



Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds

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PARTNERS

- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) works with partners to foster sustainable and impactful conservation solutions so that people and nature thrive together. Chartered by Congress in 1984, NFWF has grown to become the nation's largest conservation foundation. Since its founding, NFWF has funded more than 23,900 projects that have generated a total conservation impact of \$12 billion.



Chinook Salmon in the Sacramento River

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced a 2026 round of funding for Sacramento Valley Floodplain Enhancement for Salmon and Shorebirds projects. Two new fish and shorebird habitat restoration grants totaling \$1 million were awarded. The two awards will generate more than \$1 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of more than \$2 million.

The projects supported by the grants will advance the long-term health of the Sacramento River Basin in California. Projects will create seasonal shorebird habitat during critical spring and fall migration periods and provide technical assistance to willing private landowners who want to implement conservation practices on their land that have potential benefit to both shorebirds and salmon.

NFWF has been active in voluntary habitat restoration activities throughout California for more than 30 years, awarding federal, state and private funds to help restore critical habitats and to voluntarily stabilize and increase populations of important species of wildlife and native fish. This year marks the first time that NFWF has issued a funding solicitation focused on habitat restoration in the Sacramento Valley.

(continued)



Long-billed dowitcher

Enhancing Shorebird Habitat on Sacramento Valley Ricelands (CA)

Grantee: California Rice Commission
Grant Amount:\$100,000
Matching Funds:\$114,800
Total Project Amount:.....\$214,800
Create 2,500 acres of high-quality, seasonal habitat for migratory shorebirds in the Sacramento Valley including the long-billed dowitcher, American avocet and black-necked stilt. Project will collaborate with willing rice farmers to create shallow flooded fields during critical spring and fall migration periods, contributing to shorebird conservation along the Pacific Flyway while continuing to support agricultural production.

Increasing Participation in Voluntary Habitat Conservation Programs in the Sacramento Valley (CA)

Grantee: The Nature Conservancy
Grant Amount:.....\$902,900
Matching Funds:.....\$903,000
Total Project Amount:.....\$1,805,900
Work with farmers in the Sacramento Valley to support the recovery of migratory shorebird populations by maximizing voluntary landowner participation in federal and state conservation programs, which benefit managed wetlands and private farmland during critical shorebird migration periods. Project will conduct strategic outreach and communications, provide technical assistance, and create tools to demonstrate the multiple benefits of participation in shorebird habitat incentive programs. The grantee will coordinate with fish conservation efforts and when possible, integrate practices that benefit shorebirds with emerging salmon restoration practices.