assist with the Wood Duck population. (9 wood duck box sites were identified) • It's about PRESERVING disappearing birds and other animals that live in a riparian area. Rip rap levees, clearing of vegetation, pollution, encroachment of development all contribute to habitat loss. I'm guessing muck fields, dewatering, constant heavy truck traffic and the sound and air pollution that brings won't help. • wildlife: otters, ducks, cranes, frogs, turtles, fish • Fragile ecosystem…Once this already damaged ecosystem (by the existing water diversion) is lost, we can't get it back. • Wildlife, open space…natural environment, untouched yet reachable at least visually
Agriculture/farms*	13	• Farming is vital to walnut grove. So many jobs depend on farming • Because this area has been farmed for generations and should not be interrupted by the special interests pushing the tunnels • Economics, generational history • Generational family farm…family friends, active community members, economic support to community • Agricultural hub… Galt grow many wonderful fruits and vegetables and has an excellent strawberry festival yearly • This is a farm owned by a friend who allows community members and friends grow food, keep bees and sells organic produce from the farm at affordable prices. • The Food Hub of the Earth… Agriculture, Beef, Poultry, Pork, Nuts, Fruits, and Vegetables. The is an annual Asparagus festival here. • The richest agriculture soil and history. • Lush farmlands…You pick fruit and fresh veggie stands • Best pears ever!
Stockton*	4	• Stockton Deep Water Chanel… It's a main resource for Stockton economy. • Southside Stockton… The southside needs to be invested in. It is the most impoverished part of our city and needs more resources • Little Manila… The Filipino community here has been gravely affected by historical racism and they recently lost a historic building. This community needs to be rebuilt • There is horrible air quality here (Cal Enviroscreen 3.0). Any construction needs to be evaluated to mitigate pollution to this area.

Peacefulness	4	• Many things are here for raising a family & children! It's the things that are NOT here that makes it really special!... Quiet, low population, low crime, wide open spaces, blue sky, helpful neighbors, good schools, variety of open spaces for hobbies. Peaceful rural living amongst nature & alongside agriculture food production! • Quiet, plenitude of birdlife, bucolic scenery and decayed farm buildings that stimulate the imagination as to the past and its continuity to present. • Small Delta community, quiet, friendly • It is peaceful with wildlife activity as well as agriculture/cattle. • Small rural town with everything a family needs to raise good children! Quality schools, helpful neighbors, activities and spaces for many hobbies & occupations, near jobs & shopping of larger cities
Sacred and traditional indigenous sites*	4	Details confidential
Water Supply	3	• I and my family live and boat in Antioch. There is a desalination plant in the works I'm concerned about. I don't want Antioch city water to become like Flint, MI. • I'm concerned what these tunnels will do to my water supply I need to survive. • Currently we can get drinking water from our wells. Dewatering to build tunnels could easily permanently eliminate our necessary drinking water supply…some people may have to abandon their homes. I hope that any new plan is not so callous as to think that anyone should lose their home or land without compensation if there is an indirect taking.
Scenic Beauty	3	• beautiful quiet country road with beautiful trees and opportunities to see wildlife • aesthetically pleasing landscape to view while driving along the 6 • Hwy 161… Beautiful drive
Clarksburg*	3	• Many farmers, farm workers and other families live and make a living in this region and rely on the water that will be taken as part of this project • Historic community and schools seeking to educate students that will be negatively impacted by a decade or so of pile driving associated with one of the intakes
The Meadows*	3	• California waterways that water our crops, allow for water recreation and fishing. • A GOOD PLACE TO KICK BACK ON A BOAT. SO MANY PLACES WERE BOATERS USED TO HANG OUT ARE DISAPPEARING.
Rio Vista amenities*	3	• Riverside, old Coast Guard buildings, easy access from Rio Vista and Sandy Beach Park… Imagining its potential for rejuvenation of business, fisheries, and income for Rio Vista. • Rio Vista riverfront • Rio Vista Bridge
Open space (including Contra Loma Regional Park)*	3	
Environmental Water Quality (hazardous algal blooms)	3	• I have to see, smell, and sometimes touch the water, every day. Water quality is a real issue with increased algae blooms • Fragile aquatic ecosystem already with steadily increasing Hazardous Algae Blooms (HAB) • If there is a lack of outflows there will be further intrusion of salt water that will impact water quality for the many residents that depend on the Delta for fresh water, including agriculture. Decline of fresh water flows because of diversion to south valley farmers and MWD will exacerbate the algae bloom and degradation of water quality in Stockton and South Delta.
Flood risk	2	• French Camp Slough and Walker Slough… This location is in dire need of levee improvements. Due to a development upstream near Tracy that greatly improved levees for a private, affluent neighborhood, this low income community has been placed in immediate danger of flooding. It is set to become the next 9th Ward should we have a significant flood, which would mean loss of life, property, and faith in how our Delta is managed. • Road to Freeway 6… Only route out in case of Flooding
Marinas	2	• Over 30 fresh waterway dependent marinas within a 30 mile radius… Every single marina relies on the surge, recession, and change of the salinity in the delta waters.
Discovery Bay*	2	• It is my family's home • The people of Discovery Bay are mostly older and retired. it is a perfect for a simple life and one full of life and enrichment.
Ferry	2	• This ferry is part of my favorite bicycle route between Antioch and Sacramento. Having to use the ferry seriously reduces the car traffic on this route. • Ferry boats are VERY romantic. this ferry is an integral part of the Delta experience. Don't even think of removing it. I use this ferry boat when riding my bicycle between Antioch and Sacramento. It effectively reduces the number of automobiles on the route and is just a wonderful thing.
Staten Island*	2	• Essential protected habitat for migratory birds, endangered species, etc. • Farming for bird habitat, sandhill crane and other migratory bird habitat
Winery/wine production*	2	
Grand Island Mansion*	1	• Beautiful place for recreation
Stockton Water Ski Club*	1	
1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse*	1	

The map on the following page shows "Other Special Places" type for Delta-region DAC Participants. The sites are fairly dispersed, though there is a greater concentration along the river stretch between Clarksburg and Walnut Grove.

Map 8. Delta Disadvantaged Community "Other Special Places": What's here?



APPENDIX A. SURVEY OUTREACH

A.1 Purpose & Overview

The purpose of this appendix is to describe both the approach and the channels used to perform outreach activities for the Environmental Justice (EJ) Community Survey conducted in Fall 2020, including the results and lessons learned. The survey was conducted for two reasons: first, in response to the broad public interest in the proposed Delta Conveyance Project, and second, the need to find a safe means for gathering public input on the project during the Covid-19 pandemic.

There were a total of 2117 respondents, of which 540 were identified as Delta-region disadvantaged community (DAC) members, including 166 severely disadvantaged community (SDAC) members. This was categorized based on income, ethnicity (non-white) and zip code. See more in Chapter 2 and in Appendix B for more details on how these groups were categorized.

A.2 Highlights

In general, there were several successful outcomes from the approach and methods used to perform outreach activities.

- The efforts we took to develop a survey that was short, interactive, and engaging were important to the success of the survey.
- The Latino/Hispanic community has the largest limited English-speaking population in the Delta region. The survey had proportionally representative participation from the Latino/Hispanic community in the English survey, but not using the Spanish survey.
- The Chinese survey had great participation. We believe it was because of the activities of a local, engaged community leader who influenced his network to fill out the survey.
- In future efforts, we would hope to find another engaged community member to do the same for the limited-English Spanish speaking population.
- While traditional forms of press and media are important to creating visibility and credibility, many times they are not enough for the communities that we most need to reach and empower to participate. That population relies on trusted relationships to create the connections that enable individual community members to act.
- The key recommendations we would make for other extensive outreach efforts would be to develop deeper



Figure 1 Survey flier distributed in hard copy and electronically.

relationships with embedded community leaders, as individual influencers, as a particularly effective strategy for outreach; and to work to "break through" and become a higher priority for organizations serving Delta-region DAC with messaging about potential impacts.

- Other ideas further increase participation are to 1) have an advisory group that is part of survey design, early on in the process; 2) develop creative ways of supporting community ambassadorship, working with college students and community leaders, and 3) collaborate earlier in the process with nonprofits who are embedded in and dedicated to outreach to specific communities.

In general, we were encouraged by the whole-hearted and thoughtful responses from most participants, including from those who made it clear that they did not agree with the Delta Conveyance Project. It was clear that survey respondents invested time and energy in responding to the survey, and we are grateful for that response.

A.3 Who We Reached

The Fall 2020 *Your Delta, Your Voice* Environmental Justice Survey aimed to gather the perspectives of members of low income, minority, indigenous, historically burdened, and otherwise underrepresented or disadvantaged communities (including limited English speakers) who live or work in the Delta. For simplicity, we routinely refer to these communities as disadvantaged communities (DACs).

Though we targeted our outreach to communities of color, low-income communities, limited English speakers, and other underrepresented communities in the Delta region, we did not restrict survey participation. Consequently, we heard from people across the socio-economic spectrum and from areas throughout out the state.

This survey was intended to support the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in fulfilling its environmental justice commitment to engage with disadvantaged communities in all phases of the Delta Conveyance Project—from planning and environmental review through the project's design and construction, as well as post-construction period.

About outreach to Native American Tribes: While there are Tribes with ancestral ties to the Delta, many California Tribes may also identify a special relationship with the Delta. We focused outreach to Tribal communities in the Delta and state-wide and welcomed and highlighted all Tribal and indigenous participation in this report. Please note that DWR is conducting Government-to-Government consultation with all of the Tribal governments that have requested consultation with DWR pursuant to the California Public Resources Code or DWR's Tribal Engagement Policy and this survey effort was separate and distinct from this Government-to-Government consultation process.

A.4 Goals, Results & Lessons Learned

The main goal for this survey was to maximize participation in the survey by Delta-region DAC members. There were several barriers to overcome in achieving this goal, including survey abandonment, participation by minority, indigenous and tribal, and non-English speakers, and access to those with limited internet and technology access. The following section outlines the approaches we took to overcoming those barriers.

Below we review each goal, the approach we took, any written feedback via the survey, what results we had, and any lessons learned. At the end of this document are attached the suite of collateral that we used for the survey.

A.4.1 GOAL #1: INCREASE OVERALL VISIBILITY AND SURVEY PARTICIPATION

Our first goal was to use the traditional forms of web visibility including a good design, survey landing page at YourDeltaYourVoice.org, and eblasts via DWR. We also had a goal to reduce survey abandonment and

maximize survey participation. Survey abandonment happens for a number of reasons, including a survey being too long, it is not interactive and does not keep a participant engaged. Another reason for survey abandonment is that a participant decides the survey does not apply to them.

Approach

For these and other reasons, we designed the survey and our engagement to be inclusive; short, interactive and engaging; and to have a solid basis of web outreach.

1) **Inclusive:** We encouraged participation from anyone and everyone who cares about the Delta, even if they were not our intended audience. In an age of social media and "viral" participation, we were clear that we wanted to limit barriers to participation. Consequently, we received input from many non-DAC and non-Delta participants who care about the Delta. We also used graphics and marketing that were either of the Delta region or visually represented the Delta, and looked for photos of a variety of Delta-region people representing diverse ethnicities.
2) **Short, interactive, and engaging:** We used MetroQuest (www.metroquest.com), a public engagement tool which uses a research-based approach to develop a survey platform that is interactive, short, engaging, and is known for a high rate of response. While we had a number of "check the box" questions, we also had a number of other types of "drag and drop questions" and created many opportunities for open-ended comments throughout the survey.
3) **Solid basis for web outreach:** We developed a solid basis for web-based outreach via a survey landing page, a webpage on DWR's website, social media posts on DWR's Facebook page, and with several blasts via DWR's mailing list, which has a reach of more than 8,000 people. Additionally, we invested in paid Facebook ads and boosts, and encouraged posts and "shares" of posts from others. Videos were also requested by some of the social media-savvy local organizations, and so "How-To" Videos were developed to support both content and a call to action for the survey.



Figure 2 Sample DWR Facebook post for Survey, sent October 12, 2021.

Results

DWR's e-blasts and their Facebook page, were effective in generating survey responses, with spikes in the hundreds every time we did an e-blast. However, survey participants were not "underrepresented" participants, and in fact were the opposite: traditionally represented, and mostly white and affluent. That being said, these outlets were critical for overall visibility.

Another important result was the addition of people who were new to the Tunnel/Delta Conveyance Project process: Sixty one percent (61%) of DAC respondents in the Delta likewise had never participated, and 66 percent of SDAC respondents had never participated before. (More can be found about this in Chapter 2 of the EJ Survey Report).

In the survey, there was an option for respondents to anonymously add their email. Approximately 500 new email addresses were collected via this question. Because this information was confidential, we do not know what the demographics are of those who provided emails, but we hope this helps expand these lists to reach more diverse audiences.

Written Feedback via the Survey

In the survey itself, there were more than two dozen comments with critiques of the survey. Some asked for the categories for the priorities to change, stating that they lumped categories together that should be kept separate. Several mentioned that to say the Delta had a "slower quality of life," a phrase we used at least twice, was not accurate and showed that we did not understand the Delta. Others shared that the survey appeared to be only considering questions that showed support of the Delta Conveyance Project, or that they didn't understand the purpose of the survey.

Lessons Learned

The efforts we took to develop a survey that was short, interactive, and engaging were important to the success of the survey. However, keeping it short meant that combined categories that others may not have. While we received consultation on various aspects of the survey, the need to keep drafts confidential also meant that we only ground-truthed portions of the survey with local Delta community members prior to launching the survey. If we were to do this again, we would recommend identifying an advisory committee who helps to review and provides input prior to launching. We may not have satisfied everyone, but we likely could have improved its local relevance. Working with an advisory committee could also have supported outreach efforts.

Critiques of the survey made up far less than one percent (<1%) of comments within the survey. In general, we were pleased at the thoughtful responses from participants. It was clear that survey respondents invested time and energy in the survey, and we were grateful for that outcome.

A.4.2 GOAL #2: INCREASE PARTICIPATION BY DAC MEMBERS WHO LIVE OR WORK IN THE DELTA

We knew that the survey was most likely to be taken by people who received it from a source that they trusted. This is known to be particularly true with audiences that are underrepresented and historically burdened and marginalized. Due to this, we undertook extensive outreach efforts, and see them as a potential seed to other efforts.

Approach

1) **Work with community partners:** The survey outreach team called more than 390 local community-based organizations, including nonprofit service providers, government service providers, school districts, clubs with potential shared interests at local community colleges, food banks and pantries, churches, community groups, and local elected officials. We also made presentations to a group of about ten organizations in the Stockton area, and asked for outreach support from the leaders of the Delta Conveyance Design & Construction Authority Stakeholder Engagement Committee[21] and the

[21] "The Stakeholder Engagement Committee provides a forum for Delta stakeholders to offer input and feedback on technical and engineering issues related to the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority's current activities." https://www.dcdca.org/meetings/ (Accessed: March 25, 2021)

Tribal Engagement Committee.[22] Nearly 45 of the contacted local community organizations and agencies, or 10%, responded with a willingness to distribute eblasts, a pdf of the flier, do a social media post, or distribute fliers and postcards.

2) **Eblasts, Social Media, and other publicity efforts:** In addition to DWR's e-blasts, several other e-blasts and social media efforts were conducted.
    a) Ag Innovations also distributed several e-blasts to a list of 1000, including focused Environmental Justice organizations, community organizations, and interested individuals in the Delta. These email addresses were gathered from DWR's lists, from emails obtained during the spring Delta Conveyance Project scoping meetings, and through contact with local community organizations and agencies.
    b) We also worked with the SacCulturalHub.com Media Company, a grassroots multi-media organization in Northern California for the African-American/Urban communities who has an active and stewarded list of nearly 56,000 email addresses.
    c) Sixteen (16) additional posts by local and state agencies and community-based organizations were sent out via Facebook that we identified.
    d) Peachjar (https://ms.peachjar.com/), an online flier system to 22 In-Delta schools, had a reach of nearly 15,000 people.

3) **Handing out fliers:** Fliers were handed out at three local food banks during food box pickup times (nearly 400 fliers) and during school meal pickups at Antioch Unified School District (nearly 800 fliers) and at River Delta Unified School District (nearly 1500 fliers).
    a) This process of in-person flier distribution would have been an effective form of outreach in normal times, but with Covid-19, many food banks took precautions to protect the health and safety of those they serve. Likewise, food banks were identified as promising places to reach disadvantaged community members for surveys, but some expressed caution about fatigue among their constituents about more surveys.
    b) We also attempted to contact culturally identified grocery stores to see if they would be willing to stuff their bags with fliers, but many did not understand our request over the phone, and we limited in-person contact due to Covid-19. This would likely have gone better if we had arrived with fliers in hand to make the request.

4) **Tribal Dissemination:** We presented to the Tribal Engagement Committee and then provided 1100 flyers and postcards to the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Wilton Rancheria, United Auburn Indian Community, Ione Band of Miwok Indians, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, California Valley Miwok Tribe (Sheep Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California), Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, and California Indian Environmental Alliance.

[22] The Tribal Engagement Committee (TEC) is made up of Tribal representatives from Tribes with ancestral ties to the Delta. The TEC was formed in late 2019 and meets regularly to discuss Delta issues and their common interests. The TEC meetings are convened by Shingle Springs Rancheria. More information about DWR engagement with California Native American Tribes can be found at https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Tribal-Engagement.

Results

We received 2117 responses from throughout California; of that, 540 were Delta-region DAC members, including 166 SDAC members. This was categorized by income, ethnicity (non-white) and zip code (see more in



Figure 3 Fliers in English, Spanish, and Chinese

Chapter 2 of the EJ Survey report). We also received 27 Native American respondents, including 19 Delta region DAC Native Americans.

Our goal was to generate robust and representative participation by DAC respondents. Since we are defining disadvantaged community respondents as those identifying as non-white or having lower household incomes (among other factors) and aiming to reach limited English speakers, we would hope to see higher participation rates for low-income households, people of color, and limited English speakers among all respondents.

The table below compares survey participation by ethnicity to the ethnic make-up of the region as a whole as represented by the 2014 American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimates for the five-county region. The five-county region includes Solano County, San Joaquin County, Sacramento County, Yolo County, and Contra Costa County, and was selected because they had the greatest population in the Delta region.[23]

There are some important things to note:

- We are providing a comparison not only for Delta-region DAC respondents but also for all Delta-region respondents. This is because the latter represents a closer apples-to-apples comparison to what we would find for the population as a whole, as represented by the ACS data.
- Not only did we hope to see robust participation rates by people of color among our DAC respondents, we also expected to see higher participation rates by those identifying as non-white because we categorized all non-white respondents as DAC respondents.

[23] Alameda County has a small corner and about 60 parcels that are in the Delta region. However, because it also contains one of the most populous areas of California, the Bay Area, we did not use that to understand ethnicity or language in the Delta region.

Of all those who participated from the Delta region, we saw lower participation by African-Americans, Asian or Pacific Islanders, Latinos, and those identifying as having mixed heritage than what would be reflective of the region. We had slightly higher participation by Native Americans and those identifying as having another ethnicity.

Among DAC respondents – as we had hoped – we see higher than proportional participation rates among people of color compared to those identifying as white, though there is variation across ethnicities. Again, we would have liked to see a higher rate of African-American participation. However, participation rates among other non-white ethnicities were close to proportional to the population at large, and higher for those identifying as Latino/Hispanic, Native American, or some other ethnicity.

Survey Participation by Ethnicity Compared to Ethnic Composition of the 5-County Delta Region					
	Census/American Community Survey Delta Population by Ethnicity	**Delta Region Survey Participation by Ethnicity***	**Difference**	**Delta DAC Survey Participation by Ethnicity****	**Difference**
African-American/ Black	10%	2%	-8%	4%	-6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	21%	11%	-10%	20%	-1%
Latino/Hispanic	12%	9%	-3%	16%	+4%
Mixed Heritage	16%	7%	-9%	13%	-3%
Native American/ Indigenous	0%	2%	+2%	4%	+4%
Other	0%	5%	+5%	10%	+10%
White	40%	62%	+22%	34%	-6%
Total	100% (total population for 5-county region)	100% (total who provided ethnicity information)	-	100% (total who provided ethnicity information)	-

* *The Census data is for the 5-county region, whereas the survey region covers a somewhat smaller area.*

** *If survey participation by ethnicity is proportional to the population at large, among our DAC respondents, we would anticipate seeing somewhat lower participation by those identifying as white and higher participation by those identifying as non-white because we categorized all of those identifying as non-white as DAC respondents.*

Written Feedback via the Survey

At least one survey respondent expressed disappointment that Tribal communities and the area North of the Delta were not included in the survey and another noted that the Delta is linked to lives across the state, not only to those who visit, live in or near, or work in the Delta. We have reported out on all respondents in the EJ Survey report, although we did not ask questions focused on upstream or downstream of the Delta.

Feedback from Community Organizations

There were real challenges in recruiting local community organizations to partner with us on distributing the survey. Here were the top two reasons why:

1) **The EJ Survey was not a priority that could compete with other priorities.** During the time of the survey, local organizations and agencies we spoke with were working on enlisting participation in the census, dealing with the impact of Covid-19 on their vulnerable communities, or working with election issues during a presidential election. The survey did not rise to the top.
2) **Community organizations did not understand whether or not it should be a priority, or how the project could affect them**. Community organizations had a hard time understanding why they should bring it to their constituents. They wanted to know what the impacts were, why they should care, and

why this should rise to the same level of priority as other issues they were working on. The curiosity was genuine, as well as the lack of understanding.

Other, less common reasons that community organizations did not participate were:

3) **An organizational stance** either against or to not participate (be neutral) in Delta Conveyance Project
4) **Concern that their voice wouldn't really influence the process** and that it wasn't worth their time
5) **Concern that participating** would make it harder for them to contest the project separately, or be used against them in some way.

For those organizations who have participated in the Delta Conveyance Project process in the past, it was clear that a long, oppositional relationship with past iterations of the Delta Conveyance Project had damaged trust that this effort would influence the process or the outcome.

When we did connect with them, typically it was after persistent efforts. As we said above, we were directly successful with about ten percent of those we contacted, with others simply not responding, and a few turning us down directly.

In addition, when we spoke to potential partners, a few requests were made.

1) A request was made for gift card promotions for survey takers, which are a norm when working to obtain input via survey for disadvantaged communities. Unfortunately, gift cards are not able to be used given state ethics guidelines, which prohibit from "gifting."[24] We were however able to offer stipends for organizations willing to do outreach on our behalf, although we had no organization accept this offer, mainly citing being low on capacity with Covid-19, the elections, census, etc.
2) A clear explanation of possible impacts or implications of the Delta Conveyance Project on disadvantaged communities. Because the CEQA environmental review process is just beginning and impacts are not yet identified, we were limited to indicating that there could be potential impacts and benefits to the project, but we could not describe what those impacts and benefits could include. However, not being able to share potential impacts meant that it was hard to gain attention from DAC communities.

Not being able to meet those two requests as robustly dampened our efforts to effectively partner with these organizations.

Lessons Learned

Based on this feedback and our own reflections, we include the following lessons learned:

- **Deep, not broad:** Develop an EJ outreach program that focuses on partnering with a shorter list (around 20) community organizations in a way that supports their mission, builds relationships and trust, asks them to partner as much as possible around design in addition to implementation, and offers financial support for any outreach are potential ways to support better partnership.
- **Urgent messaging:** Identify ways to more clearly specify the urgent need for participation through messaging, in order to "break through" the many issues community organizations are facing.

Finally, it has been a priority to show that feedback will be listened to and used, and continuing to show that feedback will be listened to and used will be important while working with community organizations.

[24] There are significant regulatory and legal issues to giving gift cards, and this will likely be slow to change, if at all. However, this is a standard mechanism for survey engagement with DAC communities, and does hamper results.

A.4.3 GOAL #3: INCREASE PARTICIPATION BY NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Another goal we had was to encourage participation by people who did not speak English as a first language. This mean providing access in Spanish and Chinese, as they were the most spoken language by limited-English speakers in the Delta region.

Approach

In order to reach limited English speakers in the Delta, we did the following.

1) **Translated surveys and outreach materials:** To promote wide participation, the survey and outreach materials were made available in English, Spanish and Chinese.[25]
2) **Sending Postcards:** We developed a mailing list for our postcards that prioritized a high percentage of Spanish speakers and residents who had low internet.[26]
3) **Outreach to Community Organizations:** We called community organizations who had connections with these two different language groups.
4) **Web and radio outreach for Spanish News Outlets:** For Spanish speakers, we worked with Univision, who provided a series of banner ads and Facebook posts on Spanish language news-sites. We also developed a radio spot with the help of Soluna Outreach Solutions that was aired in a number of Spanish-speaking radio stations in the Capital Region, Solano Region, and San Joaquin Region.
5) **Outreach via a local Community Leader:** For Chinese speakers, an embedded community leader volunteered time make direct and personal requests for survey participation via texting and multiple social media channels, including WeChat – a social media app used extensively by Chinese language speakers.



Figure 4 Univision Banner Ad

Results

In total, the survey received 2117 responses,[27] distributed as follows:

- English survey responses: 1794, or 85% of the survey respondents
- Spanish survey responses: 12, or 0.5% of the survey respondents
- Chinese survey responses: 311, or 14.7% of the survey respondents

The table below shows that 54.2 % speak Spanish at home, and 8.9% speak Chinese (a combination of Cantonese and Mandarin) at home.[28] This means, of those that speak English less than very well in the five-county region, 7.8% primarily speak Spanish, and 1.3% primarily speak Chinese.

[25] We considered translating the survey and outreach materials into Tagalog, as it was the third-highest language spoken in the Delta region, with 6.4% of the five-County region. Through consultation with several Filipino community members, we learned that there are actually several dialects spoken in the region. They also shared that the community was accustomed to reading and writing in English. We were told that this is even true in the Philippines because the dialects are not mutually understandable. Due to that guidance, we decided to cancel the translation of the survey and accompanying materials into Tagalog.

[26] Using ArcGIS, we used the following data inputs: 1) 2019 Parcel data with land uses (from 2019 Land Vision data provided by DWR), 2) 2019 American Community Survey demographic and internet/computer access block group data, 3) Delta Statutory Boundary. More information on the postcard mailing targets can be found in Attachment A.

[27] Raw survey data included 2156 responses. Some redundant survey responses from the same IP address were removed from the data analyzed in this report. Please see Appendix B for more information.

[28] 2009-2013 American Community Survey – Language Spoken at Home

Survey Participation by Language Compared to the Spoken Language in the Delta Region						
Census Language Data for the 5-County Region	**Population Age 5 or over**	**% of Population Age 5 or over**	**Survey Participation by Survey Language**	**Number of Survey Responses by Language**	**% of All Survey Responses**	**Difference between Survey Response Rates and Spoken Language in the 5-County Region**
Total	3,554,563	100%	**All Participants**	2117	100%	n/a
Those who speak English very well	3,044,262	85.6%	**English Survey**	1794	84.7%	-0.9%
Those who don't and speak Spanish at home	276,622	7.8%	**Spanish Survey**	12	0.6%	-7.2%
Those who don't and speak Chinese at home	45,170	1.3%	**Chinese Survey**	311	14.7%	+13.4%

Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013 https://www.census.gov/topics/population/language-use/data.html

Although we did not have this goal at the outset, ideally, we would have liked to see our non-English survey responses proportional to the population that speaks other languages in the region. This would mean that the Spanish survey response made up at least 7.8% of the survey responses, as opposed 0.6%. We were thrilled that Chinese survey responses were at 14.7% of responses, when they represent 1.3% of the five-County Delta Region.

Regarding participation by limited English Spanish speakers, we also know that limited English speakers may rely on other means to respond to surveys, such as a younger generation or other support. Many Spanish speakers may also have chosen to fill out the survey in English, and in the prior section on ethnicity, we found that 16% of the Delta DAC responses were Latino/Hispanic, where proportional representation was at 12% of the five-County region.

There were a number of factors influencing our response rates as well as some lessons learned.

Results for Outreach to Spanish speakers: We tracked our responses, and those returning from the Univision banner ads and social media post as well as the radio ads was low, with fewer than five responses. In total, we only received 12 responses to the Spanish survey. It is however possible that some responded to the English survey instead of the Spanish survey: we did have a total of 104 Latino/Hispanic respondents, 86 of whom were Delta DAC respondents.

It should also be noted that these Spanish media activities happened in the last two and a half weeks of the survey campaign, and experts who supported us on these efforts recommended that we spend several more weeks to see the results of these campaigns.

Results for Outreach to Chinese speakers: We must attribute the success of engagement directly to the effort made by the local leader mentioned above. His effort was inspiring and taught us so much about how to effectively engage not only with the Chinese language community, but also with other limited-English communities.

Lessons Learned

The "proof is in the pudding," for the results of engaging limited-English speakers. We received far fewer responses in Spanish and to the Spanish survey than to the English survey, although we did receive good participation from Latino/Hispanic respondents, and it is hard to separate those efforts. However, we also received many more responses in Chinese than we expected along with some important lessons learned from the extensive and committed effort by a local community leader.

Some recommendations include:

1) Find embedded community leaders willing to champion an effort to support outreach to limited-English Spanish speakers
2) Partner with local community-based organizations in a deeper way if possible, with increased focus on why the engagement should rise higher in their priorities given the many priorities these organizations have.
3) Invest in Spanish-speaking publicity efforts earlier, longer and more robustly than what we did in this round in order to get a better sense of their effectiveness.

A.4.4 GOAL #4: INCREASE INTERNET & DIGITAL DEVISE

Increasing accessibility for those who had limited access to the internet and technology was a harder barrier to overcome; the survey was designed to be interactive, and was not well-suited to pen and paper copies, and would have been longer, with the likelihood of increasing survey abandonment. Likewise, it would have been a significant financial investment to gather and process that data into the survey results along with electronic survey takers.

Approach

Here's how we approached this challenge:

1) **Relied on widespread smartphone usage:** According to the 2019 Delta Protection Commission Broadband Access Plan,[29] only 69% of households in Clarksburg, Courtland, Hood, Isleton, and Walnut Grove have internet access, compared to 80% of Californians. However, more than one-quarter of those Delta households only have access to the internet via their cellular data plan, compared to 9% of Californians. MetroQuest is designed and optimized for a variety of smartphones, including older models. Given that many households had smartphones, we decided to proceed with an electronic form of survey.
2) **Testing:** MetroQuest and Ag Innovations also did extensive testing of the survey on web-based platforms in older smartphones, and a variety of versions of the most commonly used web browsers to ensure that the survey was consistent across browsers and smartphones, tablets, and computers. This actually caused us to further simplify our survey to ensure that the survey was consistent across these multiple venues.
3) **Provided a hotline:** We provided a hotline for participants to call and get support, with translation services available if needed.
4) **Direct outreach with postcards and fliers:** We sent postcards to areas with limited network connectivity, focused on severely-disadvantaged populations. Specifically:
    a) Foodbanks: Stuffing fliers into food bags, and handing out fliers to food bank recipients, with a reach of 1000 people.
    b) Fliers sent to Antioch School District (800 people), Delta Unified School District (1,500 people) and River Delta Unified School District (1000 fliers for dissemination with school lunches).
    c) Postcards sent to 7,800 households based on low household income, Spanish language preference and limited internet access.

[29] *Delta Protection Commission Broadband Access Plan*, page 2. Accessed August 20, 2020: http://delta.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2019-09-19-Broadband-Action-Plan_508.pdf

d) **Direct outreach to local organizations and agencies:** We also worked with local organizations to find hard-to-reach communities with postcards and fliers, as well as e-blasts and social media. Of the forty organizations who sent eblasts or took other actions, 10 organizations also distributed fliers or postcards to their constituents, from handing them out in low-income neighborhoods, handing them out at – or making them available in – their offices.
e) **Direct outreach to Delta Tribes:** We sent 1100 postcards and fliers to seven (7) local Delta tribes and one nonprofit organization.

Results

Results on these efforts are much harder to track; fliers and postcards purposely referred to the YourDeltaYourVoice.org webpage, as opposed to a tracking URL, which is how we tracked many of our electronic communications. We can only look to our overall participation rates.

One thing to note: school meal distribution would not have been possible outside of this unique era of Covid-19. However, many other venues would have been available.

Lessons Learned

Doing an electronic survey did pose challenges in an area that has limited internet connectivity, where a rural, low-income and potentially retired population may have trouble accessing technology. Despite this tradeoff of using an electronic survey platform that was able to gather incredibly rich data, we would not have changed our strategy. The cost of collecting and inputting that handwritten data would have been higher, and we did receive hundreds of survey responses from the participants we most intended to engage.

However, outside of a Covid-19 era, our outreach efforts would have looked different: we likely would have been at more events where we could have worked with participants in place to help them fill out the survey, or explored the possibility of partnering with community-based organizations to do the same.

A.5 Conclusions

The Outreach efforts for this survey were intensive, and used a range of traditional and “field” style outreach. We learned many things from this effort, including the power of a leader dedicated and connected to his community. We hope that this effort serves DWR as well as other outreach efforts to disadvantaged communities in the Delta.

A.6 Attachments: Sample Outreach Materials

September – December, 2020

Number	Type	Date (if applicable)
Print Materials		
A	English Flyer	
B	Spanish Flyer	
C	Chinese Flyer	
D	Postcard in English and Spanish	October 8, 2020
DWR Social Media		
E	Facebook Launch Posts – English, Spanish & Chinese	October 1-6, 2020
F	Facebook Boosted Posts – English, Spanish & Chinese	October 12, 2020
G	Twitter Launch Posts – English, Spanish & Chinese	October 1-6, 2020
H	YouTube Informational & How-to Video – English	November 2, 2020
I	YouTube Informational & How-to Video – Spanish & Chinese	November 2, 2020
J	Facebook & Twitter "Last Chance" Posts	December 7, 2020
Mass Media		
K	Univision Network Web Banner Ads	December 4-11, 2020
L	Univision Facebook Post (links to Spanish Language YouTube video)	December 6, 2020
M	Spanish Radio PSA – KLMG Latino 97.9 FM	December 4-11, 2020
eBlasts		
N	Ag Innovations eBlast	October 8, 2020
O	Ag Innovations eBlast – for Community Organizations	October 15, 2020
P	Ag Innovations eBlast – "Last Chance"	December 4, 2020
Partnerships		
Q	Sacramento Cultural Hub eBlast #1	November 17, 2020
R	Sacramento Cultural Hub Facebook Post	November 18, 2020
S	Sacramento Cultural Hub eBlast #2	December 6, 2020
Other		
T	Postcard Mailing Targets: GIS Analysis	September 18, 2020

A. English Flyer



DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT

Environmental Justice Community Survey

your DELTA your VOICE

The Department of Water Resources is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel called the **Delta Conveyance Project.**

YOUR INPUT IS VITAL to helping the state identify potential project-related impacts and benefits for the Delta's diverse communities.

TAKE THE SURVEY TODAY!

Go to **YourDeltaYourVoice.org** on your computer or smartphone.

For assistance call 1-866-924-9955.

Encuesta disponible en español

调查有中文版本

B. Spanish Flyer



Proyecto de Agua a Través del Delta

ENCUESTA COMUNITARIA DE JUSTICIA AMBIENTAL

tu DELTA

tu VOZ

El Departamento de Recursos Hídricos está evaluando una propuesta para construir un túnel de agua en el Delta llamado **Proyecto de Agua a Través del Delta.**

SU CONTRIBUCIÓN ES VITAL para ayudar al estado a identificar posibles impactos y beneficios relacionados con el proyecto para las diversas comunidades del Delta.

¡HAGA LA ENCUESTA HOY!

Vaya a YourDeltaYourVoice.org en su computadora o teléfono móvil.

Para obtener ayuda, llame al 1-866-924-9955.

C. Chinese Flyer



三角洲輸送項目
環境正義社區調查

你的三角洲

你的聲音

水資源部正在評估建造一項名為
三角洲輸送項目的水源隧道提案。

您的意見對於幫助加州為三角洲的多元化社區確定與項目相關的潛在影響和利益**至關重要**。

今天就參加調查！

在电脑或智能手機上訪問
YourDeltaYourVoice.org
如需幫助，請撥打電話 **1-866-924-9955.**

D. Postcards

Mailed – October 8, 2020



The Department of Water Resources is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel in the Delta called the **Delta Conveyance Project**.

YOUR INPUT IS VITAL to helping the state identify potential project-related impacts and benefits for the Delta's diverse communities.

El Departamento de Recursos Hídricos está evaluando una propuesta para construir un túnel de agua en el Delta llamado **Proyecto de Agua a Través del Delta.**

SU CONTRIBUCIÓN ES VITAL para ayudar al estado a identificar posibles impactos y beneficios relacionados con el proyecto para las diversas comunidades del Delta.

TAKE THE **SURVEY TODAY!**

Go to **YourDeltaYourVoice.org** on your computer or smart-phone. For assistance call **1-866-924-9955.**

¡HAGA LA **ENCUESTA HOY!**

Vaya a **YourDeltaYourVoice.org** en su computadora o teléfono móvil. Para obtener ayuda, llame al **1-866-924-9955.**

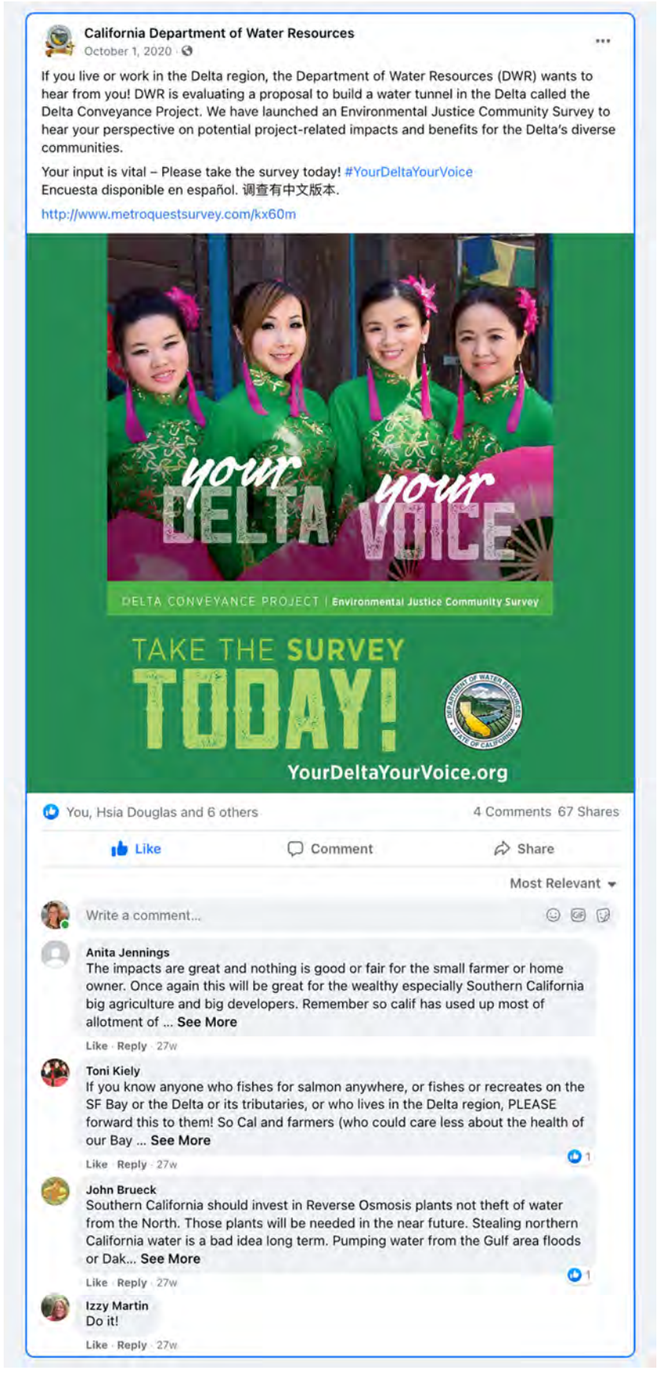
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND CA
PERMIT NO. 2508

调查有中文版本

E. Facebook

Survey Launch Posts – October 1-6, 2020

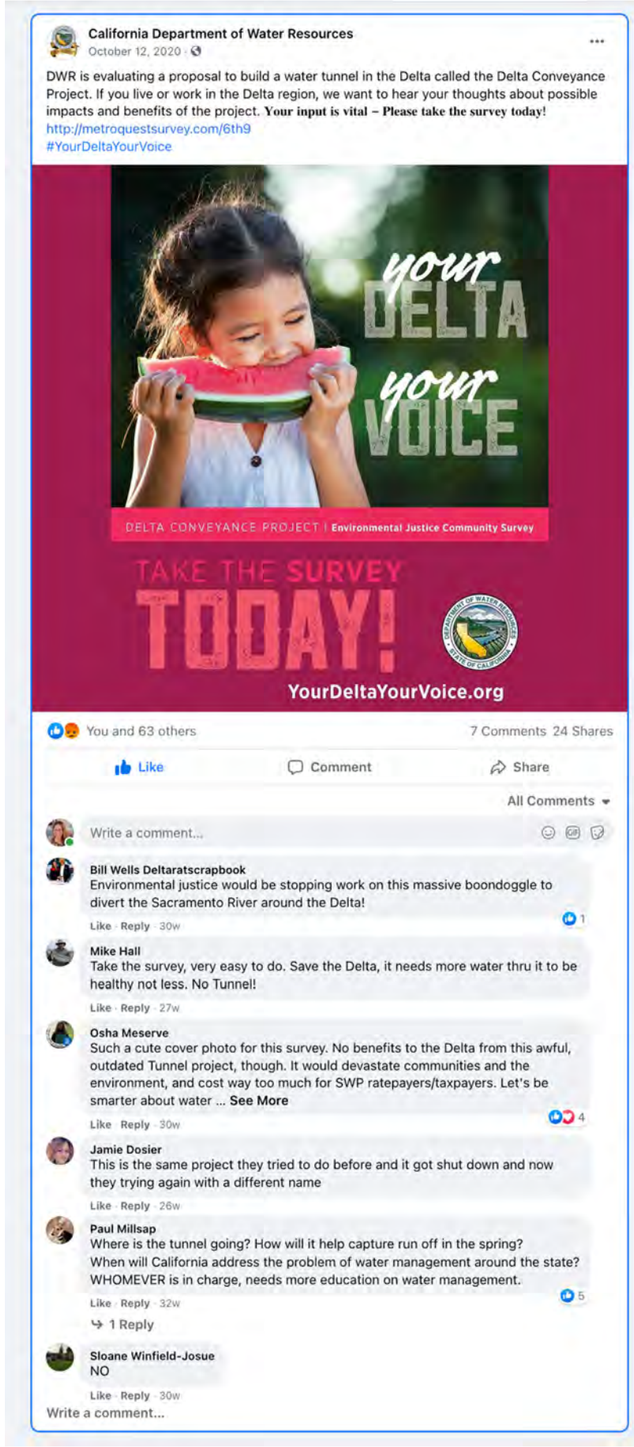


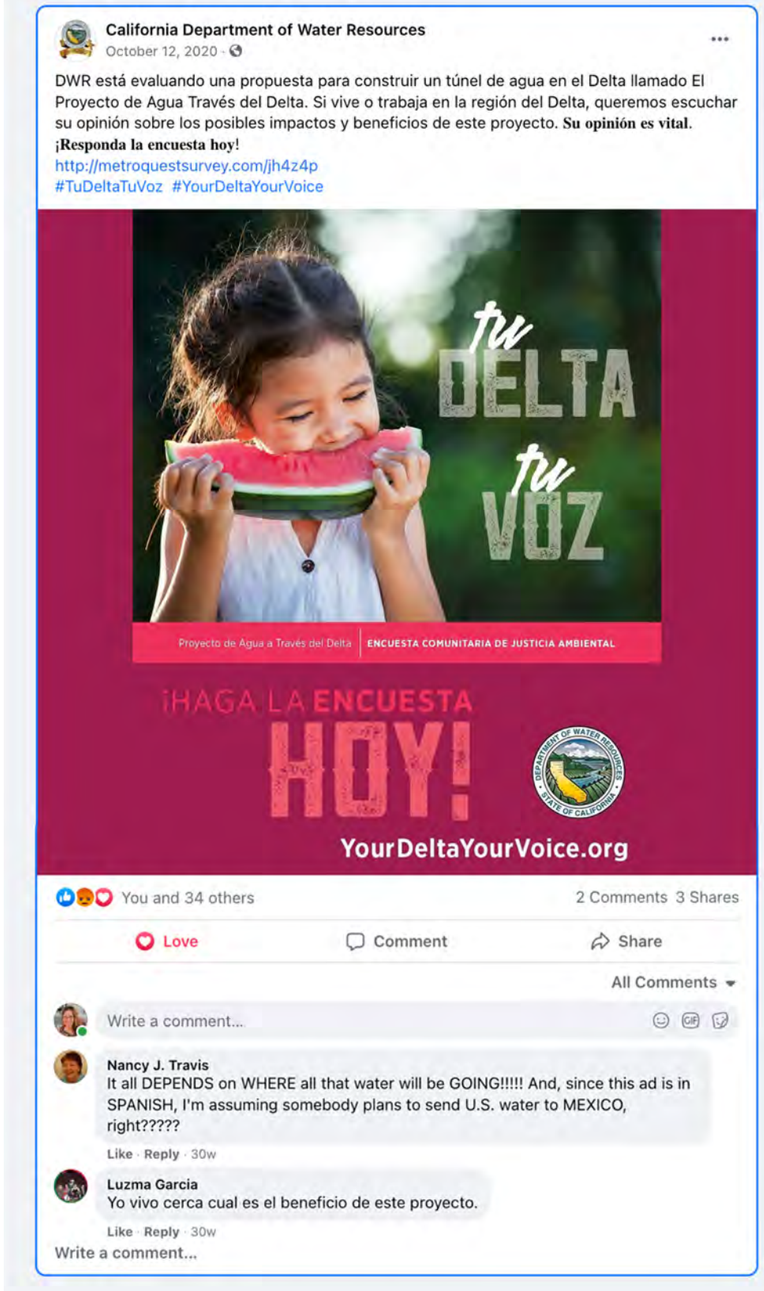




F. Facebook

Boosted Posts – October 12, 2020







G. Twitter

Survey Launch Tweets – October 1-6, 2020

Tweet

CA - DWR @CA_DWR · Oct 1, 2020

@CA_DWR has launched a #DeltaConveyanceProject Environmental Justice Community Survey to get your input about potential project-related impacts & benefits. If you live or work in the #SacDelta region, take the survey today! #YourDeltaYourVoice metroquestsurvey.com/3s9n



7 5

Tweet

CA - DWR @CA_DWR · Oct 6, 2020

.@CA_DWR ha lanzado una encuesta comunitaria de justicia ambiental #DeltaConveyanceProject para obtener su opinión sobre el proyecto. Si vive o trabaja en la región #SacDelta, ¡por favor responda la encuesta hoy! #TuDeltaTuVoz #YourDeltaYourVoice

metroquestsurvey.com/gq4j4y



1 2

Tweet

CA - DWR @CA_DWR · Oct 6, 2020

.@CA_DWR 加州水資源部正展開#DeltaConveyanceProject環境正義社區調查，来聽取你对這項目可能造成之正面和負面的影響。如果您生活或工住在三角洲#SacDelta 地區，請今天就參與調查！ #你的三角洲你的聲音 #YourDeltaYourVoice

metroquestsurvey.com/no57i



1

H. YouTube

Survey Informational and How-To Video – November 2, 2020

English



How to Take DWR's Delta Conveyance Community Survey (Quick Look)

Unlisted

136 views • Nov 2, 2020

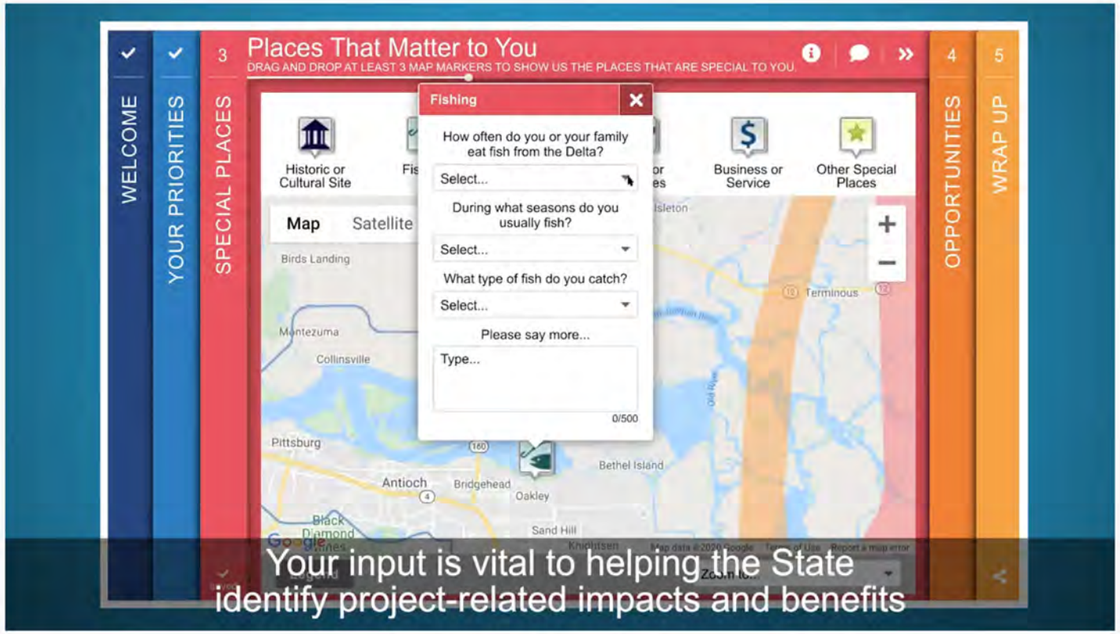
3 0 SHARE SAVE ...

California DWR
18.9K subscribers

SUBSCRIBED

http://metroquestsurvey.com/ff4z4i
If you live or work in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta region, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) wants to hear from you! DWR is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel in the Delta called the Delta Conveyance Project. We have launched an Environmental Justice Community Survey (http://metroquestsurvey.com/ff4z4i) to hear your perspective on potential project-related impacts and benefits for the Delta's diverse communities. This instructional video will guide you through the simple steps of completing the survey, which only takes 5-6 minutes. The survey will be available through the end of November, 2020.

SHOW LESS



How to Take DWR's Delta Conveyance Community Survey (Quick Look)

Unlisted

136 views • Nov 2, 2020

3 0 SHARE SAVE ...

I. YouTube

Survey Informational and How-To Video – November 2, 2020

Spanish & Chinese



Cómo Completar la Encuesta Comunitaria sobre el Proyecto de Agua a través del Delta (Vistado Rapido)

Unlisted

39 views • Nov 2, 2020 3 1 SHARE SAVE ...

California DWR
18.9K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

http://metroquestsurvey.com/my2m2j
Si vives o trabajas en la región de Sacramento - San Joaquín Delta, el Departamento de Recursos Hídricos quiere escuchar de ti. El departamento está evaluando una propuesta para construir un túnel de agua en la zona del Delta conocido como el Proyecto de Agua a través del Delta. Hemos
lanzado una Encuesta Comunitaria de Justicia Ambiental (
http://metroquestsurvey.com/my2m2j) para escuchar su perspectiva sobre este posible proyecto, y los relacionados impactos y beneficios a las diversas comunidades del Delta. Este video instruccional le guiará a través de los simples pasos a seguir para completar la encuesta, la cual sólo toma 5-6 minutos. La encuesta estará disponible hasta el fin de noviembre de 2020.

SHOW LESS



如何進行水資源部 (DWR) 的三角洲運輸項目調查 (快速瀏覽)

Unlisted

59 views • Nov 2, 2020 3 2 SHARE SAVE ...

California DWR
18.9K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

http://metroquestsurvey.com/k5u2c
如果你生活或工作在沙加緬度- 聖華昆 三角洲地區 (Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region), 水資源部（DWR）希望聽到你的意見! 水資源部正在評估建造一項名為三角洲輸送項目的水源隧道提案。我們正展開了一項環境正義社區調查来聽取這項目如何影響三角洲的多元社區之潛在影響。這錄像講授將会引導你用簡單的步驟完成調查，过程只需 5- 6 分鐘，調查期將持續到 11月30日

SHOW LESS

J. “Last Chance” Posts on Facebook & Twitter

Final Week of Survey – December 7, 2020





K. Univision Network Web Banner Ads

December 4-11, 2020

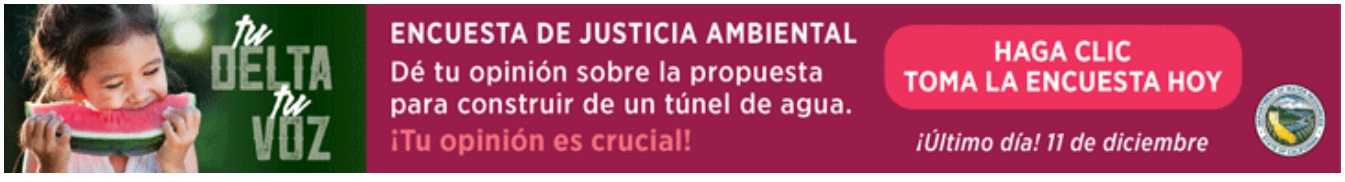






Sample Placement

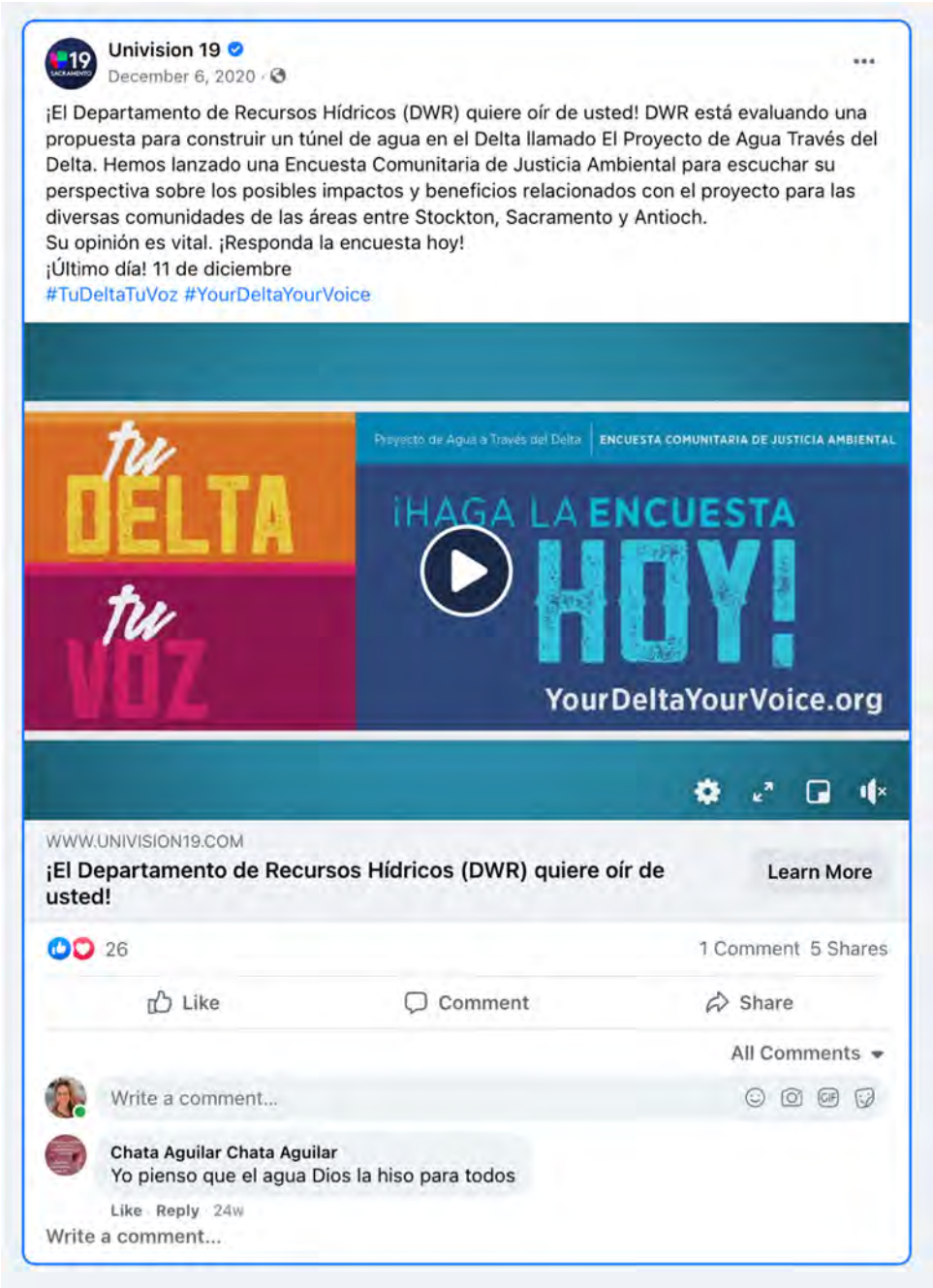




L. Univision Facebook Post

Links to Spanish Language YouTube Video

December 6, 2020



M. KLMG Latino 97.9 FM – Spanish Radio PSA

Broadcast to Sacramento, Solano & San Joaquin

December 4-11 2020

EL ESTADO ESTÁ EVALUANDO UNA PROPUESTA DE UN TÚNEL DE AGUA EN EL DELTA. TU OPINIÓN ES IMPORTANTE PARA CONOCER LOS IMPACTOS Y BENEFICIOS DEL PROYECTO. SI ES APROBADO, EL PROYECTO DURARÁ COMO DIECISÉIS AÑOS EN CONSTRUCCIÓN. SI VIVES O TRABAJAS EN LAS ÁREAS ENTRE SACRAMENTO, STOCKTON Y ANTIOCH, TOMA LA ENCUESTA. SÓLO TOMA CINCO MINUTOS. VISITA TU DELTA TU VOZ PUNTO ORG. Y TOMA LA ENCUESTA HOY. LA ENCUESTA CIERRA EL 11 DE DICIEMBRE. VISITA TU DELTA TU VOZ PUNTO ORG.

THE STATE IS EVALUATING A PROPOSAL FOR A WATER TUNNEL IN THE DELTA. YOUR OPINION IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE IMPACTS AND BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT. IF APPROVED, THE PROJECT WILL BE UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR ABOUT SIXTEEN YEARS. IF YOU LIVE OR WORK IN THE REGION BETWEEN SACRAMENTO, STOCKTON AND ANTIOCH, TAKE THE SURVEY. IT ONLY TAKES FIVE MINUTES. VISIT TU DELTA TU VOZ.ORG. AND TAKE THE SURVEY TODAY! THE SURVEY CLOSES ON DECEMBER 11. VISIT TU DELTA TU VOZ.ORG.

Your Delta. Your Voice. Take the Environmental Justice Community Survey Today!

Delta EJ Survey info@aginnovations.org via mailchimpapp.net Thu, Oct 8, 2020, 9:27 AM



The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel in the Delta to modernize the State Water Project. It is called the **Delta Conveyance Project**. They have launched a community survey to hear your thoughts about the project.

If you live or work in the Delta region, **YOUR PERSPECTIVE IS VITAL** to helping identify potential project-related impacts and benefits for the Delta's diverse communities.

Click on your language to take the survey today!

English **Español** **中文**

Help Spread the Word!

Please use the following social media, email, or print resources – or forward this email – to let your community know about this important opportunity to share their thoughts about the Delta Conveyance Project.
#YourDeltaYourVoice

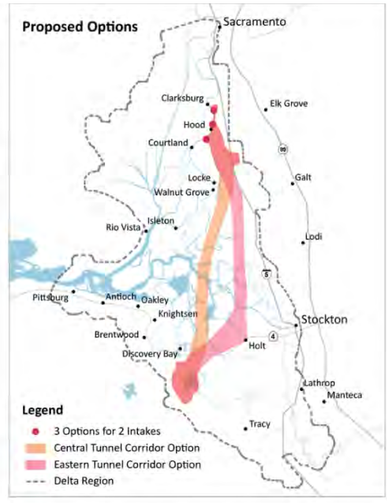
- Share on Facebook: English | Español | 中文
- Share on Twitter: English | Español | 中文
- Send an eBlast with this MailChimp template: English | Español
- Share or post the survey flyer: all 3 languages - los 3 idiomas - 所有3種語言

What is the Delta Conveyance Project?

The state is studying the potential impacts and benefits of two possible routes for a tunnel in the Delta. The proposal aims to protect the reliability of the State Water Project to deliver clean water to homes, farms, and businesses in the Bay Area, Central Coast, and Southern California.

The project would catch some of the fresh water in the northern Delta – especially during storms – through two new intakes near the town of Hood. A deep underground tunnel would carry that water 40 miles to the southern Delta where it would be pumped into the State Water Project. The project would be constructed over 16 years.

Right now, DWR is studying the potential impacts on traffic, noise, air quality, and historical, cultural, recreational, and other resources.



They have launched the Environmental Justice Community Survey to better understand how the project may affect the resources, values, and priorities that are most important you.

Take the survey today!
#YourDeltaYourVoice

Your Help Sharing the Environmental Justice Community Survey

Genevieve Taylor heather@aginnovations.org via mailchimpapp.net Oct 15, 2020, 12:32 PM

Hello!

As an organization working with underrepresented communities on environmental and social justice issues, I'm writing to ask if you might be willing to help spread the word about the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Justice Community Survey. If approved, the Delta Conveyance Project would involve construction over 16 years in the Delta region, which stretches from areas around West Sacramento to Stockton, Antioch, and the many small towns, farms and waterways in between.

We are circulating a short survey to gather the perspectives of people who live and work in this region, including members of low-income and underrepresented communities, people of color, tribal members, and others who may be affected by the project.

We would very much love your help spreading the word to the people served by your organization or your friends, family, and wider community **so their voices can be heard.**

Below is an e-Blast with links to take the survey in English, Spanish, and Chinese as well as links to share the survey on Facebook or Twitter, by email, and other resources.

Would you be willing to take a moment to help or forward this if someone else is a better contact within your organization? If so, please use the links below. And if you live or work in the Delta region, please take the survey yourself!

Please respond to this email or call 707-823-6111, x 150 with any questions. **THANK YOU** in advance for considering this request and for the many ways you serve your community.

Warmly,

Genevieve Taylor
Environmental Justice Outreach Lead
#YourDeltaYourVoice



The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel in the Delta to modernize the State Water Project. It is called the **Delta Conveyance Project.** They have launched a community survey to hear your thoughts about the project.

If you live or work in the Delta region, **YOUR PERSPECTIVE IS VITAL** to helping identify potential project-related impacts and benefits for the Delta's diverse communities.

Click on your language to take the survey today!

English | Español | 中文

Help Spread the Word!

Please use the following social media, email, or print resources – or forward this email – to let your community know about this important opportunity to share their thoughts about the Delta Conveyance Project.
#YourDeltaYourVoice

- Share on Facebook: English | Español | 中文
- Share on Twitter: English | Español | 中文
- Share or post the survey flyer: all 3 languages - los 3 idiomas - 所有3種語言
- Send an eBlast with this MailChimp template: English | Español
- Click here to fill out a quick form to get additional resources

Thank you!

One week left to take the Environmental Justice Survey! Closes December 11

Sheara Cohen sheara@aginnovations.org via mailchimpapp.net Fri, Dec 4, 2020, 7:29 AM

Dear Community,

There's just one week left to take the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Justice Survey. The survey closes **December 11.** Your input is crucial. If you live in the region near and between Stockton, Sacramento, and Antioch and haven't taken the survey yet yet, please do so right away. It takes just a few minutes.

AND WE NEED YOUR HELP: The Delta region's communities are diverse. Representative survey participation will amplify everyone's voices. It is important that we reach residents of low income and minority communities, limited English speakers, and other underrepresented individuals. ***Please forward this to members of your organization or place of worship, friends, family, fellow students or others, and encourage them to take 5 minutes to have their voices heard.***

With gratitude,

Sheara Cohen

#YourDeltaYourVoice #TuDeltaTuVoz #你的三角洲你的聲音



The Department of Water Resources is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel in the Delta to modernize the State Water Project. It is called the **Delta Conveyance Project**. If approved, the project would involve construction over 16 years in the Delta region, which stretches from areas around Stockton to West Sacramento, Antioch, and the many towns, farms, and waterways in between.

They have launched an **Environmental Justice Community Survey** to gather perspectives from low income residents and workers, people of color, tribal members, and other underrepresented communities in the region. If you live or work in the Delta region, **YOUR PERSPECTIVE IS VITAL.**

El Departamento de Recursos Hídricos (DWR) está evaluando una propuesta para construir un túnel de agua en el Delta para modernizar el Proyecto de Agua del Estado. Se llama **El Proyecto de Agua Través del Delta**. Si se aprueba, el proyecto implicaría una construcción de más de 16 años en la región del Delta, que se extiende desde áreas alrededor de Stockton hasta West Sacramento, Antioch, y las muchas ciudades, granjas y vías fluviales en el medio.

Han lanzado una **Encuesta Comunitaria de Justicia Ambiental** para recolectar las perspectivas de los residentes y trabajadores de bajos ingresos, personas de color, miembros de tribus y otras comunidades subrepresentadas en la región. Si vive o trabaja en la región del Delta, **SU PERSPECTIVA ES VITAL.**

Take the survey today!
¡Responda la encuesta hoy!

English **Español** **中文**

Help Spread the Word!
Please forward this message or share the links below. #YourDeltaYourVoice

Share on Facebook
Share on Twitter

¡Ayúdenos a correr la voz!
Reenvíe este mensaje o comparta los enlaces abajo. #TuDeltaTuVoz

Comparte en Facebook
Comparte en Twitter

Q. Sacramento Cultural Hub eBlast

First Round: November 17, 2020

Continued

Take the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Justice Community Survey!

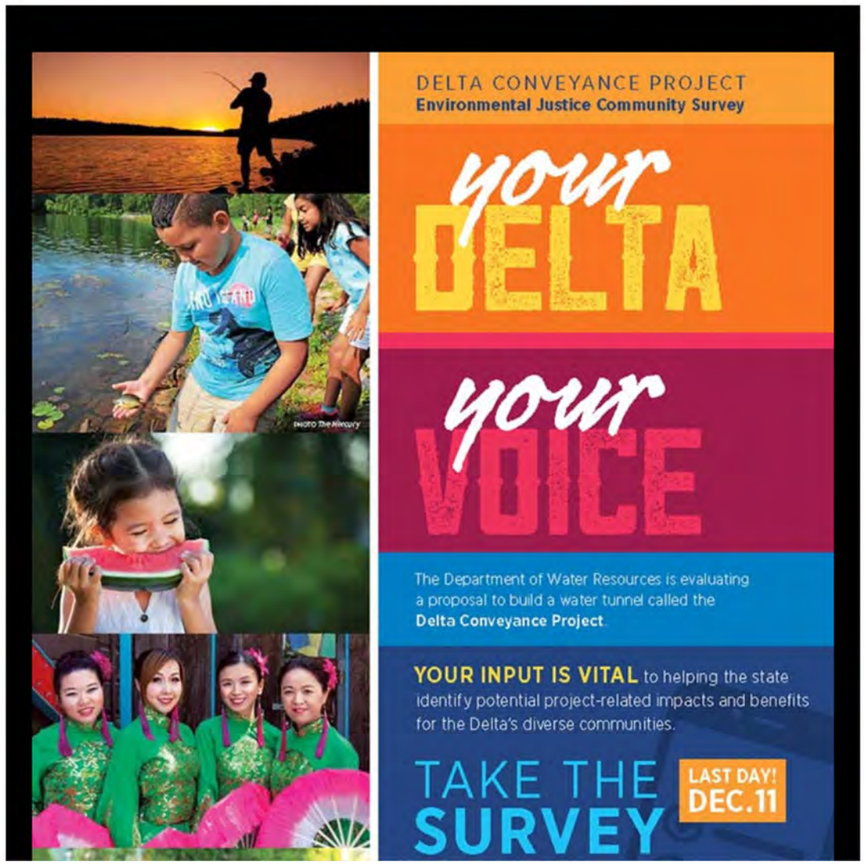
DC/Outreach/Community Survey/Partnering ×

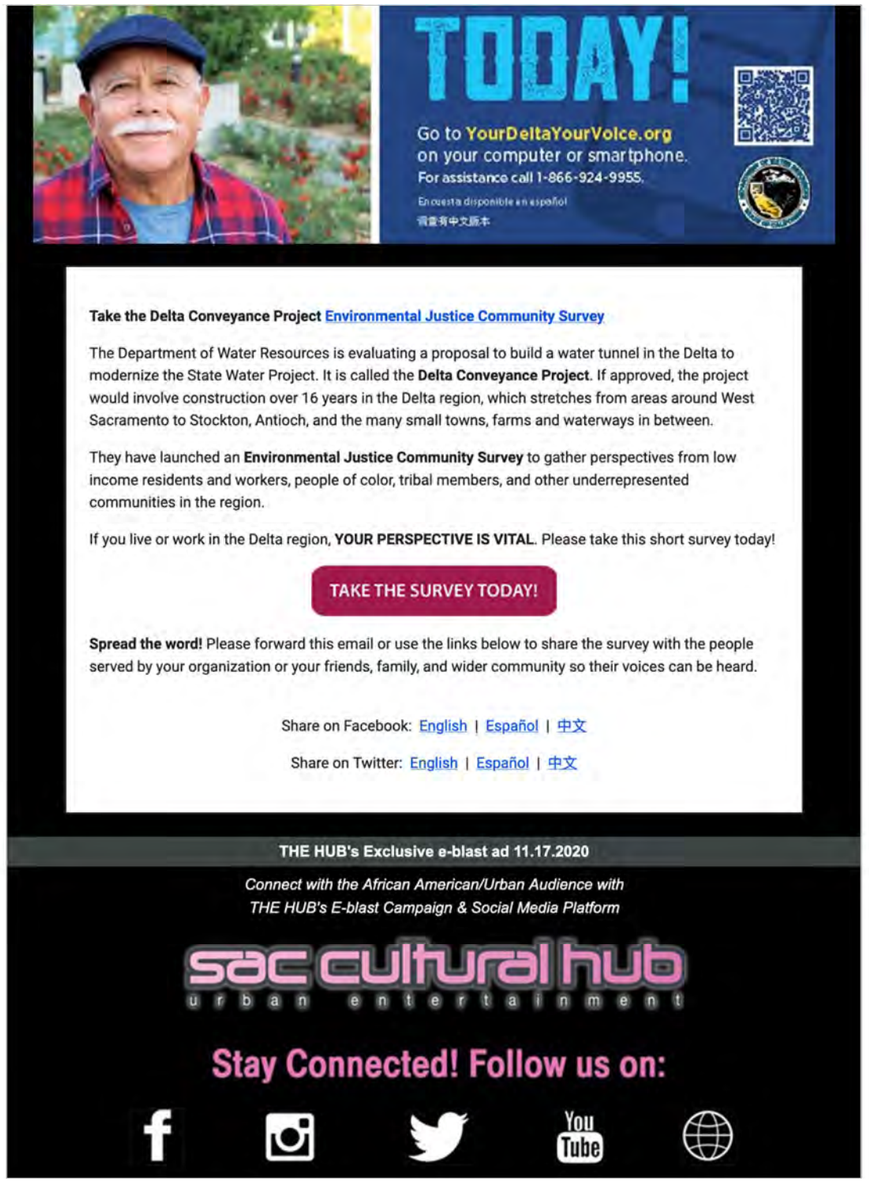
Sacculturalhub Announcement contact@sacculturalhub.com via sacculturalhub.ccsend.com Tue, Nov 17, 2020, 2:30 PM

to me

Copyright (c) 1996-2020 Constant Contact. All rights reserved. Except as permitted under a separate written agreement with Constant Contact, neither the Constant Contact software, nor any content that appears on any Constant Contact site, including but not limited to, web pages, newsletters, or templates may be reproduced, republished, repurposed, or distributed without the prior written permission of Constant Contact. For inquiries regarding reproduction or distribution of any Constant Contact material, please contact legal@constantcontact.com.

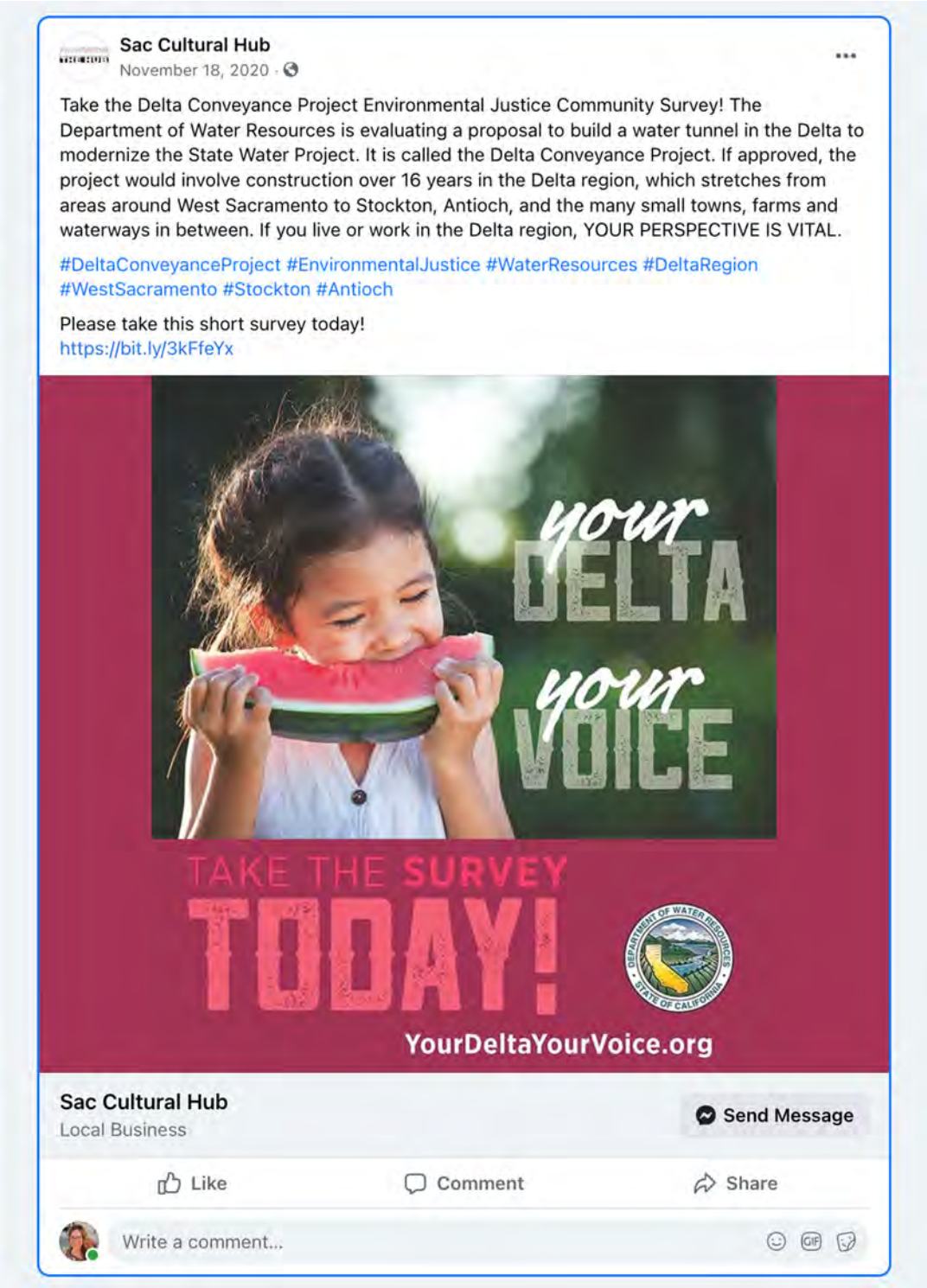
Can't open or read this e-mail, *CLICK HERE*





R. Sacramento Cultural Hub Facebook Post

November 18, 2020



S. Sacramento Cultural Hub eBlast

Second Round: December 6, 2020

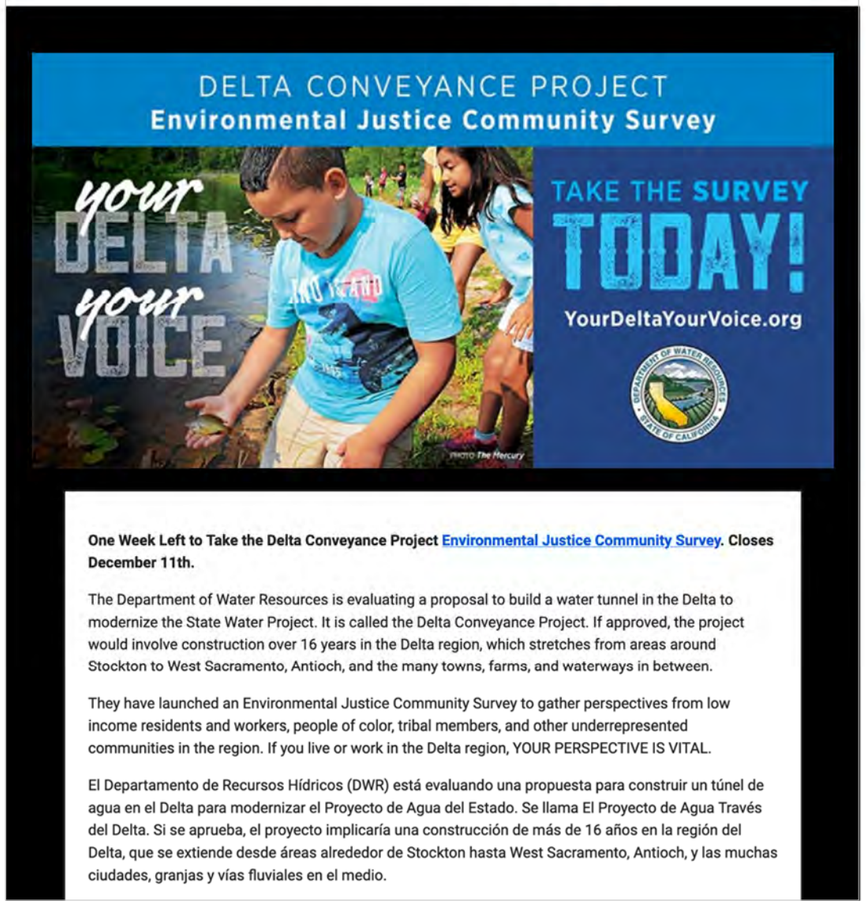
One Week Left to Take the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Justice Community Survey! Closes December 11th. DC/Outreach/Community Survey/Partnering ×

Sacculturalhub Announcement contact@sacculturalhub.com via sacculturalhub.ccsend.com Sun, Dec 6, 2020, 12:00 PM

to me

Copyright (c) 1996-2020 Constant Contact. All rights reserved. Except as permitted under a separate written agreement with Constant Contact, neither the Constant Contact software, nor any content that appears on any Constant Contact site, including but not limited to, web pages, newsletters, or templates may be reproduced, republished, repurposed, or distributed without the prior written permission of Constant Contact. For inquiries regarding reproduction or distribution of any Constant Contact material, please contact legal@constantcontact.com.

Can't open or read this e-mail, *CLICK HERE*



One Week Left to Take the Delta Conveyance Project Environmental Justice Community Survey. Closes December 11th.

The Department of Water Resources is evaluating a proposal to build a water tunnel in the Delta to modernize the State Water Project. It is called the Delta Conveyance Project. If approved, the project would involve construction over 16 years in the Delta region, which stretches from areas around Stockton to West Sacramento, Antioch, and the many towns, farms, and waterways in between.

They have launched an Environmental Justice Community Survey to gather perspectives from low income residents and workers, people of color, tribal members, and other underrepresented communities in the region. If you live or work in the Delta region, YOUR PERSPECTIVE IS VITAL.

El Departamento de Recursos Hídricos (DWR) está evaluando una propuesta para construir un túnel de agua en el Delta para modernizar el Proyecto de Agua del Estado. Se llama El Proyecto de Agua Través del Delta. Si se aprueba, el proyecto implicaría una construcción de más de 16 años en la región del Delta, que se extiende desde áreas alrededor de Stockton hasta West Sacramento, Antioch, y las muchas ciudades, granjas y vías fluviales en el medio.

Continued

Han lanzado una Encuesta Comunitaria de Justicia Ambiental para recolectar las perspectivas de los residentes y trabajadores de bajos ingresos, personas de color, miembros de tribus y otras comunidades subrepresentadas en la región. Si vive o trabaja en la región del Delta, SU PERSPECTIVA ES VITAL.

TAKE THE SURVEY TODAY!

Spread the word! Please forward this email or use the links below to share the survey with the people served by your organization or your friends, family, and wider community so their voices can be heard.

Share on Facebook: English | Español | 中文

Share on Twitter: English | Español | 中文

THE HUB's Exclusive e-blast ad 12.06.2020

Connect with the African American/Urban Audience with
THE HUB's E-blast Campaign & Social Media Platform

sac cultural hub
urban entertainment

Stay Connected! Follow us on:

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS, PRODUCTS, SERVICES, BOOK or CD RELEASE, or GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION
with "THE HUB's Exclusive E-blast Ad"
See why so many users open, read, and respond to our e-blasts!

REACH over 56,000 opt-in e-mail subscribers. Our target market are urban professionals of the African American population between the ages of 24-54 years throughout Northern California

Sac Cultural Hub, Inc - (916) 234-3589 | Premiere Source of Urban Entertainment News in Northern California, Mailing Address: 7902 Gerber Road, Box 367, Sacramento, CA 95828

Unsubscribe sheara@aginnovations.org

Update Profile | About our service provider

Sent by contact@sacculturalhub.com powered by

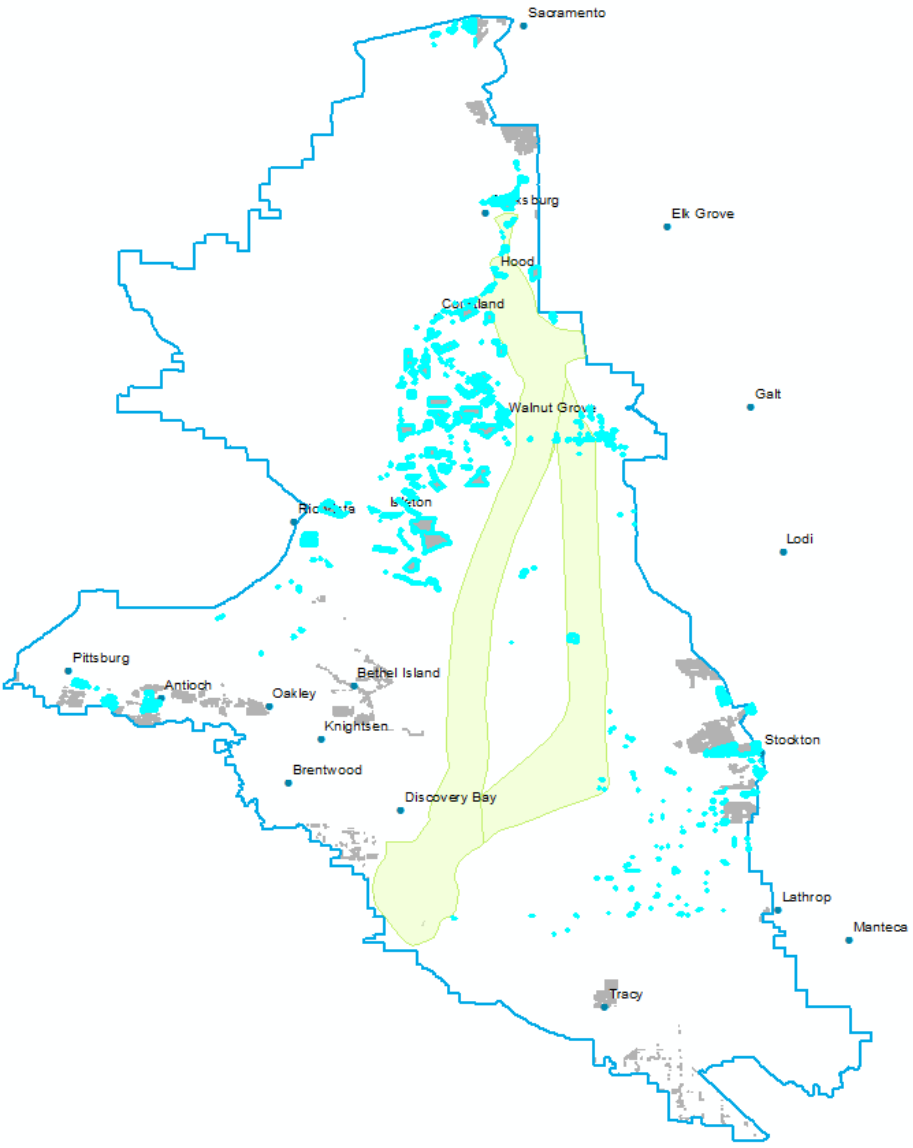
T. Postcard Mailing Targets: GIS Analysis

September 18, 2020

Total Parcels: 13,254

Parcels where any 2 of the following are true:

- 20% or more of people have incomes below the poverty level
- 20% or more have limited English-speaking ability (but speak Spanish)
- 25% or more have no access to the internet or a digital device/computer



Parcel Distribution:

- Contra Costa: 2760
- Sacramento: 1,577
- San Joaquin: 7,559
- Yolo: 1,358

Selection Formula:

(Pct_HH_without_either_internet_or_computer >= 0.25 AND B16004_calc_pctGE18SpanLEAE >= 20) OR
(Pct_HH_without_either_internet_or_computer >= 0.25 AND B17020_calc_pctPovE >= 20) OR
(B17020_calc_pctPovE >= 20 AND B16004_calc_pctGE18SpanLEAE >= 20)

Approach

Objective/Metrics

- Produce an address list for 10,000 – 20,000 postcards (based on budget availability) that would reach disadvantaged communities in the Delta that also lack internet access. Areas that are well-connected to the internet will be reached through electronic means, such as boosted facebook posts, YouTube, email alerts, etc.
- Prioritize communities with a high percentage of Spanish speakers since postcards will include both English and Spanish text.
- Ensure a reasonably balanced geographic distribution that reaches key disadvantaged communities in urban areas lacking internet access as well as legacy communities in the heart of the Delta.

Data Inputs

- 2019 Parcel data with land uses (from 2019 Land Vision data provided by DWR)
- 2019 American Community Survey demographic and internet/computer access blockgroup data
- Delta Statutory Boundary

Technical Process

1. **Select residential parcels for the 5 Delta counties using the following selection criteria**
   (Note: Excluded Alameda County as there were only a dozen questionably residential parcels – potentially exclusively agricultural – in the Delta.)

Select Parcels by Attribute (Land Use)
San Joaquin County: USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = '2+ APT BLDGS, 11-20 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = '2+ APT BLDGS, 5-10 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APT BLDG, 11-20 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APT BLDG, 5-10 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APT, 100+ UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APT, 21-40 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APT, 41-100 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'CONDOMINIUM' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME CONDOMINIUM' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME PARK' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES CARE HOME, 1-6 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL P.U.D.' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RETIREMENT HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROOMING HOUSE, CONVENT' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL HOMESITE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RES, MOBILE HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RESIDENCE, 2+ UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL VACANT W/MISC IMPS - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL VACANT W/MISC IMPS W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'THREE RES UNITS-2+ BLDGS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TRIPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TWO SFR ON ONE PARCEL'
Solano County: USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DUET SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DUET SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'IMPROVED MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'IMPROVED MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL-VACANT' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'IMPROVED SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MANUFACTURED HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MISC. MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME PARKS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME R&T SEC. 5801' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ORCHARD - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ORCHARD W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RANGE AND WATERSHED - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RANGE AND WATERSHED W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RANGE LAND - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RANGE LAND W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROP - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROP W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RANCHETTE > 1 ACRE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY CONDOMINIUMS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TOWNHOUSE'

Yolo County:

USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = '2 SINGLE FAM. RES. - 1 LOT' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENT-5 OR MORE RES. NATURE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENT 11-20 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENT 21-40 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENT 41-100 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENT 5-10 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENT OVER 100 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENTS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'CO-OP HOUSING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'CONDOMINIUM' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DUPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FOURPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FOURPLEX - 2 BLDG. +' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'HOMES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'HOMES-SPECIAL HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MISC. IND.-IND. CONDO' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MISC., COM. CONDO' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME PARK' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL - DOUBLE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL - SINGLE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RES.-1 RES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RES.-2 OR MORE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RES.-LABOR CAMP' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RES.-TAXABLE MOBILE HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RES.-W/ SECONDARY USES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SFR ATTACHED' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SFR NON-CONFORMING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SFR LOT W/ MISC IMPS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL-2ND USE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TRIPLEX - 1 BLDG.' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TRIPLEX - 2 BLDG. +' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'AGRICULTURAL'

Sacramento County

USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'AGRICULTURAL - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'AGRICULTURAL W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENTS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'CHICKEN FARM - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'CONDOMINIUM' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DRY & IRRIGATED PASTURE - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DRY & IRRIGATED PASTURE W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DRY PASTURE - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DRY PASTURE W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DRY PASTURE/FIELD CROP - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FIELD CROP-GRAPES W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FIELD CROP - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FIELD CROP W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FIELD/ROW CROP - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FIELD/ROW CROP W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'GRAPE VINES - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'GRAPE VINES W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME/ON LEASED LAND/MH PARK' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME/ON PRIVATE LAND/MH PARK' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME/ON PRIVATE LAND/NOT MH PARK' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME/PERMANENT FOUNDATION' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE/MANUFACTURED HOME PARKS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE/MANUFACTURED HOMES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MULTI/COURT APTS/MORE THAN 4 UNITS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MULTI/HIGH RISE APARTMENT/4 OR MORE STY' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MULTI/LOW RISE APARTMENT/1-3 STY' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL-VACANT' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'PEAR ORCHARD - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'PEAR ORCHARD W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'PLANNED UNIT RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/COMMON AREA/CONDO, PUD' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/FOUR FAMILY' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/FOUR FAMILY/1 SFU+1 TRIPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/FOUR FAMILY/2 DUPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/FOUR FAMILY/2 SFU+1 DUPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/FOUR FAMILY/4 SFU' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/FOUR FAMILY/FOURPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/MOBILE HOME PARK' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/RESIDENTIAL CONVERSION' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/CONDOMINIUM' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/HALF-DUPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/NON-SUBDIVISION' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/PUD' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/ROW HOUSE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/RURAL HOME(2-5 AC)' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/RURAL HOME(2 AC OR LES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/RURAL HOME(OVER 5 AC)' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/SINGLE FAMILY/SUBDIVISION' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/THREE FAMILY/1 SFU+1 DUP' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/THREE FAMILY/3 SFU' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/THREE FAMILY/TRIPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/TWO FAMILY' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/TWO FAMILY/2 SFU' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RES/TWO FAMILY/DUPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RETIREMENT HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROP, IRRIGATED PASTURE W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROPS-GRAPES - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROPS-PEARS - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROPS-WALNUTS - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROPS - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW CROPS W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW/FIELD CROP/PEARS W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW/FIELD CROPS - RURAL RESIDENCE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'ROW/FIELD CROPS W/DWELLING' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TOWNHOUSE'

Contra Costa County:
USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENTS, 13-24 UNITS, INCLUSIVE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENTS, 25-59 UNITS, INCLUSIVE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENTS, 5-12 UNITS, INCLUSIVE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'APARTMENTS, 60 UNITS OR MORE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'CONDOS, COOPERATIVES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'DUPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'FOURPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'MOBILE HOME' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RETIREMENT HOUSING COMPLEX' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'RURAL, RESIDENTIAL IMPROVED; 1 TO 10 ACRES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAM ON OTHER THAN SINGLE FAMILY LAND' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAM, 2 OR MORE RES ON 1 OR MORE SITES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY ATTACHED RES, TOWNHOUSES, DUETS' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY DETACHED, CLUSTER HOMES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY, 1 RES ON 2 OR MORE SITES' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'SINGLE FAMILY, 1 RESIDENTIAL ON 1 SITE' OR USE_CODE_MUNI_DESC = 'TRIPLEX'

2. Select residential parcels in the Statutory Delta

Select by Location: Parcels with their centroid in Delta Statutory Boundary

- San Joaquin County: 101,087 parcels
- Solano County: 106 parcels
- Yolo County: 17,058 parcels
- Sacramento County: 18,877 parcels
- Contra Costa County: 78,199 parcels

Total: 215,327 parcels

3. Select Delta residential parcels with lower levels of internet and computer access

Calculated percent of households without internet: Using the 2019 American Community Survey block group data for internet accessibility, calculated the percent of households without access to either internet or a computer/digital device (includes tablets and smartphones).

- **Added field:** "Pct_HH_without_either_internet_or_computer"
- **Calculated field:** Households that Have No Computer (B28003_006E) + Households that Have a Computer without and Internet Subscription (B28003_005E) / Total HH (B2803_001E)

Select by Location: Parcels with their centroid in block groups where Pct_HH_without_either_internet_or_computer > 0.17.* See note below.

- San Joaquin County: 36,368 parcels
- Solano County: 0 parcels
- Yolo County: 6,239 parcels
- Sacramento County: 8,759 parcels
- Contra Costa County: 17,375 parcels

Total: 68,741 parcels
Note: The following table from the Delta Protection Commission's August 2019 Connecting the Delta: Broadband Action Plan was used to estimate thresholds representing low levels of internet access.

	California	Delta Legacy Communities (Combined)	Clarksburg (95612)	Courtland (95615)	Hood (95639)	Isleton (95641)	Walnut Grove (95690)
Total Households		2,432	398	309	84	816	825
Households with an Internet subscription	83%	69%	80%	83%	60%	61%	67%
Cellular data plan only	7%	18%	24%	19%	23%	9%	23%
Cable, fiber optic, DSL, fixed wireless	72%	39%	39%	45%	37%	42%	35%
Satellite	6%	14%	24%	20%	0%	13%	8%
Households without Internet subscription	17%	31%	20%	17%	40%	39%	33%
Households with no computing device	10%	17%	12%	2%	51%	21%	18%

Source: 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

4. Test filters for identifying parcels in disadvantaged communities

The following variables were considered and tested in various combinations for creating a 10,000 – 20,000 parcel selection (determined by the budget) that represented disadvantaged communities that were less likely to be reached through digital survey marketing.

- CalEnviroScreen 2018 data: Developed for CalEPA, CalEnviroScreen identifies California communities by census tract that are vulnerable to and disproportionately burdened by pollution. The model uses the following socioeconomic variables: poverty rate, housing burden, unemployment, education attainment, linguistic isolation.
- Median household income: Per PRC Section 75005(g), The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) defines Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as those with an annual median household income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the Statewide MHI and Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDACs) as those with an MHI that is less than 60% of the Statewide MHI.
- Percent of the population whose income in the past 12 months is below the poverty level
- Percent of those in the labor force that is unemployed
- Percent of adults 18 and over who have limited ability to speak English
- Percent of adults 18 and over who speak Spanish and have limited ability to speak English
- Percent of the population that are people of color (Percent that is *not* "non-Hispanic White")
- Percent of households without either internet or a computer: Though we used a 17% threshold for classifying a block group as one with low levels of internet access, we experimented with experimented with other thresholds.

Discussion

- Communities that score in the top 25% on the CalEnviroScreen model are considered SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities. Initially, this seemed like a defensible data source for our selection, but there were several problems.
    - Because it used Census tract geographies (instead of the smaller block groups) and factored in the impacts of pollution, it included many more households than we could afford to mail to.
    - It did not include variables related to ethnicity, a key factor in evaluating disproportionate impact under CEQA and NEPA.
- Median household income also produced way too many households for our budget. Because it doesn't account for household size, it's also not a very good indicator of economic distress. The

poverty level, on the other hand, accounts for the relationship between household income and the number of people in a household.

- High levels of poverty picked up households in urban areas, but not in Delta Legacy communities.
- Limited English ability picked up households all over the region, including in the Delta Legacy communities.
- Areas with severely limited internet and/or computer access included the Delta Legacy Communities and neighborhoods in Stockton.

5. Produce a recommended parcel selection

The following filter produced a parcel selection that fit within our budget; prioritized Spanish speakers (the second language used on the postcards), areas with significant poverty, and very limited internet/computer access; and produced a balanced geographic distribution of parcels.
Select by Attribute: Parcels where any 2 of the following are true:

- 20% or more of people have incomes below the poverty level
- 20% or more have limited English-speaking ability (but speak Spanish)
- 25% or more have no access to the internet or a digital device/computer

Formula: (Pct_HH_without_either_internet_or_computer >= 0.25 AND B16004_calc_pctGE18SpanLEAE >= 20) OR (Pct_HH_without_either_internet_or_computer >= 0.25 AND B17020_calc_pctPovE >= 20) OR (B17020_calc_pctPovE >= 20 AND B16004_calc_pctGE18SpanLEAE >= 20)

- San Joaquin County: 7,559 parcels
- Yolo County: 1,358 parcels
- Sacramento County: 1,577 parcels
- Contra Costa County: 2,760 parcels

Total: 13,254

APPENDIX B. ANALYTICAL METHODS & ASSUMPTIONS

The Fall 2020 *Your Delta, Your Voice* Environmental Justice Survey aimed to gather the perspectives of members of low income, minority, indigenous, historically burdened, and otherwise underrepresented or disadvantaged communities (including limited English speakers) who live or work in the Delta.

There are many laws, agency policies, and guidelines that address what is meant by environmental justice in public planning and identify disadvantaged communities, underrepresented, or otherwise vulnerable communities. However, there is no universally agreed-upon set of definitions at either the state or federal level.

Likewise, though there is an official regulatory boundary that defines the Delta (the Statutory Delta Primary and Secondary Zones), it is possible that people who live near but not in that area may be affected in some way – negatively or positively – by the proposed Delta Conveyance Project. With the project's alternatives and environmental review still under development, it is not yet known what the boundaries are for the region that may experience potential project impacts or benefits.

Consequently, in order to analyze what we heard from disadvantaged community members who live or work in the Delta, we had to establish working definitions for (1) disadvantaged communities and (2) the Delta region. Chapter 2 provides an overview of the criteria we used to make these determinations, and this appendix provides further detail on the information sources, guidelines, and logic we used in our approach.

B.1 Defining Disadvantaged Community Members

We should start by noting that the term "disadvantaged community" (DAC) is somewhat arbitrary. It is one of many ways – and the term we use in this report – to refer to those underrepresented in public processes and those disproportionately burdened by or vulnerable to negative environmental conditions.

There are multiple federal and state regulations and guidelines – including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – related to environmental justice considerations. These policies define the communities requiring special consideration in multiple ways.

At the federal level, *Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations* – which established the requirement for NEPA – mandates that "each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on ***minority populations and low-income populations***."[30] The US Environmental Protection Agency's 2016 manual, *Technical Guidance for Assessing Environmental Justice in Regulatory Analysis*, provides further guidance for implementing the environmental justice requirements of NEPA. It defines a potential environmental justice concern as "the actual or potential lack of fair treatment or meaningful involvement of ***minority populations, low-income populations, tribes, and indigenous peoples*** in the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies."[31]

A variety of California state agencies and offices have provided guidance related to environmental justice, though few provided concrete guidelines about what constitutes a vulnerable community. However, the State

[30] Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994: *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*. Federal Register, vol. 59, no. 32 (February 16,1994). Accessed March 2, 2021: https://www.archives.gov/files/federal-register/executive-orders/pdf/12898.pdf

[31] *Technical Guidance for Assessing Environmental Justice in Regulatory Analysis*. US EPA (2016). Accessed March 2, 2021: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-06/documents/ejtg_5_6_16_v5.1.pdf

has developed two disadvantaged community mapping tools: *CalEnviroScreen 3.0* and the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) *Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool*. These models were developed to comply with different state mandates. They provide the clearest indication of how the State defines disadvantaged communities (DACs), and yet the two tools use very different criteria to do so. The following provides a brief overview of each model.

- *CalEnviroScreen*[32] was developed under the guidance of the California Environmental Protection Agency to identify disadvantaged communities as required by SB 535 California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The model scores Census tracts by analyzing a combination of ***environmental, health, and socioeconomic factors, such as poverty, educational attainment, unemployment rates, linguistic isolation, housing cost burdens, exposure to polluted conditions and toxic release sites, asthma and cardiovascular disease rates, and more***. Tracts with a high score represent more environmentally burdened and vulnerable communities than areas with low scores. The top scoring 25% are considered disadvantaged communities under SB 535.[33]
- DWR's *Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Mapping Tool* [34] was developed by DWR as a tool to support implementation of several state water-related laws and programs. This model uses a process that simply classifies Census tracts as DACs if they have a median ***household income*** (MHI) of less than 80% of the statewide median.[35] It classifies as SDACs (severely disadvantaged communities) the subset of these tracts with an MHI of less than 60% of the statewide median.[36] It does not take into consideration the variety of factors of the CalEnviroScreen.

As you can see, these mapping tools use very different criteria to define DACs. And, in contrast to requirements under NEPA and other approaches to environmental justice, neither use race or ethnicity as a factor in defining DACs.

B.1.1 AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH

With such a wide variety of definitions and criteria being used by state and federal agencies – ranging from ethnicity to income, other socioeconomic factors, public health risk, environmental pollutants, and geographic location – we chose to take an inclusive approach when making decisions about which survey participants should be considered members of DACs to ensure the widest diversity of voices were heard.

Based on the demographic data provided by survey participants, we used the following criteria to determine a survey respondent's DAC status:

1. ***Ethnicity:*** Survey participants who identify as having an ethnicity other than white (including those who identify as Native American) are considered DAC respondents.
2. ***Income:*** Survey participants who have annual household incomes that are less than 80% of the statewide median are considered DAC respondents, and those with household incomes that are less than 60% of the statewide median are considered SDAC respondents.

---

[32] California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment "CalEnviroScreen" webpage. Accessed March 9, 2021: https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen

[33] CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Report. Accessed March 9, 2021: https://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/calenviroscreen/report/ces3report.pdf

[34] Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool. Accessed March 9, 2021: https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/

[35] "'Disadvantaged community' means a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income." (Water Code § 79505.9). Accessed May 6, 2021: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=79505.5&lawCode=WAT

[36] "'Severely disadvantaged community' means a community with a median household income of less than 60 percent of the statewide median household income." (Water Code § 13476). Accessed May 9, 2021: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=WAT&sectionNum=13476.&highlight=true&keyword=severely%20disadvantaged

3. ***Location:*** Survey participants who live in a zip code that overlaps either a CalEnviroScreen DAC Census tract or a DWR DAC or SDAC Census tract are classified as DAC or SDAC respondents, as appropriate, subject to an income cap (explained further below).

Exactly how we applied these criteria to categorizing survey participants is described in the sections that follow.

B.1.2 ETHNICITY

The survey invited participants to describe their ethnic identity and provided the following options:

- African-American/Black
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Latino/Hispanic
- Native American
- Mixed Heritage
- Other
- White

We categorized all participants who chose an option *other* than "white" as DAC respondents. White respondents and those who did not answer this question were not categorized as DAC respondents based on ethnicity. However, some may have been categorized as DAC respondents based on household income or residential location, as described below.

B.1.3 INCOME

The criteria used to define low-income populations in environmental reviews and other public policy and planning processes are not consistent. For this report, we chose to use the income thresholds DWR uses in its DAC Mapping Tool.

- "'Disadvantaged community' means a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income."[37]
- "'Severely disadvantaged community" means a community with a median household income of less than 60 percent of the statewide median household income."[38]

It is important to recognize that these definitions apply to communities, not to individuals or individual households. They use "median" household income, which reflects the range of incomes across a geographic area. Survey participants, of course, are individuals. That said, the State's DAC income threshold very closely resembles the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) household income definitions that are used in the affordable housing and community development sectors across the nation. HUD defines a low-income household as one that earns 80% or less of the area median income.[39]

The survey invited participants to indicate their annual household income by choosing one of the following options:

- Less than $22,500
- $25,000 - $37,499
- $37,500 - $44,999

[37] Water Code § 79505.9. (See footnote 29)
[38] Water Code § 13476. (See footnote 30)
[39] "The term ''low-income families'' means those families whose incomes do not exceed 80 per centum of the median income for the area." 42 U.S. Code § 1437a - Rental payments. U.S. Code Title 42. The Public Health and Welfare, page 33328. Accessed April 2, 2021: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2010-title42/pdf/USCODE-2010-title42-chap8-subchapI-sec1437a.pdf

- $45,000 - $59,999
- $60,000 - $74,999
- $75,000 - $89,999
- $90,000 or more

The US Census Bureau reports California's median household income as $75,235 for 2019 (based on survey data collected between 2015-2019).[40] Therefore:

- 80% of statewide median household income (DAC threshold) is $60,188.
- 60% of statewide median household income (SDAC threshold) is $45,141.

Using the available survey income brackets, we categorized anyone who reported a household income of less than $60,000 as a DAC respondent. We additionally categorized the subset of these respondents who reported a household income of less than $45,000 as SDACs. Those reporting higher incomes or who did not answer this question were not categorized as DAC respondents based on this factor, but may have been categorized as DAC respondents based on ethnicity or residential location.

B.1.4 LOCATION

The survey invited participants to provide their residential zip codes. We conducted a GIS (map-based) analysis to compare the zip codes provided to the DAC and SDAC-designated Census tracts in the CalEnviroScreen and DAC Mapping Tool datasets. (Map 1 below shows DAC and SDAC Census tracts.) If a survey respondent's zip code substantially overlapped a DAC or SDAC-designated Census tract from either model, the respondent was categorized accordingly.

In this process, the following two complexities emerged: (1) a lack of alignment between zip code and Census tract boundaries and (2) high earning survey respondents who live in a DAC or SDAC zip code.

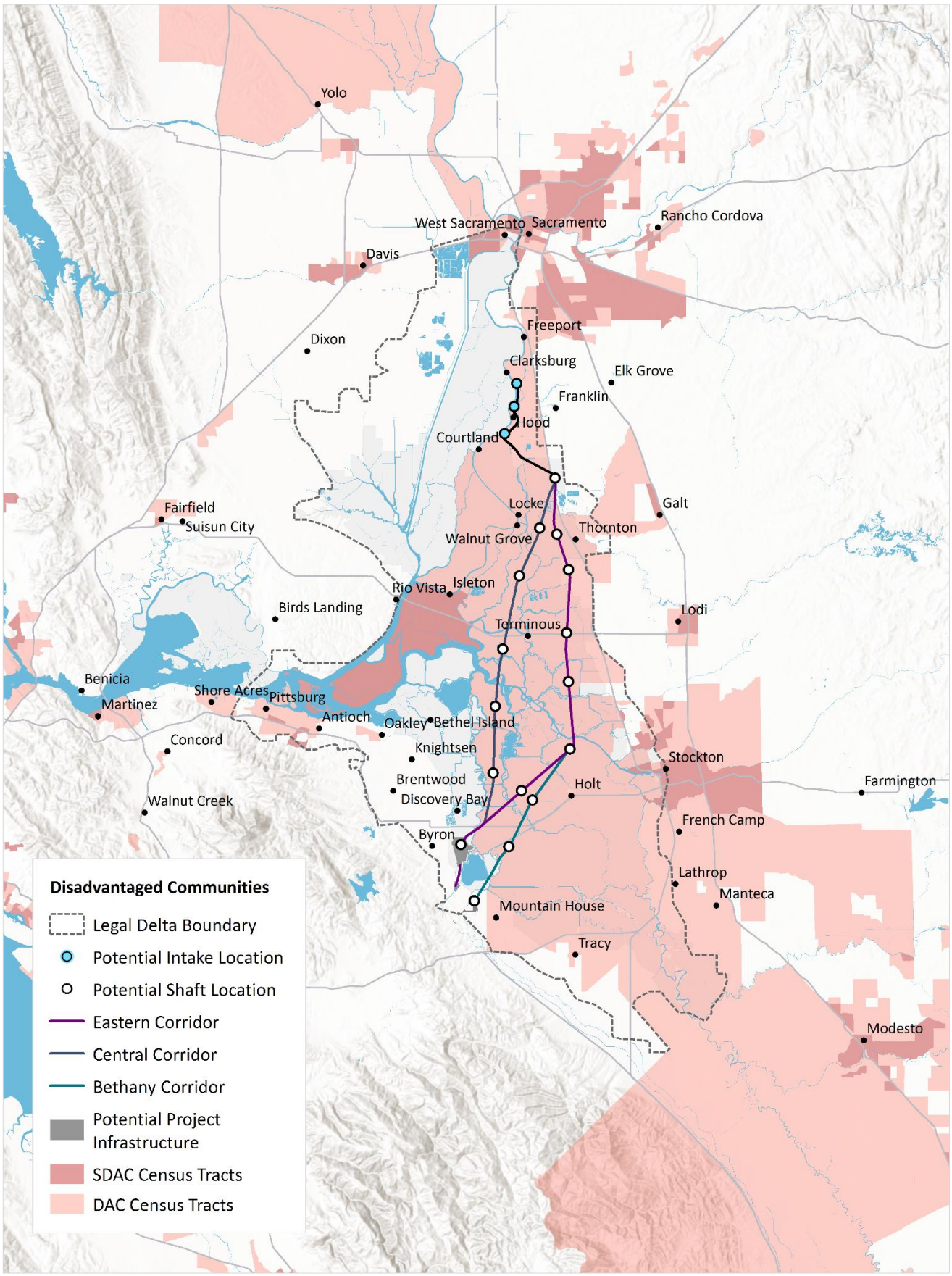
Lack of Alignment between Zip Codes & Census Tracts: As you can see in Map 2 below, zip codes and Census tracts have very different shapes and don't overlap neatly. We made the decision to classify a zip code as a DAC or SDAC zip code if it "substantially overlapped" a DAC or SDAC Census tract. In technical GIS terms, we ran an automated analysis to identify zip codes having their "centroid" in a DAC or SDAC Census tract. Then, as a second pass, we manually coded a few zip codes that had such a strange shape that their centroid did not overlap a DAC or SDAC tract, yet about half of the zip code's area did.

High-income Survey Respondents in DAC/SDAC Zip Codes: Since the DAC mapping models use median household income (or poverty rates, in the case of CalEnviroScreen) to identify DAC areas, some residents will undoubtedly have higher incomes even if they live in areas that are underrepresented or disproportionately vulnerable to environmental hazards. However, because many of the zip codes that we classified as DAC or SDAC extend significantly beyond the state-designated DAC geographies, we were inadvertently capturing survey participants that would not have been designated as DAC populations in either the CalEnviroScreen or the DWR DAC models.

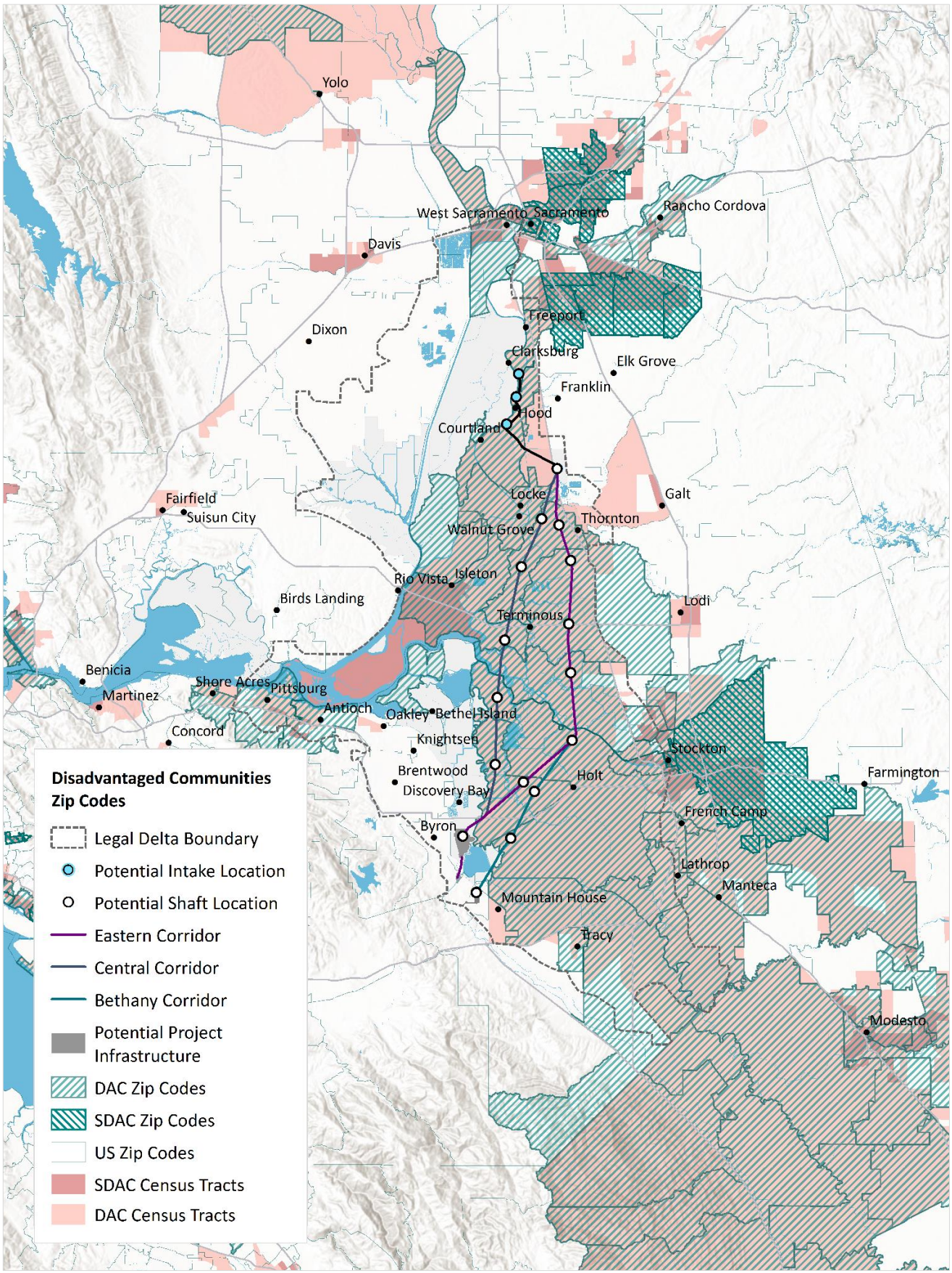
Because of this, we decided to apply income caps to those whose zip codes overlapped a DAC or SDAC area. Since all survey participants who indicated a household income of less than $60,000 or $45,000 were already categorized as DAC and SDAC respondents, respectively, we allowed respondents to be categorized as DAC or SDAC respondents based on their zip code if their household income was only up to one level above these thresholds. For DAC respondents, this meant going up to a $75,000 income threshold, and for SDAC respondents, the threshold was $60,000.

[40] US Census Bureau QuickFacts for California. Accessed March 9, 2021: https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/CA/INC110219

Map 1: Disadvantaged Community Areas



Map 2: Disadvantaged Community Zip Codes



B.1.5 SUMMARY OF ALL CRITERIA USED TO DEFINE DAC & SDAC RESPONDENTS

The following summarizes how ethnicity, income, and location criteria were combined to define DAC and SDAC respondents.

DAC & SDAC Definitions

Disadvantaged Community Respondents

Survey respondents were categorized as DAC respondents if they met ***any*** of the following criteria:

- Identified their ethnicity as other than white
- Indicated a household income of less than $60,000 (80% of statewide median household income)
- Live in a zip code that substantially overlaps a Census Tract designated as a DAC by either CalEnviroScreen or DWR's DAC Mapping Tool ***and*** their income is less than $75,000.

Severely Disadvantaged Community Respondents

DAC survey respondents were further subcategorized as members of SDACs if they meet ***either*** of the following criteria:

- Indicated a household income of less than $45,000 (60% of statewide median household income)
- Live in a zip code that substantially overlaps a Census Tract designated as an SDAC in DWR's DAC Mapping Tool ***and*** their income is less than $60,000.

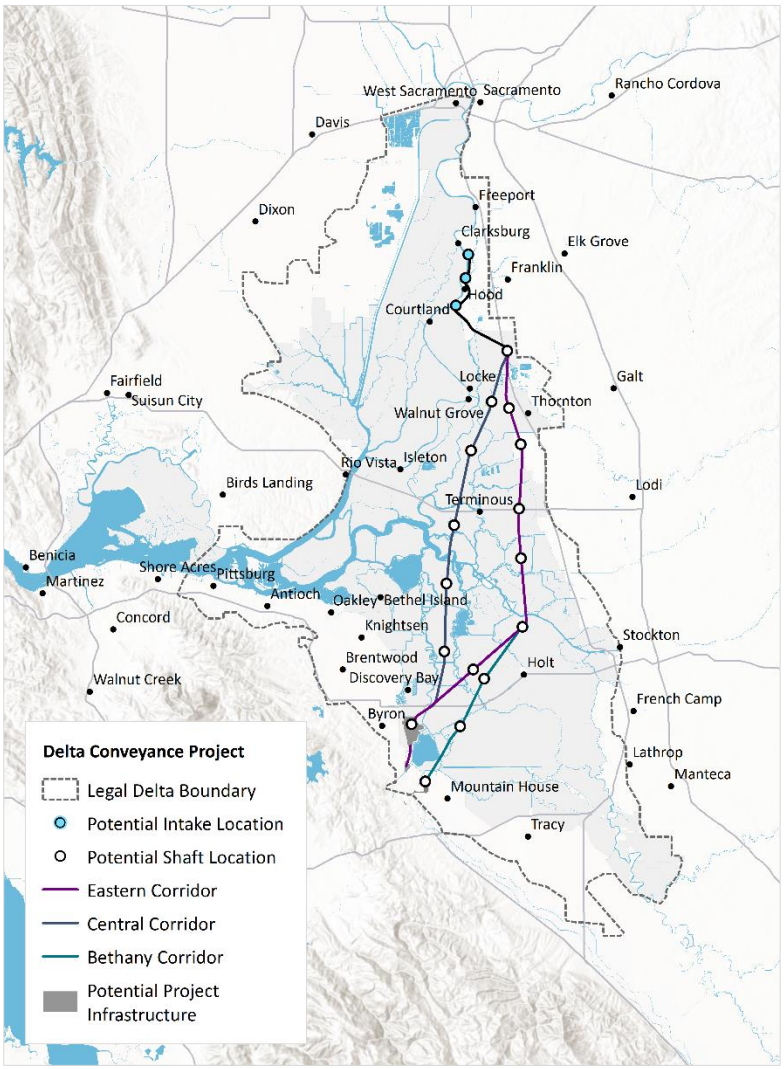
Using this method, we categorized 770 survey participants as DAC respondents. Of these, 217 were further categorized as SDAC respondents.

Survey participants who did not meet the criteria or provided insufficient demographic information were not classified as DAC respondents.

B.2 Defining the Delta Region

Since the survey aimed to gather the perspectives of disadvantaged members who live or work in the Delta, we had to define what was meant by the Delta region.

The map to the right shows the Delta Conveyance Project proposal and the "Legal Delta" boundary as established under California Water Code.[41] While we used this boundary as a reference point in our approach to identifying survey participants from the region, we did not restrict our regional definition to this boundary for the following reasons.



Potential Project Alternatives with Legal Delta Boundary

1. The legal Delta boundary has only a loose relationship with how people who live or work in the region conceive of the Delta. People have varying interpretations of exactly where the Delta ends and begins and what towns are inside it or not.

2. It is possible that the legal Delta boundary will inform the impact analysis as the Delta Conveyance Project undergoes environmental review, but different alternatives (with different affected areas) are still in consideration as part of the environmental review.

3. There was considerable demand for disseminating the survey to Stockton and Elk Grove residents, and DWR committed to promoting the survey in these and other communities. While the western edge of Stockton is inside the legal Delta boundary, the majority of Stockton is not. Elk Grove is several miles outside the legal Delta boundary.

4. The Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Stakeholder Engagement Committee has discussed a range of potential project impacts, such as possible construction impacts on traffic, that could affect areas outside the legal boundary.

5. Residential zip codes were the only means available for identifying those who live in the Delta. The misalignment between the shape of those zip codes and the legal Delta boundary present significant

[41] California Water Code § 12220. Division 6. Conservation, Development, and Utilization of State Water Resources. Part 4.5. Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Chapter 2. The Delta, Section 12220. Accessed March 31, 2020: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=12220&lawCode=WAT

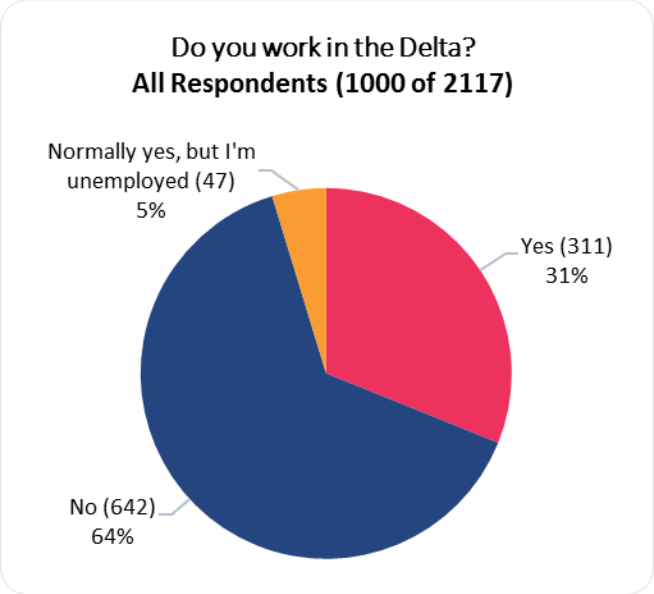
equity issues in terms of whose voices we would be categorizing as “Delta” voices. Those challenges are described in detail below.

We combined the two following approaches to determine whether a survey participant worked and/or lived in the Delta region.

B.2.1 WORKING IN THE DELTA REGION

The survey asked participants “Do you work in the Delta?” Though a map with the legal Delta boundary was provided at the beginning of the survey, survey respondents were not directed to restrict their concept of the Delta region.

Almost half of (1000) survey respondents responded to this question. Of those, 36% (358 respondents) indicated that they either work in the Delta region or normally work in the region, but are currently unemployed. We categorized these 358 respondents as working in the Delta region.



B.2.2 LIVING IN THE DELTA REGION

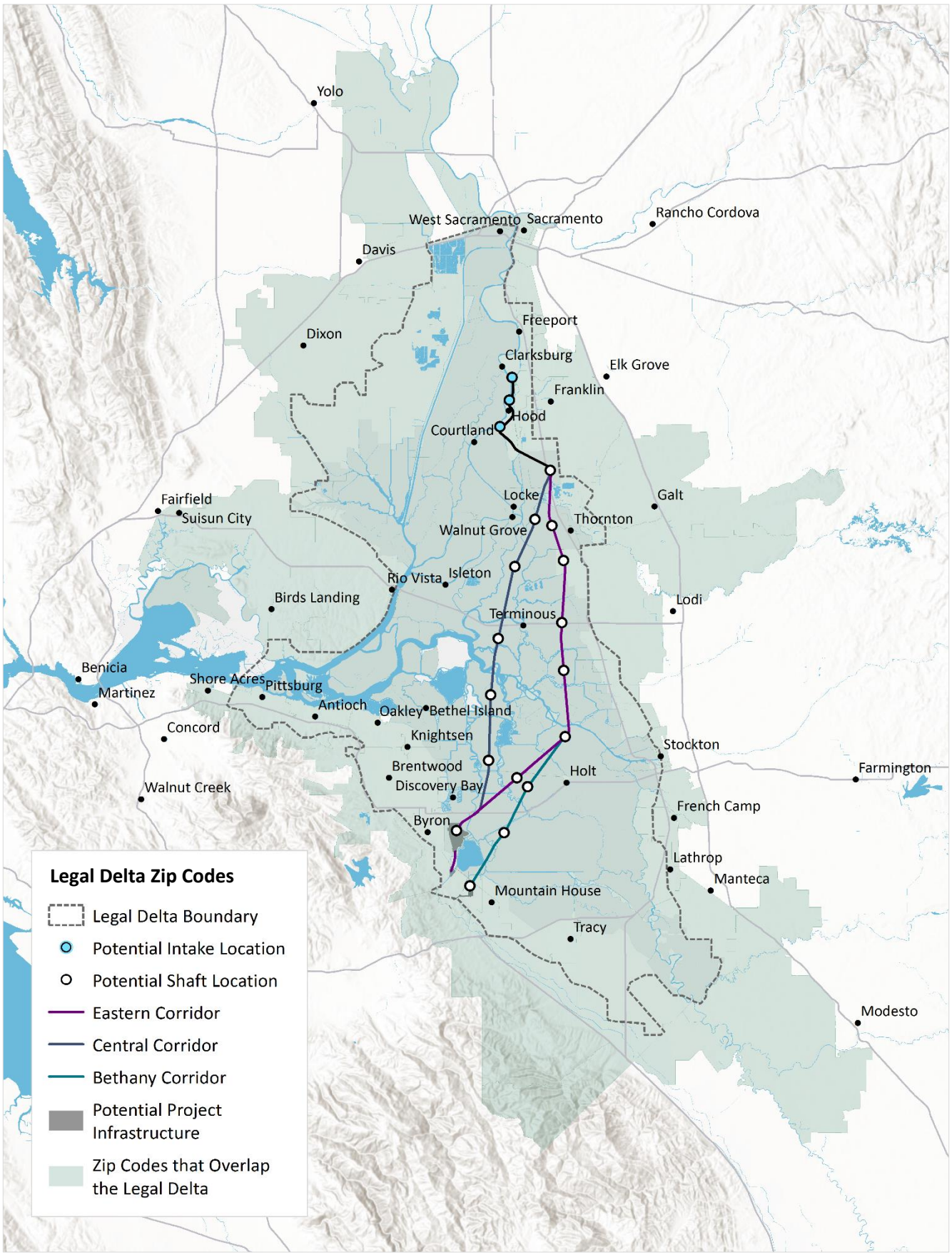
Survey respondents were invited to provide their residential zip code. Three out of five (1285) survey respondents provided a zip code. We used a map-based (GIS) analysis to determine whether a survey participant’s zip code covers an area that could reasonably be considered the Delta region.

This exercise involved similar challenges to using zip codes to determine whether a survey participant lived in a DAC-designated Census tract. Namely, the boundaries of zip codes do not align with the legal Delta boundary. And some are large or have unwieldy shapes that stretch over significant distances.

We first selected all zip codes that overlapped the legal Delta boundary. The results are shown in green in Map 3 below. As you can see, some zip codes reach to areas that are quite far from the legal Delta boundary, such as Fairfield and Suisan City, nearly to Yolo, and to a point that is nearly 20 miles east of Galt. If any of these zip codes were removed from the selection, we would lose areas around Thornton, Bird’s Landing, and West Sacramento.

At the same time, these zip codes only capture the western side of Stockton – leaving out the vast majority of residents – and don’t reach Elk Grove. Using the legal Delta boundary to categorize zip codes presented a significant equity issue.

Map 3: Zip Codes That Overlap the Legal Delta Boundary



To resolve this, we tested selecting zip codes that overlapped an area that extended 5 miles beyond the legal Delta boundary. See the added purple areas in Map 4 below. By expanding the boundary, the area includes Stockton and Elk Grove, has a reach that was relatively equal on all sides of the legal Delta, and does not inadvertently introduce new population centers that are less strongly connected to the Delta. We felt that this was an appropriate and fair selection for representing those who have a strong connection to the Delta.

Using this approach, we categorized 859 respondents as living in the Delta region.

In total, 979 respondents were categorized as living and/or working in the Delta region. The diagram below shows the relationship between those who live or work in the region.

Survey Respondents Who Live or Work in the Delta Region

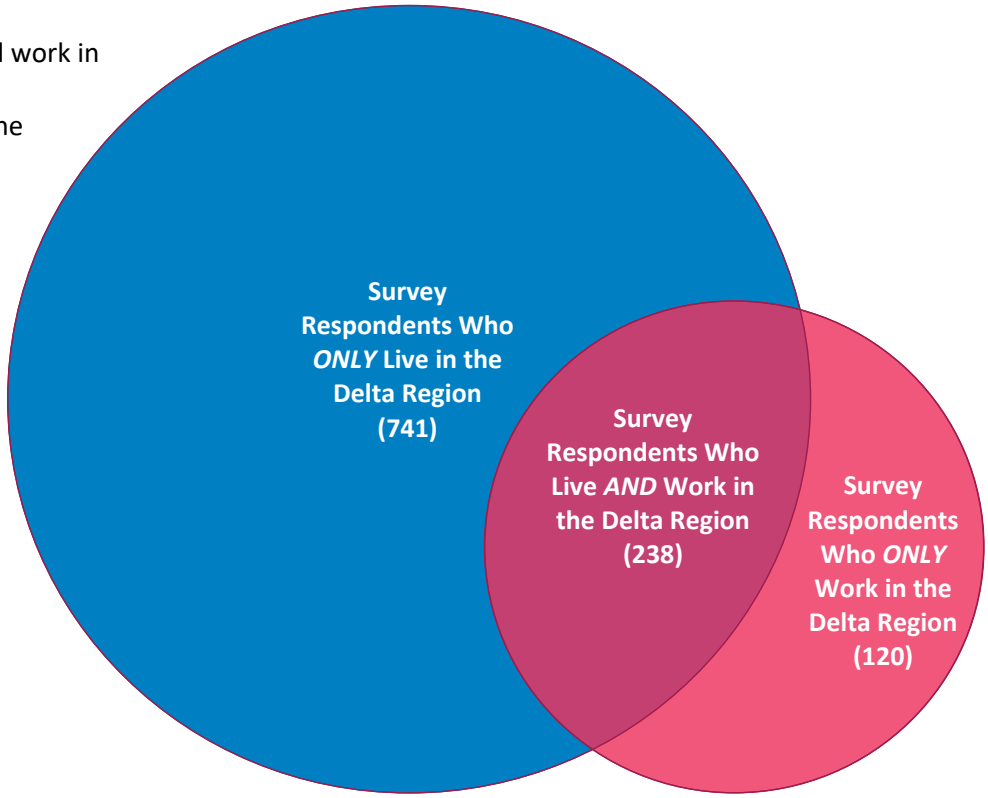
979 Respondents Live or Work in the Delta Region:

Of these,

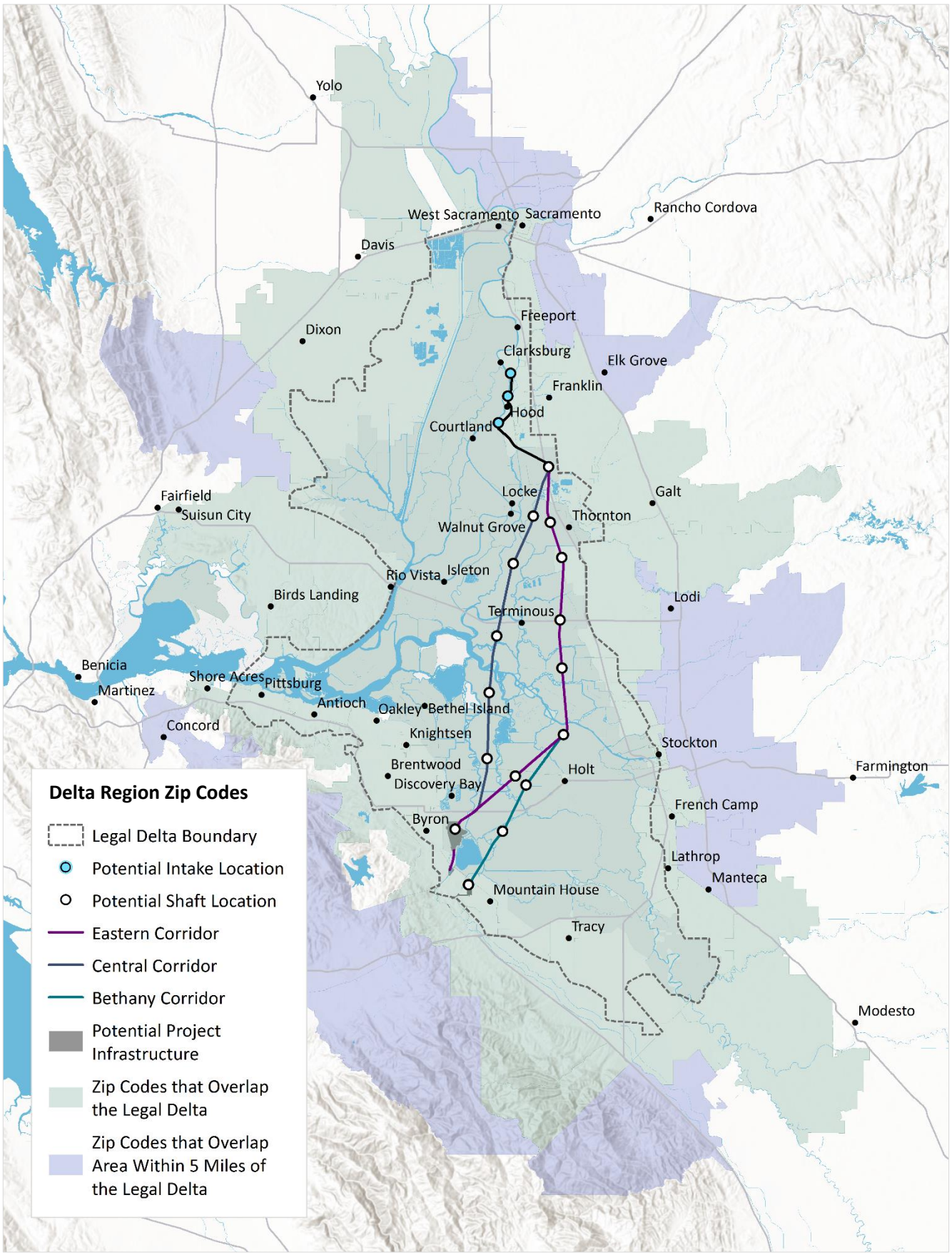
- 238 ***both*** live and work in the region
- 741 ***only*** live in the region
- 120 ***only*** work in the region

In total, of the 2117 survey respondents,

- 859 indicate living in the region
- 358 indicate working in the region



Map 4: Zip Codes That Overlap the Legal Delta Boundary



B.3 Bringing It Together: Delta-Region Disadvantaged Community Respondents

Survey participants who were categorized as DAC respondents ***and*** who live or work in the region are referred to as Delta-region DAC respondents throughout this report. The subset of these respondents who were further categorized as SDAC members are referred to as Delta-region SDAC respondents in this report. Out of the survey's 2117 participants, 540 were categorized as Delta-region DAC respondents. Of those, 166 were categorized as Delta-region SDAC respondents.

We also provide survey results for all survey respondents throughout this report. We did this for two reasons:

1. Not all survey participants provided demographic information, such as zip codes, income, or ethnicity, or indicated whether they work in the Delta. Without this information, there are a number of respondents that simply couldn't be identified as DAC respondents who live or work in the Delta.

2. Though the survey was intended to capture the perspectives of those who tend to be underrepresented in public processes and are more vulnerable to disproportionate project impacts, there were a lot of others who care about the Delta's natural areas, water ways, and communities who weighed in. We felt it was important to report all input received, while still carefully highlighting the unique perspectives of those who could be identified as DAC respondents from the Delta region.