

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 731

To establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 27, 2017

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. HARRIS) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Nat-  
ural Resources

---

## A BILL

To establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National  
Heritage Area.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Sacramento-San Joa-  
5       quin Delta National Heritage Area Establishment Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

8               (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage  
9       Area” means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta  
10       Heritage Area established by section 3(a).

1           (2) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The  
2 term “Heritage Area management plan” means the  
3 plan developed and adopted by the local coordinating  
4 entity under this Act.

5           (3) LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.—The term  
6 “local coordinating entity” means the local coordi-  
7 nating entity for the Heritage Area designated by  
8 section 3(d).

9           (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11           (5) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
12 of California.

13 **SEC. 3. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA HERITAGE**  
14 **AREA.**

15           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the  
16 “Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Heritage Area” in the  
17 State.

18           (b) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the Heritage  
19 Area shall be in the counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento,  
20 San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo in the State of California,  
21 as generally depicted on the map entitled “Sacramento-  
22 San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Proposed  
23 Boundary”, numbered T27/105,030, and dated October  
24 2012.

1 (c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described in  
2 subsection (b) shall be on file and available for public in-  
3 spection in the appropriate offices of the National Park  
4 Service and the Delta Protection Commission.

5 (d) LOCAL COORDINATING ENTITY.—The local co-  
6 ordinating entity for the Heritage Area shall be the Delta  
7 Protection Commission established by section 29735 of  
8 the California Public Resources Code.

9 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—

10 (1) AUTHORITIES.—For purposes of carrying  
11 out the Heritage Area management plan, the Sec-  
12 retary, acting through the local coordinating entity,  
13 may use amounts made available under this Act  
14 to—

15 (A) make grants to the State or a political  
16 subdivision of the State, nonprofit organiza-  
17 tions, and other persons;

18 (B) enter into cooperative agreements  
19 with, or provide technical assistance to, the  
20 State or a political subdivision of the State,  
21 nonprofit organizations, and other interested  
22 parties;

23 (C) hire and compensate staff, which shall  
24 include individuals with expertise in natural,

1 cultural, and historical resources protection,  
2 and heritage programming;

3 (D) obtain money or services from any  
4 source including any that are provided under  
5 any other Federal law or program;

6 (E) contract for goods or services; and

7 (F) undertake to be a catalyst for any  
8 other activity that furthers the Heritage Area  
9 and is consistent with the approved Heritage  
10 Area management plan.

11 (2) DUTIES.—The local coordinating entity  
12 shall—

13 (A) in accordance with subsection (f), pre-  
14 pare and submit a Heritage Area management  
15 plan to the Secretary;

16 (B) assist units of local government, re-  
17 gional planning organizations, and nonprofit or-  
18 ganizations in carrying out the approved Herit-  
19 age Area management plan by—

20 (i) carrying out programs and projects  
21 that recognize, protect, and enhance im-  
22 portant resource values in the Heritage  
23 Area;

1 (ii) establishing and maintaining in-  
2 terpretive exhibits and programs in the  
3 Heritage Area;

4 (iii) developing recreational and edu-  
5 cational opportunities in the Heritage  
6 Area;

7 (iv) increasing public awareness of,  
8 and appreciation for, natural, historical,  
9 scenic, and cultural resources of the Herit-  
10 age Area;

11 (v) protecting and restoring historic  
12 sites and buildings in the Heritage Area  
13 that are consistent with Heritage Area  
14 themes;

15 (vi) ensuring that clear, consistent,  
16 and appropriate signs identifying points of  
17 public access, and sites of interest are  
18 posted throughout the Heritage Area; and

19 (vii) promoting a wide range of part-  
20 nerships among governments, organiza-  
21 tions, and individuals to further the Herit-  
22 age Area;

23 (C) consider the interests of diverse units  
24 of government, businesses, organizations, and  
25 individuals in the Heritage Area in the prepara-

1           tion and implementation of the Heritage Area  
2           management plan;

3           (D) conduct meetings open to the public at  
4           least semiannually regarding the development  
5           and implementation of the Heritage Area man-  
6           agement plan;

7           (E) for any year that Federal funds have  
8           been received under this Act—

9           (i) submit an annual report to the  
10          Secretary that describes the activities, ex-  
11          penses, and income of the local coordi-  
12          nating entity (including grants to any  
13          other entities during the year that the re-  
14          port is made);

15          (ii) make available to the Secretary  
16          for audit all records relating to the expend-  
17          iture of the funds and any matching funds;  
18          and

19          (iii) require, with respect to all agree-  
20          ments authorizing expenditure of Federal  
21          funds by other organizations, that the or-  
22          ganizations receiving the funds make avail-  
23          able to the Secretary for audit all records  
24          concerning the expenditure of the funds;  
25          and

1 (F) encourage by appropriate means eco-  
2 nomic viability that is consistent with the Herit-  
3 age Area.

4 (3) PROHIBITION ON THE ACQUISITION OF  
5 REAL PROPERTY.—The local coordinating entity  
6 shall not use Federal funds made available under  
7 this Act to acquire real property or any interest in  
8 real property.

9 (4) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—The Fed-  
10 eral share of the cost of any activity carried out  
11 using any assistance made available under this Act  
12 shall be 50 percent.

13 (f) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after  
15 the date of enactment of this Act, the local coordi-  
16 nating entity shall submit to the Secretary for ap-  
17 proval a proposed Heritage Area management plan.

18 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Heritage Area man-  
19 agement plan shall—

20 (A) incorporate an integrated and coopera-  
21 tive approach to agricultural resources and ac-  
22 tivities, flood protection facilities, and other  
23 public infrastructure;

24 (B) emphasize the importance of the re-  
25 sources described in subparagraph (A);

1 (C) take into consideration State and local  
2 plans;

3 (D) include—

4 (i) an inventory of—

5 (I) the resources located in the  
6 core area described in subsection (b);

7 and

8 (II) any other property in the  
9 core area that—

10 (aa) is related to the themes  
11 of the Heritage Area; and

12 (bb) should be preserved, re-  
13 stored, managed, or maintained  
14 because of the significance of the  
15 property;

16 (ii) comprehensive policies, strategies  
17 and recommendations for conservation,  
18 funding, management, and development of  
19 the Heritage Area;

20 (iii) a description of actions that gov-  
21 ernments, private organizations, and indi-  
22 viduals have agreed to take to protect the  
23 natural, historical, and cultural resources  
24 of the Heritage Area;



1 (iv) a program of implementation for  
2 the Heritage Area management plan by  
3 the local coordinating entity that includes  
4 a description of—

5 (I) actions to facilitate ongoing  
6 collaboration among partners to pro-  
7 mote plans for resource protection,  
8 restoration, and construction; and

9 (II) specific commitments for im-  
10 plementation that have been made by  
11 the local coordinating entity or any  
12 government, organization, or indi-  
13 vidual for the first 5 years of oper-  
14 ation;

15 (v) the identification of sources of  
16 funding for carrying out the Heritage Area  
17 management plan;

18 (vi) analysis and recommendations for  
19 means by which local, State, and Federal  
20 programs, including the role of the Na-  
21 tional Park Service in the Heritage Area,  
22 may best be coordinated to carry out this  
23 Act; and

24 (vii) an interpretive plan for the Her-  
25 itage Area; and

1           (E) recommend policies and strategies for  
2 resource management that consider and detail  
3 the application of appropriate land and water  
4 management techniques, including the develop-  
5 ment of intergovernmental and interagency co-  
6 operative agreements to protect the natural,  
7 historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and rec-  
8 reational resources of the Heritage Area.

9           (3) RESTRICTIONS.—The Heritage Area man-  
10 agement plan submitted under this subsection  
11 shall—

12           (A) ensure participation by appropriate  
13 Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, in-  
14 cluding the Delta Stewardship Council, special  
15 districts, natural and historical resource protec-  
16 tion and agricultural organizations, educational  
17 institutions, businesses, recreational organiza-  
18 tions, community residents, and private prop-  
19 erty owners; and

20           (B) not be approved until the Secretary  
21 has received certification from the Delta Protec-  
22 tion Commission that the Delta Stewardship  
23 Council has reviewed the Heritage Area man-  
24 agement plan for consistency with the plan

1           adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council pur-  
2           suant to State law.

3           (4) DEADLINE.—If a proposed Heritage Area  
4           management plan is not submitted to the Secretary  
5           by the date that is 3 years after the date of enact-  
6           ment of this Act, the local coordinating entity shall  
7           be ineligible to receive additional funding under this  
8           Act until the date that the Secretary receives and  
9           approves the Heritage Area management plan.

10           (5) APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF HERITAGE  
11           AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

12           (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180  
13           days after the date of receipt of the Heritage  
14           Area management plan under paragraph (1),  
15           the Secretary, in consultation with the State,  
16           shall approve or disapprove the Heritage Area  
17           management plan.

18           (B) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—In deter-  
19           mining whether to approve the Heritage Area  
20           management plan, the Secretary shall consider  
21           whether—

22           (i) the local coordinating entity is rep-  
23           resentative of the diverse interests of the  
24           Heritage Area, including governments, nat-  
25           ural and historic resource protection orga-

1 nizations, educational institutions, busi-  
2 nesses, and recreational organizations;

3 (ii) the local coordinating entity has  
4 afforded adequate opportunity, including  
5 public hearings, for public and govern-  
6 mental involvement in the preparation of  
7 the Heritage Area management plan; and

8 (iii) the resource protection and inter-  
9 pretation strategies contained in the Herit-  
10 age Area management plan, if imple-  
11 mented, would adequately protect the nat-  
12 ural, historical, and cultural resources of  
13 the Heritage Area.

14 (C) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If  
15 the Secretary disapproves the Heritage Area  
16 management plan under subparagraph (A), the  
17 Secretary shall—

18 (i) advise the local coordinating entity  
19 in writing of the reasons for the dis-  
20 approval;

21 (ii) make recommendations for revi-  
22 sions to the Heritage Area management  
23 plan; and

24 (iii) not later than 180 days after the  
25 receipt of any proposed revision of the

1 Heritage Area management plan from the  
2 local coordinating entity, approve or dis-  
3 approve the proposed revision.

4 (D) AMENDMENTS.—

5 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
6 approve or disapprove each amendment to  
7 the Heritage Area management plan that  
8 the Secretary determines make a substan-  
9 tial change to the Heritage Area manage-  
10 ment plan.

11 (ii) USE OF FUNDS.—The local co-  
12 ordinating entity shall not use Federal  
13 funds authorized by this Act to carry out  
14 any amendments to the Heritage Area  
15 management plan until the Secretary has  
16 approved the amendments.

17 (g) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL AGEN-  
18 CIES.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act affects  
20 the authority of a Federal agency to provide tech-  
21 nical or financial assistance under any other law.

22 (2) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—The  
23 head of any Federal agency planning to conduct ac-  
24 tivities that may have an impact on the Heritage  
25 Area is encouraged to consult and coordinate the ac-

1       activities with the Secretary and the local coordinating  
2       entity to the maximum extent practicable.

3           (3) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Nothing in  
4       this Act—

5           (A) modifies, alters, or amends any law or  
6       regulation authorizing a Federal agency to  
7       manage Federal land under the jurisdiction of  
8       the Federal agency;

9           (B) limits the discretion of a Federal land  
10      manager to implement an approved land use  
11      plan within the boundaries of the Heritage  
12      Area; or

13          (C) modifies, alters, or amends any author-  
14      ized use of Federal land under the jurisdiction  
15      of a Federal agency.

16      (h) PRIVATE PROPERTY AND REGULATORY PROTEC-  
17      TIONS.—

18          (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
19      nothing in this Act—

20          (A) abridges the rights of any property  
21      owner (whether public or private), including the  
22      right to refrain from participating in any plan,  
23      project, program, or activity conducted within  
24      the Heritage Area;

1 (B) requires any property owner to permit  
2 public access (including access by Federal,  
3 State, or local agencies) to the property of the  
4 property owner, or to modify public access or  
5 use of property of the property owner under  
6 any other Federal, State, or local law;

7 (C) alters any duly adopted land use regu-  
8 lation, approved land use plan, or other regu-  
9 latory authority of any Federal, State or local  
10 agency, or conveys any land use or other regu-  
11 latory authority to the local coordinating entity;

12 (D) authorizes or implies the reservation  
13 or appropriation of water or water rights;

14 (E) diminishes the authority of the State  
15 to manage fish and wildlife, including the regu-  
16 lation of fishing and hunting within the Herit-  
17 age Area; or

18 (F) creates any liability, or affects any li-  
19 ability under any other law, of any private  
20 property owner with respect to any person in-  
21 jured on the private property.

22 (2) OPT OUT.—An owner of private property  
23 within the Heritage Area may opt out of partici-  
24 pating in any plan, project, program, or activity car-  
25 ried out within the Heritage Area under this Act, if

1 the property owner provides written notice to the  
2 local coordinating entity.

3 (i) EVALUATION; REPORT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years be-  
5 fore the date on which authority for Federal funding  
6 terminates for the Heritage Area, the Secretary  
7 shall—

8 (A) conduct an evaluation of the accom-  
9 plishments of the Heritage Area; and

10 (B) prepare a report in accordance with  
11 paragraph (3).

12 (2) EVALUATION.—An evaluation conducted  
13 under paragraph (1)(A) shall—

14 (A) assess the progress of the local coordi-  
15 nating entity with respect to—

16 (i) accomplishing the purposes of this  
17 Act for the Heritage Area; and

18 (ii) achieving the goals and objectives  
19 of the approved Heritage Area manage-  
20 ment plan;

21 (B) analyze the Federal, State, local, and  
22 private investments in the Heritage Area to de-  
23 termine the leverage and impact of the invest-  
24 ments; and



1 (C) review the management structure,  
2 partnership relationships, and funding of the  
3 Heritage Area for purposes of identifying the  
4 critical components for sustainability of the  
5 Heritage Area.

6 (3) REPORT.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Based on the evalua-  
8 tion conducted under paragraph (1)(A), the  
9 Secretary shall prepare a report that includes  
10 recommendations for the future role of the Na-  
11 tional Park Service, if any, with respect to the  
12 Heritage Area.

13 (B) REQUIRED ANALYSIS.—If the report  
14 prepared under subparagraph (A) recommends  
15 that Federal funding for the Heritage Area be  
16 reauthorized, the report shall include an anal-  
17 ysis of—

18 (i) ways in which Federal funding for  
19 the Heritage Area may be reduced or  
20 eliminated; and

21 (ii) the appropriate time period nec-  
22 essary to achieve the recommended reduc-  
23 tion or elimination.

1 (C) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—On com-  
2 pletion of the report, the Secretary shall submit  
3 the report to—

4 (i) the Committee on Energy and  
5 Natural Resources of the Senate; and

6 (ii) the Committee on Natural Re-  
7 sources of the House of Representatives.

8 (j) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—Nothing in this  
9 Act—

10 (1) precludes the local coordinating entity from  
11 using Federal funds made available under other laws  
12 for the purposes for which those funds were author-  
13 ized; or

14 (2) affects any water rights or contracts.

15 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-  
17 priated to carry out this Act \$10,000,000, of which not  
18 more than \$1,000,000 may be made available for any fis-  
19 cal year.

20 (b) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—The Federal  
21 share of the total cost of any activity under this Act shall  
22 be determined by the Secretary, but shall be not more than  
23 50 percent.

1           (c) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share  
2 of the total cost of any activity under this Act may be  
3 in the form of in-kind contributions of goods or services.

4 **SEC. 5. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—If a proposed Heritage Area man-  
6 agement plan has not been submitted to the Secretary by  
7 the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of  
8 this Act, the Heritage Area designation shall be rescinded.

9           (b) FUNDING AUTHORITY.—The authority of the  
10 Secretary to provide assistance under this Act terminates  
11 on the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment  
12 of this Act.

○