State of California
Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game

Wildlife Conservation Board

Report for Calendar Year 2005

The Wildlife Conservation Board

Protects, restores, and provides public access to California's natural lands through its programs:

- ***Habitat Restoration and Enhancement***
- ***Inland Wetland Conservation***
- ***Land Acquisition***
- ***Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit***
- ***Oak Woodlands Conservation***
- ***Public Access***
- ***Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection***
- ***Riparian Habitat Conservation***

Board Members:

Michael Flores, President
Fish & Game Commission

Michael C. Genest, Director
Department of Finance

L. Ryan Broddrick, Director
Department of Fish & Game

Legislative Advisory Committee:

Senator Wesley Chesbro

Senator Sheila Kuehl

Senator Abel Maldonado

Assemby Member Patty Berg

Assembly Member Fran Pavley

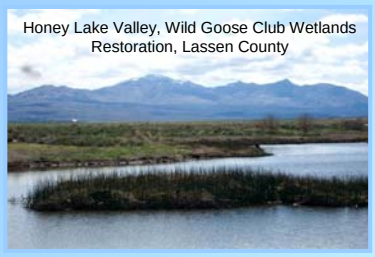
Assembly Member Lois Wolk

Executive Director
Al Wright

Llano Seco Rancho Conservation Easement, Butte County

What's Behind Conservation in California?

Reflecting on 2005, I've been thinking about reasons for the Board's success in protecting and/or restoring some of the best of California's unprotected lands. One reason is that thoughtful people with different interests, values, and concerns all agree that we must protect the natural resources of this state.



Honey Lake Valley, Wild Goose Club Wetlands Restoration, Lassen County

Conservationists, farmers, ranchers, and local governments recognize the ever-increasing loss of native habitat, farm land, range land, and open space. With this recognition comes the valid concern of how to slow down this process and the responsibility of creating conservation strategies for protecting the resources of the state through common goals and mutual benefit.

Fortunately, the Board has helped develop innovative solutions while working with local communities, non-profit foundations, state and federal agencies, and legislators, and has had the resources to begin turning plans into realities.

Most of us doing this work recognize that aligning funding with willing landowners interested in the protection or restoration of their land takes years, if not decades. Patience, persistence, partnerships, and money are critical to success. Fortunately, in the past five years Californians have continued to recognize the need for protecting and restoring the best of our open spaces and have approved multiple bond acts to pay for it.

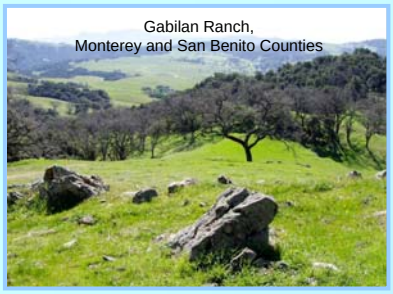
Piece by piece, the vision for protecting valuable habitat, farm land, range land, and open space is coming true. The greatest reward of working for this Board is in knowing that land is protected for the future. Saving our oak woodlands, grasslands, riparian areas, wetlands, and forests are essential investments in our future.

I wish to thank our Board and great staff, our wonderful partners, landowners, and the public, for together we have much to be proud of.

Al Wright, Executive Director

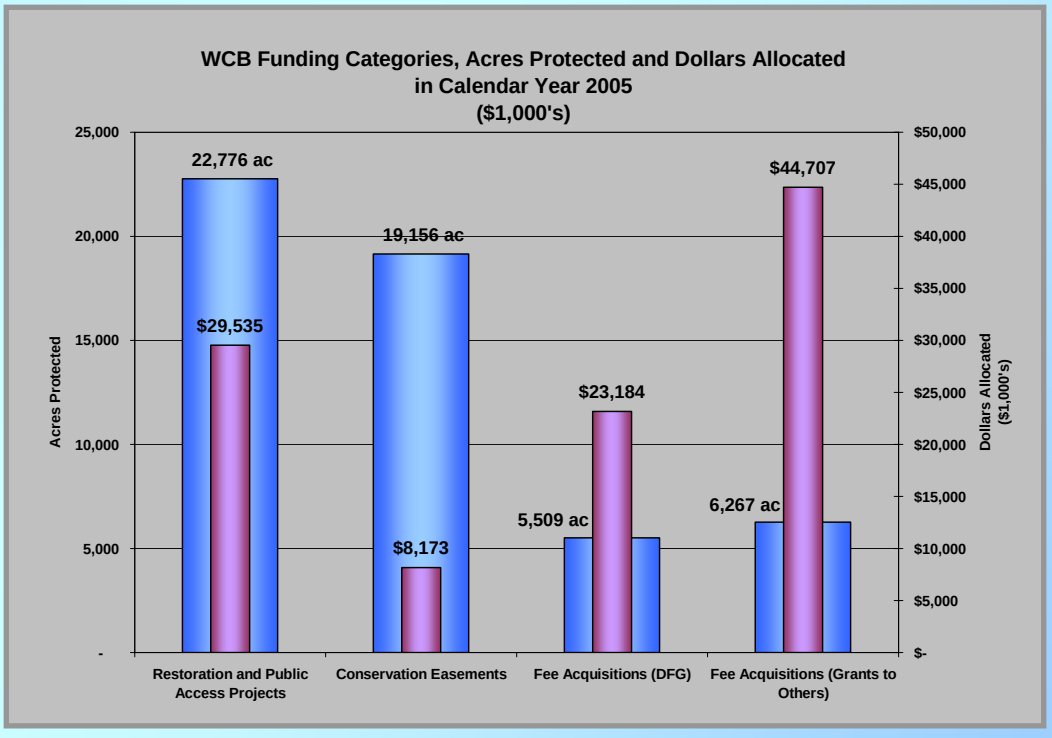
Belmont Veterans' Memorial Pier, Public Dock, Los Angeles County

The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) was created by legislation in 1947 to administer a capital outlay program for wildlife conservation and related public recreation. The primary responsibilities of the WCB are to select, authorize and allocate funds for the purchase of land and waters suitable for recreational purposes, and the protection and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat.



Gabilan Ranch, Monterey and San Benito Counties

The WCB works only with willing landowners and provides notices to local communities and adjoining landowners on all proposed projects. The WCB relies on input and assistance from Department of Fish and Game (DFG) staff on virtually all projects. The DFG helps identify potential projects and willing landowners, provides assessments and opinions based on the biological merits of each project, and helps WCB set priorities on a statewide and regional basis.

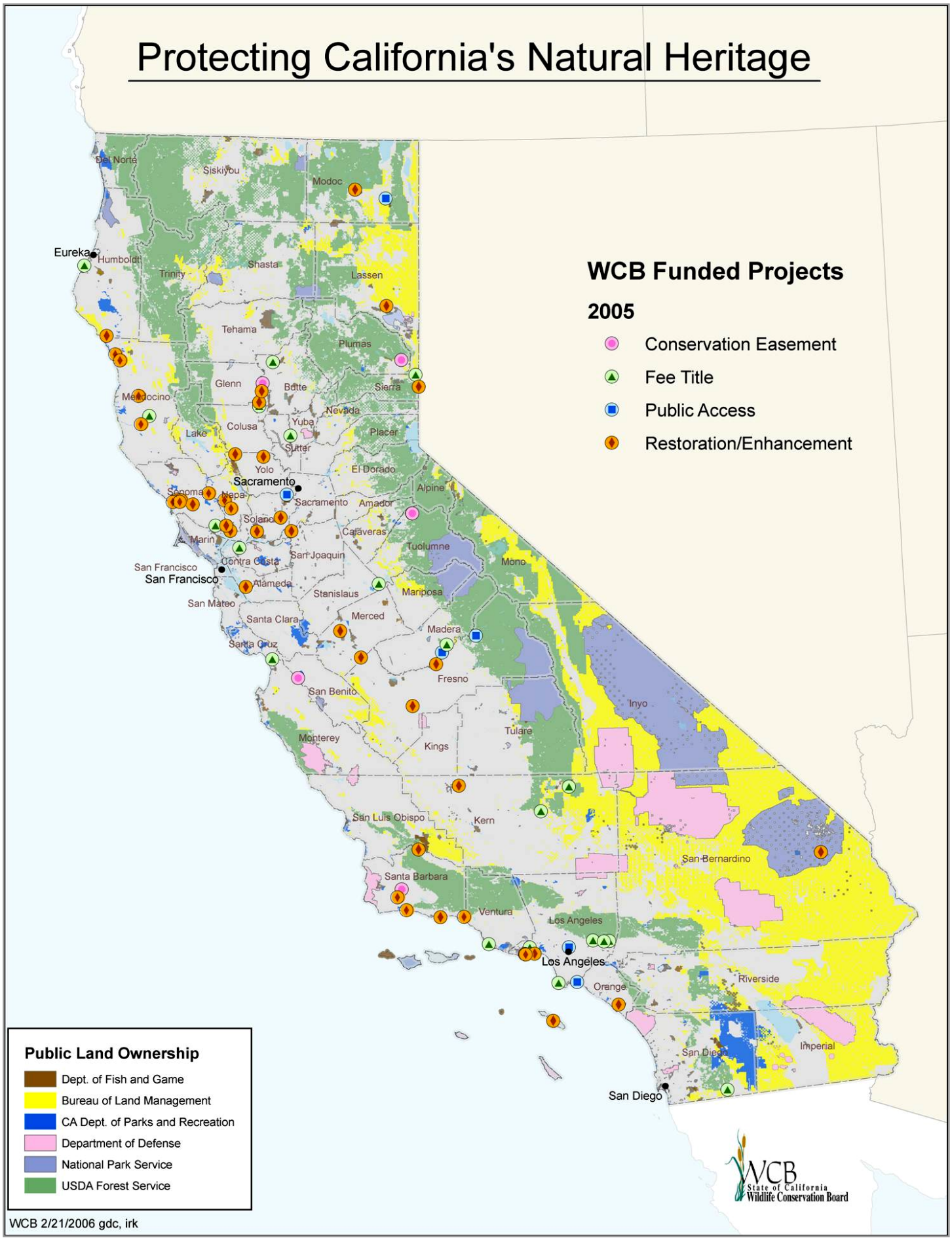


WCB Actions in 2005:
Total Acreage and Allocation by County

	Conservation Easements		Fee Title for DFG/Others		Public Access	Restoration	
County	Acres	$ Allocation	Acres	$ Allocation	$ Allocation	Acres	$ Allocation
Alameda							$1,300,000
Amador						4	$25,000
Butte	4,672	$3,200,000	754	$3,208,255			
Colusa			257	$650,000			
Contra Costa			702	$1,010,000			
Del Norte			250	$2,000,000			
Fresno			119	$1,720,000	$773,900	1,951	$2,848,233
Glenn						367	$1,159,000
Humboldt			6	$1,025,000		5,000	$893,000
Imperial						20	$805,000
Kern			2,027	$3,136,000		803	$123,000
Lassen						247	$133,000
Los Angeles			1,706	$31,075,000	$277,214	803	$1,300,000
Madera			220	$640,740			
Mendocino			1,116	$1,000,000			
Merced						666	$136,000
Modoc					$87,107	60	$226,000
Monterey	11,190	$2,005,000					
Napa						6,832	$12,789,444
Orange			15	$12,350,000		10	$1,199,000
Plumas	1,360	$458,000					
Sacramento						497	$129,000
San Bernardino						14	$43,000
San Diego			370	$270,000			
San Mateo			9	$10,000			
Santa Barbara	1,894	$2,505,000				445	$1,757,469
Santa Cruz			6	$500,000			
Sierra			2,044	$1,290,000			
Solano						3,374	$440,000
Sonoma			1,737	$1,010,000		300	$1,925,626
Stanislaus			32	$98,000			
Sutter			10	$5,000		668	$100,000
Tuolumne	40	$5,000	120	$447,000			
Ventura			276	$6,496,000			
Yolo					$260,107	710	$805,000

Note: Map legend on reverse side corresponds to columns in this table.
Counties that did not have WCB projects in 2005 are not included in this table.

Protecting California's Natural Heritage



WCB 2/21/2006 gdc, irk

WCB Projects Representative of Statewide Efforts to Protect Wildlife Habitat and Provide Access to Public Land for Calendar Year 2005

Montgomery Woods
1,116 Acres Protected

Llano Seco Rancho
Conservation Easement
4,235 Acres Protected

Hallelujah Junction Wildlife Area
2,044 Acres Protected

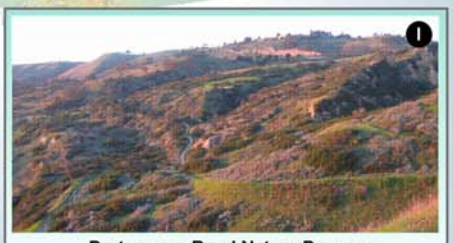
Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area
6,000 Acres to be Restored

Shaver Lake Boat Ramp

Gabilan Ranch
Conservation Easement
11,190 Acres Protected

Marshall Canyon Conservation Corridor
258 Acres Protected

Solstice Creek Steelhead
Barrier Removal



Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve
463 Acres Protected

Major Acquisition Projects Included:

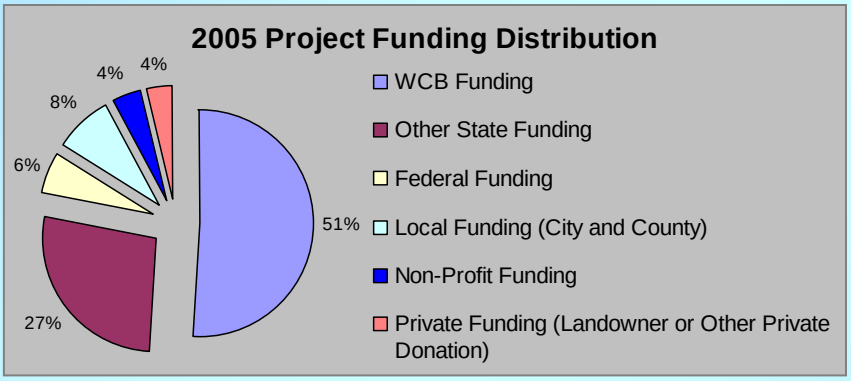
Canebrake Ecological Reserve, Kern County
Franklin Ridge, Contra Costa County
Gabilan Ranch, Monterey County
Hallelujah Junction Wildlife Area, Sierra County
Humboldt Bay Wildlife Area, Humboldt County
La Posta, San Diego County
Lake Earl Wildlife Area, Pacific Shores, Del Norte County
Llano Seco Rancho Conservation Area, Butte County
Marshall Canyon Conservation Corridor, Los Angeles County
Montgomery Woods, Mendocino County
Musty Buck Ridge Wildlife Area, Butte County
Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve, Los Angeles County
Sierra Valley Conservation Area, Plumas County
Watsonville Slough Ecological Reserve, Santa Cruz County

Major Restoration/Development Projects Included:

Cache Creek Riparian Restoration, Yolo County
DFG Fisheries Restoration Program, Various Counties
Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, Alameda County
Laguna de Santa Rosa Ludwigia Eradication, Sonoma County
Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area, Napa and Solano Counties
Pine Creek Reservoir Public Access, Modoc County
Rio de Los Angeles State Park, Los Angeles County
Sacramento River Riparian Restoration, Glenn County
Shaver Lake Boat Ramp, Fresno County
Solstice Creek Steelhead Barrier Removal, Los Angeles County
Tulare Basin Wetland Enhancement, Kern County
Upper Mattole River Watershed Rehabilitation, Mendocino County
Wheatville Farms Wetland Restoration, Fresno County

In 2005 the WCB continued to deliver a wide array of conservation projects including:

- Acquiring fish and wildlife habitat, in some cases for expansion of public hunting, fishing and hiking opportunities, and in other cases for the protection of sensitive species
- Working with waterfowl groups, joint ventures and non-profit organizations to restore interior wetlands and other portions of the Pacific Flyway
- Partnering with the DFG and other conservation groups to help restore in-stream habitat up and down the coast for salmon and steelhead fisheries
- Working with ranchers and farmers to protect open space areas through easements and assist with restoring wetland and riparian areas
- Continuing the development of public access uses, including boat ramps, fishing piers and trails
- Leading the effort to protect California's rapidly diminishing oak woodland areas, as urban areas grow and expand into the foothills
- Expanding efforts to eradicate invasive species threatening California's natural resources



WCB Partners

The following list consists of federal, state, and local agencies and non-profit organizations that have partnered with WCB since 2000.

American Farmland Trust
American Land Conservancy
American River Conservancy
Bechtel Family Foundation
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Reclamation
Cachuma Resource Conservation District
California Bay-Delta Authority
California Coastal Commission
California Coastal Conservancy
California Conservation Corps
California Deer Association
California Department of Boating and Waterways
California Department of Conservation
California Department of Fish and Game
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
California Department of Parks & Recreation
California Department of Transportation
California Department of Water Resources
California Oaks Foundation
California Rangeland Trust
California Resources Agency
California State Parks Foundation
California State University, Chico
California State University, Chico Research Foundation
California State University, Dominguez Hills
California Waterfowl Association
California Wildlife Foundation
Cambria Community Services District
Catalina Island Conservancy
Central Modoc Resource Conservation District
Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.
Cima del Mundo, LLC
Circuit Rider Productions, Inc.
City of Agoura Hills
City of Anderson
City of Arcata
City of Benicia
City of Brisbane
City of Calabasas
City of Chico
City of Claremont
City of Duarte
City of Dunsmuir
City of Eureka
City of Folsom
City of Fresno
City of Glendora
City of Goleta
City of Hermosa Beach
City of Isleton
City of Long Beach
City of Los Angeles
City of Malibu
City of Monrovia
City of Oceanside
City of Point Arena
City of Port Hueneme
City of Rancho Mirage
City of Rancho Palos Verdes
City of Red Bluff
City of Redding
City of San Diego
City of San Luis Obispo
City of Santa Barbara
City of Suisun City
City of Vacaville
City of Yreka
Claremont Wildlands Conservancy
Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy
Colusa County Resource Conservation District
Commercial Finance Company of San Francisco
Conejo Recreation and Park District
County of Alpine
County of Amador
County of Del Norte
County of Fresno
County of Glenn
County of Humboldt
County of Inyo
County of Kern
County of Los Angeles
County of Modoc
County of Orange
County of Placer
County of Riverside
County of Sacramento
County of San Diego
County of San Francisco
County of San Joaquin
County of Santa Barbara
County of Siskiyou
County of Solano
County of Sonoma
County of Tehama
County of Yolo
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
East Bay Regional Park District
Family Water Alliance
Farm Services Agency
Feather River Land Trust
Glendora Community Conservancy
Great Valley Center
Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy
Inland Valley Land Trust
Intermountain West Joint Venture
Jacoby Creek Land Trust
La Verne Land Conservancy
Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation
Lake County Land Trust
Land Trust For Santa Barbara County
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
Marin-Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control Board
Mendocino Coast Audubon Society
Mendocino Land Trust Inc.
Mid-peninsula Regional Open Space District
Monte Rio Recreation and Park District
Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority
Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
Napa County Planning Department
National Audubon Society, Inc.
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Park Service
National Wild Turkey Federation
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nevada Irrigation District
Northcoast Regional Land Trust
Northern California Regional Land Trust
O'Neill Sea Odyssey
Ocean View School District
Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
Peninsula Open Space Trust
Pheasants Forever
Port of San Francisco
Reclamation Board
Reclamation District 307
Reclamation District 999
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Resources Legacy Fund
River Network
River Partners
Riverside Land Conservancy
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Sacramento and San Joaquin Drainage District
Sacramento River Partners
Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy
Salton Sea Authority
San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust
San Diego River Park Lakeside Conservancy
San Dieguito River Park
San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
San Joaquin River Conservancy
San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc.
San Mateo County Harbor District
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Santa Rosa Subregional Wastewater System
Save-the-Redwoods League
Semitropic Water Storage District
Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Shasta Land Trust
Shea Homes Limited Partnership
Sierra Business Council
Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Sierra Los Tulares Land Trust
Siskiyou Resource Conservation District
Smith River Alliance
Solana County Planning Department
Solano Land Trust
Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District
Sonoma Land Trust
Southern California Edison
State Water Resources Control Board
Student Conservation Association
The Bay Foundation of Morro Bay
The Big Sur Land Trust
The Conservation Fund
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
The Land Trust of Napa County
The Nature Conservancy
The San Francisco Foundation
The Trust For Public Land
Trout Unlimited
Tuolumne County Land Trust
Turtle Bay Exploration Park
U.C. Extension Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Forest Service (USDA)
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
Watsonville Wetlands Watch
Western Placer Unified School District, Lincoln High School
Westside Resource Conservation District
Wildlands, Inc.
Yolo Basin Foundation
Yolo Land Trust

Contact Information: WCB, 1807 13th Street, Suite 103, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-8448, FAX: 916-323-0280; Website: www.wcb.ca.gov