



**Butte Regional**  
CONSERVATION PLAN  
BALANCING GROWTH AND CONSERVATION

**Summary of Changes to the Draft  
BRCP and Schedule Update**

Presentation to:  
BRCP Stakeholder Committee

December 4, 2013

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



**Source of Comments used to Revise  
Preliminary Public Draft BRCP**

- ▶ Preliminary Public Draft BRCP released for comment November 2012
- ▶ Revisions based on comments from Stakeholder Committee provided in January 2013
- ▶ Revisions based on comments from USFWS and CDFW provided in January-November 2013
- ▶ Public Draft BRCP to be completed by January 31, 2014

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



**Revisions based on Stakeholder Committee  
Comments**

- ▶ Various editorial changes and clarifications as per comments provided
- ▶ Addressed comments on allowable activities on conservation lands
- ▶ Revised avoidance and minimization measures
  - ▶ AMM3 – added flexibility to reduce buffers around covered species with agency concurrence
  - ▶ AMM6 - riparian buffers within City of Chico revised to reflect Chico's existing program and added flexibility to reduce buffers around riparian habitat with agency concurrence
  - ▶ AMM7 – added flexibility to Wildland-Urban Interface design elements with Implementing Entity approval

---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



### USFWS and CDFW Comments - Overview

- ▶ Chapter 2. Covered Activities – editorial changes for clarification
- ▶ Chapter 4. Impacts – editorial changes for clarification
- ▶ Chapter 5. Conservation Strategy - changes to natural community and covered species conservation targets
- ▶ Chapter 6. Implementation Plan – changes to various timing, changed circumstances, and process requirements - new section on "participating special entities"
- ▶ Chapter 8. Implementation Costs and Funding – changes to costs due to changes in conservation measures – continuing discussions on changes to funding sources/share



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



### Chapter 5. Conservation Strategy revisions based on USFWS and CDFW Input

- ▶ Reduce restoration for conservation of giant garter snake habitat from 2,000 acres to 500 acres (-1,500 acres)
- ▶ Reduce protection of giant garter snake rice habitat for conservation from 34,760 acres to 20,000 acres (-14,760 acres)
- ▶ Reduce protection of oak woodland and savanna for mitigation to a ratio of 1:1 from 2:1 (-11,325 acres)
- ▶ Remove all restoration of riparian habitat as a conservation component (-423 acres)



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



### Chapter 5. Conservation Strategy revisions based on USFWS and CDFW Input (continued)

- ▶ Reduce protection of grasslands without vernal swale complex for conservation from 12,929 acres to 5,665 acres (-7,264 acres)
- ▶ Remove all protection of managed wetland as a conservation component (-2,530 acres)
- ▶ Remove all protection of irrigated pasture/cropland as a conservation component (-1,060 acres)
- ▶ Remove the measure for riprap removal along salmonid streams as a conservation component (-\$14m)
- ▶ Added specific limits to take of occurrences for all covered plant species (Table 5-23)



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



**Chapter 6. Plan Implementation revisions based on USFWS and CDFW Input**

- ▶ Sec 6.1.1 Timing of Mitigation – changed restoration timing to 1 year for 1<sup>st</sup> 10%, 6 months for 2<sup>nd</sup> 10%, and prior to impacts for remainder
- ▶ 6.4 Changed Circumstances – various changes, deletions, clarifications, and more specificity defining change and response
- ▶ 6.5.1 Future Section 7 Consultations – revised text
- ▶ 6.5.2 Recovery Plans – deleted entire section (unnecessary)
- ▶ 6.6.2-6.6.4 Administrative Changes, Minor Modifications, Amendments – clarifying changes and more USFWS/CDFW involvement



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



**Chapter 6. Plan Implementation revisions based on USFWS and CDFW Input (continued)**

- ▶ 6.7.3 Payment of Fees – no separate allowance for isolated wetlands – removed from chapters 6 and 8.
- ▶ 6.7.5 Tracking Impacts and Conservation Targets – clarification provided regarding use of project-level surveys and existing BRCP GIS database for fee calculations and impacts tracking
- ▶ 6.7.7 Voluntary Nature of BRCP – used USFWS language, but no change in meaning
- ▶ 6.8 Allowable activities on conservation lands – revisions and clarifications – hunting still included with limitations
- ▶ 6.10 Participating Special Entities - new section



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



**Chapter 8. Implementation Costs and Funding**

- ▶ Cost estimates in Chapter 8 and Appendix F will be revised to reflect changes in scope of the BRCP
- ▶ 8.2.1.1.3 Calculation of Fees for Individual Projects – no separate fee approach for isolated wetlands
- ▶ Changes to funding share between local, state, and federal are still under discussion



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



### Future Conditions with Climate Change

- ▶ Removed section 3.5.8 on climate change and modified and expanded to new section 5.12 Future Conditions with Climate Change
- ▶ New section describes potential climate change effects on natural communities and BRCP contribution to ameliorating those effects on covered and common species



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



### Outstanding Items

- ▶ Funding Share for Conservation Component
  - ▶ Meeting with USFWS and CDFW on December 17, 2013
- ▶ Implementation Agreement
  - ▶ Draft in progress
  - ▶ Will be released with Public Draft BRCP
- ▶ Aquatic Resources Plan for Section 404 Compliance
  - ▶ Seeking funding to continue work
  - ▶ Expect to complete in February 2014



---

---

---


---

---

---


---

---



### Next Steps/Schedule Update

- ▶ December 2014 – close discussions on funding shares with USFWS and CDFW
- ▶ January 2014 - Complete Public Draft BRCP
- ▶ February 2014 – Complete EIR/EIS, Implementing Agreement, and Aquatic Resources Program
- ▶ February-March 2014 - Updates to County Board of Supervisors and City councils
- ▶ March 2014 - Release Public Draft BRCP and EIR/EIS and initiate 90 day review period (March-May 2014)
- ▶ April 2014 - Public workshops to receive comments
- ▶ August 2014 – Final BRCP and EIR/EIS



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---