

What *don't* we know about recreation in the Delta?

Proposing a Recreation Research Agenda

Dr. David B. Rolloff

Dr. Amy E. Mickel

Dr. Greg B.C. Shaw

Dr. Elizabeth Erickson

Dept. of Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Administration

College of Health & Human Services

College of Business Administration



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What do we know about recreation and the Delta?

- Significant historic, natural, and agricultural recreation/tourism opportunities
- Contrasts between urban/rural communities and economies
- Infrastructure/dredging issues
- Water quality questions
- Transportation challenges
- Invasive plant issues



Project Objectives

- Identify ways Delta currently used for recreation and recreational opportunities
- Identify most important areas for future research: outline at least 3 potential research projects and suggested methodologies



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Proposed Studies:

1. “Non-motorized Watercraft Usage of the Delta”
2. “Cultural Tourism & Agri-tourism in the Delta and the Economic Impact of Special Events”
3. “Social and Environmental Barriers to Positive Tourism Development in the Delta”



1. “Non-motorized Watercraft Usage of the Delta”

- Identification where/how non-motorized boat usage takes place
- Conflicts with recreation/non-recreation groups
- Additional recreation activities engaged
- Information needs (e.g. tidal issues)
- Facilities and access issues
- Spending patterns of non-motorized watercraft users in the primary planning zone

2. “Cultural Tourism & Agri-tourism, Economic Impact of Special Events”

- Study visitor preferences
- Delineate visitor information sources
- Characterize overnight stays
- Outline visitor spending patterns
- Characterize desired tourism infrastructure by visitors
- Characterize economic impact of events/festivals

“Social and Environmental Barriers to Positive Tourism Development”

- Identify what motivates current visitors to the Delta
- Characterize extent that social, recreation facility, and environmental/physical barriers keep people away
- Indicate barriers which are more prohibitive for current visitors vs. those who do not come to the Delta but engage in similar recreation styles (e.g. road biking)
- Identify which of these barriers can be addressed realistically in upcoming planning timelines

Questions, comments?



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