



TULARE BASIN WILDLIFE PARTNERS
Creating Opportunities for Nature and People

August 2010 Project Update

Watershed Study Offers Key Strategies

Sufficient water is critical to managing and restoring wetland and riparian habitats in the Tulare Basin. In March 2010, Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners (TBWP) completed a comprehensive watershed study of water flow, use, and management in the Tulare Basin. The Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan Water Supply Strategies Report charts strategies to assess, define, identify, and obtain the water supply for high-priority, multi-purpose, conjunctive use conservation projects. This uniquely valuable report sets the stage for Tulare Basin water agencies and TBWP to partner, collaboratively plan, and implement conservation and water management improvement projects on the local and regional level; and prioritizes leading opportunities to protect, restore, and enhance habitat at the watershed and landscape scale.



White-Fronted Geese. Steve Laymon ©2006

Multi-benefit Water Management

This spring, TBWP completed Phase 1 of a four-phase demonstration project in partnership with the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority. By re-designing a 105-acre recharge basin, this demonstration project offers benefits for wildlife and people. Increased flexibility in water management creates new opportunities for fall and winter migrating waterfowl habitat, brood water habitat for nesting ducks, groundwater recharge, and flood control.

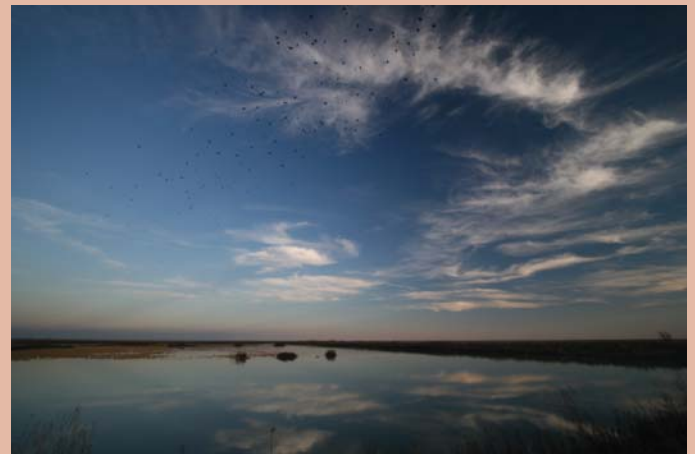
TBWP Receives Critical Agency Support

In July 2010, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, Central Valley Joint Venture awarded TBWP with a \$36,000 grant to support the organization's consulting contract for Conservation Strategy Group from October 2010 to September 2011.

Conservation Strategy Group provides informational, strategic planning, and funding source services to TBWP and to key members of the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group (TLBWG), an alliance of more than 70 agency, non-profit, and industry partners who care about quality of life in the Tulare Basin. This funding greatly enhances TBWP's ability to implement high-priority conservation projects and to assist in implementing the goals of the Central Valley Joint Venture 2006 Implementation Plan for Tulare Basin.

With a generous \$27,500 grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), TBWP will augment its outreach efforts to water groups, water agencies and landowners. During 2011, TBWP will: partner with these stakeholders to implement projects with a focus on wetland and upland restoration; inform landowners about NRCS programs; improve outreach materials about water conservation efforts; and enable TBWP to coordinate the TLBWG semi-annual meeting.

TBWP greatly appreciates important assistance from its agency partners.



Mitchell Pond, Atwell Island. Steve Laymon ©2006