California Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP)

Paregien Basin Phase II Recharge Expansion Project

Recharge Basin, Habitat Plantings, and Education Opportunities, Kaweah Subbasin

Project Description & Benefits

The project will repurpose 55 acres previously planted with walnut trees to a recharge basin, expanding a recharge project completed in 2016 to generate up to 900 acre-feet per year of recharge and create flood risk reduction and groundwater recharge benefits to Farmersville, CA.

The project incorporates habitat islands and native habitat plantings, and includes educational opportunities through a multilingual informational kiosk and online videos. Collaboration with the Wukchumni tribe on including educational information on indigenous village sites, and future tribal access on the adjacent KDWCD Paregien Basin Site. The project includes a potential program for guided access to ecological areas of interest.

Left: Project location
Right: Flooded walnut orchard in CA (Photo by Jain Irrigation)

California Department of Conservation

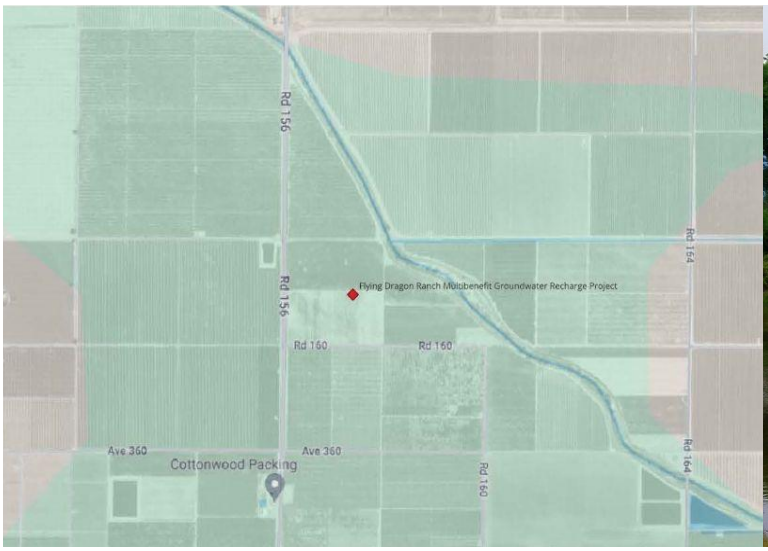
Flying Dragon Ranch

Riparian Habitat, Groundwater Recharge, and Public Recreation Area, Kaweah Subbasin

Project Description & Benefits

The project will repurpose 31 acres of citrus and 27 acres of open land along Cottonwood Creek near Seville, CA to create riparian habitat with public access, groundwater recharge, and flood control basins. This project will work in tandem with a linear recharge project on Cottonwood Creek, in development by the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

The project will reduce groundwater use and generate groundwater recharge, while providing conservation and public recreation benefits. This project will also provide flood management benefits and increased public access and educational opportunities for the communities of Seville and Yettem.



Left: Project location
Right: Cottonwood Creek and St. Johns River near Visalia (Photo by VISALIA2010)

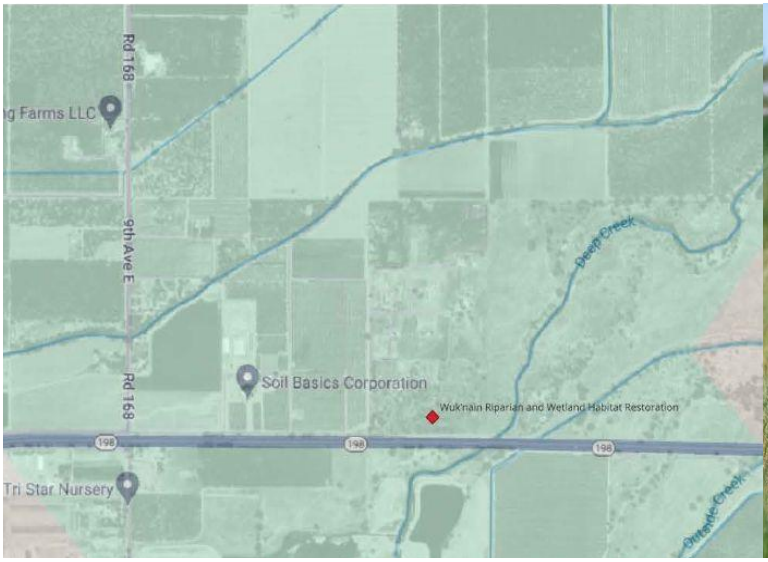
Wuk'nain Riparian and Wetland Habitat Restoration

Habitat and Tribal Land Use Restoration, Kaweah Subbasin

Project Description & Benefits

The project will enhance and restore over 10 acres in a groundwater-dependent region to woodland, forest, marsh, and wetland areas. Project partners will collect native seed to grow out plants for restoration on-site. An area was once referred to as Wuk'nain by Yokuts communities and one of the villages of the Wukchumni people, this project will revitalize Tribal land uses.

The project incorporates educational, recreational, and workforce opportunities for local communities and Tribal members. Traditional Ecological Knowledge will be incorporated into the cultivation of native plant species for restoration and land stewardship. The project will increase habitat connectivity through native habitat plantings such as hedgerows, and provide potential flood protection benefits from the restoration of the wetland area. It is also next to the Kaweah Oaks Preserve and will increase the contiguous wildlife habitat area.



Left: Project location
Right: Native plantings in a marsh

Mathews Ditch Basin Project

Flood Capture, Recharge, and Public Access Area, Kaweah Subbasin

Project Description & Benefits

The project will repurpose an area of walnut trees just south of the disadvantaged community of Patterson Tract to a 100-acre facility for flood capture and groundwater recharge. The project will create a mini buffer zone and provide public access for Patterson Tract.

The project is anticipated to provide 3,000 acre-feet of recharge during wet years, while incorporating trails for public access for Patterson Tract, as well as habitat restoration elements such as berm slopes that accommodate waterfowl access. The project will result in reduced dust emissions and pesticide/herbicide use that will benefit Patterson Tract residents.

Left: Project location
Right: Bird standing in a recharge pond

California
Department of
Conservation

Johnson Slough Basin Project

Recharge Basin and Habitat Restoration, Kaweah Subbasin

Project Description & Benefits

The project will repurpose 25 acres of walnuts near Kaweah Oaks Preserve (north of Farmersville, CA) to a groundwater recharge basin with habitat elements.

The project may result in 750 acre-feet of recharge during wet years and will incorporate habitat restoration elements such as berm slopes that accommodate waterfowl access. It is anticipated to provide flood management benefits to the surrounding area as well as Farmersville downstream. The project will also provide habitat connectivity benefits, as it is adjacent to the Kaweah Oaks Preserve.

Left: Project location
Right: Kaweah Oaks Preserve

California Department of Conservation