

# **BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

# May 24, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Big Break Visitor Center at Big Break Regional Shoreline 69 Big Break Road, Oakley, CA 94561

This meeting will be conducted off-site, in a hybrid format, and will include site visits. After the business meeting concludes at approximately 10:45, there will be an in-person-only opportunity to visit two Delta Conservancy-funded projects. To maximize public safety while maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can choose to participate either via Microsoft Teams or in person at the location listed above. Those 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 <u>contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u> prior to, and during the meeting. Site tour information, including maps and directions, is included at the end of the agenda.

#### Join via Microsoft Teams

Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 298 378 146 820 Passcode: i3xesM Download Teams | Join on the web Or call in (audio only) +1 916-573-2034,,731848712# United States, Sacramento Phone Conference ID: 731 848 712# Find a local number | Reset PIN

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, and Introductions
- 3. Public Comment (New Business)
- 4. Consent Calendar (Action Item)
  - Approval of March 22, 2023 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items (Attachment)
- 5. Executive Officer's Report, Campbell Ingram
  - Program Update (Attachment)
  - Budget and Expenditure Report (Attachment)
- 6. Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Update, Anjali Shakya (Attachment)

- 7. Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Agreement for Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project, Dr. Trevor Fox (Attachment) (Action Item)
- 8. Community Enhancement Grant Program Update, Maya Garrett (Attachment)
- 9. Consideration of Award of Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Funds for the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project, Maya Garrett (Attachment) (Action Item)
- 10. Consideration of Award of Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Grant Funds for Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project, Lauren Damon (Attachment) (Action Item)
- 11. Potential Agenda Items for the July 26, 2023 Board Meeting, Campbell Ingram (Attachment)
- 12. Public Comment
- 13. 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: <u>http://www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u>.
- 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 <u>contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u>. 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 listed expressly for action, may be deliberated upon and subject to action at the discretion of the Delta Conservancy Board.

# **Site Tour Information**

# Site One:

Tour and presentation of the Big Break Regional Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Planning Project funded through the Delta Conservancy's Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program – Climate, Access, and Resource (CAR).

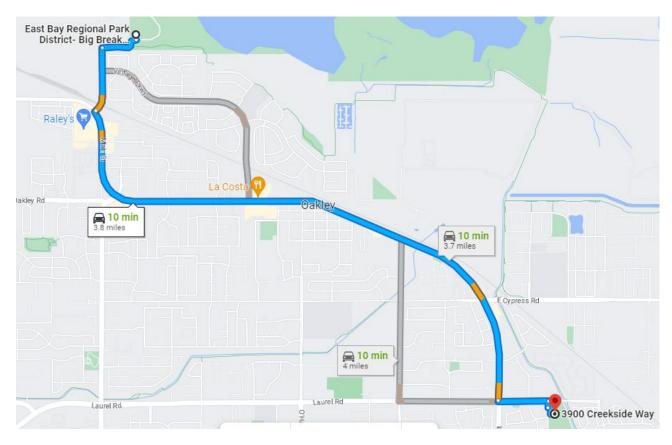
This site visit will occur at Big Break Regional Shoreline, 69 Big Break Road, Oakley, CA 94561. Following the conclusion of the Board meeting, we will regroup at the Big Break Visitor Center to begin this site visit.

# Site Two:

Tour and presentation of the Oakley Creekside Park Restoration, funded through the Delta Conservancy's Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program – Proposition 1.

Directions from the Big Break Visitor Center to Oakley Creekside Park, 3900 Creekside Way, Oakley, CA 94561. We will meet at the picnic tables in the park's open-air pavilion.

- 1. Exit the parking lot of Big Break Regional Shoreline and turn left onto Big Break Road
- 2. At the light, turn left onto Main Street stay on Main Street for 3 miles
- 3. Turn left onto Laurel Road stay on Laurel Road for 0.3 miles
- 4. Turn right onto Creekside Way and Creekside Park will be on your left
- 5. Turn left into the parking lot at Creekside Park, across from Hacienda Drive





#### March 22, 2023 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

Video and audio of the meeting is available here: March 22, 2023 Board Meeting

#### AGENDA ITEMS

#### Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chair Mashburn.

#### Agenda Item 2 – Welcome, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, and Introductions

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

#### **Board Members Present:**

- Mitch Mashburn
- Sandi Matsumoto
- Diane Burgis teleconference
- Bryan Cash teleconference
- Steven Ding teleconference
- Pat Hume teleconference
- Matt Almy teleconference
- Oscar Villegas
- Lilliana Udang
- Leo Winternitz

#### **Ex-Officio Members Present:**

• None

#### Liaison Advisors and Counsel Present:

- Marge Kolar teleconference
- Bruce Blodgett teleconference
- James Waters teleconference
- Daniel Welsh teleconference
- Brooke White
- Steve Chappell
- Nicole Rinke, Counsel

# Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment

None

#### Meeting Date: May 24, 2023 Page 2

#### Agenda Item 4 – Consent Calendar

**Motion:** Supervisor Burgis moved, seconded by Board member Winternitz, that the Board approve the following:

• January 26, 2023 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 8 ayes and 2 abstains.

#### Agenda Item 5 – Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer briefly highlighted several items on the staff report. He introduced new Senior Environmental Scientist Lauren Damon and reported that we are still recruiting for two staff positions. Inquiries were conducted with the farmers of the Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP) about extending the program since the hydrology has changed from extreme drought conditions. Most farmers had made expenditures or could not return to business as usual due to volatility in commodity pricing, and all farmers will realize the water savings they proposed over the growing season. It was decided to run the grant program as designed. The Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee Restoration Subcommittee had its first Delta Restoration Forum at the Conservancy office on February 8, 2023. We welcomed 50 participants in person and 100 online to talk about restoration targets in Chapter 4 of the Delta Plan and restoration opportunities and constraints. Board directives from the January meeting were addressed in agenda item 12, and we are exploring holding the May board meeting off site at Big Break Regional Park.

# Agenda Item 6 – Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report, which included projects from three funding sources: Proposition 1 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act (Prop 1); Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection (CAR); and Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration (NBS: WR).

# Agenda Item 7 – Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Agreement for Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project

Conservancy staff noted that the grant was awarded in July of 2022 for \$350,000 to prepare design plans and permitting to restore the Marsh Creek Reservoir. The competitive bids came in higher than anticipated for the project and the awardee is requesting funds to meet the bid amount. Awardee has also increased cost share to meet the increased budget.

**Motion:** Supervisor Hume moved, seconded by Board member Winternitz, that the Board approve a pre-execution amendment to the grant agreement with Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for Project ID P1-2211 to award an additional \$200,000 in project funding.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 9 ayes (Supervisor Ding was unable to vote due to technical issues).

# Agenda Item 8 – Community Enhancement Grant Programs Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report, which included projects from two funding sources: Proposition 68 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Prop 68) and CAR. Both funding sources accept proposals on an ongoing basis. Since the last Board meeting, Land Acquisition for the Clarksburg Schoolhouse Restoration and Delta Welcome Center (P6802) have completed the property acquisition, and Pittsburg Boat Launch Facility and Central Harbor Park Upgrade (P6804) have completed 90% design plans and submitted a proposal for implementation.

# Agenda Item 9 – Consideration of Award of Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Funds for Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton Planning Project

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report for a two-phase approach to the project. Phase one is partial design plans and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) findings, and phase two is completing the design plans. The project has considerable backing from the community. Matt Almy, California Department of Finance, inquired about the possible funding sources for the project and the Board agreed that CAR funding was a good fit due to the community access benefits.

**Motion:** Board Member Udang moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, to award funding up to \$2,544,725 to the San Joaquin Community Foundation from the Climate, Access, and Resource (CAR) Grant Program for the Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton subject to the two-phased funding approach explained in the staff report and the Board's approval of responsible agency findings prior to funding for the second phase.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 9 ayes, 1 abstain.

# Agenda Item 10 – Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreement for Building of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse and Creation of a Delta Welcome Center Project

Conservancy staff highlighted in the staff report the request to increase the budget by \$328,206 due to inflationary costs and approve a term extension for one year.

**Motion:** Supervisor Villegas moved, seconded by Board Member Winternitz, to approve an amendment to the grant agreement P6813 with the Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse to increase the budget by \$328,206 and extend the grant term to March 15, 2026.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 10 ayes.

**Agenda Item 11 – The 2022 Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Report and Technical Analysis** Conservancy staff along with Lindsay Kammeier, Water Resource Control Engineer with the Office of the Delta Watermaster, presented an overview of the draft final report for the first year of the DDRPP.

# Agenda Item 12 – Overview of Resources for Science, Data, and Environmental Compliance and Permitting for Delta Conservancy Projects

Conservancy staff shared a slide presentation overview and summary of key topics for science, data, and environmental compliance and permitting for Delta projects. The slide deck is available <u>on the</u> <u>Delta Conservancy website</u>.

#### Agenda Item 13 – EcoRestore Update

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

#### Agenda Item 14 – Delta Stewardship Council Update

Brandon Chapin, Legislative and Policy Advisor for the Delta Stewardship Council, presented a Delta Stewardship Council update, and Viet-Long Nguyen presented an update on the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee.

#### Agenda Item 15 – Delta Protection Commission Update

Bruce Blodgett, Executive Director of the Delta Protection Commission, presented an update.

#### Agenda Item 16 – Delta Conveyance Update

Janet Barbieri, Consultant to the Department of Water Resources managing the communication program for the Delta Conveyance Project, presented an update.

#### Agenda Item 17 – Potential Agenda Items for the May 24, 2023 Board Meeting

- Potential Project Sites for May 2023 Board Meeting Big Break Regional Park
- Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Proposal(s)
- Consideration of Amendment Requests to Community Enhancement Grant Program Awards

#### Agenda Item 13 – Public Comment

None

#### **BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF**

• Include visual materials of closed projects during board meetings.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Mashburn at 11:00 a.m.

#### CONTACT

Jessica Adel, Administration Supervisor Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy jessica.adel@deltaconservancy.ca.gov (916) 376-4022



# Executive Officer's Report May 24, 2023

# **PROGRAM UPDATE**

# STAFFING UPDATE

Please welcome Alexandria Valencia, our new Administrative Assistant. Alexandria (Alex) started with the Conservancy on April 24, 2023 and comes to us from a variety of positions in the private sector.

# DELTA DROUGHT RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM UPDATE (DDRPP)

Conservancy staff have transitioned from initiating 2023 DDRPP agreements to monitoring and evaluating outcomes from water conservation practices implemented in 2022 and 2023. Of the 61 DDRPP grants executed for the 2023 water year, three grants were awarded solely for spring flooding to provide habitat and mitigate potential drought impacts for migratory birds. These grantees submitted their final invoices and grant summaries in April. For the remaining 58 grants, progress reports and second invoices were submitted in mid-May. The first meeting of the DDRPP 2023 Oversight Committee, co-chaired by staff from the Conservancy and the Office of the Delta Watermaster, was held on May 4, 2023. Oversight Committee members will verify and evaluate the efficacy of water saving practices by conducting site visits, evaluating progress reports, and analyzing evapotranspiration (ET) rate estimates from the OpenET platform. To ground truth the satellite-based ET estimates provided by OpenET, eddy covariance systems are being installed later this month at six DDRPP sites through the Conservancy's interagency agreement with UC Davis.

# DELTA CONSERVANCY FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET APPROPRIATION UPDATES

Verbal update to be provided pending the Governor's May Revise expected on May 11, 2023.

# **BAGLEY-KEENE OPEN MEETINGS ACT EXEMPTIONS EXPIRES**

The Bagley Keen Open Meetings Act authorizes meetings through teleconference subject to specified requirements, including, among others, that the state body post agendas at all teleconference locations, and that each teleconference location be identified in the notice and agenda. This requirement, suspended for COVID-19 purposes, returns to effect July 1, 2023. Starting with the July 26, 2023 Board meeting, any Board members who wish to teleconference will need to comply by supplying address information and making their meeting location available to the public.

# NUTRIA ERADICATION

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

## **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. Implementation has begun on a recirculation pump to reduce return flows on Staten Island. This project will improve water quality by reducing return flows and, thus, reducing transport of chemical off-site and into nearby waterways. The Delta FFF Technical Advisory Committee met on April 10, 2023 to discuss the best management practices that will be included in the farm plans for the enrolled properties.

#### **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 Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) restoration subcommittee (subcommittee) with colleagues from the Delta Stewardship Council. On March 29, 2023 the subcommittee had its first meeting of the year. The meeting included a recap of the first Delta Restoration Forum, a presentation from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Cutting the Green Tape team, and an activity to prioritize the subcommittee's work plan. On March 27, 2023 the full DPIIC gathered to focus on restoration. The meeting included a tour of the Dutch Slough tidal wetland restoration and a presentation on the subcommittee's work. The DPIIC also voted to endorse the <u>restoration subcommittee's work plan</u>.

On April 24, 2023 Conservancy staff helped to facilitate a tour of the South Delta, which was led and organized by John Herrick (South Delta Water Agency) and Gilbert Cosio (River Delta Consulting). The tour focused on issues of silted channels and potential restoration on channel edges and on Channel Islands.

The Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team, facilitated by Conservancy staff and co-led by staff from the Delta Stewardship Council, the Department of Water Resources, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, had its second quarterly meeting on May 9, 2023. On May 2, 2023, staff presented on the work of the DIISC Team to the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC), which advises the Invasive Species Council of California (ISCC). The ISCC represents the highest level of leadership and authority in state government regarding invasive species. Staff's presentation to the CISAC highlighted the Conservancy's role in facilitating the DIISC Team, key accomplishments of the DIISC Team over the past several years, and potential points of collaboration for the CISAC and the DIISCT Team in the future.

#### **MEDIA MENTIONS**

<u>ABC10</u> and the <u>Manteca Bulletin</u> wrote about the Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton project receiving Board approval at the March meeting.

Governor Gavin Newsom's reappointment of Sandra Matsumoto to the Conservancy Board was covered in the <u>Davis Enterprise</u>.

<u>SiliconValley.com (Bay Area News Group)</u> published a story about the city of Pittsburg moving forward with a plan to upgrade its public boat launch and nearby Central Harbor Park by applying for a grant with the Conservancy.

<u>The Mercury News</u> wrote about a new report regarding a Delta Conservancy project in Contra Costa County funded under Proposition 1.

<u>The San Joaquin Valley Sun</u> and <u>GV Wire</u> covered the announcement that Delta Conservancy Deputy Executive Officer Karen Buhr will serve as the interim executive officer of the San Joaquin River Conservancy.

#### **BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF**

- 1. Provide more visual presentation of Delta Conservancy projects at the Board meetings.
  - We are updating our program reports to include images. This meeting the ERCA and CEP staff reports include images from the recently completed projects.

#### DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE

Agenda Item 5 (2): Budget and Expenditure Report

#### CORRESPONDENCE

None

#### CONTACT

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy <u>campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u> (916) 281-4145 Meeting Date: May 24, 2023 Page 4



California Department of Fish and Wildlife Nutria Eradication Program Update

#### Field Update May 11, 2023

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

- 1. Completed full and/or rapid assessments on over 1.8 M acres
- 2. Executed entry permits with 4,600 landowners for over 9,800 parcels in 14 counties
- 3. Set up 8,092 camera stations (1,372 currently active)
  - Conducted 70,267 camera checks
- 4. Confirmed nutria within nearly 770 sites
- 5. Deployed over 9,521 trap sets for a total of 112,881 trap nights
- 6. Taken or accounted for the take of 3,470 nutria (since March 2017)
  - o Merced- 2,095
  - o Stanislaus- 970
  - o Fresno- 273
  - o San Joaquin- 110
  - o Mariposa- 12
  - Sacramento -9
  - o Madera- 1 (San Joaquin River; Fresno County line)
- Of 3,461 necropsies, the data has shown:
  - o 1.14 sex ratio (M:F)
  - Of the females captured:
    - 22% of juvenile (2-6 mos.) females have been pregnant
    - 62% of subadult (6-14 mos.) females have been pregnant
    - 67% of adult (>14 months of age) females have been pregnant
  - o 4,066 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 May 11, 2023.

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	112	580	5.2
2023	31	88	2.8
Grand Total	425	3470	8.2

# SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORT July 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023

Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Personal Services (PS)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
1	Salaries & Wages	\$1,374,082	\$986,927	\$387,155	72%
2	Temporary Help	\$80,120	\$60,625	\$19,495	76%
3	Benefits	\$761,265	\$540,345	\$220,920	71%
4	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	\$2,215,467	\$1,587,897	\$627,570	72%

Line Number	<b>CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES</b> Operating Expenditures and Equipment (OE & E)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
5	General Expense	\$13,675	\$129	\$13,546	1%
6	Printing	\$3,180	\$1,135	\$2,045	36%
7	Communications	\$16,276	\$3,740	\$12,536	23%
8	Postage	\$152	\$121	\$31	80%
9	Travel-In State	\$5,833	\$1,392	\$4,441	24%
10	Training	\$18,738	\$6,100	\$12,638	33%
11	Facilities Operation	\$107,365	\$79,474	\$27,891	74%
12	Contracts & Personal Services-External	\$194,000	\$176,142	\$17,858	91%
13	Contracts & Personal Services-Interdepartmental	\$1,998,441	\$26,111	\$1,972,330	1%
14	Information Technology	\$52,512	\$302	\$52,210	1%
15	Central Administrative Service	\$0		\$0	0%
16	Non-Capital Asset Purchases	\$1,300		\$1,300	0%
17	Indirect Cost Recovery-Income	(\$56,502)		(\$56,502)	0%
18	Unallocated Operating Expense & Equipment	\$78,639		\$78,639	0%
	Multi Year Support Appropriation-Unallocated				
19	Proposition 1 Program Support	\$379,562		\$379,562	0%
20	Proposition 68 Program Support	\$445,948		\$445,948	0%
21	Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Support	\$586,919		\$586,919	0%
22	Nature Based Solutions	\$2,117,295		\$2,117,295	0%
24	Grants and Subventions	\$65,696,200	\$3,058,843	\$62,637,357	5%
25	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES & EQUIPMENT	\$71,659,533	\$3,353,489	\$68,306,044	5%

Line Number	TOTALS	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
26	TOTAL PS & OE & E	\$73,875,000	\$4,941,386	\$68,933,614	7%
27	REIMBURSEMENT	(\$11,897,000)	(\$11,883,761)	(\$13,239)	100%
28	GRAND TOTAL	\$61,978,000	(\$6,942,375)	\$68,920,375	-11%



# 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: Wetland Restoration (NBS:WR). The Proposition 1 Grant Program is designed to support multi-benefit ecosystem, watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities. The CAR is a General Fund allocation and promotes multi-benefit projects within the areas of climate resilience, community access, and natural resources protection. The NBS:WR is a General Fund allocation supporting 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 8). Amounts listed in millions of dollars.

Funding Source	Total Allocation	Minimum Amount Available for Grants	Total Amount Allocated for Grants	Amount Remaining to be Allocated	Allocation Date	Encumbrance Date	Program(s) Supported by Funding Source
Proposition 1	\$50.0	\$42.5	\$42.2	\$0.3	8/13/2014	Variable	ERCA
CAR	\$5.25	\$4.99	\$4.99	\$0	9/23/2021	6/30/2024	ERCA and CEP
CAR	\$6.125	\$5.82	\$1.8	\$4.02	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA and CEP
NBS: Wetland Restoration	\$36.0	\$34.2	\$0.0	\$34.2	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

As of May 17, 2023, there are 19 active projects, two awarded projects with grant development underway, and 14 closed projects.

#### **ACTIVE PROJECTS**

#### CAR– Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The Board awarded \$390,000 for one planning project.

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	Active as of 12/14/2022
New Information	Project team will begin work in the second quarter of 2023.

# Proposition 1 Cycle 5 – Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The Board awarded approximately \$3.0 million for six projects (two planning and four implementation). Four grant agreements have been executed.

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	Active as of 4/21/2023	
New Information	Grant agreement recently executed.	

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	Active as of 3/16/2023		
New Information	Grant agreement recently executed.		

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	Active as of 03/27/2023
New Information	Grant agreement recently executed.

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	Active as of 12/22/2022
New Information	Grant agreement recently executed.

# Proposition 1 Cycle 4 – Fiscal Year 2018-2019

The Board awarded approximately \$14.9 million for 10 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
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	Conservancy staff approved a modification request to shift funds across
	subcontractor budgets; no change to the total project budget.

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	Funding ended 11/01/2022
New Information	Project is complete. Conservancy staff are working to complete closeout.

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	Grantee is working on imaging data analysis and further monitoring data
	collection.

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	Grantee recently submitted a budget modification to distribute
	subcontractor funds where they are most needed.

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	An amendment to extend the Funding End Date from March 31, 2023 to
	December 31, 2023 was executed on March 28, 2023.

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	Grantee is continuing to work with subcontractors and landowner to
	develop long term management plans and continue environmental
	compliance work.

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	Grantee has made significant progress on hydrologic design tasks.

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	An amendment to extend the funding term through June 30, 2026 and
	make minor modifications to deliverables associated with Nutria detector
	dogs was executed on April 4, 2023.

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	A hydrologic model to inform the 35% design plans is in review. The
	project team has created a public survey to solicit community input on the
	design of a pedestrian bridge.

# Proposition 1 Cycle 3 – Fiscal Year 2017-2018

The Board awarded approximately \$16.0 million for eight projects (four planning and four implementation). To date, three 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	\$1,435,000
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	The Grantee received a California Environmental Quality Act Statutory
	Exemption for Restoration Projects (CEQA SERP) concurrence from the
	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on March 28, 2023.

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 to extend grant term is expected May 2023.

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	Project end date has been extended through December 31, 2023.
	Conservancy staff submitted a concept proposal to the National Fish and
	Wildlife Foundation to support the implementation phase of this project.

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.

## Proposition 1 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.

#### Proposition 1 Cycle 1 – Fiscal Year 2015-2016

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

# APPROVED PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED: \$2,567,407)

Of the Board-approved projects, there are two projects (one planning and one implementation) from Proposition 1 Cycle 5 (Fiscal Year 2021-2022) that are in grant agreement development.

Project Name	Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$359,639
County	Solano County
Project ID	P1-2208
Grantee	Solano County Resource Conservation District
Overview	Create 20 acres of riparian woodland area along the north bank of Ulatis
	Creek. 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
	non-native plants (including Arundo donax) will be controlled throughout
	the project site resulting in an increase in native habitat area.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Grant agreement draft in progress. Conservancy staff prepared a staff
	recommendation for Board consideration for a pre-execution amendment
	to the project budget (Agenda Item 7).

Project Name	Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Project		
	(Planning)		
Amount Awarded	\$550,000		
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	At the March Board meeting, the Board approved an amendment to		
	increase project funding to \$550,000. The Awardee is receiving final		
	approvals.		

# WORKING PROPOSALS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$34,649,669)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	Proposal Status
NBS01	•	Metropolitan Water District	Planning, Implementation	\$20,907,371	Contra Costa	Before the Board (Agenda Item 10)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	Proposal Status
NBS02	Staten Island Wetland Restoration Project and Delta Lands Conversion	The Nature Conservancy	Planning, Implementation	\$13,742,298	San Joaquin	In Review

#### **CLOSED PROJECTS**

To date, a total of fourteen projects funded by Proposition 1 have fully closed (six planning, eight implementation). To receive a copy of a final report, please submit a written request specifying the project(s) of interest to prop1grants@deltaconservancy.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)
Amount Spent	\$826,666 (\$9,743 unspent)
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	Closed as of 4/1/2022
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	Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
	Project (Implementation)
Amount Spent	\$829,183 (\$7,051 unspent)
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	Closed as of 3/7/2023
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review. See below for details.

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	Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project #2 (Implementation)			
Agreement Amount	\$990,543 (\$46 unspent)			
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	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.			

#### **RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS**

**P1-1516: Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Project (Implementation)** This recently completed project created approximately five miles of new habitat along two corridors, and half an acre of a public-access demonstration planting. The multi-beneficial habitats provide transit corridors for birds, mammals, and other wildlife species to escape advancing flood waters and to provide cover and floral resources outside of the flood season. The project involved the local community through stewardship events that provided hands-on restoration and educational experiences for high school-aged students and members of the public.



Before: Corridor North on a trestle mound (Winter 2016)

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After: Corridor North on the same trestle mound (Winter 2022)



Before: Demonstration area covered with non-native grasses and noxious weeds (Winter 2016)

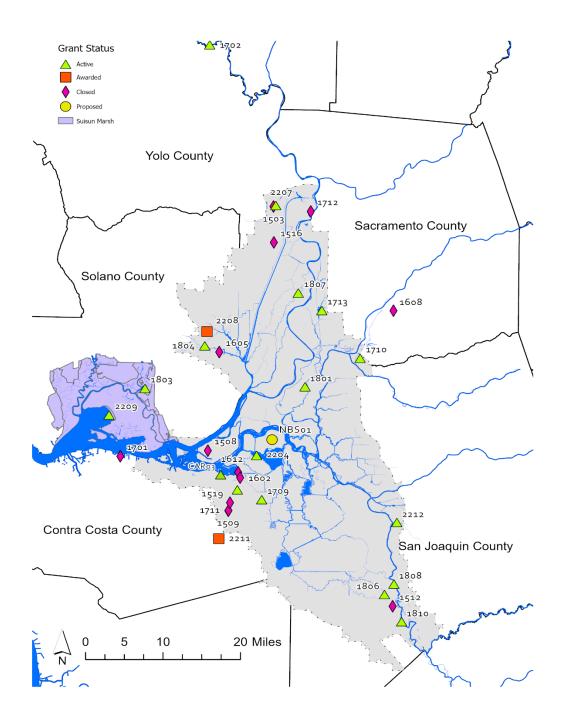


After: Demonstration area with native grasses, wildflowers, and shrubs (Summer 2022)

# CONTACT

Anji Shakya, Environmental Scientist Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Prop1@deltaconservancy.ca.gov

#### FIGURE 7.1. 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.

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## Consideration of Amendment to Budget of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreement for Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project Staff Report

Awardee	Solano County Resource Conservation District		
Project ID	P1-2208		
Award Year	2022		
County	Solano County		
Category	Implementation		
Original Award Amount	\$359,639		
Amended Request Amount	\$413,586		
Request	Budget Amendment		

This agenda item presents a request to increase the total budget of the grant award, which has yet to be executed. It does not propose a change to the term or scope of work.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board approve a budget increase of up to \$53,947 as presented in this report.

#### DESCRIPTION

The Awardee requests an addition of \$53,947 to the original grant award to support increased project costs. Specifically, the additional funds will cover Personnel Services, Operating Expenses (General), Operating Expenses (Subcontractors) and Indirect Costs.

When the Awardee submitted their proposal for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project in December 2021, they developed the budget using then-current salary and benefit schedules as well as supplies estimates. These numbers were then multiplied by an inflationary adjustment estimate for the three-year grant period. The inflationary adjustment estimates were based on the previous decade's inflation index, which ranged from zero to 3.6 percent between 2010 to 2020. This inflationary adjustment has been standard practice for the Awardee when preparing grant applications and is in line with the methods used by other agencies.

During the last two years, global inflation has led to widespread increases in project budgets. In preparation to enter into their grant agreement, the Awardee re-evaluated their budget and determined their budget now underestimates project costs by 15 percent. Specific examples of percent increases include Personnel Service (15 percent), equipment rental and supplies (nine to 31 percent), travel (17 percent), and purchase of native plants (ten to 20 percent). In response to the inflationary increase, the Awardee is requesting additional funding to implement the existing scope of work.

Table 1. Project Budget Request History and Cost Share Breakdown.

	Delta Conservancy Funding	Awardee Cost Share	Total Project Budget
Board Approved Amount	\$359,639	\$93,249	\$452,888
Current Request	\$413,586	\$103,922	\$517,508
Increase	\$53,947	\$10,673	\$64,620

If the requested budget increase is not approved, the Awardee will need to delay the project to secure other funds to complete the project. If other funds are not secured, the applicant will work with Conservancy staff to significantly adjust the project's scope of work to fit within the current budget.

#### BACKGROUND

At the October 26, 2022 Board meeting, the Board awarded funding of up to \$359,546 to the Solano County Resource and Water Conservation District for the Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project. The objective of this implementation project is to restore 20 acres of historic riparian habitat on working lands in the Delta. The project will focus on installing native plants along the Ulatis creek, including bushes, trees, and grasses, generating habitat for several species, including migratory birds. The grant agreement for this project has not yet been executed, and this is the first amendment requested for this project.

#### SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move that the Board approve a pre-execution amendment to the grant agreement with Solano County Resource Conservation District for Project ID P1-2208 to award an additional \$53,947 in project funding.

#### CONTACT

Dr. Trevor Fox, Environmental Scientist Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy <u>Trevor.Fox@deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u> (916) 376-4023



# 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.

The below table highlights the allocations for Proposition 68 (bond funds) and CAR (general funds). Each funding source has funds allocated for both administration and grants. The amount remaining to be allocated are funds available for new grants.

Funding Source	Total Allocation	Minimum Amount Available for Grants	Total Amount Allocated for Grants	Amount Remaining to be Allocated	Allocation Date	Encumbrance Date	Program(s) Supported by Funding Source
Proposition 68	\$12.0	\$8.7	\$3.9	\$4.8	6/8/2018	Variable	CEP
CAR	\$5.25	\$4.99	\$4.99	\$0	9/23/2021	6/30/2024	ERCA and CEP
CAR	\$6.125	\$5.82	\$1.8	\$4.02	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA and CEP

# 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.

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

As of May 17, 2023, there are ten active projects, one awarded project, and one working proposal. 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 \$3,937,368 for active, awarded, or requested Proposition 68 projects, \$3,559,505 (91 percent) is expected to support SDAC communities.

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 has completed purchase of the property.		

#### ACTIVE PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT OBLIGATED: \$7,797,218)

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 Grantee has completed 35 percent Design Plans and are working on		
	environmental documents.		

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 completed 90 percent Design Plans. The implementation phase of
	the project is before the Board for consideration of award (Agenda Item 9).

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 purchased and installed display cases and are working on an
	amendment request to expand the scope of work.

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 working on an amendment request to increase their budget.

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 has completed two community planning meetings.

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 refining their budget in preparation for an amendment request.

Project Name	Clarksburg Schoolhouse Restoration and Delta Welcome Center
	(Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$2,070,972
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 board approved an amendment for budget increase of \$328,206 at the
	March 22, 2023 board meeting and the amendment was executed on April 17,
	2023.

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 working on permits and an amendment request to increase		
	their budget.		

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 70	
	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	Conservancy staff went on a site visit in March with the Grantee and	
	subcontractors.	

# APPROVED PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED: \$2,544,725)

Project Name	Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton (Planning)	
Amount Awarded	\$2,544,725	
County	San Joaquin	
Project ID	CAR05	
Grantee	San Joaquin Community Foundation	
Overview	Complete design and construction documents for an ADA compliant, world	
	class aquatic center along the Delta so all, regardless of income level, may	
	access the water through small human powered boat.	
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress	
New Information	Project was awarded funding at the March 22, 2023 Board meeting and the	
	grant agreement is in progress.	

# WORKING PROPOSALS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$3,544.395)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	DAC/ SDAC	Proposal Status
CAR06	Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Project	Pittsburg	Implementation	\$3,544,395	Contra Costa	SDAC	Before the Board (Agenda Item 9)

# **RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS P6805 Isleton Museum in the Bing Kong Tong Building (Implementation)**

Conservancy staff conducted a site visit to view the installed displays at the Isleton Museum in the Bing Kong Tong Building. These display cases are part of the \$44,500 grant to install museum quality display cases to showcase historic artifacts at the Isleton Museum.



Floor Exhibit Cases (May 2023)

Agenda Item: 8 Attachment: 1



Four leg display cases (May 2023)

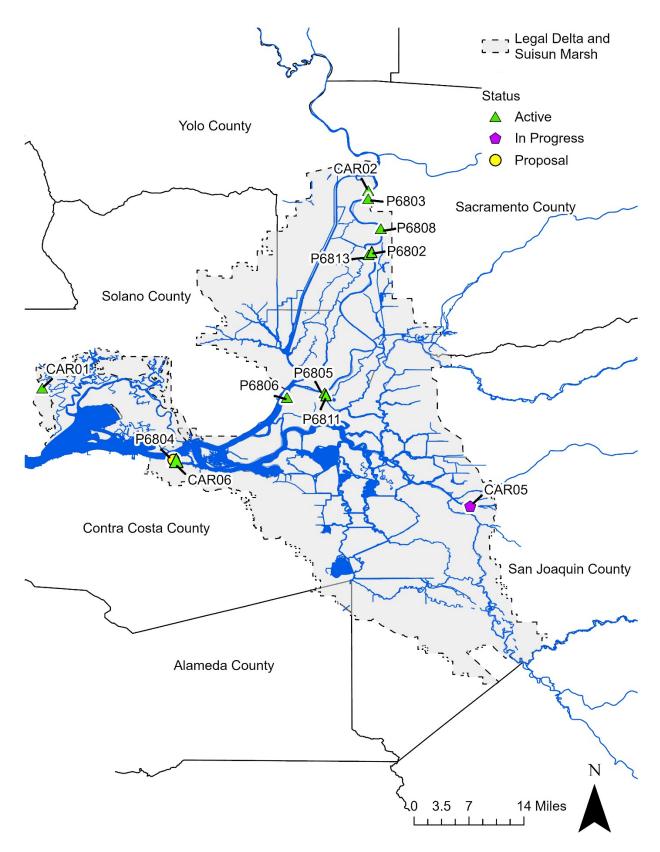


Pedestal Display (May 2023)

Agenda Item: 8 Attachment: 1

# **CONTACT** Maya Garrett, Ecological and Community Program Analyst Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy <u>maya.garrett@deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u> (916) 375-2073

FIGURE 8.1. MAP OF LOCATION AND STATUS OF COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM PROJECTS





# Consideration of Award of Climate, Access, and Restoration (CAR) Grant Funds for the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project Staff Recommendation

This agenda item presents for Board consideration a recommendation to award CAR Program funding for the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project (Project).

Applicant	City of Pittsburg
Project ID	CAR06
Project Type	Implementation
County	Contra Costa
Funding Request	\$3,544,395
Total Project Cost	\$3,791,113
Funding Recommendation	\$3,544,395

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## RECOMMENDATION

Conservancy staff recommends that the Board approve up to \$3,544,395 in grant funding for the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project (CAR06) proposed by the City of Pittsburg. Conservancy staff prepared the text below based on staff's best understanding of the information provided in the application and meetings with staff from the City of Pittsburg. Staff followed the General Grant Guidelines, approved by the Conservancy Board in November 2022, in working with the applicant and assessing this proposal.

## DESCRIPTION

This project will fund the construction of improvements to the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility. The overall purpose and goal of the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project are to: a) Increase community access to the traditional waterfront and Delta, b) Provide economic and tourism benefits in the Delta, c) Provide environmental, historical, and sustainable Delta education. The Project will achieve this by upgrading the parking lots, paths of travel, shade structure, boat launch ramp approach, installing of vandal and break-in-proof restrooms, enhancing facility lighting, installing of educational signage, a public safety substation, landscaping to prevent erosion, shade trees, public fire pits, leasable event space, and a fish cleaning station.

The Project will revitalize Pittsburg's downtown waterfront park, adjacent parking lot, and boat launch facilities. The Project was derived from community input and concerns of climate resiliency, degradation of the park and restrooms, aging infrastructure, and safety concerns.

With the implementation of the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility, the community will see an improvement in community physical and mental health, climate resiliency, desire to visit the

park and waterfront, and inclusive access to the park, trails, and waterfront within the community. In 2021 the Delta Conservancy Board awarded a planning grant of \$172,155 to complete planning documents and public outreach for enhancements to the Central Harbor and Boat Launch Facility. The City of Pittsburg has completed 90% design plans and is working to complete final reports and invoices.

# SEVERELY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (SDAC)

The City of Pittsburg received funding under Proposition 68 for the planning phase of the project (P6804). Proposition 68 requires that at least 20 percent of all funding be spent on projects that serve severely disadvantaged communities, which are defined as "a community with a median household income less than 60 percent of the statewide average" (PRC 45 Sec. 80008(a)(1)). Data collected through Income Certification for Compliance with the Redevelopment Agency of the City showed that the Marina Heights community of 200 households (over 400 residents) had a median household income (MHI) of 34 percent of the statewide MHI. These 400-plus residents live within 500 feet of the project area and will benefit from the park renovations. Community engagement undertaken during the planning project included specific efforts to engage members of the SDAC community.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

This implementation effort is considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act. As the Lead Agency, the City of Pittsburg prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility project during the planning phase of the project. However, due to a change in scope, which provides for fewer onsite improvements, the City will submit a new NOE under the same categorical exemption. The new NOE will be provided to the Conservancy as a project deliverable.

# **COST SHARE**

The City of Pittsburg will contribute \$246,718 in cost share. Cost share will be a combination of inkind services and cash from outside state and city funded programs represented in the below table.

Source of Funds	Cash	In-Kind	Status
Community Development and Public	_	\$ 50,000	Secured
Works Staff Time	-	Ş 30,000	Secureu
Marina Staff Time	-	\$ 25,967	Secured
Environmental Services Staff Time	-	\$ 7,000	Secured
Police Department Staff Time	-	\$ 3,450	Secured
CalRecycle -Beverage Container Recycling	\$ 12,765		Secured
Grant	\$ 12,705	-	Secureu
Waterfront & Solid Waste Funds 540 & 210	\$ 138,738	-	Secured
BAAQMD -Vehicle Trip Reduction Grant	\$ 8,798		Potential
Program	ş 8,798	-	Potential
Total	\$ 160,301	\$ 86,417	\$ 246,718

The City of Pittsburg will contribute in-kind staff time for Public Works, Marina, Environmental Services, and Police staff. The CalRecycle grant will pay for recycling containers. The City's Waterfront and Solid Waste funds will purchase mulch, and trees, as well as covering outside agency

permit costs. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Vehicle Trip Reduction funding program will be used to purchase bicycle racks.

# CONSISTENCY WITH STATE AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

The project is consistent with, and links to, multiple actions and priorities outlined in the Conservancy's governing statute, the Conservancy's Strategic Plan, and the Delta Plan. The project will provide public access to the Delta, increase recreation and tourism opportunities, foster health and wellness, preserve the unique cultural environment of the Delta region, promote environmental education, and increase the economic vitality of the region.

# LOCAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

The proposal demonstrates local support and includes four letters of support from institutions and community members. The applicant submitted letters of support from the Pittsburg Marina Harbor Master and Pittsburg Yacht Club.

The planning portion of the Project included community input and outreach. The City of Pittsburg held an in-person event at the Central Harbor Park to engage with community members, developed a specific project webpage, shared social media posts, and mailed post cards.

# ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Project is the implementation phase of a planning project (P6804), the Boat Launch Facility and Central Harbor Park Upgrade Planning Project, funded through a Delta Conservancy Proposition 68 grant.

## BACKGROUND

Chaptered on September 6, 2022, the Amended Budget Act of 2022 (Assembly Bill 179, Item 3875-101-0001 of Section 111) provided the Conservancy with \$6,125,000 for projects that support climate resilience, community access, and natural resource protection activities (collectively known as Climate, Access, and Resource (CAR22) Funding). Of the total, up to \$5,818,250 is available for projects.

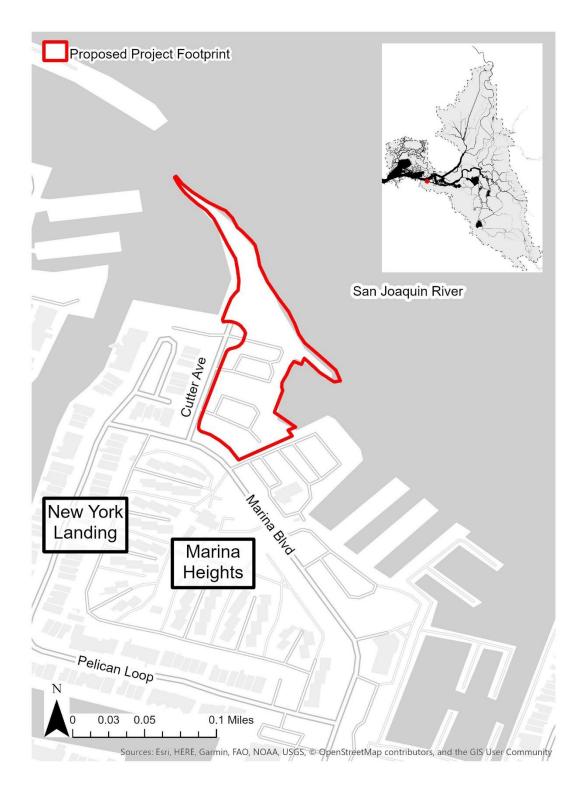
# SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move to award funding up to \$3,544,395 to the City of Pittsburg from the Climate Access and Resource (CAR) Grant Program for the Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project.

# CONTACT

Maya Garrett, Ecological and Community Program Analyst Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy <u>maya.garrett@deltaconservancy.ca.gov</u> (916) 375-2073

# FIGURE 1. MAP OF CENTRAL HARBOR PARK AND BOAT LAUNCH FACILITY





# Consideration of Award of Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Grant Funds for Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project Staff Recommendation

This agenda item presents for Board consideration a recommendation to award Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Grant Program funding for the Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project (Project).

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California		
NBS01		
Planning and Implementation		
Contra Costa		
\$20,907,371		
\$24,407,365		
\$20,907,371		

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

# RECOMMENDATION

Conservancy staff recommends the Board approve up to \$20,907,371 in grant funding for the Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project (NBS01) proposed by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan). Conservancy staff prepared the text below based on staff's best understanding of the information provided in the application and meetings with staff of Metropolitan's Bay Delta Program. Conservancy staff followed the General Grant Guidelines, approved by the Conservancy Board in November 2022, in working with the applicant and assessing this proposal.

## DESCRIPTION

Metropolitan proposes a two-phase project, planning and implementation, to design and construct up to 3,000 acres of managed, flooded wetlands and up to 1,500 acres of rice fields on Webb Tract. The acreages and precise locations within the Tract will be determined through the planning process. The main objectives of the Project are to stop ongoing organic soil subsidence, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated through increased carbon sequestration opportunities, develop sustainable agriculture opportunities, investigate sustainable water management practices, and study how managed wetlands may augment the Delta pelagic food web in line with goals of Metropolitan's Climate Action Plan and the Delta Plan. Metropolitan's Project aims to develop a mosaic of land use opportunities that may include grassland/upland habitat, willow riparian scrub, and other habitat types in addition to managed wetlands and rice. Metropolitan will work with local interested parties, farmers, and a design firm to develop the mosaic of expected land uses that are consistent with the existing topography.

The Project area is an entire island in the central Delta called Webb Tract. Webb Tract is in the northeastern portion of Contra Costa County, north of Bethel Island and southwest of Bouldin Island. Webb Tract is situated entirely within the Primary Zone of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Metropolitan purchased Webb Tract in 2016 along with three other islands (Bouldin, Bacon, and Holland). Historically, Webb Tract was used to farm corn and is now leased for cattle grazing.

Staff recommends approval of a two-phased funding approach. The first phase of funding, \$3,221,199, would support the planning including initial design plans, environmental compliance and permitting, pre-construction monitoring, and public outreach. The second phase of funding, \$17,686,172, would be available to the project team only upon the Board's consideration and adoption of either California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) responsible agency findings or Metropolitan's posting of a Notice of Exemption. The second phase of funding would be used for project implementation, including final design plans, any remaining required permitting, construction, and post-construction monitoring. The implementation phase of the Project will only proceed if the planning phase results in a satisfactory project for implementation and the Conservancy Board approves the release of implementation funds for the Project.

# Phase One (Planning)

The planning phase will include design, environmental documentation, pre-construction monitoring, permitting, and public outreach (Tasks one through four and six). As the lead agency for CEQA, Metropolitan will explore possible exemptions that may apply to the Project or prepare a CEQA environmental document (initial study or environmental impact report) as it deems appropriate. As a responsible agency, the Delta Conservancy will be required to consider and make its own findings on any environmental document Metropolitan prepares prior to any further action on the implementation phase of the Project. The Delta Conservancy retains full discretion to approve or deny the implementation phase and to adopt any further mitigation measures or alternatives identified through the environmental review process.

## Phase Two (Implementation)

Only upon certification of environmental documentation by Metropolitan's Board, receipt of permits, determination of consistency with the Delta Plan, and authorization to proceed by the Delta Conservancy, Metropolitan will award construction agreements and begin Phase two, which will include construction, post-construction monitoring, and a final report (Tasks five through eight).

To quantify benefits of this island-wide restoration, ample monitoring and modeling will be conducted during the funding term and on a continuous basis for the entire grant term. Specific monitoring protocols will be developed after planning and environmental review is completed but will likely include both baseline and after restoration measurements of GHG emissions using Eddy Covariance towers. Aquatic monitoring will also be conducted including, at a minimum, water quality parameters and food web metrics at various sites in the wetlands and at the outfall pipes. The aquatic monitoring will add to the general body of knowledge on wetland impacts, specifically non-tidal wetlands, on the surrounding aquatic ecosystem. If the project proceeds as expected, monitoring data would be used to model net GHG emissions from Webb Tract, prepare a cost/benefit analysis on California Delta wetland restoration, and register the project with the American Carbon Registry. Finally, the project would monitor and analyze changes to levee stability and risk of failure as a result of the project.

Grant Application Tasks	Phase 1	Phase 2
Task 1: Grant Management	\$190,375	\$285,563
Task 2: Design	\$731,255	
Task 3: Environmental		
Compliance and Permitting	\$1,852,721	
Task 4: Outreach	\$164,807	\$41,202
Task 5: Construction		\$15,736,958
Task 6: Monitoring and		
Maintenance	\$282,041	\$1,128,164
Task 7: Carbon Credit Registry		\$420,634
Task 8: Levee Analysis		\$73,651
Funding Request	\$3,221,199	\$17,686,172

# Funding Table<sup>1</sup>

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

The planning phase of this Project (Phase one) is not considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed Project does include the completion of the CEQA process and securing necessary permits for the implementation phase of the Project (Phase two). Metropolitan will act as the CEQA lead agency and will determine what level of environmental analysis is required after technical studies currently being prepared as part of the planning process are complete. Funding for Phase two of the project would only be available upon consideration of the CEQA environmental analysis and any necessary adoption of findings by the Conservancy Board as a responsible agency.

## **COST SHARE**

Metropolitan will contribute \$3,500,000, mostly for the planning phase, as in-kind services through staff time during the funding term. Metropolitan voluntarily purchased the island, has received grants, and partnered with other state agencies and universities for preliminary design plans, public outreach, and levee improvements.

## CONSISTENCY WITH STATE AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

The Project is consistent with, and links to, multiple actions and priorities outlined in the Conservancy's governing statute, the Conservancy's Strategic Plan, the Delta Plan, and the Delta Protection Commission's Economic Sustainability Plan. Additionally, the project furthers the California Natural Resources Agency's initiatives of building climate resilience, protecting biodiversity, and expanding nature-based solutions.

#### LONG TERM VIABILITY

The proposal describes how the Project, if implemented, will contribute to a specific on-the-ground project. The proposal describes long-term management and addresses the intent to maintain for the required 15-year duration using voluntary carbon market credits and specific carbon protocols designed for the Delta. Accessing carbon credits will require a 40-year commitment to ensure

permanence. Metropolitan is investing time, staff, and resources to develop the Project site, as well as maintain the Project in perpetuity.

# LOCAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Metropolitan received a CDFW grant to conduct initial outreach and gather public input on prioritization and use of their four islands, a project titled "Delta Island Adaptations." The project team includes 38 experts from state agencies, consultants, and academia plus any interested public. Meeting notes and reports of findings are located on Metropolitan's website (https://deltaislandadaptations-ucdavis.hub.arcgis.com). Bouldin Island was chosen for phase two of the CDFW funded project, but there was enough public and expert support to initiate a separate project on Webb Tract (leading to this proposal). In addition to the extensive outreach of the Delta Island Adaptations project, Metropolitan has received two letters of support and is seeking additional letters of support. Metropolitan will work with local interested parties, farmers, and a design firm to develop the mosaic of proposed land uses that are consistent with the existing topography.

## **SCIENTIFIC MERIT**

The proposal describes the scientific basis of the project and incorporates the best available science that has been developed though 20 years of Delta specific research. The proposal describes efforts to develop an adaptive management approach consistent with the Delta Plan's adaptive management framework. The proposal describes climate impacts and benefits and includes a mechanism for incorporating climate change considerations into the project.

## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The property was conveyed to Metropolitan with a 139-acre duck hunting life estate. This life estate is on a small southern portion of the property and Delta Conservancy staff do not expect this to affect the long-term goals and objectives of this project, nor will the life estate change the projected benefits from this project.

This proposed Project aims to use an interdisciplinary approach to understand, measure, and model the net subsidence reversal, GHG and biological benefits, and estimate the reduction in the relative probability of levee failure resulting from the conversion of existing land use to flooded wetlands and rice. If awarded, Metropolitan will submit any additional information about the proposed Project prior to or during the development of the grant agreement, upon request from the Delta Conservancy.

## BACKGROUND

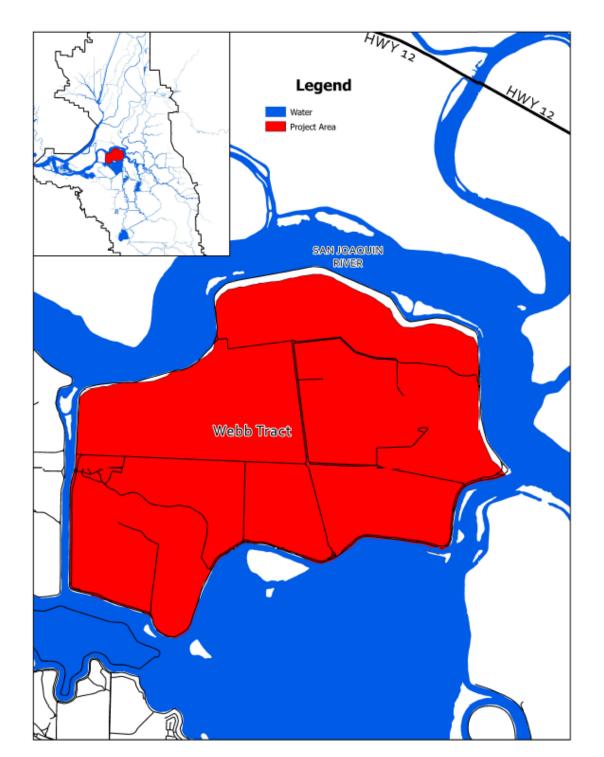
Chaptered on September 5, 2022, the Amended Budget Act of 2022 (Assembly Bill 179, Item 3875-101-0001 of Section 111) provided the Conservancy with \$36,000,000 for projects that support Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration (NBS: WR). Of the total up to \$34,200,00 is available for projects. The goals of the Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration funding are to support restoration, conservation, and climate resilience for wetlands in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Delta region includes over 150,000 acres of highly organic peat soils that are significantly subsided to depths of 20 to 30 feet below sea level. This subsidence threatens the State and Federal water projects, Delta communities, and the region's rich agricultural production. Subsidence is the result of oxidation of the peat soils and results in over 1.5 million tons of CO2 emissions annually. Decades of data suggest that re-wetting the peat soils by restoring wetlands or implementing wet agriculture (paludiculture) stops subsidence and the resulting carbon emissions.

## SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move to award funding up to \$3,221,199 for the planning phase and move to conditionally award \$17,686,172 for the implementation phase, subject to further review and approval by the Conservancy Board, to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California from the Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Grant Program for the Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project.

# CONTACT

Lauren Damon, Ecological Restoration and Climate Adaptation Projects Supervisor Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Lauren.Damon@deltaconservancy.ca.gov (279) 375-2088



# FIGURE 1: WETLAND MOSAIC LANDSCAPE ON WEBB TRACT PROJECT AREA



# Potential Agenda Items for the July 26, 2023 Board Meeting

Staff is seeking input from the Board regarding additional agenda items for the July 26, 2023 Board meeting.

Potential items include:

- Board Elections
- Implementation plan update
- Consideration of Amendment to Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreements
- Consideration of Award of Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Grants

#### CONTACT

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