



News for Immediate Release  
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DWR Awards \$9 Million in Grants to Study, Restore, and Protect Watersheds

SACRAMENTO -- The California Department of Water Resources, Division of Planning and Local Assistance, has awarded nearly \$9 million in CALFED grants to 28 watershed projects throughout the state.

The money comes from the sale of \$3.4 billion in bonds approved by voters as Proposition 50 in November 2002. The projects range from evaluating the condition of watersheds to programs that educate the public about their local watersheds.

A watershed is a region draining into a creek, river, river system or other body of water. In California, there are about 1,500 watersheds. Some are as big as the Sacramento River watershed that drains much of Northern California; others are as small as Laguna Creek watershed, which drains several miles in Sacramento County.

Key to the projects is local involvement. For example, the city of Folsom will use its grant to plan improvements to the Alder Creek watershed. And KIDS for the BAY will use the money it receives to educate children about the watershed of Codornices Creek and how its health affects salmon and steelhead migration from San Francisco Bay.

Originally, 128 local groups asking for a total of \$40 million applied for Proposition 50 watershed grants.

The list of 28 grant recipients is on-line at:

<http://www.watershedrestoration.water.ca.gov/watersheds/grant.cfm>.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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