



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

*A California State Agency*

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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**January 22, 2025, 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.

**Two 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:**

- 1121 L Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95814
- 3361 Walnut Boulevard, Suite 140, Brentwood, CA 94513
- 542 Topeka Lane, Vacaville, CA 95688

### **Join via Microsoft Teams**

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Questions and public comment can be addressed to [contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov](mailto: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 October 23, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items (Attachment)
  - Consideration of Amendment to Term of Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreement for Asian American Heritage Park (Attachment)
  - Consideration of Amendment to Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant Program Agreement for Phase 1 San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement Project at Banta-Carbona (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**, Rachel Lane (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 Implementation**, Maya Garrett (Attachment) (Action Item)
9. **Delta Conservancy 2024 Annual Report**, Hope Miller
10. **Consideration of Delta Conservancy 2025 Implementation Plan**, Karen Buhr (Attachments) (Action Item)
11. **Update on the Lean Six Sigma Board Packet Preparation Project**, Dr. Sarah Lesmeister (Attachment)
12. **Presentation on Delta Adapts: Creating a Climate Resilient Future**, Morgan Chow
13. **California Department of Water Resources Multibenefit Restoration Program Update**, Charlotte Biggs
14. **Delta Stewardship Council Update**, Amanda Bohl
15. **Delta Protection Commission Update**, Bruce Blodgett
16. **Delta Conveyance Update**, Carrie Buckman
17. **Public Comment**
18. **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](mailto:contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov). This contact information may also be used for questions.
  - Public comments are generally limited to three (3) minutes but may be more or less at the discretion of the Board Chair.
  - The Board may consider the agenda items listed above in a different order at the Delta Conservancy Board meeting, pursuant to the determination of the Board Chair. All items appearing on this agenda, whether listed expressly for action, may be deliberated upon and subject to action at the discretion of the Delta Conservancy Board.



**October 23, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items**  
**1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6, West Sacramento, CA 95691**

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Video and audio of the meeting are available here:

[October 23, 2024 Board Meeting Recording](#)

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Hume.

**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 – teleconference
- Pat Hume
- Diane Burgis – teleconference
- Gloria Sandoval
- Sandi Matsumoto – arrived at 9:06 a.m. after consent calendar vote
- Lilliana Udang
- Michele Perrault

**Ex-Officio Members Present:**

- None

**Liaison Advisors and Counsel Present:**

- Steve Chappell – not on agenda; attending as member of the public
- Marge Kolar
- Todd Plain
- Nicole Rinke (Counsel)

**Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment**

None

**Agenda Item 4 – Consent Calendar**

**Motion:** Supervisor Mashburn moved, seconded by Board Member Udang, that the Board approve the following:

- July 24, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

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

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with seven ayes with a notation to the July 24, 2024 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items: Agenda Item 14 was not included, and that Marge Kolar was in person and not participating by teleconference. The Board gave direction to staff to make those corrections.

**Agenda Item 5 – Executive Officer’s Report**

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

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

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report. As of September 20, 2024, there are 18 active projects and 21 closed projects.

**Agenda Item 7 – Community Enhancement Grant Programs Update**

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report including a project status update. As of September 20, 2024, there are 13 active projects, one approved project, one working proposal and one closed project. Several applicants are working on proposals.

**Agenda Item 8 – Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Funds for Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project**

Conservancy staff highlighted the project for consideration. The purpose of this grant is to fund the acquisition activities for three properties in the Town of Freeport for the Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Project, which 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.

**Motion:** Board Member Perrault moved, seconded by Supervisor Burgis, 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.

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

**Agenda Item 9 – Introduction to the Lean Six Sigma Board Packet Preparation Project**

Conservancy staff is participating in the Lean Six Sigma Training Program, which seeks to create an integrated approach to process improvement. This agenda item introduced the Lean Six Sigma concepts and identified the focus of this training to be the Board packet preparation process.

**Agenda Item 10 – Update on the Reorienting to Recovery: Central Valley Salmon Recovery Project**

Rafael Silberblatt, Senior Director at Kearns & West, shared a slide presentation on the status of the Reorienting to Recovery: Central Valley Salmon Recovery Project.

**Agenda Item 11 – Update on Nutria Control Activities in the Delta and Suisun Marsh**

Valerie Cook, Nutria Eradication Program Manager, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, gave a presentation on the CDFW nutria project from inception to present.

**Agenda Item 12 – California Department of Water Resources Multibenefit Restoration Program Update**

This agenda item was not presented.

**Agenda Item 13 – Delta Stewardship Council Update**

Amanda Bohl, Special Assistant for Planning and Science, Delta Stewardship Council, presented an update.

**Agenda Item 14 – Delta Stewardship Council’s Tribal and Environmental Justice Issue paper**

Amanda Bohl and Meghan Thomson, Environmental Scientist, Delta Stewardship Council, presented on the Tribal and Environmental Justice Issue paper.

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

This agenda item was not presented.

**Agenda Item 16 – Delta Conveyance Update**

Janet Barbieri, Consultant to the Department of Water Resources managing the Communication Program for the Delta Conveyance Project, presented an update on the Delta Conveyance Project’s current activities.

**Agenda Item 17 – Potential Agenda Items for the January 22, 2025 Board Meeting**

- None

**Agenda Item 18 – Public Comment**

None

**BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF**

None

**MEETING ADJOURNED** by Chair Hume at 10:29 a.m.

**CONTACT**

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SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

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**Consideration of Amendment to Term of Community Enhancement Grant Program Agreement for  
Asian American Heritage Park  
Staff Report**

<b>Grantee</b>	Delta Educational Cultural Society
<b>Project ID</b>	P6811
<b>Award Year</b>	2022
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Category</b>	Implementation
<b>Award Amount</b>	\$820,571
<b>Request</b>	Term

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board approves a term extension of one year to complete project deliverables.

**DESCRIPTION**

The Grantee is requesting a one-year extension from March 31, 2025 to March 31, 2026 to complete construction of the Asian American Heritage Park. The project is near completion, but extreme heat during the summer and PG&E's availability to coordinate electrical connections caused construction delays. Additionally, issues with supply availability and subcontractor's scheduling conflicts caused delays in the original project schedule. Without a term extension the Grantee will be unable to complete the final project elements. No other requests are being made at this time.

**BACKGROUND**

Asian American Heritage Park (Project ID P6811) is an implementation project designed to construct a .07-acre park showcasing the Asian American heritage of the town of Isleton. The park features include landscaping, walkways, an artistic ceramic water feature, seat walls, walkway tiles, benches, engraved bricks and plaques recognizing contributors to the park, and a Japanese bell temple (Kansho-do). This project was awarded \$554,772 of Proposition 68 funds to the Grantee in 2022. They received a budget increase of \$265,799 in 2023. This is the Grantee's second amendment request requiring Board consideration. 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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**Consideration of Amendment to Term of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Grant  
Program Agreement for Phase 1 San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway  
Enhancement Project at Banta-Carbona  
Staff Report**

<b>Grantee</b>	Banta-Carbona Irrigation District
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-1810
<b>Award Year</b>	2020
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Category</b>	Planning
<b>Original Award Amount</b>	\$750,931
<b>Request</b>	Term

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board approves a term extension of one year to complete project deliverables.

**DESCRIPTION**

The Grantee is requesting a one-year term extension from February 28, 2025 to February 28, 2026 to complete project planning for Phase 1 of the San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement Project. The 90 Percent Design Plans and modeling have been completed for the project. The extension will allow the Grantee additional time to engage with an adjacent landowner and obtain a letter of support for the project. This letter of support is needed to reach 100 Percent Design Plans and complete the application for the Central Valley Flood Protection Board permit.

The Grantee indicated that if the Conservancy is unable to extend the grant term, project planning would be incomplete. Additionally, the project would be less competitive for implementation funding as several important deliverables, such as 100 Percent Design Plans, would remain incomplete.

No other modifications are being made to the agreement and funding is available through June 2027.

**BACKGROUND**

Phase 1 of the San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement at Banta-Carbona (Project ID P1-1810) is a planning project designed to improve rearing habitat for juvenile salmon, reduce flood risk, and address sedimentation at Banta-Carbona Irrigation District's intake fish screen. This project was awarded \$750,931 of Proposition 1 funds to the Grantee in 2020. This is the Grantee's third amendment request requiring Board consideration. Two prior amendment requests have been approved, one to extend the grant term and another to modify project deliverables.

**CONTACT**

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## Executive Officer's Report January 22, 2025

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### PROGRAM UPDATE

#### FORM 700 COMPLIANCE

The Notices from the Fair Political Practices Commission to complete Form 700, Statement of Economic Interests have been sent to Conservancy Board Members, alternate Board Members, and Liaison Advisors. The final filing deadline is April 1, 2025. Forms are completed on the Fair Political Practices Commission [online portal](#). If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Jiantie (Jenny) Hou at [Jiantie.Hou@deltaconservancy.ca.gov](mailto:Jiantie.Hou@deltaconservancy.ca.gov).

#### 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. The first annual field water budgets were submitted during the November 2024 reporting period, and the grantee presented the initial results to members of the Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium on December 10, 2024. Conservancy staff continued to share the analysis of the DDRPP with interested parties through various forums.

#### DELTA CONSERVANCY FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET APPROPRIATION UPDATES

The California Department of Finance (DOF) Budget Letter 24-25, 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. The latest projection is a \$5,000 decrease in operating funds.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Staff completed their annual Information Security and Privacy Awareness trainings. The State Leadership Accountability Act (SLAA) Report was submitted, and we continue to work on the fiscal year

2025/26 budget drills. The Conservancy is recruiting to backfill a Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory) position. Staff processed three grants, closed out three grants, and processed 80 invoices.

### **DELTA CONSERVANCY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) UPDATE**

Conservancy staff are pursuing the authority to enter into Architectural and Engineering agreements. This authority allows more leniency in contracting given how few entities can perform some specialized work. The Proposed Action of Regulation was published on January 3, 2025, by Office of Administrative Law. The 45-day comment period ends on February 18, 2025.

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

In 2024, Conservancy staff submitted five grant proposals: Regional Conservation Partnership Program, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: America the Beautiful Challenge, two Delta Science Program proposals, and the Clean Vessel Act Program. The Conservancy was not selected for the federal grant or the Delta Science Program opportunities as the funding solicitations were very competitive. However, the Conservancy was awarded the California State Parks 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. The grant term started on January 1, 2025.

Conservancy staff are partnering with the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, the Delta Protection Commission, Solano Resource Conservation District, the Catholic Charities of Stockton, and law enforcement agencies from the five Delta counties to submit a proposal to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Removal Program by January 31, 2025. If awarded, the program would provide funding to support community engagement, education, outreach, removal, monitoring, and prevention of marine debris (e.g., abandoned vessels, vehicles, fishing gear) in the Delta waterways.

### **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 most recent RSC meeting took place on November 13, 2024 and consisted of a series of site visits in the southern Delta to explore potential restoration opportunities. The meeting was held in collaboration with Restore the Delta to highlight community-supported restoration needs in the south Delta. Local, state, and federal agencies attended the meeting. In 2025, the RSC plans to host a spring meeting and an early summer Delta Restoration Forum.

**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 fourth quarterly meeting of the year on November 19, 2024. The team had three speakers and shared general work updates with the group. Speakers shared an update on invasive golden mussel, a proposal for repeated invertebrate surveys in the Delta and Suisun Marsh, and an update on research on invasive ribbon weed and early detection and rapid response (EDRR). Staff are facilitating a DIISC Team working group to develop general guidance for adaptive management of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration sites. DIISC Team Leadership were invited to present on EDRR at the Western Aquatic Plant Management Society annual conference in March 2025. The talk will highlight the work the DIISC Team has done over the past few years to advance EDRR coordination in the Delta and Suisun Marsh.

**MEDIA MENTIONS**

- The executive officer was interviewed about subsidence for a [Delta Dispatch](#) podcast episode. The episode was reshared by Maven's Notebook.
- [Bay Area News Group](#) covered the groundbreaking for Pittsburg's Central Harbor Park upgrades that the Conservancy is funding with a Climate, Access, and Resource (CAR) grant.
- [The Daily Republic](#) published an article about a December public meeting for Suisun City's public fishing dock planning project. The Conservancy is funding the project with a Proposition 68 grant.
- The executive officer was interviewed for an [Estuary News Group](#) story that highlighted Conservancy-funded projects using nature-based solutions.

**BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF**

- None

**DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE**

Agenda Item 5.2: Budget and Expenditure Report

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- On November 14, the Conservancy received a Public Records Act request for information on the Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton planning project. A copy of the project proposal was sent to the requester.
- On November 18, the Conservancy received a Public Records Act request for information on the Discover the Delta Education Center and Stockton Maritime Museum planning projects. Copies of the proposals were sent to the requester.

**CONTACT**

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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

## **Nutria Eradication Program Update**

### **Field Update January 9, 2025**

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 4,800 landowners for over 11,000 parcels in 17 counties
3. Set up 12,348 camera stations (1,464 currently active)
  - Conducted 100,376 camera checks
4. Detected nutria in 1,179 sites (40-acre cells)
5. Deployed 15,721 trap sets (621 currently active) for a total of 172,505 trap nights
6. Taken or accounted for the take of 5,448 nutria (since March 2017)
  - Merced - 2,575
  - Fresno - 1,130
  - Stanislaus - 986
  - Solano - 513
  - San Joaquin - 110
  - Madera - 48 (San Joaquin River; Fresno County line)
  - Sacramento - 45
  - Mariposa - 24
  - Contra Costa - 17

Of 5,406 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
- 6,563 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 6.5

**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 January 1, 2025.

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	214	1,353	6.3
2025	8	38	4.8
<b>Total Across Years</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>5,448</b>	<b>8.6</b>

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

Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Personal Services (PS)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
1	Salaries & Wages	\$1,524,549	\$531,905	\$992,644	35%
2	Temporary Help	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
3	Benefits	\$793,323	\$278,738	\$514,585	35%
4	<b>TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$2,317,872</b>	<b>\$810,643</b>	<b>\$1,507,229</b>	<b>35%</b>
Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Operating Expenditures and Equipment (OE & E)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
5	General Expense	\$25,250	\$1,070	\$24,180	4%
6	Printing	\$2,690	\$291	\$2,399	11%
7	Communications	\$15,450	\$3,649	\$11,801	24%
8	Postage	\$475	\$0	\$475	0%
9	Travel-In State	\$22,188	\$1,841	\$20,347	8%
10	Training	\$16,175	\$5,675	\$10,500	35%
11	Facilities Operation	\$113,823	\$36,414	\$77,409	32%
12	Contracts & Personal Services-External	\$121,190	\$0	\$121,190	0%
13	Contracts & Personal Services-Interdepartmental	\$140,967	\$22,718	\$118,249	16%
14	Information Technology	\$50,994	\$151	\$50,843	0%
15	Non-Capital Asset Purchases	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	0%
16	Indirect Cost Recovery	\$34,243	\$0	\$34,243	0%
17	Unallocated Operating Expense & Equipment	\$32,063	\$0	\$32,063	0%
18	<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>\$576,508</b>	<b>\$71,809</b>	<b>\$504,699</b>	<b>12%</b>
Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Multi-Year Appropriations	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
19	Proposition 1 Program Support	\$71,663			
20	Proposition 68 Program Support	\$221,093			
21	Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Support	\$36,208			
22	Nature Based Solutions and CAR	\$1,316,675			
23	Grants and Subventions	\$0			
24	<b>TOTAL MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$1,645,639</b>		<b>\$1,645,639</b>	
Line Number	TOTALS	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
25	<b>TOTAL PS, OE &amp; E, MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$4,540,019</b>	<b>\$882,452</b>	<b>\$3,657,567</b>	<b>19%</b>
26	REIMBURSEMENT	(\$272,952)	\$0	(\$272,952)	0%
27	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,267,067</b>	<b>\$882,452</b>	<b>\$3,384,615</b>	<b>21%</b>



## 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 December 28, 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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract (Planning, Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$20,907,371
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	NBS01
<b>Grantee</b>	Metropolitan Water District
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 3/6/2024
<b>New Information</b>	<p>Rice Cultivation Project: Conversion of existing corn to rice is expected to start Spring 2025, which is a one-year delay due to higher-than-expected conversion costs.</p> <p>Wetland Restoration Project: A conceptual design is completed. To reduce construction and long-term costs, the initial wetted acres have been reduced. Wetland acreage will gradually increase over time as soil accretes in the most deeply subsided areas.</p> <p>The Grantee will hold a second public meeting in February 2025.</p>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Delta Rice Conversion Program (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$4,333,124
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin and Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	NBS02
<b>Grantee</b>	The Nature Conservancy
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 6/13/2024
<b>New Information</b>	The first 2,700 acres enrolled in this program will cultivate rice starting in spring 2025. Outreach and enrollment for 2026 will occur in spring 2025.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Land Acquisition on Bethel Island (Acquisition)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$2,197,466
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	NBS03
<b>Grantee</b>	John Muir Land Trust
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 03/25/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Escrow closed in December 2024 and the acquisition is complete. Future phases include outreach, planning, and implementation of wetland restoration at the site.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Wetland Restoration Project on Staten Island (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$6,753,396
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	NBS04
<b>Grantee</b>	The Nature Conservancy
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 4/19/2024
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee is completing final design plans and construction is expected to start in 2025. Conversations with tribal entities are ongoing. Construction is expected to begin Spring 2025.

**CAR – Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

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

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Big Break Regional Shoreline Restoration and Public Access Planning Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$390,000
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	CAR03
<b>Grantee</b>	East Bay Regional Park District
<b>Overview</b>	Create planning documents to support public access and the long-term sustainability of 1,648 acres of open water, wetlands, and upland habitat.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 12/14/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The project team is drafting an opportunities and constraints report. Stakeholder outreach has begun, with public outreach to begin this quarter.

**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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$427,706
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-2204
<b>Grantee</b>	Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 4/21/2023
<b>New Information</b>	An amendment to the Project's budget and term was approved at the October Board meeting. After completion of aerial mapping and field verification, RCD Staff are currently being trained on boat operation and safety to carry out upcoming weed removal.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project, Phase Two (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$887,516
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-2207
<b>Grantee</b>	Ducks Unlimited
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 3/16/2023
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has made a scope change request that is pending an update to CEQA compliance documentation. If approved, construction is anticipated to start on this project in 2026. There have been delays due to management changes at CDFW and concerns over long-term operations and maintenance. The concerns will be resolved as part of the change request.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Ulati Creek Habitat Restoration Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$413,586
<b>County</b>	Solano
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-2208
<b>Grantee</b>	Solano County Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 6/13/2023
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee continues to work on weed control, planting, installing irrigation, and monitoring. Swainson's hawk nests found on site. Grantee presented their progress and weed control methods to the Interagency Adaptive Management Integration Team in December 2024.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Improving Hydrological Resiliency of Managed Wetlands in the Suisun Marsh (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$542,546
<b>County</b>	Solano
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-2209
<b>Grantee</b>	Suisun Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 03/27/2023
<b>New Information</b>	Three drainage projects have been completed; monitoring is ongoing to determine if additional modification or refinement is necessary. Construction at one site is delayed until Summer 2025 due to necessary bridge repairs.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$550,000
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-2211
<b>Grantee</b>	Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 5/23/2023
<b>New Information</b>	Project team is working on 65% engineering and habitat restoration designs.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Van Buskirk Multi-Benefit Ecosystem Restoration Planning Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$467,848
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	P1-2212
<b>Grantee</b>	American Rivers
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 12/22/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee hosted a site visit in November as part of a DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee meeting. The United States Department of the Interior awarded \$7 million in grant funding for the Project from the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP).

**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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Delta Waterways Habitat Restoration Planning (Planning)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$347,481
<b>County</b>	Solano
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1804
<b>Grantee</b>	Solano Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	Planning for restoration and enhancement of waterways and edge habitats on working lands in Solano County
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 12/19/2019
<b>New Information</b>	An amendment to the Project's budget and term was approved at the October Board meeting. The Grantee continues to develop Conservation and Grazing Plans and anticipates developing plans for a total of eight sites.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Lower San Joaquin Riparian Corridor (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$522,027
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1808
<b>Grantee</b>	American Rivers
<b>Overview</b>	Planning for restoration of floodplain and riparian habitat along the lower San Joaquin River
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 5/3/2021
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee is working to develop restoration planting plans that incorporate the appropriate level of erosion control.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Phase 1 San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement at Banta-Carbona Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$750,931
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1810
<b>Grantee</b>	Banta-Carbona Irrigation District
<b>Overview</b>	Planning for 30 acres of seasonally inundated floodplain restoration
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 12/10/2020
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee prepared a video that showcases the project (see Project Highlights section below). Conservancy staff prepared a staff recommendation for consideration to extend the Project's term (see Agenda Item 4.3).

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Nutria Eradication Project, Phase 2 (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$8,483,080
<b>County</b>	Multiple
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1813
<b>Grantee</b>	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Overview</b>	Surveys for and removal of invasive species to minimize or avoid impacts to wetland habitats and water quality
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 6/8/2020
<b>New Information</b>	Project is ongoing. The Grantee submitted a change request to shift funds between budget line items that exceed the threshold listed in the grant agreement. Consistent with the Conservancy's Amendment and Modification Policy, the request was reviewed and approved at the Executive Officer level in September 2024. The amended grant agreement is with Grantee for approval and signatures.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Oakley Creekside Park Restoration (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$436,465
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1814
<b>Grantee</b>	City of Oakley
<b>Overview</b>	Planning for restoration of floodplain and riparian habitat along Marsh Creek
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 12/11/2020
<b>New Information</b>	Project is complete. Conservancy staff are working with the Grantee to complete closeout.

**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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Knightsen Wetland Restoration and Flood Protection Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$1,435,000
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1709
<b>Grantee</b>	East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
<b>Overview</b>	Advance planning for restoring wetlands and managing and treating storm water on public land in Knightsen
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 3/20/2019
<b>New Information</b>	Project is complete. Conservancy staff are working with the Grantee to complete closeout.



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Grizzly Slough Floodplain Restoration Project at the Cosumnes River Preserve (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$8,700,800
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1710
<b>Grantee</b>	California Department of Water Resources
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 4/30/2020
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee submitted a change request to update project performance criteria and clarify long-term deliverables. Consistent with the Conservancy's Amendment and Modification Policy, the request was reviewed and approved at the Executive Officer level in December 2024.

#### **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 [contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov](mailto:contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov).

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$2,026,814 (\$3,299 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-Y1-2015-003
<b>Grantee</b>	Ducks Unlimited
<b>Overview</b>	Implement habitat and working landscape enhancements in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 3/31/2022
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

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

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

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Spent</b>	\$826,666 (\$9,743 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-Y1-2015-009
<b>Grantee</b>	American Rivers
<b>Overview</b>	Convert denuded flood control channel at the confluence of Marsh, Sand, and Deer Creeks into a healthy stream corridor
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 4/1/2022
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Plan (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Spent</b>	\$99,924 (\$217 unspent)
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-Y1-2015-012
<b>Grantee</b>	San Joaquin Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 6/30/2019
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Spent</b>	\$829,183 (\$7,051 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-Y1-2015-016
<b>Grantee</b>	Yolo Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	Restore up to 5 miles (22 acres) of floodway-compatible wildlife and pollinator habitat, providing a transit corridor for wildlife during floods
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 3/7/2023
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Restoration Planning Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Spent</b>	\$73,493 (\$2,391 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-Y1-2015-019
<b>Grantee</b>	American Rivers
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 12/31/2019
<b>New Information</b>	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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Dutch Slough Revegetation (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$2,900,000 (\$270 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1602
<b>Grantee</b>	Reclamation District 2137
<b>Overview</b>	Establish and maintain 468 acres of native tidal marsh, riparian, and grassland vegetation at the Dutch Slough restoration site
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 7/15/2022
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Petersen Ranch: Working Waterway Habitat Enhancement Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$444,464 (\$1,398 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Solano
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1605
<b>Grantee</b>	Solano Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 2/11/2022
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

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

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

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

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving Aquatic Habitat Resiliency on Working Lands Along the Sacramento River (Planning)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$647,701 (\$23,249 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1702
<b>Grantee</b>	American Rivers
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 4/22/2023
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project #2 (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$990,543 (\$46 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1711
<b>Grantee</b>	American Rivers
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 8/24/2022
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration Plan (Planning)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$592,500 (\$886 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1712
<b>Grantee</b>	City of West Sacramento
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 4/27/2021
<b>New Information</b>	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.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Stone Lakes Restoration Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$635,573 (\$5,139 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1713
<b>Grantee</b>	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
<b>Overview</b>	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
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 2/29/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Nutria Eradication Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$1,125,577 (\$6,120 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Multiple
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1718
<b>Grantee</b>	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>Overview</b>	Eliminate nutria from all known and discovered locations in California to prevent nutria from causing significant ecological damage in the Delta
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 4/5/2023
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report available for review.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Mello-Jensen Heirs Sandhill Crane Preserve Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Agreement Amount</b>	\$2,263,472 (\$291,461 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1801
<b>Grantee</b>	Agricultural-Natural Resources Trust
<b>Overview</b>	Acquire a conservation easement on 275 acres of farmland to ensure that it remains as wildlife friendly agriculture
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 9/4/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.

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

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Project, Phase 2 (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$265,254 (\$505 unspent)
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1806
<b>Grantee</b>	San Joaquin Resource Conservation District
<b>Overview</b>	Outreach and planning to advance the Paradise Cut Flood Bypass in San Joaquin County
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 9/18/2023
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review. San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJFCA) is now the project lead. In summer 2023, the California Department of Water Resources awarded the project \$3 million in funding for a feasibility study.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Elk Slough Fish Passage and Flood Improvement (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$984,695 (\$71,604 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	Prop 1-1807
<b>Grantee</b>	Reclamation District 999
<b>Overview</b>	Planning for habitat and flood control enhancements along Elk Slough
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 3/12/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review.



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### **P1-1810: Phase 1 San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement at Banta-Carbona**

The Phase 1 San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement at Banta-Carbona Project is a planning project to design and permit a 30-acre multi-benefit floodplain on the San Joaquin River to improve rearing habitat for juvenile salmon, reduce flood risk, and address sedimentation issues at an intake screen. A video on the project is available at <https://vimeo.com/1026747273>.

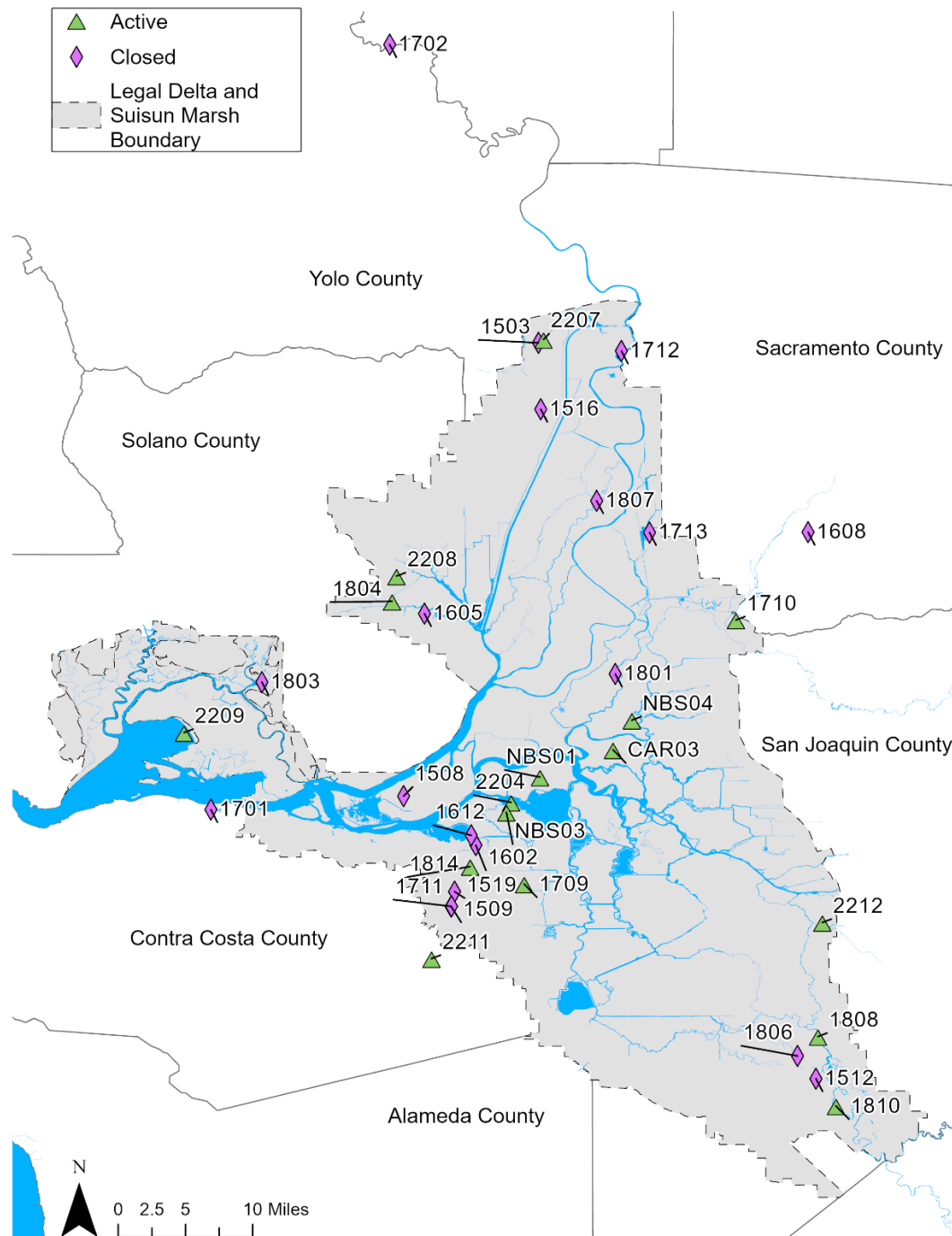


**Figure 6.1.** Video created by the Grantee, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District, describing the San Joaquin River Floodplain Restoration and Floodway Enhancement at Banta-Carbona Project.

## 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	\$6.1	\$2.6	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 December 28, 2024, there are 11 active projects, one approved project, four closed projects, 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 \$6.6 million for active, awarded, closed, or requested Proposition 68 projects, \$6.2 million (95 percent) is expected to support SDAC communities.

**ACTIVE PROJECTS**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Southport Levee Recreational Trail (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$337,863
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	P6803
<b>Grantee</b>	City of West Sacramento
<b>Overview</b>	Create planning documents for preparation of paving of 5.6 miles of levee top for recreational use.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	Neither
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 12/20/2021
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee is working on final permit approvals.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Discover the Delta Education Center (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$284,978
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	P6806
<b>Grantee</b>	Discover the Delta Foundation
<b>Overview</b>	Update 2009 building plans to meet current building codes and obtain updated approvals and permits to implement construction of the Delta Education Center.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 6/27/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has submitted all permitting requirements to Sacramento County.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Asian American Heritage Park Development (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$811,362
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	P6811
<b>Grantee</b>	Delta Educational Cultural Society
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 03/11/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has requested a term extension (see Agenda Item 4.2)

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Clarksburg Schoolhouse Restoration and Delta Welcome Center (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$2,070,972
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	P6813
<b>Grantee</b>	Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse
<b>Overview</b>	Restore the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse (fully restored building, interior and exterior displays, and landscaping) and develop a Delta Welcome Center.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 7/18/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee is working on addressing ADA accessibility.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Stockton Maritime Museum Project (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$950,000
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	P6818
<b>Grantee</b>	Stockton Historical Maritime Museum
<b>Overview</b>	Preconstruction planning activities for the construction of the Stockton Maritime Museum.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 10/30/24
<b>New Information</b>	The Grant Agreement was executed on October 30, 2024.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Suisun City Public Fishing Dock Planning (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$715,180
<b>County</b>	Solano
<b>Project ID</b>	P6819
<b>Grantee</b>	City of Suisun City
<b>Overview</b>	Community outreach, planning and design for a public fishing dock.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 6/26/24
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has begun work on project deliverables.

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

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Pacific Flyway Center: Walk in the Marsh (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$1,936,050
<b>County</b>	Solano
<b>Project ID</b>	CAR01
<b>Grantee</b>	Pacific Flyway Fund
<b>Overview</b>	Build three miles of ADA-compliant hiking trails, boardwalks, and educational signage throughout restored wetlands in Suisun Marsh.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 3/22/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has gone out to bid for a construction subcontractor.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Bees Lake Public Access (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$2,373,800
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	CAR02
<b>Grantee</b>	Bees Lake Public Access
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 7/29/2022
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has gone out to bid for a construction subcontractor.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Delta Aquatic Center of Stockton (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$2,544,725
<b>County</b>	San Joaquin
<b>Project ID</b>	CAR05
<b>Grantee</b>	San Joaquin Community Foundation
<b>Overview</b>	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.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 8/21/2023
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee has gone out to bid for a design subcontractor.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Central Harbor Park and Boat Launch Facility Upgrade Implementation Project (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$3,544,395
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	CAR06
<b>Grantee</b>	City of Pittsburg
<b>Overview</b>	Construction of recreational and safety enhancements to the Boat Launch Facility & Central Harbor Park.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Active as of 9/13/2023
<b>New Information</b>	The Grantee held a groundbreaking ceremony that Conservancy staff attended.

**APPROVED PROJECTS (TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$164,300)**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Acquisition Project (Acquisition)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$164,300
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	P6822
<b>Grantee</b>	County of Sacramento
<b>Overview</b>	Preconstruction planning activities for the construction of the Stockton Maritime Museum.
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	In Progress
<b>New Information</b>	Project was awarded funding at the October 23, 2024 Board meeting and the grant agreement is in progress.

**CLOSED PROJECTS**

To date, four projects 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](mailto:prop68grants@deltaconservancy.ca.gov).

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Land Acquisition for the Clarksburg Schoolhouse &amp; Delta Welcome Center (Acquisition)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$310,373 (\$2,747 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	P6802
<b>Grantee</b>	Friends of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse
<b>Overview</b>	Acquire 1.13-acre parcel to serve as the permanent home of the restored 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 5/14/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Pittsburg Boat Launch Facility &amp; Central Harbor Park Upgrade (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$172,155 (\$0 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Project ID</b>	P6804
<b>Grantee</b>	City of Pittsburg
<b>Overview</b>	Create planning documents for preparation of recreational and safety enhancements to the Boat Launch Facility & Central Harbor Park.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 12/11/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Isleton Museum in the Bing Kong Tong Building (Implementation)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$44,500 (\$17,909.54 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Yolo
<b>Project ID</b>	P6805
<b>Grantee</b>	Isleton Museum
<b>Overview</b>	Purchase museum-quality display cases to house historical artifacts within the Isleton Museum, located in the newly renovated Bing Kong Tong Building.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 12/11/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments (Planning)</b>
<b>Amount Awarded</b>	\$223,277 (\$53,446.83 unspent)
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	P6808
<b>Grantee</b>	County of Sacramento
<b>Overview</b>	Create planning documents in preparation of the installation of two gateway monuments and one interpretive sign in Freeport.
<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	SDAC
<b>Grant Agreement Status</b>	Closed as of 12/11/2024
<b>New Information</b>	Closed; a final report is available for review

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

<b>Project ID</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>DAC/SDAC</b>	<b>Proposal Status</b>
<b>P6823</b>	Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Implementation Project	County of Sacramento	Implementation	\$505,202	Sacramento	SDAC	Before the Board (Agenda Item 8.1)

## RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

### **P6804: Pittsburg Boat Launch & Central Harbor Park Upgrade (Planning)**

The purpose of this project was to complete planning documents and public outreach for future enhancements to the Boat Launch Facility and Central Harbor Park. These enhancements include improved paths of travel, new public restrooms, tourist-targeted signs and viewing benches, educational signage, a fish cleaning station, picnic tables, a play structure, and additional security infrastructure. Phase two of the project (implementation) was awarded CAR funding in May 2023 (Project ID CAR06).



**Figure 7.1.** Central Harbor Park in Pittsburg, CA.

**P6805: Isleton Museum in the Bing Kong Tong Building (Implementation)**

The purpose of this project was to purchase and use proper display cases for housing historic and cultural items in the Isleton Museum, located in the renovated Bing Kong Tong Building. Items included in the display cases are everyday objects that show what life was like in Isleton from prehistoric times, through to the mid-1900s. Cultural artifacts include Native American baskets, Chinese pottery, household utensils, and agricultural tools used by early immigrants. Display cases are specifically designed to protect artifacts while also providing educational displays for viewing. Phase two of the project (implementation) was awarded Proposition 68 funds in March 2024 (Project ID P6824).



**Figure 7.2.** Display case in the Isleton Museum.

**P6808: Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments (Planning)**

The purpose of this project was to develop a conceptual signage plan, conduct community outreach, prepare 65 percent design plans, and complete environmental clearance for the installation of the gateway monuments (freestanding structures or signs) and one interpretive sign in the unincorporated community of Freeport. Phase two of the project (acquisition) was awarded Proposition 68 funds in October 2024 (Project ID P6822) and consideration of award for Phase three (implementation) is described in Agenda Item 8.1.



**Figure 7.3.** Planned location of interpretive sign.



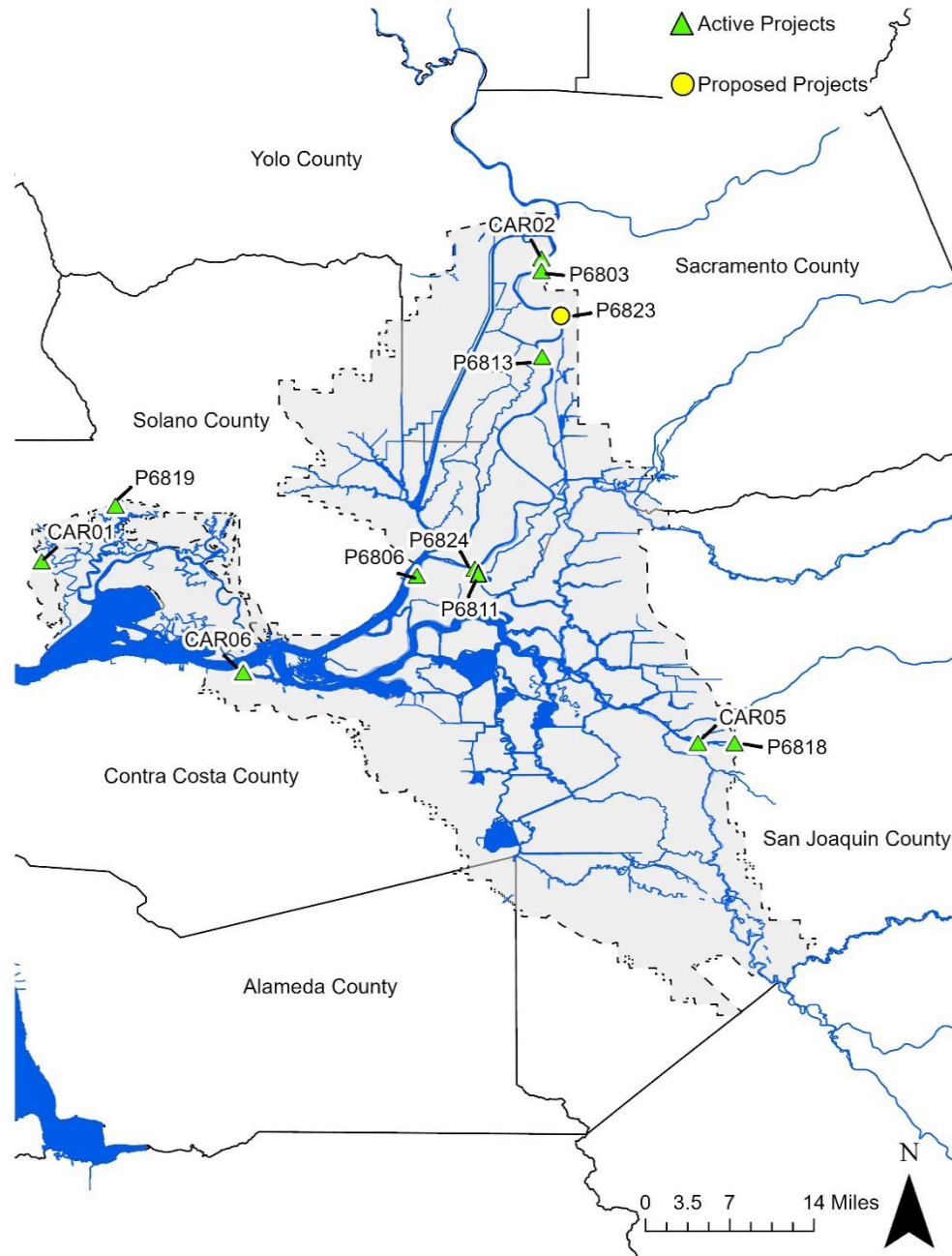


**Figure 7.4.** Planned location of monument.

**CONTACT**

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



Projects in overlapping locations are not shown on the map. P6802 (closed) and P6813 are in the same location. P6804 (closed) and CAR06 are in the same location. P6805 (closed) and P6824 are in the same location as P6824. P6808 (closed), P6822 (awarded), and P6823 are in the same location.



**Consideration of Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Funds for the Freeport,  
Delta Gateway Monuments Implementation  
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 Implementation Project (Project).

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

<b>Applicant</b>	County of Sacramento
<b>Project ID</b>	P6823
<b>Project Type</b>	Implementation
<b>County</b>	Sacramento
<b>Funding Request</b>	\$505,202
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	\$534,183
<b>Funding Recommendation</b>	\$505,202

**RECOMMENDATION**

Conservancy staff recommends the Board approve up to \$505,202 in grant funding for the Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Implementation Project (P6823) 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 implementation activities (final design planning and construction) of two gateway monuments in the Town of Freeport. The Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments project is a three-phase project that seeks to ultimately install a freestanding structure and an 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 Three) will include project management, final design, construction contract award, and implementation. The previous Phase One, funded by the Conservancy, developed 65 Percent Design Plans and right-of-way mapping for the project. Phase Two, also funded by the Conservancy, funded the acquisition of easements on three project sites.

### **Environmental Compliance**

This Project is considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Sacramento County is the Lead Agency under CEQA and prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE), finding the acquisition of the project site and the project implementation were categorically exempt from CEQA because the project will involve new construction or conversion of a small structure (California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 15303). After the Board approved P6822, which funded the acquisition of the site, Sacramento County filed their NOE as Lead Agency and Conservancy staff filed an NOE on behalf of the Conservancy as a Responsible Agency under CEQA. The Conservancy Board need take no further CEQA actions if the implementation phase of this project is approved. The NOEs have been filed at the State Clearinghouse and can be accessed at this link: <https://ceganet.opr.ca.gov/Project/2024101027>.

### **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 Implementation Project serves a severely disadvantaged community.

### **COST SHARE**

The County of Sacramento will contribute cost share in the form of in-kind contributions of \$28,981. 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. This project aligns with the Economic Sustainability plan in two very specific ways. The entrance monumentation identifying Freeport as the “Northern Gateway to the Delta” helps establish a “Delta Identity,” which is noted as a strategy in Section 8.4.1.2 of the report. Section 8.4.2.5 identifies establishing “Delta-as-a-Place,” noting “The Delta-as-a-Place identity would also be enhanced by efforts to identify and establish Gateways and edges to the Delta that reinforce its unique landscape character, particularly along the primary east-west highway corridors.”

### **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 Implementation Project is the seventeenth full proposal staff has presented to the Conservancy Board for consideration of the award of grant funds. The Conservancy has provided a total of \$387,577 for the project to date: \$223,277 in Proposition 68 funds for the planning phase (Phase 1) and \$164,300 for the acquisition phase (Phase 2) of this project.

**SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE**

Move that the Board award funding up to \$505,202 to the County of Sacramento from the Proposition 68 Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program for the Freeport, Delta Gateway Monuments Implementation Project.

**CONTACT**

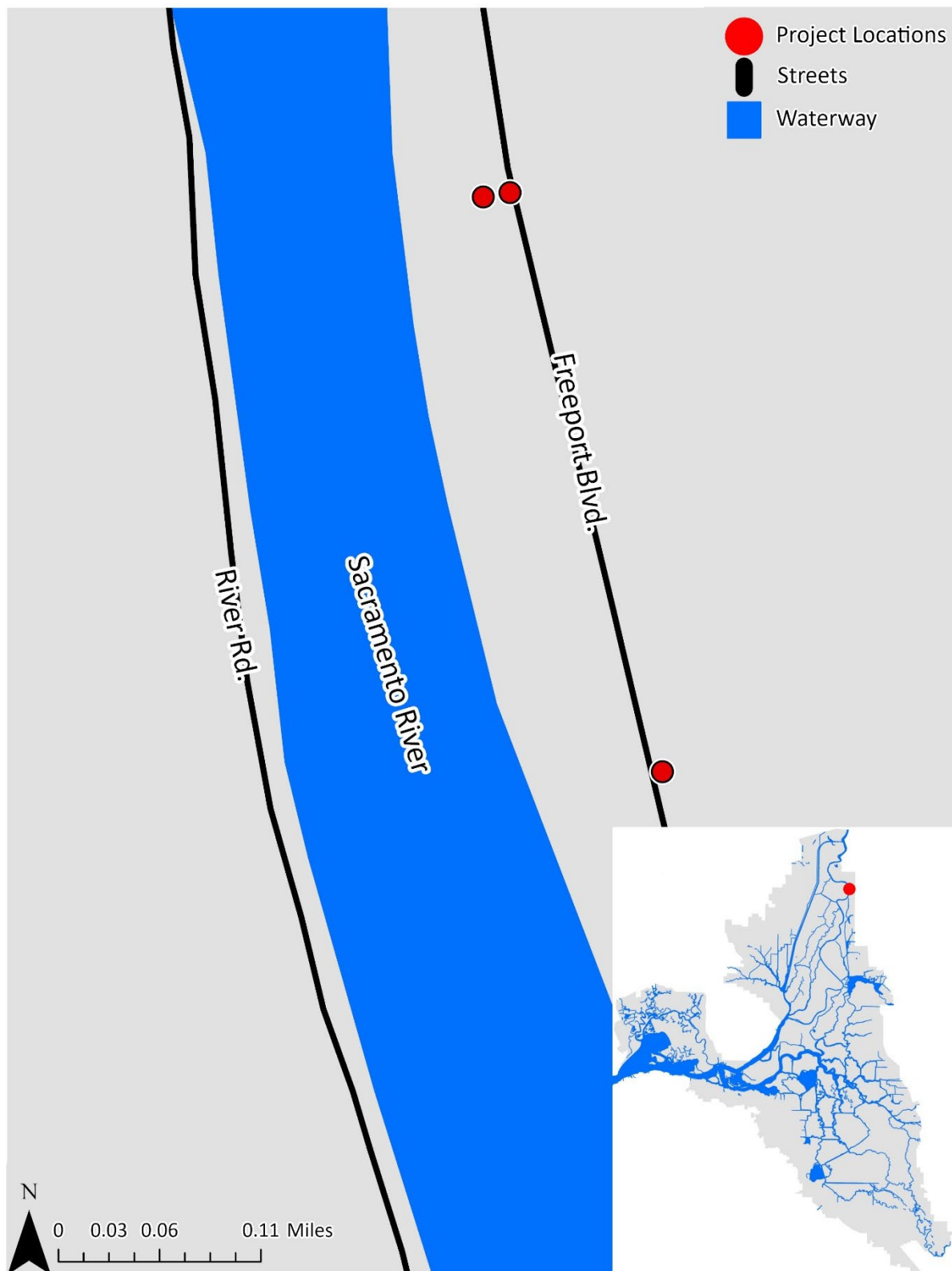
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FIGURE 8.1. MAP OF FREEPORT, DELTA GATEWAY MONUMENTS IN FREEPORT, DELTA GATEWAY MONUMENTS PROJECT AREA





## **Consideration of 2025 Implementation Plan Staff Report**

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This report presents for Board consideration the 2025 Implementation Plan.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends Board approval of the 2025 Implementation Plan.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The annual Implementation Plan is a companion document to the Conservancy's Strategic Plan. The 2022-2027 Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan provides a high-level road map and sets objectives and performance measures to achieve them. The annual Implementation Plan provides a more detailed accounting of the tasks the Conservancy will undertake in the coming year to implement the Strategic Plan. The Implementation Plan has a summary of each initiative, provides an overview of progress and achievements to date, outlines major program objectives for the year, and notes steps for the future.

In July, Conservancy staff updates the Board on progress made toward meeting the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan and provides a mid-year update of progress toward the goals in the Implementation Plan.

### **SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE**

Move that the Board approve as final the Draft Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy 2025 Implementation Plan as presented in this item.

### **CONTACT**

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SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

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**DELTA** CONSERVANCY

*A California State Agency*

# 2025 Implementation Plan

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## **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

- Gavin Newsom, Governor
- Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for California Natural Resources Agency

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- Karen Buhr, Deputy Executive Officer

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- Hope Miller, Communications Analyst
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- Alexandria Valencia, Office Technician

## Introduction

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Delta Conservancy) seeks to achieve its mission through strategic planning, funding allocation, and collaborative efforts with stakeholders. This Implementation Plan outlines the goals, objectives, and key actions to be undertaken in 2025 to align with the Conservancy's [2022-2027 Strategic Plan](#).

## Mission Statement

Working collaboratively and in coordination with local communities, the Conservancy will lead efforts to protect, enhance, and restore the Delta's economy, agriculture and working landscapes, and environment for the benefit of the Delta region, its local communities, and the citizens of California.





## 2024 at a Glance

- **Implementing Restoration** – In 2024, the Conservancy advanced nature-based solutions on more than 11,000 deeply subsided acres in the Delta by funding four new projects to plan, implement, and acquire property for habitat restoration and incentivize farmers to convert existing agriculture to wildlife/carbon-friendly rice. The projects were funded by \$34.2 million from the State's Nature Based Solutions funding.
- **Building Community** – The Conservancy funded four new community projects to plan a public fishing dock, a new museum, enhancements to an existing museum, and land acquisition for gateway monuments using \$1.8 million from Proposition 68 funds.
- **Providing Technical Guidance** – The Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP) provided valuable insights on conserving water through agricultural practices in the unique hydrology of the Delta. In 2024 staff amended six grants to allow ongoing research through 2026, closed remaining grants, synthesized program results, and reported findings to various audiences.
- **Building Partnerships** – The Conservancy deepened relationships with partners and the Delta community in 2024 through regular meetings, communication, outreach, social media presence, participating in project development, and facilitating funding requests.
- **New Program** – Recognizing the need for additional funding to support Delta projects, the Conservancy applied for multiple funding sources and was awarded the Clean Vessel Act Program (CVAP), which provides clean, safe, and enjoyable recreational boating in California by providing boater education and monitoring of boat sewage and disposal. The Conservancy will launch the program in 2025.
- **New Funding** – The Conservancy expects to receive \$29 million from Proposition 4 (the Climate Bond) – a bond measure that passed in November to fund various water, wildfire, and climate projects. Setting priorities and guidelines for the new funding will be a major focus of 2025.



# Goals and Objectives

## Goal 1: Ecological Conservation, Restoration, and Climate Adaptation

### *Objectives*

- Increase visibility, diversity, and resilience of the Delta and Suisun Marsh ecosystems
- Adapt landscapes to be resilient to climate change

### *Strategy 1.1: Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Program*

The Delta Conservancy's ERCA Program funds projects for ecosystem protection, restoration, and enhancement; water quality improvement; sustainable agriculture; and climate resilience. In 2024, the Conservancy advanced nature-based solutions on more than 11,000 deeply subsidized acres in the Delta by funding four new projects to plan, implement, and acquire property for habitat restoration and incentivize farmers to convert existing agriculture to wildlife/carbon-friendly rice. The projects were funded by \$34.2 million from the State's Nature Based Solutions funding.

Staff managed 15 active projects and 24 closed projects that require monitoring in 2024.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Engage non-profits, state partner agencies, and local entities to identify and recommend projects that advance ecosystem restoration and climate adaptation in the Delta and Suisun Marsh
- Prepare and release grant guidelines and solicitation for Climate Bond funding
- Streamline grant application procedures using statewide initiatives and strategies (e.g. Resource Agency Project Tracker and Reporting software, Plain Language, Cutting the Green Tape, etc.)
- Identify and apply for alternative funding sources to support current and future ERCA projects
- Continue to enhance equity in programs by analyzing guidelines and requirements for barriers and providing support to applicants from small organizations and/or organizations that represent disadvantaged communities
- Continue to monitor and close out existing ERCA projects

### ***Strategy 1.2: A Collaborative State Partner***

Working with partners to solve critical conservation challenges and advance collective work in the Delta is a core function of the Conservancy.

#### ***Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team***

To support the Conservancy's guiding principles to work collaboratively and use the best available science, the Conservancy facilitates and co-leads a team of invasive species professionals working across sectors, including local, state, and federal government staff, NGO staff, academic researchers, and extension specialists. In 2024, the DIISC Team built collaboration by holding quarterly meetings, convening a working group on the management of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration sites, and educating the public on the role of connectivity and early detection in aquatic weed management, which were the topics of the 2023 and 2021 Delta Invasive Species symposiums.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Hold quarterly team meetings to coordinate and exchange information
- Hold the sixth biennial Delta Invasive Species Symposium
- Complete collaborative development of guidelines for the management of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration sites

#### ***Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) Restoration Sub-Committee (RSC)***

To implement restoration at the pace and scale necessary to fulfill the objectives of the Water Resilience Portfolio, Cutting the Green Tape Initiative, the Governor's California Biodiversity Initiative, and the amendment to Chapter 4 of the Delta Plan, DPIIC recommended that the Delta Stewardship Council and the Conservancy create a DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee. In 2024, the DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee raised awareness of the impacts, risks, and management of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration projects and highlighted opportunities, the role of restoration in levee maintenance, and the relationship between restoration and agriculture.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Host two RSC meetings, a Delta Restoration Forum, and at least one collaborative adaptive management forum on important cross-jurisdictional topics
- Create educational material that helps connect partners and agencies toward common goals

## Goal 2: Economically and Ecologically Sustainable Working Lands

### Objectives

- Increase implementation of sustainable and ecologically beneficial farming and agricultural practices
- Reduce and reverse land subsidence and associated carbon emissions

### *Strategy 2.1: Delta Drought Response Pilot Program (DDRPP)*

The Delta Drought Response Pilot Program is an experimental program that was launched to test drought-resistant field management practices in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed given its unique hydrology. While most of the projects are complete, a University of California (UC) Davis research team is using micrometeorological stations to continue collecting data to help inform remote sensing technologies and improve future responses to drought. In 2024, Conservancy staff shared the DDRPP findings through a public forum, a [final report](#) on outcomes of the 2023 program, and a site visit for Board members to a DDRPP project where water conservation practices are being implemented.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Give community access to program findings by making the 2023 DDRPP data publicly available online and preparing one or more public-facing products
- Support the UC Davis research team as they continue to gather data and create a second year of field level water budgets

### *Strategy 2.2: Sustainable Agricultural Practices, Delta Carbon, and Subsidence Management*

Statewide strategies, including Delta Adapts and the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, recognize the significance of Delta subsidence and the associated greenhouse gas emissions. In accordance, they set targets, including re-wetting 50,000 acres of deeply subsided, highly organic soils in the Delta by 2045. Conservancy staff, in partnership with other state and federal agencies, non-profits, tribes, and local districts, are addressing these targets by working to implement rice cultivation and wetland restoration in deeply subsided areas of the Delta.

In 2024, staff advanced four carbon emission and subsidence reduction projects. These projects included planning for all 5,000 open acres of Webb Tract to be converted to rice and wetlands, implementation of about 400 acres of wetlands on Staten Island, rice conversion on about 2,500 acres of privately owned land throughout the Delta, and the completed acquisition of a 600-acre parcel on Bethel Island for future wetland conversion.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Convert an additional 10,000 acres to rice in the deeply subsided Delta by convening an interagency collaborative group to research, fund, and implement subsidence and GHG reduction solutions, including federal, state, local, and non-profit partners

- Identify and apply for alternative funding sources to support current and future subsidence and GHG reduction projects
- Educate landowners about wetland restoration and carbon farming

## **Goal 3: Community and Economic Enhancement**

### ***Objectives***

- Foster robust and sustainable economies in the Delta and Suisun Marsh
- Preserve, enhance, and increase awareness of the unique history, culture, and values of the Delta and Suisun Marsh
- Increase public access to Delta and Suisun Marsh landscapes, communities, and cultural resources

### ***Strategy 3.1: Community Enhancement Program (CEP)***

The Conservancy's Community Enhancement Program is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Delta residents by fostering economic vitality, recreational opportunities, and cultural preservation in the region. In 2024, the Conservancy funded four new community projects to plan a public fishing dock, a new museum, enhancements to an existing museum, and land acquisition for gateway monuments using \$1.8 million from Proposition 68 funds. As of December 31, 2024, there are 11 active projects, one approved, and four closed projects.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Engage non-profits, state partner agencies, and local entities to identify and recommend projects that enhance Delta communities
- Prepare and release grant guidelines and a solicitation for Climate Bond funds
- Streamline grant application procedures using statewide initiatives and strategies (e.g. Resource Agency Project Tracker and Reporting software, Plain Language, Cutting the Green Tape, etc.)
- Identify and apply for alternative funding sources to support current and future projects
- Continue to enhance equity in programs by analyzing guidelines and requirements for barriers and providing support to applicants from small organizations and/or organizations that represent disadvantaged communities
- Recommend projects for the remaining \$2.6 million in Proposition 68 funding
- Continue to monitor and close out existing CEP projects

### ***Strategy 3.2: Delta Waterway Cleanups***

The Delta Conservancy organizes and participates in cleanup events to promote awareness of the importance of protecting and improving water quality in the Delta for both humans and wildlife. In 2024, the Conservancy and the Rio Vista Windsports Association partnered to hold

two waterway cleanups on Sherman Island. Staff and volunteers collected enough trash along the Sacramento River on Sherman Island to fill a 40-yard dumpster (generously donated by Waste Management).

Goals for 2025 are:

- Increase the number of volunteers at cleanups
- Track and quantify impact
- Expand partnerships and support additional cleanups

## **Goal 4: Education and Enrichment**

### ***Objectives***

- Broaden opportunities for education about the Delta and Suisun Marsh ecosystems, and cultural and historical values among individuals, groups, organizations, and decision-makers
- Strengthen the Conservancy's role as a state and community partner

### ***Strategy 4.1: Communications and Outreach***

Environmental, cultural, and historical education and enrichment are important components of the Conservancy's programs and are reflected in its initiatives. Additionally, a robust communications strategy is essential to effectively engage interested parties, promote the Conservancy's mission, and advocate for the Delta's ecological and economic wellbeing. In 2024, Conservancy staff participated in an array of in-person events, including the State of the Estuary Conference, Native American Day at the Capitol, and the Bay-Delta Science Conference. Conservancy staff also designated time to educate California students, speaking to high school and college students about the Delta.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Foster relationships with local communities, government agencies, NGOs, and private entities
- Maintain an informative, interactive, user-friendly website
- Support collaboration by participating in and facilitating events
- Create and disseminate engaging and informative social media content
- Engage students with presentations and written material

### ***Strategy 4.2 Clean Vessel Act Program (CVAP)***

Recognizing the need for additional funding to support projects in the Delta, the Conservancy applied for multiple sources of funding in 2024. The Conservancy received a grant from California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways to lead the Northern California CVAP.

The purpose of the program is to provide clean, safe, and enjoyable recreational boating in California by providing boater education and monitoring of boat sewage and proper disposal.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Partner with California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways and San Francisco Estuary Partnership for knowledge transfer
- Conduct outreach and education to the boating community about resources, tools, materials, and funding to promote clean boating activities
- Monitor pumpout stations and help find resources to correct problems using the Pumpout Nav mobile app

## **Goal 5: Effective, Sustainable, Adaptable and Inclusive Organization**

### ***Objectives***

- Provide a safe, creative, inspiring, equitable, and inclusive working environment at all levels
- Establish and maintain adequate resources for efficient operations and structure

### ***Strategy 5.1: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion***

To further the Conservancy's commitment to serve the Delta community and the state of California, it is critical that it addresses equity issues and remove barriers to accessing state resources, employment, and Conservancy programs. In 2024, the Conservancy assessed barriers in grant process and hiring that inhibit equal access to state resources; provided technical assistance to applicants and grantees from small organizations and underrepresented communities; and increased our knowledge and tools by participating in trainings and workgroups.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Continue to build partnerships that promote equity in Conservancy programs
- Ensure Climate Bond guidelines support equitable grant-making and historically underserved communities
- Continue to participate in committees, community gatherings, and learning opportunities
- Work with the Delta Stewardship Council to implement joint actions from their equity plan

### ***Strategy 5.2: Tribal Engagement***

The Conservancy recognizes that tribes were the original inhabitants of the land and should be part of ongoing Delta land management. To this end, the Conservancy will work with tribes and

tribal entities. In 2024, the Conservancy expanded outreach to tribes, initiated its first tribal consultation, and took training to increase skills.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Create grant guidelines that strongly encourage grantees to work with tribes or tribal entities on land management and acquisition projects
- Work with CNRA and the Legislature to change the Conservancy code to allow grants to tribes
- Continue to build relationships with tribes and tribal entities
- Continue to participate in committees, community gatherings, and learning opportunities

### ***Strategy 5.3: Administration***

The Conservancy will continue to complete required administrative and operational work in collaboration with all staff. In 2024, the Conservancy met all required goals, reports, and tasks and initiated a cloud-based system.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Establish Conservancy core values through a collaborative process
- Implement a Records Retention Plan
- Maintain a sound organization by updating policies, procedures, and processes, and creating division manuals
- Keep staff up to date by encouraging professional development and providing cross-training opportunities
- Comply with State requirements by submitting administrative and operational reports, plans, and proposals
- Stay up to date on requirements and policy changes by participating in meetings and trainings with other state agencies

### ***Strategy 5.4: New Funding Sources***

The Conservancy relies on state bond funding to support its work. Given the uncertainty of funding and that the funding in the Climate Bond is small compared to the Delta's needs, staff intends to pursue additional funding for Delta work. In 2024, the Conservancy submitted multiple grant proposals and received funding for the CVAP program.

Goals for 2025 are:

- Submit applications for federal, state, and private funding as it becomes available
- Amplify the impact of Conservancy funds by supporting partners' grant applications and strategizing on opportunities

## Funding at a Glance

The Conservancy utilizes multiple funding sources to support its mission. These include annual general and special fund appropriations, one-time general fund appropriations, bond funding, and reimbursement agreements.

Funding Source	Amount Allocated	FY 24/25 Allocation	Programs Supported
General Fund	\$1,471,000	\$1,471,000	All programs
Climate, Access, and Resource Funding	\$11,400,000	\$358,000	Community Enhancement Program and Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Program
Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration Funding	\$36,000,000	\$1,276,000	Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Program
Environmental License Plate Fund	\$130,000	\$130,000	All programs
Reimbursements	\$681,000	\$0	Community Enhancement Program
Delta Drought Response Pilot Program	\$19,000,000	\$128,000	Community Enhancement Program
Clean Vessel Act	\$271,046	\$135,523	Community Enhancement Program
Proposition 1	\$50,000,000	\$475,000	Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Program
Proposition 4	\$29,000,000	\$0	Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) Program
Proposition 68	\$12,000,000	\$429,000	Community Enhancement Program

## Next Step

The Conservancy will prepare an update on the 2025 Implementation Plan for presentation at the July 2025 Board meeting.





## Update on the Lean Six Sigma Board Packet Preparation Project Staff Report

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This agenda item provides an update on Lean Six Sigma Board packet preparation project.

### DESCRIPTION

At the October 2024 Board meeting Conservancy staff provided an introduction to the Lean Six Sigma Board Packet Project. The objective of the project is to reduce the Board meeting package preparation time from 50 days to less than three weeks. Staff completed a detailed process map (see Figure 11.1) and identified more than 200 steps. During the last three months staff sought feedback from Board members, conducted a risk assessment, re-engineered the process, and developed implementation and control plans.

Results of the survey showed that Board members would like a similar amount of both written and oral information presented regarding action items and reductions to the Executive Officer's report and programs updates. Board members also indicated that publishing the Board packet materials online less than five days prior to the Board meeting date was reasonable.

The risk assessment results were consistent with findings from the Board member survey. The highest risks are ensuring that Board members have accurate and appropriate information to make decisions on action items – particularly with items that have legal implications.

After completing the Board member survey and risk assessment, staff re-engineered the Board Packet Process. The proposed new process consists of 36 steps that can be completed in 14 days (Figure 11.2). Process improvement tools include the creation of automated forms and emails; ad-hoc review sessions; and updates to checklists, style guides, templates, and training materials.

The annual soft savings (e.g., staff time) to the State is estimated to exceed \$25,000. Staff plan to begin implementing the revised process immediately. Staff will continue to refine the process.

### 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 improve and control 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 fewer 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

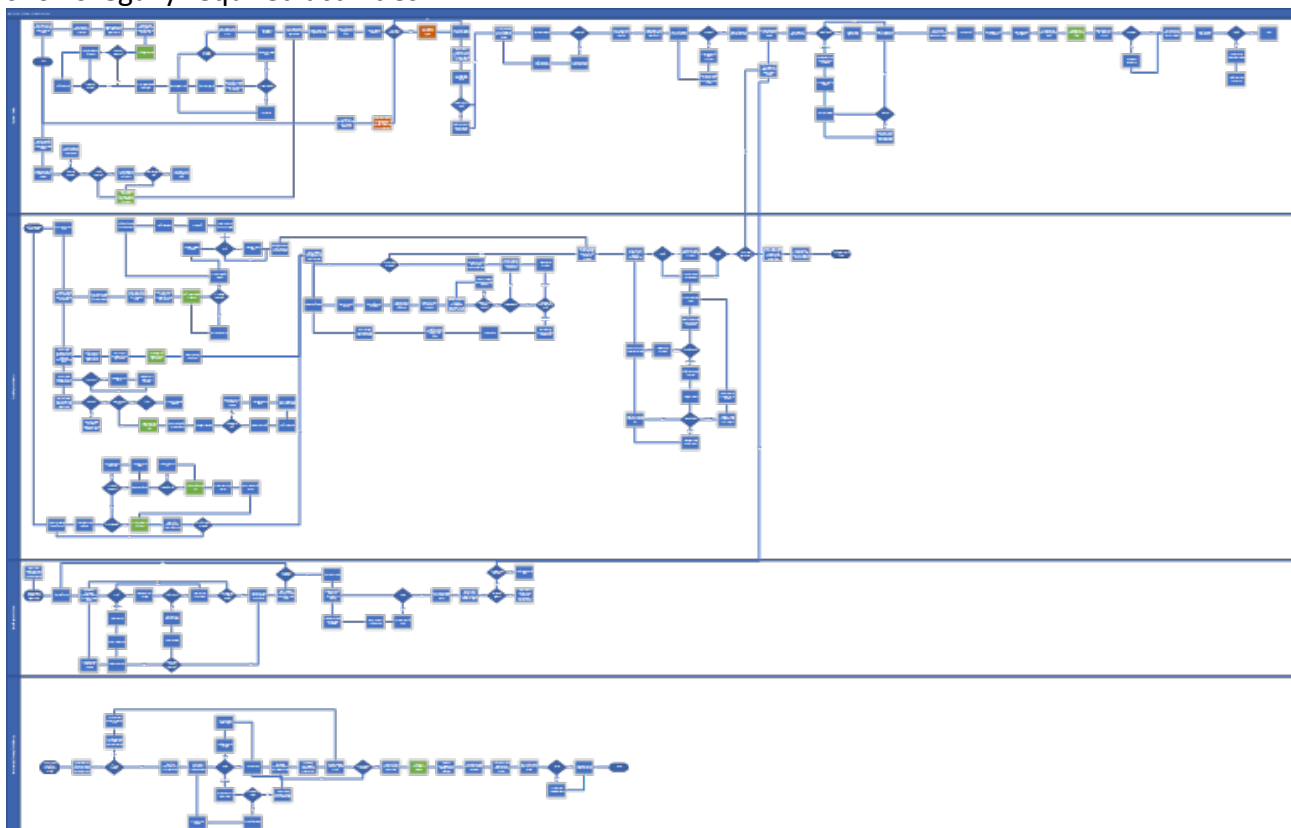
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**Figure 11.1.** Detailed Board packet preparation process. Green denotes value-added steps, and orange shows legally required activities.



**Figure 11.2.** Proposed Board packet preparation process. Green denotes values-added steps and orange shows legally required activities.

