Committed to Conservation

Westlands Water District is committed to improving our environment and the viability of native species. A reliable water source for farms and communities is directly tied to the health of our ecosystems. We're proud to invest in an array of strategies that support the health of at-risk species and our ecosystems, the efficient use of water throughout California, and adaptive management of our resources to ensure a reliable water supply for future generations.

Conservation in Action

Westlands has a long history of collaborating with federal, state, and other public water agencies on projects that have restored thousands of acres of wetlands, enhanced instream habitat and flow, and improved water quality in the Delta for the benefit of at-risk species, fish, migratory birds and other wetland-dependent organisms.

Tule Red Restoration Project

Westlands, in partnership with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Valley Water, secured property in Suisun Marsh for the Tule Red Restoration Project. The project opened more than 400 acres of wetlands to daily tides.

Sacramento Valley Salmon Recovery Program

Westlands, alongside Sacramento Valley farmers and other water agencies, explored creative ways to spread water across agricultural lands for fish rearing and fish food production in the traditional floodplain.

Photos: Tule Red Restoration Project

Westlands Water District

3130 N. Fresno Street P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, CA 93703-6056
Phone: 559-224-1523 | pubaffairs@wwd.ca.gov | **wwd.ca.gov**

Committed to Conservation *(continued)*

Westlands Water District is committed to improving our environment and the viability of native species. A reliable water source for farms and communities is directly tied to the health of our ecosystems. We're proud to invest in an array of strategies that support the health of at-risk species and our ecosystems, the efficient use of water throughout California, and adaptive management of our resources to ensure a reliable water supply for future generations.

Lower Yolo Restoration Project

Westlands completed the Lower Yolo Restoration Project in partnership with the California Department of Water Resources. The project restored and enhanced approximately 2,100 acres of former cattle pastureland to tidal marsh, riparian, and upland buffer habitat that now provides new sources of food and shelter for native fish, including smelt and salmon.

Photo: Lower Yolo Restoration Project

The recovery of at-risk species will not occur overnight, but rather will take a long-term commitment to implement a mosaic of actions. ***Westlands' habitat restoration approach represents just one step on a long journey to recover at-risk species and to protect and restore our water supply.*** The Lower Yolo Restoration Project is part of California EcoRestore, an initiative launched in 2015 to advance 30,000 acres of critical habitat restoration and enhancement in the Delta. In particular, the Lower Yolo Restoration Project has four primary objectives:

1. *Provide ecosystem functions associated with the combination of Delta freshwater aquatic, tidal marsh, floodplain, seasonal wetland, and lowland grassland interfaces that existed historically,*
2. *Enhance regional food web productivity in support of Delta smelt recovery,*
3. *Provide rearing habitats for out-migrating salmonids, and*
4. *Support a broad range of other aquatic and wetland-dependent species, including Sacramento splittail and Swainson's hawk.*

Lower Yolo Restoration Project by the Numbers

- **$9 million** invested in construction
- **2,100** enhanced and restored acres
  - — ***1,682*** *acres of tidal marsh restoration*
  - — ***364*** *acres of transitional upland buffer habitat*
  - — ***47*** *acres of enhanced existing riparian habitat*
- **35** acres of existing tidal marsh enhancement

Westlands Water District

3130 N. Fresno Street P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, CA 93703-6056
Phone: 559-224-1523 | pubaffairs@wwd.ca.gov | **wwd.ca.gov**