



Tulare Basin Watershed Initiative

The Tulare Basin Watershed Initiative's (TBWI) objective is to promote integrated natural resource management strategies in the Tulare Basin watershed by connecting diverse stakeholders in the Tulare Basin with resources to build capacity for projects that enhance water supply, water quality, flood management and ecosystem services.

The Watershed Coordinator, funded primarily through a three-year grant from the Department of Conservation (DOC), works with the seven Tulare Basin Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) planning groups to ensure that IRWM projects consider and incorporate ecological, watershed and sustainability principles.

The Initiative just released its second quarterly report to the DOC for the reporting period of August 23, 2011 through November 18, 2011. Some of the accomplishments made during this period include:

- Identified project links among Tulare Basin IRWMs and collaboratively developed TBWP conservation projects, in preparation for the 2012 Prop 84 implementation grant cycle.
- Met with diverse regional organizations to determine opportunities for collaboration and common focus areas.
- Worked with disadvantaged communities to better position them for Prop 84 funding to improve community water systems.

See full report at www.tularebasinwildlifepartners.org.

Tulare Basin Watershed Initiative Website

TBWP and the Watershed Initiative are teaming up to provide natural resource stakeholders in the Tulare Basin with a powerful tool that will help them attract more resources to the region for stronger projects that have multiple benefits to communities, agriculture and wildlife.



Among the highlights of the planned website are an interactive map with layers that will reveal on-the-ground projects in the Tulare Basin, IRWM boundaries, climate change projections, environmentally sensitive regions and disadvantaged communities; a database of projects in the Tulare Basin that can be enhanced with increased collaboration; and a database of funding opportunities for multi-benefit projects in the region. The estimated launch date for the website is June 2012.

Funding Update

The Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners would like to thank the Kenney Brothers Foundation for renewing its \$5,000

contribution to TBWP and Edison International for its \$2,500 contribution via the regional office of Southern California Edison. These funds add to the \$27,000 cooperative agreement from the Bureau of Land Management and Pacific Gas and Electric Company's \$3,000 contribution. All support the TBWP's role in providing critically important assistance to the implementation of the Tulare Basin Watershed Initiative and its integrated natural resource management approach to balancing the needs of nature, agriculture, and the economy.

Presidential Migratory Bird Stewardship Award Nomination: Atwell Island Project

The Atwell Island Project (AIP), a spectacular model of wetland and upland restoration in the Tulare Basin, is in the running for a highly competitive national federal agency award. The Bureau of Land Management took the lead in nominating AIP for the 2012 Presidential Migratory Bird Stewardship Award, with Natural Resources Conservation Service and TBWP signing on as co-applicants. We all anxiously await further word on the outcome of our nomination for this prestigious award. Read the complete nomination at www.tularebasinwildlifepartners.org.