



Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan



Yolo HCP/NCCP Annual Report

for Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Yolo HCP/NCCP Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024/2025

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AMM	Avoidance and Minimization Measure
CCC	California Conservation Corps
CCRMP	Creek Resources Management Plan
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CE	Conservation Easement
Conservancy	Yolo Habitat Conservancy
CRA	Conservation Reserve Area
FY24/25	Fiscal Year 2024/2025 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
PBBB	Palmate-bracted bird's beak
Permits	incidental take permits
Permittees	Yolo Habitat Conservancy, County of Yolo, and the Cities of Davis, Winters, West Sacramento, and Woodland
Plan Area	all lands within the boundary of Yolo County and an expanded area consisting of 1,174 acres for riparian conservation along Putah Creek in Solano County
Plan	Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan
RCD	Resource Conservation District
SPE	Special Participating Entity
STAC	science and technical advisory committee
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VELB	valley elderberry longhorn beetle

1. Introduction and Overview

This is the seventh Annual Report for the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (Yolo HCP/NCCP or Plan). This Annual Report summarizes activities undertaken by the Yolo Habitat Conservancy (Conservancy) and its partners between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025, which was the sixth full year of Yolo HCP/NCCP implementation. The content of this report provides information per the Plan, the Implementing Agreement, and permits. It also provides the Conservancy Board of Directors, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the general public the opportunity to review the Conservancy's actions and progress toward Yolo HCP/NCCP implementation.

The components of this annual report include:

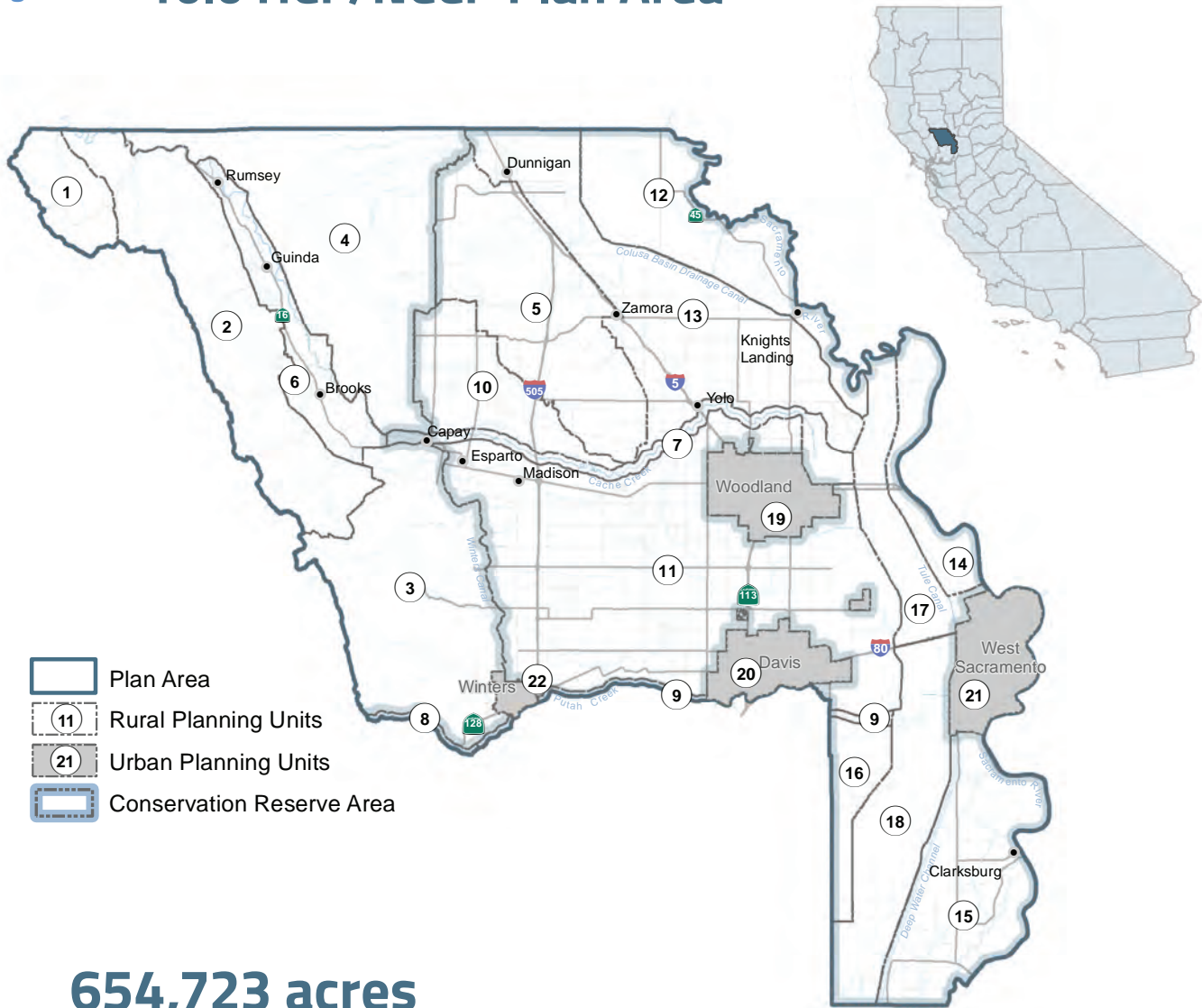
- Covered Activities and Impacts
- Acquisition and Restoration
- Reserve Management
- Enhancement, Monitoring, and Research
- Stay-Ahead Provisions
- Changed and Unforeseen Circumstances
- Program Administration
- Finances

Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan



The Yolo HCP/NCCP is a locally developed plan that offers a streamlined permitting process for development activities while implementing a regional conservation strategy that protects, enhances, and restores valuable natural resources in Yolo County and contributes to the recovery of 12 covered plant and wildlife species. The Yolo HCP/NCCP strikes a sensible balance between natural resource conservation and economic growth in the region.

Figure 1-1: **Yolo HCP/NCCP Plan Area**



654,723 acres

653,549 acres in Yolo County

Primary Plan Area that encompasses Yolo County and defines the area where the Yolo HCP/NCCP can provide permit coverage for development and other covered activities.

1,174 acres in Solano County

Expanded Plan Area that encompasses the riparian habitat on the southern half of Putah Creek that is included in the Yolo HCP/NCCP conservation strategy.

Overview

The Yolo HCP/NCCP is a 50-year regional plan to protect endangered species and natural resources while allowing for orderly development in Yolo County consistent with local General Plans. The Yolo HCP/NCCP is both a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP). This means that the Conservancy and the member agencies (County of Yolo, City of Davis, City of West Sacramento, City of Winters, and City of Woodland), known together as the Permittees, have obtained permits issued by USFWS and CDFW that allow the Permittees to comply with Section 10 of the federal Endangered Species Act and California's Natural Community Conservation Planning Act. The Permittees received permits from USFWS on September 26, 2018. The permits issued by CDFW were signed on January 10, 2019, which is the effective start date of the 50-year term of the Yolo HCP/NCCP.

Over the 50-year permit term of the Yolo HCP/NCCP, impacts from urban and rural projects, including operations and maintenance activities, will be offset by the creation of a reserve system managed for the benefit of 12 covered species (See Table 1-1), as well as the natural communities that they—and hundreds of other species—depend upon for habitat. Unlike individual site mitigation efforts, the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system takes a regional approach to species conservation that includes the protection of a network of habitat areas that support the life cycle and population needs of covered species to aid in the recovery of these species. The Yolo HCP/NCCP also commits to providing 8,231 acres of new conservation and the enrollment of 8,000 acres of existing conservation land in addition to the 16,175 acres of mitigation for development activities covered by the Yolo HCP/NCCP permits.

Through the Permittees, the Yolo HCP/NCCP provides local public agencies, private developers, consultants, and property owners a streamlined and cost-effective approach for requesting and receiving incidental take coverage for development projects. Prior to the Yolo HCP/NCCP, an applicant for any development that involved loss of federally or state protected plants, wildlife, or their habitats was, in many cases, required to obtain permits directly from state or federal agencies—a process that could take several years and incur high costs.

Yolo HCP/NCCP permit coverage applies only to eligible projects, known as covered activities, undertaken within the Yolo HCP/NCCP Plan Area (Plan Area). The Yolo HCP/NCCP covers a total of 21,559 acres of activities within five categories, including: urban and rural projects (17,550 acres), public/private operations and maintenance (706 acres), conservation strategy implementation (956 acres), and neighboring landowner agreements (2,347 acres). The Plan Area is 654,723 acres, including 653,549 acres contained within Yolo County and 1,174 acres in the expanded area for riparian conservation in Solano County on the south side of Putah Creek (See Figure 1-1).

Table 1-1: Yolo HCP/NCCP covered species

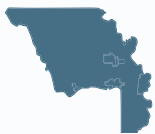
Common Name	Scientific Name	Status Federal/State ^a
Plants		
Palmate-bracted bird’s beak	<i>Chloropyron palmatum</i>	E/E
Invertebrates		
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle	<i>Desmocerus californicus dimorphus</i>	T/ -
Amphibians		
California tiger salamander (Central California DPS)	<i>Ambystoma californiense</i>	T/T
Reptiles		
Northwestern pond turtle	<i>Actinemys marmorata</i>	PT /CSC
Giant garter snake	<i>Thamnophis gigas</i>	T/T
Birds		
Swainson’s hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	- /T
White-tailed kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	- /FP
Western yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	T/E
Western burrowing owl ^b	<i>Athene cunicularia hypugaea</i>	- /C ^b
Least Bell’s vireo	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	E/E
Bank swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	-/T
Tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	- /T

a. Status: C= Candidate for listing, CSC=California species of special concern, E=Endangered, FP= Fully protected under California Fish and Game Code, PT= Proposed Threatened, T=Threatened, - = no designation

b. Western burrowing owl received candidate listing status under the California Endangered Species Act on October 10, 2024.

Benefits of the Yolo HCP/NCCP

Local control.



The Yolo HCP/NCCP moves compliance with state and federal endangered species laws for public and private activities from state and federal agencies to the local level. The Yolo Habitat Conservancy administers the permits and implements the Yolo HCP/NCCP in coordination with the member agencies (Yolo County, City of Davis, City of West Sacramento, City of Winters, and City of Woodland) with oversight from the CDFW and the USFWS to streamline the existing process while still providing comprehensive regulatory coverage for currently listed species and those that may be listed in the future.

Improved and increased species conservation.



Coordinated conservation planning through the Yolo HCP/NCCP will provide significant benefits to endangered and threatened species in Yolo County during and beyond the 50-year permit term as it replaces piecemeal mitigation with a regional conservation strategy and adds conservation beyond mitigation.

Streamlined permitting process.



The Yolo HCP/NCCP replaces a project-by-project mitigation process characterized by uncertainties associated with timing, costs, and litigation. This efficiency provides an economic benefit to public agencies and other projects in the form of streamlined Endangered Species Act permitting.

Preservation of working agricultural lands.



The Yolo HCP/NCCP recognizes that many agricultural working landscapes provide habitat. The premise of habitat and species conservation through preserved and carefully managed agriculture is foundational to the HCP/NCCP and integral to the values of Yolo County.

2. Covered Activities and Impacts

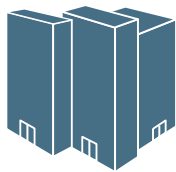
- This chapter provides an overview of the covered activities to which Permittees granted a certificate of approval, compliance, or inclusion during the reporting period.

Reporting Period Activities

Between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025, a total of nine projects received permit coverage through the Yolo HCP/NCCP. The projects include five urban development projects, one rural development project, and three rural public infrastructure projects. Table 2-1 provides a list of all covered activities for which a Permittee granted take coverage during the reporting period. Information provided for each project includes a brief description of the covered activity, the Permittee extending the coverage, and permanent and temporary acreages disturbed. Figure 2-1 provides a map showing the location of covered activities. Table 2-2 provides a summary of permanent and temporary acreages disturbed by land cover type for the collective covered activities in the reporting period and cumulatively. Table 2-3 provides a summary of permanent and temporary acreages disturbed by modeled habitat for the collective covered activities in the reporting period and cumulatively. A total of 92 projects have received permit coverage between the start of Yolo HCP/NCCP implementation and the end of this reporting period.

No Permittee, applicant, or Special Participating Entity (SPE) reported observations of harassment or mortality of covered species occurred during the reporting period.

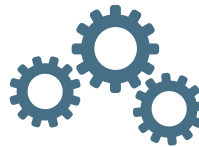
Yolo HCP/NCCP Covered Activity Categories



Urban Projects and Activities



Rural Projects and Activities



Public/Private Operations and Maintenance



Conservation Strategy Implementation

Urban Projects and Activities

Urban projects and activities include covered activities that consist of general urban development, urban public services, infrastructure, and utilities within urban planning units (Planning Units 19, 20, 21, and 22). During the reporting period, five urban projects received streamlined permits through the Yolo HCP/NCCP. These projects included one public library, two residential developments, and two manufacturing facilities. Highlights of these approved projects are provided below.

General Urban Development:

Yolo County issued permit coverage to itself for the construction of a new South Davis Library which includes a 12,000+ square foot library building with a community room and adjacent outdoor terrace space. The site of this new library is at the west end of Walnut Park, within the City of Davis.

The City of West Sacramento issued permit coverage for two urban residential developments. One was for Tentative Parcel Map 5242 to allow for future condominium development at 999 Riverfront Street. The other was to cover activities associated with the Grand Gateway Zoning District which includes development of a high-density, mixed-use development on four blocks located within the City of West Sacramento's downtown core. The project includes 450 new housing units, with 25 percent of those designated as affordable, with rent limits set at or below 80 percent of the Area Median Income.

Two manufacturing facilities received permit coverage in FY24/25. Phase 1 of the Seaway/Titan project involves the construction of a new one-story, approximately 200,000 square-foot advanced manufacturing facility in West Sacramento. Redwood Empire received permit coverage to expand their pressure treating facility located within the City of Woodland. The project includes the construction of four buildings and major updates to the facility-wide infrastructure, including (but not limited to) power/solar, storm water treatment, rail spur capacity/distribution channel, asphalt, and sewer and water connections.



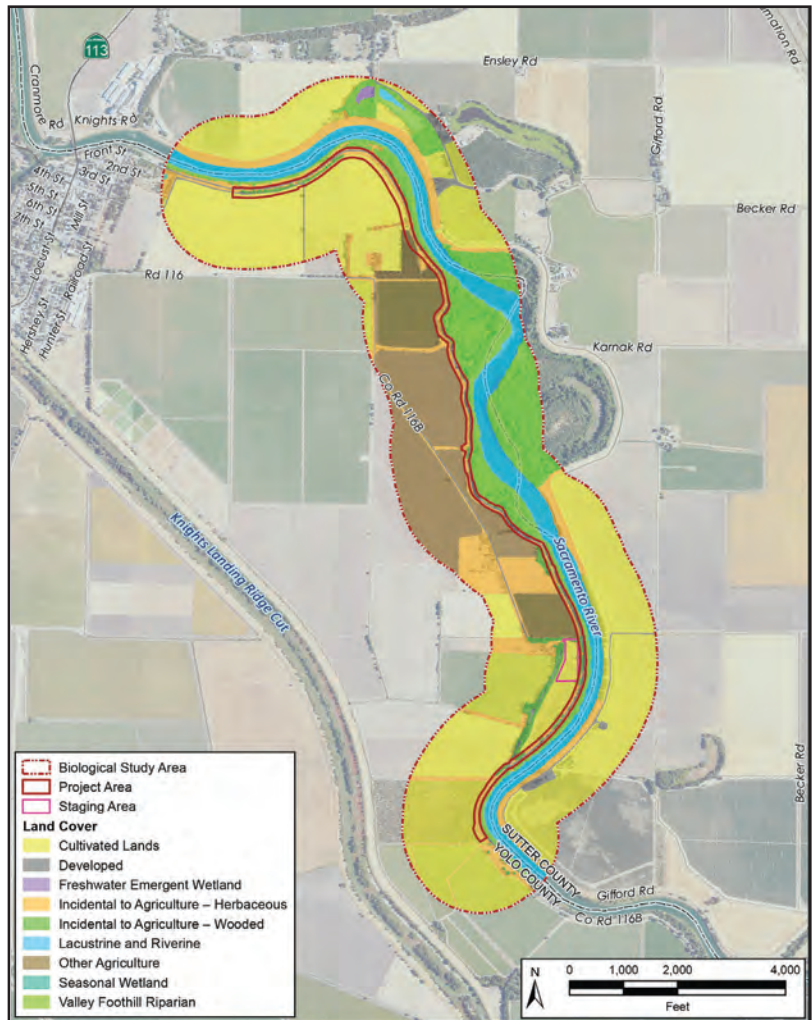
South Davis Library

Rural Projects and Activities

Rural projects and activities include roads and bridges, bike lanes and multi-use trails, airports, agricultural economic development and open space, habitat conservation projects, parks and recreation, and aggregate mining within the 18 rural planning units (Planning Units 1 through 18). During this reporting period, four rural projects received streamlined permits through the Yolo HCP/ NCCP. These projects included one rural development project and three rural public infrastructure projects.

Rural Public Services, Infrastructure, and Utilities:

The County of Yolo issued itself permit coverage for three rural public infrastructure projects that included a bridge replacement and levee improvements in two locations. The bridge construction over Dry Slough on County Road 96 was conducted to replace a bridge that was built in 1930 and was determined to be structurally deficient by Caltrans. The two levee improvement projects that received permit coverage are located near the town of Knights Landing. The Knights Landing Flood Management Project - Sacramento West Levee Improvements (LM 0.9-4.3) was designed to address under-seepage, through-seepage, stability, and freeboard deficiencies on the right bank of the Sacramento River from levee mile 0.9 to 4.3, near the community of Knights Landing. Knights Landing Ridge Cut Improvements project includes clearing and grubbing of trees and vegetation, excavating the face of the existing landside levee slope, and reconstructing the levee with imported fill to widen the levee crown and create a consistent elevation along the Knights Landing Ridge Cut Levee, located southwest of the community of Knights Landing. The proposed improvements on the landside of the levee would also include remediation



**Knights Landing Flood Management Project
Sacramento West Levee Improvements (RMO.9-4.3)**

(Source: GEI)

of existing levee encroachments, including but not limited to removal of levee pipe penetrations, relocation of PG&E power poles, and replacement of levee gates. The levee improvements constitute a portion of the Knights Landing Flood Management Project which, once all phases are completed, will reduce or prevent flooding to a population of 995, approximately 321 structures, and 3,500 acres of prime agricultural lands.

General Rural Development:

The County of Yolo issued permit coverage for the Yolo 1 and Yolo 2 commercial cannabis facility. The project components include the construction of mixed-light greenhouses, a nursery, and associated operational components, such as storage structures, office space, and a restroom. Additional project features include new septic systems with leach fields and drainage basins for runoff, future solar-panel fields for sustainable energy, and new water wells for potable, irrigation, and fire protection.

Public and Private Operations and Maintenance

Operations and maintenance activities include activities that are necessary for the ongoing operations and maintenance of existing and planned land uses, facilities, and services in both urban and rural planning units throughout the Plan Area. Activity types that are eligible for coverage for operations and maintenance include: general urban and rural development operations and maintenance; public services, infrastructure, and utilities operations and maintenance; roads, bridges, bike lanes, and multi-use pathways; flood control facilities; general utilities; and activities associated with the Cache Creek Resources Management Plan (CCRMP). No operations and maintenance activities received permit coverage under the Yolo HCP/NCCP during FY24/25.

Conservation Strategy Implementation Projects

The Yolo HCP/NCCP provides take authorization for the actions described in Chapter 6, Conservation Strategy, of the Plan. The activity types include all the habitat modification, management and monitoring activities undertaken for the purposes of implementing this HCP/NCCP, as well as projects implemented by other groups that build on and support decades of local, state, and federal conservation efforts in the Plan Area, including conservation activities within the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, implementation of the CCRMP and Willow Slough Watershed Integrated Resources Management Plan, and the efforts of the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee. No conservation strategy implementation projects received permit coverage under the Yolo HCP/NCCP during FY24/25 beyond those conducted within the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system, which are described in Chapters 3 and 4.

Figure 2-1: Covered activities FY24/25

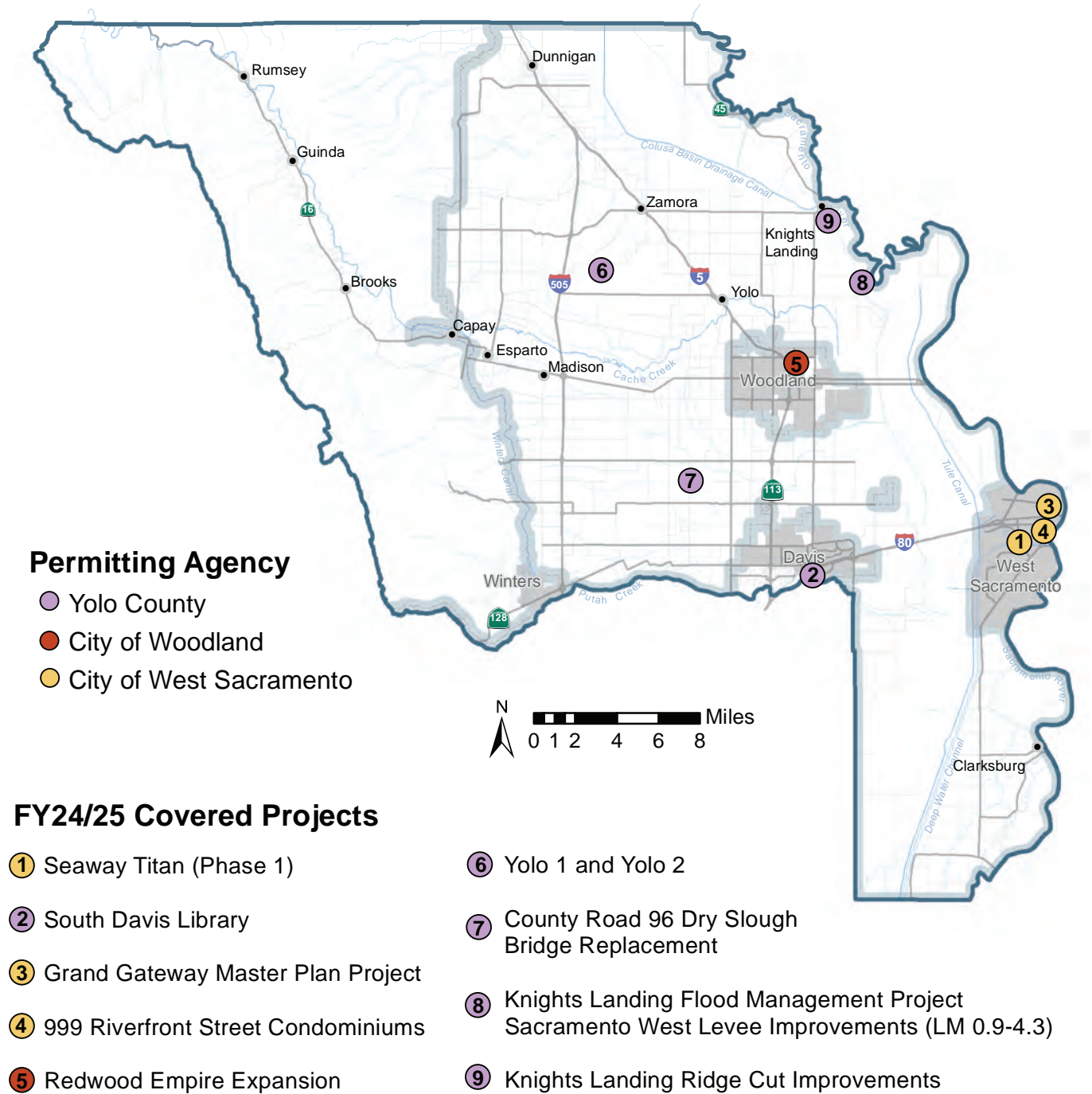


Table 2-1: Covered activities for which permit coverage was granted during FY24/25

Project ID	Project Name	Activity Type	Covered By	Description	Perm. Impacts (acres)	Temp. Impacts (acres)
Urban Projects and Activities						
(1) 2023_20	Seaway/Titan (Phase 1)	General Urban Development	City of West Sacramento	Construction of a one-story advanced manufacturing building totalling approximately 200,000 square feet.	3.4	0
(2) 2023_25	South Davis Library	General Urban Development	Yolo County	Construction of an approximately 12,000 square foot library building that includes a community room and adjacent outdoor terrace space.	1.7	0
(3) 2024_11	Grand Gateway Zoning District	General Urban Development	City of West Sacramento	Zoning district to create a high-density, mixed-use development that includes 450 new housing units.	8.6	0
(4) 2024_02	999 Riverfront Street Condominiums	General Urban Development	City of West Sacramento	Tentative Parcel Map 5242 to allow for future condominium development.	3.3	0
(5) 2025_09	Redwood Empire Expansion	General Urban Development	City of Woodland	Modernization of a pressure treating facility including the construction of four buildings and major updates to the facility-wide infrastructure.	6	0
Rural Projects and Activities						
(6) 2019_14	Yolo 1 and Yolo 2	General Rural Development	Yolo County	Expansion of a commercial cannabis facility including the construction of mixed-light greenhouses, a nursery, buildings, and associated infrastructure.	10.2	0
(7) 2023_02	County Road 96 Dry Slough Bridge Replacement	Rural public services, infrastructure, and utilities	Yolo County	Replacement of the existing bridge on County Road 96 over Dry Slough.	2.77	0
(8) 2024_10	Sacramento West Levee Improvements (LM 0.9-4.3)	Rural public services, infrastructure, and utilities	Yolo County	Levee improvements on the right bank of the Sacramento River from levee mile 0.9 to 4.3 designed to address under-seepage, through-seepage, stability, and freeboard deficiencies.	5.2	30.1
(9) 2024_03	Knights Landing Ridge Cut Improvements	Rural public services, infrastructure, and utilities	Yolo County	Reconstruction of the Knights Landing Ridge Cut Levee to widen the levee crown and create a consistent elevation along with remediation of existing levee encroachments.	0	19.2
Public and Private Operations and Maintenances						
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Conservation Strategy Implementation						
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Table 2-2: Avoidance and minimization measures applied to activities that received permit coverage during FY24/25

Project ID	Project Name	Avoidance and Minimization Measures ^a																				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
(1) 2023_20	Seaway/Titan (Phase 1)				■	■	■	■	■	■							■		■			■
(2) 2023_25	South Davis Library			■	■	■	■	■	■								■					
(3) 2024_11	Grand Gateway Master Plan Project								■	■							■					
(4) 2024_02	999 Riverfront Street Condominiums			■	■	■	■	■	■				■		■		■					
(5) 2025_09	Redwood Empire Expansion					■		■									■					
(6) 2019_14	Yolo 1 and Yolo 2			■	■	■	■	■	■					■			■		■			■
(7) 2023_02	County Road 96 Union Slough Bridge Replacement	■		■	■	■	■	■							■		■					■
(8) 2024_10	Sacramento West Levee Improvements (LM 0.9-4.3)	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■		■		■	■		■	■	■
(9) 2024_03	Knights Landing Ridge Cut Improvements	■		■	■	■	■	■	■	■			■		■	■	■			■		■

a Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs)

- AMM 1** *Establish Buffers*
- AMM 2** *Design Developments to Minimize Indirect Effects at Urban-Habitat Interfaces*
- AMM 3** *Confine and Delineate Work Area*
- AMM 4** *Cover Trenches and Holes During Construction and Maintenance*
- AMM 5** *Control Fugitive Dust*
- AMM 6** *Conduct Worker Training*
- AMM 7** *Control Night-Time Lighting of Project Construction Sites*
- AMM 8** *Avoid and Minimize Effects of Construction Staging Areas and Temporary Work Areas*
- AMM 9** *Establish Buffers Around Sensitive Natural Communities*
- AMM 10** *Avoid and Minimize Effects on Wetlands and Waters*
- AMM 11** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Palmate-Bracted Bird's Beak*
- AMM 12** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle*
- AMM 13** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of California Tiger Salamander*
- AMM 14** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Western Pond Turtle*
- AMM 15** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Giant Garter Snake*
- AMM 16** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Swainson's Hawk and White-Tailed Kite*
- AMM 17** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo*
- AMM 18** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Western Burrowing Owl*
- AMM 19** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Least Bell's Vireo*
- AMM 20** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Habitat of Bank Swallow*
- AMM 21** *Minimize Take and Adverse Effects on Tricolored Blackbird*

Table 2-3: Permanent and temporary land cover impacts

Natural Communities	Reporting Period Impacts (acres)		Cumulative Impacts (acres)		Total Allowed Impacts (acres)		Cumulative Impacts (% toward cap)	
	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary
Rice	--	--	--	--	87	--	0%	--
Cultivated Lands (non-rice)	8.7	8.0	195.3	76.2	9,910	203	2.0%	37.5%
Grassland	3.0	--	77.1	14.0	1,734	28	4.4%	50.0%
Blue Oak Woodland	--	--	0.4	--	3	--	13.3%	--
Alkali Prairie	--	--	--	--	4	4	0.0%	0%
Fresh Emergent Wetland ^b	--	--	8.26	--	88	--	9.4%	--
Valley Foothill Riparian	0.36	--	10.47	--	588	--	1.8%	--
Lacustrine and Riverine ^b	0.41	--	6.46	3.63	236	31	2.7%	11.7%
Total Natural Communities^a	12.47	8.0	298.0	93.8	12,650	266	2.4%	35.3%

^a The totals for natural community loss do not match the total impacts in Table 2-1 because some of the impacts consisted of land cover types that provide covered species habitat but do not belong to any natural communities with the maximum allowable loss as listed in Table 5-1 of the HCP/NCCP (e.g., barren land that may support covered species)

Figure 2-2: Percent of total allowed permanent and temporary impacts incurred by natural community land cover type through FY24/25

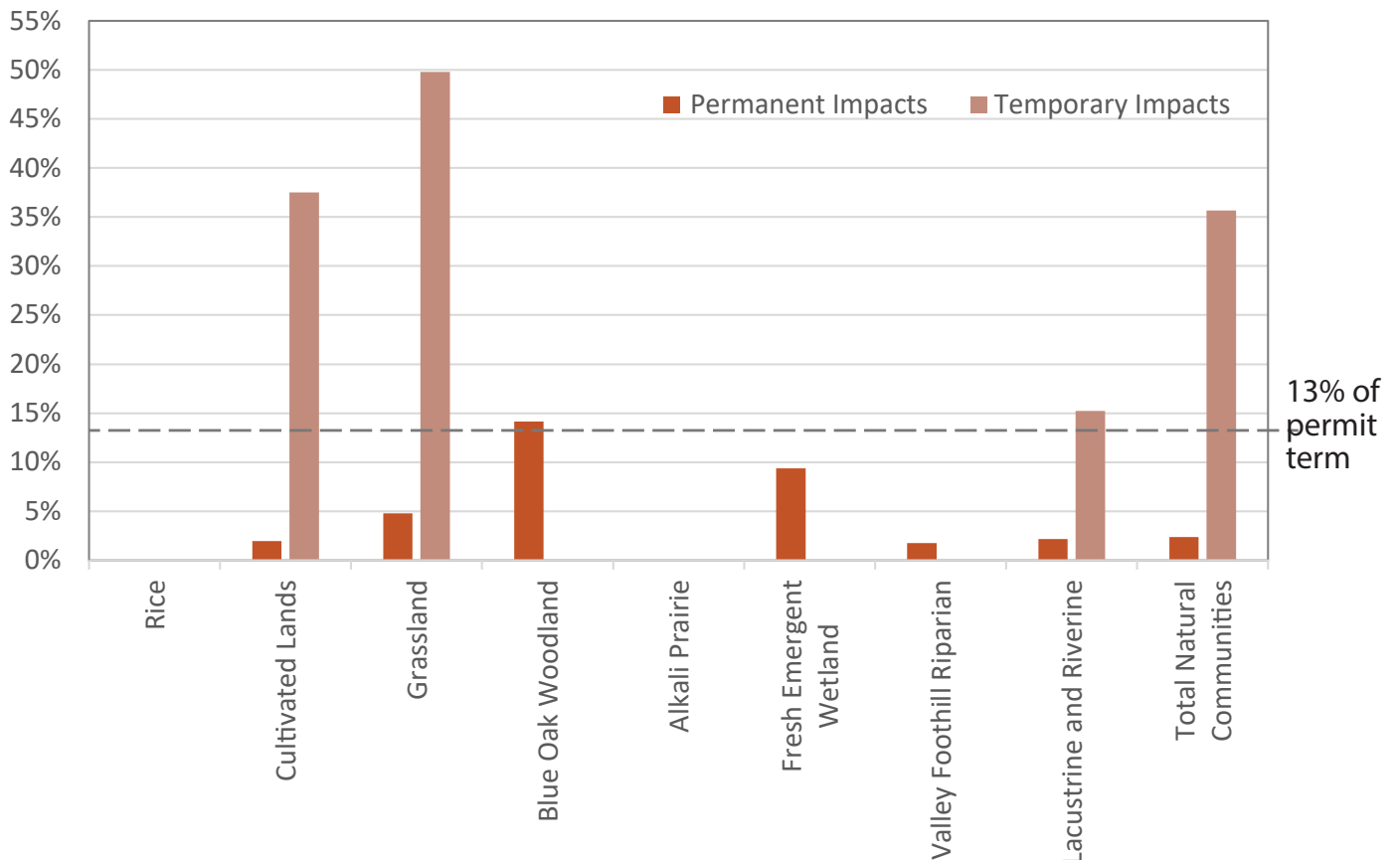


Table 2-4: Permanent and temporary impacts by modeled habitat

Covered Species	Reporting Period Impacts (acres except where noted)		Cumulative Impacts (acres except where noted)		Total Allowed Impacts (acres except where noted)		Cumulative Impacts (% toward cap)	
	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle								
Riparian habitat	0.10	--	3.39	--	523.00	--	0.6%	--
Non-riparian habitat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	61.00	1.00	0%	0%
Total	0.10	0.00	3.39	0.00	584.00	1.00	0.6%	0%
California tiger salamander								
Aquatic breeding habitat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	1.00	0%	0%
Upland habitat	0.00	0.00	13.26	0.00	398.00	1.00	3.3%	0%
Total	0.00	0.00	13.26	0.00	410.00	2.00	3.2%	0%
Ponds - seasonal aquatic breeding habitat (# of ponds)	0	--	0	--	3	--	0%	--
Western pond turtle								
Aquatic habitat	0.41	0.00	12.32	4.48	369.00	31.00	3.3%	14.5%
Nesting & overwintering habitat	0.36	0.00	27.29	9.04	3,133.00	112.00	0.9%	8.1%
Total	0.77	0.00	39.61	13.52	3,502.00	143.00	1.1%	9.5%
Ponds - perennial aquatic habitat (# of ponds)	0	0	0	0	19	1	0%	0%
Ponds - perennial nesting and overwintering habitat (# of ponds)	0	--	0	--	5	--	0%	--
Total (no. of ponds)	0	0	0	0	24	1	0%	0%
Giant garter snake								
Rice habitat	0.00	--	0.00	--	87.00	--	0%	--
Aquatic habitat	0.00	0.00	4.03	0.51	109.00	1.00	3.7%	51.0%
Freshwater emergent habitat	0.00	--	5.64	--	76.00	--	7.4%	--
Active season upland movement	0.00	0.00	13.04	1.45	441.00	3.00	3.0%	14.0%
Overwintering habitat	0.00	0.00	0.57	0.00	1,235.00	5.00	0%	0%
Total	0.00	0.00	23.28	1.96	1,948.00	9.00	1.2%	11.1%
Drainage (miles)	0.00	--	0.00	--	57.00	--	0%	--
Swainson's hawk								
Nesting habitat	0.36	--	13.64	--	651.00	--	2.1%	--
Natural foraging habitat	0.00	0.00	87.57	12.14	1,407.00	22.00	6.2%	55.2%
Cultivated lands foraging habitat	8.70	8.00	207.31	47.22	9,399.00	202.00	2.2%	23.4%
Total	9.06	8.00	294.88	59.36	10,806.00	224.00	2.7%	26.5%
Nest trees	0	--	0	--	20 ^a	--	0%	--
White-tailed kite								
Nesting habitat	0.36	--	14.38	--	661.00	--	2.2%	--
Primary foraging habitat	8.50	0.00	79.40	11.74	2,609.00	29.00	3.0%	40.5%
Secondary foraging habitat	0.20	8.00	216.41	49.92	7,969.00	205.00	0.2%	24.4%
Total	9.06	8.00	295.81	61.66	10,578.00	234.00	2.8%	26.4%
Western yellow-billed cuckoo								
Nesting/foraging habitat	0.10	--	0.38	--	59.00	--	0.6%	--
Western burrowing owl								
Primary habitat	8.50	0.00	89.58	0.53	861.00	1.00	10.4%	53.0%
Other habitat	0.10	0.00	15.97	15.48	2,311.00	218.00	0.7%	7.1%
Total	8.60	0.00	105.55	16.01	3,172.00	219.00	0.3%	7.3%
Least Bell's vireo								
Nesting/foraging habitat	0.10	--	2.35	--	39.00	--	4.7%	--
Bank swallow								
Nesting habitat	0.00	--	1.90	--	37.00	--	5.1%	--
Tricolored blackbird								
Nesting habitat	0.00	--	12.18	--	86.00	--	14.2%	--
Foraging habitat	8.70	0.00	122.52	21.86	8,942.00	230.00	1.4%	9.5%
Total	8.70	0.00	134.70	21.86	9,028.00	230.00	0%	0%
Palmate-bracted bird's beak								
Habitat	0.00	--	0.00	--	4.00	--	0%	--

^a The Swainson's hawk nest tree take limit is set at 20 to account for the implementation of avoidance and minimization measures. The number of nest trees per planning unit will not exceed those provided in Yolo HCP/NCCP Table 5-5 and the total will not exceed 20 nest trees.

3. Acquisition and Restoration

- This chapter describes Yolo HCP/NCCP land acquisition and restoration activities that occurred during the reporting period.

Acquisition

The heart of the Yolo HCP/NCCP conservation strategy is the creation of a reserve system that will include at least 33,406 acres (and up to 956 acres of additional restored natural community if loss of all allowable acres occurs) for the benefit of covered species, natural communities, biological diversity, and ecosystem function. The Conservancy will select lands for the reserve system based on reserve system assembly principles, criteria, and guidelines described in Yolo HCP/NCCP Section 6.4.1 Conservation Measure 1: Establish Reserve System. Of the 32,406 acres, 24,406 acres will consist of newly protected lands and 8,000 acres will consist of pre-permit reserve lands that the Conservancy enrolls into the reserve system and manages and monitors consistent with the Yolo HCP/NCCP. At the end of FY24/25 a total of 28 sites had been enrolled in the reserve system. The natural communities land cover contributions of the sites enrolled in the reserve system are summarized in Table 3-2 and the habitat contributions are summarized in Table 3-3.

During FY24/25 the Conservancy actively pursued the enrollment of both newly protected lands and pre-permit reserve lands into the reserve system. The Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) conducted site visits and prepared STAC evaluations for the Haller Muller Site and the Los Rios South site during FY24/25. Both of these sites were approved by the Conservancy’s Board of Directors, CDFW, and USFWS as candidate Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system sites in FY24/25. The candidate approval dates and total acreages associated with each of the sites approved as candidate reserve system sites during FY24/25 are included in Table 3-1. In addition to conducting initial STAC evaluations and obtaining candidate reserve system site approval for these sites, the Conservancy worked on conducting due diligence activities and resolving title issues associated with these and other sites previously approved as candidate sites for reserve system enrollment.

Table 3-1: Sites approved as candidate reserve system sites in FY24/25

Site Name	Approximate Conservation Area (Acres) ^a	Candidate Reserve Site Approval Dates		
		Conservancy	USFWS	CDFW
Los Rios South	255	9/16/2024	10/3/2024	10/3/2024
Haller Muller	124	9/16/2024	10/3/2024	10/3/2024

a. Specific acreages to be enrolled in the reserve system will be identified in the associated conservation easement

Figure 3-1: Sites enrolled in the reserve system

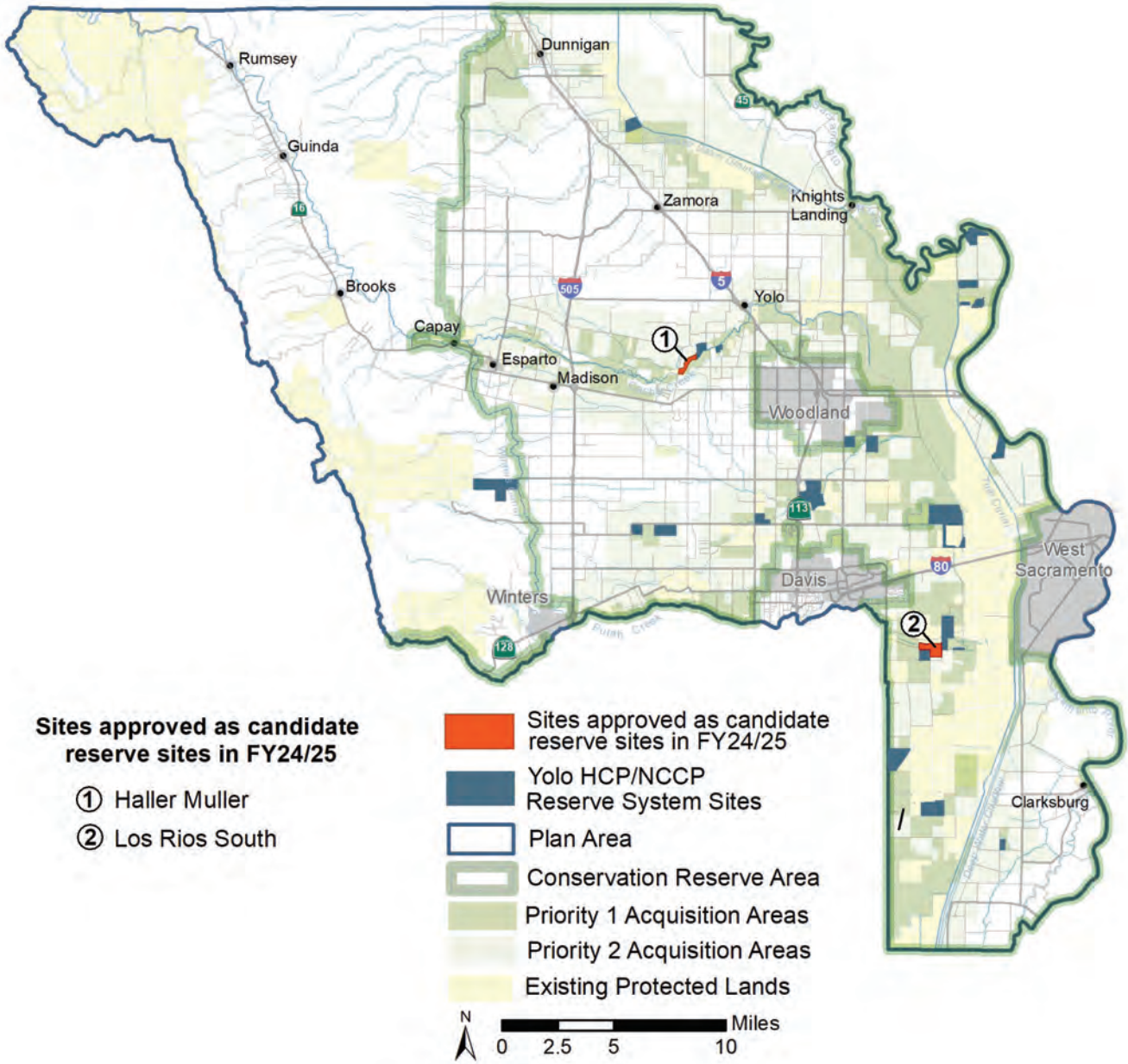


Table 3-2: Natural community land cover acres enrolled in the reserve system

Natural Communities	Total Enrollment Requirements (acres)			Cumulative Enrollment (acres)			Percent Complete (%)		
	Pre-Permit	Newly Protected	Restoration/Creation (min./max.) ^a	Pre-Permit	Newly Protected	Restoration/Creation	Pre-Permit	Newly Protected	Restoration/Creation
Rice	1,775	2,800	--	883.1	0.0	--	49.8%	0%	--
Cultivated Lands (non-rice)	3,649	14,362	--	2360.2	238.6	--	64.7%	1.7%	--
Grassland	335	4,430	--	106.0	806.3	--	31.6%	18.2%	--
Oak Woodland (Valley Oak Woodland+ Blue Oak Woodland)	--	30	--	--	43.7	--	--	145.6%	--
Alkali Prairie	--	33.7	--	--	36.7	--	--	109%	--
Vernal Pool Complex	--	--	--	--	0.9	--	--	--	--
Fresh Emergent Wetland	750	500	8.4 / 88 ^b	674.4	5.5	5.62	89.9%	1.1%	67% / 6%
Valley Foothill Riparian	--	1,600	30.1/ 608 ^c	237.8	32.3	6.38	100% ^e	2%	21% / 1%
Lacustrine and Riverine	--	600	30.6/ 260 ^d	82.5	7.8	6.37	100% ^e	1.3%	21% / 3%
Total Natural Communities^f	8,000	24,406	69.1 / 856	4,344.1	1,171.8	18.37	54.3%	4.8%	26.6%

^a The minimum requirement amount shown is the amount of mitigation required as a result of impacts by covered activities to-date plus any restoration commitments above mitigation. The maximum amount is the total maximum stated in the Yolo

^b The fresh emergent wetland requirement is to restore an acre of fresh emergent wetland for each acre removed as a result of covered activities up to a maximum of 88 acres. The amount identified is the total acres removed as of the end of

^c The valley foothill riparian requirement is to restore 20 acres of valley foothill riparian and an additional acre of valley foothill riparian for each acre removed as a result of covered activities up to a maximum of 588 additional acres. The amount identified is the sum of the 20 acre commitment and the total acres removed as of the end of FY22/23.

^d The lacustrine and riverine requirement is to restore 24 acres of lacustrine specifically for California tiger salamander aquatic habitat and to restore up to 236 acres of lacustrine and riverine for each acre removed as a result of covered activities. The 24 acres may be subsumed within the 236 acres as long as the total restored California tiger salamander aquatic habitat is at least 36 acres. The amount identified is the sum of the 24 acre commitment and the total acres

^e The dataset used to establish the land coverage acreage requirements for reserve lands was prepared several years prior to when the Yolo HCP/NCCP began implementation. Two of the pre-permit sites had significant land cover changes that resulted a reduction in cultivated lands and an increase in foothill valley riparian and fresh emergent wetland land cover types prior to Yolo HCP/NCCP, resulting in actual acreages for valley foothill riparian and lacustrine and riverine land cover within pre-permit lands that exceed what was previously anticipated.

^f The total acreages shown in this table are less than what is shown as the total acres enrolled in Table 3-1 because some of the enrolled acres include other land cover types.



Los Rios South riparian area along Putah Creek

Table 3-3: Modeled species habitat enrolled in the reserve system

Covered Species Habitat	Cumulative Conservation Through FY24/25 (acres except where noted)		Total Conservation Commitment (acres except where noted)		Percent Complete (% toward conservation commitment)	
	Pre-Permit	Newly Protected	Pre-Permit	Newly Protected	Pre-Permit	Newly Protected
Valley elderberry longhorn beetle						
Riparian habitat ^a	210	13	10	1,600	100%	1%
Non-riparian habitat	36	20	120	20	30%	20
Total	246	22	130	1,620	100%	1%
California tiger salamander						
Aquatic breeding habitat	0	0	27	36	0%	0%
Upland habitat	0	0	340	2,000	0%	0%
Total	0	0	367	2,036	0%	0%
Ponds - seasonal aquatic	--	0	--	36	--	0%
Western pond turtle						
Aquatic habitat	1,069	13	2,098	2,400	51.0%	0.5%
Nesting and overwintering	679	699	978	3,475	69.4%	20.1%
Total	1,749	712	3,076	5,875	56.8%	12.1%
Giant garter snake						
Rice habitat	883	0	1,775	2,800	49.8%	0%
Aquatic habitat	66	8	140	420	47.1%	1.9%
Freshwater emergent habitat	678	2	750	500	90.4%	0.4%
Active season upland	28	25	130	1,160	21.8%	2.2%
Overwintering habitat	10	78	115	2,315	9.0%	3%
Total	1,666	114	2,910	7,195	57.2%	1.6%
Swainson's hawk						
Nesting habitat	108	16	215	1,600	50.4%	1.0%
Natural foraging habitat	177	843	980	4,430	18.1%	19.0%
Cultivated lands foraging	2,323	290	3,600	14,362	64.5%	2.0%
Total	2,609	1,149	4,795	20,392	54.4%	5.6%
White-tailed kite						
Nesting habitat	108	92	215	1,600	50.4%	6%
Foraging habitat	2,144	999	3,330	18,792	64.4%	5%
Total	2,252	1,090	3,545	18,792	63.5%	6%
Western yellow-billed cuckoo						
Nesting/foraging habitat ^a	164	0	135	500	121%	0%
Western burrowing owl						
Primary habitat	85	100	330	3,000	25.8%	3.3%
Other habitat	843	186	770	2,500	109.5%	7.4%
Total	928	287	1,100	5,500	84.4%	5.2%
Least Bell's vireo						
Nesting/foraging habitat ^a	186.60	0	110	600	169.6%	0%
Bank swallow						
Nesting habitat	1.8	0	--	50	100%	0%
Tricolored blackbird						
Nesting habitat ^a	265	0	150	200	100%	0%
Foraging habitat	2,771	1,016	4,000	16,610	69.3%	6.1%
Total	3,036	1,016	4,150	16,810	73.1%	6.0%
Palmate-bracted bird's beak						
Habitat	0	37	141	33	0%	111.2%

^a The dataset used to establish the land coverage acreage requirements for reserve lands was prepared several years prior to when the Yolo HCP/NCCP began implementation. Two of the pre-permit sites had significant land cover changes that resulted a reduction in cultivated lands and an increase in foothill valley riparian and fresh emergent wetland land

Restoration

Habitat restoration and creation are important components of the overall Yolo HCP/NCCP conservation strategy. Restoration is defined as the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site, with the goal of returning natural or historic functions to a site that historically supported such functions but no longer does because of the loss of one or more required ecological factors or as a result of past disturbance. Habitat creation is defined as the establishment of a natural community in a location where it did not exist historically. Habitat creation within the Yolo HCP/NCCP is specifically focused on the establishment of ponds and wetlands and the natural communities that are supported by those aquatic features in locations where the habitat does or did exist naturally within the broader region, but not specifically in the location in which the habitat creation occurs.

Under the Yolo HCP/NCCP at least 20 acres of valley foothill riparian and 24 acres of lacustrine and riverine natural communities will be restored independent of impacts to these natural communities. Additional acres of fresh emergent wetland, valley foothill riparian, and lacustrine and riverine natural communities will be restored at a ratio of one acre restored for each acre of loss that is covered by the Yolo HCP/NCCP permits. The Yolo HCP/NCCP allows for a maximum loss of 88 acres of fresh emergent wetland, 588 acres of valley foothill riparian, and 212 acres of lacustrine and riverine natural communities. The Conservancy will complete construction of all habitat restoration projects by Year 40 of the permit term.

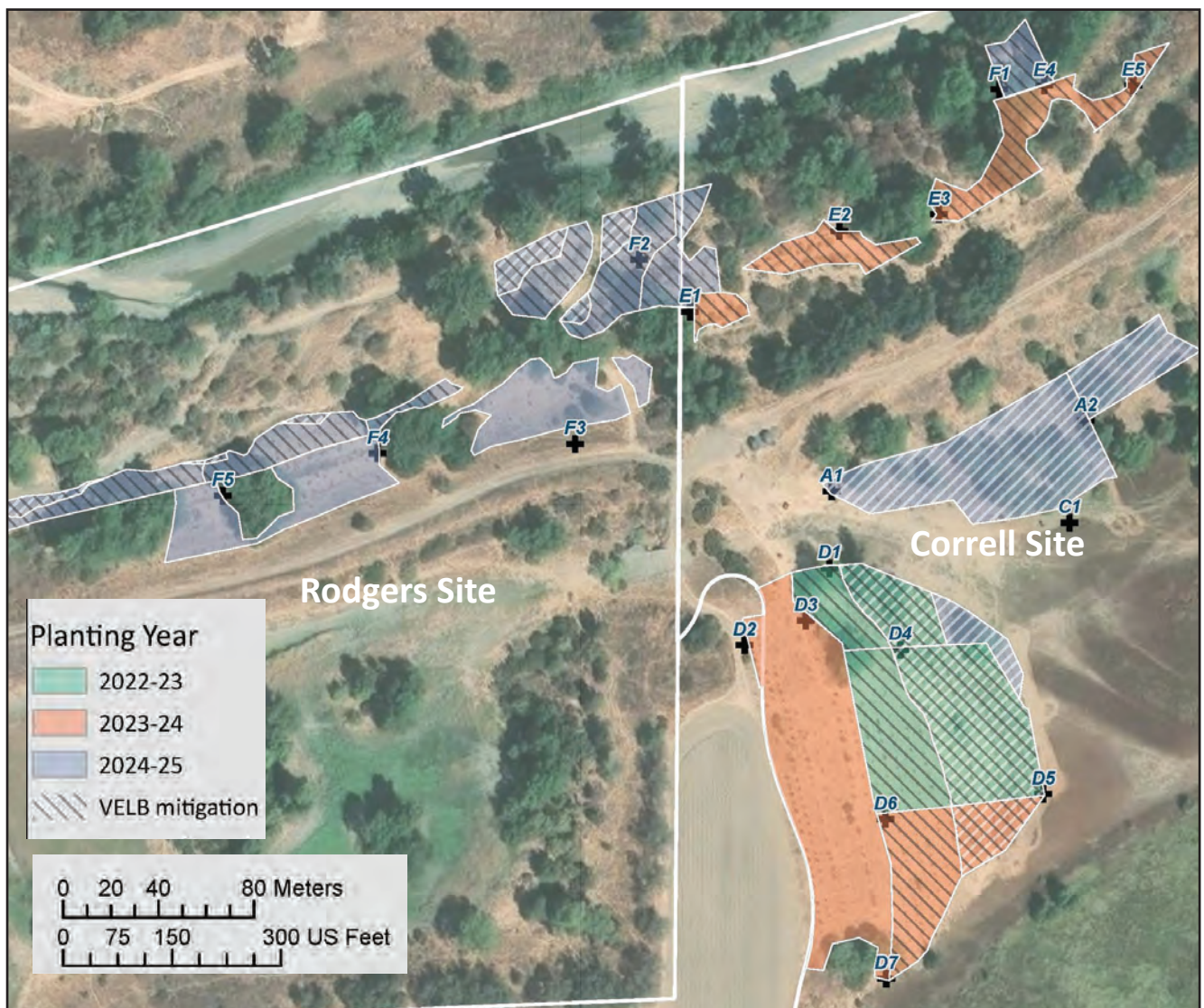
During FY24/25, there were four sites undergoing various stages of active restoration. Restoration related activities that occurred in FY24/25 included active valley foothill riparian restoration plantings and re-plantings within portions the Correll Site and Rodgers Site, active habitat creation and enhancement of valley foothill riparian habitat at the Woodland Regional Park Preserve, and initial invasive species management at the Haller-Muller Site in preparation for future valley foothill riparian plantings and elderberry transplants. Summaries of each of these efforts are provided below. Each of these efforts was either actively undergoing restoration and/or monitoring of recent restoration activities during FY24/25. The restoration and enhancement acreages attributed to each site are not considered final until verified that success criteria have been met after 5 years of post-restoration monitoring.



Rodgers Site riparian restoration planting

Correll Site

The 38.9-acre Correll Site is a county-owned property located along Cache Creek. Valley foothill riparian restoration and VELB mitigation activities on the Correll Site began in February 2022 and have continued through FY24/25. Prior to FY24/25, a total of 2.18 acres within the Correll Site were planted with a mix of elderberry seedlings and native associates. Due to the long-term inundation of the Correll Site during winter flood events that occurred in both FY23/24 and FY24/25, certain areas originally designated in the site restoration plan as being appropriate for elderberry establishment were remapped as only being appropriate for flood-tolerant riparian plants. In November 2024, 18 elderberry plants were planted within 0.08 additional acres of land within the upland, creek-side portion of the levee, within the Correll Site and 9 flood-tolerant replacement plants and 10 willow and cottonwood cuttings were planted within the previously planted 0.53 acre portion of the site to replace plants that did not survive previous flood events.



Riparian restoration areas on the Rodgers Site and Correll Site
(Source: Yolo RCD)

Maintenance tasks including weed whacking, mowing, targeted invasive species treatments, caging plants to reduce herbivory, water deliveries and irrigation during the dry season, and irrigation repairs were conducted within all planted areas. During November 2024, the Yolo RCD chipped large woody debris piles within the flood-prone areas of the basin within the site to minimize the potential for woody debris to severely damage planted seedlings and associated infrastructure (plant cages and irrigation lines) if they became mobilized during flood flows. Damage to both plants and irrigation lines due to fossorial and browsing mammals has been an ongoing issue at this site. During the irrigation season the Yolo RCD has had to regularly make repairs to irrigation lines and Yolo RCD staff and California Conservation Corps members constructed and installed additional gopher cages and plant cages to provide additional protection to young seedlings during in initial plant establishment.

Rodgers Site

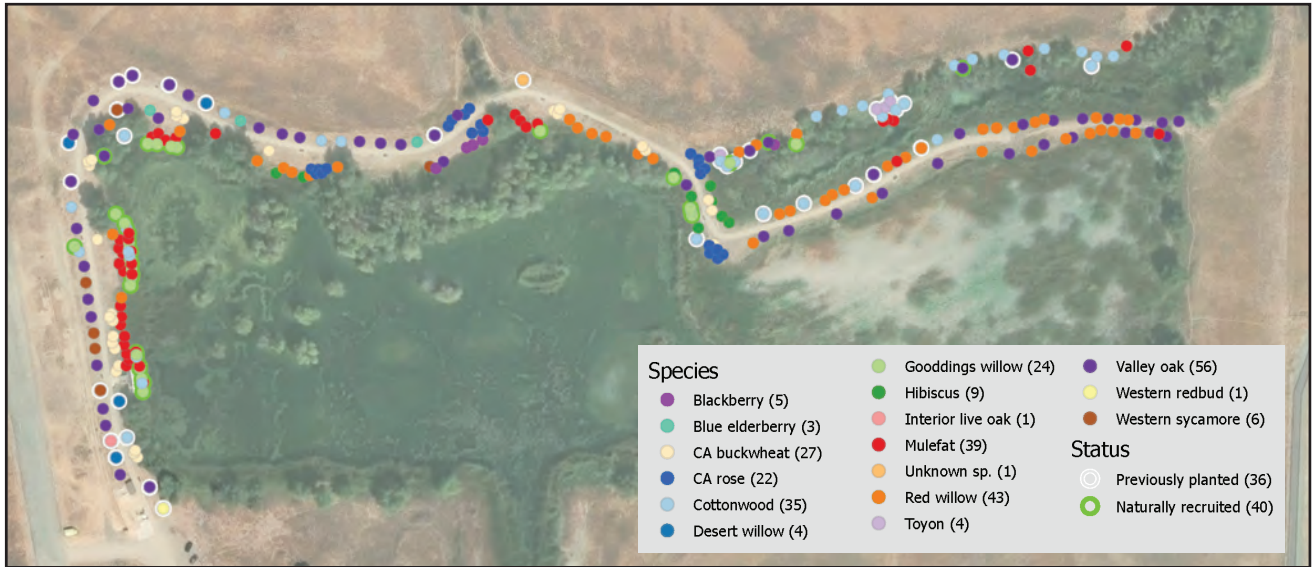
The approximately 30-acre Rodgers Site is located along Cache Creek, immediately west of the Correll Site. Between November 2024 and January 2025, initial weed management and clearing, planting, and installation of plant protectors, gopher cages, and irrigation was conducted within 0.55 acres of the Rodgers Site designated for upland general riparian restoration and 1.05 acres of the Rodgers Site designated for VELB mitigation compatible valley foothill riparian restoration. After initial site preparations, a total of 105 elderberry seedlings, and 178 native associates were planted on the Rodgers Site during FY24/25.

Woodland Regional Park Preserve Constructed Wetland and Riparian Area

Woodland Regional Park Preserve is an approximately 153-acre site that contains alkali prairie, grassland, fresh emergent wetland, riparian, lacustrine, and vernal pool natural communities. The site was enrolled in the reserve system in FY 22/23 to protect and enhance habitat for palmate-bracted bird's beak as well as to provide habitat for Swainson's hawk, burrowing owl, northwestern pond turtle, tricolored blackbird and a variety of other species. Restoration/creation activities on this site have primarily focused on the created wetland and riparian area located in the southeast portion of the site while efforts in the grassland and alkali prairie portions of the site have been focused on habitat enhancement as summarized in Chapter 4 of this annual report.

Initial restoration efforts began during FY19/20. These efforts included the re-contouring of a former soil borrow pit on the site to create deeper open water areas to provide lacustrine habitat and shallower seasonal wetlands to provide fresh emergent wetland habitat; installing a well to provide year-round water; enhancing and restoring riparian habitat; and planting a variety of native riparian and wetland plants. The restoration design for this site relies on a combination of active planting/seeding native plant species and allowing for natural recruitment to occur along the edges of the permanent wetland and within the seasonal wetland area. Plantings within the areas designated for valley foothill riparian restoration have occurred incrementally and are ongoing in combination with invasive species removal. During FY24/25 the Yolo RCD developed planting plan to facilitate the expansion of the riparian area along the northern portion of the constructed wetlands. In December 2024, Yolo RCD staff pre-augured

planting holes to loosen the dense clay soil and worked with a California Conservation Corps crew to spread and work compost into planting soil and string-trimmed weedy areas in advance of planting. During December 2024 and January 2025, the Yolo RCD, California Conservation Corps, and community volunteers planted a total of 207 new native plants.



Map of FY24/25 planting locations along the constructed wetland at Woodland Regional Park Preserve
(Source: Yolo RCD)

Haller-Muller Site

The Haller-Muller Site is an approximately 124-acre county-owned property located along Cache Creek. The Yolo Habitat Conservancy’s Science and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) evaluated the property for enrollment in August 2024 and the site was approved as a candidate Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system site by the Yolo Habitat Conservancy Board of Directors on September 16, 2024 and by both CDFW and USFWS on October 3, 2024. In early 2025, Conservancy staff identified an approximately 12.2-acre portion of the northeastern end of the site as a future habitat restoration area. In May 2025, Conservancy staff directed Yolo RCD staff and California Conservation Corps crew members to begin clearing the proposed future restoration area of invasive weeds and prepare for a fall burn. In May 2025, approximately 4.5 acres of the 12.2-acre proposed restoration area was weed whacked and mowed. In early June 2025, Yolo RCD staff applied herbicide to the cleared area to control perennial pepperweed and yellow star-thistle, which comprised over 80% of the vegetation within the area. The Conservancy anticipates initial valley foothill riparian restoration and VELB mitigation plantings within a portion of the cleared area to occur in FY25/26.



Clearing starthistle
(Source: Yolo RCD)

Table 3-4: Summary of restoration areas

Restoration Project Name	Fiscal Year Initiated	Restoration (acres) ^a			
		Fresh Emergent Wetland	Valley Foothill Riparian - General	Valley Foothill Riparian - VELB	Lacustrine and Riverine
Woodland Reiff VELB1	FY19/20	--	--	3.14	--
Correll - General Riparian 1	FY24/25	--	0.58	--	--
Correll - General Riparian 2	FY24/25	--	0.17	--	--
Correll VELB - UC Davis Orchard Park	FY22/23	--	--	0.70	--
Correll VELB - Rivers 2	FY22/23	--	--	0.33	--
Correll VELB - County Road 41	FY23/24	--	--	0.35	--
Correll VELB - CCC	FY23/24	--	--	0.40	--
Correll General Riparian Restoration	FY23/24	--	0.82	--	--
Woodland Regional Park Preserve Wetland Creation ^{b,c}	FY22/23	5.62	0.38	--	6.37
Rodgers VELB - New Pioneer Village	FY24/25	--	--	0.49	--
Rodgers VELB - New Rivers 202	FY24/25	--	--	0.29	--
Rodgers VELB - Bees Lake	FY24/25	--	--	0.27	--
Rodgers - General Riparian	FY24/25	--	0.55	--	--
TOTAL:		5.62	2.50	5.97	6.37

a. Acreages listed are acres planted to-date but will not officially count towards the HCP/NCCP restoration targets until success criteria are met at the end of the 5-year establishment period for each individual restoration project. At the end of FY24/25, the Woodland Reiff VELB1 planting area had completed its five-year establishment period and met its success criteria. All other plantings noted are still within the establishment time period.

b. Acres identified for Woodland Regional Park Preserve restoration are the acres created to-date. Additional fresh emergent wetland and valley foothill riparian habitat restoration activities for this site are still in progress.

c. Initial grading for the wetlands restoration at Woodland Regional Park Preserve began in 2019 but the site was not enrolled in the HCP/NCCP until June 2023. The date identified as the initial date is in reference to when the site became part of the HCP/NCCP reserve system.



Correll Site riparian restoration planting

4. Reserve Management, Enhancement, Monitoring, and Research

- This chapter summarizes some of the key management, enhancement, monitoring, and research activities the Conservancy and partners conducted during the reporting period.

Reserve Management and Enhancement

Burrowing Owl Habitat Management and Enhancement

Burrowing owls have occasionally been observed foraging in the general region southeast of the City of Woodland, within the vicinity of Woodland Regional Park Preserve, during winter and spring months; however, natural burrows that provide shelter from predators and nesting habitat are extremely limited in that area. During FY23/24, the Conservancy coordinated with the Burrowing Owl Preservation Society to install artificial tunnel shelters within the Woodland Regional Park Preserve to provide visiting owls with spaces that they can use to seek shelter from predators and inclement weather. Within two weeks, pellets and whitewash were observed at tunnel entrances. Subsequently, the Conservancy coordinated with a Boy Scout Troop and the Burrowing Owl Preservation Society to install eight artificial nest boxes and two additional shelter tunnels on the site. During the winter of FY24/25, the Yolo Habitat Conservancy worked with the California Conservation Corps to modify the nest box design of two of the artificial burrowing owl nest burrows, dig up and re-bury all eight nest burrows that were installed the prior winter, and address mound erosion issues caused by a severe



Burrowing owl nest box installation with California Conservation Corps crew

storm that occurred within a week of their initial installation. The vegetation surrounding the artificial nest burrows was flash grazed during the winter. Successive efforts were made to weed trim the areas immediately surrounding the burrow entrances during late winter and spring months in an effort to minimize the height of surrounding vegetation.

Three burrowing owls were observed regularly using the shelters and artificial burrows located in the northeast portion of the Woodland Regional Park Preserve between October 2024 and February 2025. One of the three owls was observed at the site regularly until April 2025.

Palmate-Bracted Bird's Beak Habitat Management and Enhancement

The area within and surrounding the population of palmate-bracted bird's beak (PBBB; *Chloropyron palmatum*) at Woodland Regional Park Preserve is dominated by a variety of non-native annual grasses and forbs such as perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*). In FY24/25, the Conservancy, Yolo County Resource Conservation District (Yolo RCD), and volunteers implemented the management approach for invasive species within 250ft of the PBBB population that was approved by CDFW and USFWS in April 2024 in an effort to control nonnative plants to increase opportunities for native species establishment and enhance the function of the alkali prairie within the Reserve System consistent with Yolo HCP/NCCP Objective NC-AP1.2. The approach includes utilizing a combination of grazing and/or mowing and targeted herbicide applications within the alkali prairie areas of Woodland Regional Park Preserve that are greater than 30-feet from the PBBB population. For portions of the site that are between 30 and 250 feet from the PBBB population (Zone 2), herbicide treatment took place between April-July, after pepperweed has reached the bud stage of maturity and throughout the flowering period. Pepperweed plants were individually spot-sprayed with chlorsulfuron (Telar) or glyphosate (Roundup Custom) using a backpack sprayer and very low-pressure spray wand. Conservancy staff, Yolo RCD staff, and volunteers conducted manual defoliation of perennial pepperweed plants located both directly within the 0.056-acre portion of the Woodland Regional Park Preserve that is occupied by PBBB and the surrounding 30-foot buffer area (Zone 1).

The Conservancy and RCD conducted a site visit with *Chloropyron* sp. specialist Dr. Brenda Grewell to the PBBB population at Woodland Regional Park Preserve to discuss potential adaptations that can be made to more successfully reduce invasive weeds and increase the PBBB population. Conservancy and Yolo RCD continued to have conversations with Dr. Grewell and other botanists while considering a potential update to the management approach that was approved by CDFW and USFWS in 2024 in an effort to increase flexibility and effectiveness around treating perennial pepperweed adjacent to populations of PBBB at Woodland Regional Park Preserve.



Manually defoliated perennial pepperweed

General Invasive Species Management

Invasive species management is an important and ongoing task, particularly within and around designated habitat restoration and enhancement areas. During FY24/25, invasive species management efforts included both very targeted herbicide treatments, cutting, and hand removal of noxious invasive species and broader mowing, string trimming, and broadleaf herbicide treatments in larger areas dominated by larger densities of non-native invasive species. The primary species treated include perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*), barbed goatgrass (*Aegilops triuncialis*), tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), stinkwort (*Dittrichia graveolens*), white top (*Lepidium draba*), Russian knapweed (*Rhaponticum repens*, a.k.a *Acroptilon repens*), and milk thistle (*Silybum marianum*).

Prior to planting at the Rodgers site, Yolo RCD staff mowed, used string trimmers, and sprayed areas containing yellow star-thistle, milk thistle and perennial pepperweed, and stinkwort. Within the Correll Site and Rodgers Site target invasive species within areas that were planted with native species were managed using a combination of hand-pulling within cages, string-trimming or weed-whacking in areas of high topography, mowing between rows, and spot spraying to target invasive broadleaf weeds. Invasive species targeted for spot spraying included poison hemlock, Italian thistle, milk thistle, and yellow starthistle. In March 2025 three mature tree tobacco plants were cut and stump treated and the yellow starthistle population around the water tanks were treated on the Correll Site.

At the Haller-Muller Site initial mowing and string trimming was conducted within an approximately 4.5-acre area in May 2024, followed by an herbicide application to the cleared area to control perennial pepperweed and yellow star-thistle.

At the Woodland Regional Park Preserve RCD staff worked closely with City of Woodland staff to have them spray perennial pepperweed along the ADA trail at WRPP. In December a California Conservation Corps crew cut back and removed cut Himalayan blackberry stems at all known blackberry patches located within the Woodland Regional Park Preserve in coordination with Yolo RCD staff who applied



Dense perennial pepperweed stand at Haller-Muller prior to treatment

herbicide to stems after it was cut back. In spring, Yolo RCD staff boom sprayed the southeast corner of the Woodland Regional Park Preserve to control large mustard, milk thistle, and yellow star thistle populations and sprayed the population of whitetop located on the western portion of the site. Perennial pepperweed within 250 feet of the PBBB population was treated in accordance with a management approach that was approved by CDFW and USFWS in April 2024 as described above in the Palmate-Bracted Bird's Beak Habitat Enhancement sub-section of this chapter.

Monitoring

Covered Species Monitoring: Bank Swallow

The Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee Biologist, Drew Rayburn, observed at least 240 holes and several bank swallows (*Riparia riparia*) on the south bank of Cache Creek within the southern portion of the Woodland Reiff Site on June 12, 2024 during the 2024 Cache Creek Walk. This is the first observation of an active bank swallow nesting colony on a Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system site. On June 24, 2025 Chris Alford observed that the bank swallow nesting site that had been observed within the Woodland Reiff Site the prior year was no longer present, however, a much larger nest colony containing over 700 nest cavities was present along an approximately 530-foot section of a recently eroded bank located on the north bank of Cache Creek within the Haller-Muller Site (a candidate Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system site). Nesting habitat observed during FY24/25 was located along a stretch of almost vertical stream bank that had eroded during the prior winter. The bank is comprised primarily of fine sediment with some patches that contain small gravels. Nest cavities were located as low as 3 feet from the ground, however, the majority of the nest cavities were higher. The quality of the nest sites were



Large bank swallow nest colony at Haller Muller Site

generally high with most nest cavities being located high off the ground and along almost vertical slopes, which provide protection from potential predators. Both bank swallow and cliff swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) were present in large numbers at the time of Ms. Alford’s site visit, with hundreds of cliff swallow nests present on the underside of the conveyor bridge located immediately above the bank swallow nest colony site. Birds of both species were actively flying and foraging at the time of the site visit, making it difficult to obtain a count of individual bank swallows.

Covered Species Monitoring: Palmate-bracted bird’s beak:

The Yolo HCP/NCCP’s occupancy commitment for palmate-bracted bird’s beak (PBBB) is to increase the 10-year average size of the population of PBBB within the Woodland Regional Park Preserve by at least 10% by managing and enhancing habitat. In order to track the population size, the Conservancy has had the PBBB population at Woodland Regional Park Preserve surveyed annually since the Yolo HCP/NCCP began implementation in 2019. Additionally, some population records are available from surveys conducted by others in prior years. Table 4-1 summarizes the number of individual plants observed during each annual PBBB survey conducted at Woodland Regional Park Preserve. Figure 4-1 shows the spatial extent of the population as mapped in FY24/25. The spatial extent of the population has not changed since it was initially mapped in FY22/23.

Table 4-1: Palmate-bracted bird’s beak population survey results



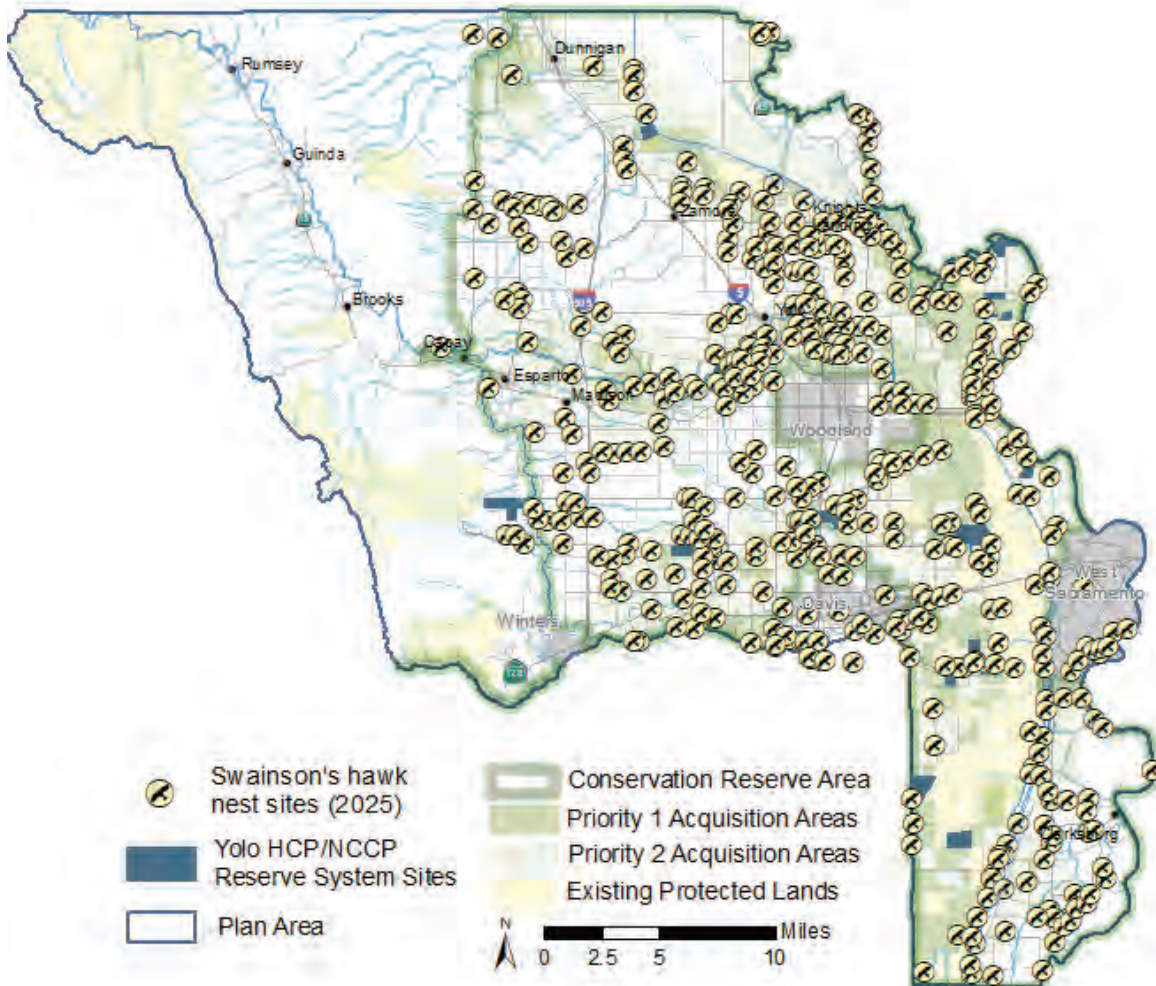
2025 palmate-bracted bird’s beak annual survey

Year	PBBB plants
1996	482
--	--
2009	25
2010	--
2011	0
2012	--
2013	--
2014	--
2015	--
2016	--
2017	87
2018	42
2019	85
2020	282
2021	47
2022	175
2023	252
2024	292
2025	331

Covered Species Monitoring: Swainson’s hawk

The Yolo Habitat Conservancy has a Plan-wide nest survey conducted once every five years to track the status of the Swainson’s hawk population within the Yolo HCP/NCCP Plan Area over time. During FY24/25 the Conservancy contracted with Estep Environmental Consulting to conduct the 5-year nest survey. In 2025, Estep documented a total of 313 occupied Swainson’s hawk nesting territories. While this amount of nest territories is greater than the 270 threshold amount identified in the Plan, it is a 18% decrease from the Plan-wide nest population documented in 2020. Overall, the Swainson’s hawk nesting population within the Plan area is broadly distributed with higher concentrations of nest sites located where riparian or other mature trees are readily available within a matrix row and field crops that provide suitable foraging habitat. Despite fluctuations in nesting site populations and a downward trend in row and field crop acreage, the Plan Area continues to support the highest breeding density of Swainson’s hawks in the species’ range (Estep, 2025).

Figure 4-1: 2025 Plan Area Swainson’s hawk nest locations



The Yolo HCP/NCCP’s occupancy commitment for Swainson’s hawk is to protect at least 20 Swainson’s hawk nest trees by the end of the permit term, with a nest tree being defined as a tree that has been occupied by an active nesting pair within at least one of the previous five years. The schedule for nest tree protection is based on the HCP/ NCCP’s Stay Ahead provisions. To-date, no Swainson’s hawk nest sites have been impacted by Yolo HCP/ NCCP covered activities. Table 4-2 identifies the reserve system sites that have had occupied Swainson’s hawk nests on them within the past five years.

Table 4-2: Occupied Swainson’s hawk nests within the reserve system

Reserve Site	Occupied Nest Sites	Most Recent Year of Observation
CCR1	1	2025 ^a
Conaway Ranch TCBB CE	2	2025 ^a
Correll	1	2025 ^{a,b}
Koontz	1	2025 ^a
Lara West	1	2025 ^a
Merritt Ranch	1	2025 ^a
Rodgers	1	2025 ^a
Woodland Regional Park Preserve	1	2024 ^b
Overall Total	9	

a. Occupied nest identified during Plan-wide Nest Survey (Estep, 2025)

b. Occupied nest identified during reserve system management and restoration activities (Yolo RCD, 2024)

Invasive Species Monitoring

The Yolo RCD continued to map and monitor target invasive species within the Yolo HCP/ NCCP reserve system including locations within the Correll, Rodgers, Woodland Regional Park Preserve, and Haller-Muller sites during FY24/25. The primary invasive species monitored during FY24/25 included perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*), barbed goatgrass (*Aegilops triuncialis*), tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*), yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstialis*), stinkwort (*Dittrichia graveolens*), white top (*Lepidium draba*), and Russian knapweed (*Rhaponticum repens*, a.k.a *Acroptilon repens*). The barbed goatgrass that was observed and treated at the Correll Site in FY23/24 was not found during the time of the FY24/25 survey but will remain on the list as a target species for future monitoring.

The dominant species cover within the initial proposed 4.5-acre Haller-Muller future restoration area primarily consisted of dense stands of perennial pepperweed and yellow starthistle that were relatively evenly distributed over approximately 80% of the site with intermittent patches of cocklebur (*Xanthium* spp.). Despite non-native invasive species dominating the majority of

the proposed restoration area, there are patches of creeping wild rye (*Leymus triticoides*) and individual native plants, including elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* spp. *cerulea*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), and quailbush (*Atriplex lentiformis* ssp.) established in sporadic locations.

Habitat Restoration Monitoring

All Yolo HCP/NCCP restoration plantings are monitored and managed for a minimum of five years with re-plantings conducted as-needed to ensure that at least 60% of the plants required for mitigation survive. The first Yolo HCP/NCCP restoration project was planted in 2020 as a mitigation planting that required the transplanting of 37 elderberry shrubs and planting of 290 blue elderberry seedlings and 465 native associate species seedlings (755 total plantings) within a 3.14-acre portion of the Woodland-Reiff VELB Site. Triangle Properties (since re-named as Triangle Land Restoration) was selected to conduct all planting, maintenance, and monitoring associated with this effort. A total of 878 elderberry seedlings and native associates were planted to help ensure that survival criteria were met and to reduce the need for future re-planting because of plant mortality. Due to initial overplanting efforts the survival rates documented in July 2024, the 5th and final year of monitoring, exceeded all minimum success criteria with elderberry plant survival at 100.3% and native associate plant survival at 77.2% of the initial required plant numbers. The Woodland-Reiff VELB Site restoration planting was the first Yolo HCP/NCCP restoration planting to complete its 5-year monitoring period. Restoration plantings at Woodland Regional Park Preserve, Correll, and Rodgers are either in process or have been planted and receive ongoing maintenance and annual survival monitoring but have yet to complete their 5-year monitoring compliance period and will be reported on during subsequent annual reports.

Easement Compliance Monitoring

The Yolo RCD and Yolo Land Trust conducted easement compliance monitoring on all of the sites that are enrolled in the Yolo HCP/NCCP as newly protected lands and pre-permit lands that have easements that are held by the Conservancy. Other parties, including the Cache Creek Conservancy, California Waterfowl Association, and the Wildlife Heritage Foundation also each hold easements on sites that are enrolled as pre-permit sites in the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system. All Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system sites were in compliance with the terms of their respective easements during FY24/25.

NOTE ON PAST REPORTING: The FY23/24 annual report stated that the Wildlife Heritage Foundation sent the landowner of the Sacramento River Ranch Swainson's hawk easement site a notice of violation on May 6, 2024. The Sacramento River Ranch property has several Swainson's hawk conservation easements and the easement that is the subject of the notice of violation is not part of the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system.

5. Stay Ahead Compliance and Changed Circumstances

Stay-Ahead Provision Compliance

The conservation strategy of an NCCP must be implemented at or faster than the rate at which the loss of natural communities or habitat for covered species occurs so that conservation always stays ahead of effects and rough proportionality is maintained between adverse effects on natural communities or covered species and conservation measures (California Fish and Game Code Section 2820(b)(3)(B)). The Yolo HCP/NCCP stay-ahead provision requires the Conservancy to ensure the amount of each natural community conserved, restored, or created by the Conservancy as a proportion of the total requirement for each natural community is roughly proportional to the impact on that natural community as a proportion of the total impact allowed to occur during the permit term by all covered activities. Per Section 7.5.3.1 of the Yolo HCP/NCCP, the stay-ahead provision of the Yolo HCP/NCCP is being met as long as conservation measure implementation (i.e., preservation, restoration, or creation) does not fall behind the pace of covered activity impacts by more than 10 percent (conservation overall and by each land cover type). In situations where the stay-ahead provision is not met, the Conservancy will notify USFWS and CDFW staff within 30 days of completion of the annual report and will meet to develop and implement a mutually agreed upon plan of action to address any deficits in land conservation as described in Yolo HCP/NCCP Section 7.5.3.3.

As shown in Table 5-1, the percentage of the total amount of natural communities acreage enrolled in the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system by the end of FY24/25 was 14.1 percent greater than the percentage of the total allowable permanent impacts that had been incurred by the end of FY24/25, meaning that the overall permanent conservation efforts of the Yolo HCP/NCCP implemented by the end of FY24/25 were proportionally greater than the permanent impacts covered by the Yolo HCP/NCCP. All eight natural community land cover classifications that are used to track impacts that are covered under the Yolo HCP/NCCP and conserved lands that are enrolled in the Yolo HCP/NCCP reserve system had a greater percentage of cumulative reserve system enrollment (% towards completing the overall commitment) than the percentage of cumulative allowable impact permitted (% towards cap) at the end of FY24/25. At the end of FY24/25, the stay-ahead provision was met both cumulatively and for each individual land cover type.

Table 5-1: Natural communities impacts and enrollment through FY24/25

Natural Communities	Cumulative Permanent Impacts (% of cap)	Cumulative Reserve Enrollment (% complete)	Difference (%)
Rice	0%	19.3%	19.3%
Cultivated Lands (non-rice)	2.0%	14.4%	12.4%
Grassland	4.4%	19.2%	14.8%
Blue Oak Woodland	13.3%	145.6%	132.3%
Alkali Prairie	0.0%	109.0%	109.0%
Fresh Emergent Wetland	9.5%	50.8%	41.3%
Valley Foothill Riparian	1.8%	12.2%	10.4%
Lacustrine and Riverine	2.8%	10.5%	7.7%
Total Natural Communities	2.4%	16.5%	14.1%

Figure 5-1: Comparison of the percent of total acres of allowable permanent impacts incurred and the percent of total committed conservation acres enrolled by land cover type

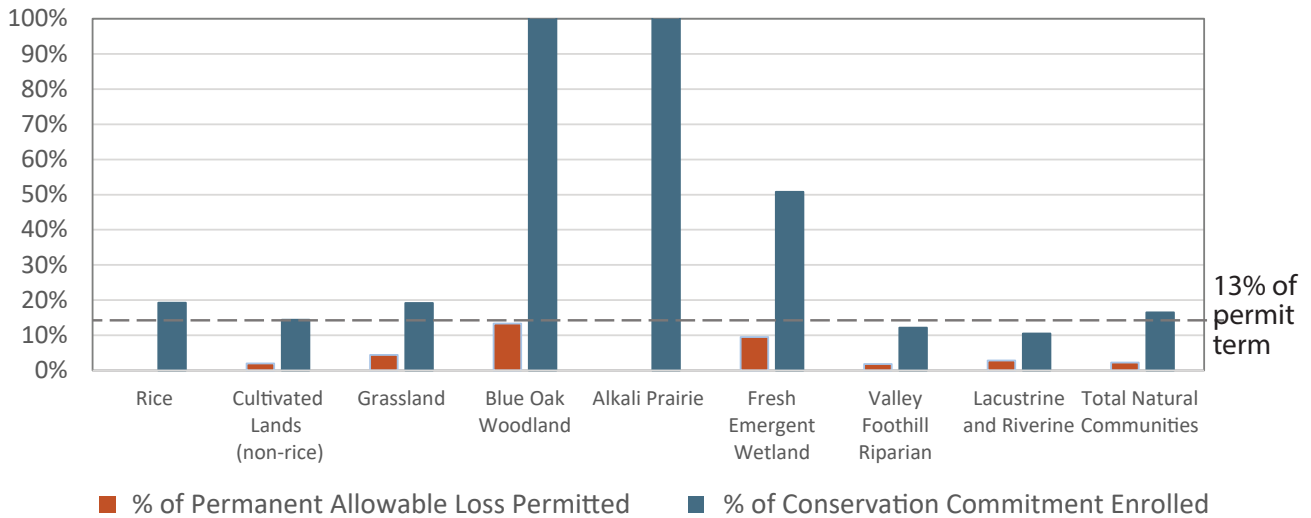
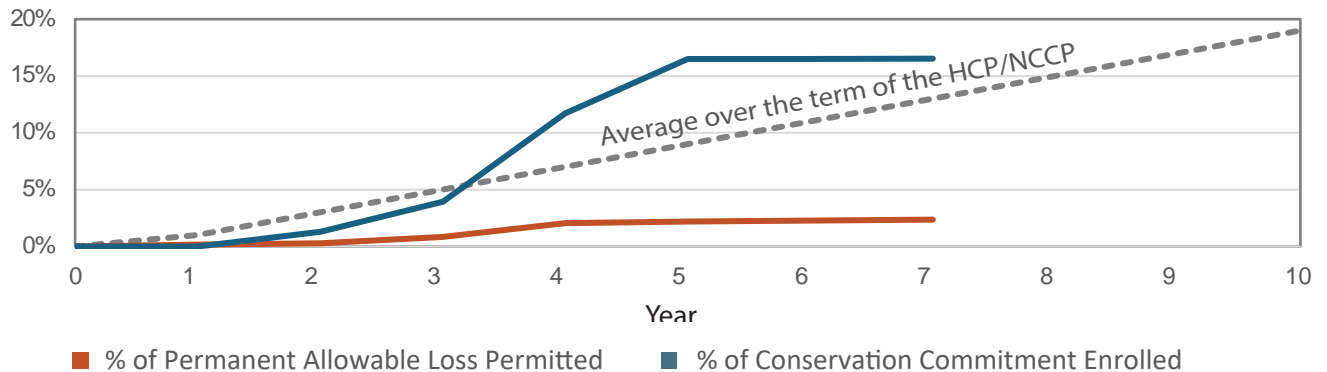


Figure 5-1: Percent of allowable permanent impacts incurred and conservation areas enrolled relative to the amounts allocated in the HCP/NCCP averaged over time



Unforeseen and Changed Circumstances Compliance

Unforeseen circumstances are events the Conservancy could not reasonably anticipate during development of the Yolo HCP/NCCP. If unforeseen circumstances arise during the life of the Yolo HCP/NCCP, wildlife agencies will not require the commitment of additional land or financial compensation or additional restrictions on the use of land, water, or other natural resources, other than those in the HCP/NCCP, unless the permittees authorize consent. Within these constraints, the wildlife agencies may require additional measures, but only if (1) they prove an unforeseen circumstance exists, (2) such measures are limited to modifications of the Yolo HCP/NCCP's operating conservation program for the affected species, (3) the original terms of the Yolo HCP/NCCP are maintained to the maximum extent practicable, and (4) the overall cost of implementing the Yolo HCP/NCCP is not increased by the modification. This section provides a description of actions implemented to respond to unforeseen circumstances.

Changed circumstances are changes in circumstances that affect a species or geographic area covered by an HCP that plan developers and wildlife agencies and can reasonably anticipate and for which they can plan. The Yolo HCP/NCCP identifies eight categories of changed circumstances and the triggers for when a changed circumstance occurs. This section provides a description of actions implemented to respond to changed circumstances.

Unforeseen Circumstances

An unforeseen circumstance **did not occur** in the reporting period.

Changed Circumstances

The eight categories of changed circumstances identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP and a summary of their status during the reporting period are provided below.

1. New species listings. In the event that USFWS or CDFW lists a species whose range includes any portion of the Plan Area and that species is not already covered by the Yolo HCP/NCCP, the provisions of this changed circumstance will be automatically triggered.

Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) received candidate listing status under the California Endangered Species Act on October 10, 2024. Burrowing owl is already a covered species under the Yolo HCP/NCCP so if this species receives official listing status in the future, it will not result in a changed circumstance.

Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), was proposed for listing as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) on December 12, 2024. Monarch butterfly is not

currently a covered species under the Yolo HCP/NCCP. If monarch butterfly becomes a listed species, the Conservancy will need to evaluate whether or not to amend the Yolo HCP/NCCP to include this species.

A changed circumstance due to new species listing **did not occur** in the reporting period.

2. Climate change. Under the Yolo HCP/NCCP, an increase in temperature of up to 2.5°C (4.5°F), measured as a 10-year running average for three baseline periods (i.e., average annual temperature, average summer temperature [June, July, and August], and average winter temperature [December, January, and February]) is considered a changed circumstance. Table 5-2 tracks the 10-year running average for three baseline periods.

A changed circumstance due to climate change **did not occur** in the reporting period.

Table 5-2: Average monthly temperatures recorded at the Sacramento International Airport (KSMF)

Year	Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jul	
	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°
2019	9	48.2	7.37	45.3	11.6	52.9	16.9	62.5	16.9	62.5	23.5	74.2	24.1	75.4
2020	8.7	47.6	11.3	52.3	11.7	53	16.1	60.9	20.4	68.7	23.4	74.1	24	75.3
2021	9.0	48.2	10.9	51.6	11.7	53.1	16.4	61.5	20.6	69.1	23.6	74.4	24.8	76.7
2022	7.9	46.2	9.9	49.8	13.6	56.5	15.5	59.8	19.8	67.6	24.6	76.3	24.9	76.9
2023	9.9	49.9	8.9	48.1	10.8	51.5	16.1	61.0	18.2	64.7	21.3	70.4	26.1	78.9
2024	10.9	51.8	11.4	52.6	13.1	55.6	16.0	60.8	20.4	68.7	24.9	76.9	28.0	82.4
2025	9.0	48.2	11.3	52.4	12.7	54.8	16.6	61.8	21.3	70.4	23.0	73.3	22.4	72.3

Year	Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec		Average Annual Temperature		Average Summer Temperature ^a		Average Winter Temperature ^b	
	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°	C°	F°
2019	21.5	70.7	16.1	61.1	13.2	55.7	9.39	48.9	16.2	61.2	24.1	75.4	8.32	47
2020	23.3	74	19.8	66.7	10.7	51.2	8.08	46.6	16.9	62.4	24.4	75.9	9.79	49.6
2021	22.7	72.9	16.5	61.7	11.7	53.0	7.5	45.6	17.9	61.5	24.4	75.6	8.1	48.8
2022	24.9	77.0	19.6	67.3	10.2	50.4	7.9	46.2	17.1	62.7	25.2	77.3	8.4	47.2
2023	21.8	71.3	18.6	65.4	13.1	55.5	10.6	51.1	16.8	62.2	24.4	76.0	8.9	48.1
2024	23.5	74.3	20.5	68.9	11.6	52.9	10.1	50.2	18.0	64.3	26.0	78.7	11.0	51.8
2025	22.87	73.17	16.52	61.73	12.42	54.36	8.33	46.99	16.17	62.2	23.36	74.0	10.18	50.3
10-yr. Running Averages									16.7	62.0	24.3	75.7	9.3	48.8
Baseline (average 2009-2018)									16.1	61.0	23.2	73.8	8.9	48.0
Change from 2019 Baseline									0.6	1.0	1.1	1.8	0.4	0.8

^a Summer months are June, July, and August.

^b Winter months are December, January, and February using the previous year's December value.

3. Wildfire. The Yolo HCP/NCCP anticipates up to four catastrophic fires (each more than 10,000 acres) within the study area over the course of the permit term. This level of fire occurrence would be considered a changed circumstance for the purposes of the Yolo HCP/NCCP. In the event of a wildfire, the Conservancy will assess the proportion of the protected habitat area that has burned and likely effects on habitat use by covered species. The Conservancy will make an initial determination of whether or not the fire constitutes a changed circumstance and notify the wildlife agencies of the fire event.

A changed circumstance due to wildfire **did not occur** in the reporting period.

4. Nonnative invasive species or disease. Under the Yolo HCP/NCCP, the following are considered changed circumstances:

Infestations of new diseases or new nonnative invasive species that affect up to 25 percent of the extent (i.e., acres) of a predominant natural community (i.e., valley foothill riparian) or occupied covered species habitat within the reserve system in any given year; and

Spread of nonnative species or diseases on up to 25 percent within the reserve system in any given year.

A changed circumstance due to nonnative invasive species or disease **did not occur** in the reporting period.

5. Flooding. Flood damage in protected natural communities and habitats caused by storms that are at or below a 100-year flood event on a given stream is a changed circumstance.

A changed circumstance due to flooding **did not occur** in the reporting period.

6. Drought. The Yolo HCP/NCCP will fund remedial actions for up to five droughts that occur during the permit term. Of the five droughts, only one is anticipated to be more than six years in duration.

A changed circumstance due to drought **did not occur** in the reporting period.

7. Earthquakes. The Yolo HCP/NCCP will fund remedial actions for damage to reserve system infrastructure, natural communities, and covered species from any earthquake of magnitude 7.1 or lower.

A changed circumstance due to earthquake **did not occur** in the reporting period.

8. Loss of Swainson’s hawk habitat and populations declining below the threshold.

Under the Yolo HCP/NCCP, the Conservancy committed to evaluating the Swainson’s hawk nesting population if the amount of Swainson’s hawk foraging habitat falls below 267,750 total acres or 24,560 high-value acres. The Conservancy committed to then meet and confer with the wildlife agencies to assess the need for further action if this evaluation determines that the nesting population has fallen below 240 breeding pairs.

Table 5-3 tracks Swainson’s hawk habitat data as specified in Section 7.7.1.2.8, Regional Loss of Swainson’s Hawk Habitat. This table indicates that the amount of high-value foraging habitat fell below the 24,560-acre threshold while the total acres of foraging habitat did not fall below the 267,750-acre threshold. The amount of high-value habitat and total habitat, has dropped significantly compared to the survey conducted in 2007 which was used as the basis of the changed circumstances strategy identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP (Estep, 2015). While the total foraging habitat acreage amount during FY24/25 was not below the identified threshold, it is still significantly less than the 327,083 acres of suitable foraging habitat identified in the 2007 survey. The decrease in high-value foraging habitat is largely due to a rapid expansion in the cultivation of orchards and vineyards.

In 2025, the Conservancy contracted Estep Environmental Consulting to conduct the 5-year Plan Area Swainson’s hawk nest survey to evaluate the current Swainson’s hawk nesting population within the Plan Area and determine whether that number has fallen below the 240-pair threshold. A total of 313 occupied nesting territories were identified during this survey effort. This amount of active nest sites is greater than both the nesting population threshold of 240 breeding pairs identified in the Yolo HCP/NCCP and the 290 occupied nesting territories observed by Estep during the 2007 survey, so no additional action is required at this time.

A changed circumstance due to the Swainson’s hawk population declining below the threshold **did not occur** in the reporting period.

Table 5-3: Swainson’s hawk suitable agricultural foraging habitat within Yolo County

Foraging Habitat	Evaluation Threshold (acres)	Reporting Period ^a
High Value Agricultural Foraging Habitat	24,584	16,079
Total Suitable Foraging Habitat	267,750	276,377

^a Reporting years for crop types are 1 year behind the Yolo HCP/NCCP reporting year due to the timing of when the County’s annual crop reports are released. Natural foraging habitat (i.e. non-agricultural) is the baseline acreage identified in the HCP/NCCP minus the amount authorized for loss under the HCP/NCCP.

6. Program Administration

- This chapter summarizes administrative changes, minor modifications and revisions, and formal amendments to the Yolo HCP/NCCP proposed or approved during the reporting period.

Administrative Changes

Administrative changes are actions taken on the basis of Yolo HCP/NCCP interpretations that do not substantively change the purpose or intent of the Yolo HCP/NCCP's provisions and do not require modification or amendment of the Yolo HCP/NCCP or its associated authorizations. During the reporting period the following administrative changes were made:

Annual Fee Adjustment

The Conservancy adjusted the HCP/NCCP fees on April 1, 2025, consistent with Yolo HCP/NCCP Section 8.4.1.6.1 Automatic Adjustment of Fees and the Ordinance Amending the Conservancy's Adopted Fee Ordinance to Authorize the Executive Director to Implement Annual Fee Adjustments (Ordinance No. 2019-02). The fee adjustments made in 2025 are listed below in Table 7-.

Minor Modifications

Minor modifications are changes to the Yolo HCP/NCCP document made in response to new information, changes in scientific understanding, technological advances, and other such circumstances. Minor modifications do not include changes that would adversely affect covered species, the level of take, or the obligations of Permittees. No minor modifications to the Yolo HCP/NCCP were made during the reporting period.

Amendments

Amendments are changes to the Yolo HCP/NCCP that are more significant than administrative actions or the minor modifications described above. Any proposed changes to the Yolo HCP/NCCP that do not qualify for treatment as administrative actions or minor modification require an amendment to the Yolo HCP/NCCP document and corresponding amendment to the permits, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations regarding permit amendments. No amendments to the Yolo HCP/NCCP were completed during the reporting period.

7. Finances

- This chapter summarizes funds collected by the Conservancy for Yolo HCP/NCCP implementation and the source of those funds (e.g., fees, grants), annual and cumulative expenditures by major cost category, and an explanation of deviations in expenditures from the annual budget. This chapter also includes other relevant information as appropriate for annual reporting purposes.

Financial Structure

The financial structure used to manage the finances of the Yolo HCP/NCCP has six separate funds:

- **Mitigation Fee Fund.** The Conservancy places revenue collected from mitigation fees in this fund and tracks expenditures of mitigation fees. The Conservancy places revenue from four types of mitigation fees in the Mitigation Fee Fund:
 - **Land Cover Fee**
 - **Fresh Emergent Wetlands Fee**
 - **Valley Foothill Riparian Fee**
 - **Lacustrine and Riverine Fee**
- **Grant Fund.** The Conservancy tracks all grant revenues and expenditures through this fund.
- **Other Revenue Fund.** The Conservancy places contribution to recovery fee revenue collected from Special Participating Entities, landowner contributions, and other non-mitigation fee revenue in this fund.
- **Mitigation Trust Account.** This fund contains mitigation fees collected under the Swainson's hawk foraging habitat mitigation program and pre-permit mitigation fees collected to mitigate for impacts to burrowing owl. The Swainson's hawk foraging habitat mitigation program was replaced by the Yolo HCP/NCCP as of January 11, 2019. The Conservancy used the last of the Swainson's hawk foraging habitat mitigation funds that had been collected prior to implementation of the Yolo HCP/NCCP towards the purchase of the Woodland Regional Park Preserve conservation easement at the end of FY22/23 and intends to use the burrowing owl mitigation funds for the acquisition of a conservation easement on lands that have occupied burrowing owl habitat in FY25/26.
- **Pre-permit Endowment Fund.** This fund contains endowment funds collected to monitor conservation easements established prior to the official start of Yolo HCP/NCCP implementation (January 11, 2019).
- **Post-permit Endowment Fund.** The Conservancy places 2.6% of all HCP/NCCP mitigation fees collected as well as all stewardship donations collected into this fund to save for management and monitoring of the reserve system after the end of the 50-year permit term. The Conservancy deposits

these funds into an account held by the County at the time they are received and subsequently transfers the funds to a long-term endowment fund held by the Sacramento Community Foundation on a semi-regular basis.

Annual Budget

The Conservancy adopted the annual budget for FY24/25 in May 2024. Table 7-1 below, provides the adopted budget summary along with actual revenue and expenditures accrued during FY24/25.

Table 7-1: Adopted budget, actual revenue, and actual expenditures for FY24/25

Description	Mitigation Fee Fund	Mitigation Account Fund	Grant Fund	Pre-Permit Endowment	Post Permit Endowment	Other Revenue Fund	Total
Beginning Balance	\$2,857,816	\$158,041	\$28,472	\$385,931	\$355,273	\$108,852	\$3,894,385
Revenue (Actual)^a	\$518,228	\$8,493	\$189	\$54,610	\$51,362	\$6,052	\$638,934
Revenue (Budgeted)	\$705,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$713,000
Expenditure (Actual)	(\$685,029)	\$0	\$0	(\$9,660)	(\$2,547)	\$0	(\$697,236)
Expenditure (Budgeted)	(\$1,884,962)	(\$155,611)	\$0	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0	(\$2,050,573)
Actual Revenue vs. Expenditure	(\$166,801)	\$8,493	\$189	\$44,950	\$48,815	\$6,052	(\$58,302)
Closing Balance	\$2,691,015	\$166,534	\$28,661	\$430,881	\$404,088	\$114,904	\$3,836,083
Revenue Budget to Actual	74%	-	-	-	642%	-	90%
Expenditure Budget to Actual	36%	0%	-	97%	-	-	34%

^a Includes accrued interest

Revenue Sources

The Conservancy’s revenue received in FY24/25 was primarily from mitigation fees, with a minor amount of revenue from accrued interest. Table 7-2 summarizes the mitigation fee fund revenue and expenditures for FY24/25.

Table 7-2: Mitigation Fee Fund revenue and expenditures for FY24/25

	Beginning Balance	Revenue	Interest	Expenditures	Closing Balance
Total Balance	2,857,816	361,888	156,340	(685,029)	\$2,691,015

Endowment Funding

The Conservancy sets aside 2.6% of every land cover fee and wetlands fee collected for the Post-Permit Endowment Fund. The Conservancy also collects stewardship donations per the Stewardship Donation Policy, originally adopted by the Conservancy Board on January 28, 2019 and amended by the Conservancy Board on May 17, 2021, and deposits those funds into the Post-Permit Endowment Fund account. The funds in this endowment account are intended for long-term reserve system management and monitoring after the end of the 50-year Yolo HCP/NCCP permit term.

Mitigation Fee Act Annual Reporting

The Conservancy provides regular reports on the budget, which include summaries of the acquisition and use of mitigation fee funds to the Conservancy’s Board of Directors during public meetings that comply with the Brown Act. This annual report also contains information necessary to meet the requirements of Government Code Section 66006 (b) (1) related to the Mitigation Fee Act as follows:

For each separate account or fund established pursuant to subdivision (a), the local agency shall, within 180 days after the last day of each fiscal year, make available to the public the following information for the fiscal year:

(A) A brief description of the type of fee in the account or fund.

The purpose of the Land Cover Fee is to mitigate for direct (project impact acreage) and indirect (project land cover fee buffer acreage) impacts on species covered by the Yolo HCP/NCCP. The Land Cover Fee revenues will be used to fund the acquisition of land that does or could provide habitat for covered species, the management and enhancement of such land and habitat, and the administrative actions necessary to accomplish these tasks, as more particularly set forth in the Yolo HCP/NCCP.

The purpose of the Wetlands Fee is to mitigate (in addition to the Land Cover Fee) for impacts to fresh emergent marsh, valley foothill riparian, and lacustrine and riverine land cover types. Revenue from the three Wetlands Fee types will be used to fund the restoration, creation and management of fresh emergent wetland, valley foothill riparian, and lacustrine and riverine lands and the administrative actions necessary to perform these tasks, as more particularly set forth in the Yolo HCP/NCCP.

(B) The amount of the fee.

The Yolo HCP/NCCP fees are updated annually on or about March 15. During FY24/25 the Yolo HCP/NCCP per acre fees were updated on April 1, 2025. The Yolo HCP/NCCP per acre fees, as of the April 2025 update, are shown in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3: Yolo HCP/NCCP fees at the end of FY24/25

Fee Type	Fee Amount (per acre)
Land Cover Fee	\$16,672
Wetlands Fee	
Fresh Emergent Wetland	\$93,648
Valley Foothill Riparian	\$98,448
Lacustrine and Riverine	\$75,107

(C) The beginning and ending balance of the account or fund.

See Table 7-2.

(D) The amount of the fees collected and the interest earned.

See Table 7-2.

(E) An identification of each public improvement on which fees were expended and the amount of the expenditures on each improvement, including the total percentage of the cost of the public improvement that was funded with fees.

None reportable within this period.

(F) An identification of an approximate date by which the construction of the public improvement will commence if the local agency determines that sufficient funds have been collected to complete financing on an incomplete public improvement, as identified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 66001, and the public improvement remains incomplete.

None reportable within this period.

(G) A description of each interfund transfer or loan made from the account or fund, including the public improvement on which the transferred or loaned fees will be expended, and, in the case of an interfund loan, the date on which the loan will be repaid, and the rate of interest that the account or fund will receive on the loan.

None reportable within this period.

(H) The amount of refunds made pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 66001 and any allocations pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 66001.

None reportable within this period.



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