



## **DRAFT Environmental Stewardship Goals** **Environmental Stewardship Scope Definition Workgroup**

(for discussion by ESSD Work Group at meeting #2)  
September 16, 2009

### **Process Description**

This list of goals was developed from three sources: goals for the FloodSafe program; objectives specified by the California State Legislature in AB 5 (SB 7), SB 5, and AB 156 and subsequently incorporated in the California Water Code; and, “challenges” and “opportunities” developed during the August 28, 2009 meeting of the Environmental Stewardship Scope Definition Work Group.

To condense these sources into one coherent set of goals, the challenges and opportunities developed by the Environmental Stewardship Work Group were first grouped into sets of related ideas or themes, and a unifying theme summary was developed for each group. Related summaries were then grouped together so that all similar themes could be readily reviewed and condensed. Goals were developed for each group of similar themes that encapsulated key ideas or emphases expressed by each group. In some cases, a single goal was sufficient for each group and in other cases multiple goals were developed. Once this list of initial goals was finalized, FloodSafe program goals and the objectives contained in the above referenced legislation were reviewed and additional goals were added where necessary to include ideas or themes not already reflected in the initial goal set. The final set of draft goals resulting from this process is provided below and includes both Outcome and Process goals grouped by major themes.

At its meeting #2, the full ESSD work group will review and comment on this set of draft goals to help ensure clarity, accuracy, and completeness.

### **Outcome Goals**

#### ***Biological***

Goal B1. Increase and improve the quantity, diversity, and connectivity of riparian, wetland, shallow floodplain, and shaded riverine aquatic habitats within the flood management system.

Goal B2. Restore fluvial geomorphic processes and flow regimes within the flood management system to benefit native ecosystems and ecosystem processes.



Goal B3. Discourage the establishment of new invasive species, prevent the spread of existing infestations, and reduce the extent of existing infestations within the flood management system.

Goal B4. Increase habitat elements required by state-listed, federally-listed, and other special-status species of plants and animals within the flood management system.

Goal B5. Incorporate setback levees and new or larger bypasses into the flood management system wherever possible to integrate multi-objective uses (e.g., flood water detention, habitat restoration, recreation, agriculture).

Goal B6. Increase spawning and rearing habitat availability and quality for anadromous fish.

### ***Agricultural and Working Landscapes***

Goal A1. Increase and encourage the use of agricultural best management practices to improve water quality and wildlife habitat within the flood management system.

Goal A2. Incorporate working landscapes into the flood management system to ensure perpetual protection of these lands and to incentivize private landowner conservation efforts that enhance floodplain benefits.

Goal A3. Minimize adverse effects of flood management system operations and maintenance on private property owners and respect private property rights.

### ***Educational***

Goal E1. Incorporate public education opportunities into the flood management system wherever possible.

### ***Recreational***

Goal R1. Increase public access and recreational opportunities within the flood management system.

### ***Financial***

Goal F1. Identify funding opportunities, including non-governmental sources of funding (e.g., mitigation fees), to facilitate annual maintenance of the flood management system, habitat restoration, and future improvements to the flood management system.



### ***Climate Change***

Goal CC1.. Describe modifications to the flood management system required to accommodate environmental changes associated with future climate change.

### ***Operations and Maintenance***

Goal OM1. Reduce the environmental effects associated with ongoing maintenance of the flood management system.

Goal OM2. Reduce regulatory burdens associated with ongoing maintenance of the flood management system and encourage programmatic approaches to environmental compliance.

### **Process Goals**

Goal P1. Ensure that the best available scientific and technical data is employed in plan development and encourage the development or refinement of additional models, data, tools, and other resources that could enhance the flood management planning process.

Goal P2. Ensure that a diversity of interest groups and cultures are represented in the flood management planning process.

Goal P3. Define areas of scientific agreement in the flood management planning process and ensure that all interested parties are able to provide input where scientific disagreement and uncertainty exist.

Goal P4. Leverage existing programs and planning efforts (e.g., BDCP, Riparian Habitat Joint Venture) and existing habitat preserves (e.g., state and federal wildlife areas, state parks, land trust properties) when planning and implementing habitat restoration projects.

Goal P5. Adopt a collaborative, corridor-based, transparent approach to the flood management planning process that includes local, state and federal government agencies, non-profit organizations, and local landowners and that encourages multi-objective projects.