



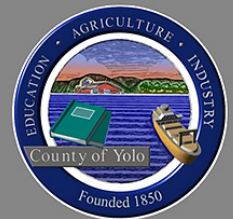
Photo courtesy of Jamieson Scott



YOLO HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN/ NATURAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLAN

Final
Environmental Impact Statement/
Environmental Impact Report

April 2018



PREPARED FOR:
Yolo Habitat Conservancy
and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/ Natural Community Conservation Plan

Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report

State Clearinghouse No. 2011102043

PREPARED FOR:

U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Service
Contact: Mike Thomas,
Division Chief, Conservation Planning Division

and

Yolo Habitat Conservancy
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Woodland, CA 95695
Contact: Petrea Marchand, Executive Director

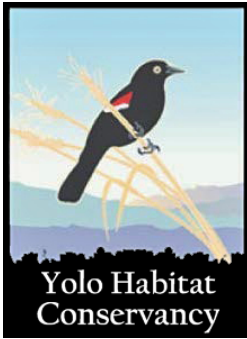
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April 2018



Yolo Habitat Conservancy

*County of Yolo • City of Davis • City of Winters • City of West Sacramento
City of Woodland • University of California, Davis*

**CEQA NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND HEARINGS
and NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA) for the
FINAL YOLO HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN/NATURAL
COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLAN (Yolo HCP/NCCP)
and related FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (FINAL EIS/EIR)**

DATE: April 30, 2018
TO: Interested Agencies and Individuals
FROM: Yolo Habitat Conservancy

The Final Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (Final Yolo HCP/NCCP) and the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Final EIS/EIR) (SCH #2011102043) are now available. More information is provided below.

The proposed project is adoption and implementation of the Yolo HCP/NCCP. The Yolo HCP/NCCP is a comprehensive, county-wide plan to provide for the conservation of 12 sensitive species ("covered species") and the natural communities and agricultural land on which they depend. The Plan will provide a streamlined permitting process to address the effects of a range of future anticipated public and private activities ("covered activities") on these 12 species. The Plan area encompasses the entire area of Yolo County, approximately 653,549 acres, and includes conservation activities outside of Yolo County within an additional 1,174 acres along Putah Creek in Solano County.

The Yolo HCP/NCCP was prepared by the Yolo Habitat Conservancy (Conservancy), a joint powers agency created by Yolo County and the incorporated cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland. The Yolo HCP/NCCP will provide the basis for issuance of long-term (50-year) permits under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) and California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCPA) for covered activities. The Yolo HCP/NCCP will provide the Permittees (Yolo County, the four incorporated cities, and the Conservancy) with incidental take permits from both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the 12 covered species. This action is allowed under Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the FESA and Section 2835 of the NCCPA chapter of the California Fish and Game Code. The Yolo HCP/NCCP ensures compliance with the FESA, NCCPA, and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) for covered activities that may affect the covered species. In addition to the Permittees, the Yolo HCP/NCCP permits may be used other entities through certificates of inclusion, as described further in Chapter 3, Covered Activities, and Chapter 7, Plan Implementation in the Yolo HCP/NCCP.

The EIS component of the Final EIS/EIR was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) under the oversight of the Service serving as the NEPA Lead Agency. In accordance with NEPA, the Service is publishing a separate NEPA Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register. Information about the Federal Register Notice is available at the following Service website: <https://www.fws.gov/sacramento/>. The EIR component of the Final EIS/EIR was prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the oversight of the Conservancy serving as the CEQA Lead Agency and CDFW serving as a CEQA Responsible Agency.

The Conservancy has proposed a number of changes to the HCP/NCCP since the release of the Draft on June 1, 2017. These proposed changes fall into several categories;

- Copy edits such as correction of spelling errors,

- Minor text clarifications and corrections such as providing or correcting cross references to other parts of the document,
- Minor numeric corrections, such as small adjustments to acreages of particular land cover types,
- Providing updated information since publication of the Draft HCP/NCCP such as including information from the City of Woodland General Plan Update 2035, which was adopted after the Draft HCP/NCCP was published,
- Clarifications or enhancements to particular plan elements such as new or updated Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs),
- Increased details on plan implementation such as providing additional information on the content of the Implementation Handbook, and
- Changes in assumptions regarding costs and funding to reflect updated information.

The Final EIS/EIR analyzes changes to the proposed project to determine whether they would result in any changes to the impact analysis or conclusions reached in the Draft EIS/EIR. The analysis substantiates that the proposed changes to the HCP/NCCP do not alter the analysis or impact conclusions provided in the Draft EIS/EIR. The Final EIS/EIR also includes the comments received on the Draft HCP/NCCP and Draft EIS/EIR, and responses to those comments.

The Service, CDFW, Conservancy, and Conservancy member agencies will consider this information during their deliberations on Plan approval and related permitting actions described above. Following certification of the Final EIS/EIR, the Conservancy and member agencies may adopt the Yolo HCP/NCCP and the state and federal agencies may issue incidental take permits.

The Final HCP/NCCP and the Final EIS/EIR are now available for public review online at the website provided below. Interested parties may review and/or purchase printed copies and electronic copies (USB flash drive) by contacting the Conservancy. The documents are also available for public review at the Woodland Public Library, 250 First Street, Woodland, the Mary L. Stephens Davis Library, 315 E 14th Street, Davis, the Arthur F. Turner Community Library, 1212 Merkley Ave., West Sacramento, the Winters Community Library, 708 Railroad Ave., Winters, and the Yolo Branch Library, 37750 Sacramento Street, Yolo.

Public hearings to consider certification of the Final EIS/EIR and adoption of the Final HCP/NCCP will be held before the Conservancy and the member agencies in May 2018:

May 7, 2018 – The Board of Directors of the **Yolo Habitat Conservancy** will meet at 625 Court Street in Woodland CA in the Yolo County Board Chambers (Room 206) at 5:30pm to consider the following actions: 1) certification of Final EIS/EIR including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a lead agency; 2) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; and 3) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, and member agencies.

May 10, 2018 – The **Yolo County Planning Commission** will meet at 625 Court Street in Woodland CA in the Yolo County Board Chambers (Room 206) at 8:30am to consider the following actions: 1) consideration of the Final EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096, including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a responsible agency; 2) determination of consistency with General Plan, 3) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; 4) adoption of Implementing Ordinance, and 5) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and other member agencies.

May 15, 2018 – The **Winters City Council** will meet at Winters City Hall at 318 First Street in Winters CA in the Council Chambers at 6:30pm to consider the following actions: 1) consideration of the Final EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096, including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a responsible agency; 2) determination of consistency with General Plan, 3) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; 4) adoption of Implementing Ordinance, and 5) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and other member agencies.

May 15, 2018 – The **Davis City Council** will meet at Davis City Hall at 23 Russell Boulevard in Davis CA in the Community Chambers at 6:30pm to consider the following actions: 1) consideration of the Final EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096,



including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a responsible agency; 2) determination of consistency with General Plan, 3) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; 4) adoption of Implementing Ordinance, and 5) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and other member agencies.

May 22, 2018 – The **Yolo County Board of Supervisors** will meet at 625 Court Street in Woodland CA in the Yolo County Board Chambers (Room 206) at 9:00am to consider the following actions: 1) consideration of the Final EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096, including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a responsible agency; 2) determination of consistency with General Plan, 3) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; 4) adoption of Implementing Ordinance, and 5) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and other member agencies.

May 23, 2018 – The **West Sacramento City Council** will meet at West Sacramento City Hall at 1110 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA in the Council Chambers at 7:00pm to consider the following actions: 1) consideration of the Final EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096, including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a responsible agency; 2) determination of consistency with General Plan, 3) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; 4) adoption of Implementing Ordinance, and 5) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and other member agencies.

June 5, 2018 – The **Woodland City Council** will meet at Woodland City Hall at 300 First Street in Woodland CA at 6:00pm to consider the Final EIS/EIR and consider the following actions: 1) consideration of the Final EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15096, including adoption of findings of fact and other actions required by CEQA for a responsible agency; 2) determination of consistency with General Plan, 3) adoption of Final HCP/NCCP; 4) adoption of Implementing Ordinance, and 5) authorization to execute Implementing Agreement with Service, CDFW, Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and other member agencies.

For more information about the HCP/NCCP and EIS/EIR please contact Conservancy staff at (530) 723-5504 or visit the Conservancy's website at: <http://www.yolohabitatconservancy.org>. Please direct written comments to:

Shawna Stevens, Assistant to the Director
Yolo Habitat Conservancy
611 North Street, Woodland, CA 95695
info@yolohabitatconservancy.org

The following statement is required to be included in this notice: Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15087(c)(6), Yolo County contains hazardous waste sites as enumerated under California Government Code Section 65962.5.

