California State Wildlife Action Plan Update 2015

California North Coast Ecoregion

DRAFT STRATEGY: Fresh Emergent Wetlands

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

SWAP California State Wildlife Action Plan

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

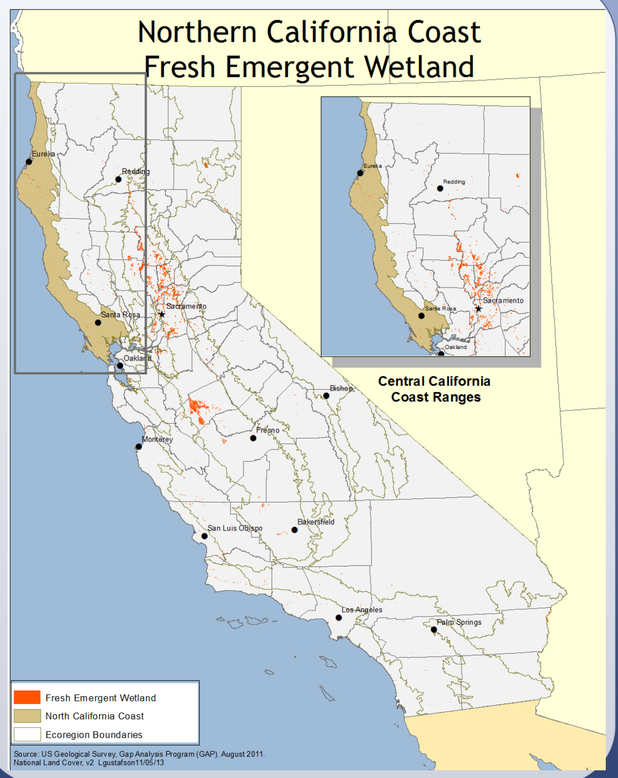
4. By 2025, restore buffers, hydrology, physical structure, and biotic structure of FEW to reach a CRAM score of > 80.

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.

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


Least bittern © 2005 Tom Greer


Great blue heron © 2009 Willem Frost


Western pond turtle © 2003 Pierre Fidenci


Canada goose © 2003 Joseph Dougherty/ecology.org


Willow flycatcher © 2005 Stephen Dowlan

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

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	USFWS	Team Member

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