



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

DELTA CONSERVANCY

A California State Agency

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

October 23, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Delta Conservancy Conference Room

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

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format. To maximize transparency and public access, members of the public can choose to participate either via Microsoft Teams or in person at the location listed above.

Three Board Members and a Liaison Advisor will be participating virtually from the following publicly accessible locations. Members of the public may participate from these locations:

- 3361 Walnut Boulevard, Suite 140, Brentwood, CA 94513
- 44 North San Joaquin Street, Sixth Floor, Suite 627, Stockton, CA 95202
- 1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612
- 8111 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

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Questions and public comment can be addressed to contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov prior to and during the meeting.

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 July 24, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items (Attachment)
 - Consideration of Amendment to Budget and Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreement for the Delta Working Waterways Habitat Restoration Planning Project (Attachment)

- Consideration of Amendment to Budget, Scope, and Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Agreement for Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Implementation Project (Attachment)
- 5. **Executive Officer's Report**, Campbell Ingram
 - Program Update (Attachment)
 - Budget and Expenditure Report (Attachment)
- 6. **Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Update**, Anjali Shakya (Attachment)
- 7. **Community Enhancement Grant Program Update**, Maya Garrett (Attachment)
- 8. **Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Funds for Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project**, Maya Garrett (Attachment) (Action Item)
- 9. **Introduction to the Lean Six Sigma Board Packet Preparation Project**, Dr. Sarah Lesmeister (Attachment)
- 10. **Update on the Reorienting to Recovery: Central Valley Salmon Recovery Project**, Rafi Silberblatt
- 11. **Update on Nutria Control Activities in the Delta and Suisun Marsh**, Valerie Cook
- 12. **California Department of Water Resources Multibenefit Restoration Program Update**, Charlotte Biggs
- 13. **Delta Stewardship Council Update**, Amanda Bohl
- 14. **Delta Stewardship Council's Tribal and Environmental Justice Issue Paper**, Amanda Bohl and Megan Thomson
- 15. **Delta Protection Commission Update**, Bruce Blodgett
- 16. **Delta Conveyance Update**, Carrie Buckman
- 17. **Potential Agenda Items for the January 22, 2025 Board Meeting**, Campbell Ingram (Attachment)
- 18. **Public Comment**
- 19. **ADJOURN**
- To view the members of the Delta Conservancy Board, please visit <http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/delta-conservancy-board>.
- Attachments and additional information are on the Delta Conservancy's website at: <http://www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov>.
- If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, or require printed copies of meeting materials, please contact us at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date at (916) 375-2084 or contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov. This contact information may also be used for questions.
- Public comments are generally limited to three (3) minutes but may be 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.



July 24, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items
1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6, West Sacramento, CA 95691

Video and audio of the meeting is available here:

<https://youtu.be/rDVyWJKrEwY?si=3uXxPSynE-3VGyMX>

AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair Mashburn.

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

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

Board Members Present:

- Mitch Mashburn
- Leo Winternitz
- Pat Hume/Don Nottoli
- Diane Burgis - teleconference
- Steven Ding - teleconference
- Amanda Martin
- Sandi Matsumoto

Ex-Officio Members Present:

- None

Liaison Advisors and Counsel Present:

- Heather Swinney - USFW
- Bruce Blodgett - DPC, teleconference
- Steve Chappell - Suisun RCD
- Marge Kolar - Yolo Basin Foundation, teleconference
- Nicole Rinke (Counsel)

Supervisor Burgis published her office for the Board meeting; however the building was uninhabitable due to an air conditioning failure. She attended the meeting from a different location, and because her participation did not affect an already established quorum, her votes were counted.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment

None

Agenda Item 4 – Board Elections

The Executive Officer opened nominations for the position of Chair and Vice Chair of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Board for the Fiscal Year 2024-25. Supervisor Hume was nominated for Chair, and Leo Winternitz was nominated for a second year as Vice Chair.

Motion: Supervisor Mashburn moved, seconded by Board Member Martin, that the Board approve the nomination of Pat Hume as Chair and Leo Winternitz as Vice Chair of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Board for the Fiscal Year 2024-25.

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

Chair Hume took the gavel and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Agenda Item 5 – Consent Calendar

Motion: Supervisor Mashburn moved, seconded by Vice Chair Winternitz, that the Board approve the following:

- March 27, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items
- Consideration of Amendment to Budget, Scope, and Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreement for the Lower San Joaquin River Riparian Corridor Restoration Planning Project

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

Agenda Item 6 – Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer briefly highlighted several items in the staff report.

Agenda Item 7 – Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaption Grant Program Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report. As of June 24, 2024, there are 19 active projects and 20 closed projects. New from the last meeting is the Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration funding awards have now all been executed.

Agenda Item 8 – Rice Conversion and Wetland Restoration on Webb Tract Projects Update

In May 2023, the Board approved an award to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) for the Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project, which will stop subsidence and reduce emissions on the entirety of Webb Tract (approximately 5,500 acres). Staff provided an update on the two-phase projects and described a timeline for Board consideration of authorization of implementation funding for the Rice Conversion Project on Webb Tract.

Agenda Item 9 – Community Enhancement Grant Programs Update

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report. As of June 26, 2024, there are 13 active projects, one closed project, and one proposal.

Agenda Item 10 – Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Funds for the Stockton Maritime Museum Planning Project

Conservancy staff recommended that the Board approve up to \$950,000 in Proposition 68 grant funding for the Stockton Maritime Museum Planning Project (P6818) proposed by the Stockton Historical Maritime Museum. The purpose of the grant is to fund the preconstruction planning activities for construction of the Stockton Maritime Museum in the city of Stockton.

Motion: Supervisor Ding moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, that the Board award funding up to \$950,000 to the Stockton Historical Maritime Museum from the Proposition 68 Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program for the Stockton Maritime Museum Planning Project.

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

Agenda Item 11 – Consideration of Updates to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines

To maintain consistency with other California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) entities and implement procedural changes to invoicing processes, edits of additional language to the General Grant Guidelines were proposed.

Motion: Supervisor Patti moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, that the Board approve the updates to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy General Grant Guidelines for use in granting funds that are not subject to more specific requirements.

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

Agenda Item 12 – Consideration to Take Action Outside the Delta and Suisun Marsh for Clean Vessel Act Program Proposal

Conservancy Staff are interested in submitting a grant proposal to California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways for the Clean Vessel Act Program, where about 10 percent of the monitoring is outside of the legal Delta and seek Board consideration to work outside the legal Delta.

Motion: Vice Chair Winternitz moved, seconded by Supervisor Mashburn, that the Board approve findings to permit Staff to conduct education, outreach, and monitoring of sites located outside of the legal Delta and Suisun Marsh for the Clean Vessel Act Program.

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

Agenda Item 13 – Delta Conservancy 2024 Implementation Plan Status Update

The Deputy Executive Office presented a mid-year status update of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy's progress toward meeting the goals of the 2024 Implementation Plan.

Agenda Item 15 – Potential Agenda Items for the October 23, 2024 Board Meeting

- Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grants
- Consideration of Amendment to Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreements

Meeting Date: October 23, 2024
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Attachment: 1

Agenda Item 16 – Public Comment
None

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF
None

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chair Hume at 10:37 a.m.

CONTACT
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Consideration of Amendment to Budget and Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreement for the Delta Working Waterways Habitat Restoration Planning Project Staff Report

Grantee	Solano Resource Conservation District
Project ID	P1-1804
Award Year	2019
County	Solano
Category	Planning
Original Award Amount	\$347,481
Request	Budget, term

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board approve a budget line-item modification to move funds from operating expenses (general) to personnel and corresponding indirect costs and a term extension of one year to complete remaining tasks.

DESCRIPTION

The Grantee is requesting to move funding between budget line items, specifically from operating expenses (general) to personnel. The cost of permits has been lower than anticipated since the California Department of Fish and Wildlife determined a specific permit was not required for two sites, thus reducing the operations budget. However, personnel costs have increased due to the increased coordination with permitting agencies and landowners regarding regulatory compliance. This request does not modify the total amount awarded. This budget modification would fund the additional costs of grant management for the term extension (if approved) and fund the Grantee's engagement with landowners to select additional sites, create restoration plans, and prepare permitting and environmental compliance documentation.

The Grantee is also requesting a one-year extension from March 15, 2025 to March 31, 2026 to complete planning for up to eight sites along Delta waterways. Planning for these sites includes restoration plans, permitting, and applications for funding. The project has been successful thus far planning the minimum required four sites and significant progress toward deliverables for six sites has been made. However, staffing changes have made progress slower than anticipated. The term extension will allow the Grantee to undergo planning for additional sites to make up to eight sites "shovel ready" for implementation.

BACKGROUND

Delta Working Waterways Habitat Restoration Planning Project (Project ID P1-1804) will bring at least four and up to eight habitat restoration sites to shovel-ready conditions to mimic or restore the function of floodplains, riparian forest, and wetlands. This project was awarded \$347,481 of

Proposition 1 funds in 2019. This is the Grantee's sixth change request but second amendment. In January 2022, the Grantee requested, and this Board approved a prior amendment for a funding term extension, budget line-item shifts, and increase to geographical scope. The cumulative total for all budget line-item shift change requests is \$32,960 (9.5% of total budget). This request is the first increase in the personnel budget and is a 3.6% increase for that line item. The current amendment request will have no impact on the original project outcomes or the availability of current funds as they are not set to expire until June 30, 2027.

CONTACT

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Consideration of Amendment to Budget, Scope, and Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Agreement for Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Implementation Project
Staff Report

Grantee	Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
Project ID	P1-2204
Award Year	2023
County	Contra Costa
Category	Implementation
Original Award Amount	\$427,707
Request	Budget, scope, and term

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board approve a budget modification to move funds from permits and fees and subcontractor line items to personnel and indirect costs; change the scope of work to update the pre-monitoring and mapping tasks and to remove three of the five original compliance and permitting tasks; and term extension of one year to accommodate project delays.

DESCRIPTION

The Grantee is requesting to move funding from permitting and fees and subcontractors to personnel services and indirect costs. This request does not modify the total amount awarded. The budget modification would allow the Grantee to reallocate operating expenses and subcontractor costs toward additional staff time and grant management costs for the term extension.

The Grantee is also requesting to modify the scope of work by updating the pre-monitoring and mapping tasks. The project originally included mapping invasive weeds at the project site and intended to draft a report specific to Pampas Grass (*Cortaderia selloana*). However, the mapping indicated that Pampas Grass was not the primary weed and a variety of species had invaded the site. Thus, the Grantee recommends and is requesting to complete a more comprehensive report based on the mapping, as it will be more useful in long-term invasive weed management and restoration of the project site.

Additionally, the Grantee is requesting to remove unnecessary permits as deliverables and increase permitting and environmental compliance flexibility by streamlining specific permit application requirements. After engaging necessary regulatory agencies, the Grantee determined that only two out of the five original compliance and permitting materials are necessary given the scope of the work. This would reduce costs by \$11,085, which is 2.6% of the total budget. Additionally, the Grantee

requests the removal of those specific permits from the conditions associated with implementation tasks to reflect the requested permitting and compliance updates.

To accommodate delays due to staffing changes on the project team and to adapt the project based on the initial aerial reconnaissance, the Grantee is requesting a one-year term extension of the grant's funding end date from February 15, 2026 to February 15, 2027. The extension will allow time to test and identify workable solutions to remove invasive species and promote native plant re-establishment on the project site. The cost savings from the removal of permitting tasks would be applied to staff time to cover the permitting agency coordination, unexpected labor associated with mapping and reconnaissance, expected increase in labor during implementation of weed removal, and grant management for an additional year.

BACKGROUND

The Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal Project (Project ID P1-2204) is an implementation project designed to remove invasive species and promote native plant re-establishment to enhance and restore habitat and to protect water quality and quantity along levees in the Franks Tract State Recreation Area and nearby restoration sites. This project was awarded \$427,707 of Proposition 1 funds in 2023. This is the first amendment request initiated by the Grantee. In September 2024, the Grantee requested a funding term extension to accommodate delays in the Project. This request will have no impact on the availability of current funds as they are not set to expire until June 30, 2027.

CONTACT

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Executive Officer's Report October 23, 2024

PROGRAM UPDATE

DELTA DROUGHT RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM (DDRPP) UPDATE

The six DDRPP grantees currently hosting micrometeorological equipment on their project sites continue to implement water conservation practices as part of the Delta Conservancy's interagency agreement with the University of California, Davis (UC Davis). Monitoring by the UC Davis research team and collection of micrometeorological and soil data from these six sites will continue through September 2026, and the first annual field water budgets are expected during the November 2024 reporting period. Conservancy staff continued to share the analysis of the DDRPP with interested parties through various forums. On September 25, results from the 2023 Program were presented to members of the Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium, which is organized by the Office of the Delta Watermaster. Staff presented a poster at the Bay-Delta Science Conference on September 30, which provided an overview of both years of the Program.

DELTA CONSERVANCY FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET UPDATES

The California Department of Finance (DOF) Budget Letter 24-24, Government Efficiency Reduction Drill, requests all state agencies to reduce their state operations budgets by 7.95% for the current and future fiscal years. The Conservancy has requested a waiver from the drill due to our limited state operations funds and are currently responding to DOF questions.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Staff prepared and submitted the DGS Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) for state contracting that determines if our Small Business (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) participation goals were met. Unfortunately, we only met our DVBE participation goal last fiscal year. We will focus on increasing our SB participation goal this fiscal year. Staff continue to work on the fiscal year 2025/26 budget. The Conservancy migrated all electronic folders from our shared drive to a cloud-based system. Staff processed two grant amendments, closed out one grant agreement, and processed 73 invoices.

DELTA CONSERVANCY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) UPDATE

On March 21, 2024, the RFP titled “Cost Feasibility Analysis for the Restoration of Franks Tract” closed. The purpose of the contract was to solicit competitive proposals to engage in a collaborative, structured decision-making process to refine the Franks Tract Futures Project and conduct value engineering to refine and prepare new cost estimates. During the contract negotiation stage, there were concerns regarding the contract type. Conservancy staff worked with California Department of Fish and Wildlife to identify a path forward for the project. Conservancy staff are pursuing paths to gain the authority to enter into Architectural and Engineering agreements and anticipate an update in early 2025.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Since July 2, Conservancy staff submitted five grant proposals and are awaiting funding decisions.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

On July 2, Conservancy staff applied for a \$25 million RCPP grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service to fund restoration and rice conversion in the highly subsidized areas of the Delta that would expand the current NBS funding. While there is a lot of funding available, the grant program is highly competitive. Staff anticipate hearing back from NRCS by the end of the year.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) America the Beautiful (ATB)

On July 18, staff submitted an NFWF grant to fund projects that received planning grants from the Conservancy’s Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program. Specific projects include restoration work at Stone Lakes Wildlife Refuge and a project to restore approximately 2.5 miles along the San Joaquin River. The total award would be \$5 million to cover implementation work and the administration by the Conservancy. Staff expect to hear a decision about the proposal by the end of the year.

Clean Vessel Act Program

On August 8, staff submitted a proposal to California State Park’s Division of Boating and Waterways Clean Vessel Act Education and Outreach Grant Program. The \$280,000 annual grant includes education and outreach to boaters about proper sewage disposal and monitoring of pumpout and dump stations in the in the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary and Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. Staff expect to hear a decision about the proposal by early fall.

Delta Science Program

On August 26, staff submitted two grant proposals for the Delta Science Program’s Research Award. One proposal is to gain a deeper understanding of pathways to rice in the Delta, and the second proposal is to advance wetland paludiculture in the Delta. Each proposal’s budget was approximately \$550,000. Staff expect to hear a decision about the proposals in early 2025.

NUTRIA ERADICATION

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

DELTA SCIENCE**Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) Restoration Subcommittee (RSC):**

Conservancy staff continue to co-lead the DPIIC RSC with colleagues from the Delta Stewardship Council (Council). The next RSC meeting will take place on November 13 and consist of a series of site visits to explore restoration potential in the south Delta. This meeting is being facilitated in collaboration with staff from Restore the Delta in an effort to highlight restoration needs supported by the communities in the south Delta.

Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team

The Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team, facilitated by Conservancy staff and co-led by staff from the Delta Stewardship Council, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the California Department of Water Resources, had its third quarterly meeting of the year on August 20. The team heard a group of talks focused on identification of species that are potential future invaders of the Delta to help train team members for early detection and shared general work updates with the group. Staff are facilitating a DIISC Team working group to develop general guidance for adaptive management of IAV in tidal wetland restoration sites. Dr. Rachel Wigginton gave a lecture on Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) at the UC Davis Weed Research and Information Center's Aquatic Weed School on September 17. This lecture highlighted the work the DIISC Team has done over the past few years to advance EDRR coordination in the Delta and Suisun Marsh. The Aquatic Weed School is an intensive two-day course focusing on issues associated with developing weed management strategies in a variety of aquatic ecosystems. Drs. Elizabeth Brusati (DSC) and Rachel Wigginton, representing the DIISC Team leadership, on September 19 attended the Suisun Resource Conservation District fall landowner workshop where Dr. Wigginton presented on the role of connectivity and early detection in aquatic weed management. These were the topics of the 2023 and 2021 Delta Invasive Species Symposiums, respectively. This presentation was planned in response to a Board directive from January 2024 to seek opportunities to communicate information from the Symposium to landowners. A poster describing the work of the DIISC Team was also presented at the Bay-Delta Science Conference on September 30.

Delta Science Outreach

Conservancy staff presented at the 2024 Bay-Delta Science Conference held on September 30 through October 2. The poster "Delta Drought Response Pilot Program: A Novel Approach to Building Resiliency to Drought," co-authored by Rachel Lane, Lindsay Kammeier (State Water Resources Control Board), Martha Ozonoff, and Dr. Rachel Wigginton, described the outcomes of the 2023 DDRPP and raised the profile of the final report on the Program. The poster cluster "Advancing Ecosystem Restoration Towards a Resilient Delta," chaired by Dr. Elizabeth Brusati of the Delta Stewardship Council and co-authored by Annie Merrit (Council), Dr. Rachel Wigginton, Dr. Dylan Chappel (Council), and Amanda Bohl (Council), brought together posters about projects that were a part of the 2023 Delta Restoration Forum. One of these posters, "An Overview of the Delta Conservancy's Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program," co-authored by Anjali Shakya and Lauren Damon, showcased several restoration projects funded by the Conservancy's Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation program. Other posters were authored by the San Francisco Estuary Institute, California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways. The poster, "Developing Guidance for Managing Invasive Aquatic Vegetation in Tidal Wetland Sites," co-

authored by Drs. Rachel Wigginton and Elizabeth Brusati (Council), describes the DIISC Team and seeks feedback on the management guidance a working group of the DIISC Team is developing. Finally, a special oral session titled “Delta Carbon Farming” was facilitated by Lauren Damon and included presentations on long-term monitoring of greenhouse gas budgets in restored wetlands, the development of the CA wetland carbon credit protocol, assessing the carbon market, generating carbon credits from DWR’s multi-benefit wetland restoration projects, and using Staten Island as a living library.

On October 21, Lauren Damon presented about the Delta and the Conservancy's work to students at Whitney High School in Rocklin as part of an environmental club's speaker series. The speaker series aims to help educate high school youth about changes occurring nationwide and how to get involved in their community.

COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

Delta Conservancy staff helped organize and facilitate a cleanup at Sherman Island as part of Coastal Cleanup Day on September 21. Working in collaboration with the Rio Vista Windsports Association, volunteers collected trash along the Sacramento River and filled a 40-yard dumpster, which was generously donated by Waste Management. As part of Coastal Cleanup Day, staff also volunteered at a cleanup in Rio Vista/Sandy Beach.



Figure 5.1. Staff and volunteers pose for a photo at the Sherman Island cleanup on September 21.

MEDIA MENTIONS

[AgNet West](#) published an article about the report released on the Delta Drought Response Pilot Program for water year 2023. [Maven’s Notebook](#) also reposted our press release about the report.

[The Daily Republic](#) and [Maven's Notebook](#) shared information about Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Week. The annual celebration was made official by [Sen. Bill Dodd's Senate Concurrent Resolution 119](#) in 2022.

[The Daily Republic](#) covered new park projects coming to Suisun City. Among them is a public fishing dock, which the Delta Conservancy Board awarded planning funding for in January.

[Maven's Notebook](#) reposted our July announcement that Supervisor Pat Hume was elected Board Chair and that the Board approved planning funding for a historical maritime museum in Stockton.

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

- None

DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE

Agenda Item 5 (2): Budget and Expenditure Report

CORRESPONDENCE

- On September 19 the Conservancy received a Public Records Act request for information on the RFP 23-0001-3 Cost Feasibility Analysis for the Restoration of Franks Tract. Relevant documentation was provided, and staff informed the requester that the RFP will likely be readvertised this fiscal year since the award was declined.

CONTACT

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nutria Eradication Program Update

Field Update October 8, 2024

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

1. Completed full and/or rapid assessments on over 1.9 M acres
2. Executed entry permits with 4,700 landowners for over 10,500 parcels in 16 counties
3. Set up 11,789 camera stations (1,451 currently active)
 - Conducted 96,092 camera checks
4. Detected nutria in 1,179 sites (40-acre cells)
5. Deployed 14,944 trap sets (740 currently active) for a total of 165,577 trap nights
6. Taken or accounted for the take of 5,208 nutria (since March 2017)
 - Merced - 2,527
 - Stanislaus - 985
 - Fresno - 1,023
 - San Joaquin - 110
 - Solano - 497
 - Sacramento - 34
 - Mariposa - 18
 - Madera - 12 (San Joaquin River; Fresno County line)
 - Contra Costa - 2
 - See Figure 5.3 for distribution of take by county, by year

Of 5,014 necropsies, the data has shown:

- 1.16 sex ratio (M:F)
- Of the females captured:
 - 21% of juvenile (2-6 months) females have been pregnant
 - 63% of subadult (6-14 months) females have been pregnant
 - 68% of adult (greater than 14 months of age) females have been pregnant
- 6,306 fetal nutria have been removed from the population
- Litter size ranged from 1-13, with an average of 6.0
 - Average litter size for adult females (greater than 14 months) in California is 6.6

Table 5.1. The total number of cells with nutria taken, total number of nutria taken, and average number of nutria taken per cell, by year from March 2017 to October 8, 2024.

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	1,239	7.9
2021	145	701	4.8
2022	112	580	5.2
2023	120	677	5.6
2024	184	1,150	6.3
Total Across Years	604	5,208	8.2

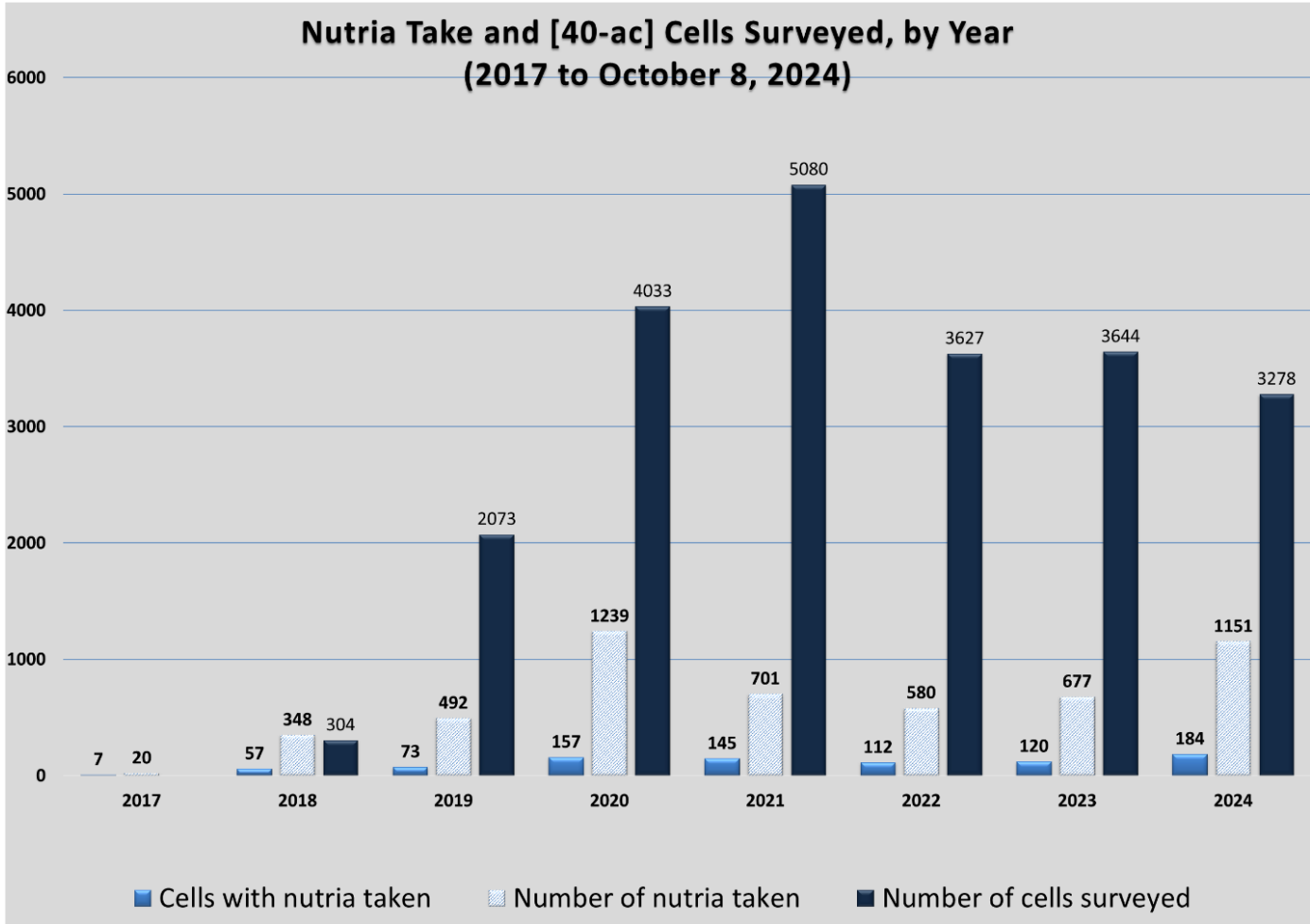


Figure 5.2. The total number of 40-acre cells (sites) with nutria taken (first column), total number of nutria taken (second column), and number of cells surveyed (third column), by year from March 2017 to October 8, 2024.

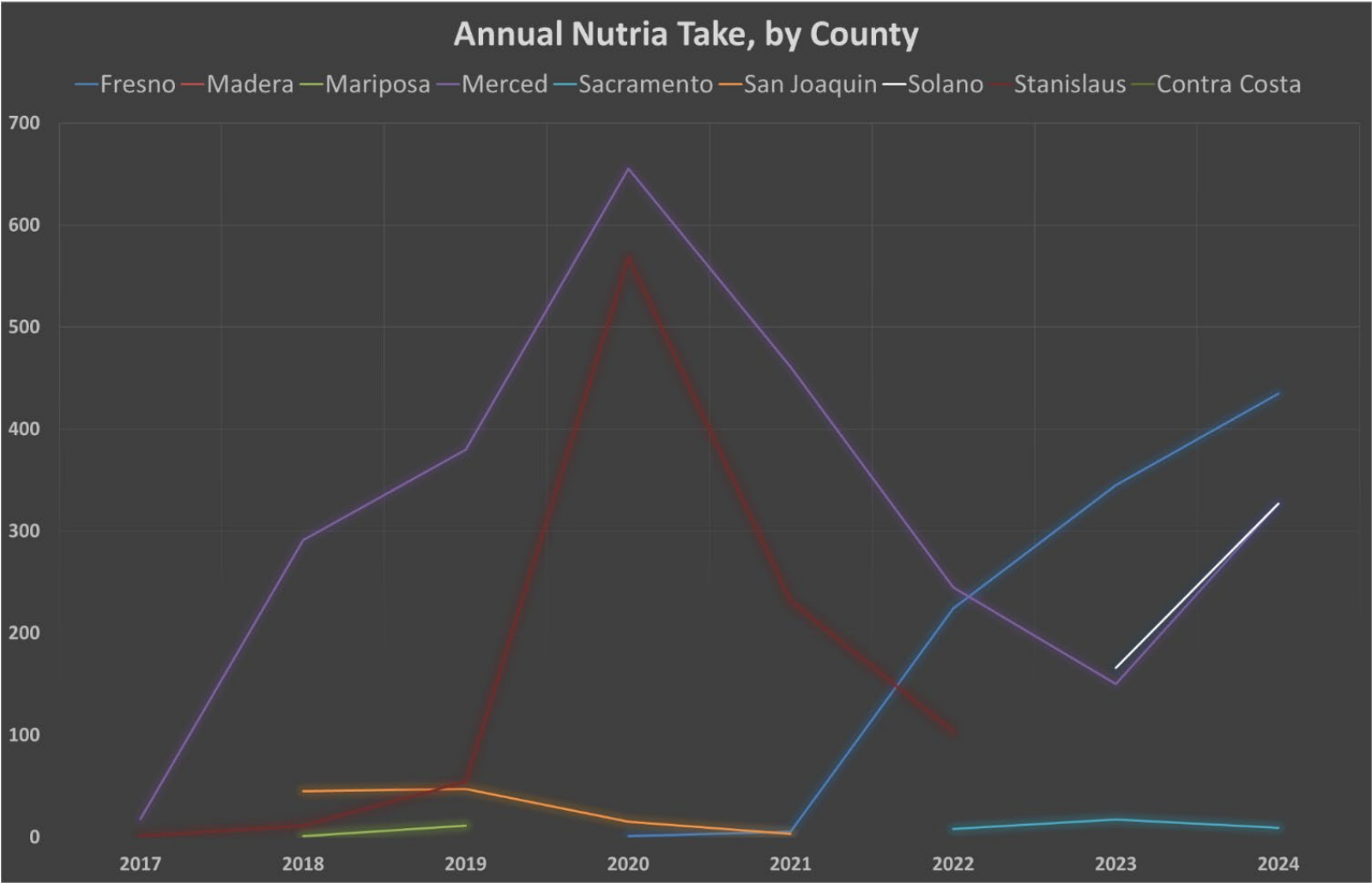


Figure 5.3. The distribution of nutria taken by county, by year, in California from 2017 through October 8, 2024. Madera and Contra Costa counties are not visible due to their low take totals.

**SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY
BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORT
July 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024**

Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Personal Services (PS)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
1	Salaries & Wages	\$1,510,410	\$128,401	\$1,382,009	9%
2	Temporary Help	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
3	Benefits	\$862,990	\$67,584	\$795,406	8%
4	TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	\$2,373,400	\$195,985	\$2,177,415	8%
Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Operating Expenditures and Equipment (OE & E)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
5	General Expense	\$13,395	\$0	\$13,395	0%
6	Printing	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	0%
7	Communications	\$15,450	\$0	\$15,450	0%
8	Postage	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
9	Travel-In State	\$11,850	\$0	\$11,850	0%
10	Training	\$17,375	\$0	\$17,375	0%
11	Facilities Operation	\$113,823	\$0	\$113,823	0%
12	Contracts & Personal Services-External	\$120,000	\$0	\$120,000	0%
13	Contracts & Personal Services-Interdepartmental	\$116,415	\$0	\$116,415	0%
14	Information Technology	\$50,600	\$0	\$50,600	0%
15	Non-Capital Asset Purchases	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
16	Indirect Cost Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
17	Unallocated Operating Expense & Equipment	\$11,063	\$0	\$11,063	0%
18	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES & EQUIPMENT	\$471,971	\$0	\$471,971	0%
Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Multi-Year Appropriations	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
19	Proposition 1 Program Support	\$33,123			
20	Proposition 68 Program Support	\$209,197			
21	Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Support	\$53,571			
22	Nature Based Solutions and CAR	\$1,276,234			
23	Grants and Subventions	\$0			
24	TOTAL MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS	\$1,572,125			
Line Number	TOTALS	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
25	TOTAL PS, OE & E, MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS	\$4,417,496	\$195,985	\$2,649,386	4%
26	REIMBURSEMENT	(\$137,429)	\$0	(\$137,429)	0%
27	GRAND TOTAL	\$4,280,067	\$195,985	\$2,511,957	5%



Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation 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 7.1). 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	\$42.4	\$0.1	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	\$5.35	\$0.02	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA and CEP
NBS: Wetland Restoration	\$36.0	\$34.2	\$34.2	\$0	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA

PROGRAM UPDATE

As of September 20, 2024, there are 18 active projects and 21 closed projects.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

Nature-Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration

The Board awarded \$32.4 million for four projects (one planning with implementation, one acquisition, and two implementation) – all of which are active.

Project Name	Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract (Planning, Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$20,907,371
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	NBS01
Grantee	Metropolitan Water District
Overview	Design and construct up to 3,500 acres of managed, flooded wetlands and up to 1,500 acres of rice fields on Webb Tract. The main objectives are to create fish and wildlife habitat, reverse subsidence, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, develop sustainable agriculture opportunities, investigate sustainable water management practices, and explore the carbon market as a potential revenue stream to improve long-term economic viability of wetlands.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 3/6/2024
New Information	Planning for the rice conversion and wetland restoration projects is underway. The Grantee held a public outreach meeting on July 10 and is planning another to be held in winter 2025.

Project Name	Delta Rice Conversion Program (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$4,333,124
County	San Joaquin and Contra Costa
Project ID	NBS02
Grantee	The Nature Conservancy
Overview	Provide financial incentives by funding the cost of conversion for Delta Farmers to convert existing agriculture to wildlife-friendly rice. The Program will target 5,000 acres in the Delta to halt subsidence, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and provide fish and wildlife habitat.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 6/13/2024
New Information	Contracts with landowners are being executed and land conversions for about 2,700 acres will occur this year.

Project Name	Land Acquisition on Bethel Island (Acquisition)
Amount Awarded	\$2,197,466
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	NBS03
Grantee	John Muir Land Trust
Overview	Acquire a 600-acre parcel on Bethel Island to be converted to wetlands and permanently stewarded and protected. Future phases of this project will provide fish and wildlife habitat, reverse subsidence, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and benefit the residents of Bethel Island by reducing flood risk and providing open space. This Project will also explore the carbon market as a potential revenue stream to improve long-term economic viability of wetlands.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 3/25/2024
New Information	Community outreach is ongoing; cost-share from other entities are in negotiations and pending Board approvals; purchase contract expires January 2025.

Project Name	Wetland Restoration Project on Staten Island (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$6,753,396
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	NBS04
Grantee	The Nature Conservancy
Overview	Convert 426 acres of existing corn to wetlands on a portion of Staten Island that has become too wet to farm. The wetlands will provide fish and wildlife habitat, reverse subsidence on the most deeply subsided portion of the island, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support the wildlife-friendly agriculture that is occurring on Staten Island Preserve. This Project will also explore the carbon market as a potential revenue stream to improve long-term economic viability of wetlands.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 4/19/2024
New Information	The Grantee is completing final design plans and construction is expected to start in 2025.

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	The project team is completing various technical memorandums and is initiating public outreach.

Proposition 1 Cycle 5 – Fiscal Year 2021-2022

The Board awarded approximately \$3 million for six projects (two planning and four implementation) – all of which are active.

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	The Grantee is completing aerial mapping of Project site and field verification that will be used to plan work areas and access. Conservancy staff prepared a staff recommendation for consideration for an amendment to modify the Project's budget and term (see Agenda Item 4.3).

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 acres of 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	The Grantee is submitting a request to modify the scope of work to address long-term management and maintenance of the project.

Project Name	Ulati Creek Habitat Restoration Project (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$413,586
County	Solano
Project ID	P1-2208
Grantee	Solano County Resource Conservation District
Overview	Create 20 acres of riparian woodland area along the north bank of Ulati 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 <i>Arundo donax</i>) will be controlled throughout the project site, resulting in an increase in native habitat area.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 6/13/2023
New Information	The Grantee continues to work on weed control, planting, installing irrigation, and monitoring. Swainson's hawk nests found on site.

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	Construction is ongoing but delayed at one site due to necessary bridge repairs.

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	Active as of 5/23/2023
New Information	The cultural resources report is being finalized, while work is ongoing for design planning, CEQA, and public outreach efforts.

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	The Grantee continues conducting outreach and planning. They have been in communication with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regarding the levee at the Project site and design of the levee will begin in 2026. The Grantee is seeking a setback levee and levee walking trails.

Proposition 1 Cycle 4 – Fiscal Year 2018-2019

The Board awarded approximately \$14.9 million for 10 projects (eight planning, one implementation, and one acquisition). One project was withdrawn after receiving an award. To date, four projects have closed.

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	The Grantee is working on permitting, implementation funding, and landowner and agency coordination. Conservancy staff prepared a staff recommendation for consideration for an amendment to modify the Project's budget and term (see Agenda Item 4.2)

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	The Grantee is working with the landowner and the USACE on design plans.

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	The Grantee is conducting outreach to permitting entities and completing final design.

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	The Grantee submitted a change request to shift funds from subcontractors to personnel services and corresponding indirect costs. Consistent with the Conservancy's Amendment and Modification Policy, the request was reviewed and approved at the Executive Officer level.

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	East Bay Regional Parks District has been identified as the conservation easement holder and the project team is working to record the conservation easement.

Proposition 1 Cycle 3 – Fiscal Year 2017-2018

The Board awarded approximately \$16 million for eight projects (four planning and four implementation). To date, six grants have closed.

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	65 Percent Design Plans have been finalized; the project team will hold an open house site tour later in fall 2024. Project on track to close by December 2024.

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	California Department of Water Resources
Overview	Restore wetland and riparian habitat to the 321-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	Construction of the Project started in late spring 2024 and is still ongoing.

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.

CLOSED PROJECTS

To date, a total of 21 projects funded by Proposition 1 have fully closed (11 planning, one acquisition, and nine 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 (\$3,299 unspent)
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 3/31/2022
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.

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 7/15/2022
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	Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving Aquatic Habitat Resiliency on Working Lands Along the Sacramento River (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$647,701 (\$23,249 unspent)
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	Closed as of 4/22/2023
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	Add one acre of habitat to the current Three Creeks Parkway Restoration project, thereby enhancing the ecological benefits of that project, while satisfying flood conveyance needs to protect the local area
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 8/24/2022
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration Plan (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$592,500 (\$886 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. The Grantee was awarded Climate, Access, and Restoration funds for implementation at the July 2022 Conservancy Board meeting.

Project Name	Stone Lakes Restoration Project (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$635,573 (\$5,139 unspent)
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	Closed as of 2/29/2024
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Nutria Eradication Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$1,125,577 (\$6,120 unspent)
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	Closed as of 4/5/2023
New Information	Closed; a final report available for review.

Project Name	Mello-Jensen Heirs Sandhill Crane Preserve Project (Implementation)
Agreement Amount	\$2,263,472 (\$291,461 unspent)
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	Closed as of 9/4/2024
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Blacklock Restoration: Phragmites Control Study (Planning)
Agreement Amount	\$387,440 (\$0 unspent)
County	Solano
Project ID	Prop 1-1803
Grantee	California Department of Water Resources
Overview	Test methods for controlling invasive species in future restoration at the Blacklock restoration site
Grant Agreement Status	Closed as of 11/1/2022
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

Project Name	Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Project, Phase 2 (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$265,254 (\$505 unspent)
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	Closed as of 9/18/2023
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review. San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJFCA) is now the project lead. In summer 2023, the CA Department of Water Resources granted the project \$3 million in funding for a feasibility study.

Project Name	Elk Slough Fish Passage and Flood Improvement (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$984,695 (\$71,604 unspent)
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	Closed as of 3/12/2024
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review.

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

Prop 1-1801: Mello-Jensen Heirs Sandhill Crane Preserve (Acquisition)

The purpose of this project was to acquire a conservation easement to safeguard 275 acres of crucial sandhill crane habitat on Tyler Island in Sacramento County. The land will be managed to maintain its agricultural integrity while simultaneously providing aquatic and vegetative resources for wildlife, with an emphasis on the long-term support of sandhill crane populations.

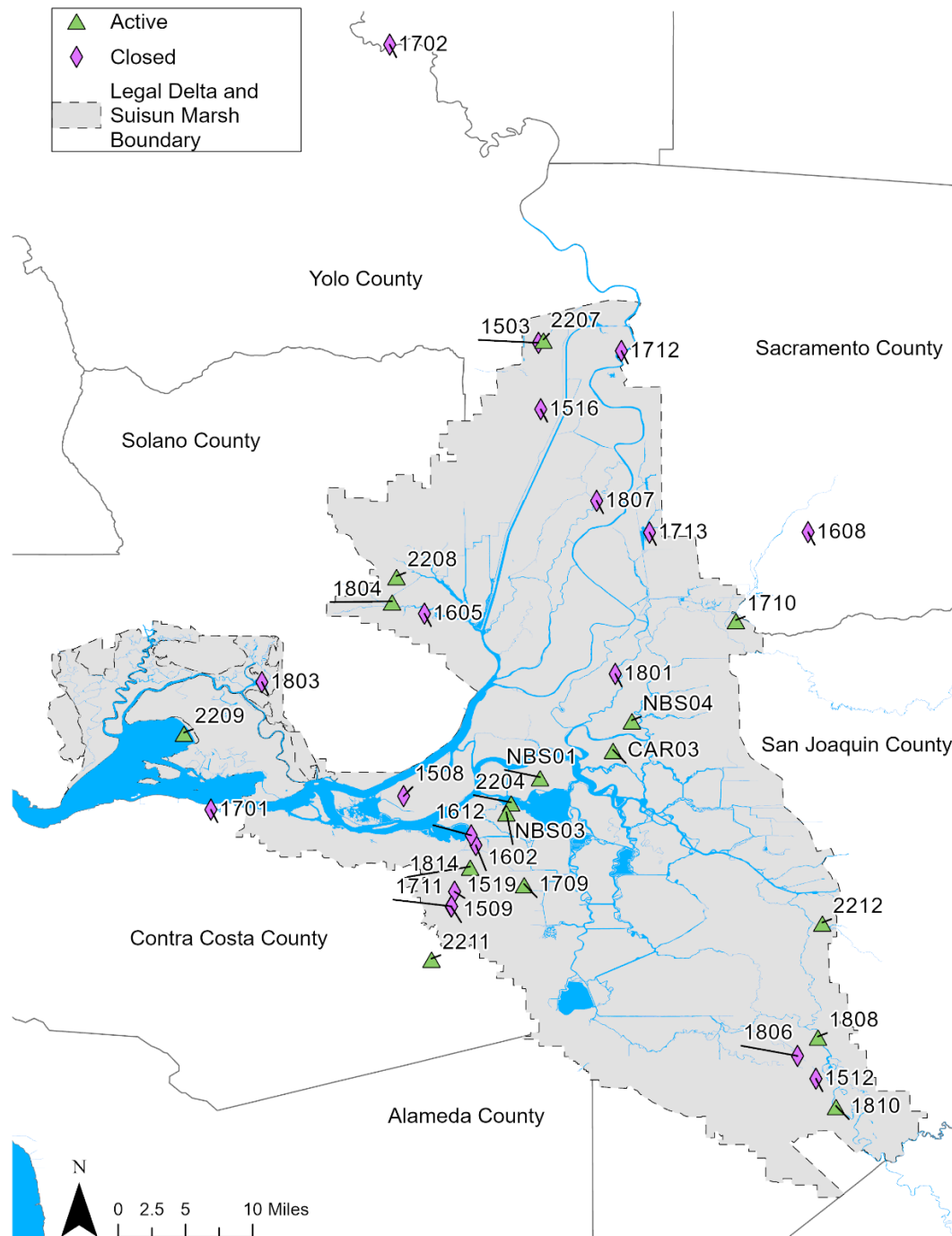


Figure 6.1. Sandhill cranes flying over the Preserve.

CONTACT

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FIGURE 6.2. MAP OF ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROJECTS



Two active projects (P1-1813 and NBS02) and two closed projects (P1-1505 and P1-1718) are not mapped due to their large spatial coverage.



Community Enhancement Grant Program Update Staff Report

BACKGROUND

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

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

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.

Community Enhancement Grant Program Funding Sources. ERCA refers to the Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program (Agenda Item 6.1). 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 68	\$12.0	\$8.7	\$5.9	\$2.8	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	\$5.8	\$0.02	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	ERCA and CEP

PROGRAM UPDATE

As of September 20, 2024, there are 13 active projects, one approved project, one closed project, and one working proposal. In the following tables, the DAC/SDAC designations indicate 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; 20 percent of the Delta Conservancy's allocation is \$2.4 million. Of the \$6.1 million for active, awarded, closed, or requested Proposition 68 projects, \$5.8 million (94 percent) is expected to support SDAC communities.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

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 their final outreach meeting and is working on construction 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 has submitted all project deliverables and is working on final report and final invoice.

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 submitted the final invoice.

Project Name	Discover the Delta Education Center (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$284,978
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 in the process of paying Sacramento County permit fees.

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 submitted the final invoice.

Project Name	Asian American Heritage Park Development (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$811,362
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 continues to make progress on project construction.

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 Grantee is working on outside displays and landscaping.

Project Name	Isleton Museum in the Bing Kong Tong Building Phase 2 (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$13,442
County	Sacramento
Project ID	P6824
Grantee	Isleton Museum
Overview	Purchase pedestal covers, wayfinding signs and restore banner to display within the Isleton Museum, located in the Bing Kong Tong Building.
DAC/SDAC	SDAC
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 4/8/2024
New Information	The Grantee continues to work on the project deliverables.

Project Name	Suisun City Public Fishing Dock Planning (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$715,180
County	Solano
Project ID	P6819
Grantee	City of Suisun City
Overview	Construction of recreational and safety enhancements to the Boat Launch Facility & Central Harbor Park.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 6/26/24
New Information	The Grant Agreement was executed on June 26, 2024.

Project Name	Pacific Flyway Center: Walk in the Marsh (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$1,936,050
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 3/22/2022
New Information	The Grantee is experiencing project delays and will coordinate with Staff to address next steps.

Project Name	Bees Lake Public Access (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$2,373,800
County	Yolo
Project ID	CAR02
Grantee	Bees Lake Public Access
Overview	Remove and control invasive species and reestablish native species. Build 700-square-foot viewing platform and 1,395 linear feet of ADA-compliant access to riparian forest.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 7/29/2022
New Information	The Grantee is working with staff to address changes to scope of work, budget, and project timeline.

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	Active as of 8/21/2023
New Information	The Grantee has selected the project site and can now proceed with community outreach and site design.

Project Name	Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project (Implementation)
Amount Awarded	\$3,544,395
County	Contra Costa
Project ID	CAR06
Grantee	City of Pittsburg
Overview	Construction of recreational and safety enhancements to the Boat Launch Facility & Central Harbor Park.
Grant Agreement Status	Active as of 9/13/2023
New Information	The Grantee has bid the project, and construction began at the end of September.

APPROVED PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$950,000)

Project Name	Stockton Maritime Museum Project (Planning)
Amount Awarded	\$950,000
County	San Joaquin
Project ID	P6818
Grantee	Stockton Historical Maritime Museum
Overview	Preconstruction planning activities for the construction of the Stockton Maritime Museum.
Grant Agreement Status	In Progress
New Information	Project was awarded funding at the July 24, 2024 Board meeting and the grant agreement is in progress.

CLOSED PROJECTS

To date, one project funded by Proposition 68 has fully closed. To receive a copy of a final report, please submit a written request specifying the project(s) of interest to

prop68grants@deltaconservancy.ca.gov.

Project Name	Land Acquisition for the Clarksburg Schoolhouse & Delta Welcome Center (Acquisition)
Amount Awarded	\$310,373 (\$2,747 unspent)
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	Closed as of 5/14/2024
New Information	Closed; a final report is available for review

WORKING PROPOSALS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$142,000)

Project ID	Project Name	Applicant	Project Type	Amount Requested	County	DAC/SDAC	Proposal Status
P6822	Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project	County of Sacramento	Acquisition	\$142,000	Sacramento	SDAC	Before the Board (Agenda Item 8.1)

CONTACT

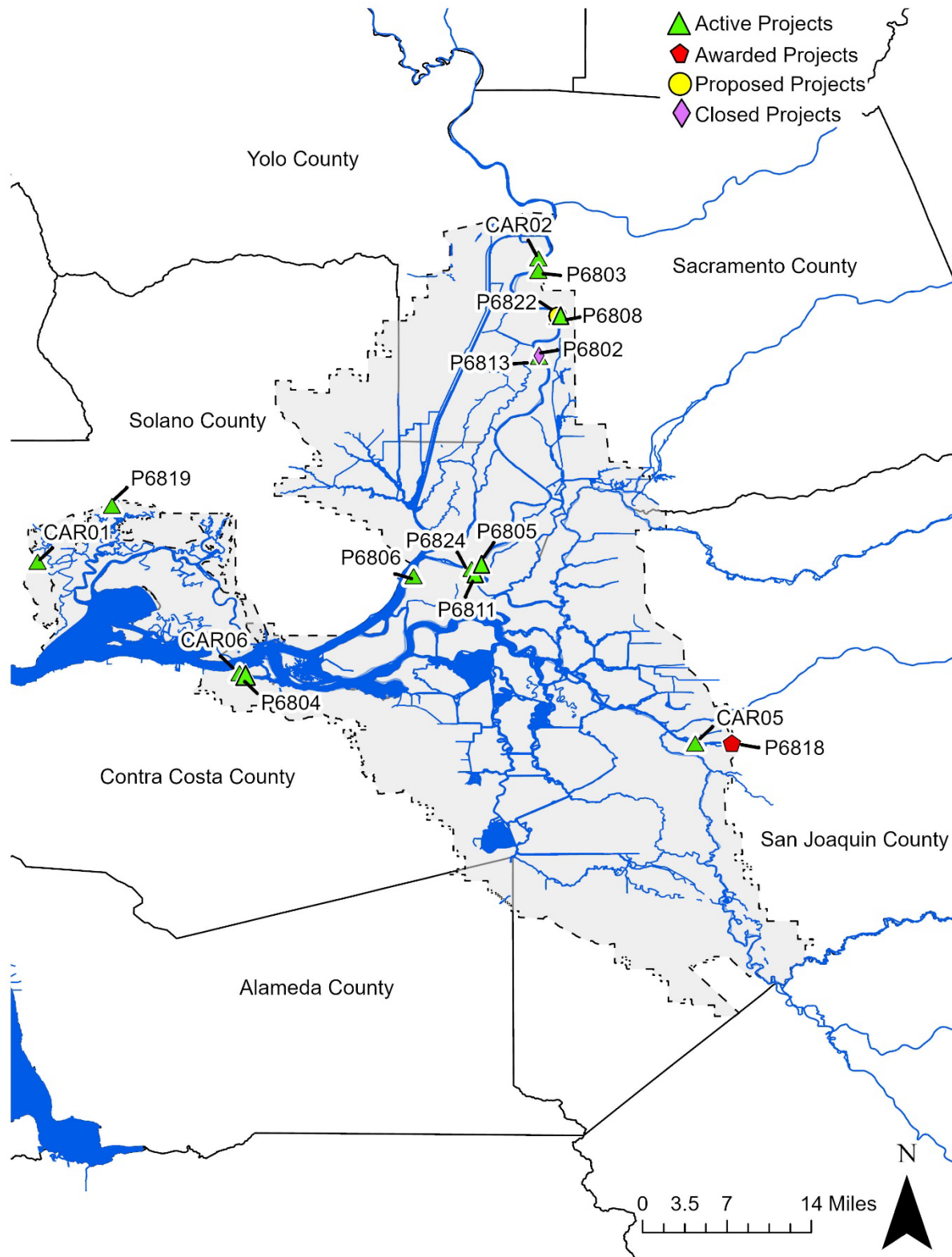
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FIGURE 7.1. MAP OF LOCATION AND STATUS OF COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM PROJECTS





**Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Funds for the Freeport,
Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project
Staff Recommendation**

This agenda item presents for Board consideration a recommendation to award Proposition 68 Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program funding for the Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project (Project).

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Applicant	County of Sacramento
Project ID	P6822
Project Type	Planning
County	Sacramento
Funding Request	\$164,300
Total Project Cost	\$185,887
Funding Recommendation	\$164,300

RECOMMENDATION

Conservancy staff recommends the Board approve up to \$164,300 in grant funding for the Freeport Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project (P6822) proposed by the County of Sacramento. Conservancy staff prepared the text below based on staff's best understanding of the information provided in the application and meetings with members of Sacramento County. Staff followed the Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program Grant Guidelines, approved by the Conservancy Board in December 2019, in working with the applicant and assessing this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this grant is to fund the acquisition activities for three properties in the Town of Freeport. The Freeport Delta Gateway Monuments project is a three-phase project that seeks to ultimately install two gateway monuments: a freestanding structure and one interpretive sign in the unincorporated community of Freeport. The purpose of the project is to highlight Freeport's role as: one of the 11 designated Legacy Communities in the Delta; the Northern Gateway to the Delta; the last leg of the National Memorial Victory Highway; and an important historical role in the California gold rush. This proposal (Phase Two) will fund the acquisition of easements on three project sites. The previous Phase One, funded by the Conservancy, developed 65 Percent Design Plans and right-of-way mapping for the project. The subsequent Phase Three effort, not part of this grant proposal, will include project management, final design, construction contract award, and implementation.

Environmental Compliance

This acquisition is considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Sacramento County is the Lead Agency under CEQA and has prepared a Notice of Exemption, finding the project categorically exempt from CEQA because it is new construction or conversion of a small

structure (California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 15303). As a CEQA responsible agency for this exempt project, the Conservancy Board need take no further CEQA actions. If the Board votes to fund this project, the NOE will be filed by Sacramento County with the Sacramento County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse.

Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC)

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)). Located in the Town of Freeport, the Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project serves a severely disadvantaged community.

COST SHARE

The County of Sacramento will contribute cost share in the form of in-kind contributions of \$21,587. The in-kind contribution will fund indirect costs and administrative overhead associated with personnel costs.

CONSISTENCY WITH STATE AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

The Project is consistent with Proposition 68 and the Conservancy's enabling legislation (Public Resources Code sections 32300-32381) and strategic plan. This Project is consistent with priorities outlined in the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan and the Delta Protection Commission's Economic Sustainability Plan.

LOCAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Residents and businesses in the Freeport community established the Freeport Citizens Community, a citizens advisory committee to spearhead the renovation of Freeport. Working with the County, the committee is an important supporter of this project, providing their dedication, time, and expertise to the project. Additionally, the project has wide community support, as evidenced by 22 letters of support from local businesses, community organizations, and area governments, including Delta Legacy Communities, California Delta Chambers, and a number of local businesses in and around Freeport. Plans for the Monuments were developed through community meetings with local residents.

BACKGROUND

Proposition 68 is the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Public Resources Code Division 45) that made \$12 million available to the Conservancy for uses specified in its governing statute (Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Act, Public Resources Codes, Division 22.3). The Conservancy will use Proposition 68 funds to support projects in the Conservancy's Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program. Unlike traditional grant programs, this program was designed to allow Conservancy staff to collaborate with project applicants to develop proposals that meet the Conservancy and Proposition 68 goals. When applicants submit concept proposals, staff review the proposal to assess viability and appropriateness with program goals. If the concept proposal is suitable, staff then guide applicants as they develop a full proposal for consideration of Proposition 68 funding. The Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project is the 16th full proposal staff has presented to the

Conservancy Board for consideration of the award of grant funds. The Conservancy provided \$223,277 in Proposition 68 funds for the planning phase (Phase 1) of this project.

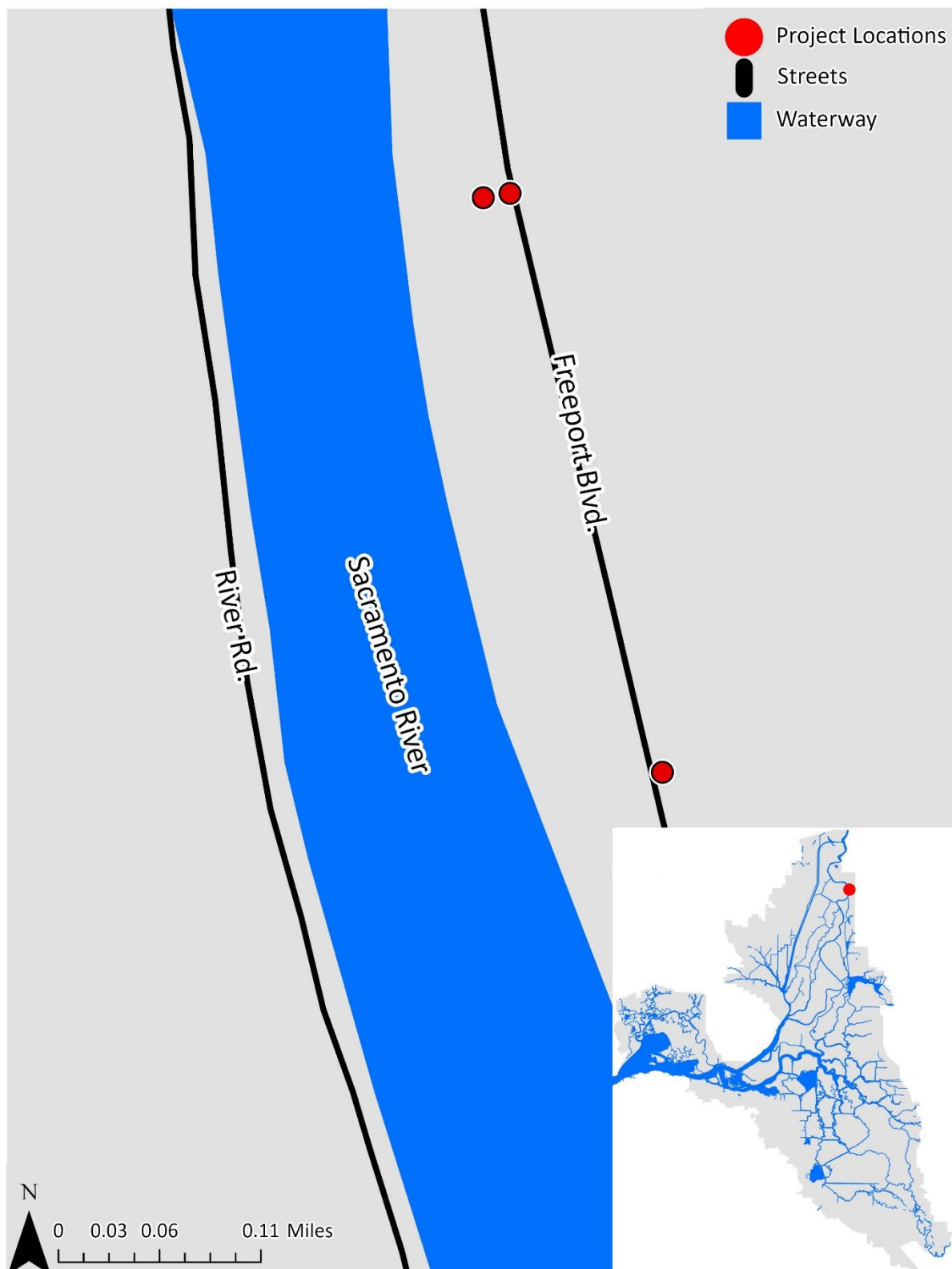
SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move that the Board award funding up to \$164,300 to the County of Sacramento from the Proposition 68 Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program for the Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project.

CONTACT

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FIGURE 8.1. MAP OF FREEPORT, DELTA GATEWAY MONUMENTS IN FREEPORT, DELTA GATEWAY MONUMENTS PROJECT AREA





Introduction to the Lean Six Sigma Board Packet Preparation Project Staff Report

This agenda item introduces the Board packet preparation process and Lean Six Sigma concepts for process improvement.

DESCRIPTION

Development and publication of the Delta Conservancy Board meeting materials packet is a cumbersome and lengthy process that can take up to 50 days to complete. The process requires a tremendous amount of staff time and due to the length of the process, information provided early can become outdated, requiring constant editing to avoid providing inaccurate information. To address these inefficiencies, Conservancy staff are participating in CalHR's Lean Six Sigma Training Program and are using the Board preparation process as a focal project for the training course. The objective of the project is to reduce the Board meeting package preparation time from 50 days to less than three weeks.

There are currently four main steps of the Board packet preparation process: agenda, draft reports, final reports, and formatting and publishing. Staff completed a detailed process map (see Figure 9.1) and identified more than 200 steps to complete the Board packet preparation process. In the coming months, Conservancy staff will seek input and feedback from Board members and the public on the Board packet content to assess what is necessary to give the Board a sufficient level of oversight while balancing staff's time and resources. We are interested in examples of exemplary or not so exemplary packets from other organizations to help guide the process. Conservancy staff will incorporate feedback into the process and provide updates on the project at the January 2025 Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

Lean Six Sigma is the combination of two methodologies to create an integrated approach to process improvement. "Lean" was developed by Toyota Motor Corporation in the 1950s and focuses on improving efficiencies and reducing waste. "Six Sigma" was developed by Motorola, Inc. in the 1980s and focuses on improving quality and reducing defects through data analysis and metrics. There are five phases of the Lean Six Sigma process: Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control. Staff are currently in the analyze phase of the Lean Six Sigma project.

CalHR offers a series of Lean Six Sigma courses aimed to identify and implement opportunities for efficiencies in state processes. With increasingly limited budgets, state agencies are expected to do similar if not higher levels of work with less resources. Programs like Lean Six Sigma allow state agencies to evaluate existing processes, identify and eliminate waste, and provide high-quality products to customers. Lean Six Sigma concepts and training have been adopted by numerous state agencies and departments (e.g. California Department of Human Resources, California Natural Resources Agency, and California Department of Motor Vehicles) to improve processes to better meet

customer needs. Recent projects resulted in 50 percent reduction in contract processing times, 50 percent reduction in time to hire new employees, and 100 percent conversion of physical documents to electronic copies. Upon completion of the formal training, the Conservancy will apply Lean Six Sigma concepts to other processes to better meet our customer (e.g. Board members, the Delta community, grantees) needs.

CONTACT

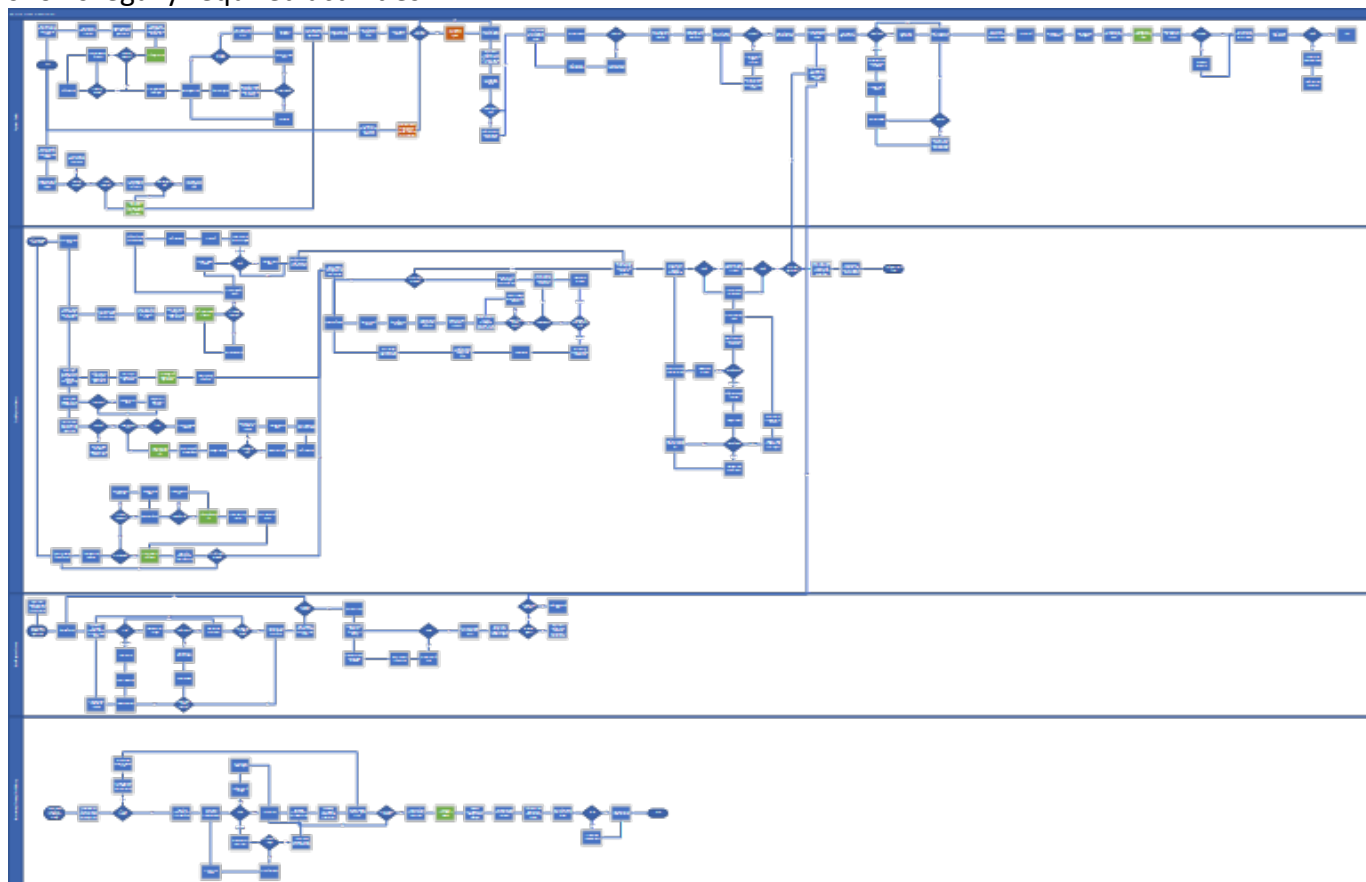
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Figure 9.1. Detailed Board packet preparation process. Green denotes value-added steps, and orange shows legally required activities.





Potential Agenda Items for the January 22, 2025 Board Meeting

Staff are seeking input from the Board regarding additional agenda items for the January 22, 2025 Board meeting.

Potential items include:

- Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grants
- Consideration of Amendment to Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreements
- Consideration of Amendment to Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreements
- Delta Conservancy 2024 Implementation Plan Status Update and Consideration of 2025 Implementation Plan

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