



Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Adaptation Program and Delta Carbon Program Updates
Staff Report

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION (ERCA) PROGRAM UPDATE

As of May 2026, there are 11 active projects and 24 completed 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](#).

ERCA PROGRAM SIGNIFICANT PROJECT MILESTONES

P1-2211: Marsh Creek Reservoir Restoration and Total Mercury Reduction Planning Project

The project team has consulted with the Wilton Rancheria and the Confederated Villages of Lisjan and has completed technical studies and 90 Percent Design Plans. To date, the Grantee has exhausted their awarded grant funds and is operating using project cost share to complete 100 Percent Design Plans and finalize environmental compliance. Thus far, the Grantee has exceeded the cash and in-kind cost share as required by the grant agreement by over \$130,000, which will continue through the end of the grant term in December 2026.

This Project was awarded funding for planning efforts to restore Marsh Creek Reservoir (Reservoir; Figure 7.1). The water quality is degraded in the Reservoir due to sediment accumulation and mercury contamination from an upstream abandoned mercury mine. This planning project will allow Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to conduct outreach, complete permitting and 100 Percent Design Plans, that will detail habitat improvements and public use opportunities at the site.

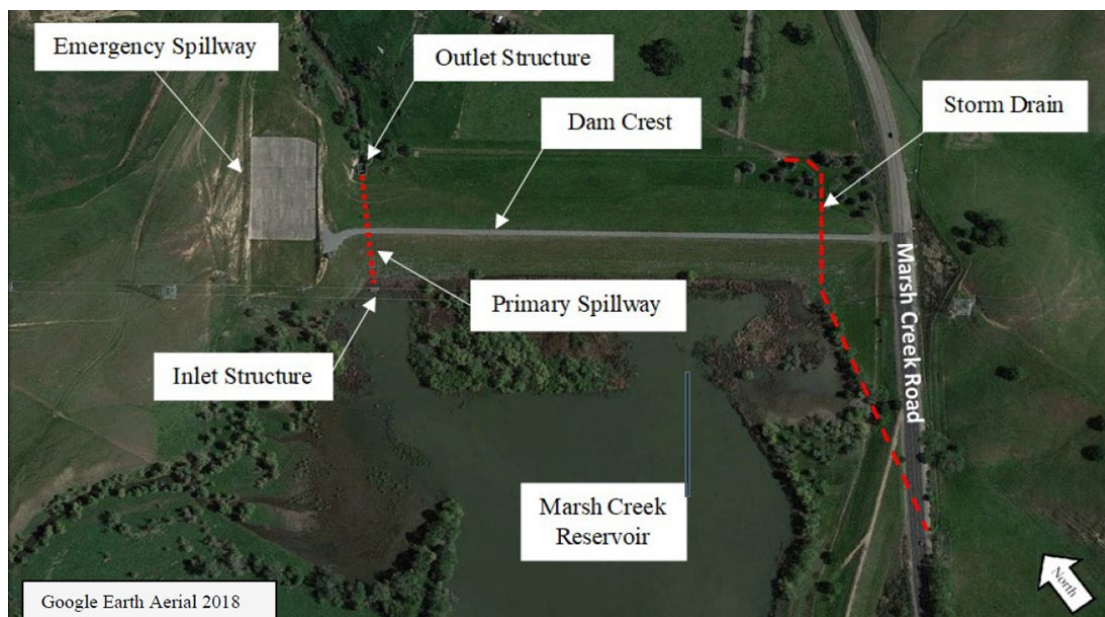


Figure 7.1. Satellite photograph of Marsh Creek Reservoir.

ERCA PROGRAM 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 and Climate Resilience, Community Access, and Natural Resource Protection (CAR). 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 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) and CAR (general funds). Each funding source has funds allocated for both administration and grants. The amounts 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 6.1). Amounts listed in millions of dollars.

Funding Source	Total Allocation	Minimum Amount Available for Grants	Total Amount Allocated for Grants	Amount Remaining to be Allocated	Allocation Date	Encumbrance Date	Program(s) Supported by Funding Source
Proposition 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

CARBON PROGRAM UPDATE

As of March 2026, there are three active projects and one completed 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 Delta Carbon Team

The Delta Carbon Team, facilitated by the Conservancy and co-led by The Nature Conservancy, meets quarterly to discuss Delta carbon issues with a vision to reverse subsidence and reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining economic viability and improving climate resilience in the Delta. The Carbon Team met on April 7, 2026, to discuss lateral carbon research happening in the Delta and carbon crediting and offset evaluation research. The next quarterly meeting is July 7, 2026. Meeting information is available on the [Delta Carbon Program webpage](#).

Rice Incentive Program

The Rice Incentive Program pays farmers to convert to rice to stop subsidence and reduce emissions. The Conservancy is seeking eligible entities to administer the Program. A [solicitation](#) was posted to the Conservancy website in March. Concept proposals are due on June 15, 2026. Projects are expected to start in summer 2027.

CARBON PROGRAM 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 amounts 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

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