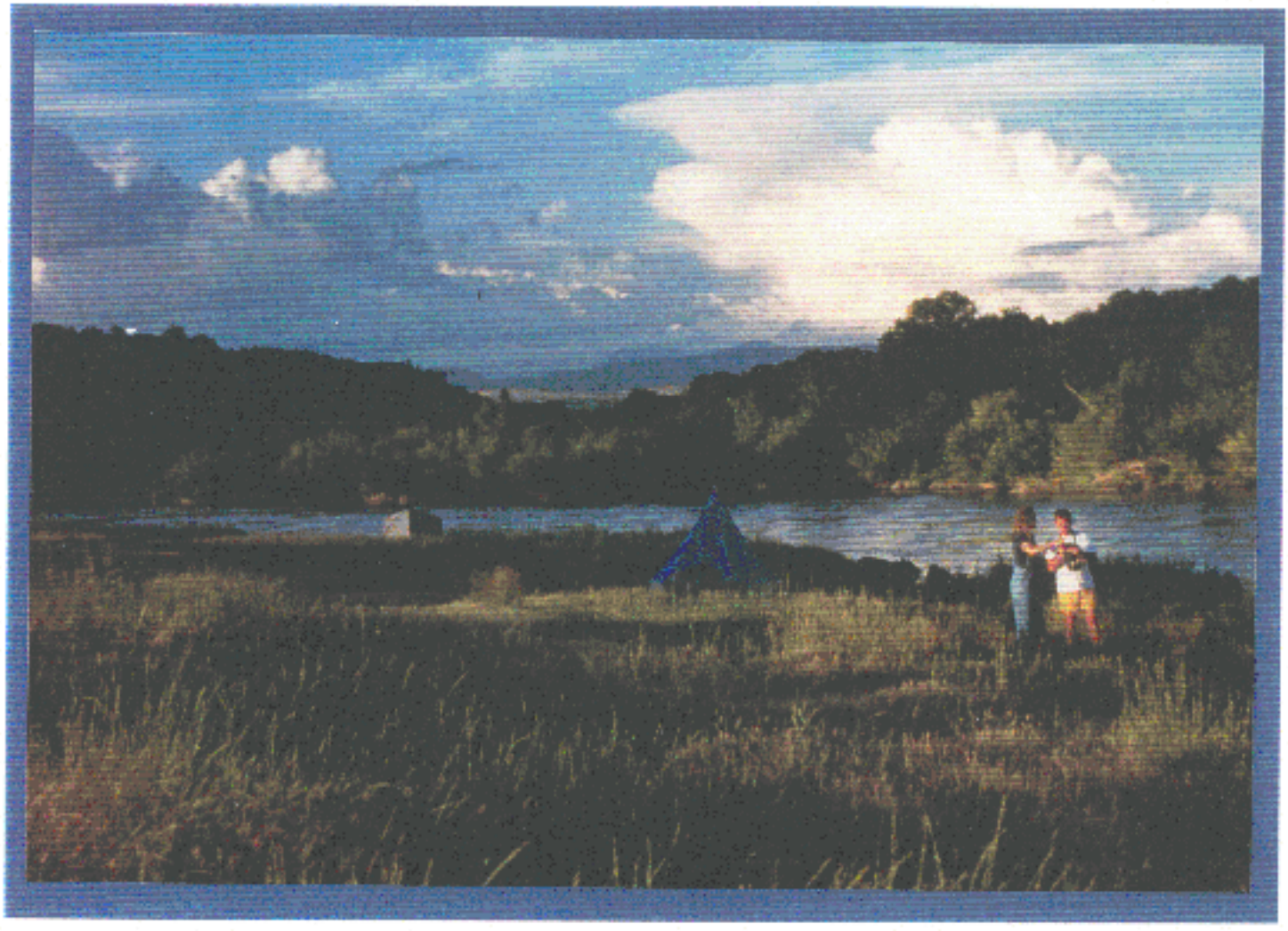
RIPARIAN CORRIDOR ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION ASSESSMENT

BLM SACRAMENTO RIVER AREA



A Request from Category III
of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Submitted by the:
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
In a joint venture partnership with:
The California Department of Water Resources
and
the Trust for Public Land

4.5 PSP Cover Sheet (Attach to the front of each proposal)

Proposal Title: Riparian Corridor Acquisition and Restoration Assessment
Applicant Name: Bureau of Land Management, Redding Field Office
Mailing Address: 355 Hemsted Drive Redding. CA 96002
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Amount of funding requested: $ 2,200,00 for 2 years

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box).

£	Fish Passage/Fish Screens	£	Introduced Species
X	Habitat Restoration	£	Fish Management/Hatchery
£	Local Watershed Stewardship	£	Environmental Education
£	Water Quality		

Does the proposal address a specified Focused Action? x yes _____no

What county or counties is the project located in? Shasta and Tehama Counties

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one box):

X	Sacramento River Mainstem_____	£	East Side Trib: _____
£	Sacramento Trib: _____	£	Suisun Marsh and Bay
£	San Joaquin River Mainstem	£	North Bay/South Bay: _____
£	San Joaquin Trib: _____	£	Landscape (entire Bay-Delta watershed)_____
£	Delta:_____	£	Other:_____

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check all that apply):

£	San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon		
£	Winter-run chinook salmon	£	Spring-run chinook salmon
£	Late-fall run chinook salmon	£	Fall-run chinook salmon
£	Delta smelt	£	Longfin smelt
X	Splittail	X	Steelhead trout
X	Green sturgeon	X	Striped bass
X	Migratory birds	X	All chinook species
£	Other:_____	£	All anadromous salmonids

Specify the ERP strategic objective and target (s) that the project addresses. Include page numbers from January 1999 version of ERP Volume 1 and II:

ERP Volume I- Pages 29,30,42,43,104,177,178,419 Visions for Ecosystem Elements, Eco. Process Visions, Habitat Visions, Species Visions__
ERP Volume II - 47-50, 158,167.168.197: Species Group Visions, Vision_____
for Keswick to RBDD Ecological Zone

TITLE PAGE

RIPARIAN CORRIDOR ACQUISITION AND RESTORATION ASSESSMENT

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Tax Information:
Type of Organization/Tax Status:
Federal Agency, EXEMPT
Tax ID #: 140001849

This project is a joint venture partnership between the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (Applicant), the California Department of Water Resources (Partner), and the Trust for Public Land (Partner).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in a joint-venture partnership with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Trust for Public Land (TPL), is requesting $2,175,000 in Category III CALFED funds to ensure future restoration opportunities along the Upper Sacramento River. This project will protect critical habitat through conservation easements and fee title acquisitions, and provide a foundation for ecosystem restoration specific to the project area. Approximately 1,920 acres, five miles of Sacramento River frontage, four and one-half miles of Battle Creek frontage, and one mile of Anderson Creek frontage will be preserved.

The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties along the Sacramento River between Jellys Ferry bridge and the mouth of Cow Creek (RM 267-280) (See Attachment A). The majority of the project falls within the BLM's Sacramento River - Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), and the entire project area is within the geographic scope of the 1999 CALFED proposal solicitation package.

This project involves two components: 1) protection of approximately five miles of Sacramento River frontage, four and one-half miles of Battle Creek frontage, and one mile of Anderson Creek frontage through acquisition of fee title and conservation easements, and 2) preparation of a Habitat Restoration Assessment of the Sacramento River between Jellys Ferry bridge and the mouth of Cow Creek between river miles (RM) 267-280.

TPL is currently negotiating the protection of two properties — Greening and Gover Ranches — through a combination of fee title acquisitions and conservation easements. As outlined in this proposal, these properties will be acquired and managed by the BLM.

The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island, alternately known as Reading Island or Goat Island, and is located at the mouth of Anderson Creek. Approximately 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland will be acquired in fee and the balance of the property will remain in walnut production, protected from future development through an agricultural easement.

The Gover Ranch includes roughly 1,675 acres. A conservation easement buffer along the Sacramento River and Battle Creek is proposed for the Bloody Island portion of the ranch. The interior of Bloody Island will remain in orchard production and will be protected by an agricultural easement. Approximately 100 acres east of Gover Road and adjacent to the Battle Creek State Wildlife Area will be managed in coordination with the Department of Fish and Game (DFG).

Purchase of conservation easements on Bloody Island between RM 271-274 will also protect and allow existing pockets of riparian forest along the river bench to reach maturity, and will provide outstanding opportunities to conduct reforestation activities both along the river bench and within the alluvial tip of Bloody Island, as well as along the historic confluence with Battle Creek roughly two miles north of the present day confluence.

A Habitat Restoration Assessment will be conducted by DWR as part of this project, in

coordination with DFG and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The Assessment will examine geomorphic and riparian interactions occurring on the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge to determine restoration possibilities for the integrated complex that includes lands owned and managed by BLM, the acquisitions identified in this proposal, and other potential acquisitions of fee and/or conservation easements from willing sellers within this reach.

This project will create an excellent opportunity to restore physical and successional processes through the potential reestablishment of a natural hydrologic regime within this historic meander area. Ongoing habitat restoration efforts by local conservation organizations, land conservancies, and public agencies will be complemented by this project. Additionally, this project is consistent with CALFED's Ecosystem Restoration Program as it will improve the health of vital ecosystem functions within the Bay-Delta system.

The boards of supervisors and planning departments for Shasta and Tehama Counties have been notified of the project (notification letters attached). Individual members of each board of supervisors have been briefed, and representatives from both boards have reviewed the project proposal through the Sacramento River Advisory Council. The Advisory Council has determined that the project is consistent with and furthers the objectives of the Sacramento River Conservation Area (Attachment B).

Redding BLM staff collectively possess more than 300 years of natural resource management experience. The office has long-term management experience with properties near and/or similar to the Greening and Gover properties. DWR staff have conducted numerous studies including "Upper Sacramento River Spawning Gravel Study," and "Sacramento Valley Westside Tributary Watersheds Erosion Study." Current ongoing studies include "Woodson Bridge Bank Erosion Study," "Sacramento River Bank Erosion Study," and "Battle Creek (PG&E) Coleman Diversion Dam Restoration Foundation Investigation." Environmental and fisheries aspects will be handled by the Northern District Environmental Studies Section and the DFG. TPL is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with over 26 years of experience in acquiring critical land and water resources from willing sellers for restoration and preservation. To date, TPL has acquired and conveyed into protective public or nonprofit stewardship over 1 million acres in the United States valued at over $1.4 billion. TPL's core competencies are in business, finance, law, and real estate.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties north of Red Bluff and south of Anderson along the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge. Most of the project falls within the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Sacramento River / Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

This project involves two components: 1) protection of approximately five miles of Sacramento River frontage, four and one-half miles of Battle Creek frontage, and one mile of Anderson Creek frontage through acquisition of fee title and conservation easements, and 2) preparation of a Habitat Restoration Assessment of the Sacramento River between Jellys Ferry bridge and the mouth of Cow Creek between river miles (RM) 267-280.

A. Habitat Protection

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is negotiating the acquisition of fee title and conservation easements to two properties to protect existing riparian corridors and provide an opportunity to reestablish natural hydrologic function along the Sacramento River, Battle Creek and Anderson Creek. The fee title and conservation easements will be conveyed to BLM as additions to the Sacramento River / Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The ACEC encompasses a 26-mile corridor of the Sacramento River in an area that is quickly converting from large ranching and farming tracts to smaller subdivisions and land development. This has created increasing impacts along the river corridor, including housing development, bank protection projects, and sandmining.

The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island, located at the mouth of Anderson Creek between RM 274-276, and alternately known as Reading or Goat Island **(Attachment** A). Approximately 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland will be acquired in fee and managed by BLM. BLM currently manages 72 acres of public land on the southern tip of the island. The balance of the Greening property is in walnut production and will be protected from future development through an agricultural easement. The immediate benefit from this acquisition will be the protection of existing habitat on the property and along approximately 1-1/2 miles of Sacramento River and nearly one mile of Anderson Creek. Perhaps more importantly, this acquisition will allow the potential reestablishment of a natural hydrologic regime within this historic meander area, and recreate ideal conditions for on-site seasonal flooding and successional riparian habitat. A corollary opportunity exists to increase flows from the Sacramento River through the on-site slough and lower reach of Anderson Creek to enhance shaded aquatic habitat for anadramous fish rearing and discourage predation of fingerlings by predatory warm water species. The Habitat Restoration Assessment described below will evaluate opportunities to reestablish a more natural meander belt in the vicinity of Rancherie Island.

The Gover Ranch, located between RM 271-274, comprises roughly 1,675 acres, including all of Bloody Island **(Attachment** A). A conservation easement buffer along the Sacramento River and Battle Creek is proposed for the Bloody Island portion of the ranch. The conservation easement will protect existing riparian corridors along roughly 3-1/2 miles of the Sacramento River and

four miles of Battle Creek, protect against undesirable channel migration caused by gravel mining, and provide opportunities for habitat restoration and natural reactivation of limited channel meander, particularly along Battle Creek. The conservation easement will protect and allow existing pockets of riparian forest along the river bench to reach maturity, and will provide outstanding opportunities to conduct reforestation activities along the river bench and within the alluvial tip of Bloody Island, as well as along the historic river channel that joins Battle Creek roughly two miles north of the present day confluence. The conservation easement will be managed by BLM in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG). The conservation easement will allow BLM, through cooperating agencies and organizations, to conduct habitat restoration, streambank stabilization and stream meander reactivation activities, as appropriate, in compliance with state and federal law. The landowner will remain responsible for levee maintenance as required to protect the interior of the ranch. Any levee maintenance will be conducted in accordance with the purposes of the conservation easement. The interior of Bloody Island will remain in orchard production and will be protected by an agricultural easement. Mineral extraction and export will be prohibited. Approximately 100 acres, east of Gover Road and adjacent to the Battle Creek State Wildlife Area will be acquired in fee and managed by BLM in cooperation with DFG. This portion of the ranch includes approximately an additional half mile of Battle Creek frontage.

The BLM may also request any unspent acquisition funds be directed to other potential acquisitions of fee and/or conservation easements from willing sellers within the BLM's Sacramento River Area.

Figure 1: Habitat Protection Scope of Work

Task 1: Conservation Easements

1.1. Draft conservation easements review and concurrence by BLM, DFG, and TNC.
1.2. Negotiate final agreements with landowners for acquisition of fee title and easements.

Task 2: Property Investigations

2.1. Contract for appraisals; appraisals reviewed by BLM, TPL and landowner.
2.2. Contract for survey of agricultural and conservation easements.
2.3. Contract for Phase I environmental site assessment (hazmat inspection).
2.4. Title review by TPL and BLM.

Task 3: Acquisition and Conveyance

Task 4: Project Management - Habitat Protection

4.1. Provide presentations for annual CALFED project review meetings as requested.
4.2. Submit quarterly reports to BLM for transmittal to CALFED contract administrator.
4.3. Submit final report to BLM for transmittal to CALFED contract administrator.

B. Habitat Restoration Assessment

The Assessment will study the geomorphic and riparian interactions occurring on an alluvial reach of the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge (RM 280-267), including lower Battle Creek and Anderson Creek, to determine restoration possibilities for the integrated complex that includes lands owned and managed by BLM, the acquisitions identified in this proposal, and other potential acquisitions of fee and/or conservation easements from willing sellers within this subreach. The Assessment will be conducted by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Northern District, and coordinated with a Technical Advisory Committee with representatives from DWR, BLM, DFG, and TNC. Deliverables will include: (1) a GIS relational database for the subreach, (2) a rehabilitation plan for coarse sediment supply and reactivation of channel meander, (3) a feasibility study for restoration of natural flood processes, (4) a monitoring plan, and (5) quarterly and final reports as required by CALFED. The Assessment will establish the existing conditions in the river reach for quantifiable attributes that could be monitored to evaluate the effects of land use improvements. Monitoring of these attributes in the future would depend on continued funding.

Figure 2: Habitat Restoration Assessment Scope of Work

Task 1: Mapping

Compile all existing data into a single GIS relational database for the reach. The database would be compatible with MS Access. The review and compilation of the existing data and reports into a series of watershed maps provides the framework to accomplish subsequent tasks in support of the Restoration Targets.

1.1. Assemble and review available information.
1.2. Create digital map layers, 1:24000 for the river reach, 1:4800 for stream corridor. Layers include: Base maps, topography, geologic units, hydrogeography, soils, roads and trails, land ownership, land use, general plan designation, zoning, riparian, vegetation, fish habitat, wildlife, and selected landmarks.
1.3. Provide statistics on map features.
1.4. Input into the GIS system the data acquired during this study and provide maps, etc.

Task 2: Coarse Sediment Supply Assessment

2.1. Identify previous rehabilitation activities through the review of existing reports.
2.2. Measure channel geometry through surveying of the thalweg and channel cross section in selected spawning riffles and compile existing DFG data.
2.3. Evaluate geomorphic effects of gravel mining including gravel extraction quantities, cross section analyses in lower Cottonwood, Cow, Bear, and Battle Creeks and the effect on gravel recruitment to the Sacramento River.

Task 3: Stream Meander Assessment

3.1. Perform aerial photo analysis of current and historic photos to identify the historic stream channels, meander belts, and riparian zones that the streams and river have occupied. The 100 year meander belt and historic meander belt will be mapped and put on the GIS.
3.2. Acquire and review historic maps of stream locations and accounts of flooding.

3.3. Examine the stream for features that are currently restricting the movement of the meander belt, such as levees, rip-rap, channelization, etc. in order to identify those features that could be removed or modified to allow for a more natural meander belt. Identify eroding banks and measure bank recession.

3.4 Prepare a rehabilitation plan to encourage reactivation of channel meander for the river in this reach.

Task 4: Natural Floodplains and Flood Processes Assessment

4.1. Map the historic floodplain in the lower reaches of Cow, Cottonwood, Battle, and Anderson Creeks and the Sacramento River by examining aerial photography, maps, geomorphology and written accounts.

4.2. Identify sensitive structures that currently exist in the floodplain.

4.3. Identify and map artificial features that are currently constraining the flood flows in the lower reaches of the streams and the river.

4.4. Hydrologic Analysis. Compile data for peak and low flows, mean monthly flows, flow exceedances, etc.

4.5. Prepare a feasibility study of the actions required to allow the stream to reoccupy its historic floodplain.

Task 5: Riparian and Riverine Aquatic Habitats Protection Assessment

5.1. Through the process of land ownership mapping and evaluation of the riparian corridor, develop the ability to prioritize and identify parcels for acquisition of conservation easements or fee title from willing landowners, and voluntary landowner cooperation for the establishment of a riparian corridor throughout this reach of the river.

Task 6: Monitoring / Monitoring Plan

6.1. Evaluate rates of gravel recruitment to the channel from bank erosion and the tributary streams. Attributes to be measured include stream flow in response to differing rainfall events, suspended sediment load and bed load, water temperature, and channel geometry (thalweg and cross section)

6.2. Monitor quality of spawning gravel by measuring the size distribution and area available for spawning.

6.3. Evaluate the use of the available spawning habitat by measuring the area utilized by the different runs of salmon.

6.4. Prepare Monitoring Plan.

Task 7: Project Management - Habitat Restoration Site Assessment

7.1. Project Presentation. Provide presentations for annual review meetings.

7.2. Quarterly Reporting. Submit quarterly reports in the required format by the 10^{th} of the following month.

7.3. Final Reporting. Submit final report.

7.4. Provide oversight of the technical work and provide liaison with CALFED and the local stakeholders.

ECOLOGICAL / BIOLOGICAL BENEFITS

A. Ecological/Biological Objectives

The primary ecological objective is to restore and sustain those ecosystem processes that provide for the needs of the biological resources using the upper Sacramento River and the lower reaches of important tributaries. The project will especially focus on species that indicate ecosystem health and are prioritized for restoration by CALFED and other agencies. The project area includes ten miles of riparian and meander corridor along the Sacramento River, and the lowermost sections of Battle Creek and Anderson Creek which are in the river's meander belt. This habitat supports critical activities for a wide variety of species, including critical spawning and rearing areas for winter-run chinook, spring-run chinook, late fall-run chinook, steelhead, pacific lamprey, and nest sites for bank swallows, bald eagle, great blue heron, and habitat for elderberry longhorn beetle. The project's main scientific hypothesis is that the proposed acquisitions and easements will protect habitat, including ten miles of Sacramento River meander belt and key tributaries providing spawning area for all four runs of chinook salmon and several wildlife species, and will enhance and provide the opportunity to restore riparian habitats and conditions in the streambed and bank.

The primary stressors in this area are related to the close proximity of this reach to rapidly expanding urban areas 10 to 15 miles upstream. The proximity to urban areas is increasing the pressure for land development, bank protection and gravel mining and all these activities now occur to a minor extent in this river reach with current proposals for more of each activity. Instream flow issues are now being addressed in over 42 miles of the stream system by the Upper Battle Creek Restoration Project. The protection of riparian habitat along Battle Creek is an important next step.

Benefits can be derived to the ecosystem and the priority species through this proposal by both preserving and expanding existing high quality riparian habitat, shaded riverine aquatic habitats, and instream habitats that are critical for nesting and juvenile rearing activities for important species of birds and fish and supporting stream dependant wildlife. The proposed project will protect excellent shaded riverine habitat that exists largely in its natural state, and provide the preconditions necessary to expand that habitat into a continuous streamside corridor with selected areas reforested to large, deep blocks of riparian forest (potentially providing yellow billed cuckoo habitat). Protecting and reestablishing extensive shoreline vegetation provides woody debris, leaf and insect drop that supports the survival and health of juvenile salmon and resident fish species. Benefits can be accomplished by precluding subdivision, gravel mining, and reestablishing the forests along a continuous meander belt corridor. The habitat in the lower one mile of Battle Creek is also utilized by some of the juvenile salmon of all races that were spawned in the Sacramento River (non-natal rearing area).

Third party benefits accrue to the agricultural interests in this reach of the river corridor by giving them an option to subdivision. Ancillary benefits also accrue to the juvenile fish produced in upper Battle Creek and Coleman Hatchery by preserving and improving the stability and the quality of the fish rearing habitat in the meander belt corridor of the creek.

The scientific assessment of the river and stream corridors in this reach will allow for effective development of self-sustaining projects that reforest a continuous stream corridor along the river and key tributaries, and replenish the river with spawning gravel and woody debris. The baseline assessment of the habitat in this ten mile reach of river will also assist in the development of an effective adaptive management program during the reforestation and meander belt establishment activities. Several ecosystem restoration considerations affecting this reach will be evaluated: 1) utilization of spawning habitat, 2) gain and loss of spawning gravel due to stream gradient changes, 3) quality of spawning gravel, 4) riparian revegetation, and 5) balance of coarse and fine sediment.

B. Linkages

The Battle Creek component of this project has a relationship to the future restoration of upper Battle Creek and the upper Battle Creek flow and passage project identified as one of CALFED's designated actions for this year and a Stage IERP action. Fish produced in the upper reach use the lower reach both as a migration corridor and a rearing area. The safe passage and productive growth of the juvenile fish in the lower reach can be assured in a self-sustaining diverse riparian corridor that is not subject to harmful channel migrations prompted by gravel extraction or improper bank protection activities.

The Sacramento River and Cottonwood Creek components of this project have a relationship to maintaining a balanced amount of gravel in the bedload for maintenance of spawning beds (per the CVPIA program), and the preservation of a self-sustaining diverse riparian corridor.

The Battle Creek and Sacramento River components of the project support the National Marine Fisheries Service *Winter-run Chinook Recovery Plan.* This reach of the Sacramento River supports up to 10 percent of the winter-run spawning activity and Battle Creek has been identified as the only other stream available in the river's watershed that could support a second self-sustaining population of winter-run. Other restoration plans that are wholly supported by the project include all the DFG and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) plans for this geographic area. The project is consistent with and furthers the principles, management guidelines, and restoration strategies contained in the *Sacramento River Conservation Area Handbook,* and is supported by the Sacramento River Advisory Council.

The proposed project does not conflict with any CALFED non-ecosystem objectives, and in fact contributes locally to some of these objectives, including protection of riparian habitat and surrounding terrestrial habitats, maintaining a meander belt, protecting water quality, and preserving natural floodplain processes without property damage.

The project addresses the CALFED ecosystem restoration vision for the "Keswick to RBDD Ecological Management Unit," in particular the restoration of ecological processes that naturally create and sustain habitats needed to support and restore endangered winter-run chinook salmon and species of concern including steelhead, spring-run chinook, fall-run chinook, late-fall-run chinook, and green sturgeon (ERP, Vol. II, pages 167-168). Included in this restoration vision and also benefited by the proposed project are important ecological functions including flow, natural stream meander and gravel recruitment processes, transport and deposition of sediment, protection of the limited riparian corridor, and providing cool water for all species of fish.

Additionally, the project addresses the CALFED vision for ecosystem processses for Central Valley streamflows and temperatures, coarse sediment supply, stream meander, natural floodplains, and bay-delta hydraulics and aquatic foodweb (ERP Volume I, page 42-43), as well as strategic sub-objectives for fresh emergent wetlands, seasonal wetlands, riparian and riverine aquatic habitats, freshwater fish habitiats, essential fish habitat, and agricultural lands (ERP, Volume I, pages 104, 177-178, and 419).

On a landscape level, the project area constitutes the core of the BLM Sacramento River - Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The ACEC encompasses 36,000 acres and a 26 mile stretch of the Sacramento River. The BLM currently owns and manages a 16,000 acre complex including 14 miles of critical river frontage, 100 acres of wetlands and 600 acres of nesting habitat for waterfowl and shore birds. Through the BLM 1993 Redding *Resource Management Plan,* portions of the river and its tributaries were determined eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The project will further the BLM's objectives to protect the area's riparian and wetland values, enhance the river's anadromous fisheries, and provide continued recreation opportunities.

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY AND TIMING

Alternatives to the proposed habitat protection actions include: 1) other habitat protection measures including set-aside agreements, transfer of development rights (TDRs), and land trades, 2) a different combination of fee title acquisitions and conservation easements, 3) protection of other riparian/meander properties within the project area, or 4) no protection. In the first example, other habitat protection measures do not meet the specific financial or timing objectives of the landowners participating in this project, though TPL can sometimes structure land trades within habitat conservation transactions if mutually beneficial to the resource management agency and the landowner. Second, the proposed project provides flexibility in defining the final assemblage of fee title and conservation easements to accomplish the stated ecosystem protection and restoration objectives. Third, the opportunity to protect riparian corridors within the project area is driven by landowner interest and timing; both conditions are excellent for the properties identified in the project. TPL continues to track and discuss additional opportunities to protect and restore riparian ecosystems within the BLM's Sacramento River Area with the BLM and interested landowners.

Land acquisitions within the project area are guided in part by the BLM's *Redding Resource Management Plan* (RMP) approved July 27, 1993. The accompanying *Proposed Redding Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement* approved August 8, 1992 provides the environmental compliance for BLM's acquisition of any offered private lands within the Sacramento River - Bend ACEC. Any fee title or conservation easement acquisition funded in whole or part through federal land exchange typically requires an additional acquisition specific environmental analysis tiered to the RMP. This analysis is accompanied by a BLM decision record and a related notice of decision. The environmental analysis and supporting decision record and notice(s) will be prepared in the event either of the proposed habitat protection acquisitions are funded in whole or part.

The Habitat Restoration Assessment is a data gathering project that has no true alternatives other than no action. Not gathering and compiling the data as proposed here would restrict the ability of all interested parties in managing the restoration of this river subreach.

The current timing for the Assessment is excellent. Negotiations are underway for the acquisition of property or conservation easements for at least two parcels in the riparian zone along this river subreach. The work proposed herein is necessary to comprehensively manage and restore these properties as a unified riparian corridor extending from Cow Creek to the Jellys Ferry District.

Because the Assessment does not include any direct actions, NEPA and CEQA do not apply. Through the feasibility studies and identification of restoration targets to be produced by this project, future compliance documents and permitting requirements will be identified.

MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

The attributes proposed for measurement within the Habitat Restoration Assessment which are suitable for continued monitoring include the number and areal extent of spawning nests, channel geometry, size distribution of gravel in spawning riffles, channel migration, and bank erosion. The number of samples and locations for each attribute will be presented in the monitoring plan.

The baseline conditions for these attributes will be established through the Assessment, and a monitoring plan prepared to continue the measurement of these attributes as conditions change in the future. This will provide input into the adaptive management of the subreach of the river located within the project area.

The Assessment will examine five specific hypotheses (Table 1).

Table 1: Monitoring and Data Collection Information

Hypothesis/Question to be Evaluated	Monitoring Parameter and Data Collection	Data Evaluation Approach	Comments/Data Priority
Is the available spawning habitat being fully utilized?	Number/area of spawning nests	Compare area with total available, assess trends	Done in conjunction with DFG, high priority for Group I species
Are stream gradients changing resulting in loss or gain of spawning gravel?	Channel geometry, thalweg and cross-section by establishing and re-occupying survey lines	Compare with historic conditions established in prior studies	Moderate priority
Is the quality of spawning gravel changing?	Spawning gravel size distribution by the Wolman method and bulk sampling	Compare size distribution curves with ideal and historic measurements	Done in conjunction with DFG, high priority for Group I species
Can riparian vegetation be restored?	Channel Migration/Bank Erosion Rates by aerial photography/surveying	Assess stability of channel and banks to identify stable restoration efforts	Moderate priority
Are coarse or fine sediment being supplied in this reach?	Sampling/Size distribution analysis of eroding banks, and channel gravels in tributary streams, measurement of suspended load in river and tributaries	Comparison of incoming and outgoing sediment load and changes in size distribution of gravel deposits.	Moderate priority

LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

The boards of supervisors and planning departments for Shasta and Tehama Counties have been notified of the project (notification letters attached). Individual members of each board of supervisors have been briefed, and representatives from both boards have reviewed the project proposal through the Sacramento River Advisory Council. The Advisory Council has determined that the project is consistent with and furthers the objectives of the Sacramento River Conservation Area (Attachment B). The BLM regularly briefs county boards of supervisors and city councils on proposed acquisitions and resource management and planning initiatives undertaken within their jurisdictions. The BLM will request the opportunity to present the proposed acquisitions to the county(ies) within which the properties are located, regardless of whether CALFED funds are awarded for the project.

Between July 1997 and April 1998, members of the BLM Redding Field Office worked with a steering group consisting of ten citizens from Shasta and Tehama Counties to seek guidance for the public lands administered by BLM within the Sacramento River - Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Representation on the Steering Group included the following local interests and organizations: farming, fishing, homeowners, recreation, real estate, Tehama Cattlemen's Association, Sacramento River Preservation Trust, as well as local representatives from the BLM Resource Advisory Council. The Steering Group forwarded the following unanimous recommendations to the Shasta and Tehama boards of supervisors regarding preferred conservation methods for the properties identified in this project: 1) Rancherie Island - BLM should acquire fee title; 2) Bloody Island - BLM or other agency cooperators should acquire conservation easements to protect riparian and agricultural values.

The project is also supported by the landowners involved in the project (**See Attachment B**). Land ownership adjacent to the identified acquisition properties includes public lands administered by BLM and DFG, as well as private farms and ranches. Adjacent private landowners on the east side of the river have either previously sold or have expressed interest in selling all or portions of their property for habitat conservation and public use purposes. Residents on the west side of the river have earlier expressed concern about potential noise and visual impacts from a proposed gravel extraction operation on one of the properties identified for acquisition; protection of this property through conservation easements will prevent these impacts.

BUDGET/SCHEDULE

Budget

Total and quarterly budgeting detail for CALFED funds is presented in Tables 2 and 3 below. The total project budget, including cost share, will be driven primarily by acquisition costs. Acquisition costs will be based on final, agency-approved appraisals.

The habitat protection component of the project could potentially be incrementally funded by acquiring the targeted properties in two phases. A CALFED award of $1 million in the first phase, together with the 50% match pledged by TPL, would ensure acquisition of one of the properties. A subsequent $1 million award could be made conditional to acquisition of the first property. CALFED funds remaining after the first acquisition, if any, would also be used to leverage available matching funds towards acquisition of the second property.

Schedule

The project is expected to be two years in duration. The Habitat Protection and Habitat Restoration Assessment are complementary and concurrent components of the project.

Task 1 of the Habitat Protection component is underway. Specific subtasks for Task 2 will begin shortly. Task 3 — acquisition and conveyance -- is the key milestone and funding requirement for this component. Depending on when CALFED funds are available, it is anticipated that this task would be completed within the first 3-6 months of the project.

The Habitat Restoration Assessment could begin within three months of CALFED award notification. The Assessment is expected to take two years to complete.

Overall project management will be provided by BLM during the two year project lifetime.

Table 2: Total Budget (CALFED funds only)

Task	Direct Labor Hours	Direct Salary and Benefits	Service Contracts	Material and Acquisition Costs	Misc. and other Direct Costs	Overhead and Indirect Costs	Total Cost
Phase I: Habitat Protection (TPL)							
Task l	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**
Task 2	**NC**	**NC**	**$5,000**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**$5,000**
Task 3	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**
Phase I Management	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**$2,000,000**
Subtotal	**NC**	**NC**	**$5,000**	**NC**	**NC**	**NC**	**$2,005,000**
Phase II: Habitat Restoration Assessment (DWR)							
Task l	**492**	**$13,500**	**$0**	**$0**	**$1,500**		**$15,000**
Task 2	**2,456**	**$67,500**	**$0**	**$0**	**$7,500**		**$75,000**
Task 3	**492**	**$13,500**	**$0**	**$0**	**$1,500**		**$15,000**
Task 4	**818**	**$22,500**	**$0**	**$0**	**$2,500**		**$25,000**
Task 5	**328**	**$9,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$1,000**		**$10,000**
Task 6	**654**	**$18,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$2,000**		**$20,000**
Phase II Management	**n/a**	**NC**	**$0**	**$0**	**NC**		**NC**
Subtotal	**5,240**	**$144,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$16,000**		**$160,000**
Project Management (BLM)							
Subtotal	**320**	**$8,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$2,000**		**$10,000**

NOTES:

1. Cost share budget items are denoted "NC", including all Phase I labor, Phase II management labor, and all Phase I service contract and other direct costs except $5,000 for conservation easement surveys.
2. Salary rates for Phase II and project management costs reflect state and federal employee "burdened" rates, and include overhead and indirect costs.

Table 3: Quarterly Budget (CALFED funds only)

Task	Oct-Dec 99	Jan-Mar 00	Apr-Jun 00	Jul-Sep 00	Oct-Dec 00	Jan-Mar 01	Apr-Jun 01	Jul-Sep 01	Total Budget
Phase I: Habitat Protection (TPL)									
Task l									
Task 2	$5,000								$5,000
Task 3	$1,000,000	$1,000,000							$2,000,000
Phase I Management									
Subtotal	$1,005,000	$1,000,000							$2,005,000
Phase II: Habitat Restoration Assessment (DWR)									
Task l	$7,500	$7,500							$15,000
Task 2		$25,000	$25,000	$25,000					$75,000
Task 3		$5,000	$5,000	$5,000					$15,000
Task 4					$6,250	$6,250	$6,250	$6,250	$25,000
Task 5					$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$10,000
Task 6							$10,000	$10,000	$20,000
Phase II Management									
Subtotal	$7,500	$37,500	$30,000	$30,000	$8,750	$8,750	$18,750	$18,750	$160,000
Project Management (BLM)									
Subtotal	$2,500	$2,500	$750	$1,000	$750	$750	$750	$1,000	$10,000
Total	$1,015,000	$1,040,000	$30,750	$31,000	$9,500	$9,500	$19,500	$19,750	$2,175,000

COST SHARING

The project includes an excellent match or cost sharing component. Acquisition funds requested from CALFED for the Habitat Protection component of the project will be matched 50% by TPL through a private foundation grant and/or through funds available at the time of the CALFED award in the TPL/BLM Statewide Assembled Land Exchange Pool (the "Exchange Pool").

TPL was awarded a grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation on September 11, 1998 in support of land and habitat conservation efforts within the BLM's Sacramento River - Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and Lower Clear Creek in Tehama and Shasta Counties. The habitat protection acquisitions proposed in the project are located within the Sacramento River - Bend ACEC. TPL proposes to match Packard and CALFED funds for the acquisitions proposed in the project in order to respond to the Packard Foundation's goal of aggressively leveraging funds awarded through their Conserving California Landscapes initiative, and to provide a competitive proposal to CALFED. Several pending acquisitions by TPL and other cooperating land conservation organizations may be paid for in whole or part from the Packard Foundation grant. A $251,000 acquisition has been funded through the Packard grant thus far. Matching funds available from the Packard grant will depend on the amount of remaining uncommitted funds at the time CALFED funds are awarded.

Funds available in the TPL/BLM Exchange Pool may also contribute to the 50% acquisition fund match. Exchange Pool funds may be used for other potential acquisitions. As with the Packard grant, the matching funds available from the Exchange Pool will depend on the Exchange Pool balance at the time CALFED funds are awarded.

In addition to a 50% cost share of acquisition funds, DWR and TPL will contribute additional personnel hours and related project costs. DWR will absorb project management costs for the Habitat Restoration Assessment as a cost share. TPL will absorb all personnel hours necessary to complete the Habitat Protection component of the project. TPL will also contribute project-related hard costs, including contract appraisals and hazardous material surveys, title review, and escrow costs.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

This proposal is a public/nonprofit joint venture between the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Redding Field Office (BLM), California Department of Water Resources, Northern District (DWR), and the Trust for Public Land, Western Region (TPL). BLM is the applicant and contracting party responsible for payments, reporting, and accounting. BLM will take title to and manage the fee title acquisitions and conservation easement purchases outlined in this proposal.

DWR will manage/conduct the Habitat Restoration Site Assessment Study (Site Study). Northern District staff will prepare all reports and plans identified in the Site Study outline. DWR will provide quarterly and final reports to BLM and the CALFED Contract Administrator as required for the study component of this proposal. DWR staff will be available for presentations at annual CALFED contract review meetings as required.

TPL will provide project management for the habitat protection component of this proposal. TPL will acquire fee title and conservation easements from willing sellers and deliver clean title to BLM. TPL will also provide the matching funds pledged in this proposal. TPL will provide quarterly and final reports to BLM and the CALFED Contract Administrator as required for the habitat protection component of this proposal. TPL staff will be available for presentations at CALFED contract review meetings as required.

Redding BLM staff collectively possess more than 300 years of natural resource management experience, most of which is within northern California. Redding BLM currently manages the balance of Reading Island which is not owned by Mr. Greening. Staff expertise includes wildlife biology, botany, range management, archaeology, woodland management and public facilities maintenance. Redding BLM's support includes administration, accounting, basic engineering, GIS, GPS and a variety of data processing skills.

Chuck Schultz is the Redding BLM Field Manager. Chuck's primary responsibility is to ensure that BLM staff maintain the health of acquired public lands. His academic qualifications include a BS in Wildlife Biology from the University of Nevada at Reno. His work experience includes a total of 26 years with the BLM in such capacities as Fire Control Officer, Supervisory Range Conservationist, and Chief of Resources. He has served as Field Manager for the past four years.

Francis Berg is the Redding BLM Chief of Resources. Francis' primary responsibility is to assign specific specialists to manage the natural resources on public lands. His academic qualifications include an AA Degree from Riverside Community College in southern California, a BA in Anthropology from UC Riverside, and graduate studies in Environmental Administration, also at UC Riverside. Francis has 21 years of experience with BLM in California including anthropology, land use planning, natural history and the supervision of natural resource specialists.

Kelly Williams is the Chief of Support Services for the Redding BLM. His primary responsibility is budget development. Kelly is also involved in land planning for public lands within the area. His academic qualifications include a BS in Forestry from Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas. Kelly has worked in the BLM's Redding Field Office for 21 years

specializing in the fields of forest management, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and riparian restoration.

TPL is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with over 26 years of experience in acquiring critical land and water resources from willing sellers for restoration and preservation. To date, TPL has acquired and conveyed into protective public or nonprofit stewardship over 1 million acres in the United States valued at over $1.4 billion dollars. TPL's core competencies are in business, finance, law and real estate.

Mike Reeves is a Field Representative with TPL's Western Rivers Program. Mike's primary role in this project will be to manage all functions of the habitat conservation aspect of the project. In his four years at TPL Mike has coordinated multi-county land exchanges with the BLM along the Upper Sacramento River. Mike also has several years experience in regional planning, riparian habitat conservation and regional river parkway planning. Mike has a B.A. in Urban Studies & Planning from UC San Diego and is an M.C.P. candidate in City and Regional Planning from UC Berkeley.

Nelson Mathews is the Western Rivers Program Director. Nelson's primary role is to provide project oversight and support. Nelson is the principal TPL representative for this project. Nelson's work at TPL includes the successful completion of projects ranging from the acquisition of the 16,000+ acre Grass Valley Creek Watershed on the Trinity River for restoration of salmon and steelhead habitat, to the conservation purchase of water rights from Battle Creek. Nelson has 8 years experience in negotiating and managing complex real estate acquisitions as well as program management.

The Department of Water Resources, Northern District Office will conduct the Habitat Restoration Assessment for this project. Participating DWR staff have conducted numerous studies on spawning gravel and erosion along the Sacramento River and its tributaries. Current studies include "Woodson Bridge Bank Erosion Study," and "Battle Creek (PG&E) Coleman Diversion Dam Restoration Foundation Investigation." Environmental and fisheries aspects will be handled by the Northern District Environmental Studies Section and the Department of Fish and Game (DFG).

The Site Study will be directed by Koll Buer, Senior Engineering Geologist for the Geology Section of the Northern District. His academic qualifications include both BS and MS Degrees in Geology from UC Davis. He is also a Registered Geologist and a Certified Engineering Geologist. Koll’s experience includes 18 years of work involving spawning gravel, stream geomorphology, and watersheds. Recently he has directed studies of gravel and bank erosion, along the Sacramento River, as well as a study of alternative sources of gravel for use in fishery restoration.

Dave Forwalter is an Associate Engineering Geologist with DWR. Dave has been involved in river studies since 1986 and has worked on numerous fishery-related studies examining bank erosion on the Sacramento River as well as the "Clough Dam Spawning Gravel Project," and the "Enlarged Lake Cachuma-Santa Ynez River Degradation Study." He has also done work for DFG at the Little River and on Cottonwood Creek.

ATTACHMENT A

MAPS

-SITE LOCATION MAP-
-PROJECT AREA MAP-


Project Area

Riparian Corridor Acquisition and Restoration Assement
Project Area

ATTACHMENT B

LETTERS

NOTIFICATION/REVIEW

-COUNTY NOTIFICATION-
-LOCAL GROUP NOTIFICATION-
-SACRAMENTO RIVER ADVISORY COUNCIL-
-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY-

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Redding Resource Area
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, California 96002-0910

APR 1 5 1999

In Reply, Refer to:
2100 (P)
CA 360

Shasta County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Chairperson
1815 Placer Street, Suite 1
Redding, CA 96001

Dear Chairperson:

Please be advised that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is intending to submit a grant application on April 16, 1999 to CALFED for Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration Site Assessment.

This project is a public/non-profit joint venture between the BLM, California Department of Water Resources,(DWR) and The Trust for Public Land,(TPL). The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties north of Red Bluff along the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge (see attached map). Most of the project falls within the BLM's Sacramento River special emphasis area.

BLM is requesting $2,200,000 to accomplish two tasks: 1) protect five miles of Sacramento River frontage, four and one-half miles of Battle Creek frontage, and one mile of Anderson Creek frontage through acquisition of fee title and conservation easements, and 2) conduct a Habitat Restoration Site Assessment of the Sacramento River between Jellys Ferry bridge and the mouth of Cow Creek. BLM will match the $2 million requested for acquisitions through the BLM/TPL statewide land exchange pooling agreement and other sources.

TPL is negotiating the purchase of two properties -- Greening and Cover Ranches -- through a combination for fee title and conservation easements. The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island and is located entirely in Shasta County. About 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland would be acquired in fee and managed by BLM. The balance of the property is in walnut production and would be protected from future development through an agricultural easement.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Redding Resource Area
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, California 96002-0910

APR 15 1999

In Reply, Refer to:
2100 (P)
CA 360

Shasta County Planning Division
1855 Placer Street, Suite 103
Redding, CA 96001

Dear Mr. Cook,

Please be advised that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). is intending to submit a grant application on April 16, 1999 to CALFED for Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration Site Assessment.

This project is a public/non-profit joint venture between the BLM, California Department of Water Resources,(DWR) and The Trust for Public Land,(TPL). The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties north of Red Bluff along the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge (see attached map). Most of the project falls within the BLM's Sacramento River special emphasis area.

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TPL is negotiating the purchase of two properties -- Greening and Cover Ranches -- through a combination for fee title and conservation easements. The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island and is located entirely in Shasta County. About 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland would be acquired in fee and managed by BLM. The balance of the property is in walnut production and would be protected from future development through an agricultural easement.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Redding Resource Area
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, California 96002-0910

APR 15 1999

In Reply, Refer to:
2100 (P)
CA 360

Tehama County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Chairperson
P.O. BOX 250
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Dear Chairperson:

Please be advised that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is intending to submit a grant application on April 16, 1999 to CALFED for Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration Site Assessment.

This project is a public/non-profit joint venture between the BLM, California Department of Water Resources,(DWR) and The Trust for Public Land, CTPL). The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties north of Red Bluff along the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge (see attached map). Most o£ the project falls within the BLM's Sacramento River special emphasis area.

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TPL is negotiating the purchase of two properties -- Greening and Gover Ranches -- through a combination for fee^ title and conservation easements. The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island and is located entirely in Shasta County. About 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland would be acquired in fee and managed by BLM. The balance of the property is in walnut production and would be protected from future development through an agricultural easement.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Redding Resource Area
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, California 96002-0910

APR 15 1999

In Reply, Refer
to: 2100 (P)
CA 360

Tehama County Planning Dept.
444 Oak Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Dear Mr. Robson,

Please be advised that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is intending to submit a grant application on April 16, 1999 to CALFED for Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration Site Assessment.
This project is a public/non-profit joint venture between the BLM, California Department of Water Resources, (DWR) and The Trust for Public Land,(TPL). The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties north of Red Bluff along the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge (see attached map). Most of the project falls within the BLM's Sacramento River special emphasis area.
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TPL is negotiating the purchase of two properties -- Greening and Cover Ranches -- through a combination for fee title and conservation easements. The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island and is located entirely in Shasta County. About 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland would be acquired in fee and managed by BLM. The balance of the property is in walnut production and would be protected from future development through an agricultural easement.

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Redding Resource Area
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, California 96002-0910

APR 15 1999

In Reply, Refer to:
2100 (P)
CA 360

Leland Davis, Chairperson
Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy
P.O. BOX 606
Manton, CA 96059

Dear Chairperson:

Please be advised that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is intending to submit a grant application on April 16, 1999 to CALFED for Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration Site Assessment.

This project is a public/non-profit joint venture between the BLM, California Department of Water Resources,(DWR) and The Trust for Public Land,(TPL). The project is located in Shasta and Tehama Counties north of Red Bluff along the Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge (see attached map). Most of the project falls within the BLM's Sacramento River special emphasis area.

BLM is requesting $2,200,000 to accomplish two tasks: 1) protect five miles of Sacramento River frontage, four and one-half miles of Battle Creek frontage, and one mile of Anderson Creek frontage through acquisition of fee title and conservation easements, and 2) conduct a Habitat Restoration Site Assessment of the Sacramento River between Jellys Ferry bridge and the mouth of Cow Creek. BLM will match the $2 million requested for acquisitions through the BLM/TPL statewide land exchange pooling agreement and other sources.

TPL is negotiating the purchase of two properties-- Greening and Cover Ranches -- through a combination for fee title and conservation easements. The Greening Ranch includes roughly 245 acres of Rancherie Island and is located entirely in Shasta County. About 173 acres of undeveloped, mature valley oak grassland would be acquired in fee and managed by BLM. The balance of the property is in walnut production and would be protected from future development through an agricultural easement.

SACRAMENTO RIVER ADVISORY COUNCIL
c/o CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
2440 MAIN STREET
RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA 96080

Denny Bungarz, Chair ? (530) 934-7342 • dbungarz@glencounty.net
Burt Bundy, Sacramento River Conservation Area Coordinator- (530) 528-7411 • **burtbundy@snowcrest.net**

April 15, 1999

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

**Ref: Riparian Habitat Protection and Restoration Site Assessment -
BLM Sacramento River Area**

Proponent: U.S. Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Water Resources and The Trust for Public Land

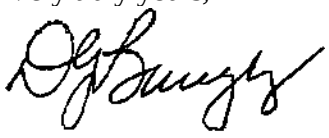
Dear Mr. Snow:

Based on the information provided by the project proponent of this project and with the understanding of continued studies and hydrologic and hydraulic review we find that this project is consistent with and furthers the objectives of the Sacramento River Conservation Area (SB1086) as outlined in the SRCA Handbook. An essential part of this effort continues to be close coordination with affected public and private landowners, government agencies, and other groups and individuals. The essence of the Sacramento River Conservation Area (SB1086) process is communication and coordination from a wide variety of interests along the river.

This proposal has been presented to both the Advisory Council and its' Riparian Habitat Committee, and the Council has authorized me to forward its' actions on this proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Denny Bungarz, Chair
Sacramento River Conservation Area Advisory Council

cc: Chuck Schultz, US Bureau of Land Management
The Trust for Public Land California
Department of Water Resources

The Nature Conservancy

Sacramento River Project
1074 East Avenue, Suite F
Chico, California 95926

TEL 530 897-6370
FAX 530 342-0257

International Headquarters
Arlington, Virginia

April 15,1999

Mr. Lester Snow Executive
Director CALFED Bay-Delta
Program 1416 Ninth Street,
Suite 1155 Sacramento, CA
95814

Dear Mr. Snow,

1 am writing to support The Bureau of Land Management (BI.M) 1999 CAT,FED application for Hoodplain Acquisition and Habilal Restoration on the Sacramento River between Jelly's Ferry and Cow Creek (RM 267-280).

BLM and The Trust for Public Lands (TP1.) have brought together INC, DFG, WCB, DWR Northern District, and the SB 1086 Conservation Area to work with the Gover Family to preserve and enhance important biological values at the confluence of the Sacramento River and Battle Creek. The Gover Family has farmed the adjacent land, known as Bloody Island, for several generations. I believe they are eager to work cooperatively with BLM to protect Bloody Island's biological values and while preserving compatible agricultural use.

A preserve design based on reach-scale planning envisioned by the proposed project can be expected to address CALFED objectives on the Sacramento River and Battle Creek, while at the same time permitting the Gover family to continue farming. TNC will be pleased to participate as a member of the technical team charged with formulating a preserve design, restoration plan, and easement restrictions to meet the multiple purposes of habitat protection, limited river meander, and continued beneficial use.

I ask that you to strongly consider BLM's proposal for floodplain acquisition and habitat restoration.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sam Lawson
Project Director

WESTERN
AGRICULTURAL
SERVICES

April 8, 1999

Mr. Mike Reeves
THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND
Western Region
116 New Montgomery Street, Suite 300

San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: CALFED Proposal

Dear Mike:

I talked to Jack today and faxed him a copy of this letter. Since he doesn't have access to a word processor, he requested that I respond as his agent.

I encourage and support the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to obtain CALFED funding for habitat conservation and restoration planning on the Sacramento River and Anderson Creek. In connection with the BLM's proposal, I grant permission to The Trust for Public Land (TPL) to obtain an appraisal of Greening Ranch on Rancherie Island in contemplation of TPL's purchase of fee title and conservation easements, as generally described in the proposal. I further grant permission to TPL to conduct such inspections of the ranch as are necessary to complete TPL's purchase.

I understand that all information submitted in support of the CALFED proposal will become public.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance in ensuring a strong and compelling habitat conservation and restoration proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Greening by
S. James Rickert, Agent.

Jack Greening

by S. James Rickert, Agent

cc: Jack Greening
Chuck Schultz, Field Office Manager, Redding Field Office, BLM

DAN GOVER
Gover Ranch
3776 Cover Road
Anderson, CA 96007-9713

April 7, 1999

Mike Reeves
The Trust for Public Land
Western Region
116 New Montgomery, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: CALFED
proposal

Dear Mike:

I encourage and support the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to obtain CALFED funding for habitat conservation and restoration planning on the Sacramento River and Battle Creek. In connection with the BLM's proposal, I grant permission to The Trust for Public Land (TPL) to obtain an appraisal of Cover Ranch in contemplation of TPL's purchase of fee title and conservation easements, as generally described in the proposal. I further grant permission to TPL to conduct such inspections of the ranch as ore necessary to complete TPL's purchase, subject to an option agreement between TPL and the Gover family.

I understand that all information submitted in support of the CALFED proposal will become public.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance in ensuring a strong and compelling habitat conservation and restoration proposal.

Sincerely,

Dan Gover

cc: Chuck Schultz, Field Office Manager, Redding Field Office, BLM

ATTACHMENT C

LETTERS

NOTIFICATION OF JOINT VENTURE PARTNERSHIP

-TPL TO BLM-
-DWR TO BLM-

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - THE RESOURCES AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS ***Governor***

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
NORTHERN DISTRICT
2440 MAIN STREET
RED BLUFF. CA 96080-2398

April 15,1999

Mr. Charles Shultz
US Bureau of Land Management
Redding Field Office
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, California 96002

Dear Mr. Shultz:

The Northern District of the Department of Water Resources is pleased to be a participant in the CALFED proposal being submitted by the Bureau of Land Management and Trust for Public Land for the acquisition, and restoration assessment of lands near the mouth of Battle Creek. This proposal will provide funds to acquire fee title and/or conservation easements along Battle Creek and The Sacramento River and offers an outstanding opportunity to study and manage the riparian corridor as a single interactive system. The assessment would be conducted by BLM, DWR, the Department of Fish and Game, and with support from the Nature Conservancy and the Trust for Public Land among others.

The Sacramento River in this sub-reach is affected by the east side tributaries of Cow, Bear, and Battle creeks and the west side tributaries of Cottonwood and Anderson creeks. This proposal is a unique opportunity to study the interrelationships between the river, streams, and riparian zone and to formulate a management strategy for the area as a single system. DWR is pleased to be able to provide its expertise and experience in the execution of this study. We are looking forward to joining you and the other parties in the completion of this project.

If you have any questions please contact me at (530) 529-7342 or Koll Buer of my staff at (530) 529-7387.

Sincerely,

Naser Bateni, Chief
Northern District

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Conserving Land for People

April 15, 1999

Mr. Charles Schultz
US Bureau of Land Management
Redding Field Office
355 Hemsted Drive
Redding, CA 96002

Dear Mr. Schultz,

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is pleased to be one of three partners seeking CALFED Category III funds for the "Riparian Corridor Acquisition and Restoration Assessment" project along the Upper Sacramento River. This collaborative partnership of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and TPL will improve the overall health of ecosystems along the Upper Sacramento River between the mouth of Cow Creek and Jellys Ferry bridge.

This project, through land acquisition and scientific study, will provide restoration opportunities for critical habitat including nearly ten miles of riparian corridor. TPL's proposed acquisition of fee title and conservation easements along the Sacramento River and Battle Creek will ensure the opportunity to preserve and enhance vital chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and green sturgeon spawning habitat.

The Habitat Restoration Site Assessment, to be conducted by DWR, will provide a scientific foundation for the development of future restoration plans for the project area. This study will provide information specific to the geomorphic and riparian interactions within the project area.

We look forward to participating in this project.

Sincerely,

Nelson Mathews
Western Rivers Program Director

The Trust for Public Land
Western Region
116 New Montgomery
Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

415)495-5660
Fax (415) 495-0541