TULARE BASIN WILDLIFE PARTNERS

Creating Opportunities for Nature and People

A Conservation Vision for the Tulare Basin

Introduction

The Tulare Basin is a land of superlatives. Located in California's southern San Joaquin Valley, the Tulare Basin encompasses portions of Fresno, Kern, Kings, and Tulare counties, where the mighty Kings, Kaweah, Tule, and Kern rivers and dozens of smaller creeks flow into the historic Tulare Lakebed. This region once featured the most extensive complex of freshwater wetlands west of the Mississippi River and the largest freshwater lake west of the Rocky Mountains. Artifacts unearthed here highlight the Tulare Basin as the location of the longest continuous human habitation in North America.

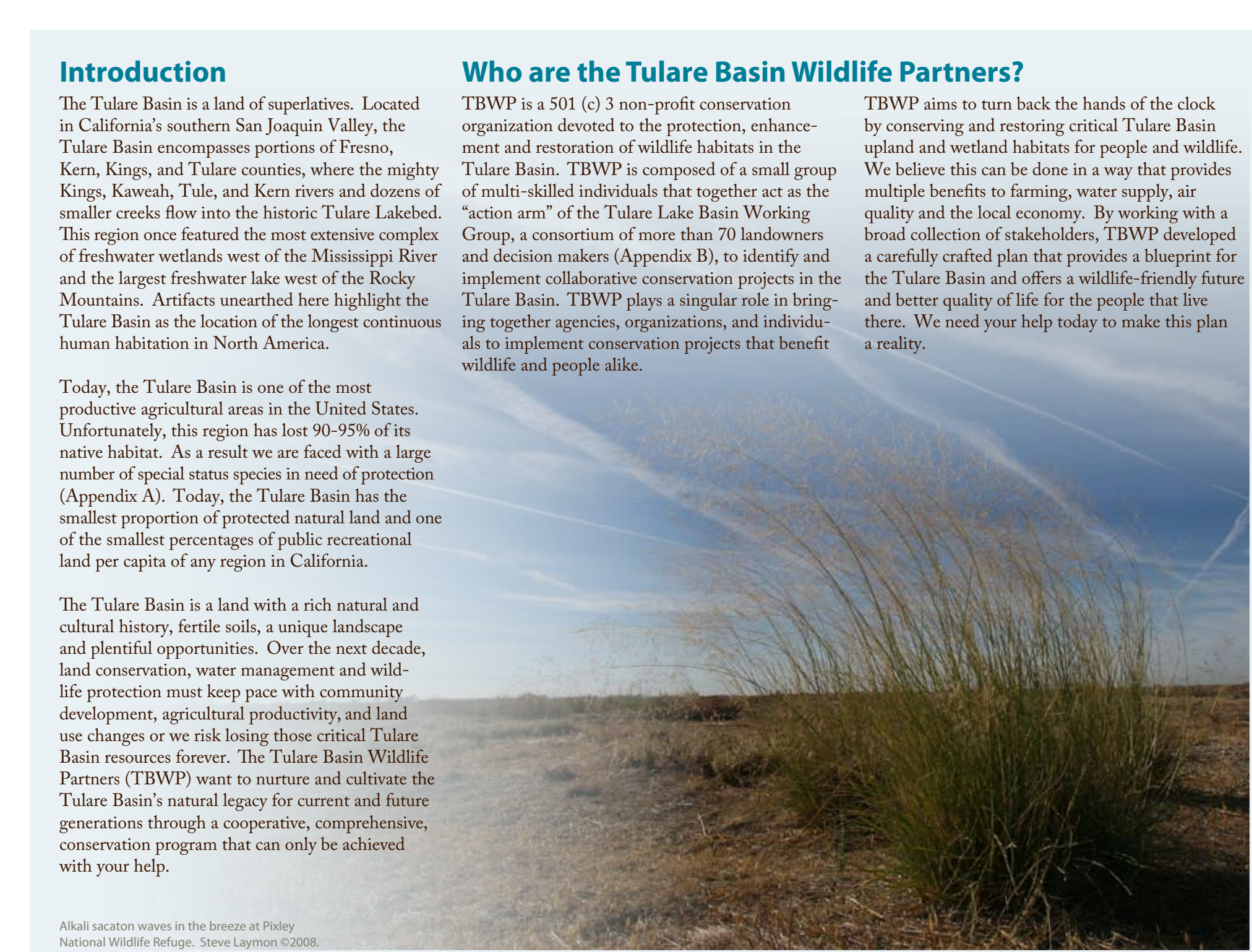
Today, the Tulare Basin is one of the most productive agricultural areas in the United States. Unfortunately, this region has lost 90-95% of its native habitat. As a result we are faced with a large number of special status species in need of protection (Appendix A). Today, the Tulare Basin has the smallest proportion of protected natural land and one of the smallest percentages of public recreational land per capita of any region in California.

The Tulare Basin is a land with a rich natural and cultural history, fertile soils, a unique landscape and plentiful opportunities. Over the next decade, land conservation, water management and wildlife protection must keep pace with community development, agricultural productivity, and land use changes or we risk losing those critical Tulare Basin resources forever. The Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners (TBWP) want to nurture and cultivate the Tulare Basin's natural legacy for current and future generations through a cooperative, comprehensive, conservation program that can only be achieved with your help.

Who are the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners?

TBWP is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit conservation organization devoted to the protection, enhancement and restoration of wildlife habitats in the Tulare Basin. TBWP is composed of a small group of multi-skilled individuals that together act as the "action arm" of the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group, a consortium of more than 70 landowners and decision makers (Appendix B), to identify and implement collaborative conservation projects in the Tulare Basin. TBWP plays a singular role in bringing together agencies, organizations, and individuals to implement conservation projects that benefit wildlife and people alike.

TBWP aims to turn back the hands of the clock by conserving and restoring critical Tulare Basin upland and wetland habitats for people and wildlife. We believe this can be done in a way that provides multiple benefits to farming, water supply, air quality and the local economy. By working with a broad collection of stakeholders, TBWP developed a carefully crafted plan that provides a blueprint for the Tulare Basin and offers a wildlife-friendly future and better quality of life for the people that live there. We need your help today to make this plan a reality.



Alkali sacaton waves in the breeze at Pixley National Wildlife Refuge. Steve Laymon ©2008.

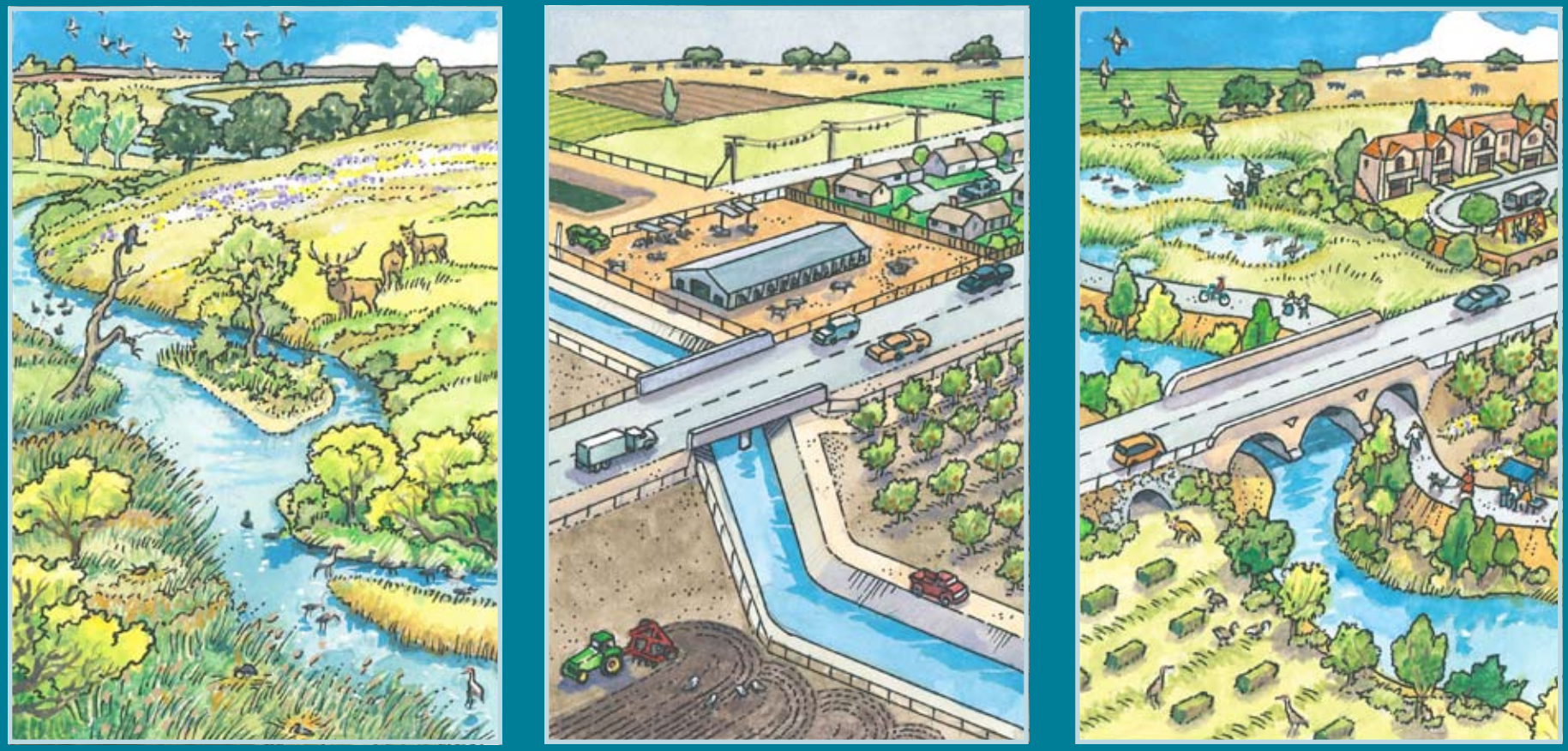


Figure 1. From left to right: Two hundred years ago, abundant wildlife inhabited the Tulare Basin's wetlands and uplands. Over time, humans modified the landscape to support the needs of a growing population. Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners envisions a future where wildlife habitat and human needs co-exist. Original artwork by Doug Hansen ©2008.

Vision for the Tulare Basin

The Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners envisions a landscape in which wildlife and agriculture co-exist, and at times complement each other or even overlap (Figure 1.). Conservation-minded farmers implement land management practices that create wildlife-friendly cropland without compromising their livelihood. Well-placed basins offer flood protection during wet years, serve as water storage and groundwater recharge sites during dry ones, and provide temporary wetland habitat for migrating waterfowl. Permanent wetlands, protected and managed for wildlife habitat, provide places for families to picnic and birdwatch and serve as outdoor education sites where students and tourists can glimpse a snapshot of Tulare Basin's past. In areas where farming is no longer viable, crucial upland habitat can be created, providing a home forendangered species such as the San Joaquin kit fox, blunt nosed leopard lizard, or Swainson's hawk. As wildlife populations become more stable and secure, Tulare Basin residents will benefit from additional economic opportunities centered around natural resources, including eco-tourism, habitat restoration projects, and wetland management.

The Tulare Basin, Then...

The Tulare Basin encompasses the southern third of California's Great Central Valley. The San Joaquin River lines its northern border, while the east, west and southern edges are delineated by the Sierra Nevada, Coast, and Transverse mountain ranges respectively. One hundred and fifty years ago, the Tulare Basin was a unique and spectacular natural landscape, in which desert scrub alternated with lush wetlands (Figure 2.). Raging rivers bringing Sierra snowmelt fed six freshwater lakes, including the vast Tulare Lake. A network of sloughs and wetlands connected the lakes, so in a wet year a person traveling by boat could navigate throughout the Tulare Basin without touching dry ground.

These waterways were lined with valley oaks, cottonwoods, willows, sycamores, and dense beds of marsh-loving tules for which the region and the lake are named. Herds of elk, pronghorn, and deer covered the plains, while hundreds of thousands of migrating birds darkened the sky above. Professional fisherman caught fish by the ton and shipped Tulare Basin turtles to San Francisco to be served as Tulare Lake Terrapin soup. The plentiful game and relatively mild climate made the region amenable to the native people; the Tulare Basin boasted some of the oldest and densest Native American populations in North America. According to some estimates, at least 19,000 Yokuts once lived in, or migrated through, the Tulare Basin.

As settlers came to the Tulare Basin en masse in the late-1840s, they brought about rapid and comprehensive land use change. After the United States acquired California in the Mexican-American war, the U.S. government increased military presence and encouraged rapid settlement in the Tulare Basin as part of the answer to the "Indian problem" in

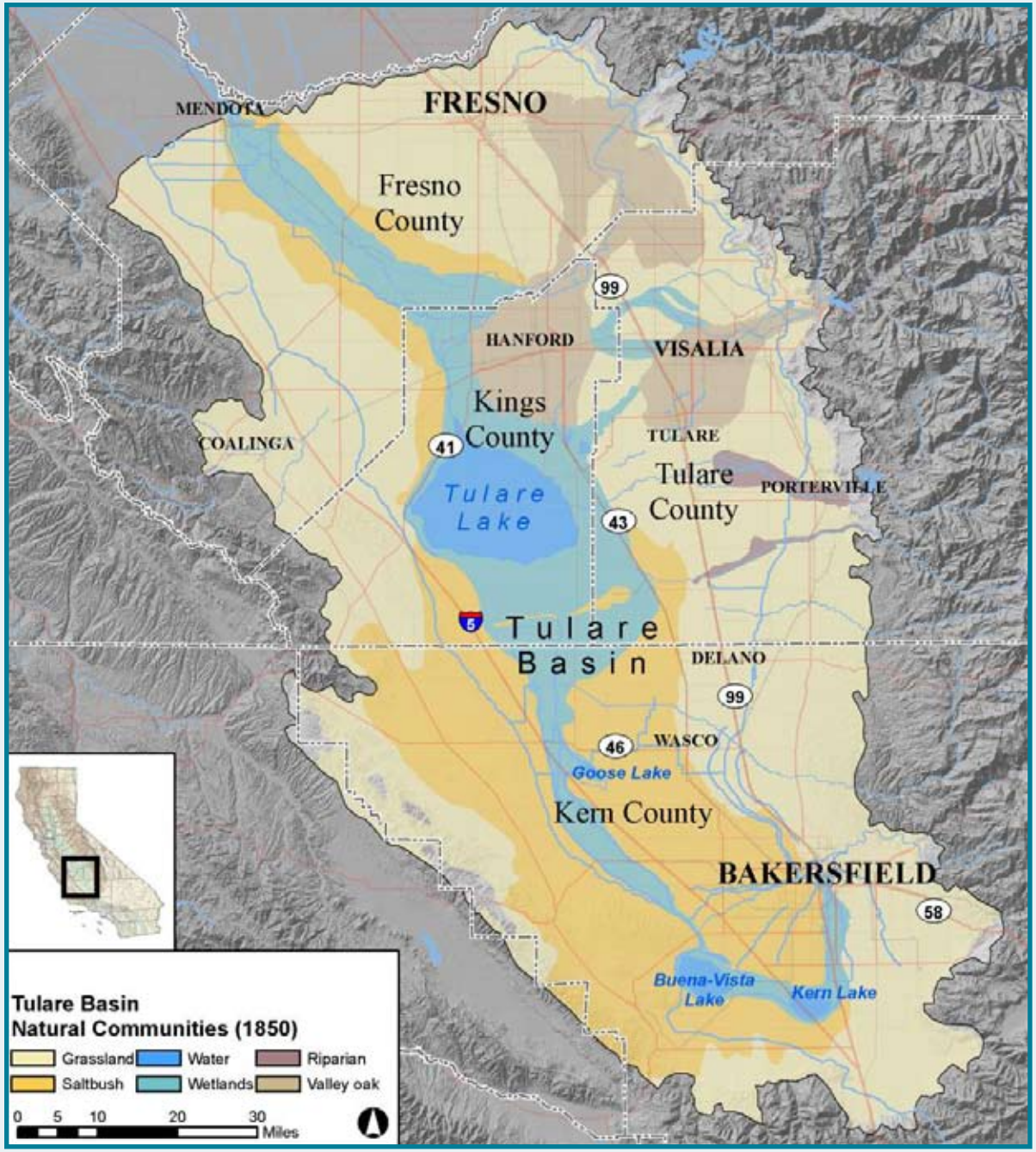


Figure 2. Map depicting expansive Tulare Basin natural communities in 1850. Scott Phillips, GIS Analyst and Network Administrator, Endangered Species Recovery Program, California State University, Stanislaus ©2010.

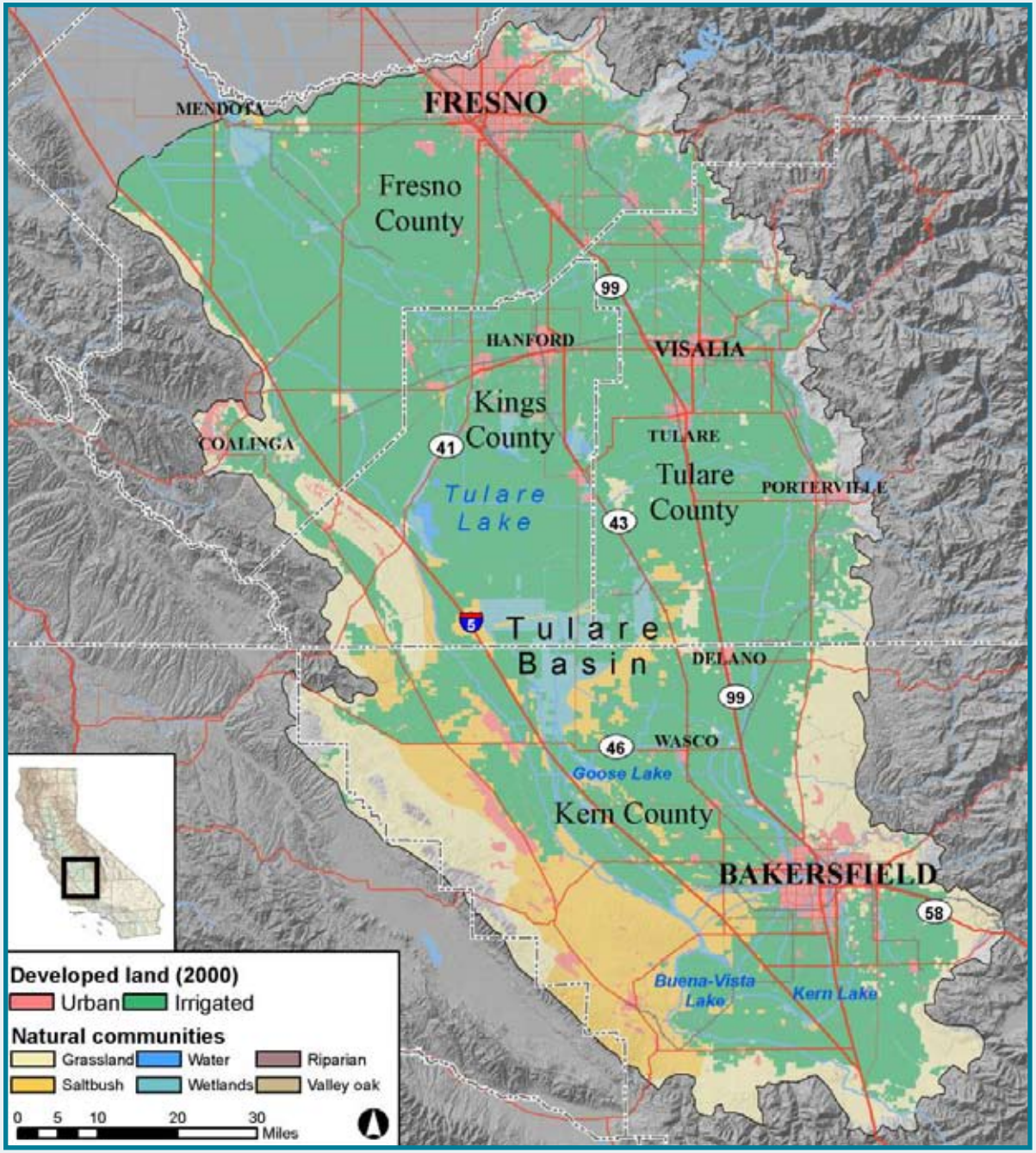


Figure 3. Map depicting developed land and natural communities in the Tulare Basin in the year 2000. Scott Phillips, GIS Analyst and Network Administrator, Endangered Species Recovery Program, California State University, Stanislaus ©2010.

California's interior. By the 1850s, most of the Yokuts had been forced onto reservations. By 1905, only 154 Yokuts remained in the Tulare Basin.

...and Now

Settlers in the Tulare Basin initiated irrigated agriculture in 1851 in an area now known as Tejon Ranch. Reclamation districts soon formed, building levees and diverting water into rapidly expanding irrigation canals, while slowly decreasing the natural flow of water into Tulare Lake. By 1900, Tulare Lake was dry for the first time in more than 20,000 years.

Within 50 years, settlers and farmers had dammed every major river feeding the Tulare Basin and created a high-tech irrigation system that enabled the conversion of hundreds of thousands of acres of prairie, forest, and desert land to cultivated crops. Groundwater pumps also proliferated, causing groundwater levels to fall dramatically. The combination of surface water plumbing and groundwater pumping facilitated the spread of irrigated agriculture, changing the physical and ecological landscape of the Tulare Basin forever (Figure 3.).

Despite its dramatic transformation over the past century and a half, the Tulare Basin is not entirely changed by humans. Thousands of birds return to protected wetlands such as the Kern Natural Wildlife Refuge; the Tupman Tule Elk preserve maintains a few dozen descendents of the once-vast Tule elk herds; and in the last 50 years, the precipitation from four, very wet winters (1969, 1982-83, 1986, 1997-98) breached levees, dams, holding basins, and canals to reclaim portions of Tulare Lake. Flocks of white pelicans, terns, ducks, and swans returned to visit the restored lake, allowing residents to glimpse a ghost of the Tulare Basin's former natural glory.

Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan

In 2005, the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group, an alliance of over 70 non-profit, agency and industry partners, directed TBWP to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for the Tulare Basin, built on, updating, and expanding existing conservation plans. Five years later, TBWP completed the Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan. When implemented, this plan will protect or restore important seasonal and permanent wetlands, riparian areas, and upland habitat, benefitting wildlife and people in the Tulare Basin. This habitat would exist as a patchwork of lands managed by federal agencies, states, tribes, cities, non-profit organizations, and private landowners. The majority of it would remain as privately-owned, working landscapes (Figure 4.).

The Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan is divided into five parts: The first three volumes each examine a different area within the Tulare Basin. These are: the Goose Lake Conservation Plan (April 2006), the Sand Ridge – Tulare Lake Conservation Plan (July 2006), the Buena Vista Lake – Kern Lake Conservation Plan (December 2006). Together, these plans would protect or restore over 100,000 acres of wetlands, including approximately 6,668 acres of permanent wetlands – increasing the current amount of permanent wetlands by 97%. These plans also identify 292,000 acres of upland habitat for protection and restoration.

A fourth volume, the Tulare Basin Riparian and Wildlife Corridor Conservation Plan (February 2009), identifies 16 key corridors connecting conservation areas and surrounding landscapes. The predicted changes in climate and precipitation patterns will have a profound impact on the physical, ecological, and agricultural characteristics of the Tulare Basin. The linkages identified in the corridor plan are a key element in the climate change adaptation strategy incorporated into the Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan. Corridors linking larger protected areas to each other and to the surrounding mountain ranges will enable Tulare Basin flora and fauna to migrate to different latitudes or higher elevations as climate change makes their current homes inhospitable. This critical piece of planning, when implemented, will greatly increase the chance of survival for native plants and wildlife in a rapidly changing world. The Tulare Basin Riparian and Wildlife Corridor Conservation Plan would protect or restore approximately 30,000 acres of riparian habitat and 550,000 acres of upland habitat.

A fifth and final volume, Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan Water Supply Strategies Report (March 2010) complements the other four plans. Sufficient water is critical to the management and restoration of wetland and riparian habitats in the Tulare Basin. The Water Supply Strategies Report quantifies the water needs for the four area plans described above and identifies potential water supplies. The report concludes that the total environmental water demand is between approximately 540,000 – 366,000 acre feet annually. The former figure applies to very wet years and assumes maximum utilization of all existing and potential wetland and riparian habitat; the latter figure is a dry year minimum required to maintain permanent wetlands and water-dependent riparian vegetation. This uniquely valuable report sets the stage for Tulare Basin water agencies and the TBWP to partner, collaboratively plan, and implement conservation and water management improvement projects on the local and regional level. It prioritizes leading opportunities to protect, restore, and enhance habitat at the watershed and landscape scale.

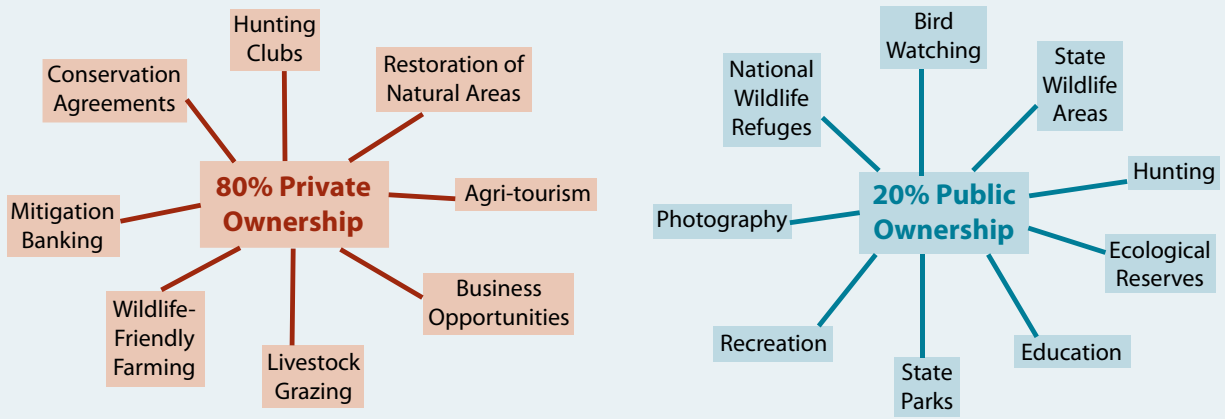


Figure 4. Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners envisions a landscape in the Tulare Basin that balances diverse places for public enjoyment with privately-owned healthy, functioning natural and agricultural lands.

Conservation Plan Goals

Preserve existing native habitat

Preserve and restore corridors between patches of existing native habitat

Preserve and restore riparian and upland corridors linking the Sierra Nevada, Transverse Range and Coast Range mountains with the Tulare Basin

Protect and restore habitat for wintering and nesting waterfowl and other wetland species

Create flood control benefits for cities, farms, and endangered species habitat by providing and managing wetlands to store flood water and recharge groundwater

Re-create integral historical southern San Joaquin Valley landscapes

Provide natural areas where residents and visitors can relax, recreate, bird-watch, explore, and learn

Steve Laymon ©2008

Steve Laymon ©2008

Johanna Kamansky ©2010

Benefits

Combine wildlife enhancement with improved water quality and supply; provide flood control; and increase groundwater recharge areas

Improve air quality in one of the nation's most polluted air basins

Recover populations of endangered species and avoid future species listings

Enhance educational experiences for our children

Maintain scenic vistas and natural areas

Provide recreational opportunities for families

Offer climate change mitigation and adaptation through habitat enhancement and carbon sequestration

Optimize agricultural production in harmony with natural resource protection

Increase business and tourism opportunities

Restored wetland and public viewing area near Alpaugh, California.
Johanna Kamansky ©2010.

Accomplishments

TBWP has already taken some big steps towards realizing its vision: The 70+ members of the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group and TBWP meet biannually to identify opportunities for project implementation and collaboration. The three area conservation plans and the corridor plan, which were funded through the US Bureau of Reclamation Central Valley Project Conservation Program, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Resources Legacy Fund Preserving Wild California Program, were adopted by the California Department of Fish and Game as Conceptual Area Protection Plans. A major anonymous donor funded the Tulare Basin Conservation Plan Water Supply Strategies Report.

TBWP has also begun implementing projects within its planning area. For example, TBWP is working with the Deer Creek and Tule River Water Authority on a four-phase groundwater banking project to enhance permanent wetland habitat. This project offers a model for future collaborative, multi-benefit conservation projects that the TBWP will undertake working with water management entities in the Tulare Basin.

Further south, TBWP and Tulare Lake Basin Working Group partners have teamed up with the Bureau of Land Management to restore 8,000 acres of wetlands and uplands near the small Tulare Basin town of Alpaugh. The Alpaugh Unified School District and the Tulare County Office of Education are also helping to make this area a field classroom to provide hands-on learning opportunities for teachers and students.

Steve Laymon ©2008

Bobby Kamansky ©2008

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Needs

TBWP has the immediate need for $250,000 annually to provide leadership for this important conservation effort. Some of these funds will come from agencies and foundations, but an important portion needs to come from individual donors. TBWP is also seeking more than $50 million to implement 11 high-priority conservation projects in the Tulare Basin during the next five years.

How You Can Help

Implementing TBWP's Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan requires the cooperation of local, state, and federal agencies, organizations, and individuals committed to making the Tulare Basin a better place to live for both people and wildlife.

- If you are an interested individual, you can help this effort by supporting TBWP in several ways: by making a financial donation, by providing contacts to other interested individuals, and by encouraging your elected officials to support this effort.
- If you are a manager of a governmental agency or conservation organization, you can direct existing funding and staff efforts to help achieve this regional vision.
- If you are a state or federal legislator, you can develop funding through new programs and legislation that will support this project.
- If you are a corporation or foundation, you can help fund critical land and water conservation projects that achieve this important vision.

The current recession has provided a pause in the rapid pace of residential and commercial development and a chance to think long-term about land use. Major projects, such as the high speed rail system through the Tulare Basin, will forever change land use patterns in the valley. Water policy and agriculture are at a critical juncture in the Tulare Basin. All of these factors make this an optimum time to begin to implement this conservation program.

Be assured that each dollar contributed to TBWP is stretched to the maximum extent. TBWP is a cost-effective, science-based, results-oriented organization who maximizes funder investment by implementing collaborative projects that provide model conservation solutions of local, regional, state-wide, national, and international significance. With relatively little overhead and no capital expenses, your tax-deductible donation truly funds wildlife habitat conservation in the Tulare Basin.

There is no better time to move forward than now.

Join the TBWP Team and become a part of this exciting effort to protect and restore the Tulare Basin, a critical part of California's rich natural heritage.

To receive a list of current needs and action opportunities, contact:

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Appendix A: Tulare Basin Special Status Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status*	Affinity
ARTHROPODS			
Branchinecta lynchi	Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp	FE	wetland
Lepidurus packardi	Vernal Pool Tadpole shrimp	FT	wetland
Lytta hoppingi	Hopping's Blister Beetle	CNDDB	upland
Lytta molesta	Molestan Blister Beetle	CNDDB	upland
Lytta morrisoni	Morrison's Blister Beetle	CNDDB	upland
Cicindela tranquebarica	San Joaquin Tiger Beetle	CNDDB	upland
Coelus gracilis	San Joaquin Dune Beetle	F Candidate	upland
Desmocerus californicus dimorphus	Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle	FT	upland
Protodufourea zavortinki	Zavortink's protodufourea bee	CNDDB	upland
AMPHIBIANS			
Ambystoma californiense	California Tiger Salamander	FT, SSC	wetland
Spea hammondii	Western Spadefoot	SSC	wetland
Rana draytonii	California Red-legged Frog	FT, SSC	wetland
REPTILES			
Emys (=Clemmys) marmorata pallida	Southwestern Pond Turtle	SSC	wetland
Gambelia sila	Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard	SE, FE	upland
Phrynosoma coronatum (frontale)	Coast (California) Horned Lizard	SSC	upland
Masticophis flagellum ruddocki	San Joaquin Whipsnake	SSC	upland
Thamnophis gigas	Giant Garter Snake	FT, ST	wetland
BIRDS			
Pelacanus erythrorhynchos	American White Pelican	SSC	wetland
Phalacrocorax auritus	Double-crested Cormorant	CNDDB	wetland
Dendrocygna bicolor	Fulvous Whistling-Duck	SSC	wetland
Aythya americana	Redhead	SSC	wetland
Aythya valisineria	Canvasback	CNDDB	wetland
Botaurus lentiginosus	American Bittern	Sensitive	wetland
Ixobrychus exilis	Least Bittern	SSC	wetland
Ardea herodias	Great Blue Heron	Sensitive	wetland
Ardea alba	Great Egret	CNDDB	wetland
Egretta thula	Snowy Egret	Watch List	wetland
Nycticorax nycticorax	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Sensitive	wetland
Plegadis chihi	White-faced Ibis	SSC	wetland
Elanus leucurus	White-tailed Kite	Fully Protected	upland
Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	SE, FT	wetland
Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier	SSC	wetland

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status*	Affinity
BIRDS Continued			
Buteo swainsoni	Swainson's Hawk	ST	upland
Buteo regalis	Ferruginous Hawk	CNDDB	upland
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle	SSC, Fully Protected	upland
Pandion haliaetus	Osprey	SSC	upland
Falco columbarius	Merlin	SSC	upland
Falco mexicanus	Prairie Falcon	SSC	upland
Grus canadensis tabida	Greater Sandhill Crane	ST	wetland
Grus canadensis canadensis	Lesser Sandhill Crane	SSC	wetland
Charadrius montanus	Mountain Plover	SSC	upland
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus	Western Snowy Plover	SSC	wetland
Sterna antillarum	California Least Tern	FE, SE	wetland
Chlidonias niger	Black Tern	SSC	wetland
Rynchops niger	Black Skimmer	SSC	wetland
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	California Yellow-billed Cuckoo	SE	wetland
Athene cunicularia	Burrowing Owl	SSC	upland
Asio otus	Long-eared Owl	SSC	upland
Asio flammeus	Short-eared Owl	SSC	wetland
Picoides nuttallii	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Watch List	upland
Empidonax traillii extimus	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	FE, ST	wetland
Lanius ludovicianus	Loggerhead Shrike	SSC	upland
Vireo bellii pusillus	Least Bell's Vireo	FE, SE	wetland
Eremophila alpestris actia	California Horned Lark	CNDDB	upland
Toxostoma lecontei	LeConte's Thrasher	SSC	upland
Dendroica petechia brewsteri	Yellow Warbler	SSC	wetland
Icteria virens	Yellow-breasted Chat	SSC	wetland
Agelaius tricolor	Tricolored Blackbird	SSC	wetland
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus	Yellow-headed Blackbird	SSC	wetland
MAMMALS			
Sorex ornatus relictus	Buena Vista Lake Shrew	FE	wetland
Ammospermophilus nelsoni	San Joaquin Antelope Squirrel	ST	upland
Dipodomys ingens	Giant Kangaroo Rat	SE,FE	upland
Dipodomys nitratoides brevinasus	Short-nosed Kangaroo Rat	SSC	upland
Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides	Tipton Kangaroo Rat	SE,FE	upland
Dipodomys nitratoides exilis	Fresno Kangaroo Rat	SE,FE	upland
Perognathus inornatus inornatus	San Joaquin Pocket Mouse	Sensitive	upland

Tulare Basin Special Status Species Continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status*	Affinity
MAMMALS Continued			
Onychomys torridus tularensis	Tulare Grasshopper Mouse	SSC	upland
Eumops perotis californicus	Western Mastiff Bat	SC	upland
Antrozous pallidus	Pallid Bat	SC	upland
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat	SC	upland
Vulpes macrotis mutica	San Joaquin Kit Fox	ST,FE	upland
Taxidea taxus	American Badger	SSC	upland
PLANTS			
Amsinckia vernicosa var. *furcata*	Forked Fiddleneck	CNPS 4	upland
Antirrhinum ovatum	Oval-leaved Snapdragon		upland
Astragalus hornii var. *hornii*	Horn's Milk-vetch	CNPS 1B	upland
Atriplex cordulata	Heartscale	CNPS 1B	upland
Atripllex coronata var. *coronata*	Crownscale	CNPS 4	upland
Atriplex depressa	Brittlescale	CNPS 1B	upland
Atriplex erecticaulis	Earlimart Orache	CNPS 1B	upland
Atriplex minuscula	Lesser Saltscale	CNPS 1B	upland
Atripelx persistens	Vernal Pool Smallscale	CNPS 1B	wetland
Atriplex subtilis	Subtle Orache	CNPS 1B	upland
Atriplex tularensis	Bakersfield Smallscale	CNPS 1B	wetland
Atriplex vallicola	Lost Hills Crownscale	CNPS 1B	upland
California macrophylla	Round-leaved Filaree	CNPS 1B	upland
Chamaesyce hooveri	Hoover's Spurge	CNPS 1B	upland
Calochortus striatus	Alkali Mariposa Lily	CNPS 1B	wetland
Caulanthus californicus	California Jewel-flower	SE,FE	upland
Caulanthus lemmonii	Lemmon's Wild Cabbage	CNPS 1B	upland
Cirsium crassicaule	Slough Thistle	CNPS 1B	wetland
Clarkia tembloriensis ssp. *calientensis*	Vasek's clarkia	CNPS 1B	upland
Cordylanthus mollis ssp. *hispidus*	Hispid Bird's-beak	CNPS 1B	wetland
Cordylanthus palmatus	Palmate-bracted Bird's-beak	SE,FE	wetland
Deinandra halliana	Hall's Tarplant	CNPS 1B	upland
Delphinium gypsophilum ssp. *gypsophilum*	Gypsum loving Larkspur	CNPS 4	upland
Delphinium recurvatum	Recurved Larkspur	CNPS 1B	upland
Eschscholzia lemmonii ssp. *kernensis*	Tejon Poppy	CNPS 1B	upland
Eremalche kernensis	Kern Mallow	FE	upland
Eriastrum hooveri	Hoover's Erastium	CNPS 4	upland
Eriogonum gossypinum	Cottony Buckwheat	CNPS 4	upland

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status*	Affinity
PLANTS Continued			
Eriogonum temblorense	Temblor Buckwheat	CNPS 1B	upland
Erodium macarophyllum	Round-leaved Filaree	CNPS 1B	upland
Eryngium spinosepalum	Spiny-sepaled Button-celery	CNPS 1B	upland
Lasthenia ferrisiae	Alkali Goldfields	CNPS 4	wetland
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. *coulteri*	Coulter's Goldfields	CNPS 1B	wetland
Layia heterotricha	Paleyellow Tidytips	CNPS 1B	upland
Layia leucopappa	Comanche Point Layia	CNPS 1B	upland
Layia munzii	Munz's Tidy-tips	CNPS 1B.2	upland
Lepidium jaredii ssp. *album*	Panoche Pepper-grass	CNPS 1B	wetland
Madia radiata	Golden Madia	CNPS 1B	upland
Malacothamnus aboriginum	Indian Valley Bush Mallow	CNPS 1B	upland
Mimulus pictus	Calico Monkeyflower	CNPS 1B	upland
Monolopia congdonii	San Joaquin Woollythreads	FE	wetland
Navarretia jaredii	Paso Robles Navarretia	CNPS 4	wetland
Navarretia setiloba	Piute Mountains Navarretia	CNPS 1B	upland
Opuntia basilaris var. *treleasei*	Bakersfield Cactus	FE, SE, CNPS 1B	upland
Orcuttia inaequalis	San Joaquin Valley Orcutt Grass	FT	wetland
Phacelia distans	Ashy Phacelia	CNPS 1A	upland
Sagittaria sanfordii	Sanford's Arrowhead	CNPS 1B	upland
Sidalcea keckii	Keck's Checkerbloom	CNPS 1B	upland
Stylocline citroleum	Oil Neststraw	CNPS 1B	upland
Symphyotrichum defoliatum	San Bernardino Aster	CNPS 1B	upland
Trichostema ovatum	San Joaquin Bluecurls	CNPS 4	upland
Tuctoria greenei	Greene's Tuctoria	FE	wetland
Twisselmannia californica	Kings Gold	CNPS 1B	upland

***STATUS KEY**

FE	Federally-listed as Endangered	**SE**	State-listed as Endangered
FT	Federally-listed as Threatened	**ST**	State-listed as Threatened
F Candidate	Candidate for Federal listing as threatened or endangered		
Sensitive	Federal agency designation (FWS, BLM, USFS)		
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database		
SSC	California Department of Fish and Game designation; Species of Special Concern		
Watch List	California Department of Fish and Game designation; Watch List		
Fully Protected	California Department of Fish and Game designation; fully protected		
CNPS 4	Plants of limited distribution – a watch list		
CNPS 1B	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere		
CNPS 1B.2	Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere; endangerment threat rank level 2		
CNPS 1A	Plants presumed extinct in California		

Appendix B: Tulare Lake Basin Working Group

Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners operates as the "action arm" of the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group, an alliance of more than 70 agency, non-profit and industry partners. Through leadership, advocacy and facilitation, TBWP serves as a catalyst for completing partner-driven projects that protect and restore natural communities in the Tulare Basin. Below is a list of the partners with whom TBWP works to determine, fund, and implement conservation projects:

Agency Partners: Federal Government

- Naval Air Station Lemoore
- Central Valley Joint Venture (US Fish and Wildlife Service)
- Central Valley Shorebird and Waterbird Monitoring and Evaluation Group
- US Bureau of Land Management - Bakersfield Field Office
- US Bureau of Reclamation
- US Congressman Devin Nunes
- US Congressman Jim Costa
- US Congressman Kevin McCarthy
- US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Kern National Wildlife Refuge
- USFWS Migratory Bird Program
- Pixley National Wildlife Refuge
- US Senator Barbara Boxer
- US Senator Dianne Feinstein

Agency Partners: State Government

- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Department of Conservation
- California Department of Water Resources
- Endangered Species Recovery Program, administered by CSU, Stanislaus Foundation
- Riparian Habitat Joint Venture (state-agency affiliated)
- University of California Berkeley, Department of City and Regional Planning
- University of California Merced, Sierra Nevada Research Institute
- Wildlife Conservation Board

Agency Partners: Local Government

- Deer Creek and Tule River Authority
- Fresno County Council of Governments
- Kern County Council of Governments
- Kern County Planning Department
- Kings County Association of Governments/ San Joaquin Valley Blueprint
- Kings County Planning Agency
- Semitropic Water Storage District
- Supervisor Allen Ishida, District 1, Tulare County Board of Supervisors
- Supervisor Mike Ennis, District 5, Tulare County Board of Supervisors
- Supervisor Ray Watson, 4th District, Kern County Board of Supervisors
- Tulare County Association of Governments
- County Resource Management Agency
- Tulare County Water Commission

Water Work Group Partners

- Kaweah Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Group
- Kern County Water Agency Integrated Water Management Planning Group
- Poso Creek Integrated Regional Water Management Group
- Southern Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Group
- Tulare Basin Integrated Regional Water Joint Powers Agreement
- Tule River Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Group
- Upper Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Authority

Industry Partners

- Conservation Strategy Group, LLC
- Greenbridges LLC
- Michael Nordstrom, Attorney at Law
- Paramount Farms
- URS Corporation
- Westervelt Ecological Services
- Wildlands, Inc.

Non-Profit Partners

- American Farmland Trust
- American Land Conservancy
- Audubon California
- California Institute for Biodiversity
- California Outdoor Heritage Alliance
- California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
- California Watchable Wildlife
- California Water Institute
- California Waterfowl Association
- Center for Natural Lands Management
- Ducks Unlimited
- Great Valley Center
- Land Trust Alliance
- National Audubon Society
- Point Reyes Bird Observatory
- River Partners
- Sequoia Riverlands Trust
- Sustainable Conservation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- Tulare Basin Wetlands Association
- Tulare County Audubon Society
- Tulare County Farm Bureau
- US Green Building Council Central California
- Water Education Foundation
- Western Rivers Conservancy