

Summary Sheet

Applicant:	Pit Resource Conservation District	BMS No: 2010FPCP0007
Project Name:	Lower Ash Creek Wildlife Area Restoration Project	
County:	Modoc	
Location:	DFG Ash Creek Wildlife Area west of Adin, east of Bieber	
Problem to Be Fixed:	DFG purchased the area in 1986, but despite efforts to improve habitat conditions for wildlife, the historic disconnect between the stream channels and their floodplain has allowed meadow degradation and channel incision to occur.	
Project Description:	<p>Project involves wetland restoration to address degraded wet meadow, riparian, and aquatic conditions along the lower portion of Ash Creek at DFG's Ash Creek Wildlife Area. The project would restore the physical connection of Ash Creek's many stream channels to their floodplain by implementing the "plug and pond" technique to reverse channel incision. Planned actions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign and construction of the water delivery system • Redesign of County Road 87A and adjacent levee removal • Removal of existing levees from the floodplain that are causing floodplain constriction west of County Road 87a (also known as Elkins Lane) • Apply "plug and pond" construction to incised channels throughout the project 	
Flood Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peak flood flows attenuated on average by 20% to the Pit River (this is largest subwatershed of Pit River). • A 5% reduction of flood water within the Pit River that flows through the town of Bieber two miles downstream, and 5% reduction of impacts to actively eroding banks of the Pit River for 13.38 river miles below the town of Bieber. Reduced flood potential for State Highway 299 immediately downstream • The project will provide an estimated 3,500 acre-feet of transitory storage floodwaters. 5-20% of peak flows could be detained for a few hours to a few months; increase in groundwater recharge can offset accelerated snow melt from climate change (pilot project potential – need to verify flow reduction estimate through H&H study as condition of funding agreement) • Avoids need to replace two bridges crossing Ash Creek at County Road 87A • Restores floodplain access on a frequent basis (approximately 2 years out of every 3 the floodplain should experience some period of inundation) and eliminates the system of incised gullies that tend to rapidly "drain" the wetland ecosystem and prevent groundwater recharge. 	
Wildlife Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will restore a wet meadow and riparian habitats. • Reconnecting the creek to the floodplain will result in shallow sheet water flows across the floodplain and eventually yield restored meadow vegetation. • The nature of this project will reconnect the stream channels to the floodplain and restore the site. Currently, the creek transports excessive flows and sediment downstream to the Pit River. • The project will eliminate degraded channels and use stable remnant channels as the primary features that will transport water and sediment. • The amount of riparian habitat (defined here as wet meadow adjacent to stream channels) to be restored is approximately 2,400 acres. Of this, approximately two acres of woody riparian vegetation are present. • Restoration resulting in channel stabilization and reversal of hydrologic down-cutting will protect approximately 1,100 acres of intact meadow habitat. 	
Agricultural Benefits:	Agricultural use of the site consists of haying and grazing. Once restoration is implemented, the site will be more productive because sagebrush communities will convert to grassland and meadow vegetation. Agriculture practices conducted by DFG staff also improve site productivity.	
Total Project Cost:	4,717,138	
FCP Project Cost:	\$1,039,000	
Assembly District No. and Representative Name:	Assembly District 3: Dan Logue	
Senate District No. and Representative Name:	Senate District 1: Ted Gaines	

