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Proposition 1 Grant Program Approved Projects and Current Solicitation Updates

Staff Report

APPROVED PROJECT UPDATE

A brief overview of each grant cycle, the status of each project by grant cycle, and a map of all project locations are included below.

CYCLE 2 – Fiscal Year 2016-2017

The Board awarded or reserved \$4.4 million for four projects \$4.4 million. Staff is working with grantees to clear conditions or prepare grant agreements for all of the projects.

<u>Project</u>	Dutch Slough Revegetation
<u>Amount Awarded</u>	\$2,900,000
<u>County</u>	Contra Costa
<u>Conservancy ID</u>	Prop 1-1602
<u>Grantee</u>	Reclamation District 2137
<u>Overview</u>	Establish and maintain 468 acres of native tidal marsh, riparian, and grassland vegetation at the Dutch Slough restoration site.
<u>Board Action/Deadline</u>	Conditional Approval – July 2017
<u>Conditions/Status</u>	1. Revised budget – expected by July 31, 2017 deadline. 2. Water conservation and efficiency plan for grantee – no longer required due to rescinding of the April 2014 Executive Order.
<u>Grant Agreement Status</u>	Grant Agreement Pending
<u>Update</u>	The grantee plans to meet the deadline for submitting a revised budget. Due to permitting delays, construction did not begin during the 2017 construction window. Therefore, the revegetation phase that Conservancy funds are being applied towards will also be delayed. Staff plans to delay execution of the grant agreement until 2018 to ensure implementation does not exceed the 3-year grant funding term.

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Project Petersen Ranch: Working Waterway Habitat Enhancement Project

Amount Awarded \$444,795

County Solano

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1605

Grantee Solano Resource Conservation District

Overview Restore 13.5 acres of riparian habitat and improve water quality through improved cattle management practices on approximately 525 acres of actively farmland along Lindsey Slough.

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – May 2017

Conditions/Status 1. Revised budget – complete, 6/13/17

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update All conditions of approval have been met. The Conservancy project manager has drafted the grant agreement scope of work and budget for internal review.

Project Investigations of restoration techniques that limit invasion of tidal wetlands

Amount Awarded \$107,655

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1612

Grantee The Regents of the University of California

Overview Identify improved methods for tidal wetland revegetation that reduce invasion by non-native plants at Dutch Slough.

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – May 2017

Conditions/Status 1. Revised budget – complete, 6/15/17

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update All conditions of approval have been met. The Conservancy project manager has drafted the grant agreement scope of work and budget for internal review.

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Project Restoration of Priority Wetlands for Endangered Species at the Cosumnes River Preserve

Amount Awarded \$943,549

County Sacramento

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1608

Grantee Sacramento County Regional Parks

Overview Restore 110 acres of freshwater wetlands to benefit listed species.

Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – September 27, 2017

Conditions/Status

1. Completion of CEQA and approval of Responsible Agency Findings - incomplete, expected September 27, 2017
2. Revised budget – incomplete, expected September 27, 2017
3. Proof and verification of adequate water rights – complete, 6/21/17

Grant Agreement Status Funding Reserved

Update The grantee has cleared one condition and is continuing efforts towards clearing the remaining condition and meeting CEQA requirements.

CYCLE 1 – Fiscal Year 2015-2016

The Board awarded or reserved funding \$5.9 million for eight projects. To date, five grant agreements have been fully executed; staff is working with grantees to prepare grant agreements for the remaining three projects.

Project Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning Project

Amount Awarded \$73,493

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-019 (1519 on map)

Grantee American Rivers

Overview Improve restoration project efficiency within the Marsh/Sand Creek watershed through development of a programmatic CEQA document and permit, including stormwater planning.

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 10/19/16

Update The project is meeting its conditions per grant scope of work.

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Project Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Amount Awarded \$89,450

County All Delta Counties

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-005 (1505 on map)

Grantee California Land Stewardship Institute

Overview Develop a program for working with farmers to improve water quality, which is specific to the crops grown and water quality concerns in Delta counties.

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 1/9/17

Update The project is meeting its conditions per grant scope of work.

Project: Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Project

Amount Awarded: \$688,195.64

County: Yolo

Conservancy ID: Prop 1-Y1-2015-016 (1516 on map)

Grantee: Yolo Resource Conservation District

Overview: Restore up to 5 miles (22 acres) of new, floodway-compatible wildlife and pollinator habitat, providing an exit and transit corridor for wildlife during floods.

Grant Agreement Status: Active as of 1/24/17

Update: The project is meeting its conditions per grant scope of work.

Project Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Planning Project

Amount Awarded \$99,924

County San Joaquin

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-012 (1512 on map)

Grantee San Joaquin Resource Conservation District

Overview Develop a conservation and flood management plan for a new flood bypass at Paradise Cut.

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – July 2016

Conditions/Status 1. Monitoring Plan – complete, 7/27/2016

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 7/6/17

Update The grant agreement has been executed. The first progress report and invoice will be due October 31.

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Project Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project

Amount Awarded \$836,409

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-009 (1509 on map)

Grantee American Rivers

Overview Convert denuded flood control channel at the confluence of Marsh, Sand, and Deer Creeks into a healthy stream corridor.

Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – September 2016

Conditions/Status

1. Completion of CEQA and approval of Responsible Agency Findings – complete, 11/21/2016
2. Verification of Adequate Water Rights – complete, 10/17/2016
3. Landowner Agreement – required as a condition of the agreement
4. Habitat Maintained for 15 Years – required as a condition of the landowner agreement

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 6/27/17

Update The grant agreement has been executed. The first progress report and invoice are due October 31.

Project Sherman Island Wetland Restoration Project Phase III

Amount Awarded \$100,000

County Sacramento

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-008 (1508 on map)

Grantee Ducks Unlimited

Overview Plan and design for the restoration of 1600 acres of emergent wetlands.

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – July 2016

Conditions/Status 1. Bylaws – complete, 6/7/2016

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update Conservancy staff is drafting the grant agreement.

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Project Paradise Cut Flood and Conservation Easement Acquisition Project

Amount Awarded \$2,000,000

County San Joaquin

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-010 (1510 on map)

Grantee San Joaquin Resource Conservation District

Overview Purchase flood and conservation easements to protect agriculture for Swainson's Hawk and to protect the opportunity to build a new flood bypass at Paradise Cut in the future.

Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – March 2017

- Conditions/Status
1. Completion of CEQA and approval by Board – complete, 3/22/2017
 2. Completion of acquisition checklist requirement – complete, 3/6/2017

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update Conservancy staff is coordinating with the grantee and CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), who is funding other components of this project, to align grant expectations for easements with multiple State funding sources. Grant agreement negotiation is expected to continue into 2018.

Project Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project

Amount Awarded \$2,000,000

County Yolo

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-003 (1503 on map)

Grantee Ducks Unlimited

Overview Implement habitat and working landscape enhancements in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

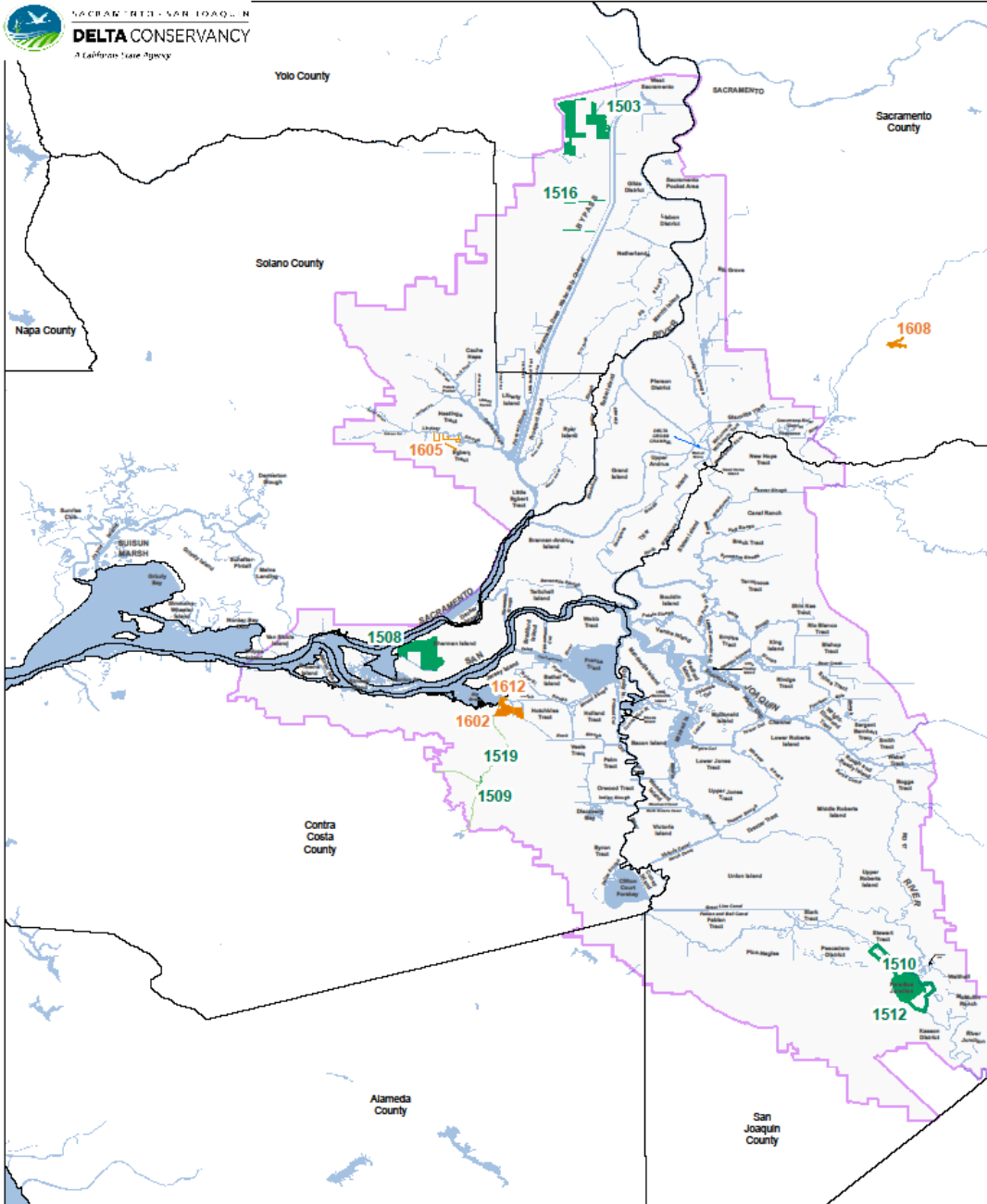
Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – original March 22 2017, 1st extension to July 26, 2017

- Conditions/Status
1. Completion of CEQA and approval of Responsible Agency Findings - incomplete, expected July 26, 2017
 2. Verification of Adequate Water Rights - incomplete, expected July 26, 2017
 3. Landowner Agreement – required as a condition of the agreement
 4. Habitat Maintained for 15 Years – required as a condition of the landowner agreement
 5. Bylaws – complete, 6/7/2016

Grant Agreement Status Funding Reserved

Update The grantee is completing the CEQA process and permitting under a CDFW planning grant. The grantee will not meet the Board deadline for completing CEQA. A separate Board report has been prepared requesting an extension until January 24, 2018 (see agenda item 9).

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Project ID	Category	Project Name	Applicant
FY15-16 ACTIVE GRANTS			
1503	2	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project	Ducks Unlimited
1505*	1	Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta <i>[*This Delta-wide planning project is not displayed on the map.]</i>	California Land Stewardship Institute
1508	2	Sherman Island Wetland Restoration Project, Phase III	Ducks Unlimited
1509	2	Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project	American Rivers
1510	2	Paradise Cut Flood and Conservation Easement Acquisition	San Joaquin County RCD
1512	1	Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Plan	San Joaquin County RCD
1516	2	Yolo Bypass Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	Yolo RCD
1519	1	Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning	American Rivers
FY16-17 PROPOSALS APPROVED FOR FUNDING			
1602	2	Dutch Slough Revegetation	Reclamation District 2137
1605	2	Petersen Ranch: Working Waterway Habitat Enhancement Project	Solano RCD
1608	2	Restoration of Priority Freshwater Wetlands for Endangered Species at the Cosumnes River Preserve	Sacramento County Regional Parks
1612	1	Investigations of restoration techniques that limit invasion of tidal wetlands	The Regents of the University of California

Stanislaus County

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CURRENT SOLICITATION UPDATE

Staff is requesting approval of the Grant Guidelines in a separate Board report (see agenda item 10). If the Board approves the Guidelines, the solicitation for concept proposals for the fiscal year 17-18 grant cycle will open on August 1, 2017 and close on August 31, 2017. Conservancy staff will review concept proposals and provide feedback to all applicants to aid them in assembling a complete, clear, and responsive full proposal. The full proposal submission period will be October 2 through November 30, 2017.

PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND BUDGET

The Conservancy's Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program funds multibenefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities (Sec. 79730 et seq). The Conservancy anticipates will administer one grant cycle annually through at least 2020.. The Grant Program is a competitive, two-step process, requiring both a concept proposal and a full proposal. Full proposals are subject to a rigorous scoring and evaluation process by both staff and an external review panel, and are recommended for funding based upon score and funding availability. In its first two grant cycles, the Conservancy awarded or reserved \$10.3 million of Proposition 1 funds for eligible projects. For the third cycle (2017-2018) the Conservancy anticipates offering \$9.3 million for grants.

Contact

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