

Conservancy Currents

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy's Newsletter

A partner for balanced ecosystem restoration and economic development in the Delta

Summer 2016 Volume 5, Issue 1

Chair's Corner



Conservancy Awards \$6.3 million in Proposition 1 Grant Funding to 9 Projects

At the Delta Conservancy's May and June Board meetings, the Board advanced nine proposals that requested \$6.3 million in funding. This is the first funding awarded through the Delta Conservancy's Proposition 1

Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality grant program, an important step for the agency. On behalf of the Conservancy, I would like to congratulate all of this year's awardees.

California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a place of great ecological and economic importance, and carries with it complex issues relating to the use of natural resources. Local, state, and federal agencies, along with private stakeholders, have long been working to protect and enhance the ecological value of the Delta, to maintain the integrity of the water-related infrastructure located there, and to bolster and celebrate the local economy and culture. The Delta Conservancy's grant program provides local assistance grants to public and

nonprofit stakeholders who are performing projects that contribute to improving the Delta, strengthening the long-standing efforts to maintain and restore this critical resource.

Proposition 1 authorizes the Delta Conservancy to spend \$50 million on competitive grants for multibenefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects. This year, the Conservancy solicited proposals for ecosystem restoration, water quality, and agricultural sustainability projects.

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The Conservancy advanced 9 planning and implementation projects that will:

- Restore uplands, floodplains, and wetlands;
- Enhance habitat on working lands;
- Acquire flood and conservation easements;
- Promote agricultural sustainability; or
- Improve water management to benefit species

The technical merit of the proposals was evaluated by Conservancy staff and an external review panel consisting of five State and federal agencies: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Delta Protection Commission, Department of Water Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This year's awardees are:



Project Name	Applicant	County	Category	Amount Awarded
Yolo Bypass Corridors for Flood Escape in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	Yolo Resource Conservation District	Yolo	Implementation	\$688,195.65
Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project	American Rivers	Contra Costa	Implementation	\$836,409
Lower Marsh Creek and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning	American Rivers	Contra Costa	Planning	\$73,493
Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Plan	San Joaquin Resource Conservation District	San Joaquin	Planning	\$99,924
Paradise Cut Flood and Conservation Easement Acquisition	San Joaquin Resource Conservation District	San Joaquin	Acquisition	\$2,000,000
Habitat Enhancement for Swainson's Hawk at Elliot Ranch	Environmental Defense Fund	Yolo	Implementation	\$378,308
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project	Ducks Unlimited	Yolo	Implementation	\$2,000,000
Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta	California Land Stewardship Institute	Yolo	Planning	\$89,450
Sherman Island Wetland Restoration Project, Phase III	Ducks Unlimited	Sacramento	Planning	\$100,000

The Conservancy will open a second grant solicitation period on September 1, 2016 and anticipates awarding funding in the spring of 2017. The Conservancy will administer at least one grant cycle each fiscal year for the next four years. The grant program is a two-part competitive process, with a concept proposal solicitation open to the public, and a full proposal solicitation open to qualifying concept proposal applicants.

