

2010 DOC Watershed Coordinator Grant Program

Quarterly Report

Grant number: 3010-238

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

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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): 12, 14, 16, 18

Senators(s): Canella, Berryhill, Vidak, Fuller

State Assembly District number(s): 23, 26, 31, 32, 34

Assembly Member(s): Patterson, Conway, Perea, Salas, Grove

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Quarterly Reporting Period 05/19/13-08/18/13

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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 functions after the end of this grant.

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

Priority Actions/Focus:

The priorities from the Annual Work Plan for Year 3 with Q9 accomplishments:

(1) Development and integration of conservation, habitat and climate change project elements into the planning/implementation grant applications of the seven Tulare Basin IRWM groups to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR):

- The WC and Core team members participated in the TB IRWM Collaboration Group monthly meetings. A report of year 2 accomplishments was made at the June meeting.
- The WC participated in the Tulare Lake Region Design Team for California Water Plan. The next regional meeting is scheduled for October and will be centrally located in the Tulare Lake hydrologic region.
- A synopsis of projects submitted by the IRWM groups in the Tulare Basin for Round 2 Implementation Grant funding in March 2013 was posted to the TBWI website.

(2) Deer Creek Watershed Focus Area and Southwestern Tulare County Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Integrated Resource Management: In an ongoing effort to identify opportunities and execute projects in the Southwestern region of Tulare County (Deer Creek Watershed), the TBWI Core Team continues to engage community leaders and other stakeholders in the region.

- Members of the TBWI Core Team assisted in the planning of and execution of two events in the region (one in Alpaugh and one in Allensworth) targeted at engaging youth in safe, fun summer activities in an effort to deter gang involvement. The events were part of six Summer Night Lights events sponsored by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors. The two events in which TBWI participated (June 13 and July 27) were designed as resource fairs where regional service providers set up booths to inform and engage the families of Alpaugh and Allensworth. Both events were a resounding success. TBWP board President and College of the Sequoias biology professor, Rob Hansen, attended the June 13 event and TBWI Communications Outreach Specialist (COS), Niki Woodard, attended the July 27 event. (Pictures and supporting information are included on the enclosed CD.)

- TBWI COS continues to engage with community leaders and service providers to determine opportunities for collaboration. As a result of a meeting organized by United Way of Tulare County, the TBWI COS coordinated the publication of the first Alpaugh-Allensworth Bulletin, a small community newsletter intended to help inform and bring together the communities of Alpaugh and Allensworth. The newsletter was comprised of submissions from community members and service providers. The TBWI COS collected and edited submissions, and formatted the document for printing in both English and Spanish (translated by United Way). Newsletters were distributed on July 27 at the Summer Night Lights event in Allensworth, and digital copies were made available. (See the newsletter, also included on the enclosed CD.)
- The TBWP received \$5,000 in funding in June from Pacific Gas and Electric Company to develop a DAC-focused page on the TBWI website. The TBWI team has begun researching and developing content for the new section; content includes funding opportunities targeted to DACs, workshops, news/updates, project information/opportunities and more. We expect to launch the new section in the fall of 2013.
- The spring Tulare Basin Working Group (TBWG) meeting and tour was held in Alpaugh on May 2, 2013. TBWG members visited a “working” NRCS Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easement and the BLM’s Atwell Island Project (which also includes many acres of NRCS WRP easement wetlands). The TBWG meeting included a discussion of potential water supplies for southwest Tulare County wetlands, a review of Southwestern Tulare County roundtable events, and a discussion of furthering the efforts to (a) connect the communities of Alpaugh and Allensworth with Atwell Island via a recreational trail, (b) create a safe drinking water supply for Alpaugh residents, (c) connect Allensworth homes to a nearby natural gas pipeline, and (d) find and develop funding sources for the preceding projects. The TBWP/TBWI 2014 – 2016 Strategic Plan was reviewed with the TBWG, and there was a discussion of developing TBWG subcommittees to address priority issues on a deeper level. The Assistant WC and COS are presently working to form and convene three such subcommittees, focusing on finding water for wetlands, developing a southwestern Tulare County recreational trail, and connecting downstream water users with upper watershed managers.
- The Pixley Conservation Project, funded through the Bureau of Reclamation’s Central Valley Project Conservation Program, progressed with appraisal of the properties by the USFWS Realty Office in Sacramento. As a result of this project, endangered species habitat will be acquired from a willing seller for inclusion into the Pixley National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

(3) Southern Sierra IRWMP development.

- The WC and Assistant WC participated in Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) Coordinating Committee and Planning Committee meetings to guide the development of the IRWM plan.
- The WC participated in the public outreach meeting on August 8 at the Sierra National Forest Office in Clovis, CA. A second public outreach meeting was held on August 12 in Three Rivers, CA.
- The WC gave a power point presentation about the progress of the Southern Sierra IRWMP at the Sierra Water Workgroup (SWWG) Summit, held in Kings Beach, CA on June 12, 2013. (See the enclosed CD for a copy of the presentation.)

(4) Climate Change Science, Adaptation and Resiliency.

- Liberty Ranch Climate Adaptation Project scoping continued. The WC organized a meeting in Corcoran, CA on July 9 with DWR, TBWP, and Angiola WD. Subsequently, the WC met with water masters and water rights holders to discuss the project and gain understanding of both hydraulic and political aspects involved in the project.
- Michelle Selmon, Climate Change Specialist with DWR, joined the TBWI Core Team. Michelle's involvement with major California climate change related initiatives, including the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative, will provide invaluable input to the work of the TBWI as we move into Year 3.

(5) Communication and Outreach implementation: serving as a catalyst for the integration of landscape level conservation through water management strategies geared to provide water supply reliability for agriculture, communities, and habitat in the Tulare Basin.

- During this quarter, the TBWI COS distributed three e-newsletters -- on May 23, July 3, and August 16 -- to the e-newsletter list-serve of 181 subscribers. Open rates and click through rates have been much higher than industry standards, demonstrating that our content is relevant and that we are successfully engaging our audience. (See enclosed CD for jpg snapshots of the newsletters. Subscribe to newsletters at: <http://tularebasinwildlifepartners.us6.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=5f400c4836a76704d719bab68&id=83e770cf48.>)
- The TBWI COS also distributed the final version of the TBWP/TBWI 2014-2016 Strategic Plan. (See enclosed CD.)
- The TBWI COS created and distributed a TBWP/TBWI News Update that was distributed to partners and funders. (See enclosed CD.)
- The TBWI website is located at www.tularebasinwatershed.org. It serves a uniquely valuable role as a tool to assist project managers in developing watershed projects and initiatives in the Tulare Basin.
- The TBWI COS also makes updates to the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tulare-Basin-Wildlife-Partners/172535542790036>.

(6) West Hills Integrated Resource Management (IRM) in partnership with the Westside RCD.

- As the WC continued to meet with agencies, landowners and water districts with what had been coined "the creeks and streams initiative," the West Hills IRM effort became a priority for Year 3 of the TBWI. The effort gained momentum with the identification of a landowner in the Westside RCD who is already creating setbacks and habitat along Salt Creek. In future months, the TBWI will focus more of its efforts on the "West Hills Conservation Project" in partnership with the Westside RCD and willing landowners. This project will enable the evaluation of capacity limitations of creeks and streams from the Sierra watershed and the West Hills onto the San Joaquin Valley floor -- limitations resulting from encroachment by development, invasive species, and sedimentation. The project will also inform understanding of regional climate change vulnerability and adaptation.

(7) Secure ongoing funding to continue the work of the Tulare Basin Watershed Coordinator beyond the initial three-year Department of Conservation (DOC) grant.

- The TBWP/TBWI 2014-2016 Strategic Plan was approved by the TBWP Board of Directors at its July 18 meeting. One of the six objectives of the Plan is to achieve program sustainability through funding sustainability and "institutionalization" of the Basin-wide integrated regional watershed approach advanced under this DOC grant. (See

the enclosed CD.)

- The TBWI team prepared a pre-application “two-pager” for submission to the California Water Foundation (CWF) in order to receive early guidance regarding continued funding for the work of the Tulare Basin WC for a three-year period after the end of this DOC grant. The TBWP/TBWI objectives in preparing this document are to enable continuation of the momentum built under this grant while gaining the additional time needed to achieve regional funding sustainability and “institutionalization” of the program through support by key local/regional government agencies and officials. CWF evaluation of the document is expected prior to the commencement of the 2014 funding decision cycle in November. (See this “two-pager” in the enclosed CD).

Benefits to the Watershed Accrued in Quarter 9 by TBWI and Partners

Completion of collaborative wetland restoration projects. NTR this quarter.

New Tulare Basin multi-benefit projects; status since last report on “new ventures:

- The WC attended the May and July board meetings of the Westside RCD in the development of the West Hills Conservation Project. The vision for this project is a multi-agency partnership with private landowners that will span the upper watershed to the floor of the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Its purposes will be to improve rangeland, reduce flooding and deposition of sediments (including selenium) into stream courses and wetlands, restore riparian vegetation and enhance pollinator habitat. With the assistance of the WC, the Westside RCD is preparing a grant application for the Bureau of Reclamation’s CVP Conservation Program to fund the acquisition of the water supply needed for the establishment of riparian and pollinator habitat on private lands. A meeting with agencies, landowners and potential funders is planned for the September meeting of the Westside RCD board of directors. This will serve as a kick-off event to start the overall planning, establish a steering committee, and identify potential funding sources for the West Hills Resource Management Plan in partnership with state and federal agencies, landowners, water districts, conservation NGOs and other stakeholders.

Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) water projects:

- The launch of a feasibility study to transfer water from the Angiola WD to the communities of Alpaugh and Allensworth is on hold pending release of funds to the project from the CA Department of Public Health. The County of Tulare is currently organizing a steering committee to begin planning efforts. The TBWI will remain engaged in this project with the intention of integrating conservation, habitat, and recreation components into the design and implementation of the grant. The primary goal of this water transfer project is to improve water quality by transferring relatively arsenic-free water from Angiola WD in exchange for poor quality water from Alpaugh and Allensworth.

Raising awareness about IRM and its benefits in the Tulare Basin:

- The WC participated on the Steering Committee for the SJV Greenprint. The Assistant WC and COS attended the July meeting to provide input on Greenprint interactive mapping and to further the potential for utilizing the Greenprint maps on the TBWI website. More details will be forthcoming in subsequent quarters.

- The TBWI e-newsletters (distributed approximately every four weeks) serve as a digital means of keeping partners connected and committed to IRM in the Tulare Basin. Three such e-newsletters were distributed in Quarter 9. (See enclosed CD.)
- The TBWI has been invited by Southern California Edison (SCE) to present the keynote speech at its annual Water Conference in Tulare on November 5, 2013. We are working with SCE to determine the content of the presentation, which will be delivered by TBWP Board President and College of the Sequoias Biology Professor Rob Hansen. The presentation will include an overview of the history and evolution of Tulare Basin ecology and will recommend next steps for developing collaborative, watershed-based solutions to current regional integrated resource management challenges.

Expanding the TBWI network of partners:

- The WC participated in the second meeting of the Sustainable Conservation San Joaquin Valley Strategic Team in June at the San Joaquin River Parkway offices near Fresno. The Team is comprised of leaders from the agricultural and conservation communities, as well as community leaders and policy makers interested in agriculture, water quality, land use and regulatory issues in the San Joaquin Valley.
- As a guest speaker, the WC presented on the topic of regulatory needs such as CEQA, NEPA, and ESA in relation to project planning and implementation at the Watershed Restoration Workshop for the Sierra Nevada Region on July 25, 2013. This was the second in a series of workshops hosted by the Sacramento River Watershed and funded by the State Water Resources Control Board. (See enclosed CD for the presentation.)
- The WC organized an *ad hoc* group of watershed coordinators in the SJV. The purpose of the group is to share information and project ideas.

Collaborating for a healthy upper watershed:

- TBWI Core Team members continue to participate on the Sierra Water Work Group (SWWG).
- The WC and Assistant WC have been in communication with Bob Dean, Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) member and author of the ACWA policy document, "Policy Principles for Improved Management of California's Headwaters," as well as with DWR Climate Change specialist Michelle Selmon, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representatives, and Southern Sierra IRWM members in an effort to improve communication and collaboration between upper watershed managers and lower watershed water users.

San Joaquin Valley Recovery Team (SJVRT):

- Several members of the TBWI Core Team continue to participate on the SJVRT to develop a GIS map that will evaluate the protection needs of core recovery areas and habitat linkages identified in the Recovery Plan. The mapping effort of the San Joaquin Valley Greenprint will be presented at the upcoming TBWG meeting in October. Recovery Team members and the SJV chapter of The Wildlife Society will be invited to participate in order to determine whether the Greenprint effort can be helpful to the SJVRT's mapping needs.

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 (WC) will cooperate with the seven Tulare Basin IRWM 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 Team members attended meetings of the seven Tulare Basin IRWM groups and attended monthly meetings of the Tulare Basin IRWM Collaboration Group (TB IRWIMG). (Task 1.2)
- In compliance with its newly updated IRWMP, the Kings Basin Water Authority (KBWA) requested a list of accomplishments from its members and interested parties regarding contributions to KBWA Plan objectives. The WC provided several items for inclusion in the KBWA first annual report related to its 15 measurable objectives (MO): identification of projects and opportunities (MO2), identifying DAC needs and supporting/promoting solutions (MO 3), protecting and/or solving water quality challenges (MO 8, MO 9), assisting with project review with a focus on habitat/ecosystem benefits (MO12), increasing awareness of the IRWM (MO 13) and working with local water districts and land use agencies to foster land use planning scenarios that ensure compatibility with land use planning and water supply needs (MO 14).
- The WC also serves as a communication conduit between the upper watershed (Southern Sierra IRWMP) and the KBWA. (Task 1.2)

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:

- The WC met with the County of Tulare regarding its Proposition 1E projects on Cottonwood Creek. One of these projects will restore the creek to its original alignment. Three of these projects are planned to reduce flooding of adjacent communities of Seville

and Yettem, as well as the County's juvenile detention center. The TBWI Core Team will assist with developing wildlife/habitat benefits in the project design for these projects. (Tasks 2.2, 2.3, also Task 6.1)

- The WC continued the dialogue with Reclamation and conservation organizations on acquisition of a water supply for wetlands on the West side of the Basin near the Kern NWR in Kern County and adjacent to the Arroyo Pasajero in Fresno County. (Task 2.2, 2.3)
- TBWI Team members explored and shared a variety of grant opportunities, including potential funding from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Proposition 1E, Local Groundwater Assistance (LGA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and private foundations. Relevant grant opportunities and deadlines are posted on the TBWI website and sent out as an e-newsletter to a mailing list of 181 subscribers (IRWM and TBWG partners). (Task 2.1, 2.2, 2.3)
- TBWI Team members receive regular newsletters listing grant opportunities from the San Joaquin Valley Rural Development Center at Fresno State. This information is added to our TBWI website "funding information section" and shared with our partners. (Tasks 2.1, 2.2, 2.3)

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:

- Appraisals have been completed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service realty office for lands proposed for acquisition and addition to the Pixley NWR under the Pixley Conservation Project. The next step is to prepare an offer to the landowner. (Task 3.3)
- The WC made a presentation on project planning and regulatory requirements at the Watershed Restoration Workshop at Kings Beach, California. This Workshop was sponsored by the Sacramento River Watershed and the State Water Resources Control Board and was held on July 24 - 25, 2013. (See enclosed CD.) A similar presentation was made at the Fresno, CA workshop last April, as reported in the second Annual Report under this grant submitted to DOC in May 2013. (Tasks 3.3)
- The WC participates on the San Joaquin Valley Committee for Sustainable Conservation, an umbrella group of nonprofit organizations working with agricultural interests on regional solutions to improve water supply and water quality in the San Joaquin Valley. The second meeting on June 18, 2013, focused on water quality and dairies. (Tasks 3.2, 3.3)
- The WC continues collaboration with the San Joaquin River Stewardship Council, Tree Fresno, and Urban Tree Foundation in the development of community building projects

involving natural resources, such as tree plantings and environmental education. (Tasks 3.2, 3.3)

- The TBWG has 173 members, representing almost 60 agencies, non-profits, and other organizations -- many of whom have no affiliation with an IRWM group -- including UC Merced, The Nature Conservancy, Tulare County Citizens for Responsible Growth, United Way, Water Education Foundation, and Greenbridges LLC. Planning is underway for the next meeting, which is scheduled for October 24, 2013. (Task 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 NRCS Southern WRP Implementation Team Leader participated on the TBWI Core Team and routinely provided guidance on NRCS programs and outreach opportunities. (Tasks 4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
- The WC and TBWI Core Team continued to place a strong focus on the tasks of identifying water and funding sources for water for WRP lands in the Tulare Basin that do not currently have water. The task is linked to flood management activities, particularly the evolving White River flood management on the Allensworth Ecological Reserve and the Liberty Ranch project. (Task 4.2)
- The WC connected NRCS staff with a landowner interested restoring a section of riparian habitat on his land; this landowner would likely qualify for funding through the Declining Species Initiative and is considering enrolling. This project has evolved into the West Hills RMP with the Westside RCD. (Task 4.2)
- The WC met with Maricopa Orchards on potential new WRP easement. (Task 4.2)

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 COS and Core Team members worked with BLM-Bakersfield and community members in Alpaugh and Allensworth to engage youth in a fun and educational series of Summer Night Lights events. (Task 5.1)

- The TBWI team has begun researching and creating content for a new section that will be added to the TBWI website (www.tularebasinwatershed.org). This new section will be dedicated to serving the needs of DACs -- targeted to Community Services Districts and other DAC governance entities or nonprofits that have the authority to develop projects in and for DACs -- for a variety of watershed-improvement activities. Pacific Gas and Electric Company granted the TBWI \$5,000 to conduct this work. There is great potential for DACs to benefit from the State IRWM program, which incentivizes projects that include solutions to DAC water supply and quality problems. (Tasks 5.2, 5.3)
- As a result of an online survey and discussion at the last TBWG meeting (May 2013), the TBWI team has begun work to create subcommittees to meet specific project goals of the TBWG. To date, TBWI has begun developing the following subcommittees: Water for Wetlands Subcommittee, SW Tulare County DAC Subcommittee, and the Upstream/Downstream Watershed Subcommittee. (Tasks 5.1, 5.2, 5.3)

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 Assistant WC prepared a concept paper on increasing communication/collaboration between upper watershed managers and lower watershed water users. The paper identified obstacles to collaboration, current work being done, next steps and potential partnerships. The Assistant WC is coordinating with the Southern Sierra IRWMP, Association of California Water Agencies, Department of Water Resources and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy on this effort. (Tasks 6.1, 6.2)
- The WC continued to refine the scoping document for the Liberty Ranch project under Objective 2. This project is envisioned to provide temporary storage for up to 100,000 a/f of flood water off the South Kings, Kaweah, and Tule Rivers. With the uncertainty of climate change and effects in the Tulare Lake Basin, accommodation of high flood flows may also lessen impacts to communities and agricultural lands off the North Kings River in communities such as Mendota and Firebaugh. (Task 6.1)

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 IRWMP, 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 WC and performance evaluations by the TB IRWVG and TBWG, with summary reports (including summaries of reports to DOC) posted on the TBWP website.

Completed measures and outcomes addressed:

- The WC and TBWI Core Team members participated regularly in the seven IRWG group meetings and sub-committees, presented information on TBWI progress and plans, made useful contributions and received helpful feedback. (Tasks 7.1, 7.2, 7.3)
- The 2012 Annual Report for the TBWP/TBWI was shared with the KBWA Advisory Committee in June and at the KBWA Board meeting in July. The WC shared the TBWI progress with Senator Feinstein's Central Valley Director. (Tasks 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4)
- A survey was prepared and sent out to the TBWG membership to solicit input on the next phase of activities for the TBWG, as well as interface between the TBWG and the TBWI. Overall, respondents said that the existing meeting structure works well, but offered some important comments and suggestions (Tasks 7.1, 7.4):
 - the tours are a highlight of the meetings (followed by the make-up of the general group and the content of the meetings);
 - tours are most effective when they can both showcase success *and* walk the group through projects that are (or have the potential of) being developed;
 - the idea of breaking into subcommittees is appealing to the group, with the following topics being most important: water for wetlands, finding project funding, outreach and advocacy to elected officials, youth education & public engagement, and mapping;
 - the TBWG should find ways to better engage elected officials and their staffs.

Work Plan Objective #8: Coordinate with the TBWP, TB IRWVG, 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:

- The TBWI Team completed the TBWP/TBWI 2014-2016 Strategic Plan. (See enclosed CD.) We expect this document not only to guide our work but also to guide the larger watershed-based IRM effort in the Tulare Basin. (Task 8.3)
- A cooperative agreement renewal was awarded to TBWP/TBWI by BLM for the period June 28, 2013 – September 30, 2017, with \$27,000 in initial funding. Under the agreement, the TBWP/TBWI will continue to assist the agency with activities related to the Atwell Island Project, a highly important demonstration project under the TBWI. Discussions are underway to further expand the scope and funding under this agreement. (Task 8.1)
- A grant in the amount of \$10,000 was awarded by Southern California Edison to fund the TBWI Collaborating for Sustainable Solutions in Rural Communities Program, the first phase of which will include increased project planning and implementation efforts with DACs in SW Tulare County. (Task 8.1 and Tasks 5.3)

3. New funding obtained from the Grant Start Date through this reporting period
Grant proposals submitted to date:

See Tables 1 & 2 (pp. 13-15)

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	General	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	Mig. Bird Prog.	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	Environment & Health	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/out reach (TBWP-BLM Coop Agr'mnt increase)	\$27,000	F	\$27,000	8/17/11
Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)	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	Environment program	Cash match support, TBWI Web site, COS functions	\$7,700	N	N/A	N/A
Wick Kenny Foundation	P	Watershed	Cash match support, WC operating expenses	\$5,000	F	\$5,000	1/5/12
Southern Cal Edison (SCE)	P	Environment	Cash match support, WC operating expenses	\$5,000	F	\$2,500	1/12/12
Heller Charitable Foundation	P	Environment & Health	Cash match support, TBWI website	\$23,000	N	N/A	N/A
Constellation Energy Eco State	P	Environment	Cash match support, COS functions	\$5,000	N	\$5,000	N/A
NFWF/Wells Fargo	P	Healthy Communities	Pre-proposal for TBWI Website	\$45,000	N	N/A	N/A
NRCS	F	WRP	Cash match support, funds Assistant WC functions in 2013	\$27,500	F	\$27,500	8/8/12
PG&E	P	Fresno Gov't Rel.s	Cash match support, COS functions	\$5,000	F	\$5,000	8/11/12

S.D. Bechtel Fund	P	Environment & Water Program	TBWI website upgrades and maintenance	\$62,000	P		
BOR	F	CVPCP	Acquisition for Pixley NWR, SW Tulare Co Watershed Focus Area	\$885,100	P	\$448,000 (initial funding)	5/5/13
Fresno Regional Foundation	P	Environment	DAC Roundtable support	\$15,000	N	NA	NA
Kenney Brothers Foundation	P	Watershed	Cash match support for WC operating expenses	\$5,000	F	\$5,000	12/12
Heller Foundation	P	Environment & Health	TBWI – Interactive Mapping	\$23,000	N	NA	NA
Roll Global Request	P	General	TBWI general supports	\$5,000	N	NA	NA
1% For the Planet	P	General	Request for general contributions for the TBWP/TBWI	Discretionary	P	0 contribution to date	1/10/13
PG&E	P	Fresno Gov't Rel.s	Cash match, COS functions in support of TBWI/DAC	\$5,000	F	\$5,000	6/4/24
Southern Cal Edison (SCE)	P	Edison Int'l	Collaborating for Sustainable Solutions in Rural Communities Program	\$10,000	F	\$10,000	8/12/13
BLM	F	Coop, agr'mnt	Friends of Atwell Island Project	\$80,000	F	\$27,000	6/28/13
Carole Combs	P	donation	Cash match support, TBWP/TBWI brochure reprint	\$1,095	F	\$1,095	4/11/13
NRCS Contrib Agreement	F	CA WRP	DOC TBWI match Jan –May 2014	\$18,000	N	NA	NA
Cumulative Total				\$1,314,629.08		\$600,459.08	

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	Funded Conservation Strategy Group Consulting September 2011- August 2012, assisted WC and Core Team with funding and project implementation strategies	\$36,000	8/11/11
RollGiving	Employee contrib	Olsen/Paramount Farms; MG	General Support	\$300	12/12
RollGiving	Employee contrib	donation	General Support	\$400	1/13
TWS SJV Chapter	contrib	donation	General Support	\$250	1/13
Kings-Tulare CFC	P	Employee Contrib	General Support	\$122.98, \$69.04 \$56.48	10/12, 2/4/13 6/26/13
Fresno-Madera CFC	P	Employee Contrib	General Support	\$25.11 \$208.55	4/13 7/18/13
William Loudermilk, Conservation Solutions	P	TBWP Advisor	General Support	\$200.00	7/3/13
David Mitchell	P	TBWP BOD	General Support	\$100.00	7/18/13
Cumulative Total				\$37,732.16	

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

The CD enclosed with the original copy of this Report includes:

- Photos from the Summer Night Lights Event June 13, 2013
- Letter to the College of Sequoias President from Rob Hansen
- Alpaugh-Allensworth News Bulletin
- Two power point presentations (pdf) given by WC (June 12, 2013 & July 25, 2013)
- Final version of the TBWP/TBWI 2014-016 Strategic Plan
- TBWI e-newsletters (3 jpgs)
- TBWI website analytics
- TBWP June 2013 News Update
- Two-page pre-application document prepared for the California Water Foundation

The TBWI website is available at: www.tularebasinwatershed.org.

5. **If applicable, describe any problems or setbacks related to the implementation of the grant or the work plan.** None to report.

6. **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.