



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pacific Southwest Region
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-2606
Sacramento, California 95825

In Response Reply To:
FWS/R8/I/S

JUL 09 2015

Charlton H. Bonham, Director
California Department of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear ~~Mr. Bonham:~~ *Chuck*

We are pleased to advise you that \$2,491,005 of Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Endangered Species Act (ESA) Traditional Section 6 funds are available to your agency pursuant to our Cooperative Agreement. The Cooperative Agreement has been renewed for the current year. Thank you for the information your staff provided for the renewal.

Using both the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) project ranking information, our Service Field Office Section 6 representatives worked closely with their CDFW counterparts to collectively recommend their highest priority projects given the known funding allocation. We hope that you are as pleased with this collaborative approach as we are.

The following is a list of the projects approved for FY 2015 CDFW Traditional Section 6 grants:

- Using genetic analyses and population modeling to assess the status, threats, and viability of Yreka phlox (*Phlox hirsuta*).\$179,602
- Characterization and control of sarcoptic mange: an emerging conservation threat to recovery of endangered San Joaquin kit foxes (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*)\$126,300
- The effect of regulation change on anticoagulant rodenticide exposure in the San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) in the Bakersfield area\$43,000
- Stabilizing and improving a State and Federal endangered species population of palmate-bracted bird's beak.\$174,720
- Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) and least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) monitoring and removal of brown-headed cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*) on the South Fork Kern River in 2015 and 2016.\$143,761
- Range-wide giant kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ingens*) surveys and monitoring optimization\$117,647

Restoration, recovery, and monitoring of Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog (<i>Rana sierrae</i>) in the Sierra Nevada	\$205,787
Perennial pepperweed control project to benefit soft bird's-beak and other endangered species and tidal marsh habitat	\$116,325
Supporting recovery planning, management, and conservation: evaluating the success of translocating fisher to increase the statewide distribution	\$175,000
A translocation and monitoring program for bi-state sage-grouse (<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>): rescuing a subpopulation from probable extinction while updating models of demographic performance and conservation planning.....	\$300,000
Assessing the population status of the endemic Clear Lake hitch (<i>Lavinia exilicauda chi</i>) and identifying spawning tributary restoration projects to benefit the species	\$109,290
Merced Natural Reserve vernal pool grassland landscape restoration project.....	\$302,739
Elkhorn Slough Tidal Marsh restoration for the southern sea otter	\$301,849
Invasive species control and restoration of water sources for the peninsular bighorn sheep (<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>) in the Santa Rosa Mountains.....	\$78,487
Invasive rattlebox control on Sacramento River lands	\$116,498
TOTAL.....	\$2,491,005


Please prepare an Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424) for each individual project, including all supporting grant documents. Please send the signed original and supporting documents by electronic mail to R8FA_Grants@fws.gov and to karen_jensen@fws.gov.

We may contact your staff to help with the required environmental review associated with these projects. Completion of the grant and compliance documentation will allow the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Program to obligate funds to your agency for costs related to these projects.

If you have any questions or need assistance in preparing the appropriate documents, please contact Karen Jensen, Traditional Section 6 Grants Coordinator, at (916) 414-6557. Additional information regarding the grant process, as well as necessary forms can be found at the Service's WSFR Program website, <http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/ToolkitFiles/toolkit.pdf>

We look forward to another productive year of endangered species conservation efforts in California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Loft". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Regional Director

cc:

Eric Loft, CDFW, Sacramento, CA
Karen Miner, CDFW, Sacramento, CA
Bill Kindred, CDFW, Sacramento, CA
Sara Rowe, CDFW, Sacramento, CA
G. Mendel Stewart, Carlsbad FWO, Carlsbad, CA
Steve Henry, Ventura FWO, Ventura, CA
Jennifer Norris, Sacramento FWO, Sacramento, CA
Kim Webb, Bay Delta FWO, Sacramento, CA
Bruce Bingham, Arcata FWO, Arcata, CA
Ted Koch, Northern Nevada, FWO, Reno, CA
Erin Williams, Yreka FWO, Yreka, CA
Laurie Sada, Klamath FWO, Klamath, CA
Karen Jensen, R8, Sacramento, CA
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Michael Long, R8, Sacramento, CA
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