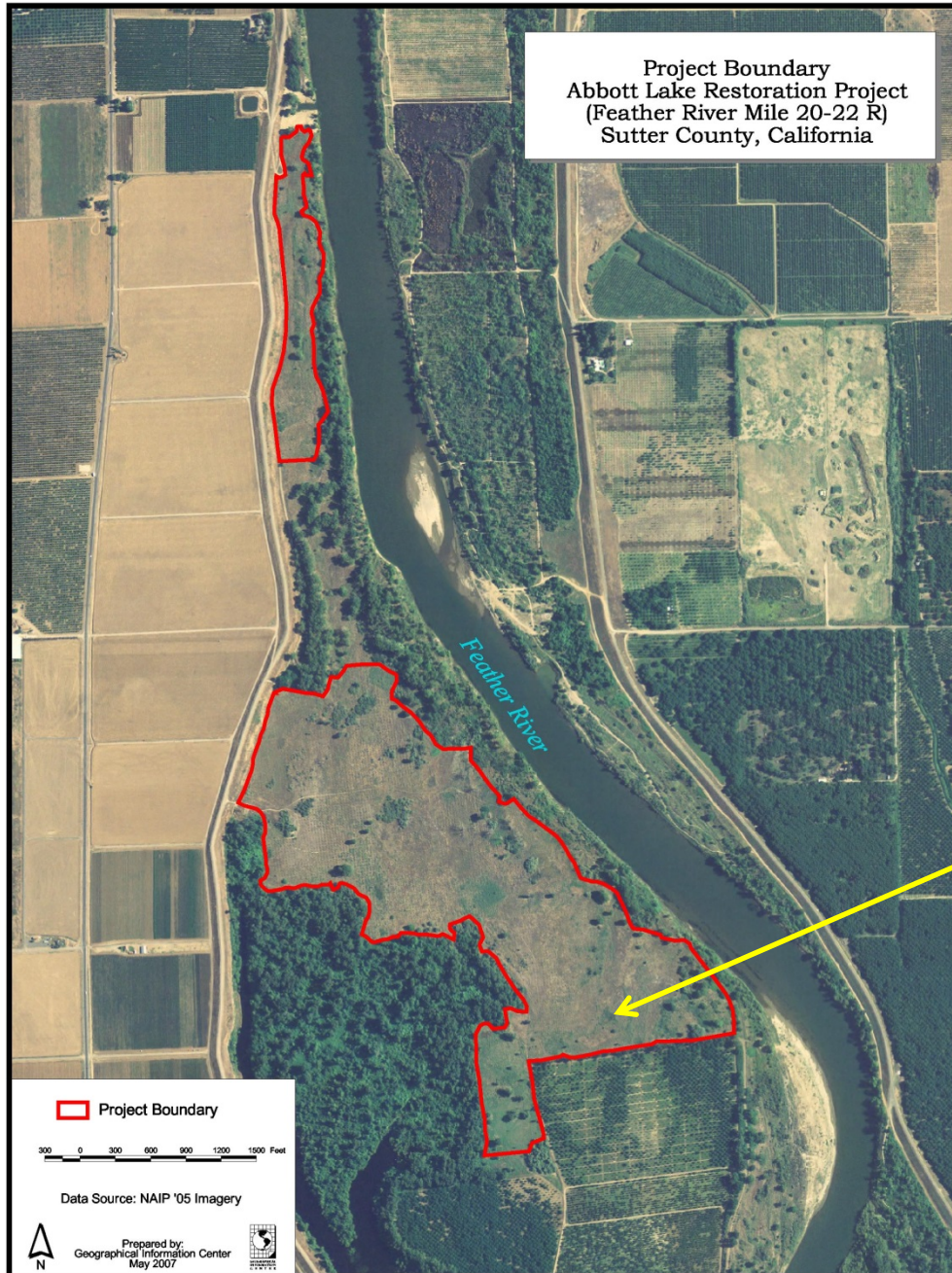


# Riparian Restoration Project

## Feather River Wildlife Area Abbott Lake Unit



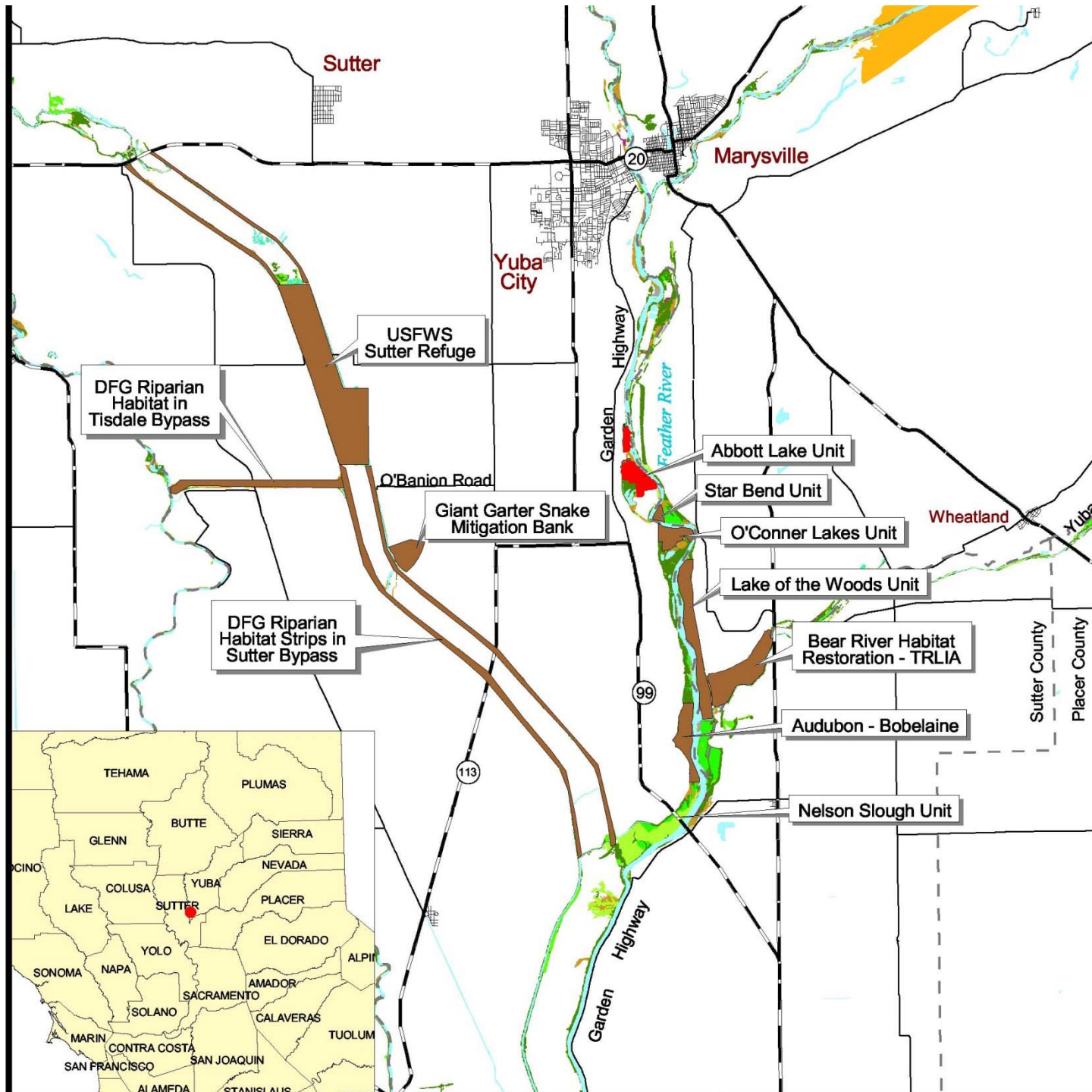




# Abbott Lake Unit Project Area

Phase I (South Field)  
150 Acres





# Abbott Lake Unit Project Summary



- ❖ Received \$781,460 from the Wildlife Conservation Board in 2007
- ❖ Develop a site-specific plan to restore 169 acres of fallow agriculture land
- ❖ Conduct hydraulic analysis
- ❖ Implement habitat restoration across 150 acres and enhance 270 acres of existing habitat





# Abbot Lake Unit

## Project Objectives

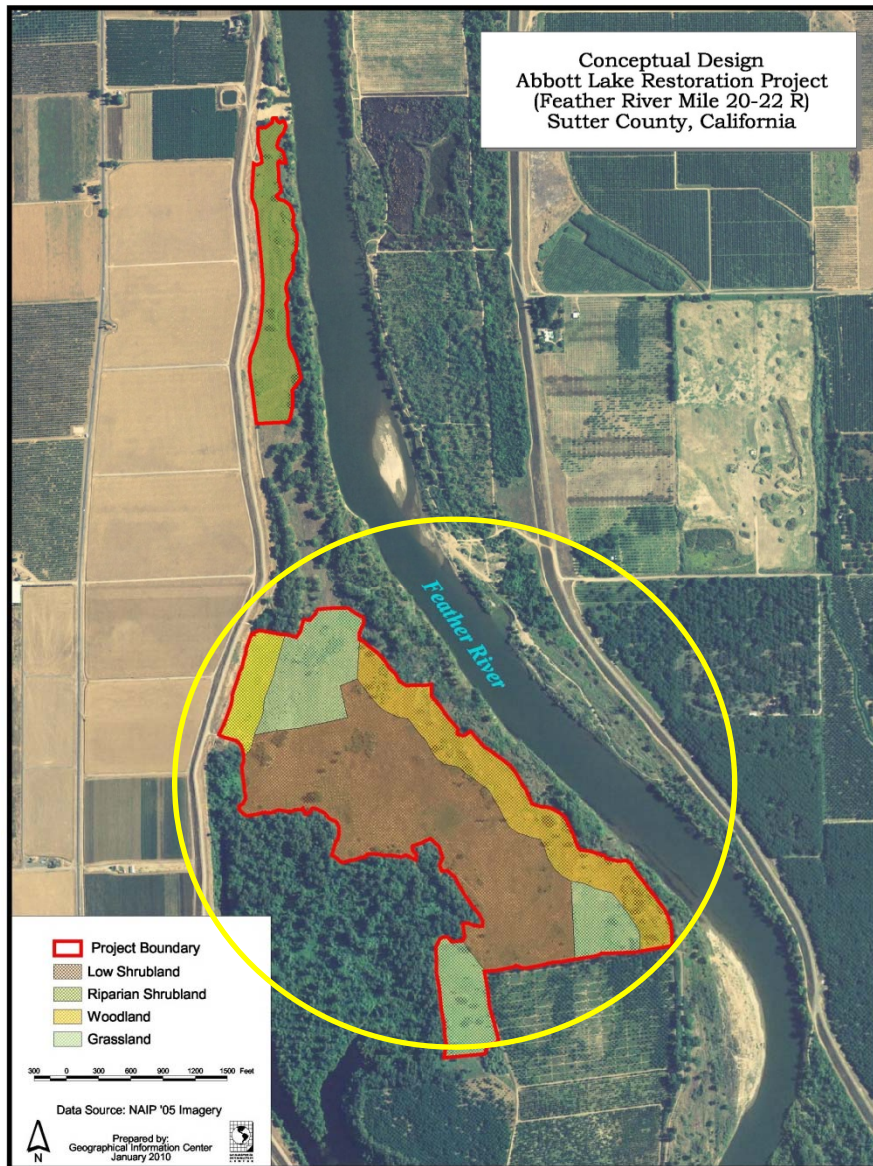


Restore and enhance riparian habitat and increase habitat connectivity for target species



- ❖ Establish self-sustaining native plant communities
- ❖ Reduce the extent of invasive weeds

# Abbot Lake Unit Plant Design



- ❖ Primarily open design with hedgerows and large areas of native grasses and herbaceous understory.
- ❖ High proportion of flexible stemmed species to enhance flood conveyance.
- ❖ Woodland planted near existing riparian forest, along the river and adjacent to the levee.





# Abbot Lake Unit

## Permitting Timeline



- ❖ **August 2013:** [Submitted](#) application to CVFPB.
- ❖ **September 26, 2013:** DFW received letter from CVFPB staff stating that application was **incomplete**.
- ❖ **December 17, 2013:** DFW [submitted](#) revised encroachment permit application with additional information requested.
- ❖ **December 20, 2013:** DFW received message from CVFPB staff advising that it will be difficult for them to move forward with processing the application without the Safe Harbor Agreement from USFWS and more importantly the MOU between CDFW and DWR. CVFPB staff explained that a **lack of a long term maintenance plan** may result in a vegetation density that could impede the free flow of water in the floodway. In addition, DWR's Sutter Maintenance Yard included an endorsement condition that requires CDFW to maintain the project in perpetuity. Furthermore, the endorsement from Levee District One of Sutter County (District) requests a Vegetation Management Plan for review and approval. CVFPB staff believes that the MOU should satisfy this request. They requested the detailed planting plans/drawings that will be provided to the planting contractor. The Enlarged Area **Plan graphics that were supplied lack sufficient detail**.
- ❖ **January 9, 2014:** DFW provided status of the MOU between DWR and DFW. DFW Regional Manager signed the MOU and the Safe Harbor Agreement is close to being done. DFW requested an example of the graphics that CVFPB staff wants for detailed planting plans.
- ❖ **January 15, 2014:** DFW received sample of detailed planting plan.
- ❖ **January 24, 2014:** DFW and River Partners attended the CVFPB meeting.
- ❖ **February 5-6, 2014:** DFW and CVFPB staff discussed and [submitted](#) a revised permit package with detailed planting plan and an outline of issues/challenges.
- ❖ **February 12, 2014:** John Carlon (River Partners) and Jay Punia (CVFPB) discuss language that could be acceptable to RP and DFW regarding the MOU and long-term maintenance. RP provided language from previous permits where there was a special condition that places the responsibility on the applicant to ensure that the project is properly maintained to uphold the hydraulic capacity of the Sacramento River Flood Control Project.
- ❖ **February 26, 2014:** Conference call with DFW, RP, CVFPB and DWR Flood Maintenance focused on the DFW and DWR MOU.
- ❖ **March 27, 2014:** Conference call with DFW, RP, CVFPB and DWR discussed **decoupling MOU** from permit application, DFW asked to submit permit package to the Corps to review and asked for an informational hearing on project at the next CVFPB meeting and ask about permit process.
- ❖ **April 10, 2014:** DFW met with CVFPB, DWR, and RP and decided to submit a maintenance plan and not submit an MOU with DWR.