

Final Selection Panel Review

0056

Tuolumne River Land Protection, Riparian Restoration and Working Landscape Project

Tuolumne River Preservation Trust

Applicant amount requested: \$1,500,000

Fund This Amount: \$0 Withdrawn by Applicant for Consideration

This proposal builds upon a larger restoration effort that is currently underway. The proposal has two separate components, an easement acquisition and restoration of the Dos Rios property downstream (the Dos Rios and Big Bend projects). The proposal proponents have a good track record and strong public support.

The strongest nexus this proposal has to the agriculture restoration interface is with the acquisition of the Dos Rios property – a flood prone area in the San Joaquin River system. The adjacent San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge has been keystone to delisting of the Aleutian Canada goose and restoration of the riparian brush rabbit and the Dos Rios

Property would add significant floodplain function to the system, while maintaining agricultural uses on the most productive lands. However, the proposal requests only 1/10th of the necessary funds to acquire the property; there is no assurance that the additional funds for the acquisition will be forthcoming. Therefore, the Panel does not recommend funding the Dos Rios element of this proposal.

The Panel, however, does support funding the Big Bend element of the proposal, provided the following conditions are met: (1) the funding level not exceed \$500,000 and (2) demonstration that the monitoring plan being developed under a different project includes measures of the ecological benefit of the restoration.