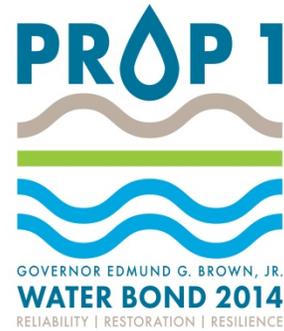




SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN
DELTA CONSERVANCY
 A California State Agency



Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program

2016-17 Concept Proposal Staff Recommendation

Project Title	Restoration of Priority Freshwater Wetlands for Endangered Species at the Cosumnes River Preserve		
Applicant	Sacramento County Regional Parks		
Project Number	Prop 1-1608	Category	2
County	Sacramento	Funding Request	\$943,549.00
Score	75.7	Total Project Cost	\$1,173,188.00

Staff Recommendation:

Delta Conservancy staff recommends that the Board request a full application from Sacramento County Regional Parks for the Restoration of Priority Freshwater Wetlands for Endangered Species at the Cosumnes River Preserve (Prop 1-1608) project.

Project Description:

The project defined in this concept proposal is an implementation project located approximately five miles upstream from the legal Delta boundary on the Cosumnes River Preserve (Preserve). The Preserve partners are requesting funding to support immediate restoration of approximately 110 acres of priority freshwater wetlands. The proposed project would immediately benefit several listed species, including giant garter snake, greater sandhill crane, western pond turtle, western spadefoot, western (California) toad, and California tiger salamander. The requested Proposition 1 funds would be used to cover the costs of restoration (these funds will be combined with cost-share funds from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management) which would include the removal of invasive yellow primrose; restoring 10 acres of deeper, open water wetlands; restoring 20 acres of shallow water wetland habitat; and enhancing remaining upland habitat with native tree plantings. The removal of these invasive plants and the creation of this habitat would increase the water storage capacity in the upper Cosumnes River Preserve.

Consistency with Proposition 1 and State Priorities:

This project is consistent with Proposition 1 and other priorities of the State as noted in the Grant Guidelines. The project is a multibenefit ecosystem restoration and water storage capacity

project that provides for the creation of habitat that will benefit a wide range of state and federally listed species, consistent with the purposes outlined in chapter 6 of Proposition 1. The project's ecological objectives implement the California Water Action Plan's Action 3: Achieve the Co-Equal Goals for the Delta and Action 4: Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems. The project is consistent with several criteria described in the Delta Plan including ER P2 (restore habitats at appropriate elevations), ER R2 (prioritize and implement projects that restore delta habitat), and ER R7 (prioritize and implement actions that control non-native invasive species). The project's wetland habitat restoration aligns with the Delta Conservancy's strategic plan's goal of leading efforts to protect Delta ecosystems, and with the enabling legislation (§32300(i)) that underpins that strategic goal. Restoring wetlands that provide habitat for critical species and also increase water storage capacity is a multibenefit approach to resource management.