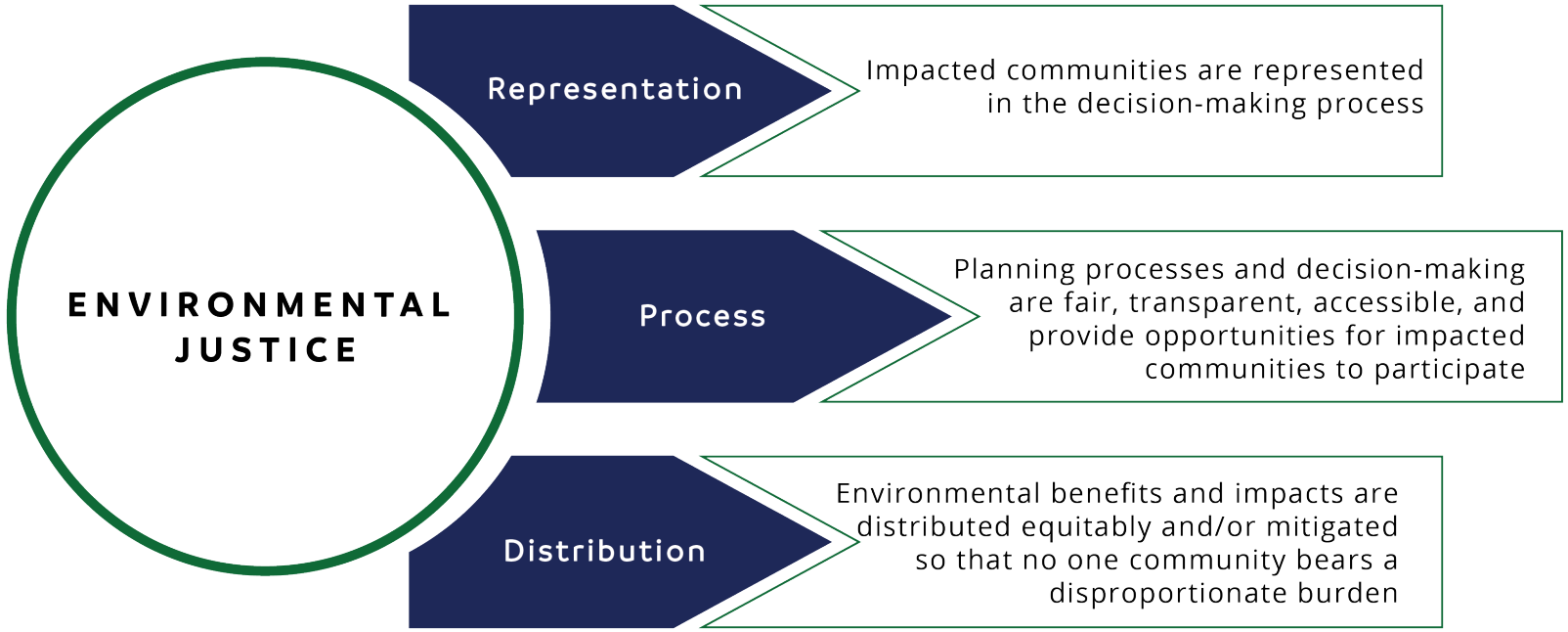
Nov 2026

Tribal and Environmental Justice Annual Update

Delta Stewardship Council

A CALIFORNIA STATE AGENCY

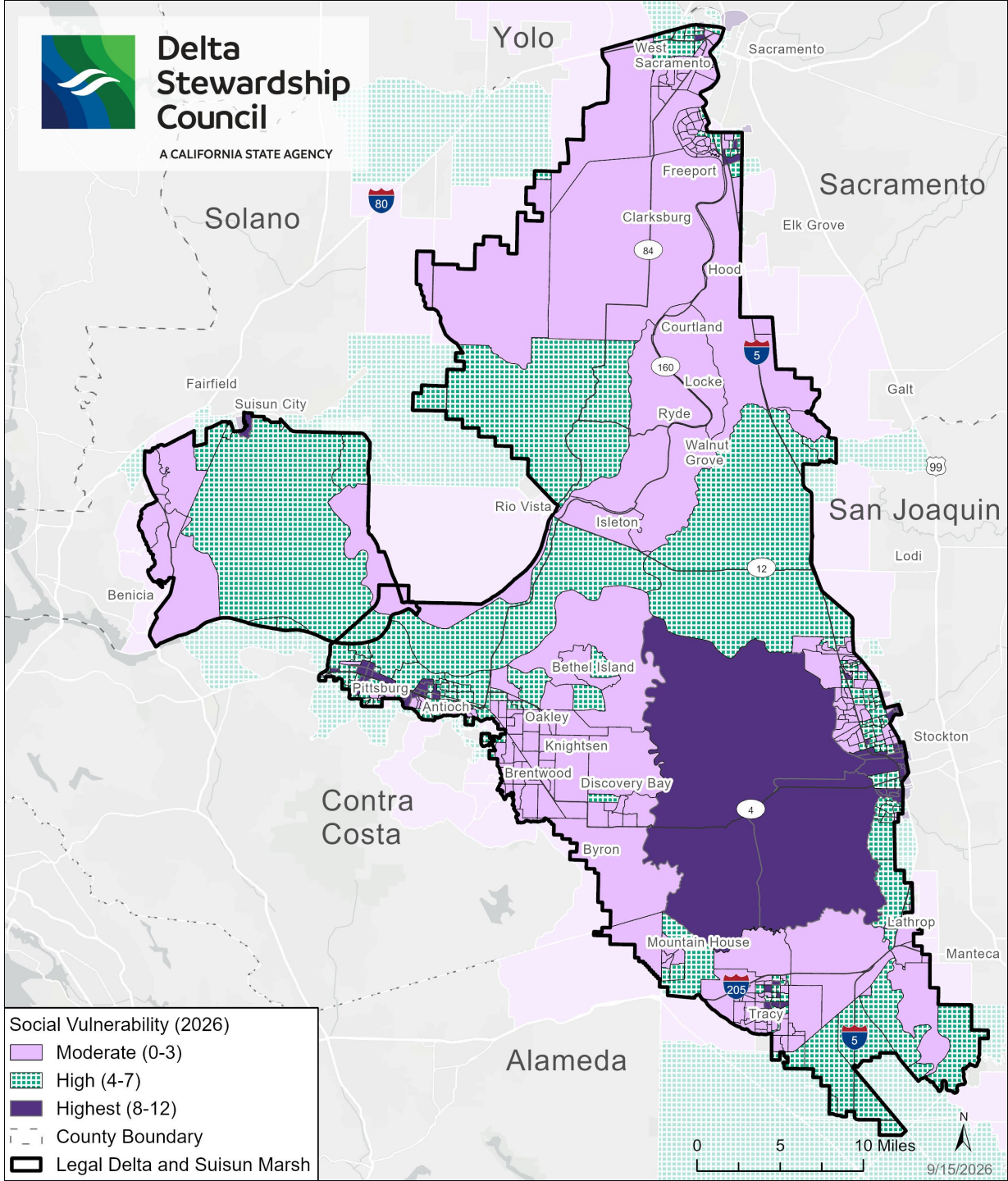
What is Tribal and Environmental Justice?



Goal 1: Integrate EJ into the Council

Commit to advancing EJ

Build spatial understanding of EJ communities



Goal 1 *continued*: Create a more inclusive workplace

Community Engagement Specialist

Contra Costa Shoreline Leadership Academy



Goal 2: Support and Recognize Tribes

Interweaving Knowledge Systems Roundtable Series



Speakers at the TK Roundtable Series

Goal 3: Further Community-Engaged Research and Partnerships

Science for Communities

Improve science communication



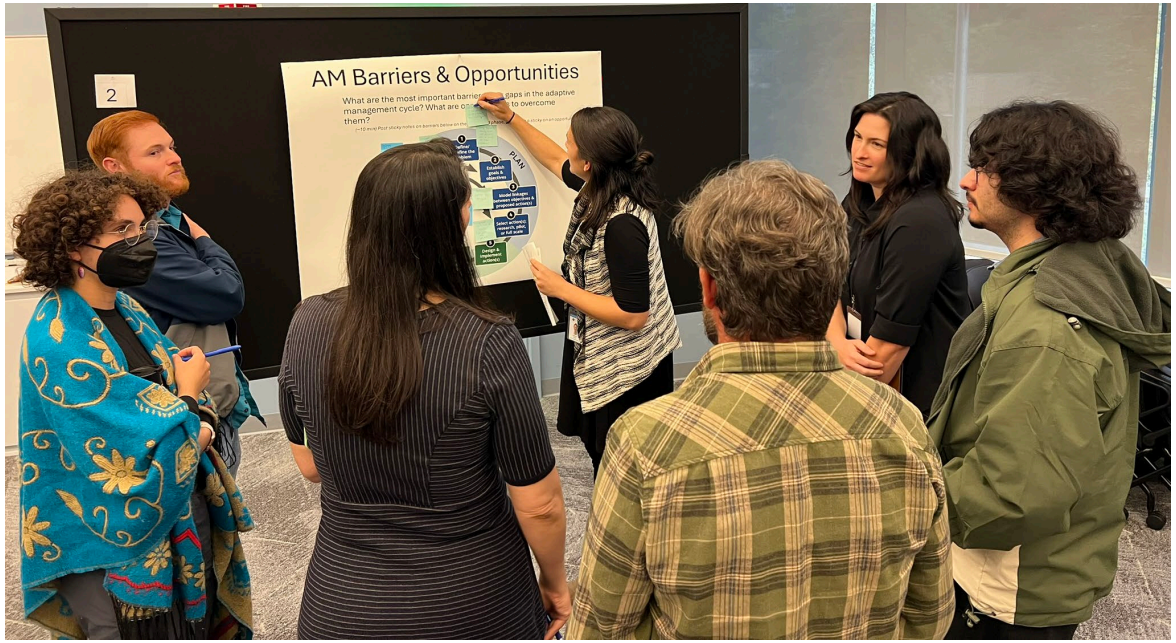
Photo 1. Bay Delta Science Conference: Science for Communities panel presentation



Photo 2. Shingle Springs Youth Event: Fish dissection and anatomy overview

2027 Priorities by Goal:

1. Explore Delta Plan amendment, water justice research, SoVI 2.0
2. Adopt Tribal Consultation Policy and Public Participation Plan update, onboard engagement specialist
3. Science for Communities 4.0
4. Equitable funding



Acknowledgements

- **Paper content:**
  - Council staff team, Sea Grant extension
  - EJ Expert Group: Restore the Delta, California Indian Environmental Alliance, Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness, Little Manila Rising
  - 22 community interviews, input at workshops and community events
  - Pre-consultation with 4 tribes, consultation with 3 tribes
- **Council Staff teams leading implementation:**
  - JEDI Committee
  - Tribal affairs
  - Social Vulnerability Index
  - Science for Communities
  - Shoreline Leadership Academy
  - Delta Research Awards

Support from: California Sea Grant Extension Specialist, Fellows, UCD EPM intern

Thank you

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Extra Slides

Goal 4: Address Funding Inequities

Traditional Knowledge Practitioners

Science funding and proposal evaluation criteria



Objectives of Tribal and EJ Issue Paper



Build a network of community leaders and organizations to inform and support the Council's EJ work



Identify environmental justice issues within and around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta



Identify options to address those issues

General Recommendations

- Invest in Relationship and Trust Building
- Work Through Trusted Community Partners
- Be Intentional and Justice-Oriented
- Make it Easy to Participate Early
- Follow Through
- Enhance Connections Between State Agencies and Local Governments
- Identify and Fill Research and Data Needs