



Funding Research Memo: Habitat Preservation & Restoration

Last updated: August 2015

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 are particularly unreliable. Check the program’s 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	Eligible Costs
USFWS North American Wetlands Conservation Act Programs	Small Grant up to \$75,000, Standard Grant over \$75,000 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.	See website. February and July is usual for Standard Grant Program, November is usual for Small Grant program.	-Acquisition and costs related to acquisition (document preparation, appraisals, negotiation, legal, etc.), -Restoration -Enhancement.
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.
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation 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.	Check website. The 2015 due date was September 1.	Restoration assessment, planning, implementation and monitoring; water conservation infrastructure; watershed protection; invasive species management.

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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Sierra Nevada Meadow Restoration	Not stated. 1:1 match is preferred.	Implement Sierra Meadow Restoration Business Plan.	Pre-proposals are due November and June.	Quantifying ecosystem service benefits; building organizational capacity where restoration planning and implementation is limited; repairing meadow degradation; ensuring long-term protection: supporting land protection and deploying best management practices; garnering support of ranching community; and monitoring and documenting ecological and biological responses to meadow restoration
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Pulling Together Initiative	\$25,000 - \$200,000. 1:1 non-federal match required	To encourage the development of cooperative weed management areas (CWMAs), support significant advanced 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 August.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a CWMA • Acceleration of high-performing CWMAs • Comprehensive early detection and rapid response approaches • Significant on-the-ground management/restoration projects
Wildlife Conservation Board Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Program	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.
Wildlife Conservation Board Prop 1 Streamflow Enhancement Grants	Not stated. Match not required but leverage is a scoring criteria	Providing and protecting enhanced stream flow, especially where it supports anadromous fish; special status, species; or provide resilience to climate change.	Late summer or fall (estimated)	Planning, implementation, acquisition, and scientific studies, monitoring, and assessments.
CDFW Wetlands Restoration for GHG Reductions	No maximum or minimum. Match not required but adds to score.	Achieve net GHG reductions through restoration or enhancement of wetlands or mountain meadows	December	Planning, implementation, indirect.

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CDFW Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration & 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 on 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.	September	<p>Planning, implementation, acquisition, and scientific studies/monitoring/assessments.</p> <p>Indirect costs not to exceed 20%.</p> <p>Planning grants can include funding for CEQA/NEPA work.</p>
DWR Integrated Regional Water Management grants	Depends on solicitation. General match requirement is 25% 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 – the last deadline for the Prop 84 funds is summer 2015. New Prop 1 guidelines will be developed at the end of 2015.	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.
California Duck Stamp Projects for Waterfowl Conservation	Not stated	Protecting, restoring, enhancing, and developing migratory waterfowl breeding and wintering habitat, evaluating habitat projects, and conducting waterfowl resource assessments and other research	January	Personnel, operating expenses, admin, construction.
BOR/FWS 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 CVP, with a special emphasis on federally listed species.	October deadline	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 Tribal Wildlife Grant Program	Grants up to \$200,000. Match is not required but improves score.	Programs that benefit wildlife and their habitat, including species of Native American cultural or traditional importance and species that are not hunted or fished.	October	Planning, implementation, monitoring, public education, and conservation easements. Funds may be used for salaries, equipment, consultant services, subcontracts, acquisitions, and travel.

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CA Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program	Grants up to \$500,000 for projects, \$1 million for acquisitions. Match is not required but makes the application more competitive.	Urban Forestry projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide; Resource lands projects for the acquisition or enhancement of resource lands near the transportation improvements; Additional mitigation related to the environmental impact of the transportation improvement.	June	Direct project related costs to be incurred during the project performance period, specified in the Grant Agreement, will be eligible for reimbursement. Indirect costs and costs incurred outside of the project performance period will not be reimbursed.
CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund	No grant minimum or maximum. 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 & Trout habitat; Riparian habitat; Wetlands; Trails; and Wildlife Area activities.	October 1	Funding is for land acquisition, habitat restoration, trail construction, and wildlife/nature activities.
CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation Land and Water Conservation Fund	Grants up to \$2 million. 1:1 match required.	Acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities.	February	Can fund acquisition or development projects but not both.
CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation off-highway vehicle (OHV) grants	Depends on program category. 25% match required	Planning, acquisition, development, maintenance, administration, operation, enforcement, programs, restoration, and conservation of trails, trailheads, areas, and other facilities associated with the use of OHVs.	March	Very broad – all direct costs plus 15% indirect
EPA/NFWF 5 star restoration	Up to \$20,000. Substantial match required.	Environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams.	February	Acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities.
NFF Matching Awards Program	\$500 - \$100,000. Requires 1:1 cash match of non-federal funds.	Four focus areas: Wildlife habitat improvement, Recreation, Watershed health and restoration, and Community-based forestry.	January and June	On-the ground activities including habitat protection and enhancement, conservation projects, and stewardship projects.

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Flood Corridor Improvement Program This was a program under Proposition 84 and may be continued with Prop 1 funds, though with modifications	\$5 million maximum. Cost sharing is encouraged.	Protecting or enhancing flood protection corridors while preserving or enhancing agricultural use and/or wildlife value. Can include property acquisition or setbacks to levees. Must be in an area with flooding problems.	Unknown	Non-structural flood damage reduction projects within flood corridors; acquisition of real property or easements in a floodplain; setting back existing flood control levees or strengthening or modifying existing levees; preserving or enhancing flood-compatible agricultural use of the real property; preserving or enhancing wildlife values of the real property through restoration of habitat compatible with seasonal flooding, etc.
Wildlife Conservation Society North America Program: Climate Adaptation Fund	\$50,000 - \$250,000	Projects that manage dynamic ecological processes, landscape functionality, and species assemblages	April	Grants of 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.
USDA NRCS Watershed and Wetlands programs	Cost-share with landowner. Amount varies by programs	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 office for information: http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=CA
Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund	Up to \$25,000. Other funding sources expected.	Long-term positive impacts for wildlife and habitats	February for Letters of Inquiry	The study of wildlife, the protection of habitats and community conservation and education
Hind Foundation	Up to \$100,000. Preference for projects with most of the funding in place.	Ecosystem conservation, plant and wildlife protection.	Ongoing	Project implementation.
Patagonia Foundation	About \$12,000	Local groups working to protect local habitat.	April 30 and August 31	On-the-ground restoration work and direct-action campaigns. Key initiative is focused on trout habitat.
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.	On-line application.	Restoration work and conservation easements.
Nature's Path EnviroKidz Giving Back Program	Up to \$20,000	Wildlife and endangered species conservation, habitat restoration and conservation, environmental education for youth.	December	Education, conservation, and restoration activities. Project must work directly with school-aged youth in the community.

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Kern Community Foundation	Depends on yearly funding	Restoring fish populations in Upper Kings River Basin	See website.	Planning, assessment, research, monitoring, etc.
Sierra Fund	No grant programs but can act as fiscal sponsor for project related to their mission. Particularly interested in the impacts of abandoned mines on water quality. Call program officer for more information. http://www.sierrafund.org/contact-us/			



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US Fish and Wildlife Service: North America Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) Standard or Small Grants Program – <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm>

These projects must involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds.

Eligible Costs under ‘acquisition’ include fee-title acquisition and donation (transfer of title), conservation easement and lease acquisition and donation; appraisal fees; acquisition negotiations; acquisition legal costs; boundary surveys; travel and transportation, and annual payments for 10 year conservation agreements (or the maximum duration allowed by State law). <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Standard/US/files/EligibilityCriteria.pdf>.

Other eligible costs include: “Direct and indirect costs for eligible, necessary, and reasonable goods, services, salaries, and labor associated with long-term migratory bird and wetlands conservation work.”

Match: These grants require 1:1 non-federal match, however you can count funds expended during the last 2 years.

Standard Grants Program for requests over \$75,000. Proposals are reviewed in several phases. Best to contact program officers to discuss process.
<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Standard/US/index.shtm>

Deadlines: Generally February and July. Check website.

Small Grants Program for requests under \$75,000. The Small Grants Program is a competitive, matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States that further the goals of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. These projects must involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds.

This program supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars. Grant requests may not exceed \$75,000, and funding priority is given to grantees or partners new to the Act’s Grants Program. <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Small/index.shtm>

Deadline is generally in November. Check website.

Discussions with program officers are recommended. See website.

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US 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 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.

A simple phone call or letter initiates the process. Locally-based field biologists work one-on-one with private landowners and other partners to plan, implement, and monitor their projects. Partners Program field staff help landowners find other sources of funding and help them through the permitting process, as necessary. The landowner works one-on-one with a local Service biologist to develop a project plan addressing the goals and objectives of the landowner and the Service to benefit fish and wildlife species on his/her 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.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Bring Back the Natives/More Fish

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

The Bring Back the Natives/More Fish 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. Sierra Nevada priorities focus on McCloud River redband trout, Eagle Lake rainbow trout, California golden trout, and Little Kern golden trout recovery. Proposals should help achieve the following program goals:

- Goal 1: Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems
- Goal 2: Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected
- Goal 3: Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve overall health of native fish and other aquatic organisms
- Goal 4: Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad diversity of native fish and other aquatic species.

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

Pre-proposals are generally due in June with full proposals due the end of August.

Grant awards generally range in size 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, and/or volunteer labor. The last round of funding from the program was in 2014, but the website is still up. It is possible that future grant rounds will be issued.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Sierra Nevada Meadow Restoration

http://www.nfwf.org/sierranevada/Pages/home.aspx#.VLQz_XsWct0

This program is a partnership between NFWF and Wells Fargo Foundation. In 2009, NFWF launched its Sierra Nevada Meadow Restoration Program to replenish the health and biodiversity of the mountain meadow regions. The program focuses on creating the momentum to restore and protect thousands of acres of meadow in the Sierra Nevada. Key conservation actions for this program include:

- Quantifying ecosystem service benefits: conducting hydrologic and water quality assessments to predict and measure changes in groundwater levels and downstream flow
- Building organizational capacity: providing capacity-building in watersheds where restoration planning and implementation is limited
- Repairing meadow degradation: supporting restoration projects in meadow systems in which it will be possible to quantify benefits
- Ensuring long-term protection: supporting land protection and deploying best management practices
- Garnering support of ranching community: improving information flow and providing technical assistance
- Monitoring and documenting ecological and biological responses to meadow restoration

For more detail on priority activities, please see NFWF's Sierra Nevada Meadows Business Plan (the link for downloads is on the webpage). There is no RFP for the program. Application Guidelines for NFWF Conservation Programs with a Business Plan can be found at: <http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/programs/Pages/business-plan-application.aspx#.VLQ-gnsWct0>. A 1:1 match is preferred. There are two grant cycles per year with pre-proposals due in November and June.

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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: 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. 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.

Funding priorities for this program include:

- Projects that focus on a particular well-defined weed management area, such as a watershed, ecosystem, landscape, or county;
- Projects supported by private landowners, state and local governments, and the regional/state offices of federal agencies;
- Projects with a steering committee composed of local cooperators who are committed to working together to manage invasive and noxious plants across their jurisdictional boundaries;
- Long-term weed management plans which are based on an integrated pest management approach using the principles of ecosystem management; and
- Inclusion of a public outreach and education component, as appropriate.
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The 2015 deadline for pre-proposals is August 3. Grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000 and a 1:1 non-federal match is required.

Wildlife Conservation Board Programs

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

The state Wildlife Conservation Board has several relevant program including Riparian Habitat protection, Inland Wetlands, and the Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Program.

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

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- 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 specified period

Restoration and Enhancement Projects

- Restore wetland habitat: construct levees, swales, and islands; develop water conveyance and drainage systems; install water control structures; establish upland grasslands; and plant desirable vegetation
- Develop waterfowl friendly agricultural practices: fence upland grasslands and riparian habitats, encourage wildlife friendly grazing practices, and promote 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

Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Project Examples:

- Moss Landing Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration
- Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Projects throughout the state
- Grasslands Regional Park Habitat Restoration
- San Pablo Bay Pepperweed Removal and Habitat Restoration
- Topanga State Park Rodeo Grounds Stream Restoration
- Dos Palmas Area Saltcedar Removal and Habitat Restoration
- Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration

The WCB programs emphasize partnerships and have a great deal of flexibility. Each program webpage has a link to the program officer. Contact the program officer for information on how to submit an application and how to maximize your chance of obtaining funding. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations [501(c)(3)], local governmental agencies, State departments, and federal 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 Prop 1 Streamflow Enhancement Grant program

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

The objective of this program is to provide and protect enhanced stream flow, especially in streams that support anadromous fish; special status, threatened, endangered or at risk

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species; or provide resilience to climate change. Enhanced stream flow is defined as a change in the amount, timing, or quality of the water flowing down a stream, or a portion of a stream, to benefit fish and wildlife.

Eligible grantees are limited to public agencies (not including federal agencies) nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Native American tribes, state Native American tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List, and mutual water companies (if the project has a clear public benefit). In Fiscal Year 2015/2016 up to \$38,400,000 of Prop 1 funding is available. There is no minimum or maximum grant.

Eligible funding categories for this solicitation may achieve one or more of the following grant program purposes: (1) planning, (2) implementation, (3) acquisition, and (4) scientific studies, monitoring, and assessments.

CDWF Wetlands Restoration for Greenhouse Gas Reduction

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

The intent of this grant program is to contribute to the goals of AB 32 and the California Water Action Plan while restoring or enhancing important wildlife and fish habitat (co-benefits). All proposed projects must outline plans to achieve net GHG reductions through restoration or enhancement of wetlands or mountain meadows and be able to demonstrate how project success will be monitored and reported. Proposals must also consider if and how expected climatic changes in California may impact project planning, implementation, and long-term sustainability of the project investment. Projects may include planning but must have an on-the-ground restoration component. Linkages to other restoration activities and co-benefits are a plus for scoring.

Each proposal submitted for consideration must present a conceptual model that describes how the proposed restoration or enhancement activities are expected to result in net GHG reductions. The conceptual model should describe projected emissions and/or sequestration of relevant GHGs (i.e., carbon dioxide [CO₂], methane [CH₄], and nitrous oxide [N₂O]) and how those are anticipated to change over time following implementation of the proposed project.

There is no minimum or maximum funding amount. Match is not required though it adds to scoring points. Grant period is five years. Entities eligible to apply for grants are limited to public agencies, recognized tribes, and qualified nonprofit organizations.

CDFW Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration & Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Programs

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

This is actually two grant programs: The Watershed Restoration Grant Program focuses on watershed restoration and protection projects of statewide importance outside of the Delta.

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The Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program focuses on water quality, ecosystem restoration, and fish protection facilities that benefit the Delta. Priorities include

- Managing headwaters for multiple benefits,
- Enhancing fish migration
- Restoring mountain meadow habitats, and
- Protecting, restoring, and enhancing water-dependent habitats for fish and wildlife

Funding is available for planning, implementation, and acquisition projects. There is also funding available specifically for scientific studies, monitoring, and assessment projects, but these funds will only be 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 Indian tribes, state Indian 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 scoring points. The deadline in 2015 was September 16.

CA Department of Water Resources – Integrated Regional Water Management grants
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/irwmgp

This program was most recently funded through Proposition 84, and the last round of funding is expected in summer 2015. After that, the program may be continued with Proposition 1 funding, but, if so, the grant provisions may change. So make sure to check the web site for the most recent information.

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grants are separated into Planning and Implementation categories. Planning grant funding has been completed. Implementation grant applications must be approved by IRWM regions through the Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG) though they are submitted through individual agencies. In order to be approved, the proposed grant activity must be included in the IRWM Plan. These Plans can be amended and modified by the RWMG. So if you are considering funding your project through 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 is 25 percent, though that can be waived if the project addresses the needs of a disadvantaged community.

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The scope of IRWM grant projects is very large. Basically, they have to address statewide priorities, which are listed in the program solicitation. Relevant 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.

California Duck Stamp Projects for Waterfowl Conservation

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/grants/duckstamp/>

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. The deadline for the 14-15 grant year was January 16, 2015. There is no stated maximum grant, but funding is limited by the state Duck Stamp revenues, which was \$1.4 million in the most recent funding round. The application is very simple – 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/>

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.

Funding range is \$25,000 to \$1 million. There is no cost sharing requirement, but partnering (i.e., cost sharing provided by 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.** Further information about the ratings may be found at:

http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvpcp/species/docs/Priority%20Species_Explanation%20of%20Columns.pdf. A spreadsheet showing the CVP Priority Species, their ratings and other criteria may be found at: <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvpcp/species/index.html>

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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 their 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, 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.

Grants are for up to \$200,000. No match is required, though leveraging of funds improves scoring. The 2015 deadline is October 15.

CA Resources Agency Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program

http://resources.ca.gov/bonds_and_grants/eemp/

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program is designed to fund project 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. The RFT must have been constructed after January 1, 1990 or has not yet been constructed but is planned and budgeted, and has completed environmental reviews. You can identify eligible RTFs by contacting your City or County Transportation Department, Regional Transit Agency, Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), Council of Local Governments (COG), Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or Caltrans District Office. You will need a lot of documentation from this transportation agency, so contact them early in the process!

Project categories:

- A. Urban Forestry projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide
- B. 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
- C. Mitigation Projects Beyond the Scope of the Lead Agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement

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The EEMP 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.

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. The deadline for 2015 is July 13.

CA Department of Parks and Recreation – Habitat Conservation Fund

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

The HCF program allocates approximately \$2 million each year for grants to cities, counties, and districts to provide for nature interpretation and other programs which bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas, to protect various plant and animal species, or to acquire or develop wildlife corridors and trails.

Eligible applicants are cities, counties, and districts (park and open space district). Deadline is October 1 every year.

Match required: 1:1 match from local, private, non-state sources. Match funds must be committed at the time of the application and must be specifically for project that is the subject of the grant.

There are several categories of funding:

UNIQUE FEATURES	DEER & LION HABITAT	RARE, ENDANGERED, THREATENED, OR FULLY PROTECTED HABITAT	ANADROMOUS SALMONID & TROUT HABITAT	
Funding types	Land acquisition	Land acquisition	Land acquisition, enhancement, or restoration	
Cost types	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	
Species impact	Any Deer & Mountain Lions	Any rare, endangered, threatened, or fully protected animal and/or plant	Anadromous Salmon Trout	
UNIQUE FEATURES	RIPARIAN HABITAT	WETLANDS	TRAILS	WILDLIFE AREA ACTIVITIES
Funding types	Land acquisition, enhancement, or restoration	Land acquisition, enhancement, or restoration	Land acquisition or trail development	Educational or interpretational activities
Cost types	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	Non-Capital outlay
Species impact	Animals or plants growing close to or in a moving fresh water source (e.g., river, stream, creek)	Animals or plants growing in or near a relatively enclosed fresh water, salt water, or brackish water source	A path or track that brings people to a park or wildlife environment	No direct species impact

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

CA Department of Parks and Recreation_Land and Water Conservation Fund

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?Page_id=21360

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS: Acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Priority development projects include trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, natural areas, and cultural areas for recreational use.

Eligible applicants: Cities, counties and districts authorized to acquire, develop, operate, and maintain park and recreation areas. Property acquired or developed under the program must be maintained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation use. This is a very difficult, technical application.

Grants are up to \$2 million - 1:1 Match required. MATCH may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Funds from state local assistance programs
- GRANTEE'S employee labor
- Local or private funds
- Gifts of real property, equipment, and consumable supplies
- Volunteer services directly related to PROJECT completion furnished by professional and technical personnel, consultants, and other skilled and unskilled labor
- Free or reduced-cost use of land, facilities, or equipment
- Bequests and income from wills, estates, and trusts.

Eligible Projects

- acquisition project (e.g., to create a new wildlife corridor)
- development project (e.g., parking lots or restrooms)
- The application must only be for acquisition or development. Combination projects are not eligible.

The last grant deadline was February 3, 2015.

CA Department of Parks and Recreation – Off Highway Vehicle program

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

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 off-highway motor vehicle safety or education.

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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 and/or cultural resources.

Development - Construction of, or improvements to, facilities to sustain or enhance OHV recreational opportunity and experiences (trails, trailhead staging areas, parking, picnic and restroom facilities, etc.)

Planning - Development and preparation of plans for future projects.

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.

Acquisition - Secure interests in land to sustain and/or expand OHV recreation access and OHV opportunities.

Law Enforcement - Provides financial assistance to local and federal agencies for protection of life and property, including natural and cultural resources, related to OHV recreation and motorized access to non-motorized recreation.

Education and Safety - Provide public awareness for responsible OHV Recreation and/or provide safety programs.

Matching Funds: A 25% match (cash or in-kind) is required. This can include volunteer services. Higher match brings in higher scores in the evaluation criteria.

Eligible Applicants by Project Types	Acquisition	Development	Education & Safety	Ground Operations	Law Enforcement	Planning	Restoration
Cities and Counties	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
U.S. Forest Service	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
U.S. Bureau of Land Management	X	X	X		X	X	X
Other Federal Agencies	X	X	X	X		X	X
Federally Recognized Native American tribes	X	X	X	X		X	X
Educational Institutions			X				
Nonprofit organizations			X	X			X
State Agencies							X
Districts	X	X	X	X		X	X

- 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.

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- 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 regarding the project.
- The Applicant gets more points if they have multiple partners actively involved in the proposed work.
- Projects developed with public input prior to the preliminary Application filing deadline score higher. The date(s) of the meetings and participants have to be documented. It is important to publically notice the meetings and to include multiple stakeholders.
- Projects will score higher if they are part of an existing land management plan or help implement such a plan.
- Because of the heavy documentation requirements (including project descriptions, site plans, maps, photos, etc.), it will probably be difficult to submit competitive applications for new projects without substantial existing planning and analysis.

Eligible Project costs are very broad – basically any costs directly related to the work identified in the Project Description. Additionally, the applicant may receive reimbursement up to fifteen percent (15%) of the requested amount for indirect costs.

EPA Five Star Restoration Grant Program

http://water.epa.gov/grants_funding/wetlands/restore/index.cfm

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 \$20,000) which are focused on education rather than restoration, but restoration projects have been funded. Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) 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 & Training
- Measurable Results
- Sustainability

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National Forest Foundation 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 and citizen-based monitoring projects benefiting America's National Forests and Grasslands. MAP funds can be used to support conservation and restoration projects benefiting wildlife habitat, recreation, watershed health, and community-based forestry. By pairing federal funds—provided through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service—with non-federal dollars raised by award recipients, the resources available to nonprofit partners to implement projects are effectively doubled.

A common thread connecting NFF program areas is an interest in action-oriented projects that enhance the viability of natural resources while benefiting and directly engaging surrounding communities. The NFF will accept applications from non-governmental, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations and Native American tribes working on or adjacent to National Forests and Grasslands throughout the United States. Organizations completing on-the-ground conservation work can apply for matching funds up to twice a year, though only one MAP award may be active at any time.

All MAP awards require at least a 1:1 cash match of non-federal funds. Federal funds and in-kind contributions should be noted to show leverage for a project, but cannot be matched by MAP funds. MAP funding is available to support specific conservation and restoration projects and does not provide general programmatic support.

Categories of funding include:

- Wildlife Habitat Improvement
- Recreation
- Watershed Health & Restoration
- Community-Based Forestry

Past awards range from \$500 to over \$100,000, with a mean of \$30,000 and a median of \$25,000. This year's application is due June 24.

Urban Streams Restoration Grant

<http://www.water.ca.gov/urbanstreams/>

The intent of the USRP grant program is to fund projects that utilize innovative non-structural methods to return streams impacted by urban development to a more natural, stable state; the Program goals are 1) protecting and enhancing the natural, ecological value of streams, 2) preventing future property damage caused by flooding and bank erosion, and 3) promoting community involvement, education, and stewardship. Direct project-related costs specified in the grant agreement will be eligible for reimbursement.

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Grants range from \$1,000 to \$1 million. While no specific amount of local matching funds is required to receive a grant, applicants that contribute something to the project are generally more competitive. The contribution may be a financial match of the grant, an in-kind contribution, or a combination of both. Examples of these contributions include labor, materials, expertise (planning, design, etc.), use of equipment, right of way/easements, and funds.

Projects must be designed for a creek, stream, or river that **crosses built-up residential, commercial, or industrial property, or which crosses land where, in the near future, the land use will be residential, commercial, or industrial.** Waterways satisfying this definition may be perennial or ephemeral.

Additionally, projects must have the following elements:

- Protect, restore, or enhance ecological viability of riparian or riverine ecosystems
- Provide flood management or erosion control benefits
- Promote public awareness and local stewardship of streams
- For those projects acquiring real property, real property must be acquired only from a willing seller(s)
- Comply with other laws and regulations pertinent to the project site including CEQA and NEPA

Examples of Eligible Projects

- Projects designed to use bioengineering techniques to install plant materials, large woody debris, rock, biodegradable fabrics, mulch, fencing, irrigation or drainage systems necessary to control erosion, stabilize banks, improve channel capacity, promote natural stream processes, or diversify habitats
- Projects designed to organize and/or supervise volunteer labor to clear trash and excessive debris from stream channels and perform revegetation, erosion control and bank stabilization work
- Projects designed to develop and implement stream restoration and/or flood plain/corridor restoration plans
- Projects designed to remove culverts or storm drains as needed to stabilize and restore channels while preserving or accomplishing flood control objectives and improving habitat value
- Projects designed to carry out nonstructural flood control actions that contribute toward the goal to protect, restore and enhance natural stream environments, including the acquisition of land, and the elevation, relocation and/or flood proofing of public or private structures in conjunction with restoration activities
- Projects that utilize local citizens' groups, neighborhood volunteers, community conservation corps, or Nonprofit organizations, to provide local stream stewardship and education, or implement flood mitigation, restoration, or cleanup activities
- Projects designed to improve or provide riparian habitat on streams in heavily impacted urban areas, such as day lighting a buried stream or attenuating excess runoff due to nearby or planned development.

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All proposals must have two applicants, a sponsor, and co-sponsor. One applicant must be a local public agency and the other a citizens' group.

Flood Corridor Protection Program

<http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/fpo/sgb/fpcp/>

Grant funding available for acquiring floodplain property and for restoration, enhancement, and protection projects. Under Proposition 84 funding the grants were capped at \$5 million. If the program is continued under Proposition 1 this may change. Eligible activities include:

- A. Acquire property interests to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or floodplain while preserving or enhancing agricultural use.
- B. Set back existing levees and strengthen or modify related levees.
- C. Acquire property interests in a floodplain that cannot reasonably be protected from floods.
- D. Protecting or enhancing a flood protection corridor while preserving or enhancing wildlife value.

The projects must be located in a flood area. Match is not required but cost-share is encouraged.

CA Department of Parks and Recreation – Off Highway Vehicle program

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

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, and programs involving off-highway motor vehicle safety or education.

Relevant activities that can be funded include:

Ground Operations - Maintenance and/or conservation of facilities; compliance with soil standards and HMP; and protection of natural and/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.

Matching Funds: A 25 percent match (cash or in-kind) is required. This can include volunteer services. Higher match brings in higher scores in the evaluation criteria.

Eligible Applicants by Project Types	Development	Ground Operations	Planning	Restoration
Cities and Counties	X	X	X	X
U.S. Forest Service	X	X	X	X

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U.S. Bureau of Land Management	X		X	X
Other Federal Agencies	X	X	X	X
Federally Recognized Native American tribes	X	X	X	X
Educational Institutions				
Nonprofit organizations		X		X
State Agencies				X
Districts	X	X	X	X

- 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 regarding the project.
- The Applicant gets more points if they have multiple partners actively involved in the proposed work.
- Projects developed with public input prior to the preliminary Application filing deadline score higher. The date(s) of the meetings and participants have to be documented. It is important to publically notice the meetings and to include multiple stakeholders.
- Projects will score higher if they are part of an existing land management plan or help implement such a plan.
- Because of the heavy documentation requirements (including project descriptions, site plans, maps, photos, etc.), it will probably be difficult to submit competitive applications for new projects without substantial existing planning and analysis.

Eligible Project costs are very broad – basically any costs directly related to the work identified in the Project Description. Additionally, the applicant may receive reimbursement up to fifteen percent (15%) of the requested amount for indirect costs.

State Water Resources Control Board 319 (h) Nonpoint Source grants

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

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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.

The program includes both planning and implementation grants. Eligible planning/assessment projects may complete an assessment, study, or design identified as a high priority in a TMDL; may prepare studies, strategies, management plans, tools for management plan development, and similar items; fill recognized data gaps; consolidate previously completed planning work in a watershed; identify and prioritize appropriate management measures and practices, etc. Eligible implementation projects may include project-level planning, design, construction, construction management, implementation, and monitoring to implement full scale on-the-ground management measures and practices. Planning grants range from \$75,000 to \$175,000. Implementation grants range from \$250,000 to \$750,000. All grants require a minimum 25 percent match (individual septic system upgrades requires a match of 75 percent).

The solicitation process is conducted in two phases - Concept Proposal and Full Proposal. The two phase process takes approximately ten months. Typically, the solicitation process for a CWA §319(h) Grant runs from August (of the previous year) through May of the following year.

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.

DWR Integrated Regional Water Management grants

<http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/prop1index.cfm>

This program was most recently funded through Proposition 84 and the last round of funding is expected in summer 2015. The program was refunded in Proposition 1 funding and new draft guidelines are expected in December 2015. Make sure to check the website for the most recent information. The information below is from the Prop 84 grant programs.

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grants are separated into Planning and Implementation categories. Planning grant funding has been completed. Implementation grant applications must be approved by IRWM regions through the Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG) though they are submitted through individual agencies. In order to be approved, the proposed grant activity must be included in the IRWM Plan. These Plans can be

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>.

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amended and modified by the RWMG. So, if you are considering funding your project through 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 is 25 percent, though that can be waived if the project addresses the needs of a disadvantaged community.

The scope of IRWM grant projects is very large. Basically, they have to 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.

Wildlife Conservation Society North America Program: Climate Adaptation Fund

<http://www.wcsnorthamerica.org/ClimateAdaptationFund/tabid/4813/Default.aspx>

The Wildlife Conservation Society (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. 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. Grants are provided to U.S.-based nonprofit conservation organizations for projects within the 50 states and six U.S. territories. In 2015 pre-proposals were due April 10.

USDA NRCS programs

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

The Natural Resources Conservation Service 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. You can find more information on programs at:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/farmbill/?cid=stelprdb1237774>.

The most popular NRCS program is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) – “EQIP 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.” [More on EQIP.](#)

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The funding opportunities can be accessed by talking to staff in the local NRCS offices. To find your local office, go to <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=CA>.

FOUNDATION FUNDING

The Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund:

<http://thewaltdisneycompany.com/content/conservation-funding>

Recognizing that ecosystems are the basis of the planet's health, the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund provides financial support for the study of wildlife, the protection of habitats and community conservation and education. The goal is to support conservation organizations focused on long-term positive impacts for wildlife and habitats. To date, the DWCF has awarded more than \$24 million to projects in 112 countries. The Annual Conservation Grants are by invitation only; you submit a Letter of Inquiry and the Foundation decides whether ask you for a full proposal. The 2015 deadline for submitting inquiries is February 6. Funding is \$25,000 or less.

Hind Foundation:

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

Type of grant: Standard grant

Relevant areas of interest: Ecosystem conservation and/or plant and wildlife protection

From the website:

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.

Our Ecosystem Conservation program funds projects and programs that focus on the enhancement of habitats in which plants and wildlife thrive. We know that proper conservation and restoration of our 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, our stewardship of their populations and habitat is critical to the survival of all species.

Our Plant & Wildlife Protection program funds private organizations that desire to see plant 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.

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Key Requirements: Applicants must be nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organizations, must receive the majority of their funding support from our local community, must hold or sponsor at least one fundraising event annually, have been in operation for more than one year. They prefer to fund organizations that have raised most of the funding needed to complete the project.

No deadline, they accept applications July 1 – June 30 until they run out of funds.

Patagonia Foundation

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

Patagonia funds environmental work, specifically to 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. From their website:

We support small, grassroots, activist organizations with provocative direct-action agendas, working on multi-pronged campaigns to preserve and protect our environment. We help local groups working to protect local habitat, and think the individual battles to protect a specific stand of forest, stretch of river or indigenous wild species are the most effective in raising more complicated issues – particularly those of biodiversity and ecosystem protection – in the public mind. We look for innovative groups that produce measurable results, and we like to support efforts that force the government to abide by its own – our own – laws. Your efforts should be quantifiable, with specific goals, objectives and action plans, and should include measures for evaluating success. Because we're a privately held company, we have the freedom to fund groups off the beaten track, and that's where we believe our small grants are most effective. We support the use of creative methods to engage communities to take action, including film, photography, and books. However, media projects will only be successful in our proposal process if they are tightly linked to a direct-action campaign on the issue, with specific goals that go beyond education and awareness.

One priority area for Patagonia grants is protecting and restoring native fish populations and the habitat on which they depend. Our World Trout Initiative addresses this.

The Foundation accepts one proposal per group, per fiscal year (May 1 - April 30). Typical Grant Range: up to \$12,000. Deadlines are April 30 and August 31.

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 CA and OR. Within these watersheds, the priorities are promoting the sustainable management of forest and agricultural

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land, revitalizing streams, and restoring riparian areas, with the goal of enhancing and maintaining self-sustaining watershed ecosystems. Target watersheds in California include: The Mattole River watershed; the mid-Klamath/Scott/Shasta rivers; the McCloud tributary of the Sacramento River; and in the Sierra Nevada, the Truckee River watershed, and Yuba/Bear/American rivers.

The Foundation will not give grants to (or for) individuals, government agencies, or quasi-government agencies (i.e., cities and counties, conservation districts, etc.), benefit events, publications, or video production, and will not support public policy and advocacy projects.

No specific match is required but the foundation strongly prefers not to be the sole or primary source of funding.

The Foundation will consider projects that include acquisition and restoration. However, our funding will support the acquisition of conservation easements and restoration work, but not the acquisition of fee land. In cases where a property must be acquired before it is restored, the Foundation may approve the grant but will not provide the restoration funding until the land has been acquired.

Nature's Path EnviroKidz Giving Back Program

<http://us.envirokidz.com/about/giving-back-program>

The mission of the Nature's Path EnviroKidz Giving Back Program is to empower the children of today to change their present and future world and to protect endangered species and environments. The program provides grants of up to \$20,000 to nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and Canada that address one of the following project action areas: wildlife and endangered species conservation, habitat restoration and conservation, education of children and youth about environment issues, and helping at-risk kids through environmental and/or conservation-based programming. Funded projects must be run through or in partnership with a K-12 school/classroom, or the project must work directly with school-aged youth in the community. The application deadline is December 31, 2014. Visit the Nature's Path website to review the application guidelines.

Kern Community Foundation

http://www.kernfoundation.org/index.php?page_id=99

Upper Kern Fisheries Enhancement Fund: A grantmaking initiative that supports conservation projects in the Upper Kern River Basin.

The Upper Kern Fisheries Enhancement Fund 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:

1. Implementation of the Upper Kern Basin Fishery Management Plan

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2. Restoration of the native Kern River rainbow trout
3. Other enhancement of fisheries resources in the Upper Kern Basin

Funding amounts vary yearly. See website for application deadlines.

Sierra Fund

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

The Sierra Fund's mission is to increase and organize investment in protecting and restoring the natural resources and communities of the Sierra Nevada region. They serve the Sierra Nevada region of California.

The Sierra Fund serves two roles in the region:

1. As a community foundation, they provide philanthropic services to donors and organizations in the region, and
2. They identify and initiate critically needed programs in the region. Currently, their main program is our Reclaiming the Sierra Initiative, which works to address the legacy of historic mining in California.

For more information contact the Sierra Fund: <http://www.sierrafund.org/contact-us/>