

NOAA RENAMES STEAMBOAT SLOUGH AND SUTTER SLOUGH TO “SACRAMENTO RIVER”

In 2009 NOAA, the official federal agency responsible for charting and monitoring the US coastal and inland waterways issued a new navigation chart for the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta area. (See map section 1 below). Steamboat Slough is clearly labeled correctly.

In 2010 it was noticed NOAA had renamed the same waterway as “Sacramento River”. NOAA also renamed Sutter Slough as the “Sacramento River”. (See map 2) Steamboat Slough and Sutter Slough have had those charted names since 1862, or earlier. In addition, naming three different rivers as “Sacramento River” causes confusion for navigation. Why would NOAA do this?



Both maps were accessed at the NOAA website on Jan. 2, 2011, at the locations as noted:

