



National Heritage Area Progress and Recent Activities

Delta Conservancy

March 25, 2026

Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Funding

- National Heritage Areas are funded through Heritage Partnership Program
- Most NHAs receive \$500,000 annually
- Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2026 is \$500,000, up from \$157,500 in FY 2025
- Work plan approval required prior to receiving funding

Passport Program Launch

- Launched on Feb. 28 with Rep. Garamendi event
- Currently 27 locations
- Each passport site includes stamping supplies, NHA fact sheets, and display station
- Passport Program webpage includes map of passport locations and nearby attractions











Welcome to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area

Stamp your passport here!



THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
California's First National Heritage Area

Delta NHA

By the Numbers

- 1,237 Square Miles
- 178 Square Miles of Water
- 52 Islands
- 1,300 Miles of Levees
- 5 Counties
- 28 Communities
- 11 Legacy Communities
- 15 National, State and Regional Park Sites
- 1 State Scenic Highway
- 2 National Historic Trails
- 5 Trails in the Great California Delta Trail Network
- 3 National Monuments
- 17 National, State, and Local Wildlife Areas
- 16 Historic Bridges
- 19 Museums
- 73 Marinas
- 55 U-Pick Farms
- 38 Wineries

Established by Congress in 2019

What is a National Heritage Area?

National Heritage Areas (NHAs) are places where historic, cultural, natural and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important living landscape.

NHAs support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects through public-private partnerships. These dynamic collaborations ensure that NHA activities reflect local interests and needs.

Why was the California Delta designated as an NHA?

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a vast inland tidal estuary where the state's two largest rivers converge, forming California's most crucial water and ecological resource. It boasts abundant resources that tell a unique American story and enrich California's quality of life and economy.

Historically, it was one of the most biologically productive and diverse ecosystems on the West Coast. It remains an ecological gem for waterfowl, which have adapted to using the farmlands as habitat, and fish that travel its waterways downstream and upstream to spawn and live their lives in the Delta.

Originally, numerous distinct Native American communities lived along the banks of the Delta's meandering waterways. The landscape and culture have also been shaped by American, Chinese, Filipino, Italian, Japanese, Mexican, Portuguese, and Irish settlers and their descendants.

In modern times, the Delta has become a recreational attraction. Boaters, anglers, bicyclists and other adventurers appreciate its maze of levees, sloughs, waterways and views. U-pick farms, wineries and restaurants welcome culinary tourists.



LEARN ABOUT THE DELTA NHA

delta.ca.gov/nha



ENJOY THE DELTA!

VisitCADelta.com



EXPLORE DELTA LITERATURE

delta.ca.gov/nha/reading-list

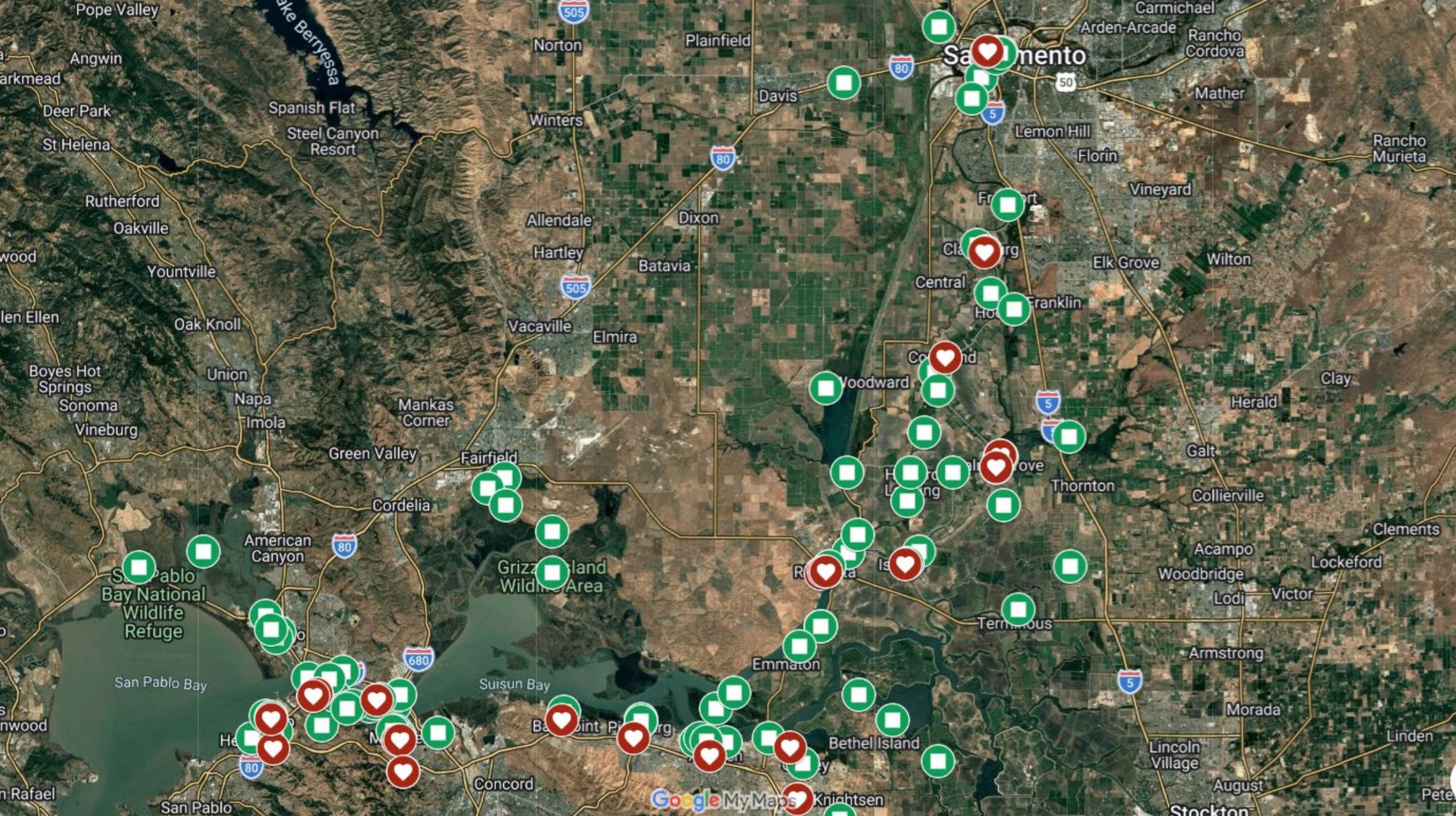


ORDER A PASSPORT BOOK

americasnationalparks.org



PHOTO: DELTA LEADERSHIP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS TOUR THE DELTA



San Francisco

San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge

Google My Maps

Stockton

Partnership Program

- Initially focused on Passport Program sites
- Currently 16 partners
- Continuing to conduct outreach to potential partners



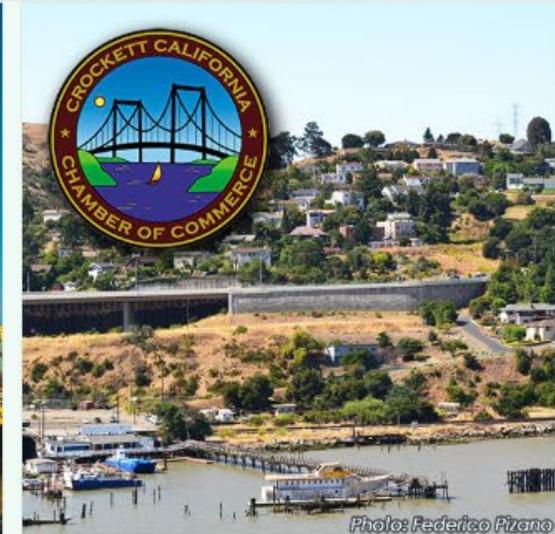
[Home](#) | [nha](#) | [partners](#)

Partners

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area is not a museum or a park, but a living, breathing landscape of national significance. It's got history, culture, and natural resources worth exploring, whether you're from Sacramento or Tallahassee, Stockton or Santa Fe, Oakland or Cheyenne.

The Delta Protection Commission coordinates the National Heritage Area, but visitors experience its riches through our *partners*: museums, parks, cultural attractions, agritourism destinations, landmark businesses and more.

National Heritage Areas succeed when





Yes, I'd like to become a partner of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area

DPC-004. Form revised 05/28/2025

Please complete this form to share your potential as a National Heritage Area partner! We'll review your submission and get in touch to discuss partnership with you.

You can learn more about the Partnership Program [here](#).

Tourism Branding and Marketing Plan

- Consultant completed Market Research and Brand Analysis
- Next deliverable is Brand Strategy, followed by Brand Toolkit
- Will be seeking input from Marketing & Communications and Heritage Development & Tourism task groups

Additional Projects

- Delta Leadership Program
- America 250/Anza 250/
California 175
Commemorations
- Junior Ranger Program
- Delta Heritage Forum
- NHA Ambassadors Program
- Delta Happenings and Delta
Heritage Courier
- VisitCADelta website and
calendar
- Staff Augmentation



Delta Heritage Courier – March/April 2026

Celebrating Black Farmers, Brentwood’s Poet Laureate, Springtime Snakes

[Read this issue](#)

- Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Passport Program Kicks Off
- Summer Camp, John Muir-Style
- Springtime Snakes
- Grand Island Mansion’s Classy Vibe
- Public Art Helps a Newcomer Connect to Pittsburg
- Open Mic with Brentwood’s Poet Laureate
- Sea Level Rise Walking Tour in Vallejo
- Special Delta Meadows Bird Hike
- Watercolor Show Featured in Benicia
- Fun Library News

ALSO: MUSEUMS, CLASSES and EVENTS

