

Preliminary Project Proposal Summary Sheet

Project Sponsor:	Deer Creek Water Conservancy	BMS No: 2013FPCP0002
Project Name:	Lower Deer Creek Levee Improvements and Habitat Restoration	
County:	Tehama	
Location:	Lower Deer Creek, northeast of the town Vina, roughly 20 miles north of Chico.	
Problem to Be Fixed:	Natural river with degraded floodplain habitat, maintenance deficiencies, sediment and excess vegetation in the channel.	
Project Description:	<p>The primary objectives for this project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • construct a 4,000 foot long setback levee; • restore 30 acres to floodplain and riparian habitat; • planning, permitting, and design modifications for the Stanford-Vina Ranch Irrigation Canal (SVRIC) Diversion Dam to address fish passage and predation issues to native salmonids; • seek out additional funding sources for Phases 2-5 of the project; • CEQA/NEPA document; • prepare a report that provides flood protection options and resulting benefits for the town of Vina. <p>The proposed project work represents Phase 1 of a five-phase project spanning eight river miles from the confluence of Deer Creek and the Sacramento River, west of the town of Vina, upstream to river mile eight on Deer Creek. Each phase of the overall project was designed to stand alone and to provide additional flood and habitat benefits.</p>	
Flood Benefits:	<p>The project will reduce the risk of flooding and levee failure by increasing floodway width via setback levees, diversion dam retrofits, and bridge replacement. The setback levee will provide transitory storage, create approximately 30 acres of new riparian and floodplain habitat, and include combined floodway and conservation easements. The amount of transitory storage will be flow-dependent and is likely to be most important at flows above the 5-yr flood. Approximately 30 acres will be located within the setback levee and allowed to flood under the provisions of flood easements. The flood protection report prepared in Phase 1 would be implemented in a future project.</p>	
Wildlife Benefits:	<p>The proposed setback levee would create 30 acres of expanded floodplain and fish habitat area. Deer Creek is one of only four Central Valley streams still supporting wild populations of spring and fall-run Chinook salmon, and steelhead. The setback levee would improve aquatic habitat and water quality by increasing the amount of riparian vegetation along the channel margins. This project will enable natural riverine and floodplain processes (such as channel migration and floodplain inundation) to occur. In turn, these processes should help to form and maintain a diversity of aquatic habitats to benefit native species.</p>	
Agricultural Benefits:	<p>This project would remove 30 acres of agriculture land (grazing). Surrounding area consists of orchards, vineyards and cattle operations, all receiving benefit from flood risk reduction.</p>	
Other Benefits:	<p>Residents of the town of Vina and other recreationists and naturalists</p>	

	using Deer Creek would benefit from improvements to the creek corridor.
Total Project Cost:	\$16,796,000
FCP Project Cost	\$5,000,000
Funding Partners and Total Share of Project Cost:	Additional funding sources to be determined during Phase 1 planning.
Assembly District No. and Representative Name:	Assembly District 2: Wesley Chesbro
Senate District No. and Representative Name:	Senate District 4: Jim Nielsen