



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

DELTA CONSERVANCY

A California State Agency

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

October 26, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Delta Conservancy Conference Room

1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6, West Sacramento, CA 95691

We are pleased to announce that the Board Meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format and will include site visits. After the business meeting concludes at approximately 10:30, there will then be an in-person-only opportunity to visit two Delta Conservancy-funded projects. Site tour information including maps and directions are included below.

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format. To maximize public safety while maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can choose to participate either by webinar or in person at the location listed above. People attending in person will be required to adhere to the site's health guidelines, which could include wearing masks, health screening, or social distancing. Questions and public comment can be addressed to contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov prior to, and during the meeting.

Join via Microsoft Teams Webinar

- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Meeting ID: 223 271 733 565
Passcode: YPEMAp
- Or call in (audio only)
[+1 916-573-2034](tel:+19165732034), [380477860#](tel:+1380477860) United States, Sacramento
Phone Conference ID: 380 477 860#
[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

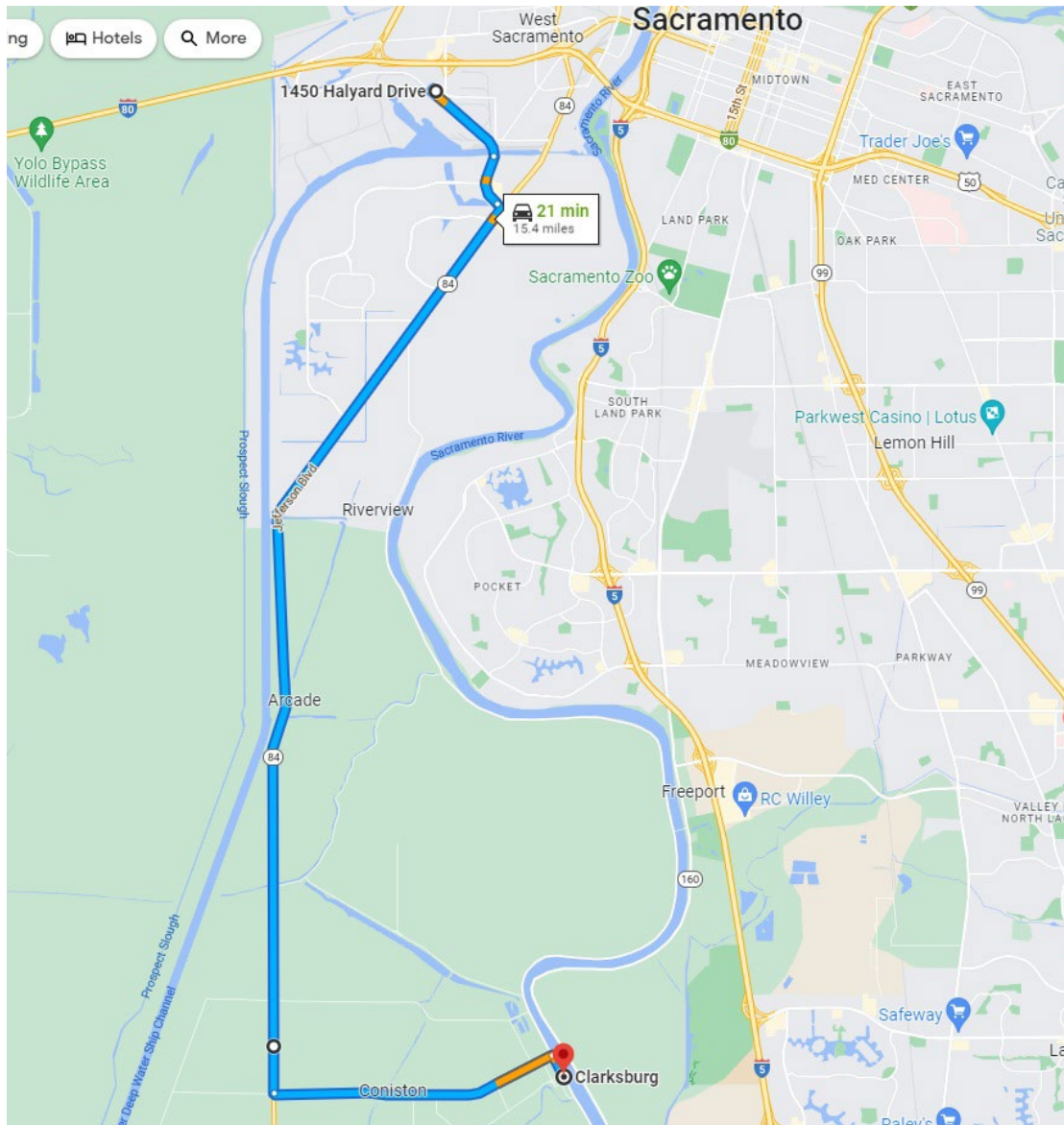
1. **Call to Order**
2. **Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions**
3. **Public Comment** (New Business)
4. **Consent Calendar** (Action Item)
 - Approval of July 26, 2022, Board Meeting Summary and Action Items (Attachment)
5. **Executive Officer's Report**, Campbell Ingram
 - Program Update (Attachment)
 - Nutria Eradication Program Update (Attachment)
 - Budget and Expenditure Report (Attachment)
6. **Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Update**, Dr. Trevor Fox (Attachment)
7. **Community Enhancement Grant Program Update**, Maya Garrett (Attachment)

8. **Consideration of the Process and Criteria for Waiving the Recording of Landowner Access Agreements for Conservancy Agreements**, Dr. Sarah Lesmeister (Attachments) (Action Item)
9. **Consideration of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Responsible Agency Findings and Award of a Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Program Grant for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project**, Dr. Trevor Fox (Attachments) (Action Item)
10. **Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Update**, Campbell Ingram (Attachment)
11. **Overview of Nature Based Solutions and Delta Subsidence/Carbon Management**, Campbell Ingram (Attachment)
12. **Potential Agenda Items for the January 25, 2023, Board Meeting**, Campbell Ingram (Attachment)
13. **Public Comment**
14. **ADJOURN**
 - To view the members of the Delta Conservancy Board, please visit <http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/delta-conservancy-board>.
 - Attachments and additional information are on the Delta Conservancy's website at: <http://www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov>.
 - If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, or require printed copies of meeting materials, please contact us at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date at **(916) 375-2084** or contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov. This contact information may also be used for questions.
 - Public comments are generally limited to three (3) minutes but may be more or less at the discretion of the Board Chair.
 - The Board may consider the agenda items listed above in a different order at the Delta Conservancy Board meeting pursuant to the determination of the Board Chair. All items appearing on this agenda, whether or not listed expressly for action, may be deliberated upon and subject to action at the discretion of the Delta Conservancy Board.

Tour and presentation of the Land Acquisition and Building Restoration of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse and Creation of a Delta Welcome Center Projects. Both projects were funded through the Delta Conservancy's Community Enhancement Program.

Directions from the Delta Conservancy office to the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse – at the corner of South River Road and Netherlands Avenue:

1. Exit Delta Conservancy parking lot by taking a right onto Halyard Drive
2. Take an immediate left onto Industrial Boulevard
3. Industrial becomes Lake Washington Boulevard
4. Turn right onto CA-84/South Jefferson Boulevard – stay on Jefferson for approximately 10 miles
5. Turn left on Clarksburg Road – stay on Clarksburg Road for 3 miles
6. Clarksburg Road dead ends into South River Road
7. Take a right onto South River Road and the Clarksburg Schoolhouse is on the corner of South River Road and Netherlands Avenue (at the stop sign)
8. Parking is on Netherlands Avenue or behind the Schoolhouse on North Center Street

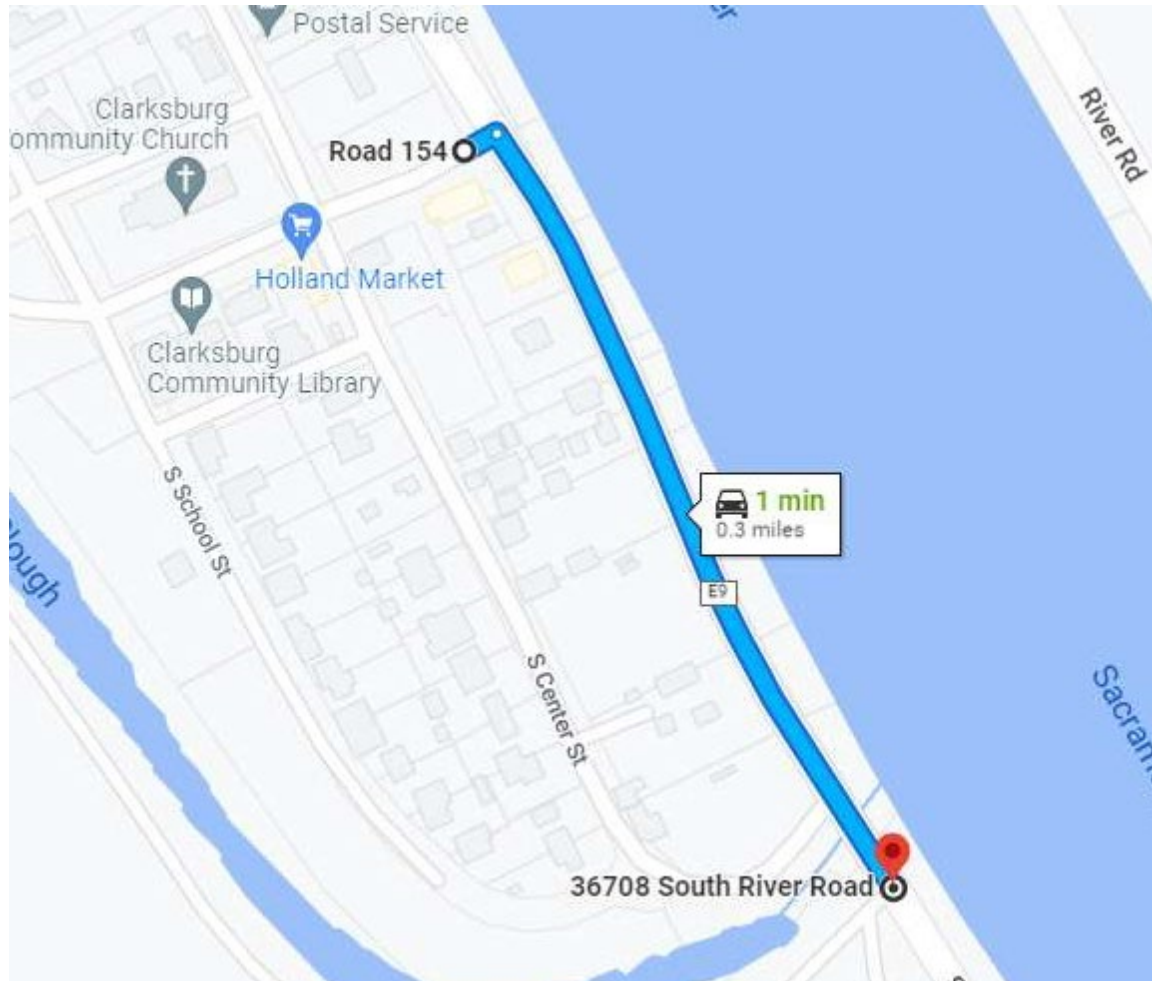


Lunch Break

Tour and presentation of the Elk Slough Fish Passage and Flood Improvement Plan Project funded through the Delta Conservancy's Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Program. Two project sites are included in this tour.

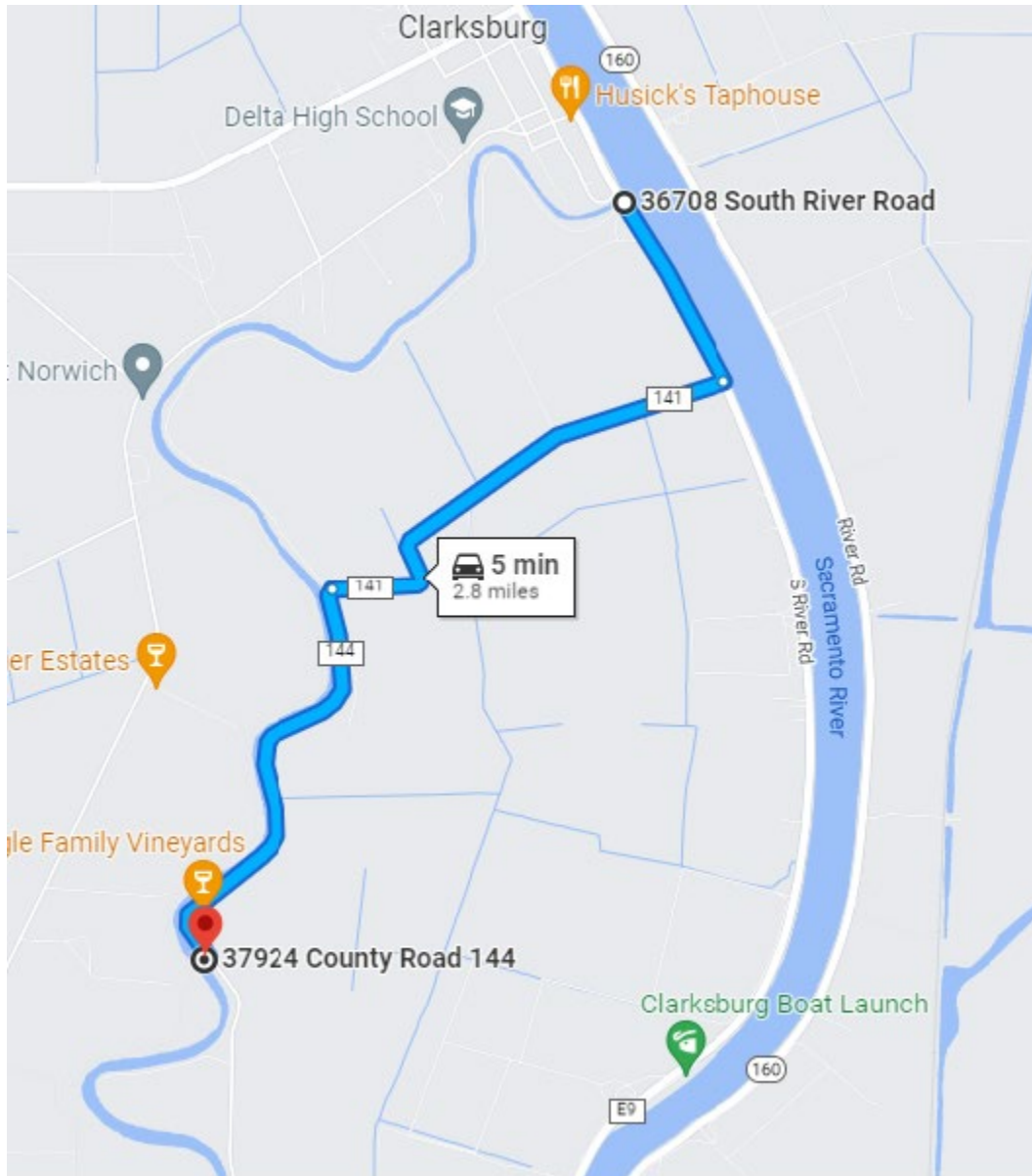
Directions from the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse to 36708 South River Road, Clarksburg, CA 95612. This is where Elk Slough connects to the Sacramento River:

1. Head northeast on Netherlands Avenue (Road 154) toward South River Road/Riverview Drive
2. Turn right onto South River Road/Riverview Drive.



Directions from 36708 South River Road, Clarksburg, CA 95612 to 37924 County Road 144, Clarksburg, CA 95612:

1. Head southeast on South River Road toward County Road 141
2. Turn right onto County Road 141
3. Turn left onto County Road 144





July 27, 2022 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chair Nottoli.

Agenda Item 2 – Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions

After roll call, and the pledge of allegiance, agenda items were heard by the Board in the order indicated below.

Board Members Present:

- Don Nottoli
- Bryan Cash
- Mitchel Mashburn
- Gayle Miller-teleconference
- Karen Mitchoff-teleconference
- Jim Provenza-teleconference
- Dolly Sandoval
- Leo Winternitz

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- None

Liaison Advisors and Counsel Present:

- Marge Kolar
- Erik Vink-arrived during Agenda Item 9
- Steve Chappell-left after Agenda Item 8
- Nicole Rinke, Counsel-by teleconference

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment

None

Agenda Item 4 – Board Elections

Chair Nottoli opened nominations for the position of Chair and Vice Chair of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Board for the Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Motion: Board Member Sandoval moved, seconded by Board Member Winternitz, that the Board approve the nomination of Mitchell Mashburn as Chair and Sandi Matsumoto as Vice Chair of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy for the Fiscal Year 2022-23.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Executive Officer Ingram thanked Chair Nottoli and Vice Chair Matsumoto for their service for the past year, and Supervisor Mashburn assumed the Chair position.

Agenda Item 5 – Consent Calendar

Motion: Board Member Winternitz moved, seconded by Board Member Gayle Miller that the Board approve the following.

- May 25, 2022 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item 6 – Executive Officer’s Report

The Executive Officer briefly highlighted several items within the written report. This was the last meeting for Deputy Executive Officer Debra Kustic due to her retirement. Her replacement, Karen Buhr, was introduced and will assume the role on August 15, 2022. New staff members Maya Garrett, Ecological and Community Programs Analyst; Anjali Shakya, Environmental Scientist; and Geraldine Walker, Retired Annuitant, were introduced. Brenda Lusk was promoted to Administrative Manager.

The report also highlighted the teleworking policy and the Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP) program. The staff works in the office every other Monday. The DDRP continues with site visits and monitoring. An amendment is in process to provide an additional eleven million, four hundred and eighty thousand in funding to run the program again this planting season.

Agenda Item 12 was pulled from the agenda because a Board Resolution is not necessary as the Conservancy will not be the lead agency on the project.

Agenda Item 7 – Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report and presented further updates.

- Prop 1 Cycle 5 was covered in Agenda Item 9.
- Delta Waterway Habitat Restoration Planning, Project 1804, is in the process of executing an amendment, which was approved at the May board meeting.
- The Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project #2, Project 1711, funding period closed on June 30, 2022, and staff are completing the closeout process.

Agenda Item 8 – Community Enhancement Grant Programs Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report, which includes:

- Proposition 68 and the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Climate, Access, and Restoration appropriation. We have eight active projects, one awarded project, and four working proposals.
- Freeport Delta Gateway Monuments will be considered at the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors on September 28, 2022.
- Concept proposals are being received on a continuous basis.

Agenda Item 9 – Consideration of Awards and Applicable Resolutions to Adopt California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Responsible Agency Findings for the Fifth Cycle of the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program

Conservancy staff presented funding recommendations for six projects from the Cycle 5 proposal solicitation, of the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program. The local notification process closed July 25, 2022, with no comments. Conservancy recommends funding all six projects. Program staff introduced each project while Dr. Rachel Wigginton, Sr. Environmental Scientist, provided environmental compliance background on projects as needed.

Agenda Item Attachment 9.2, Project ID 2204, Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board approve up to \$427,706 in grant funding for the Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project proposed by the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District conditional upon successful resolution of equipment purchase requirements and weed removal methodology.

Motion: Supervisor Mitchoff moved, seconded by Board Member Cash, to award funding up to \$427,706 to the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District from the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program, for the Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project conditional upon the items noted in the Additional Considerations section of the staff recommendation.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item Attachment 9.3, Project ID 2207, Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project, Phase Two

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board approve up to \$887,516.29 in grant funding for the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project, Phase Two proposed by Ducks Unlimited.

Motion: Supervisor Provenza moved, seconded by Chair Mashburn, to award funding up to \$887,516.29 to Ducks Unlimited from the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program for the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project, Phase Two. Not exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is the lead agency.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item Attachment 9.6, 9.7, 9.8 Project ID 2208, Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board consider the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project proposed by Solano Resource Conservation District, the lead agency in accordance with CEQA, and adopt Resolution 2022-01 that requires Responsible Agency Findings that all necessary mitigation measures are included in the project to eliminate any significant effects on the environment, and that no additional mitigation measures within the Board's authority are necessary.

The Conservancy typically requires that a land access agreement be signed and recorded against the property for projects on private land. The applicant requested that the Conservancy allow the landowner to sign a land access agreement but waive the requirement to record it against the property deed. The board discussed the matter, and it was decided that the Conservancy Counsel should provide a legal review of the subject and report back at the October 26, 2022, board meeting. The project would be brought back for consideration at that time.

Agenda Item Attachment, 9.10, 9.11 Project ID 2209, Improving Hydrological Resiliency of Managed Wetlands in Suisun Marsh

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board consider the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Suisun Marsh Habitat Management, Preservation, and Restoration Plan (Suisun Marsh Plan), and adopt Resolution 2022-02 that requires Responsible Agency Findings indicating consistency with the Suisun Marsh Plan, and that no additional mitigation measures within the Board's authority are necessary, and concurs with the lead agency's statement of overriding considerations.

Motion: Supervisor Mashburn moved, seconded by Board Member Sandoval, to adopt Resolution 2022-02, which makes Responsible Agency Findings that Improving Hydrological Resiliency of Managed Wetlands in Suisun Marsh implements the Suisun Marsh Plan and that all necessary mitigation measures have been included.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Motion: Supervisor Mashburn moved, seconded by Board Member Winternitz, to award funding up to \$542,546 to the Suisun Resource Conservation District for Improving Hydrological Resiliency of Managed Wetlands in Suisun Marsh conditional upon the items noted in the staff recommendation.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item Attachment 9.12 Project ID 2211, Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board approve up to \$350,000 in grant funding for the Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project proposed by Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (the District) conditional upon approval of findings for a project site located outside of the legal Delta.

Motion: Supervisor Mitchoff moved, seconded by Board Member Sandoval, that the Board approve findings for a project site located outside of the legal Delta for the Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project with the District.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Board Member Sandoval moved, seconded by Chair Mashburn, to award funding up to \$350,000 to the Contra Costa Flood Control and Water Conservation District from the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program for the Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Project.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item Attachment 9.13 Project ID 2212, Van Buskirk Multi-Benefit Ecosystem and Restoration Planning Project

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board approve up to \$467,848 in grant funding for the Van Buskirk Multi-Benefit Ecosystem and Restoration Planning Project proposed by American Rivers conditional upon the applicant providing a landowner letter of support for the project.

Motion: Board Member Winternitz moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, to award funding up to \$467,848 to American Rivers from the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program for the Van Buskirk Multi-Benefit Ecosystem Restoration Project conditional upon the applicant providing a landowner letter of support for the project.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item 10 – Consideration of Award of a Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Funds for Big Break Regional Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Planning Project

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board approve up to \$390,000 in grant funding for the Big Break Regional Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Planning Project proposed by the East Bay Regional Park District.

Motion: Board Member Cash moved, seconded by Board Member Winternitz, to award funding up to \$390,000 to the East Bay Regional Parks District from the Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Program for the Big Break Regional Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Planning Project.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item 11 – Consideration of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Responsible Agency Findings and Award of Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant for Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration and Public Access Project

Conservancy staff presented for consideration a resolution to adopt Responsible Agency Findings based on the City of West Sacramento's Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration in accordance with CEQA, and a recommendation to award Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Program funding for the Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration and Public Access Project.

Motion: Board Member Winternitz moved, seconded by Board Member Cash, to adopt Resolution 2022-03, which makes CEQA Responsible Agency Findings that all necessary mitigation measures have been included in the Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration and Public Access Project.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Motion: Board Member Sandoval moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, to award funding up to \$2,373,800 to the City of West Sacramento from the Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Program for the Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration and Public Access Project.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 8 ayes.

Agenda Item 12 – Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP) Lead Agency Determination for the Riparian Restoration at River Garden Farms

This item was pulled as the Conservancy will not be the lead agency on the project.

Agenda Item 13 – Delta Fish Friendly Farming Program Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report.

Agenda Item 14 – EcoRestore Update

Charlotte Biggs, Program Manager II at the California Department of Water Resources, presented an update by teleconference.

Agenda Item 15 – Delta Stewardship Council Update

This item was pulled and will be updated at the October 26, 2022 Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 16 – Delta Protection Commission Update

Erik Vink, Executive Director of the Delta Protection Commission, presented an update. The Executive Officer thanked Mr. Vink for his many years of collaboration with the Conservancy as he prepares for retirement.

Agenda Item 17 – Delta Conveyance Update

Carrie Buckman, Environmental Program Manager at the Department of Water Resources, presented an update.

Agenda Item 18 – Potential Agenda Items for the October 26, 2022 Meeting

- Overview of Delta Carbon Management
- Consideration of Award(s) of Community Enhancement Grant Program
- Consideration of Award for Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project
- Project site visit discussion

Agenda Item 19 – Public Comment

None

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

- Provide a Policy discussion on recording landowner access agreements
- Provide an overview of the 2023 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Mashburn at 11:35 a.m.

CONTACT

Jessica Adel, Fiscal and Board Analyst
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
jessica.adel@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 376-4022



Executive Officer's Report October 26, 2022

PROGRAM UPDATE

STAFFING UPDATE

The Conservancy continues to fill vacancies and hire additional staff to support programs. Current recruitments include one Staff Services Manager I, one Senior Scientist, two Associate Government Program Analysts, and one Office Technician. We hope to introduce new staff at the October 26 meeting.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Conservancy's Telework Policy has been approved by the Department of General Services and reviewed by the unions. The policy supports a generous telework program requiring staff work in the office one day every other week and at other times as operational needs dictate.

CLIMATE RESILIENCE, COMMUNITY ACCESS AND NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION AND NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS - WETLANDS

The Conservancy was fortunate to receive an appropriation of \$42,125,000 in AB 172. The appropriation provides \$6,125,000 for local assistance and program expenses associated with supporting climate resilience, community access and natural resource protection (CAR), and \$36,000,000 for local assistance and program expenses associated with supporting nature-based solutions (NBS). The CAR funding is anticipated to augment the Conservancy's current CAR funding that has supported several Community and Economic Enhancement Program efforts. The NBS funding expectations are described in agenda item 10. In January of 2022 the Board approved general grant guidelines that provide guidance and the process by which the Conservancy will solicit projects that are funded by General Fund (non-bond funded) appropriations. In the Spring of 2023, we anticipate developing solicitation notices to provide prospective applicants with additional information about the types of projects that can be funded and the criteria by which they will be evaluated. It is anticipated that the solicitations will be opened in late spring.

NEW DIRECTIVE FROM CNRA FOR EQUITY, INCLUSION

Based on a Governor's order, the Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) asked each of the agencies within CNRA to provide an equity plan. For the equity plan, agencies were asked to list their key organizational objectives and show how the agency plans to incorporate equity within those objectives. The Delta Conservancy submitted an equity plan that includes completing an assessment of the organization, providing technical assistance to under resourced organizations that have an interest in applying for grants, providing funding for equity related projects and doing blind screenings of applicants applying for employment at the Conservancy. The Conservancy will be working with CNRA to refine and implement the plan over the next year.

ECOLOGICAL AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Nutria Eradication:

Please see the most recent update from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife included in this agenda item (Attachment 2).

DELTA SCIENCE

Fish Friendly Farming:

The Conservancy, supported through a grant from the California State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB), has contracted the California Land Stewardship Institute (CLSI) to implement the Fish Friendly Farming (FFF) Program in the Delta. A total of 10,752 acres of farmland has been enrolled in the Delta FFF Program. CLSI has been conducting site visits to work with farms on their farm plans, which include best management practices for water quality improvement and identify needed water quality improvement projects. The Delta FFF Program has \$200,000 for implementation of some of these water quality improvement projects, and several have been reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). CLSI is working to incorporate feedback from the TAC. Once the feedback is incorporated, CLSI will send the projects back to the TAC before recommending them for funding.

Delta Science Coordination:

Conservancy staff continue to work collaboratively with the broader Delta science community to advance ecological restoration, invasive species management, and regional science coordination in the Delta and Suisun Marsh.

Conservancy staff continues to co-lead the DPIIC restoration subcommittee (subcommittee) with colleagues from the Delta Stewardship Council. The subcommittee met on August 29, 2022. The subcommittee received an overview of the Delta Plan Chapter 4 Ecosystem Amendment, which was adopted by the Council during their June 23, 2022 meeting and endorsed the subcommittee workplan (<https://bit.ly/3BXI4hE>). The subcommittee also heard an update and provided feedback on the planning of the first Delta Restoration Forum. Earlier this month, the subcommittee sent out a survey to better understand how to schedule and craft the Forum. The Forum is tentatively scheduled for early 2023 and will be announced on both the Conservancy and Council's media channels.

MEDIA MENTIONS

There was a writeup in [LocalNewsMatters.org](https://www.localnewsmatters.org) about Sen. Bill Dodd declaring the last week of September as Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Week. Delta Week, established from Senate Concurrent Resolution 119, was created to expand acknowledgement of the Delta's contributions to a higher quality of life for all Californians.

The Delta Drought Response Pilot Program was highlighted in a radio story by [MyAgLife Daily News Report](#). The story provided an overview and goals of the program.

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

1. Provide a policy update on recording landowner access agreements for grants
 - Discussion on this item can be found in Agenda item 8.
2. Provide an overview of the 2023 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program
 - Update is provided in Agenda item 10.

DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE

Agenda Item 5 (3): Budget and Expenditure Report

CORRESPONDENCE

None

CONTACT

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 281-4145



California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nutria Eradication Program Update

Field Update October 14, 2022

Since March 2018, the nutria eradication efforts in California have:

- Completed full and/or rapid assessments on over 1.8 M acres
- Executed entry permits with 4,500 landowners for over 9,300 parcels in 14 counties
- Set up 6,714 camera stations (831 currently active)
 - Conducted 61,690 camera checks
- Confirmed nutria within nearly 700 sites
- Deployed over 8,004 trap sets for a total of 97,650 trap nights
- Taken or accounted for the take of 3,300 nutria (since March 2017)
 - Merced- 2,018
 - Stanislaus- 930
 - Fresno- 229
 - San Joaquin- 110
 - Mariposa- 12
 - Madera- 1 (San Joaquin River; Fresno County line)

Of 3,297 necropsies, the data has shown:

- 1.14 sex ratio (M:F)
- Of the females captured:
 - 23% of juvenile (2-6 mos.) females have been pregnant
 - 63% of subadult (6-14 mos.) females have been pregnant
 - 69% of adult (>14 months of age) females have been pregnant
- 3,891 fetal nutria have been removed from the population
- Litter size ranged from 1-13, with an average of 5.9
 - Average litter size for adult females (> 14 mos.) in California is 6.4

Table 1. The total number of cells with nutria taken, total number of nutria taken, and average number of nutria taken per cell, by year from March 2017 to October 14, 2022.

Year	Total (unique) cells with nutria taken	Total # nutria taken	Average # nutria taken per cell
2017	7	20	2.9
2018	57	348	6.1
2019	73	492	6.7
2020	157	1239	7.9
2021	145	703	4.9
2022	93	498	5.3
Grand Total	393	3,300	8.4

SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORT July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Personal Services (PS)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
1	Salaries & Wages	\$1,319,714	\$169,720	\$1,149,994	13%
2	Temporary Help	\$75,485	\$8,959	\$66,526	12%
3	Benefits	\$747,890	\$93,900	\$653,990	13%
4	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	\$2,143,089	\$272,579	\$1,870,510	13%

Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Operating Expenditures and Equipment (OE & E)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
5	General Expense	\$13,800	\$0	\$13,800	0%
6	Printing	\$4,716	\$0	\$4,716	0%
7	Communications	\$9,602	\$39	\$9,563	0%
8	Postage	\$260	\$0	\$260	0%
9	Travel-In State	\$5,240	\$0	\$5,240	0%
10	Training	\$14,025	\$800	\$13,225	6%
11	Facilities Operation	\$105,964	\$16,974	\$88,990	16%
12	Contracts & Personal Services-External	\$494,000	\$0	\$494,000	0%
13	Contracts & Personal Services-Interdepartmental	\$83,522	\$0	\$83,522	0%
14	Information Technology	\$52,512	\$106	\$52,406	0%
15	Central Administrative Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
16	Non-Capital Asset Purchases	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
17	Other items of Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
18	Unallocated Operating Expense & Equipment	\$64,109	\$0	\$64,109	0%
18	Multi Year Support Appropriation-Unallocated				
19	Proposition 1 Program Support	\$190,200	\$0	\$190,200	0%
20	Proposition 68 Program Support	\$221,961	\$0	\$221,961	0%
21	Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Support	\$480,000	\$0	\$480,000	0%
22	Nature Based Solutions	\$2,094,250	\$0	\$2,094,250	0%
24	Grants and Subventions	\$61,894,750	\$0	\$61,894,750	0%
25	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES & EQUIPMENT	\$65,728,911	\$17,919	\$65,710,992	0%

Line Number	TOTALS	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
26	TOTAL PS & OE & E	\$67,872,000	\$290,498	\$67,581,502	0%
27	REIMBURSEMENT	(\$11,677,000)	\$0	(\$11,677,000)	0%
28	GRAND TOTAL	\$56,195,000	\$290,498	\$55,904,502	1%



**Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Update
Staff Report**

BACKGROUND

The Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Grant Program refers to a collection of projects that support multi-benefit ecosystem restoration, watershed protection, and climate adaptation projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh. Projects in this program are currently supported through several funding sources: Proposition 1 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act; Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection (CAR); and Nature Based Solutions (NBS): Wetland Restoration. The Proposition 1 Grant Program is designed to support multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities. The CAR is a General Fund allocation and is designed to promote multi-benefit projects within the areas of climate resilience, community access, and natural resources protection. The NBS: Wetland Restoration is a General Fund allocation to support wetland restoration projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The Grant Program requires both a concept proposal and a full proposal. Full proposals are subject to a rigorous review and evaluation process by staff and external professional reviewers (when applicable) and are recommended for funding based upon review, evaluation, and funding availability.

Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Funding Sources. CEP refers to the Community Enhancement Grant Program (Agenda Item 7). Amounts listed in millions of dollars.

Funding Source	Type	Total Allocation	Minimum Amount Available for Grants	Total Amount Already Allocated for Grants	Allocation Date	Encumbrance Date	Program(s) Supported by Funding Source
Proposition 1	Bond	\$50.0	\$41.5	\$41.8	8/13/2014	Variable	ERCA
CAR	General Fund	\$5.25	\$4.98	\$4.25	9/23/2021	6/30/2024	ERCA and CEP
CAR	General Fund	\$6.125	\$5.82	not started	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA and CEP
NBS: Wetland Restoration	General Fund	\$36.0	\$34.2	not started	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA

PROGRAM UPDATE

As of October 26, 2022, there are 16 active projects, six awarded projects with grant development underway, two working proposals, and 12 closed projects. The total amount of funding for active projects, awarded projects, and working proposals is \$33.4 million.

ACTIVE PROJECTS**Cycle 4 – Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

The Board awarded approximately \$14.9 million for ten projects (eight planning and two implementation). Nine grant agreements have been executed. One project was withdrawn after receiving an award.

Project Name	Mello/Jensen Heirs Sandhill Crane Preserve Project (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$2,263,472.00
County	Sacramento
Project ID	Prop 1-1801
Grantee	Agricultural-Natural Resources Trust
Overview	Acquire a conservation easement on 275 acres of farmland to ensure that it remains as wildlife friendly agriculture
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 12/29/2020
New Information	Final appraisal has been completed and is being reviewed.

Project Name	Blacklock Restoration: Phragmites Control Study (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$387,440
County	Solano
Project ID	Prop 1-1803
Grantee	Department of Water Resources
Overview	Test methods for controlling invasive species in future restoration at the Blacklock restoration site
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 3/17/2020
New Information	Project is on track to close 11/01/2022.

Project Name	Delta Waterways Habitat Restoration Planning (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$347,481
County	Solano
Project ID	Prop 1-1804
Grantee	Solano Resource Conservation District
Overview	Planning for restoration and enhancement of waterways and edge habitats on working lands in Solano County
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 12/19/2019
New Information	Bolin Farms approved as an additional site. Minute modification approved to change subcontractors for monitoring task as of 9/15/2022.

Project Name	Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Project, Phase 2 (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$265,254
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	Prop 1-1806
Grantee	San Joaquin Resource Conservation District
Overview	Outreach and planning to advance the Paradise Cut Flood Bypass in San Joaquin County
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 9/23/2020
New Information	Project is ongoing.

Project Name	Elk Slough Fish Passage and Flood Improvement (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$984,695
County	Yolo
Project ID	Prop 1-1807
Grantee	Reclamation District 999
Overview	Planning for habitat and flood control enhancements along Elk Slough
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 7/10/2020
New Information	Hydrodynamic modelling is underway and project design planning has been initiated.

Project Name	Lower San Joaquin Riparian Corridor (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$522,027
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	Prop 1-1808
Grantee	American Rivers
Overview	Planning for restoration of floodplain and riparian habitat along the lower San Joaquin River
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 5/3/2021
New Information	Project is ongoing.

Project Name	Phase 1 San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement at Banta-Carbona Project (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$750,931
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	Prop 1-1810
Grantee	Banta-Carbona Irrigation District
Overview	Planning for 30 acres of seasonally inundated floodplain restoration
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 12/10/2020
New Information	Project is ongoing.

Project Name	Nutria Eradication Project, Phase 2 (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$8,483,080
County	Multiple
Project ID	Prop 1-1813
Grantee	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Overview	Surveys for and removal of invasive species to minimize or avoid impacts to wetland habitats and water quality.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 6/8/2020
New Information	Project is ongoing.

Project Name	Oakley Creekside Park Restoration (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$436,465
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-1814
Grantee	City of Oakley
Overview	Planning for restoration of floodplain and riparian habitat along Marsh Creek
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 12/11/2020
New Information	The Grantee is continuing design planning and community engagement.

Cycle 3 – Fiscal Year 2017-2018

The Board awarded approximately \$16.0 million for eight projects (four planning and four implementation). To date, two grants have closed.

Project Name	Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving aquatic habitat resiliency on working lands along the Sacramento River (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$647,701
County	Yolo
Project ID	Prop 1-1702
Grantee	American Rivers
Overview	Develop restoration design plans for seven different project sites at River Garden Farms to restore ecosystem function in floodplain, wetland, and riparian habitats and provide habitat connectivity on a working farm
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 1/22/2019
New Information	The Grantee has secured implementation from the Wildlife Conservation Board for riparian project site 1. Project is ongoing.

Project Name	Knightsen Wetland Restoration and Flood Protection Project (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$1,225,000
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-1709
Grantee	East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
Overview	Advance planning for restoring wetlands and managing and treating storm water on public land in Knightsen
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 3/20/2019
New Information	Geotechnical and hydrologic and hydraulic reports are being finalized; California Environmental Quality Act conversations with California Department of Fish and Wildlife are ongoing.

Project Name	Grizzly Slough Floodplain Restoration Project at the Cosumnes River Preserve (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$8,700,800
County	Sacramento
Project ID	Prop 1-1710
Grantee	Department of Water Resources
Overview	Restore wetland and riparian habitat to the 334-acre site by breaching the levee and reintroducing tidal and seasonal flooding, and by establishing native vegetation
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 4/30/2020
New Information	Project is delayed due to conservation easement issue. Amendment request expected Winter 2023.

Project Name	Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project #2 (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$990,543
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-1711
Grantee	American Rivers
Overview	This agreement has been cleared to expire on 6/30/22.
Grant Agreement Status	Funding ended 06/30/2022.
New Information	Project is complete. Conservancy staff are working to complete closeout.

Project Name	Stone Lakes Restoration Project (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$635,573
County	Sacramento
Project ID	Prop 1-1713
Grantee	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Overview	Planning to restore approximately 257 acres of seasonal wetland and 39 acres of riparian seasonal wetland, and enhance 20 acres of existing low-quality wetland on the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 4/2/2019
New Information	California Environmental Quality Act documents approved. Project is ongoing.

Project Name	Nutria Eradication Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$1,125,577
County	Multiple
Project ID	Prop 1-1718
Grantee	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Overview	Eliminate nutria from all known and discovered locations in California to prevent nutria from causing significant ecological damage in the Delta
Grant Agreement Status	Funding ended on 4/30/2022
New Information	The project is complete. Conservancy staff are working to complete closeout.

Cycle 2 – Fiscal Year 2016-2017

The Board awarded approximately \$4.4 million for four projects (one planning and three implementation). To date, all four grants have closed.

Cycle 1 – Fiscal Year 2015-2016

The Board awarded approximately \$3.9 million to seven projects (four planning and three implementation). To date, six grants have closed.

Project Name	Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$836,234
County	Yolo
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-016
Grantee	Yolo Resource Conservation District
Overview	Restore up to 5 miles (22 acres) of floodway-compatible wildlife and pollinator habitat, providing a transit corridor for wildlife during floods
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 1/24/2017
New Information	Project is on track to close 12/31/2022.

APPROVED PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED: \$3,065,616)

The Board awarded approximately \$3.1 million for six projects (two planning and four implementation) from Proposition 1 Cycle 5 (Fiscal Year 2021-2022) and climate resilience, community access, and natural resources protection (CAR) funds.

Project Name	Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$427,706
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	P1-2204
Grantee	Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
Overview	Test and identify workable solutions to remove invasive weeds, improve habitat value, and prevent further spread of invasive plants in the Franks Tract State Recreation Area.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Draft grant agreement under review

Project Name	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project, Phase Two (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$887,516
County	Yolo
Project ID	P1-2207
Grantee	Ducks Unlimited
Overview	Constructing hydrological improvements that will restore 220 acres of seasonal wetland, enhance management of 1,803 existing seasonal wetland, and improve water management to 1,180 acres of wildlife friendly agricultural wetland.
Grant Agreement Status	In progress
New Information	Draft grant agreement under review

Project Name	Improving Hydrological Resiliency of Managed Wetlands in the Suisun Marsh (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$542,546
County	Solano
Project ID	P1-2209
Grantee	Suisun Resource Conservation District
Overview	Improve habitat conditions in the Suisun Marsh by installing new hydrological infrastructure at four project sites that will benefit 3,000 acres of managed wetlands.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Draft grant agreement under review

Project Name	Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Project (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$350,000
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	P1-2211
Grantee	Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Overview	Design a shovel-ready multi-benefit project that would restore the Marsh Creek Reservoir system, provide ecological benefit, improve flood capacity, and enhance public recreation opportunities.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Draft grant agreement under review

Project Name	Van Buskirk Multi-Benefit Ecosystem Restoration Planning Project (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$467,848
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	P1-2212
Grantee	American Rivers
Overview	Multi-benefit ecosystem restoration planning project that will integrate nature based design solutions and multi-benefit flood protection concepts, as well as work with partners to seek implementation funding for future projects at the site.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Draft grant agreement under review

Project Name	Big Break Regional Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Planning Project (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$390,000
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	CAR03
Grantee	East Bay Regional Park District
Overview	Create planning documents to support public access and the long-term sustainability of 1,648 acres of open water, wetlands, and upland habitat.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Draft grant agreement under review

WORKING PROPOSALS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$1,680,421)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	Proposal Status
P1-2208	Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project	Solano Resource Conservation District	Implementation	\$359,639	Solano County	Before the board (Agenda Item 9)
CAR04	Conversion of Non-Farmable Land to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Metropolitan Water District	Implementation	\$1,320,782	San Joaquin	Under review

CLOSED PROJECTS

To date, a total of twelve projects funded by Proposition 1 have fully closed (six planning, six implementation). To receive a copy of a final report, please submit a written request specifying the project(s) of interest to prop1grants@deltacconservancy.ca.gov.

Project Name	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$2,026,814
County	Yolo
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-003
Grantee	Ducks Unlimited
Overview	Implement habitat and working landscape enhancements in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 03/31/2022
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Planning)
Amount Spent	\$89,448 (\$2 unspent)
County	All Delta Counties
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-005
Grantee	California Land Stewardship Institute
Overview	Develop a program to work with farmers to improve water quality, that is specific to the crops and water quality concerns in Delta counties
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 10/9/2020
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Sherman Island Restoration Project, Phase III (Planning)
Amount Spent	\$93,599 (\$6,367 unspent)
County	Sacramento
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-008
Grantee	Ducks Unlimited
Overview	Develop plans and permits to restore up to 1,600 acres of wetlands on Sherman Island to provide habitat, reverse subsidence, and sequester carbon
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 3/1/2019
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review. Design plans are still current. Waiting for Phase II to be completed.

Project Name	Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$836,409
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-009
Grantee	American Rivers
Overview	Convert denuded flood control channel at the confluence of Marsh, Sand, and Deer Creeks into a healthy stream corridor
Grant Agreement Status	Funding ended 12/31/2021.
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Plan (Planning)
Amount Spent	\$99,924 (\$217 unspent)
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-012
Grantee	San Joaquin Resource Conservation District
Overview	Advance plans for a new flood bypass that will reduce flood risk, improve habitat, and maintain agricultural land along the San Joaquin River south of Paradise Cut
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 6/30/2019
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Restoration Planning Project (Planning)
Amount Spent	\$73,493 (\$2,391 unspent)
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-Y1-2015-019
Grantee	American Rivers
Overview	Create a Programmatic California Environmental Quality Act document for future restoration activities conducted by Grantee and their partners in the Marsh Creek and Sand Creek watersheds
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 12/31/2019
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review. The Programmatic Mitigated Negative Declaration, developed as part of this project, is being used during the planning of the P1-1814 grant.

Project Name	Dutch Slough Revegetation (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$2,900,000 (\$270 unspent)
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-1602
Grantee	Reclamation District 2137
Overview	Establish and maintain 468 acres of native tidal marsh, riparian, and grassland vegetation at the Dutch Slough restoration site
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 07/15/2022.
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Petersen Ranch: Working Waterway Habitat Enhancement Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$444,464 (\$1,398 unspent)
County	Solano
Project ID	Prop 1-1605
Grantee	Solano Resource Conservation District
Overview	Restore 13.5 acres of riparian habitat and improve water quality through improved cattle management practices on approximately 525 acres of active farmland along Lindsey Slough
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 2/11/2022
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Restoration of Priority Wetlands for Endangered Species at the Cosumnes River Preserve (Implementation)
Amount Spent	\$942,631 (\$145,798 unspent)
County	Sacramento
Project ID	Prop 1-1608
Grantee	Sacramento County Regional Parks
Overview	Restore 110 acres of freshwater wetlands to benefit listed species
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 1/28/2021
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Investigations of Restoration Techniques that Limit Invasion of Tidal Wetlands (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$104,452 (\$21,398 unspent)
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-1612
Grantee	The Regents of the University of California (UC Davis)
Overview	Identify improved methods for tidal wetland revegetation that reduce invasion by non-native plants at Dutch Slough
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 11/30/2021
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

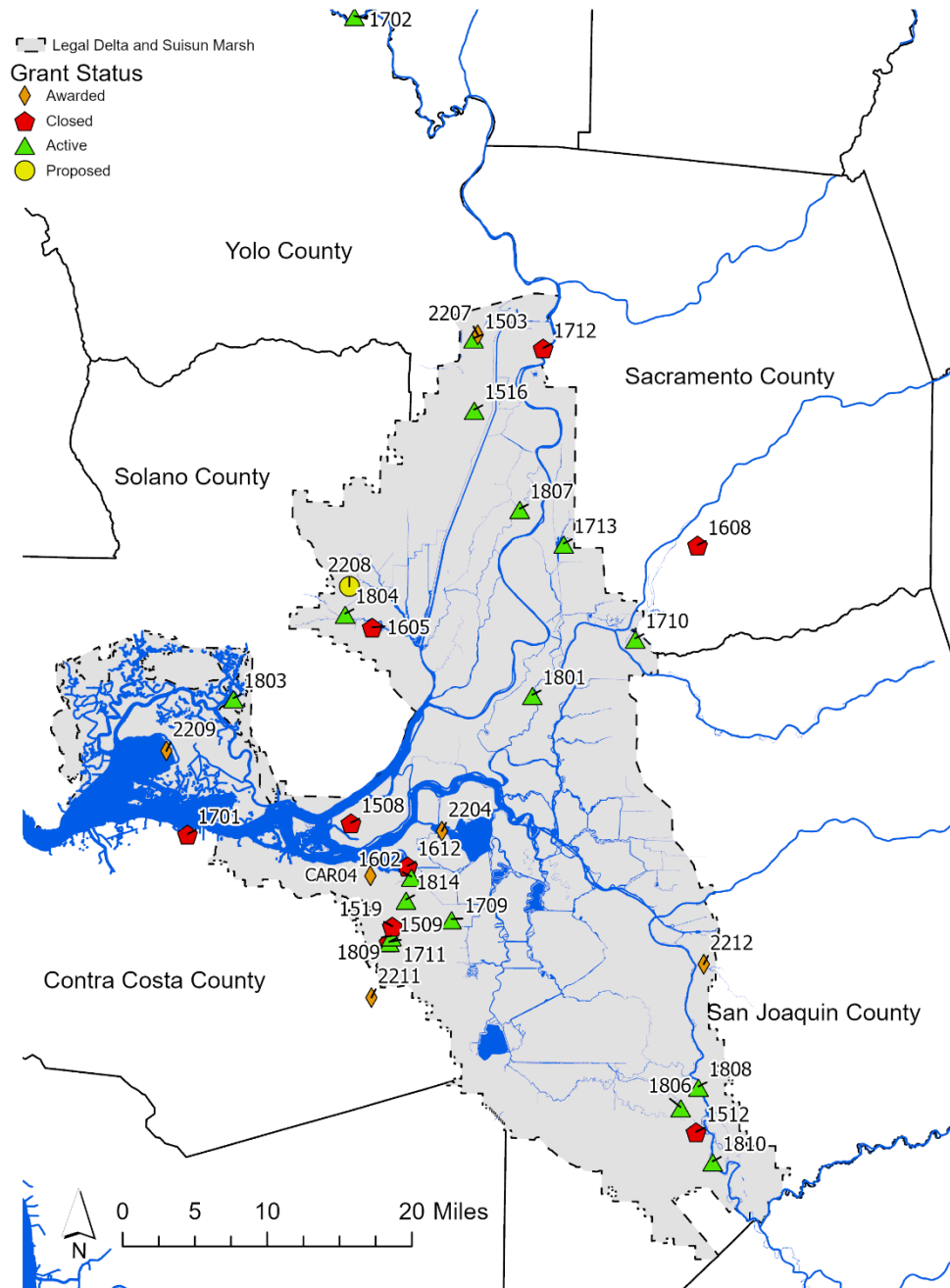
Project Name	Bay Point Habitat Restoration Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$2,100,000 (\$13,718 unspent)
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	Prop 1-1701
Grantee	East Bay Regional Park District
Overview	Restore 44 acres of wetland and grassland and 5,595 linear feet of saline emergent marsh channel at Bay Point Regional Shoreline Park
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 12/31/2021
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration Plan (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$592,500 (\$886.63 unspent)
County	Yolo
Project ID	Prop 1-1712
Grantee	City of West Sacramento
Overview	Develop a detailed habitat restoration plan to restore disturbed riparian habitat, control non-native species, improve pond water quality, and improve the ability of the Bees Lakes area to support listed species
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 4/27/2021
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review. Grantee awarded Climate, Access, and Restoration for funds at July 2022 Conservancy Board meeting.

CONTACT

Trevor Fox, Environmental Scientist
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
prop1@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 376-4023

FIGURE 6.1. MAP OF ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROJECTS



Two active projects (1718, 1813) and one closed project (1505) are not mapped due to their large spatial coverage.



**Community Enhancement Grant Program Update
Staff Report**

BACKGROUND

The Community Enhancement Grant Program (CEP) refers to a collection of projects that support and enhance communities and economies in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh. Projects in this program are currently funded through Proposition 68 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 and the Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection (CAR) funds. The Proposition 68 Grant Program is designed to promote a robust Delta economy, support the vitality of Delta communities, and allow staff to provide guidance to project proponents as they develop proposals to meet these goals. The CAR is a General Fund allocation and is designed to promote multi-benefit projects within the areas of climate resilience, community access, and natural resource restoration.

The Grant Program requires both a concept proposal and a full proposal. Full proposals are subject to a rigorous review and evaluation process by staff and external professional reviewers (when applicable), and are recommended for funding based upon review, evaluation, and funding availability.

Community Enhancement Grant Program Funding Sources. ERCA refers to the Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program (Agenda Item 6). Amounts listed in millions of dollars.

Funding Source	Type	Total Allocation	Minimum Amount Available for Grants	Total Amount Already Allocated for Grants	Allocation Date	Encumbrance Date	Program(s) Supported by Funding Source
Proposition 68	Bond	\$12.0	\$8.7	\$5.40	6/8/2018	Variable	CEP
CAR	General Fund	\$5.25	\$4.98	\$4.25	9/23/2021	6/30/2024	ERCA and CEP
CAR	General Fund	\$6.125	\$5.82	not started	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA and CEP

PROGRAM UPDATE

As of October 19, 2022, there are ten active projects, one working proposal, and two inactive proposals. The total amount of funding for active projects, awarded projects, and working proposals is \$9,252,522.

In the following tables, the DAC/SDAC designations indicates whether the project serves a disadvantaged community (DAC) or a severely disadvantaged community (SDAC), as confirmed by the Delta Conservancy SDAC policy. Proposition 68 requires that 20 percent of the allocation go to projects that support SDAC communities; twenty percent of the Delta Conservancy’s allocation is \$2,400,000. Of the \$5,392,672 for active, awarded, or requested Proposition 68 projects, \$5,054,809 (94 percent) is expected to support SDAC communities.

ACTIVE PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT OBLIGATED: \$7,469,012)

Project Name	Land Acquisition for the Clarksburg Schoolhouse & Delta Welcome Center (Acquisition)
Amount Awarded	\$310,373
County	Yolo
Project ID	P6802
Grantee	Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse
Overview	Acquire 1.13-acre parcel to serve as the permanent home of the restored 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 05/02/2022
New Information	The Grantee is waiting on appraisal approval from Dept. of General Services.

Project Name	Southport Levee Recreational Trail (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$337,863
County	Yolo
Project ID	P6803
Grantee	City of West Sacramento
Overview	Create planning documents for preparation of paving of 5.6 miles of levee top for recreational use.
DAC/SDAC	Neither
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 12/20/2021
New Information	The initial round of stakeholder meetings is complete, and the team has almost completed the 35 percent Bike Path Design Plan, and survey work was completed for the entire 5.6-mile corridor. The Grantee is working to prepare legal descriptions of the trail in preparation for a Recreation Easement that will be incorporated into the transfer of the levee and trail to the State.

Project Name	Pittsburg Boat Launch Facility & Central Harbor Park Upgrade (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$172,155
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	P6804
Grantee	City of Pittsburg
Overview	Create planning documents for preparation of recreational and safety enhancements to the Boat Launch Facility & Central Harbor Park.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 10/01/2021
New Information	The Grantee is taking City comments on the 30 percent plans into consideration, the design consultant is developing 65 percent design plans for City review.

Project Name	Isleton Museum in the Bing Kong Tong Building (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$44,500
County	Sacramento
Project ID	P6805
Grantee	Isleton Museum
Overview	Purchase museum-quality display cases to house historical artifacts within the Isleton Museum, located in the newly renovated Bing Kong Tong Building.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 6/17/2022
New Information	The Grantee has requested an advance payment and will be purchasing displays and working towards project completion soon.

Project Name	Discover the Delta Education Center (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$223,456
County	Sacramento
Project ID	P6806
Grantee	Discover the Delta Foundation
Overview	Update 2009 building plans to meet current building codes and obtain updated approvals and permits to implement construction of the Delta Education Center.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 6/27/2022
New Information	The Grantee is reviewing updated building plans.

Project Name	Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$223,277
County	Sacramento
Project ID	P6808
Grantee	Sacramento County
Overview	Create planning documents in preparation of the installation of two gateway monuments and one interpretive sign in Freeport.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 9/21/2022
New Information	The Grantee is working with Sacramento County design staff on deliverables.

Project Name	Asian American Heritage Park Development (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$554,772
County	Sacramento
Project ID	P6811
Grantee	Delta Educational Cultural Society
Overview	Create a .07-acre park that will include culturally relevant objects and interpretive exhibits on the history and heritage of the Chinese and Japanese immigrants who once occupied the Asian American Historic District of Isleton.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 03/11/2022
New Information	The Grantee is working on completing park design and construction documents.

Project Name	Clarksburg Schoolhouse Restoration and Delta Welcome Center (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$1,742,766
County	Yolo
Project ID	P6813
Grantee	Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse
Overview	Restore the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse (fully restored building, interior and exterior displays, and landscaping) and develop a Delta Welcome Center.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 7/18/2022
New Information	The Grantee is developing a contract with construction subcontractor.

Project Name	Pacific Flyway Center: Walk in the Marsh (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$1,486,050
County	Solano
Project ID	CAR01
Grantee	Pacific Flyway Fund
Overview	Build three miles of ADA-compliant hiking trails, boardwalks, and educational signage throughout restored wetlands in Suisun March.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 03/22/2022
New Information	The Grantee is drafting engineering and landscape plans for a grading permit with the City of Fairfield. The project team have also secured several preliminary cost estimates for construction.

Project Name	Bees Lake Public Access (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$2,373,800
County	Yolo
Project ID	CAR02
Grantee	Bees Lake Public Access
Overview	Remove and control invasive species and reestablish native species. Build 700 square foot viewing platform and 1,395 linear feet of ADA-compliant access to riparian forest.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 7/29/2022
New Information	The Grantee had a project kickoff meeting with the consultant team to review the project scope, refine the project schedule, and confirm contracting structure.

WORKING PROPOSALS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$1,783,510)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	DAC/SDAC	Proposal Status
P6814	Delta Aquatic Center	Community Foundation of San Joaquin	Planning	\$1,783,510	San Joaquin	SDAC	Under review

INACTIVE PROPOSALS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$1,150,000)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	DAC / SDAC	Status
P6807	Clarksburg Branch Line Trail	City of West Sacramento	Planning	\$250,000	Yolo	Neither	On hold per applicant request
P6812	Stockton Waterways	Port of Stockton	Planning	\$900,000	San Joaquin	SDAC	Project being reconsidered by applicant

Meeting Date: October 26, 2022

Page 6

Agenda Item: 7

Attachment: 1

CONTACT

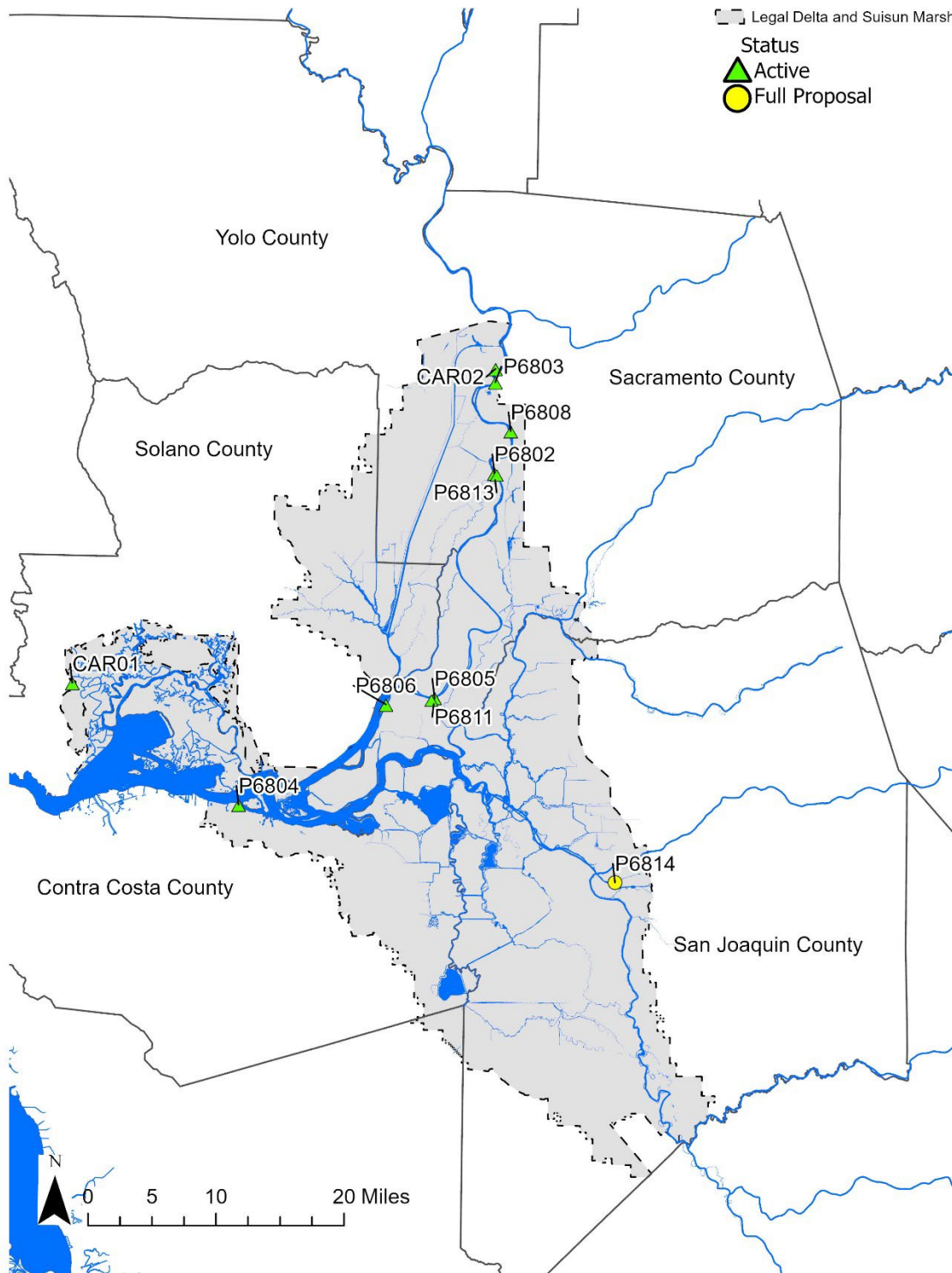
Maya Garrett, Ecological and Community Program Analyst

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

maya.garrett@deltaconservancy.ca.gov

(916) 375-2073

FIGURE 7.1. MAP OF LOCATION AND STATUS OF COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM PROJECTS





Consideration of the Process and Criteria for Waiving the Recording of Landowner Access Agreements for Conservancy Agreements Staff Report

This agenda item presents for consideration a process and criteria to waive the recording of the landowner access agreement (LAA) against the deed of the property for Conservancy funded agreements.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board approve the Process and Criteria for Waiving the Recording of LAA for Delta Conservancy Agreements detailed in Agenda Item 8.2.

BACKGROUND

Through conversations with applicants and grantees, Conservancy staff have encountered repeated reluctance from landowners in recording a LAA against the deed of the property with the County. During the Proposition 1 Cycle 5 Solicitation period, Conservancy staff received a request from an applicant and the landowner to waive the requirement to record the LAA with the County. As part of this request, Conservancy staff researched existing LAA policies across several California Natural Resource Agency departments, including California Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Coastal Conservancy, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and the Wildlife Conservation Board. The requirements of recording a LAA against the deed of the property varied greatly between agencies; ranging from no requirements to record the LAA to case-by-case determination by staff. In addition to the inter-department research, Conservancy staff conducted an inventory and assessment of Conservancy projects that require a LAA and determined that waiving the requirement to record the LAA against the deed of the property has been allowed in the past but only in well-justified scenarios. Currently, the Conservancy does not have an established process or criteria for waiving the recording of a LAA against the deed of the property.

Based on this research, the Delta Conservancy may want to consider waiving the recording requirement for LAAs in some situations to effectively meet the Conservancy's mission.

Risk

The primary risk to the Conservancy in waiving the requirement to record a LAA is that it will allocate funds for a project on property owned by a third party and if a change in landownership occurs it could undermine or impede implementation and retention of the project over time. Potential benefits in waiving the recording requirement include increasing opportunity for projects on private land, demonstrating willingness to work with hesitant landowners, and reducing the barrier to access state funding opportunities for landowners. The proposed process and criteria aim to identify, assess, communicate, and balance the risks to the Conservancy (and the State) while maintaining flexibility to support projects that benefit the Delta region, its community, and the citizens of California.

Existing Requirements

The Delta Conservancy's Grant Guidelines currently require adequate site control for projects to be funded. Site control is necessary to ensure that the project will be implemented and maintained over time by the current property owner and by any subsequent owner or lessee if the property is transferred, sold, or leased. Demonstration of site control varies on project type (planning, implementation, or acquisition) and ownership (grantee or other entity) of the property where the project is located.

- For planning grants where the grantee is not the landowner, the Conservancy requires a letter of support for the project from the landowner. Regardless of ownership, no documents are recorded against the deed of the property for planning grants.
- For implementation projects where the grantee does not own the land on which the project is being implemented, the Conservancy requires that a LAA between the grantee and the property owner be executed and recorded against the property with the county prior to dispersal of funds.
- For implementation grants where the grantee owns the land on which the project is being implemented, the grantee must record a Notice of Unrecorded Grant Agreement (NUGA) against the deed of the property. In this case, the grant agreement itself is not recorded, but is incorporated by reference through the NUGA.

A LAA and NUGA are similar in that, when recorded, they both provide constructive notice to subsequent owners or other interested parties of an encumbrance (the Grant Agreement) affecting the underlying land. As such, subsequent owners or other parties that acquire an interest in the land will be legally bound to abide by and not interfere with the terms of the grant agreement.

Recommended Process

Conservancy staff drafted a recommended process and set of criteria that (if adopted) would assist the Board in deciding whether to waive the recording of a LAA against the deed of the property for future Delta Conservancy funded projects. The proposed process would require three steps.

- A formal written request from the applicant or grantee and the landowner to Conservancy Staff requesting a waiver from the general requirement to record the LAA against the deed of the property (the Waiver).
- Conservancy staff reviews the Waiver request using, but not limited to, the established criteria (the nine proposed criteria are detailed in Agenda Item 8.2).
- Conservancy staff present analysis of the waiver request before the Board for consideration.

Proposed Criteria

Conservancy staff refined criteria used by other California Natural Resource Agency departments to evaluate requests to waive recording the LAA against the deed of the property. Suggested criteria for consideration include the landowner incentive to retain or remove the project, land development

potential, land ownership duration, collaboration with other public entities, and more. The nine proposed criteria are detailed in Agenda Item 8.2.

Grant Language Changes

In addition to the process and criteria described in this agenda item, Conservancy staff will add language to the existing LAA template that would require landowners to notify Conservancy staff if the project site is being transferred or sold. Additionally, Conservancy staff will modify grant guidelines, where appropriate and with Board approval, to allow applicants and grantees to request a wavier for recording a LAA against the deed of the property, using the process and criteria described in this agenda item.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

Move that the Board approve the Process and Criteria for Waiving the Recording of Landowner Access Agreements for Conservancy Agreements as presented in this agenda item.

CONTACT

Sarah Lesmeister, Ecological and Community Programs Manager
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
sarah.lesmeister@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 375-2087



Process and Criteria for Waiving the Recording of Landowner Access Agreements for Delta Conservancy Agreements

Process

- 1) **Request.** Grantee or Applicant submits to Conservancy staff a formal, justified, and written request to waive the requirement of recording a landowner access agreement against the deed of the property with the County in which the project site is located.
- 2) **Review.** Conservancy staff review the waiver request, assess each of the evaluation criteria, and route waiver request through the Ecological and Community Programs Manager, Deputy Executive Officer, and Executive Officer in preparation for consideration by the Board.
- 3) **Decision.** The Board will, within its complete discretion, consider and vote on waiver request.
- 4) **Documentation.** If approved by the Board, the Grantee will be required to execute a landowner access agreement with the Conservancy as outlined in the grant agreement.

Evaluation Criteria for Waiving Landowner Access Agreements

- Does the landowner have an incentive to retain or remove the project?
- What is the land development potential if it is sold?
- What is the likelihood that the project would be removed if the property were sold or developed?
- Does the project provide a net benefit to the landowner?
- For how long has the land been under the same ownership?
- If the project is not approved for funding, what is lost?
- Is the landowner a public entity or is the project in collaboration with a public entity?
- Does the landowner have other government contracts that the project relates to?
- Has California Environmental Quality Act requirements/public comment occurred? What are the results?



Consideration of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Responsible Agency Findings and Award of a Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Grant for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project

Staff Recommendation

This agenda item presents for Board consideration a recommendation to award Proposition 1 Grant Program funding for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Applicant	Solano Resource Conservation District
Project ID	2208
Project Type	Implementation
County	Solano
Funding Request	\$359,639
Total Project Cost	\$452,888
Funding Recommendation	\$359,639
Score	91/100

PROJECT SUMMARY

The proposed Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project will result in the installation of 20 acres of riparian woodland habitat along the north bank of Ulatis Creek in Solano County. A total of 1,880 native trees/shrubs and 25,000 forb/sedge plugs will be planted, 100 pounds of wildflowers will be seeded, and invasive plants (including *Arundo donax*) will be controlled throughout the project site. The proposed project will add 20 acres of habitat adjacent to a former project site, creating more continuous riparian habitat that provides valuable resources for wildlife, shades the waterline along Ulatis Creek, and showcase effective conservation efforts on working lands. The landowner is working with the United States Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Fibershed, and Point Blue Conservation Science as part of a larger effort to implement climate resilient activities at the project site.

RECOMMENDATION

Conservancy staff recommends that the Board consider the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project prepared by Solano Resource Conservation District as the Lead Agency in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and adopt Resolution 2022-01 that makes Responsible Agency Findings that all necessary mitigation measures have been included in the project to eliminate any significant effects on the environment, and that no additional mitigation measures within the Board’s authority are necessary.

Contingent upon the Board's adoption of Resolution 2022-01, Conservancy staff recommends that the Board approve up to \$359,639 in Proposition one grant funds for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project proposed by the Solano Resource Conservation District conditional upon the applicant receiving a Delta Plan Certification of Consistency for the project and verification of water rights of the landowner.

Contingent upon the Board's approval of grant funding for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project, Conservancy staff recommends that the Board approve the applicant and landowners request to waive recording the landowner access agreement against the deed of the property.

Staff prepared the text below based on staff's best understanding of the information provided in the application. Conservancy staff and the Professional Review Panel consisting of the following agencies: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Delta Protection Commission, Delta Stewardship Council, California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Department of Water Resources and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service scored this proposal against the established criteria. Conservancy staff contacted local governments and districts, water agencies, and tribes via the local notification process to receive comments and ensure project support. Prior to entering into a grant agreement, staff will work with the applicant to further refine the project's scope of work.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

This implementation effort is considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). On October 20, 2021, Solano Resource Conservation District, as the Lead Agency under CEQA, submitted a Notice of Determination based on the results of an Initial Study that found potential significant project impacts on biological resources, cultural resources, and hydrology and water quality; determined all of the identified impacts can be reduced to insignificant levels through implementation of Mitigation Measures outlined in the Initial Study; and prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project to satisfy the requirements of CEQA. Conservancy staff, in fulfilling the Conservancy's role as a Responsible Agency, have reviewed these documents and findings, and staff recommends that the Board make Responsible Agency Findings concluding that all necessary mitigation measures have been included in the project to eliminate significant effects on the environment.

COST SHARE

The cost share amount is 20 percent of the project budget. The applicant will provide \$6,000 as in-kind services through staff time to assist in regional and watershed conservation efforts. The landowner will provide \$62,000 in federal match from a grant with the United States Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and \$3,150 in-kind services through labor on managed grazing and project planning. Fibershed, a non-profit third party certifier of Climate Beneficial Wool, will provide \$12,099 in-kind match through labor for planting of native vegetation and \$10,000 to fund avian surveys and purchase of planting supplies.

ALIGNMENT WITH STATE PRIORITIES

The project is consistent with and directly and specifically links to multiple actions and priorities identified in the Conservancy's governing statute, the Conservancy's strategic plan, the Delta Plan, and other state and regional plans. Considerations are made to promote wildlife conservation, ecosystem,

and economic restoration, enhance flood plain habitat (with carbon sequestration benefits), and to help to improve water quality.

LONG TERM VIABILITY

The proposal describes long-term management that will cover the required 15-year duration. The applicant will commit to working with the NRCS through 2041 (19 years), to ensure project establishment and long-term success. Site visits by staff from the District will ensure continued communication with the landowners, visual assessment of plant establishment, and the opportunity to evaluate new management challenges that require updated approaches over the long-term.

LOCAL SUPPORT

The proposal demonstrates local support and includes a resolution of support from the project's county Board of Supervisors. The proposal details an approach to inform and consult with affected parties and to avoid, reduce, and mitigate conflicts with existing and adjacent land uses. The applicant acquired letters of support from their cost sharing and cost leveraging partners, and formed close relationships with the Delta Stewardship Council, Solano County Water Agency, Point Blue Conservation Science, and several other local and federal organizations.

SCIENTIFIC MERIT

The proposal describes and references the scientific basis of the project and incorporates the best available science. The proposal demonstrates efforts to develop an adaptive management approach consistent with the Delta Plan's adaptive management framework and with sufficient capacity and resources to implement. The climate impacts/benefits are addressed, and the proposal provides a mechanism for incorporating climate change considerations into the project. An accurate estimate of the projects climate/carbon sequestration success will be evaluated over the 20 years post installation. Species richness surveys will be conducted pre and post installation to gather data on the project's outcome. The data will be made publicly available to help other researchers better understand similar reclamation projects.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to submitting their proposal, the applicant shared with Conservancy staff reluctance from the landowner to record the landowner access agreement against the property deed with Solano County. The applicant, on behalf of the landowner, submitted a request to waive the requirement of recording the landowner access agreement against the deed of the property. Based on the process and evaluation criteria outlined in Agenda item 8.2, Conservancy staff evaluated and responded to each of the following criteria:

Does the landowner have an incentive to retain or remove the project?

The landowner has incentive to retain the project. The landowner participates in a Carbon Farm Plan, enabling the land's production to be certified Climate-Beneficial Wool. Maintenance of the certification is contingent on continued implementation of practices that sequester carbon on the ranch. The proposed project supports practices that align with the Carbon Farm Plan and certification for Climate-Beneficial Wool.

What is the land development potential if it is sold?

The development potential of the land is minimal. The project site is part of a larger working ranch and neighboring properties are also agricultural working lands. If the landowner were to sell of the property, future landowners would likely continue similar operations on the property. The project site is rural and located several miles from traditional residential and commercial properties.

What is the likelihood that the project would be removed if the property were sold or developed?

The likelihood of the project being removed would be minimal. Rather, the proposed project would be an asset to a future landowner because of the reduction of the invasive plant species, creation of a riparian habitat buffer between the agricultural waterway and working lands, and consistency with the Carbon Farm Plan.

Does the project provide a net benefit to the landowner?

The project provides a net benefit to the landowner. The project does not remove any acreage from the working lands, creates a native riparian habitat, reduces invasive plant species on the property, supports the Carbon Farm Plan, and helps the landowner maintain their Climate-Beneficial Wool certification.

For how long has the land been under the same ownership?

The project site is located on a larger working ranch that has been owned by the same family for at least three generations.

If the project is not approved for funding, what is lost?

The project site is one of the only connected floodplains to Ulatis Creek drainage into the Delta. The project would create critical edge habitat in the agricultural waterway network within the Cache Slough Complex. If this project is not funded, 20 acres of restored historical riparian habitats would be lost.

Is the landowner a public entity or is the project in collaboration with a public entity?

The landowner is not a public entity. However, the landowner has worked, and is currently working, with several public entities including the Solano Resource Conservation District (the applicant), Solano County Water Agency, California Department of Water Resources, and the Delta Conservancy.

Does the landowner have other government contracts that the project relates to?

The landowner recently received an NRCS EQIP grant which also requires a 15-year contract. The applicant has at least one prior state agreement on the landowner's property. Between 2014 and 2020, the applicant participated in the Delta Conservancy and California Department of Water Resource's *Arundo donax* Control and Restoration Program on 15 acres of the landowner's property immediately adjacent to the proposed project site. Additionally, the applicant has one active Delta Conservancy agreement (P1-1804) on the landowner's property that covers planning for restoration project on Delta Working Waterways.

Has California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements/public comment occurred? What are the results?

Yes, CEQA requirements have been met and public comment has occurred. Refer to the Environmental Compliance section of this agenda item for results.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Three separate motions are required.

Move to adopt Resolution 2022-01, which makes Responsible Agency Findings that all necessary mitigation measures have been included in the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project.

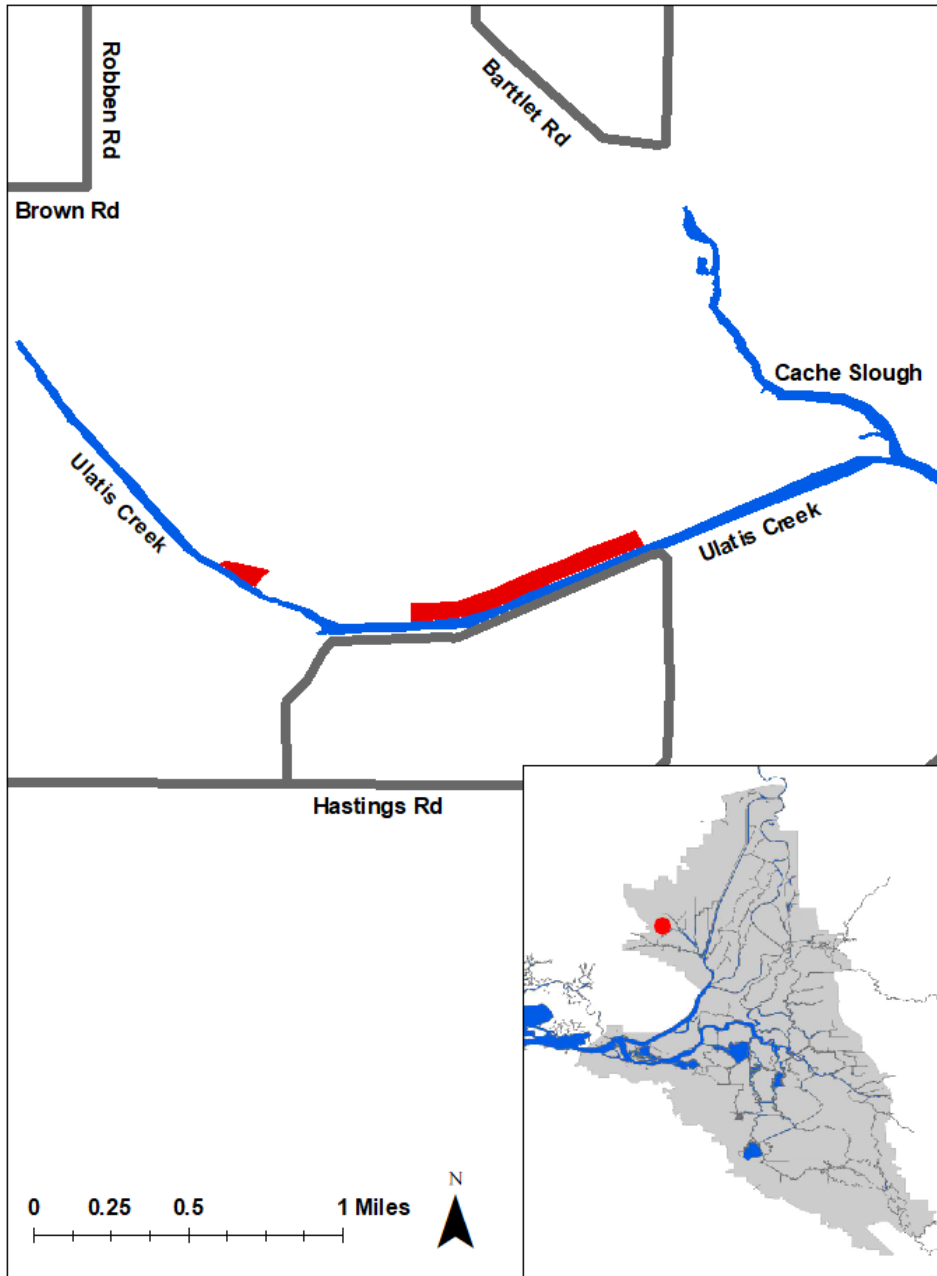
Move to award funding up to \$359,639 of Proposition one funds, to the Solano Resource Conservation District for Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project conditional upon the applicant receiving a Delta Plan Certification of Consistency and verification of water rights of the landowner.

Move to approve the applicant's request to waive the requirement for recording the executed grant agreement against the deed of the property, conditional upon the Conservancy receiving and approving a landowner access agreement.

CONTACT

Trevor Fox, PhD, Environmental Scientist
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
trevor.fox@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 375-2088

FIGURE 9.6 ULATIS CREEK HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT AREA





RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY ADOPTING RESPONSIBLE AGENCY FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FOR THE ULATIS CREEK HABITAT RESORATION PROJECT.

Whereas, the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project (Project) is a proposal put forth by the Solano Resource Conservation District to install 20 acres of riparian woodland habitat along the north bank of Ulatis Creek; and

Whereas, the Solano Resource Conservation District is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Res. Code, § 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR § 15000 et seq.); and

Whereas, the Solano Resource Conservation District prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to CEQA in order to analyze all potential adverse environmental impacts of the project; and

Whereas, the Solano Resource Conservation District has requested funding from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Delta Conservancy) for the Project; and

Whereas, the Delta Conservancy must, as a responsible agency, make certain findings prior to approving funding for the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY AS FOLLOWS:

- a. The Delta Conservancy has, in its independent judgment, reviewed and considered the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project and Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the Solano Resource Conservation District, which may be accessed via the website links included below, and finds, as to those potential impacts within the Delta Conservancy's powers and authorities as a responsible agency, that the Mitigated Negative Declaration contains a complete, objective, and accurate reporting of the Project's potential impacts and that mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Project that avoid and/or substantially lessen any of the potentially significant effects of the Project.
- b. The Board further finds that no additional feasible mitigation measures within the Board's authority are necessary to reduce the environmental impacts of the project to less than significant levels.
- c. The documents and materials that constitute the record of proceedings for this Resolution are available through the Delta Conservancy's website (<http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/>).

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY BOARD THIS OCTOBER 26, 2022.

VOTE

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstentions:

Absent:

Mitchell Mashburn, Board Chair

Supporting Documentation

Solano Resource Conservation District Approval of Mitigated Negative Declaration, Solano Resource Conservation District Notice of Determination, and Ulati Creek Habitat Restoration Project Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration <https://www.solanorcd.org/projects-and-programs/restoration/ulatis-creek-ceqa.html>

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

Office of Planning and Research
U.S. Mail: Street Address:
 P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk
 County of: Solano - County Admin Center
 Address: 675 Texas St. #6500, 6th floor
 Fairfield, CA 94533

From:

Public Agency: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
 Address: 1450 Halyard Dr.
 West Sacramento, CA 95691
 Contact: Rachel Wigginton
 Phone: (916)375-4994

Lead Agency (if different from above):
 Solano RCD
 Address: 1170 North Lincoln Street, #110
 Dixon, CA 95620
 Contact: Katherine Holmes
 Phone: (707)301-5779

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2021070447

Project Title: Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project

Project Applicant: Solano Resource Conservation District (RCD)

Project Location (include county): Southeast of intersection of Robben and Brown Roads, Solano County

Project Description:

The purpose of this project is to utilize a diverse suite of native plants to restore 20 acres of riparian woodland to the north bank of Ulatis Creek, thereby improving the ecological function of the area for the benefit of native plant and wildlife species. The project will result in the installation of 1,880 native trees and shrubs, 25,000 native forb and sedge plugs, and 100 pounds of native wildflower seed, while several species of invasive weeds will be controlled throughout the site.

This is to advise that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has approved the above
 (Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

described project on October 26, 2022 and has made the following determinations regarding the above
 (date)
 described project.

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:
California Clearinghouse, Office of Planning and Research and the County Clerk-Recorder Office (addresses above).

Signature (Public Agency): _____ Title: Chair, Delta Conservancy Board

Date: _____ Date Received for filing at OPR: _____



2023 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Update Staff Report

This agenda item provides an update on the 2023 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP), a collaborative effort between the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the Delta Watermaster (WM), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the Delta Conservancy (DC), in coordination with Delta water users. The objective of the program is to reduce drought stress in the Delta watershed, protect Delta water quality, support wildlife, and improve mutual understanding of agricultural practices and water conservation opportunities in different regions within the Legal Delta.

UPDATE

The 2023 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program was opened on Monday, October 3, with bids due to the Conservancy by Tuesday, October 18. A Selection Committee made up of members from DWR, WM, TNC, DC, California Department of Food and Agriculture, University of California Cooperative Extension and the Merced and Davis campuses, will evaluate bids and make funding recommendations for consideration by the Board. We anticipate the need to have a special Board meeting on Wednesday, November 16 for the Board to consider funding recommendations. Solicitation information is available [on the Conservancy website](#).

BACKGROUND

The Delta Drought Response Pilot Program is in response to consecutive dry years, low combined storage in State and federal project reservoirs, and drought-constrained water deliveries to project contractors. Funds are available to incentivize agricultural water users in the Legal Delta to take actions expected to reduce crop consumptive water use and protect water quality. Water conserved through incentivized actions in the Program will be allocated to protecting Delta water quality and will not be available for diversion or exports. By rigorously monitoring the outcomes and impacts of a variety of actions in different settings throughout the Legal Delta, the Pilot Program will provide data to support targeted water conservation/quality protection responses during sustained and/or future droughts.

In Water Year 2022, the Conservancy and partners ran the initial pilot program with \$10 million in Drought Relief funding from DWR. The program was very successful, resulting in 33 grants and enrolling approximately 8,800 acres. Due to continued drought conditions, DWR has funded the continuation of the Program for Water Year 2023 with an additional \$11.4 million. This year the program has partnered with TNC to offer a range of incentives that can also benefit migratory birds that are experiencing severe reduction in available habitat due to drought conditions. Applicants can bid water savings practices and bird benefit practices provided there is a significant net savings of applied water across the proposed project.

The Program partners will use a combination of Open ET, a remote-sensing application that can compare the evapotranspiration rates of fields enrolled in the Program and reference sites, and micrometeorological equipment distributed across the Delta to evaluate Program outcomes. The Conservancy has entered into an interagency agreement with the University of California Davis to assist with data gathering, monitoring, and synthesis of data from the pilot projects to ensure information resulting from the program will inform best practices for water conservation in sustained or future drought. All data will be made accessible to the public.

CONTACT

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 281-4145



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

DELTA CONSERVANCY

A California State Agency

Overview of Nature Based Solutions and Delta Subsidence/Carbon Management Staff Report

This agenda item provides an overview of the Conservancy's effort to reduce subsidence in the Delta and related carbon emissions and provides initial expectations for the recently appropriated Nature Based Solutions – Wetlands funding of \$36 million.

OVERVIEW

For many years the Conservancy has worked with a large partnership to support the development of projects that stop subsidence and related carbon emissions in the deeply subsided region of the Delta. The Program focusses on converting lands that are currently too wet to farm into permanent managed wetlands and converting dry land farming to rice cultivation. Both practices re-wet the currently drained agricultural lands thereby stopping the microbial oxidation of the highly organic peat soils that causes subsidence and emit CO₂ to the atmosphere.

The Conservancy has worked with partners to support the development of a carbon protocol that allows a landowner to convert land to managed wetland or rice and quantify the climate benefit in credits, or tons of CO₂ emissions avoided, certify those credits through a third party and then market the resulting credits on the Voluntary Carbon Market, thereby generating a revenue stream for "carbon farming." The Conservancy has funded technical assistance for pilot projects to develop the projects and certify carbon credits and has funded planning projects to design managed wetlands. Over the past ten years the Delta has seen an increase of approximately 1,700 acres of managed wetland with an additional 2,000 acres currently in planning, and more recently approximately 1,500 acres of rice has gone into cultivation with that number expected to increase by up to 10,000 acres in the coming years.

Conservancy staff are working with several project partners to develop additional projects in the near term and support planning and implementation with the Nature Based Solutions – Wetlands funding. In January of 2022 the Board approved General Grant Guidelines that provide guidance and the process by which the Conservancy will solicit projects that are funded by General Fund (non-bond funded) appropriations. In the late Fall of 2022, we anticipate developing a solicitation notice that will open a solicitation for projects and provide prospective applicants with additional information about the types of projects that can be funded and the criteria by which they will be evaluated.

CONTACT

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 281-4145



Potential Agenda Items for the January 25, 2023 Board Meeting

Staff is seeking input from the Board regarding additional agenda items for the January 25, 2023 Board meeting.

Potential items include:

- Consideration of Delta Conservancy 2023 Implementation Plan
- Consideration of Award(s) of Community Enhancement Grant Program Proposals

CONTACT

Jessica Adel, Fiscal and Board Analyst
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
jessica.adel@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 376-4022