September 2026

DPIIC - Delta Adapts Adaptation Plan and Implementation

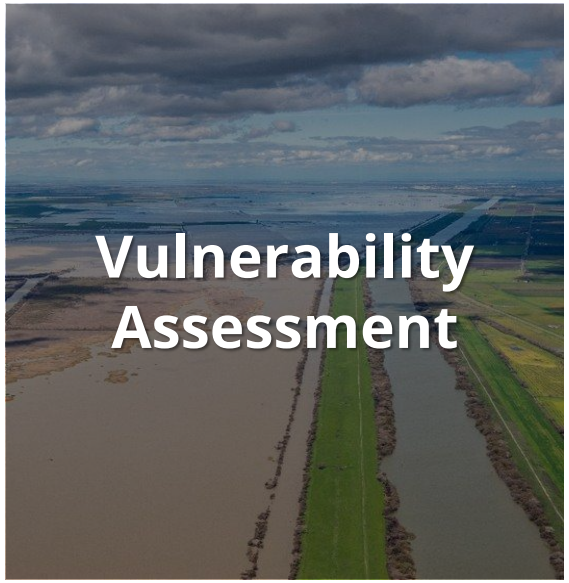
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Delta Stewardship Council

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Delta Adapts





Tribal Engagement & Community Outreach





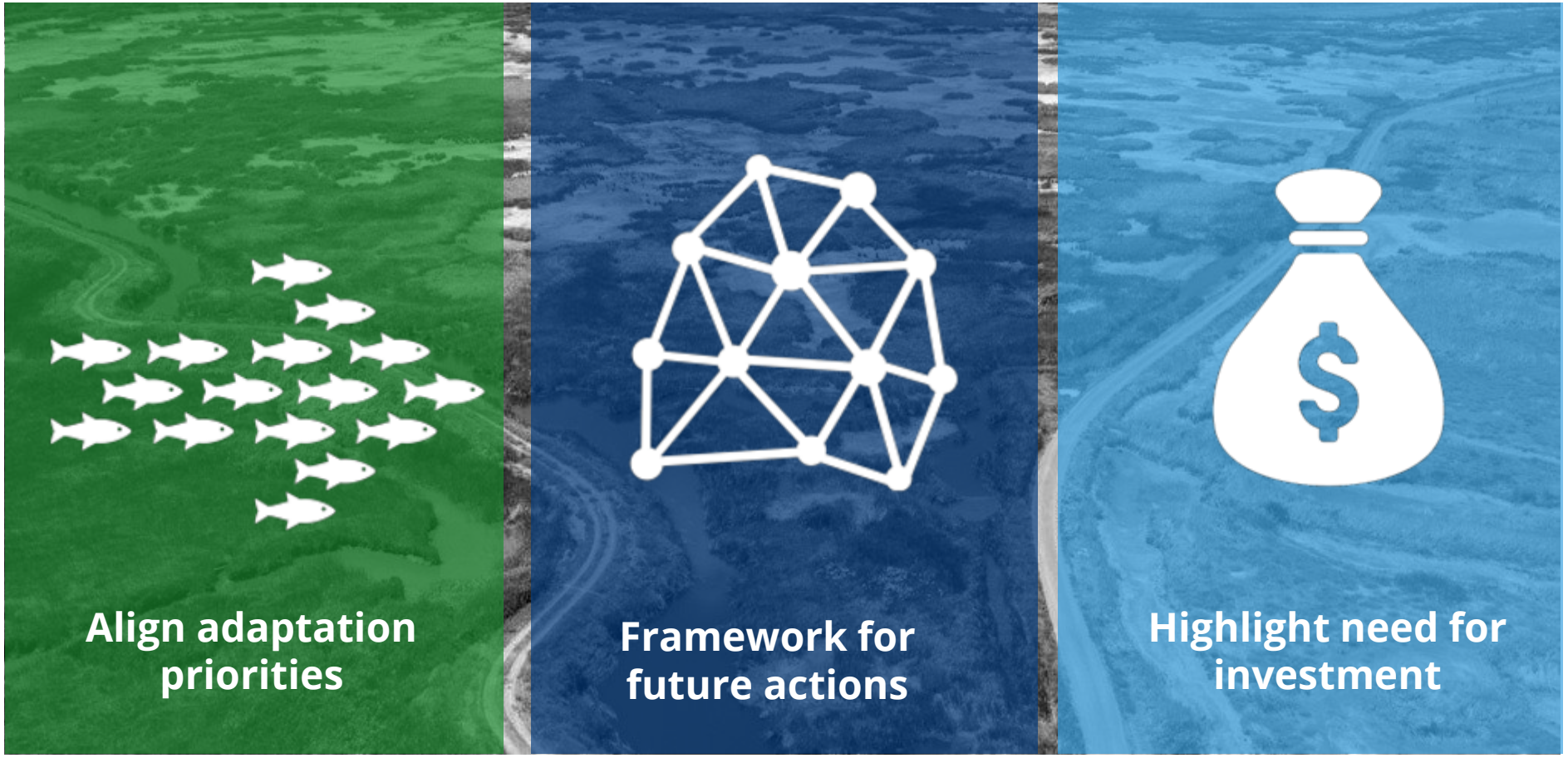




Engagement with DPIIC Agencies

- Formed a larger working group as well as four focus groups centered on:
  - Flooding
  - Water supply reliability
  - Ecosystems
  - Agriculture

Delta Adapts Adaptation Plan In Action



Adaptation Strategies



FLOOD RISK REDUCTION

DELTA ADAPTS
Focus Area

Strategies	DPIIC Leads and Partners
Develop climate-informed understanding of Delta flood dynamics	**DSC,** USACE, DWR, CDFA, CVFPB, BCDC
Strengthen and upgrade Delta levee system	**DWR**, USACE, CVFPB
Restore ecosystems for flood mitigation	**CRNA**, **DWR**, **DSC,** USFWS, NOAA, CVFPB, CDFW
Improve emergency preparedness and response	**DWR**, USACE, DPC, Delta Conservancy
Manage and expand upstream water storage capability	**DWR**, SWRCB, USGS, USACE, CVFPB, SWRCB
Use technology and land use planning to reduce risk	**DWR**, **DSC,** USEPA, CalEPA, Delta Conservancy, CDFW, CDFA, DPC



WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY

DELTA ADAPTS
Focus Area

Strategies	DPIIC Leads and Partners
Reduce reliance on the Delta through conservation and local water supply development	SWRCB, DWR
Increase storage of surface and groundwater supplies	SWRCB, DWR
Modify reservoir operations	SWRCB, USFWS, USACE, NOAA, CDFW
Modify water quality standards	**SWRCB,** NOAA, DWR, CDFW
Modify water infrastructure	**DWR**, SWRCB, USBR, CDFW



ECOSYSTEM

DELTA ADAPTS
Focus Area

Strategies

Strategies	DPIIC Leads and Partners
Restore ecosystems to adapt and support native species	**CNRA**, SWRCB, USBR, DPC, Delta Conservancy, DWR, BCDC, CDFW, NOAA
Build capacity and partnerships for ecosystem resilience	**CNRA**, **DSC,** SWRCB, USBR, USEPA, USFWS, USGS, CalEPA, USACE, USDOI, CDFW, CDFA, DWR, BCDC, DPC, CVFPB, NOAA
Protect ecosystems by halting and reversing subsidence	**Delta Conservancy**, DWR, DPC
Use nature-based solutions to increase resilience of developed areas	**CNRA**, USACE



AGRICULTURE

DELTA ADAPTS
Focus Area

Strategies	DPIIC Leads and Partners
Equitable food system	**CDFA**, DPC
Climate-smart farming	**CDFA**, Delta Conservancy, DPC, DWR
Diversification of revenue on agricultural land	**DSC, Delta Conservancy, DPC,** CDFA
Strategic land retirement	**Delta Conservancy**, DWR, CDFA

Adaptation Accelerators

Examples

Flood Risk Reduction

- Integrate climate risks and equity into the Delta Levees Investment Strategy (**FL-2-2**)

Agriculture

- Create training, employment, and land access programs for the next generation of farmers (**AG-2-2**)

Ecosystems

- Work with tribes to implement nature-based solutions and co-manage restored public areas (**ECO-3-2**)

Water Supply Reliability

- Invest in Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge (**WSR-2-4**)

Adaptation Strategies Dashboard

- Search for strategies and actions by recommended lead or partner

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Delta Adapts
Adaptation Strategy Dashboard

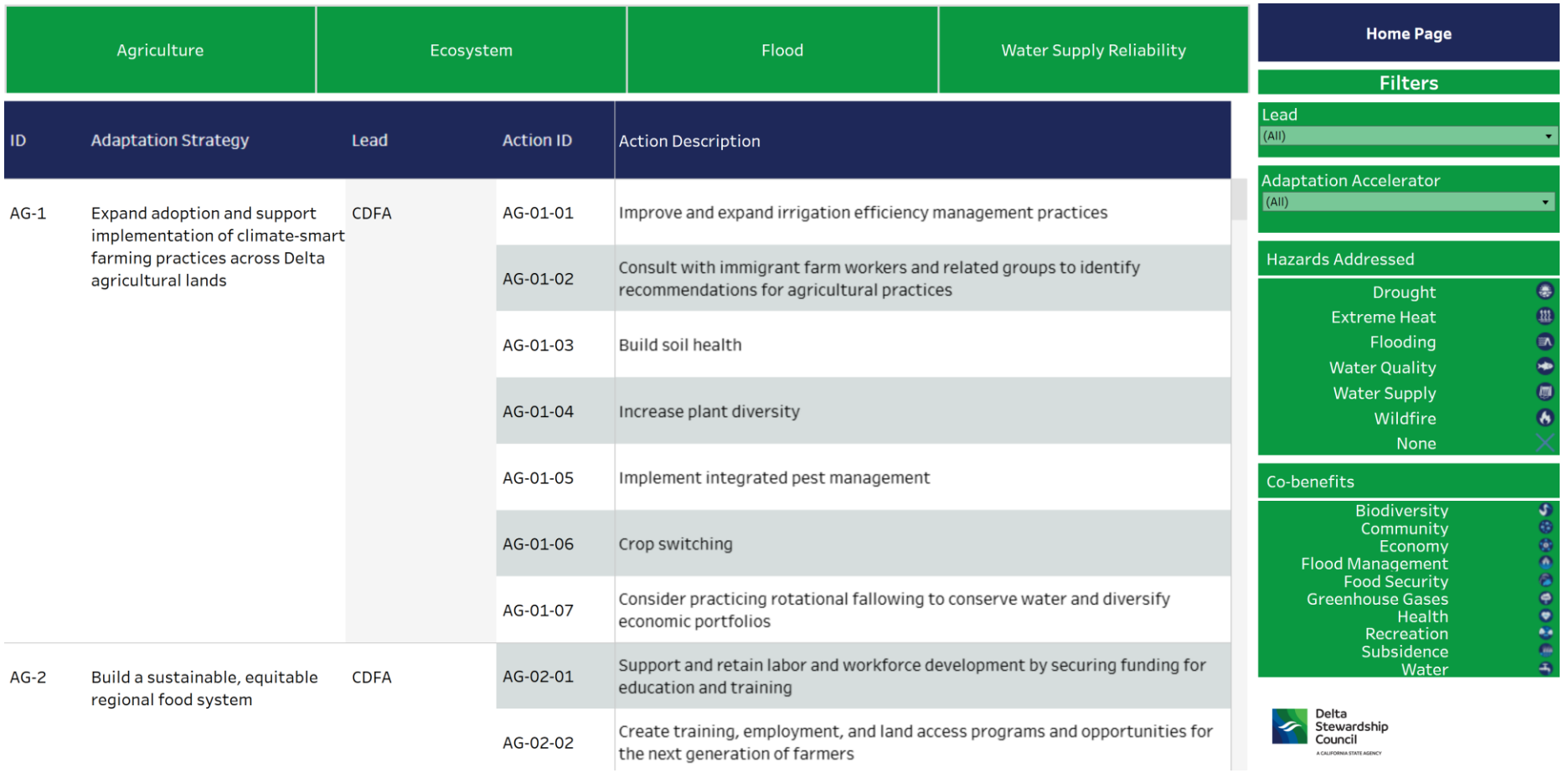
Lead	Partner

The "Delta Adapts" Adaptation Strategy Dashboard was developed by the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) to view and sort the adaptation strategies and implementing actions of the Council's Delta Adapts Adaptation Plan. The Adaptation Plan proposes a suite of strategies under four focus areas: **flood risk reduction, ecosystem, agriculture, and water supply reliability,** developed in collaboration with Council partners, to create a more resilient Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the face of climate change. **For more information about Delta Adapts, and for instructions on how to navigate the Dashboard, visit our website:** https://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan/climate-change

Adaptation strategies in the Dashboard are organized by recommended leads and partners, as identified in the Plan (see buttons above). **Recommended leads** are entities that are best positioned to convene, coordinate, and lead the implementation of a strategy. **Recommended partners** are entities with a role in the collaborative implementation of a strategy. Both designations are preliminary and subject to change.

Adaptation Strategies Dashboard

- Search through types of actions, hazards addressed, & their benefits



Agriculture | Ecosystem | Flood | Water Supply Reliability

ID	Adaptation Strategy	Lead	Action ID	Action Description
AG-1	Expand adoption and support implementation of climate-smart farming practices across Delta agricultural lands	CDFA	AG-01-01	Improve and expand irrigation efficiency management practices
			AG-01-02	Consult with immigrant farm workers and related groups to identify recommendations for agricultural practices
			AG-01-03	Build soil health
			AG-01-04	Increase plant diversity
			AG-01-05	Implement integrated pest management
			AG-01-06	Crop switching
			AG-01-07	Consider practicing rotational fallowing to conserve water and diversify economic portfolios
AG-2	Build a sustainable, equitable regional food system	CDFA	AG-02-01	Support and retain labor and workforce development by securing funding for education and training
			AG-02-02	Create training, employment, and land access programs and opportunities for the next generation of farmers

Home Page

Filters

Lead
(All)

Adaptation Accelerator
(All)

Hazards Addressed
- Drought
- Extreme Heat
- Flooding
- Water Quality
- Water Supply
- Wildfire
- None

Co-benefits
- Biodiversity
- Community
- Economy
- Flood Management
- Food Security
- Greenhouse Gases
- Health
- Recreation
- Subsidence
- Water

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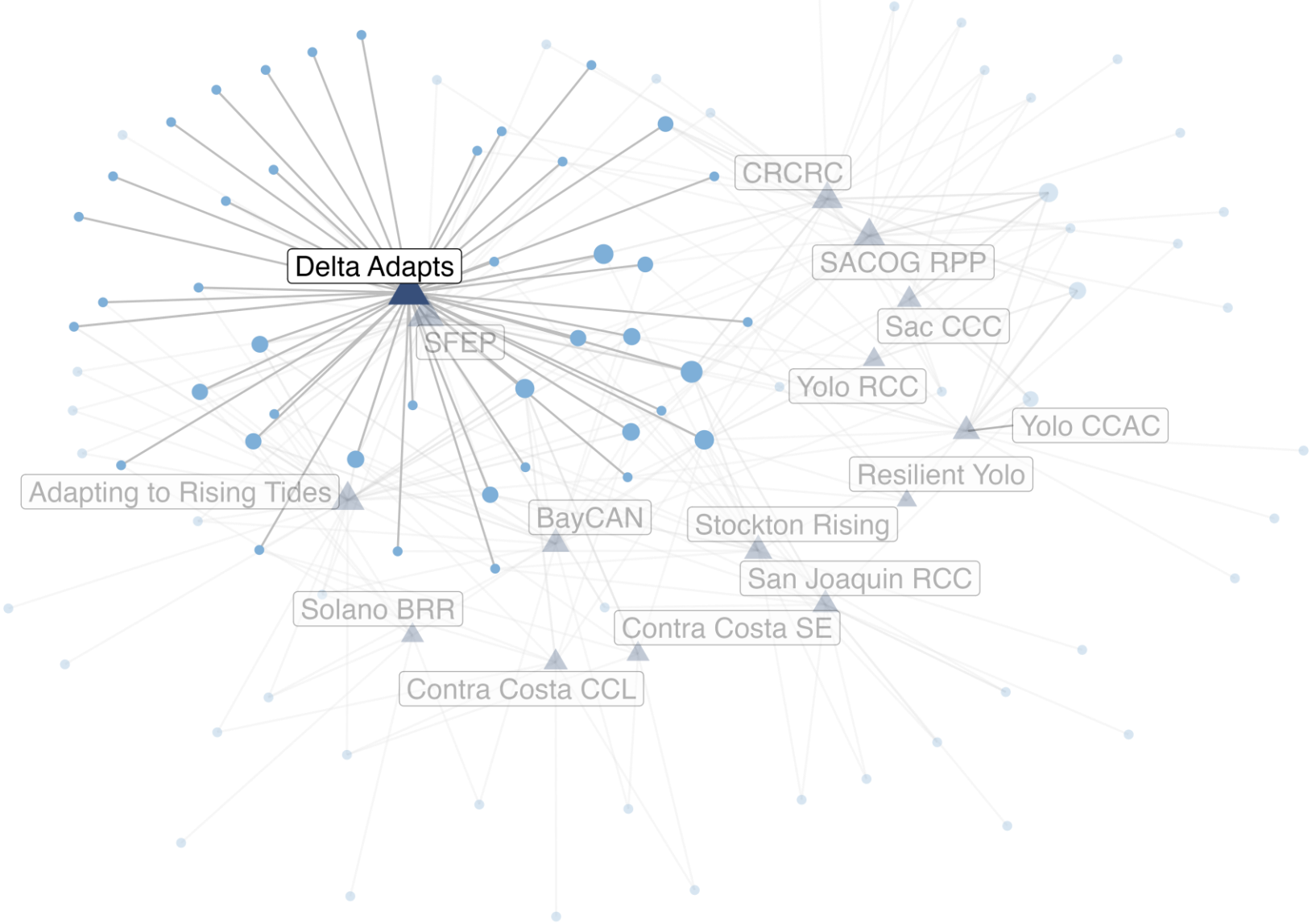
Delta Climate Adaptation Team

DCAT Goals

- **Convene adaptation practitioners from across disciplines** to further local adaptation efforts in the Delta, with a focus on **inclusion of local interests and historically underrepresented groups.**
- Subgoals:
  - Form new partnerships
  - Collaborate on plans, projects, and funding proposals
  - Learn and share case studies and resources



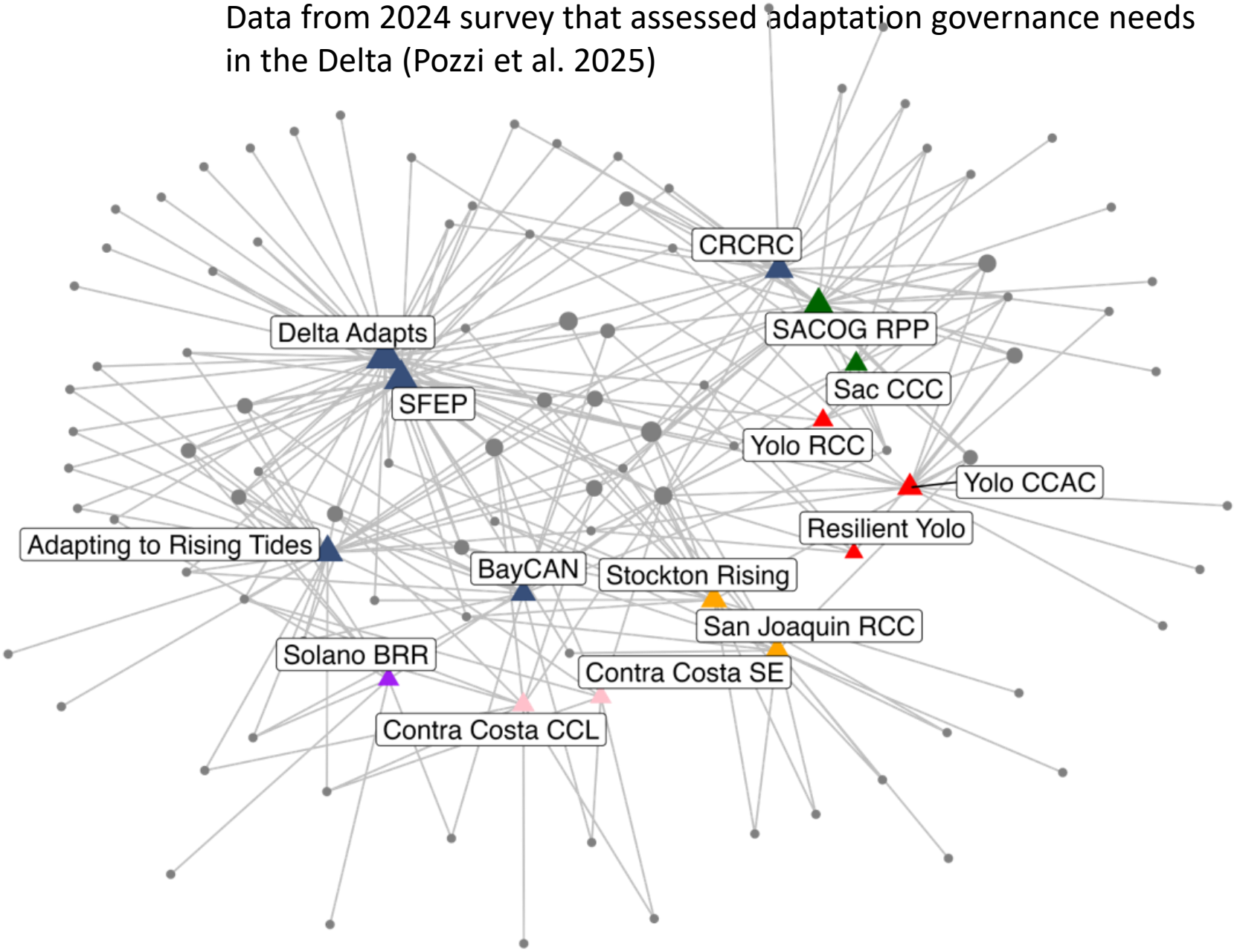
Data from 2024 survey that assessed adaptation governance needs in the Delta (Pozzi et al. 2025)



Shape • Organization ▲ Climate Collaborative

Need for continued regional collaboration through a Delta climate collaborative

Data from 2024 survey that assessed adaptation governance needs in the Delta (Pozzi et al. 2025)



2026/2027 DCAT work objectives

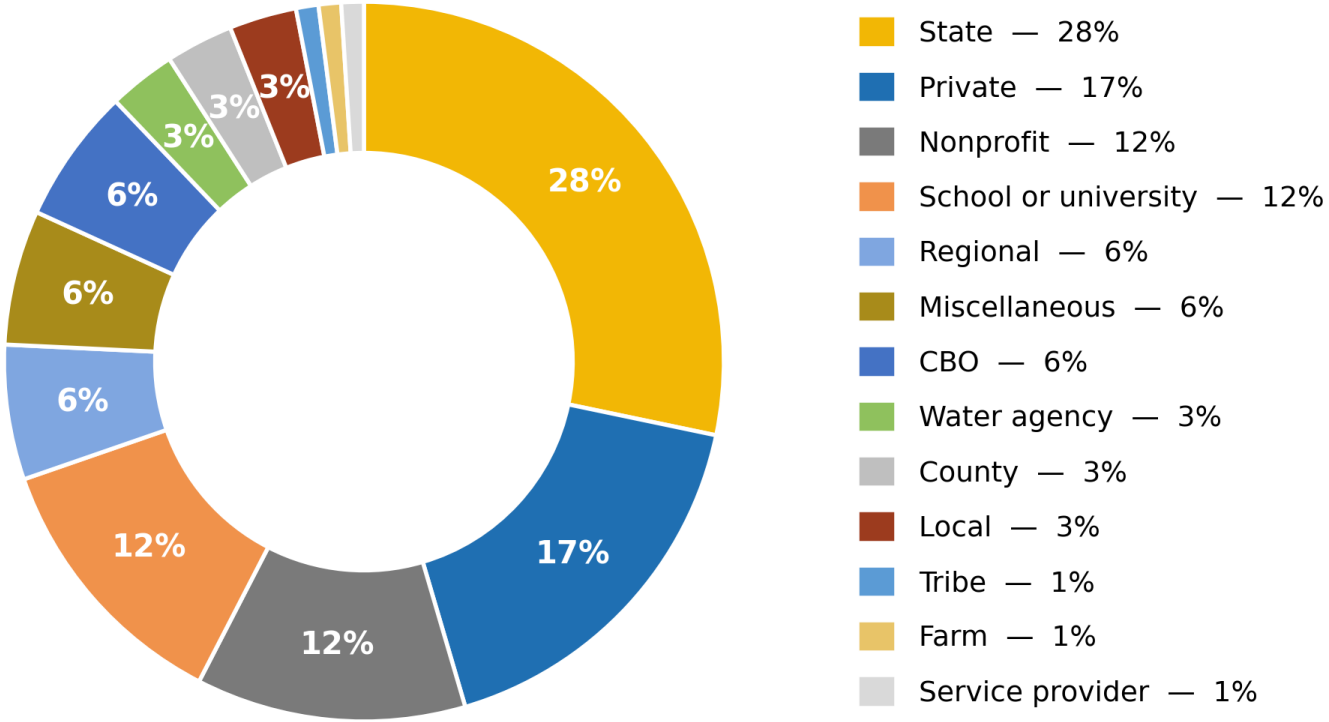
Objective 1: Establish DCAT which includes gathering members, forming a leadership team, and planning the group's first set of activities.

Objective 2: Hold at least three in-person DCAT meetings and two topic-specific meetings between June 2026 through end of 2027

Objective 3: Develop a plan to sustain DCAT beyond 2027.

DCAT Kick-off Meeting

- June 30th, 2026
- 70 in-person & 40 virtual attendees, across 35 organizations
- ~ 40% of DPIIC agencies were represented at the meeting
- DCAT expands the reach of who is involved in planning and implementation



First meeting highlight: Climate collaborative panel discussion

- **Background presentation on climate collaboratives**
  - Defined as a dedicated space for formal collaboration between organizations
  - Shared examples of how collaboratives boost resilience efforts (e.g., information sharing, coordination and buy-in, networking)
- **Lightening talks and discussion from three panelists**
  - Grace Kaufman (Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative)
  - Christine Tran (San Joaquin Regional Climate Collaborative)
  - Meg Herston (Solano Bayshore Resilience Roundtable)



Map: Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA)

First meeting highlight: Climate collaborative panel discussion

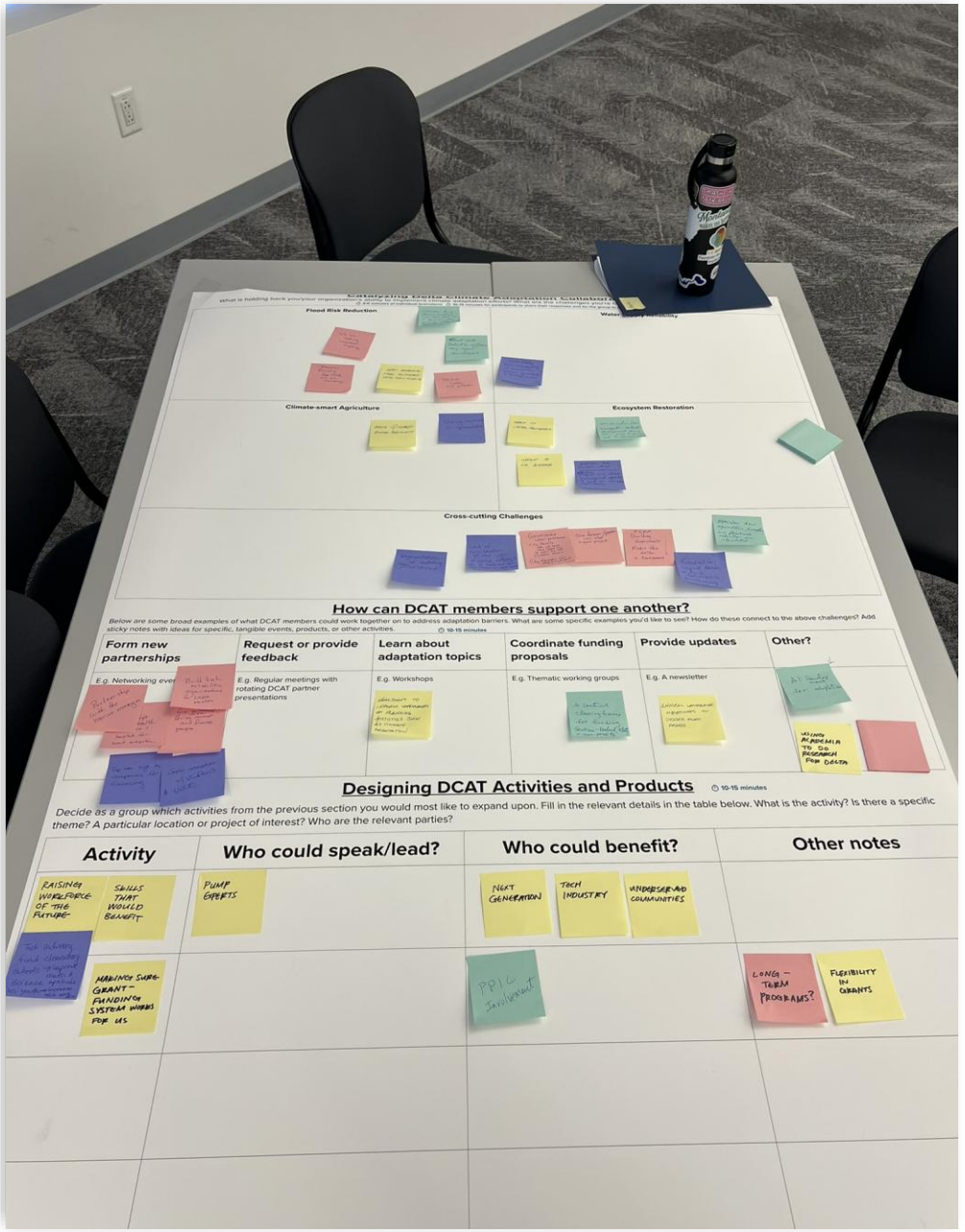
Lessons Learned

- Funding instability is the #1 shared challenge
- Staff capacity/time is a chronic constraint
- Community trust must be built *before* projects launch
- … and more!

Check out Delta Stewardship Council's YouTube for the meeting recording.

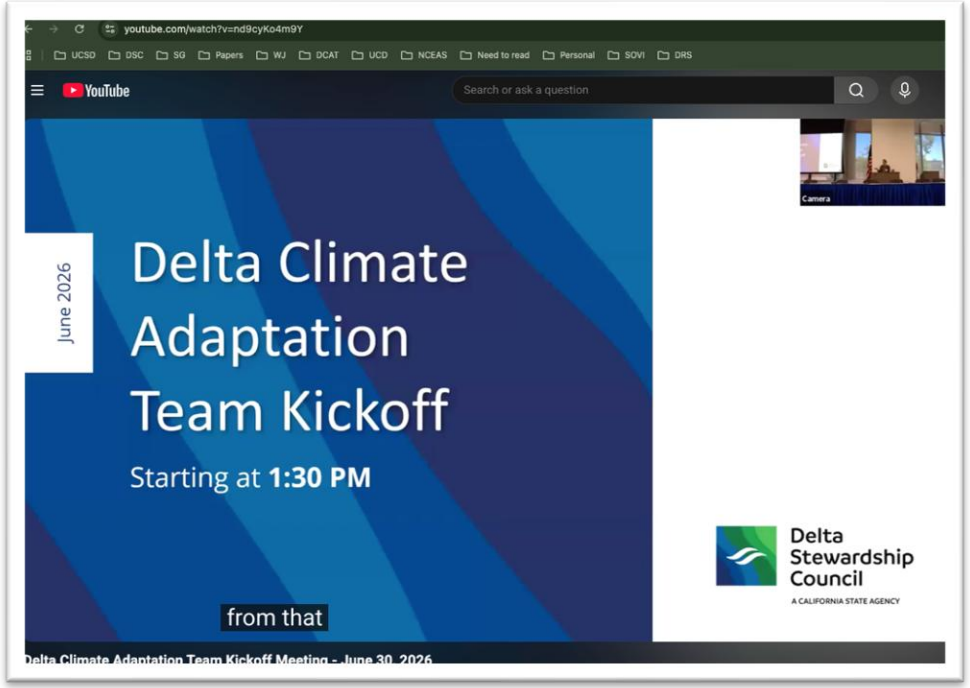
Second meeting highlight: Visioning exercise about DCAT

- 7 breakout groups
- Key themes
  - Need for sustained long-term funding
  - Center community engagement
  - Support implementation progress
- Activity suggestions
  - Funding resources database
  - Informational workshops
  - Networking events



Where is DCAT going next?

- Hold Prop 4 funding webinar on November 16th
- Release first newsletter this fall
- Create DCAT member directory
- Develop plan for upcoming programming
  - Hold next in-person meeting in the Delta (~February 2027)
  - Support related, topic specific meetings



Want to watch the kick-off?
Recording of the meeting on the Delta Stewardship Council's Youtube called "Delta Climate Adaptation Team Kickoff Meeting - June 30, 2026"

Ways DPIIC members could support DCAT

- Bring your updates on adaptation initiatives and Adaptation Plan progress to DPIIC meetings
- Elevator pitch to others about DCAT
- Encourage your staff to participate in DCAT
- Listen for periodic DCAT updates and sign up for the DCAT newsletter
- Share what you learn about DCAT with your home organization

What's next?

- Prop 4 funding webinar on November 16th
- First DCAT newsletter
- DCAT Member directory
- In-person meeting in the Delta, target early 2027

Thank you!

Visit the Council's Delta Adapts webpage for more information: **deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-plan/climate-change**

Email us at **climatechange@deltacouncil.ca.gov**



QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Questions for the DPIIC

- Would you like to highlight any adaptation work your agency is doing?
- How do you view your agency's involvement in Delta Adapts implementation?
  - Or, adaptation in the Delta more broadly?
- Would it be helpful to have an adaptation focused meeting annually or biannually?

EXTRA SLIDES

5th Climate Assessment Delta Report Topics

- Importance of the Delta to the rest of the state
- One of the most flood prone regions of the state
- Faces chronic underinvestment relative to the need
- Adaptation governance in the Delta is young and evolving
- Climate change will hit vulnerable communities in the Delta the hardest
- Despite advances in science, climate change research gaps and needs still exist in the Delta

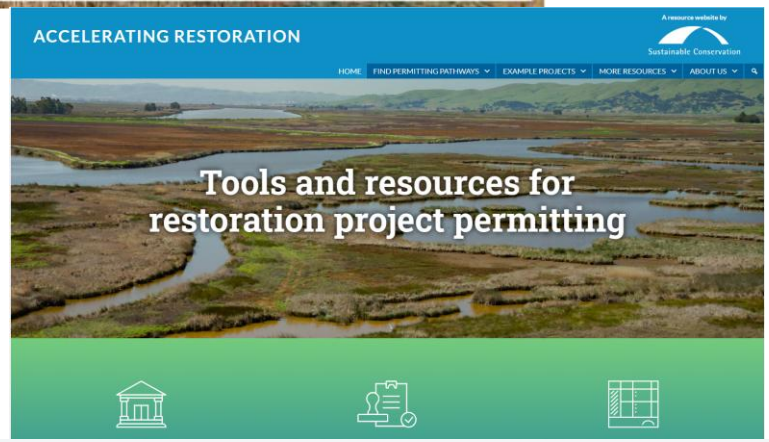


Reducing Regulatory Burden

Example priorities & actions include:

- Identify regulatory challenges to restoration and **potential solutions to these challenges**
- **Streamline permitting and environmental review processes** for restoration projects, such as by:
  - Developing a **regional permitting approach** to facilitate multi-benefit projects
  - Preparing **program-level environmental documentation** for restoration programs, when possible







Climate-Smart Catalog

Catalog covers climate-smart ag strategies suitable for the Delta:

- transitioning to rice cultivation,
- cover cropping,
- targeted grazing,
- windbreaks,
- precision agriculture,
- whole orchard recycling,
- planting resilient crop types, and
- improving water use efficiency.



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