

EXHIBIT 1

Good Neighbor Checklist for Restoration Projects

Restoration projects can have many benefits, but can also cause impacts to neighboring properties, agriculture, infrastructure (particularly roads and levees) and water resources. These impacts can be social, economic, and environmental. In many cases, these impacts are not adequately addressed in environmental review and permitting processes. Inclusion of Good Neighbor policies in restoration projects supports agricultural communities, reinforces the benefits of conservation partnerships, reduces conflicts and delay, and helps achieve sustainable conservation. Restoration planners and project managers should use the following checklist to ensure that they comprehensively consider and address the impacts of their project on neighbors.

Goal: Increase value and resilience of restoration projects by addressing and appropriately limiting negative impacts on neighboring property and infrastructure. Avoid economic, social and environmental costs of unmitigated offsite impacts and continued controversies.

Good Neighbor Restoration Projects:

Siting and Planning

- ☒ Are completed on public lands, or where private property is required, rely on willing sellers and do not use condemnation or eminent domain to acquire land.
- ☒ Do not conflict with existing agricultural or conservation easements.
- ☒ Do not fragment or divide existing farms or communities.
- ☒ Engage neighbors and stakeholders constructively at each major phase of plan development, including early planning, with special attention to changes to local drainage, irrigation and levee/flood infrastructure.
- ☒ Establish and maintain at least baseline conditions for roads, bridges and levees used by the project.
- ☒ Are sited to avoid interfering with other beneficial water uses such as existing water diversions, boating, fishing and recreation.
- ☒ Are designed to prevent damage to nearby flood control facilities, and include preventative levee strengthening and ongoing repairs as needed.
- ☒ Provide buffers so that surrounding lands can remain in agricultural and other uses without interference.
- ☒ Include safe harbor or other protections (e.g., take coverage) for neighboring land and water uses if listed wildlife species are expected to increase in abundance on neighboring lands or waterways.
- ☒ Carefully design any public access to be compatible with (or ideally benefit) local businesses, landowners and residents.

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Construction, Operation and Maintenance

- ☒ Reduce or avoid project dust, traffic, vibration, noise and lighting impacts.
- ☒ Minimize project traffic during commute and harvest periods.
- ☒ Include invasive species protection plans and long-term abatement funding to:
 - Protect against proliferation of mosquitos to protect against arboviruses, which can lead to injury and mortality of wildlife and humans.
 - Monitor and treat terrestrial and aquatic weeds and set specific triggers for action.
- ☒ Monitor and mitigate project-related changes to local water quality and quantity to:
 - Protect beneficial water uses from harmful algal blooms, nitrates, phosphorous, and methylmercury.
 - Avoid excess drainage, seepage or changes in water the table that impair neighboring agricultural activities.
- ☒ Provide mitigation for conversion of productive agricultural land in the form of conservation easements or other measures to enhance local agricultural productivity.
- ☒ Include a detailed operation and maintenance plan, and as adequate personnel to maintain site security, prevent trespass, manage any publicly accessible areas, and control flooding and weeds.

Accessible Community Interface

- ☒ Provide an Ombudsman Office to:
 - Facilitate stakeholders and affected landowners and local agency discussions regarding offsite impacts and options to address them.
 - Provide an alternative dispute resolution process to the inefficient Government Claims Act process.
 - Provide project updates to the affected public and incorporate input into the project during project planning and operation.

References

Department of Water Resources 2014, Agricultural and Land Stewardship Strategies.

<https://water.ca.gov/programs/california-water-plan/water-resource-management-strategies/agriculture-and-land-stewardship-framework>).

Delta Conservancy 2019, Delta Public Lands Strategy

http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Delta_Public_Lands_Strategy_Final_1-22-19.pdf

Department of Fish and Wildlife 2018, Delta Conservation Framework 2018-2050

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/DCF>