



Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

THIS MEMO WILL BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING RESOURCES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SNC FUND DEVELOPMENT TEAM: sncfundingteam@sierranevada.ca.gov.

CAVEAT – Grant guidelines and deadlines are subject to periodic change. Please check the program web sites for new information. The deadlines listed are projected from the last funding round and can be unreliable. Check the web site!

FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE

(*Hyperlinks to more complete information later in memo, including links to program web sites)

Grant*	Funding Range	Funding Focus	Estimated Deadline <i>(most recent deadline)</i>	Eligible Costs
<p>Note: The passage of Prop 68 in June 2018 and the potential passage of Prop 3 in November 2018 will add funding resources to some of these grant programs and may also result in additional funding opportunities. At the time of publication these opportunities have not yet been released. Please check the websites of relevant California state agencies for updates. The SNC funding opportunities newsletter will also have the latest information. You can subscribe by adding yourself to the funding listserv here.</p>				
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) North American Wetlands Conservation Act Programs	Small Grant up to \$100,000, Standard Grant over \$100,000 1:1 non-federal match required	Protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds.	February and July for Standard Grant Program, October or November for Small Grant program (<i>October 18, 2018</i>)	On-the-ground acquisition, restoration, and enhancement project costs, plus administration or overhead.
USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Endangered Species Program	Cost-share reimbursements depend on project.	Private landowners conserving habitat for rare, declining, or protected species.	Ongoing	Discuss with field staff.
US FWS National Fish Passage Program	\$500 to \$2 million No match required, but 50% match is encouraged.	Supporting fish passage and restoring aquatic connectivity for the benefit of federal trust resources; promoting biological diversity.	Contact local headquarters for application deadlines	Direct costs plus indirect costs if negotiated rate has been established.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

Grant*	Funding Range	Funding Focus	Estimated Deadline <i>(most recent deadline)</i>	Eligible Costs
USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition	Unspecified	Acquisition of land associated with approved HCPs benefitting federally listed threatened or endangered species, proposed and candidate species, and unlisted species proposed to be covered by the HCP.	Proposals due to CDFW regional staff in October	Proposals are submitted through CDFW as part of the federal ESA Nontraditional Section 6 Grants program . Check with CDFW program staff for more details.
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Bring Back the Natives/More Fish	\$50,000 - \$100,000 1:1 non-federal match required, 2:1 preferred	Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems; reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve overall health of native fish and other aquatic organisms.	June <i>(June 28, 2018)</i>	Restoration assessment, planning, implementation, and monitoring; water conservation infrastructure; watershed protection; invasive species management.
NFWF Northern California Forests and Watersheds	\$50,000 - \$250,000. 50% match required, 1:1 match will be more competitive.	Recovery of lands degraded from wildfires and restoration of meadows throughout the Sierra Nevada.	March <i>(March 22, 2018)</i>	There are several categories of projects. Watershed Restoration and Management projects can: -Improve hydrologic connectivity and aquatic organism passage; -Remove invasive species threatening aquatic habitat or sensitive species; -Restore and/or enhance instream flow; -Create, maintain and/or improve existing watersheds, meadows, fens, riparian corridors, and instream habitats.
NFWF – Pulling Together Initiative	\$10,000 - \$75,000. 1:1 non-federal match required, cash or in-kind.	To encourage the development of cooperative weed management areas (CWMAs), support significant advance of existing CWMAs, develop or strengthen prevention and early detection/rapid response efforts, enhance education, and assist awareness projects to reduce or eliminate invasive plant species.	Pre-proposals due in July or August <i>(July 19, 2018)</i>	Establishing a CWMA, acceleration of high-performing CWMAs, comprehensive early detection and rapid response approaches, or significant on-the-ground management/restoration projects. 2018 funding is focused on sagebrush habitat and does not include California, but future year funding priorities may change.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

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CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance	Unspecified. 25% match required.	Support development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) benefitting federally listed threatened or endangered species, proposed and candidate species, and unlisted species proposed to be covered by the HCP.	Proposals due to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) regional staff in October	Proposals are submitted through CDFW as part of their ESA Nontraditional Section 6 Grants program . Check with CDFW program staff for more details.
CDFW Natural Community Conservation Planning Local Assistance Grants	Varies year to year. Match not required but adds to score.	Implementation of Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) throughout California.	August or September <i>(August 18, 2017)</i>	Management activities, restoration, monitoring, acquisition, reserve management planning, mapping, targeted studies for adaptive management, etc.
Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Programs	Wide range of funding, no specific limits. Some landowner contribution required.	Riparian restoration, inland wetlands, and other habitat restoration and improvement projects.	On-going. Board meets quarterly. Contact Program Officer.	Acquisition, restoration, and enhancement.
WCB CA Streamflow Enhancement Program	No maximum or minimum except planning projects, limited to \$2.5 million. Match not required but adds to score.	Projects that enhance stream flows and are consistent with the CA Water Plan, with an emphasis on providing and protecting enhanced stream flow, especially in those streams that support anadromous fish; special status, threatened, endangered, or at-risk species; or provide resilience to climate change.	September <i>(September 4, 2018)</i>	Planning, implementation, acquisition, monitoring, assessment, and scientific studies. Planning funding can include environmental review.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

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CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration and Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Programs	Not stated. Match not required but adds to score.	The focus of the Watershed Restoration Grant Program is watershed restoration and protection projects outside of the Delta. The Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program focuses on water quality, ecosystem restoration, and fish protection facilities that benefit the Delta.	June or July (June 13, 2018)	Planning, implementation, acquisition, and scientific studies/monitoring/ assessments. Indirect costs not to exceed 20 percent.
Department of Water Resources Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grants	Depends on solicitation. General match requirement is 50% but can be waived for disadvantaged communities.	Very broad – the project must address statewide priorities and be listed in the region’s IRWM Plan.	Set periodically – see the web site. Implementation grant solicitation expected late 2018.	Very broad. Includes removal of invasive non-native species, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watersheds.
State Water Resources Control Board 319 (h) Nonpoint Source grants	\$250K – \$750K. 25% match required but may be waived for disadvantaged communities or post-fire recovery projects.	The Timber Fund will fund projects that implement forest management measures on forest lands to improve water quality. Examples of projects include erosion control, road management, riparian restoration, groundwater dependent ecosystems, nutrient management, riparian fuel management, and/or post fire rehabilitation.	Varies (February 8, 2018)	Examples of projects include ownership-wide erosion control, road management, riparian restoration, groundwater dependent ecosystems, nutrient management, riparian fuel management, fuel reduction and/or post fire rehabilitation. Along with implementation work, projects may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Implementation Project Planning, Design, and Permitting •Demonstration and Evaluation of Adaptive Management Response to Current or Past Forestry Management Measures
California State Duck Stamp Projects for Waterfowl Conservation	Not stated, but past awards range from \$7,000 to \$225,000.	Protect, restore, enhance, and develop migratory waterfowl breeding and wintering habitat, evaluating habitat projects, and conducting waterfowl-related research.	January (January 8, 2018)	The funds can only be used for projects approved by the Fish and Game Commission for waterfowl conservation purposes (acquisition, restoration, enhancement, creation, and research).

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

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Bureau of Reclamation/USFWS Central Valley Project Conservation Program and Central Valley Project Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program	\$25,000 to \$1 million. Contribution from other sources is expected.	Protect, restore, and enhance special-status species and their habitats affected by the Central Valley Project, with a special emphasis on federally listed species.	March <i>(Next due date is expected to be in September, 2019)</i>	Funding is for land acquisition, habitat restoration, or research in the areas impacted by the Central Valley Project. See http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvpcp/species/index.html for priority species list.
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Recovery Implementation: Recovery Challenge Funds	Not stated. \$5 million available for overall program. 1:1 match required.	To accomplish 'Priority 1 Recovery Tasks' identified in recovery plans for endangered and threatened species.	August <i>(August 24, 2018)</i>	Activities which secure information about endangered or threatened species, aid in the recovery of these species under the ESA and help conserve the ecosystems upon which these species depend.
USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant Program	Grants up to \$200,000. Match is not required but improves score.	Programs that benefit wildlife and habitat, including species of Native American cultural or traditional importance and species that are not hunted or fished.	September <i>(September 29, 2018)</i>	Planning, implementation, monitoring, public education, and conservation easements. Funds may be used for salaries, equipment, consultant services, subcontracts, acquisitions, and travel. Funds may be used to conduct environmental reviews, habitat evaluations, permit reviews related to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and other environmental compliance activities when they are directly related to the proposed project.
CA Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program	Grants up to \$500,000 for enhancement projects, \$1 million for acquisitions. Match is not required but makes the application more competitive.	'Resource lands' project category can pay for the acquisition or enhancement of resource lands near transportation improvements.	June <i>(June 22, 2018)</i>	Direct project-related costs incurred during the project performance period for acquisition or enhancement of resource lands. Indirect costs are not covered.
CDFW Environmental Enhancement Fund Grant Program	\$200,000 maximum. No match required.	To support environmental enhancement projects located within or immediately adjacent to waters of the state. Enhancement projects must benefit fish and wildlife.	August <i>(August 31, 2016)</i> <i>No solicitation is expected in 2018</i>	Projects can acquire, restore, or improve habitat, water quality, and ecosystem function above baseline conditions.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

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CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund	No grant minimum or maximum, but usually below \$200,000. 1:1 match required from private, non-state sources.	Several categories of programs: deer and lion habitat; rare, endangered, threatened and protected habitat; anadromous, salmonid, and trout habitat; riparian habitat; wetlands; trails; and wildlife area activities.	October (October 1, 2018)	Funding is for land acquisition, habitat restoration, trail construction, and wildlife/nature activities.
CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grants	Depends on program category. 25% match required.	Planning, development, maintenance, operation, enforcement, programs, restoration, and conservation of trails, trailheads, areas, and other facilities associated with the use of OHVs.	March (March 5, 2018)	Very broad – all direct costs plus 15% indirect.
CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement	\$50,000 maximum per clean-up site. Match recommended	Clean up illegal disposal sites on farm and/or ranch property. Includes property zoned for agricultural use, including forestry.	August, November, and February (August 23, 2018)	Removal and disposal of solid waste and tires, recycling, slope stabilization, excavation, revegetation, site security, equipment rental, public education, mileage, administrative costs.
Environmental Protection Agency/NFWF 5 Star Restoration	\$20,000 - \$50,000. Substantial match required.	Environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams.	January (Jan 31, 2018)	Acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities.
National Forest Foundation Matching Awards Program	\$500 - \$100,000. Requires 1:1 cash match of non-federal funds.	Focus areas are forest health and outdoor experiences. Civic involvement is an important component.	January and June (June 13, 2018)	On-the ground, activities citizen-involved projects that maintain and/or restore ecosystem resiliency on National Forests.
National Forest Foundation Ski Conservation and Forest Stewardship Funds	Awards vary based on funding. 50% match required	Focus areas are forest health and outdoor experiences. Civic involvement is an important component.	Vary based on National Forest from which the contributions originate.	On-the ground, activities citizen-involved projects that maintain and/or restore ecosystem resiliency on National Forests.
Wildlife Conservation Society North America Program: Climate Adaptation Fund	\$50,000 - \$250,000 Requires 1:1 match, some of which can be in-kind.	Projects that manage dynamic ecological processes, landscape functionality, and species assemblages.	April (April 6, 2018)	Grants are provided to nonprofit conservation organizations for applied, on-the-ground projects focused on implementing priority conservation actions for climate adaptation at a landscape scale.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

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U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed and Wetlands Programs	Cost-share with landowner. Amount varies by program.	Programs for watershed protection, riparian restoration, and wetlands restoration on private property. Contact your local NRCS office for available program information.	Ongoing	Varies by program. Contact your local NRCS office for information: http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=CA .
Hind Foundation	Up to \$100,000. Preference for projects with most of the funding in place.	Ecosystem conservation and plant and wildlife protection.	Ongoing	Project implementation.
Patagonia Foundation	\$5,000 to \$20,000	Local groups working to protect local habitat.	April and August <i>(August 31, 2018)</i> <i>Projects located near Patagonia stores are reviewed on a rolling basis by store employees.</i>	On-the-ground restoration work and direct-action campaigns.
Bella Vista Foundation	Up to \$150,000. Other sources of funding are important.	Riparian restoration with the goal of enhancing and maintaining self-sustaining watershed ecosystems.	Fall and spring solicitation windows. See website.	Restoration work and conservation easements.
Kern Community Foundation	Depends on yearly funding.	Restoring fish populations in Upper Kings River Basin.	See web site.	Planning, assessment, research, monitoring, etc.



Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), North America Wetlands Conservation Act Standard or Small Grants Program

<http://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act.php>

<https://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act/how-to-apply-for-a-nawca-grant.php>

These projects must involve long-term protection, restoration, or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds. Restoration is defined as the manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site, with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded wetland. Enhancement involves the manipulation of these characteristics to improve specific functions of the wetland. Funds can also be used for acquisitions. These grants require a 1:1 non-federal match.

Standard Grants Program for requests over \$10,000 - Contact the program officers to discuss the process. The deadlines are generally February and July. Check the web site for more details.

Small Grants Program for requests under \$100,000 - The program supports the same types of projects and has the same guidelines as the Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$100,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act's Grants Program.

Discussions with program officers are recommended. See the website for more details.

U.S. Partners for Fish and Wildlife Endangered Species Program

<http://www.fws.gov/partners/aboutus.html>

The Partners Program provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners and tribes who are willing to work with the USFWS and other partners on a voluntary basis to help meet the habitat needs of Federal Trust Species. Through voluntary agreements, the Partners program provides expert technical assistance and cost-share incentives directly to private landowners to restore fish and wildlife habitats.

The Partners Program can assist with projects in all habitat types which conserve or restore native vegetation, hydrology, and soils associated with imperiled ecosystems such as longleaf pine, bottomland hardwoods, tropical forests, native prairies, marshes, rivers, and streams, or otherwise provide an important habitat requisite for a rare, declining, or protected species.

To initiate the process, contact your [state's coordinator](#). Locally-based field biologists work one-on-one with private landowners and other partners to plan, implement, and monitor projects. Partners Program field staff help landowners find other sources of funding and help

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

them through the permitting process, as necessary. The landowner works one-on-one with a local USFWS biologist to develop a project plan addressing the goals and objectives of the landowner and the USFWS to benefit fish and wildlife species on the affected land.

To implement a project, a cooperative agreement with a minimum duration of 10 years is signed. The landowner is reimbursed after project completion, based on the cost-sharing formula in the agreement.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Fish Passage Program

<https://www.fws.gov/fisheries/fish-passage.html>

The purpose of this program is to provide direct technical assistance and financial assistance to partners to support fish passage and to restore aquatic connectivity for the benefit of federal trust resources. Supported projects must promote biological diversity and be based upon sound scientific biological principles. Services are delivered through [Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation \(FAC\) field offices](#). FAC staff coordinate with project partners, stakeholders, and other service programs to identify and collaboratively implement projects within regional priority areas.

Conservation activities and projects are selected on a regional basis based upon regional focus areas. Priorities are based on the following criteria:

- Federal trust or other priority species: Proposed conservation activities and projects must improve passage for interjurisdictional fish; endangered, threatened, or candidate species or species proposed for listing; or other species of special concern and/or declining species.
- FAC and regional strategic plans and priorities: Fish passage projects that meet region-specific priorities will receive higher priority; however, the funding agency is not prohibited from implementing high-value habitat improvement projects outside geographic focus areas.
- Self-sustaining projects: Priority will be given to habitat improvement projects that establish a self-sustaining system and are not dependent on artificial structures.

All other considerations being equal, priority will be given to projects that have longer project duration, involve greater partnership support and cost sharing, and the greatest cost effectiveness. Applicants can be state and federal agencies, private lands, tribes, local municipalities, and non-governmental organizations.

USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition

<https://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/grant-programs.html>

This US Fish and Wildlife Service program has funding for acquisition of land associated with approved habitat conservation plans (HCPs) benefitting federally listed threatened or endangered species, proposed and candidate species, and unlisted species covered by the

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

HCP. Grant applications are submitted [through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife \(CDFW\)](#), so contact your [CDFW regional office](#) for more information.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Bring Back the Natives

<http://www.nfwf.org/bbn/Pages/home.aspx>

The Bring Back the Natives program invests in conservation activities that restore, protect, and enhance native populations of sensitive or listed fish species across the United States, especially in areas on or adjacent to federal agency lands. The program emphasizes coordination between private landowners and federal agencies, tribes, corporations, and states to improve the ecosystem functions and health of watersheds. Recent Sierra Nevada priorities include Lahontan cutthroat trout recovery. Proposals should focus on protecting and maintaining intact and healthy aquatic systems, preventing further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected, and increasing the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad diversity of native fish and other aquatic species.

A broad range of activities has been funded, including restoration assessment, planning, implementation, and monitoring; water conservation infrastructure; watershed protection; and invasive species management.

Grant awards generally range from \$50,000 to \$100,000, although grants greater than \$100,000 will be considered. Applicants must provide at least a 1:1 non-federal match, though 2:1 is preferred. Eligible non-federal matching sources can include cash, in-kind donations, or volunteer labor.

NFWF Northern California Forests

<http://www.nfwf.org/norcal/Pages/home.aspx>

Beginning in 2018, NFWF's Sierra Nevada Meadows Program funding is being awarded through the Northern California Forests and Watersheds landscape RFP. Grant funding will continue to be awarded to planning, implementation, or other projects designed to advance meadow restoration or resilience within the Sierra Nevada meadows range. The Sierra Nevada meadows priority is to restore and protect mountain meadow ecosystems which serve as key habitat for fish and wildlife and provide hydrological benefits for people, such as increased groundwater storage, flow reliability, and reduced sedimentation. The goal of the Sierra Nevada meadows funding is to restore habitat and validate restoration benefits.

To be eligible for funding, projects must occur within California's Sierra Nevada meadows region, on public or private lands. While a mixed portfolio of projects is possible, preference will be given to projects that will advance recovery of key focal species, specifically, California spotted owl, willow flycatcher, Yosemite toad, and native trout including Lahontan cutthroat trout. In addition, projects located in watersheds with the potential to amplify benefits associated with restoration of fire-scarred areas on California's National Forests or are adjacent to or contiguous with previously restored meadows are of particular interest. Eligible activities include planning, technical design, and permitting to deliver NEPA ready projects.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

Grants range from \$50,000 to \$250,000 and are expected to provide at least a 50% non-federal match. However, the strongest applications must have at least a 1:1 match.

NFWF - Pulling Together Initiative

<http://www.nfwf.org/pti/Pages/home.aspx#.VZFhpUbokt0>

NFWF's Pulling Together Initiative provides modest grants to help local communities effectively manage invasive weeds. Pulling Together Initiative grants are intended to help support the creation of local cooperative weed management area partnerships or to increase the capacity of these partnerships. Such partnerships bring together local landowners, citizens groups, and weed experts to develop and implement strategies for managing weed infestations on public lands, natural areas, and private working lands.

Note: 2018 funding is focused on sagebrush habitat and does not include California, but future year funding priorities may change. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$75,000 and a 1:1 non-federal match is required. Match may be cash or in-kind.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/NCCP/Grants>

This program supports development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) benefitting federally listed threatened or endangered species, proposed and candidate species, and unlisted species proposed to be covered by the HCP. Grant applications are submitted through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), so contact your [CDFW regional office](#) for more information.

CDFW Natural Community Conservation Planning Local Assistance Grants

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Planning/NCCP/Grants>

The Natural Community Conservation Planning Local Assistance Grant (NCCP LAG) Program was created to assist local public and non-profit entities in the implementation of Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) throughout California to assist with fish and wildlife habitat preservation, restoration, and enhancement.

Eligible applicants include local jurisdictions or other entities that are implementing a CDFW-approved NCCP or will be implementing an NCCP within 12 months of the release of the Proposal Solicitation Package. Other eligible entities include public agencies and non-profit organizations that have an interest in assisting with the implementation of eligible project. Eligible projects include management activities, restoration, monitoring, acquisition, reserve management planning, mapping, targeted studies for adaptive management, etc. Projects legally required as mitigation by a regulatory agency as a condition for a permit will not be funded under this grant program. However, a proposal that is additive to any required mitigation and addresses a high priority task for implementation of the NCCP is eligible.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

Applicants are encouraged to work closely with CDFW's [regional offices](#) well in advance of proposal deadlines to plan and develop proposals for high priority tasks.

Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) Programs

<https://www.wcb.ca.gov/Programs>

The state WCB has several relevant programs, including its [Riparian](#), [Inland Wetlands](#), and [Habitat Enhancement and Restoration](#) Programs. Check the general website for other programs that may be applicable to your project.

Riparian Program Project Examples

- Restoration of riparian vegetation and re-establishing floodplain connectivity
- Removal of non-native invasive plant species to restore (actively or passively) native riparian vegetation
- Installation of fencing along the riparian corridor to manage livestock or wildlife and reduce impacts to streams or riparian vegetation
- Reconfigure degraded, incised, or undefined streams to restore natural hydrology and encourage reestablishment of native riparian habitat

Inland Wetland Project Examples

Acquisition Projects

- Fee simple acquisitions
- Acquisition of perpetual conservation easements to protect privately-owned wetlands, wildlife-friendly agricultural lands, or open space to buffer existing wetlands from urban or residential development
- Long-term acquisition of water for wetlands
- Leases from landowners for a specified period

Restoration and Enhancement Project Examples

- Restore wetland habitat by constructing levees, swales, and islands; developing water conveyance and drainage systems; installing water control structures; establishing upland grasslands; or planting desirable vegetation
- Develop waterfowl-friendly agricultural practices by fencing upland grasslands and riparian habitats, encouraging wildlife-friendly grazing practices, and promoting winter flooding of croplands
- Develop infrastructure to provide water to wetlands or wildlife-friendly agricultural lands: build water delivery systems, develop new groundwater sources, and provide fish-friendly water diversions for wetlands

The WCB programs emphasize partnerships and have a great deal of flexibility. Each program web page has a link to the program officer. Contact the program officer for information on how to apply and how to maximize your chance of obtaining funding. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, local governmental agencies, state departments, and federal

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

agencies. More information on the grant process can be found at:

<https://www.wcb.ca.gov/Applications>.

The WCB meets four times a year, typically in February, May, August, and November. Processing time for applications can vary depending on completeness of the application, project benefits, and funding availability.

WCB CA Streamflow Enhancement Program

<https://www.wcb.ca.gov/Programs/Stream-Flow-Enhancement>

This program allocates funds to projects that enhance stream flows, with an emphasis on providing and protecting enhanced stream flow in those streams that support anadromous fish; special status, threatened, endangered, or at-risk species; or provide resilience to climate change. Projects must measurably enhance stream flows at a time and location necessary to provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits that improve upon existing flow conditions. Proposals must identify the stream(s), reaches of those stream(s), and the watershed(s) in which they are found.

Examples of project habitat restoration projects include weed eradication, wet meadow restoration, restoration of entrenched streams, upper watershed restoration, or forest thinning that reshapes the stream hydrograph. Funding can be used for planning, implementation, acquisition, studies, monitoring, and assessments.

Eligible grantees are public agencies, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Indian tribes, state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List, and mutual water companies.

Matching funds are not required, but leverage adds points in scoring.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration and Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Programs

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Restoration-Grants>

This listing covers two grant programs. The Watershed Restoration Grant Program focuses on watershed restoration and protection projects of statewide importance outside of the Delta, and the Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program focuses on water quality, ecosystem restoration, and fish protection facilities that benefit the Delta. Priorities of the 2018 solicitation for the Watershed Restoration Grant Program included:

- Central Valley Salmon Resilience and Recovery
- Large-Scale Wildfire Recovery Response
- Restoration Project Implementation (includes headwaters and mountain meadows)

Funding is available for planning, implementation, and scientific studies (Delta projects only). In 2018, planning funding was only available under the Watershed Restoration Grant Program for projects focused on large scale wildfire recovery. There is also funding available specifically for scientific studies, monitoring, and assessment projects, but these funds will only be

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

awarded under the Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program. However, the Watershed Restoration Grant Program may include scientific studies, monitoring, and assessment activities as part of the work plan.

Eligible applicants are limited to public agencies (state agencies or departments, special districts, joint powers authorities, counties, cities, or other political subdivisions of the state), nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized tribes, state tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List, and mutual water companies. Federal agencies may not be applicants, but there does not appear to be a limitation against doing project work on federal lands. The applicant, however, must have site control of the property for at least 25 years.

Match is not required but provides additional points.

CA Department of Water Resources – Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grants

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Integrated-Regional-Water-Management>

While all the Proposition 84 IRWM funding has been granted, Proposition 1 has allocated an additional \$510 million to the program. Make sure to check the web site for the most recent information.

IRWM grant applications must be approved by IRWM regions through the Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG) although they are submitted through individual agencies. In order to be approved, the proposed grant activity must be included in the IRWM Plan for that region. These Plans can be amended and modified by the RWMG. So, if you are considering funding your project with IRWM funding, check the IRWM Plan for your region and if the project is not already part of the plan, take steps to have it added.

IRWM grants do not have a standard maximum amount; this is set in each solicitation. The general match requirement for a Proposition 1 grant is 50 percent, though that can be waived if the project addresses the needs of a disadvantaged community. Match must be from non-state sources.

The scope of IRWM grant projects is very large. Basically, projects must address statewide priorities, which are listed in the program solicitation. Eligible project types include removal of invasive non-native species, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands.

State Water Resources Control Board 319 (h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/solicitation_notice.shtml

The California Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program allocates funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support implementation and planning projects that address water quality

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

problems in surface and ground water resulting from NPS pollution¹. The goal of these projects is to ultimately lead to restoring the impacted beneficial uses in these water bodies. Projects are required to be located in a watershed that has an adopted/nearly adopted Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the constituent of concern and has been identified in the NPS Program Preferences. These priority watersheds and problems are listed in the grant guidelines.

In addition, California appropriated the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (Timber Fund) for projects that implement forest management measures on forest lands to improve water quality. Examples of projects include ownership-wide erosion control, road management, riparian restoration, groundwater dependent ecosystems, nutrient management, riparian fuel management, and/or post fire rehabilitation.

The program used to include both planning and implementation grants, but for the general NPS grants the planning funding has been used up and the Water Board is only funding implementation projects. The new Timber Fund grants can be used for planning as long as the project also includes implementation, and the entire project can be completed within three years.

Eligible applicants include local public agencies, public agencies, nonprofit organizations (501[c][3]), federally recognized Native American tribes, state agencies, public colleges, and federal agencies. Applicants must work with the appropriate Regional Water Board Grant Contact when developing their proposals. Grant contacts are identified in the Grant Program Guidelines.

California State Duck Stamp (CSDS) Projects for Waterfowl Conservation

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Grants/Duck-Stamp>

The purpose of this grant is protecting, preserving, restoring, enhancing, and developing migratory waterfowl breeding and wintering habitat; evaluating habitat projects; and conducting waterfowl resource assessments and other waterfowl-related research. There is no stated maximum grant, but funding is limited by state Duck Stamp revenue.

The CSDS solicits proposals in November or December of each year based on approved needs, topics, or themes which address the goals and objectives of the program. It is suggested that interested groups contact the program officer for more information.

Central Valley Project Conservation Program and Central Valley Project Improvement Act - Habitat Restoration Program

<http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvpcp/>

¹ Unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants (point sources), nonpoint source (NPS) pollution comes from many diffuse sources. NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and ground waters. See <http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/whatis.cfm>.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

This funding is for actions that will protect, restore, and enhance special-status species and their habitats affected by the Central Valley Project (CVP), with a special emphasis on federally listed species. Funding is for land acquisition, habitat restoration, or research.

The funding range is \$25,000 to \$1 million. There is no cost sharing requirement, but partnering (i.e., cost sharing provided by the entities, through cash or in-kind services, which are contributing towards the proposed project) is highly encouraged, and the level of partnering is considered during application evaluation.

Federally endangered and threatened species that have been impacted by the CVP have been rated “Low,” “Medium,” “High,” or “Very High,” and these priority ratings help determine selection of applications for funding. The CVP Priority Species rating is based on two factors: (a) the recovery priority assigned to the species, and (b) the extent to which that species is impacted, either directly or indirectly, from the CVP. A “Very High” rating means that the recovery priority for the species is rated high with an imminent threat of extinction, and CVP actions contributed significantly to the species decline, either directly or indirectly. A “High” rating means that the recovery priority for the species is high and CVP actions contributed significantly to the species decline, either directly or indirectly. In order for a project to be eligible for funding, at least one High or Very High rated species must benefit from the project. A spreadsheet showing the CVP Priority Species, their ratings, and other criteria may be found [here](#).

The program officer has encouraged interested applicants to contact them about projects even if the project is outside the official Central Valley. As long as it impacts a species of concern, it might still be eligible.

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Recovery Implementation: Recovery Challenge Funds

<https://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html>

The purpose of this program is to enhance and increase partnerships with agencies and organizations implementing highest-priority recovery actions identified in recovery plans, in particular for genetically sound breeding, rearing, and reintroduction programs. Specifically, this program provides funding to accomplish Priority 1 recovery tasks identified in recovery plans for endangered and threatened species under the trusteeship of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, such that known threats to the species may be reduced or eliminated.

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Further a conservation stewardship legacy by using science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment
- Provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the best available science to make informed Endangered Species Act (ESA) decisions based on strong science and analysis
- Contribute to the recovery of a species, resulting in a down or delisting decision

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

- Reduce or eliminate threats to listed species

Eligibility is very broad. Match is required. For longstanding partnership projects, partner contributions must be equal to or greater than their current contribution averaged over the past five years. New partnership projects require at least a one-to-one match. The match for both longstanding and new partnership projects may include in-kind services.

USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grants

<http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html>

The goal of the Tribal Wildlife Grant Program is to develop and implement programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species of Native American cultural or traditional importance and species that are not hunted or fished.

Tribal Wildlife Grants are used to provide technical and financial assistance to federally-recognized tribes for the development and implementation of programs that benefit fish and wildlife resources and habitat. Activities may include, but are not limited to, planning for wildlife and habitat conservation, fish and wildlife conservation and management actions, fish and wildlife-related laboratory and field research, natural history studies, management of invasive species, habitat mapping, field surveys and population monitoring, habitat preservation, conservation easements, and public education that is relevant to the project. The funds may be used for salaries, equipment, consultant services, subcontracts, acquisitions, and travel. Funds may also be used to conduct environmental reviews, habitat evaluations, permit reviews related to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and other environmental compliance activities directly related to the proposed project.

Grants are for up to \$200,000. No match is required, though leveraging of funds improves scoring.

CA Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program

<http://resources.ca.gov/grants/environmental-enhancement-and-mitigation-eem/>

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program is designed to fund projects that contribute to mitigation of the environmental effects of transportation facilities. Eligible projects must be directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of the modification of an existing transportation facility or construction of a new transportation facility. This means that the proposed project must be in the immediate vicinity or general area of work done on a public street, highway, mass transit guideway (trains, ports, light rail lines, city streets, airports, etc.) or their appurtenant features (park and ride facilities, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, transit stations, etc.). These are called Related Transportation Facilities (RTF). Not all road work qualifies; see the guidelines. Eligible RTFs can be identified by contacting the local city or county transportation department, regional transit agency, metropolitan transit authority, council of local governments, metropolitan planning organization, or Caltrans District Office. A lot of documentation will be needed from this transportation agency, so contact them early in the process.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

Project categories are as follows:

- Urban forestry projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide
- Resource lands projects for the acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within or near the right-of-way acquired for transportation improvements
- Mitigation projects beyond the scope of the lead agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement

The EEM Program encourages projects that produce multiple benefits which reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase water use efficiency, reduce risks from climate change impacts, and demonstrate collaboration with local, state and community entities. Environmental review must be complete for the proposed project, and final compliance documents submitted to the state with the grant application. Eligible applicants are local, state, and federal governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations.

The maximum grant is \$500,000. Match funding is not required but contributes to the competitiveness of the project. Optional one-page concept proposals may be submitted for review and feedback. The deadline for submitting these is generally a month before the application due date.

CDFW Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF) Grant Program

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/OSPR/Science/Environmental-Enhancement-Fund/About>

The purpose of this program is to support environmental enhancement projects located within or immediately adjacent to waters of the state. For the purposes of this program, California waters are defined as any surface water, including saline waters, marine waters, and freshwaters, within the boundaries of the state. Groundwater is not included as a surface water. Enhancement projects must benefit fish and wildlife and be designed to acquire, restore, or improve habitat quality and ecosystem function above baseline conditions. Projects must have measurable outcomes within a predetermined time frame.

The EEF grant program is administered by the CDFW's Office of Spill Prevention and Response and is funded by fines levied on entities which release oil and other substances into the state waterways. The amount of funding available each year depends on the fines that are collected. In years when the available funds are modest, smaller requests are more competitive. It is a good idea to call the program contact and discuss the targeted range for grants.

Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, cities, counties, districts, state agencies, and federal agencies. The maximum grant is \$200,000 and no match is required. No solicitations are expected for this program in 2018.

CA Department of Parks and Recreation (CA DPR)– Habitat Conservation Fund

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?Page_id=21361

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

The Habitat Conservation Fund program allocates approximately \$2 million each year for grants to cities, counties, and districts. Projects include:

- Nature interpretation and other programs which bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas
- Programs which protect various plant and animal species
- Acquisition or development of wildlife corridors and trails

Eligible applicants are cities, counties, and districts (park and open space districts). Deadline is early October. A 1:1 match is required from local, private, non-state sources. Match funds must be committed at the time of the application and must be specifically for the project that is the subject of the grant.

There are several categories of funding, including deer and lion habitat, protected species habitat, anadromous salmonid and trout habitat, riparian habitat, wetlands, trails, and wildlife area activities. Funding can be for land acquisition, enhancement, restoration, trail development, or educational/interpretive activities, depending on the category of funding.

There is a requirement to use the CA Conservation Corps for restoration or trail-building activities if appropriate.

CA DPR – Off Highway Vehicle Program

http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1164

<http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/>

This program supports the planning, acquisition, development, maintenance, administration, operation, enforcement, restoration, and conservation of trails, trailheads, areas, and other facilities associated with the use of off-highway motor vehicles (OHVs), and programs involving OHV safety or education. Relevant activities that can be funded include:

- Ground operations - maintenance and/or conservation of facilities, compliance with soil standards and habitat mitigation plans, and protection of natural or cultural resources
- Restoration - provide ecological restoration or repair to habitat damaged by authorized or unauthorized OHV use. Restoration projects also include scientific and cultural studies regarding OHV impacts and restoration planning efforts.

The proposed activity must be directly related to OHV recreation. In general, the more robust the OHV opportunities (more diverse OHV options, more developed facilities, signage, education programs, monitoring and enforcement, etc.), the higher the application will score. A great deal of information is required about the OHV project and the information must be well-documented by reports, statistics, plans, studies, and other records maintained by the land management agency proposing the project. More points will be awarded for projects with multiple partners actively involved in the proposed work, and for projects with public input. Projects will also score higher if they are part of an existing land management plan or help implement such a plan.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

A 25 percent match (cash or in-kind) is required. This can include volunteer services. A higher match brings in higher scores in the evaluation criteria. Eligible project costs are very broad – including basically any costs directly related to the work identified in the project description. Additionally, the applicant may receive reimbursement up to 15 percent of the requested amount for indirect costs.

CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LEA/GrantsLoans/FarmRanch/>

The purpose of this program is to clean up illegal disposal sites on farm and/or ranch property. Funding will support the cleanup of previously remediated sites as well as sites yet to be cleaned up. Farm and ranch property is defined as a piece of publicly or privately-owned property that is used for rangeland or agricultural activities. Forestlands are generally included, and this grant has been used to clean up marijuana grow sites in national forests.

Eligible costs may include:

- Removal and disposal of solid waste and tires and related actions
- Removal and disposal of solid waste and tires from marijuana grow sites
- Recycling, including used oil, automotive batteries, and tires
- Drainage control and grading improvement
- Slope and foundation stabilization
- Excavation
- Revegetation to stabilize an area disrupted by remediation, if incidental to the cost of the cleanup
- Site security, including gates and fencing, incidental to cleanup
- Public education to help prevent recurrence of the illegal disposal, if incidental to the cost of the cleanup
- Equipment rental and fuel
- Removal of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) from appliances
- Mileage for cleanup-related activities
- Personnel costs for award management and preparation of reports and payment requests

Eligible applicants are limited to cities, counties, Resource Conservation Districts, and federally recognized Native American tribes. Funding is limited to \$50,000 per site, but it is possible to apply for multiple sites in one application. Matching funds are not required for this program; however, applicants should demonstrate that the project is cost-effective and that it maximizes the use of available funds through cost savings, such as volunteer labor, in-kind services, and recycling options.

Environmental Protection Agency Five Star Restoration Grant Program

<http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/home.aspx>

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

The Five Star Restoration Program brings together students, conservation corps, other youth groups, citizen groups, corporations, landowners, and government agencies to provide environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams. The program provides challenge grants, technical support, and opportunities for information exchange to enable community-based restoration projects. These are small grants (less than \$50,000) which are focused on education rather than restoration, but restoration projects have been funded. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Native American tribes, and educational institutions.

Competitive proposals should address each of the five priorities:

- On-the-ground restoration and planning
- Partnerships
- Environmental outreach, education, and training
- Measurable results
- Sustainability

National Forest Foundation (NFF) Matching Awards Program

<http://www.nationalforests.org/consERVE/grantprograms/ontheground/map>

The NFF Matching Awards Program (MAP) is a grant program that provides matching funds for direct on-the-ground projects that have an immediate, quantifiable impact on America's National Forests and Grasslands. MAP supports the strategic focus areas of Forest Health and Outdoor Experiences.

The Forest Health program supports results-oriented, on-the-ground, citizen-involved projects that maintain and/or restore ecosystem resiliency on National Forests by:

- Promoting ecosystem structure, function and diversity; and/or
- Promoting forest health through the removal or control of non-native invasive species, and/or reintroduction of native plants and trees.

Projects should be consistent with or supportive of identified large-scale conservation initiatives.

Eligible applicants are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, universities, and Native American tribes working on or adjacent to National Forests and Grasslands. Past awards range from \$500 to over \$100,000, with an average award of around \$25,000. A 1:1 cash match is required.

National Forest Foundation Ski Conservation and Forest Stewardship Funds

<https://www.nationalforests.org/grant-programs/stewardship-funds>

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

The National Forest Foundation [Ski Conservation Fund \(SCF\) and Forest Stewardship Fund \(FSF\)](#) provide funding for action-oriented on-the-ground or citizen-based monitoring projects that improve forest health and outdoor experiences on National Forests and Grasslands. Award funds come from guest contributions at ski areas and lodges operating on or adjacent to National Forest System lands, with added National Forest Foundation federal funds for SCF.

SCF and FSF support the implementation of on-the-ground conservation and restoration projects that have an immediate, quantifiable impact on the National Forest System. These projects provide a lasting impact to the lands, waters, and wildlife of the National Forest System through the alteration of the physical environment.

The current NFF strategic plan focuses on the program areas of Outdoor Experiences and Forest Health. Projects that strongly integrate the program areas are highly encouraged.

Eligible applicants are 501(c)3 nonprofits, universities, and Native American tribes. SCF and FSF are geographically restricted to the same National Forests from which individual guest contributions originated.

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) North America Program: Climate Adaptation Fund <http://wscsclimateadaptationfund.org/>

The WCS North America Program is dedicated to saving wildlife and wild places in North America. The WCS Climate Adaptation Fund, with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, supports projects that demonstrate effective interventions for wildlife adaptation to climate change. Grants of \$50,000 to \$250,000 are provided to nonprofit conservation organizations for applied, on-the-ground projects focused on implementing priority conservation actions for climate adaptation at a landscape scale. A minimum 1:1 match is required, but some in-kind match is allowed. The Fund prioritizes projects that manage dynamic ecological processes, landscape functionality, and species assemblages, rather than those aimed at maintaining historic conditions or individual species. WCS prioritizes and evaluates projects based on their potential to communicate project results to others who might learn from and replicate similar adaptation actions. Project duration is limited to two years. Grants are provided to U.S.-based nonprofit conservation organizations for projects within the 50 states and six U.S. territories. WCS utilizes a two-step evaluation process: 1) an open call for pre-proposals, and 2) a larger full proposal invited from a select number of pre-proposal applicants.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Programs

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/>

The NRCS has a [variety of programs](#) funding wetlands and riparian projects. These programs, and the funding authorized for them through the Farm Bill, change periodically. Usually they are cost-share programs focused on privately-owned land, though sometimes they can be applied to the watershed in general, particularly in emergency watershed restoration circumstances.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

The most popular NRCS program is the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP), which provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, or improved or created wildlife habitat.

The funding opportunities can be accessed by talking to staff in your [local NRCS office](#).

FOUNDATION FUNDING

Hind Foundation:

<http://www.hindfoundation.org/>

This is a standard foundation grant. The Hind Foundation has several areas of interest. The most relevant areas are ecosystem conservation and plant and wildlife protection. The definitions from the web site are as follows:

- Ecosystem Conservation - Abundant plant and wildlife populations are dependent on the ecosystems in which they live. Today, these essential habitats – made up of wetlands, estuaries, watersheds, and other sensitive areas – cannot be sustained on their own.

The Ecosystem Conservation program funds projects and programs that focus on the enhancement of habitats in which plants and wildlife thrive. Proper conservation and restoration of ecosystems can only be accomplished when like-minded organizations work together for this common goal.

- Plant and Wildlife Protection - Today's plants and wildlife are confronted with greater challenges than ever before. As a nation, stewardship of their populations and habitat is critical to the survival of all species.

The Plant and Wildlife Protection program funds private organizations that desire to see plants and wildlife flourish, and that work for the protection and conservation of endangered and threatened species.

Grants seem to be in the range of \$100,000. There is an on-line application process. Applicants must be 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations, must receive the majority of their funding support from our local community, must hold or sponsor at least one fundraising event annually, and must have been in operation for more than one year. The foundation prefers to fund organizations that have raised most of the funding needed to complete the project.

This grant has no deadline; the foundation accepts applications July 1 – June 30 until it runs out of funds.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

Patagonia Foundation

<http://www.patagonia.com/us/patagonia.go?assetid=2942>

Patagonia funds environmental work, specifically for organizations that identify and work on the root causes of problems and that approach issues with a commitment to long-term change and a strong base of citizen support. The foundation focuses on small, grassroots, activist organizations with provocative direct-action agendas, working on multi-pronged campaigns to preserve and protect the environment.

The Foundation accepts one proposal per group, per fiscal year. The typical grant range is \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Bella Vista Foundation

<http://www.pfs-llc.net/foundations/bella-vista-foundation>

Under the Ecosystem Restoration Grant program, the foundation focuses on protecting, restoring, and revitalizing high-priority watershed ecosystems in California and Oregon. Within these watersheds, the priorities are promoting the sustainable management of forest and agricultural land, revitalizing streams, and restoring riparian areas, with the goal of enhancing and maintaining self-sustaining watershed ecosystems. Target watersheds in the Sierra Nevada include the Truckee River watershed, Yuba/Bear/American Rivers, and the North Fork Feather River watershed.

The Foundation targets projects that:

- Incorporate environmental, economic, and social equity factors because solutions that merge these factors tend to have long-term success
- Preserve and build natural capital by consuming the growth of the environmental resource, rather than the resource itself
- Support creative solutions to revitalization and restoration that have the potential to serve as models for similar projects
- Engage in projects that are part of a cluster of projects in a given watershed, involving one or more organizations over time. The Foundation believes this clustering of support at the watershed level will result in stronger partnerships and a greater impact in the long term.
- Foster collaborative partnerships even among groups with divergent interests
- Fund activities that governmental agencies do not normally fund

The foundation considers it a strong positive if a project has broad-based community involvement (financial support, volunteer support, and in-kind donations, etc.). The foundation will consider projects that include acquisition and restoration, but acquisition funding does not include fee title.

No specific match is required, but the foundation strongly prefers not to be the sole or primary source of funding. The foundation accepts proposals on-line during fall and spring solicitation submission windows.

Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2018

Kern Community Foundation

<http://www.kernfoundation.org/what-we-do/community-initiatives/upper-kern-fisheries-enhancement-fund/>

The relevant program is the Upper Kern Fisheries Enhancement Fund, a grantmaking initiative that supports conservation projects in the Upper Kern River Basin. It was established in 2005 as a requirement of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's relicensing of Southern California Edison's Kern River Number 3 Hydroelectric Project. The specific purpose of the Fund is to grant dollars to projects that support three priorities:

- Implementation of the Upper Kern Basin Fishery Management Plan
- Restoration of the native Kern River rainbow trout
- Other enhancement of fisheries resources in the Upper Kern Basin

Funding amounts vary yearly. See the web site for application deadlines.