

Delta Climate Water Advocacy for Environmental Justice



**Our mission is to
ensure the health of
the San Francisco
Bay-Delta estuary
and Delta
communities.**



Tim Stroshane, Policy Analyst, Restore the Delta and
Restore the Delta Climate Water Advocates
Gloria Alonso Cruz & Darius Waiters

www.restorethedelta.org



- Restore the Delta (RTD) founded 2006—campaign for Delta identity and oppose destructive Delta water projects.
- RTD pivoted in 2018 to environmental justice because Delta collapse bad for estuary AND environmental justice communities.

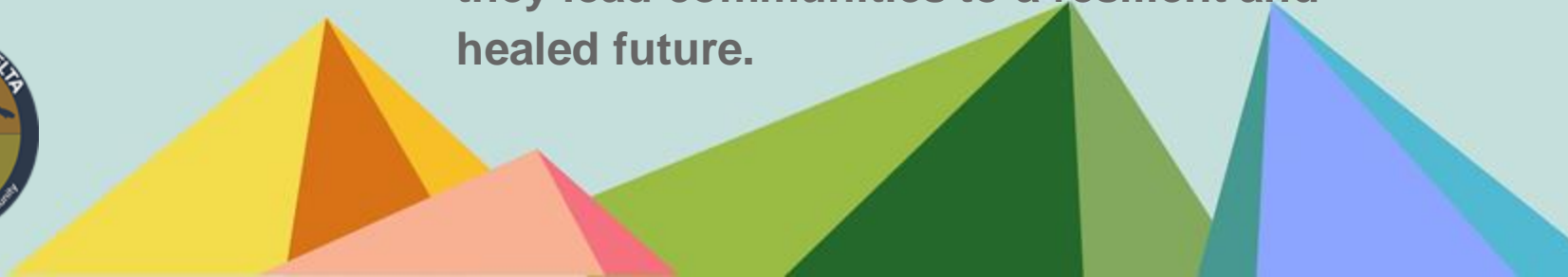


South Stockton Environmental Justice Coalition

- Little Manila Rising
- Greenlining Institute
- Restore the Delta
- With Our Words
- Third City Coalition

RTD's Philosophy:

- Delta climate change impacts will outlast RTD senior staff; we are graying.
- Impacts will be experienced more by youth presently living in environmental justice communities.
- Duty to provide skills and knowledge as they lead communities to a resilient and healed future.





- Curriculum surveys
 - Delta climate change
 - Floodplain restoration
 - Drought
 - Fisheries
 - Water rights and water industry
 - Groundwater and SGMA
 - Bay-Delta Plan vs. voluntary agreements

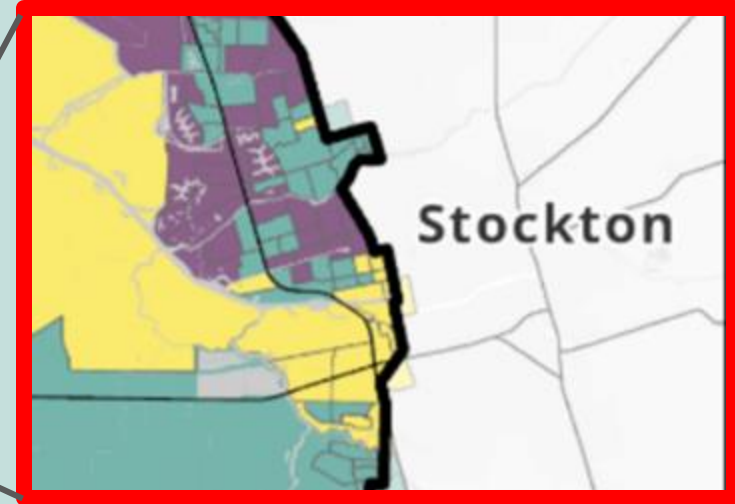
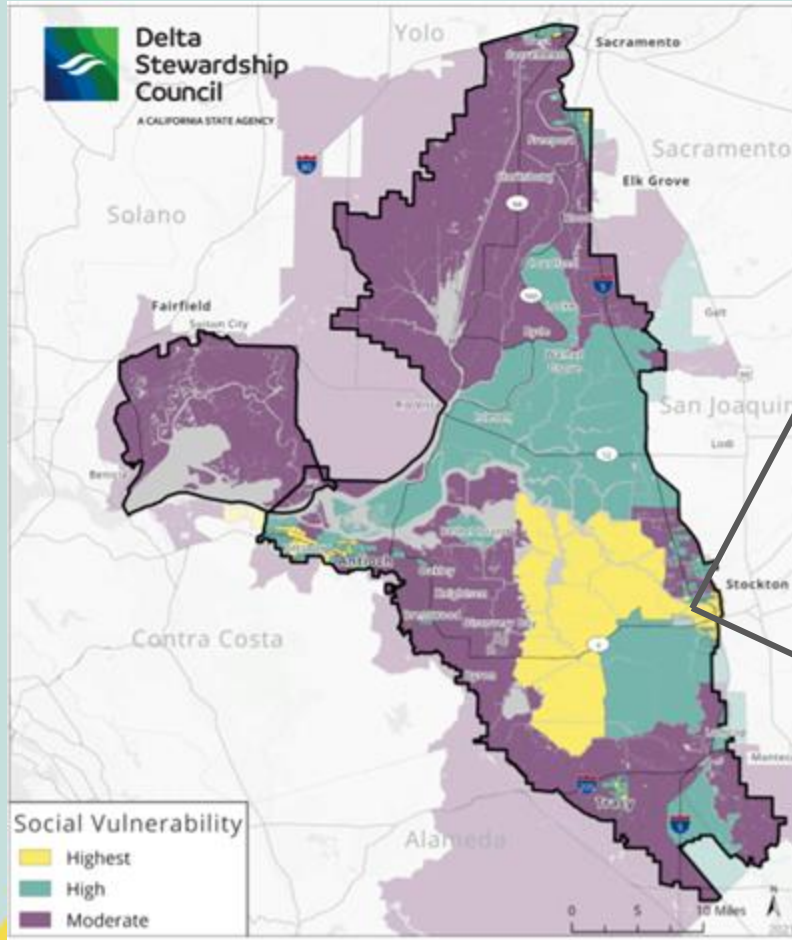




- **Advocacy opportunities**
- **Field training in water quality testing**
- **Long-term vision: Delta water quality testing center**



SOUTHSIDE STOCKTON



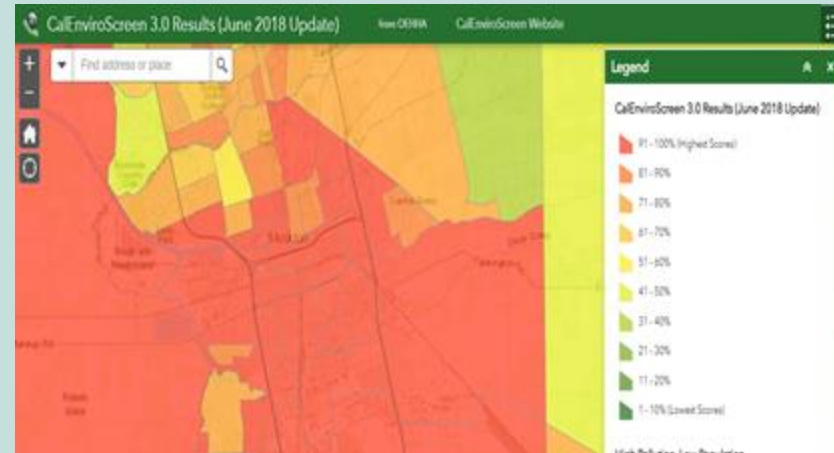
Gloria Alonso Cruz - Climate Water Advocate
Background

Southside Stockton. Socially vulnerable -
linguistically isolated

Highest percentiles (CalEnviroScreen).

Undocumented farmworker parents. Material
interaction with the Stockton environment has
always been limited.

Fear to freely recreate + Lack of clean
recreational spaces



Gloria Alonso Cruz - Climate Water advocate



Observations

Inability to enjoy the delta

Access to Higher Ed. (Metro. Planning + GIS) & access to scientific tools and information from RTD trainings

Ability to identify the living conditions of Southside Stockton and ways to create change

Youth in EJ work → structural neglect of the Delta. Formerly redlined community. Still socially vulnerable → Perpetuates environmental racism.



Gloria Alonso Cruz - Climate Water advocate



Other EJ work and moving forward

Overlapping issues: Water Quality Testing to detect Harmful Algae Blooms + Stockton is an AB 617 community.

Multiple Public health threats. Disadvantaged communities especially during the covid19 pandemic.

Preparedness and Resiliency while face climate change.





Darius Waiters - Climate Water advocate

Background:

- Stockton Native
- Delta Recreator
- Passionate about environmental justice
- This lead me to pursue joining the efforts of restore the delta
- In Restore the Delta, I saw the opportunity to further my knowledge about the adversities faced by the local environment and local civilians.





Darius Waiters - Climate Water advocate

Restore the Delta Experience:

- Learning about Harmful Algal Blooms and how they adversely affect waterways, wildlife, and civilians
- Environmental obstacles are often due to lack of value as opposed to lack of awareness or evidence
- Additionally, I am gaining insight on who holds environmental power, and whom to hold appropriately accountable and how to do so
- As well as forming connection with other environmental advocacy efforts



Darius Waiters - Climate Water advocate

Restore the Delta Experience:

- Restore the Delta has taught me who points of contact are for gaining insight into California's climate and water issues, as well as how to make use of available resources to learn about the state's past and present.
- I plan to further cultivate and build upon relationships I've made with others doing similarly focused work.



Darius Waiters - Climate Water advocate

Questions?

Comments?

Concerns?

