

Final Selection Panel Review

0084

Wintering Waterbird Response to CALFED's Environmental Water Account Program: Modeling and Monitoring to Better Integrate Agriculture and Management of Wetland Dependent Birds

U. S. Geological Survey – Western Ecological Research Center

Applicant amount requested: \$1,140,163

Fund This Amount: \$0

The proposal has some good components but does not clearly articulate the linkage between the proposed project monitoring approach and the EWA program. The panel recognizes the need for development of protocols, and some elements of the proposal are needed, such as the proposed work with sandhill cranes. The technical reviews showed a wide range of views, from excellent to poor. Some important components that would have made the project's outcomes more useful to the ERP were a demonstration of a strong connection between waterfowl and other species of concern (e.g. shorebirds). Furthermore, there was only limited integration of agricultural activities to the proposed project activities, and limited direct relationship to the goals of the PSP. Based on its shortcomings the panel recommends to not fund the proposal.