

~~Strikethrough print~~ represents text which has been deleted.

Bold and italicized print represents text which has been added or modified.

Resolution

Delta Water Resources Sustainability for Every Landowner, Farm Operator, and the State of Mississippi

The full development and investments made in water resources for agriculture and aquaculture irrigation in the Delta has become the single most prominent factor in keeping Delta farming operations cost-efficient and highly productive during the past 25 years.

The Delta agri-industrial complex is a segment of the Delta economy that is not susceptible to relocating to Asia or Mexico. Delta agriculture currently produces more than 30,000 tier one, high-paying jobs created by suppliers, processors, distributors, warehouses, and marketing firms that employ citizens who live, do business, and pay local taxes in Mississippi. This agri-industrial complex, commonly referred to as Delta agriculture, also contributes an estimated \$173 million to the local and State tax base, while paying more than \$305 million in Federal taxes.

Relative to the State of Mississippi's water resources which provides the beneficial uses of the Alluvial Aquifer for Delta agricultural operations, Delta Council supports a policy at the federal, local, regional, and State level to make water available to every farmer and every acre which a farm operator or landowner deems suitable for irrigation in the region. Delta Council stresses that all agencies, organizations and public officials should work to exhaust every effort to make certain that the full impact of the economic activity created by Delta agriculture is sustained, by fully developing the necessary conservation measures, alternative water supplies, groundwater recharge capabilities and innovative water management strategies. These collective and cooperative efforts coordinated by the YMD Joint Water Management District and Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality hold the promise to ensure that every farm operator and landowner in the region who desires to irrigate crops, has the supply of water needed for irrigation purposes in the future.

Adopted by: Delta Council Board of Directors
June 7, 2019

