

2010 DOC Watershed Coordinator Grant Program

Quarterly Report Form

Grantee name and contact information: Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners (TBWP)

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Website: www.tularebasinwildlifepartners.org

Grant number: 3010- 238

Watershed name(s) + HUC(s): **Tulare-Buena Vista Lakes 18030012**
and location(s) [counties]: **Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern Counties**

State Senate District number(s): **14, 16, 18**

Senators(s): **Berryhill, Rubio, Fuller**

State Assembly District number(s): **29, 30, 31, 32, 34**

Assembly Member(s): **Halderman, Valadao, Perea, Grove, Conway**

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Quarterly Reporting Period (mm/dd/yy): 02/19/12 – 5/18/12; Annual Report Period: 05/18/11 – 05/18/12

Report submission date (mm/dd/yy): 06/07/12

Refer to the *DOC Watershed Coordinator Grant Program Quarterly Report Form Instructions* document for detailed directions on how to complete this form.

1. Executive Summary:

The goal of the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partner's Watershed Initiative (TBWI) is a healthy regional watershed with ecologically functional waterways, wetlands and uplands, providing abundant clean water for both people and wildlife. The Initiative will promote integrated natural resource management in the Tulare Basin Watershed. The Initiative's main objective is to ensure that water supply, water quality and flood control practices funded and carried out through the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) process consider and incorporate ecological, watershed and sustainability principles in project design. The Watershed Coordinator (WC) will lead outreach efforts to the seven Tulare Basin IRWM planning groups and will work closely with natural resources agencies and non-profit organizations operating in the Basin.

In order to meet the Initiative's three-year objectives, the WC will utilize the TBWP's conservation planning documents, the Tulare Basin Conservation Plan Water Supply Strategies

Report, and appropriate state and federal land managing agency planning documents to determine overlap with the objectives and priorities in the various Tulare Basin IRWM plans. The overall goal of this effort is to add environmental value and enhance funding opportunities for IRWM and other water-related projects in the Basin.

Objectives for the WC will also include improving overall public and stakeholder involvement for organizations not currently represented in IRWM groups. This includes the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Resource Conservation Districts (RCD) and other conservation or civic organizations active in the Basin. The Initiative will work to bring state, federal and private resources to facilitate the funding of these projects. The Initiative will also work to secure funding for the continuation and long-term sustainability of the WC position after the end of this grant.

2. Activities and Accomplishments Summary: List major activities and accomplishments completed this quarter.

Priority Actions/Focus:

The four priorities for this quarter were:

(1) Southern Sierra IRWM planning grant application submission. Developing water management strategies and Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the upper watershed of the Tulare Basin is key to overall watershed health, as well as in the development of climate change strategies and impacts to downstream users. The WC participated in the Coordinating Committee meetings and development of the grant application; she also joined the Sierra Water Work Group (SWWG) on behalf of the SSIRWMP to collaborate with established IRWMPs that encompass the Sierra.

(2) Development and integration of conservation, habitat and climate change project elements into the 7 Tulare Basin IRWMP/Regional Water Management Groups (RWMG) planning/implementation grant applications to DWR. With the update of various IRWMPs over the next 6 months, this is a critical time to integrate landscape-level conservation with water management strategies. To this end, the TBWI Core Group updated the previous TBWP 2010 priority conceptual conservation and water project lists for use by the WC in her work with the IRWM groups and with the broader public in furthering Integrated Resource Management (IRM) in the Tulare Basin. The resulting February 17, 2012 Conceptual Project List for TBWI and high speed rail (HSR) is attached to this report. (Note: the TBWI believes that HSR may present opportunities for IRM-related watershed project solutions and intends to participate in regional HSR mitigation opportunities in partnership with CA Department of Fish and Game (DFG) if release of HSR funding is approved by the state and if federal match funding becomes available). With this document, members of the TBWI Core Team enabled the WC to provide project information derived from the four TBWP conservation plans (adopted during 2006-2012 by CA Department of Fish and Game as Conceptual Area Protection Plans) for inclusion in the various IRWMP project databases for the upcoming round of Implementation Grants. In addition, the TBWI Core Team is integrating the water needs of Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) lands under easement agreements with NRCS into project design with IRWMPs where feasible.

(3) Deer Creek Watershed and Southwestern Tulare County Disadvantaged Communities Integrated Resource Management – This area has become a focus for the TBWI and was given a

huge boost with a Sustainable Communities Planning Grant from the Strategic Growth Council awarded to Tulare County in the amount of \$939,861 to address arsenic contamination in drinking water and polluting septic systems. The communities of Alpaugh and Allensworth are working toward improving the quality and reliability of their water supply with the assistance of Angiola Water District, as well as supporting the conservation activities at the Atwell Island wetland restoration project. The Atwell Island Project, initiated through the DOI Land Retirement Program under the 1992 Central Valley Improvement Act (CVPIA), is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. This oasis provides wildlife observation and environmental education opportunities for local school children. UC Merced and others are currently negotiating for a University of California Natural Reserve System (UC NRS) research station at Atwell Island. The area is also highlighted in the watershed slideshow developed by the Water Education Foundation under the DOC Watershed Program during the past year. The Allensworth State Park provides cultural and community linkages to the area as well. To maximize the activity and project potential in the region, the TBWI Communications and Outreach Specialist has convened a planning committee involving United Way of Tulare County, the County of Tulare and Self-Help Enterprises to present a workshop series in these communities. The goal of the workshops is to help the communities develop governance structures to reach their sustainability goals. The first workshop will take place in July 2012.

(4) Communication and Outreach implementation, serving as a catalyst for the integration of landscape level conservation with water management strategies to provide water supply reliability for agriculture, communities and habitat in the Tulare Basin. The TBWI Communications and Outreach Specialist has commenced development of the TBWI website, which will serve as an instrumental tool for project managers developing the myriad watershed projects and initiatives in the Tulare Basin. The website will host an interactive map comprised of GIS map layers under development by the California Water Institute at CSU Fresno. Another centerpiece of the website will be the project database, which will facilitate coordination and collaboration among project managers in the Basin. The website will also provide an extensive resource section to facilitate the development of multiple benefit projects and watershed education information, including a link to the watershed slide show developed by the Water Education Foundation.

The Communication and Outreach Specialist contributed to the development of the Water Education Foundation (WEF) watershed slide show by submitting a slide series on the Atwell Island Project near the community of Alpaugh. Alpaugh is a “severely disadvantaged community,” and the Atwell Island Project provides opportunities for local school children to experience wetlands and wildlife. The WC will continue to present information on the TBWI at agriculture and community leadership forums addressing critical resource issues in the Tulare Basin.

The Communication and Outreach Specialist wrote two op-eds for the local paper in May of 2012. One described the results of the biannual Tulare Basin Working Group meeting, of which TBWI plays an important role. The other op-ed was a primer on integrated resource management (IRM) and the role that TBWI plays in that.

Benefits to the Watershed Accrued in Quarter 4 and during the Annual Reporting period by TBWI and Partners

- A. *Improving the health of the upper watershed:* On March 9, 2012, Conservation Strategy Group (CSG) prepared and submitted the second application of the Southern Sierra IRWMP for an approximate \$600,000 planning grant to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) with significant assistance from the WC and through the services of a facilitator funded by DWR. CSG's assistance was funded by the TBWP through a \$36,000 grant from the USFWS Central Valley Joint Venture. This accomplishment creates the potential for a sustainable IRWM (RWMG) in the upper watershed, with solid stakeholder buy-in assured through agreed upon grant management, governance and financial processes. This, in turn, will provide the basis for collaborative IRM implementation projects in the upper watershed, which are essential to the long-term sustainability of the entire Tulare Basin watershed.
- B. *New Tulare Basin multi-benefit projects:* The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID) and the TBWI have agreed to develop a new project (not yet listed in the February 17, 2012 document attached) -- the "Pixley Conservation Easement Project." This project will demonstrate conservation of valley grasslands and alkali scrub habitat under mitigation requirements of a State Water Resources Control Board Decision (D-1641) and serve as a model for TBWI and WC IRM project implementation leadership for replication by other Tulare Basin water districts.
- C. *DAC water projects:* The Strategic Growth Council awarded a Sustainable Communities Grant in the amount of \$939,861 to the County of Tulare for improved water supply for severely disadvantaged communities including Allensworth and Alpaugh. This grant award furthers the TBWI focus on IRM successes in the southwestern portion of Tulare County.
- D. *Modeling collaborative wetland restoration projects:* On April 27, 2012, the Tulare Basin Working Group (TBWG), which is coordinated and organized by the TBWP, conducted its biannual tour and meeting. The tour focused on recent collaborative wetlands projects that have been protected through efforts enabled by investments totaling \$13 million in North American Wetland Conservation Act and other federal and state match funding in the Poso Creek IRWMP area - TBWP Goose Lake Conservation Plan area in Kern County. The purpose of the TBWG tour was to celebrate the leadership and wetland restoration accomplishments of key partners such as the USFWS Central Valley Joint Venture, Ducks Unlimited, California Waterfowl Association, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetland Reserve Program, and Tulare Basin Wetlands Association. The anticipated outcomes for the meeting will be continued federal and state funding for wetland restoration programs state-wide and enhanced public understanding of the quality of life enhancements these activities provide in the Tulare Basin. (Photos of the tour are included in the photo-CD that accompanies this report. The May 5, 2012 *Visalia Times Delta* TBWG article and IRM op-ed are attached as Word documents, and also included on the photo-CD as a jpg).

E. *Raising awareness about IRM and its benefits in the Tulare Basin:* As referenced above, the TBWI Communications and Outreach Specialist wrote an op-ed article on IRM and an article on the TBWG April 27, 2012 wetland tour, both of which were published in the *Visalia Times Delta*. Related to this benefit, the Specialist also initiated development of the TBWI website, scheduled for launch in June 2012.

The TBWI website will:

- facilitate project collaboration through a project database, a compilation of Tulare Basin projects that provide watershed benefits, with the goal of helping groups attract more funding, expand partnerships, increase efficiency and effectiveness of projects
- increase the number of projects in the Tulare Basin and funding for those projects by dedicating a page to funding opportunities; this page will also feature a regularly updated news feed to alert project managers and landowners to state, federal and private/foundation grant updates
- deepen and broaden a watershed-based approach to IRM in the Tulare Basin that will incorporate multiple benefits and ecosystem services into projects; the website will encourage this by keeping a comprehensive list of resources, reports and studies related to topics such as climate change, wetland restoration, conservation planning, watershed planning, nutrient management, and landowner conservation options
- provide an interactive map that will help project managers develop and collaborate on projects
- promote the overall value of watershed health and conservation in the Tulare Basin
- serve as a long-term, community-supported tool for watershed protection in the Tulare Basin.

F. *Increasing capacity for the TBWI:* The California Water Institute at CSU Fresno provided office space for the WC, expanding communication and outreach opportunities for the WC, as well as contributing to the capacity of the WC to accomplish TBWI objectives.

G. *Expanding TBWI network of partners:* The WC and Communications and Outreach Specialist co-presented information about the TBWI at The Wildlife Society San Joaquin Valley Chapter Natural Communities Conference at CSU Bakersfield, resulting in first-ever acquaintance of the highly professional group of biologists in attendance with the TBWI and in recruitment of several volunteers for the TBWI. (The handout for this meeting is included on the photo-CD.)

H. *Collaborating for a healthy upper watershed:* The WC and the DFG TBWI Core group member are assisting with planning a regional workshop for the Sierra Water Work Group (SWWG), on behalf of the Sierra IRWMP groups that have linkages to the Statewide Watershed Program. The Summit will be in July 2012. A featured speaker will be Mark Nechodom, Director of the CA Department of Conservation. This furthers the efforts of the TBWI and WC to enhance functioning of the upper watershed, not only for Tulare Basin but Sierra-wide.

- I. *Convening for climate change planning:* The WC joined the Southern Sierra Science Symposium steering committee, which is developing a climate change and public/private land management planning Symposium to be held in Visalia in February 2013. The Symposium will have important applications to the TBWI and Tulare Basin watershed by providing the public with tools for understanding changes that are occurring and providing guidance for land and water managers for ecosystem resiliency Basin-wide.

- J. *Increasing watershed awareness:* The WC presented information on conservation, endangered species and watershed planning at the Fresno Farm Bureau Water Leaders Training session, enhancing the “watershed awareness” of this important sector in the Basin-wide IRM scenario.

- K. *Developing Safe Harbor agreements:* The WC met with the Executive Director of the Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum (SRCAF) to share ideas on development and implementation of Safe Harbor agreements for landowners, thus furthering the development of a Tulare Basin regional strategic plan for Safe Harbor. Effective development and implementation of such a plan has been deemed the most important value-added component of the TBWI WC during the first three years of this program by the TB IRWMP.

3. Completed performance measures (PMs) as listed in work plan. Identify the completed PMs for this quarter.

Watershed Goal: The goal of the Tulare-Buena Vista Lakes Watershed Coordinator is to create a healthy regional watershed with ecologically functional waterways, wetlands and uplands, providing abundant clean water for both people and wildlife. The Watershed Coordinator will cooperate with the seven Tulare Basin IRWMP groups and with the Tulare Basin Working Group (TBWG) to promote integrated natural resource management in the Tulare Basin Watershed (in Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern Counties).

Work Plan Objective #1: Identify environmental benefits that can be added to specific IRWM water projects, adding environmental value and enhancing funding opportunities for these projects, as well as providing the following end result benefit to the watershed: conceptualization and implementation of projects emanating from relevant conservation plans that provide strategically located wetland, riparian and upland wildlife habitat.

Performance Measurement: Facilitate the development and implementation of up to 14 environmental projects from TBWP and public agency planning documents that can add environmental value to IRWM projects.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The WC and TBWI Core Group members attended meetings of the seven Tulare Basin IRWM groups and monthly meetings of the Tulare Basin IRWMP coordinating group and began the process of providing input to up to six of the seven Tulare Basin IRWM groups for the next implementation grant cycle (due date late-2012). (Task 1.2)
- The WC participated (substantially) in the Southern Sierra IRWMP planning grant application review and rewrite for submission March 9, 2012. (Task 1.2)
- WC and Team members participated in the monthly Upper Kings IRWMP planning team (ongoing through June 2012) to assist with the development of climate change, watershed and habitat restoration elements in project design. (Task 1.2)
- In late fall 2011, the WC and TBWI Core Team completed initial review of TBWP conservation plans and other agency planning documents, and linked potential conservation/restoration projects or project concepts with specific IRWMPs. A sub-committee of the TBWI Core Group finalized updates to the TBWP priority conceptual project list on February 17, 2012 to provide the best and most current project concept information to the WC for use in upcoming IRWM project planning discussions. The plan identifies high-priority projects that can be implemented in the next two years of the Watershed Coordinator grant. (Task 1.1) (This updated February 17, 2012 list is attached.)
- The TBWI Core Team members toured the perimeter of the Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District's Rancho de Kaweah property via adjacent public roads to conceptualize potential solutions for conservation of this pristine oak woodlands area of the Kaweah River Delta in conjunction with water and land management actions. A collaborative project could provide benefits to the region including flood management options in the face of climate change, as well as connectivity between the valley floor and the foothills of the Tulare Basin. The property is located on the TBWP Corridor Plan "Oaks to Tules Riparian Corridor" and is listed in the attached February 17, 2012 updated conceptual project document.

Work Plan Objective #2: Match IRWM and other projects that have environmental benefits to grant opportunities and work to bring state, federal, and private resources to facilitate the funding of these projects, with the end result benefit to the watershed of increased fundability of IRWM water projects as well as providing additional valuable habitat for wetland, riparian, and upland wildlife species through these integrated projects.

Performance Measurement: Facilitate the preparation by IRWM cooperators of 12-36 funding proposals that add environmental benefits to IRWM projects.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- In partnership with the Conservation Biology Institute, the WC assisted with the submission of grant application to the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative related to development of a pilot climate change related decision support for land and water managers on the Kaweah Watershed. (Task 2.3)
- The WC developed a strategy with Reclamation's CVP Conservation Program on conservation easements to meet their mitigation obligation (native alkali scrub and valley grasslands) under the State Water Resources Control Board, Decision 1641. This led to the conceptualization of the "Pixley Conservation Easement Project" with private landowners. (Task 2.2)

Work Plan Objective #3: Coordinate with Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) and the San Joaquin Valley Resource Conservation & Development (RC & D) Council as well as with other conservation and civic organizations not currently represented in IRWM groups to promote consideration of resources other than water (e.g. soil, air, open space, recreation, and wildlife) in IRWM projects; the end result benefit of this objective will be increased public involvement that will lead in turn to increased benefits from the IRWM water projects for a wider array of the public, enhancing the regional agricultural heritage, economy, and quality of life.

Performance Measurement. Facilitate development and implementation of up to 12 IRWM projects that integrate benefits to soil, air, open space, recreation, wildlife and other resources.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The WC met with the Central Valley Program Director of River Partners, who offered to assist with implementation of proposed acquisition by CA DFG and the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) of River Ranch/Cal Clark Farms, on the North Fork of the Kings River. This is a high priority acquisition, as identified by the TBWP Riparian and Wildlife Corridors Conservation Plan (an official CA DFG/WCB Conceptual Area Protection Plan) and is within the Upper Kings IRWMP. (Task 3.2, 3.3)
- The WC continued collaboration with TreeTOPS, a local organization with a focus on trees, trails and open space for communities in Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Madera Counties. (Task 3.2, 3.3)
- The WC continued coordination with the Fresno Council of Governments on the development of the Green Print for the San Joaquin Valley under a grant from the Strategic Growth Council. (Task 3.2, 3.3)
- The WC continues to work with organizations addressing contaminants in the Sierra and effects of rodenticides on sensitive species. The effort will solidify in Year 2, in coordination with NPS, FWS, USFS, and Fresno State. (Task 3.2)
- The WC met with Westside RCD (Sarge Green) and Tulare RCD (Bob Puls) on potential coordination and development of projects for floodwater abatement on the Valley floor. (Task 3.1, 3.3)

Work Plan Objective #4: Coordinate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to assist implementation of Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and other NRCS programs; the end result benefit of this objective to the watershed will be additional wetland and riparian projects funded by NRCS and increased acreage of these essential wildlife habitats.

Performance Measurement: Identification and implementation of up to 12 WRP and other NRCS program projects in conjunction with IRWM projects.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The WC and TBWI Core Group met with NRCS on application of the NRCS Declining Species Initiative with the IRWMPs in the Tulare Basin Watershed. (Task 4.2, 4.3)
- The NRCS Southern WRP Implementation Team Leader participated on the TBWI Core Group and routinely provided guidance on NRCS programs. (Tasks 4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
- The WC and TBWI Core Group continued strong focus on the task of identifying water and funding sources for water for WRP lands in the Tulare Basin that do not currently have water. (Task 4.2)
- The WC and TBWI Core Group is working with FWS, NRCS, Sustainable Conservation and other partners to develop consolidated permitting for restoration activities. (Task 4.1)

Work Plan Objective #5: Coordinate with disadvantaged community interests to identify specific overlap between those interests and environmental interests and work to integrate both components into specific IRWM water projects; the end result benefit of this objective is that IRWM water projects will demonstrate increased synergy between wildlife needs and open space needs of people living in disadvantaged communities.

Performance Measurement: Facilitate the integration of up to six projects that provide environmental benefits for disadvantaged communities in IRWM water projects.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The small community of Stratford became a member of the Westside Regional Water Management Group (RWMG)/IRWMP. Stratford is now included in the Westside RWMG Plan Update and will be eligible for Round 2 Implementation Grants under the DWR IRWM program. Self-Help Enterprises has requested WC assistance in identifying projects that will help this community. (Task 5.2)
- Planning for the Southwest Tulare County roundtable/workshop is underway with Tulare County United Way and community leaders. This is part of the Deer Creek/Southwest Tulare County Focus Area which will be a major effort of the TBWI for Year 2. (Task 5.1, 5.2, 5.3)
- A TBWI Core Group member continued participation in the stakeholder meetings for the Disadvantaged Communities' four-county assessment under the leadership of Denise Akins, Tulare County Resource Management Agency. The two-year study assesses challenges, barriers and opportunities, with an overall goal of improving drinking water in small, unincorporated communities in the Tulare Basin. A pilot project and ranking criteria is still under development with anticipated adoption in early summer 2012. (Task 5.1)

Work Plan Objective #6: Provide riparian and wildlife corridor concepts to assist IRWM groups with integration of climate change adaptation and sustainability strategies into specific IRWM water projects; the end result benefit to the watershed is that IRWM water projects will include climate change adaptation and sustainability benefits that will provide movement corridors for plants and animals and fewer species will be extirpated from portions of their ranges and listed as threatened or endangered.

Performance Measurement: Integrate up to 12 TBWP corridor project concepts or project components with climate change adaptation and sustainability benefits into specific IRWM water projects.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The WC met with USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife (Rick Kuyper) and the Executive Director of the Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum on the development of Safe Harbor agreements/voluntary landowner agreements within the Tulare Basin. Interagency planning is underway to determine how to move forward, build landowner trust and initiate a small-scale Safe Harbor agreement as a model for replication elsewhere in the Basin. (Task 2.1, 2.2)
- The WC met with Deer Creek and Lower Tule River Authority on Deer Creek corridor restoration and potential Safe Harbor agreements with landowners. (Task 6.1)
- The WC joined the Sierra Water Work Group (SWWG), participated in the development of the work plan for the upcoming year and is helping to plan the July 2012 Summit on water planning and climate change in conjunction with the IRWM effort. (Task 6.2)
- The WC joined the steering committee for the Southern Sierra Science Symposium, which is in the planning stages for a regional forum that will address climate change adaptation, resilience and research. The Symposium is funded in part by the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative and will be held in February 2013 in Visalia. (Task 6.1, 6.2)

Work Plan Objective #7: Ensure stakeholder support of the Watershed Coordinator's efforts through twelve-month reports by the Watershed Coordinator to the Tulare Basin IRWM Coordination Group (TB IRWVG, composed of lead representatives of the seven Tulare Basin IRWM groups) and to the Tulare Basin Working Group (TBWG), soliciting evaluation and consensus recommendations concerning the optimal organizational and funding basis for continuing the position beyond March 2014; the end result benefit to the watershed of this objective will be achievement of stakeholder consensus on the value of continuing the position, with post-grant optimal organizational platform agreed upon, and the need for funding continuity and long-term sustainability agreed upon.

Performance Measurement: Completed twelve-month reports by the Watershed Coordinator and performance evaluations by the TB IRWVG and TBWG, with summary reports (including summaries of reports to the Department of Conservation) posted on the TBWP website

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The WC and TBWI Communications and Outreach Specialist shared reports and work plans with the TBWI Core Group, TB IRWMP and individual TB IRWM groups routinely throughout the 4th Quarter and the Annual Report period. They presented an annual progress report at the April 27, 2012 bi-annual meeting of the TBWG. This report was met with approval. In addition, the TBWI is featured in the TBWP 2011 Annual Report, prepared by the Communications and Outreach Specialist and distributed at the April 27 meeting and to all key supporters. (A copy of the 2011 Annual Report is included on the photo-CD.) (Task 7.1, 7.3)
- The WC prepared the draft 4th Quarter/Annual Report for DOC and Draft DOC TBWI grant Year 2 Plan for review at the May 16 TBWI Core Group meeting to gain feedback in preparation for presenting these documents to the TB IRWMP on June 4, 2012, at which time TB IRWMP participants will be asked for detailed feedback and guidance. (The results of the June 4 meeting will be fully described in the DOC Quarterly Report #5 for the period May 19 – August 18, 2012.) (Task 7.1)
- The Communications and Outreach Specialist and TBWI Core team members presented a draft version of TBWI website at several IRWMP group meetings and received enthusiasm and helpful feedback from meeting participants. (Task 7.2)
- TBWI Core Group members are participating in the GIS team of the TB IRWMP, providing input to this California Water Institute - CSU Fresno effort, which is preparing interactive maps for use by communities, water districts, conservation organizations, students and other organizations. (Task 7.2)
- The WC and TBWI Core Group members participated regularly in the 7 IRWMP meetings and sub-committees, presented information on TBWI progress and plans, made useful contributions and received helpful feedback. (Task 7.1, 7.2, 7.3)

Work Plan Objective #8: Coordinate with the TBWP, TB IRWMP, TBWG participants and other interested parties to secure funding for the continuation and sustainability of the position after the end of the grant; the end result benefit to the watershed will be continued integration of environmental components in water and flood control projects in the Tulare Basin.

Performance Measurement: Secure a minimum commitment of funds for two additional years, with a long-term funding strategy for ten years or more.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- At their May 16 meeting, the TBWI Core Team agreed that the appropriate outcome for continuation and sustainability of the TBWI will be for the TB IRWMP (which has planned for a Joint Powers Agreement with fiscal authority) or another form of collaborative of the Tulare Basin IRWMPs to agree to take primary funding responsibility for the WC and TBWI (including the TBWI website), as part of a broad collaboration on regional watershed matters including climate change, IRM, and watershed sustainability. These components already are, *or are becoming*, recognized as fundamental components of the IRWM plans developed by the participating water agencies and IRWM group stakeholders. The TBWP's role after completion of the DOC grant has the potential to continue as needed to provide for the Assistant Watershed Coordinator and Communications and Outreach Specialist. (Tasks 8.1, 8.2, 8.3)

- While this objective has been a high priority of the TBWI since its inception, the TBWI annual report presentation at the June 4 TB IRWGMG meeting will be geared to provide the platform (i.e. the defining of the process) to achieve this outcome. (Tasks 8.1, 8.2)
- The Assistant WC solicited and received the Letter of Inquiry Application Form from the California Water Foundation, a new initiative of the Resources Legacy Fund. The TBWI initial goal is to fund two or more private match grants for IRWM projects from this funding source during the next 24 months under the grant period. (Task 8.2)

4. New funding obtained from the Grant Start Date through this reporting period.

a) Grant proposals submitted to date.

Table 1: Grant proposals submitted throughout the grant							
Program Name	Funding Entity & Type	Funding Source	Purpose	Requested Amount	Status	Award Amount	Award Date
Lawrence Foundation	P	N/A	Cash match support for WC operating costs	\$10,000	N	N/A	N/A
NRCS	F	WRP	Cash match support, funds Assistant WC functions in 2012	\$27,500	F	\$27,500	8/12/11
FWS Central Valley Joint Venture (CVJV)	F	Migratory Bird Program	Cash match support, operating costs, TBWI updated brochure	\$1,189.08	F	\$1,189.08	8/16/11
			Wetland Tour vans	\$675.00	F	\$675.00	3/30/12
Heller Charitable Foundation	P	P	Cash match support, WC operating expenses	\$12,870	N	N/A	N/A
BLM-Bakersfield Regional Office	F	Healthy Lands Initiative	Cash match support, TBWI Web site, communications/outreach	\$27,000	F	\$27,000	8/17/11
Pacific Gas and Electric Company	P	Fresno Office Gov't Rel.s	Cash match support, WC operating expenses	\$3,000	F	\$3,000	7/21/11
Fresno Regional Foundation	P	P	Cash match support, TBWI Web site, communications/outreach	\$7,700	N	N/A	N/A
Wick Kenny Foundation	P	P	Cash match support, WC operating expenses	\$5,000	F	\$5,000	1/5/12
Southern Cal Edison (SCE)	P	SCE	Cash match support WC operating expenses	\$2,500	F	\$2,500	1/12/12
Heller Charitable Foundation	P	P	Cash match TBWI website	\$23,100	N	N/A	N/A
Constellation Energy Eco State	P	P	Cash match support	\$5,000	N	\$5,000	N/A
Cumulative Total				\$125,534.08		\$71,864.08	

- a. New non-grant funding obtained to date.

Table 2: New non-grant funding obtained throughout the grant					
Program Name	Funding Entity & Type	Funding Source	Purpose	Amount Received	Date Received
FWS CVJV	Grant Agr'mnt Mod.	Migratory Bird Program	Funds Conservation Strategy Group Consulting September 2011- August 2012, to assist WC and Core Team with funding and project implementation strategies	\$36,000	8/11/11
Cumulative Total				\$36,000	

5. Include final copies of outreach materials and other products created during the reporting period. Submit photos in digital format on CD.

Attached, please find Word documents for the referenced *Visalia Times Delta* articles on IRM and the April 27, 2012 TBWG wetland tour, the February 17, 2012 Conceptual Project List updated for TBWI and HSR and the Year in Review (May 18, 2011 – May 18, 2012) handout for the June 4, 2012 TB IRWMP coordinating meeting. On the enclosed photo-CD, please find jpg and/or pdf files of the 2011 TBWP Annual Report, the TBWI handout for the March 29, 2012 Natural Communities Conference of the San Joaquin Valley Chapter of The Wildlife Society, the referenced TBWG wetland tour photos and the *Visalia Times-Delta* articles.

Other outreach “materials”/efforts include regular updates to the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tulare-Basin-Wildlife-Partners/172535542790036>. TBWP is making a push to expand the fan base of its Facebook page in order to serve as a hub for information exchange that can benefit the TBWI and general project collaboration in the region.

- 6. If applicable, describe any problems or setbacks related to the implementation of the grant or the work plan.** None to report.
- 7. Within 30 days of the end of the quarter, submit one hard copy and one electronic copy (in MS Word; no PDF files) of this completed quarterly report to your assigned grant administrator.**