

# Climate Change & Wildlife Conservation Board

## Acquisition and Restoration Efforts

# AUTHORITY

- WCB created in 1947 part of Dept. Natural Resources & later located within DFG
- WCB has unique authority & money
- Horse racing revenue & special funds
- Three main functions: Acquisition, Restoration & Public Access

# NEW TOOL BOX

- Funding increases from bonds
- Major expansion of authority in 1990
- Award grants to local governmental entities, special districts & NGOs --- new partnerships & innovation
- Increased capability to protect, restore, & enhance land & water for preservation of fish & wildlife species
- Authorized to sell, lease & exchange property interests
- Opportunity to work with private landowners & working landscapes

# STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Since 1947, millions of acres protected & restored because of:
- Incredible relationships & partnerships with private landowners, land trust community & governmental entities
- Business of conservation is complex & requires innovation & partnerships

# CLIMATE CHANGE ACQUISITION & RESTORATION

- Incorporate adaptation measures into Conceptual Area Protection Plans (CAPP) & Land Acquisition Evaluation (LAE)
- Create large scale/connected sustainable systems of protected areas
- Incorporate adaptation measures into statutorily authorized programs

# Statutory Programs

- Rangeland & Grassland Program
- Oak Woodland Program
- Inland Wetland Conservation Program
- Forest Conservation Program
- Riparian Conservation Program
- Ecosystem Restoration on Ag Land
- Habitat Enhancement Program
- Land Acquisition Program

# Adaptation Questions

- Applicant to describe how the area will help mitigate climate change impacts to species, habitat and communities
- Applicant to describe the potential of climate change to diminish key wildlife and habitat values

# Strategic Planning for Acquisitions

- CAPP encompasses large geographic areas & serve as a planning tool for DFG Region
- CAPP/LAE prioritize acquisitions
- CAPP/LAE developed in partnership
- CAPP developed for new/expanded DFG Wildlife Area or Ecological Reserve

# CONTENT OF CAPP/LAE

Narrative that describes the following:

- Historic & current land use
- Wildlife & habitat values
- Proximity to protected lands
- Contribution to connectivity & corridors
- Relationship to existing/future plans
- Water & water rights

# CONTENT OF CAPP/LAE

- Cultural resources
- Threats & contaminants
- Potential of area to help mitigate climate change impacts to species, habitats and communities
- Potential of climate change to diminish key wildlife and habitat values

# CARBON CREDITS

- No official policy governing use of carbon credits on properties protected or restored with funds from WCB
- Any policy governing use of carbon credits must be consistent and fair to all entities involved, including landowners and taxpayers that provided funds used to conserve and restore property.

# CARBON CREDITS & CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

- Conservation easements funded in whole or part with funds from WCB must contain the following:
- “The terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement shall be taken into account when calculating the Baseline/BAU on any application that is made for purposes of selling carbon credits”.

# FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

- Partnerships + strategic planning + innovation + cooperation = success.
- Results = over \$2 billion in Board allocations that leveraged an additional \$4 billion for fish & wildlife conservation efforts!