

SFEP

SAN FRANCISCO

**ESTUARY**
PARTNERSHIP

MEMO

DATE: August 21, 2019

TO: Implementation Committee Members

FROM: Caitlin Sweeney, Director

RE: Agenda Item #5 - New Member

Maintaining an engaged and effective Implementation Committee is critical to the success of the Partnership's work. The current Operating Procedures (last revised and approved in November 2017) state that IC members represent organizations, not individuals and that each member entity should designate a primary and an alternate representative.

Audubon has been a long time member of the Implementation Committee with representation through a local chapter (Marin Audubon), but never at the state level. Audubon California has a large presence in the Estuary, particularly through the San Francisco Bay Program. Focusing on the intersection of policy, science, restoration, and management, the San Francisco Bay Program works across disciplines and ecosystems to conserve birds and their habitats.

Rebecca Schwartz Lesberg, Director of Audubon California's San Francisco Bay Program, has expressed great interest in representing Audubon California on the Implementation Committee. Rebecca is familiar with the work of the Partnership and the current Estuary Blueprint and is very interested in Audubon California becoming more engaged with the next Blueprint revision.

Because the chapter-level and the state-level organizations operate differently and represent different interests, both Marin Audubon and Audubon California recommend that Audubon California be added to the IC as a new distinct member, rather than combining representation under one Audubon membership seat.

I recommend the Implementation Committee approve Audubon California as a new IC member.