

Quarter/Dates of Activity: Q2 October 2007 through December 2007
Seed Grant: Integrating Land and Water Solutions in Tulare Lake Basin
Grantee Organization: Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners (TBWP)
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Description of this Quarter's Activity and Impact on Partnership Goals and Objectives

During the 2nd Quarter of this grant, the TBWP:

- Completed conservation (mitigation) bank site recommendations for Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) (document attached, recommendations accepted by TCAG Environmental Advisory Committee on December 17, 2007).
- Held October 17, 2007 Tulare Lake Basin Working Group meeting to review three draft Conservation Plan summaries (attached) and Conservation Priorities project list (attached) – as proposed integrated land and water solutions. Results of the meeting (attached) included adoption of TBWP's conservation priorities list and TBWP decision to focus follow up on implementation of highest priority projects beginning in 2008 with the assistance of its Integrated Fundraising and Outreach Plan.
- Completed Integrated Outreach and Fundraising Plan (Executive Summary attached) as a working document to guide fundraising, outreach, and project implementation activities over the next five –to-ten years.
- Submitted Letter of Inquiry to the Packard Foundation Western Conservation program describing TBWP conservation plans and proposed projects, by the November 1, 2007 deadline.
- Continued work under Tulare County grant to prepare in-depth wildlife-riparian corridor survey in support of Measure R transportation and other county development requirements. Successfully engaged Fresno and Kings counties in support of similar in-depth wildlife-riparian corridor surveys for a similar purpose (as groundwork for potential NCCPs or HCPs); planned similar effort for Kern County.
- Received notice of approval of grant funding from Resources Legacy Fund/Preserving Wild California for TBWP Tulare Basin Wildlife-Riparian Corridor Conservation Plan for Department of Fish and Game Conceptual Area Protection Plan, for completion in 2008.
- Worked with Conservation Strategy Group to ensure that solutions to TLBWG partner organization and TBWP priority project needs regarding water were included in the Cogdill, Perata, and compromise state water bonds.

The above activities were and will continue to be geared toward leveraging the same Partnership goals and objectives mentioned in the TBWP's first Quarterly Report, i.e. Goal 1 (Objectives A and B), Goal 4 (Objective A), Goal 5 (Objective A), Goal 7 (Objectives B and C) of the Land Use, Housing, and Agriculture Work Group of the Partnership Strategic Action Proposal (pp. 49-53). They are also geared to further Goal 1 (Objectives A & B), Goal 2 (Objective A), Goal 3 (Objectives B and C), Goal 4 (Objective A) and Goal 5 (Objective A) of the Water Quality, Supply and Reliability Work Group (Proposal, pp. 62-64). Our efforts also support Goal 6 (Objective C) of the Air Quality Work Group (Proposal, pp. 59-60).

Planned Activities for next 3-6 months

During January – June, the TBWP will:

- Begin implementation of highest priority conservation projects in the Conservation Projects list, focusing first on projects in the Goose Lake Conservation Plan area and Sand Ridge – Tulare Lake Conservation Plan area.
- Pursue in depth Wildlife-Riparian Corridor surveys and reports for mitigation site recommendations in Fresno, Kings, and Kern Counties.
- Pursue Tulare Basin Wildlife-Riparian Corridor Conservation Plan completion for CA Department of Fish and Game Conceptual Area Protection Plan.
- Continue to develop the Integrated Fundraising and Outreach Plan through actual experience in applying it in the course of conservation priority project implementation.
- Continue and expand efforts to develop Basin-wide Integrated Regional Watershed Management Planning, to assist in implementation of TBWP projects and in the goals and objectives of the SJV Partnership stated above. (Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Grant request submitted January 4, 2008 to assist in leveraging SJV Partnership Seed grant, narrative attached).
- Develop a "Campaign" outreach and fundraising document that summarizes and articulates the vision of the TBWP and its partners and use it successfully for fundraising and outreach purposes.
- Re-develop the TBWP Web site to align with its updated vision, goals, and objectives.

- Facilitate the exploration and development of University of California Natural Reserve System Field Station branch establishment in Tulare Basin.
- Present the programmatic vision of the TBWP for Tulare Basin to the California Biodiversity Council at its January 22, 2008 meeting.

Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

None

If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.

Our first major outreach coordination effort was to the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group 40+ member agencies on October 17, 2007, described above. The TBWP has met three times with Fresno County of Governments City Planners, Policy Advisory Group, and City Mayors. We have met bi-monthly with the Tulare County Association of Governments Environmental Advisory Board. The next major effort will be the TBWP's presentation to the California Biodiversity Council on January 22, 2008. Important stakeholder outreach efforts will unfold in the context of Basin-wide IRWMP and conservation project implementation for the duration of the grant period.

The following attachments can be requested via email to Allysun Williams, awilliams@csufresno.edu:

- TBWP Tulare County Association of Governments Mitigation Bank Site Recommendations
- Goose Lake Conservation Plan Summary (draft)
- Sand Ridge – Tulare Lake Conservation Plan Summary (draft)
- Buena Vista Lake – Kern Lake Conservation Plan Summary (draft)
- Conservation Priorities List (October 17, 2007)
- October 17, 2007 TLBWG Meeting Results
- Executive Summary, Integrated Outreach and Fundraising Plan
- Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Grant proposal narrative