

## Geographic Review Panel 2 - Sacramento River/Butte Basin

**Proposal number:** 2001-G203      **Short Proposal Title:** Battle Creek Riparian Protection

- 1. Applicability to CALFED ERP Goals and Implementation Plan and CVPIA priorities, and relevance to ERP and CVPIA priorities for your region.** Fully applicable based upon previously established TNC conservation easements in spring-run and steelhead watersheds on the east side of the Central Valley. The types of easement restrictions established are protective of biological resources that are the focus of CALFED and CVPIA program priorities.
  - 2. Linkages/coordination with previously funded projects or other restoration activities in your region.** Proposal directly linked to the Battle Creek Restoration Project, which is developed, with PG&E for instream remedies. It is necessary to protect the riparian corridor and the spring water supplies for the Battle Creek restoration program to be successful and effective in the long-term. One of the easements has the capability to add significant amounts of cold spring water to the restoration area to benefit winter-run, spring-run and steelhead.
  - 3. Feasibility, especially the project's ability to move forward in a timely and successful manner.** Implementable from a community acceptance standpoint based upon the Battle Creek Conservancy's advocacy for Conservation Easements. Although the details of the easement restrictions are not yet established, ample discussion has occurred among the involved parties to indicate the project can move forward in a timely manner.
  - 4. Qualifications of the applicants and others involved in implementing the proposed project.** TNC has excellent qualifications at both a regional and state level.
  - 5. Local involvement (including environmental compliance).** Plan for local involvement appears to be effective. The local community aware of TNC; easement approach to conservation and it appears well accepted.
  - 6. Cost.** Appear competitive and reasonable based on similar projects on the east side of the valley. Observing TNC's behavior of acquisitions in similar parcels demonstrates the organization's interest in deriving the maximum value from each purchase and the need to avoid setting undesirable precedence in the market.
  - 7. Cost sharing.** Another commitment to share in the funding is significant.
  - 8. Additional comments.** Environmentally damaging activities have occurred in the watershed and such damages are preventable using conservation easements with adequate restrictions.
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### Regional Ranking

**Panel Ranking:** High

**Provide a brief explanation of your ranking:** Project will contribute to protecting the riparian corridor on Battle Creek. Protection of the corridor assures the long-term effectiveness of the Battle Creek Restoration Project.