

**Meeting of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board
February 24, 2012**

Staff Report – Encroachment Permit

**The Nature Conservancy
Riparian Restoration, Colusa County**

1.0 – ITEM

To consider approval of Permit No. 18685 (Attachment B)

2.0 – APPLICANT

The Nature Conservancy

3.0 – LOCATION

The project is located approximately 2.75 miles south of Princeton.
(Sacramento River, Colusa County, see Attachment A)

4.0 – DESCRIPTION

The applicant proposes to restore 49-acres to riparian habitat (1,000-acre Ranch Tract) on the right (west) bank overflow area of the Sacramento River (RM 160).

5.0 – PROJECT ANALYSIS

The applicant proposes to remove a 49-acre prune orchard and restore it to native riparian vegetation. The restoration site is included in a 60-acre parcel known as the 1000-acre Ranch Tract that is located on the west side of the Sacramento River approximately 2.75 miles south of Princeton. The proposed restoration site abuts existing riparian habitat to the east (Stegeman Tract), the west (right) bank Project Levee to the north and west, and a walnut orchard to the south. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) purchased the land in 2003. TNC will transfer the 1000-Acre Ranch Tract to a state or federal agency prior to restoration.

Upon removal of the existing prune orchard, a curved band of mixed riparian forest would be planted (6,087 plants) from the north along the western boundary and over much of the southern portion of the tract, connecting to the existing mixed riparian forest habitat to the east. Valley Oak riparian forest would be planted (4,475 plants) in the sandier, coarser-textured soils of the eastern portion of the tract. Restoration plantings along the Project Levee will be setback a minimum of 15-feet from the waterside levee toe. All planting rows will be parallel to flood flows at a spacing of 40-feet for Valley Oak and 30-feet for mixed riparian forest.

As per the provided Maintenance Plan the new riparian vegetation will be irrigated and maintained for a three-year period to ensure the establishment of the proposed plant communities. All irrigation components will be removed from the floodway following the three-year establishment period. New vegetation was considered at full maturity in the 2-dimensional hydraulic model that was done for the proposed project so no new maintenance is anticipated as a result of the project.

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) are actively negotiating on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for maintenance of flood control projects in the Sacramento River and Feather River wildlife areas. The goal is for both agencies to mutually agree to maintain channel capacity while managing, monitoring, restoring, and enhancing lands set aside for fish and wildlife. The agencies will further agree to coordinate land management efforts and facilitate the respective parties' efforts to meet public safety and environmental stewardship goals. DWR will complete routine maintenance in accordance with this MOU and the Streambed Alteration Agreement issued by DFG for Routine Maintenance of Flood Control Projects (Notification No. 1600-2010-01 08-R2). Permit No. 18685 is conditioned on the MOU being ratified by both agencies.

5.1 – Hydraulic Analysis

A detailed 2-dimensional (2-D) hydraulic analysis was conducted for eight parcels (includes the proposed 49-acre restoration site) that are planned for restoration on the Sacramento River between Princeton (RM 164.0) and Colusa (River Mile 144.4). One hydraulic model was used for all eight sites to determine if the proposed restoration projects would cause a cumulative hydraulic impact.

The 2-D hydraulic model was calibrated using the 1995 high flow runoff, available 1997 river topography and the 1995 surveyed high water marks. The calibrated model was then updated to 2006 LIDAR topography and 2006 land use conditions and then re-run for the 1957 Corps of Engineers design flow. Multiple alternative restoration scenarios were evaluated until acceptable water surface conditions were achieved.

The proposed vegetation communities were modeled with roughness coefficients that are calibrated to match remnant riparian areas in the Colusa Subreach so that the maximum future growth and hydraulic effect of the proposed restoration is incorporated into the analysis results.

The hydraulic analysis shows that the 1,000 Acre Ranch Tract is a backwater area that will experience a low flow velocity during the project design flow of 160,000-cfs. The existing riparian vegetation to the east of the restoration site and the configuration of the levee contribute to this situation. Model results show a very small water surface elevation increase that is limited to the project area. The results from the hydraulic analysis are summarized below:

Existing Conditions:

Flow Velocity: 0.5 to 1.5-feet per second (fps).

With-Project Conditions:

Flow Velocity: a decrease from between 0.25 to 0.1-fps.
(see Attachment C)

Water Surface Elevation: an increase from 0.0 to 0.02-feet.
(see Attachment C)

5.2 – Geotechnical Analysis

A geotechnical analysis is not required for the proposed restoration project.

5.3 – Additional Staff Analysis

This proposed 49-acre restoration project is one of eight restoration sites that was identified in the August 2008 Colusa Subreach Planning Report (CSP). CSP was initiated to develop a strategy for restoration of the ecosystem along the Sacramento River between the community of Princeton and the City of Colusa, referred to as the Colusa Subreach, in Northern California. The subject area is located entirely inside of the flood protection levees from River Mile 164.5 on the north, downstream to RM 143.5 on the south. The north boundary is the site of the former Princeton Ferry and the south boundary is the Colusa Bridge. It includes approximately 5,466 acres of land with 5,094 acres in Colusa County and 372 acres in Glenn County. The objective of this ecosystem restoration is to restore the ability of the environment to support viable populations of native wildlife including those listed under State and Federal Endangered Species Acts. This strategy was to be integrated with the flood management system, agriculture and other existing land uses. The Nature Conservancy and the Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum formed a partnership to conduct the planning program and funding was provided by the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program.

6.0 – AGENCY COMMENTS AND ENDORSEMENTS

The comments and endorsements associated with this project, from all pertinent agencies are shown below:

- State Maintenance Area No. 1 (Sutter Maintenance Yard) endorsed the project on May 25, 2010, with conditions. The conditions will be incorporated into the permit as Exhibit A.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 208.10 comment letter has not yet been received for this application. Upon receipt of a favorable letter and review by Board staff the letter will be incorporated into the permit as Exhibit B.

7.0 – CEQA ANALYSIS

The Board, as a responsible agency under CEQA, has reviewed Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) (SCH Number: 2008052098, May 2008) and Mitigation Measures for the Colusa Subreach Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project prepared by the lead agency, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). These documents, including project design, may be viewed or downloaded from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board website at <http://www.cvfpb.ca.gov/meetings/2012/02-24-2012.cfm> under a link for this agenda item. These documents are also available for review in hard copy at the Board and the CDFG offices.

CDFG determined that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment at on August 26, 2008 and filed a Notice of Determination on August 27, 2008 with the State Clearinghouse. Board staff finds that although the proposed project could have a potentially significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. The project proponent has incorporated mandatory mitigation measures into the project plans to avoid identified impacts or to mitigate such impacts to a point where no significant impacts will occur. These mitigation measures are included in the project proponent's IS/MND and address impacts to biological resources and cultural resources. The description of the mitigation measures are further described in the adopted IS/MND.

8.0 – SECTION 8610.5 CONSIDERATIONS

1. Evidence that the Board admits into its record from any party, State or local public agency, or nongovernmental organization with expertise in flood or flood plain management:

The Board will make its decision based on the evidence in the permit application and attachments, this staff report, and any other evidence presented by any individual or group.

2. The best available science that related to the scientific issues presented by the executive officer, legal counsel, the Department or other parties that raise credible scientific issues.

The accepted industry standards for the work proposed under this permit as regulated by Title 23 have been applied to the review of this permit.

3. Effects of the decision on the entire State Plan of Flood Control:

The proposed riparian vegetation at full maturity results in a minor hydraulic changes that are localized to the restoration site; therefore there should be no effects to the overall State Plan of Flood Control.

4. Effects of reasonable projected future events, including, but not limited to, changes in hydrology, climate, and development within the applicable watershed:

There will be no effects to the proposed restoration site from reasonable projected future events.

9.0 – STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the CEQA findings and approve the permit, conditioned upon receipt of a favorable U.S. Army Corps of Engineers comment letter, and direct staff to file a Notice of Determination with the State Clearinghouse.

10.0 – LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Location Maps and Photos
- B. Draft Permit No. 18684
- C. Hydraulic Results
- D. Planting Plan
- E. Maintenance Plan

Design Review:	Gary W. Lemon P.E.
Environmental Review:	Andrea Mauro, James Herota
Document Review:	Mitra Emami P.E., Len Marino P.E.

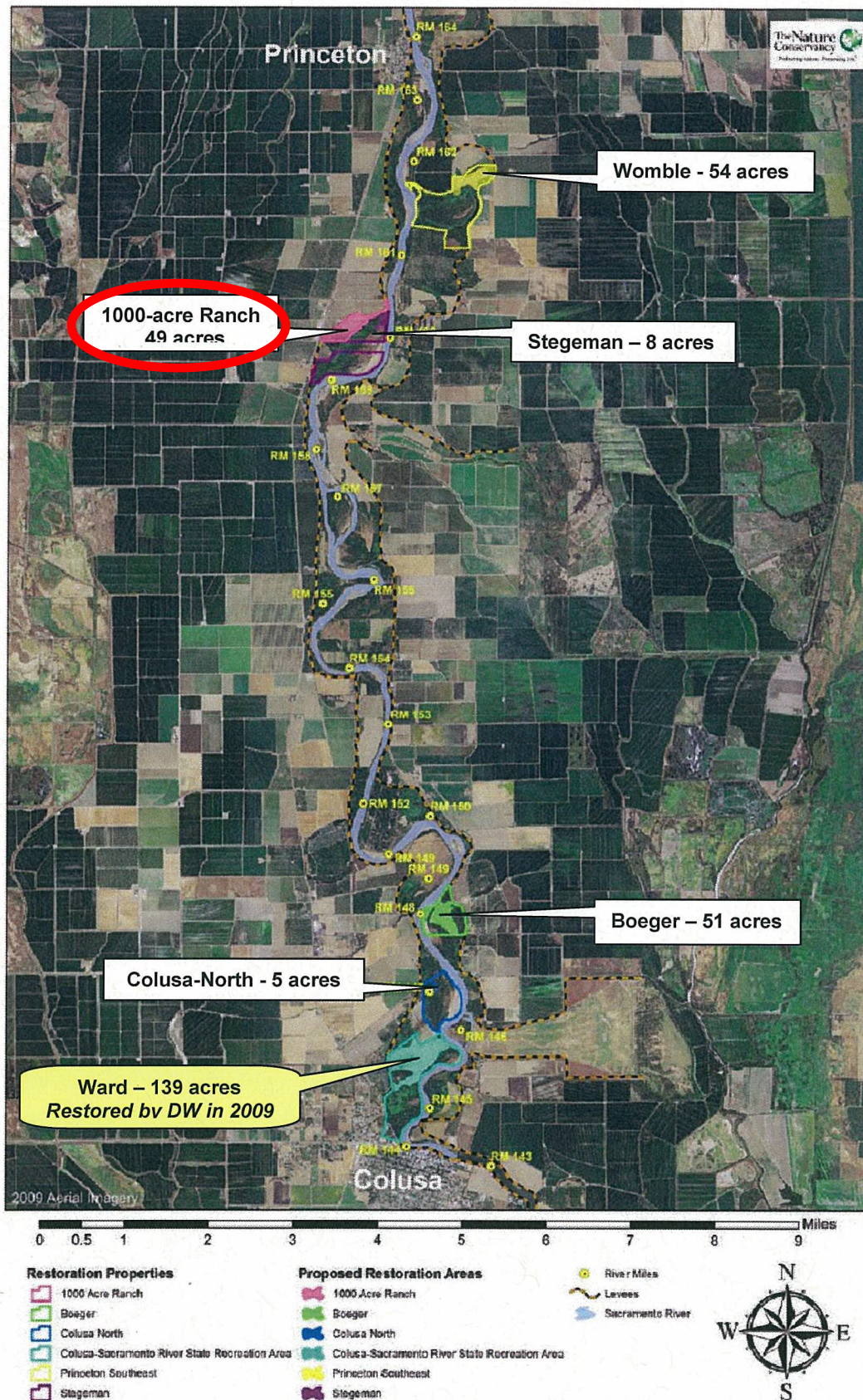


Figure 1. Colusa Subreach Restoration Tracts

C. 1000-acre Ranch Tract Overview and Restoration Plan Description

Section 6, Township 17 North, Range 1 West

1000-acre Ranch Tract is a 60-acre site located on the west side of the Sacramento River approximately 2.75 miles south of Princeton. Figure C-y1 depicts the site in on a 2006 aerial photo. Forty nine acres of the tract is an older prune orchard and the remaining eleven acres are covered by the levee and the adjacent access area. The Tract is estimated to be inundated about every two to four years. The tract was purchased by TNC in 2003. It will be transferred to a state or federal agency prior to restoration and following restoration it is expected to be open for public recreation use. The 1000-Acre Ranch Tract adjoins the Stegeman Tract on the east. Access to the site is across a private easement from Highway 45.

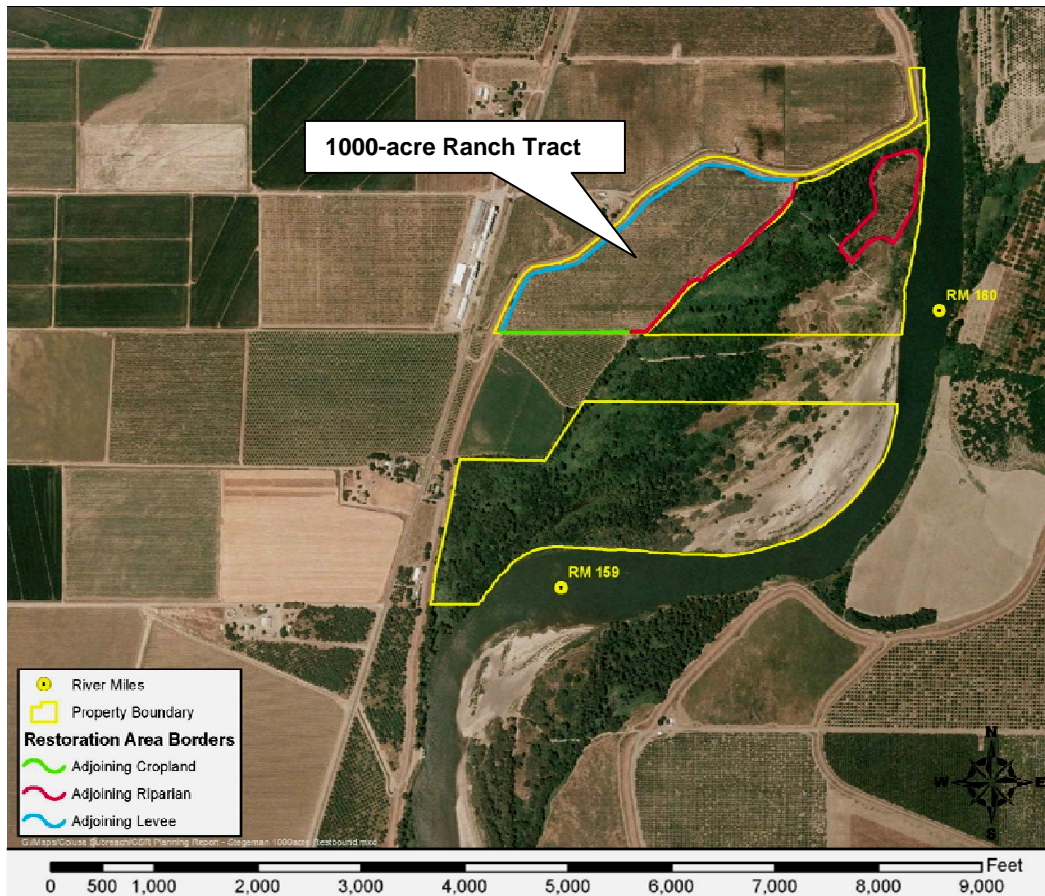


Figure C-1. The Stegeman and 1000-acre Ranch Tracts

The proposed restoration area on the 1000-Acre Ranch Tract abuts remnant riparian habitat on the east, the flood protection levee on the north and west and about 18 percent of its perimeter is adjacent to cropland. The southern border abuts a walnut orchard along a boundary of about 1250 feet, which is under the same ownership as the adjoining riparian habitat to the east. The majority of the parcel containing the walnut orchard parcel is existing riparian habitat and the orchard abuts that onsite riparian habitat to the east. The orchard's direct exposure to adjacent habitat would be increased although the property currently has a substantial interface with riparian habitat.

DRAFT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
THE RESOURCES AGENCY
THE CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD

PERMIT NO. 18685 GM

This Permit is issued to:

The Nature Conservancy
500 Main Street
Chico , California 95928

To restore 49-acres to riparian habitat (1,000-acre Ranch Tract) on the right (west) bank overflow area of the Sacramento River (RM 160). The project is located approximately 2.75 miles south of Princeton (Section 6, T17N, R1W, MDB&M, Sutter Maintenance Yard, Sacramento River, Colusa County).

NOTE: Special Conditions have been incorporated herein which may place limitations on and/or require modification of your proposed project as described above.

(SEAL)

Dated: _____

Executive Officer

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

ONE: This permit is issued under the provisions of Sections 8700 – 8723 of the Water Code.

TWO: Only work described in the subject application is authorized hereby.

THREE: This permit does not grant a right to use or construct works on land owned by the Sacramento and San Joaquin Drainage District or on any other land.

FOUR: The approved work shall be accomplished under the direction and supervision of the State Department of Water Resources, and the permittee shall conform to all requirements of the Department and The Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

FIVE: Unless the work herein contemplated shall have been commenced within one year after issuance of this permit, the Board reserves the right to change any conditions in this permit as may be consistent with current flood control standards and policies of The Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

SIX: This permit shall remain in effect until revoked. In the event any conditions in this permit are not complied with, it may be revoked on 15 days' notice.

SEVEN: It is understood and agreed to by the permittee that the start of any work under this permit shall constitute an acceptance of the conditions in this permit and an agreement to perform work in accordance therewith.

EIGHT: This permit does not establish any precedent with respect to any other application received by The Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

NINE: The permittee shall, when required by law, secure the written order or consent from all other public agencies having jurisdiction.

TEN: The permittee is responsible for all personal liability and property damage which may arise out of failure on the permittee's part to perform the obligations under this permit. If any claim of liability is made against the State of California, or any departments thereof, the United States of America, a local district or other maintaining agencies and the officers, agents or employees thereof, the permittee shall defend and shall hold each of them harmless from each claim.

ELEVEN: The permittee shall exercise reasonable care to operate and maintain any work authorized herein to preclude injury to or damage to any works necessary to any plan of flood control adopted by the Board or the Legislature, or interfere with the successful execution, functioning or operation of any plan of flood control adopted by the Board or the Legislature.

TWELVE: Should any of the work not conform to the conditions of this permit, the permittee, upon order of The Central Valley Flood Protection Board, shall in the manner prescribed by the Board be responsible for the cost and expense to remove, alter, relocate, or reconstruct all or any part of the work herein approved.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR PERMIT NO. 18685 GM

THIRTEEN: This permit is not valid until the Memorandum of Understanding for maintenance of flood control projects in the Sacramento River and Feather River wildlife areas between the California Department of Fish and Game and the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Flood Management, is ratified.

FOURTEEN: All work approved by this permit shall be in accordance with the submitted drawings and specifications except as modified by special permit conditions herein. No further work, other than that approved by this permit, shall be done in the area without prior approval of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

FIFTEEN: The permittee is responsible for all liability associated with construction, operation, and maintenance of the permitted facilities and shall defend, indemnify, and hold the Central Valley Flood Protection Board and the State of California; including its agencies, departments, boards, commissions, and their respective officers, agents, employees, successors and assigns (collectively, the "State"), safe and harmless, of and from all claims and damages arising from the project undertaken pursuant to this permit, all to the extent allowed by law. The State expressly reserves the right to supplement or take over its defense, in its sole discretion.

SIXTEEN: The permittee shall defend, indemnify, and hold the Central Valley Flood Protection Board and the State of California, including its agencies, departments, boards, commissions, and their respective officers, agents, employees, successors and assigns (collectively, the "State"), safe and harmless, of and from all claims and damages related to the Central Valley Flood Protection Board's approval of this permit, including but not limited to claims filed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. The State expressly reserves the right to supplement or take over its defense, in its sole discretion.

SEVENTEEN: The Central Valley Flood Protection Board and the Department of Water Resources shall not be held liable for any damages to the permitted encroachment(s) resulting from flood fight, operation, maintenance, inspection, or emergency repair.

EIGHTEEN: No construction work of any kind shall be done during the flood season from November 1st to April 15th without prior approval of the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.

NINETEEN: Upon receipt of a signed copy of the issued permit the permittee shall contact the Department of Water Resources by telephone, (916) 574-0609, and submit the enclosed postcard to schedule a preconstruction conference. Failure to do so at least 10 working days prior to start of work may result in delay of the project.

TWENTY: No material stockpiles, temporary buildings, or equipment shall remain in the floodway during the flood season from November 1st to April 15th.

TWENTY-ONE: Land preparation (landleveling, dredging, etc.) is not allowed.

TWENTY-TWO: In the event trees and brush are cleared, they shall be properly disposed of either by burning or removing from the floodway prior to the flood season.

TWENTY-THREE: Tree rows shall be parallel to the direction of the overbank flow and planted vegetation shall not cause the flows to be directed toward any levee.

TWENTY-FOUR: Trees shall not be planted within 15 feet of the levee toe.

TWENTY-FIVE: Areas where plantings are lost to erosion shall not be replanted.

TWENTY-SIX: If the planted trees result in an adverse hydraulic impact, the permittee will provide appropriate mitigation.

TWENTY-SEVEN: The temporary irrigation system shall be secured to prevent flotation or detachment into the floodway during high water.

TWENTY-EIGHT: The temporary irrigation system shall be removed from the floodway at the end of the three year vegetation establishment period.

TWENTY-NINE: All debris generated by this project shall be disposed of outside the floodway.

THIRTY: Any vegetation which interferes with the successful execution, functioning, maintenance, or operation of the adopted plan of flood control must be removed by the owner at owner's expense upon request by the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, Department of Water Resources, or local maintaining agency. If the owner does not remove such vegetation upon request, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board reserves the right to remove the vegetation at the owner's expense.

THIRTY-ONE: The permittee shall comply with all conditions set forth by the California Department of Water Resources Sutter Maintenance Yard which is attached to this permit as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.

THIRTY-TWO: The permittee shall comply with all conditions set forth in the letter from the Department of the Army dated February xx, 2012, which is attached to this permit as Exhibit B and is incorporated by reference.

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State of California

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD

California Natural Resources Agency

APPLICATION FOR A CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION BOARD
ENCROACHMENT PERMIT

Application No. _____
(For Office Use Only)

1. Description of proposed work:

Restoration of native wildlife habitat on five sites, totaling 167 acres in the Colusa Subreach of the Sacramento River, between Princeton and Colusa.

C. 1000-acre Ranch Tract - restoration of 49 acres on a 60-acre property located on the west side of the Sacramento River approximately 2.75 miles south of Princeton.

2. Location: Colusa County, in Section 6,
Township: 17N (N) (S), Range 1W (W), M. D. B. & M.

3. The Nature Conservancy of 500 Main Street
Name of Applicant Address
Chico CA 95928 530-897-6370
City State Zip Code Telephone Number
530-342-0257
Fax Number

4. Endorsement: (of Reclamation District)

We, the Trustees of California Department of Water Resources
Name and District Number

approve this plan, subject to the following conditions:

- Conditions listed on back of this form Conditions Attached No Conditions

John Hill 5/25/10
Trustee Date Trustee Date
SUPERINTENDENT

DWR - SUTTER MAINTENANCE YARD

5. Names and addresses of adjacent property owners sharing a common boundary with the land upon which the contents of this application apply. If additional space is required, list names and addresses on back of the application form or an attached sheet.

California Wildlife Conservation Board 1807 13th Street, Sacramento CA 95811
Name Address Zip Code
Green Valley Corporation 777N 1st Street, 5th Floor, San Jose, CA 97112
Woodford A & Katherine Yerxa PO Box 209, Colusa, CA 95932

CONDITIONS

1. Maintaining Agency, "DWR", Sutter Maintenance Yard, shall maintain this section of the Sacramento River, located in Colusa County, Section 18; Township 16N; Range 1W, in accordance with USACE Operations and Maintenance Manual, "For The Sacramento River Flood Control Project", Section:

6-02. Maintenance

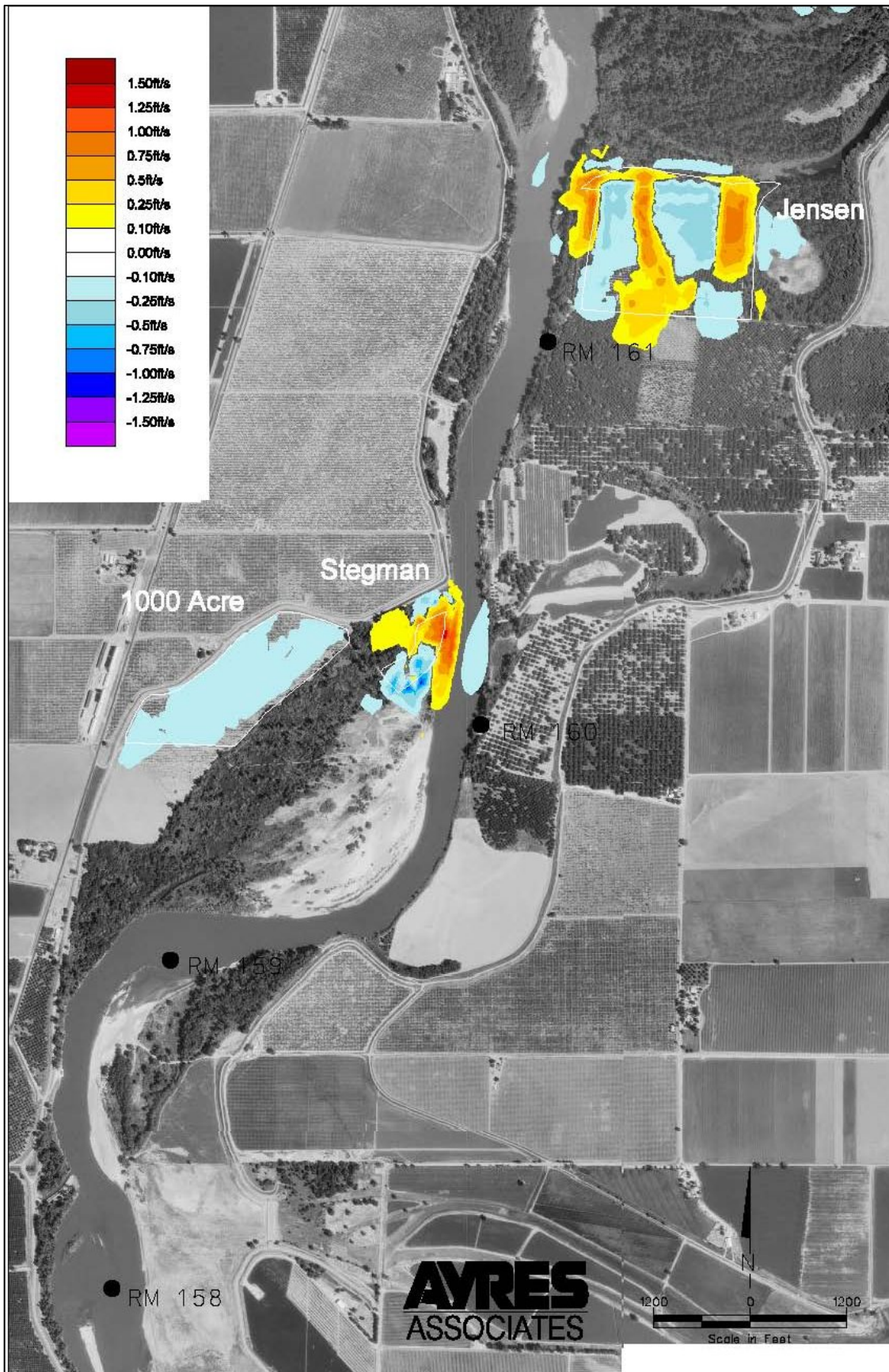
6-04. Operations

and the Supplement to Standard Operations and Maintenance Manual, "Unit No. 165 Cleared Floodways" Section:

2-01. Channel

3-01. Repair of Damage

as is necessary to insure passage of project flood flows, and maintain channel capacity.





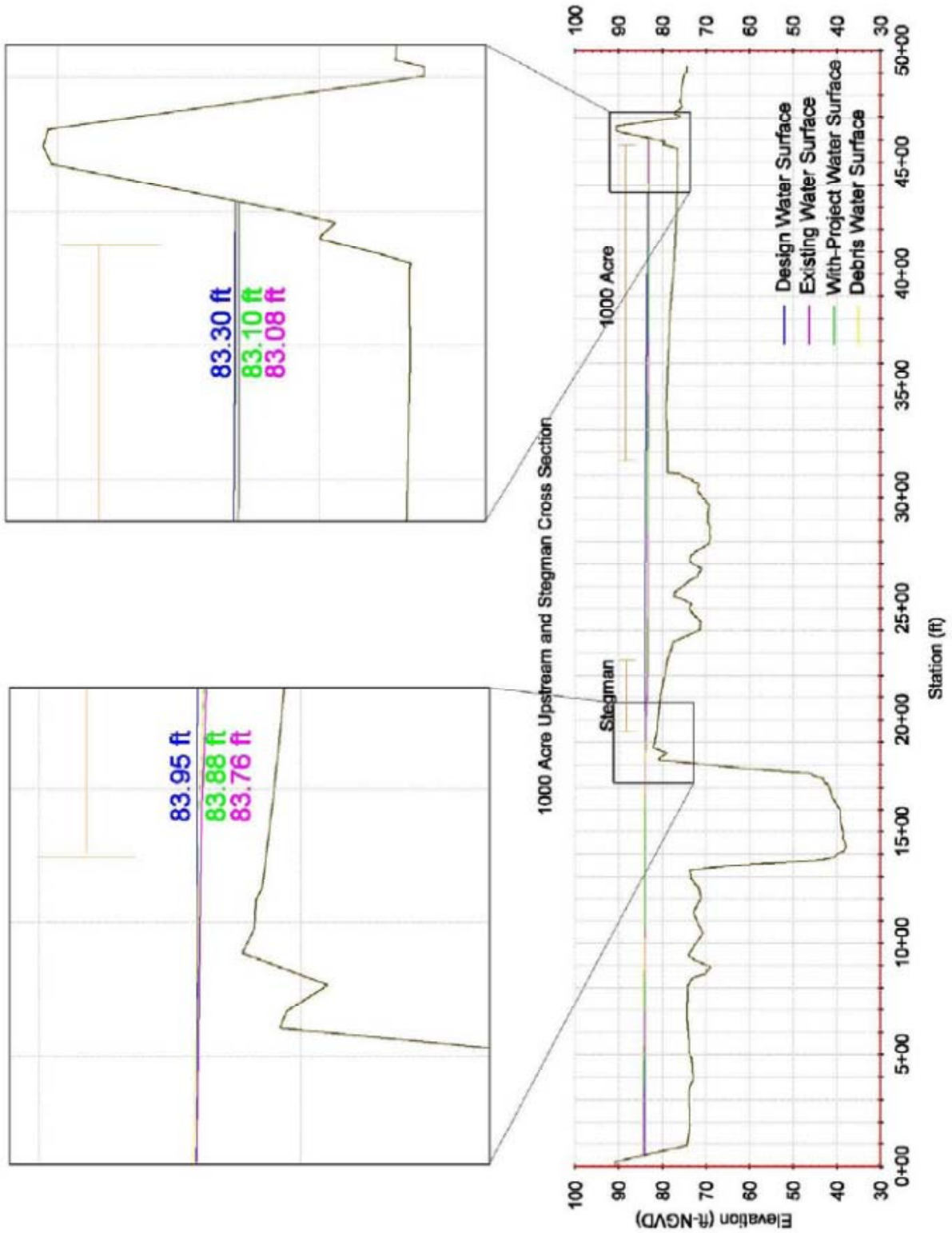


Figure C-4. Water Surface Elevation Cross Section – Stegeman and 1000-acre Ranch, Upstream

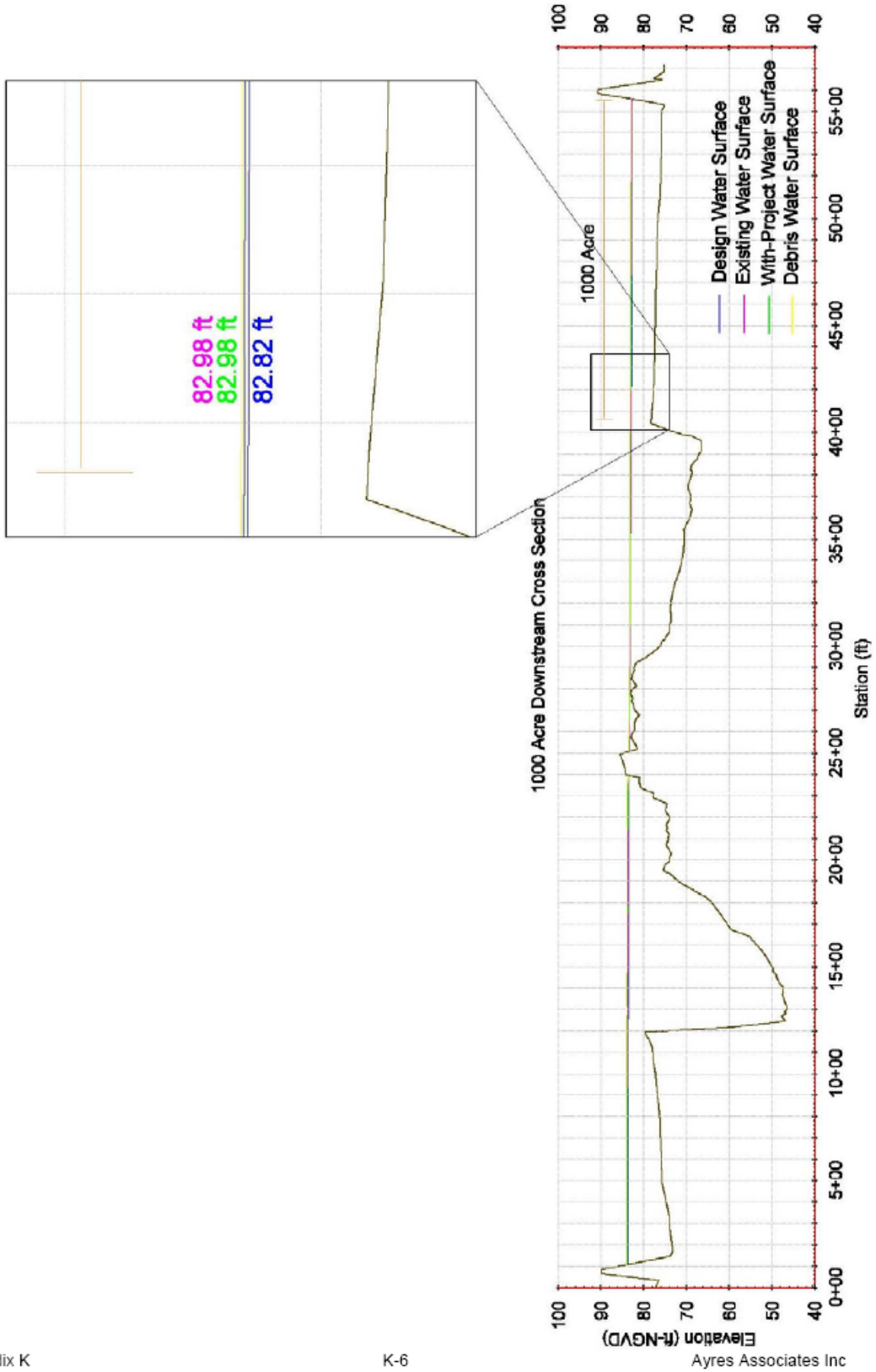
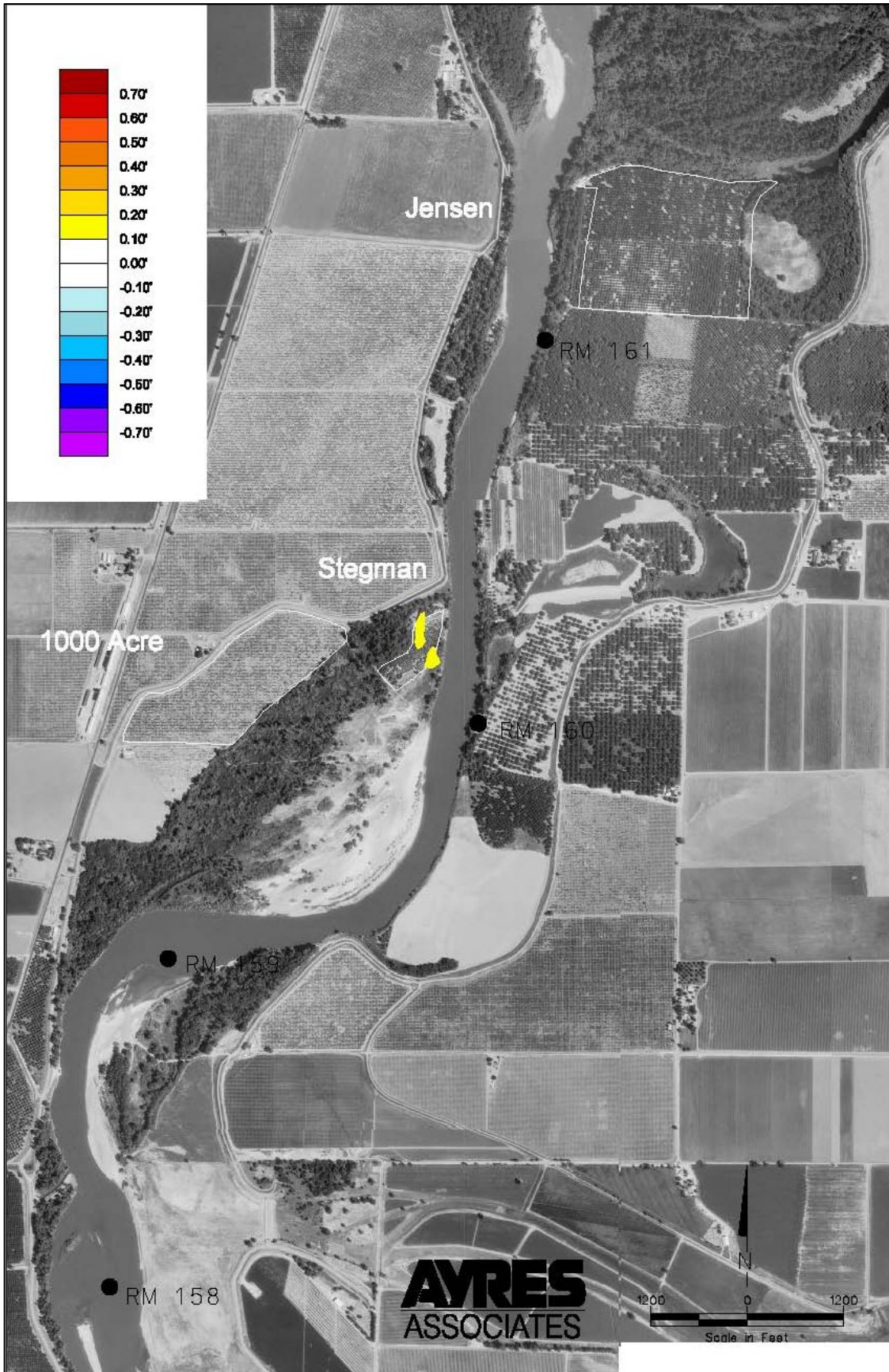


Figure C-5. Water Surface Elevation Cross Section –1000-acre Ranch, Downstream



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Restoration Plant Composition.

The restoration plan for the 1000-acre Ranch Tract specifies the native plants that will compose each plant community incorporating the appropriate plant and row spacings. Species and seeding rates are also specified for the native grass understory that will be established to provide initial cover and assist weed control. Figure C-6 illustrates the restoration plan for the 1000-acre Ranch Tract depicting the proposed plant community and the configuration of the planting rows that will be parallel with the flow of flood waters.

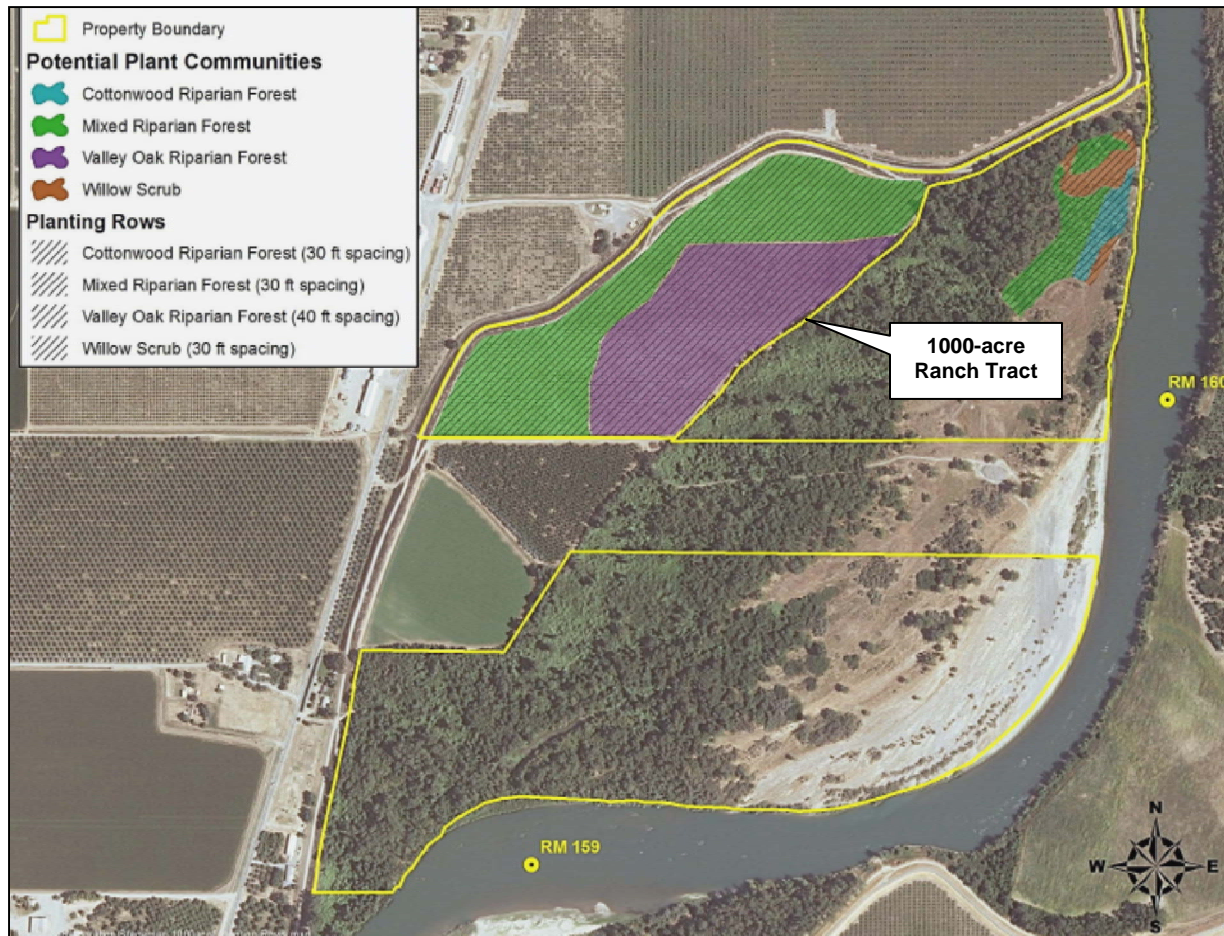


Figure C-6. Restoration Plan for the 111-acre Ranch Tract with Planting Rows

Mixed Riparian Forest (MRF)

Phase 1 - Manual Planting

Planting Spacings (plants x row)	11' x 30'
Emitter Density per acre	132
Acres	26.5
Target Planting Date	Spring, Project Year 2
Total Locations	3,498
Total Plants	6,087

Canopy Structure	Species		Frequency	Total
Overstory	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	Western sycamore	8%	280
	<i>Populus fremontii</i>	Fremont cottonwood	7%	245
	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	Valley oak	4%	140
Midstory	<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box elder	19%	665
	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Button willow	4%	140
	<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Oregon ash	4%	140
		Narrow leaved		
	<i>Salix exigua</i>	willow	4%	140
	<i>Salix gooddingii</i>	Goodding's willow	4%	140
	<i>Salix laevigata</i>	Red willow	4%	140
	<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>	Arroyo willow	10%	350
	<i>Salix lucida</i>	Shining willow	4%	140
	Understory shrubs	<i>Rosa californica</i>	California rose	8%
<i>Rubus ursinus</i>		California blackberry	20%	700
			100%	3,498
Sedges	<i>Carex barbarae</i>	Santa Barbara sedge	14%	490
	<i>Caerex praegracillis</i>	Slender sedge	11%	385
Forbs	<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	Mugwort	14%	490
	<i>Euthamia occidentalis</i>	California goldenrod	14%	490
	<i>Lotus purshianus</i>	Lotus	5%	175
	<i>Urtica dioecia</i>	Hoary nettle	3%	105
	<i>Oenothera hookeri</i>	Primrose	2%	70
Vines	<i>Aristolochia californica</i>	California pipevine	8%	280
	<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>	Clematis	3%	105
			74%	2,589

* companion planting frequency is 74%, this accounts for not planting a companion plant next to the willow species.

Phase 2 - Direct Understory Seeding

Acres 26.5
 Seeding rate (lb/acre) 13
 Target Planting Date December, Project Year 2

Grass Species	Ecotype	Seeding Rate
<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	Blue wildrye	Parrott 30%
<i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i>	California meadow barley	Yolo Co. 25%
<i>Leymus triticoides</i>	Creeping wildrye	Yolo Co. 45%
		100%

Valley Oak Riparian Forest (VORF)

Phase 1 - Manual Planting

Planting Spacings (plants x row)	11' x 40'
Emitter Density per acre	99
Acres	22.6
Target Planting Date	Spring, Project Year 2
Total Locations	2,237
Total Plants	4,475

Canopy Structure	Species		Frequency	Total
Overstory	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>	Western sycamore	12%	268
	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	Valley oak	30%	671
Midstory	<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box elder	13%	291
	<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Oregon ash	7%	157
Understory shrubs	<i>Rosa californica</i>	California rose	20%	447
	<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	California blackberry	18%	403
			100%	2,237
Herbaceous	<i>Carex barbarae</i>	Santa Barbara sedge	47%	1,052
	<i>Carex praeegracillis</i>	Slender sedge	10%	224
Forbs	<i>Artemisia douglasiana</i>	Mugwort	10%	224
	<i>Euthamia occidentalis</i>	California goldenrod	10%	224
Vines	<i>Aristolochia californica</i>	California pipevine	16%	358
	<i>Clematis ligusticifolia</i>	Clematis	7%	157
			100%	2,237

Phase 2 - Direct Understory Seeding

Acres	22.6
Seeding rate (lb/acre)	13
Target Planting Date	December, Project Year 2

Grass Species	Ecotype	Seeding Rate
<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	Parrott	20%
<i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i>	Yolo Co.	25%
<i>Leymus triticoides</i>	Yolo Co.	20%
<i>Nasella pulchra</i>	Llano Seco	35%
		100%

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Maintenance Plan – 1000-acre Ranch Tract

The proposed riparian habitat restoration will infill larger, existing areas of remnant riparian vegetation to maximize the connectivity and overall ecological value of that habitat for native species and game species. The proposed restoration involves a small portion of the five Tracts as most of the Tracts are already in riparian habitat. Only 167 acres of the 717 total acres, 23% of the total area, will be modified in any way. The remaining 77% of the land will be unchanged from the current condition. Forty-nine acres of the 60-acre 1000-acre Ranch Tract will be restored. The remaining 18% of the Tract will be unchanged.

The proposed plant communities are designed to achieve the full, natural vegetation potential that can be supported on the respective portions of each site. These communities were determined on the basis of the site characteristics, which include but are not limited to, soils, drainage and inundation frequency. These restored areas will gradually blend into the remnant riparian habitats that surround them and eventually they will be indistinguishable from the surrounding remnant habitat.

The hydraulic analysis prepared as a part of Colusa Subreach Planning modeled the proposed vegetation communities with roughness coefficients that matched the remnant riparian areas in the Colusa Subreach so that the maximum future effect of the restoration is incorporated into the analysis results. The modeling considered the restoration to be at full growth and, therefore, demonstrates a “full growth” or “worst case” flood impact that will not occur for many years. The analysis, which is detailed for each restoration site, demonstrates that the completed restoration will not result in unacceptable increases in either flood flow elevation or flood flow velocity and that the restorations will not unreasonably affect the flood management system or surrounding properties; either individually or cumulatively. As a result, following initial establishment of the vegetation no physical management actions are required to ensure compliance with Flood Protection Board standards.

Maintenance During Restoration

The intensive activity and maintenance that will occur over a four-year period is specified in a detailed Restoration Plan that was developed for of each of the five restoration sites as part of Colusa Subreach Planning. This initial activity and maintenance will ensure that the proposed plant communities will be established consistent with the Restoration Plan and the Hydraulic Analysis. This work will include the following:

Year One

- Collect native seeds and cuttings for overstory and understory plantings
- Propagate plantings in a nursery
- Perform weed control

Year Two

- Prepare fields for planting and lay out the plan onsite
- Install, maintain, and operate irrigation system
- Plant overstory and understory materials in the spring
- Seed understory native grass in the fall
- Perform weed control
- Monitor regularly
- Prepare annual report

Year Three

- Perform weed control
- Maintain and operate irrigation system
- Monitor regularly and replace plants as required
- Prepare annual report

Year Four

- Perform weed control
- Maintain and operate irrigation system
- Monitor regularly
- Prepare the final report

Maintenance Following Restoration

- Periodic visits by agency enforcement and lands management staff
- Annual review of each restoration site

The restoration planting will be irrigated and maintained for a three-year period to ensure the cost effective establishment of the proposed plant communities. By the end of the three year maintenance period the plants will be established to the point that irrigation and weed control are no longer required. The riparian habitat will function just like the surrounding remnant riparian habitat and no unusual maintenance will be required. The public agency manager of the property will manage the property for wildlife habitat and for public recreation use consistent with other comparable lands along the Sacramento River.

- Periodic visits by agency enforcement and lands management staff
- Annual review of each restoration site

The restoration planting will be irrigated and maintained for a three-year period to ensure the cost effective establishment of the proposed plant communities. By the end of the three year maintenance period the plants will be established to the point that irrigation and weed control are no longer required. The riparian habitat will function just like the surrounding remnant riparian habitat and no unusual maintenance will be required. The public agency manager of the site will manage the property for wildlife habitat and for public recreation use consistent with other comparable lands along the Sacramento River.