



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

*A California State Agency*

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

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**July 23, 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.

Board Members will be participating remotely from the following publicly accessible locations, where members of the public may join and participate:

- 715 P Street, 20th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, Farallon Room NRHQ 20-105
- 190 East 4th Street, Pittsburg, CA 94565
- 44 N San Joaquin Street 627, Stockton, CA 95202

### Join via Microsoft Teams

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Questions and public comment can be addressed to [contact@deltacconservancy.ca.gov](mailto:contact@deltacconservancy.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. **Board Elections** (Action Item)
5. **Consent Calendar** (Action Item)
  - Approval of May 28, 2025 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items (Attachment)
6. **Executive Officer's Report**, Campbell Ingram
  - Program Update (Attachment)
  - Budget and Expenditure Report (Attachment)
7. **Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Update**, Anjali Shakya (Attachment)
8. **Project Updates and Consideration of Amendment to Scope of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Agreement for Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project**, Lauren Damon (Attachment) (Action Item)

9. **Request for Approval to Enter into an Architectural and Engineering Contract with the Most Qualified Firm for an Amount up to \$120,000 to Conduct a Subsequent Analysis for Potential Restoration of Franks Tract**, Lauren Damon (Attachment) **(Action Item)**
10. **Community Enhancement Program Update**, Maya Garrett (Attachment)
11. **Overview of the Clean Vessel Act Program**, Maya Garrett (Attachments)
12. **Delta Conservancy 2025 Implementation Plan Status Update**, Karen Buhr (Attachments)
13. **Nutria Eradication Program Update**, Valerie Cook
14. **California Department of Water Resources Multibenefit Restoration Program Update**, Charlotte Biggs
15. **Delta Stewardship Council Update**, Amanda Bohl
16. **Delta Protection Commission Update**, Dan Ray
17. **Delta Conveyance Update**, Carrie Buckman
18. **Public Comment**
19. **ADJOURN**
  - To view the members of the Delta Conservancy Board, please visit <http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/delta-conservancy-board>.
  - Attachments and additional information are on the Delta Conservancy's website at: <http://www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov>.
  - If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, or require printed copies of meeting materials, please contact us at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date at (916) 375-2084 or [contact@deltaconservancy.ca.gov](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.



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

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**May 28, 2025 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:**

<https://youtu.be/Go5pnmwlv3g?si=obs4KbQuXgRfDYpO>

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:03 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:**

- Pat Hume
- Leo Winternitz – arrived at 9:13 a.m. after consent calendar vote
- Sonny Dhaliwal – teleconference
- Sheila Allen
- Michele Perrault
- Gloria Sandoval
- Sandi Matsumoto

**Ex-Officio Members Present:**

- Assemblymember Lori Wilson – teleconference
- Nicole Cuellar-Nelson (for Senator Christopher Cabaldon)

**Liaison Advisors and Counsel Present:**

- Todd Plain
- Steve Chappell
- Jim Waters – teleconference
- Marge Kolar
- Holly Heyser (for Daniel Ray)
- Jessica Bonitz (Counsel)

**Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment**

None

**Agenda Item 4 – Consent Calendar**

**Motion:** Board Member Perrault moved, seconded by Board Member Matsumoto, that the Board approve the following:

- January 22, 2025 Board Meeting Summary and Action Items

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

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

The Executive Officer briefly highlighted several items in the staff report. The May revision to the Governor’s fiscal year 2025-26 budget was released on May 14, 2025, and the Conservancy’s total appropriation was updated to \$6.61 million with the addition of \$4 million in local assistance funding for Proposition 4.

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

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report. As of May 20, 2025, there are 14 active projects and 25 closed projects. The format for the staff reports for Agenda Items 6 and 7 was updated due to the Lean Six Sigma Board packet preparation project. Previously included project updates and maps are available on the Conservancy’s website at [Delta Conservancy Project Table Updates](#). Staff demonstrated where the information could be found and how to manipulate the tables. Additionally, updates for the Nutria Eradication project (P1-1813) are included in this agenda item rather than in the Executive Officer’s report.

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

Conservancy staff highlighted items from the staff report. As of May 15, 2025, there are 11 active projects, two approved projects, four closed projects, and one working proposal. Proposition 68 funding was fully allocated with the approval of Agenda Item 8. An overview of the Clean Vessel Act program will be presented in July.

**Agenda Item 8 – Consideration of California Environmental Quality Act Lead Agency Exemption Declaration and Award of Community Enhancement Grant Program Funds for Land Acquisition for Darrahville Property in Stockton in Support of the Delta Aquatic Center**

Conservancy staff highlighted the project for consideration. The purpose of this grant is to fund the acquisition of 22 acres of privately owned land in Stockton, California, which will be developed into a public park for the benefit of the local community. Two motions were required. The Board agreed to take roll call for the motions simultaneously.

**Motion:** Supervisor Hume moved, seconded by Board Member Sandoval, that the Board adopt Resolution 2025-01, which recognizes the Land Acquisition for Darrahville Property in Stockton is statutorily exempt from environmental review as outlined in Assembly Bill 782, enacted as Chapter 181 of the Statutes of 2019 (Public Resources Code Section 21080.28).

**Motion:** Supervisor Hume moved, seconded by Board Member Sandoval, that the Board award funding up to \$2,170,499 to the San Joaquin Community Foundation from the Proposition 68 Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program for the Land Acquisition for Darrahville Property in Stockton.

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

**Agenda Item 9 – Consideration of Amendment to Budget and Term of Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Agreement for the Micrometeorological Measurements and Water Budget Calculation to Evaluate Conservation Practices in the Annual Delta Crops Project**

Conservancy staff highlighted the project for consideration. The purpose of this amendment is to extend data collection to three full water years and allow time for completion of all project deliverables after the 2025/2026 water year, which ends on September 30, 2026.

**Motion:** Board Member Winternitz moved, seconded by Supervisor Allen, that the Board approve a budget increase of up to \$300,000 and a term extension of 14 months to The Regents of the University of California, Davis for the Micrometeorological Measurements and Water Budget Calculation to Evaluate Conservation Practices in the Annual Delta Crops Project to extend data collection.

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

**Agenda Item 10 – Consideration of Updates to the Delta Conservancy’s Modifications and Amendments Process**

Conservancy staff presented updates to the modifications and amendments process for grants awarded by the Conservancy for Board consideration.

**Motion:** Board Member Perrault moved, seconded by Board Member Matsumoto, that the Board approve the updates to the Delta Conservancy Grant Modifications and Amendments Process as presented in this agenda item.

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

**Agenda Item 11 – Proposed Regulation for Architectural and Engineering Authority**

Conservancy staff presented the Proposed Regulation for Architectural and Engineering Authority for Board consideration. No comments were received during the 15-day public comment period.

**Motion:** Supervisor Allen moved, seconded by Board Member Perrault, that the Board approve the following:

- Text of Proposed Regulations, as presented in the notice of the 15-day public comment period, to adopt sections 28302-28314 of Title 14, Division 16, Chapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations concerning the selection process for private architectural and engineering firms as presented in this item.
- Authorize the Executive Officer to submit the regulations to OAL and make any necessary non-substantive or technical changes to adopt the regulations.

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

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

Charlotte Biggs, Assistant Deputy Director at the California Department of Water Resources, presented an update.

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

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

**Agenda Item 14 – Delta Protection Commission Update**

Holly Heyser, Information Officer at the Delta Protection Commission, presented an update.

**Agenda Item 15 – Delta Conveyance Update**

Janet Barbieri, Consultant to the California Department of Water Resources managing the Communication Program for the Delta Conveyance Project, presented an update.

**Agenda Item 16 – Public Comment**

- None

**Agenda Item 17 – ADJOURN**

**BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF**

- None

**MEETING ADJOURNED** by Chair Hume at 10:35 a.m.

**CONTACT**

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## Executive Officer's Report

July 23, 2025

### PROGRAM UPDATE

#### STAFFING UPDATE

Sarah Lesmeister, Ecological and Community Programs Manager, has accepted a new position with the California Water Commission as their Deputy Executive Officer. Her last day with the Conservancy was July 11. Recruitment to backfill the Ecological and Community Programs Manager position will be posted on CalCareers shortly. Chelesa Martinez, Grant, Contract, & Board Liaison, started maternity leave on July 16.

#### ETHICS TRAINING COMPLIANCE

Thanks to those who have completed the ethics training course for the 2025-2026 period. California law requires state officials to complete an ethics training course within six months of being hired, and if service is ongoing, once during each two-year period. The two-year period begins with an odd-numbered year. Board Members and Liaison Advisors were sent email requests to provide a certificate of completion for the 2025 ethics course.

#### CLIMATE BOND SOLICITATION (PROPOSITION 4)

##### Status Update

Staff have completed the Conservancy's Climate Bond grant solicitation notice and proposal application materials and are waiting to open the solicitation pending final approval of allocations and a decision from the Legislature regarding the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) exemption. The Administrative Procedures Act sets the requirements for adoption, publication, review, and implementation of regulations by State agencies and affects all departments managing Proposition 4 grants. Prior natural resource agency bonds (e.g. Propositions 68, 84, 50) included language that exempted bonds from the APA, meaning that the development of program guidelines did not need to undergo the formal regulation process through the Office of Administrative Law. A decision on this exemption is expected in August.

### Overview

If the APA exemption is approved by the Legislature, staff plan to release the grant solicitation in August. Each program, Nature Based Solutions, Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation, and Community Enhancement, will receive approximately \$8.6 million. Staff expect to run two solicitations for each program, \$5 million per program in 2025–2026 and \$3.6 million per program in 2026–2027.

Each solicitation will include two rounds of review:

1. **Pre-application:** This initial step will help staff identify projects that are ineligible, not ready, or not competitive. It will be a pass/fail process.
2. **Full application:** Projects that pass the pre-application stage will be invited to submit a full proposal. These proposals will be reviewed and scored competitively based on the following criteria: project readiness, scientific or community value, community support, geographic balance, cost share, service to disadvantaged or vulnerable communities, partnerships, tribal involvement, cost-effectiveness, alignment with state and Delta goals, long-term maintenance and sustainability, and likelihood a planning project leads to implementation.

Conservancy staff anticipate bringing initial recommendations for funding starting in May 2026.

### Small Grant Program

In addition, staff anticipate launching a small grant program for awards up to \$100,000. This program is intended to support smaller organizations by building their capacity and providing technical assistance. Funds can be used for various purposes, including staffing, technical support, equipment, and research.

### DELTA CONSERVANCY FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET APPROPRIATION UPDATES

A verbal update will be provided about the Governor Budget and trailer bills in progress.

### ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

The Workforce Analyst Report, Energy Emergency Alert Action Plan, and updates on the State Leadership Accountability Act (SLAA) Report were all submitted as scheduled. Fiscal staff performed a variety of year-end activities. The Conservancy's Records Retention Schedule was submitted to the Secretary of State's Archives Division for their review and approval. During this period, staff processed one grant amendment, closed one contract, and processed a total of 20 invoices.

### DELTA CONSERVANCY ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING AUTHORITY AND REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) UPDATE

The regulation for Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Authority was approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and the final record was issued with the Secretary of State (SOS) on July 10. This authority allows more flexibility in contracting given the limited number of entities that can perform the specialized work needed in the Delta.

Conservancy staff evaluated the received Statement of Qualifications for the Cost Feasibility Analysis for the Restoration of Franks Tract project and are in the negotiation process with the most qualified firm. The contract award will be considered by the Board during Agenda Item 9.



## **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

### **Clean Vessel Act Program**

Conservancy staff are working on a grant proposal for the 2026 California State Park's Division of Boating and Waterways Clean Vessel Act Education and Outreach Grant Program. The \$280,000 annual grant includes education and outreach to boaters about proper sewage disposal and monitoring of pumpout and dump stations in the in the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary and Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. Proposals are due August 11. See Agenda Item 11 for an update on the 2025 program.

### **Marine Debris Removal Program**

Conservancy staff partnered 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 in January 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. Staff expect to hear a decision about the status program and the proposal by early fall 2025.

## **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 vision of the DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee is a Delta ecosystem that supports the mosaic of natural and human communities, is resilient to stressors, adapts to change, and is accessible for recreation. The Restoration Subcommittee will meet on August 7 to discuss initiatives currently underway that further this vision. First, Conservation Farms and Ranches and The Nature Conservancy will describe how implementing a mosaic of rice and wetlands in the Delta can help create a more resilient landscape. Then, the Subcommittee will hear presentations on the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project, which has been funded by the Delta Conservancy's Nature Based Solutions Grant funding. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California will speak about the overall progress of the project, HydroFocus will present on carbon sequestration research, and faculty from California State University-Chico will explain how the project is incorporating ecocultural perspectives. Finally, Point Blue Conservation Science will present on their research to estimate the potential benefits of tidal wetland restoration for the Delta's bird community. The meeting will also include a recap of the third Delta Restoration Forum held in May. The Restoration Subcommittee's work is guided by its [workplan](#).

### **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, will have its third quarterly meeting of the year on August 20. Planning for the sixth biennial Delta Invasive Species Symposium is being led by an interagency planning team facilitated by Conservancy staff, which includes staff from the Delta Stewardship Council, the Department of Water Resources, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the office of the Solano County Agricultural Commissioner. The 2025 Symposium theme is

“Modeling and Managing Invasive Species for Tomorrow's Delta.” Understanding how invasive species will respond to and impact future ecological conditions is a key need for Delta stewards and managers. The Symposium will broadly address anticipating and responding to future conditions through presentations highlighting modeling, forecasting, using novel tools, changing economic resources, and approaches for dealing with uncertainties. The Symposium will take place at the California Natural Resources Agency building in Sacramento on December 4. The event will be held in person with a virtual attendance option.

### **Delta Carbon Team**

A newly formed Delta Carbon Team, facilitated by Conservancy staff and co-led by staff from The Nature Conservancy, had its second meeting June 24. This team aims to bring people working on Delta carbon issues together to improve collaboration and make progress at scale toward reversing subsidence and reducing associated greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining economic viability and improving climate resilience for Delta lands. The team identified priority and long-term actions and assignments and has formed sub-teams that will begin working on specific tasks. The team will now meet quarterly to discuss progress and share resources.

### **OUTREACH**

#### **Summer Fest in Oakley**

Staff participated in Oakley’s Summer Fest on June 28 in coordination with the Delta Stewardship Council. As a registered event participant, staff provided information on the Climate Bond, Conservancy projects and activities, and were on hand to talk with community members. The event featured dozens of vendors, live entertainment, food trucks, and kid-friendly activities.

#### **Just Transitions Public Workshop**

Staff attended a June 9 public workshop for the Just Transitions in the Delta project. The purpose of the workshop was to have people take part in developing and assessing future scenarios that envision a more resilient Delta. The Just Transitions Project, which is led by UC Davis in collaboration with UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, and UC Merced, is exploring adaptive strategies to pressing challenges in the Delta, including sea level rise, drought, and salinity management.

#### **2025 State of the Estuary Conference**

Staff submitted two abstracts for consideration at the 2025 State of the Estuary Conference, which is scheduled for October 28-29 at the Oakland Scottish Rite in Oakland, California. Anjali Shakya and Maya Garrett co-authored the proposed poster presentation, “Delta Conservancy Proposition 4 Grant Program.” With support from the staff of the DPIIC RSC, an organized oral session titled “Implementing Permitting Tools to Advance Ecological Restoration in the Bay-Delta Estuary” was proposed by Campbell Ingram, Jill Sunahara (Environmental Science Associates), Meghan Hertel (California Natural Resources Agency), Abby Fateman (East Contra Costa Habitat Conservancy), Cori Gray (California Department of Fish and Wildlife), and Roger Levenfall (Marin County Public Works).

#### **MEDIA MENTIONS**

- [The Daily Republic wrote an article](#) about work underway on the Walk in the Marsh project at the Pacific Flyway Center in Solano County. The Conservancy is providing \$1.9 million to build three miles of ADA-accessible trails in the Suisun Marsh.
- [Maven's Notebook published a story](#) about Metropolitan Water District of Southern California partnering with ecocultural experts on the Webb Tract wetland restoration project in Contra Costa County.
- [The Delta Protection Commission produced an article](#) on rice cultivation becoming more common in the Delta. In the article, the Conservancy explains how Nature Based Solutions projects will benefit both the Delta's economy and ecosystems by helping farmers with rice conversion, reducing subsidence, providing wildlife habitat, and improving long-term economic viability of Delta islands.

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

- None

#### **DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE**

Agenda Item 6.2: Budget and Expenditure Report

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- None

#### **CONTACT**

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**SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY  
DRAFT BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORT  
July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025**

Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Personal Services (PS)	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
1	Salaries & Wages	\$1,546,406	\$1,540,653	\$5,753	100%
2	Temporary Help			\$0	0%
3	Benefits	\$833,232	\$825,515	\$7,717	99%
4	<b>TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$2,379,638</b>	<b>\$2,366,168</b>	<b>\$13,470</b>	<b>99%</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	\$25,723	\$15,859	\$9,864	62%
6	Printing	\$2,176	\$1,732	\$444	80%
7	Communications	\$13,157	\$10,996	\$2,161	84%
8	Postage	\$200	\$111	\$89	56%
9	Travel-In State	\$12,212	\$10,044	\$2,168	82%
10	Training	\$9,431	\$8,281	\$1,150	88%
11	Facilities Operation	\$113,923	\$113,561	\$362	100%
12	Contracts & Personal Services-External	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
13	Contracts & Personal Services-Interdepartmental	\$99,690	\$95,777	\$3,913	96%
14	Information Technology	\$4,668	\$3,397	\$1,271	73%
15	Non-Capital Asset Purchases	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
16	Indirect Cost Recovery	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
17	Unallocated Operating Expense & Equipment	\$75,325	\$0	\$75,325	0%
18	<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>\$356,505</b>	<b>\$259,758</b>	<b>\$96,747</b>	<b>73%</b>
Line Number	CATEGORY OF EXPENDITURES Multi-Year Appropriations	Delta Conservancy Budget	Actual Expenditures	Variance	Percent of Budget Expended
19	Proposition 1 Program Support	\$44,135			
20	Proposition 68 Program Support	\$195,950			
21	Delta Drought Response Pilot Program Support	\$71,360			
22	Nature Based Solutions and CAR	\$1,307,650			
23	Grants and Subventions	\$0			
24	<b>TOTAL MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$1,619,095</b>		<b>\$1,619,095</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>\$4,355,238</b>	<b>\$2,625,926</b>	<b>\$1,729,312</b>	<b>60%</b>
26	REIMBURSEMENT	(\$83,173)	\$0	(\$83,173)	0%
27	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,272,065</b>	<b>\$2,625,926</b>	<b>\$1,646,139</b>	<b>61%</b>



## Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Update Staff Report

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### PROGRAM UPDATE

As of July 15, 2025, there are 15 active projects and 23 closed projects.

For updates on a specific project, please visit: [Delta Conservancy Project Table Updates page](#).

For an interactive map of program projects, please visit: [Delta Conservancy Project Maps page](#).

### SIGNIFICANT PROJECT MILESTONES

#### P1-2204: Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project

The Little Franks Tract Invasive Weed Removal and Restoration Project is an implementation project intended to determine, through adaptive management, the best, most cost-effective, and safe strategy to manage invasive weed species and reestablish native habitat on Little Franks Tract in Contra Costa County. The Project team has mapped the island and is forming plans and polygons for spraying, which is scheduled to start Fall 2025. Access to the Project site has also been created using the old ferry landing.



**Figures 7.1.** Contra Costa Resource Conservation District staff showing how they were able to access Little Franks Tract levees using chain link for anti-slip on the old ferry landing, a walkway between the boat and old ferry landing, and vegetation clearing.



**P1-2208: Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project**

The Ulatis Creek Habitat Restoration Project is an implementation project intended to create 20 acres of riparian woodland habitat along Ulatis Creek in Solano County. The Project team continues to treat difficult weeds like *Arundo*, install irrigation, and has planted over 11,000 native plant plugs. The Project intends to plant 1,750 trees and 25,000 plugs before the Project is complete. [View a project update.](#)



**Figures 7.2.** Solano Resource Conservation District staff installing irrigation, planting native plant plugs, and treating invasive vegetation along Ulatis Creek.

**NUTRIA ERADICATION PROGRAM UPDATE (JULY 14, 2025)**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has provided the following update on their Nutria Eradication Program.

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

- Completed full and/or rapid assessments on over 1.9 million acres
- Executed entry permits with over 5,200 landowners for over 12,000 parcels in 20 counties
- Set up 13,597 camera stations (1,320 currently active) and conducted 110,912 camera checks
- Detected nutria in 1,397 sites (40-acre cells)
- Deployed 17,699 trap sets (549 currently active) for a total of 190,841 trap nights

- Taken or accounted for the take of 6,154 nutria (since Mar 2017)
  - Merced - 2,932
  - Fresno - 1,255
  - Stanislaus - 999
  - Solano - 643
  - Madera - 111
  - San Joaquin - 110
  - Sacramento - 57
  - Mariposa - 26
  - Contra Costa - 20
  - Kings - 1
  - See [www.wildlife.ca.gov/nutria](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/nutria) for an interactive map showing locations and densities of nutria taken over time

Of 5,954 necropsies, the data has shown:

- 1.16 sex ratio (M:F)
- 7,286 fetal nutria have been removed from the population
- Litter size ranged from 1-13, with an average of 6.0
  - 21% of juvenile (2-6 mos.) females have been pregnant
  - 63% of subadult (6-14 mos.) females have been pregnant
  - 68% of adult (>14 months of age) females have been pregnant
  - Average litter size for adult females (> 14 mos.) in California is 6.5

**Table 7.1.** 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 July 14, 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	131	743	5.7
<b>Total Across Years</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>6,154</b>	<b>8.7</b>

**BACKGROUND**

The Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation (ERCA) 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.

The table below highlights the allocations for Proposition 1 (bond funds), CAR (general funds), and NBS: WR (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.

**Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Funding Sources. CEP refers to the Community Enhancement Program (Agenda Item 10.1). 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

**CONTACT**

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**Project Updates and Consideration of Amendment to Scope of Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Agreement for Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project**

**Staff Report**

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

<b>Grantee</b>	The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
<b>Project ID</b>	NBS01
<b>Award Year</b>	2023
<b>County</b>	Contra Costa
<b>Category</b>	Implementation
<b>Original Award Amount</b>	\$20,907,371 (\$3,221,199 for Phase I and a conditional \$17,686,172 for Phase II)
<b>Request</b>	Scope

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommend that the Board conditionally approve a scope change to the Wetland Restoration Project to move final wetland restoration design and planning from Phase II (implementation) to Phase I (planning) to complete wetland restoration design plans and report and prepare final construction documents. Staff also recommend that the Board conditionally authorize the Executive Officer to approve releasing Phase II (implementation) funding for the Rice Conversion Project and move funds from the Wetland Restoration Project to the Rice Conversion Project.

**DESCRIPTION**

**Wetland Restoration Project Update and Amendment**

The Grantee is requesting to authorize the completion of final wetland restoration design planning and preparation of final construction documents as part of Phase 1 of the Project. It was previously identified as a task for Phase II. Initial planning, design, and environmental compliance are underway as part of Phase I. Conservancy standard practice is to fund final wetland design as part of Phase II implementation after California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance is complete. The Grantee is in the process of completing its CEQA review, finding the Project is exempt, and is requesting to move final wetland restoration design planning from Phase II to Phase I to align with their internal procedures and Board approval processes.

As part of Phase I, the Grantee is pursuing a CEQA statutory exemption for restoration projects (SERP) concurrence from the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The wetland restoration project implementation is considered a project under CEQA. Senate Bill (SB) 155 (2021)

added Section 21080.56 to California Public Resources Code, which provides a CEQA statutory exemption for restoration projects that enhance the recovery of California native fish and wildlife and will result in long-term net benefits to climate resiliency, biodiversity, and sensitive species recovery. As the lead agency under CEQA, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) prepared a SERP concurrence request finding the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project eligible for SERP. The Director of CDFW issued a [concurrence with the SERP request](#) on July 10, 2025. MWD filed a [lead agency Notice of Exemption \(NOE\)](#) with the State Clearinghouse on July 11, 2025. Shortly after the NOE was posted, MWD and CDFW noted an error in the total project acreage reported in both CDFW's SERP concurrence and MWD's NOE. Both organizations do not find the adjusted acreage to modify the SERP concurrence and are currently working to correct this error and post updated materials (see Agenda Item 8.2). Staff have reviewed the proposed Project, all the SERP materials, and the needed edits to correct the project acreage in the CEQA documentation. Staff agree with the determinations made by MWD and CDFW that the project meets the requirements for a SERP and recommends that the Board approve the completion of the final wetland design as part of Phase I of the approved project.

During Phase I wetland restoration design and planning, the Grantee completed an assessment of Webb Tract's topography. In consultation with ecocultural practitioners, engineers, and climate scientists, it was determined that the best course of action was to reduce the initial constructed flooded acreage. The original award included up to 3,000 acres of wetland. The current design includes up to 2,400 acres of wetland, with wetland acreage increasing up to 2,600 acres post-construction as soil accretes over the 15-year funding term (see Figure 8.1). This change optimizes existing topography and habitat types, carbon benefits, and both construction and long-term costs. This optimization reduces the estimated cost of construction by about \$3,000,000 compared to the initial estimates at time of award. The island will include about 500 acres of additional upland habitat, including sand dunes. A portion of this upland area will decrease as the wetlands naturally expand over time. Necessary infrastructure, staging areas, and existing habitats not to be disturbed cover roughly an additional 1,000 acres.

Conservancy staff reviewed and approved the Grantee moving forward with initial planning to this reduced acreage and, if this amendment is approved, staff recommend carrying this updated acreage forward into wetland restoration final design and planning. At a future meeting, the Board will consider approval of the final design and acreage to be constructed prior to their consideration of an amendment to authorize the remaining Phase II activities, including construction.

If the Conservancy is unable to change the scope of this agreement, wetland restoration design could not continue, and the Project would be delayed significantly. It would be unlikely that wetland construction could be completed during the grant funding term, if at all, due to a misalignment between the Agreement and Grantee's Board approval processes.

### **Rice Conversion Project Update and Amendment**

The Grantee is requesting to move into Phase II of the Rice Conversion Project. Phase I is complete, and Phase II is pending action by the Grantee's Board.

As part of Phase I, the Grantee released a solicitation to lease 1,361 acres of previous agricultural fields on Webb Tract for the purposes of converting the land to rice-ready condition and growing rice (previously described in a [Board update](#)). Land conversion costs were three times higher than expected resulting in no viable bids on that solicitation, so a second solicitation was released in 2025 that included a higher reimbursement per acre for the conversion. The lease proposal was presented to the Grantee's Board in June 2025, but action was deferred until August 2025. Should the Grantee's Board approve the lease in August, the Grantee anticipates completing CEQA compliance by applying one or more categorical exemptions.

Due to the unexpected higher cost of land leveling described above, the Grantee is requesting a budget change request to move up to \$2,680,000 from wetland construction to rice construction. The cost of wetland restoration construction is estimated to be lower than originally anticipated as described above. This is not anticipated to change the scope of work for the Wetland Restoration Project beyond the reduction in acreage, described above, that the Grantee is already, for other reasons, pursuing.

To keep to the current agreement timeline, land conversion needs to begin in summer 2025. If the Grantee's Board approves the execution of the rice lease (Phase II) in August, staff recommend that the Board authorize the Executive Officer to approve the release of Phase II funding, pursuant to the previously executed grant agreement, for the rice conversion project and the budget change. This authorization would be contingent upon the Executive Officer concurring with the Grantee's (the lead agency for CEQA) determination that the project is exempt from CEQA. It would also be limited to the approval of \$2,680,000 for lease acquisition. Board Resolution 2011-0003, which was signed on March 16, 2011, delegates authority to the Executive Officer to consider CEQA exemptions on behalf of the Board.

### **BACKGROUND**

Chaptered on September 5, 2022, the Amended Budget Act of 2022 (Assembly Bill 179, Item 3875-101-0001 of Section 111) provided the Conservancy with \$36 million for projects that support Nature Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration (NBS: WR). In May 2023, the Conservancy Board authorized \$20.9 million in funding to design and construct between 1,000 and 1,500 acres of rice and between 3,000 and 3,500 acres of wetlands on Webb Tract (the entire 5,500 acre island) to stop ongoing organic soil subsidence, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated through increased carbon sequestration opportunities, develop sustainable agriculture opportunities, investigate sustainable water management practices, and study how managed wetlands may augment the Delta pelagic food web in line with goals of Metropolitan's Climate Action Plan and the Delta Plan. Funding was awarded in two phases: \$3,221,199 for the planning phase and a conditional \$17,686,172 for the

implementation phase, subject to further review and consideration by the Board. Funding the award had the added condition that the funds being released will not be used for mitigation requirements of the Delta Conveyance program. Conditions of implementation funding include the Board's consideration of any needed CEQA findings. Conservancy staff will review any findings made by the lead agency and present documents to the Board for action as appropriate and required. The Delta Conservancy retains full discretion to approve or deny the implementation phase and to adopt any further mitigation measures or alternatives identified through the environmental review process. Webb Tract is in the northeastern portion of Contra Costa County, north of Bethel Island and southwest of Bouldin Island. Webb Tract is situated entirely within the Primary Zone of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Historically, Webb Tract was used to farm corn and cattle graze, but recent cattle grazing leases were not renewed due to the island being too wet to farm and resulting in poor grazing conditions. A short video about the Projects and intended outcomes is available on MWD's YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/x84x0Myhmyk?si=cs2FvpiLOfDgdZNq>.

#### **SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE**

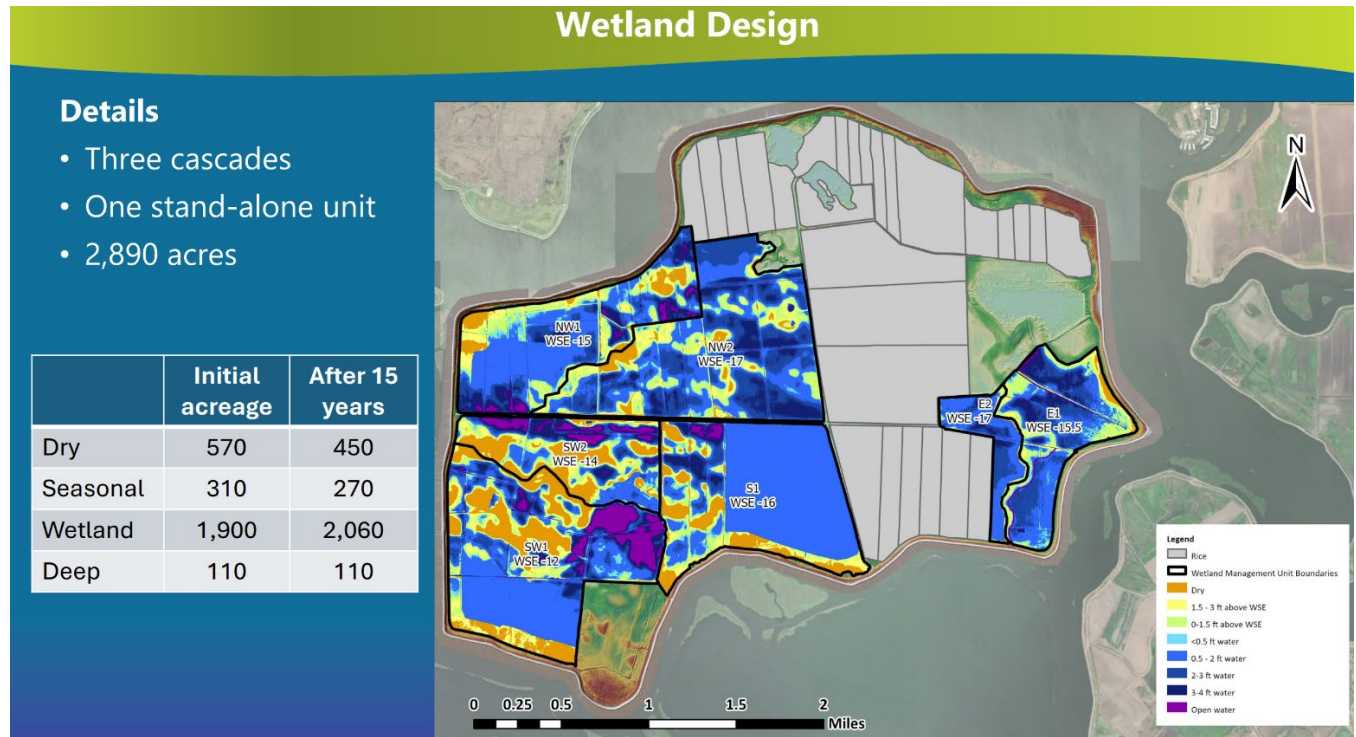
Move that the Board approve a scope change to authorize the grantee to complete final wetland restoration design and planning as part of Phase I of the Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project conditional upon the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Director signing an updated Statutory Exemption for Restoration Project concurrence and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California submitting an updated Notice of Exemption to the State Clearinghouse.

Move that the Board authorize the Executive Officer to approve Phase II of the Rice Conversion Project and approve a budget change to reallocate up to \$2,680,000 from the Wetland Restoration Project to the Rice Conversion Project, conditional on the Grantee (the lead agency) approving the Phase II activities, concluding that the rice lease is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and there are no exceptions to the exemptions, and SSJDC's Executive Officer reviews and concurs with those determinations.

#### **CONTACT**

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**Figure 8.1.** Map of draft Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project design, provided by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



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**From:** Saltsman, Cory@Wildlife  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 16, 2025 12:40 PM  
**To:** Damon, Lauren@SSJDC  
**Cc:** Henderson, Brad@Wildlife; Grube, Mitsuko@Wildlife; Wells, Matt C.@Wildlife; Wildlife Restoration Permitting  
**Subject:** Webb Tract SERP Update

Hello Lauren,

This email is to inform the Sacramento and San Joaquin Delta Conservancy that CDFW plans on revising the recently signed [SERP Concurrence for the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project](#) to address a discrepancy in the Project's acreage.

In the last day or two, it has been communicated to CDFW that the Project Description in the SERP Concurrence may not have accurately reflected the Project's acreage. Upon additional follow-up with CEQA Lead Agency and after further CDFW staff consideration, we have determined that the best way to address this is to re-route an updated SERP Concurrence for CDFW Director signature.

The plan is to revise the Project Description acreage to reflect the table below.

Habitat Type	Approximate Acreage
Emergent Wetland	1,900 acres
Seasonal Wetland	310 acres
Open Water	110 acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,320 acres</b>

We will make every effort to have an updated SERP Concurrence signed expeditiously, within the next week.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

**Cory Saltsman**  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
(916) 594-5094



**CA Department of Fish & Wildlife**  
*Cutting the Green Tape*  
Watershed Restoration Grants Branch  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

For more info about SERP visit:  
<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Cutting-Green-Tape/SERP>





**Request for Approval to Enter into an Architectural and Engineering Contract with the Most Qualified Firm for an Amount up to \$120,000 to Conduct a Subsequent Analysis for Potential Restoration of Franks Tract**

**Staff Report**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the Executive Officer (EO) to execute the proposed architectural and engineering contract with the most qualified firm (firm).

**DESCRIPTION**

The proposed architectural and engineering contract (contract) between the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) and the most qualified firm would be for an amount up to \$120,000. The firm would:

1. Lead community engagement and outreach to inform proposed alternatives for the project preferred landscape redesign concept.
2. Develop revised alternatives for the concept.
3. Conduct value engineering and preparing cost estimates; and
4. Identify potential funding sources to support future phases.

A description of the scope of work and tasks is outlined in Agenda Item 9.2.

To select an Architectural and Engineering firm, Conservancy staff posted a Request for Qualifications on Cal eProcure on May 5, 2025, with a deadline for submissions by May 27, 2025. In June, Conservancy staff evaluated the Statement of Qualifications and are now in the negotiation phase with the most qualified firm.

**BACKGROUND**

On November 21, 2023, the Conservancy entered into an interagency agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish criteria to select a contractor, solicit a request for qualifications, and award a contract for the Cost Feasibility Analysis for the Restoration of Franks Tract. The agreement ends on June 30, 2027, and has a total budget of \$150,000. Of the total budget, up to \$120,000 is available for a contract.

**Architecture and Engineering Authority**

On July 10, 2025, the Conservancy received the authority to enter Architectural and Engineering (A&E) contracts. This authority allows more opportunities in contracting given how few entities can perform the specialized work. The Proposed Action of Regulation was published on January 3, 2025, by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). The 45-day comment period ended on February 18, 2025. OAL reviewed the proposed regulation packet in May and determined the Conservancy needed to make modifications to the regulation text and complete additional requirements. At the May 28, 2025, Board meeting, the Board approved the new proposed regulation and authorized the EO to submit the

regulations for OAL and make any necessary non-substantiative or technical changes to the adopted regulations. Staff submitted the Board-approved proposed regulations on June 3, 2025. OAL approved the A&E Authority on July 10, 2025.

**Delegation of Authority to the Executive Officer**

The Conservancy's Delegation of Authority to the Executive Officer includes language that allows the EO to enter into contracts for technical or other services, for the purpose of program and project development, for amounts not to exceed \$100,000, including extensions and amendments. The Delegation of Authority to the Executive Officer was last updated and approved by the Board on September 25, 2019. Since this contract will likely exceed \$100,000, staff are seeking authorization for the EO to execute the contract to avoid further project delay.

**SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:**

Move that the Board authorize the Executive Officer to enter into an architectural and engineering contract with the most qualified firm for an amount up to \$120,000 to conduct the Cost Feasibility Analysis for the Restoration of Franks Tract.

**CONTACT**

Lauren Damon, Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Supervisor

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

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**Request for Approval to Enter into an Architectural and Engineering Contract with the Most Qualified Firm for an Amount up to \$120,000 to Conduct a Subsequent Analysis for Potential Restoration of Franks Tract**

**Scope of Work and Tasks**

---

**SCOPE OF WORK**

The most qualified firm (firm) will support the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) in advancing the Franks Tract Futures Project (Project) by:

1. Leading community engagement and outreach to inform proposed alternatives for the project preferred landscape redesign concept.
2. Developing revised alternatives for the concept.
3. Conducting value engineering and preparing cost estimates; and
4. Identifying potential funding sources to support future phases.

**TASKS**

**Task 1. Contract Management**

The firm will:

- Submit required contract documentation and prepare invoices in compliance with Conservancy and state requirements.
- Provide quarterly progress reports detailing accomplishments, task completion status, and progress toward deliverables.
- Prepare a draft final report summarizing all work, key findings and conclusions, challenges encountered and responses, recommendations for future efforts, and lessons learned.

**Task 2. Project Initiation and Coordination**

The firm will collaborate with the Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) to establish a current understanding of the Project. This includes researching newly involved and previously engaged interested parties and assessing changes since the 2020 planning efforts in environmental, economic, political, and social contexts. Based on findings, the firm will recommend value engineering strategies and refine tasks to improve cost feasibility.

**Task 3. Communication and Outreach**

The firm will engage interested parties, including those previously involved, through:

5. Up to two meetings with the Franks Tract Futures Project Steering Committee and selective one-on-one sessions as needed.

6. One to two Advisory Committee meetings.
7. Public meetings and regular updates to the Project website ([Franks Tract Futures Hub](#)) to reflect current progress and findings.

#### **Task 4. Alternative Revisions**

Using insights from Tasks 2 and 3, the firm will propose cost-reducing alternatives to the preferred landscape concept. Prior Structured Decision Making (SDM) outcomes will guide these revisions. The firm will update the SDM model to reflect alternative approaches and assess changes in outcomes. Coordination with the Conservancy, CDFW, and CDWR will ensure alignment and inform hydrologic modeling efforts.

#### **Task 5. Cost Estimation and Value Engineering**

The firm will prepare budget estimates using at least three methods:

8. **Slim-down** – Reducing costs of the preferred alternative.
9. **Top-down** – Designing to meet a target budget.
10. **Bottom-up** – Building to fulfill core Project objectives.

#### **Task 6. Potential Funding Sources**

The firm will identify potential funding opportunities by engaging with agencies and partners to explore options for advancing the next Project phase.



## Community Enhancement Program Update

### Staff Report

---

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

As of June 20, 2025, there are 11 active projects, three approved projects, and four closed projects. For updates on a specific project, please visit: [Delta Conservancy Project Table Updates page](#). For an interactive map of program projects, please visit: [Delta Conservancy Project Maps page](#).

#### SIGNIFICANT PROJECT MILESTONES

##### **P6813: Restoration of the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse and Creation of a Delta Welcome Center (Implementation)**

The purpose of the Project is to restore the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse to create a Delta Welcome Center that will serve the public by creating a community gathering space and K-12 Educational Center; displaying exhibits to showcase Clarksburg's and the north Delta's environmental, agricultural, historical, and cultural importance; and showcasing tourism and recreational opportunities of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Grantee was awarded \$1,742,766 in Proposition 68 funds in 2022, and they received an amended budget increase of \$328,206 in 2023. The restoration of the schoolhouse is complete, and the Grantee is working on the outdoor displays.



Figure 10.1. 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse in Clarksburg, CA.

**P6819: Suisun City Public Fishing Dock (Planning)**

The purpose of the planning project is to complete permitting, prepare site Master Plan and 65 Percent Design Plans, and perform community outreach for the construction of a 12- foot by 100-foot public fishing dock in the Suisun Slough, located within Suisun City. This fishing dock will serve as a recreational and educational hub, promoting tourism and environmental education in the region. The Grantee was awarded \$715,180 in Proposition 68 funds in 2024. The Grantee has completed the community outreach and equity assessment for the project.



**Figure 10.2.** Suisun Slough in Suisun City, CA.

**BACKGROUND**

The Community Enhancement 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 table below 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 Program Funding Sources. ERCA refers to the Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation 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 68	\$12.0	\$8.7	\$8.7	\$0	6/8/2018	6/30/2027	CEP
CAR	\$5.25	\$4.99	\$4.99	\$0	9/23/2021	6/30/2027	ERCA and CEP
CAR	\$6.125	\$5.82	\$5.8	\$0.02	9/6/2022	6/30/2027	ERCA and CEP

**CONTACT**

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## Overview of the Clean Vessel Act Program

### Staff Report

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#### DESCRIPTION

This agenda item presents an overview of the Clean Vessel Act Program (Program). The tasks and objectives of the Program will be highlighted, as well as work performed by Conservancy staff.

With \$271,000 provided by the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), the objective of the grant is to support clean boating by conducting outreach and surveying activities in 13 northern California counties. The Program focuses on educating recreational boaters about proper vessel sewage disposal, the importance of using pumpout facilities, and monitoring pumpout and dump stations across Northern California to ensure their accessibility and functionality by visiting marinas, attending boat shows and outreach events, and providing boater kits to the boating community.

In April of 2025, Conservancy staff performed the first of the required biannual monitoring throughout the Bay-Delta Estuary. Staff surveyed 81 sewage pumpouts and five dump stations at 63 marinas. Additionally, Conservancy staff have attended one boat show, created social media content to educate the community on clean boating, and created deck adapter and Y-valve kits to help boaters use pumpout equipment and avoid spills.

The Program provides an opportunity for the Conservancy to support the Delta Plan and Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan goals of protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The Program provides significant benefits to the Delta, protecting and enhancing the recreational values of the Delta, and improving water quality to protect human health and the environment. Improper sewage discharge creates environmental and human health problems and may discourage recreation and tourism. Many boaters travel to locations throughout California, and by educating boaters throughout the State, boaters who visit the Delta for recreation will be more informed about best practices for sewage management. Monitoring pumpout and dump stations will help ensure they are operational and accessible to the boating community, which will decrease the discharge of sewage directly into waterways. Finally, the Program expands the Conservancy's public outreach and builds ties in the community, making it more relevant, visible, and effective.

**BACKGROUND**

The DBW Clean Vessel Act Education and Outreach Grant Program uses federal Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund grants to support programs that educate California boaters and increase public awareness about boat sewage management and proper disposal. The grant program is aimed at all coastal recreational boaters including the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, but most specifically those with onboard holding tanks in two targeted geographic regions: the 13-county San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary and the six Southern California coastal counties. DBW funds two grants annually, one for each targeted California region, to develop and implement a 12-month boater education, outreach, and vessel pumpout monitoring program. The Conservancy was awarded \$271,000 to implement this grant.

**CONTACT**

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# Overview of the Clean Vessel Act Program

Board Meeting  
July 23, 2025



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

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# Background

In 2025 the Conservancy was awarded \$271,046 to administer the Clean Vessel Act program (CVAP) by California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), Clean Vessel Act Education and Outreach Grant Program



# Objectives

- Prevent Water Pollution and Improve Water Quality
- Protect and Enhance Recreation
- Expand Outreach



# Grant Requirements

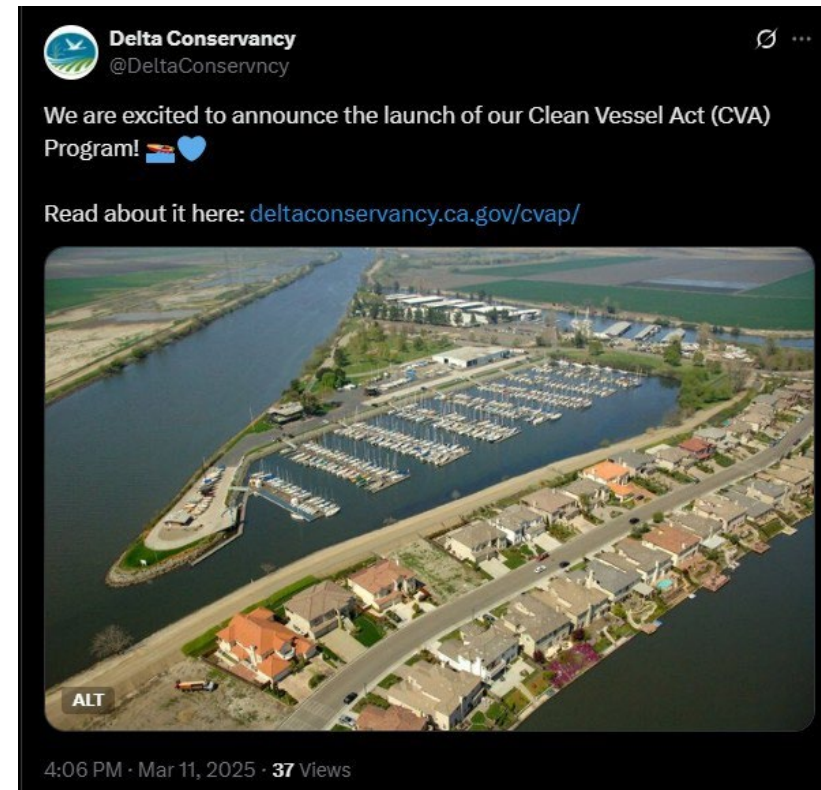
- Biannual Monitoring
- Education and Outreach
- Conferences and Workshops
- Pumpout Nav app





# Webpage and Social Media

- Launched Clean Vessel Act website
- Four posts on:
  - Facebook
  - Instagram
  - Threads
  - X
  - LinkedIn



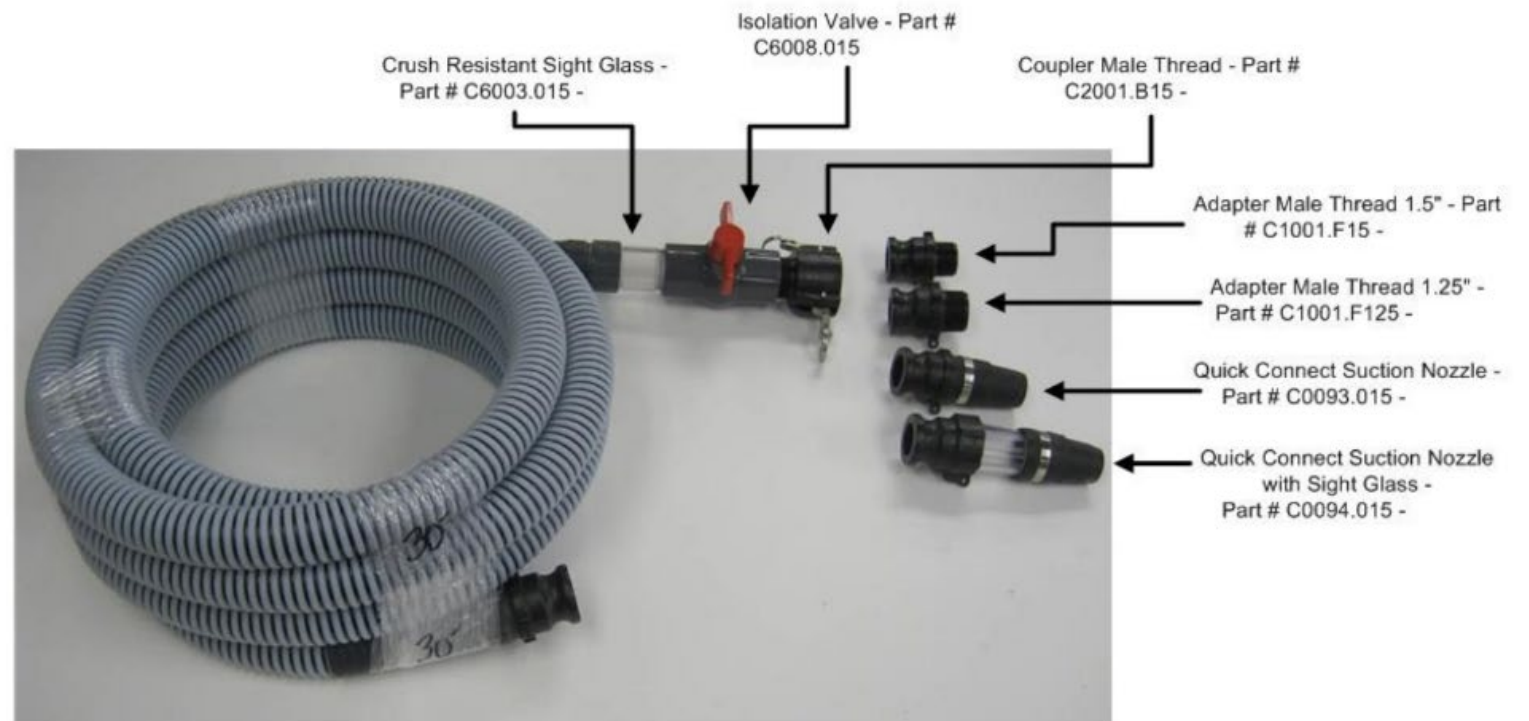
# Boat Shows and Conferences

- Attended the Sacramento Boat Show in March
- Attend Sausalito Boat Show in September
- Attend States Organization for Boating Access in August
- Outreach events reach over 700 boaters and marina operators annually



# Supplies for Boaters and Marinas

- Deck Adapter Kits
- Y-Valve Kits
- Replacement Parts





# April Monitoring

- Conservancy staff visited 63 marinas, monitored 81 pumpouts, and five dump stations throughout Bay-Delta Estuary
- Pumpouts keep thousands of gallons of sewage out of California's waterways





# Counties Included:

- Alameda
- Contra Costa
- Marin
- Monterey
- Napa
- Sacramento
- San Francisco
- San Joaquin
- San Mateo
- Santa Clara
- Santa Cruz
- Solano
- Sonoma







# Sample Monitoring Route

- 1450 Halyard Dr, West Sacramento, CA 95...
- Riverbank Marina, 1371 Garden Hwy #201...
- Sacramento Marina, 2710 Ramp Wy, Sacra...
- Sherwood Harbor Marina & RV Park, 350...
- Cliff's Marina, 8651 River Rd, Sacramento...
- Boathouse Marina At Locke, 13900 River...
- Walnut Grove Marina, 1400 Old Levee Rd...
- Dagmar's Landing, 14181 River Rd, Walnut...
- Delta Marina Yacht Harbor & RV Park, 101...
- 1450 Halyard Dr, West Sacramento, CA 95...

Options

Send directions to your phone Copy link

via I-80 E 2 hr 37 min  
2 hr 37 min without traffic 111 miles  
▲ This route has restricted usage or private roads.

Details

# Monitoring Process

- Check meter reading
- Check pressure reading
- Perform pump time check
- Record signage and equipment quality
- Record all data in Pumpout Nav app and take pumpout picture





# Video



# Pumpout Nav App

- Stores surveying data
- Available to the public to find operational pumpouts
- Can be used to report issues with pumpout
- Over 100 new users downloaded the Pumpout Nav app this year



# Contact

Maya Garrett

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## Delta Conservancy 2025 Implementation Plan Status Update Staff Report

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This item presents the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy's (Conservancy) progress toward meeting the goals of the 2025 Implementation Plan.

### DESCRIPTION

Staff provide the Board with a mid-year status update on work identified in the Implementation Plan. The Conservancy has made steady progress toward the 2025 Implementation Plan goals and, overall, work is progressing according to the timelines. A summary of progress in achieving 2025 Implementation Plan goals is detailed in Agenda Item 12.2.

### BACKGROUND

The [2022-2027 Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan](#) was adopted by the Board in January 2022. The Strategic Plan provides a high-level road map and sets objectives and performance measures to achieve them. The annual Implementation Plan, which provides a more detailed accounting of the tasks the Conservancy will undertake this year to implement the Strategic Plan, was adopted by the Board in January 2025.

### CONTACT

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# 2025 Implementation Plan Mid-Year Update

## July 2025



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## **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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

## **SACRAMENTO SAN-JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY**

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## 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.



## 2025 at a Glance

- **Proposition 4** – The Climate Bond has been the primary focus of the Conservancy. To ensure that the funding is impactful and meets community need, the team worked formally with over 20 stakeholders, distributed a survey with more than 40 responses, had conversations with countless others, and held internal conversations. Notably, the solicitation will be competitive with a staggered timeline across the three programs and introduces a small grant program for capacity building and other efforts.
- **Coordination with partners** – The Conservancy has been coordinating with partners on multiple issues including the Climate Bond, invasive species, and project funding. The Conservancy is convening three key efforts of note:
  - Advanced Delta-wide carbon collaboration by organizing and hosting the first two Delta Carbon Team meetings on May 27 and June 24. More than 20 people, representing various public and non-profit organizations, attended each meeting. Additional meetings will be held throughout the year.
  - Delta Restoration Forum: Hosted over 80 people and highlighted over 20 projects at the third Delta Restoration Forum on May 1 at the Clarksburg Schoolhouse.
  - Planning for the sixth biennial Delta Invasive Species Symposium is underway. The theme is “Modeling and Managing Invasive Species for Tomorrow's Delta” and it will be held December 4, 2025.
- **Outreach** – The Conservancy has been increasing outreach by tabling at new events, distributing a Delta-wide survey, expanding social media, and thinking more strategically about how to connect with audiences.
- **Funding opportunities** – The Conservancy has been seeking additional funding sources to support the important work in the Delta. This effort has had limited success given the current state of the state and federal budgets. Partnering with other state agencies to work toward shared goals has shown the most progress. The Conservancy is continuing to seek opportunities inside and outside of state government.
- **Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Authority** – The Conservancy received A&E authority providing more contracting flexibility. This will allow the Conservancy to advance the Franks Tract work and support future opportunities.
- **Clean Vessel Act Program (CVAP) launch** – The Conservancy launched CVAP and conducted the first evaluations of marinas. This program will help keep the Delta clean.
- **Proposition 68** – The Conservancy has fully allocated Proposition 68 funding.

The following is a detailed update to the Implementation Plan. The original plan (that was approved in January 2025) is updated by inserting work that was done between January and July 2025 in bold and colored type below the original goal.

## 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.

Goals and **updates** 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*
  - **Engaged with more than 25 partner agencies, participated in California Natural Resources Agency-wide (CNRA) planning meetings, and received more than 40 responses to a public survey on Climate Bond funding.**
- *Prepare and release grant guidelines and solicitation for Climate Bond funding*
  - **Prepared solicitation notice and applications 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.)*
  - **Coordinated grant process with entities in CNRA by participating in work groups.**
  - **Simplified grant procedure and materials for the Climate Bond solicitation, making it easier for applicants.**
  - **Made small projects easier for applicants by creating a small grant program.**
- *Identify and apply for alternative funding sources to support current and future ERCA projects*
  - **The Conservancy continues to monitor potential funding opportunities, including state and federal sources to support 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*
  - **Enhanced equity in programs by elevating community engagement and support, DEI principles, outdoor access for all, and tribal engagement in process and evaluation criteria.**
  - **Provided more directions to applicants on how to implement meaningful community and tribal engagement.**
  - **Advanced inclusion by providing technical assistance to small organizations or organizations that work in disadvantaged communities.**
  - **Made small projects easier for applicants by creating a small grant program.**
- *Continue to monitor and close out existing ERCA projects*
  - **Three ERCA projects are scheduled to close out later in 2025.**

### ***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.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Hold quarterly team meetings to coordinate and exchange information*
  - **Held first two quarterly meetings on February 19 and May 21.**
- *Hold the sixth biennial Delta Invasive Species Symposium*
  - **Held first planning team meeting in April. Symposium theme is “Modeling and Managing Invasive Species for Tomorrow's Delta” and it will be held on December 4.**
- *Complete collaborative development of guidelines for the management of invasive aquatic vegetation in tidal wetland restoration sites*
  - **Created a draft invasive species management plan and sent to collaborators for review in June. Anticipate publishing the product on the Conservancy’s website in 2025.**

#### ***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. 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*
  - **Hosted over 80 people and highlighted over 20 projects at the third Delta Restoration Forum on May 1 at the 1883 Clarksburg Schoolhouse.**
  - **Coordinated with and provided information on: the Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program's Representation in Wetland Decision-Making survey, permitting approaches for accelerating restoration, and the connections between Delta Adapts and the Restoration Subcommittee.**
  - **Submitted a proposal to facilitate a forum discussion at the October 2025 State of the Estuary Conference on how regulatory streamlining efforts (such as Cutting the Green Tape) are being implemented across the entire San Francisco Estuary with the Delta Stewardship Council.**
- *Create educational materials that help connect partners and agencies toward common goals*
  - **Delta restoration outreach flyer completed in June.**
  - **Created collateral for multiple events.**

## **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.

Goals and **updates** 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*
  - **Planned publication and release date with the DDRPP team.**



- *Support the UC Davis research team as they continue to gather data and create a second year of field level water budgets*
  - **Board approved an increase in the budget by \$300,000 and extension of 14 months to allow for a full three water years of data collection and completion of all final reporting.**

***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.

Goals and **updates** 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*
  - **Advanced Delta-wide collaboration on rice by organizing and hosting the first two Delta Carbon Team meetings on May 27 and June 24. More than 20 people, representing various public and non-profit organizations, attended each meeting. Additional meetings will be held throughout the year.**
    - **Created a workplan for the group and solicited volunteers from various agencies to lead the efforts.**
- *Identify and apply for alternative funding sources to support current and future subsidence and GHG reduction projects*
  - **The Conservancy continues to seek funding opportunities, including state and federal sources, to support sustainable agricultural practices, carbon and subsidence in the Delta.**
  - **Began collaborating on potential funding through the Delta Carbon Team.**
  - **Engaged with state partners to support proposed acquisition projects.**
  - **Identified CDFA Healthy Soils Program as a potential source of funding and worked with CDFA and CalEPA to support the adoption of the practice.**
- *Educate landowners about wetland restoration and carbon farming*
  - **Engaged the public at an outreach event to inform and solicit feedback about the Webb Tract projects on February 12 at Big Break Visitor Center.**
  - **Presented pertinent information to the public on a regular basis at existing meetings (e.g., Delta Stewardship Council) including basic concepts and progress made toward wetland restoration and carbon farming opportunities.**

## 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 2025, the Conservancy board approved two new community projects, funding the implementation phase of the Freeport Gateway Monuments project and acquisition of the Darrahville property in Stockton, using \$2.6 million from Proposition 68 funds.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Engage nonprofits, state partner agencies, and local entities to identify and recommend projects that enhance Delta communities*
  - **Engaged over 25 partners in one-on-one meetings about priorities and potential projects for the Climate Bond.**
  - **Made potential applicants aware of upcoming funding by reporting at meetings (i.e. collaborative groups, DSC meetings, DPC meetings)**
  - **Solicited broad feedback from the public by publishing a Climate Bond survey that received more than 40 responses.**
  - **Met with all potential applicants who contacted the Conservancy office to help them prepare for upcoming funding.**
  - **Engaged the public to spread awareness of the Climate Bond by tabling at events.**
- *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.)*
  - **Streamlined grant application process by creating consistency across CNRA agencies, including updates to indirect cost rates and advanced payments.**
  - **Simplified/streamlined Conservancy grant application materials in preparation to release the solicitation.**
- *Identify and apply for alternative funding sources to support current and future projects*
  - **The Conservancy continues to seek funding opportunities, including other state and federal sources, to support community enhancement 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*
  - **Enhanced equity in programs by elevating community engagement and support, DEI principles, outdoor access for all, and tribal engagement in evaluation criteria and process.**
  - **Provided more direction to project applicants on how to incorporate meaningful community and tribal engagement in their projects.**
  - **Made small projects easier for applicants by creating a small grant program.**
  - **Advanced inclusion by providing technical assistance to small organizations or organizations that work in disadvantaged communities.**
- *Recommend projects for the remaining \$2.6 million in Proposition 68 funding*
  - **Awarded \$500,000 in Proposition 68 funding for Freeport Gateway Monuments implementation in January 2025.**
  - **Awarded \$2.1 million for the acquisition of the Darrahville property in Stockton in May 2025.**
- *Continue to monitor and close out existing CEP projects*
  - **One CEP project is expected to close out later in 2025.**

### ***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.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Increase the number of volunteers at cleanups*
  - **Increased attendance at the April Sherman Island cleanup event by creating publicity collateral and coordinating with the Rio Vista Windsports Association (RVWA) to promote via printed flyers, social media, and RVWA's newsletter. The event drew over 30 volunteers despite rainy conditions.**
  - **Will use similar techniques to increase participation in Coastal Cleanup Day, California's largest annual volunteer event, which will take place in September. The Conservancy will coordinate with the California Coastal Commission and other groups to encourage volunteer participation and promote the event.**
- *Track and quantify impact*
  - **Measured the impact of the April event by quantifying the waste (filled a 40-yard dumpster provided by Waste Management), taking before-and-after photos at targeted cleanup areas, documenting how many volunteers attended (over 30), and surveying volunteers on how they heard about the event.**

- *Expand partnerships and support additional cleanups*
  - **Supported a new partnership with Sacramento County to remove agricultural plastics from the waste stream and support farmers in complying with regulation. At the Sacramento County plastic recycling event at KLM Ranch, Sequoia Environmental Compliance Counsel recycled more than 16,000 pounds of plastic containers from the 62 farmers and ranchers who participated.**

## **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.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Foster relationships with local communities, government agencies, NGOs, and private entities*
  - **Expanded the Conservancy's connection with the community by regularly attending meetings and events for the purpose of information sharing, project collaboration, and gathering feedback.**
  - **Became more strategic in identifying key audiences and important messages through a new communications implementation plan.**
  - **Attended community events, including Earth Day at California Natural Resources Agency, Honored Elders Day, Oakley Summer Fest, and Native American Day at the Capitol (in September).**
- *Maintain an informative, interactive, user-friendly website*
  - **Made information about the Conservancy's impact more accessible to the public by creating a searchable table and interactive maps for Conservancy-funded projects.**
  - **Ensured the site is accessible by continuing to improve site design, development, and maintenance.**
  - **Increased user-friendliness of the website by using information gained through tracking website traffic and user activity.**

- *Support collaboration by participating in and facilitating events*
  - **Increased collaboration through regular speaking engagements at public meetings and Delta events.**
  - **Facilitated the third Delta Restoration Forum on May 1 to bring together over 60 agencies, scientists, implementers, and members of the public to collaborate on Delta funding and critical projects.**
  - **Advanced collaboration around invasive species by planning the sixth biennial Delta Invasive Species Symposium that is scheduled for later this year.**
- *Create and disseminate engaging and informative social media content*
  - **Highlighted the importance of and built community connection to the Conservancy through coordinated, staff-wide social media content on a variety of topics, including clean boating, invasive species, Conservancy project milestones, and events.**
  - **The Conservancy has continued to grow an online presence, particularly on Instagram. Additional social media campaigns are planned for the remainder of the year.**
- *Engage students with presentations and written material*
  - **Taught young people about the role of soil in the Delta at an interactive booth at the CNRA Earth Day celebration.**

#### ***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 and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Partner with California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways and San Francisco Estuary Partnership for knowledge transfer*
  - **Gathered important information from SFEP critical to guiding Conservancy CVAP implementation.**
- *Conduct outreach and education to the boating community about resources, tools, materials, and funding to promote clean boating activities*
  - **Transferred knowledge to the boating community through the following:**
    - **The Sacramento Boat Show in March 2025.**
    - **Planned attendance at the Sausalito Boat Show in September 2025.**

- **9 social media posts about the Conservancy’s Clean Vessel Act Program and will share more content throughout 2025.**
  - **Created and launched the Conservancy’s Clean Vessel Act Program webpage: [www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov/cvap](http://www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov/cvap).**
- *Monitor pumpout stations and help find resources to correct problems using the Pumpout Nav mobile app*
  - **Monitored 66 marinas, surveyed 81 pumpout stations and five dump stations. Additional monitoring planned for October 2025.**

## **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.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Continue to build partnerships that promote equity in Conservancy programs*
  - **Advanced Conservancy DEI practices and policies by participating in CNRA, Delta, and CalHR workgroups.**
  - **Took an active role in planning CNRA’s Women’s History Month events.**
  - **Actively participated in CNRA’s tribal coordination meetings.**
- *Ensure Climate Bond guidelines support equitable grant-making and historically underserved communities*
  - **Participated in CNRA’s Climate Bond planning meetings – general, tribal, and SDAC focused.**
  - **Incorporated DEI principles into the Climate Bond grant solicitation.**
  - **Solicited community feedback by conducting a survey of Delta communities.**
  - **Ensured community need was being met in the Climate Bond solicitation by conducting extensive outreach to partner agencies (over 25 partners).**
- *Continue to participate in committees, community gatherings, and learning opportunities*
  - **Honored Elders event**
  - **Oakley Summer Fest**

- **Native American Day at the Capitol (happening later in the year)**
- **Ongoing participation in multiple DEI committees.**
- *Work with the Delta Stewardship Council to implement joint actions from their equity plan*
  - **Submitted a joint request to the Governor’s Truth and Healing initiative to support implementation of the equity plan.**
  - **Held regular conversations with the Council about their implementation progress.**
  - **The Council is working internally to prioritize objectives and then will engage the Conservancy.**

### ***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.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Create grant guidelines that strongly encourage grantees to work with tribes or tribal entities on land management and acquisition projects*
  - **Participated in CNRA’s Climate Bond planning meetings – general, tribal, and SDAC focused.**
  - **Incorporated tribal inclusion principles into grant solicitation.**
  - **Conducted a survey of Delta communities to support community need.**
  - **Conducted extensive outreach to partner agencies to ensure that community needs were being met in the solicitation.**
- *Work with CNRA and the Legislature to change the Conservancy code to allow grants to tribes*
  - **Submitted Budget Change Proposal language that would make the code change.**
  - **Submitted a proposal to the Governor’s Truth and Healing proposal to change the language.**
- *Continue to build relationships with tribes and tribal entities*
  - **The Conservancy is coordinating with the Delta Protection Commission and the DSC to:**
    - **Streamline funding mechanisms for Delta-related tribal needs (e.g., knowledge, skills, expertise).**
    - **Communicate pertinent information to tribes.**
    - **Identify opportunities to engage tribes in the collective work.**



- *Continue to participate in committees, community gatherings, and learning opportunities*
  - **Participated in CNRA and Delta workgroups to advance the understanding of tribal issues and contribute to policies and programs that represent diverse constituencies.**
  - **Actively participated in CNRA’s tribal coordination meetings.**
  - **Attended CNRA’s annual tribal training.**

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

The Conservancy will continue to complete required administrative and operational work in collaboration with all staff.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Establish Conservancy core values through a collaborative process*
  - **In March, the Conservancy established core values through a collaborative process with all staff. The core values are Integrity, Transparency, Equity, Adaptability, and Collaboration. A core values flyer was created and posted in the office and added to our website in June.**  
<https://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/about-delta-conservancy/>
- *Implement a Records Retention Plan*
  - **Staff completed the agency’s Records Retention Plan and submitted it to the California Secretary of State for final review. The plan will be completed in fiscal year 2025/26.**
- *Maintain a sound organization by updating policies, procedures, and processes, and creating division manuals*
  - **Staff continue to update policies, procedures, and processes, and create division manuals. Staff are currently updating 30 policies. Of these, 18 are being reviewed internally, seven require input from other state agencies, one is under legal review, and four need substantial revisions. The policies will be completed in fiscal year 2025/26.**
- *Keep staff up to date by encouraging professional development and providing cross-training opportunities*
  - **The Conservancy is implementing several cross-training opportunities as part of annual Individual Development Plans.**
  - **Encouraged staff to register for professional development trainings by forwarding CalHR CalLearns emails, forwarding and/sharing other types of trainings that are available outside CalLearns, such as lunch talks, webinars, etc., making announcements at weekly All Hands meetings, and having**

**supervisors/managers promote trainings with their staff during weekly one-on-ones.**

- *Comply with state requirements by submitting administrative and operational reports, plans, and proposals*
  - **The Conservancy continues to comply with state requirements by submitting administrative and operational reports, plans, and proposals. Currently, the Conservancy is updating its Workforce Plan, Workplace Violence Prevention Plan, Illness Prevention Plan, and recently completed the Energy Emergency Alert Action Plan. The plans noted should be completed this fiscal year.**
  - **Responded to drills, requests for information and other urgent needs from CNRA, CA Department of Finance and others.**
- *Stay up to date on requirements and policy changes by participating in meetings and trainings with other state agencies*
  - **Staff continue to stay up to date on requirements and policy changes by participating in relevant meetings and trainings with other state agencies. Most meetings are ongoing.**

#### **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.

Goals and **updates** for 2025 are:

- *Submit applications for federal, state, and private funding as it becomes available*
  - **The Conservancy continues to monitor for funding opportunities, including other state and federal sources, to support the Conservancy's mission.**
  - **Applying for an additional year of funding.**
- *Amplify the impact of Conservancy funds by supporting partners' grant applications and strategizing on opportunities*
  - **Supported the National Heritage Area in pursuing various funding sources.**

## **Funding at a Glance**

The Conservancy uses 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 a 2025 annual report and the 2026 Implementation Plan for presentation at the January 2026 Board meeting. A new strategic plan will need to be completed by January 2027.