

Comment on Prop 50 Section 8 grant guidelines.txt

From: John Hopkins [jeh@cal.net]
Sent: Monday, October 04, 2004 4:50 PM
To: Billington, Tracie
Subject: Comment on Prop 50, Section 8 grant guidelines

To: Division of Planning and Local Assistance
Department of Water Resources

Fr: John Hopkins, Ph.D.
President, Institute for Ecological Health
jeh@cal.net

Re: Comment on Draft Guidelines for Proposition 50, Chapter 8 grants

Concerning IRMM plans and functional equivalents.

We ask that Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) and Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) be included in the array of functional equivalents, either by themselves or in conjunction with other plans. HCPs and NCCPs, which involve county / and sub-county scale land conservation to offset future development and additional conservation to protect and restore natural biological communities, benefit water management in various ways, including the conservation of aquifer recharge areas and other factors.

Two other benefits are:

HCPs and NCCPs assist in the implementation of several recommendations of the state's Floodplain Management Task Force (a state-wide priority) including the Task Force goal to maximize the conservation of agricultural lands and wildlife habitat in flood plains and a goal of furthering restoration of riparian areas.

HCPs and NCCPs assist in improving water quality, including reduction of non-point source pollution, through the conservation of riparian areas and wetlands.

Thank you for considering our comment