

# Final Selection Panel Review

0062

Sustaining Private Seasonal Wetland Habitat Value and Function Under Ag  
Waiver Mandated Salt Management

University of California, Merced

**Applicant amount requested: \$1,492,107**

**Fund This Amount: \$0**

The proposed project would use real-time salinity monitoring and remote sensing to assess the effects of water conservation and drainage management practices on wetland values and effluent water quality. This study is focused on private duck clubs, asserting that duck club managers are farmers with hunting success substituting for crop yield. The proposed project would address an important regional interest in and benefit from the participation of a duck club with high visibility, and has the capacity to assist with the transfer of knowledge gained from the project. However, the panel concluded that the proposed project does not assist farmers with integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration in the traditional sense. Rather, it assists duck club managers with complying with water quality regulations in a manner that maintains ecosystem values. Much work has already been funded in the area of real-time monitoring to address effluent water management issues, much of this in association with more traditional forms of agriculture. The panel felt this proposal was not as responsive to the PSP as other proposals recommended for funding, and previously funded work should be assessed prior to funding additional work of this kind. The panel recommends not to fund this project.