



## Delta Carbon Program Update

### Staff Report

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#### PROGRAM UPDATE

As of January 16, 2026, there are three active projects and one closed project.

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](#).

The Conservancy reviewed the most recent (October 10, 2025) draft of the Delta Independent Science Board's (ISB) Subsidence Review and provided a comment letter. The ISB Subsidence Review document is a summary of the issue of subsidence and associated carbon emissions in the Delta and the forum that occurred in October 2023. The draft document and comment letter are available on the [ISB webpage](#).

The Delta Carbon Team, facilitated by the Conservancy and co-led by The Nature Conservancy, held its fourth meeting January 6, 2026. This team consists of people working on Delta carbon issues and improves collaboration on reversing subsidence and associated greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining economic viability and improving climate resilience. The draft charter and meeting information will be available on the [Delta Carbon Program webpage](#) prior to the next Board meeting.

#### SIGNIFICANT PROJECT MILESTONES

##### **NBS01: Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project**

The Wetland Mosaic Landscape on Webb Tract Project consists of planning and implementing two projects that will result in the rewetting of the majority of Webb Tract, a deeply subsided 5,500-acre island in Contra Costa County. The rice conversion project, which is expected to start this spring, will convert between 1,000 and 1,500 acres of existing agriculture fields to rice. The wetland restoration project is completing final design and permitting for up to 2,400 acres of wetland. A request to move to implementation is expected this spring.

##### **NBS02: Delta Rice Incentive Program**

The Delta Rice Incentive Program offers a financial incentive to farmers to convert existing agricultural fields to rice. The program has been running for two years and has enrolled 10 farmers and nearly 4,000 acres. An additional solicitation this spring is expected to enroll up to 1,000 more acres to use the remaining funds. The program is also monitoring two of the converted fields for carbon emissions. Additional funding in the Climate Bond is likely to support a continuation of the Rice Incentive Program.



**Figure 11.1.** A converted rice field that is flooded for bird habitat benefits from NBS02: Delta Rice Conversion program.

#### **NBS04: Staten Island Wetland Restoration**

The Staten Island Wetland Restoration Project will restore 423 acres on Staten Island, a deeply subsided island in San Joaquin County. The island is used as a sustainable, wildlife-friendly farm, and the wetlands will ensure long-term viability by complementing the farming operations through recirculated water and reversing subsidence. The project has completed final design and permitting. A construction contractor has been secured. Construction is expected to start this spring.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Delta Carbon Program refers to a collection of activities and projects that halt or reverse subsidence and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from highly organic soils in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Projects in this program are currently supported through the Nature-Based Solutions: Wetland Restoration (NBS: WR) General Fund allocation. 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 NBS: WR.

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 NBS: WR (general funds), which has funds allocated for both administration and grants. The amount remaining to be allocated are funds available for new grants.

**Delta Carbon Program Funding Source**

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
NBS: WR	\$36.0	\$34.2	\$34.2	\$0	9/6/2022	6/30/2025	Carbon

**CONTACT**

Lauren Damon, Senior Environmental Scientist

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

[lauren.damon@deltaconservancy.ca.gov](mailto:lauren.damon@deltaconservancy.ca.gov)

(916) 634-5308