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Delta Conservancy awards millions in grant funding for restoration projects in the 11th Assembly District

SACRAMENTO – The Delta Conservancy has awarded Proposition 1 grant funding to eight restoration projects in Solano, Contra Costa and Sacramento counties that are in the 11th Assembly District, represented by Assemblymember Jim Frazier (D-Discovery Bay).

“The entire Delta region benefits from these grant awards,” said Frazier, who serves on the Delta Conservancy’s Board and chairs the Delta Caucus in the Legislature. “These projects are vitally important to restore and maintain the ecological health of the Delta.”

Proposition 1, approved by voters in 2014 and known as California’s “Water Bond,” authorized \$7.545 billion in general obligation bonds for a range of water projects, including ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration. The Delta Conservancy controls about \$50 million of Proposition 1 money “for competitive grants for multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities.”

The 11th Assembly District projects awarded grant funding in this cycle are as follows:

Reclamation District 2137 received \$2.9 million for the Dutch Slough Revegetation Project in Contra Costa County. The project will establish and maintain 468 acres of native tidal marsh, riparian and grassland vegetation at the Dutch Slough restoration site.

The East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy received \$1.225 million for the Knightsen Wetland Restoration and Flood Protection. The grant will be used for advanced planning for restoring wetlands and managing and treating storm water on public land in Knightsen.

American Rivers received \$999,318 for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project #2 in Contra Costa County. The grant will pay for the addition of one acre of habitat to the current Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project, to enhance the ecological benefits of the project while satisfying flood conveyance needs to protect the local area, and allowing the larger project to move forward.

American Rivers also received \$836,409 for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project. The grant will be used to convert a denuded flood control channel at the confluence of Marsh, Sand, and Deer creeks into a healthy stream corridor.

The Solano Resource Conservation District received \$444,795 for the Petersen Ranch Working Waterway Habitat Enhancement Project. The project will restore 13.5 acres of riparian habitat and improve water quality through improved cattle management practices on approximately 525 acres of actively farmed land along Lindsey Slough.

UC Davis received \$107,655 to investigate restoration techniques to limit invasion of tidal wetlands. The project identifies improved methods for tidal wetland revegetation that reduce invasion by non-native plants at Dutch Slough.

Ducks Unlimited received \$100,000 for the Sherman Island Wetland Restoration Project in Sacramento County. The grant will be used for plan and design for the restoration of 1,600 acres of emergent wetlands.

American Rivers also received \$73,493 for the Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning Project in Contra Costa County. The grant will be used to plan a project that will improve restoration project efficiency within the Marsh/Sand Creek watershed.

Additionally, the state Department of Fish & Wildlife received \$1.26 million to implement a nutria eradication effort throughout the Delta. Nutria are a large non-native, semi-aquatic rodent species known for their burrowing, posing a significant threat to Delta levies. Nutria have just begun to be found in the Delta.

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Assemblymember Frazier represents the 11th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Antioch, Bethel Island, Birds Landing, Brentwood, Byron, Collinsville, Discovery Bay, Fairfield,

Isleton, Knightsen, Locke, Oakley, Pittsburg (partial), Rio Vista, Suisun City, Travis AFB, Vacaville and Walnut Grove.

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