

Happy Holidays from Save the California Delta Alliance

2017 - The Year in Review

January 2017

• Jan. 30, 2017 – The review period closed for the Final EIR/EIS for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan/California WaterFix (aka "Delta Tunnels"). Many requests were made by individuals and groups to extend the period. The State is ramrodding this project through without properly evaluating the impacts it will have on local communities and agriculture.

March 2017

• Mar 13, 2017 – STCDA Town Hall Meeting. Once again, 450-500 people showed up in the Discovery Bay Elementary Gymnasium to hear an update about the status of the Delta Tunnels. Michael Brodsky, STCDA Legal Council, gave an upbeat encouraging presentation, saying we can stop the tunnels!



The above photo by Richard Wisdom is from the article in the **DB Press**

Jan McCleery, STCDA President, provided an overview of the impacts anticipated from the current tunnel plan; followed by STCDA Update provided by Michael Brodsky, STCDA Legal Council. Government representatives provided talks about the tunnels: Diane Burgis, Contra Costa County Commissioner, Jim Frazier, Assemblyperson, and Steve Glazer, Senator.

• Mar 23, 2017 – Delta Stewardship Council meeting in Brentwood about amending the Delta Plan and adding a conveyance (i.e. the Delta Tunnels) project. The Community Center was packed, causing DSC staffers to scramble to open up the adjoining conference room and bring out more chairs to accommodate the crowd. Over half of the attendees sported the STCDA's new "Save the Delta / No Tunnels / No Gates" tee shirts. Because of the obvious interest in agenda item #11, the DSC went directly to it. Many comments were given, all opposing the idea of amending the Delta Plan by adding tunnels; opposed to the tunnels altogether.





Meeting of the Delta Stewardship Council, March 23, 2017. Photos by Richard Wisdom Susan Proesiher during the Meeting of the Delta Stewardship Council at the Brentwood Community Center (left), Jan and Mike, local realtor, Bob Wright (Friends of the River Legal Council), and others waiting to give comments (right)

April 2017

• April 8 – DBYC holds the Fire & Ice Masquerade Ball to raise money for STCDA. The Splashers ran the event and wow, did they do a great job!



\$25,000 TO \$AVE THE CALIFORNIA DELTA

The Discovery Bay Yacht Club Splashers Club raised \$25,000 at last month's Fire & Ice Ball to support the Save the California Delta Alliance (STCDA) and their effort to stop the Delta Tunnels project currently being proposed in the state of California. The Tunnels would redirect water around the Delta and could be potentially devastating to the Discovery Bay community and other Delta communities.

The DBYC Splashers has donated almost \$1000,000 to community charities over the past four years. The Splashers Team was thrilled with the community participation in this event making it a huge success.

- April 17th Comments Due on the Delta Stewardship Council proposal to amend the Delta Plan to include "conveyance" STCDA Comments Ideas/Suggestions.
 Comments submitted by STCDA
- April 21st Delta County Coalition sends objection letter to the Delta Stewardship Council regarding their plan to amend the Delta Plan with the California WaterFix Delta Tunnels.
- April 28th Delta Stewardship Council meeting to approve amending the Delta Plan to incorporate "conveyance" (i.e., the Delta Tunnels). See the blog about it.



STCDA members ride the bus from Discovery Bay to Sacramento to attend the DSC Meeting.

May 2017

- May 18 Comments due on the Middle River Bridge (Ferry replacement Read about the new bridge plans
- May 25 STCDA filled a bus with Discovery Bay residents to make the trip to Sacramento on May 25th to protest the Delta Stewardship Council's draft amendment on "conveyance" (aka the Delta Tunnels) and to provide public comment. But none of them were able to do so besides the formal presentation by Michael Brodsky as part of the first panel. A public comment period was supposed to follow the agenda item. Read about it here.

August 2017

- Aug 10-13 Big Cat Poker Run. The Big Cats displayed Stop the Tunnel signs as they started the run.
- Aug 11 Metropolitan releases its Financing Report and it's full of holes.

June 2017

- June 3 The Save the Delta Charity Golf Event at the Discovery Bay Golf & Country Club was a great success! Funds raised take STCDA over the initial \$60K target. See STCDA's Fundraising Page.
- June 22 Delta Stewardship Council Meeting. Once again, the STCDA Bus went from Discovery Bay to Sacramento to attend the DSC meeting.

July 2017

- July 27 Delta Stewardship Council Meeting. For the third time, the STCDA Bus went from Discovery Bay to Sacramento to attend the DSC meeting.
- July 29-30 STCDA Stop the Tunnels weekend at Bullfrog Marina

September 2017

- Sept 17 Westlands votes against supporting the Tunnels.
- Sept 24 Benefit Lunch to Stop the Tunnels hosted by Bullfrog Marina

October 2017

- Oct 10 Metropolitan Water District votes to pay for its share of the Delta Tunnels.
- Oct 13-15 Rio Vista Bass Derby Festival



Pictured above are some awesome Save the California Delta Alliance volunteers right before heading out to the Rio Vista Bass Derby Festival. We will be doing socio-economic surveying to prove just how problematic these tunnels will be for our Delta economy.

- Oct 17 <u>Santa Clara Water District votes 7-0 against the current Delta Tunnels.</u> (but leaves the door open to negotiate for a smaller, single-tunnel plan).
- Oct 24 <u>Trump opposes massive California water project.</u>
- Oct 25 Trump Administration announces it does support the California water project, just are not providing any funding.

November 2017

• Nov 11 – Simm's 7th Annual Pro Delta day for Professional Bass Fishermen. STCDA was invited to participate on a Delta Conservation Panel for the event. It was a great event, a record turnout, and this year's bass fishing award (again) went to Bobby Barrack and his fishing partner Brett Hite.



Bobby Barrack, Professional Angler and winner of the Pro Delta Day tournament, with Jan McCleery, STCDA

If you look back at the STCD Event Tracker page, the very first event that kicked off the STCDA was August 1, 2009. Bobby Barrack was in his bass fishing boat early one morning, passing out fliers to boaters anchored out in Mildred Island Anchorage, alerting everyone about the "2-Gates Fish 'Protection' Project" (which was misnamed, like many of the State's projects). Mike & Jan McCleery were one of those anchored-out that weekend and the alert brought to us by Bobby was what started us off on the work to Save the Delta and Stop the Tunnels! It was fun meeting up with Bobby again for the first time and re-telling the story.