

California State Wildlife Action Plan Update 2015

California North Coast Ecoregion

DRAFT STRATEGY: Fresh Emergent Wetlands



GOALS

1. By 2025, achieve a 20% increase in abundance and species diversity of SGCN post restoration
2. By 2025, improve natural successional dynamics to the level they can sustain FEW by applying appropriate grazing practices.
3. By 2025, the area/extent of FEW increases or remains the same within each sub-area
4. By 2025, restore buffers, hydrology, physical structure, and biotic structure of FEW to reach a CRAM score of > 80.
5. By 2025, restore >1,000 acres of simplified agricultural wetlands in the ecoregion to functional biologically diverse wetlands.
6. By 2025, restore the natural frequency, seasonality, magnitude and intensity characteristic of the historic flood regime
7. By 2025, restore viable populations of beaver within all HUC 8 watersheds which occur within the historic range.
8. By 2025, restore 5% of the degraded FEW habitats within the ecoregion

The State Wildlife Action Plan examines the health of wildlife and prescribes actions to conserve wildlife and vital habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect. The plan also promotes wildlife conservation while furthering responsible development and addressing the needs of a growing human population.

STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Develop management plans
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Develop policy for ecosystem management on CDFW lands
 - ii. Develop Best Management Practices for ecosystem management on CDFW lands
 - b. Activities
 - i. Revise LMP guidelines to include ecosystem management
 - ii. Update LMPs to be consistent with new guidelines for managing at an ecosystem level
 - iii. Review relevant literature related to ecosystem management
 - iv. Develop policy on ecosystem management on CDFW lands
2. Advocate for Laws and Policies
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Strengthen regulatory authority over wetlands
 - ii. Integrate beaver ecology into wetland restoration activities
 - b. Activities
 - i. Develop coalition of conservation organizations
 - ii. Coordinate with regulations unit
 - iii. Evaluate and update Wetlands Policy
 - iv. Implement wetland and riparian technical memorandum
 - v. Draft regulations that expand jurisdiction over wetlands
 - vi. Review and modify CDFW policy on beaver depredation
 - vii. Update wetlands implementation policy
3. Purchase land and Conservation easements
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Improve land management
 - b. Activities
 - i. Identify willing sellers
 - ii. Identify funding sources
 - iii. Prioritize with CAPP, ESA
 - iv. Identify partnership opportunities
 - v. Develop management plans
4. Provide economic incentives
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Provide incentives through restoration grants
 - b. Activities
 - i. Identify willing landowners
 - ii. Prioritize candidate projects
 - iii. Identify funding sources
 - iv. Identify partnership opportunities
 - v. Based recommendations based on existing program criteria
5. Provide Education
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Influence awareness of proper land management
 - b. Activities
 - i. Target large private landowners
 - ii. Target Buckeye Conservancy, RCDs
 - iii. Develop presentation for conferences
 - iv. Design and produce brochures with wetland conservation message
 - v. Employ web-based media for providing information to public
 - vi. Establish program priority
 - vii. Obtain staff and funding
 - viii. Design E&O strategy

SENSITIVE SPECIES

AMERICAN BEAVER

NORTHERN HARRIER

MARSH WREN

LEAST BITTERN

RIVER OTTER

GREAT BLUE HERON

CALIFORNIA RED-LEGGED FROG

NORTHERN RED-LEGGED FROG

CALIFORNIA NEWT

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

WESTERN POND TURTLE

PURPLE MARTIN

GREAT EGRET

PACIFIC BRANT

ALEUTIAN CANADA GOOSE

SHORT-EARED OWL

SALTMARSH COMMON YELLOWTHROAT

WILLOW FLYCATCHER

ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSES

Sea level rise

Changes in soil moisture

Changes in water levels and hydroperiod

Changes in community structure or composition

Changes in succession processes and ecosystem development

Habitat fragmentation

Change in spatial extent

HUMAN RELATED IMPACTS

Inappropriate livestock farming & ranching

Annual & perennial non-timber crops

Invasive plants/animals

Other ecosystem modifications

Housing and urban areas



Least bittern © 2005 Tom Greer



Great blue heron © 2009 Willem Froot



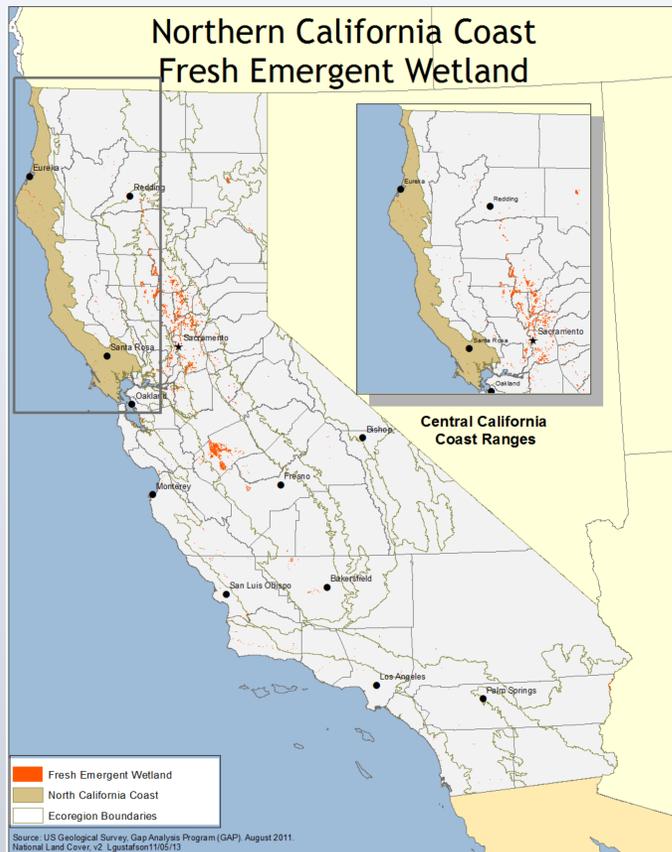
Western pond turtle © 2003 Pierre Fidenci



Canada goose © 2003 Joseph Dougherty/ecology.org



Willow flycatcher © 2005 Stephen Dowlan



TEAM



Name	Organization	Roles
Gordon Lippig	CDFW_R1	Team Lead
Junko Hoshi	CDFW_HCPB	Team Member
Christin Hubbard	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Eric Nelson	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Richard Lis	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Dave Imper	USEWS	Team Member

