

Proposal Summaries

I

Applicant: Sequoia Riverlands Trust

Project: Watershed Enhancement Strategies for Groundwater Sustainability

Project Description: (1) Mapping natural resources, land management categories and conservation values along riparian corridors, including creation of a well-documented gallery on Data Basin (2) Developing an interactive, web-based tool that stakeholders can use to identify priority areas for watershed conservation and enhancement (3) Identifying key elements, partners and potential funding sources for at least one follow-up collaborative project that will significantly enhance natural watershed function and groundwater sustainability (4) prepare a set of policy and strategy recommendations for the region's first Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Project Location: Select riparian corridors in the Southern San Joaquin Valley

Funding Requested: \$59,870

Total Project Funding: \$59,870

Subcontractor/Partner: GreenInfo Network

Outreach: Numerous stakeholders, including IRWMP groups, water districts, agricultural producers, city and county planners, and multiple GSAs

Potential for Valleywide Application: Although focused on riparian corridors in the Southern SJV, applicant indicates its methods will be exportable to other parts of the region. Similarly, the Groundwater Sustainability Plan policy recommendations will likely be relevant for any GSA or water agency seeking to increase natural groundwater recharge, including but not limited to those in the critically overdrafted Eastern San Joaquin, Merced, Chowchilla and Madera Groundwater Basins

Support Letters/Resolutions: Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners

II

Applicant: Sustainable Conservation

Project: Groundwater Recharge Planning Tool

Project Description: Development of a geospatial decision support tool that enables irrigation districts and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) to identify and prioritize potential on-farm recharge as part of a portfolio of groundwater replenishment options to include in GSAs to achieve sustainable groundwater supplies

Project Location: Madera and Tulare Irrigation Districts

Funding Requested: \$90,057

Total Project Funding: \$331,181 (Additional match of \$243,124 from institutional and individual sources)

Subcontractor/Partner: Earth Genome

Outreach: Irrigation districts and water agencies, DWR, State Water Resources Control Board, Association of California Water Agencies

Potential for Valleywide Application: Tool is being built for use by all GSAs in the SJV and potentially the Sacramento Valley. The underlying data, analytics and science will be relevant to the entire SJV although basin specific information may need to be added in order to extend the tool to other GSAs and counties. Report products of the tool will also be of value to local farmers by providing geospatial information about areas of recharge suitability

Support Letters/Resolutions: Madera Irrigation District, Tulare Irrigation District

III

Applicant: American Farmland Trust

Project: Better Understand the Land-Water Interface in the SJV in Order to Inform Choices about their Use and Management

Project Description: Collect and analyze data on (1) the capacity and uses of the SJV's principal sources of surface and ground water (2) the productivity, versatility and resiliency of agricultural land and (3) how land and water resources for agricultural production are likely to undergo change in response to the expansion of urban areas, to evolving environmental needs and to climate change. The analysis will be used to highlight spatially where and to what extent agricultural and urban land uses are and would be vulnerable to depletion of land and water resources under different assumptions about future land and water use scenarios.

Project Location: Valleywide to provide region-wide perspective, with a more detailed examination of Stanislaus and Fresno Counties

Funding Requested: \$50,000

Total Project Funding: \$83,787

Subcontractor/Partner: Conservation Biology Institute

Outreach: Scientific experts, key stakeholders including agriculture, environmental and local government leaders via webinars, small group interactions, and in-person meetings

Potential for Valleywide Application: Methodology likely applicable Valleywide

Support Letters/Resolutions: None