



Bay-Delta Resources

- **Bay-Delta Management Report**

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for February 2025

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

Delta Conveyance Project

On February 14, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) under Section 2081 of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) for the Delta Conveyance Project. Completion of this permit is an important milestone in the planning process, advancing this critical project towards the implementation phase.

Under CESA, the California Department of Water Resources must obtain an ITP to avoid jeopardy, minimize incidental take, and fully mitigate any impacts of authorized take on threatened or endangered species caused by the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Delta Conveyance Project.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Delta Islands

On February 10, staff released a [Request for Proposals](#) (RFP) to engage a partner to cultivate rice on a minimum of 1,000 and up to 1,360 acres on Webb Tract with an initial base term of 10 years and an option to extend for an additional 5 years. Interested respondents are encouraged to make a recommended site visit on February 26. Staff is making a concerted effort to widely distribute information on the RFP. Notification of the RFP was sent to over 150 parties who have signed up for notifications about the Webb Tract projects. In addition, staff is reaching out by phone to local rice growers, Farmers Rice Cooperatives, local farm bureaus, and Cooperative Extension Rice Advisors in the area to ensure that interested farmers are notified of the release of the RFP. Yolo, Solano, and Sacramento Farm Bureaus posted information about the RFP in their newsletters.

On February 12, in partnership with the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, a hybrid public meeting was held to update interested parties on the progress of the [Webb Tract Wetland Restoration and Webb Tract Rice Development Projects](#). The meeting was attended by 17 in-person participants at the Big Break Visitor Center and 25 participants on Zoom.

Bay-Delta staff is currently reviewing a Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP) application for the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project. If approved by CDFW, the SERP exemption will provide a streamlined California Environmental Quality Act clearance for the project and will pave the way for expedited permitting through the new Restoration Management Permit Act enacted on January 1, 2025. The Act is intended to accelerate beneficial restoration projects in California. The SERP exemption application is scheduled for submission in early March 2025.

Date of Report: March 10, 2025