



Yolo Habitat Conservancy

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

Lucky Land Site Candidate Site Recommendation Summary

Recommendation: Yolo Habitat Conservancy staff recommend approval of the Lucky Land Site as a candidate Yolo HCP/NCCP conservation easement site, primarily due to it being one of the only properties in Yolo County that has had burrowing owls occupying the site consistently over the past ten years. Additionally, enrollment of the site would contribute to a variety of HCP/NCCP enrollment objectives, including: protect of unprotected non-rice cultivated lands that provide habitat value for covered species and other native species (NC-CL1.1), maintain or enhance of habitat value of cultivated lands in the reserve system for raptors (NC-CL1.4), maintain crop types that support Swainson's hawk foraging habitat (SH1.1), protect modeled western burrowing owl habitat (WBO1.2), maintain active burrowing owl nesting sites within the reserve system (WBO1.3), and prioritize the acquisition of occupied burrowing owl habitat within the Yolo Bypass and Planning Units 16 and 18 (WBO1.4).

Site Name: Lucky Land Site

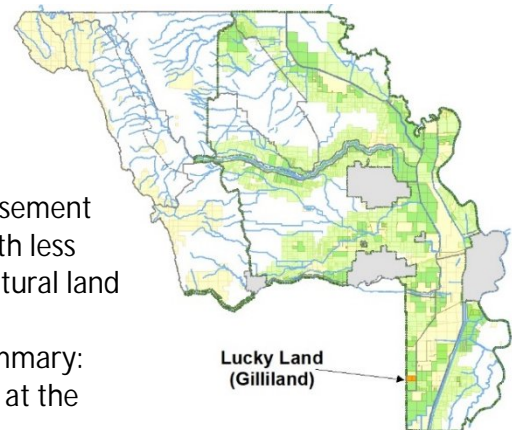
Area being considered for enrollment: 322 acres

Planning Unit: 16 (Yolo Basin Plains)

Priority Land Acquisition Area: Priority 1

Proposed Enrollment Type: Newly protected land conservation easement

Primary Land Cover Types: primarily cultivated lands (non-rice) with less than 5% of the site being fresh emergent wetland and semi-agricultural land



Lucky Land
(Gilliland)

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 December 1, 2023:

- Burrowing owl: nesting and foraging habitat
- Swainson's hawk: cultivated lands foraging habitat
- White-tailed kite: nesting and cultivated lands foraging habitat
- Tricolored blackbird: cultivated lands foraging habitat

The STAC has made the following recommendation:

This 322-acre property lies within the pasturelands of the Yolo panhandle near the southeast corner of the county on the western edge of the Yolo Basin. Easement acquisition will ensure protection of these lands that provide essential habitat for several Covered Species. Most importantly, pasturelands in the southern Yolo Basin provide habitat for western burrowing owl. The area represents one of the last places in Yolo County consistently occupied by nesting burrowing owls. Protection of these lands is considered essential to maintain nesting and wintering burrowing owls in the Plan Area and to meet conservation objectives of the Yolo HCP/NCCP. There is documented burrowing owl use of the Lucky Land site, including observations of active burrows and individual burrowing owls during the STAC site visit. The property also provides foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, and tricolored blackbird. Primarily because of the importance of these lands for burrowing owls, the STAC recommends acquisition of a conservation easement on the Lucky Land site.