

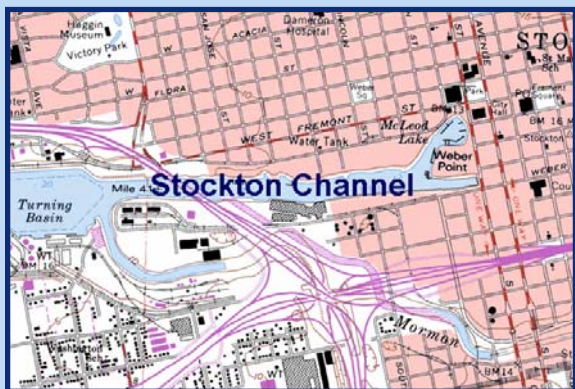
STOCKTON CHANNEL WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2006

Bubbler System to Reduce Odors Caused by Blue-Green Algae *Construction Begins This Week*

The Stockton Channel

The Stockton Channel covers 42.9 acres, including the channel corridor, McLeod Lake, and the Stockton Yacht Harbor. The average depth of McLeod Lake and the Stockton Yacht Harbor is ten to fifteen feet. The Stockton Channel connects to the San Joaquin River and the Delta and is tidally influenced. This connection allows a substantial exchange of water and nutrients between the Stockton Channel and the San Joaquin River. In addition, water and nutrients flow from the City's storm drain system.



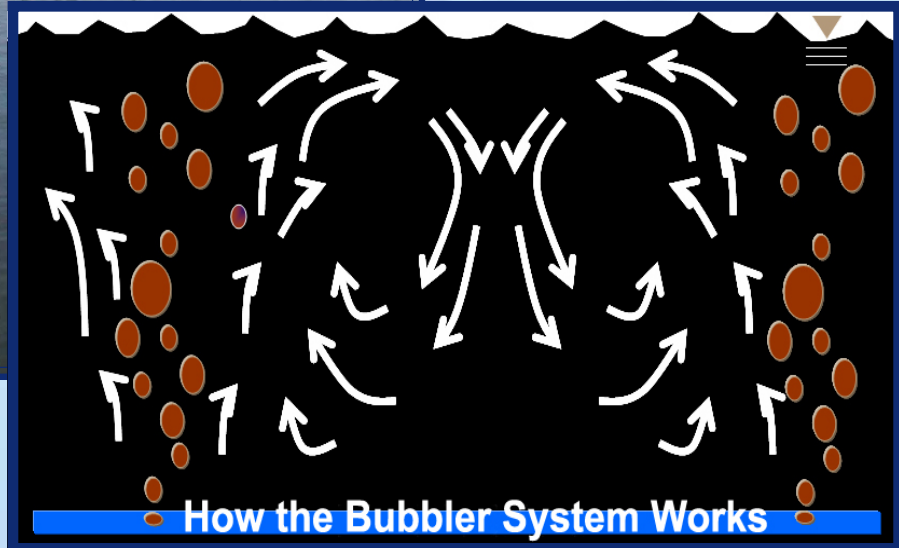
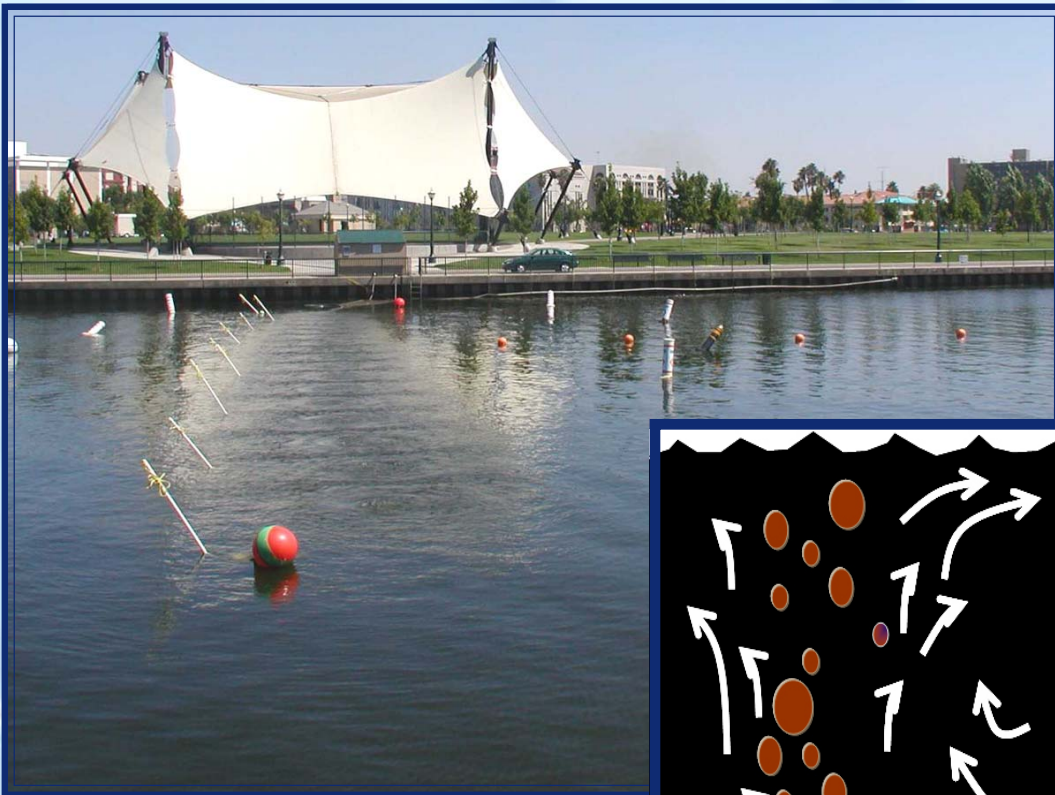
Water Quality

Many species of algae live naturally throughout the San Joaquin Delta. Of particular concern is the blue-green algae. That's because it makes the water look green and can cause objectionable odors. Historically, the Stockton Channel has experienced significant blue-green algae growth when the weather turns hot and winds die down. These conditions combine with nutrients in the water to promote blue-green algae growth.

Bubbler System

To address the odor problem, the City is constructing a \$1.6 million bubbler system that will mix the water in the Stockton Channel. The mixing activity will interfere with the conditions that blue-green algae need to grow. Without blue-green algae, odors will be reduced and the water color may improve.

A series of forced-air diffuser lateral pipes will be anchored to the Channel bottom and spaced approximately 550 feet apart, stretching from the east end of McLeod Lake to the Interstate 5 overcrossing. Air released from small holes in the diffuser laterals will create a column of rising bubbles that cause a vertical rotation and mixing of the surrounding water.



Project Benefits

The specific objectives of the project are:

- to improve water quality and enhance beneficial uses of the channel and the surrounding areas;
- to enhance recreational, commercial, office, residential, and entertainment opportunities on the waterfront of downtown Stockton;
- to enable the highest and best land uses along the Stockton Channel; and
- to contribute to a regional solution to the low dissolved oxygen problem in the Deep Water Ship Channel.

Timelines

Construction of the bubbler system begins this week and the project is expected to be completed by May 2006.

Keeping You Informed

The City will keep you informed throughout the three-month-long project. Feel free to call the Hotline at (209) 464-4350, email Hotline@buethepr.com, or write to Stockton Channel Water Quality Improvement Project, P.O. Box 773, Stockton, CA 95201-0773. We will include answers to frequently asked questions in the next newsletter.

