



Executive Officer's Report May 27, 2026

PROGRAM UPDATE

STAFFING UPDATE

Please welcome Anna Coats as the new Administration Manager, having transferred from California State Teachers' Retirement System in April. Recruitment is underway to backfill the Senior Environmental Scientist position.

INTRODUCED LEGISLATION

Please note that the Conservancy does not have a position on the following legislation. It is presented for informational purposes.

Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry introduced [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 2216](#), which would expand the Delta Conservancy boundary to include the areas of San Joaquin, Sacramento, Yolo, and Solano counties that are not currently covered by the Legal Delta and Suisun Marsh boundaries. The bill would allow the Conservancy to support more of the upper watershed with future funding sources.

Senator McNerney introduced [Senate Bill \(SB\) 872](#), which as amended, would establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury and, upon appropriation, would make the moneys in the fund available to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency for expenditure. The bill would also require the Conservancy, in conjunction with the Delta Stewardship Council and the Department of Water Resources, to develop one-year and five-year spending plans to improve existing levees in the Delta and would require the Conservancy to publish the plans on its website.

CLIMATE BOND SOLICITATION (PROPOSITION 4)

Under Agenda Item 9, the Board will consider updates to the Conservancy's General Grant Guidelines. If approved, and upon appropriation of fiscal year 2026/2027 Climate Bond funding, the Conservancy will prepare a Solicitation Notice for Board consideration at the July meeting and anticipates opening the grant solicitation this summer.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

The State Agency Waste Management Annual Report (SARC) has been submitted. In March, all staff completed and submitted their annual Form 700 statements by the required deadline. Our building is transitioning to new ownership that does not intend to retain existing tenants, and we are currently working with the Department of General Services to identify and secure new office space. Recruitment efforts for the Senior Environmental Scientist position remain ongoing. As of May 2026, the Conservancy has executed five grant and contract amendments, four agreements have been successfully achieved, and 134 invoices have been processed.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

On April 13, Conservancy staff applied for a Wetland Program Development Grant from EPA Region 9 with collaborators that include the San Francisco Estuary Institute, Delta Stewardship Council, and Department of Water Resources. The proposed project is to develop a Delta Dashboard to centralize the tracking and visualization of wetland restoration. The grant program is highly competitive, and staff anticipate funding decisions to be made by June 2026.

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

On May 15, Conservancy staff submitted a concept proposal for a block grant from the CDFA Healthy Soils Program (HSP). The project goal is to support adoption of climate-smart farming systems including rice conversion that rebuild soil elevation, reduce long-term flood risk, and improve farm resilience. If awarded, the Conservancy would run a solicitation for projects under the block grant. Staff anticipate decisions on the concept proposals in June.

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

On May 15, Conservancy staff submitted a concept proposal for a block grant from the CDFA State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP). The project goal is to lower energy demand by reducing energy use and operating costs for Delta farmers through energy-efficient irrigation and expanded solar adoption. If awarded, the Conservancy would run a solicitation for projects under the block grant. Staff anticipate decisions on the concept proposals in June.

DELTA DROUGHT RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM (DDRPP)

The six DDRPP grantees currently hosting micrometeorological equipment on their project sites continue to implement water conservation practices as part of the Conservancy's interagency agreement with the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) until the end of the water year in September 2026. The Conservancy continues to collaborate with partners from UC Davis, Office of the Delta Watermaster, OpenET, Department of Water Resources, and the Delta Stewardship Council to evaluate irrigation practices from the information collected through this program.

COST FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS FOR THE RESTORATION OF FRANKS TRACT

A contract with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) was executed in October 2025 to conduct a Cost Feasibility Analysis for the Restoration of Franks Tract Project. This contract is for one year, and the goals are to engage in a collaborative, structured decision-making process to refine the Franks Tract Futures Project and conduct value engineering to refine and prepare new cost estimates for the

Project. ESA has reconvened both the Steering and Advisory Committees, and the Steering Committee met on May 7 to discuss public agency interest and involvement in the project.

DELTA SCIENCE

Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) Restoration Subcommittee (RSC)

The Conservancy continues to co-lead the DPIIC RSC with colleagues from the Delta Stewardship Council (Council). The Restoration Subcommittee's work is guided by the [workplan](#). The vision of the DPIIC RSC 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 DPIIC RSC is hosting the fourth Delta Restoration Forum at the Bogle Family Vineyards on June 18, 2026. This back-to-back event features the DPIIC Restoration Subcommittee meeting in the morning, followed by the fourth Delta Restoration Forum in the afternoon. The Subcommittee meeting will feature several presentations highlighting diverse ecosystem restoration projects and related programs. The afternoon Forum will be an open-house format featuring restoration projects across California's Delta and Suisun Marsh.

Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination Team

The Delta Interagency Invasive Species Coordination (DIISC) Team is 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 (DWR). The last quarterly meeting was held on May 20, 2026.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Earth Day at California Natural Resources Agency

The Conservancy, along with staff from the Delta Stewardship Council and Delta Protection Commission, participated in the annual Earth Day festivities at the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) headquarters on April 22. The free event featured hands-on activities for all ages and offered attendees an opportunity to connect with the different teams at CNRA.

Spring Cleanup on Sherman Island

As part of Earth Month, the Conservancy partnered with the Rio Vista Windsports Association to hold a waterway cleanup event on Sherman Island on April 25. More than two-dozen volunteers attended the cleanup and collected 3,380 pounds of trash along a 1.5-mile stretch, preventing the debris from entering the Sacramento River.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- The [Manteca Bulletin](#) published an opinion piece about Senate Bill 872.
- [CBS Sacramento](#) produced a story about the ongoing restoration work of the USS Lucid, a rare wooden minesweeper that will be a focal point at the Stockton Maritime Museum. The Conservancy has provided \$950,000 in grant funding to support the museum.
- A reporter for [Soundings Journal](#) attended the Sherman Island spring cleanup event and produced a video highlighting the work of the volunteers.
- The [Public Policy Institute of California](#) interviewed Executive Officer Campbell Ingram for a blog post about key issues and funding needs in the Delta.

BOARD DIRECTIVES TO STAFF

1. Email Board Members and Liaison Advisors the events mentioned in Delta Stewardship Council's update and newsletter signups for the Delta Protection Commission and Delta Stewardship Council. The Conservancy emailed the information on April 9.

DELTA CONSERVANCY BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE UPDATE

Agenda Item 5.2: Budget and Expenditure Report

CORRESPONDENCE

- The Conservancy received a Public Records Act request from sunlightaccess.com for documents detailing payments to vendors issued by the Conservancy between December 1, 2025, to February 28, 2026.

CONTACT

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
campbell.ingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 621-8246