

**Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement Improvement (PAI) Fund
Drainage Infrastructure Improvement Cost Share Programs
(50/50, 75/25, and Joint Use Facilities 75/25)
2026 Program Guidelines and Application Form**

Summary of the 2026 Preservation Agreement Implementation Cost Share Programs

50/50 Cost Share Program: Funds management and infrastructure improvements to increase leaching and drainage efficiency of individual ownerships. Under 2015 SMPA contract requirements, the SRCD Board of Directors has determined that there will be no limitation on annual reimbursement of costs per ownership.

75/25 Cost Share Program: Funds managed wetland infrastructure improvements for individual ownerships to meet the 30-day flood and drain cycle objective. Funds for this Program will not be used for maintenance of water control structures or for fish screens.

Joint Use Facilities (JUF) 75/25 Cost Share Program: Funds water control improvements *in which* a project is on one or more properties with common shared water management or shared water levels, *and* two or more properties benefit from the improvement.

Project Application: Submit (1) a 2026 PAI Cost-Share Program application form, (2) a project map, and (3) a detailed cost estimate to your SRCD Water Manager by April 10, 2026. Late submittals will not be considered or processed.

Review and Agreement: Proposals will be reviewed by a Technical Review Panel and approved by the Department of Water Resources and Bureau of Reclamation before a Project Agreement can be issued which must be signed by the applicant and returned to SRCD prior to initiating construction.

Project Permitting: A project must be authorized by the USACE under RGP #3 permit prior to initiating work.

Inspection and Cost Report: Landowners must schedule a final inspection with their Water Manager prior to initiating fall flood-up, and landowners submit an itemized project cost summary (hours and cost/hour for labor, equipment costs, material costs) with invoices or paid receipts from contractors to SRCD by November 20, 2026.

Reimbursement: SRCD will submit to DWR for payment. After DWR provides the funds, SRCD will reimburse the landowner by issuing a check from Solano County. Landowners are responsible for paying their contractors and submitting receipts or invoices for reimbursement.

Ownership Number _____

Date Received By SRCD: _____

Ownership Name _____

Cost Share Application #: _____

(header completed by SRCD)

(I) PAI Cost Share Program Guidelines:

1. The three PAI Cost Share Programs are for managed wetlands and include:
 - a. 50/50 Cost Share Program: funds management and infrastructure improvements to increase leaching and drainage efficiency of individual ownerships. Under 2015 SMPA contract requirements, the SRCD Board of Directors has determined that there will be no limitation on annual reimbursement of costs per ownership.
 - b. 75/25 Cost Share Program: funds managed wetland infrastructure improvements for individual ownerships to meet the 30-day flood and drain cycle objective. Funds for this Program will not be used for maintenance of water control structures or for fish screens.
 - c. Joint Use Facilities (JUF) 75/25 Cost Share Program: funds water control improvements in which a project is on one or more properties with common shared water management or shared water levels, and two or more properties benefit from the improvement.
2. Landowner cost share must be new match money -- the funds can't be used to match other grants, and other grant funds can't be used as match. Landowner in-kind match is eligible, but the rate must be competitive with similar projects and pre-approved in the estimated budget. The in-kind costs and rates must be included in the budget submitted in the application.
3. California law (SB 854) mandates requirements for projects exceeding \$1,000.00 (excluding materials) that use PAI Program funds (i.e. public funds) for any maintenance or improvement work conducted by a contractor as a prevailing wage job. Landowners may complete the work themselves without those special contracting requirements. Contractors completing approved projects must be registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) before submitting a bid for the project and the landowner must register the approved project with the DIR. Contractors also must acknowledge the PAI funded projects are subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the DIR.

(II) 50/50 Cost Share Improvement Examples:

Eligible:

- Clearing of existing or construction of new interior ditches/swales/v-ditches. A pond bottom or ditch survey may be required to determine eligibility and appropriate scope of work.
- Coring of existing interior levees. Action must be shown to improve the ability of a wetland landowner to conduct habitat management activities and can't dry out ditches. No reimbursement will be approved for routine levee maintenance, winter storm damage, or repairs.
- Funding to offset electrical costs for fish screen operations (year around – must be only the fish screen power).

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(header completed by SRCD)

- Grade pond bottoms for improved water circulation and raising of pond bottom sinks.
- Improvements to existing interior water control structures. An upgrade to corrosive resistant materials is considered an approved improvement.
- The installation of new interior water control structures. Must be corrosive resistant materials.
- Improve a pipe for an existing (*discharge or dual purpose*) exterior water control structures and the installation and reinstallation of water control bulkheads (cost share will cover costs up to 15' of bulkhead walls on both the interior and exterior side of the levee if needed, but only if associated with an approved PAI water control pipe improvement).
- Funding to offset electric and fuel costs for diesel-powered or permanent electric drainage pumps to perform leach cycles (February through May of the growing season).

Ineligible:

- ❖ Improvement of a pipe for an existing exterior (flood only) water control.

(III) 75/25 Cost Share Eligible Improvement Examples:

Eligible:

- Improvements to existing exterior (*discharge or dual purpose*) pipes and water control structures or (gates, stubs and couplers, and risers) on an existing HDPE pipe. An upgrade to corrosive resistant materials is considered an improvement.
- Improvements to existing or the installation of new exterior discharge water control structures. An upgrade to corrosive resistant materials is considered an approved improvement.
- Install, repair, or reinstallation of water control bulkheads, but only if associated with an approved PAI water control pipe improvement. SRCD will cost share up to 15' of bulkheads on both interior and exterior side of the levee, if necessary. If more than 15' of bulkhead is required on either side of the levee, 100% of this additional cost will be the responsibility of the landowner.
- Install drain pumps and pump platforms.
- A BCDC Marsh Development Permit will be required for new drain pipes, new bulkhead walls, and new pump platforms, not replacement of existing structures.

Ineligible:

- ❖ Improvement of a pipe for an existing exterior (flood only) water control.
- ❖ Enlargement of an existing dual-purpose gate is not permissible.

(IV) Joint Use Facilities (JUF) 75/25 Cost Share Examples:

Eligible:

- Clearing of existing or construction of new interior ditches/swales/v-ditches that serves multiple properties.

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(header completed by SRCD)

- Cleaning a water distribution ditch on one property in which the water flows through, is shared with, and/or water management levels are the same as an adjacent landowner.
- A water control structure improvement provides water to two or more properties. An upgrade to corrosive resistant materials is considered an approved improvement.
- A pond bottom or ditch survey may be required to determine eligibility and appropriate scope of work.

Ineligible:

- ❖ This program may not be used for maintenance of structures or fish screens or the improvement of a pipe for an existing exterior (flood only) water control structure.
- ❖ Upgrading an interior water control structure off of a Joint Use Facility water supply ditch is not eligible for JUF cost share (if it services only one property). This action could be considered under the 50/50 PAI Cost Share Program.

(V) Program Definitions and Useful Life Periods:

“Corrosive Resistant” – water control structure or pump made of material that will resist corrosion and durability in a brackish environment, such as but not limited to (HDPE plastic, stainless steel, galvanization, or protected with anodes).

“Existing” – currently installed and in operation.

“Exterior” – structure or facility that is subjected to daily tidal action.

“Improvements” or “Improve” - activity, structure, or portion of a structure that improves the operational function, efficiency, or long-term durability of an existing structure.

“Interior” – structure or facility in a managed wetland not subjected to daily tidal action.

“Maintenance” - repair or replacement of existing structure that has exceeded its normal useful life.

“Managed Wetlands” – Are leveed areas in which water inflow and outflow is artificially controlled, or in which waterfowl food plants are cultivated, or both.

“New” – installation of a water control or conveyance structure that did not previously exist.

“Repair” - replacing a part which is broken or no longer operating as originally designed.

“Useful life” – period of time a structure or facility can reasonably be expected to operate and function as designed with normal maintenance. Landowners will be required to manage, operate and maintain the improvements for its “useful life” as defined below:

5 Years: Coring of existing *interior* levees. Clearing of existing or construction of new *interior* v-ditches.

10 Years: Clearing of existing or construction of new *interior* ditches or swales. Improvement of existing *interior* levees (topping).

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15 Years: Improvements to existing *exterior (discharge or dual purpose)* water control structures (gates, stubs and couplers, and risers). Installation of new *interior* water control structures. Grade pond bottoms for improved *interior* circulation and raise bottom sinks.

20 Years: Installation of a new *exterior* discharge water control structure (pipes and gates). Corrosive resistant materials are a requirement. Improve a pipe for existing *exterior* water control structures. This includes flood, drain, or dual-purpose structures. Install, repair, or reinstall up to 15' of *interior* and *exterior* water control bulkheads, but only if associated with an approved PAI water control structure or pipe improvement. Installation of drain pumps, pump platforms, or portable pumps.

(VI) 2026 Cost Share Program Application and Review Process:

1. **Applications must be submitted by the specified annual deadline (April 10, 2026).**
SRCD Water Managers will work with landowners to insure complete applications (**fillable form, map, and estimated budget**). SRCD Management will review applications for completeness and consistency with the SMPA Agreement.
2. SRCD will convene a Technical Review Panel to assess eligible projects (panels may include DU, CWA, CDFW, DWR, USBR, SRCD, or other wetland experts). The panel will assess all Project elements including project design, budget, cost effectiveness, long term durability, ability to improve habitat conditions, and water management capabilities.
3. Upon completion of the technical review, the panel will recommend funding of some or all of the proposed project elements appropriate under the PAI Cost Share Program. The technical review panel may ask for additional project details and cost estimate classifications associated with project design and assessment, such as completion of an elevation survey may be cost shared, if it is justified as part of project development.
4. Upon approval of the proposed Project by USBR and DWR, SRCD will send the landowners a PAI Cost Share Reimbursement Agreement. **Reimbursement Agreements sent to landowners by SRCD including the scope of work and approved budget must be signed promptly and returned to SRCD.**
5. Approved projects must be authorized by the USACE under the RGP #3 permit. If a BCDC Marsh Development Permit is required, this permit must be issued prior to initiating construction.
6. Landowner must schedule a post-project inspection prior to initiation of fall flood-up with their Water Manager who will certify project completion.

Ownership Number _____

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7. **The landowner must submit an itemized project summary report (including hours and cost/hour for labor, equipment costs, and material costs) with invoices or contractor receipts marked paid** (landowners are responsible for paying their contractors) to SRCD for up to the total approved cost by **November 20, 2026**. If approved in advance, the SRCD Program Manager may approve Project cost changes of up to 10% at his or her discretion. Changes >10% may be approved on a project-by-project basis but will require a detailed, written explanation and concurrence of the Technical Review Panel.

8. SRCD will submit the final request to DWR for Project payment. Once DWR provides the funds to SRCD, SRCD will reimburse the landowner for the cost share amount with a check from Solano County. At the end of a work season, if a landowner is unable to complete the entire approved Project, SRCD will consider a partial payment if the Project element is completed, fully functional, and eligible as an individual project or meets the PAI program objectives independently.

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Cost Share Application #: _____

(header completed by SRCD)

**Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement Improvement (PAI) Fund
Drainage Infrastructure Improvements Cost Share Programs
(50/50, 75/25, and Joint Use Facilities 75/25)
2026 PAI Program Application Form**

Please note this is only an application. All proposed project applications including this fillable form, map, and estimated budget must be reviewed by SRCD and the PAI Technical Review Committee and approved by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to receive PAI Cost Share Program funds. Do not initiate any work under this Program unless you receive written notification from SRCD that the PAI project is approved, and the landowner or Reclamation District (RD) representative has signed a PAI Agreement for Reimbursement. **Submit a separate application for each cost share.**

All proposed projects must be authorized and completed in compliance with the terms and conditions of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Regional General Permit 3 (RGP 3), and some projects (new pipes, bulkheads, pumps) may require a BCDC Marsh Development Permit. All proposed activities must also be approved on your USACE 2026 Wetlands Maintenance Permit Application for your participating property. It is the policy of the SRCD that participating landowners must be current with their annual USACE Permit Administration and SRCD Program Support Fees to work under the RGP3 and participate in SRCD Programs. If you have any questions or need assistance in preparing this application, please contact your SRCD Water Manager at (707) 426-2431.

Cost Share Program (see Eligibility):

75/25

JUF 75/25

50/50

Ownership or RD Name

**Legal Owner or RD Representative
Authorized to Sign Formal Agreements**

Address

Phone Number

E-Mail Address

Ownership or RD Number

Contact Name (alternate)

Address

Phone Number

E-Mail Address

Ownership Number _____

Date Received By SRCD: _____

Ownership Name _____

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(header completed by SRCD)

Is this Proposed Project Regular Maintenance?

Yes

No

75/25 or JUF 75/25 Exterior Drainage Project (check box and describe below)

- Upgrade exterior (*discharge or dual purpose*) pipes* and water control structures (gates, tubs and couplers, and risers) on existing HDPE pipe.
- Improvements to existing or installation of new exterior discharge water control structures including upgrade to corrosive resistant materials.
- Install, repair, or reinstall water control bulkheads*, but only if associated with an approved PAI water control pipe improvement. Cost share up to 15' on both interior and exterior side of the levee. (If >15' is required on either side of the levee, 100% of this added cost is the responsibility of the landowner).
- Install drain pumps and pump platforms*.

Number of Water Control Structures Proposed for Improvements or Upgrades: _____

Water Control Structure	Map ID	Pipe Diameter (inches or mm)	Pipe Material	Exterior Gate Type	Exterior Gate Material	Interior Gate Type	Interior Gate Material
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

**Type: Flapgate (F), Combo (C), Flashboards (FB); Material: Cast Iron (CI), Corrugated Metal (CM), Stainless Steel (SS), Plastic (HDPE)

Includes Bulkhead ($\leq 15'$ interior and $\leq 15'$ exterior)? Yes No

Includes Walkways? Yes No

Ownership Number _____

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(header completed by SRCD)

Number of Proposed Drain Installations: _____

New Water Control Structure	Pipe Diameter (inches)	Pipe Material	Exterior Gate Type	Exterior Gate Material	Interior Gate Type	Interior Gate Material
1						
2						

**Type: Flapgate (F), Combo (C), Flashboards (FB); Material: Stainless Steel (SS), Plastic (HDPE)

Proposed Pump Improvements

Pump Type: Diesel Electric

Pump Size: _____

Pump Volume: _____

Platform Installation? Yes No

Platform dimensions: _____

Detailed Project Description:

*A BCDC Marsh Development Permit will be required for new drain pipes, new bulkhead walls, and new pump platforms but not for replacement of existing structures.

50/50 Interior Drainage Project (check box and describe below):

Clearing existing or constructing new interior ditches/swales/v-ditches. Pond bottom or ditch elevation survey may be required to determine eligibility and scope of work.

Coring existing interior levees to improve habitat management activities. *No reimbursement for routine levee maintenance, winter storm damage, or repairs.*

Grading pond bottoms for improved water circulation and raising pond bottom sinks.

Ownership Number _____

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(header completed by SRCD)

Improvements of existing or installation of new interior water control structures. An upgrade to corrosive resistant materials is an approved improvement.

Requesting funding to offset electric or fuel costs for fish screen operations (*all year*) or diesel-powered or permanent electric drainage pumps to perform leach cycles (*February through May of the growing season*, Fill out Attachment A to Apply).

Detailed Project Description:

Expected Benefit of Proposed Projects:

*Include predicted benefits from hydrology model with assistance of Water Managers.

Ownership Number _____

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(header completed by SRCD)

Attachment A – Request for 50/50 Cost Share Program Spring Leach Cycle

Spring Leach Cycle costs are eligible for the 50:50 PAI Cost Share Program if a landowner:

- Informs their Water Manager in advance and submits this application to SRCD (50/50 Cost Share Attachment A) before leach cycles are initiated.
- Notifies Water Manager of date of completion of the initial drain (water off the pond bottoms) prior to re-flooding with lower salinity water.
- Pumping costs are not eligible for reimbursement during waterfowl season or to support construction or leaking gates.
- Electric bills must be submitted only for the meter that services the pump and not for other club facilities or uses.
- Diesel pumps must have an hour meter showing start and stop hours for each leach cycle or landowners must have the ability to document fuel use (see below).

Electrical Costs for Fish Screen(s) Electric

Type of Pump: Electric or Diesel

_____ Gallons/min or Pump HP _____ Discharge size

_____ Estimated Days of pumping to complete Leach Cycle

_____ Hour Meter Start _____ Hour Meter Ended

_____ Date Pumping Began _____ Date Pumping Ended or May 31st

Estimated Electric or Fuel Cost (attach bills): _____

SRCD Water Manager Approval: _____

Date: _____

A leach cycle is: re-flooding of the managed wetlands with low salinity water (February through May of the growing season) and subsequent draining to a level that is 1' below pond bottom of the managed wetland. Leaching removes salts from the soil profile and improves growing conditions desirable for waterfowl food resources and wetland plants. *The initial drainage of high saline water from the managed wetland at the end of waterfowl season is not a leach cycle.* It is desirable to complete up to 3 leach cycles with final drainage June or July which also is not a leach cycle and ineligible for cost share funds.

*SRCD estimates 1.5 gal/hr diesel fuel consumption based on SRCD's Portable Pump Program. Reimbursement will be 50% of the hours of pumping (verified by Water Manager) x 1.5 gal/hr x diesel cost/gal (verified with a receipt).

*SRCD will average daily electric consumption cost during the time of leach cycle pump operations and reimburse 50% of those daily costs.

The 50/50 Cost Share Program will not apply to SRCD Portable Pump Program costs that are provided to Suisun Marsh landowners at a reduced rental rate with no charge for pump delivery, set up, fueling, service, removal, or significant repairs or maintenance of the pumps.