



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

DELTA CONSERVANCY

A California State Agency

Delta Conservancy Small Grant Program

Funded by the Proposition 4 Climate Bond

Solicitation Notice

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Goals of the Program

The Small Grant Program provides funding for eligible entities to complete projects under \$100,000 that make transformative investments in the Delta's social, economic, scientific, and physical infrastructure. Projects may support community needs, advance scientific research that informs resource management, or enhance tourism and public understanding of Delta places through events, programs, materials, or facilities.

The grants should support one of the three Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy's (Conservancy) Priority Areas described below (please see [the website](#) for more detailed descriptions).

Community Enhancement

Building and strengthening Delta communities; celebrating the Delta as Place; historical preservation; expanding outdoor access; supporting tourism; and providing environmental educational opportunities. Funded projects may include but are not limited to education and outreach, community events, equipment, signage, staff and board development, and strategic planning.

Ecosystem Restoration

Preserving and enhancing the Delta's habitat, environment, and biodiversity. Funded projects may include, but are not limited to feasibility studies, research, tribal consultations, post-implementation monitoring and maintenance, or education, outreach, and engagement.

Nature-Based Solutions

Using natural processes to address climate challenges, such as subsidence and carbon emissions. Funded projects may include feasibility studies, research, tribal consultations, or education, outreach, and engagement.

Proposals

The Conservancy is soliciting proposals from eligible entities that will provide technical assistance, social, economic and scientific investments, and strengthen Delta communities.

The General Grant Guidelines establish the process and criteria that the Conservancy will use for all grant programs. Since individual funding sources may establish additional limitations, requirements, or require additional guidance as mandated per statute, the grant solicitation notice will provide more details. To the extent that there are slight differences between these documents, the grant solicitation notice will have the most relevant information and will supersede the General Grant Guidelines.

Eligible Grant Recipients

The eligible grant recipients under the Proposition 4 Climate Bond include the following:

- State and local public agencies including special districts, public utilities, local public owned utilities, mutual water companies and joint powers authorities
- Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status
- Native American Tribes

This program uses a simplified application process, and the proposal application consists of an online form submitted by applicants. The proposal application includes essential project information, a project budget, and a one-page narrative describing why the project is important and how it supports Delta and Conservancy program goals.

The proposal application can be found on the Conservancy's Proposition 4 Webpage here: [Community, Environment, and Climate Grant Program Proposition 4 – Delta Conservancy](#)

Funding Availability

A total of \$900,000 is available for the Small Grant Program, distributed in relatively equal amounts across the three priority areas pending final appropriation of funds and an exemption or procedural rulemaking to address the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) requirements.

Timeline

Proposals will be accepted on an ongoing basis and reviewed in the order received. The application window will remain open until funding is exhausted. Please allow at least three months for time-sensitive requests.

Eligibility Requirements and Review

Proposals that meet the eligibility requirements detailed in the General Grant Guidelines (Section D2) will be considered for funding. The Delta Conservancy's General Grant Guidelines provide detailed information regarding ineligible activities and projects. Projects larger than \$100,000, acquisitions, or projects resulting in a capital asset should apply to the [Delta Community, Environment, and Climate Grant Program](#) by following the process in that Solicitation Notice.

The Conservancy will evaluate the project's viability and overall benefit to the Delta or Suisun Marsh by assessing whether the project:

- Is technically and financially feasible
- Is likely to provide locally supported benefits to the Delta and Suisun Marsh
- Will meaningfully advance the Conservancy's priorities
- Is consistent with the grant guidelines and applicable program priorities and goals

Funding

Selected projects will receive reimbursement in arrears as a single payment.

Background

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) is a primary state agency in the implementation of ecosystem restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and Suisun Marsh and supports efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents. The Conservancy works collaboratively and in coordination with local communities, leading 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.

The Delta and Suisun Marsh are unique natural resources of local, state, and national significance, and have a distinct natural and cultural heritage. The Delta is a 1,300-square-mile estuary, one of the largest on the west coast of North and South America. It is home to more than 500,000 people and is a world-class recreational destination. Despite its large size and economic importance, too many Californians cannot access the Delta's outdoor spaces (e.g., open lands, parks, trails, beaches) or the array of museums and cultural and historical sites. While many Delta residents frequently go outside to experience nature, others never have the opportunity. Given this, the state is working to expand all Californians' access to parks, open space, nature, and cultural amenities. In addition to expanding access to outdoors for all, the State has accelerated its response to build climate resilience to extreme and forecasted climatic events (e.g., drought, flood, wildfire, and sea-level rise). Climate resilience actions should support climate smart land management to achieve carbon neutrality, sustain the economy, protect food and water security, and support the state's biodiversity. To support community access and climate resilience, California is committed to conserving 30 percent of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030. These initiatives are part of a movement to protect natural resources and elevate the role of natural and working lands against climate change and advance biodiversity conservation.

In line with the Conservancy's mission and to advance these statewide initiatives, the Conservancy is soliciting for projects that support public access, build climate resilience, and promote natural resource protection in the Delta region.

The Proposition 4 Climate Bond funding, chaptered on July 5, 2024, SB 867, the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Senate Bill 867 93020(a)(4)) provided the Conservancy with \$29 million. The Conservancy has \$24,752,000 remaining for projects that reduce the risks of climate change impacts upon communities, fish and wildlife, and natural resources, and increase public access. The Conservancy reserved \$900,000 for the Small Grants Program.

Contact

For more information: <https://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/grant-program/prop-4/>

If you have questions, please contact the Conservancy at grants@DeltaConservancy.ca.gov or (916) 375-2084.