Project Information

2005 Proposal Number: 0049

Proposal Title: American Basin Working Landcapes Project

Applicant Organization Name: Placer County Resource Conservation

District

Total Amount Requested: \$1,860,898

ERP Region: Sacramento Region

Short Description

Proposed project will develop a GIS-based "working landscapes" model/plan for the American basin. Project will implement voluntary practices where appropriate, including easements, riparian restoration, wetland restoration, and other on-farm, and farm edge habitat restoration practices.

Executive Summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Location: The project area is located within the American River Basin Ecological Management Unit that lies north of the American River and between the Sacramento River, Feather River and the Sierra Nevada foothills. The specific project landscaped-sized area (American Basin Working Landscape) is located between the Bear River on the north, the Feather River on the west, the Natomas Cross Canal on the south and State Hwy 65 (Attachment A) that represents a unique and prime candidate for a working landscape initiative. Project Cost: \$1,860,898 Project Type: pilot/demonstration, full-scale implementation, acquisition. Objective: Work with the local collaborative effort, American Basin Working Group, to integrate habitat restoration and enhancement for CALFED MSCS-covered species in working landscape setting that keeps private agricultural lands in production and promotes agricultural profitability and species abundance. Approach:

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This project will use a collaborative approach to convene key stakeholders together and utilize GIS technology to develop a working landscape model for the American Basin. The working landscape will be developed by assessing key habitat areas and agricultural attributes that support MSCS-covered species and design optional methods of protections within the basin, i.e., Agricultural Easements, Flood Plain Easements, Riparian Restoration/Buffers, Wetland Restoration, and Irrigation Management Practices. The project will build on existing working partnerships and collaborations between Placer and Sutter county farmers, County Resource Conservation Districts and Ducks Unlimited to purchase development rights on farmlands from willing sellers. Expected Outcomes: (1) Increase the area of rice fields and other croplands flooded in winter and spring to provide high-quality foraging habitat for wintering and migrating waterfowl and shorebirds and associated wildlife especially giant garter snake; (2) purchase flood and/or conservation easements from willing sellers on which to restore wildlife habitat to connect existing grassland or agricultural wildlife habitat; (3) develop a cooperative program with farmers to conduct wildlife-friendly practices; and (4) restore and maintain riverine aquatic habitat within critical habitat designation for steelhead trout. Relationship to ERP Goals: This project will support the following ERP Goals: (1) Recover endangered and other at-risk species and native biotic communities by protecting wildlife-friendly agriculture and habitat values associated with MSCS-covered species and restoring and protecting riparian areas and wetlands located in designated critical habitat for steelhead trout; (2) Rehabilitate ecological processes by protecting restoring and protecting key riparian areas, natural wetlands and wildlife-friendly agricultural practices that support the life history requirements of MSCS-covered species; (3) Protect and restore habitats (see ERP Goals 1 &2); (4) Improve or maintain water and sediment quality by restoring stream bank stabilization and constructing improved stream crossings and sediment control measures; and, (5) encourage seasonal flooding of agricultural fields to provide wetlands benefits for special status species requiring shallow-water habitat. Budget: The total cost of this project will be \$1,860,898.25 to date the

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project has \$ 8,418,000 in pending matching dollars. Matching funds are the sum of both committed and future funding sources. Summary: This project is an agricultural protection project integrating ecosystem restoration. The project includes the following components: (1) Placer and Sutter Counties working landscape strategy; (2) Coon Creek riparian restoration projects; and, (3) farmland protections through the use of agricultural easements. The project will restore and maintain riverine aquatic habitat on private lands and underwrite farmland protection opportunities that will add an appropriate scale and contiguous function to help support a regional working landscape.

Project Information 3

A. Project Description

This project is an agricultural project integrating ecosystem restoration. The project includes the following components: (1) working landscape strategy; (2) four riparian restoration projects; and, (3) farmland protections through the use of agricultural easements.

1. Problem – Loss of agricultural lands supporting wildlife habitat values.

Increased pressure from urbanization is now threatening to negatively impact valuable wildlands and the productive agricultural lands supporting habitat values within the American River Basin. These pressures will continue to build, and by the year 2020 the number of the people in the Central Valley will increase by 12 million. As the population continues to grow, homes continue to be built where rice has been grown for the last 50 years. In today's real estate market, farmers in the Basin cannot compete with the developer's ability to purchase land for expansion onto prime farmlands. In addition, these prime farmlands are located within or close to the existing or proposed expansion of cities' "sphere of influence" along major transportation routes between major urban areas and along waterways. No where in the state of California is this pressure more pronounced. U.S. Census Bureau statistics ranks Placer County as first in the state for the highest population change (17.6%) from 2000 to 2003. (U.S. Census Bureau – 2004) Population increased from 248,399 to 292,235 and is still rising.

Urban development occurring and projected to occur in the American River Basin will present significant adverse impacts to habitat loss and fragmentation. This will further limit the ability of the regional landscape to support several native, federal, and state listed species such as giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk, chinook salmon, and steelhead trout. Winter migrant water and upland wildlife species are also impaired by proposed and potential urbanization.

In response to this significant growth pressure, Sutter, Placer and Yuba counties have convened a strong collaborative framework. This framework has initiated comprehensive planning efforts to address the serious competition between agriculture, industry, urban sprawl and the environment, for land, water and associated economic and environmental resources. This collaboration has convened to discuss and integrate existing relevant studies and planning efforts into a working landscape strategy unique to Placer, Sutter and Yuba counties. This information has been initiated at the local level through watershed partnerships to understand existing land use, economic drivers and resource conditions. It is important to identify management concerns for agriculture and habitat conservation, and design a working landscape strategy.

To compile this information, studies were performed on key tributaries to the Sacramento River located within the American Basin that include Auburn Ravine and Coon Creek. Recently, these tributaries have been designated as critical habitat for steelhead trout under the Federal Endangered Species Act. In 2002, Placer County conducted a planning process that completed the Auburn Ravine Cook Creek Ecosystem Restoration Plan. This plan recognizes the following problems:

"[t]he primary ecological and land use conversion in these watersheds is the conversion of existing land uses from agriculture to urban and suburban development. Vernal pool grassland, which contains a variety of listed and sensitive plant and animal species, is the habitat type most immediately threatened by conversion to high-density developments. Stream and riparian zone areas face further ecological stress due to the conversion of adjacent upland habitats to urban and suburban development. Additionally, it is anticipated that water quality will decline with urbanization of the surrounding watersheds. Sustaining commercial agriculture, with its open space component, is a primary goal of habitat conservation, as planned urban development and uncontrolled annexation of agricultural lands continues. Land speculation

drives up values, increasing agricultural costs, thus making it more difficult for landowners to make a profit or pass their farms on to the next generation."

"Political pressure to convert existing agricultural land use to more urban uses in Placer County is increasing due to the proximity of current urban development and major infrastructure improvements (e.g., Hwy 65 Bypass, Placer Parkway, and two new regional wastewater treatment plants in the region) within or adjacent to these watersheds."

The Auburn Ravine Cook Creek Ecosystem Restoration Plan states that a "major flaw" in federal, state and local policies is their inability to manage or influence land use, specific species and habitat. Current policies do not provide for programmatic permanent protection, conservation or restoration of these areas. In response, it is critical to protect both current farmland and particular crop patterns on the landscape. Protection is needed for valuable farmlands that contribute to ecosystem benefits. An active protection program would slow the active purchase of agricultural and open space lands by urban interests. In addition, major ecological implications for wildlife species could result from changes in rice farming to other crops due to a change in crop prices and/or reduction in farm subsidies. If less water intensive crops are planted serious impacts on wildlife species associated with natural and seasonal wetlands created by agricultural practices.

The Placer County Conservation Plan states that:

"[t]he best hope for conserving biodiversity in western Placer County is a mosaic of agricultural, natural, and semi-natural areas. Such a landscape will not only serve conservation objectives but may also improve economic returns for agriculture through restoring ecosystem functions at a landscape level and by helping to minimize inputs and costs." (Draft Placer County Conservation Strategy 6-19)

The Placer County Legacy Program intends to implement open space and conservation elements defined in the Placer County General Plan and will help to ensure that those land uses are maintained over time. Urban and suburban development will continue to be directed into areas already designated for growth. Agricultural (including timber) and open space land will continue to be viewed as land established for natural resource production and open space conservation. (Draft Placer County Conservation Strategy 6-88) These goals put forth by the Placer County Legacy Program create a natural partnership with the American Basin Work Landscape Project. Thus, together the Placer Legacy Program and the ABWLP will make conservation efforts in the region more obtainable and successful.

Available planning and cost share programs, including USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentives, Wildlife Habitat Incentives, Conservation Security and Wildlife Restoration Programs will continue to support working lands. This project is designed to incorporate all available voluntary programs to conserve biodiversity within the American Basin by promoting a mosaic of agricultural, natural and semi-natural areas. Such a landscape will not only serve conservation objectives but help to ensure economic returns for agriculture through restoring ecosystem functions at a landscape level. Restoration of ecosystem function and preservation of agriculture are mutually beneficial when financial objectives are met.

Setting / Location: The American River Basin Ecological Management Zone located north of the American River and between the Sacramento River, Feather River and the Sierra Nevada foothills, is one of the most threatened basins in Northern California. It is composed of a matrix of land uses including rice agriculture, orchards, row crops, vegetables, pasture lands, and bedroom communities for the greater Sacramento area. While the primary land use is still agricultural, the rapid conversions of prime farmlands into housing are underway. Historically the American Basin was a mosaic of

uplands, annual grasslands, vernal pools, wetlands and riparian ecosystems. Presently, the historical mosaic has been replaced with agriculture. Remnant pieces of the former habitats still exist, but in extremely small amounts. The current agricultural lands in the American Basin support many species including waterfowl, song birds, raptors, fish, amphibians, and various reptiles. Some species of concern are the chinook salmon, steelhead, Swainson's Hawk, and giant garter snakes.

2. Goals and Objectives

Goal: Reduce the conversion of agricultural lands and avoid wildlife impacts from habitat loss and fragmentation that will further limit the ability of the regional landscape to support MSCS-covered species, especially giant garter snake, Swainson's Hawk, chinook salmon, and steelhead trout.

Objectives:

- Provide support for voluntary agricultural conservation easements that maintain land in private ownership while protecting associated wildlife and economic values;
- Incorporate floodplain land into the system and thereby accrue associated benefits to downstream flood control by potentially attenuating upstream flows due to urban impacts;
- Enhance and restore stream channel environments including the expansion of riparian systems designed to promote wildlife connectivity across the American Basin landscape; and,
- Support a Working Landscape Strategy to assist Placer and Sutter County in developing a collaborative program to implement conservation-based farm management practices to benefit wildlife on working agricultural lands.

3. Conceptual Model – (See Attachment E)

The conceptual model assumes that a wide-array of wetland species recognized by state and federal governments as special status species are present in the American Basin and relies on wetland ecosystems to sustain an important part of their life history. (Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP) 2000) By protecting the agricultural land use from rapid urban expansion, opportunities for expanding the frequency and extent of nesting and spawning habitat, foraging and energetics, and roosting and rearing habitat and a wildlife friendly environment is created. (ERPP 2000) The key concept of this project is designed around the hypothesis that integrating agricultural activities with environmental conservation will support species abundance which will provide the following ecosystem benefits: (1) increased foodweb/nutrient supply; (2) contribute to habitat connectivity; (3) implement ecosystem management; (4) maintain flood-control capacity; and, (5) protect the stability of the local economy. By protecting the ecological values within the working landscape through an agricultural conservation easement, monitoring will be conducted in perpetuity to adaptively manage wildlife response to management actions. This will provide ongoing restoration and enhancement of MSCS-covered species resident to protected farmlands. 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.

4. Approach and Scope of Work

Approach: This project will use a collaborative approach to convene key stakeholders together and utilize GIS technology to develop a working landscape strategy for the American River Basin. This will be a cooperative effort between landowners and the various members of the American Basin Working Group (ABWG). This effort will establish a forum for information exchange regarding

natural resource issues and review program and projects of mutual benefit. The ABWG will prepare an American River Basin Working Landscape Strategy document to guide management/restoration practices and available farmland protection options. The Strategy will be developed by assessing key habitat areas and agricultural attributes that support MSCS-covered species and design optional methods of protections within the basin, i.e., Agricultural Easements, Flood Plain Easements, Riparian Restoration/Buffers, Wetland Restoration, and Irrigation Management Practices. These methods will provide landowners with options to participate in effective management practices to preserve and enhance conservation values while maintaining the productivity of their agricultural operations.

Scope of Work:

Task 1.0 Project Management and Administration

Tasks will include project/contract management, budgeting/invoicing, scheduling, coordination, staff supervision, preparation of periodic reports, subcontract solicitation/management, and all other tasks that may be necessary to complete the scope of work and oversee the work in progress specified in contract agreement, final report and Project closure. *Deliverable(s):* Quarterly progress reports, Final Report, invoices, Project Closure and subcontract documentation.

Task 2.0 American River Basin Working Landscape Strategy (Strategy)

The members of the American Basin Working Group (ABWG) will convene to discuss and develop a mutually beneficial strategy that incorporates agricultural land use, land protection, agricultural preservation, soil and water conservation practices and related natural resource management issues including enhancement of wildlife habitat. The ABWG is especially interested in working with agriculture, currently the largest land use in the American River Basin to develop a working landscape strategy that supports multi-species conservation and sustainable agricultural practices in a connected and consistent manner. These efforts will assist in positioning participating county farmers to garner more support from the Farm Bill environmental enhancement programs. This approach will also provide farmers with more options to integrate mutually beneficial activities for wildlife and agricultural production.

2.1 Draft Strategy

Agricultural landowners and representatives from the following entities of the ABWG will be convened to discuss and develop the Working Landscape Strategy (Strategy): Placer and Sutter County Resource Conservation Districts, Sutter County Community Services District, Placer, Yuba and Sutter County Planning Departments, Western Placer Collaborative Watershed Group, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, Placer County Land Trust, Trust for Public Lands, Ducks Unlimited, Central Valley Joint Venture, California Dept. of Fish & Game, California Wildlife Conservation Board, Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and U.S. Bureau of Land Management. The Strategy will identify farmlands and evaluate key habitat requirements for species abundance related to giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk, chinook salmon and steelhead and evaluate potential areas and management practices that support the life history of these species. The Strategy will also recommend options to protect and enhance key habitat values through the use of Agriculture Conservation Easements, Flood Plain Easements, Riparian and Wetland Restoration, Irrigation Management and participation in local Habitat Conservation Plans and Natural Community Conservation Plans. A Draft Strategy will be written, reviewed and approved by the ABWG members to include broader local representatives and organizations in the cooperative strategic planning effort. *Deliverable(s)*: Draft Working Landscape Strategy, Revised Draft Working Landscape Strategy.

Timeframe: Draft Strategy - April 2007 - Revised Strategy-September 2007

2.2 Local Involvement and Public Support

To ensure that the Strategy includes landowners, local stakeholder, governments and interested parties in the working landscape strategy, the Revised Draft Strategy will be disseminated to the following organizations and entities for a broader participation of county residents, local governmental representatives and landowners: Sutter County District 5 Supervisor, Placer County District 2 Supervisor, Western Placer Collaborative Watershed Group, Placer and Sutter County Farm Bureau, California State Farm Bureau, South Sutter Water District, Placer County and Sutter County Flood Control and Water Conservation Districts, Northern California Water Association, Western Placer Owners Group, Yuba/Sutter Habitat Conservation Planning Group, Placer County Conservation Strategy Planning Group, Sacramento River Watershed Program, and PlacerGROWN. Follow up will be conducted to solicit participation and comments on the Strategy. These comments will be synthesized into a Revised Draft ABWG Working Landscape Strategy. This document will again be reviewed by the ABWG and redistributed to all participating individuals, entities and organizations. *Deliverable(s): Final ABWG Working Landscape Strategy, Brochure.*

Timeframe: Brochure –February – 2007 - Final Strategy –September 2008

Task 3.0 Riparian and Wetland Restoration Projects

Projects are targeted to establish environmental and farmland conservation practices that will promote habitat connectivity in key wildlife areas and riparian corridors. The project intends to work with identified farmers to restore key riparian areas located on Coon Creek to support important habitat attributes for giant garter snake, Swainson's Hawk, chinook salmon and steelhead. Coon Creek has been designated by NOAA Fisheries as critical habitat for steelhead (Federal Register ______). Ducks Unlimited will provide technical assistance, design, engineering and construction for the restoration efforts described below.

3.1 Fickworth / Janson Contiguous Properties – Riparian Restoration (See Attachment B)

This riparian restoration project, targeted to improvement of aquatic habitat in the stream, will involve two landowners contiguous along Coon Creek. Project will enhance a major stream crossing with a large culvert across the stream channel that will keep farm vehicles elevated out of the stream bed and provide erosion control. The stream crossing will be fish safe and will provide up-stream fish passage. Revegetation at the project site will include creation of approximately 18 acres that includes a valley oak woodland with a native grass under story and a functioning riparian wetland. In addition, 180 lineal feet of actively eroding stream bank will be stabilized using acceptable brush revetment techniques. Riparian enhancements that include large valley oaks and in-stream willows, cattails, rushes and sedges that will significantly contribute to providing important fish habitat in Coon Creek. Plantings will be wildlife friendly and will not effect agricultural production.

Exclusionary fencing will be constructed to protect the revegetation and existing vegetation within these riparian buffer zones from grazing and to exclude cattle from the creek. Appropriate measures will be taken to protect new plantings of trees and shrubs from deer and beaver predation.

Site preparation on the Fickworth property will primarily entail vigorous weed control. In the spring of the planting year, after all danger of flooding, the site will be disked to turn under annual seedlings; all existing native woody vegetation will be flagged and preserved. Follow-up spraying with a site-appropriate nonselective herbicide will occur in the summer as needed to control

weeds. Earthwork will be carried out in the fall of planting. This step will include grading operations, installation of biotechnical erosion control along 180 feet of creek, and fish-habitat enhancement structures such as in-stream logs and boulders. Actively eroding vertical stream banks will be re-graded so that a small rise from the creek will lead to a level low floodplain. From the low floodplain, the soil will rise with a 2:1 slope to the upland elevation. Boulders will be placed at the toe of the terrace to dissipate the water's energy before it reaches the bank. Nine logs will be installed into the bank at different locations along the reach, with about 6-10 feet of length embedded in the bank and 8-10 feet extending into the creek. The logs will point slightly upstream to maximize erosion control and enhancement of fish habitat. Graded soil will be seeded with native species, protected with an appropriate landscaping fabric, and planted through the fabric with a palette of flood-plain specialist species. After major earthworks are complete, infrastructure will be installed, including an underground drip irrigation system for woody plant establishment. A portable pump will draft necessary irrigation water from Coon Creek.

Plant installation will use methods that have been acknowledged to be successful when applied in many other similar systems. Native grasses will be drill-seeded into upland sites. Woody plants will be planted with the use of an augur attachment for a Bobcat, which simultaneously drills a planting hole and molds a water retention basin around it. A small work crew will manually install woody plants, fitting each with either tubex or a wire screen to prevent damage from herbivores. Weed mats will be installed around each plant. All woody plants will be irrigated within eight hours of being planted. Plugs of herbaceous wetland vegetation will be installed after soil moisture levels are high enough to consistently provide the seedlings with adequate water.

Maintenance will be provided for three years after plant installation. Primary maintenance activities will be irrigation and ongoing weed control. In years one and two, plants will be irrigated once a week and in year three, one a month. Irrigation will occur from May to October, with some flexibility in dates based on rainfall. Weed management will occur as needed, and may include mowing, hand pulling, targeted grazing and/or site-appropriate herbicides. Other maintenance activities may include irrigation system repair and maintenance of herbivore protections around plants.

Restoration work on the Jansen property will create mixed valley oak woodland and riparian woodland. Valley oak woodland will be created on the upper riparian terrace, with valley oak planted at 90 trees per acre; clumps of associated woody species will be planted at a total density of 80 trees per acre, for a total planting density of 170 plants per acre. Planting, irrigation and maintenance methods will follow specifications for the above-described Fickworth site. Riparian woodland will be planted along approximately 600 linear feet of Coon Creek, incorporating a diverse mix of woody riparian species.

3.2 Scilacci Property – Irrigation Management / Riparian Restoration (See Attachment C) This project will remove an in-stream irrigation pump and eliminate the need for a water delivery canal that poses a threat to anadromous fish. The pump will be relocated to an on-farm location that will reduce sediment accumulation and water conservation through improved water delivery. In addition, the riparian area surrounding the old in-stream pump location will be revegetated with valley oaks to produce shaded riverine habitat.

Habitat restoration on this site will be intermittent over approximately 3,000 linear feet of the stream corridor. The existing riparian woodland will be enhanced and extended from the creek bank, using techniques described under the Fickworth site description. Along approximately 1,200 feet of the stream corridor, valley oak trees will be planted at a density of 220 trees per acre, but

without irrigation, since the site has deeper, richer soils that should allow survival of most plants (98%) without supplemental water. The remainder of the stream corridor will be planted with a mix of riparian woodland woody species and irrigated as described above. Appropriate measures will be taken to protect new revegetation from wildlife predation.

In addition, approximately 8.7 acres of the upper riparian terrace on this property will be planted with valley oaks at a density of 170 plants per acre. These will be irrigated and maintained using the same techniques as for other woody plants in the project.

3.3 Gallagher-Majors Property – Wetland and Riparian Restoration (See Attachment D)

Project will create 20 acres of wetland along Coon Creek in 2 managed wetland areas of approximately 10 acres each. Wetland areas will create more buffers between agricultural areas and the creek. Creek levee will be relocated to the adjacent agricultural field creating two managed wetlands. These wetlands will support a diverse wetland ecosystem and will enhance the property owner's hunting leases on the site. This will further develop the working landscape where landowners have incentive to support wildlife habitat. Water is available both spring and fall making the wetlands available for both winter and spring migrating and or nesting birds. Property will also be improved by replacing creek crossing with a new fish safe creek crossing. Crossing will keep vehicles out of streambed and facilitate travel to and from fields.

Restoration Projects Timeframe:

Preliminary design engineering –March 2007 Environmental documentation -June 2007 Construction – December 2007 Project completion – March 2008 Post construction monitoring - June 2009

3.4 Preliminary Design / Engineering / Construction

Site reconnaissance will be conducted for each of the above-described restoration projects and a preliminary plant palette, including proposed species composition, numbers of each species, planting rates/density, plant propagule source, and plant sizes for each species to be used will be prepared. This information will include a planting plan that will discuss site preparation (including, for example, use of herbicide pre-treatment if needed), plant installation methods, plant herbivore protection, fencing of each planting site (with 4 strand barbed wire or equivalent), irrigation requirements, annual site maintenance and weedy species control, annual plant survival monitoring, provision of replacement plantings, and preparation of annual progress reports. Each project will provide for three years of planting care and will include items such as irrigation, weed control, herbivore control, annual survival monitoring, replacement planting, and prepare two annual progress reports and final report. *Deliverable(s): Design and Engineering, Planting and Implementation Plan, Planting Plan, Final Report and Photo Documentation.*

Timeframe: Preliminary design engineering –March 2007 Construction – December 2007 Project completion – March 2008 Post construction monitoring - June 2009

3.5 NEPA and CEQA Documentation

All required environmental documents and permits for each site will be completed. These documents include the following: NEPA/CEQA documentation, California Department of Fish and Game Streambed Alternation Agreement, Clean Water Act Section 404, 401 Certification or

Waiver and Reclamation Board Permit, if required. Access will be guaranteed under agreements between DU and the owners of the restoration lands. Construction will be completed in time to meet all erosion control measures. *Deliverable(s): Completed and approved environmental documentation and permits*.

Timeframe: Environmental documentation -June 2007

Task 4.0 Agricultural Conservation Easements – Wildlife Friendly Agriculture

Placer County RCD and Sutter County RCD will work with DU to identify and protect areas where wildlife friendly agriculture meets CALFED Draft Stage 1 Implementation Plan goals and objectives. Through DU-Wetlands America Trust, the project will initiate and develop up to four wildlife friendly agricultural easements in the project counties with potential willing sellers who have shown interest in participating in the CEAL Program. Once the areas are identified, DU will work with the community, the willing sellers, neighbors and members of the community to preserve and protect those important agricultural lands by securing a Letter of Intent, Option Agreement, Appraisal, Preliminary Title Report, Baseline Documentation, and Hazardous Materials Report.

4.1 Option / Agricultural Conservation Easement / Local Approvals

DU will present a draft agricultural conservation easement to the prospective sellers to begin negotiating specific contract language pertinent to a working landscape unique to the seller's farmlands. Once the easement document has been refined and agreed upon, an option to purchase will be presented to the seller for review and execution. Currently, DU has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Sutter County to work with farmers to protect farmland operations. After landowner commitment has been reached to sell the development rights, DU will present this information to the Sutter County Board of Supervisors as an informational item to solicit support from the Board of Supervisors in the form of a Resolution. Since DU has no formal approval from Placer County or MOU, DU will initiate discussions with individual county supervisors to develop the best way to formalize Board approval once landowner commitment has been reached. Whether through an MOU or merely a presentation before the Board of Supervisors at a regularly scheduled meeting, DU will enlist county support for the project resulting in a resolution by the full board of supervisors. The resolution will be in a format approved by the California Farmland Protection Program.

4.2 Due Diligence

Project documentation will be developed and reviewed by legal counsel acknowledged to have expertise in the negotiation and execution of agricultural conservation easements. Legal counsel will assist in purchase negotiations. When agreement has been reached regarding the purchase of the agricultural conservation easement, DU will proceed with ordering a preliminary title report, appraisal, and Phase I Hazardous Materials Report.

4.3 Funding Proposals/Agricultural Easement Purchase

DU will work with state, federal and private agencies to develop three funding proposals and if approved open escrows negotiate and close easement purchase.

Task 4.0 Deliverable(s): Executed Option Agreement, Legal Review and Due Diligence Reports, funding proposals.

Timeframe: Executed Option Agreement - December 2007

Due diligence Reports –June 2008 Funding proposals – June 2008

Task 5.0 Public Outreach and Education

Public outreach and involvement is the key to the success of framing and implementing a working landscape initiative within the American Basin. A working landscape strategy must come from the bottom up and be the vision of the landowners in the basin. To effective coordinate and on-going support for this effort, Placer County RCD, Sutter County RCD and DU have executed a Memorandum of Understanding committing mutual support and resources to provide a forum for information exchange regarding natural resource issues, where elected members of governing boards and participating agencies may address policy questions on an on-going basis, address natural resource issues within the context of the American Basin, advise and coordinate implementation of programs or projects of mutual benefit, and assist private landowners with the stewardship of their land. This collaborative partnership is providing the on-going support for the formation and operation of the American Basin Working Group to ensure long-term commitment to a working landscape strategy and project implementation in the American Basin.

Placer County RCD will take the lead in Placer County and Sutter County RCD will take the lead in Sutter County to coordinate the following Public Outreach Plan for the project: Year One: Develop an educational brochure to introduce farmers/ranchers, agencies and the general public to the American Basin Working Group and enlist basin-wide participation in the conservation planning process and contribute to the working landscape vision. This brochure will be distributed at key agricultural hubs such as feed stores, rice dryers, county agriculture commission offices, U.C. Ag Extension offices, county farm bureaus, etc. In addition, the project will conduct two events per year to showcase restoration and stewardship projects to the local farmers. This will present another opportunity to distribute the brochure and other related educational materials. These events will be scheduled to accommodate planting and harvesting schedules. A website linked to all the partners will be developed to provide access and facilitate information transfer throughout the basin and to all interested parties. In coordination with the Placer and Sutter County RCDs, DU will initiate one-onone discussions with farmers who express interest as willing sellers to participate in selling development rights through an agriculture conservation easement. A yearly report will be distributed that describes what has been accomplished, what is anticipated to be accomplished in the following year, information gaps and any unexpected limitations.

Year Two: As the American Basin Working Group develops draft versions of the Working Landscape Strategy, electronic files will be posted to the project website and electronically transferred to participating individuals and entities, as well as any other interested parties. These working documents will also be presented in local venues to solicit comments, such as local watershed group meetings, "coffee clatches," RCD meetings, etc.. These comments will be incorporated into the planning documents and redistributed through the outreach process. As more participation is recruited, the participating RCDs will maintain updated mailing lists to guarantee prompt and thorough public outreach. Brochures will continue to be distributed and two events will be held during the year to provide project update information and continue to showcase working landscape projects. A field trip will be scheduled to inform state and federal elected representatives about the working landscape project.

Year Three: The outreach efforts will duplicate year one and two to assist in bringing the Working Landscape Strategy to a completed working document and to showcase the three-year accomplishments. A formal presentation by the project proponents will be given to the California Working Landscape Council.

Deliverable(s): list of participating businesses, meeting attendance lists, and list of interested

landowners, meeting notification, invitations, maps and presentation materials.

Timeframe: Ongoing throughout grant period.

Task 6.0 Final Report and Project Closure

Submit Project Closure Summary Report to summarize Project accomplishments.

Deliverable(s): Project Closure Summary Report, final invoice and supporting documentation.

5. Performance Evaluation

The performance evaluation of this project will measure the progress towards meeting acreage goals slated for wildlife-friendly agriculture, riparian corridors and protected natural wetlands that will support key life history requirements (nesting/rearing, forage/food supply and cover) for giant garter snake, Swainson's Hawk, Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, waterfowl and other wetland and wetland-like dependent species. The project is anticipating land values, county General Plan and zoning designations and parcel sizes as potential constraints to accomplishing the anticipating outcomes and will adapt activities to manage for any impacts due to these identified limitations.

The following Representative Project-specific Performance Measures will use acres, river miles and number of participating individuals as the metrics:

400 acres managed wetland systems, agricultural easements, irrigation ditches, and tail waters.

28 river acres – riparian vegetation and riverine corridors

28 acres – natural wetland systems

Between 5 and 15 participating farmers interested in applying management practices.

Project Outcomes:

- Protection of connected wildlife-friendly agriculture
- Integration of conservation measures for priority special status species in land use planning in Placer and Sutter Counties
- Durable and long-term protection for priority special status species
- Enhancement of riparian systems allowing for connectivity along critical steelhead habitat

Activities: The following activities will be conducted to accomplish the above-described outcomes:

- Development and distribution of an education brochure.
- Two outreach events per year for three years.
- One-on-one discussions with private landowners to recruit willing sellers for agriculture conservation easements.
- Riparian restoration projects on Coon Creek
- American Basin Working Landscape Strategy

Rationale: The major land use in the American Basin is rice cultivation and other farming operations that support a patchwork of natural habitat. Protecting wildlife-friendly agriculture from urban development is key to maintaining existing habitat values that support native special-status species. This project intends to help CALFED meet the following goals and objectives: (1) protecting and enhancing 5,150 acres of goals of seasonal wetland habitat acreage in the American Basin consistent with the objectives of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan; and (2) Enhance 20,948 acres of private agricultural land to better support nesting and wintering waterfowl consistent with the objectives of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. In addition, it has been acknowledged that

supporting these habitat goals will also support habitat recovery goals for the giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk and other special-status species dependent on these habitat values.

Criteria to test the hypothesis: This hypothesis has been established and tested by the CALFED process and acknowledgement has been made in both the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan and the MSCS that wildlife-friendly agriculture supports species abundance. In addition, the Recovery Plan for the giant garter snake states that:

"Giant garter snakes appear to be most numerous in rice growing regions. The diverse habitat elements of ricelands; the rice fields, tail water marshes, the ditch and drain components of the water conveyance system, delivery canals, and associated levees, ass contribute structure and complexity to this man-made ecosystem."

This project represents implementation of Target Actions based on the previous body of knowledge and expects the recognized outcome of supporting species recovery through enhancing and increasing habitat values within the existing working landscape. The project is designed to develop habitat connectivity within a wildlife-friendly protection strategy. The project will periodically evaluate the recruitment of acres and restoration projects to ensure that the project design meets this criterion.

The criterion to test the hypothesis is the same criteria utilized by CALFED to establish the goals and objectives stated in the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan and the MSCS. This project will test the above-stated hypothesis by meeting acreage goals that contribute to habitat values (nesting, foraging and cover) integrated into a working landscape. The increase in wildlife-friendly acres will result in increased species- abundance. It is assumed through CALFED investigations and Recovery Plan acknowledgment, that wildlife-friendly agriculture contributes to maintaining and increasing special-status species such as the giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk, and steelhead.

Monitoring Plan: The key to the success of this project will be the outreach activities and recruitment of willing sellers for agricultural land protections and restoration/enhancement projects. The project will monitor the number of participating landowners, distribution of educational materials and one-onone discussions with private landowners to ensure that a connected area of farmlands have the opportunity to enlist in a protection program and restoration projects. On-going monitoring will be conducted on all executed agriculture conservation easements and associated restoration projects. The CEAL Program provides for annual monitoring of the provisions of the agricultural conservation easements and compliance with the provisions of the wildlife-friendly agriculture terms and conditions. A DU staff biologist or qualified consultant will meet with the landowner on an annual basis to review past activities and develop future plans for the property based on existing conditions. A Baseline Documentation Report will serve as a basis for judging compliance with easement restrictions and comparison with historic uses. Activities associated with the status of the species and habitat on the property will be noted in a monitoring report and reviewed with the landowner and plans for the following year will be developed. This requirement will present an important opportunity for the exchange of information and data collection that guide one-the-ground management decisions to critical to the economic stability for the landowner and sustainability of the habitat. The landowner provides valuable anecdotal and local knowledge while the DU representative becomes an important resource for technical and biological information. This collaborative process is consistent with the CALFED adaptive management approach and implements an on-going adaptive management process in perpetuity.

6. Feasibility

This project is a result of a strong collaborative effort among representatives from Placer and Sutter County planning agencies, local Resource Conservation Districts, state and federal resource managers representing the Central Valley Joint Venture, National Marine Fisheries Service and representatives from the Placer Land Trust, Trust for Public Lands and Ducks Unlimited. Considerable technical expertise and resources have effectively identified the priority resource areas that are described in this working landscapes project as key buffers to development and protection of at-risk species. DU has a strong regional history of acquiring agricultural conservation easements among the farmland owners. DU has successfully entered into an MOU with Sutter County that gives DU the support to purchase agricultural easements and with the full approval of the county Board of Supervisors. Similar efforts will be undertaken with Placer County. Under the terms of the Sutter County MOU, agricultural easements purchased within a defined area within Sutter County do not require any further county approval. Restoration projects identified in this proposal have been approved by participating landowners and are position for implementation once funding is available.

7. Data Handling and Storage

All information and technical data generated from this project will be compiled and stored on a secure network and compiled on CD ROM at the Placer and Sutter County Resource Conservation Districts. Access to the information will be available on the RCD websites, as well as links provided at, Sacramento River Watershed Program, Placer Land Trust, DU, Trust for Public Lands and Placer and Sutter County Planning Departments.

8. Information Value

Information will be used primarily to inform and integrate farmland protections incorporating habitat values and attributes for aquatic and terrestrial at-risk species within the working landscape of the American Basin region. It is the intent of this project to proactively work with state and federal resource managers responsible for ESA compliance to implement a working landscape approach that will minimize the level of governmental intervention in private land management activities.

This will be accomplished by using project information and data to inform and then evaluate progress toward achieving the biological goals and objectives for conservation of covered species and natural communities defined in the following regional planning efforts: Placer County Conservation Plan – Western Placer County (NCCP/HCP), Auburn Ravine Coon Creek Ecosystem Restoration Plan, Sutter County Watershed Plan, Yuba-Sutter NCCP/HCP, the Recovery Plan for Giant Garter Snake, and the Recovery Plan for Steelhead Trout. The information will also benefit a multi-county general planning effort to inform planners concerning future general plan amendments that will continue land use protections for agricultural lands and their working landscapes.

9. Public Involvement and Outreach

Public outreach and involvement is the key to the success of framing and implementing a working landscape strategy which must represent the vision of the landowners. To effectively coordinate ongoing support for this effort, Placer County RCD, Sutter County RCD and DU have executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU provides a forum for information exchange regarding natural resource issues where elected members of governing boards and participating agencies may address policy questions, natural resource issues and advise and coordinate implementation of programs or projects of mutual benefit. This collaborative partnership is providing the on-going support for the formation and operation of the American Basin Working Group to ensure long-term commitment to a working landscape strategy and project implementation.

Placer County RCD will take the lead in Placer County and Sutter County RCD will take the lead in Sutter County to coordinate the following **Public Outreach Plan** for the project: **Year One:** Develop an educational brochure to introduce farmers/ranchers, agencies and the general public to the American Basin Working Group and enlist their participation in the conservation planning process leading to a working landscape strategy. This brochure will be distributed at key agricultural hubs such as feed stores, rice dryers, county agriculture commission offices, U.C. Ag Extension offices, county farm bureaus, etc. In addition, the project will conduct two events per year to showcase restoration and stewardship projects to the local farmers. This will present another opportunity to distribute the brochure and other related educational materials. These events will be scheduled to accommodate planting and harvesting schedules. A website linked to all the partners will be developed to provide access and facilitate information transfer throughout the basin and to all interested parties. In coordination with the Placer and Sutter County RCDs, DU will initiate one-on-one discussions with farmers who express interest as willing sellers to participate in selling development rights through an agriculture conservation easement. A yearly report will be distributed that describes what has been accomplished, what is anticipated to be accomplished in the following year, information gaps and any unexpected limitations.

Year Two: As the American Basin Working Group develops draft versions of the Working Landscape Strategy, electronic files will be posted to the project website and electronically transferred to participating individuals and entities, as well as any other interested parties. These working documents will also be presented in local venues, such as local watershed group meetings, "coffee clatches," RCD meetings, etc. to solicit comments. These comments will be incorporated into the planning documents and redistributed through the outreach process. As more participation is recruited, the participating RCDs will maintain updated mailing lists to guarantee prompt and thorough public outreach. Brochures will continue to be distributed and two events will be held during the year to provide project update information and continue to showcase working landscape projects. A field trip will be scheduled to inform state and federal elected representatives about the working landscape project.

Year Three: The outreach efforts will duplicate year one and two to assist in bringing the Working Landscape Strategy to a completed working document and to showcase the three-year accomplishments. A formal presentation by the project proponents will be given to the California Working Landscape Council.

B. Applicability to CALFED Bay-Delta Program and ERP Goals and Priorities

1. **ERP Priorities** – The project is located within the American River Basin Ecological Management Zone. The Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan Vision includes the following:

"improved water quantity and quality from the basin to sustain aquatic, wetland, riparian, and upland habitats that support natural production of an abundance of resident fish and wildlife, as well as waterfowl and other migrant birds that use the Pacific Flyway each winter. The vision includes Improving, restoring, and enlarging areas of remaining native habitats and establishing connectivity of those areas. Native habitats include riparian, emergent wetlands, season wetlands, and grasslands."

(Volume II: Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan American River Basin Ecological Management Zone, June 2000 p. 309)

This project will be consistent with and assist in fulfilling the following ERPP Targets and Programmatic Actions for the American River Basin Ecological Management Zone:

- Natural Floodplain Processes Target 3 "Maintain and enhance floodplain overflow areas in the lower American River and floodplain of the American Basin." Programmatic Action 3E: "Expand existing floodplain overflow basins by obtaining easements of titles from willing sellers of floodplain lands." Project Objective(s): This project will recruit willing sellers to acquire floodplain easements on agricultural lands through the DU CEAL Program.
- Central Valley Water Temperatures Target 2 "Maintain a daily average water temperature below 65°F from June 1 through September 30 in lower American River between Nimbus Dam and Watt Avenue and in the upper portions of Coon Creek, Doty Creek, Auburn Ravine, Miners Ravine, and Secret Ravine in the American Basin."
 Programmatic Action 2A: "Evaluate means of maintaining cool water temperatures as necessary in upper watershed of Coon Creek, Auburn Ravine, and Dry Creek, include such measures as pumping ground water, enhancing riparian vegetation, reducing drainage inputs of warm water from agriculture and urban runoff,..." Project Objective(s): This project will implement riparian restoration and enhancement projects on private lands along Coon Creek.
- Seasonal Wetlands Target 1 "Protect and enhance 5,150 acres of seasonal wetland habitat acreage in the American Basin consistent with the Objectives of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan."
 Programmatic Action 1A: "Protect 2,000 acres of existing wetland habitat through fee acquisition and perpetual conservation easements." Project Objective(s): This project will implement agricultural conservation easements that will integrate habitat restoration, water quality, flood control, and agricultural preservation.
- Riparian and Riverine Aquatic Target 1 "Establish and/or maintain a sustainable continuous, sustainable corridor of riparian habitat along the lower American River and American Basin Creeks." **Programmatic Actions 1A – 1D:** "Develop riparian corridor restoration and management plans for the American Basin and lower American River; Protect riparian habitat along water courses of the American Basin; Plan riparian vegetation along water courses of the American Basin; Reduce land use practices such as livestock grazing and watering along stream channels of the American Basin that cause degradation of riparian habitat." **Project Objective(s):** This project will implement riparian restoration and enhancement projects along Coon Creek that will be complete with livestock exclusionary fences and riparian restoration management plans. Target 2 – "Enhance shaded riverine aquatic habitat in American Basin creeks and drainage canals and ditches and along the lower American River." Programmatic Action 1A: "Terminate or modify current programs that remove woody debris from the river and creek channels." **Project Objective(s):** This project will work with landowners in an effort to develop the American Basin Working Landscapes Strategy that will address this Programmatic Action and implement on-the-ground actions to meet this goal.
- Agricultural Lands Target 1 "Restore and maintain migration corridors." Programmatic Action 1A: "Purchase land or conservation easements from willing sellers on which to restore wildlife habitat to connect existing grassland or agricultural wildlife habitat." Target 2 "Enhance 20,948 acres of private agricultural land to better 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 2A: "Develop cooperative programs with farmers to conduct wildlife friendly practices." Project Objective(s): This project will conduct the following planning activities to support above-described restoration target: (1) The project will protect farmlands that support a vast area of drainage ditches and canals, seasonal flooded

rice fields, tail water ponds, natural wetlands and uplands that are important habitat to giant garter snake, Swainson's Hawk and other important species of fish, waterfowl, shorebirds and wildlife. Protecting blocks of contiguous farmlands will support important buffers between restored habitat and encroaching urban development.

- (2) This project will also develop a regional planning strategy to ensure that a working landscape approach is consistent with managing agricultural lands to support compatible species recovery. The ABWG will guide the local development of policies that avoid, minimize or resolve conflicts and impacts between agricultural lands uses and wildlife habitat in the American Basin. Additionally, the ABWG will consult with Bay-Delta Program agencies to analyze and determine any significance of program impacts on agricultural lands and recommend project-specific mitigation measures as appropriate and consistent with the CALFED ROD (Goal IIA). This project also meets the appropriate scale to establish connectivity of remaining native habitat and wildlife-friendly agriculture because of the agricultural setting including the large acres in rice production and water management authorities.
- (3) In addition, this project will rely on the collaboration established by ABWG, a strong locally-based partnership, to direct education and outreach regarding a regional working landscape approach in the American Basin. The project will develop education materials and hold events to explain incentives for wildlife conservation on agricultural lands and how such incentives can improve or complement ongoing agricultural operations and leverage other programs for implementation. These incentives would be intended to help landowners improve profits from agricultural and meet regulatory requirements and develop regulatory assurances to facilitate permitting on-the-ground restoration projects for MSCS-covered species.

This project will also help to fulfill the following MSCS Programmatic Actions: E090408 (expand floodplains); E090405-406 (floodway detention basins); E091501-502 (wetland habitat); E090403 (restore floodplains); E091601-602 (protect/restore riparian habitat); E091603 (livestock exclusion in riparian areas); E091801 (develop cooperative programs to restore perennial grasslands by acquiring conservation easements); and, E081901-902 (Increase rice fields and other croplands to provide high-quality foraging habitat - develop cooperative program with farmers to conduct wildlife-friendly practices – restore wildlife habitat to connect existing grassland or agricultural wildlife habitat).

2. Relationship to Other Ecosystem Restoration Actions or Program Investments CALFED has awarded project support to the following entities:

- Coon Creek Watershed Group Coon Creek and Auburn Ravine Watershed Plan completed 2004.
- Placer County Planning Dept. Coon Creek and Auburn Ravine Fish Passage Study 2005;
 Benthic Macro-invertebrate Assessment Coon Creek and Auburn Ravine 2005;
 Comprehensive Water Quality Monitoring Program Pleasant Grove Creek and Curry Creek 2003 -2005;
 Pleasant Grove Creek and Curry Creek Watershed Plan 2005;
 Placer County stream/watershed identification signage to educate public regarding salmon habitat 2005;
 Low Impact Development Workshops 2005;
- **Dry Creek Conservancy** Dry Creek Watershed Plan 2003; Miner's Ravine Riparian Restoration Project (tributary to Dry Creek) 2003; Dry Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project with the City of Roseville 2004; Pleasant Grove Creek and Curry Creek Watershed Plan 2005; Water Quality Monitoring Program 2001 to present.

• Sutter County Flood Control and Conservation District - Sutter County Watershed Plan 2005.

This project is a direct outcome of all the above-mentioned studies and information and will result in the facilitation of a regional approach to improving, restoring, and enlarging areas of remaining native habitats (riparian, emergent wetlands, seasonally wetlands, and grasslands) and wildlife friendly agriculture to establish connectivity of these areas in the American Basin.

What other measures from the CALFED ROD have been undertaken to minimize the impacts on agriculture lands?

This project is consistent with integrating water and environmental planning with agriculture, water quality, water supply reliability and land use through a stable regulatory framework. Placer County through its Placer County Conservation Plan is pursuing a program designed to ensure the continued conservation of threatened and endangered species and to resolve potential conflicts between otherwise lawful urban development activities and the conservation of species on non-federal land. Anticipating FERC re-licensing in about eight years, Placer County Water Agency is involved in gathering preliminary data intended to identify current conditions within the Yuba-Bear System. This project will demonstrate the integration of water supply reliability, agricultural practices and species conservation within riparian areas.

This project is also consistent with Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in their regional strategy to ameliorate flood damage in western Placer and subsequent impacts on Sutter County. District staff have reviewed and commented that the proposal is consistent with their flood management strategy.

3. Information Regarding Land or Easement Acquisitions

Why the project cannot be conducted on existing public land or on a right-of-way secured without purchase?

Within the project area there are no public lands that meet the requirements for a "working landscape" (agricultural lands that integrate wildlife conservation activities/practices). The project is aimed at preserving a working landscape on private agricultural lands incorporating management activities that promote and sustain ERP priorities over the long-term at a regional landscape level. These lands are situated in strategic areas that promote and support key wildlife attributes unique to the region. The project is also intended to implement a coordinated response to fulfilling the current land use goals developed by the existing county planning efforts (i.e., Placer County Conservation Strategy, Placer County Legacy Program, Sutter County Watershed Plan, Yuba/Sutter Habitat Conservation Plan and the Placer/Sutter County Joint Flood Study Auburn Ravine, Coon, and Pleasant Grove Creeks, etc.) being developed in Placer and Sutter counties.

Does the project have willing sellers?

Yes. The American Basin Working Group, together with the Trust for Public Lands and Ducks Unlimited, is currently working with private landowners in open discussions to protect agricultural lands in a working landscape setting that is consistent with the priorities of this funding opportunity. All partners are actively working with the California Department of Conservation to leverage funding that will significantly complement the CALFED Working Landscapes Program.

How is the project consistent with applicable county or city general plans and/or has support of local governmental entities?

This project is a result of on-going discussions and planning conducted by the American Basin Working Group that is made up of local governmental entities (i.e., county planners, community

service districts, resource managers, etc.). Sutter County recognizes the important of protecting a critical mass of agricultural lands to ensure a sound infrastructure to maintain the strong economic base generated from farming. Sutter County is a Williamson Act county and this project will strengthen and support Sutter County planning efforts by assisting in purchasing development rights and restricting uses that negatively impact agricultural productivity and associated wildlife benefits. To date, DU has initiated and executed a Memorandum of Understanding with the County Board of Supervisors for the purpose of becoming a designee to hold Sutter County Agricultural Conservation Easements and to ensure that the terms of the easements on agricultural lands are consistent with County policies.

Placer County General Plan is also a Williamson Act county. Their General Plan elevates agricultural lands in the county General Plan by the following: Goal 7.A: To provide for long-term conservation and use of agriculturally-designated lands the general plan has adopted the following policies: (1) "protect agriculturally-designated areas from conversion to non-agricultural uses;" (2) "maintain agricultural lands in large parcel sizes to retain viable farming units;" (3) "support appropriate efforts by private conservation organizations to use conservation easements as a tool for agricultural preservation;" (4) "develop a program for the purchase and transfer of development rights as a means to preserve and protect agricultural land;" (5) "shall encourage education programs to inform Placer County residents of the importance of protecting farmland;" and, (6) "shall through the Agricultural Commissioner and U.C. Cooperative Extension, continue to provide information in irrigation methods and best management practices. ... shall also support conservation efforts of the California Farm Bureau, resource conservation districts, Natural Resource Conservation Service and irrigation districts."

Has the project lands been mapped as Prime, of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland? Yes. Please see Attachment A describing Prime, of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmlands in the project area.

Are the project lands under the Williamson Act and will the proposed land use be consistent with the act?

Yes. Both county general plans recognize and support Williamson Act lands. This project is strongly supportive of and consistent with the Williamson Act, as it is aimed at protecting farmlands and farming practices that are targeted by the Williamson Act and adopted as county general plan priorities.

Will the project lands stay in agriculture or be converted to another use?

The purpose of this project is to protect agricultural lands through the purchase of development rights and integrate wildlife benefits within the agricultural working landscape where possible. Some lands may be converted to natural wetlands within the framework of the existing private land operations based on the purchase of an easement or in fee title from willing sellers.

Expected process and timing for notifying interested members of the public and local governments?

Within the first year, the project work plan includes outreach components that informs private landowners, as well as the general public, regarding the vision and scope this project. Lands secured under an agricultural conservation easement or purchased in fee title must comply with strict notification requirements to adjoining landowners. In addition, regular presentations will be made in a public setting to inform the Board of Supervisors in each county regarding adopting project resolutions and approving anticipated agricultural conservation easements.

What other measures from the CALFED ROD have been undertaken to minimize the impacts on agriculture lands?

This project is consistent with integrating water and environmental planning with agriculture, water quality, water supply reliability and land use through a stable regulatory framework. Placer County through its Placer County Conservation Plan is pursuing a program designed to ensure the continued conservation of threatened and endangered species, and to resolve potential conflicts between otherwise lawful urban development activities and the conservation of species on non-federal land. Anticipating FERC re-licensing in about eight years, the Placer County Water Agency is involved in gathering preliminary data intended to identify current conditions within the Yuba-Bear System. This project will demonstrate the integration of water supply reliability, agricultural practices and species conservation within riparian areas.

This project is also consistent with the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in their regional strategy to ameliorate flood damage in western Placer and subsequent impacts on Sutter County. District staff have reviewed and commented that this proposal is consistent with their flood management strategy.

C. Qualifications and Organization

The American Basin Working Group (ABWG) brings together a diverse array of professionals with qualified expertise in land use planning, conservation biology and local agricultural practices. The group is comprised of Placer and Sutter Resource Conservation Districts, Placer County Planning Department, Sutter County Planning Department, California Department of Fish and Game, the California Wildlife Conservation Board, the California Department of Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Placer Land Trust, The Trust for Public Land, Ducks Unlimited, and both. The members of the ABWG will act as a steering committee to advise and assist in guiding conservation planning in the American River Basin.

Rich Gresham, Manager, Placer County Resource Conservation District, will act as the project director and assume the primary role of grant administrator and project manager. The Sutter County Resource Conservation District watershed coordinator, Ryan Bonea, will take the lead in public outreach and education in Sutter County. Ducks Unlimited (DU) will provide technical assistance, engineering/design/construction and act as the beneficiary for agriculture conservation easements. The principals for DU responsibilities will be Olen Zirkle, Manager, Conservation Programs, and Joe Navari, Real Estate Specialist. DU staff, Virginia Getz, Lead Biologist and Vince Thompson, Lead Civil Engineering will prepare the design/engineering/environmental documentation for the restoration projects. Conservation biological services and conservation engineering/construction services will be preformed in the DU offices and with sub-contractors as needed. DU will provide technical assistance and project management services to guarantee that project goals are met. The use of DU staff will ensure that the scientific and engineering information will benefit the working landscape vision in the American River Basin.

D. Cost

1. Budget – Please See Budget Sheet.

2. Cost Share and Matching Funds

The project is uniquely positioned to leverage matching dollars from various resource agencies and nonprofit groups. Currently, the California Department of Fish and Game, in partnership with the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service, have dedicated \$5 million for the acquisition of lands in the American River Basin through an U.S. Endangered Species Act Section 6 grant. In concert with this support, the Wildlife Conservation Board has committed \$1.25 million as match. The Section 6 funding is available for acquisition of both fee title property and agricultural conservation easements. The Placer Legacy Program has also committed \$50,000 toward farmland protection/restoration activities along Coon Creek.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Central Valley Joint Venture collaboratively supported DU to utilize GIS technology to identify and map existing land uses that will be available for this project totaling \$18,000. In addition, \$10,000 has been awarded to DU to support a Real Estate Specialist to establish an agricultural conservation easement program in the American River Basin.

Ducks Unlimited intends to submit grant proposals for approximately \$2 million to the California Department of Conservation's California Farmland Conservancy Program and the USDA/NRCS Farm and Ranch Protection Program (FRPP) that will directly match the funding provided for conservation easements in this proposal. These funds are both tentative and dependant on the submittal of successful grants to both agencies.

Currently, a grant for \$90,000 from the Department of Conservation's California Farmland Conservation Program has been submitted and approved subject to final grant agreement negotiations. The grant provides funding for DU's Real Estate Specialist to assist in establishing an agricultural conservation easement program in the American Basin.

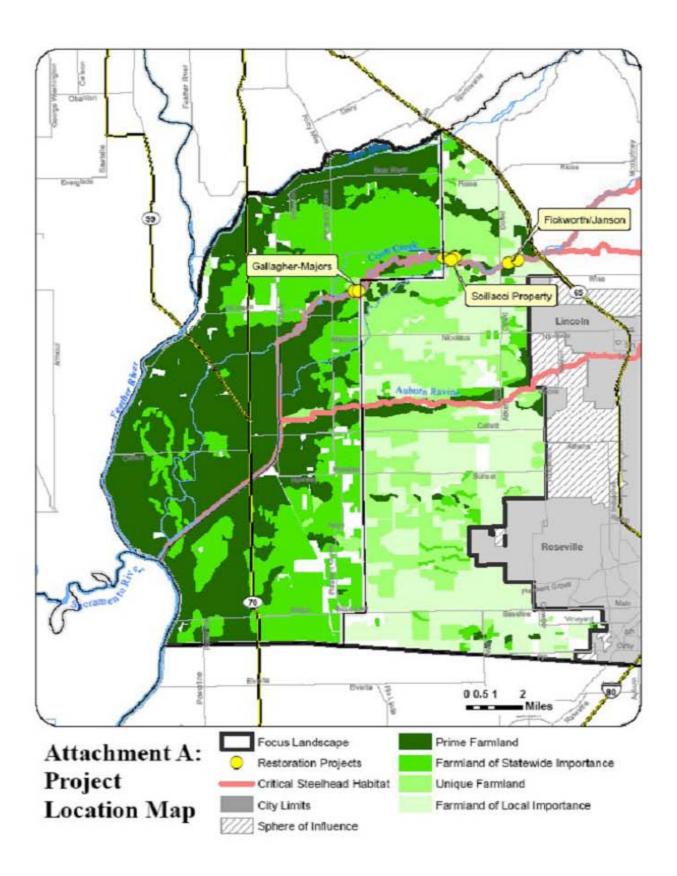
Placer County Department of Planning has committed an in-kind match for up to 250 hours toward developing and completing the American River Basin Working Landscape Strategy.

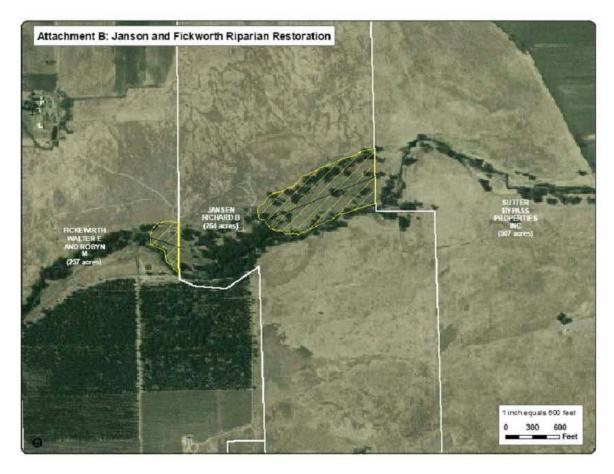
3. Long-term Funding Strategy

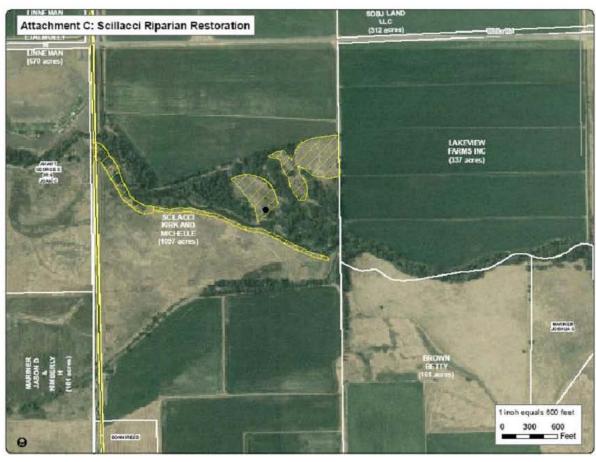
This project is designed to set in place working landscape protections on private agricultural lands in perpetuity. The use of agricultural conservation easements to implement these land protections will not take the land out of private ownership and therefore, long-term support for the project lands is provided by the owner of record. Restoration projects will also take place on private lands and rely on private ownership for operations and maintenance. The project is designed to weave restoration and protection activities into the working landscape to establish long-term support of species recovery and maintenance.

E. Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions

Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) is willing and able to comply with terms of the ERP Grant agreement. Currently, they have resolutions on file with the Resources Agency-Department of Conservation Grant Number 3003-575 and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection contract number 2CA23145 Amendment #2 stating that the RCD agrees with state standard terms and conditions. The RCD has reviewed ERP grant agreement template and understands the standard grant agreement terms and is prepared to submit, upon notice of award, a resolution so stating.













Tasks And Deliverables

Task ID	Task Name	Start Month	End Month	Personnel Involved	Deliverables
1	Project Management and Administration	8	8	Gresham, Richard Katie, Maloney Navari, Joseph	Deliverable(s): Quarterly progress reports, Final Report, invoices, Project Closure and subcontract documentation. Timeframe: Draft Strategy - April 2007 - Revised Strategy-September 2007 On going duration of grant period.
2	American River Basin Working Landscape Strategy	2	9	Gresham, Richard Navari, Joseph Bonea, Ryan Sullivan, Edmund	Deliverable(s): Final ABWG Working Landscape Strategy, Brochure. Timeframe: Brochure -February - 2007 - Final Strategy -September 2008
3	Riparian and Wetland Restoration Projects	3	6	Gresham, Richard White, Mark Navari, Joseph Getz, Virginia	Deliverable(s): Completed and approved environmental documentation and permits. Restoration Projects Timeframe: Preliminary design engineering -March 2007 Environmental documentation -June 2007 Construction - December 2007 Project completion - March 2008 Post construction monitoring - June 2009
4	Agricultural Conservation Easements - Wildlife Friendly Agriculture	6	6	Gresham, Richard Navari, Joseph	Task 4.0 Deliverable(s): Executed Option Agreement, Legal Review and Due Diligence Reports, funding proposals.Timeframe:Executed Option Agreement - December

					2007 Due diligence Reports -June 2008 Funding proposals - June 2008 Easement Purchase Documentation - June 2009
5	Public Outreach and Education	9	9	Gresham, Richard Navari, Joseph Bonea, Ryan Sullivan, Edmund	Deliverable(s): list of participating businesses, meeting attendance lists, and list of interested landowners, meeting notification, invitations, maps and presentation materials. Timeframe: Ongoing throughout grant period.
6	Final Report and Project Closure	9	10	Gresham, Richard Navari, Joseph	Deliverable(s): Project Closure Summary Report, final invoice and supporting documentation.

Note: This budget summary **automatically links** to the costs and totals on the **"Budget Detail"** worksheet. **DO NOT CHANGE FORMULAS OR ENTER NUMBERS INTO ANY CELLS EXCEPT THE SHADED CELLS** for "Cost Share" and "Other Matching Funds"

BUDGET SUMMARY	То	tal Amount for Year 1	То	tal Amount for Year 2	To	tal Amount for Year 3	To	tal Amount for All Years
Total Costs for Task One	\$	31,135.79	\$	25,433.86	\$	25,433.86	\$	82,003.51
Total Costs for Task Two	\$	41,029.10	\$	16,029.10	\$	16,029.10	\$	73,087.30
Total Costs for Task Three	\$	412,864.58	\$	530,529.58	\$	75,529.58	\$	1,018,923.74
Total Costs for Task Four	\$	41,119.10	\$	41,119.10	\$	541,119.10	\$	623,357.30
Total Costs for Task Five	\$	18,739.10	\$	18,739.10	\$	18,739.10	\$	56,217.30
Total Costs for Task Six	\$	-	\$	-	\$	7,309.10	\$	7,309.10
Total Costs for Task Seven	\$	- "	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Eight	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	
Total Costs for Task Nine	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Ten	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Eleven	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Twelve	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Thirteen	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Fourteen	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Task Fifteen	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Costs for Project Tasks	\$	544,887.67	\$	631,850.74	\$	684,159.84	\$	1,860,898.25
1/Cost Share	\$			3. 为是实现的现在	\$		\$	-
2/ Other Matching Funds	\$	2,794,000.00	\$	2,794,000.00	\$	2,794,000.00	\$	8,382,000.00

^{1/} Cost share funds are specifically dedicated to your project and can include private and other State and Federal grants. Any funds listed in this line must be further described in the text of your proposal (see Chapter 3, Section D, of the PSP document)

^{2/} Other matching funds include other funds invested consistent with your project in your project area for which the ERP grant applicant is not eligible. Any funds listed in this line must be further described in the text of your proposal (see Chapter 3, Section D, of the PSP document)

			Year	1		Year	2	Year 3		
BUDGET FOR TASK ONE (Administrative)	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 1 All Years	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount
Personnel										
Richard Gresham-Project Manager	\$ 26,698.00	\$ 38.14	300		\$ 38.14	200		\$ 38.14	200	
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ 26,698.00	\$ -		\$ - \$ 11,442.00	\$ -		\$ - \$ 7,628.00	\$ -		\$ 7,628.00
Personnei Subtotai	\$ 26,698.00	-		\$ 11,442.00			\$ 7,020.00			\$ 7,020.00
1/ Benefits as percent of salary	30%			\$3,432.60			\$2,288.40			\$2,288.40
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$34,707.40			\$14,874.60			\$9,916.40			\$9,916.40
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies, software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
3/ Equipment	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
K. Maloney-Adminstration	\$ 21,600.00			\$ 7,200.00			\$ 7,200.00			\$ 7,200.0
J. Navari Ducks Unlimited	\$ 15,000.00	-		\$ 5,000.00			\$ 5,000.00			\$ 5,000.0
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
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4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			a
Other Costs Subtotal	\$ 36,600.00			\$ 12,200.00			\$ 12,200.00			\$ 12,200.0
^{5/} Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)	159	6		\$ 4,061.19			\$ 3,317.46			\$ 3,317.4
Total Costs for Task One	\$ 82,003.51			\$ 31,135.79			\$ 25,433.86			\$ 25,433.8

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

		Year 1			Year 2				Year 3		
BUDGET FOR TASK TWO	TOTAL AMOUNT		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3	
Personnel											
Rich Gresham-Project Manager	\$ 5,721.00		50	\$ 1,907.00		50		\$ 38.14	50		
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ 5,721.00			\$ 1,907.00			\$ 1,907.00			\$ 1,907.00	
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary	309	6		\$572.10			\$572.10			\$572.10	
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$7,437.30			\$2,479.10			\$2,479.10			\$2,479.10	
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3	
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,											
software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
3/ Equipment	\$ -			\$			\$ -			\$ -	
J. Navari Ducks Unlimited	\$ 30,750.00)		\$ 10,250.00			\$ 10,250.00			\$ 10,250.00	
Ryan Boena Sutter County RCD	\$ 9,900.00)		\$ 3,300.00			\$ 3,300.00			\$ 3,300.00	
Placer County Planning Department	\$ 25,000.00)		\$ 25,000.00			\$ -			\$ -	
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$			\$ -	
Other Costs Subtotal	\$ 65,650.00			\$ 38,550.00			\$ 13,550.00			\$ 13,550.00	
^{5/} Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)				\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
Total Costs for Task Two	\$ 73,087.30)		\$ 41,029.10			\$ 16,029.10			\$ 16,029.10	

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

		Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			3		
BUDGET FOR TASK THREE	AL AMOUNT K 3 All Years			Number of Hours		otal Amount for Year 1			Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2			Number of Hours		tal Amount or Year 3
Personnel		Ė					ľ				ľ				
Rich Gresham-Project Manager	\$ 5,721.00	\$	38.14	50	\$	1,907.00	\$	38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00	\$	38.14	50	\$	1,907.00
Mark White-Resource Management Planner (Field Review)	\$ 8,608.80	\$	35.87	80	\$	2,869.60	\$	35.87	80	\$ 2,869.60	\$	35.87	80	\$	2,869.60
	\$ -	\$	-		\$	-	\$	-		\$ -	\$			\$	-

^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

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Personnel Subtotal	\$ 14,329.80		\$ 4,776.60		\$ 4,776.60		\$ 4,776.60
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary	30%		\$1,432.98		\$1,432.98		\$1,432.98
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$18,628.74		\$6,209.58		\$6,209.58		\$6,209.58
Other Costs	Total All Years		Total Year 1		Total Year 2		Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies, software, office supplies, etc) Ducks Unlimited Engineering and Construction Costs	\$ 217,675.00		\$ 77,675.00		\$ 140,000.00		\$ -
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
3/ Equipment	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$
J. Navari-Ducks Unlimited	\$ 28,980.00		\$ 9,660.00		\$ 9,660.00		\$ 9,660.00
Coon Creek Restorations (to be bid up estimate)	\$ 715,000.00		\$ 300,000.00		\$ 365,000.00		\$ 50,000.00
V.Getz Ducks Unlimited Valley Biologist	\$ 38,640.00		\$ 19,320.00		\$ 9,660.00		\$ 9,660.00
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -		\$ -		\$		\$ -
Other Costs Subtotal	\$ 1,000,295.00		\$ 406,655.00		\$ 524,320.00		\$ 69,320.00
5/Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)			\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Total Costs for Task Three	\$ 1,018,923.74		\$ 412,864.58		\$ 530,529.58		\$ 75,529.58

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

			Year	1		Year	2		Year :	3
BUDGET FOR TASK FOUR	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 4 All Years					Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3
Personnel										
Rich Gresham-Project Manager	\$ 5,721.00	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00
	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
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^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

Personnel Subtotal	\$ 5,721.00	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 1,907.00
1/ Benefits as percent of salary	30%	\$572.10	\$572.10	\$572.10
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$7,437.30	\$2,479.10	\$2,479.10	\$2,479.10
Other Costs	Total All Years	Total Year 1	Total Year 2	Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,				
software, office supplies, etc)	5 -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2/ Travel and Per Diem 3/ Equipment	\$ -	D -	\$ -	\$ - e
J. Navari Ducks Unlimited-Real Estate Specialist	\$ 115,920.00	\$ 38,640.00	\$ 38,640.00	\$ 38,640.00
Easement Funding	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Costs Subtotal	\$ 615,920.00	\$ 38,640.00	\$ 38,640.00	\$ 538,640.00
5/Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Costs for Task Four	\$ 623,357.30	\$ 41,119.10	\$ 41,119.10	\$ 541,119.10

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

			Year	1		Year	2	,	Year	3
BUDGET FOR TASK FIVE	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 5 All Years	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3
Personnel										
Rich Gresham-Project Manager	\$ 5,721.00	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ 5,721.00			\$ 1,907.00			\$ 1,907.00			\$ 1,907.00
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary	30%			\$572.10			\$572.10			\$572.10
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$7,437.30			\$2,479.10			\$2,479.10			\$2,479.10
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3

^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

software, office supplies, etc) 2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$	-	\$	•		\$	\$
3/ Equipment	\$	-	\$	<u> </u>		\$ -	\$ -
Ryan Bonea Sutter County RCD	\$	19,800.00	\$	6,600.00		\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00
J. Navari Ducks Unlimited	\$	28,980.00	\$	9,660.00		\$ 9,660.00	\$ 9,660.00
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$	-	\$			\$	\$
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4/ Sub-Contractor	\$	-	\$	and the state of the		\$ dudiesussili 4 88	\$ -
Other Costs Subtotal	\$	48,780.00	\$	16,260.00		\$ 16,260.00	\$ 16,260.00
Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)	i arias na		\$	-	4	\$ -	\$ -
Total Costs for Task Five	\$	56,217.30	\$	18,739.10		\$ 18,739.10	\$ 18,739.1

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification
Year 1
Year 2

			Year	1		Year	2	Year 3			
BUDGET FOR TASK SIX	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 6 All Years	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1	Amount per hour			Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3	
Personnel											
Rich Gresham-Project Manager	\$ 1,907.00	\$ -		\$ -		11.11.01.01.01.01.01.01	\$ -	\$ 38.14	50	\$ 1,907.00	
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ 1,907.00			\$ -			\$ -			\$ 1,907.00	
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary	30%			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$572.10	
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$2,479.10			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$2,479.10	
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3	
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,											
software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -			\$ -			\$			\$	
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$			\$	
3/ Equipment	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
J. Navari- Ducks Unlimited	\$ 4,830.00			\$ -			\$ -			\$ 4,830.00	
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	

^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Other Costs Subtotal	\$ 4,830.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 4,830.00
Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)		\$	-	\$	-	\$ -
Total Costs for Task Six	\$ 7,309.10	\$		\$		\$ 7,309.10

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

or indicate rate in country initiodately to the right of this cell, and prov	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 7 All Years	Year 1				Year		Year 3		
BUDGET FOR TASK SEVEN Personnel				Total Amount for Year 1		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amoun
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary				\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies, software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -	Í		\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
3/ Equipment	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
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Other Costs Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
^{5/} Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)				\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
Total Costs for Task Seven	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -

^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

Year 1

Year 2

- 1/ Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell
- 2/ Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.
- 3/ Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet
- 4/ Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")
- 5/ Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 8 All Years	Year 1				Year	2	Year 3			
BUDGET FOR TASK EIGHT Personnel		Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3	
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary				\$0.00	,		\$0.00			\$0.00	
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00	
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3	
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,											
software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
3/ Equipment	\$ -			\$			\$ -			\$ -	
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -	-		\$ -	-		\$ -			\$ -	
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4/ Sub-Contractor 4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ - \$ -	-		\$ - \$ -			\$ -	
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$	
Other Costs Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
5/Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)				\$ -			\$ -		9	\$ -	
Total Costs for Task Eight	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

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^{3/} Please provide a list and cost of major equipment (\$5,000 or more) to be purchased, and complete "Equipment Detail" Worksheet

^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

BUDGET FOR TASK NINE	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 9 All Years	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1	Amount	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amo	
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Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00	
Other Costs	Total All Years	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year	r 3
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5/Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)				\$ -			\$ -			\$	
Total Costs for Task Nine	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$	

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

		Year 1 Year 2				2		Year 3		
BUDGET FOR TASK TEN	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 10 All Years	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 1	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour		
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^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

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^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

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Personnel Subtotal	\$ -		\$	-	\$ -		\$
Benefits as percent of salary	eliggadi palicelo prakti		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00
Other Costs	Total All Years		Total Year 1		Total Year 2		Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,							
software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -		\$	-	\$		\$
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Total Costs for Task Ten	\$ -		\$.		\$ -		\$

^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

Vear 1

Year 2

		Year 1 Year 2			Year 3					
BUDGET FOR TASK ELEVEN Personnel	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 11 All Years						Total Amount for Year 2	and the second s	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3
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^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

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^{4/} Please list each subcontractor and amounts (if subcontractor not selected yet, use function like "ditch construction subcontractor")

Benefits as percent of salary		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Costs	Total All Years	Total Year 1	Total Year 2	Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,				
software, office supplies, etc)	5 -	\$ -	\$ -	\$
/ Travel and Per Diem	5 -	3 -	\$ -	8
/ Equipment	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$
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Other Costs Subtotal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$
Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)		\$ -	\$ -	\$
Total Costs for Task Eleven	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$

1/ Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

2/ Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

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5/ Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

			Year	1		Year 2			Year 3		
BUDGET FOR TASK TWELVE	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 12 All Years					Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour		Total Amoun for Year 3	
Personnel											
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary				\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00	
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00	
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3	

Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,			Augustin Heller	
software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -	\$ •	\$ 	\$
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Other Costs Subtotal	\$	\$	\$ -	\$
Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)		\$ -	\$ -	\$
Total Costs for Task Twelve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$

1/ Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

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5/ Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

	·		Year	1		Year	2		Year	3
BUDGET FOR TASK THIRTEEN	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 13 All Years	Amount per hour		Total Amount for Year 1		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount
Personnel										
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
1/ Benefits as percent of salary				\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies,										
software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
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^{1/} Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell

^{5/} Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

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BUDGET FOR TASK FOURTEEN Personnel	TOTAL AMOUNT TASK 14 All Years	Amount per hour		Total Amount for Year 1		Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 2	Amount per hour	Number of Hours	Total Amount for Year 3
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Personnel Subtotal	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
^{1/} Benefits as percent of salary				\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00
Personnel Total (salary + benefits)	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00
Other Costs	Total All Years			Total Year 1			Total Year 2			Total Year 3
Operating Expenses: (ex: seed, plant materials, irrigation supplies, software, office supplies, etc)	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
2/ Travel and Per Diem	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
3/ Equipment	\$ -			\$ -			\$			\$ -
4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
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4/ Sub-Contractor	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
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⁵ /Overhead Percentage (Applied to Personnel & Other Costs)				\$ -			\$ -			\$ -
Total Costs for Task Fourteen	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -			\$ -

^{2/} Travel expenses and per diem must be at rates specified by the Department of Personnel Administration. The contractor is required to maintain travel receipts and records for auditing purposes. No travel out of the state of California shall be reimbursed unless prior written authorization is obtained from the State.

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Year 1 Year 2

Year 3

- 1/ Indicate your rate, and change formula in column immediately to the right of this cell
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- 5/ Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

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			Total Amount for Year 1			Total Amount for Year 2			Total Amount for Year 3
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- 5/ Indicate rate in column immediately to the right of this cell; and provide a description of what expenses are covered by overhead. If overhead is > 15% must provide justification

Environmental Compliance

CEQA Compliance

Which type of CEQA documentation do you anticipate?

- none *Skip the remaining questions in this section*.
- **x** negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration
- EIR
- categorical exemption A categorical exemption may not be used for a project which may which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource or result in damage to scenic resources within an officially designated state scenic highway.

If you are using a categorical exemption, choose all of the applicable classes below.

- Class 1. Operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The types of "existing facilities" itemized above are not intended to be all—inclusive of the types of projects which might fall within Class 1. The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of an existing use.
- Class 2. Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.
- Class 3. Construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure. The numbers of structures described in this section are the maximum allowable on any legal parcel, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.
- Class 4. Minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

- Class 6. Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.
- Class 11. Construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

Identify the lead agency.

Placer County Resource Conservation District

Please write out all words in the agency title other than United States (Use the abbreviation "US".) and California (Use the abbreviation "CA".).

Is the CEQA environmental impact assessment complete?

If the CEQA environmental impact assessment process is complete, provide the following information about the resulting document.

Document Name

State Clearinghouse Number

If the CEQA environmental impact assessment process is not complete, describe the plan for completing draft and/or final CEQA documents.

Ducks Unlimited will hire a contractor to comply with some environmental documentation needs. Some documentation need maybe completed by Ducks Unlimited staff. Funding from this grant will be used to complete the environmental documentation.

NEPA Compliance

Which type of NEPA documentation do you anticipate?

- none *Skip the remaining questions in this section*.

x environmental assessment/FONSI

- EIS
- categorical exclusion

Identify the lead agency or agencies.

Placer County Resource Conservation District

Please write out all words in the agency title other than United States (Use the abbreviation "US".) and California (Use the abbreviation "CA".).

If the NEPA environmental impact assessment process is complete, provide the name of the resulting document.

If the NEPA environmental impact assessment process is not complete, describe the plan for completing draft and/or final NEPA documents.

Ducks Unlimited will hire a contractor to comply with some environmental documentation needs. Some documentation need maybe completed by Ducks Unlimited staff. Funding from this grant will be used to complete the environmental documentation.

Successful applicants must tier their project's permitting from the CALFED Record of Decision and attachments providing programmatic guidance on complying with the state and federal endangered species acts, the Coastal Zone Management Act, and sections 404 and 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Please indicate what permits or other approvals may be required for the activities contained in your proposal and also which have already been obtained. Please check all that apply. If a permit is *not* required, leave both Required? and Obtained? check boxes blank.

Local Permits And Approvals	Required?	Obtained?	Permit
			Number

NEPA Compliance

			(If Applicable)
conditional Use Permit	_	-	
variance	-	-	
Subdivision Map Act	ı	_	
grading Permit	X	_	
general Plan Amendment	I	_	
specific Plan Approval	1	_	
rezone	1	-	
Williamson Act Contract Cancellation	ı	-	
other	- 1	_	

State Permits And Approvals	Required?	Obtained?	Permit Number (If Applicable)
scientific Collecting Permit	_	-	
CESA Compliance: 2081	Х	I	
CESA Complance: NCCP	Х	-	
Lake Or Streambed Alteration Agreement	Х	-	
CWA 401 Certification	Х	-	
Bay Conservation And Development Commission Permit	_	-	
reclamation Board Approval	_	_	
Delta Protection Commission Notification	-	_	
state Lands Commission Lease Or Permit	-	_	
action Specific Implementation Plan	-	_	
SWRCB Water Transfer Approval	-	-	
other	-	-	

Federal Permits And Approvals	Required?	Obtained?	Permit Number (If Applicable)
ESA Compliance Section 7 Consultation		-	
ESA Compliance Section 10 Permit	X	-	
Rivers And Harbors Act	-	-	

NEPA Compliance

CWA 404	X	-	
other	-	_	
	_	_	

Permission To Access Property	Required?	Obtained?	Permit Number (If Applicable)
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			
	х	X	
Kirk Scilacci, Walter Fickworth,			
Ken Majors, Elizabeth Jensen			

If you have comments about any of these questions, enter them here.

Permission to access is given once a call to the landowners is made. Ducks Unlimited will get written permission to access land once the grant is approved.

NEPA Compliance 5

Land Use

Does the project involve land acquisition, either in fee or through easements?

- No. Skip to the next set of questions.

x Yes. Answer the following questions.

How many acres will be acquired by fee? **None**

How many acres will be acquired by easement? 400

Describe the entity or organization that will manage the property and project activities, including operation and maintenance.

The Wetlands America Trust, the real estate ownership arm of Ducks Unlimited, will hold easement. Ducks Unlimited will monitor the easement and enforce easement language. Easement will not affect current rice agriculture, but will not allow development on the property

Is there an existing plan describing how the land and water will be managed? **x** No.

- Yes. Cite the title and author or describe briefly.

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

No. Skip to the next set of questions.

x Yes. Answer the following question.

Describe briefly the provisions made to secure this access.

Landowners are working with Joe Navari, Real Estate Specialist, and have given him access to their lands usually after a brief phone call. Ducks Unlimited will seek written permissions from the landowners if funding is secured for the proposed projects. When easements are recorded, access is granted to Ducks Unlimited and funding agencies.

Do the actions in the proposal involve physical changes in the current land use?

x No. Skip to the next set of questions.

- Yes. Answer the following questions.

Land Use

Describe the current zoning, including the zoning designation and the principal permitted uses permitted in the zone.

The current zoning is for agricultural use. The smallest lot size in this zoning designation is 80 acres. Zoning allows for one set of buildings for every 80 acres and all agricultural activities.

Describe the general plan land use element designation, including the purpose and uses allowed in the designation.

The major land use designation in both Placer and Sutter Counties is Agricultural. Both general plans call for the use of conservation easements as tools for agricultural preservation. (Placer County Plan p 122, Sutter County Plan p 60)

Describe relevant provisions in other general plan elements affecting the site, if any.

Is the land mapped as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Local Importance under the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program?

- No. Skip to the next set of questions.

x Yes. Answer the following questions.

Land Designation	Acres	Currently In Production?
Prime Farmland	49940	х
Farmland Of Statewide Importance	32395	Х
Unique Farmland	22063	х
Farmland Of Local Importance	30212	х

Is the land affected by the project currently in an agricultural preserve established under the Williamson Act?

- No. Skip to the next set of questions.

x Yes. Answer the following question.

Is the land affected by the project currently under a Williamson Act contract?

- No. Skip to the next set of questions.

x Yes. Answer the following question.

Land Use 2

Why is the land use proposed consistent with the contract's terms?

The land will remain in agriculture and land use will not change.

Describe any additional comments you have about the projects land use.

Please Note: The acres of farm land listed above are from the primary area the American Basin Working Group is focusing conservation efforts.

American Basin Working Landscape Project will require wildlife friendly agriculture including maintenance of habitat area and promotion of crop uses that benefit wildlife.

Land Use 3