

Yuba IRWMP – CT-01 Project Short Form¹

Please fill out the following information to the best of your ability/knowledge., contact Keri Rinne with questions (keri.rinne@gmail.com)

PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION

Lead Agency/Organization	California Trout
Name of Primary Contact(s)	Jacob Katz
Mailing Address	12876 River Rd, Guerneville CA 95446
Email Address	jkatz@caltrout.org
Phone (###) ###-####	707 477 9978
Project Partners/Collaborators	Yuba River Fish Food Yuba Water, Yuba Endowment
YWA Liaison	

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Cultivating win-win water solutions in the Yuba Watershed
Project Total Budget (Attach detailed budget, if available)	20,000
Budget Breakdown	Planning/Design Budget: 20,000 Implementation Budget:
Project Funding Match, if any	10,000 match from Yuba Endowment
Total Project Funding Need	10,000
Project Location (Attach map if available)	Yuba River Watershed and Yuba salmon population management
Watershed/subwatershed	Yuba River Watershed
Groundwater Basin (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> North Yuba Subbasin <input type="checkbox"/> South Yuba Subbasin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Supports Yuba Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Measurable Objective(s) Benefit (Answer If 'Yes' above) (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic lowering of groundwater levels <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of groundwater storage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Degraded water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Land subsidence <input type="checkbox"/> Depletions of interconnected surface waters
Project Priority (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Project Type (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Conceptual <input type="checkbox"/> Feasibility Study <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Study/Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Design <input type="checkbox"/> Permitting <input type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration

¹ Completed Project Short Forms should be sent via email to Keri Rinne at keri.rinne@gmail.com

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Management Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstration/Pilot Project
Legal Authority	None needed

Please select the *status* of the CEQA/NEPA/Permitting for this project:

CEQA (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Study <input type="checkbox"/> EIR <input type="checkbox"/> Determination <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required
NEPA (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> EIS <input type="checkbox"/> Record of Decision <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required
Permitting (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not started <input type="checkbox"/> Identified <input type="checkbox"/> Consultations Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Application Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Write a narrative briefly describing the project components and/or characteristics (Suggest ~ 300 words).

Endangered fish populations are **not** an inevitable consequence of human development. The science is clear; we can have both farms and fish. Through integrated management of farmlands, wildlife refuges, private wetlands, the rivers, and flood bypasses, we can mimic the historic floodplains of the Yuba, Feather and Sacramento River Basins and re-create a dynamic landscape that can reenergize the river ecosystem food webs that sustain fisheries and other wildlife while continuing to provide food and flood protection and sustain vibrant communities.

Caltrout will partner with the seven districts of the Yuba Endowment and the Yuba Water Agency to assess the potential of enhancing and updating water delivery/drainage infrastructure and operations of Yuba County to:

- Better understand how the Yuba River ecosystem functions
- Identify key partners and sites of opportunity to benefit salmon and multiple other aquatic species
- Map infrastructure improvements with local districts and farmers to enable fish food delivery to Yuba River fish populations
- Engage with stakeholders throughout the Yuba Community through presentations and events planned in coordination with the Yuba Endowment and the Yuba Water Agency

PROJECT RATIONALE/ISSUES STATEMENT

Briefly describe the need for the project and the desired outcomes/deliverables (Suggest ~ 200 words). Include an explanation of benefits and how they would be evaluated.

Readiness to proceed: Reintegrating floodplain food-webs into the management of Yuba River water, landscapes, and farmscapes is necessary in order to sustain and recover Yuba River salmon populations and thereby enhance water security for all.

Drought relief: Providing floodplain-derived food web resources from ag fields and managed wetlands to salmon confined in food-starved, river channels is especially critical during times of low water when the river has limited access to highly productive off-channel habitats.



Figure 1: Fish growth benefits from floodplain foodweb exports in a drought year, 2021, at Rough and Ready pumping station (~Sacramento River mile 99). Before (left) and after (right) pictures of fish at three different locations. Top row is upstream of floodplain subsidy delivery point (no floodplain food). Middle row is at the floodplain delivery point (full subsidy). Bottom row is six miles downstream of the floodplain delivery point (diluted subsidy). Floodplain subsidy programs such as these have the ability to dramatically improve fish growth rates for a large reach of river.