

November 2024

Agenda Item: 11  
Meeting Date: November 21, 2024  
Page: 1

# 2025 Delta Science Plan Update



Delta  
Science  
Program

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

# Collaborative Science & Peer Review Unit

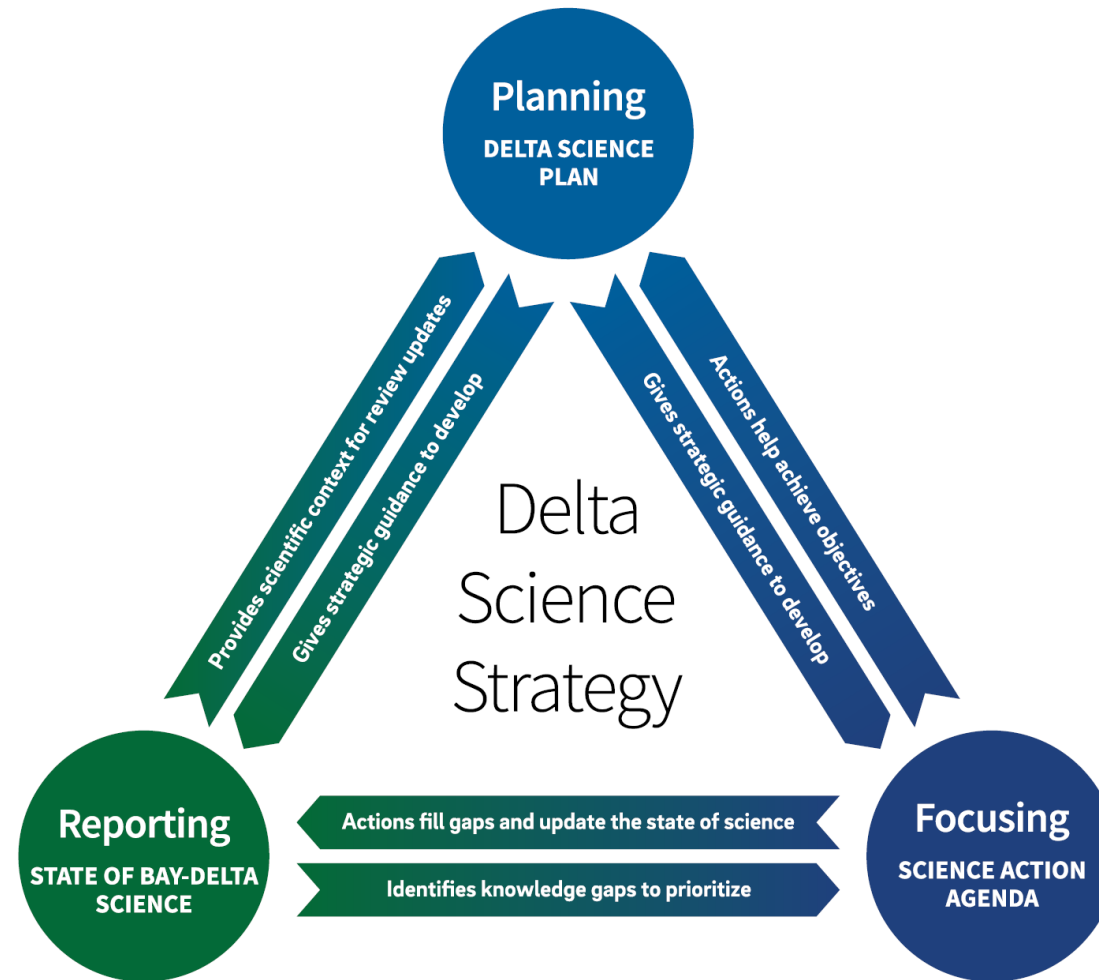
- **Tasked with the development of guidance documents for the Delta science community**
  - **Science Action Agenda** – prioritizes science actions over a short-term (4-5 years) horizon
    - Most recent SAA is for 2022-2026
  - **Delta Science Plan** – provides framework for “how we do science” in the Delta, released every 5-6 years, first in 2013 and second in 2019, with third iteration in planning stages



## 2022-2026 Science Action Agenda

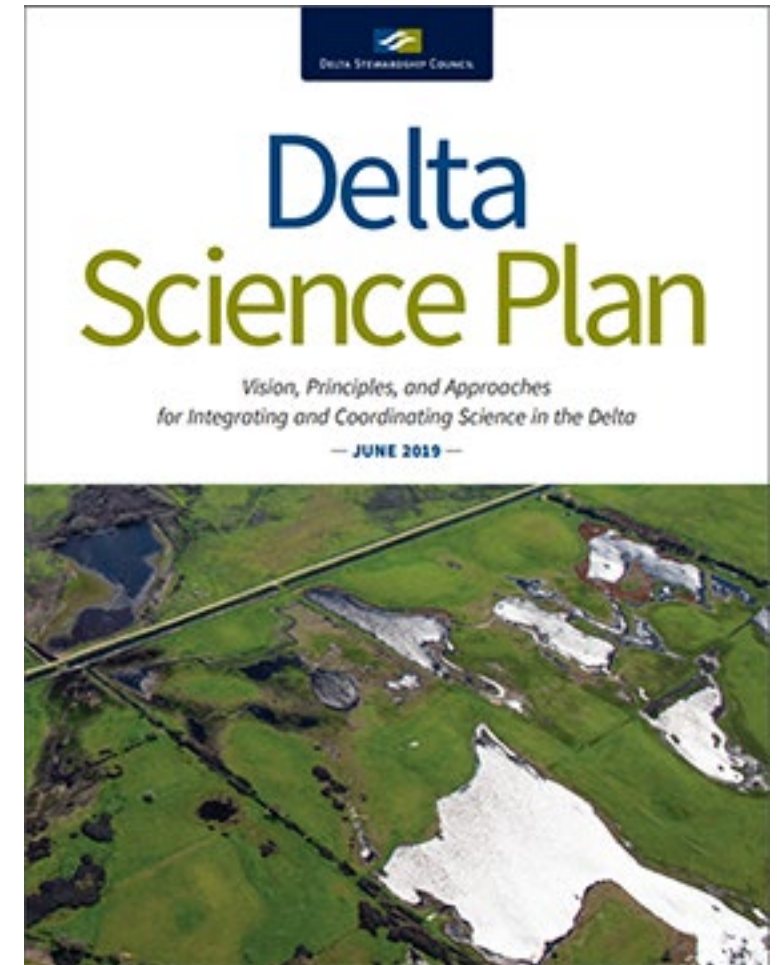
A Vision for Integrating  
Delta Science

# Delta Science Strategy



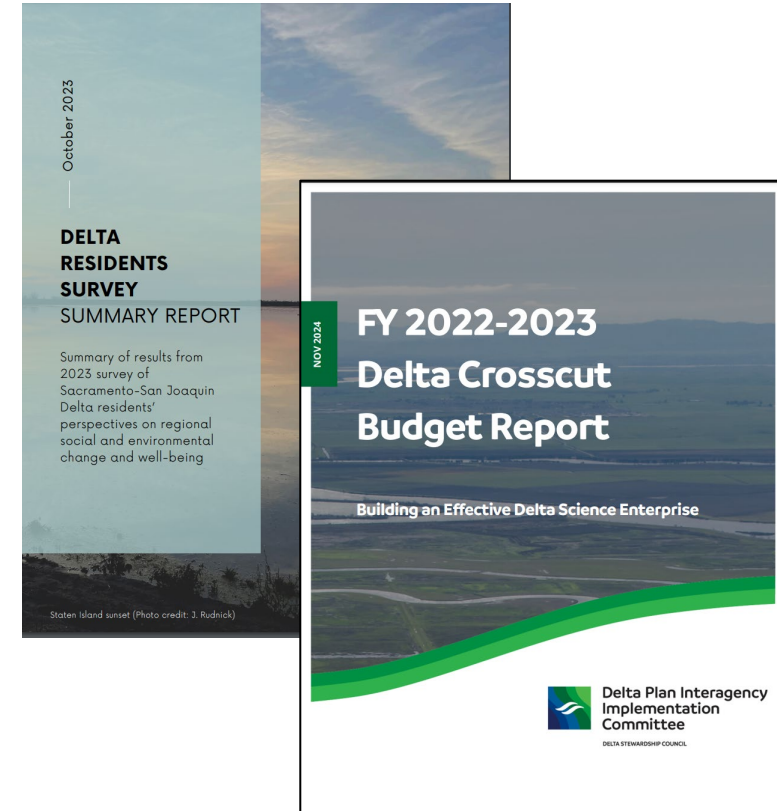
## Background – Delta Science Plan

- “Organize and integrate ongoing scientific research, monitoring, and learning about the Delta as it changes over time” *Delta Plan*
- Informed by and created for the greater Delta science community
- Delta Science Program currently working on third Delta Science Plan to be released Fall 2025

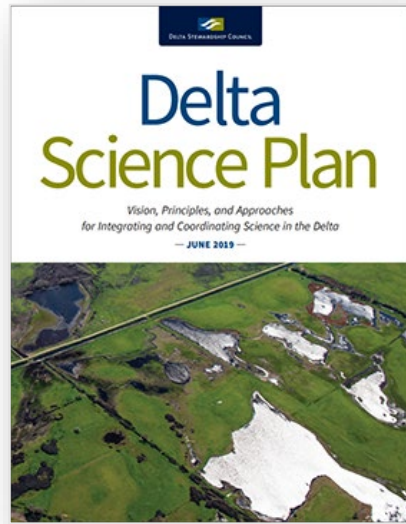


# 2019 Delta Science Plan Successes

- Social Science Task Force (2020)
  - Delta Residents Survey (2023)
- First Annual Crosscut Budget (2020)
- Delta Science Tracker released (2023)



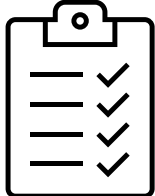
# Delta Science Plan





**Review of Grand Challenges**, for *framing* the next Science Plan


+



**Review of 2019 Delta Science Plan Progress** for *informing* the Science Plan



**Delta Science Plan 2025**



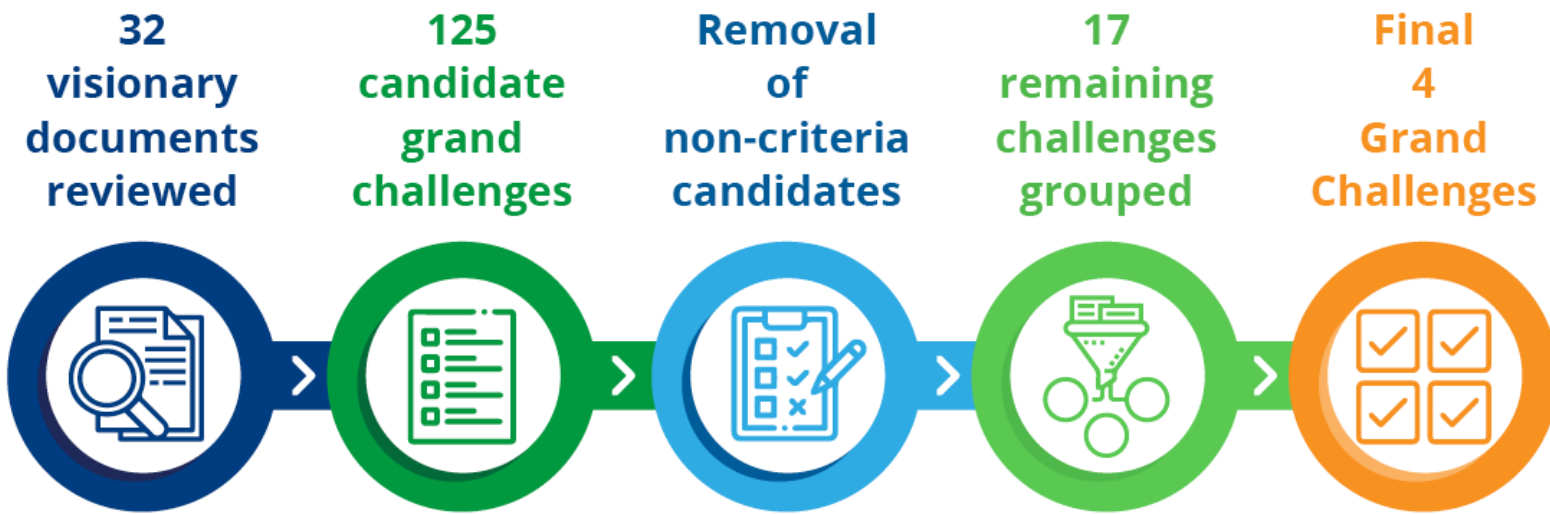
## 2019 Delta Science Plan emphasizes:

- Shared mechanisms to inform policy and management
- Modernize, integrate and build the Delta Science infrastructure
- Support effective decision-making through science-based adaptive management and decision support tools
- Collectively support implementation of the Delta Science Plan

## Looking forward to next Delta Science Plan:

- Strategically focused on overcoming grand challenges

# Grand Challenges Essay



## Criteria for grand challenges

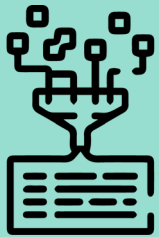
Following the National Research Council (2001), problem must be:

- Compelling for intellectual and practical reasons and offer the potential for major breakthroughs in science or science governance (i.e., potential for impact).
- Feasible to address given current capabilities and assuming a significant infusion of resources.

# Grand Challenges



1. Scientists and managers must anticipate a world in which environmental conditions and regulations may be fundamentally different from those faced today.



2. Environmental change is outpacing the traditional pace of science



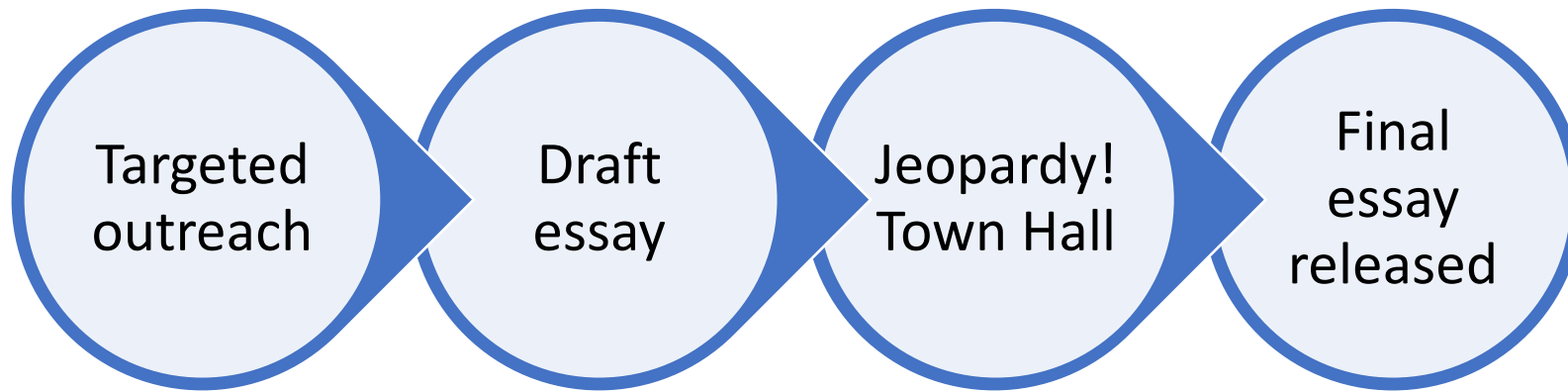
3. Flows of scientific information remain decentralized and poorly connected to communities and decision makers.



4. Other ways of knowing, including Traditional Knowledge, remain siloed from decision making.



# Grand Challenges Outreach Highlights



- August 2023: Delta ISB
- June 2024: Delta ISB

- May-July 2024: comment period

- October 2024: Bay-Delta Science Conference

- November 2024



Bay-Delta Science Conference  
Jeopardy! Town Hall

# 2025 Delta Science Plan

- Public workshop – February 20-21, 2025
  - Goal: Identifying strategies and tools to address Grand Challenges
- Draft Delta Science Plan update – Fall 2025

1. Scientists and managers must anticipate a world in which environmental conditions and regulations may be fundamentally different from those faced today.

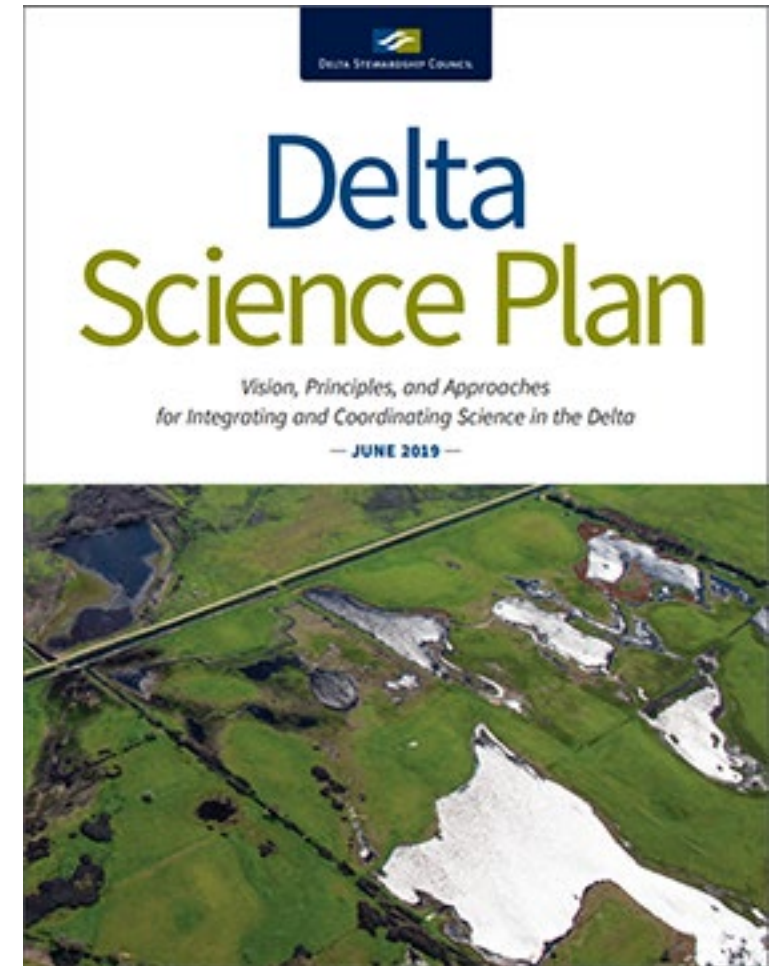
2. Environmental change is outpacing the traditional pace of science

3. Flows of scientific information remain decentralized and poorly connected to communities and decision makers.

4. Other ways of knowing, including Traditional Knowledge, remain siloed from decision making.

# Council and the Delta Science Plan Update

- Draft Delta Science Plan will be presented to the Council when posted for comment period
- Final Delta Science Plan will be presented to Council in late 2025



# Thank you

Connect with us



Scan the QR code  
to subscribe to our  
listserv



[Deltacouncil.ca.gov](http://Deltacouncil.ca.gov)



[@DeltaCouncil](https://twitter.com/DeltaCouncil)



[@delastewardshipcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/delastewardshipcouncil)



[Delta Stewardship Council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/DeltaStewardshipCouncil)



[@delastewardshipcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/delastewardshipcouncil)