SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY
A California State Agency

Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program Update

Staff Report

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 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
Total Across Years	**712**	**6,154**	**8.7**

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

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