



**Delta Conservancy 2024 Implementation Plan  
Status Update**

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**2024 AT A GLANCE**

Project Initiation

- Two projects awarded
- 6 new grant and contract agreements executed

Project Management

- 145 invoices processed
- Eight amendments processed
- 58 projects closed out

**List of projects/efforts not included in January 2024**

- RCPP grant Proposal
- NFWF grant Proposal
- Clean Vessel Act Education and Outreach Grant Program Proposal
- Delta Science Program Research Award Proposals
- Conservancy Lite
- Board member conversations
- Continue advancing carbon projects

**2024 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN UPDATES**

**Table 1: 2024 Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Program Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
The Conservancy will identify and apply for alternative sources of funding to support ERCA projects	Ongoing	Staff are working with partners to pursue a \$5 million grant from the National Foundation for Fish and Wildlife: American the Beautiful Challenge to implement at least two Conservancy-funded planning projects.
The Conservancy will update protocols and procedures to complete RAPTR database transition	Q4	Planned for Q4 2024

**Table 2: Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination Team (DIISCT) 2024 Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Hold four quarterly Team meetings to coordinate and exchange information	Ongoing	The first two quarterly Team meetings took place in February and May. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for August and November.
Continue to identify high-priority research topics to better inform conservation work	Ongoing	Staff are facilitating a working group to develop guidance for adaptive management of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration sites.
Utilize the early detection and rapid response framework if new threats emerge	Ongoing	Staff continue to follow state and federal efforts to promote EDRR, including sharing funding opportunities with the Team.
Continue to follow up on the symposium to build on valuable insights, contacts, and connections	Q1-Q2	Staff coordinated with the Suisun Resource Conservation District to present to their landowner workshop in September (Q3).

**Table 3: Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) Restoration Subcommittee (RSC)**

**2024 Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Provide forums for meaningful community participation in Delta restoration efforts	Ongoing	RSC (Conservancy and DSC) staff organized an RSC meeting on March 7 that provided (1) a presentation on the impacts of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration sites, (2) a summary of the Delta-Suisun tidal wetland restoration symposium, and (3) a summary of the November 2023 Delta Restoration Forum.
Increase interagency collaboration to streamline restoration implementation	Ongoing	RSC staff surveyed the Delta Science Tracker for restoration projects and began collaboration among Conservancy and DSC staff to create standards for reporting.
Identify opportunities in restoration planning and long-term management efforts	Ongoing	RSC staff worked to expand tools for modeling the impacts of various management decisions and review capacity of existing restoration monitoring programs.
Increase transparency and coordination around existing, new, and needed restoration funding	Ongoing	RSC staff continue to disseminate information about new and existing funding opportunities.

**Table 4: Delta Carbon and Subsidence Management 2024 Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Identify and apply for alternative sources of funding to support projects that will result in a significant reduction of subsidence and resulting carbon emissions	Ongoing	Staff submitted a \$25 million grant application to the Natural Resource Conservation Service to support an additional 7,500 to 8,500 acres of rice conversion or managed wetland restoration that will halt subsidence and reduce carbon emissions; Staff are also pursuing two research grants with the Delta Science Program to identify barriers to marsh restoration and paludiculture in the Delta.
Continue working with partners to advance GHG avoidance and subsidence halting/reversal projects in the Delta	Ongoing	Provided technical assistance on Conservancy-funded Nature Based Solutions projects to support outreach, public engagement, and climate goals. Worked with project partners to identify additional opportunities for GHG avoidance and subsidence halting/reversal projects in the Delta. Continued efforts to ensure projects are in ready-to-fund condition when funding becomes available.

**Table 5: 2024 Land Ownership, Easements, and Management Strategy Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Have relevant Conservancy policies for acquiring and managing land and easements	Q1-Q3	Rough policy guidance has been developed. Met with DWR to discuss the possibility of the Conservancy holding title to the Tides End project in the Lower Bypass once restoration is complete in 2 to 3 years.

**Table 6: Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP) 2024 Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Use water efficiency knowledge gained from 2022 and 2023 DDRPP projects to inform future selections should the program be continued	Complete	Recommendations for future programs are detailed in the 2023 DDRPP Report.
Work with partners to evaluate the efficacy of practices and produce a final report that will share results	Complete	The final 2022 and 2023 DDRPP Reports are both available on the Conservancy’s website.
Host a forum for program partners, local researchers, Delta growers, and community members to communicate results and analysis of the 2024 DDRPP final report	Complete	The DDRPP Forum was held on June 20, 2024 and attended by more than 50 individuals, including DDRPP applicants and enrollees, staff from Delta water agencies, scientists from the State and academia, and interested members of the public.

**Table 7: Delta Fish Friendly Farming 2024 Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Certify acres committed to within the grant agreement	Complete	Staff completed certification visits for all enrolled sites during Q1. The Fish Friendly Farming Program is now complete.

**Table 8: 2024 Community Enhancement Grant Program (CEP) Strategic Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
The Conservancy will identify and apply for alternative sources of funding to support CEP projects	Ongoing	Staff are actively pursuing a \$275,000 grant from California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways for education, outreach, and monitoring to encourage boaters to use appropriate pumpout stations to maintain healthy waterways. Staff will pursue other opportunities as funding becomes available.
Proactively identify and recommend projects that enhance the Delta community, especially disadvantaged communities	Ongoing	Staff are working with project proponents to identify projects that enhance the Delta community.
Staff intends to recommend projects for the remaining \$4.4 million Proposition 68 funds	Ongoing	Staff are recommending \$0.9 million of the \$4.4 million for consideration of award (see Agenda Item 10.1).
The Conservancy will update protocols and procedures to complete RAPTR database transition	Q4	Planned for Q4 2024

**Table 9: 2024 Delta Marketing Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Install 11 signs per the Delta Sign Plan	Ongoing	There are currently two signs up: one on Hood-Franklin Road and one on Jefferson Boulevard. Caltrans is no longer able to install the signs due to a structural design issue. The rest of the signs are on hold until the Delta Protection Commission can determine the best path forward.
Continue to raise awareness of Delta tourism and recreational opportunities	Ongoing	Staff participated in several events this year, including Earth Day at CNRA and the Honored Elders Day Event. During these events Staff share materials that encourage people to visit and learn about the Delta.

**Table 10: 2024 Delta Week Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Expand on Delta Week efforts with external entities	Q3	Staff are engaging with local groups to increase awareness among the public.
Create a vision for Delta Week	Ongoing	Staff are developing collateral that expands upon last year’s social media campaign and outreach.

**Table 11: 2024 Waterway Cleanup Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Organize Delta cleanups that involve local community groups	Ongoing	Staff coordinated with a local group for a spring cleanup at Sherman Island. Staff are currently planning additional cleanups in the fall as part of Coastal Cleanup Day.

**Table 12: 2024 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Update DAC bylaws (if needed), set annual goals, and meet quarterly	Quarterly	Completed January 2024
Conduct DEI working group meetings to implement the DEI Action Plan	Ongoing	Switched focus to consider DEI for each project/process/policy etc. Staff receive mandatory DEI trainings.
Continue to engage with agencies and partners for shared learning, best practices, and opportunities to advance equity	Ongoing	Participate in multiple DEI or tribal-focused groups through DGS, CNRA, and Delta agencies. Groups support either coordination of efforts or provide lessons learned, tools, and resources.

**Table 13: 2024 Administrative Goals**

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Continue to update processes, procedures, policies, and create division manuals	Q4	Staff updates processes and procedures as needed. 22 Conservancy policies were reviewed by CalHR legal and will be sent to Labor Relations for their review.
Complete the reorganization of the Conservancy’s shared drive	Q3	Vendor has been secured and on track to complete in Q3.
Submit administrative and operational reports, plans, and proposals (e.g., State Agency Recycle Campaign and State Agency Waste Management Annual Reports, Contracting Activity Report and Improvement Plans, Continuity Plan, State Leadership Accountability Act Biannual Implementation Plan, Federal Indirect Cost Rate Proposal, Workforce Plan, Succession Plan, budget building, Bond Accountability Reporting, and human resources)	As Required	As of Q2, required reports, plans, and proposals have been submitted. The Federal Indirect Cost Rate Proposal was delayed due to workload and submitted in July.
Participate in audits (e.g., Dept. of Finance audits of bond-funded grant programs, State Personnel Board audit of human resources practices, General Services audit of purchasing and procurement)	As Required	Received DGS/PD Accreditation findings in June 2024 and completed Corrective Action Plan in early July.
Continue enrollment in professional development trainings and team-building activities	Ongoing	All trainings were cancelled from December 2023 through June 2024 per the budget freeze order. The restrictions were lifted in June 2024. Staff training will resume in Q3.
Establish procedures for annual Individual Development Plans for staff	Q4	On track.
Surplus goods and equipment from office	Q1	Staff submitted 13 Property Survey Reports (STD. 152) to surplus a variety of excess and obsolete office equipment. Will continue surveys in Q3 and Q4.

2024 Goals	Timeline	Updates
Create a legislative outreach plan	Q4	Identified key legislative members at the federal and state level and met with regularly. Conservancy staff created collateral to better inform legislators about the needs in the Delta.
Participate in CNRA and other legislative groups to track legislation affecting the Conservancy and the Delta	Ongoing	Regularly attend CNRA-sponsored legislative meetings and analyze CNRA-created bill lists to make sure the needs of the Delta and the Conservancy are being met.