



September 14, 2015

Campbell Ingram
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
1450 Halyard Drive, Suite #6
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Re: Support for American Rivers' Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning Grant and Application to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Grant Program

Dear Mr. Ingram:

The Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed would like to express our support for Marsh Creek Watershed Planning Grant submitted by American Rivers. The grant will allow American Rivers and their partners to further build the foundation necessary to restore riparian and floodplain habitat along Marsh Creek, improve water quality, and build-out the Marsh and Sand Creek trail network.

The Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed will participate in the planning process convened by the FOMCW and provide information necessary to advance development of an expanded trail network on Marsh and Deer Creeks.

Marsh Creek is an important natural resource that flows 30 miles from the eastern slope of Mt. Diablo through the communities of Brentwood and Oakley and into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the water supply for over 20 million people. Marsh Creek provides habitat for numerous sensitive aquatic species including Chinook salmon, red legged frog, and western pond turtle. Sand Creek is Marsh Creek's largest tributary and flows 7 miles from its headwaters in the Black Diamond Mines Regional Park to its confluence with Marsh Creek in central Brentwood.

The planning grant would allow American Rivers to bring together multiple cities and agencies to improve habitat, water quality, and recreational opportunities along Marsh and Sand creeks. The plan will provide the programmatic guidance necessary for these cities to efficiently integrate creek restoration, stormwater wetlands, agricultural conservation, and trail linkages into their planning documents and new developments as the cities grows over the next decade.

We urge you to support this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Diane Burgis
Executive Director
Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed