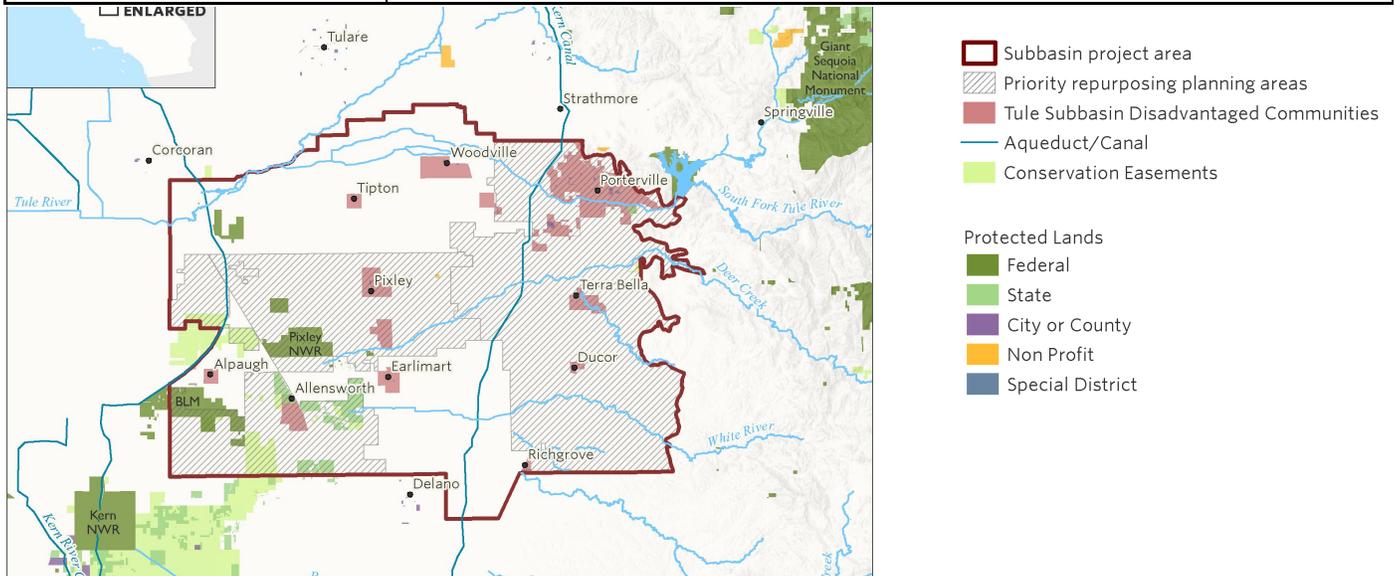


## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

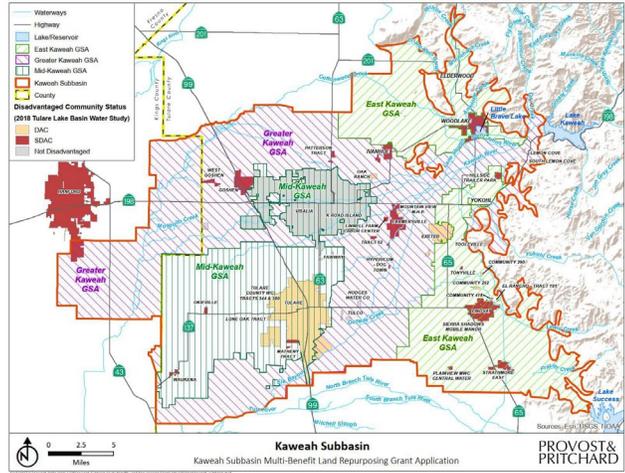
<p><b>Applicant</b> Pixley Irrigation District GSA</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Tulare County</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Tule (5-022.13)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal aims to facilitate strategic land retirement, restore habitat, and protect and enhance water resources throughout the critically overdrafted Tule Subbasin in a manner that meets regional economic, environmental, and social needs. The proposal includes planning and implementation within the three priority subregions most in need of land repurposing, as well as a subbasin-wide plan to apply lessons learned from land repurposing in the three priority areas across the subbasin.</p> <p>The proposal includes funding to implement pilot projects that will be representative of future regional work, including upland restoration of fallowed lands, as well as additional funding to implement yet to be identified projects. This proposal includes partnerships with a diverse group of stakeholders that would support coordinated execution of the grant, including water, disadvantaged communities, and environmental groups.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Tri-County Water Authority Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• The Nature Conservancy</li> <li>• Audubon California</li> <li>• The Tule Basin Land &amp; Water Conservation Trust</li> <li>• Sequoia Riverlands Trust</li> <li>• Self-Help Enterprises</li> <li>• UC Merced</li> <li>• The Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership Network</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Policy Institute of California</li> <li>• Allensworth Community Services District</li> <li>• Milk Producers Council</li> <li>• Tulare County Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Tulare County</li> <li>• State Parks, Great Basin District</li> <li>• 4Venir</li> </ul>
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*Image courtesy of Pixley Irrigation District GSA*

## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> Greater Kaweah GSA</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Tulare and Kings Counties</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Kaweah (5-022.11)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal will result in the development of a toolbox for assessing and selecting multi-benefit land repurposing activities that protect the land-based economy, manage groundwater supply, provide short- and medium-term drought relief, restore wildlife habitat, and provide direct benefits to disadvantaged communities in a critically overdrafted sub-basin. While specific land repurposing activities are not identified in the application, the applicant intends to use a bottom-up community engagement approach to develop a multi-benefit agricultural land repurposing plan, through which they will identify which land repurposing strategies make most sense for their region. The primary goal will be to repurpose land by following with the intent to restore habitat. The applicant and their partners are collaborating with stakeholders representing an array of interests, including farmers and ranchers, disadvantaged communities, and land conservation. Projects selected for implementation will be conducted on lands least viable for agriculture and that contribute to resource connectivity.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sequoia Riverlands Trust</li> <li>• East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Greater Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• California Water Service</li> <li>• City of Farmersville</li> <li>• Farmers Ditch Company</li> <li>• Delta View Water Association</li> <li>• Kaweah River Basin Regional Water Management Group</li> <li>• Lakeside Irrigation District</li> <li>• Milk Producers Council</li> <li>• Kaweah Regional Conservation Investment Strategy Steering Committee</li> <li>• Self-Help Enterprises</li> <li>• St. Johns Water District</li> <li>• County of Tulare</li> <li>• Tulare Irrigation District</li> </ul>
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*Images courtesy of Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District*

**Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program  
Regional Block Grant Project Summary**

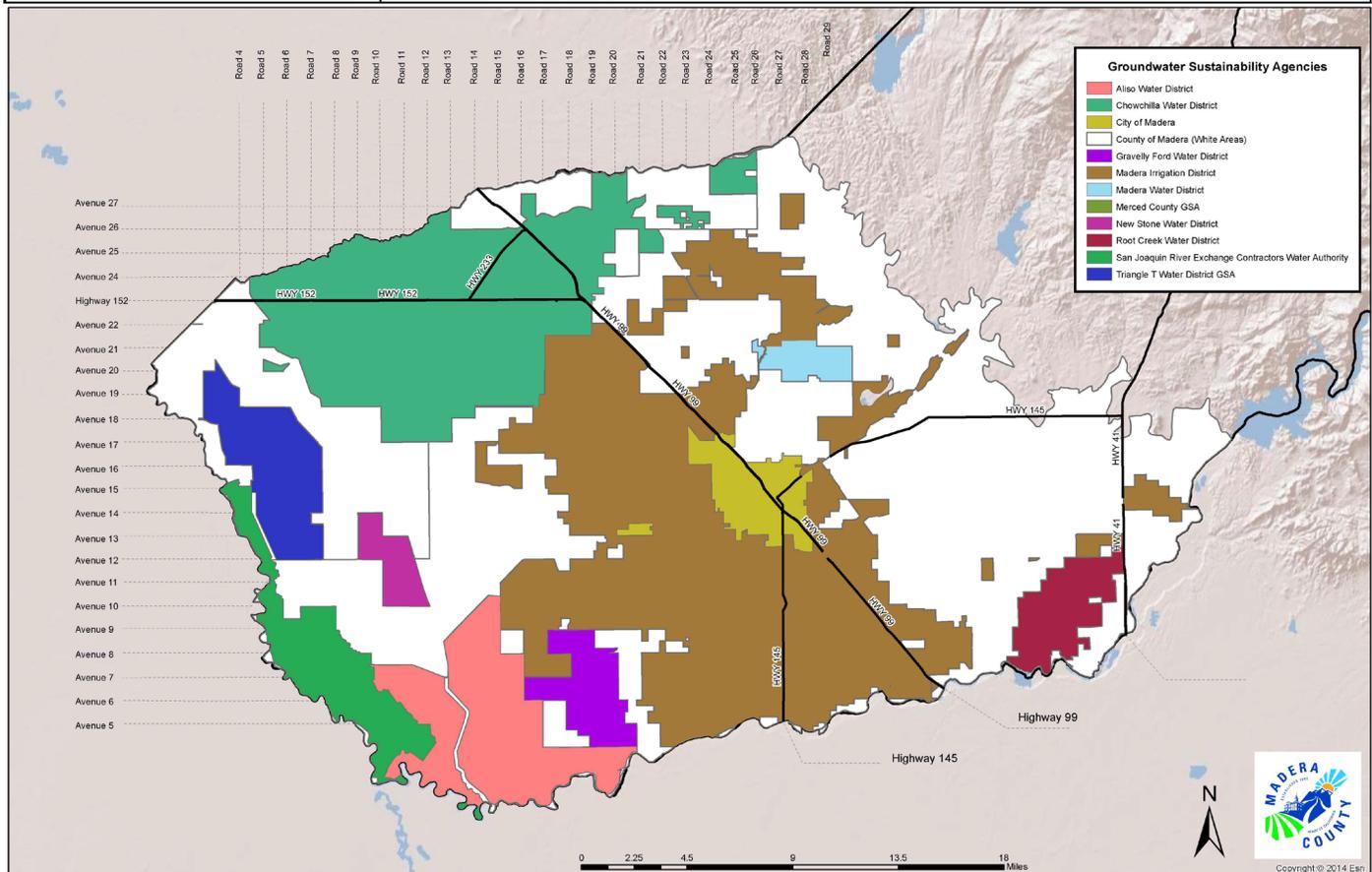
<p><b>Applicant</b> California Marine Sanctuary Foundation</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> Salinas Valley Basin GSA</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Monterey County</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> 180/400 Foot Aquifer Eastside (3-004.01; 3-004.02)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$8,234,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal would fund work by a broad coalition of partners from multiple sectors, including disadvantaged communities and tribes, to strategically and voluntarily repurpose the least viable ag lands in Lower Salinas Valley to produce multiple water resource benefits. Partners would work to plan, develop, and implement strategies to fallow and repurpose agricultural lands for floodplain and habitat benefits. Implementation dollars would primarily be spent to acquire easements and fee title to land identified for floodplain setbacks and recharge areas and would facilitate progress toward completing project designs.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li><li>• Central Coast Wetlands Group</li><li>• City of Salinas</li><li>• Ag Land Trust</li><li>• Elkhorn Slough Foundation</li><li>• Amah Mutsun Land Trust</li><li>• Resource Conservation District of Monterey County</li><li>• Monterey County Water Resources Agency</li><li>• Castroville Community Services District</li></ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Farm Bureau of Monterey County</li><li>• Big Sur Land Trust</li><li>• Monterey County<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Board of Supervisors</li><li>○ Agricultural Commissioner</li><li>○ Housing and Community Development</li></ul></li><li>• Ocean Mist Farms</li><li>• North Monterey County League of United Latin American Citizens</li><li>• Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary</li><li>• North County Recreation &amp; Park District</li></ul>
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*Image courtesy of California Marine Sanctuary Foundation*

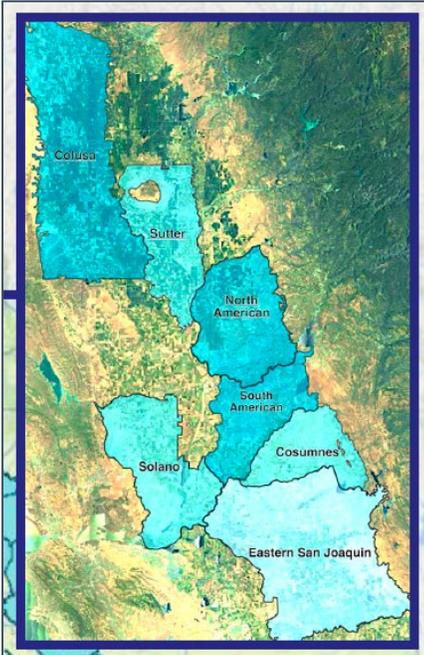
## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> County of Madera</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> Madera/Chowchilla RCD; Madera County Farm Bureau; Madera Ag Water Association; California Farmland Trust</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Madera County</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Chowchilla (5-022.05) Madera (5-022.06) Delta-Mendota (5-022.07)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal builds on a Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program planning grant that was used to prioritize land to remain in agricultural and land for fallowing based on recharge potential, soil quality, and water supply. Land Repurposing funding would be used to expand the plan regionally and explore the viability of additional land repurposing, such as habitat restoration, while using the majority of funding to provide incentive payments to landowners to repurpose marginal agricultural lands for multiple benefits and water savings. Work would be focused on land around disadvantaged communities and would include repurposing to dryland farming, rangeland, buffer zones, pollinators, and hedgerows.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District</li> <li>• Madera County Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Madera Ag Water Association</li> <li>• California Farmland Trust</li> </ul>
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**Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program  
Regional Block Grant Project Summary**

<p><b>Applicant</b> California Associated of Resource Conservation Districts</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> Sloughhouse RCD GSA</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Amador, Colusa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Sutter Counties</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Colusa (5-021.52) Cosumnes (5-022.16) Eastern San Joaquin (5-022.01) North American (5-021.64) Solano (5-021.66) South American (5-021.65) Sutter (5-021.62)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal aims to address specific groundwater sustainability challenges in each of six high and medium priority sub-basins and one critically overdrafted sub-basin while creating multibenefit models for sub-basins that are not yet critically overdrafted. The proposal focuses on the implementation of projects that recharge groundwater basins, rewild farm edges, and/or regenerate soil health while maintaining lands in agriculture and reducing water use on those lands.</p> <p>The applicant would serve as a passthrough organization for funds and would not be involved in coordinating or shaping the work conducted. Work would be led by the individual RCDs within their own sub-basins. Disadvantaged community outreach would be focused on farmers, ranchers, and landowners.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amador RCD</li> <li>• Colusa RCD</li> <li>• Dixon RCD</li> <li>• San Joaquin RCD</li> <li>• Sloughhouse RCD</li> <li>• Solano RCD</li> <li>• Sutter RCD</li> <li>• Sustainable Conservation</li> <li>• The Freshwater Trust</li> <li>• Zero Foodprint</li> <li>• Colusa Groundwater Authority Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Cosumnes Groundwater Authority</li> <li>• Omochumne Hartnell Water District</li> </ul>
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*Images courtesy of California Association of Resource Conservation Districts*

## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> County of San Diego</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> Borrego Springs Watermaster</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> San Diego County</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Borrego Springs (7-024.01)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$4,450,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal focuses on repurposing previously irrigated land in Borrego Springs to create desert habitat/native vegetation or convert to less water-intensive agricultural uses. The proposal aims to reduce groundwater use in a critically overdrafted basin and provide additional benefits to disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged communities by improving air quality, restoring wildlife habitat, creating recreational spaces, and creating new revenue sources.</p> <p>The applicant has strong, well-defined partnerships in place to support their work.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borrego Springs Watermaster</li> <li>• Anza-Borrego Foundation</li> <li>• Agricultural Alliance for Water and Resource Education</li> <li>• Borrego Water District</li> </ul>
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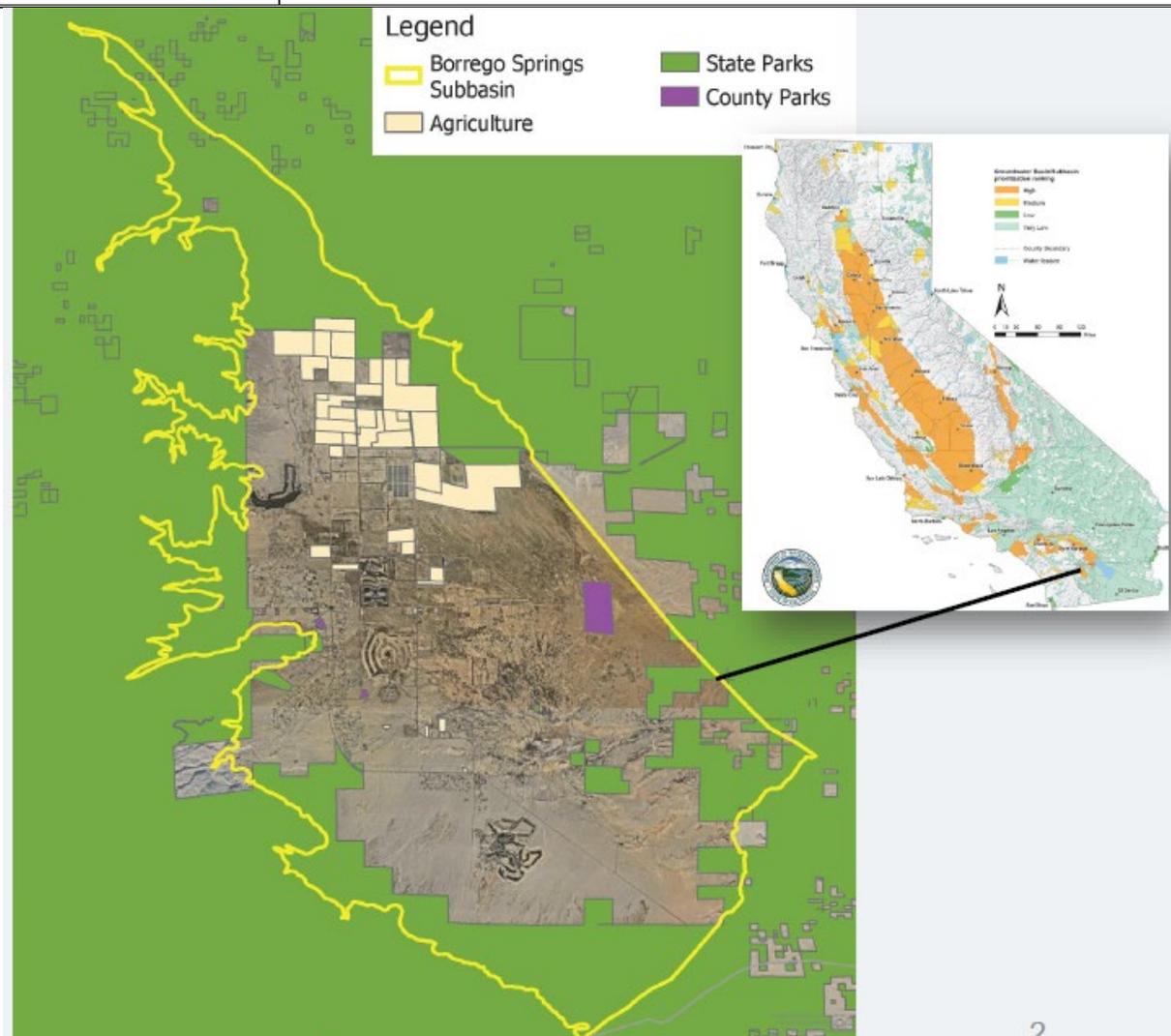
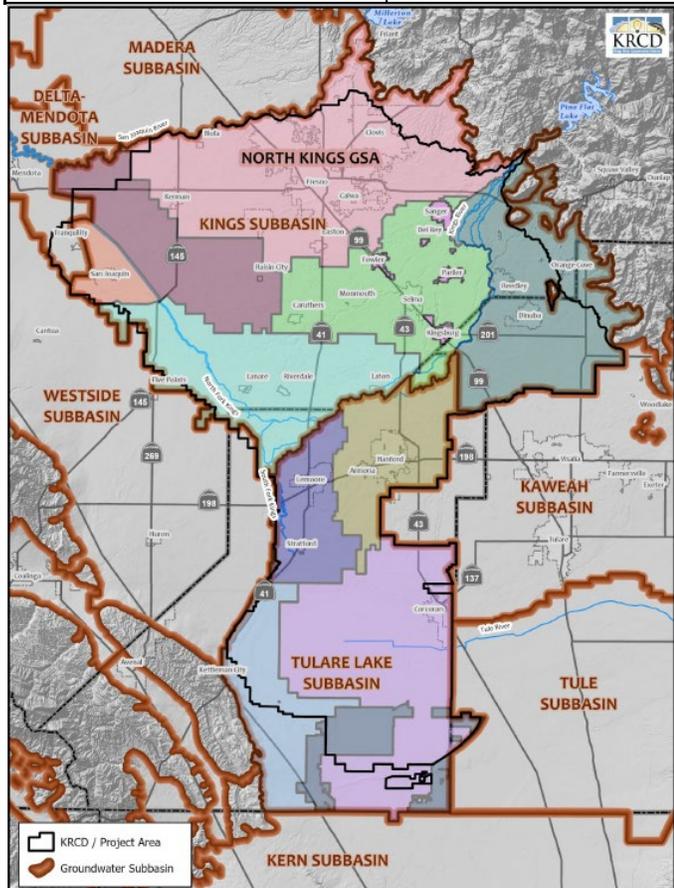


Image courtesy of County of San Diego

**Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program  
Regional Block Grant Project Summary**

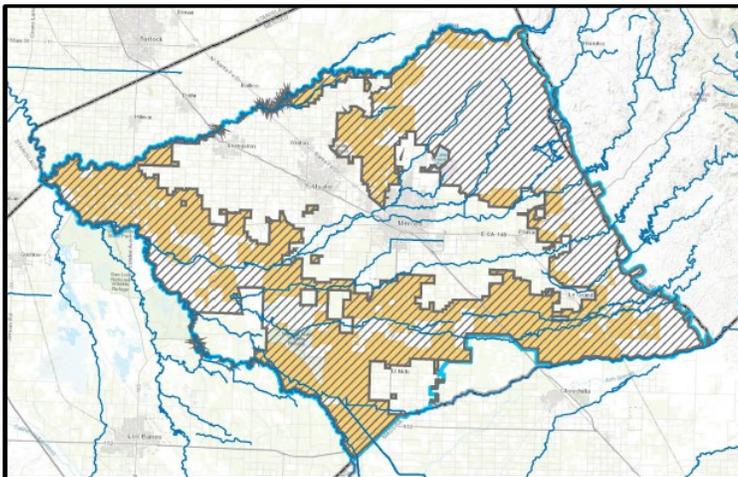
<p><b>Applicant</b> Kings River Conservation District</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> North Kings GSA</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Fresno, Kings, Tulare Counties</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> San Joaquin Valley – Kings (5-022.08) San Joaquin Valley – Tulare Lake (5-022.12)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b> This proposal would fund work the applicant is currently doing to increase groundwater inputs through recharge projects and fallowing and/or converting agricultural land to less water intensive agricultural practices, with a focus on drought tolerant crops.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• UCANR – Fresno</li> <li>• California Water Institute at CSU-Fresno</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Southwest Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Mid-Kings River Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Alta Irrigation District</li> <li>• Bakman Water Company</li> <li>• Tri-County Water Authority</li> <li>• Self-Help Enterprises</li> </ul>
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*Images courtesy of Kings River Conservation District*

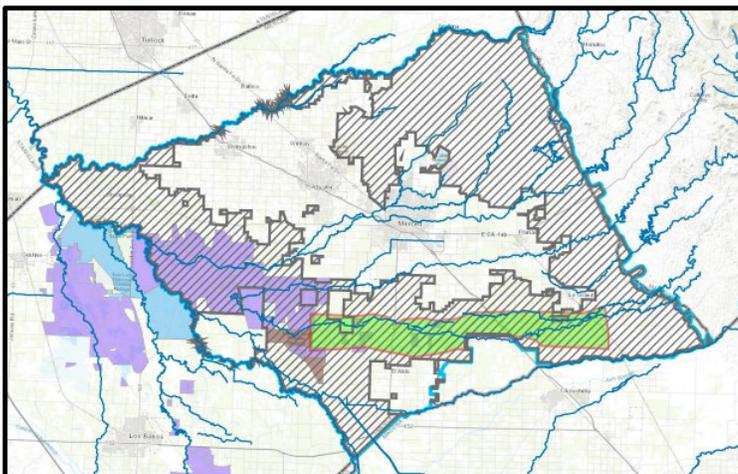
## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> Merced Subbasin GSA</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Merced and Mariposa Counties</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Merced (5-022.04)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal will accelerate the applicant's long term land repurposing efforts by supporting planning, development, and implementation of demand-reduction land repurposing strategies. Potential mechanisms include purchasing of land or conservation easements, conversion of irrigated land to wildlife habitat to improve connectivity for threatened species, developing renewable energy projects on repurposed land, and creation of multi-benefit recharge areas, with a focus on regenerative agriculture and establishment of a wildlife corridor in the southern portion of the basin. Efforts will focus on where projects can have maximum impact to reduce adverse impacts.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Merced Resource Conservation District</li> <li>• UC Merced</li> <li>• Sandy Mush Mutual Water Company</li> <li>• La Paloma Mutual Water Company</li> <li>• Merced National Wildlife Refuge</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turner Island Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> </ul>
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**Legend**

- County
- Merced Subbasin
- Potential Long-Term Land Repurposing Area
- Merced Subbasin GSA
- Rivers



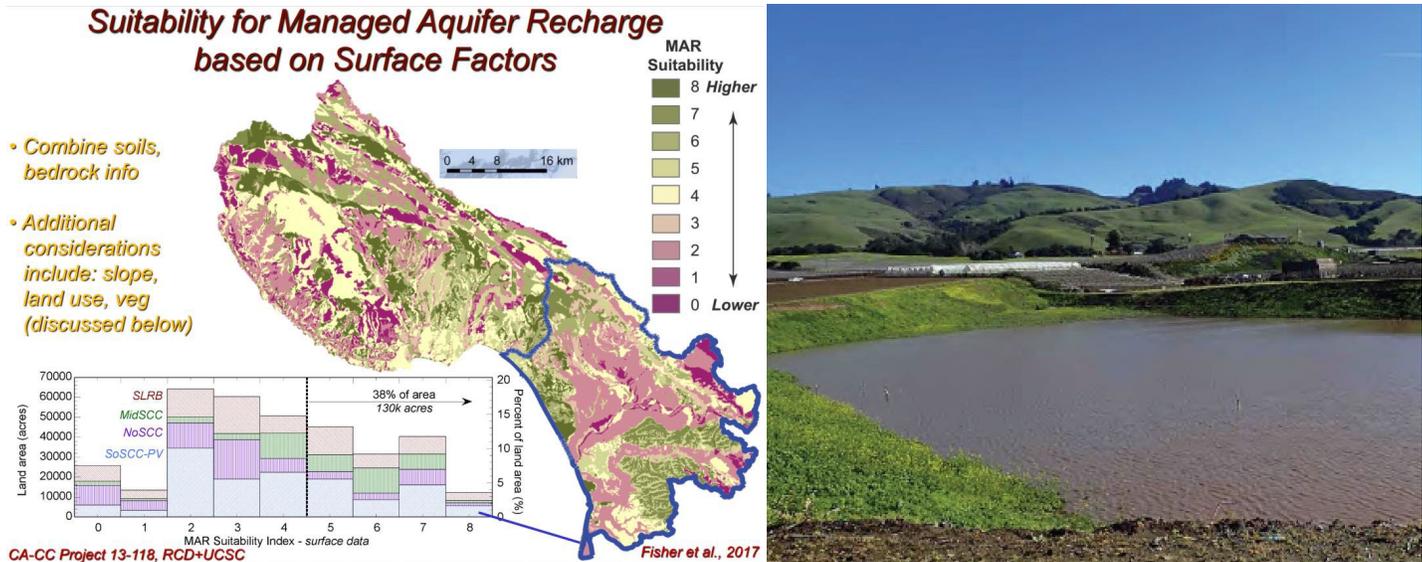
**Legend**

- County
  - Merced Subbasin
  - Merced Subbasin GSA
  - Potential Area for Wildlife Habitat Corridor Project
- USFWS Wildlife Refuges/Management Areas**
- GRASSLANDS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
  - MERCED NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
  - SAN JOAQUIN RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
  - SAN LUIS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
  - Rivers

*Images courtesy of Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency*

## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

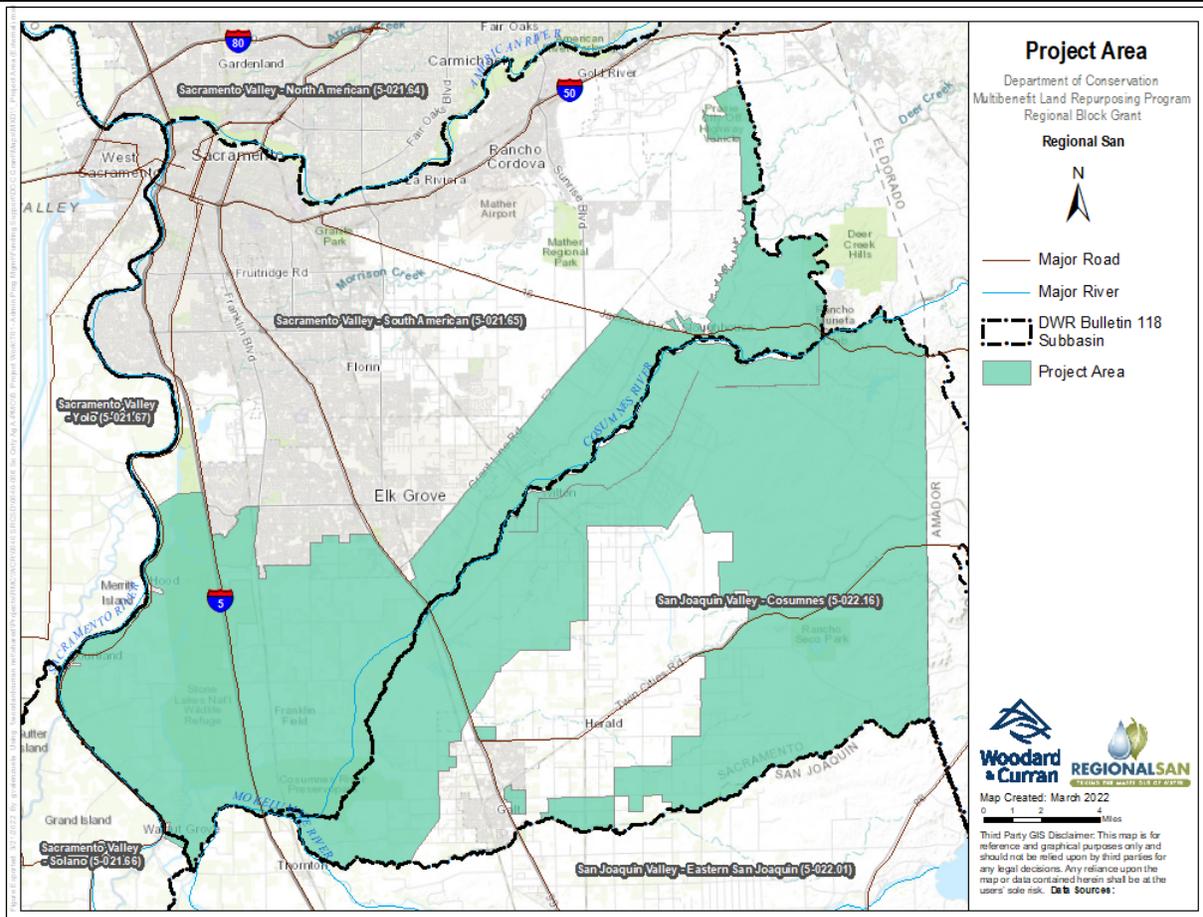
<p><b>Applicant</b> Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (GSA)</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Pajaro Valley (3-002.01)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal will support the Recharge Net Metering (ReNeM) Program, which is a collaboration between the RCD-SCC, PV Water, and the UCSC Hydrogeology Group and incentivizes the installation of stormwater collection and infiltration projects on agricultural lands to recharge groundwater in the basin. The proposal also includes repurposing 136 acres of agricultural land and develop facilities to use lake water as an alternative to groundwater for irrigation. While heavily groundwater recharge focused, the proposal does incorporate flood management benefits and may provide aquatic habitat benefits. The proposal also reflects strong partnerships between water, environmental and conservation interests, local government, academia, and tribes.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County</li> <li>• University of California, Santa Cruz</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Watsonville</li> <li>• Watsonville Wetlands Watch</li> <li>• Amah Mutsun Land Trust</li> </ul>
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Images courtesy of Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

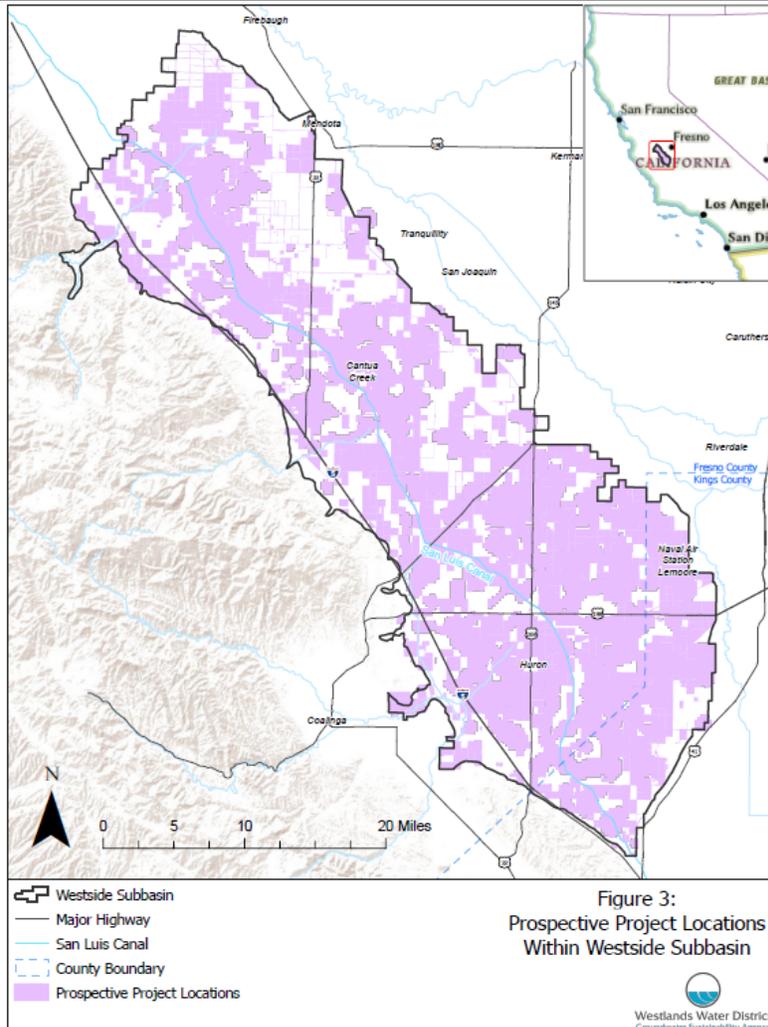
## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> Omochumne-Hartnell Water District GSA</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Sacramento County</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> South American (5-021.65) Cosumnes (5-022.16)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$6,218,600</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal will identify and implement high priority repurposing projects that improve groundwater conditions, are integrated within the applicant's existing recycled water program, and benefit communities and the environment in the Lower Consumnes watershed. Each project will reduce groundwater used by irrigated cropland and/or increase or protect groundwater replenishment associated with ag land uses via conservation easements, on farm managed aquifer recharge, irrigation efficiency improvements, temporary fallowing of annual crops with cover crops, or transition of irrigated land to less water intensive crops, grazeland, or habitat. Primary partners include water, municipal, and conservation interests.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Omochumne Hartnell Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency</li> <li>• Sacramento Valley Conservancy</li> <li>• Cosumnes Groundwater Authority</li> </ul> <p><b>Project Collaborators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cosumnes Coalition</li> <li>• Sacramento County Farm Bureau</li> <li>• The Nature Conservancy</li> </ul>
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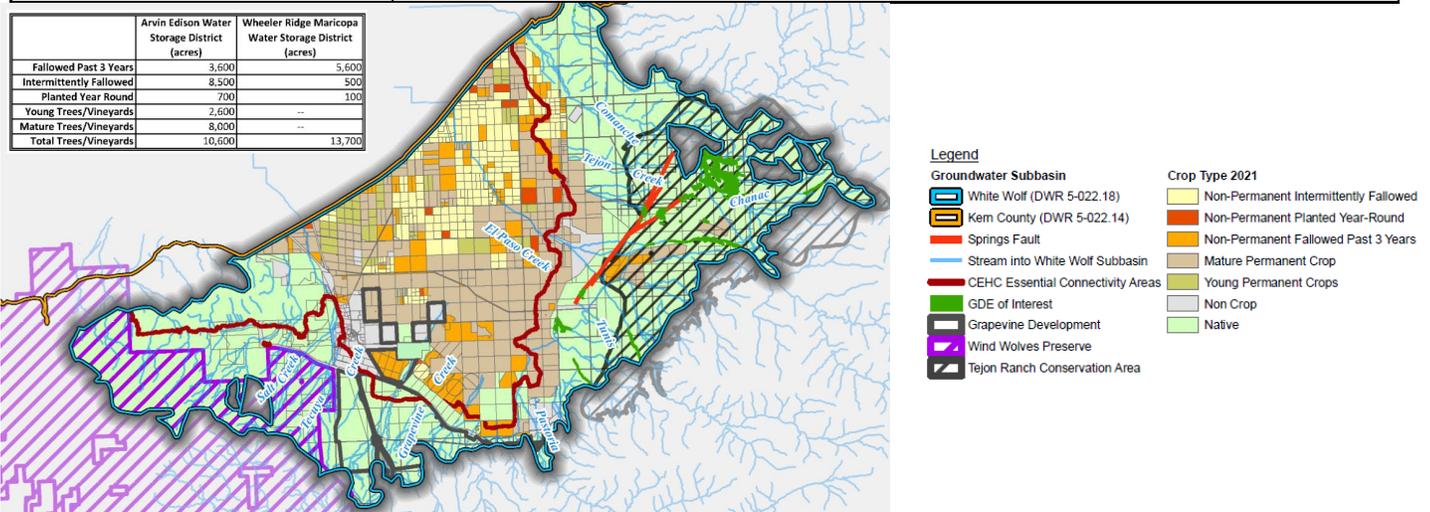
## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> Westlands Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Fresno and Kings Counties</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> Westside (5-022.09)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal focuses on repurposing agricultural land for groundwater recharge and solar use while minimizing adverse impacts to agriculture and nearby communities. The majority of the proposed work would be conducted by a consultant that as yet has not been identified.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westlands Water District</li> </ul>
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## Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program Regional Block Grant Project Summary

<p><b>Applicant</b> White Wolf GSA</p> <p><b>Co-applicant</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Project Location</b> Kern County</p> <p><b>Project Sub-basins</b> White Wolf (5-022.18)</p> <p><b>Funding Requested</b> \$10,000,000</p> <p><b>Priority Population Benefits</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> Not recommended</p>	<p><b>Project Description</b></p> <p>This proposal would support the prioritization of land repurposing strategies to reduce groundwater use and would support the development and implementation of projects that address those strategies, including habitat restoration, floodplain expansion, and alternative energy creation. The applicant would develop incentives for land conversion and land retirement.</p> <p><b>Project Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildlands Conservancy</li> <li>Tejon Ranch Company</li> <li>Arvin-Edison Water Storage District</li> <li>Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District</li> <li>Tejon-Castac Water District</li> </ul>
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*Images courtesy of White Wolf GSA, AEWS, and The Wildlands Conservancy*