



# Yolo Habitat Conservancy

County of Yolo • City of Davis • City of Winters • City of West Sacramento  
City of Woodland • University of California, Davis

## Cache Creek Site

### Candidate Site Recommendation Summary

**Site Name:** Capay Inc. Cache Creek Site

**Area being considered for enrollment:** ~122 acres

**Planning Unit:** 7 (Cache Creek)

**Priority Land Acquisition Area:** Priority 1

**Proposed Enrollment Type:** Newly protected land conservation easement

**Primary Land Cover Types:** cultivated lands (non-rice), valley foothill riparian

**Primary HCP/NCCP enrollment objectives for the site:** protect existing riparian habitat along Cache Creek (L-1.4, NC-VFR1.1), potential to restore riparian habitat along Cache Creek (L-1.1, NC-VFR1.2), protection of existing VELB habitat (VELB1.1), potential for establishing additional VELB habitat adjacent to existing habitat (VELB1.2), potential to protect and restore habitat for least Bell's vireo (LBV1.1), protect non-rice cultivated lands that provide habitat value for covered species (NC-CL1.1), maintain crop types that support Swainson's hawk foraging habitat (SH1.1)

### Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) Evaluation Summary:

Habitat for the following HCP/NCCP covered species was observed at the time of the STAC site visit conducted on June 16, 2023:

- **Valley elderberry longhorn beetle:** mature elderberry shrubs
- **Western pond turtle:** aquatic, nesting, and upland refugia habitat
- **Swainson's hawk:** nesting and cultivated lands foraging habitat
- **White-tailed kite:** nesting and cultivated lands foraging habitat
- **Least Bell's vireo:** riparian habitat (*habitat on the site would not count towards meeting the HCP/NCCP habitat conservation commitment for the species unless enough adjacent riparian habitat is acquired or restored to meet the minimum habitat patch size*)
- **Tricolored blackbird:** cultivated lands foraging habitat

### The STAC has made the following recommendation:

The STAC recommends approval of the Capay Inc. Cache Creek Site as a candidate Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system site. The approximately 122-acre portion of the property being considered for enrollment in the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system includes approximately 100 acres of rotational cropland, 3.5 acres of riparian habitat within the Cache Creek corridor, and adjacent semi-agricultural lands. The property supports habitat for seven of the twelve covered species, three of which are known to occupy the site, Swainson's hawk, western pond turtle, and the host plant for valley elderberry longhorn beetle. The landowners are conservation-minded and have proposed restoring the northern portion of the three cultivated fields along Cache Creek to riparian and wetland habitat. The restoration of the northernmost portions of the agricultural lands on the site would provide an opportunity to expand the riparian corridor along an approximately 0.5-mile section of Cache Creek. Nest trees are abundant throughout the area including along Cache Creek and smaller watercourses, along roadsides and field borders, and oak woodlands in Capay Valley and in the surrounding hills. Proximity to Cache Creek, Capay Hills, and the interior Coast Ranges substantially influences plant and wildlife diversity and the biological value of the site.