# Apply Now for 2016 Work! THE HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT (AB 2193)

### SIMPLIFIED PERMITTING FOR RESTORATION BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (CDFW)







Habitat images, left to right: Yolo Wildlife Area, CDFW photo by Bob Sahara; Table Mountain, CDFW photo; Suisun Marsh, CDFW photo

## Accelerating Restoration and Water Quality Improvement

With this new law *now in effect statewide*, CDFW offers a faster and simpler pathway for qualified restoration projects, as an alternative to the following permits:

- Section 1600 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA)
- Section 2081 California Endangered Species Act (CESA) permit

#### **Covered projects could include:**

- Improving aquatic habitat for endangered species
- Revegetation to reduce sediment and pollutants in waterways
- Removing invasive plants along streams
- Removing fish passage barriers such as small dams, fords and failing culverts
- Other types of common restoration work

#### Benefits from the New Law

- Two permit approvals with no change in fees
- Fast track review for voluntary restoration up to 5 acres and affecting 500 *cumulative* linear feet of streambank or shoreline
- Coodinated with the State Water Board's General 401 Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects:
  - Fast 30-day approval for projects with a State Water Board General 401 Certification
  - 60-day approval for projects *eligible for* the Water Board's General Certification but receiving other types of approval from the State/Regional Water Boards
- Simplifies monitoring requirements by allowing for use of plans/ reports from other permits
- CEQA compliance can be through Categorical Exemption 15333 for Small Habitat Restoration Projects or other adopted CEQA document

#### **How to Use the New Process**

- Projects must be voluntary with a primary purpose of improving fish and wildlife habitat
- Provide detailed explanations of the project's design, purpose, and habitat/water quality benefits
- Incorporate all protection measures into the project design
- Utilize techniques or methodologies contained in recovery plans, guidelines, manuals, or guidance documents

Click here for information on how to apply

Contact Sustainable Conservation for guidance in completing the application process (email: restoration@suscon.org)

