



Gavin Newsom, Governor
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
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Final Meeting Agenda

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

November 18, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

The public and Board members will participate in the meeting via Zoom. Public comment will be accepted per the agenda*. A recording will be posted after the meeting.

Please click the link below to join the webinar.

[Join the webinar](#)

If you can only join via telephone, email Mary.Ahern@wildlife.ca.gov for a phone number or call WCB at 916-445-8448.

*If you anticipate commenting during the Public Comment period or on a particular agenda item and would like to register your name ahead of time, please complete this [Speaker Card \(Word\)](#) and email to Mary.Ahern@wildlife.ca.gov prior to the day of the meeting.

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Attachment A – Map of November 2021 Projects

Attachment B – WCB Acronyms

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PERSONS WITH DISABILITES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department’s EEO Officer at (916) 653-9089 or EEO@wildlife.ca.gov. Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility and Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Requests for Real-Time Captioners should be submitted at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the EEO Officer immediately

1. Roll Call

Wildlife Conservation Board Members

Charlton H. Bonham, Chair
Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Alina Bokde, Vice Chair, Public Member
Keely Bosler, Member
Director, Department of Finance
Damon Nagami, Public Member
Fran Pavley, Public Member
Kathryn Phillips, Public Member
Peter S. Silva, Member
President Fish and Game Commission

Joint Legislative Advisory Committee

Senator Andreas Borgeas
Senator Nancy Skinner
Senator Henry Stern
Assemblymember Luz Rivas
Assemblymember Laura Friedman – Alternate
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
Assemblymember Miguel Santiago – Alternate
Assemblymember Steve Bennett
Assemblymember Marc Levine – Alternate

Executive Director

John P. Donnelly

2. Public Forum for Items not on this Agenda

This item provides an opportunity for the general public to share comments or concerns on topics that are not included in this agenda. Speakers shall be limited to two minutes. The Board may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this item, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting. (Sections 11125, 11125.7(a), Government Code)

3. Funding Status – Informational

The following funding status depicts total Capital Outlay and Local Assistance appropriations by fund source and fund number:

HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND (0262)	\$73,479,574.40
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	(4,138,306.00)
Total Project Development:	(20,186,843.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$49,154,425.40

SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND FUND (Proposition 12) (0005)	\$845,790.00
November Board Meeting Allocation:	(0.00)
Total Project Development:	(0.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$845,790.00

CALIFORNIA CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND FUND (Proposition 40) (6029)	\$7,592,258.98
November Board Meeting Allocation:	(916,000.00)
Total Project Development:	(5,628,873.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$1,047,385.98

WATER SECURITY, CLEAN DRINKING WATER, COASTAL AND BEACH PROTECTION FUND OF 2002 (Proposition 50) (6031)	\$17,764,900.86
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	(3,000,000.00)
Total Project Development:	(11,023,955.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$3,740,945.86

SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION FUND OF 2006 (Proposition 84) (6051)	\$11,662,476.62
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	(3,340,831.00)
Total Project Development:	(5,278,145.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$3,043,500.62

WATER QUALITY, SUPPLY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND (Proposition 1) (6083)	\$57,509,761.64
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	0.00
Total Project Development:	(6,301,115.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$51,208,646.64

THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT, WATER, PARKS, CLIMATE, COASTAL PROTECTION, AND OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL ACT OF 2018 (Proposition 68) (6088)	\$143,995,669.72
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	(12,297,345.00)
Total Project Development:	(48,312,920.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$83,385,404.72
GENERAL FUND (0001)	\$177,667,250.00
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	(1,500,000.00)
Total Project Development:	(10,000,000.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$166,167,250.00
GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND (3228)	\$5,528,602.00
November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	0.00
Total Project Development:	(4,484,600.00)
Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$1,044,002.00
TOTAL – ALL FUNDS	\$496,046,284.22
Grand Total - November 2021 Board Meeting Allocation:	(25,192,482.00)
Grand Total - Project Development:	(111,216,451.00)
Grand Total Projected Unallocated Balance:	\$359,637,351.22

4. Executive Director's Report

- 2021 Legislation affecting WCB
- New CNRA Building

Consent Items

Items 5-25 are part of the Consent Calendar

5. Recovery of Funds

The following projects previously authorized by the Board are now completed, and some have balances of funds that can be recovered and returned to their respective funds. It is recommended that the following totals be recovered and that the projects be closed.

Table 1 - Recoveries by Fund

Fund Name	Amount
Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Fund	\$0.00
Habitat Conservation Fund	\$188,418.87
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund	\$12,783.50
California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund	\$26,509.00
Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002	\$0.00
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006	\$132,965.19
Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014	\$516,051.91
The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018	\$10,000.00
Total Recoveries for All Funds	\$886,728.47

Table 2 – Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Fund

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
Morongo Basin, Exp. 9 (Jung)	\$539,750.00	\$539,750.00	\$0.00
Total Recoveries to Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Fund			\$0.00

Table 3 - Habitat Conservation Fund

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
Big Tujunga Canyon Restoration	\$591,000.00	\$475,027.89	\$115,972.11
Burcham and Wheeler Flats Wildlife Area, Expansion 2 (Haley)	\$340,000.00	\$330,899.50	\$9,100.50
Chino Hills 320	\$2,570,000.00	\$2,568,525.00	\$1,475.00
Chino Hills 80	\$610,000.00	\$609,222.50	\$777.50
Lower Yuba River-Excelsior Expansion IV	\$75,000.00	\$61,483.30	\$13,516.70
Morongo Basin, Exp. 9 (Jung)	\$10,000.00	\$6,820.00	\$3,180.00
Truckee River Wildlife Area, Expansion 1	\$175,000.00	\$151,759.48	\$23,230.52
Upper Shasta River Flow Enhancement Planning	\$275,000.00	\$253,833.46	\$21,166.54
Total Recoveries to Habitat Conservation Fund			\$188,418.87

Table 4 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
Climate Resilience Planning for Key Sacramento River Watersheds	\$400,000.00	\$392,221.50	\$7,778.50
Mountain Meadows (Home Ranch)	\$950,000.00	\$950,000.00	\$0.00
Scott River Headwaters, Wildcat	\$2,515,000.00	\$2,509,995.00	\$5,005.00
Total Recoveries to Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund			\$12,783.50

Table 5 - California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
San Joaquin River Parkway, River West Public Access	\$175,000.00	\$148,491.00	\$26,509.00
Shasta Valley Wildlife Area Fishing Access	\$6,200.00	\$6,200.00	\$0.00
Total Recoveries California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund			\$26,509.00

Table 6 - Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
Big Tujunga Canyon Restoration	\$654,000.00	\$654,000.00	\$0.00
Total Recoveries to Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002			\$0.00

Table 7 - Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
LeoMar Preserve (Gaty)	\$10,000.00	\$7,399.00	\$2,601.00
Regional Conservation Assessment Methodology	\$290,000.00	\$236,364.29	\$53,635.71
Truckee River Watershed Forest Enhancement	\$775,000.00	\$698,271.52	\$76,728.48
Total Recoveries to Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006			\$132,965.19

Table 8 - Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
Hat Creek Enhancement Project	\$196,564.00	\$196,564.00	\$0.00
Lagunitas Creek Floodplain Activation Flow Assessment	\$157,742.00	\$129,697.69	\$28,044.31
Mattole Headwaters Streamflow Enhancement Implementation Project	\$356,744.00	\$356,741.52	\$2.48
Navarro River Large Wood Augmentation	\$221,539.56	\$201,604.37	\$19,935.19
Oroville Wildlife Area Restoration Project	\$5,070,900.00	\$5,070,900.00	\$0.00
Oroville Wildlife Area Restoration Project, Phase II	\$1,542,100.00	\$1,123,467.00	\$418,633.00
San Joaquin River Parkway, Jensen River Ranch, Jenco Farms Property Habitat Enhancement Project	\$271,800.00	\$222,757.51	\$49,042.49
Studies to Support Coho in the Russian River Basin	\$958,512.00	\$958,117.56	\$394,44
Suisun Creek Watershed Instream Flow Enhancement Project	\$584,100.00	\$584,100.00	\$0.00
<i>Total Recoveries to Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014</i>			<i>\$516,051.91</i>

Table 9 - The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018

Project Name	Allocated	Expended	Balance
LeoMar Preserve (Gaty)	\$718,900.00	\$718,900.00	\$0.00
Truckee Springs	\$2,010,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$10,000.00
<i>Total Recoveries to The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018</i>			<i>\$10,000.00</i>

6. 1000 Acre Ranch Donation

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) approve this project as proposed; approve the acceptance of the property; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	1000 Acre Ranch Donation
Project Type:	CDFW Fee Donation (60± acres)
Amount Recommended:	\$0
County:	Colusa
Program:	Land Acquisition
Strategic Plan Goals:	A.1, A.2, C.1 Objectives: 2.1, 3.1, 3.3
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is 60± acres and is located inside the levee, just north of the Ferry Road intersection with the Sacramento River in Colusa County, about 10 miles north of the city of Colusa. Access is provided by a gravel road from Highway 45, over the levee road.

Positioned in the valley with the Sierra Nevada Mountain range to the east and the coast range to the west, the surrounding area is home to an important section of the Pacific Flyway. Protected wildlife areas surround the Property, including the Sacramento River Wildlife Area (SRWA) in the immediate vicinity, the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge to the south, the Delevan National Wildlife Refuge to the northwest, Gray Lodge Wildlife Area to the northeast, and the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge to the southeast. Irrigated agricultural lands dominate the landscape immediately surrounding the area to the north, south, and west of the Property. The Sacramento River borders the Property to the east.

The Property will be an addition to the existing and adjacent Stegeman Unit of the SRWA and will be a boat-in only property. The transfer to CDFW was approved by the Sacramento River Forum Board of Directors on October 23, 2019. The Forum Board found that the transfer and future management by CDFW is in accordance with the Sacramento River Conservation Area Handbook. Public access to the SRWA is currently provided for recreational opportunities including fishing, wildlife viewing, birdwatching, nature study, trapping, and hunting.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is a single, undeveloped, irregularly shaped, relatively level parcel of land on the west side of the Sacramento River. It is zoned river frontage and is periodically inundated with flood waters from the river.

Previously farmed land in the floodplain of the Sacramento River, the Property is currently fallow but has been managed for invasive weeds yearly. Restored habitat

will support game species including black-tailed deer, California quail, wild turkey, mourning dove, and gray squirrel, and could support special status species including Swainson's hawk, bald eagle, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, yellow-billed cuckoo, and mountain lion.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

CDFW will own and be responsible for the long-term management of the Property. As an addition to the SRWA, ongoing operations and maintenance costs have been and are expected to be relatively limited. The costs will be included in the SRWA's current budget. Proposed management of the Property is consistent with the CDFW Sacramento River Wildlife Area Land Management Plan

PROJECT FUNDING

The Property is being donated to CDFW by the landowners and must be approved by the Department of Finance before final transfer. The appraised fair market value is \$714,000.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

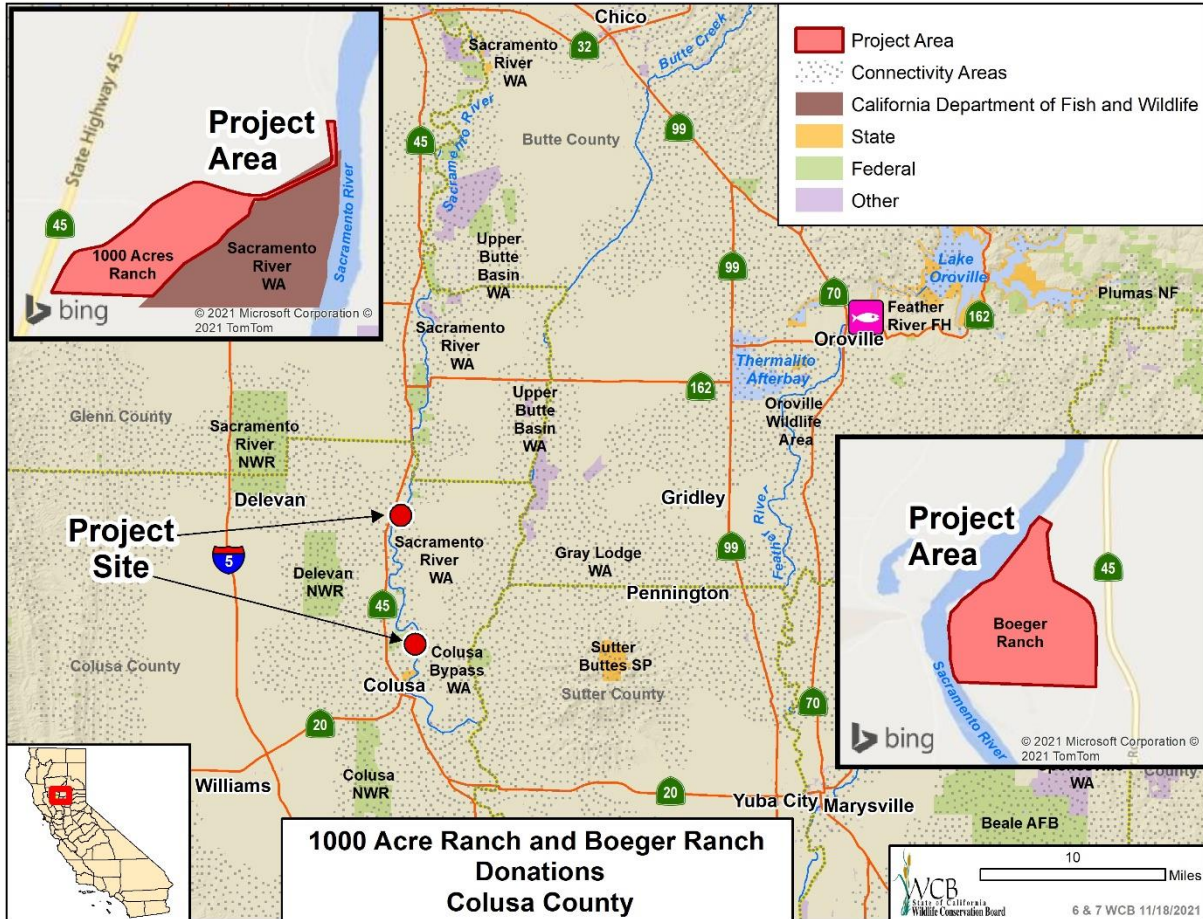
- None received

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.28, Acquisition of an Interest in Land by a Public Agency, as an acquisition of an interest in land by a public agency for preservation of natural conditions existing at the time of transfer, including plant and animal habitats. Subject to Board approval of the project, staff will file the appropriate Notice of Exemption(NOE) with the State Clearinghouse and the county clerk.



7. **Boeger Ranch Donation**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; approve the acceptance of the property; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Boeger Ranch Donation
Project Type:	CDFW Fee Donation (110± acres)
Amount Recommended:	\$0
County:	Colusa
Program:	Land Acquisition
Strategic Plan Goals:	A.1, A.2, C.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 3.1, 3.3
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is 110± acres located on the east side of the Sacramento River, west of River Road, northwest of the River Road/Laux Road intersection in Colusa County, less than 2 miles north of the city of Colusa. Access is provided by a dirt farm road due east of the Property.

Positioned in the valley with the Sierra Nevada Mountain range to the east and the coast range to the west, the surrounding area is home to an important section of the Pacific Flyway. Protected wildlife areas surround the Property including the Sacramento River Wildlife Area (SRWA) in the immediate vicinity, the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge to the south, the Delevan National Wildlife Refuge to the northwest, Gray Lodge Wildlife Area to the northeast, and the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge to the southeast. Irrigated agricultural lands dominate the landscape immediately surrounding the area to the east and south of the Property. The Sacramento River borders the Property to the north and west.

The Property will be the new Unit of the SRWA and will be a boat-in only property. The transfer to CDFW was approved by the Sacramento River Forum Board of Directors on October 23, 2019. The Forum Board found that the transfer and future management by CDFW is in accordance with the Sacramento River Conservation Area Handbook. Public access to the SRWA is currently provided for recreational opportunities including fishing, wildlife viewing, birdwatching, nature study, trapping, and hunting.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The 110± acre Property is a single, undeveloped irregularly shaped parcel of land on the east side of the Sacramento River. It is zoned river frontage and is periodically inundated with flood waters from the river.

Previously farmed land in the floodplain of the Sacramento River, much of the Property is currently fallow but has been managed for invasive weeds yearly. Riparian habitat surrounds the center field area of the Property. Restored habitat

will support game species including black-tailed deer, California quail, wild turkey, mourning dove, gray squirrel, and could support special status species including Swainson's hawk, bald eagle, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, yellow-billed cuckoo, and mountain lion.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

CDFW will own and be responsible for the long-term management of the Property. As an addition to the SRWA, ongoing operations and maintenance costs have been and are expected to be relatively limited. The costs will be included in the SRWA's current budget. Proposed management of the Property is consistent with the CDFW Sacramento River Wildlife Area Land Management Plan

PROJECT FUNDING

The Property is being donated to CDFW by the landowners and must be approved by the Department of Finance before final transfer. The appraised fair market value is \$1,095,000.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

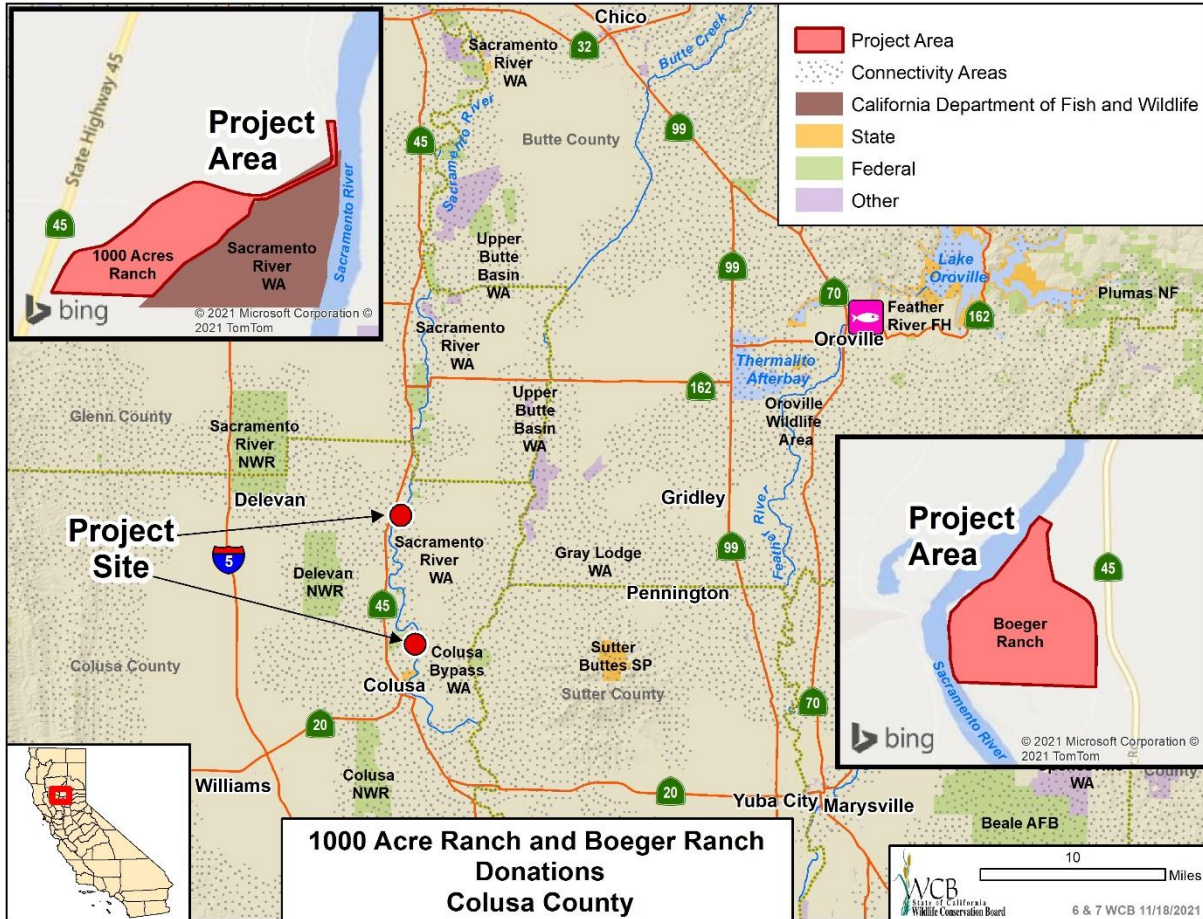
- None received

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.28, Acquisition of an Interest in Land by a Public Agency, as an acquisition of an interest in land by a public agency for preservation of natural conditions existing at the time of transfer, including plant and animal habitats. Subject to Board approval of the project, staff will file the appropriate NOE with the State Clearinghouse and the county clerk.



8. Hudeman Slough Boat Launch Construction

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB adopt the written findings and approve this project as proposed; allocate \$754,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80132(a); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Hudeman Slough Boat Launch Construction
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Sonoma County Regional Parks
Amount Recommended:	\$754,000
Funding Partners:	Department of Boating and Waterways, Sonoma County Regional Parks
Landowner(s):	CDFW
County:	Sonoma
Program:	Public Access
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: C.1 Objectives: SI 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Hudeman Slough Boat Launch Construction (Project) is located on Hudeman Slough, a tributary of Sonoma Creek. This boat launch provides access to several dozen miles of interconnected navigable tidal waterways between Sonoma Creek, Hudeman Slough, and the Napa River. Hudeman Slough is recognized in the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan. The 4.71-acre project site consists mostly of disturbed habitats with invasive species on the interior of the existing levee and brackish marsh on the water side of the levee. The surrounding land uses include undeveloped, rural/agricultural land, and water. The property is owned by CDFW and is maintained under an agreement by Sonoma County Regional Parks.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Tidal forces, storms, and general use have taken their toll on the existing boat launch. In 2017, tidal action and silt deposits forced the dock to buckle and the welds to break beyond repair. The boat launch, built in 1987, was closed in 2017 eliminating boating access for fishing, hunting, and birdwatching. In 2019, Sonoma County Parks District received a planning grant from WCB to complete needed designs, engineering, and permits to rebuild the launch. The Project is now ready for construction.

This Project will provide boaters, anglers, hunters, and birders boating access to Hudeman Slough and the interconnected waterways through Sonoma Creek, Napa River, and San Pablo Bay. Specifically, the Project will include removal of the existing launch, construction of a new one-lane boat launch with a floating

dock, ADA parking and pathways, new vault toilet, parking lot improvements, and bilingual signage (English and Spanish).

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The Sonoma County Regional Parks has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the Hudeman Slough Boat Launch facility. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, Sonoma County Regional Parks does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the state of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$15,000	\$3,000	\$18,000
Construction	\$739,000	\$754,000	\$1,493,000
Vegetation Replacement	---	\$15,000	\$15,000
Total	\$754,000	\$772,000	\$1,526,000

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: This task includes consultant and contractor oversight, reporting, invoicing, and preparation of a final report.
- Construction: This task item includes potential design and engineering changes resulting from conversations with potential bidders, inspections, and construction of the project elements.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

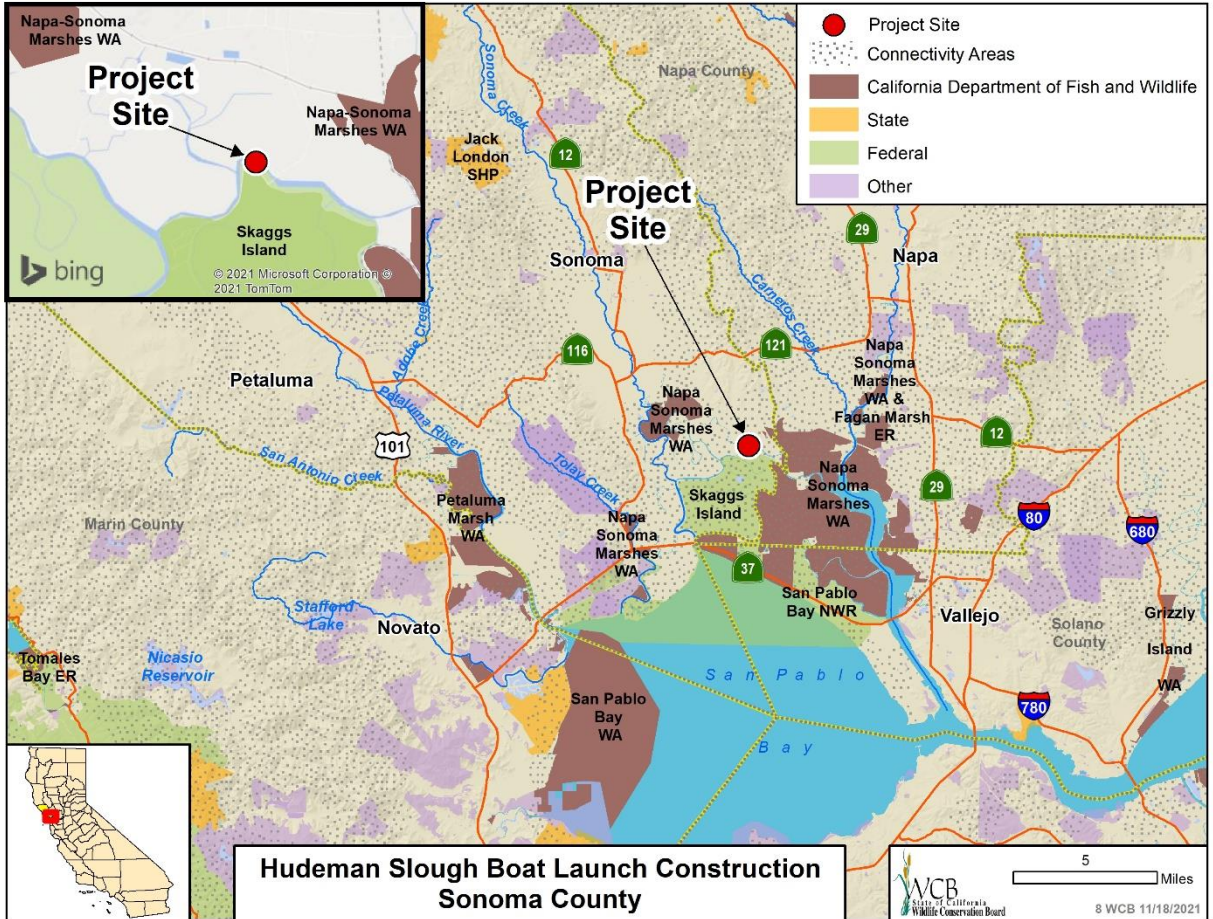
- Bill Dodd, Senator 3rd District
- Marc Levine, Assemblymember 10th District
- Maureen Gaffney, Principal Planner, San Francisco Bay Trail Project
- Ben Botkin, Planner, San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail, Association of Bay Area Governments, Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Sonoma County Regional Parks, as lead agency, prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the project pursuant to the provisions of the CEQA. Staff considered the MND and has prepared proposed, written findings documenting WCB's compliance with CEQA. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate Notice of Determination (NOD) will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



9. Quail Ridge UC Davis Natural Reserve System, Expansion 1

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$100,000 from Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)(3) for the grant to The Regents of University of California; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Quail Ridge UC Davis Natural Reserve System, Expansion 1
Project Type:	Fee Title (35± acres)
Grantee:	The Regents of University of California, Davis
Amount Recommended:	\$100,000
County:	Napa
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Proposition 84
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.2 Objectives: SI 1.2, 2.1, 2.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is located northeast of the community of Moskowite Corner, in the eastern part of Napa County. It is on Quail Ridge between Wragg and Markley canyons and is approximately nine miles west of the city of Winters and is less than a mile south of Lake Berryessa. More specifically, the Property is located on the north side of State Route 128 between milepost 30 and 31.

Located on the southern boundary of the Quail Ridge Reserve (Reserve), the Property provides a habitat corridor connecting the Quail Ridge peninsula to public lands across the highway. Its location provides a buffer from trespass between Highway 128 and the existing Reserve facilities. It is ideally suited as a site for future staff housing development. Although the Property's facilities burned in the 2020 Hennessey Fire, it is a suitable building site with utilities and the building footprint still exists.

The Property is the main access route to the Reserve and its field station. The Reserve was incorporated into the University of California, Natural Reserve System (UC NRS) in 1991, the largest and most productive network of university field systems in the world. This Reserve contains approximately 2,500 acres. Currently, researchers at the Reserve are conducting studies on California grassland dynamics, nutrient cycling, the effects of fire on both oak woodlands and chamise communities, and epiphytic mosses. The results of these studies will generate publications providing valuable information for management of these systems to understand the effects of climate change on the represented plants communities. On-going work on the Reserve on the effects of fire, nutrient regimes, and seed rain on native and introduced grasslands may also be extended onto the Property.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is an irregularly shaped tract of land, is 35± acres in size, and is zoned as AW, agricultural watershed district. This land use designation is for areas of the county where the predominant use is agriculturally oriented, where watershed areas, reservoirs and floodplain tributaries are located, where development would adversely impact all such uses, and where the protection of agriculture, watersheds, and floodplain tributaries from fire, pollution, and erosion is essential.

The terrain is primarily steep hillside slopes and valleys. The elevation ranges from approximately 1,000 feet to approximately 1,300 feet on the hilltop. The Property has a pond which would be the only pond at the Reserve with perennial water. Trees on the Property consist primarily of oak woodlands. Oak trees observed on the Property include interior live oak, blue oak, scrub oak, and valley oak.

The Property was improved with a single-family residence and a two-car garage, but these structures were burned by the fire in August 2020. The fire also burned most of the vegetation on the site. It is estimated that 10 percent of the vegetation (primarily oak trees) will not survive. The balance of the burned vegetation is expected to rebound over the next year.

The area immediately surrounding the Reserve is increasingly being converted to vineyards or developed for housing which compromises wildlife corridors, animal movement, and visual integrity of the landscape. The Quail Ridge peninsula is not immune to this development – an inholding on the peninsula was recently purchased, the native flora cleared, and a large fence was erected to protect a new house and vineyard from the native wildlife. This project would protect valuable natural and esthetic resources from development and extend the habitat available to wildlife, classes, and researchers.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The Property will be operated and maintained by UC NRS and will be permanently incorporated into the Reserve. Because of an existing use agreement with the current owner of the Property, UC NRS has already been managing the Property as part of Reserve.

UC NRS has 41 reserves across California for the purpose of protecting examples of most of the state's ecosystems for research and teaching. These reserves serve as outdoor laboratories and classrooms for thousands of scientists and students and are intended for hands-on, manipulative research and teaching, which are often not permitted on other public lands without significant administrative hurdles. Each reserve is administered by one of the UC campuses. The Quail Ridge Reserve is administered by UC Davis specifically.

The Property is used by a variety of classes visiting the Reserve including Environmental Science Field Methods, Herpetology, Wildlife Biology, and Principles of Ecology. Researchers have a number of on-going ecological and

technological studies on the Property including phenology studies on native bees and wasps, long-term surveys of reptiles and amphibians, defense strategies of swallowtail caterpillars, species delimitation, phylogeny, and biogeographical history of California trapdoor spiders, fire impact on chaparral lichen communities, and survival and fitness of blue oak seedlings.

PROJECT FUNDING

The California Department of General Services (DGS) approved fair market value is \$100,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$100,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$100,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

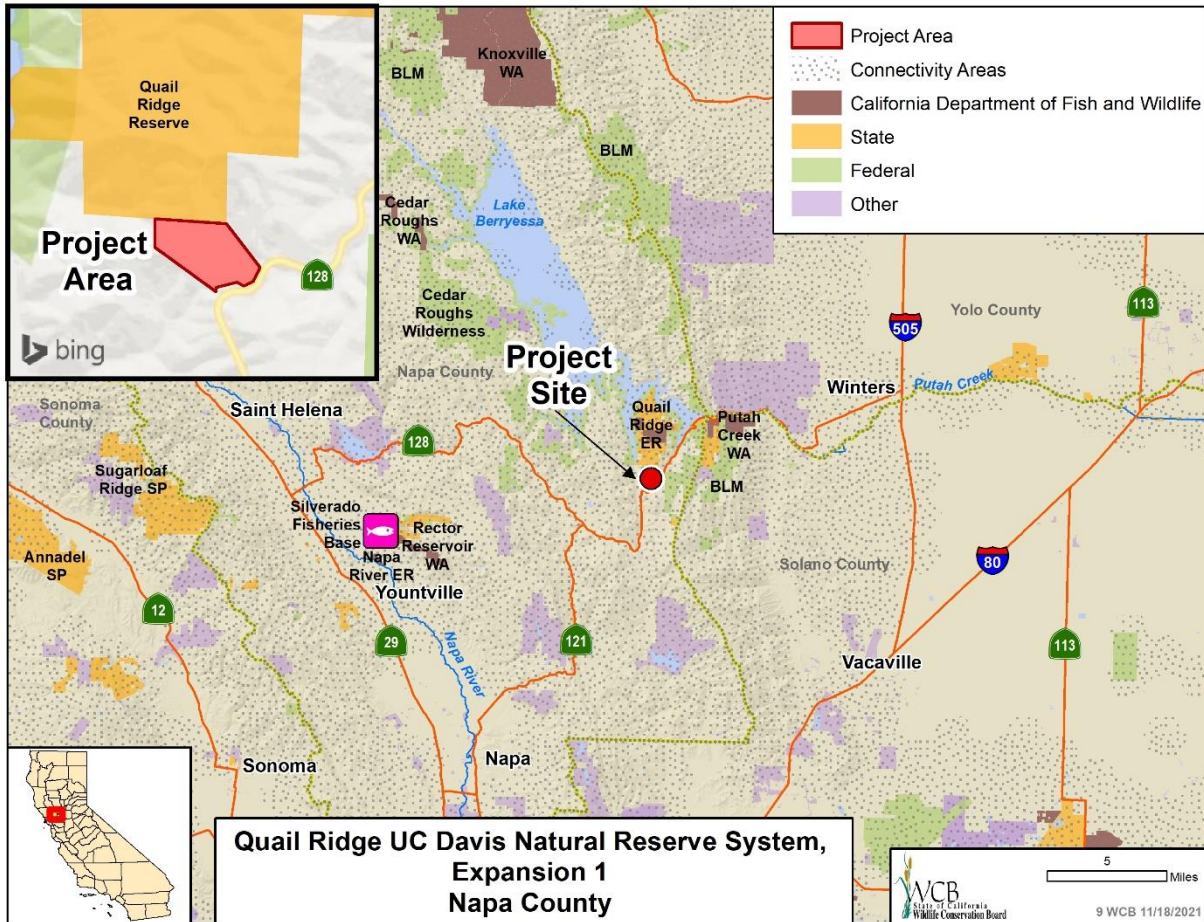
- Peggy Fiedler, Executive Director, UC Natural Reserve System

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



10. American River Ranch Animal Management and Education Program Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$142,545 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80100(a)(3); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	American River Ranch Animal Management and Education Program Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	Soil Born Farms
Amount Recommended:	\$142,545
Funding Partners:	Soil Born Farms
County:	Sacramento
Program:	Lower American River Conservancy
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.5, C.4 Objectives: SI 3.1
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a severely disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The American River Ranch Animal Management and Education Program Planning (Project) is approximately one mile northwest of the center of the city of Rancho Cordova (City) within the River Bend Plan Area of the American River Parkway (Parkway). The Project area is located at the historic American River Ranch (Ranch) which is the last working ranch on the lower American River with a history of agricultural activity dating back to the 1840s. The Ranch is permanently protected open space in a dense urban area and immediately adjacent to Cordova High School. Current land uses include a 7-acre developed area with structures for education, agriculture operations, a native plant nursery, and Soil Born Farm (SBF) offices. This footprint is surrounded by 48 acres of organic farm and wild lands, including vegetable fields, fruit orchards, pasture, habitat plantings, and the 10-acre restored Cordova Creek which bisects the property.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As caretakers of the Ranch, SBF is fulfilling the site's potential as a dynamic center for hands-on learning, land stewardship, and community connection. The Project will lay the groundwork for bringing livestock to the Ranch landscape, for the dual purposes of holistic land management and experiential education. Planning for a new Animal Barn facility and an education partnership with Cordova High School will be completed under this proposal.

Livestock is a crucial tool for holistic management of the Ranch and Parkway lands and will advance ecosystem benefits such as improved soil fertility and water holding capacity and address priorities of the American River Parkway Natural

Resources Management Plan for reducing the prevalence of invasive, nonnative plant species. Additionally, SBF will be taking responsibility for maintenance of the Cordova Creek riparian area and plans to use livestock as organic alternatives to herbicides to control weeds and support native plantings. The return of animals to the Ranch is an opportunity to deepen SBF’s relationship with Cordova High School into a one-of-a-kind experiential education partnership. The school has a dynamic agriculture career track yet lacks the space to keep animals. Using the Ranch as a living laboratory will create impactful learning for youth, while advancing sustainable agriculture and land stewardship.

The Project will complete the final planning work for bringing livestock to the Ranch by preparing 90% design and construction documents for an animal barn facility, obtaining all necessary design and building approvals and permits from local and state agencies, and finalizing an Animal Management Plan that is underway in partnership with a UC Davis Capstone Course and details specific land management goals by field/area and a rotational grazing plan to meet the goals.

In collaboration with Cordova High School Agriculture Academy, SBF’s youth education manager will develop a program plan that details a school day field experience schedule, curriculum outlines, afterschool program plans, Future Farmers of America schedule, project budget and funding plan, and job description for a shared Animal Program Coordination position. A Memorandum of Understanding will be executed between SBF and Cordova High School Agriculture Academy to formalize this enhanced education partnership and utilization of the animal barn facility.

The Project was recommended by the Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee, whose role is to evaluate and recommend projects to be considered by WCB. The Project was recommended for submittal to WCB by the Advisory Committee on September 1, 2021. American River Parkway Compliance Analysis was completed for the Project at the October 28, 2021, Recreation and Parks Commission meeting, in accordance with Public Resources Code section 5845.5. The Project was determined to be consistent with the American River Parkway Plan.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$10,039	\$10,039	\$20,078
Program Development	---	\$18,544	\$18,544
Barn Design, Construction Documents, and Approval	\$129,500	---	\$129,500
Indirect	\$3,006	\$4,287	\$7,293
Total	\$142,545	\$32,870	\$175,415

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Grant administration, invoicing, reporting, coordinating with project team and consultants, and overseeing all work for barn design and program development.
- Barn Design, Construction Documents, and Approvals: Complete geotechnical analysis and design and materials reviews, prepare City planning review application, attend meetings and hearings with City and County staff, submit City plan check fees, complete plan check and design changes as required, finalize design specifications and construction documents, and obtain final approval and permitting from local and state departments.
- Indirect: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

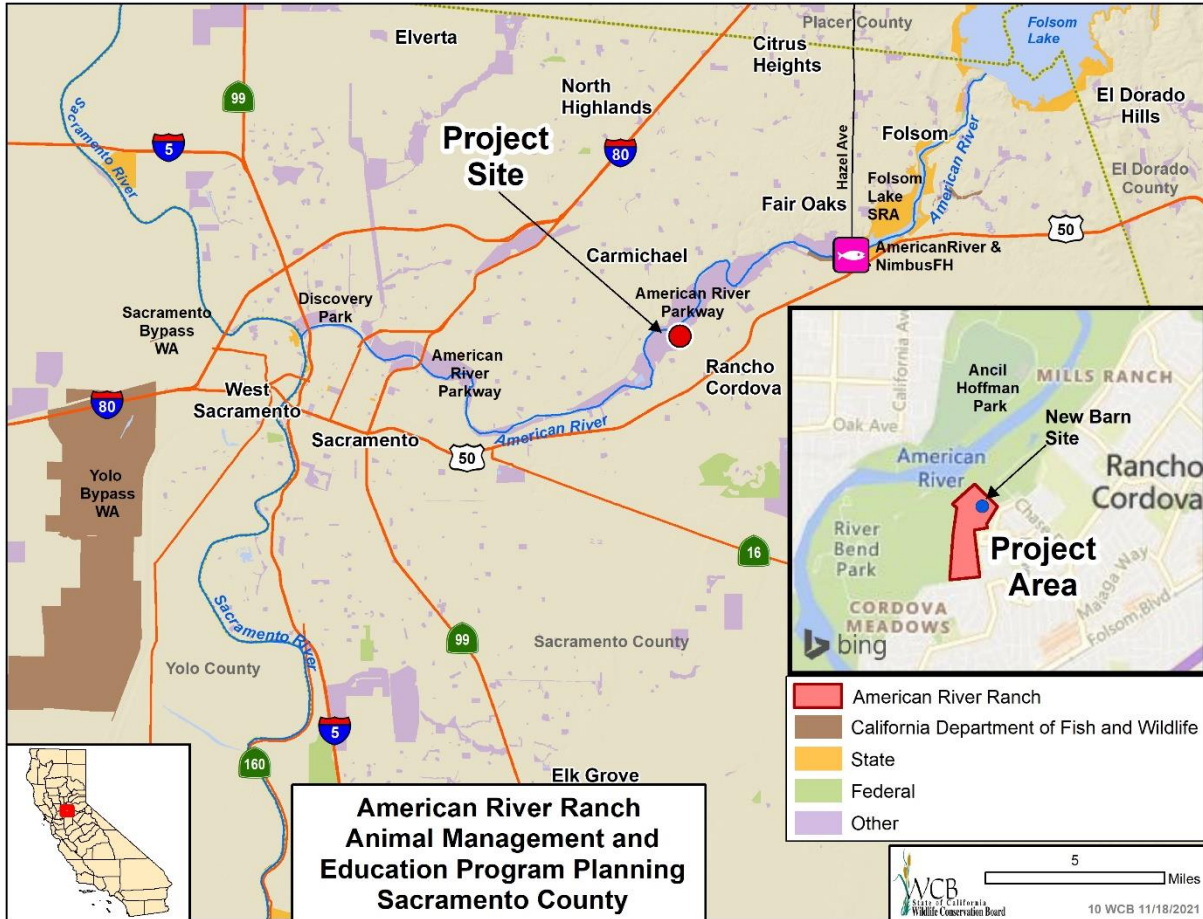
- Don Nottoli, Supervisor, District 5, County of Sacramento
- Cyrus Abhar, City Manager, City of Rancho Cordova
- Jerad Hyden, Principal, Cordova High School

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, as it involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



11. American River Ranch Habitat Restoration

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$297,949 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80100(a)(3); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	American River Ranch Habitat Restoration
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Soil Born Farms
Amount Recommended:	\$297,949
Funding Partners:	Soil Born Farms
Landowner(s):	County of Sacramento
County:	Sacramento
Program:	Lower American River Conservancy
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.5, C.4 Objectives: SI 2.1a, 2.1f
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a severely disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The American River Ranch Habitat Restoration (Project) is approximately one mile northwest of the center of the city of Rancho Cordova and within the River Bend area of the American River Parkway (Parkway). The Project area is part of the 55-acre organic farm and education center at the historic American River Ranch (Ranch) on a 3-acre plot that is currently irrigated pasture with no trees. The plot is highly accessible and centrally located on the Ranch and bordered by the Cordova Creek riparian area to the west, the Parkway multi-use trail to the north, organic vegetation crops to the east, and diversified fruit orchards to the south. The Ranch is the last working ranch on the Lower American River with a history of agricultural activity dating back to the 1840s and is also the ancestral territory of the Nisenan tribe.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project will establish a 3-acre oak woodland forest adjacent to the restored Cordova Creek riparian area modeling an interdisciplinary approach to conservation. The Project will serve multiple purposes including creating important wildlife habitat, providing community education, enhanced public access, and producing nutritious food and medicinal crops.

Blue elderberry, valley oak, and interior live oak will be the focal species because of their ecological significance, with complementary native understory species. The restored habitat will be integrated into Soil Born Farms' (SBF) education programs as a learning ground for environmental stewardship and cultural exploration. Interpretive signage will identify plant and wildlife species, highlight ethnobotanical practices of Native Americans, and explain the space as an agroecological system.

Classes and volunteer work-and-learn days will allow participants to experience nature while tending native plantings and harvesting wild crops.

The Project will develop a detailed Habitat Restoration and Management Plan (HRMP) for the 3-acre restoration site. Native American representatives will be consulted on cultural considerations and to inform the understory plant palette, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be consulted on elderberry management guidelines for the federally threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle. A transitional zone between the Project area and Cordova Creek will allow for planting of riparian species to connect the ecosystem from the creek's edge to upland habitat. An elderberry and acorn processing plan will also be developed to support the harvest of edible fruits and nuts and demonstrate agroecology principles using native plants.

Site preparation will include tilling, occultation tarping, manual invasive plant control, fertility testing, irrigation retrofits, and installing funder signage. Plants will be installed in the fall using a local California Conservation Corps (CCC) crew. Plant protection will include protective cages, mulch, and temporary irrigation. Maintenance activities will include organic weed control (grazing, weed whipping, tilling, and hand pulling), tapering irrigation to supplemental watering during drought periods, and plant replacement as needed. Maintenance activities in years 2 and 3 will be supported by the CCC. Ongoing monitoring and management will occur as outlined in the HRMP. No chemicals/herbicides will be used during site preparation or for maintenance of the restored habitat. A partnership will be developed with regional tribes for shared maintenance/harvest activities and tribal skill building, ceremonies, and youth field trips.

The Project was recommended by the Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee, whose role is to evaluate and recommend projects to be considered by WCB. The Project was recommended for submittal to WCB by the Advisory Committee on September 1, 2021. American River Parkway Compliance Analysis was completed for the Project at the October 28, 2021, Recreation and Parks Commission meeting, in accordance with Public Resources Code section 5845.5. The Project was determined to be consistent with the American River Parkway Plan.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The HRMP being developed as part of the Project will detail the short-term and long-term maintenance and monitoring for the restored habitat and interpretive panels. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, SBF does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the state of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$20,414	\$20,413	\$40,827
HRMP, Education and Interpretation Program, and Permits	\$96,000	\$20,061	\$116,061
Habitat Restoration	\$168,472	\$20,239	\$188,711
Indirect	\$13,063	\$9,107	\$22,170
Total	\$297,949	\$69,820	\$367,769

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Grant administration, invoicing, reporting, coordinating with project team and consultants, and overseeing all aspects of the Project.
- HRMP, Education and Interpretation Program, and Permits: Consult on habitat restoration design, plant palette, management and monitoring, and reporting, secure flood board permit, and develop hands-on interpretive and skills building activities in collaboration with a tribal representative.
- Habitat Restoration: Site preparation, irrigation installation, weed control, plant procurement and supplies, plant installation, and ongoing site maintenance and monitoring.
- Indirect: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

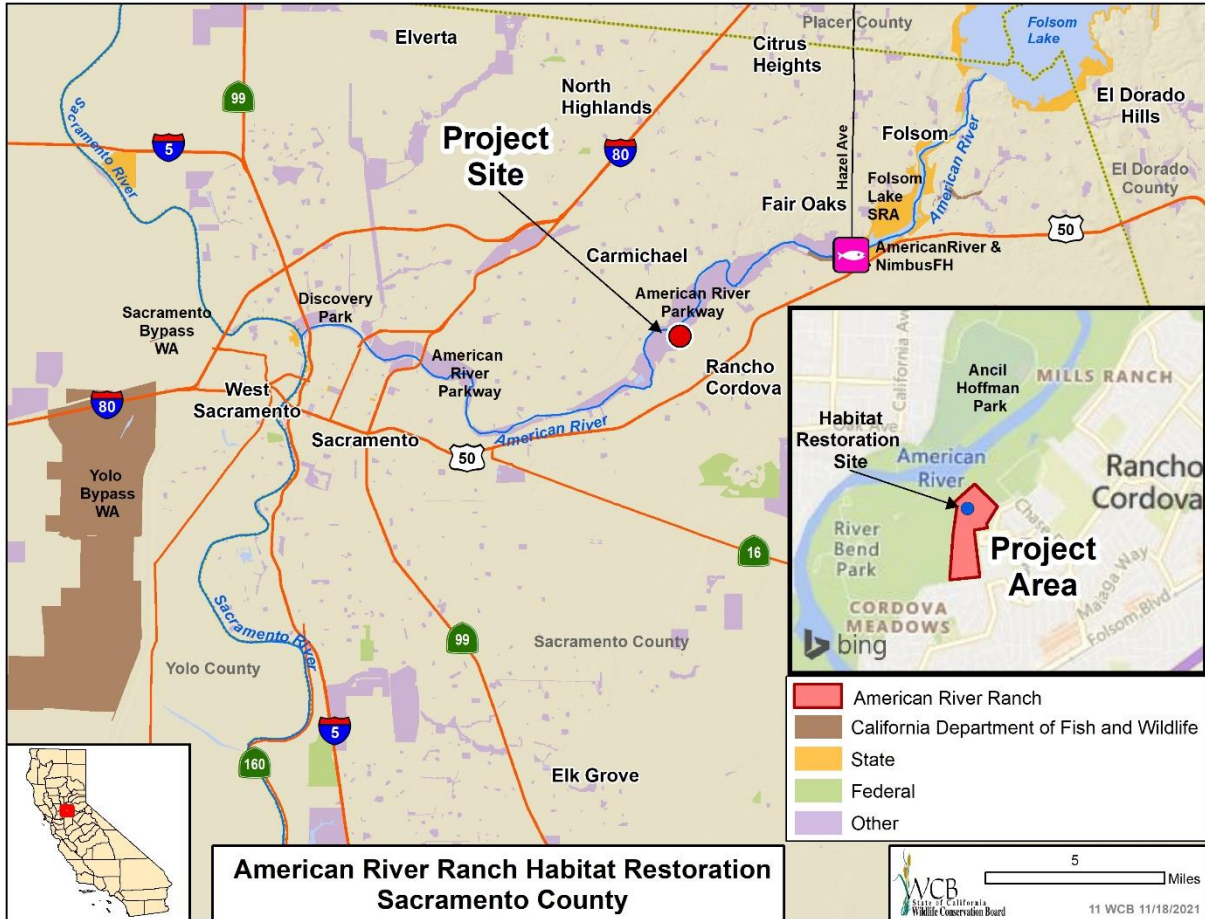
- Don Nottoli, Supervisor, District 5, County of Sacramento
- Cyrus Abhar, City Manager, City of Ranch Cordova
- Betsy Weiland, Land Use Chair, Save the American River Association
- Janet Koster, Vice President, Sacramento Valley Chapter, California Native Plant Society

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land, as a minor private alteration in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation and Section 15333, Class 33, Small Habitat Restoration Projects, as a project not to exceed five acres in size to assure maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for plants or wildlife. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



12. Cal Expo and Woodlake Crossing Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$149,400 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80100(a)(3); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Cal Expo and Woodlake Crossing Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	County of Sacramento
Amount Recommended:	\$149,400
Funding Partners:	County of Sacramento
County:	Sacramento
Program:	Lower American River Conservancy
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.5, C.4 Objectives: SI 2.1b, 3.1, 4.3
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a severely disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Cal Expo and Woodlake Crossing (Project) is approximately three miles northeast of the State Capitol and within the Woodlake Area Plan of the American River Parkway (Parkway). The Project area is located at the lower end of a stormwater channel that is part of the City of Sacramento's stormwater system and drains low-lying areas of north Sacramento. The channel experiences intermittent, large flows during rain events and goes dry during the summer. This area has been identified in the draft American River Parkway Natural Resources Management Plan as an area for naturalization, with a specific goal of expansion of the riparian corridor and is adjacent to a large-scale ecosystem restoration project proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Habitat along the channel is degraded due to erosion and increased use of the area by illegal campers. Trees growing near the channel include valley oaks, cottonwoods, black walnut, ash, California box elder and blue elder. Himalayan blackberry, Italian thistle, catchweed bedstraw, and grasses are found within the channel. Beaver use the channel as evident by the presence of beaver dams.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In the winter of 2017-18, a high flow event washed out a culvert crossing that provided safe access across the stormwater channel for trail users and authorized vehicles. The washout made the area downstream of the culvert difficult to access, reducing the number of parkway users and making the area extremely attractive for illegal encampments. Furthermore, the off-paved trail system that was approved by the County in 2021 for the Woodlake and Cal Expo areas and uses existing dirt maintenance roads as the trail system is disconnected by the loss of the crossing and forces mountain bikers, equestrians, and authorized vehicles onto

the paved bike trail to reconnect with the off-paved trail system/maintenance roads.

The Project will determine the best alternative for a new crossing that can support a 10-ton vehicle. Site surveys and consultation with the Sacramento County Department of Transportation will determine whether a new culvert or a small bridge is the best alternative to span the channel, which is 50-80 feet wide at the top and up to 25 feet deep at its bottom.

Habitat restoration will be part of the Project and will focus on slowing flow velocities, reducing erosion, and improving degraded aquatic and riparian habitat and the quality of water that flows from the channel into the lower American River.

Planning activities will include scoping meetings with County departments, City of Sacramento Department of Utilities' Storm Drainage Division, and state and federal regulatory agencies. Design plans and specifications will be completed for the crossing and habitat restoration. Conceptual designs for the USACE's ecosystem restoration project will be considered when designing the habitat restoration. Public outreach meetings will be held to receive input and comment on the draft plans. Final plans will be presented to the County Recreation and Parks Commission (RPC) for approval. All permitting and environmental review will be completed for the crossing and habitat restoration. It is anticipated that a Negative Declaration or MND will be required for CEQA compliance. All permits and permissions required to implement the Project, including permits from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, USACE, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, and USFWS will be secured.

The Project was recommended by the Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee, whose role is to evaluate and recommend projects to be considered by WCB. The Project was recommended for submittal to WCB by the Advisory Committee on September 1, 2021. American River Parkway Compliance Analysis was completed for the Project at the October 28, 2021, Recreation and Parks Commission meeting, in accordance with Public Resources Code section 5845.5. The Project was determined to be consistent with the American River Parkway Plan.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	---	\$13,650	\$13,650
Crossing Field Surveys and Designs	\$75,000	---	\$75,000
Habitat Restoration Field Surveys and Designs	\$38,465	---	\$38,465
Outreach	\$10,000	\$31,040	\$41,040

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Environmental Review and Permitting	\$25,935	\$14,415	\$40,350
Total	\$149,400	\$59,105	\$208,505

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Crossing Field Surveys and Designs: Environmental surveys, 100% design plans, and construction specifications for channel crossing.
- Habitat Restoration Field Surveys and Designs: Environmental surveys, 100% design plans, and construction specifications or equivalent for habitat restoration.
- Outreach: Scoping meeting, public outreach, technical review of designs and specifications by County departments, and approval of final designs by RPC.
- Environmental Review and Permitting: Prepare and certify CEQA document and secure all project permits.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

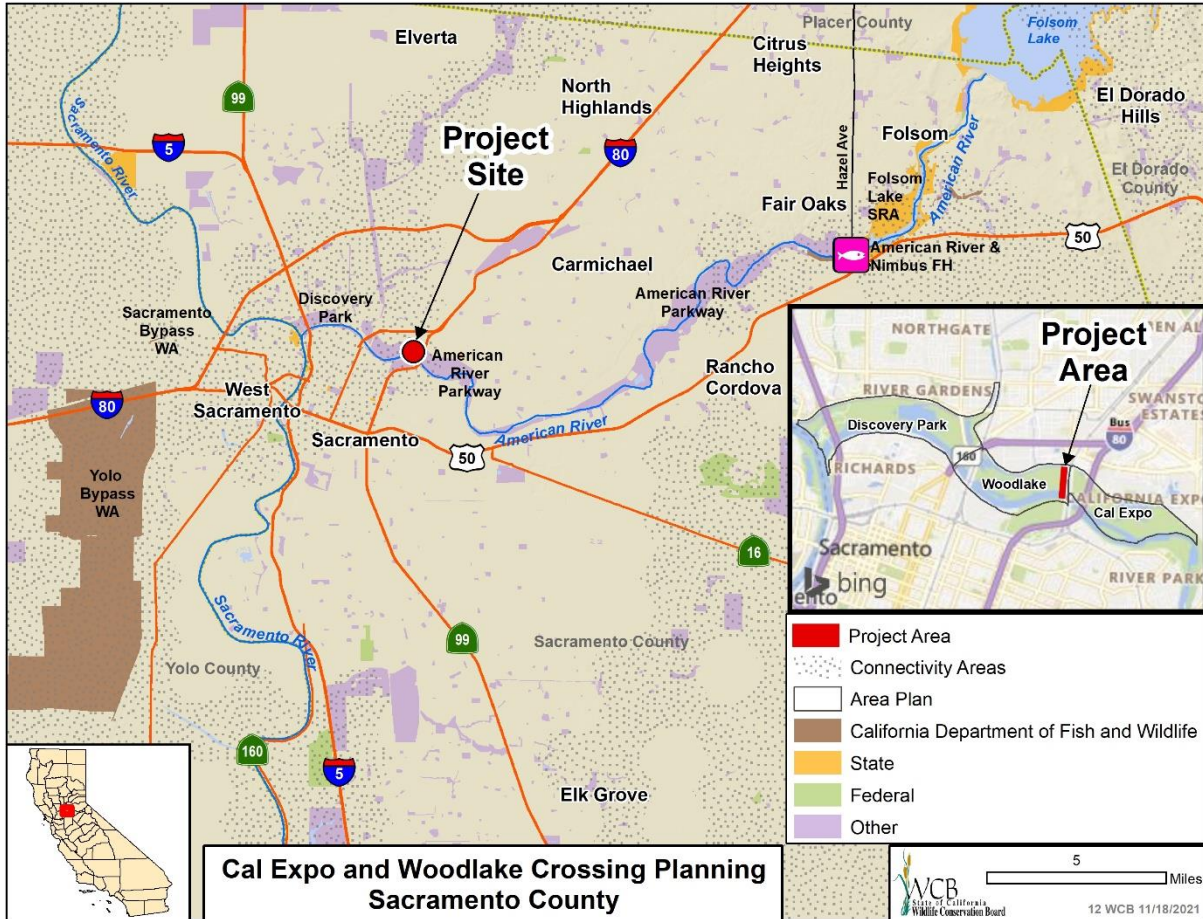
- Dianna Poggetto, Executive Director, American River Parkway Foundation
- Matt Wetter, President, Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition
- Deb Banks, Executive Director, Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, as it involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



13. Bolinas Lagoon South End Habitat Adaptation and Resilience Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$227,998 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80132(c); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Bolinas Lagoon South End Habitat Adaptation and Resilience Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	Greater Farallones Association
Amount Recommended:	\$227,998
Funding Partners:	Marin County Open Space, County of Marin, Seadrift Homeowners Association, Audubon Canyon Ranch, and multiple private landowners
County:	Marin
Program:	Inland Wetlands Conservation
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1, B.5 Objectives: SI 1.3, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

Bolinas Lagoon South End Habitat Adaptation and Resilience Planning (Project) is located at Bolinas Lagoon, a 1,100-acre tidal estuary and major stopover on the Pacific Flyway, adjacent to the town of Bolinas, in Marin County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The lagoon's rich ecosystem contributes to its many designations including a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance, part of Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Research Network site of regional importance, an Audubon Important Bird Area, and a research site for the Migratory Shorebird Project. Extensive channels, mudflats, marsh, and riparian areas in the lagoon provide rich foraging, breeding, and/or wintering habitat for 50,000 migratory birds and 245 bird species year-round.

The Project will complete planning, design, permitting applications, and environmental analysis leading to an implementation project that will utilize nature-based techniques to develop a sustainable and adaptable living shoreline to mitigate the impacts of sea-level rise while preserving the benefits of the coastal ecosystem. All short-term changes to the environment are intended to result in improved and long-term productivity of coast salt marsh habitat, thus providing a range of environmental benefits including habitat for wildlife, carbon capture, water quality improvements, and protections against erosion and flooding.

Bolinas Lagoon is vulnerable to a wide range of climate change impacts beyond sea level rise. Physical impacts including warmer and increasingly acidic water are projected to cause negative responses to a variety of critical biological processes, including degradation of estuarine habitat quality, species range shifts, and a lack of available prey species for fish, seabirds, and marine mammals. Due to the lagoon’s importance as a shorebird breeding area, pupping ground for harbor seals, and host to larval and juvenile stages of anadromous fish, crabs, clams, and other invertebrates, these impacts have potentially wide-reaching effects on the distribution and abundance of adult populations in the broader region. The extent to which these communities can survive and migrate inland directly depends on the amount of available upland habitat. To that end, the Project plans to utilize available upland space to create a living shoreline that enhances feeding, breeding, and nursery habitat along the marsh zone and restore and reconnect healthy, wide transition zones to accommodate habitat transgression and evolving species diversity and abundance as water levels rise.

Strategies to stabilize and establish a lasting healthy shoreline that is adaptable to sea level rise will include a combination of the following: beneficial reuse of sediment, grading and/or placement of fill to create an ecotone slope, wetland elevation techniques, and native vegetation management. Re-grading the shoreline and establishing vegetation will help develop shoreline equilibrium that is less prone to erosion, and provide a continuous, contoured, mildly sloped transitional habitat extending throughout the Project area. Natural elements and native climate-tolerant plantings will help the restored shoreline adapt to environmental changes and strengthen over time. This will reduce maintenance costs, help habitats keep pace with rising water levels, and increase the area’s resilience to future changes.

Once implemented, the anticipated results will total 12 acres of newly restored, resilient, and adaptable bird habitat benefitting at least 46 species of migratory shorebirds that forage and feed along the Project area, and several resident and migratory land birds.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$14,175	\$15,750	\$29,925
Feasibility Study	\$193,349	\$175,921	\$369,270
Outreach	---	\$22,752	\$22,752
Environmental Review and Permitting	\$14,174	\$164,749	\$178,923
Indirect	\$6,300	---	\$6,300
Total	\$227,998	\$379,172	\$607,170

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Costs associated with communicating goals, reporting deliverables, soliciting feedback, managing the project consultants, and providing updates to partners and landowners.
- Feasibility Study: Costs associated with selecting a qualified consultant and developing the feasibility study.
- Environmental Review and Permitting: Costs associated with completing the CEQA and permit application processes, completing final designs (60%-90%), and developing a Habitat Restoration Plan and Construction Work Plan.
- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

- Sandra Scoggin, Coordinator, San Francisco Bay Joint Venture
- Maria Brown, Superintendent, Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
- Max Korten, Director and General Manager, Marin County Park
- Gwen Heistand, Martin Griffin Preserve Manager and Resident Biologist, Audubon Canyon Ranch
- Kiren Niederberger, General Manager, Seadrift Association

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, as it involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse



14. Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Pump Station 7

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$752,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80132(c); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Pump Station 7
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Amount Recommended:	\$752,000
Funding Partners:	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Landowner(s):	CDFW
County:	Solano
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 2.5
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Grizzly Island Wildlife Area Pump Station 7 (Project) is located on the CDFW owned Grizzly Island Wildlife Area (GIWA), in Suisun City within Solano County. GIWA lies in the heart of the Suisun Marsh and has been managed for wildlife habitat (primarily waterfowl) since CDFW acquired the land in 1931. GIWA contains approximately 5,800 acres of wetlands, all of which are open to public hunting, except for the Pond 12 sanctuary.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GIWA uses a complex system of ditches/canals, water control structures and pumps to convey and manage water levels within the wildlife area. The pumps used on GIWA are electrical low lift vertical turbine pumps mounted in sheds or on platforms overhanging the ditch/canal where the water is drawn. GIWA's water conveyance infrastructure supports managed wetlands to provide important habitat for a variety of resident and migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and other native and special-status species. These wetlands are managed for a diversity of wetland vegetation and other wetland wildlife food plants and are important feeding and roosting areas for species such as geese, mallards, pintails, wigeons, and gadwalls. The wetlands also provide breeding habitat for shorebirds, which nest in a wide range of habitats from unvegetated wetland flats to uplands. Spring drawdowns practiced by wetland managers in conjunction with adjacent uplands provide foraging opportunities for migrating shorebirds.

Pump Station 7 (PS7) supports flooding of wetland fields 15 and 16B, and an adjacent brood pond. The pump, however, stopped operating in 2004 and was in need of serious repairs for several years. Since that time, the fields have been

flooded only by rainfall. During the summer of 2020, PS7 was destroyed by a fire. The Project will construct a new pump station and associated water control infrastructure, allowing the pump station to provide flood up water to Field 15, the brood pond and Field 16B. PS7 will also serve as a backup source of water for all of the Field 12 units, and the wetland portions of Fields 13 and 14.

The new pump station will restore water supply to 556 acres of managed seasonal wetlands and enhance the water supply reliability to 897 acres of managed seasonal wetlands. The Project will install new water control structures, construct a low lift pump station to restore hydrologic processes to the wetlands, and conduct canal/ditch grading to help achieve the desired management capabilities necessary to implement moist soil management practices. By increasing the management capabilities related to flood up and draw down, these managed seasonal wetlands can produce greater germination density and abundance of seed yield, limit mosquito production, and increase downstream forage and production that is exported to the estuary by drainage.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

CDFW has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the Project. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, Ducks Unlimited, Inc. does not manage and maintain the Project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$70,656	---	\$70,656
Topographic Survey	\$10,000	---	\$10,000
Construction	\$657,212	---	\$657,212
Indirect Costs	\$14,132	\$19,000	\$33,132
Total	\$752,000	\$19,000	\$771,000

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Project management, including subcontracts management, invoicing, payroll tracking, materials purchasing, permit fees, and effectiveness monitoring.
- Topographic Survey: Topographic survey to be completed by qualified engineering subcontractor.
- Construction: Construct pump station (platform, walkway, pump, motor, electrical panel, discharge pipes, valves and all other components), new parking lot 2 crossing, water control structures and walkways, earthwork and demolition and removal of unwanted materials.

- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

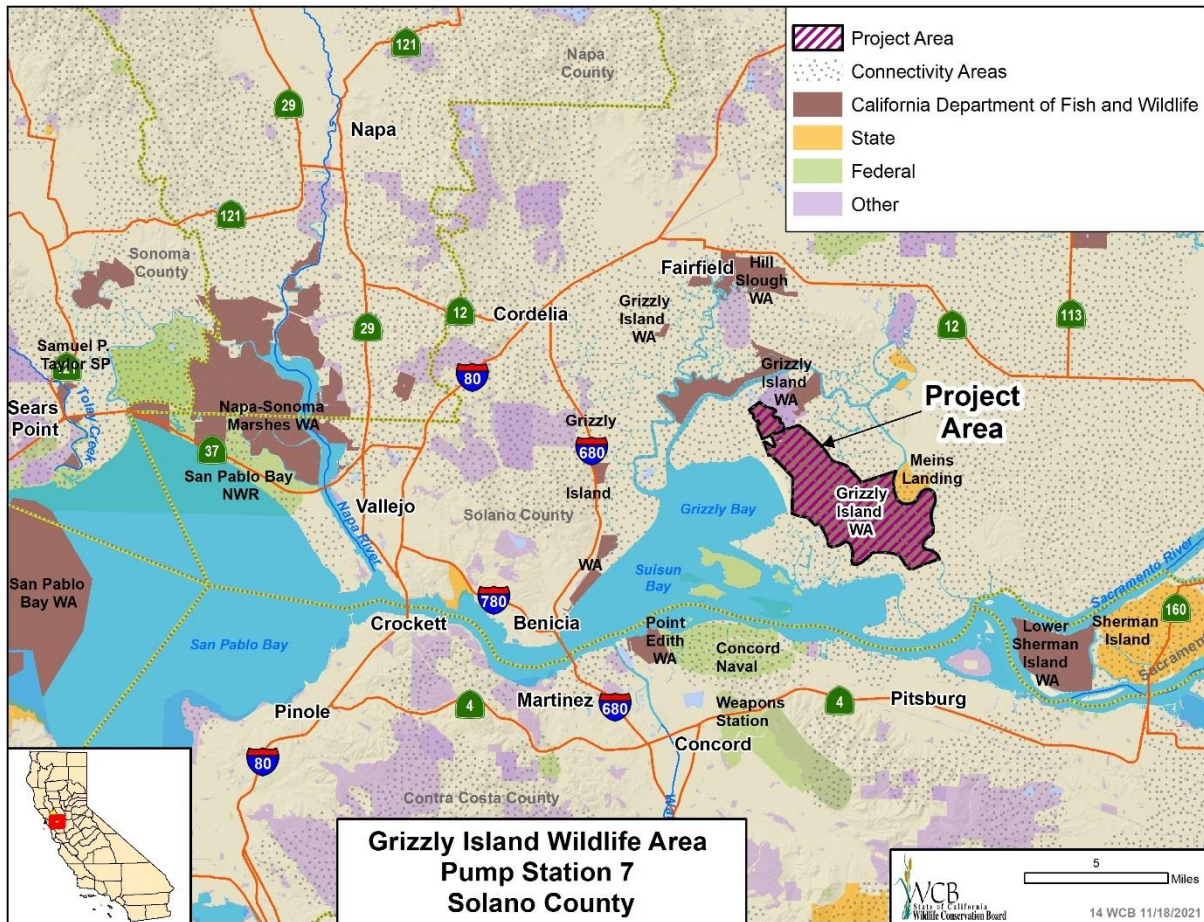
- James Cogswell, Coordinator, Central Valley Joint Venture

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15302, Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction and Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



15. East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Pugh)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$41,000 from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(c) for a grant to the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy (ECCCHC); approve the acceptance of a USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant in the amount of \$796,000 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to ECCCHC for a cooperative project with the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP (Pugh)
Project Type:	Fee Title (80± acres)
Grantee:	East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
Subgrantee:	East Bay Regional Park District
Amount Recommended:	\$41,000
Funding Partners:	USFWS, EBRPD
County:	Contra Costa
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Proposition 84
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.3, A.4 Objectives: S1 1.2, 2.1, 2.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is located off Armstrong Road in an unincorporated area of Contra Costa County approximately eight miles southeast of the city of Brentwood and five miles south of the Community of Byron. Surrounding land uses include existing park lands, wind farms, rural ranchettes, and private cattle ranching.

The acquisition of the Property will contribute to the protection and preservation of existing regional wildlife linkages and grassland habitat within the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (ECCC HCP/NCCP) area. The ECCC HCP/NCCP designates the Property as a priority for acquisition and protection due to its location within a critical linkage between previously conserved areas within the ECCC HCP/NCCP plan area. Over the past several years WCB, USFWS, ECCCHC, and EBRPD have partnered to acquire 14,000± acres of habitat within the ECCC HCP/NCCP Preserve System, helping protect essential habitat and connectivity for multiple state and federally listed wildlife species. The project is also consistent with action proposed under CDFW's California SWAP. The project is located within the Central Valley and Bay Delta region within the SWAP. One of the recommended conservation actions identified for this region is protection of upland linkages and reducing the risk of habitat isolation in the eastern San Francisco Bay area which this project helps to accomplish.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is characterized by rolling hills with limited level areas. The Property is approximately 2,600 feet long and 1,340 feet wide and varies in elevation with a high point approximately 920 feet above sea level near the northeast corner and a low point of 440 feet at the northern border. Current improvements include five wind turbines along with several dilapidated structures and debris concentrated in the northern portion of the Property.

The extensive grassland habitat and consistent wind on the Property make it prime habitat for raptor species who find the conditions ideal for foraging. The hills in the area are considered to have the densest population of golden eagles in the lower 48 states. Unfortunately, the features that attract raptors also make the area an excellent location to harvest wind energy. Per policy, the ECCCHC is encouraged to retire leases and remove wind turbines, as this will eliminate impacts to wildlife, unless the turbines are shown to have minimal impacts on wildlife.

At the end of the wind turbine lease with Buena Vista Energy, LLC, ECCCHC and EBRPD will confer with CDFW and USFWS to discuss the appropriateness of extending or retiring the lease.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

EBRPD has agreed to manage the Property once it is acquired. Funding of future management activities for this Property will be provided by ECCCHC and EBRPD, in part through wind turbine, communication tower, residential, and agricultural lease revenue from prior joint acquisitions within the ECCCHC HCP/NCCP plan area. It is anticipated that the Property will offer future opportunities for passive recreational uses, an allowed use under the ECCCHC HCP/NCCP. The habitat will be maintained in conjunction with other properties acquired by EBRPD.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$930,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$41,000
USFWS	\$796,000
EBRPD	\$93,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$930,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

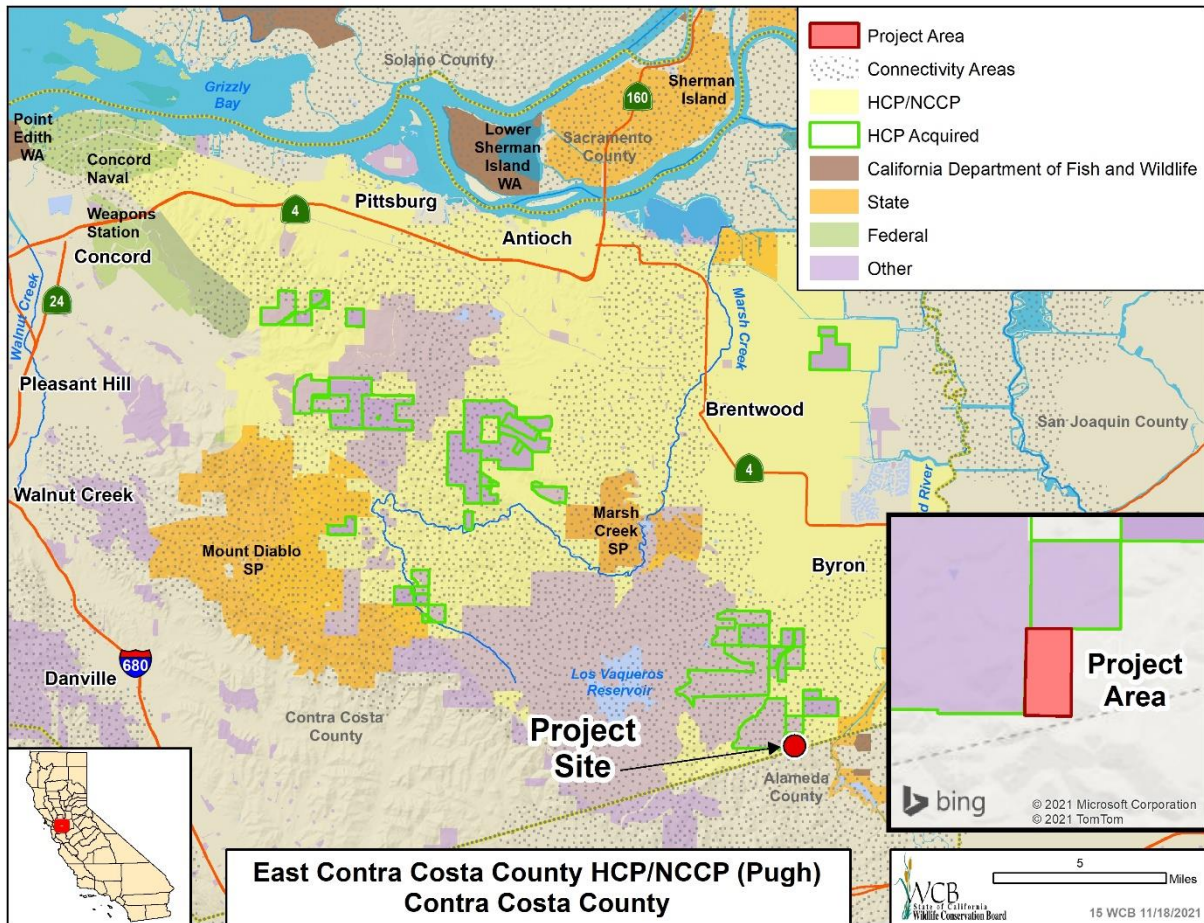
- None received

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



16. San Joaquin Basin Regional Conservation Investment Strategy

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$761,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(a); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	San Joaquin Basin Regional Conservation Investment Strategy
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	Reclamation District 2092
Amount Recommended:	\$761,000
Funding Partners:	Reclamation District 2092, River Partners
County:	Fresno, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 1.3
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The proposed San Joaquin Basin Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (SJBRCIS) generally corresponds with the 500-year floodplain for the San Joaquin River and its tributaries in San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Fresno, and Madera counties. The region encompasses approximately 789,411 acres and includes land and water resources managed by an array of flood, infrastructure, and resource management agencies. The SJBRCIS includes critical riparian, marsh, wetland, and other floodplain habitats of the San Joaquin River and its tributaries. These areas provide primary habitat and migratory corridors for numerous state and federal species of interest. By focusing on the 500-year floodplain, the SJBRCIS also includes contiguous movement corridors for species surrounding the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The SJBRCIS project will develop a Regional Conservation Investment Strategy for the San Joaquin Basin. The San Joaquin Basin lies between large protected natural areas in the Sierra and central coast bioregions. Extensive agricultural development in the San Joaquin Valley has dramatically reduced habitat connectivity between these two bioregions and diminished the quantity and quality of habitat within the Basin. The rise in perennial crops over the last decade has further limited habitat area and connectivity as habitat areas are converted into orchards with limited habitat value. Subsequently, nearly one hundred species in the San Joaquin Basin now have special status because of population declines and risk of extinction caused by habitat loss and other stressors.

The San Joaquin region is also facing the greatest threats from over-drafted groundwater aquifers, frequent water supply shortages, and increased flood risk due to climatic changes more than anywhere in California. A recent technical study by DWR shows a sharp increase in expected flood damages unless major changes, such as repaired infrastructure and innovative green infrastructure investments, are made to the flood system. Investments in climate resilience are urgently needed to protect the region from the worst impacts of climate change.

The goal of the SJBRCIS is to develop a broadly supported conservation strategy that increases the quality, acreage, and connectivity of habitat in and across the San Joaquin Basin. An RCIS is needed to ensure that future investments in flood and water management in the San Joaquin Basin can be designed to advance habitat and ecosystem objectives.

The RCIS planning process will bring together flood and water managers, land use authorities, agricultural representatives, and conservation groups to prioritize natural resource protection and restoration. The SJBRCIS will be the first plan in the San Joaquin region to evaluate habitat connectivity needs across the Central Valley and into the foothills. It will focus on developing habitat conservation strategies that help reduce flood risk, improve water quality, conserve surface water, and recharge groundwater resources. This RCIS plan will ultimately envision a future for the San Joaquin Basin where species and human communities coexist, and multiple benefits are maximized through each project implemented on landscape.

The SJBRCIS will focus on prioritizing projects on public and private lands that improve the flood system, restore species habitat, increase climate resilience, and create community benefits. The SJBRCIS will include focal species aligned with the target species of the Conservation Strategy of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, as those species represent the special-status species closely associated with the San Joaquin Valley’s riverine and floodplain ecosystems. These species also have the greatest potential to benefit from dedicated conservation actions. This RCIS may also include additional species, including the monarch butterfly and potentially other upland species that use floodplain habitat.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$50,000	\$5,000	\$55,000
Steering Committee Coordination	\$155,000	\$10,000	\$165,000
Plan Development	\$465,000	\$80,000	\$545,000
Public Outreach	\$77,000	\$20,000	\$97,000
Indirect	\$14,000	---	\$14,000
Total	\$761,000	\$115,000	\$876,000

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Overall grant management, including managing contractors, budgets, and quarterly reports.
- Steering Committee Coordination: Creation and coordination of a steering committee that will meet approximately bi-monthly, includes participation by DAC representatives.
- Plan Development: Preparation of an RCIS, including establishing scope and approach, administrative draft, full draft and submission, and final draft and submission for approval to CDFW.
- Public Outreach: Development of general outreach materials, including web map or website, blog posts, press releases, etc. Hosting of at least one public meeting.
- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

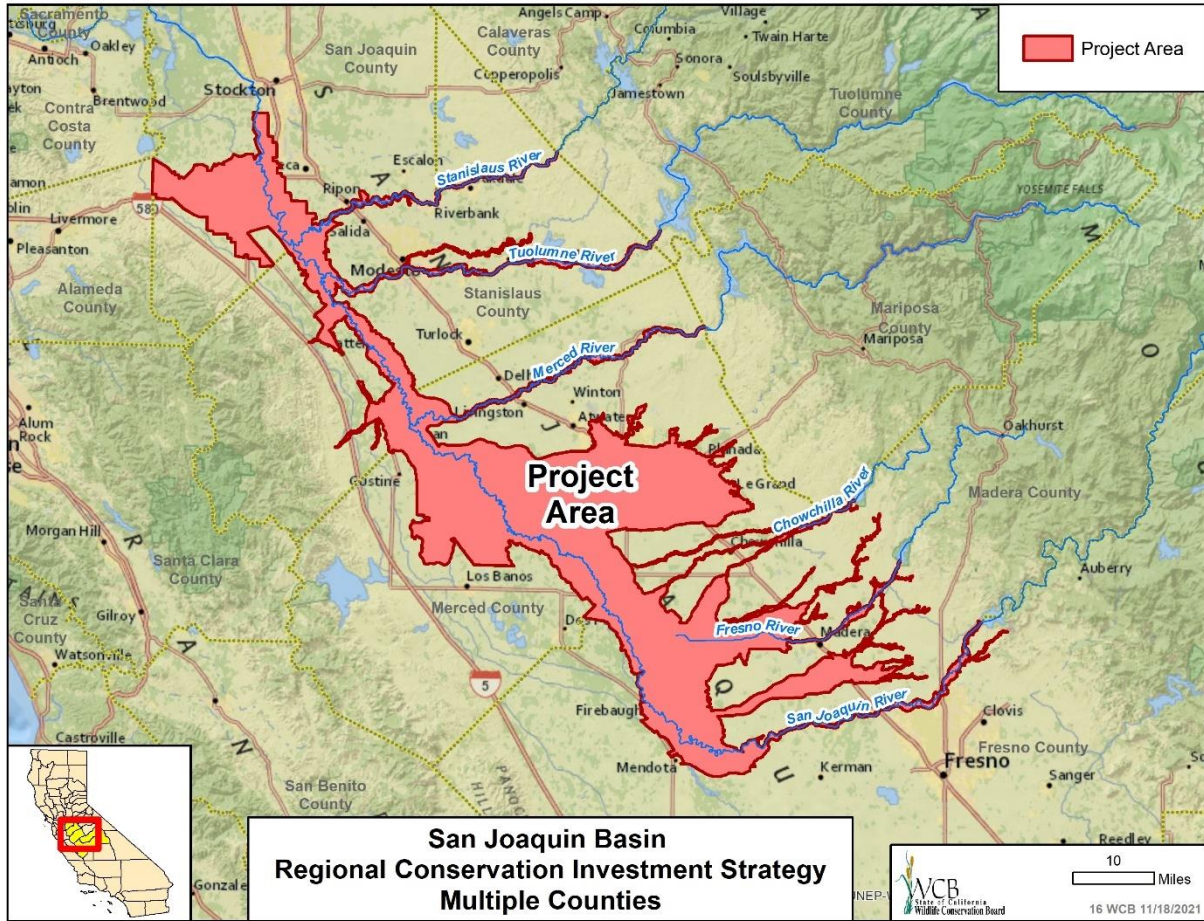
- Chris Elias, Executive Director, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency
- Steven Mayo, Program Manager, San Joaquin Council of Governments, Inc.
- Ann Hayden, Senior Director, Western Water and Resilient Landscapes, Environmental Defense Fund

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, as it involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



17. Tuolumne River Educational Center, Reeves Property (La Grange)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$110,000 from California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a) for the acquisition; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Tuolumne River Educational Center, Reeves Property (La Grange)
Project Type:	CDFW Fee (24± acres)
Amount Recommended:	\$110,000
County:	Stanislaus
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Proposition 40
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.4, C.1 Objectives: SI 3.3, 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is located on the north side of the Tuolumne River, across from the community of La Grange, in the eastern part of Stanislaus County. La Grange is on State Route 132 and is approximately 25 miles east of the city of Modesto and 3 miles southwest of the Don Pedro Reservoir.

To the north and east of the Property is a canal owned by the Modesto Irrigation District (MID). The western boundary of the Property borders CDFW's La Grange Field Office, while the southern boundary borders a 6 acre stretch of land owned by Stanislaus County adjacent to the Tuolumne River.

The surrounding area consists of agricultural, recreational, and rural residential properties. The unincorporated community of La Grange is comprised of a mixture of residential, commercial, and public uses. It has a population of approximately 350 people.

The Property is in CDFW's Tuolumne River Conceptual Area Protection Plan (CAPP). The primary purpose of the Tuolumne River CAPP area is to facilitate the funding and acquisition of land and conservation easements along the Tuolumne River corridor for the preservation and restoration of valuable habitat. These habitats support Chinook salmon, Swainson's hawk, willow flycatcher, San Joaquin kit fox, and valley elderberry longhorn beetle. Secondary purposes of the Tuolumne River CAPP are the restoration of floodway capacity and width, reduction of agricultural and mining encroachment, restoration of a continuous riparian corridor, and improvement of off-channel wetlands.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is an irregularly shaped parcel and is unimproved grazing land. It is accessed from the south via Old La Grange Road, a paved county road, and from the north via the MID Canal Road, a private dirt road. The land use designation of the Property is A-2-40, which is General Agriculture with a 40-acre minimum parcel size. The topography ranges from gently rolling to sloping.

Historically the Property was utilized for livestock grazing as part of a larger livestock operation. Currently, it has no livestock infrastructure, but it does have typical semi-rural on-site utilities and services available at the edge of the Property.

The proposed project will allow CDFW to provide better public access to the Tuolumne River at La Grange. CDFW envisions utilizing the Property to develop an educational research center called the Tuolumne River Educational Center. This center would be available to schools and the public and is intended to be a destination for students participating in CDFW's Salmonids in the Classroom educational program. Facilities such as restrooms and parking would be included.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

Following the acquisition, CDFW will own and manage the Property as an addition to existing CDFW property within the Tuolumne River CAPP. Costs associated with managing the Property will be minimal since the property is adjacent to CDFW's La Grange Field Office. Site visits will be required from time to time to monitor the Property. These site visits will be included with other surrounding parcels in state ownership and management. The Property has the potential for wildlife viewing, non-motorized boating, fishing, day hiking, and wildlife-oriented education and research for students and the public.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$110,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$110,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$110,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

- None received

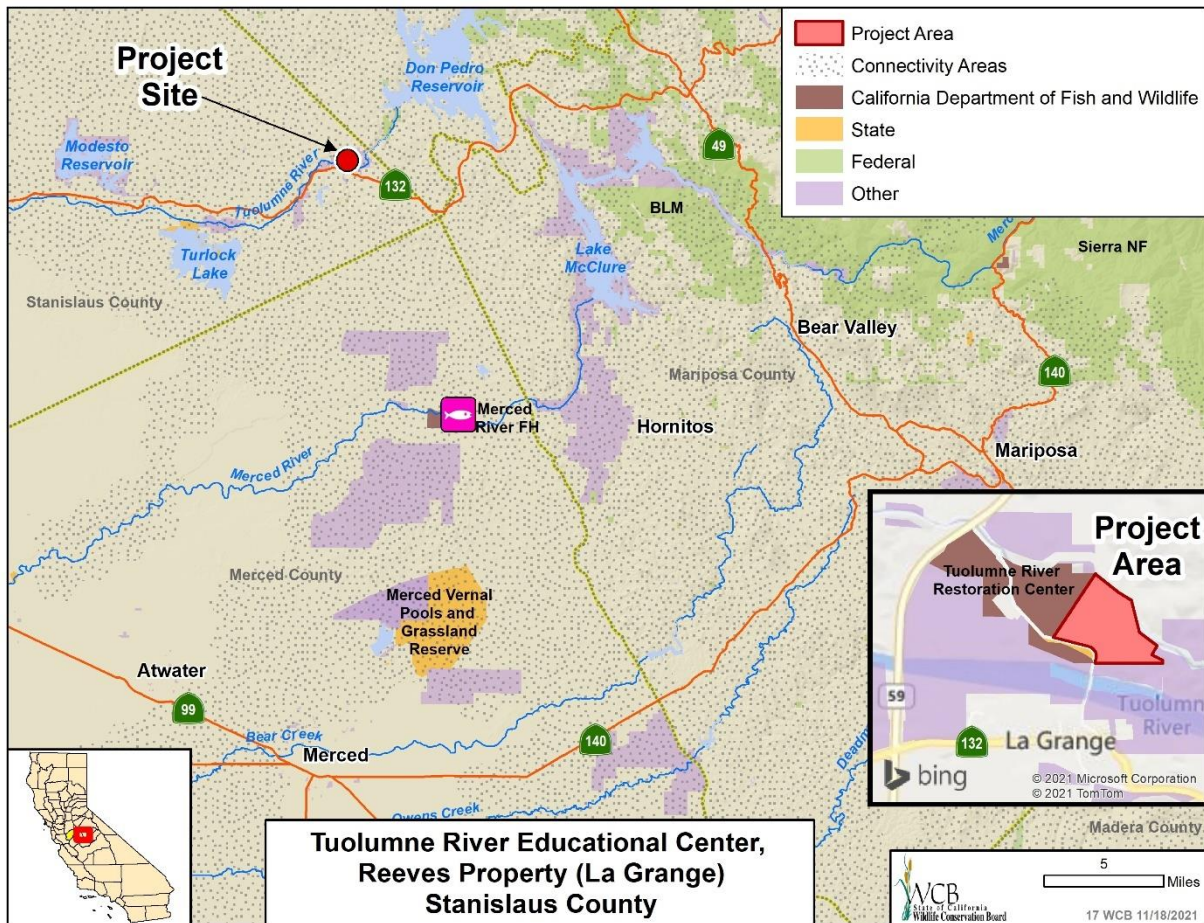
Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.28, Acquisition of an Interest in Land by a Public Agency, as an acquisition of an interest in land by a public agency for preservation of natural conditions existing at

the time of transfer, including plant and animal habitats. Subject to Board approval of the project, staff will file the appropriate NOE with the State Clearinghouse and the county clerk.



18. White Mountain Research Center Energy and Water Efficiency

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$299,550 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(c); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	White Mountain Research Center Energy and Water Efficiency
Project Type:	Infrastructure
Applicant/Grantee:	University of California, Los Angeles
Amount Recommended:	\$299,550
Funding Partners:	University of California, Los Angeles
Landowner(s):	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Owens Valley Station) and United States Forest Service (Crooked Creek Station)
County:	Inyo, Mono
Program:	The University of California, Natural Reserve System
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.5 Objectives: SI 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a severely disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The White Mountain Research Center Energy and Water Efficiency (Project) is located at the White Mountain Research Center's (WMRC) Owens Valley Station (OVS) and Crooked Creek Station (CCS), located in Inyo and Mono counties.

The OVS is located three miles east of Bishop and CCS is located in the heart of the White Mountains at 10,100 ft.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project will provide necessary infrastructure to meet the needs of the growing community and future interest in WMRC. The new infrastructure will alleviate stress upon the current inadequate and undersized systems. The proposal includes a 16,000Ah battery bank at CCS and an energy efficient domestic well, an upgraded 600amp service panel and a 52kW solar parking structure at OVS.

The current battery bank at CCS is undersized for the station's growing demand, and due to this, the battery life and efficacy has been compromised. The proposed new battery bank is greater than 2x the power of the existing bank and would not only provide enough electricity for visiting researchers and students, but also would enable expansion of research previously considered energy prohibitive.

The OVS currently runs on a 30-year-old well with an inefficient submersible pump that shows signs of casement decomposition. A new well and pump will provide a more economical distribution of water for the expanding needs of the stations visiting researchers, students, and guests. A reliable source of water is also needed to support the on-campus efforts to propagate native plants. Additionally, the well is an indispensable source of water for several species of endangered native fish residing on the property.

The water needs of the station are synonymous with the demand for electric. The movement of water and the cooling of the facility during the summer proves challenging with the current system. The electric costs reach over \$25,000 a year, and the proposed solar parking structure can reduce that cost by over 50 percent while adding shaded parking for 16 visiting vehicles. Reducing the electric cost will ensure that the rates remain affordable for the majority of the classes and researchers.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The University of California, Los Angeles has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the WMRC. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, Grantee does not manage and maintain the Project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Battery Bank	\$31,856	\$18,938	\$50,794
Domestic Well	\$19,165	\$10,516	\$29,681
Service Panel	\$27,000	\$13,700	\$40,700
Solar Carport	\$221,529	\$59,685	\$281,214
Total	\$299,550	\$102,839	\$402,389

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Battery Bank: Purchase delivery and installation of battery bank.
- Domestic Well: Acquiring permits and drilling, setting, and connecting well.
- Service Panel: Purchase, permitting and installation of service panel.
- Solar Carport: Design, permits, purchase and installation of a solar carport.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

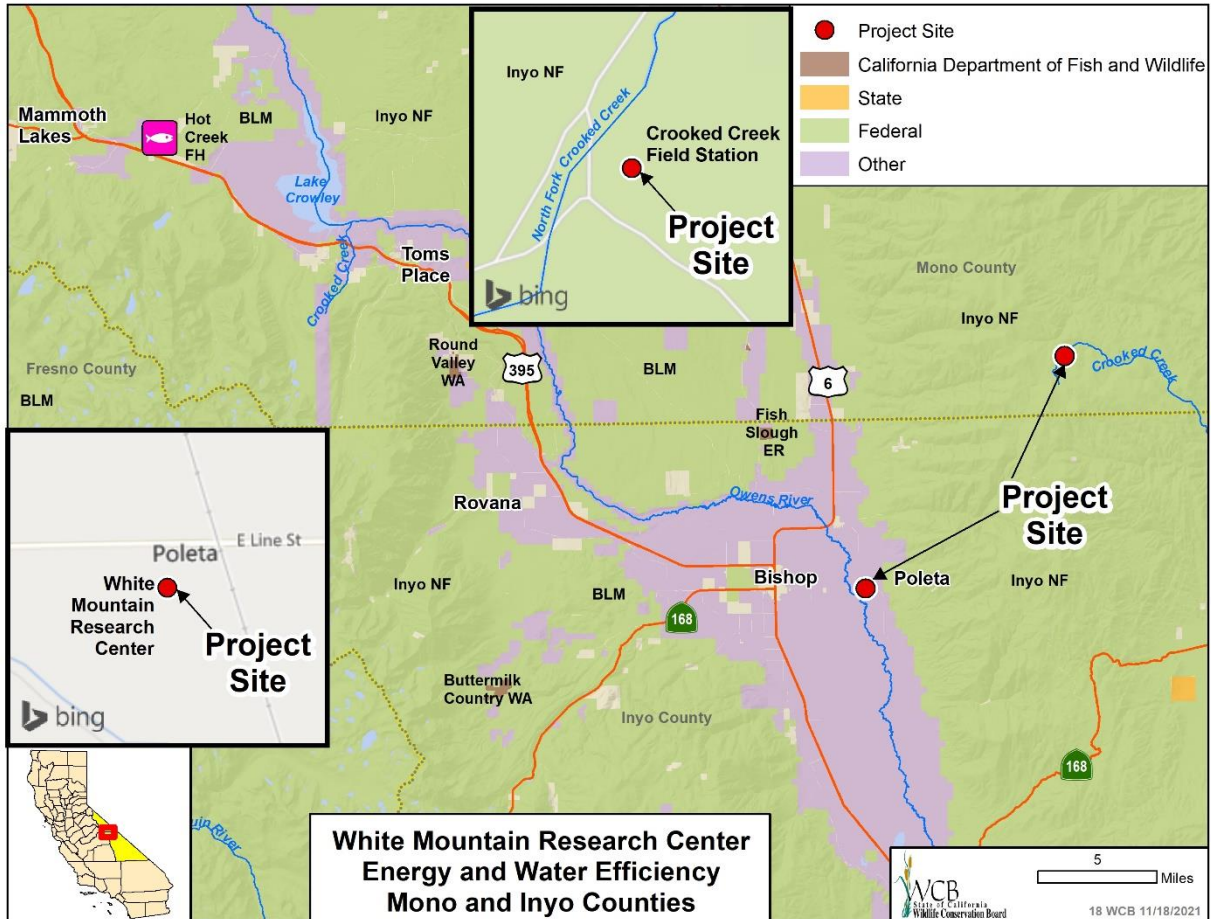
- Adam Perez, Manager of Aqueduct, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Facilities and Section 15303, Class 3 New Construction. Subject to approval of this proposal by the WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



19. Llagas Creek and Pajaro River Confluence Restoration Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$221,600 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Llagas Creek and Pajaro River Confluence Restoration Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency
Amount Recommended:	\$221,600
Funding Partners:	Open Space Authority and Valley Water
County:	San Benito, Santa Clara
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.6
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

Llagas Creek and Pajaro River Confluence Restoration Planning (Project) is located near the confluence of Llagas Creek and the Pajaro River, near the Santa Clara/San Benito County line in the South Pajaro River Agricultural Preserve (PRAP) in Santa Clara and San Benito counties.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Llagas Creek and the Pajaro River converge near the southern end of the Santa Clara Valley, near the Santa Clara/San Benito County line. In this vicinity, which includes confluences with numerous other creeks, the valley floor once featured numerous meandering channels, sloughs, and poorly drained ephemeral lakes that are collectively referred to as the Soap Lake floodplain. This area once supported broad mosaics of willow groves and freshwater marsh and provided an array of functions, including flood peak attenuation, fine sediment storage, and habitat for a diverse array of plants and wildlife, including a number of what are now protected species. Land use changes effectively ended or greatly diminished the region's historical floodplain functions, and the region is now experiencing the results: greater flood risks downstream, poor water quality, less suitable aquatic habitat, and only narrow corridors of riparian and wetland habitat.

The Project will plan and design an implementation project to enhance habitat conditions along lower Llagas Creek and the Pajaro River in collaboration with regional species conservation, land use, water quality, and flood protection priorities. The goals of the Project are to plan and design a project that will: (1) improve aquatic habitat and water quality along a mile of two major waterways; (2) create up to approximately 30 acres of floodplain and riparian wetland habitat;

- (3) maintain floodplain-compatible and regionally valuable agricultural land uses;
- (4) engage partners and the community in restoration; and (5) contribute to downstream water quality improvement and flood risk reduction.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$22,100	\$28,223	\$50,323
Field Studies	\$32,500	\$49,500	\$82,000
Habitat Restoration Design	\$105,100	\$32,500	\$137,600
Regulatory Compliance Documents	\$61,900	\$20,000	\$81,900
Total	\$221,600	\$130,223	\$351,823

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Initial project schedule, attend start up meeting, quarterly progress reports, monthly coordination calls, invoices, and quarterly project summaries.
- Field Studies: Wetland delineation report, hydrology report, and summary of previous field study results.
- Habitat Restoration Design: Conceptual habitat restoration design alternatives, 35% design plans, draft and final 65% design plans with construction notes, construction cost estimate, attend design review meetings.
- Regulatory Compliance Documents: Finalizing permit applications.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

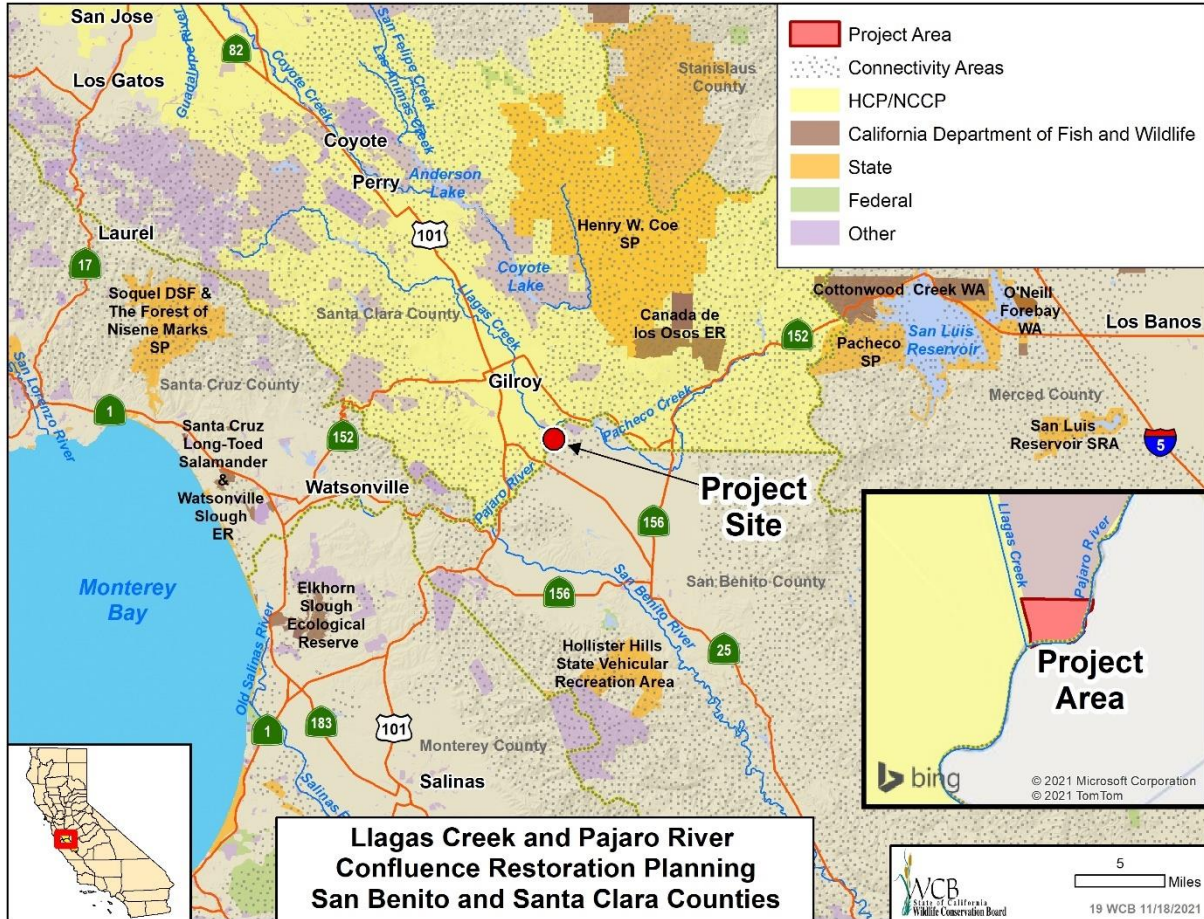
- Andrea Mackenzie, General Manager, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, as it involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



20. Campbell Ranch, Expansion 1

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$374,306 from the Habitat Conservation Fund 2786(b)(c) for a grant to The Land Trust for Santa Barbara County (Land Trust); approve the acceptance of the Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant from USFWS in the amount of \$6,620,694 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to the Land Trust; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Campbell Ranch, Expansion 1
Project Type:	Conservation Easement (339± acres)
Grantee:	Land Trust for Santa Barbara County
Amount Recommended:	\$374,306
Funding Partners:	USFWS
County:	Santa Barbara
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Habitat Conservation Fund
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.2, A.3, A.4, E.1 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Campbell Ranch (Property) is located near the intersection of Campbell Road and Highway 246 near the community of Lompoc in Santa Barbara County. Presently, this region supports large scale ranching, grape growing and winemaking activities. The area is also experiencing expansion of rural residential and rural ranchette development, as well as encroaching vineyards intensifying agricultural uses on lands historically used solely for grazing.

The Property contains grasslands, wetlands, and oak woodlands common to the scenic California coastal range habitat and vital to the recovery of California tiger salamander (CTS).

The project will protect existing populations of CTS. The Property is part of the Recovery Plan for the Santa Barbara County Distinct Population Segment of the CTS (Recovery Plan). The Recovery Plan calls for the protection of critical CTS habitat and the protection of remaining connective corridors between breeding ponds. The project also supports the corresponding Campbell Habitat Conservation Plan for CTS (HCP). The HCP and Recovery Plan contain the following goals: 1) protecting critical CTS, including one of the region's largest and most important CTS breeding ponds and surrounding, high-quality upland habitat; 2) protecting a critical connective corridor between CTS breeding ponds, which is essential for the effective dispersal and genetic mixing of CTS; and 3) conserving extensive, diverse plant communities and other habitat features that provide multiple benefits to a host of other wildlife species.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is an undeveloped, irregularly shaped tract of land that includes 339± acres and assessor's parcel number 099-110-069, 099-110-071, 099-110-072, 099-110-073 and two portions of 099-170-054. The Property has been managed as rangeland for many years with a well-developed network of interior access roads, stock ponds and improved springs. The topography of the Property varies from 380 to 940 feet above sea level with rolling to steeply sloping terrain and is predominantly grasslands or lightly forested with oaks and minimal chaparral. The only infrastructure on the Property is fencing and water wells associated with the agricultural production.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The Campbell Family will continue to manage the Property for cattle production and the Land Trust will monitor the conservation easement annually. The Land Trust has written a draft Baseline Documentation Report that has been approved by USFWS and WCB. The Campbell Family will provide an endowment of \$40,000 for annual monitoring to the Land Trust

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$6,995,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$374,306
USFWS Section 6	\$6,620,694
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$6,995,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



**Campbell Ranch, Expansion 1
Santa Barbara County**

21. Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) KS California

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$56,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b) for the grant to Western Riverside County RCA; approve the acceptance of the Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant from USFWS in the amount of \$104,000 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to Western Riverside County RCA; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) KS California
Project Type:	Fee Title (20± acres)
Grantee:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
Amount Recommended:	\$56,000
Funding Partners:	USFWS Section 6
County:	Riverside
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.3 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.3, 2.2
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is 20± acres and is located on the north terminus of Calle Del Sol, north of Avocado Mesa Road, in the community of Tenaja, in unincorporated western Riverside County. The Property has physical access from Calle Del Sol, a dirt road with limited offsite improvement and is located about five miles southwest of the Murrieta city limits.

The Property is positioned toward the southern end of the Santa Ana Mountains, directly adjacent to the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. Surrounding public and quasi-public conserved lands in the vicinity are gradually connecting and expanding into the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. WCB has helped conserve 4,225± acres in the area since 1991; the two most recent WCB projects in the area, Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Stevenson and Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Stoddard, were approved by the Board at its August 2021 meeting.

The Property is within the Santa Margarita watershed, which drains water into the Santa Margarita River and ultimately into the Santa Margarita Lagoon at the Pacific Ocean. The general terrain of the vicinity and the Property is steep rural mountains with steep sloping hills supporting coastal sage scrub and chaparral vegetation communities. The surrounding area is characterized by scattered rural low-density residential development as well as other ranching and agricultural land uses surrounded by open space vacant land. The subject area is in proximity to

essential residential services and possesses the necessary elements to experience continued residential growth.

The Property is located within the Western Riverside County Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (WRC MSHCP), a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional habitat conservation plan focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in Western Riverside County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is a single, undeveloped, irregularly shaped parcel of land. Topography of the Property ranges from 2,184 feet at the south corner of the parcel dropping to about 1,884 feet at the east corner of the parcel, a change of 300 feet over 20± acres. The terrain is rolling to rough to steep. A blue line stream crosses the subject along the south property line. The Property is zoned R-R, Rural Residential, potentially allowing residential development with a minimum lot size of 1/2 acre.

Within the WRC MSHCP, the Property contributes to Proposed Linkage 9. Proposed Linkage 9 is comprised of a mosaic of upland and wetland habitats in the area known as the Tenaja Corridor. This linkage provides live-in habitat for a number of MSHCP covered species and movement for species connecting to core areas in the Santa Rosa Plateau or to the Santa Ana Mountains in the Cleveland National Forest. MSHCP covered species that have habitat in this linkage include three fairy shrimp species. Maintenance of water quality in this linkage and the watershed supporting the vernal pools is important for these species. This linkage also provides for movement of species, including mountain lion and bobcat, through the Tenaja Corridor to the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Cleveland National Forest. The Property consists of a mix of coast sage scrub, oak riparian woodlands, and chaparral vegetation. Engelmann oak, California gnatcatcher, and graceful tarplant are likely to occur on the Property.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The RCA will manage the Property as part of the WRC MSHCP reserve system, which serves to provide permanent habitat protection for populations of federal and state-listed endangered and threatened species that occupy the reserve and to increase regional wildlife habitat cores and linkages that will connect existing habitat reserve areas throughout western Riverside County. As part of its obligation under the WRC MSHCP, the RCA retains a reserve manager to ensure that management actions are consistent with the plan. Management costs for parcels acquired under the WRC MSHCP will be provided by the RCA's operating funds.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$160,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$56,000
USFWS subgrant funds	\$104,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$160,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

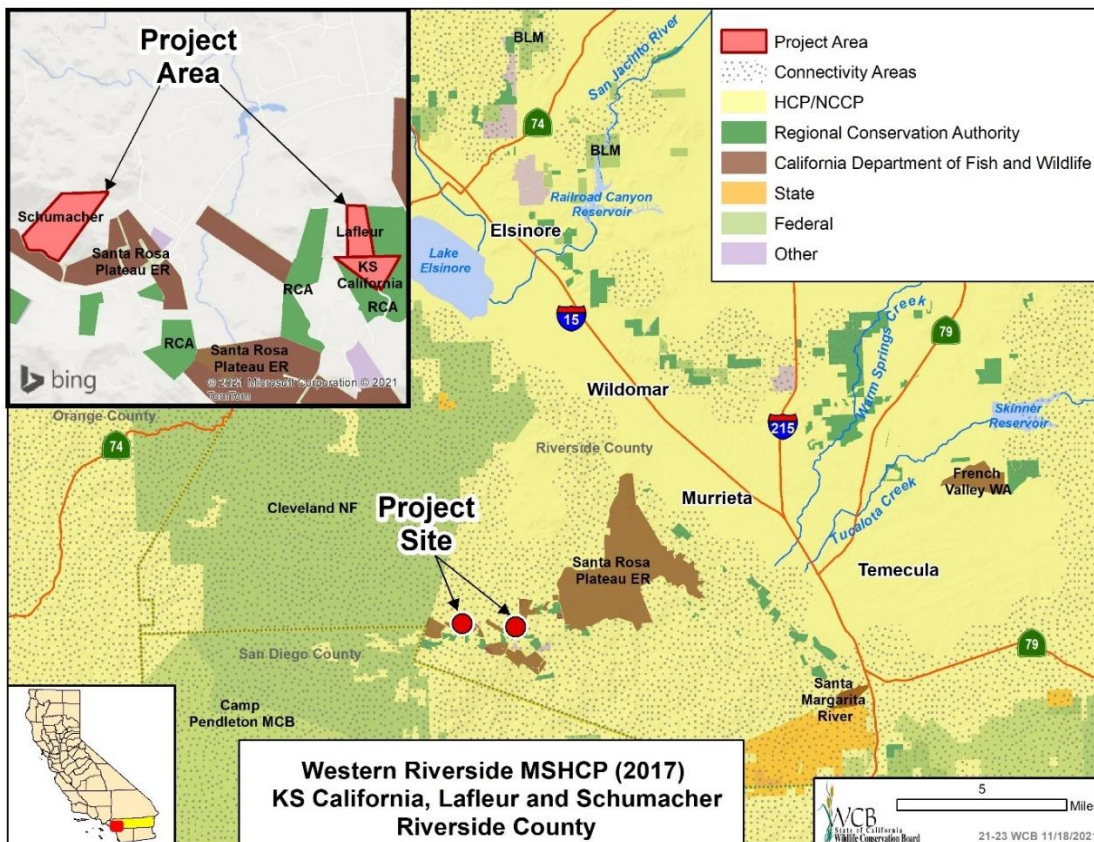
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



22. Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Lafleur

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$78,750 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b) for the grant to Western Riverside County RCA; approve the acceptance of the Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant from USFWS in the amount of \$146,250 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to Western Riverside County RCA; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Lafleur
Project Type:	Fee Title (20± acres)
Grantee:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
Amount Recommended:	\$78,750
Funding Partners:	USFWS Section 6
County:	Riverside
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.3 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.3, 2.2
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is 20± acres and is located on the south side of Avenida Matorral, east of Calle Roble, in the community of Tenaja, in unincorporated western Riverside County. The Property has frontage along Avenida Matorral, a dirt road located about five miles southwest of the Murrieta city limits.

The Property is positioned toward the southern end of the Santa Ana Mountains, directly adjacent to the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. Surrounding public and quasi-public conserved lands in the vicinity are gradually connecting and expanding into the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. WCB has helped conserve 4,225± acres in the area since 1991; the two most recent WCB projects in the area, Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Stevenson and Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Stoddard, were approved by the Board at its August 2021 meeting.

The Property is within the Santa Margarita watershed, which drains water into the Santa Margarita River and ultimately into the Santa Margarita Lagoon at the Pacific Ocean. The general terrain of the vicinity and the Property is rural mountains with steep sloping hills supporting coastal sage scrub and chaparral vegetation communities. The surrounding area is characterized by scattered rural low-density residential development as well as other ranching and agricultural land uses surrounded by open space vacant land. The subject area is in proximity to essential residential services and possesses the necessary elements to experience continued residential growth.

The Property is located within the Western Riverside County Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (WRC MSHCP), a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional habitat conservation plan focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in Western Riverside County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is a single, undeveloped, irregularly shaped parcel of land. Topography of the Property ranges from 1,980 feet at the southeast corner of the parcel rising to 2,236 feet at the northeast end of the parcel, a change of 256 feet over 20± acres. The terrain is gently rolling to rough to steep. A blue line stream crosses the Property along the south property line. The Property is zoned R-A-20, Residential Agricultural, potentially allowing residential development with a minimum lot size of 20 acres.

Within the WRC MSHCP, the Property contributes to Proposed Linkage 9. Proposed Linkage 9 is comprised of a mosaic of upland and wetland habitats in the area known as the Tenaja Corridor. This linkage provides live-in habitat for a number of MSHCP covered species and movement for species connecting to core areas in the Santa Rosa Plateau or to the Santa Ana Mountains in the Cleveland National Forest. MSHCP covered species that have habitat in this linkage include three fairy shrimp species. Maintenance of water quality in this linkage and the watershed supporting the vernal pools is important for these species. This linkage also provides for movement of species, including mountain lion and bobcat, through the Tenaja Corridor to the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Cleveland National Forest. The Property consists of a mix of coast sage scrub, oak riparian woodlands, and chaparral vegetation. Engelmann oak, California gnatcatcher, and graceful tarplant are likely to occur on the Property.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The RCA will manage the Property as part of the WRC MSHCP reserve system, which serves to provide permanent habitat protection for populations of federal and state-listed endangered and threatened species that occupy the reserve and to increase regional wildlife habitat cores and linkages that will connect existing habitat reserve areas throughout western Riverside County. As part of its obligation under the WRC MSHCP, the RCA retains a reserve manager to ensure that management actions are consistent with the plan. Management costs for parcels acquired under the WRC MSHCP will be provided by the RCA's operating funds.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$225,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$78,750
USFWS subgrant funds	\$146,250
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$225,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

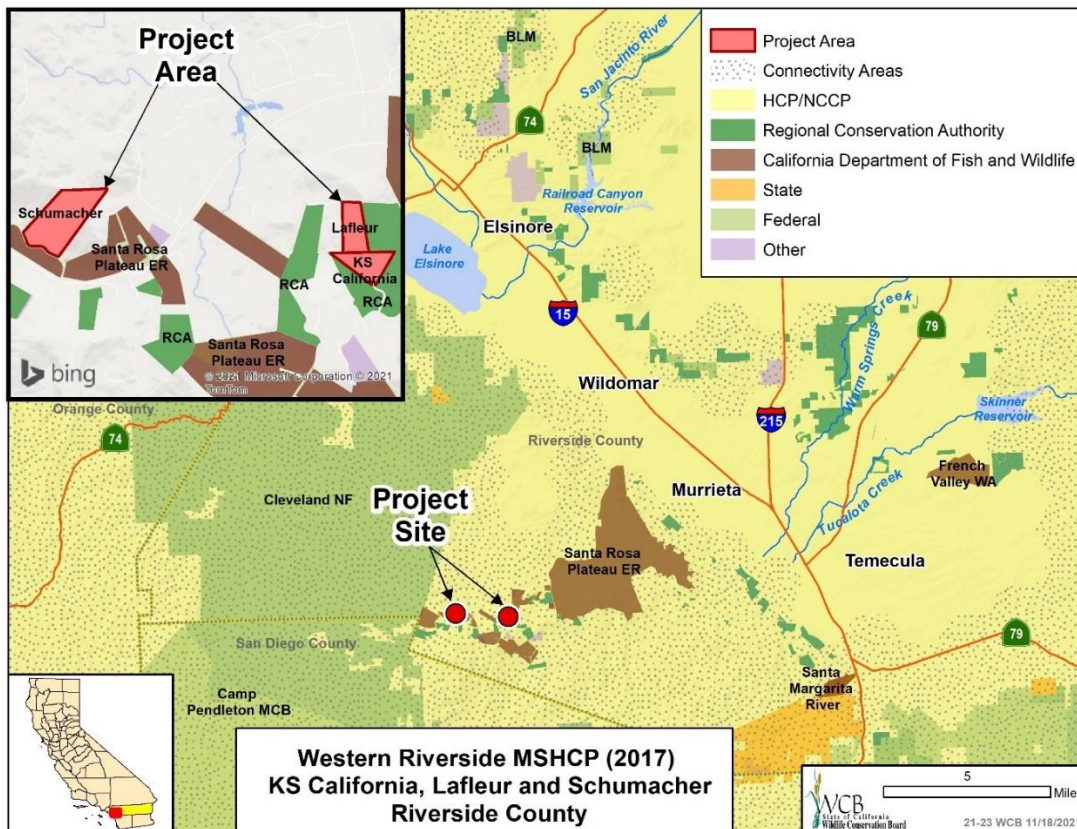
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



23. Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Schumacher

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$145,250 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b) for the grant to Western Riverside County RCA; approve the acceptance of the Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant from USFWS in the amount of \$269,750 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to Western Riverside County RCA; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) TNC/Schumacher
Project Type:	Fee Title (52± acres)
Grantee:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
Amount Recommended:	\$145,250
Funding Partners:	USFWS Section 6
County:	Riverside
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.3 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.3, 2.2
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is 52± acres and is located on the north side of Viejo Road, north of Tenaja Road, in the community of Tenaja, in unincorporated western Riverside County. The Property has legal access from Viejo Road, a dirt road located about six miles southwest of the Murrieta city limits.

The Property is positioned toward the southern end of the Santa Ana Mountains, directly adjacent to the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. Surrounding public and quasi-public conserved lands in the vicinity are gradually connecting and expanding into the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. WCB has helped conserve 4,225± acres in the area since 1991; the two most recent WCB projects in the area, Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Stevenson and Western Riverside MSHCP (2017) Stoddard, were approved by the Board at its August 2021 meeting.

The Property is within the Santa Margarita watershed, which drains water into the Santa Margarita River and ultimately into the Santa Margarita Lagoon at the Pacific Ocean. The general terrain of the vicinity and the Property is rural mountains with steep sloping hills supporting coastal sage scrub and chaparral vegetation communities. The surrounding area is characterized by scattered rural low-density residential development as well as other ranching, and agricultural land uses surrounded by open space vacant land. The subject area is in proximity to essential residential services and possesses the necessary elements to experience continued residential growth.

The Property is located within the Western Riverside County Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (WRC MSHCP), a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional habitat conservation plan focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in Western Riverside County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is two adjacent, undeveloped, irregularly shaped parcels of land. Topography of the Property ranges from 2,048 feet at the southwest corner of the parcel rising to 2,644 feet in the north half of the east parcel, a change of 596 feet over 52± acres. The terrain is rolling to rough to steep. The Property is zoned R-R, Rural Residential, potentially allowing residential development with a minimum lot size of 1/2 acre.

Within the WRC MSHCP, the Property contributes to Proposed Linkage 9. Proposed Linkage 9 is comprised of a mosaic of upland and wetland habitats in the area known as the Tenaja Corridor. This linkage provides live-in habitat for a number of MSHCP covered species and movement for species connecting to core areas in the Santa Rosa Plateau or to the Santa Ana Mountains in the Cleveland National Forest. MSHCP covered species that have habitat within this linkage include three fairy shrimp species. Maintenance of water quality in this linkage and the watershed supporting the vernal pools is important for these species. This linkage also provides for movement of species, including mountain lion and bobcat, through the Tenaja Corridor to the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Cleveland National Forest. The Property consists of a mix of coast sage scrub and chaparral vegetation. Engelmann oak and California gnatcatcher are likely to occur on the Property.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The RCA will manage the Property as part of the WRC MSHCP reserve system, which serves to provide permanent habitat protection for populations of federal and state-listed endangered and threatened species that occupy the reserve and to increase regional wildlife habitat cores and linkages that will connect existing habitat reserve areas throughout western Riverside County. As part of its obligation under the WRC MSHCP, the RCA retains a reserve manager to ensure that management actions are consistent with the plan. Management costs for parcels acquired under the WRC MSHCP will be provided by the RCA's operating funds.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$415,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$145,250
USFWS subgrant funds	\$269,750
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$415,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

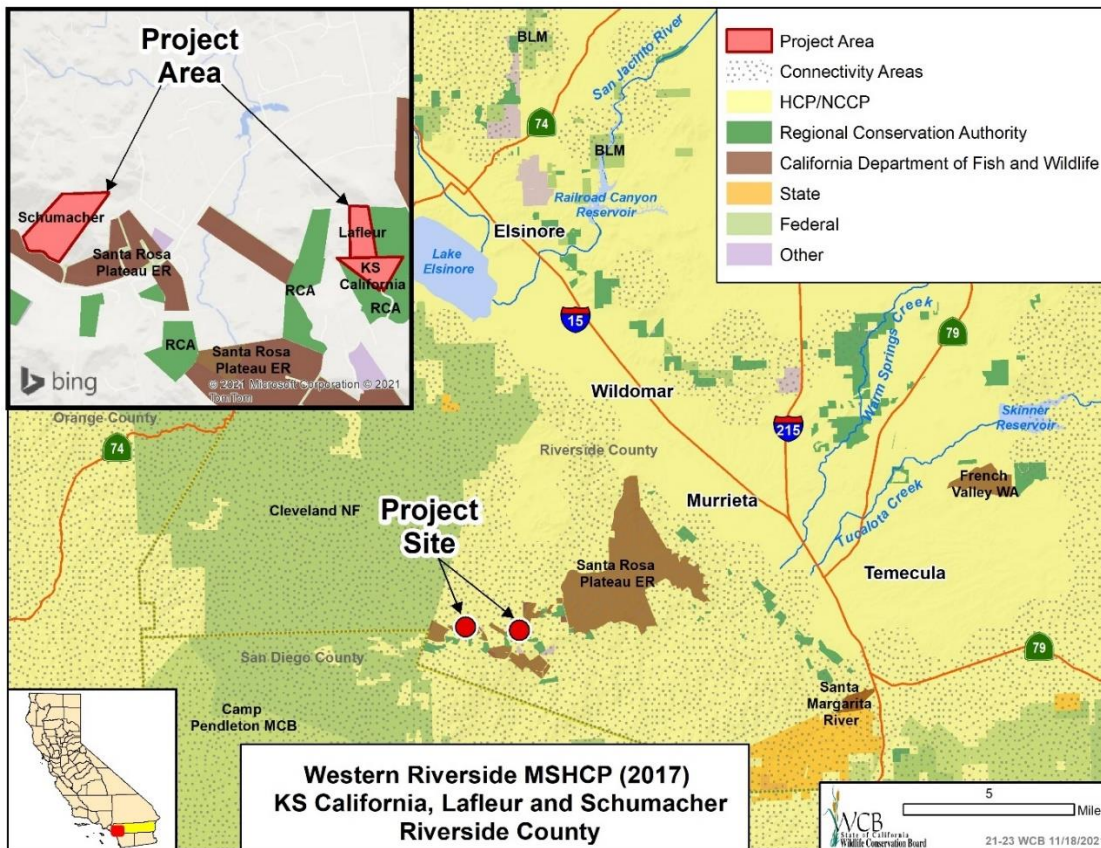
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



24. El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$484,007 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Earth Discovery Institute
Amount Recommended:	\$484,007
Landowner(s):	Endangered Habitats Conservancy
County:	San Diego
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 1.2, 2.1, 2.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

El Monte Preserve Cactus Scrub Restoration (Project) is located along the upper San Diego River, north of the intersection of Lake Jennings Park and El Monte roads in Lakeside, an unincorporated community in San Diego County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goal of the Project is to support and expand three existing genetic clusters of coastal cactus wren populations by restoring 15 acres of cactus scrub habitat strategically located near three existing preserve areas (Otay; San Diego/El Cajon, and San Pasqual). In so doing, the Project would address the goal of preserving the long-term viability of coastal cactus wren populations as outlined in the San Diego County Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP), City of San Diego MSCP Subarea Plan. The coastal cactus wren is considered a species at high risk of loss without immediate management action, due to its persistence in only a few areas and with the associated risks of further habitat fragmentation, and genetic isolation. For example, the 2003 Cedar Fire burned through one of the cactus wren nesting areas, and although some of the habitat has recovered, additional habitat is needed to prevent a genetic bottleneck within this cluster. A local expert for this species has confirmed that due to El Monte's close proximity to nesting wrens, it is an ideal site for cactus scrub restoration, and would provide much needed connectivity between existing population areas. In this way, the Project would meet a critical need of the County and City Subarea Plan by helping to achieve conservation objectives for the species, including expansion of an existing genetic cluster.

For this Project, herbicides would be used as one of the tools to minimize the growth of invasive shrubs and grasses that may hinder the development of cactus

scrub habitat. The use of herbicides would be minimized to the need required to meet the Project goals, with application meeting all legal requirements and operating under Integrated Pest Management (IPM) protocols to assess all factors to limit ecological impacts. Under the IPM process other methods such as hand pulling, line trimming, and/or solarization would be assessed as to their efficacy. While these methods are practical within a limited area or for a specific species, for a large-scale restoration project, they are not the most practical or cost-effective.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The restoration and management objectives for this Project are covered in the MSCP Subarea Plan. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, the Earth Discovery Institute does not manage and maintain the Project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	In-kind Services*	Total Cost
Project Management	\$39,634	\$1,200	\$40,834
Project Coordination	\$16,780	---	\$16,780
Monitoring	\$15,248	---	\$15,248
Restoration Activities	\$375,692	\$106,216	\$481,908
Data Analysis and Report Writing	\$17,664	---	\$17,664
Indirect Costs	\$18,989	---	\$18,989
Total	\$484,007	\$107,416	\$591,423

*Earth Discovery Institute staff and volunteers.

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Preparing invoices, progress reports and final report, and managing contracts.
- Project Coordination: Project area delineation, site design and plant palette section.
- Monitoring: Establishing photo monitoring stations and monitoring transects, and collecting data.
- Restoration Activities: All materials preparation, field activities, and maintenance related to restoration work by the grantee, subcontractor, and volunteers.
- Data Analysis and Report Writing: Costs associated with finalizing and submitting data to CNDDDB, eBird, and iNaturalist.
- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

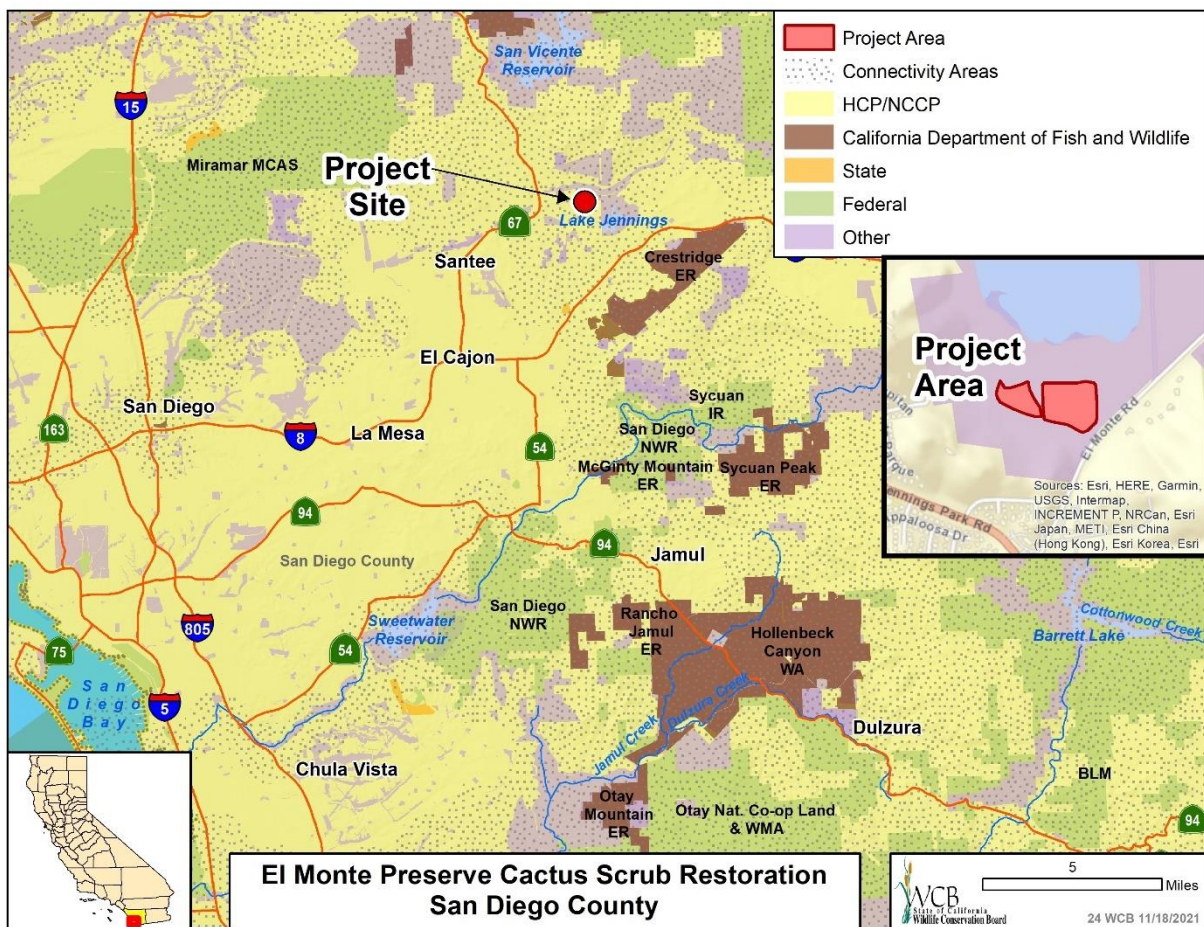
- Brian Albright, Director, County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



25. Morrison Pond Restoration and Enhancement

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$397,185 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Morrison Pond Restoration and Enhancement
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	County of San Diego
Amount Recommended:	\$397,185
Funding Partners:	County of San Diego
Landowner(s):	County of San Diego
County:	San Diego
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 2.4, 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Morrison Pond Restoration and Enhancement (Project) is located within Sweetwater Summit Regional Park, which contains some of San Diego's most sensitive and ecologically significant habitats. The Project area lies between the Sweetwater Reservoir/San Miguel Mountain and the Otay Lakes/Otay Mesa/Otay River Valley areas.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Morrison Pond and the adjacent upland habitat areas are highly disturbed and denuded of vegetation, with large expanses of exposed bare soil. Remnant vegetated areas contain many invasive weeds including giant reed, tamarisk, castor bean, and non-native grasses. Invasive, non-native plants are impacting the health and function of the habitats in the proposed Project area, in addition to increasing fire potential, altering vegetation structure, displacing native plant species, and degrading habitat. The Project will reverse these negative trends in habitat quality by restoring native vegetation in the pond and surrounding upland areas to stabilize and eventually increase population sizes for three San Diego Multi Species Conservation Plan (MSCP)-covered species (California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, and California cactus wren) through the following objectives: Remove and treat invasive, non-native plant species impacting the riparian habitat adjacent to Morrison Pond within the approximately 19.29-acre Project area; create approximately 3.45 acres of coastal sage scrub habitat in the upland transition zone; and plant cactus. Restoration and enhancement in these areas will establish and maintain a functional vegetation buffer around the pond and ensure invasive, non-native species do not reestablish in the riparian areas after their removal and treatment.

Herbicide will be utilized to control and remove invasive, non-native species that are outcompeting native species before they are able to spread seeds and reproduce. The County Department of Parks and Recreation has a licensed Agricultural Pest Control Advisor and herbicides are selected, according to Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies, only after non-chemical pest control methods have been considered and evaluated. Also, the IPM process ensures that the herbicides are used only after monitoring indicates that they are needed according to established guidelines, and treatments are made with the goal of removing only the target organisms. No impact to wildlife or humans from the use of these herbicides are anticipated, as they will be used according to the label and in coordination with a California Licensed Pest Control Advisor.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The restoration and management objectives for this Project are covered in the MSCP Subarea Plan. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, the County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation does not manage and maintain the Project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds*	Total Cost
Project Management	---	\$111,625	\$111,625
Implementation	\$178,788	---	\$178,788
Maintenance	\$85,802	---	\$85,802
Monitoring	\$44,906	---	\$44,906
Equipment and Materials	\$87,689	\$300	\$87,989
Total	\$397,185	\$111,925	\$509,110

*Source: County of San Diego

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Implementation: Site preparation; finalization of a restoration work plan, monitoring plan, and a long-term management plan; and revegetation.
- Maintenance: Post-revegetation plant and site maintenance including irrigation.
- Monitoring: Completion of biological surveys, post project monitoring, and reporting.
- Equipment and Materials: Equipment and materials for plant treatment and seeding/installation, irrigation, plant distribution, soil preparation, mechanical invasive plant removal, and disposal of materials.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

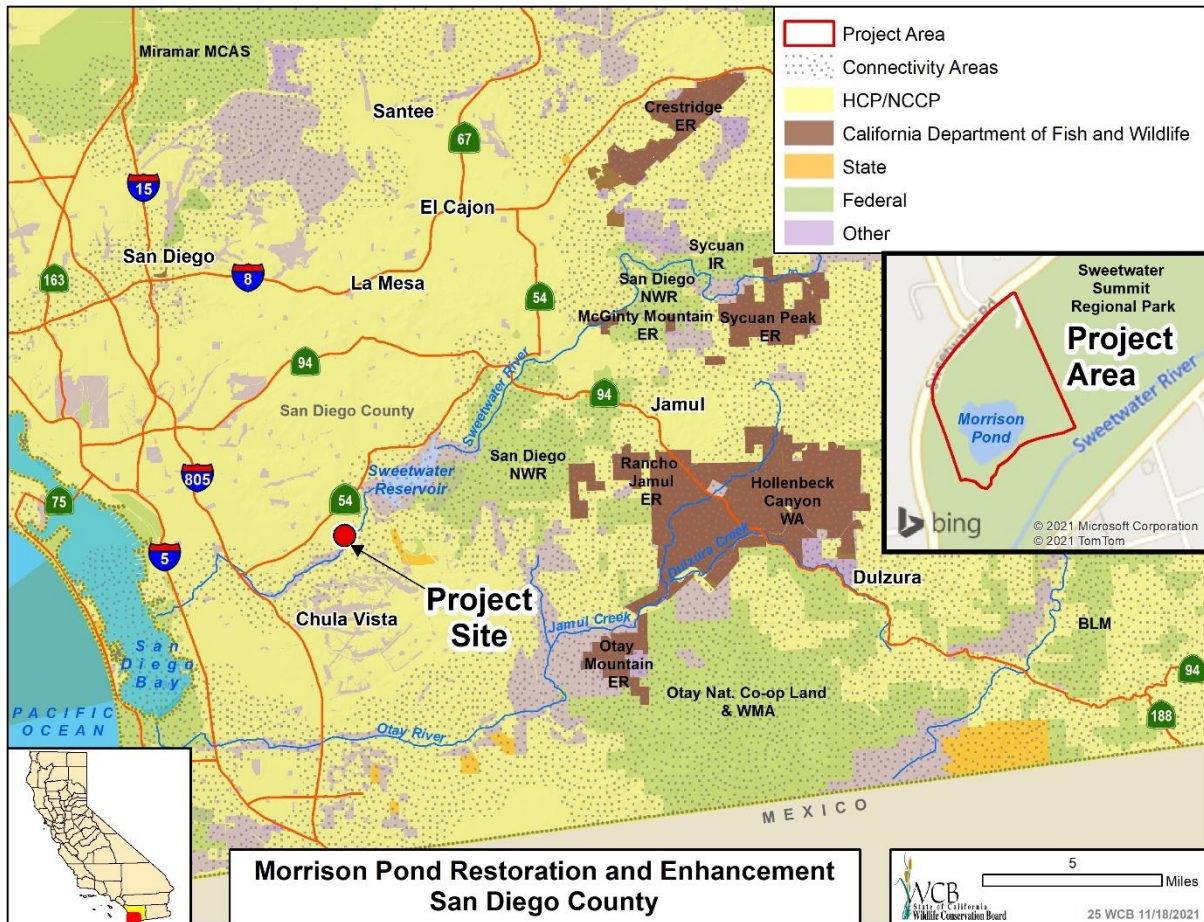
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15304. Minor Alterations to Land. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



Discussion Items

26. Los Gatos Creek Watershed Fire Resiliency

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB adopt the written findings and approve this project as proposed; allocate \$1,500,000 from the General Fund, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Provision; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Los Gatos Creek Watershed Fire Resiliency
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Amount Recommended:	\$1,500,000
Funding Partners:	CAL FIRE, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Landowner(s):	Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
County:	Santa Clara, Santa Cruz
Program:	California Forest Conservation
Funding:	General Fund
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 4.1
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Los Gatos Creek Watershed Fire Resiliency (Project) will implement a fuel reduction and forest resiliency project that includes work on 353 acres of land within the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District), a California Special District, across four of its preserves (Sierra Azul, Long Ridge, Saratoga Gap, and Bear Creek Redwoods). The Project area is within the Los Gatos Creek watershed, approximately five miles northeast of Los Gatos in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

California's fire season is now longer and more intense, due in part to dense regrowth of historically logged forests, more than a century of fire suppression, and a changing climate. Historically, the Los Gatos Creek watershed was ecologically adapted to wildfire, but the increase in fire suppression activities, disease, pest pressures, and the expansion of the Wildland-Urban Interface over the last century have greatly increased the hazard and risk of severe wildfires, which has been exacerbated by climate change.

The Project will implement forest health and vegetation management activities across approximately 353 acres of land owned by the District, in the Los Gatos Creek watershed. The Project will complete fuel reduction for forest resiliency work in priority areas, including approximately 245 acres within Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve and 108 acres in Long Ridge, Saratoga Gap, and Sierra Azul Open Space Preserves. The District will also complete reforestation activities on three prior

plantation sites within Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve, habitat restoration and reforestation of a Eucalyptus grove within Sierra Azul Preserve, and develop an educational video for the public highlighting WCB’s investment in long-term forest health and the District’s new and robust Wildland Fire Resiliency Program.

Overall, the Project will serve to minimize the potential loss of carbon at risk for release through large-scale, catastrophic wildfires by reducing ladder fuels, brush and overly dense tree stands. Treatment will support long-term goals for growth of larger trees with increased space between trees and less dense understory vegetation. The work on District lands will foster resilient forest stands where future low-intensity prescribed burns may enable beneficial fire to support healthy forest conditions.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the Project. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Costs
Project Management	\$210,000	\$55,528	\$265,528
Surveys	\$73,000	\$116,700	\$189,700
Forest Health Treatments	\$1,191,000	\$1,863,920	\$3,054,920
Outreach	\$26,000	---	\$26,000
Total	\$1,500,000	\$2,036,148	\$3,536,148

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Management of the grant and contracting, including reporting and documentation of project deliverables.
- Surveys: Biological and cultural resource surveys to be completed prior to forest health treatments.
- Forest Health Treatments: Costs associated with hand treatments, mechanized mastication, and reforestation.
- Outreach: Pre-treatment videography, interviews, editing, and final support materials and educational video documentary for the public and natural resource partners.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

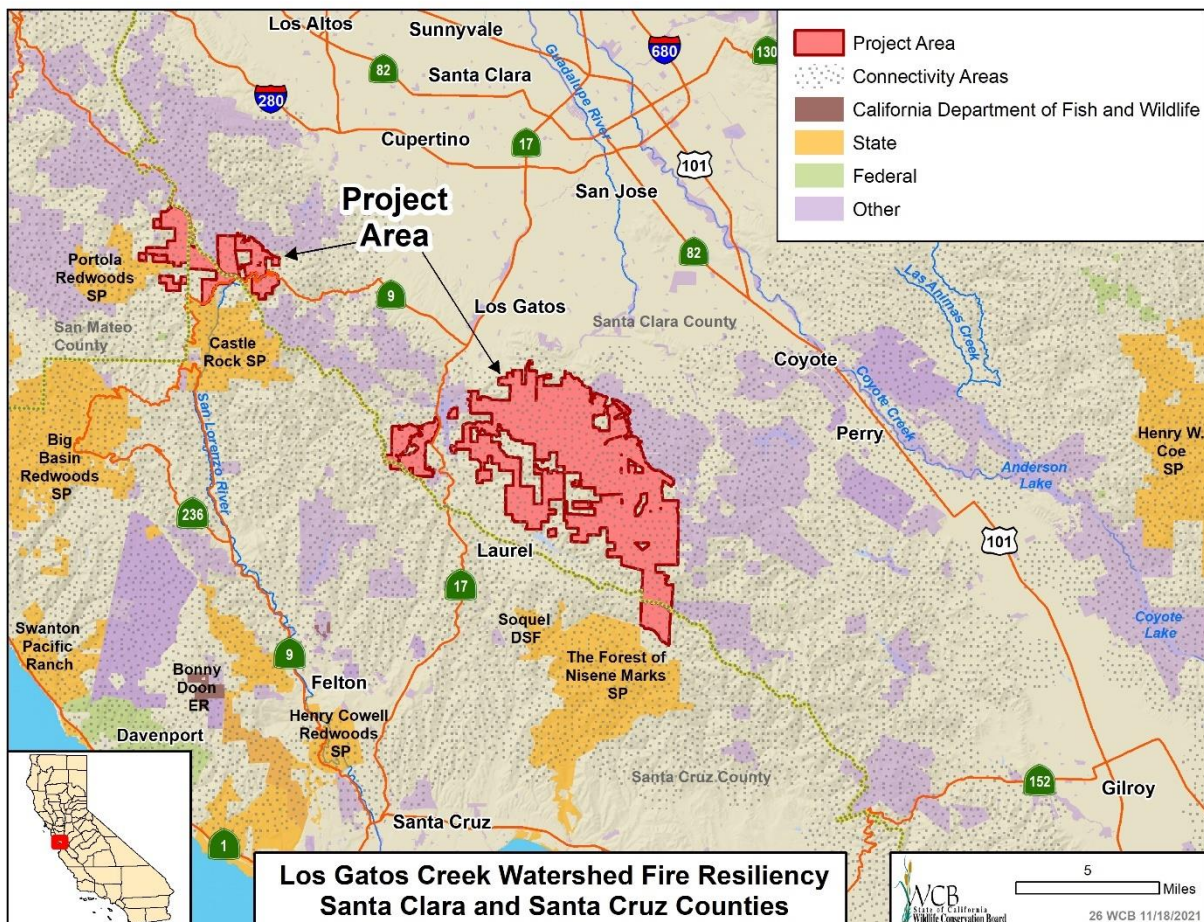
- Senator Dave Cortese, California State Senate, Fifteenth Senate District
- Supervisor Mike Wasserman, Supervisor First District, County of Santa Clara
- Eugenia Rendler, Managing Director, Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and CAL FIRE, as lead agencies, prepared EIRs for the Project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Staff considered the EIRs and has prepared proposed, written findings documenting WCB's compliance with CEQA. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NODs will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



27. Grasslands Ecological Area Water Conveyance Enhancement

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$841,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80132(c); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Grasslands Ecological Area Water Conveyance Enhancement
Project Type:	Infrastructure
Applicant/Grantee:	Grassland Resource Conservation District
Amount Recommended:	\$841,000
Funding Partners:	Grassland Water District
Landowner(s):	Grassland Water District
County:	Merced
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.5
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Grassland Ecological Area Water Conveyance Enhancement (Project) is located within the Grasslands Ecological Area (GEA), near the city of Los Banos in Merced County.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The wetlands within the broader GEA make up the largest remaining contiguous freshwater complex west of the Rocky Mountains and encompasses over 160,000 acres of habitat and wildlife beneficial agriculture. These wetlands are designated as a critically important habitat area by two international treaties and numerous wildlife organizations, and are recognized as one of the five most important wetland ecosystems in North America.

The objective of the Project is to improve critical water delivery infrastructure throughout the GEA and provide improved water delivery capacity to 46,600 acres of managed seasonal wetlands. As regional water resources have become increasingly constrained, the strategic and efficient delivery of water supply is becoming increasingly central to maximizing the productivity and breadth of managed wetlands in the San Joaquin Valley. The impingements of infrastructural deficiencies on flow capacities have an especially negative impact during wetland flood-up in the early fall, during spring drawdown, during the initiation of the moist soil management growing season, and during subsequent wetland irrigations. As habitat water is delivered to the matrix of lands throughout the GEA, key foraging and roosting habitat is being provided for migratory birds arriving from throughout the Pacific Flyway. However, during these key delivery periods, wetland deliveries

and drainages are currently postponed or halted by infrastructural limitations, which limits the wetland footprint in the early fall. These infrastructure shortcomings result in lower wetland productivity and availability, and systemic water loss due to the prolonged and inefficient delivery of water to and from these wetlands.

The Project encompasses the following nine enhancements that will result in the improved geometry of approximately 11.2 miles of water delivery infrastructure and will install five key water delivery points for these ephemeral and semi-permanent wetlands.

- Rebuild the headwall and culvert on the Santa Fe Canal at the existing bypass of Mud Slough
- Replace the San Luis Canal/SL 3 water control structure
- Restore 2.2 miles of canal channel on the Mosquito Ditch
- Restore 2.75 miles of canal channel on the San Luis Canal
- Restore 1.8 miles of canal channel on the Volta Wasteway – Santa Fe Cross Channel
- Rebuild the Agatha Canal intake at the Agatha Canal Headworks
- Restore 4.4 miles of canal channel on the Santa Fe Canal
- Replace the three non-functioning Agatha-Poso Canal Weirs with functional head walls and associated infrastructure
- Upgrade the drainage infrastructure at the 240 Ditch-Sorsky drain to a 42-inch outflow pipe

As a result, cumulative water delivery capacity to local wetlands will be increased by an estimated 308 CFS (18,450-acre feet per month) at peak flow. By leveraging the local personnel and operational resources available from Grassland Water District, the Project will encompass a high-efficiency and low-cost opportunity to improve the functionality and productivity of thousands of acres of wetlands.

A baseline assessment of the monthly amount of wetland habitat and suitability available across the Grasslands Resources Conservation District (GRCD) over the last eight years will be conducted. Data will continue to be gathered annually over years 1-3 of the Project. In year 4, an assessment of the change in the amount of wetland habitat and waterbird suitability will be completed. This work will measure project efficacy and may also be used to guide future restoration actions.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The Grassland Water District (GWD) has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the property. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, GRCD does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	---	\$410,000	\$410,000
Construction	\$771,149	---	\$771,149
Remove Sensing Analysis	\$69,851	---	\$69,851
Total	\$841,000	\$410,000	\$1,251,000

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Construction: Costs associated with completing all nine construction elements.
- Remote Sensing Analysis: Cost associated with the baseline assessment of monthly wetland habitat and waterbird suitability.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

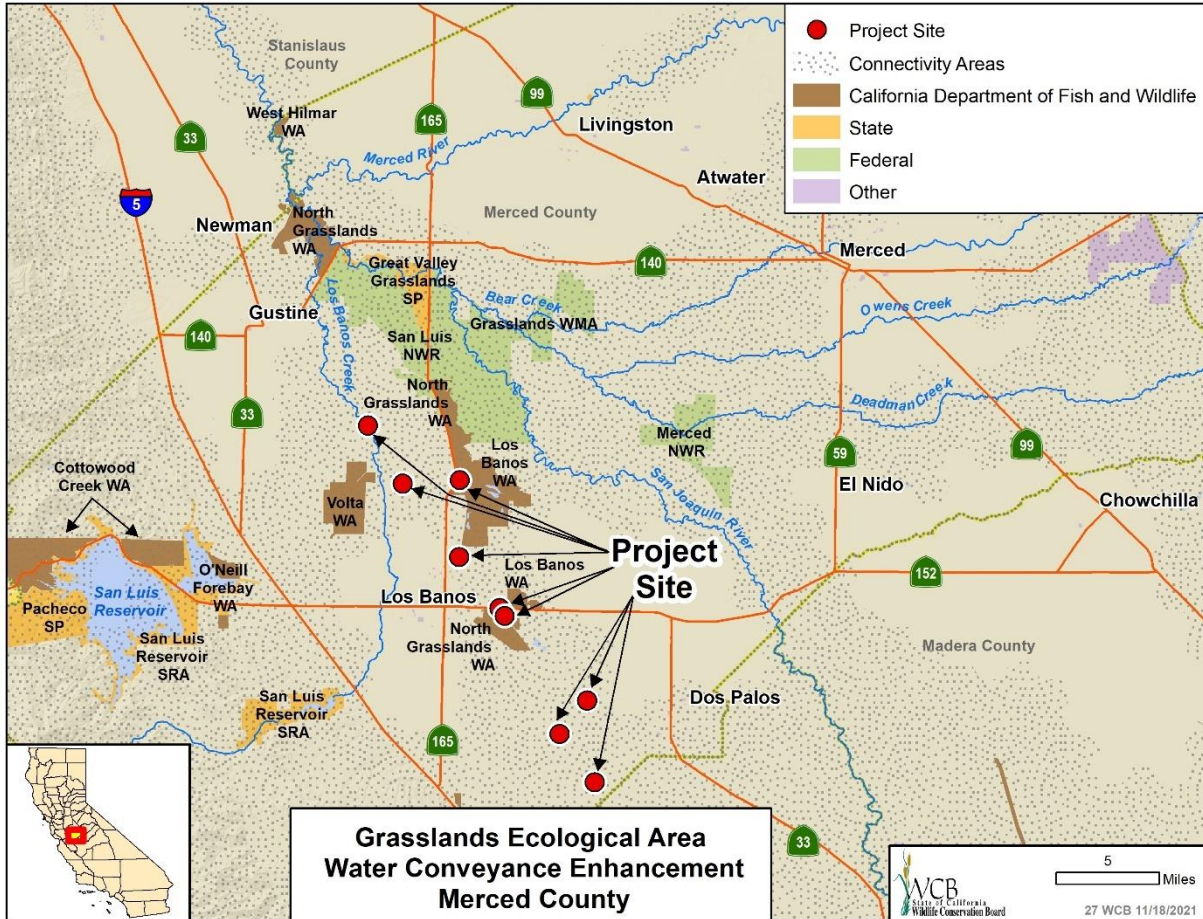
- Jake Messerli, Chief Operating Officer, California Waterfowl Association
- Kim Forrest, San Luis NWR Refuge Manager, United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- Megan Hertel, Director of Land and Water Conservation, Audubon California
- Jeffrey McCreary, Director of Operations, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15302, Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction, as replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities and Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land, as minor alterations in the condition of land, water, or vegetation. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



28. San Joaquin River Parkway, River West Eaton Trail Extension Planning
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB adopt the written findings and approve this project as proposed; allocate \$3,104,831 from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code 75050(f); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	San Joaquin River Parkway, River West Eaton Trail Extension Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	City of Fresno
Amount Recommended:	\$3,104,831
Funding Partners:	City of Fresno
County:	Fresno
Program:	Public Access
Funding:	Proposition 84
Strategic Plan Goals:	Goals: C.1, C.4 Objectives: SI 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The San Joaquin River Parkway (Parkway) is comprised of approximately 5,900 acres on both sides of a 22-mile-long reach of the San Joaquin River (River) between Friant Dam to the east and State Route 99 to the west, in Fresno and Madera counties.

The San Joaquin River Parkway, River West Eaton Trail Extension Planning (Project) is located on public- and privately-owned land (River West) along the southside of the River between Highway 41 and Spano Park near the intersection of Palm Avenue and Nees Avenue within the city of Fresno. The San Joaquin River Conservancy (SJRC) owns and manages a majority of the approximately 14-acre Project area. SJRC has an existing public access easement over the privately-owned land within River West. The residential properties included in the Project area are along the portion of Audubon Drive that will be redesigned for public safety.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goal of the Project is to provide public access to River West and support SJRC in its mission to create a contiguous Parkway. SJRC developed an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and addendum to the EIR for the Project in a previous phase. The EIR and addendum were approved by the SJRC Board in 2017 and 2020, respectively, and this Project phase will continue and complete Project planning to prepare for implementation. The Project will develop final engineering designs and secure permitting to extend the existing Lewis S. Eaton Trail (Eaton Trail) and build three access points to the Project site with parking and other public access amenities (e.g., bathrooms, interpretative signage, pet

stations). The Eaton Trail extension is planned to be approximately 2.4 miles long starting at the Perrin Avenue alignment near Highway 41 and ending at Spano Park. The new access points are planned to be at Perrin Avenue, West Riverview Drive, and North Palm Avenue. In anticipation of increased pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile traffic from the West Riverview Drive access point, planning for the West Riverview Drive access point will also address potential traffic safety issues at the intersection of Del Mar Avenue and Audubon Drive.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management and Administration	\$67,700	---	\$67,700
Engineering Design, Planning, and Habitat Restoration and Revegetation Plan (HRRP)	\$1,963,200	---	\$1,963,200
Permitting	\$1,029,000	---	\$1,029,000
Indirect Costs	\$44,931	\$58,869	\$103,800
Total	\$3,104,831	\$58,869	\$3,163,700

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management and Administration: Grant administration and oversight.
- Engineering Design Planning, and HRRP: Final (100%) Project design, specifications, estimates, and plans. The HRRP will summarize and address the habitat impacts of the Project.
- Permitting: Application for permits required for the Project implementation phase.
- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

- Steve Brandau, Supervisor, District 2, Fresno County Board of Supervisors
- Garry Bredefeld, Councilmember, City of Fresno
- Mike Karbassi, Councilmember, City of Fresno

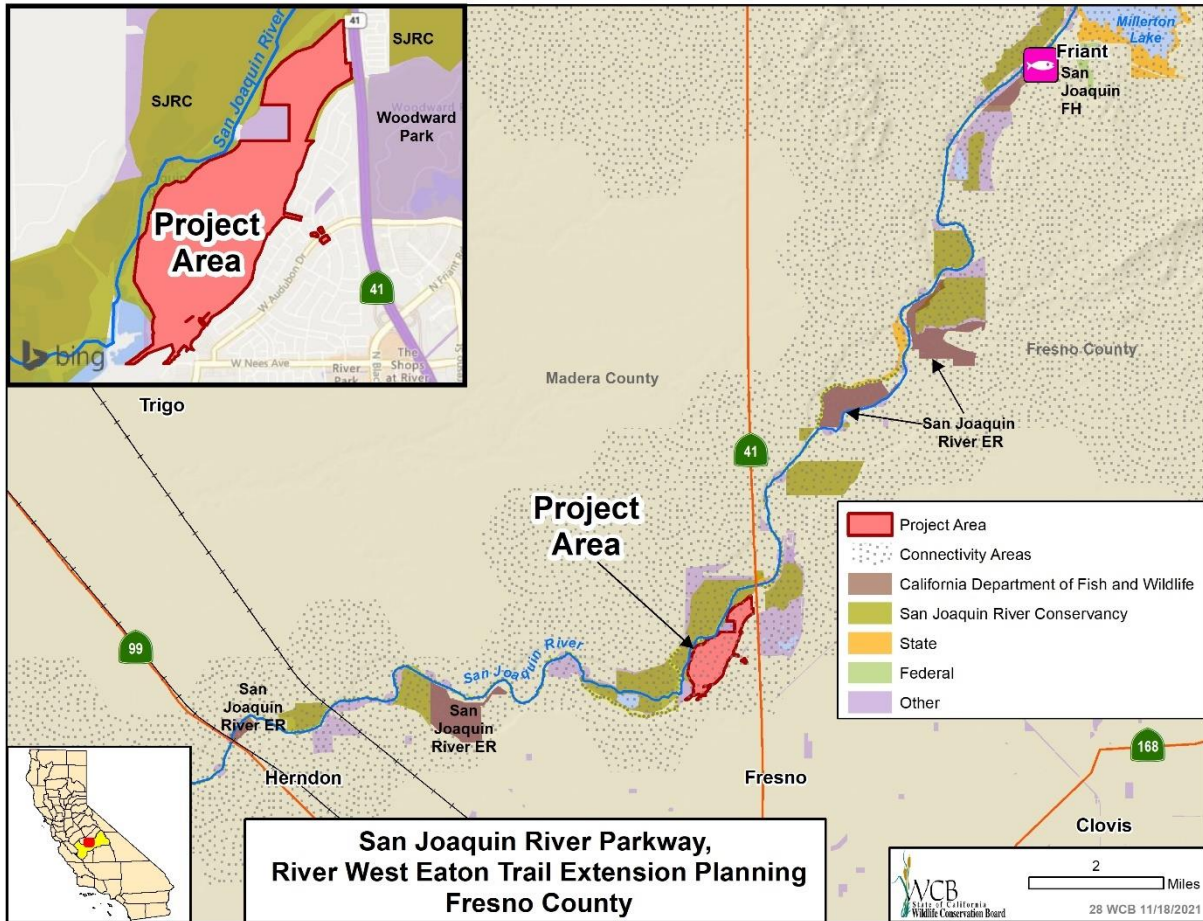
Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

SJRC, as lead agency, prepared an EIR and addendum to the EIR (collectively referred to as “EIR”) for the Project pursuant to the provisions of the CEQA. Staff considered the EIR and has prepared proposed, written findings documenting

WCB's compliance with CEQA. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOD will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



29. Carr Lake Restoration Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB adopt the written findings and approve this project as proposed; allocate \$776,000 from the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Carr Lake Restoration Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	Big Sur Land Trust
Amount Recommended:	\$776,000
Funding Partners:	Laurel Foundation
Landowner(s):	Big Sur Land Trust
County:	Monterey
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 40
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1, C.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 2.1
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Carr Lake Restoration Planning (Project) covers a 73-acre portion of the Carr Lake Basin, a 480-acre swath of agricultural fields located in the center of Salinas, a densely populated city of roughly 160,000 people. Over a century ago, Carr Lake was the largest of a seven-lake system that captured water from the upper Gabilan watershed beginning at Fremont Peak (via Gabilan, Natividad, and Alisal Creeks) before discharging into a network of creeks and wetlands that ran out to Monterey Bay. During the early part of the 20th century, the three creeks that once flowed naturally through Carr Lake were channelized and a reclamation ditch was built to drain Carr Lake and allow flood-prone areas to be farmed. The resulting Carr Lake basin was farmed beginning in the 1920s. In 2017, Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT) purchased 73 acres of the Carr Lake basin to create a new multi-benefit park and open space area.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

BSLT's Carr Lake property has been in agricultural production for over 100 years. Two channelized creeks, Gabilan Creek and Hospital Creek, run through the property and are nearly devoid of habitat. Gabilan Creek is listed under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list as an impaired stream due to agricultural runoff and urban pollution sources. Despite being converted into a basin, Carr Lake serves as the primary flood storage area for the city of Salinas, and most of the property is in a FEMA floodway. Studies and analyses conducted since purchase of the 73-acre property have identified a lack of riparian habitat, poor water quality, limited groundwater recharge capacity, and limited flood storage capacity. Restoration is needed to restore ecosystem function and services.

This Project seeks to complete all planning and design work necessary to create and restore the once diverse seasonal wetland, riparian, and upland habitats that flourished in the area. Initial 30% designs have already been developed. This Project would allow BSLT to secure local, state, and federal permits and approvals as well as complete 90% and 100% designs. Once permits and plans are complete, the Project will be shovel ready. The restoration portion afforded through this planning effort will involve the conversion of agricultural land to restored riparian and upland habitats. Once restoration is implemented, restored habitats will include up to 26 acres of riparian habitat, consisting of freshwater emergent wetland, freshwater forested/shrub wetland, seasonal wetland, and riparian tree grove upland. Up to 40 acres will be diverse upland grassland habitat. Additional acreage will be designed for trails, bridges, and boardwalks. Distributary channels and a large inset floodplain will encourage infiltration, capture floodwaters, and filter sediment. Seasonal and treatment wetlands will capture trash and filter pollutants. Along with restoring biodiversity, these natural features will offer adaptability to climate change in several ways, including carbon sequestration and improved resilience to flood impacts.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds*	Total Cost
Community Engagement	---	\$75,000	\$75,000
Project Management	\$101,400	---	\$101,400
Permitting (preparation/approvals/ consultant fees)	\$218,000	---	\$218,000
Final Design	\$424,200	---	\$424,200
Indirect Costs	\$32,400	---	\$32,400
Total	\$776,000	\$75,000	\$851,000

*The Laural Foundation.

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Funding for overall coordination, administration, and reporting for the Project.
- Permitting: Costs to complete all regulatory requirements necessary to deliver a shovel-ready project.
- Final Design: Building on relationships already developed with local and regulatory agencies, this task involves continued involvement in coordination with stakeholders to develop and finalize the Project design.
- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

- None received

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The City of Salinas, as lead agency, prepared an MND for the Project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Staff considered the MND and has prepared proposed, written findings documenting WCB's compliance with CEQA. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOD will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



30. Attiyeh Ranch Conservation Easements

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$3,880,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(d), for a grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (LCSLOC); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Attiyeh Ranch Conservation Easements
Project Type:	Conservation Easement (7,682± acres)
Grantee:	The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County
Amount Recommended:	\$3,880,000
Funding Partners:	California Department of Conservation (DOC), California State Coastal Conservancy (SCC)
County:	San Luis Obispo
Program:	Land Acquisition Program
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, A.2, A.4, E.1 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.6, 2.1, 2.4, 4.1
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is located near the westerly end of Lake Nacimiento, extending south from Monterey County about 20 air-miles northwest of Paso Robles.

The Property lies within the CDFW Adelaida CAPP which establishes criteria to prioritize parcels based on their conservation values to increase or enhance habitat, migration corridors, and connectivity. Protecting the Attiyeh Ranch will lead to important wildlife conservation benefits. The Property sits adjacent to the Hearst Ranch and connects to a wildlife corridor that extends through the Silver Peak Wilderness in Monterey County and throughout the Nacimiento River watershed. In its current natural state, the Attiyeh Ranch supports both local and migratory species that traverse these corridors.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The approximately 7,682± acre property is predominantly open space/livestock rangeland characterized by oak-forested hillsides and open grasslands. The Property is a working cattle ranch. A light to moderate herd of cattle is grazed throughout the year.

The Attiyeh Ranch project features three contiguous, virtually identical conservation easements that will permanently protect the entire Property. The easements will be divided among three Attiyeh family ownership entities within the Property and will protect a contiguous ranch managed as a single unit.

The ranch is overall irregular in shape. From north to south, the ranch is approximately 5 miles in length. There are numerous scenic meadows and wide pastures located throughout the ranch. Agricultural uses are carefully managed in concert with maintaining high-quality wildlife habitat and natural land cover throughout the Property.

The Attiyeh Ranch is located within the greater Adelaida region of northwestern San Luis Obispo County. This region forms a key bottleneck for coastal wildlife movement between Southern California and Big Sur. The Attiyeh Ranch provides extensive, high-quality habitat for wildlife residing in and migrating through a region that connects six designated wilderness areas. Habitats present on the Property include coast live oak woodland, annual grasslands, extensive riparian woodland, and chaparral. These habitats support several important animal species including deer, golden eagle, and mountain lion, among many other species. Species of special concern potentially occurring on the Property include the burrowing owl, western pond turtle, and California red-legged frog.

Protection of the Attiyeh Ranch will also add to the landscape scale protection of the Nacimiento watershed. The Property features a six mile stretch of the Nacimiento River and upper Nacimiento Reservoir. The Nacimiento River supplies as much as 62 percent of the water in the Salinas River watershed annually, and the Attiyeh Ranch plays a significant role in maintaining water quality and supply within the Nacimiento River and Reservoir.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

When establishing a conservation easement, LCSLOC works closely with the landowners to address the protection of the property's natural habitat and agricultural resources. The purposes of the proposed easements are to ensure that natural resources, agricultural, and wildlife habitat are conserved in balance and harmony with each other. The grant agreement requires LCSLOC to monitor the Property at least once a year to ensure the easement terms are being honored, as well as to prepare and submit a written monitoring report documenting the visit and noting any significant changes to the resources or any compliance issues. If necessary, corrective action must be recommended and noted in the report.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$7,300,000 and the landowner has agreed to sell at a reduced price of \$6,205,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$3,880,000
DOC	\$1,500,000
SCC	\$825,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$6,205,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

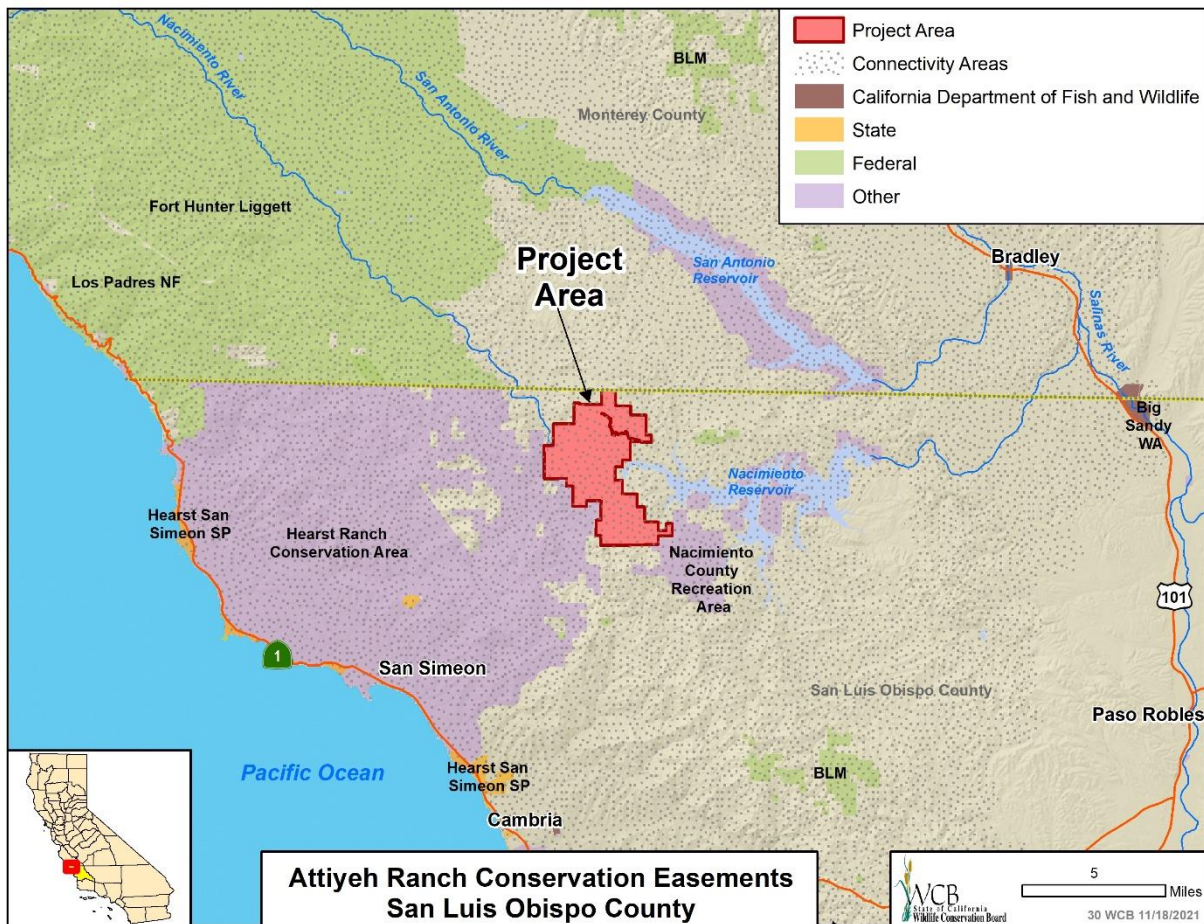
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



31. Cienega Springs Ecological Reserve Wetland and Riparian Restoration
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$991,000 from The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80132(c); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Cienega Springs Ecological Reserve Wetland and Riparian Restoration
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara
Amount Recommended:	\$991,000
Funding Partners:	Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara
Landowner(s):	CDFW
County:	Ventura
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 2.5
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Cienega Springs Ecological Reserve Wetland and Riparian Restoration project (Project) is located at CDFW's Cienega Springs Ecological Reserve (CSER), in Fillmore.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CSER was historically an extensive wetland complex that supported lush riparian woodland and freshwater marshes, as well as hundreds of migratory, wintering, and resident bird species. Over the past century, various land-uses transformed this area into its current heavily altered state, and the birds, including federally and state protected species, have similarly declined. The CSER was established at this location to restore and protect this vital southern California ecosystem. With a previous WCB Proposition 1 grant, Arundo cover has been reduced from near 100 percent in some areas to less than 1 percent across the site. The site is now ready for revegetation phase.

The Project will restore willow-cottonwood riparian woodland, emergent freshwater marsh, and patches of riparian and coastal sage scrub on 20 acres. Restoration actions will include active and passive methods to reestablish and enhance riparian and wetland habitat. Project activities include collecting and growing a diversity of native riparian species and genotypes to promote climate resiliency and drought tolerance, soil preparation to facilitate plant establishment, reducing competitive weed populations, and vegetation installation and maintenance

according to the restoration plan. Vegetation and wildlife responses, especially emphasizing bird species, will be monitored for at least two decades after project completion to guide adaptive management and assess progress toward project watershed conservation goals.

The Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara (RUCSB) will conduct all revegetation activities with occasional labor assistance from a local agricultural management or landscape contractor. An on-site plant nursery will assist plant propagation from seed sources and/or cuttings to provide locally adapted, but genetically diverse material. Some plant species that are difficult to propagate will be purchased as container plants from local native plant nurseries to augment the growing efforts.

The Project will provide important breeding and wintering habitat for migrant land birds and will also serve as a climate change refugium through the planting of drought, high temperature, and flood-resilient riparian plant species.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

CDFW has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the Project. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, RUCSB does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management and Implementation	\$657,552	---	\$657,552
Equipment	\$8,600	---	\$8,600
Avian Monitoring	\$193,338	\$34,734	\$228,072
Indirect Costs	\$131,510	\$39,969	\$171,479
Total	\$991,000	\$74,703	\$1,065,703

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management and Implementation: Project management, including subcontracts management, invoicing, payroll tracking, materials purchasing.
- Equipment: Dedicated desktop computer, laptop computer and one tablet to be used for project management, implementation, reporting, and data collection/management.
- Avian Monitoring: Qualified subcontractor will conduct avian monitoring (least Bell’s vireo, southwest willow flycatcher and yellow billed cuckoo) during the project term.

- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

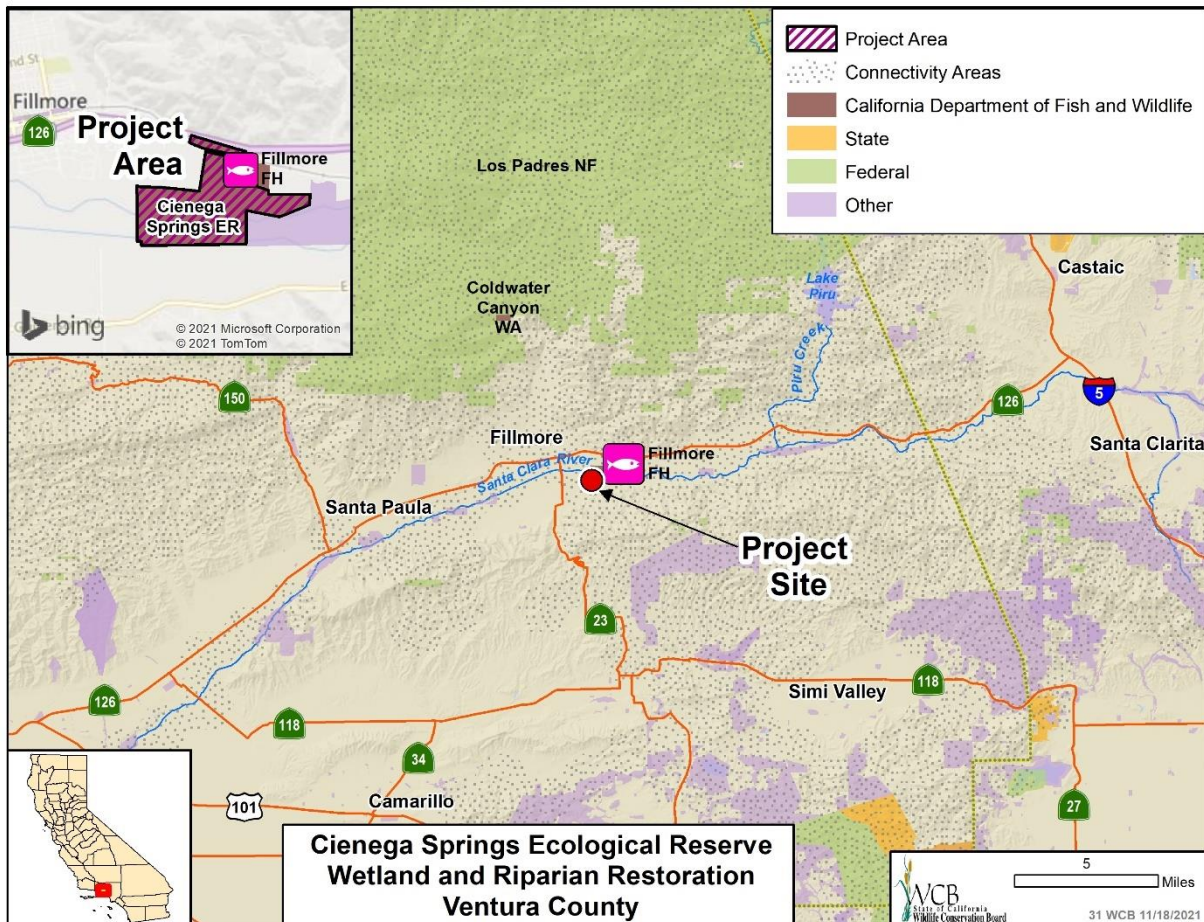
- Peter Dixon, Project Associate, Santa Clara River and Coast Restoration, The Nature Conservancy
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15304, Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land. Subject to approval of this proposal by the WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



32. West Coyote Hills

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$2,804,000 from Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786 (b)(c) for the grant to the City of Fullerton; approve the acceptance of the Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant from USFWS in the amount of \$2,000,000 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to the City of Fullerton; approve the acceptance of a deed restriction for preservation of open space, habitat, wildlife compatible public access, and other resource related purposes; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	West Coyote Hills
Project Type:	Fee Title (10± acres)
Grantee:	City of Fullerton
Amount Recommended:	\$2,804,000
Funding Partners:	State Coastal Conservancy; San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy; California Department of Parks and Recreation, Land and Water Conservation Fund
County:	Orange
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Habitat Conservation Fund
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.3 Objectives: SI 1.3, 2.2, 2.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property), known as the West Coyote Hills Neighborhood 1, is located in the northwestern portion of the city of Fullerton in the West Coyote Hills. It is west of Euclid Street, east of North Gilbert Street, north of the Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve, and south of the city of La Habra's West Saint Andrews Avenue.

The West Coyote Hills was a major oil field that operated for the majority of the twentieth century, however, extraction has ceased since the 1970s. The Property is part of an approximately 510-acre tract of land that is viewed as prime real estate for residential development since it is the largest remaining tract of undeveloped land in north Orange County.

The Property is located within the Central/Coastal Orange County Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP). The NCCP/HCP focuses on creating a multiple-species, multiple-habitat subregional reserve system and implementing a long-term adaptive management program that will protect coastal sage scrub and other habitats and species within the coastal sage scrub habitat mosaic, while providing for economic uses that will meet the social and economic needs of the communities within the subregion.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property is irregularly shaped and vacant with limited frontage along Euclid Avenue, but has no direct access from Euclid Avenue. In its current state, the Property is partially accessible via a private dirt access road that was originally used for oil operations. The topography is rolling to sloping hillside.

Naturally occurring vegetation on the Property includes coastal sage scrub, clustered tarweed, elderberry woodland, southern cactus scrub, and toyon sambucus chaparral. The Property supports habitat for the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher and sensitive coastal cactus wren.

Since West Coyote Hills ceased oil production in the 1970s, the City of Fullerton (City) has been working to implement a comprehensive redevelopment plan for the site. In 2015, the City approved a Vesting Tentative Tract Map (VTTM) that allows for the subdivision of the 510-acre site into 775 lots.

The VTTM notes that as part of the development a dedication of at least 283 acres of open space is required. As part of the VTTM, the City was given the option to purchase additional areas, including the Property, for inclusion in the Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve. This project is a result of the City implementing that option.

In addition to the grant to the City for the fee acquisition of the Property, WCB will accept a deed restriction that will require the Property be owned and managed for open space, habitat, wildlife compatible public access, and other resource related purposes.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

If approved, this project would eliminate one of two proposed residential neighborhoods east of North Gilbert. The State Coastal Conservancy is in the process of approving funding to eliminate the second proposed residential east of North Gilbert known as Neighborhood 3. The combination of these two projects, if approved, would eliminate all proposed residential development east of North Gilbert, resulting in the protection of open space and habitat, restoration of urban watershed health, and facilitating environmental education and stewardship.

The conditions of approval for the VTTM require the inclusion of an interpretive nature center that would provide for research and outdoor education, and the majority of the 510-acre site would be preserved as public open space, which includes a trail and vista point system compatible with the adjacent open space. Following approval of this acquisition, the current property owner will construct, at its own expense, and dedicate to the City the Neighborhood Trails and Key Vista Improvements associated with Property.

Subject to notification to the USFWS in accordance with West Coyote Hills Specific Plan Amendment #8 and the Conditions of Approval, the current Property owner commenced in September 2021 with the design and construction of an initial portion of the trail system to be located partly within the Ward Nature Preserve and

partly on certain portions of the current property owner's property to provide public access to the Ward Nature Preserve.

The current property owner will also provide funding to the City for an endowment, in a total amount not to exceed \$3,840,000, for habitat management, perpetual maintenance, and protection of coastal sage scrub and wetland habitats, and to operate, maintain, repair, and secure the open space dedication areas, trails, key vista parks, and interpretive center.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$6,710,000. The total purchase price is \$6,705,000 due to the estimated \$5,000 cost difference between clean up to open space standards rather than residential standards. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$2,804,000
USFWS	\$2,000,000
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	\$1,416,000
CA Department of Parks and Recreation, Land and Water Conservation Fund (Federal)	\$485,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$6,705,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

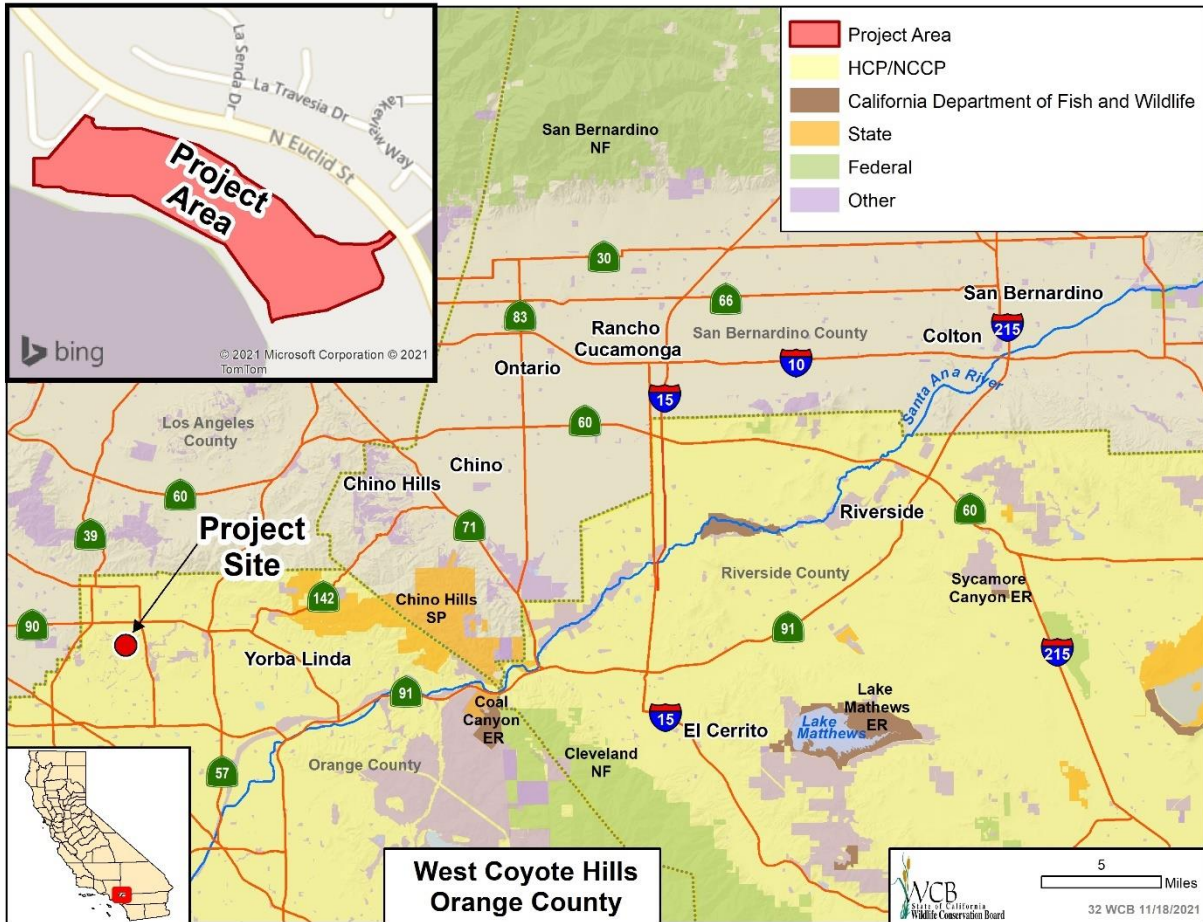
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.28, Acquisition of an Interest in Land by a Public Agency, as an acquisition of an interest in land by a public agency for preservation of natural conditions existing at the time of transfer, including plant and animal habitats. Subject to Board approval of the project, staff will file the appropriate NOE with the State Clearinghouse and the county clerk.



33. Buena Vista Lagoon Restoration Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$3,000,000 from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Water Code Section 79572(a); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Buena Vista Lagoon Restoration Planning
Project Type:	Planning
Applicant/Grantee:	San Diego Association of Governments
Amount Recommended:	\$3,000,000
Funding Partners:	San Diego Association of Governments
County:	San Diego
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 50
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 2.2
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

Buena Vista Lagoon is located in northern San Diego County and spans the boundary between the cities of Carlsbad and Oceanside. The lagoon encompasses approximately 240 acres and includes the Buena Vista Lagoon Ecological Reserve owned and managed by CDFW.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Buena Vista Lagoon is currently dominated by subtidal areas and dense freshwater vegetated marsh, as well as some relic non-tidal high marsh. The lagoon historically had a dynamic equilibrium between a tidal-influenced saltwater system during dry conditions and a river-influenced freshwater system during wet conditions. Historical records indicate that extensive salt flats covered approximately 75 percent of the lagoon, while an additional 23 percent of the lagoon area was composed of salt marsh habitat.

In 1940, a weir was installed at the lagoon outlet that precluded saltwater from entering the lagoon and has since converted the lagoon to a freshwater system. This has led to the conversion of the estuarine wetland to freshwater marsh, characterized by continuously expanding stands of dense cattails. Additional habitat degradation has been caused by runoff from adjacent roadways and sewage spills entering the lagoon. The combined effect of these stressors has reduced water quality in the lagoon to the point that it is currently identified as an impaired water body for bacteria, nutrients, and sedimentation/siltation on the State of California's list of impaired waterbodies.

The habitat conversion caused by altering the lagoon's hydrology will continue changing the character of the lagoon until tidal influence is restored. A 2004 Feasibility Study states that, absent intervention, the lagoon is expected to become

a vegetated freshwater marsh or riparian woodland-meadow sometime between 2030 and 2050. This conversion would reduce coastal habitat biodiversity, eliminate coastal wetland functions, and increase pressure on a wide range of federally or state-listed species which includes the light-footed Ridgway's rail, western snowy plover, California least tern, southwestern willow flycatcher, least Bell's vireo, coastal California gnatcatcher, and Belding's savannah sparrow. Buena Vista Lagoon is a critical ecosystem for these species and if the stressors reducing wetland functions in the lagoon are not addressed, these sensitive species will lose vital habitat.

Originally, three restoration alternatives (Saltwater, Freshwater, and Hybrid) were considered and evaluated at an equal level of detail in an Environmental Impact Report. Refinement during the public review stage resulted in development of the proposed Modified Saltwater Alternative (MSA), which is a variant of the Saltwater and Hybrid alternatives. It reflects public desire and various public agency input while still achieving the stated project objectives.

The MSA will result in a saltwater regime, emphasizing lower elevation salt marsh habitats and subtidal/open water west of I-5 and mid to upper salt marsh habitat east of I-5. Saltwater will enter the lagoon from an open tidal inlet during flood tides and freshwater will enter the lagoon from upstream and along the boundary of the lagoon. The restoration of tidal influence will be accompanied by the removal of habitats that the current freshwater hydrology has allowed to move into and dominate the project area. This includes areas of coastal and valley freshwater marsh, disturbed habitat, eucalyptus woodland, nonnative grassland, nonnative riparian, and southern willow scrub habitats. These areas will be replaced by coastal lagoon habitats including deep open water, mudflats, southern coastal salt marsh (nontidal, high, mid, and low), and areas of riparian enhancement.

When fully implemented, this plan will enhance and maintain sensitive habitats and native species by restoring a system of native wetland and terrestrial vegetation communities that can be sustained given the opportunities and constraints of the lagoon. The project will also:

- Protect, improve, and maintain water quality to meet water quality standards and address the listed water quality impairments.
- Reduce vector concerns (e.g., potential for mosquito-borne disease) by minimizing potential mosquito breeding habitat.
- Maintain or reduce current flood risk to existing infrastructure and adjacent development.
- Maintain or enhance public access to the lagoon and recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection.
- Assist with adaptation to climate change by allowing the wetland to migrate as sea level rise occurs by incorporating adjacent upland, riparian, and relic non-tidal marsh areas into the project site.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000
Conceptual Design Refinement	\$100,000	---	\$100,000
Technical Investigations	\$600,000	---	\$600,000
Engineering and Design	\$2,200,000	---	\$2,200,000
Total	\$3,000,000	\$100,000	\$3,100,000

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Procurement and contracting, contract management, communications, and grant administration.
- Conceptual Design Refinement: Working with stakeholders to refine designs for the MSA.
- Technical Investigations: Topography/bathymetric surveys, vegetation surveys, and geotechnical engineering investigations.
- Engineering and Design: Conducting 30% engineering modeling and analyses for the MSA and preliminary engineering design of the Weir Basin water control system.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

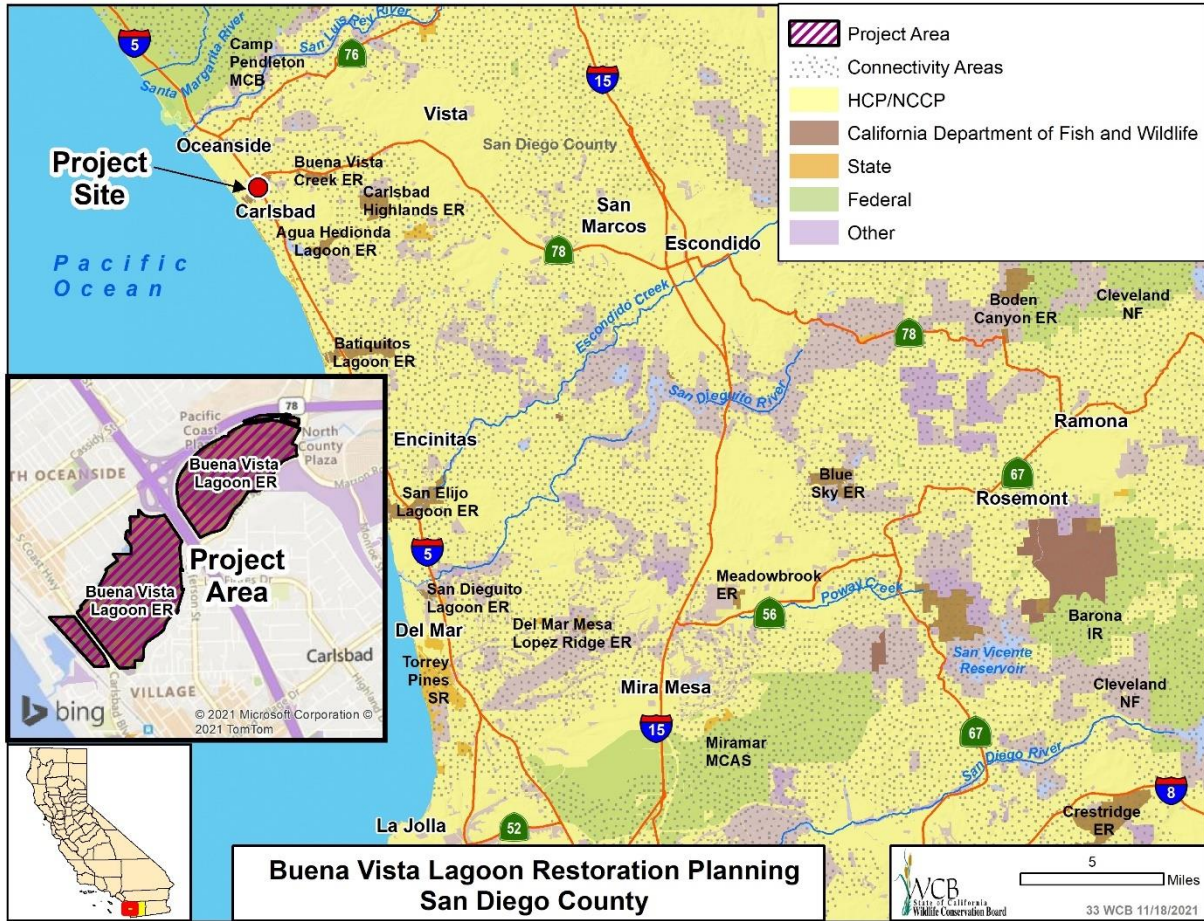
- Mike Levin, Member of Congress, 49th District, California, Congress of the United States
- Tasha Boerner Horvath, Assemblymember, 76th District, California State Assembly
- Matt Hall, Mayor, City of Carlsbad
- Esther Sanchez, Mayor, City of Oceanside
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies, as it involves only feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse



34. Del Mar Mesa Habitat Restoration

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$800,000 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(b); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Del Mar Mesa Habitat Restoration
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Chaparral Lands Conservancy
Amount Recommended:	\$800,000
Funding Partners:	Chaparral Lands Conservancy
Landowner(s):	City of San Diego/CDFW/USFWS
County:	San Diego
Program:	Habitat Enhancement and Restoration
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.1 Objectives: SI 2.1, 2.4, 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Del Mar Mesa Habitat Restoration (Project) is located in the 814-acre Del Mar Mesa Preserve (Preserve), in San Diego approximately six miles from the Pacific Ocean. The Preserve consists of a consolidated area of conserved lands mostly owned and managed by the City of San Diego, but also including CDFW's Del Mar Mesa Ecological Reserve and USFWS's San Diego National Wildlife Refuge. The Project is on properties owned by all three agencies.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Vernal pool wetlands are one of California's most imperiled natural communities, with at least 95 percent of this habitat type lost to development and agriculture. Vernal pool losses in San Diego may be even higher, and seven vernal pool species within the San Diego region are now listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act. The Preserve supports some of the last and best vernal pool habitat anywhere in southern California, and the Project will repair off-highway vehicle damage to this valuable resource. The Project will help achieve several goals of the San Diego MSCP/Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) and Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan (VPHCP), including the overarching goal of the MSCP to maintain and enhance biological diversity in the region and conserve viable populations of endangered, threatened, and key sensitive species and their habitats. The Project will also contribute to the goal of the VPHCP to protect, enhance, and restore vernal pool resources in specific areas within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area.

The goals of the Project are to improve the hydrologic and ecologic function of vernal pools and adjacent upland chaparral habitat, to increase the size and extent of populations of vernal pool and upland sensitive species. This would be accomplished through repair of damaged topography in existing vernal pools and uplands, construction of new vernal pools where appropriate, restoration of native flora in vernal pools and upland vegetation, restoration of native fauna in vernal pools, and control of invasive non-native weeds.

The Project involves use of herbicides. Invasive, non-native plants are one of the top threats to natural resources on the Preserve and the Project site, due to displacement and direct competition with native plants and degradation of native vegetation communities. Herbicide will be applied during Project weed control activities by licensed applicators following best management practices and under the supervision of a Project biologist. To protect native plants and other resources, herbicide will not be broadcast sprayed. Rather, small amounts of herbicide will be sprayed directly onto young weeds. Other methods of weed control such as hand weeding and line trimming will also be important to Project success, but are not practical to entirely replace use of herbicides and are sometimes more harmful to resources than herbicides. For example, hand weeding of non-native plants by typical methods of pulling or scraping would significantly damage areas of mature or recovering sensitive cryptobiotic soil plant cover meant to be protected under the Project. When used properly, herbicide use can be the factor that determines success or failure of weed control for habitat restoration projects.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The restoration and management objectives for this Project are covered in the San Diego MSCP/NCCP and the VPHCP. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, Chaparral Lands Conservancy does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds*	Total Cost
Project Management	\$73,180	---	\$73,180
Design, Planning, and Permitting	---	\$24,115	\$24,115
Restoration Activities	\$648,000	---	\$648,000
Monitoring	\$60,000	---	\$60,000
Indirect Costs	\$18,820	\$4,241	\$23,061
Total	\$800,000	\$28,356	\$828,356

*The Chaparral Lands Conservancy

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Costs associated with administration necessary for completing the project such as contracting, reporting, invoicing, and general project supervision.
- Restoration Activities: Managing materials preparation, completing field activities and maintenance related to restoration work.
- Monitoring: Completion of biological and cultural resource surveys, post project monitoring, and reporting.
- Indirect Costs: Incidental or indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent of the total direct WCB award, minus subcontractor and equipment costs.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

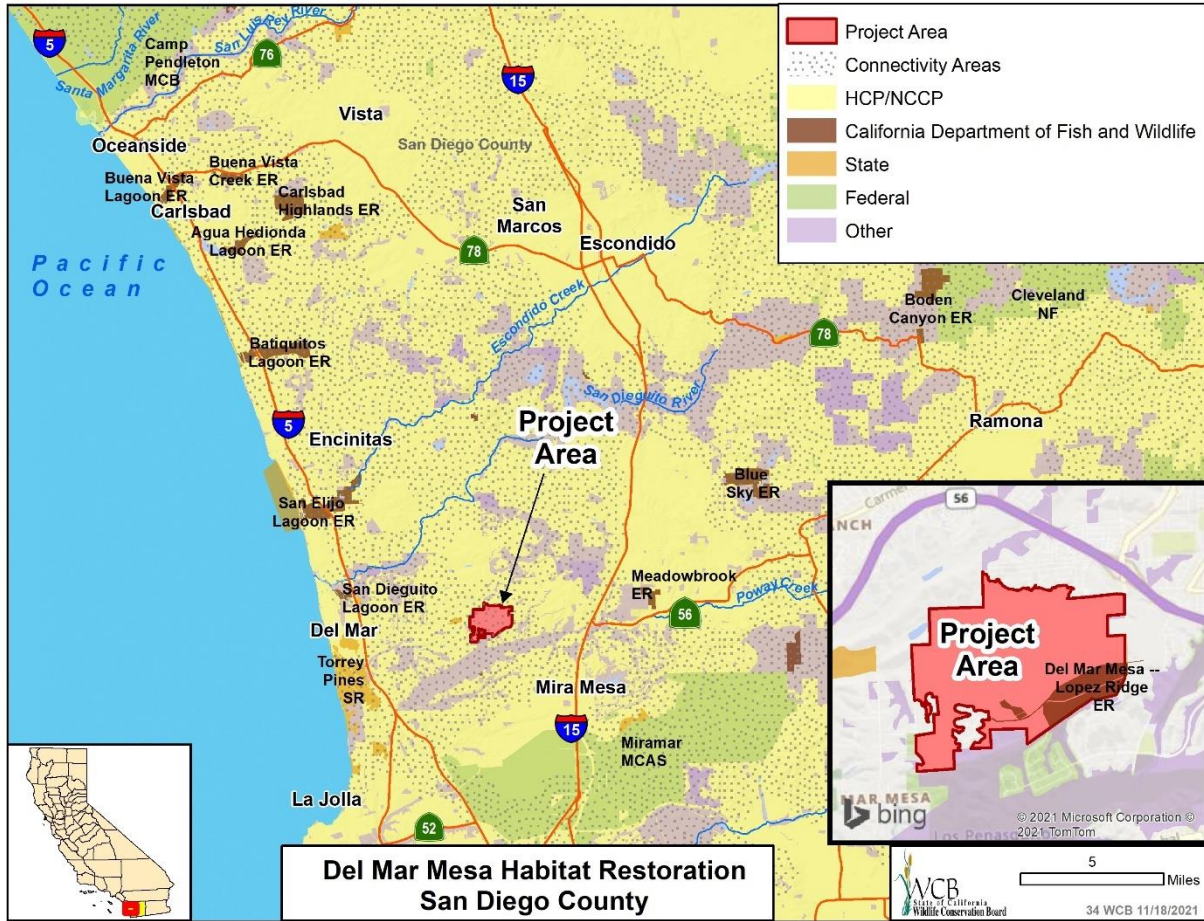
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines: Section 15333, Class 33, Small Habitat Restoration Projects. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



35. Kendall-Frost Field Station and Learning Center Enhancement

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$988,111 from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), Public Resources Code Section 80111(c); authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	Kendall-Frost Field Station and Learning Center Enhancement
Project Type:	Implementation
Applicant/Grantee:	Regents of the University of California, San Diego
Amount Recommended:	\$988,111
Funding Partners:	Regents of the University of California, San Diego
Landowner(s):	Regents of the University of California, San Diego
County:	San Diego
Program:	The University of California, Natural Reserve System
Funding:	Proposition 68
Strategic Plan:	Goals: B.5 Objectives: SI 3.1
Disadvantaged Community:	Not within a disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The Kendall-Frost Field Station and Learning Center Enhancement (Project) is located at the Kendall-Frost Mission Bay Marsh Reserve (KFM), located in the city of San Diego. KFM is owned and operated by the Regents of the University of California, San Diego (RUCSD) as a reserve within the University of California Natural Reserve System.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The current facility at KFM is a 50-year-old mobile trailer installed in 1971. The trailer consists of one bathroom, a kitchen/workspace, an office, and one bedroom. There is a narrow wooden deck on the east side of the building and a 20 x 30-foot shade structure to the south. RUCSD has surveyed the trailer and found that it is not ADA compliant.

KFM is used extensively for research of salt march habitat and its species. It is used by the Wetlands Training Institute as a training location in the Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Assessment Methods. Every year, approximately 30 staff from both public agencies and private environmental consulting firms across the country converge on the KFM to learn methodologies of assessing vegetation, soils, and hydrology in marsh ecosystems.

The Project will replace the existing trailer with a 1,700 sq/foot ADA compliant modular structure. The replacement modular structure will include classroom space for students, a workspace for field researchers, an observation/viewing

deck, storage facility, restrooms, a food preparation area, improved accessibility/access, and space for overnight accommodations.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

The RUCSD has adopted a Management Plan that guides management actions for the property, including management of the Project. If at any time during the 25-year life of the Project, RUCSD does not manage and maintain the project improvements, the Grant Agreement requires that it refund to the State of California an amortized amount of funds based on the number of years left on the Project life.

PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed funding breakdown for the Project is as follows:

Project Task	WCB	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Project Management	\$50,000	---	\$50,000
Fabrication and Install of Modular Structure	\$938,111	\$611,889	\$1,550,000
Furniture	---	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total	\$988,111	\$636,889	\$1,625,000

Costs associated with WCB funding include:

- Project Management: Project management, including subcontracts management, invoicing, payroll tracking, materials purchasing.
- Fabrication and Install of Modular Structure: Design, fabrication and installation of new 1,700 sq/ft modular structure including installation of new access driveway/parking area, peripheral landscaping, updated utilities, exterior observation deck, and prefabricated storage shed.

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

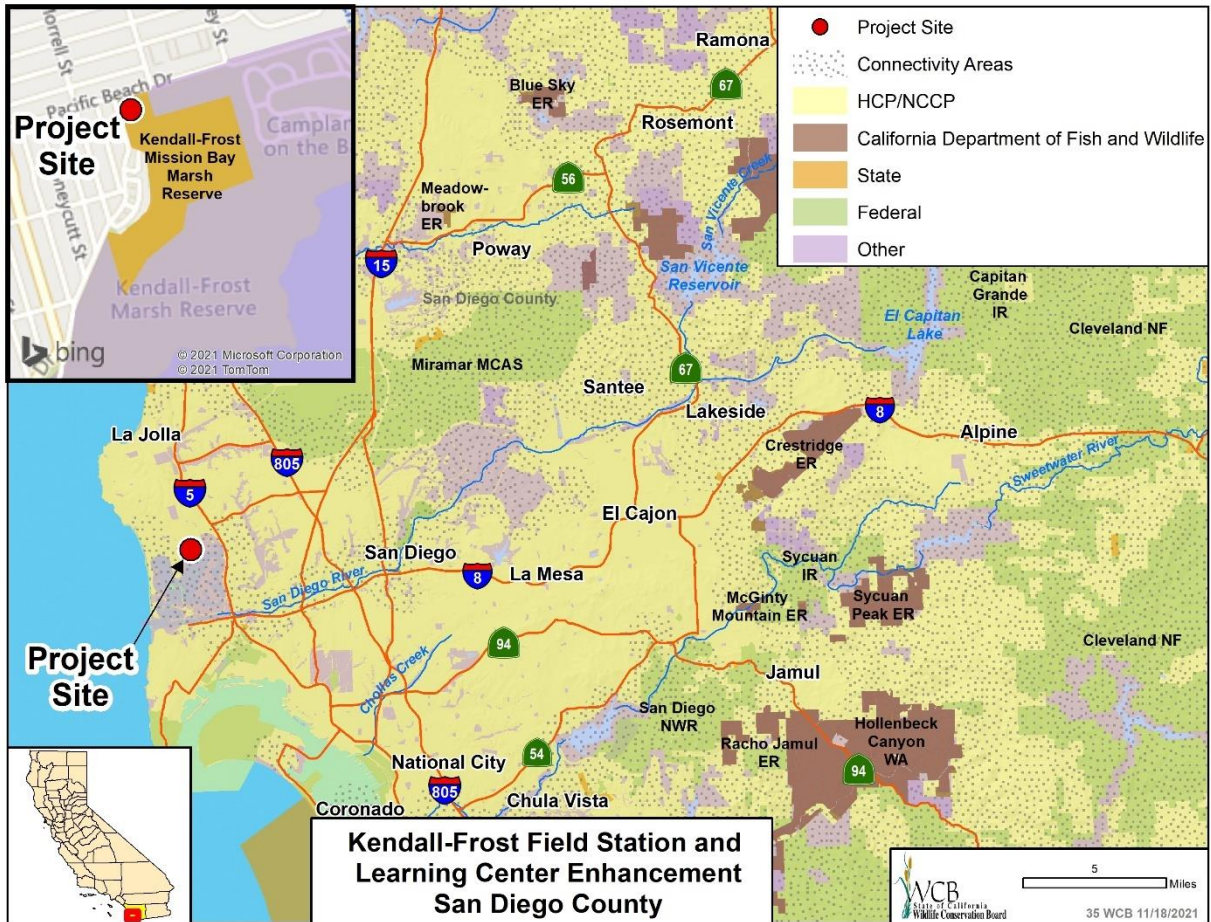
- None received

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Project is proposed as exempt from CEQA pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15302, Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction. Subject to approval of this proposal by WCB, the appropriate NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



36. San Diego County MSCP – Crestlake

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that WCB approve this project as proposed; allocate \$930,000 from the Habitat Conservation Fund for the grant to Endangered Habitat Conservancy; approve the acceptance of the Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant from USFWS in the amount of \$2,170,000 and approve the subgrant of the federal funds to Endangered Habitat Conservancy; authorize staff to enter into appropriate agreements necessary to accomplish this project; and authorize staff and CDFW to proceed substantially as planned.

Project Title:	San Diego County MSCP – Crestlake
Project Type:	Fee Title (304± acres)
Grantee:	Endangered Habitat Conservancy
Amount Recommended:	\$930,000
Funding Partners:	USFWS
County:	San Diego County
Program:	Land Acquisition
Funding:	Habitat Conservation Fund
Strategic Plan	Goals: A.1, C.1 Objectives: SI 1.2, 1.3, 2.4, 3.4
Disadvantaged Community:	Within a severely disadvantaged community

LOCATION

The property (Property) is generally located within the San Diego River watershed near the unincorporated area of Alpine. The Property totals 304± acres and is situated south of Interstate 8 and Viewside Lane, west of Harbison Canyon Road. Land to the north and northwest is mostly mountainous and undeveloped.

The area of Alpine is a small, rural community situated approximately 30 miles northeast of downtown San Diego. The Alpine Community Plan encompasses about 110 square miles and, geographically, is adjacent to Cleveland National Forest in the foothills of the Cuyamaca Mountains. The communities of Lakeside and El Cajon are adjacent to the west. Most of the surrounding land uses include residential subdivision, with larger estate developments and intermittent commercial development along the major thoroughfares.

The proposed acquisition focuses on land that will greatly enhance the San Diego MSCP, a comprehensive long-term habitat conservation plan addressing the needs of multiple species and the preservation of natural vegetation communities in San Diego County. The MSCP addresses the potential impacts of urban growth, natural habitat loss, and species endangerment and creates a plan to mitigate for the potential loss of covered species and their habitat due to the direct impacts of future development of both public and private lands within the MSCP area.

The proposed Property will conserve core habitat and unique linkage areas where naturally occurring ecological processes necessary to maintain a fully functioning ecosystem are still intact. Additionally, the Property will also provide refugia habitat from fire. Much of the surrounding conserved lands were burned as a result of the

2003 and 2007 fires in the area. The Property will provide a place for population re-occupancy of wildlife species affected by the fire. The Property is adjacent to two other conserved properties totaling 138 acres that were funded by WCB and USFWS and closed in January 2016.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Property contains a variety of landscapes and habitats, including coastal sage scrub habitat for the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher, and habitat for other sensitive and protected species. MSCP target species found or expected on site include the least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, San Diego thornmint, and the Quino checkerspot butterfly.

Linkages and corridors between major core habitat areas will be protected and maintained to allow for range shifts and migration of species to utilize suitable habitat as necessitated by climate change or temporary loss of habitat due to catastrophic fires or drought.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS

Endangered Habitat Conservancy's management team will conduct annual surveys and monitoring of MSCP plant and animal target species, invasive species, and rare plants. Monitoring data will be integrated into the regional NCCP management and monitoring program. Possible future public use opportunities that may be considered for the Property include hiking, photography, and bird watching.

PROJECT FUNDING

The DGS approved fair market value is \$3,100,000. The proposed funding breakdown for the project is as follows:

Partners	Amount
WCB	\$930,000
Partner	\$2,170,000
TOTAL Purchase Price	\$3,100,000

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

Support:

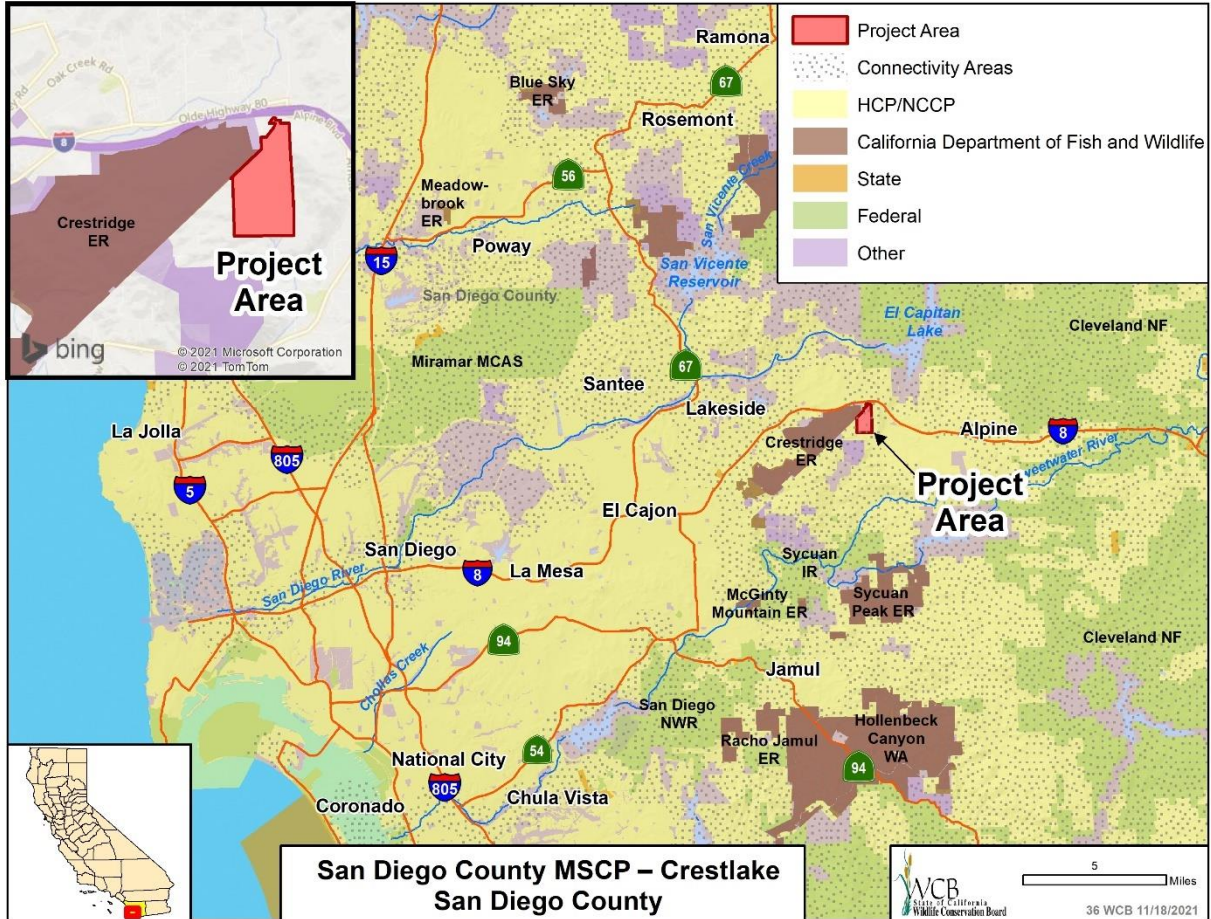
- Dan Silver, Executive Director, Endangered Habitats League

Opposition:

- None received

CEQA REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The project has been reviewed for compliance with CEQA requirements and is proposed as exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15313, Class 13, as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes, and Section 15325, Class 25, as a transfer of an ownership interest in land to preserve open space and existing natural conditions, including plant or animal habitats. Subject to authorization by WCB, an NOE will be filed with the State Clearinghouse.



37. Board Resolutions

Diane Colborn

WHEREAS, Diane Colborn, in her capacity as the first public member appointed by the Speaker of the California State Assembly, served for four years as a member of the Wildlife Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Colborn's personal devotion and dedication to protecting and restoring California's natural resources, and her understanding of the need to provide wildlife-oriented recreation for all Californians, has greatly assisted the Board in carrying out its duties and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, All who have served with Ms. Colborn have appreciated her consistent support, leadership, comments and advice, and have especially appreciated the personal and pleasant manner in which she has conducted the business of the Board; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board to gratefully acknowledge Ms. Colborn's valuable contributions to the work of the Board; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Legislative Advisory Committee, and the Board staff convey to Ms. Colborn our sincere appreciation for her noteworthy contributions to the Board, and express our best wishes to her; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a part of the official minutes of this Board meeting and that a copy be provided to Ms. Colborn.

Mary Creasman

WHEREAS, Mary Creasman, in her capacity as the first public member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, served for four years as a member of the Wildlife Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Creasman's intense interest in the programs of the Board, coupled with her sound judgement and practical experience in California's natural resources, her understanding of the benefits accruing to disadvantaged communities from sound natural resource decisions, and her dedication to protecting and restoring California's natural resources, has greatly assisted the Board in carrying out its duties and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, all who have served with Ms. Creasman have appreciated her consistent advice, questions, comments and leadership, and have especially appreciated the personal and pleasant manner in which she has conducted the business of the Board; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board to gratefully acknowledge Ms. Creasman's valuable contributions to the work of the Board; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Legislative Advisory Committee, and the Board staff convey to Ms. Creasman our sincere appreciation for her noteworthy contributions to the Board, and express our best wishes for her continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a part of the official minutes of this Board meeting and that a copy be provided to Ms. Creasman.

38. 2022 Board Meeting Dates

The Board will be asked to approve WCB meetings dates for 2022:

Thursday, February 24, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

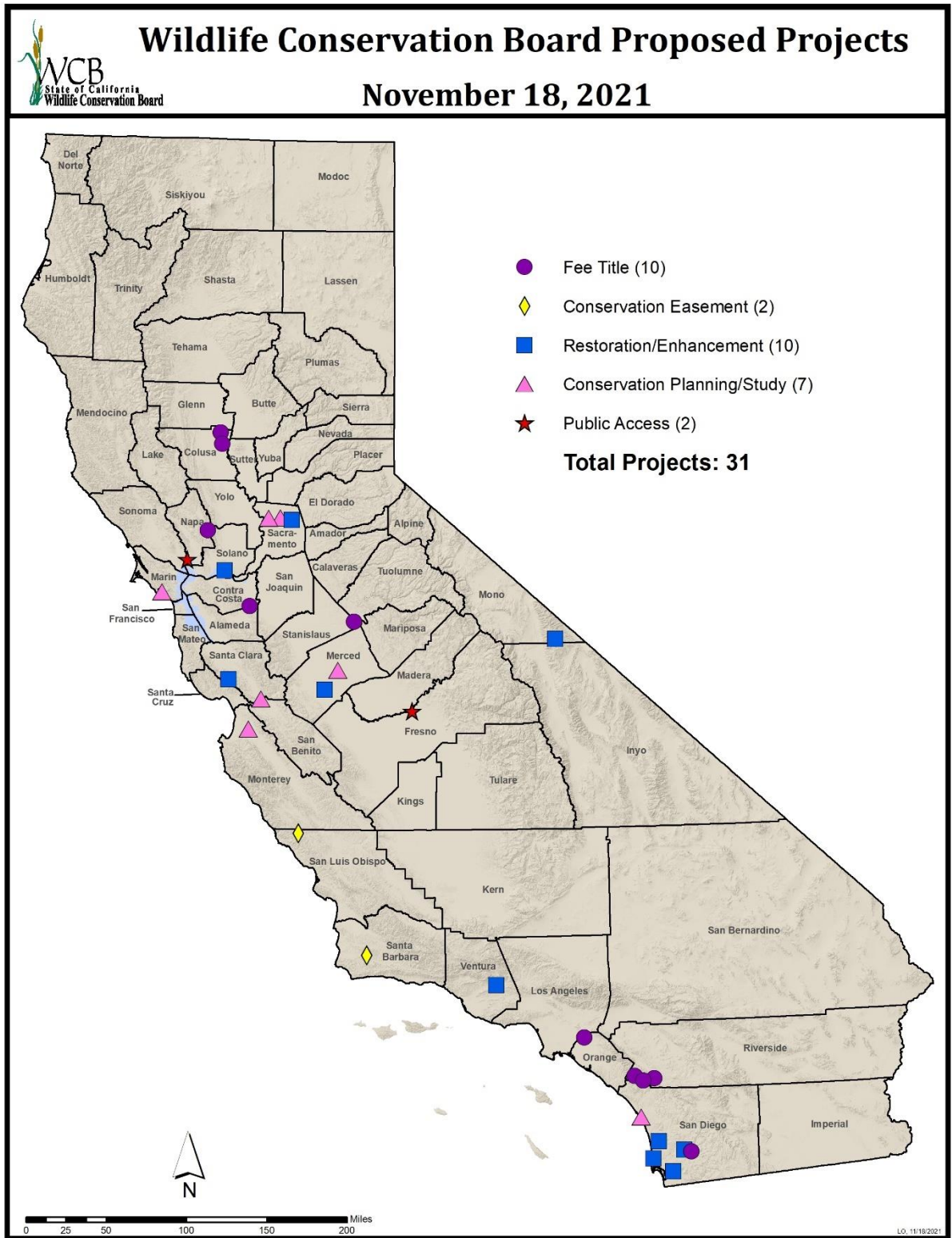
Thursday, May 26, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, August 25, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, November 17, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn

ATTACHMENT A – MAP OF NOVEMBER 18, 2021 PROJECTS



ATTACHMENT B – WCB DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

DEFINITIONS

Disadvantaged Community – a community with a median household income less than 80 percent of the statewide average (PRC § 80002[e]).

Severely Disadvantaged Community - a community with a median household income less than 60 percent of the statewide average (PRC § 80002[n]).

ACRONYMS

Americans with Disabilities Act	ADA
Bureau of Land Management	BLM
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	CDFW
California Department of Finance	DOF
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	CAL FIRE
California Department of General Services	DGS
California Department of Transportation	Caltrans
California Department of Water Resources	DWR
California Endangered Species Act	CESA
California Environmental Quality Act	CEQA
California Fish and Game Commission	FGC
California Natural Resources Agency	CNRA
Conceptual Area Protection Plan	CAPP
Disadvantaged Community	DAC
Habitat Conservation Plan	HCP
National Environmental Policy Act	NEPA
National Marine Fisheries Service	NMFS
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	NOAA
Natural Community Conservation Plan	NCCP
Notice of Exemption	NOE
Resource Conservation District	RCD
Resource Conservation Investment Strategy	RCIS
Severely Disadvantaged Community	SDAC
Sierra Nevada Conservancy	SNC
State Coastal Conservancy	SCC
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act	SGMA
Tahoe National Forest	TNF
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	USFWS
U.S. Forest Service	USFS
Wildlife Conservation Board	WCB

ATTACHMENT C – WCB STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL A. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

Acquire and invest in wildlife habitat and natural areas, and work towards long-term, landscape level conservation, habitat quality and connectivity, and the success of wildlife species and populations.

A.1 Fund projects and landscapes that provide resilience for native wildlife and plant species in the face of climate change.

A.2 Fund projects and landscape areas that conserve, protect, or enhance water resources for fish and wildlife.

A.3 Fund projects that support the implementation of Natural Community Conservation Plans, Habitat Conservation Plans and recovery of listed species.

A.4 Invest in priority conservation projects recommended under CDFW's land acquisition evaluation process or within other conservation plans supported by CDFW.

A.5 Improve transparency and efficiency of WCB and CDFW project evaluation and recommendations to approve or deny applications

A.6 Coordinate acquisition application processes to ensure that WCB project evaluation is unified across programs to the fullest possible extent.

GOAL B. ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Work with partners to restore and enhance natural areas, create viable habitat on working lands, manage adaptively, and ensure long-term ecosystem health.

B.1 Invest in projects and landscape areas that help provide resilience in the face of climate change, enhance water resources for fish and wildlife and enhance habitats on working lands.

B.2 Strengthen the grant application process to further highlight the importance of the following factors in project design and selection: robustness and resilience to extreme weather events, ecosystem services (e.g. groundwater recharge, flood reduction, fire prevention, etc.), water quality and quantity, and compatible public use and access.

B.3 Improve transparency and efficiency of WCB and CDFW project evaluation and recommendations to approve or deny applications.

B.4 Expand project monitoring and evaluation of restoration activities to assess long-term project success, moving beyond compliance monitoring.

B.5 Provide opportunities for greater public involvement in restoration projects.

GOAL C. PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION

Leverage WCB investments in programs and projects by expanding opportunities for outdoor wildlife-oriented recreational activities that are compatible with conservation goals.

C.1 Support a wide range of recreational activities (e.g. hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, camping, photography, etc.) in conjunction with other land uses and without degrading environmental resources.

C.2 Document and describe the current public access project evaluation and selection processes and explore the option of establishing a competitive grant making cycle for the Public Access Program.

C.3 Standardize existing project monitoring protocols to facilitate consistent reporting and improved performance management.

C.4 Place greater emphasis on projects that accommodate compatible wildlife-oriented public uses, while supporting urban areas and disadvantaged communities.

GOAL E. Fiscal and Organizational Effectiveness

E.1 Maximize expenditure of remaining bond funds and identify opportunities to leverage existing funds as effectively as possible.

SI 1: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, RESILIENCY, AND MITIGATION (PLAN GOALS A, B, AND C)

OBJECTIVE SI 1.1 Invest in at least three wildlife under-or over-crossings each year for the next three years (2019 - 2021), in locations deemed high priority by both transportation and fish and wildlife agencies.

OBJECTIVE SI 1.2 Invest in at least five projects that contribute to connectivity as highlighted in the California Terrestrial Connectivity Map, or linkages as mapped in regional assessments.

OBJECTIVE SI 1.3 Ensure 40 percent of all acquisition and restoration projects are in areas identified as habitat for vulnerable species or as highly resilient to climate change.

OBJECTIVE SI 1.4 Invest in at least five projects that provide long-term measurable carbon sequestration benefits.

OBJECTIVE SI 1.5 Collaboratively develop and publish criteria for addressing catastrophic natural resource events like extreme fire and prolonged drought, for inclusion as priorities in future solicitations.

OBJECTIVE SI 1.6 Collaboratively identify and fund five upper watershed improvement projects each year that have a primary or secondary purpose of providing resilience to climate change

SI 2: BIODIVERSITY ACTIONS (PLAN GOALS A AND B)

OBJECTIVE SI 2.1 Increase habitat for sensitive species to support biodiversity through statewide protection or restoration of oak woodlands, riparian habitat, rangeland, grazing land, and grassland habitat by funding at least 10 projects in each of these WCB programs with at least 25 percent of restoration projects on conserved lands.

OBJECTIVE SI 2.2 Each year, invest in at least three acquisitions and two restoration grants that advance habitat and natural community targets embodied in RCIS, NCCPs, or regional conservation plans.

OBJECTIVE SI 2.3 Implement at least 10 projects each year that enhance stream flow, increase water resiliency and meet priorities in the California Water Action Plan.

OBJECTIVE SI 2.4 Ensure 75 percent of all approved projects meet one or more conservation priorities expressed in the SWAP.

OBJECTIVE SI 2.5 Protect or restore at least 1,000 acres each of riparian, wetlands, and grassland habitats in priority areas as defined in the SWAP.

SI 3: PUBLIC ACCESS AND WILDLIFE-ORIENTED RECREATION (PLAN GOAL C)

OBJECTIVE SI 3.1 Invest in at least five projects providing public access for disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged communities.

OBJECTIVE SI 3.2 Invest in at least five projects providing boating/fishing/hunting access to disadvantaged communities and providing additional facilities for mobility-impaired visitors and/or access compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

OBJECTIVE SI 3.3 Invest in at least 10 projects that provide hunting or fishing opportunities (at least five each).

OBJECTIVE SI 3.4 Invest in at least 10 projects that have a primary or secondary purpose of non-consumptive wildlife recreation, such as bird watching or hiking.

OBJECTIVE SI 3.5 Attend or conduct at least two meetings per year that provide outreach, workshops, and materials to increase visibility of the WCB Public Access Program. At least one should be in a disadvantaged community.

SI 4: ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (PLAN GOAL A, B AND D)

OBJECTIVE SI 4.1 Each year, invest in at least five acquisition or restoration projects that have a demonstrated and measurable upper watershed ecosystem services benefit.

OBJECTIVE SI 4.2 Each year, invest in at least three projects that have a primary purpose of conserving or restoring native pollinator habitat in locations that provide a measurable ecosystem services benefit.

OBJECTIVE SI 4.3 Invest in at least five projects that provide tangible ecosystem services benefits to local lower watershed (urban or rural) communities, and document that benefit.

SI 5: PARTNERSHIPS (PLAN GOALS A, B, C, AND D)

OBJECTIVE SI 5.1 Invest in at least three projects that support state or federal Safe Harbor programs.

OBJECTIVE SI 5.2 Conduct outreach, including meetings or field visits to five new partners per year.

OBJECTIVE SI 5.3 Implement at least three competitive grant solicitations over the next five years that have been coordinated among multiple organizations and are directed at a high priority habitat per WCB program priorities.

OBJECTIVE SI 5.4 Per the USFWS Urban Wildlife Conservation Program, establish a new partnership with one urban community each year to support nature and wildlife connections consistent with WCB programs.

SI 6: WCB ORGANIZATION AND TRANSPAREN-CY (PLAN GOALS D AND E)

OBJECTIVE SI 6.1 By the end of 2020, implement a system to make WCB meetings accessible online.

OBJECTIVE SI 6.2 By the end of 2020, make substantial progress in standardizing solicitation content, criteria, and process, and develop an online application portal for competitive grants.

OBJECTIVE SI 6.3 By the end of 2020, update the WCB website to include current goals, targets, metrics, and conservation priorities for each WCB Program.

OBJECTIVE SI 6.4 By the end of 2020, develop and make mapped data that illustrates WCB projects and their relationship to program conservation objectives available to the public.

OBJECTIVE SI 6.5 Each year, hold at least one conservation partner workshop in a different part of the state, to discuss competitive grant programs and receive feedback.

OBJECTIVE SI 6.6 Sponsor at least five conferences or workshops each year throughout the state and distribute outreach materials about WCB programs.

SI 7: NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP (PLAN GOALS D AND E)

OBJECTIVE SI 7.1 Take the lead to coordinate among the state conservancies and other agencies, regarding habitat-based priorities for upcoming competitive grant solicitations.

OBJECTIVE SI 7.2 Participate in the development and implementation of the natural working lands elements of the State Safeguarding and Scoping Plans.

OBJECTIVE SI 7.3 With CDFW, complete a unified, simplified process to identify CDFW's acquisition investment priorities and obtain CDFW's review and endorsement of WCB projects

OBJECTIVE SI 7.4 Participate in statewide policy development efforts to improve fire resiliency and forest management through natural resource protection and restoration.

OBJECTIVE SI 7.5 Refine priority conservation areas for each WCB program (consistent with overall WCB goals), and report progress toward program-specific goals annually or biannually

SI 8: MONITORING AND PROGRAM EVALUATION (PLAN GOAL E)

OBJECTIVE SI 8.1 By 2021, define criteria for effectiveness monitoring by program, habitat or geography.

OBJECTIVE SI 8.2 Through continued implementation of the annual monitoring program, by 2024, cumulatively monitor 20 percent of completed projects, summarize the project compliance results, and post on the WCB website.

OBJECTIVE SI 8.3 By 2024, make the monitoring survey platform accessible on the WCB website for use by project partners.

OBJECTIVE SI 8.4 Include monitoring data in each WCB annual report and list projects by county and by SWAP habitat type.

OBJECTIVE SI 8.5 By 2022, update the WCB 60-year assessment—for WCB’s 75th anniversary—to highlight program accomplishments, including the acreage of habitat type preserved and restored.