

A Researcher's Guide to Funding & Tracking Priority Science



Delta
Science
Program

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

The Delta Science Program's (DSP) mission is to provide the best possible unbiased scientific information to inform water and environmental decision-making in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Supporting the researchers who are conducting science in the Delta is critical to this mission. To engage the scientific community, we use several tools and approaches, including the following.



Prioritizing research with the [Science Action Agenda](https://scienceactionagenda.deltacouncil.ca.gov/)

(scienceactionagenda.deltacouncil.ca.gov/)



Funding research priorities with [fellowships and research projects](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/research-funding-and-fellowships)

(deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/research-funding-and-fellowships)



Tracking Delta science activities with the new [Delta Science Tracker](https://sciencetracker.deltacouncil.ca.gov/)

(sciencetracker.deltacouncil.ca.gov/)

What is the Science Action Agenda (SAA)?

The SAA is a guide that **prioritizes and aligns interdisciplinary science actions** in the Delta to inform management decisions. It identifies and fills knowledge gaps, promotes collaborative science, informs science investments, and fulfills Delta Science Plan objectives. **Scan the QR code** to visit the SAA web page, where the PDF and other resources are available.



How does the SAA impact researchers?

The SAA was developed by and for the science community to be responsive to collective priorities. As such, **researchers can use the SAA to learn what Science Actions funding agencies are pursuing.** They are encouraged to conduct work to address the Science Actions identified in the SAA.

- Develop robust studies, conduct synthesis efforts, develop new tools, and enhance monitoring programs to contribute knowledge to pressing knowledge gaps
- Consider and integrate relevant Science Actions when developing agency-led and collaborative scientific efforts
- Use the SAA to guide proposals when applying for funding from the DSP and other funding entities

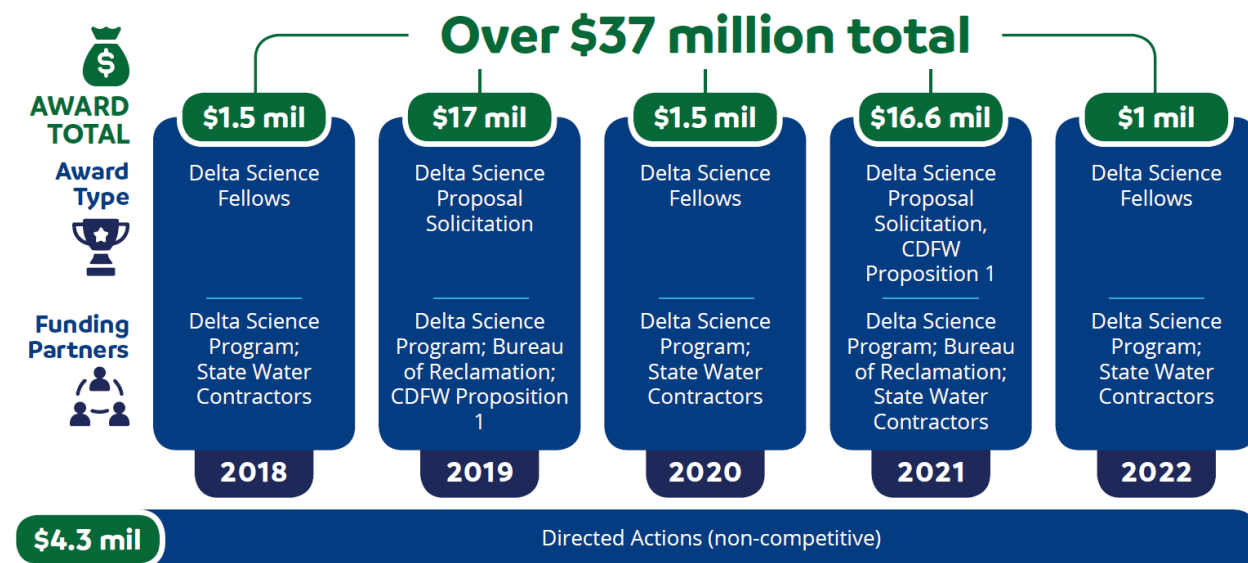
Partner agencies are encouraged to dedicate resources to implement the SAA.

What funding is available to implement the SAA?

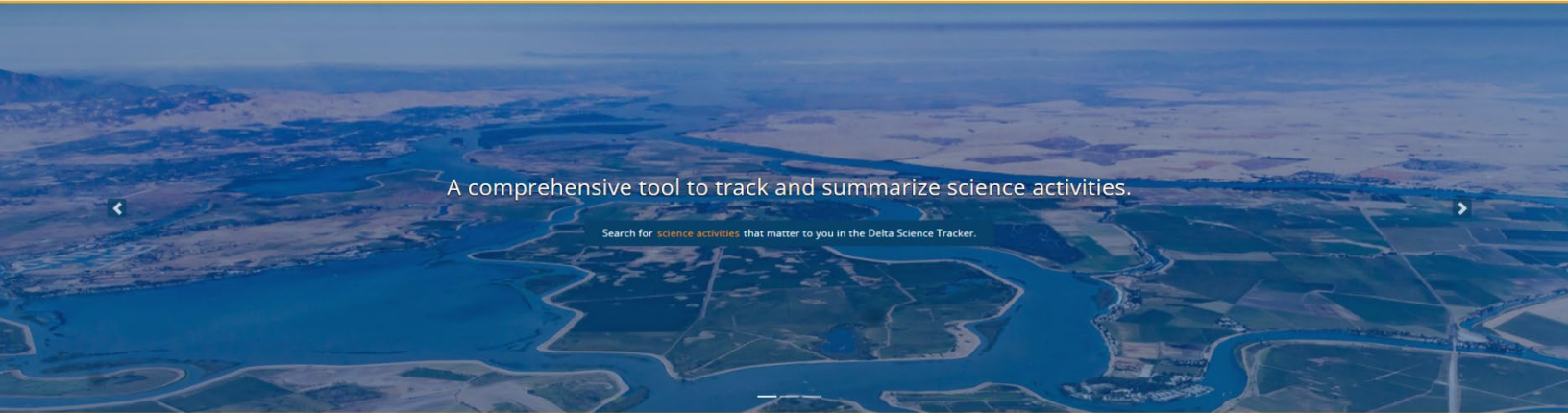
The SAA is used to establish selection criteria for competitive science fellowships and proposal solicitations as well as non-competitive “directed action” science investigations by the DSP and partner agencies like the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, and State Water Resources Control Board.

Visit the DSP’s [research funding and fellowships web page](https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/research-funding-and-fellowships) (deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/research-funding-and-fellowships) to learn more.

How much has been spent implementing the SAA already?



The figure above depicts how the SAA forms the foundation for competitive and non-competitive funding decisions by the Delta Science Program and its funding partners.

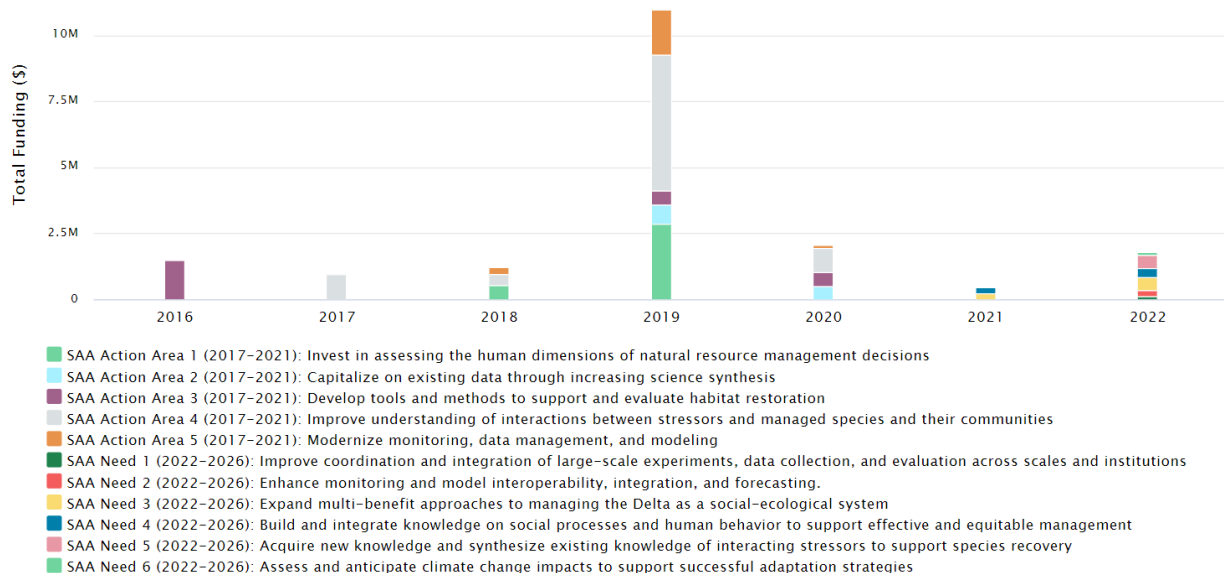


Science activities [See complete list](#)

Delta region	Management theme	Lead implementing organization	Function
Nothing selected	Nothing selected	Nothing selected	Nothing selected

What is the Delta Science Tracker?

The Delta Science Tracker is an **online portal for tracking and learning about science efforts in the region**, including how activities are responsive to the SAA. The Science Tracker expands communication and access to information about science activities and their funding, products, outputs, and outcomes for the benefit of the public, research communities, and decision-makers. Researchers can create project profiles to showcase their activities, generate reports and visuals, and connect with researchers in the science community.



The figure above is a visualization generated by the Delta Science Tracker to summarize funding for science activities that are responsive to the SAA.

How should researchers use the Delta Science Tracker?

The Science Tracker is a repository for science activities in the Delta and a platform for researchers to upload and maintain project and personal profiles. Projects in the Science Tracker range from newly initiated, currently ongoing, to fully completed activities. Researchers can specifically identify how their projects address Science Actions from the 2017-2021 SAA, the 2022-2026 SAA, or neither. Identifying project-specific SAA contributions allows users to identify research trends, funding agency priorities, and remaining science gaps, which can be informative for promoting applied research and distributing funds for new science activities.

What are the benefits of Using the SAA and Delta Science Tracker?

- Promote your research
- Identify connections & collaborators
- Find and share research products and outcomes
- Understand funding agencies' priorities
- Create strong proposals
- Generate visuals
- Learn about the Delta

Delta science activity*



Tracking SAA implementation with the Delta Science Tracker

Using the Tracker

1. Visit sciencetracker.deltacouncil.ca.gov
2. Search science activities
 - Filter by relevant SAA Management Need (if applicable)**
3. Add additional activities (requires a user profile)
4. Share or find project outputs, including reports and published datasets
5. Generate visualizations and fact sheets

* Any scientific study, synthesis project, monitoring effort, etc. that is currently underway, recently initiated, or already complete.

** The science activity was scope to addressed a priority in the SAA and/or the outcomes of the activity will directly contribute knowledge to a priority in the SAA

The figure above depicts several ways researchers can use the Delta Science Tracker to share or find information about science activities, including those responsive to the SAA.

Where can researchers learn more?

To learn more about the Delta Science Program, the SAA, and the Delta Science Tracker, please email hello@deltacouncil.ca.gov.