

CONAWAY RANCH

Flood Protection. Ecosystem Restoration. Integrated Water Management. Recreation. Open Space. Farmland Protection.

CONAWAY RANCH MULTI-OBJECTIVE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

RESOURCE AREA	OPPORTUNITY	DESCRIPTION	PUBLIC BENEFIT
FLOOD CONTROL	Conaway Ranch Floodway Corridor Project	<p>New Sacramento River Bypass / Weir</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construct new weir and channel into the Yolo Bypass north of I-5 <p>Conaway Floodway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construct adjustable weirs south of Rd 25, north of Davis wetlands - Establish emergency procedures for operating weirs - Construct low-level levee system on west side of property - Periodically flood ag lands on Conaway Ranch currently outside Yolo Bypass <p>Remove Yolo Bypass Flow Impediments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove existing tracks and trestle in Yolo Bypass and reroute through Conaway Ranch - Convert RD 2035 channel to underground pipeline 	<p>The Conaway Ranch Floodway Corridor Project provides an excellent opportunity to significantly improve the flood control performance of the State-Federal Flood Control System. The project would provide regional flood managers with additional system flexibility and peak-period storage capacity that would substantially improve flood protection for large portions of the Sacramento metropolitan area, by providing the opportunity to substantially lower flood water surface elevations in portions of the Sacramento River, American River, Natomas Cross Canal, Natomas East Main Drainage Canal, and the Yolo Bypass.</p> <p>In addition to increasing flood protection for the Sacramento region, creation of a floodway on Conaway Ranch could enhance fish passage through the Yolo Bypass, re-create historical floodplain spawning and juvenile rearing habitat for salmon, splittail, and other native fish and provide the foundation for other potential enhancement projects, among other things.</p>
	Local / Regional Drainage Improvements	<p>Modify the current urban and agricultural drainage system east of Woodland, rerouting flows through Conaway Ranch and thereby increasing capacity and reliability</p>	<p>These improvements would provide local flood protection for Woodland, and would reduce the potential for flooding of eastern Yolo County, including I-5 west of the Yolo Bypass, while enhancing ground water recharge for the region.</p>
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION	Conaway Ranch Floodplain Habitat and Fish Migration Restoration Project	<p>Yolo Bypass Floodplain Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Broaden and roughen Tule Canal on Conaway Ranch to create seasonally inundated shallow water habitat - Provide opportunity to increase frequency of inundation of Conaway Ranch property inside Yolo Bypass, beyond emergency flood control needs, to re-create historical floodplain habitat for salmon, splittail, and other native fish spawning and/or juvenile rearing <p>Yolo Bypass Fish Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construct improvements to New Sacramento River Bypass / Weir to provide for fish passage (new vertical slot weir and/or fish ladders or improvements) - Provide opportunity to supply water to area each year for fishery enhancement purposes <p>RD 2035 Sacramento River Fish Screen / Pumping Station Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upgrade the currently unscreened 400 cfs diversion facility to meet state/federal standards and facilitate joint use with local agencies. 	<p>The Floodplain Habitat and Fish Migration Restoration projects would help improve, restore, and protect fish habitat and passages. Enhancing fish passage through the Yolo Bypass and increased access to seasonally inundated floodplain habitat would contribute to efforts to increase populations of listed fish such as Delta smelt as addressed specifically in the March 2007 "Pelagic Fish Action Plan," Chinook salmon, and other native fish species. Increased access to high quality floodplain habitat is consistent with state and regional conservation strategies and recovery planning for native fish and will provide additional benefit to wildlife. Increased floodplain access also provides the foundation for other enhancement projects (riparian planting, dendritic channels, and new or improved fish ladders to facilitate fish passage, etc.).</p> <p>The Fish Screen project would protect juvenile and migrating fish species, such as Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and Sacramento splittail, while providing surface supply for both urban and agricultural use.</p>
INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT	Water Quality	<p>Regional Wastewater Discharges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in regional efforts to improve supply water quality resulting in improved effluent discharge quality - Provide opportunity for reuse of effluent on Conaway Ranch <p>Yolo Bypass Water Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with Yolo Bypass Working Group to assist in implementation of plan to control pollutants of concern - Continue working to increase control of pollutant discharges from Conaway Ranch 	<p>Natural pollutant sources and ag return flows, municipal effluent, urban runoff and other pollutant sources enter Conaway Ranch through several tributaries to the Yolo Bypass. Conaway Ranch can assist in developing regional solutions for control of these pollutants to improve the overall water quality of the Yolo Bypass consistent with the desire to improve, restore and protect critical fishery habitat.</p> <p>Conaway Ranch currently has a closed system for control of pollutants generated on the ranch, which could be integrated into regional solutions for improvement of bypass water quality.</p>
	Water Supply	<p>Davis-Woodland Water Supply Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide opportunity for joint use of RD 2035 diversion and pumping facilities - Assist regional efforts to site and construct supply/treatment facilities - Conjunctively use Conaway surface and groundwater to help meet project summer demands (purchased water component of DWWSP) 	<p>Conaway Ranch is in the unique position of being able to provide local project participants with both a supplemental surface water supply and an opportunity for joint use of the Sacramento River diversion facilities. Local agency use of this higher quality surface water in lieu of their current groundwater use would avoid the need for costly, energy-intensive desalting treatment to meet basin plan water quality objectives. Reducing the salinity of their discharges and reducing current levels of other critical constituents also benefits the Sacramento River and the Delta.</p>
RECREATION / OPEN SPACE	Managed Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide opportunities for managed public access to view wildlife and agricultural operations - Allow for construction of facilities for managed public access 	<p>This project would enhance regional public recreation and environmental education opportunities.</p>