

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

Project Information

1. Proposal Title:

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

2. Proposal applicants:

Ronald Stromstad, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

3. Corresponding Contact Person:

Olen Zirkle
Ducks Unlimited, Inc
3074 Gold Canal Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916 852-2000
ozirkle@ducks.org

4. Project Keywords:

Environmental Education
Monitoring
Wildlife-friendly Agriculture

5. Type of project:

Monitoring

6. Does the project involve land acquisition, either in fee or through a conservation easement?

No

7. Topic Area:

Uplands and Wildlife Friendly Agriculture

8. Type of applicant:

Private non-profit

9. Location - GIS coordinates:

Latitude:

Longitude:

Datum:

Describe project location using information such as water bodies, river miles, road intersections, landmarks, and size in acres.

The project will monitor wildlife friendly agriculture throughout the Central Valley with emphasis on the San Joaquin Region. It is listed as a Multi-region Code 15 Landscape Project.

10. Location - Ecozone:

12.1 Vernalis to Merced River, 12.2 Merced River to Mendota Pool, West San Joaquin Basin, 1.3 South Delta, Code 15: Landscape

11. Location - County:

Butte, Colusa, Madera, Merced, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tuolumne, Yolo, Yuba

12. Location - City:

Does your project fall within a city jurisdiction?

No

13. Location - Tribal Lands:

Does your project fall on or adjacent to tribal lands?

No

14. Location - Congressional District:

11, 18

15. Location:

California State Senate District Number: 5, 12

California Assembly District Number: 10, 25, 26

16. How many years of funding are you requesting?

3

17. Requested Funds:

a) Are your overhead rates different depending on whether funds are state or federal?

No

If no, list single overhead rate and total requested funds:

Single Overhead Rate: 18.96

Total Requested Funds: 466,466

b) Do you have cost share partners already identified?

Yes

If yes, list partners and amount contributed by each:

Ducks Unlimited \$50,000

c) Do you have potential cost share partners?

Yes

If yes, list partners and amount contributed by each:

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service CVPIA To Be Determined based on annual program
3406 (b) 22 paramenters**

d) Are you specifically seeking non-federal cost share funds through this solicitation?

No

If the total non-federal cost share funds requested above does not match the total state funds requested in 17a, please explain the difference:

18. Is this proposal for next-phase funding of an ongoing project funded by CALFED?

No

Have you previously received funding from CALFED for other projects not listed above?

Yes

If yes, identify project number(s), title(s) and CALFED program.

99-B02 Butte Sink II ERP

96-M22 Gorrill Dam Fish Screen Category III

95-M05 M&T Parrott, Pumping Station adn Fish Screen Categroy III

96 M21 Rancho Esquon/Adams Dam fish Screen Category III

19. Is this proposal for next-phase funding of an ongoing project funded by CVPIA?

No

Have you previously received funding from CVPIA for other projects not listed above?

Yes

If yes, identify project number(s), title(s) and CVPIA program.

11332-9-J006	Lower Butte Creek Project Phase III: Drumheller Slough Construction	AFRP
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113329-9-J135	Lower Butte Creek Project: Coordination/Facilitation	AFRP
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11332-0-J004	Sutter Bypass East Side	AFRP
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11332-0-J003	Lower Butte Creek Phase II: Butte Slough	AFRP
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11300-97-J172	(b)(22) Administration	CVPIA 3406 (b) 22
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11300-7-J043	(b)(22) Administration	CVPIA 3406 (b) 22
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20. Is this proposal for next-phase funding of an ongoing project funded by an entity other than CALFED or CVPIA?

No

Please list suggested reviewers for your proposal. (optional)

Dale Garrison	U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service	916-414-6728	Dale_Garrison@FWS.GOV
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21. Comments:

Additional information on previously funded CALFED and CVPIA projects are listed in the Appendix, Attachment "A" of the Proposal

Environmental Compliance Checklist

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

1. CEQA or NEPA Compliance

a) Will this project require compliance with CEQA?

No

b) Will this project require compliance with NEPA?

No

c) If neither CEQA or NEPA compliance is required, please explain why compliance is not required for the actions in this proposal.

This is a outreach and monitoring proposal and does not include any construction or other actions that trigger NEPA/CEQA

2. If the project will require CEQA and/or NEPA compliance, identify the lead agency(ies). If not applicable, put "None".

CEQA Lead Agency:

NEPA Lead Agency (or co-lead:)

NEPA Co-Lead Agency (if applicable):

3. Please check which type of CEQA/NEPA documentation is anticipated.

CEQA

-Categorical Exemption

-Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration

-EIR

☒None

NEPA

-Categorical Exclusion

-Environmental Assessment/FONSI

-EIS

☒None

If you anticipate relying on either the Categorical Exemption or Categorical Exclusion for this project, please specifically identify the exemption and/or exclusion that you believe covers this project.

4. CEQA/NEPA Process

a) Is the CEQA/NEPA process complete?

Not Applicable

b) If the CEQA/NEPA document has been completed, please list document name(s):

5. Environmental Permitting and Approvals (If a permit is not required, leave both Required? and Obtained? check boxes blank.)

LOCAL PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Conditional use permit

Variance

Subdivision Map Act

Grading Permit

General Plan Amendment

Specific Plan Approval

Rezone

Williamson Act Contract Cancellation

Other

STATE PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Scientific Collecting Permit

CESA Compliance: 2081

CESA Compliance: NCCP

1601/03

CWA 401 certification

Coastal Development Permit

Reclamation Board Approval

Notification of DPC or BCDC

Other

FEDERAL PERMITS AND APPROVALS

ESA Compliance Section 7 Consultation

ESA Compliance Section 10 Permit

Rivers and Harbors Act

CWA 404

Other

PERMISSION TO ACCESS PROPERTY

Permission to access city, county or other local agency land.

Agency Name:

Permission to access state land.

Agency Name:

Permission to access federal land.

Agency Name:

Permission to access private land.

Landowner Name:

6. Comments.

Land Use Checklist

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

1. **Does the project involve land acquisition, either in fee or through a conservation easement?**

No

2. **Will the applicant require access across public or private property that the applicant does not own to accomplish the activities in the proposal?**

No

3. **Do the actions in the proposal involve physical changes in the land use?**

No

If you answered no to #3, explain what type of actions are involved in the proposal (i.e., research only, planning only).

Monitoring of existing wildlife friendly agriculture

4. **Comments.**

The Project will monitor several agricultural properties. It is not known at this time which of the properties are in the Williamson Act.

Conflict of Interest Checklist

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

Please list below the full names and organizations of all individuals in the following categories:

- Applicants listed in the proposal who wrote the proposal, will be performing the tasks listed in the proposal or who will benefit financially if the proposal is funded.
- Subcontractors listed in the proposal who will perform some tasks listed in the proposal and will benefit financially if the proposal is funded.
- Individuals not listed in the proposal who helped with proposal development, for example by reviewing drafts, or by providing critical suggestions or ideas contained within the proposal.

The information provided on this form will be used to select appropriate and unbiased reviewers for your proposal.

Applicant(s):

Ronald Stromstad, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Subcontractor(s):

Are specific subcontractors identified in this proposal? No

Helped with proposal development:

Are there persons who helped with proposal development?

Yes

If yes, please list the name(s) and organization(s):

Chris Leininger C L Co.

Comments:

Existing Ducks Unlimited staff worked on the proposal with assistance from Chris Leininger

Budget Summary

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

Please provide a detailed budget for each year of requested funds, indicating on the form whether the indirect costs are based on the Federal overhead rate, State overhead rate, or are independent of fund source.

Independent of Fund Source

Year 1												
Task No.	Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies & Expendables	Services or Consultants	Equipment	Other Direct Costs	Total Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Cost
1.0	project Management	200	8200	2200	0	0	0	0	8400	18800.0	3564	22364.00
1.1	Project Management	700	19600	5600	0	0	0	0	29400	54600.0	10352	64952.00
2.0	Agric. Outreach	500	14000	4000	0	0	0	0	21000	39000.0	7394	46394.00
3.0	Catalog Existing Programs	500	14000	4000	0	0	0	0	21000	39000.0	7394	46394.00
4.0	Monitor Existing Programs	100	2800	800	0	0	0	0	4200	7800.0	1479	9279.00
5.0	Develop Criteria for Wildlife Friendly Agriculatural Pilot Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.00
		2000	58600.00	16600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	84000.00	159200.00	30183.00	189383.00

Year 2												
Task No.	Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies & Expendables	Services or Consultants	Equipment	Other Direct Costs	Total Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Cost
1.0	Project Managememt	200	8500	2281	0	0	0	0	9543	20324.0	3853	24177.00
1.1	Project Management	500	14500	4143	0	0	0	0	23115	41758.0	7917	49675.00
2.0	Agric. Outreach	500	14500	4143	0	0	0	0	23115	41758.0	7917	49675.00
3.0	Catalog Existing Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0		0.00
4.0	Monitor Existing Programs	500	14500	4143	0	0	0	0	0	18643.0	3535	22178.00
5.	Develo Criteria for Wildlife Friendly Agricultural Pilot Projects	100	2900	830	0	0	0	0	4623	8353.0	1584	9937.00
		1800	54900.00	15540.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60396.00	130836.00	24806.00	155642.00

Year 3												
Task No.	Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies & Expendables	Services or Consultants	Equipment	Other Direct Costs	Total Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Cost
1.0	Project Management	200	8800	2361	0	0	0	0	10960	22121.0	4194	26315.00
1.1	Project Management	500	15000	4286	0	0	0	0	27400	46686.0	8852	55538.00
2.0	Agricultural Outreach	500	15000	4286	0	0	0	0	27400	46686.0	8852	55538.00
3.0	Catalog Existing Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.00
4.0	Monitor Existing Programs	500	15000	4286	0	0	0	0	0	19286.0	3657	22943.00
5.0	Develop Criteria for Wildlife Friendly Agricultural Pilot Projects	100	3000	857				0	5480	9337.0	1770	11107.00
		1800	56800.00	16076.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71240.00	144116.00	27325.00	171441.00

Grand Total=516466.00

Comments.

Ducks Unlimited will contribute a match of \$50,000 resulting in a project request of \$466,466

Budget Justification

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

Direct Labor Hours. Provide estimated hours proposed for each individual.

Year 1: Program Manager (Olen Zirkle) 200 hrs Agric. Specialist (J D Garr) 200 hrs Agric. Specialist (Proj. Coord) 1600 hrs Year 2: Program Manager (Olen Zirkle) 200 hrs Agric. Specialist (Proj. Coord) 1600 hrs Year 3: Program Manager (Olen Zirkle) 200 hrs Agric. Specialist (Proj. Coord) 1600 hrs

Salary. Provide estimated rate of compensation proposed for each individual.

Program Manager Year 1: \$41.00/hr Year 2: \$42.50/hr Year 3: \$44.00/hr Agricultural Specialist/Coordinator Year 1: \$28.00/hr Year 2: \$29.00/hr Year 3: \$30.00/hr

Benefits. Provide the overall benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project.

Program manager: 26.83% Agric. Specialist 28.57%

Travel. Provide purpose and estimate costs for all non-local travel.

None

Supplies & Expendables. Indicate separately the amounts proposed for office, laboratory, computing, and field supplies.

Included in Other Direct Costs

Services or Consultants. Identify the specific tasks for which these services would be used. Estimate amount of time required and the hourly or daily rate.

None

Equipment. Identify non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one (1) year and an acquisition cost of more than \$5,000 per unit. If fabrication of equipment is proposed, list parts and materials required for each, and show costs separately from the other items.

None

Project Management. Describe the specific costs associated with insuring accomplishment of a specific project, such as inspection of work in progress, validation of costs, report preparation, giving presentations, response to project specific questions and necessary costs directly associated with specific project oversight.

Project Management will include all management tasks required by granting entity including reporting, invoicing, and state/federal terms and conditions; Negotiating and servicing all subcontracts; Supervision of all subcontractors and consultants; Landowner/agency relations; Project access; Coordination with agencies and other ATA Program Projects.

Other Direct Costs. Provide any other direct costs not already covered.

Direct Cost Rate: Year 1: \$42.00/hr.; Year 2: \$46.23 (est.); Year 3: \$54.80 (est.) Direct expenses are those expenses directly attributable to project related hourly charges. The rates are comprised of costs for salaries, benefits, office space, general insurance, support staff, office supplies, and other various direct expenses incurred at the regional offices and conservation department at the home office.

Indirect Costs. Explain what is encompassed in the overhead rate (indirect costs). Overhead should include costs associated with general office requirements such as rent, phones, furniture, general office staff, etc., generally distributed by a predetermined percentage (or surcharge) of specific costs.

Indirect Overhead Charge \$18.96% The Indirect Overhead costs primarily consists of home office costs and general support functions. The costs includes but are not limited to the following categories: Home Office salaries wages and fringe benefits; Accounting and finance; Operations & maintenance; General office expenses and supplies; Software and equipment rental/lease; Membership dues and subscriptions; Postage; Printing; Communications; Insurance; Conferences fees and travel; Legal; and, Information services.

Executive Summary

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

Executive Summary - Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program Project Type: Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Project Location: Multi-Region Central Valley. ERP Region: Landscape - Code 15 (See CALFED Project Information Form) Project Description/Approach: Ducks Unlimited Inc has been delivering a technical assistance program to Sacramento Valley and north Delta agricultural operations for the past eight years through its Agricultural Technical Assistance Program (ATA Program). This request proposes that Ducks Unlimited ATA Program be expanded to include the south Delta and San Joaquin regions. The expansion would include adding one fully supported position to the existing staff to implement the program in the San Joaquin and south Delta Region. Project objectives include: · Become a resource to the agricultural community to implement wildlife friendly agricultural practices. · Develop partnerships with state and federal agencies, agricultural organizations and conservation organizations to design and implement wildlife friendly agricultural practices. · Establish criteria for wildlife friendly agricultural pilot projects. Hypothesis: Can the implementation of wildlife friendly agricultural practices throughout the Central Valley increase and sustain fish and wildlife species while maintaining the viability of associated agriculture? Key Uncertainties: · Long-term viability of existing agricultural programs. · Adequate incentive payments to gain acceptance. · Funding sources for new practices/pilot projects. · Available water resources for proposed wildlife friendly agricultural practices. · Acceptance of practices by neighboring farmers and communities. Expected Outcome: · Contact with agricultural entities and agencies for program acceptance. · An inventory of all existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs including program requirements, incentive payments and contact organization/person, etc. · Annual monitoring reports showing wildlife use, ecological conditions, species' health and cultural changes/acceptance in the agricultural community. · A technical report on wildlife friendly agricultural criteria for CALFED wildlife friendly agricultural projects using adaptive management principles. Relational to CALFED ERP and CVPIA Goals: This project specifically addresses Priority Number 2 of the Multi-Regional Bay-Delta Areas: Develop programs for Wildlife-Friendly Agriculture and conduct studies to better understand relationships between farming and wildlife habitat. This project fulfills the Ecosystem Restoration Goals 1, 2 & 4 and CVPIA goals: Section 3402(a): To protect, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife, and associated habits in the Central Valley of California; Section 3406(b)(1) - protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values; and, Section 3406(b)(1)(a): First priority given to measures, which protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values. This project also supports the San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program.

Proposal

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

Ronald Stromstad, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Central Valley Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Program

A. Project Description: Project Goals and Scope of Work

Location: Ducks Unlimited, Inc. – Agricultural Technical Assistance Program area encompasses the Butte, Colusa and Feather River/Sutter Basins in the northern Central Valley, the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta and the East-West San Joaquin Basin. ERP Region: Landscape – Code 15 (See CALFED Project Information Form)

1. Statement of the problem

Historically, the Central Valley was a mosaic of upland, riparian and wetland habitats. Over the past 250 years, this landscape has been altered to meet our societal needs and has been converted to agriculture, flood control, navigation projects and urban expansion. Where the Central Valley once contained over 4,000,000 acres of wetlands it now contains 291,555 acres natural wetlands (CVHJV 1990). Much of this historic mosaic of natural habitats has been replaced with a mosaic of agricultural uses. Uplands have been replaced with livestock grazing, riparian lands with orchards and seasonal wetlands with rice. While many of these agricultural uses have altered the habitat values of the property, many values remain but are under utilized. This problem is especially prevalent in the San Joaquin Region where farmers have shown a strong interest in supporting wildlife friendly crops and practices.

There is a wealth of programs both at the state and federal levels to help agricultural operators implement wildlife friendly agriculture. U. S. Department of Agriculture has several programs including Conservation Reserve Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wetlands Reserve Program and the Wildlife Incentives program (USDA/NRCS 2000). State programs through Department of Conservation, Department of Food and Agriculture and State Water Resources Control Board help farmers meet conservation needs.

Agricultural producers have shown a willingness to work with the conservation community and in some instances have embraced conservation ethics in their operational and promotional efforts. (CRIA 1994). The real problem has been getting the word out to the agricultural producers in a venue that they are comfortable with and which meets their needs.

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) has been delivering a technical assistance program for the Sacramento Valley agricultural operations for the past 8 years through its Agricultural Technical Assistance Program (ATA Program). This request proposes that DU ATA Program be expanded from its current Sacramento Valley location to include the balance of the Central Valley. The expansion would include adding one position to the existing staff to implement the program in the south Delta and San Joaquin Region.

Hypotheses: A need exists for a program to work with agriculture entities/organizations, state and federal government and conservation organizations to implement existing agricultural wildlife programs and to develop new wildlife friendly agricultural programs/practices that meet CALFED goals and objectives.

Goals:

- Establish working relationships with agricultural community
- Develop a full understanding of all existing wildlife friendly incentive programs
- Facilitate problem solving and conflict resolution arising from implementation of existing wildlife friendly farming programs (example: County resistance to agricultural land use changes)
- Improve knowledge of the effectiveness of different wildlife-friendly agricultural practices by monitoring existing projects. Studies to better understand waterfowl and wildlife distribution and abundance across the landscape as affected by wildlife friendly farming practices and projects will be undertaken
- Develop criteria for new comprehensive agricultural wildlife incentive programs that are favorable to both wildlife and farming operations

Objectives:

- Become known in the agricultural community as a resource to implement wildlife friendly agricultural practices
- Develop partnerships with state and federal agencies, agricultural organizations and conservation organizations to design and implement wildlife friendly agricultural practices
- Establish criteria for wildlife friendly agricultural pilot projects

2. Justification:**a. Conceptual Model:**

The conceptual model assumes that opportunities to enhance wildlife and associated habitats are being threatened by encroaching urbanization. The model assumes that agricultural land and open space is available to protect and manage for the integration of wildlife and farming practices. Pilot projects and surveys have shown that wildlife friendly farming practices do increase and sustain fish and wildlife species (CRIA 1994); and, agricultural producers have shown a willingness to implement agricultural wildlife friendly practices given adequate incentives. DU has an existing program that works with agricultural producers to implement agricultural wildlife friendly practices and proposes to expand the program to include the entire Central Valley. Implementation of an expanded program throughout the Central Valley will yield valuable benefits to agricultural operations and wildlife and yield additional information to better understand wildlife benefits of existing agricultural lands and agricultural practices. On the Healey Ladder of the Adaptive Management Process, this project falls under “Implement Large-Scale Restoration” and includes monitoring of the baseline conditions and responses to program actions.

Hypothesis: Can the implementation of wildlife friendly agricultural practices throughout the Central Valley increase and sustain fish and wildlife species while maintaining the viability of associated agriculture?

b. Uncertainties:

- Long-term viability of existing agricultural programs.

- Adequate incentive payments to gain acceptance.
- Funding sources for new practices/pilot projects.
- Available water resources for proposed non-agricultural land uses.
- Acceptance of practices by neighboring farmers and communities.

c. Adaptive Management:

DU will work with willing agricultural producers to identify and catalog existing wildlife friendly agricultural practices. The existing projects will be monitored to determine wildlife uses and to better understand the wildlife benefits of agricultural lands and agricultural practices. Information gained from the monitoring process will then be used to recommend revisions to existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs and to establish criteria for CALFED pilot projects.

3. Approach

DU has an existing Agricultural Technical Assistance Program staff of two employees. These employees are educated in agriculture and possess extensive experience in agricultural production, agricultural outreach and natural resources management. DU proposes to hire a third employee and expand DU's ATA Program to the San Joaquin Region. The proposed employee will be required to have B.S. Degree in Agriculture, experience in production agriculture, experience in natural resource management and a working knowledge of the agrarian culture. The employee will be housed in the San Joaquin Region and report to the Western Regional Office, located in Rancho Cordova.

The proposed responsibilities of new staff will include review and cataloging all existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs, outreaching all agricultural organizations, developing relationships with individual agricultural entities, coordinating with state and federal agricultural and wildlife agencies, monitoring existing projects, developing criteria for new wildlife friendly agricultural programs and coordination with ATA Program staff on Central Valley-wide programs.

The approach will be for the employee to begin the process by working with DU staff to gain an understanding on how to initiate and develop a new program. After the initial training the employee would begin the project by meeting with known agricultural interests and develop a plan to bring in all of the local and regional agricultural groups. From this group an oversight committee can be established to peer review project activities. Simultaneously, staff will begin meeting with the agencies with existing projects in the region. A list of all existing wildlife friendly agricultural projects will be developed and reviewed and up to six (6) projects will be then be chosen as pilot projects for monitoring. A monitoring plan will then be developed with input from both the agricultural and agency groups. With the plan in place, the employee will monitor the pilot projects and collect data. With the monitoring data in hand, the employee will then work with both the agricultural oversight group and the agency group to develop a final technical report on criteria for wildlife friendly agriculture.

4. Feasibility

DU, through its ATA Program, has extensive experience in design and delivery of wildlife friendly agricultural programs. DU has delivered such programs as the Rice Technical Assistance program, which works with rice growers to implement wildlife friendly agricultural practices. This program was instrumental in developing techniques for winter flooding rice and tracking wildlife use of over 235,000 acres of Sacramento Valley rice. DU, in partnership with U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, manages the CVPIA 3406 (b) 22 program. This program pays an incentive to rice growers to winter flood their rice fields for waterfowl habitat. Other programs delivered by the DU/ATA Program are the Lower Butte Creek Project, (A fish screening/laddering program for agricultural and managed wetland diverters), Conservation Easements for Agricultural Lands (An agricultural easement program for the Sutter Basin), Agricultural Water Quality Outreach Program (A program to put on workshops educating agricultural producers on the benefits of wetlands to meet water quality standards) and the Delta Rice Program (A program to promote rice in the Delta).

Multiple wildlife friendly agricultural incentive programs are already in existence with adequate funding at both the state and federal level. Interest exists for the development of new wildlife friendly agricultural programs, specifically CALFED and the 2002 Farm Bill. Farmers have shown a willingness to participate in wildlife-based incentive programs. DU is motivated to deliver the program as part of its Valley/Bay CARE initiative.

5. Performance Measures

The real measure of performance for this project is the ability of the proposed staff employee to outreach to the agricultural community. Relationships with agricultural operators, water and drainage district managers, trade organizations and agricultural community leadership are essential to gaining confidence with agriculture as a whole. Once a relationship based on trust is established, then the project can move ahead in cataloging existing wildlife friendly programs and project sites. This phase of the project involves working with governmental agencies that initiate and manage these types of projects. At present, the majority of these sites were implemented under USDA/NRCS programs. Additional existing sites were implemented under state programs such as Wildlife Conservation Board Inland Wetland Conservation Program and the CDFG California Waterfowl Habitat (Presley) Program. Performance measures for this phase of the project will include the amount of cooperation received from the state and federal agencies in working with DU on a monitoring program and assistance in implementing the monitoring program. Regional groups are also an important component of the equation. Groups such as the Delta Protection Commission and San Joaquin River Management Program will play an integral role, serving as sounding boards for new concepts and ideas. With a monitoring program in place and the information can be gathered and the criteria for a CALFED wildlife friendly agricultural program can be developed.

Table 1: Performance measures

Performance Measure	Metric	Target	Baseline
1. Acceptance of project by	Lists of agricultural entities in the San	Establish and cooperate with agricultural oversight	NA

Agricultural Community	Joaquin Region/South Delta Region	group to peer review project activities	
2. Identify Existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs/projects	List of existing agricultural wildlife friendly programs/projects in the San Joaquin/South Delta Regions	Six (6) projects representing a cross section of agriculture land use and wildlife species	NA
3. Monitor Existing Projects	Migratory bird counts	Migratory Bird Use (Waterfowl, neotropical migrants, Swanison's hawk)	To Be Established at beginning of Project
4. CALFED Wildlife Friendly Agriculture Criteria	Technical Report	CALFED Programs	NA

6. Data Handling and Storage

Project electronic data will be handled and stored on a secure network and compiled on CD ROM at the Ducks Unlimited, Inc. Western Regional Office on request. All pertinent information gathered, evaluated and applied to the project will be kept in a permanent file at the Western Regional Office of Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and made available to CALFED upon request

7. Expected Products/Outcomes

- Contact with agricultural entities and agencies for program acceptance.
- An inventory of all existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs including program requirements, incentive payments and contact organization/person, etc.
- Annual monitoring reports showing wildlife use, ecological conditions, species' health and cultural changes/acceptance in the agricultural community.
- A technical report on wildlife friendly agricultural criteria for CALFED wildlife friendly agricultural projects using adaptive management principles.

8. Work Schedule

Listed below are the tasks, task description, deliverables and start/finish date for the Wildlife Friendly Agricultural Program:

Task 1 –Project Management: Inspection of work in progress; validation of costs; Preparation of periodic reports; Supervision of project staff, and; Preparation of financial reports; Contract compliance and invoicing

Deliverables: Project Administration and Implementation.

Timeframe: January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005

Task 2: Agricultural Outreach: Meet with agricultural interests; meet with state and federal agencies with wildlife friendly projects; Meet with regional interests including Delta Protection Commission and San Joaquin River Management Program

Deliverables: List of Agricultural Organizations

Timeframe: January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2005

Performance Measures: #1

Task 3: Catalog Existing Programs: Identify and list existing wildlife friendly agricultural projects in the San Joaquin and South Delta Regions

Deliverables: List of wildlife friendly agricultural projects in the San Joaquin and South Delta Regions

Timeframe: January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003

Performance Measures: #2

Task 4: Monitor Existing Programs: Monitor up to six (6) existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs in the San Joaquin and South Delta Regions

Deliverables: Monitoring reports on existing wildlife friendly agricultural projects

Timeframe: July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005

Performance Measures: #3

Task 5: Develop Criteria for Wildlife Friendly Agricultural Pilot Projects: Develop criteria for CALFED wildlife friendly agricultural program using monitoring reports and information developed from existing project goals and objectives, input from agricultural interests, regional groups, counties and state and federal agricultural agencies

Deliverables: A technical report on findings of the monitoring and outreach with recommendations for criteria for a CALFED Wildlife Friendly Agricultural Program

Timeframe: July 1, 2004 to December 31, 2005

Performance Measures: #4

MILESTONE: A final report with recommendations for a CALFED wildlife friendly agricultural program

The above-described program is an integrated program that will result in a final product over a three-year timeframe. The project is designed to initiate and develop relationships with agricultural and agency organizations, develop lists of programs and contacts. Once these programs and organizations are identified and relationships are built, the staff employee will work with the agency/agricultural contacts to identify existing wildlife friendly agricultural projects and develop a monitoring plan that will yield the information that is necessary to recommend criteria for new or existing wildlife friendly agricultural programs. The tasks are inseparable with costs totally attributable to staff time. Costs would be invoiced quarterly in arrears. Performance would be based on meeting deliverable on identified timelines.

B. Applicability to CALFED ERP and Science Program Goals and Implementation Plan and CVPIA Priorities

1. ERP, Science Program and CVPIA Priorities

CALFED ERP Goals:

GOAL 1: At-Risk Species – It is anticipated that this project will promote recovery of at-risk species, in particular swainson's hawk, greater sandhill crane and giant garter snake. At-risk species success should be enhanced by working with agricultural producers to improve existing practices and implement new practices through existing and new incentive-based wildlife friendly agricultural programs.

GOAL 2: Ecosystem Processes and Biotic Communities – This project is expected to rehabilitate natural ecological processes that support natural aquatic and terrestrial biotic communities and life-cycle requirements by supporting important ecological processes such as riparian corridors, nutrient and organic transport and sediment transport and decomposition that replenish riverine aquatic habitats.

GOAL 4: Habitats – This project will supports the implementation of upland and wildlife-friendly agriculture. This project will identify and purchase conservation easements on agricultural lands that affect nearby wetlands, riparian areas, or aquatic habitats or that are important habitats for special-status wildlife, waterfowl, or other birds.

ERP Multi-Species Conservation Strategy: This project addresses actions in the MSCS in the following regions:

San Joaquin River Region – San Joaquin River

121901 **Target:** Cooperatively enhance 15,290 acres of private agricultural land to support nesting and wintering waterfowl consistent with the objectives of the Central valley Habitat Joint venture and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.
Programmatic Action: Increase the area of rice fields and other crop lands flooded in winter and spring to provide high-quality foraging habitat for wintering and migrating water fowl and shorebirds and associated wildlife.

Delta Region – Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta

E011907 **Target:** Cooperatively management 40,000 to 75,000 acres of agricultural lands.
Programmatic Action: Develop a cooperative program to improve management on 8,000 acres of corn and wheat fields in the Delta and to reimburse farmers for leaving a portion of the crop in each field unharvested to provide forage for waterfowl, sandhill cranes, and other wildlife.

Ecosystem Restoration Program – Draft 1 Implementation Priorities:
This project specifically addresses Priority Number 2 of the Multi-Regional Bay-Delta Areas: Develop programs for Wildlife-Friendly Agriculture and will conduct studies to better understand relationships between farming and wildlife habitat – *Wildlife-friendly agriculture incentive program*

Science Program Priorities

- *Developing performance measures* that will track the success Wildlife Friendly Agricultural Program to enhance wildlife values within the Central Valley.
- Apply an *Adaptive Management* approach by annual monitoring requirements on purchased agricultural conservation easements in order to modify or change management practices to manage for wildlife values.
- *Coordinate and extend existing monitoring* by monitoring wildlife friendly agricultural practices incorporated in the agricultural easement property operations.

Central Valley Project Improvement Act Goals: This project addresses the following Sections in TITLE 34, PUBLIC LAW 102-575: Section 3402(a): To protect, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife, and associated habits in the Central Valley... of California; Section 3406(b)(1) – protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values; and, Section 3406(b)(1)(a): First priority given to measures, which protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values. This project will prioritize farmlands situated along riparian corridors and key habitat areas critical to increasing the salmonid populations native to the Bay-Delta and Central Valley regions; Section 3406(b)(1)(22) – develop a program to encourage farmers to keep fields flooded for waterfowl habitat creation and CVP yield enhancement.

San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program - Section 3406(b)(1)

This project supports the goals of this program by potentially protecting farmlands with Agricultural Friendly practices on floodplains and riparian areas along the main stem of the San Joaquin River.

2. Relationship to Other Ecosystem Restoration Projects

This project will have both a direct and indirect relationship to other Ecosystem Restoration Projects. By working with agriculture, projects such as riparian restoration projects can expand their reach. The Project will have a direct relationship with the CVPIA 3406 (b) 22 program by expanding this program to include the San Joaquin Region. In certain instances, agricultural lands in the San Joaquin floodplain can be altered to return to their natural inundated state during the winter flooding season.

3. Requests for Next-phase Funding (Not Applicable)

4. Previous Recipients of CALFED Program or CVPIA Funding

Table 2: Previous Recipients of CALFED Program or CVPIA Funding

Project Name:	CALFED Number:	Financial Status	Current Status
Lower Butte Creek Project: Phase II Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Analysis for Butte Sink Structural Modifcat. and Flow-through System	99-B02	Expenditure: \$520,574.60 Income: \$531,850.58 Ducks Unlimited Inc: \$ 11,275.98	Ongoing Final design and Draft NEPA/CEQA complete

Gorrill Dam Fish Screen	96-M22	Expenditure: \$1,548,907.86 Income: \$1,523,047.43 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 25,860.43	Complete
M & T/Parrott, Pumping Station and Fish Screen	95-M05	Expenditure: \$4,749,845.92 Income: \$4,530,556.71 Ducks Unlimited.: \$ 219,289.21	Complete
Rancho Esquon/Adams Dam Fish Screen	96-M21	Expenditure: \$1,151,326.33 Income: \$1,034,780.62 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 116,545.71	Construction complete Monitoring fish passage

Project Name:	CVPIA Number:	Financial Status	Current Status
Lower Butte Creek Project, Phase III – Butte Creek, Drumheller Exclusion Barrier Final Engineering, Permitting and Construction	1448-11332-9J006	Expenditure: \$ 228,951.73 Income: \$ 227,856.74 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 1,094.99	Construction complete Five Points design in progress
Lower Butte Creek Project, Phase II – Butte Creek, Butte Sink/Sutter Bypass Stakeholder Coordination/Facilitation	113329-9-J135	Expenditure: \$ 67,151.50 Income: \$ 62,263.44 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 4,888.06	Ongoing
Lower Butte Creek Project, Phase II – Butte Creek, Sutter Bypass East-West Diversion Dam Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review	113329-9-J122	Expenditure: \$ 298,286.93 Income: \$ 250,000.00 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 48,286.93	Ongoing Final design and Draft NEPA/CEQA complete
Lower Butte Creek Project, Phase II – Butte Creek, Sutter Bypass Weir #5 Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review	11332-9-J122	Expenditure: \$ 298,286.93 Income: \$ 250,000.00 Ducks Unlimited Inc: \$ 48,286.93	Ongoing Final design and Draft NEPA/CEQA complete
Lower Butte Creek Project, Phase II – Butte Creek, Sutter Bypass Weir #3 Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Review	113329-9-J136	Expenditure: \$ 298,286.93 Income: \$ 250,000.00 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 48,286.93	Ongoing Final design and Draft NEPA/CEQA complete
Sutter Bypass, East Side	11332-0-J004	Expenditure: \$ 56,633.43 Income: \$ 55,370.43 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 1,263.00	Ongoing, Survey work complete Outreach initiated
Lower Butte Creek, Butte Slough Phase II – Preliminary File	11332-0-J003	Expenditure: \$ 1,618.50 Income: \$ 0.00 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 1618.50	Ongoing Water rights analysis complete
(B)(22) Administration	1448-11300-97-J172	Expenditure: \$1,330,118.00 Income: \$1,330,118.00 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 0	Ongoing Signup for 2002 initiated
(B)(22) Administration	113007J043	Expenditure: \$ 51,476.20 Income: \$ 51,476.20 Ducks Unlimited: \$ 0	Ongoing Signup for 2002 initiated

5. System-Wide Ecosystem Benefits

This project will have extensive system-wide ecosystem benefits by introducing many new agricultural operations to wildlife friendly agricultural practices. Many agriculturists are looking for other sources of income and creative ways to use environmental causes as part of there marketing efforts. Agriculture is largest land use in the CALFED Bay/Delta region. Given this large presence, incremental changes to agricultural operations will yield huge

benefits. By placing a qualified staff employee in the San Joaquin, those changes can be ascertained.

6. Additional Information for Proposals Containing Land Acquisition

(Not Applicable)

7. Qualifications

Olen C. Zirkle, Jr. Ducks Unlimited Inc, Agricultural Programs Coordinator. Mr. Zirkle brings a diverse background to Ducks Unlimited. Educated at U.C. Davis, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Ag-Production/Agronomy, he has spent a lengthy career working with agriculture on operational and management issues. Mr. Zirkle is currently employed by Ducks Unlimited as an Agricultural Programs Coordinator where he manages the Lower Butte Creek Project, the Sutter Basin Agricultural Easement Project and the Agricultural Water Quality Outreach Program. Mr. Zirkle may be reached at the Western Regional Office at 3074 Gold Canal Drive, Rancho Cordova CA 95670-6116; Phone: (916) 852-2000; Fax: (916) 852-2200; e-mail: ozirkle@ducks.org.

Relevant Experience

Mr. Zirkle has spent his entire career working in agriculture in managerial and technical positions. Since 1995, Mr. Zirkle has worked extensively on agricultural-wildlife issues. Mr. Zirkle has managed the Lower Butte Creek Project since its inception and been responsible for overall project management as well as onsite project management in the Sutter Bypass area. His experience with agricultural producers and knowledge of the area and its varied stakeholders has resulted in bringing all parties together in a successful cooperative effort.

Project Responsibility

Mr. Zirkle's title is Agricultural Programs Coordinator. His role in this project is to manage the overall project process. Mr. Zirkle will supervise the proposed new employee and

Jay Dee Garr. Ducks Unlimited Inc, Agricultural Specialist. Mr. Garr, located in Colusa, CA, manages the Agricultural Technical Assurances Program for the Sacramento Valley. He received his B. S. Degree in agriculture with a biology minor from California State University, Chico and holds a General Secondary Teaching Credential - Life. Mr. Garr's current duties at Ducks Unlimited include management of the CVPIA 3406 (b) 22 Program, the Rice Technical Assistance Program and the Rice in the Delta program. In addition, Mr. Garr supports the DU Regional Biologist in all agricultural related programs in the Sacramento Valley

Relevant Experience

Mr. Garr has spent the last 8 years working with agricultural producers, resource agencies, county governments and other non-profits to deliver wildlife friendly agriculture programs. He was hired by DU in 1993 to work with rice growers on winter flooding of rice which now has been expanded to include more than half of the total annual rice acres. Mr. Garr is active in Farm Bureau, Colusa County RCD and is a member of the Colusa County Planning Commission. Mr. Garr's extensive experience in agricultural community outreach will be very valuable in designing and implementing the proposed project.

Project Responsibilities:

Mr. Garr will assist in training of the proposed employee and will coordinate with the proposed employee in ensuring that the ATA Program delivery is consistent throughout the Central Valley.

D. Costs

1. Budget

Total Budget \$516,466 (See Web Page Forms for details)

2. Cost-Sharing

The majority of Olen Zirkle and Jay Dee Garr's time to manage and coordinate the overall Project will be met from other funding sources listed below. Ducks Unlimited will contribute funds to cover startup expenses that are estimated at \$50,000. Ducks Unlimited has several benefactors that fund wildlife friendly agriculture projects. These funds will be used to supplement this Project. The costs of delivering the ATA Program in the Sacramento Valley are already funded through other programs including CVPIA-AFRP, CVPIA (b)(1)(22), State Water Resources Control Board (319h Program) and CALFED. (See Appendix, Attachment A for more Detail)

E. Local Involvement

The Project will be delivered throughout the Central Valley where applicable and will focus on the Lower Delta and the San Joaquin Region. The proposed employee will coordinate with all local and regional efforts including the Delta Commission, San Joaquin River Management Program, local RCDs, UCD Extension, USDA/NRCS, State & Federal Resource Agencies, Farm organizations and County government to deliver the project.

F. Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions

The Applicant has reviewed and understands the standard terms contained in Attachments D (State) and E (Federal) that were included in the ERP 2002 Proposal Solicitation Package, and agrees to comply with these state and federal standard terms.

G. Literature Cited

CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program, Draft Stage 1 Implementation Plan. August 2001.
Pages 9-16. Restoration Program Strategic Goals.

CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program, Draft Stage 1 Implementation Plan. August 2001.
Pages 41-47. Restoration Priorities for Multi-Regional Bay-Delta Areas.

Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture: Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture Implementation Plan
February 1990 pg. 5

California Rice Industry Association. 1994. Special Status Wildlife Species Use of Rice Cultivation Lands in the California' Central Valley, November 2, 1994

Soil and Water Conservation Society. 2001. Seeking Common Ground for Conservation: An Agricultural Conservation Policy Project, 2001

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Wildlife Habitat Management Institute. 2000. A comprehensive Review of Farm Bill Contributions to Wildlife Conservation 1985-2000, December 2000