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Appendix C  
Updates to 2016 Conservation  
Strategy Appendix J,  
“Existing Conservation Objectives from  
Other Plans”

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## APPENDIX C

# Updates to 2016 Conservation Strategy Appendix J, “Existing Conservation Objectives from Other Plans”

Acronym	Acronym
BRCP	Butte Regional Conservation Plan
CCP	comprehensive conservation plan
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Strategy (or Strategy)	Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy
CVFPP	Central Valley Flood Protection Plan
Delta	Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
Flood-MAR	flood-managed aquifer recharge
HCP	habitat conservation plan
LCP	local conservation plan
NCCP	natural community conservation plan
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
Portfolio	Water Resilience Portfolio
RCIS	conservation investment strategy and
State Water Board	State Water Resources Control Board
Strategy (or Conservation Strategy)	Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WMA	Wildlife Management Area



## Introduction

Regional planning efforts such as the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) Conservation Strategy (Conservation Strategy or Strategy) are most effective when coordinated with other regional conservation plans and programs. For example, the knowledge gained by implementing existing plans has refined the Conservation Strategy’s objectives and approaches. Coordination with other planning efforts during the Strategy’s implementation will provide greater opportunities for effective, integrated, landscape-level conservation.

A collaborative approach will enable the Conservation Strategy to contribute to the shared objectives of other regional conservation plans and programs (e.g., improving habitat connectivity) while achieving its own specific objectives.

The 2016 Strategy, Appendix J, “Existing Conservation Objectives from Other Plans,” described the completed and ongoing conservation planning efforts in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys that had regional, geographically based, or quantifiable conservation measures that could be relevant to the Strategy. The completed regional conservation planning efforts included several habitat conservation plans (HCPs) and natural community conservation plans (NCCPs) (e.g., Natomas Basin HCP, East Contra Costa County HCP and NCCP); large-scale conservation programs (e.g., the Ecosystem Restoration Program’s Conservation Strategy for Restoration of the Sacramento–San Joaquin Valley Regions); and refuge comprehensive conservation plans (CCPs) (e.g., Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge CCP).

When the 2016 Conservation Strategy was prepared, the ongoing conservation planning efforts included the Butte Regional Conservation Plan, California EcoRestore, Placer County Conservation Plan, South Sacramento HCP, and Yolo HCP and NCCP. This appendix provides the following information:

- Proposed modifications to the conservation plans described in Appendix J of the 2016 Strategy.
- New planning efforts undertaken since the 2016 Strategy’s completion.
- An updated summary of the relationships of geographically overlapping conservation plans to the Strategy’s target ecosystem processes, habitats, and species.



## Modifications to Relevant Conservation Plans

### California EcoRestore

The EcoRestore Program is tracking 30 projects that are at various stages of development, from conceptual to completed. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is the lead agency for 28 of the 30 EcoRestore projects, including five that launched in 2018 (California Natural Resources Agency 2020a). The following progress has been made to date:

- *Fish passage improvement projects*: Three completed and two being planned or permitted.
- *Upland and riparian forest restoration*: 559 acres completed, 368 acres under construction, and 727 acres being planned or permitted.
- *Floodplain restoration*: 115 acres completed; 1,050 acres under construction; and 17,320 acres being planned or permitted.
- *Tidal and subtidal restoration*: 4,212 acres completed; 2,290 acres under construction; and 7,479 acres being planned or permitted.
- *Emergent (managed) wetland restoration*: 1,542 acres completed; 643 acres under construction; and 1,350 acres being planned or permitted.

To develop a comprehensive, science-based adaptive management approach that would support the achievement of the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta (Delta) conservation goals, the Delta Science Program initiated the Interagency Adaptive Management Integration Team in 2016 (California Natural Resources Agency 2020b). This team serves as a technical coordinating body to strengthen interagency collaboration; it also provides resources, input, and guidance on adaptive management for current and future Delta conservation efforts. The team consists of scientific and technical staff members from federal, state, and local agencies, other interagency programs and workgroups, universities, and nongovernmental organizations, who plan, facilitate, implement, fund, or regulate habitat restoration projects in the Delta and Suisun Marsh.

### California WaterPlan

The California Water Plan was updated in June 2019 (California Department of Water Resources 2019), and is currently undergoing further updates along with the CVFPP. The following goals of the updated plan are relevant to the Conservation Strategy:

- Improve integrated watershed management.
- Restore critical ecosystem functions.
- Improve interagency alignment and address persistent regulatory challenges.
- Support real-time decision-making, adaptive management, and long-term planning.



## San Joaquin River Restoration Program—Fisheries Framework

As part of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program, the Fisheries Framework was completed in 2018 (San Joaquin River Restoration Program 2018). This document provides the following information:

- An outline of the goals and objectives for establishing populations of spring-run and fall-run Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) in the Restoration Area.
- The necessary habitat that will support naturally reproducing, self-sustaining salmon populations.
- The science behind these planned management actions.
- An outline of the proposed adaptive management process and implementation plan for fishery actions.

## Central Valley Project—State Water Project Operations Plan and Associated Biological Opinions

In August 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and DWR began to develop a new operations plan and undertake a review of that plan's effects on numerous species listed for protection under the federal Endangered Species Act, particularly delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*), and salmon and steelhead species (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). In October 2019, after conducting robust scientific reviews, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) released biological opinions on the new Central Valley Project—State Water Project operations (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2019a; National Marine Fisheries Service 2019). These opinions found the revised proposed operations would not jeopardize threatened or endangered species, or adversely modify their critical habitat. These findings were reached in large part as a result of significant investments in science, habitat restoration, conservation facilities (including hatcheries), and protective measures built into the operations plan (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service 2019).

## Central Valley Project Improvement Act Programs

Enacted in response to substantial declines in populations of anadromous fish, the Central Valley Project Improvement Act provided for all reasonable efforts to double the sustainable natural production of anadromous fish stocks including the four runs of Chinook salmon (fall, late fall, winter, and spring), steelhead trout, and green sturgeon, among others. From 2017 through 2019, under the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program completed fisheries investigations on several waterways and facilities in the Strategy's Plan Area (Anadromous Fish Restoration Program 2018a, 2018b, 2019).



## Central Valley Joint Venture

The Central Valley Joint Venture is one of 21 habitat-based Migratory Bird Joint Ventures in North America, all of which work to protect and restore bird habitat. The Central Valley Joint Venture is currently administered through a coordination office within the USFWS. It is guided by a management board that receives input and recommendations from four standing committees and a variety of working groups and ad hoc committees. Its management board is composed of representatives from 19 partner organizations, including nongovernmental organizations, state and federal agencies, and one regulated utility. The board members work cooperatively to address the habitat needs of migratory and resident bird species in California’s Central Valley. Originally focused exclusively on waterfowl, the Central Valley Joint Venture’s mission has expanded over time to also encompass the conservation needs of shorebirds, waterbirds, landbirds, and at-risk bird species.

The Central Valley Joint Venture released an updated implementation plan in 2020 (Central Valley Joint Venture 2020). The implementation plan builds on previous plans (Central Valley Joint Venture 1990, 2006) and identifies biologically-based conservation objectives for the eight bird groups, which include five target species: greater sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis tabida*), California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*), least Bell’s vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), and bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*). One non-target species is also included: western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*).

## Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Butte Sink, Willow Creek–Lurline, and North Central Valley Wildlife Management Areas

The Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Butte Sink, Willow Creek–Lurline, and North Central Valley Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) guides management of these units (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2020). USFWS manages the WMAs as part of the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, which is headquartered in the Sacramento Valley, approximately 90 miles north of the city of Sacramento. The WMAs consist primarily of private lands protected by perpetual conservation easements, and also include some USFWS-owned lands.

## Butte Regional Conservation Plan

The final Butte Regional Conservation Plan (BRCP) was submitted to USFWS, NMFS, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife on June 28, 2019, for final inspection (Butte County Association of Governments 2019), and has not yet been adopted by Butte County and the other plan partners. The BRCP covers 13 of the Conservation Strategy’s target species: valley elderberry longhorn beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), Central Valley steelhead, spring-run and fall-run Chinook salmon, green sturgeon, giant gartersnake (*Thamnophis gigas*), bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*), California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*), greater sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis tabida*), Swainson’s hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*), western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), and yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*). The BRCP also covers two non-target species considered for inclusion in the Strategy: western burrowing owl, and western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*).



## Placer County Conservation Program

The updated Placer County Conservation Program was released in February 2020, and the associated final environmental impact statement and environmental impact report was released in May 2020 (Placer County 2020a). The program was adopted by Placer County in September 2020, and the other plan partners (City of Lincoln, Placer County Water Agency, South Placer Transportation Agency) are also expected to adopt the plan (Placer County 2020b). This program covers seven of the Conservation Strategy's target species: valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Central Valley steelhead, Central Valley fall- and late fall-run Chinook salmon, giant gartersnake, California black rail, Swainson's hawk, and tricolored blackbird. The Placer County Conservation Program also covers two non-target species: western burrowing owl and western pond turtle.

## South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan

The South Sacramento HCP was adopted by the participating agencies in 2018 (County of Sacramento et al. 2018). This document covers five of the Strategy's target species: valley elderberry longhorn beetle, giant gartersnake, greater sandhill crane, Swainson's hawk, and tricolored blackbird. The South Sacramento HCP also covers three non-target species: western burrowing owl, western pond turtle, and western red bat (*Lasiurus blossevillii*).

## Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan

The Yolo HCP and NCCP (ICF International 2018a) was adopted in 2018, and its implementation began on January 11, 2019 (Yolo Habitat Conservancy 2020). USFWS issued a biological and conference opinion and Section 10(a)(1)(B) permit on August 2, 2018 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2018). This document covers seven of the Strategy's target species: valley elderberry longhorn beetle, giant gartersnake, bank swallow, least Bell's vireo, Swainson's hawk, tricolored blackbird, and western yellow-billed cuckoo. It also covers two non-target species: western burrowing owl and western pond turtle.

## State and Regional Water Board Plans

Several state and regional water board plans have been updated since the 2016 Conservation Strategy, or are currently being updated. The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins* was updated in May 2018 (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board 2018). The Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy was updated and adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) in 2019 and became effective in May 2020 (State Water Resources Control Board 2019). Finally, the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta Estuary was amended in 2019 (State Water Resources Control Board 2018) and other amendments are being considered (State Water Resources Control Board 2020).





## Recovery Plan for the Giant Gartersnake

The recovery plan for the giant gartersnake was released in 2017 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2017). This plan focuses on identifying and protecting areas for habitat restoration, enhancement, or creation, including connectivity between populations. Nine recovery units are defined, corresponding with geographically and genetically distinct populations: the Butte Basin, Colusa Basin, Sutter Basin, American Basin, Yolo Basin, Delta Basin, Cosumnes-Mokelumne Basin, San Joaquin Basin, and Tulare Basin. The recovery plan includes the following objectives and criteria for achieving the objectives:

- Establish and protect self-sustaining populations.
- Restore and conserve healthy Central Valley wetland ecosystems.
- Ameliorate or eliminate current and future threats.

## Revised Recovery Plan for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle

A revised recovery plan for valley elderberry longhorn beetle was released in 2019 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2019b). The plan focuses on loss and degradation of habitat and defines three management units: Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, and Putah Creek. There are two recovery objectives: preserve resilient populations across the historical range by maintaining occupancy in at least 80 percent of major river system subbasins; and protect and manage a system of connected habitat patches along each river or major drainage within subbasins.

## New Relevant Conservation Plans

### California Biodiversity Initiative

In 2017, a group of 26 scientific experts from across the state’s universities, herbaria, and conservation organizations created the “Charter to Secure the Future of California’s Native Biodiversity,” a call to action to secure and recover the abundance and richness of native plants and animals in California, under current and changing climate conditions. Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. responded in 2018 by launching the California Biodiversity Initiative (California Natural Resources Agency et al. 2018). The goal of the California Biodiversity Initiative is to secure the future of California’s biodiversity by integrating biodiversity protection into the state’s environmental and economic goals and efforts. The following broad goals are identified as a starting point:

- Protect 20 percent of each terrestrial, freshwater, coastal, and marine ecosystem type.
- Recover and restore 15 percent of each ecosystem type from its degraded or disturbed status.

Future actions are grouped into seven focal areas:

1. Help the government coordinate on biodiversity goals.
2. Improve the understanding of California’s biodiversity.
3. Improve the understanding and protection of the state’s native plants.



4. Manage land and waters to achieve biodiversity goals.
5. Restore and protect lands and waters to achieve biodiversity goals.
6. Educate Californians about biodiversity.
7. Prioritize collaboration and partnership.

## Water Resilience Portfolio

Replacing the California Water Action Plan that guided the 2016 Conservation Strategy and 2017 CVFPP Update, Executive Order N-10-19, issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on April 29, 2019, called for a portfolio of actions to ensure the state’s long-term water resilience and ecosystem health. In response, state agencies have released a Water Resilience Portfolio (Portfolio) with a suite of recommended actions to help California cope with more extreme droughts and floods, rising temperatures, declining fish populations, aging infrastructure, and other challenges (California Natural Resources Agency et al. 2020). The executive order identified seven principles on which to base the Portfolio. Of those, the following principles are most relevant to the Conservation Strategy:

- Prioritize multi-benefit approaches that meet several needs at once.
- Use natural infrastructure such as forests and floodplains.

The Portfolio provided proposals that detail how state agencies can support the principles. Several of these are consistent with the Conservation Strategy:

- *“10. Reconnect aquatic habitat to help fish and wildlife endure drought and adapt to climate change.*
- *11.3. Support expansion of multi-benefit floodplain projects across the Central Valley and coastal regions, including projects that reduce flood risk and restore or mimic historical river and floodplain processes, such as the Yolo Bypass and Cache Slough Partnership program.*
- *12. Curb invasive species altering California waterways.*
- *13. Align and improve permitting to help launch and incentivize more restoration, multibenefit, and multi-partner projects.*
- *13.1. Coordinate grant and loan programs across state agencies to make funding for multibenefit projects, including restoration, easier to arrange and leverage.*
- *13.2. Support the development of expedited and cost-effective permitting mechanisms for common types of restoration and enhancement projects.*
- *13.3. Expand use of the Regional Conservation Investment Strategies approach established in 2017 under Assembly Bill (AB) 2087 to guide mitigation needs for water-related projects.*



- *13.4. Incorporate strategically designed conservation planning and other resource protection and recovery plans into mitigation approaches for levee modifications, operations, and maintenance.*
- *25.1. Support implementation of the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and its “state systemwide investment approach” to protect urban areas, small communities, and rural areas; improve operations and maintenance of the flood system; better coordinate reservoir operations; improve the flood emergency response system; and integrate natural systems into flood risk reduction projects.*
- *25.2. Review state, federal, and local permitting processes for flood risk reduction projects and operations and maintenance and recommend ways to improve permitting processes.*
- *25.4. Update and refine the regional flood management strategy in the CVFPP to account for the projected impacts of climate change in order to protect vulnerable communities and infrastructure and restore floodplains along the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.”*

### Cutting the Green Tape Initiative

The California Natural Resources Agency developed the Cutting the Green Tape Initiative to help implement environmentally beneficial work more quickly, simply, and cost-effectively. Between December 2019 and April 2020, this initiative convened regulatory agency staff members, representatives from local governments and environmental conservation groups, and a range of other stakeholders and experts from across California to improve permitting and funding efficiencies for ecological restoration and stewardship projects. These roundtables developed specific recommendations to improve on existing programs and program delivery in 2020 and beyond, and the report *Cutting the Green Tape: Regulatory Efficiencies for a Resilient Environment* was released in November 2020 (California Landscape Stewardship Network 2020).

### Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy

Under a comprehensive strategy, federal and state agencies are working to rapidly improve conditions for the endangered delta smelt, which is close to extinction (California Natural Resources Agency 2016). The strategy represents a management shift for federal and state water and wildlife agencies, which are addressing multiple stressors on delta smelt in a systematic way while studying the synergy of the actions. In total, 13 near- and mid-range actions are aimed at creating better habitat, more food, and higher turbidity, along with reduced levels of weeds, predators, and harmful algal blooms to help reduce the mortality of delta smelt and boost the rate at which the fish grow, reproduce, and survive.

### Feather River Conceptual Plan

The Feather River Conceptual Plan identifies immediate, high-priority projects that DWR and the community may undertake cooperatively while DWR completes necessary facility repairs and improvements, and completes measures that may become part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s license related to the 2017 Oroville Dam spillways emergency event



(Supplemental Benefits Fund Steering Committee 2018). The following recommended projects are relevant to the Conservation Strategy.

- In Reach 3:
  - Develop in-channel morphologic features (artificial bedrock, natural boulders, and augmented wood and sediment) to improve instream habitat, increase gravel retention in riffles, and create whitewater kayak play features.
  - Improve spawning and rearing habitat with the targeted (riffle construction) and also significant (bulk) augmentation of sediment (spawning-sized, and other) to recover from the deficit caused by upstream dams and exacerbated by recent high-flow events.
  - Coordinate the design of habitat and recreation features with development of the gravel augmentation plan, the gravel budget, and the construction and maintenance of side channels.
- In Reaches 3, 4, and 5, develop floodplain and side-channel habitat on the right bank.

### Flood-managed Aquifer Recharge

Flood-managed aquifer recharge, or Flood-MAR, is an integrated and voluntary resource management strategy that uses floodwater resulting from—or in anticipation of—rainfall or snowmelt for managed aquifer recharge on agricultural lands and working landscapes, such as refuges, floodplains, and flood bypasses (California Department of Water Resources 2020).

Flood-MAR can be implemented at multiple scales, from individual landowners using existing infrastructure to divert floodwater, to the use of extensive detention and recharge areas and the modernization of flood management infrastructure and operations. Flood-MAR could overlap with multi-benefit flood projects, such as building setback levees where soils are suitable and flows during wet years could be stored. For example, the Merced River Flood-MAR Reconnaissance Study is studying the use of flood waters for managed aquifer recharge that can reduce flood risk, increase supply reliability, support groundwater sustainability, and enhance ecosystems in the Merced River Basin. Multiple floodplain and riparian species, including Conservation Strategy target species, could benefit by reconnecting floodplains and creating new transitory storage.

### Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy

Through the Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy (California Natural Resources Agency 2017), state agencies have committed to a suite of actions to improve survival rates, including restoring habitat, improving streamflow, removing stream barriers, and reintroducing species to ideal habitat for California’s native salmon and steelhead species.



## Voluntary Agreements

State agencies have developed a framework for voluntary agreements outlining a multi-year program to improve environmental conditions in an adaptive way, through new flows dedicated to the environment and the most extensive habitat creation in California history (California Natural Resources Agency 2020c). Building on years of work, the team has developed a science-driven framework that holds the promise to improve environmental conditions and meet the State Water Board’s legal requirement to provide for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses. The framework provides for up to 900,000 acre-feet of new flows for the environment above existing conditions in dry, below-normal, and above-normal water-year types, and over 100,000 acre-feet in critical and wet years, to help recover fish populations. It also provides for thousands of acres of new habitat, from targeted improvements in tributaries to large landscape-level restoration in the Sacramento Valley. Habitat improvements include the following actions:

- The creation of spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and smelt.
- The completion of high-priority fish screen projects.
- The restoration and reactivation of floodplains.
- The initiation of projects to address predation.
- Improvements to fish passages.

The framework outlines several billion dollars in investments funded by water users and the federal and state governments to improve environmental conditions and science and adaptive management. It also establishes a governance program to strategically deploy flows and habitat, implement a science program, and develop strategic plans and annual reports. The California Natural Resources Agency and California Environmental Protection Agency are working with water users and other participants to refine the proposed framework into a legally enforceable program. The refined document will then be submitted to the State Water Board, where it will undergo a third-party scientific review, an environmental review, and a public comment process.

## Yolo Regional Conservation Investment Strategy and Local Conservation Plan

A draft regional conservation investment strategy (RCIS) and local conservation plan (LCP) for Yolo County was released in 2018 (ICF International 2018b), and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) approved the final document was in 2020 (ICF International 2020a). The Yolo RCIS/LCP is a regional conservation planning effort to provide mitigation and stewardship-driven conservation in Yolo County. It describes the existing condition for the amount, location, and type of natural communities and focal species habitat in the document’s strategy area.

The Yolo RCIS/LCP recommends conservation actions for focal species and land cover types to direct project planning and conservation efforts. There are 40 focal species and 97 conservation species. The list of focal species includes 16 of the 2022 Conservation Strategy’s target species: valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Central Valley steelhead, Central Valley spring-run and



fall-run Chinook salmon, Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon, delta smelt, green sturgeon, giant gartersnake, bank swallow, California black rail, greater sandhill crane, least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), Swainson's hawk, tricolored blackbird, western yellow-billed cuckoo, and yellow-breasted chat. Six non-target species are identified as either focal or conservation species: western burrowing owl, western pond turtle, western red bat, least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), redhead (*Aythya americana*), and yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechial*).

### Mid-Sacramento Valley Regional Conservation Investment Strategy

A public draft RCIS for the Mid-Sacramento Valley was released in 2019 (ICF International 2019), and CDFW approved the final document in 2020 (ICF International 2020b). The Mid-Sacramento RCIS is based primarily on the Mid- and Upper Sacramento Regional Flood Management Plan and the Feather River Regional Flood Management Plan. Those documents provide regional frameworks for integrating conservation into the flood management system and its operations. This RCIS identifies conservation and habitat enhancement actions that can be used to provide compensatory mitigation for flood management and other infrastructure projects in the regions.

The Mid-Sacramento RCIS identifies 12 focal species, 11 of which overlap the 2022 Conservation Strategy's target species: valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Central Valley steelhead, Central Valley spring-run and fall-run Chinook salmon, Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon, green sturgeon, giant gartersnake, bank swallow, Swainson's hawk, tricolored blackbird, and western yellow-billed cuckoo. The RCIS also identifies one non-target species: western pond turtle.

### Recovery Plan for the Southern Distinct Population Segment of North American Green Sturgeon

The recovery plan for green sturgeon was released in 2018 (National Marine Fisheries Service 2018). This plan presents 20 recovery actions aiming to restore passage and habitat; reduce mortality from fisheries, entrainment, and poaching; and address threats from contaminants, climate change, predation, sediment loading, and oil and chemical spills. The recovery plan identifies 17 priority recovery actions and three secondary priority actions, as well as 16 research priorities. It also proposes monitoring and education and outreach programs.

### Executive Order N-82-20 ("30 by 30")

On October 7, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N-82-20, which calls for the conservation of 30 percent of land and coastal waters by 2030 to combat climate change and protect biodiversity. The order enlists California's natural and working lands—forests, rangelands, farms, wetlands, coast, deserts and urban greenspaces—to act as carbon storage.



It directs state agencies to implement innovative strategies to remove carbon from the atmosphere through actions such as:

- Healthy soils management, including planting cover crops, hedgerows and compost applications.
- Wetlands restoration to protect coastal areas.
- Active forest management to reduce catastrophic risk and restore forest health.
- Green infrastructure boost (like trees and parks) in urban areas.

The executive order also directs the California Natural Resources Agency to form a California Biodiversity Collaborative to bring together experts, leaders, and communities to both pursue a unified approach to protecting biodiversity and develop strategies to support the 30 by 30 goal. A coalition of state agencies is also ordered to develop a Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy within one year of the signing of the executive order, which will serve as a framework to advance the state's carbon neutrality goal and builds climate resilience.

## Summary of the Relationship of Other Conservation Plans to Conservation Strategy Targets

As described here and in Appendix J of the 2016 Conservation Strategy, multiple conservation plans overlap the Strategy, and many of the plans have addressed the Strategy’s targets. Tables C-1 and C-2 summarize the relationships of these plans to the Strategy’s target habitats and target species, respectively. The tables include the plans described in Appendix J of the 2016 Conservation Strategy, as well as the new plans described in this appendix.



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Table C-1. Relationship of Conservation Objectives of Other Plans to Conservation Strategy Target Habitats

Plan Type	Plan Name	Target Habitat Riparian or Shaded Riverine Aquatic	Target Habitat Wetland	Target Habitat Seasonal Floodplain	Target Habitat Riverine Aquatic	Geographic Overlap Systemwide Planning Area
Plans with Quantified Conservation Measures	Butte Regional Conservation Plan Butte Sink, Willow	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable
	Creek–Lurline, and North Central Valley WMA CCP	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable
	California EcoRestore	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant
	California Water Action Plan	None	Significant	None	Significant	Significant
	California Water Plan	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant
	Central Valley Joint Venture	Significant	Significant	None	None	Significant
	Central Valley Project Improvement Act Programs	Significant	None	Probable	Significant	Significant
	Central Valley Project–State Water Project OCAP and Associated BOs	Probable	None	Probable	Significant	Significant
	Cosumnes River Preserve Management Plan	Probable	Probable	Significant	Probable	Probable
	Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy	None	Significant	None	Significant	Significant
	DWR’s Oroville FERC license	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant	Probable
	East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable
	Ecosystem Restoration Program	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Executive Order N-82-20 (“30 by 30”)	Probable	Significant	Probable	Significant	Probable
	Natomas Basin HCP	None	Probable	None	None	Significant
	PG&E O&M HCP	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant
	Placer County Conservation Plan	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable
	Recovery Plan for Sacramento River Winter-Run Chinook Salmon and Central Valley Spring-Run Chinook Salmon ESUs and Central Valley Steelhead DPS	Significant	None	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Recovery Plan for the Southern DPS of North American Green Sturgeon	None	None	None	Significant	Significant
	Sacramento, Delevan, Colusa, and Sutter NWR CCP/EA	Probable	Probable	Significant	Probable	Probable
	Sacramento River NWR CCP	Significant	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable
	Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy	Significant	None	Significant	Significant	Significant
	San Joaquin County Multi-Species HCP and Open Space Plan	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable
	San Joaquin River Restoration Program– Fisheries Framework	Probable	None	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Solano Multi-Species HCP	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable
	South Sacramento HCP	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable
	Voluntary Agreements	None	None	Significant	Significant	Significant
Yuba-Sutter Regional Conservation Plan	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable	
Yolo HCP/NCCP	Significant	Significant	None	None	Probable	



Plan Type	Plan Name	Target Habitat Riparian or Shaded Riverine Aquatic	Target Habitat Wetland	Target Habitat Seasonal Floodplain	Target Habitat Riverine Aquatic	Geographic Overlap Systemwide Planning Area
Plans without Quantified Conservation Measures	Bank Swallow Conservation Strategy for California	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant
	Bank Swallow Recovery Plan	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant
	California Biodiversity Initiative	None	Probable	None	Probable	Probable
	California Red-Legged Frog Recovery Plan	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable
	CMP for the Sacramento River Wildlife Area	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Cutting the Green Tape Initiative	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Mid-Sacramento Valley RCIS/LCP	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Draft Recovery Plan for the Least Bell's Vireo	Significant	None	None	None	Probable
	Yolo RCIS/LCP	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Feather River Conceptual Plan	None	None	Significant	None	Probable
	Flood-MAR	Significant	Significant	Significant	Probable	Probable
	Recovery Plan for Upland Species of the San Joaquin Valley, California	Probable	None	None	None	Probable
	Revised Draft Recovery Plan for the Giant Gartersnake	None	Significant	None	None	Significant
	Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum	Significant	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant
	State Water Resources Control Board Plans	None	None	None	Probable	Probable
	The Nature Conservancy Sacramento River Project	Significant	Probable	Probable	Significant	Significant
	VELB Recovery Plan	Significant	None	None	None	Significant
	Water Resilience Portfolio	None	Probable	Significant	Probable	Significant
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area LMP	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Probable	

Source: California Department of Water Resources 2016, updated with data compiled by H. T. Harvey & Associates in 2020

Notes:

Magnitude of relationship between the CVFPP and other conservation plan or program specified as follows:

None = No relationship exists.

Probable = A probable or potential relationship exists. The Conservation Strategy is not likely to significantly contribute to the other conservation plan's conservation objectives, or the conservation target is a secondary focus of the conservation plan. For geographic overlap, there is a minor spatial overlap between the conservation plan area and one of the CVFPP planning boundaries.

Significant = A significant relationship exists. The Conservation Strategy could significantly contribute to the other conservation plan's conservation objectives. For geographic overlap, there is a large spatial overlap between the conservation plan and one of the CVFPP planning boundaries.

BO = Biological Opinion  
 CCP = Comprehensive Conservation Plan  
 CMP = Comprehensive Management Plan  
 CVFPP = Central Valley Flood Protection Plan  
 DPS = Distinct Population Segment  
 DWR = California Department of Water Resources  
 EA = Environmental Assessment  
 ESU = Evolutionarily Significant Unit  
 FERC = Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

HCP = Habitat Conservation Plan  
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 NWR = National Wildlife Refuge  
 OCAP = operations criteria and plan  
 O&M = operations and maintenance  
 PG&E = Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
 VELB = valley elderberry longhorn beetle



Table C-2. Relationship of Conservation Objectives of Other Plans to Conservation Strategy Target Species

Plan Type	Plan Name	Target Species Delta Button-Celery	Target Species Slough Thistle	Target Species Salmonids	Target Species Green Sturgeon	Target Species Delta Smelt	Target Species Giant Garter-snake	Target Species VELB	Target Species Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	Target Species Bank Swallow	Target Species Swainson's Hawk	Target Species Least Bell's Vireo	Target Species Greater Sandhill Crane	Target Species California Black Rail	Target Species Tricolored Blackbird	Target Species Yellow-Breasted Chat	Target Species Riparian Brush Rabbit	Target Species Riparian Woodrat	Geographic Overlap Systemwide Planning Area		
Plans with Quantified Conservation Measures	Butte Regional Conservation Plan	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable		
	Butte Sink, Willow Creek–Lurline, and North Central Valley WMA CCP	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	Probable		
	California EcoRestore	Significant	Probable	Significant	Probable	Probable	Significant	Probable	Significant	Probable	Significant	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Significant		
	California Water Action Plan	None	None	Significant	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Significant		
	California Water Plan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant		
	Central Valley Joint Venture	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	None	None	Significant	
	Central Valley Project Improvement Act Programs	None	None	Significant	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	Significant	
	Central Valley Project–State Water Project OCAP and Associated BOs	None	None	Significant	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	
	Cosumnes River Preserve Management Plan	None	None	Significant	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	
	Delta Smelt Resiliency Strategy	None	None	Probable	Probable	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	
	DWR’s Oroville FERC license	None	None	Significant	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	
	East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	
	Ecosystem Restoration Program	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	None	Significant	Significant	Significant
	Natomas Basin HCP	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	Significant	
	PG&E O&M HCP	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	Significant	
Placer County Conservation Plan	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	Probable		



Plan Type	Plan Name	Target Species Delta Button-Celery	Target Species Slough Thistle	Target Species Salmonids	Target Species Green Sturgeon	Target Species Delta Smelt	Target Species Giant Garter-snake	Target Species VELB	Target Species Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	Target Species Bank Swallow	Target Species Swainson's Hawk	Target Species Least Bell's Vireo	Target Species Greater Sandhill Crane	Target Species California Black Rail	Target Species Tricolored Blackbird	Target Species Yellow-Breasted Chat	Target Species Riparian Brush Rabbit	Target Species Riparian Woodrat	Geographic Overlap Systemwide Planning Area			
Plans with Quantified Conservation Measures	Recovery Plan for Sacramento River Winter-Run Chinook Salmon and Central Valley Spring-Run Chinook Salmon ESUs and Central Valley Steelhead DPS	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant		
	Recovery Plan for the Southern DPS of North American Green Sturgeon	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	
	Sacramento, Delevan, Colusa, and Sutter NWR CCP/EA	None	None	Probable	None	None	Probable	None	Probable	None	Probable	None	Probable	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	
	Sacramento River NWR CCP	None	None	Probable	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	Probable	
	Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy	None	None	Significant	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	
	San Joaquin County Multi-Species HCP and Open Space Plan	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	
	San Joaquin River Restoration Program—Fisheries Framework	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant
	Solano Multi-Species HCP	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	South Sacramento HCP	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable	None	Probable	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Voluntary Agreements	None	None	Significant	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant
	Yuba-Sutter Regional Conservation Plan	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Yolo HCP/NCCP	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Bank Swallow Conservation Strategy for California	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant



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Plans without Quantified Conservation Measures	Bank Swallow Recovery Plan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	
	California Biodiversity Initiative	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	California Red-Legged Frog Recovery Plan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	CMP for the Sacramento River Wildlife Area	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	Significant
	Cutting the Green Tape Initiative	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Draft Mid-Sacramento Valley RCIS/LCP	None	None	Significant	Significant	None	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	None	None	None	Significant	None	None	Significant	Significant
	Draft Recovery Plan for the Least Bell's Vireo	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Draft Yolo RCIS/LCP	None	None	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	Significant	None	None	Significant
	Executive Order N-82-20 (“30 by 30”)	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable	Probable
	Feather River Conceptual Plan	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Flood-MAR	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	Probable
	Recovery Plan for Upland Species of the San Joaquin Valley, California	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	Significant	Probable
	Revised Draft Recovery Plan for the Giant Gartersnake	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant
	Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	None	Significant	Significant	Significant	Probable	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant
State Water Resources Control Board Plans	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Probable	



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Plans without Quantified Conservation Measures	The Nature Conservancy Sacramento River Project	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	Significant	Significant	Significant	Probable	Significant	None	None	Probable	Probable	None	None	Significant	
	VELB Recovery Plan	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant
	Water Resilience Portfolio	None	None	Probable	Probable	Probable	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Significant
	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area LMP	None	None	Significant	None	Probable	Significant	None	Probable	None	Significant	None	None	None	Probable	None	None	None	None	Probable

Source: California Department of Water Resources 2016, updated with data compiled by H. T. Harvey & Associates in 2020 Magnitude of relationship between the CVFPP and other conservation plan or program specified as follows:

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