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Natural Resources Agency Announces Awards for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The California Natural Resources Agency today announced \$16.2 million in funding for 35 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEM) projects statewide. EEM provides grants to local, state and federal governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations for projects to mitigate environmental impacts caused by new or modified state transportation facilities.

“This is an impressive list of projects that will go a long way in reducing the impacts of new and upgraded transportation infrastructure,” said California Natural Resources Agency Secretary John Laird. “These funds will result in projects that protect and restore key watersheds for habitat and water supply, sequester carbon and reduce environmental pollution.”

For fiscal year 2013-14, the agency evaluated 67 applications and recommended funding for 35 projects identified below. Specifically, the agency recommends funding 18 projects in the northern part of the state for a total of \$7,893,180 and 17 projects in the southern portion of the state totaling \$8,345,950.

Grant awardees include:

- **American River Conservancy:**
 - \$296,475 - Salmon Falls Ranch Recreational Trail Project
 - \$336,750 - Wakamatsu Community Farm & Accessible Trail Project
- **Benicia Tree Foundation:** \$5,788.61 - Benicia Urban Forestry Project
- **Berkeley, Parks Recreation & Waterfront Department:** \$339,383 - Berkeley Urban Reforestation Project
- **Border Coast Regional Airport Authority:** \$379,678 - Bay Meadows Mitigation Project
- **Cache Creek Conservancy:** \$285,470 - Cache Creek Riparian Enhancement Project
- **California Department of Transportation:** \$349,600 - Wildlife Passage Modifications on State Route 118 in Ventura County Project
- **California State Parks:** \$90,000 - Red Rock Canyon State Park Habitat Restoration Project
- **California Trout:** \$355,712 - Hat Creek Restoration Project Expansion
- **Chaparral Lands Conservancy:** \$196,724 - Proctor Valley Vernal Pool Restoration Project II
- **Cites:**
 - El Paso de Robles: \$500,000 - Riverside Corridor Restoration & Enhancement Project
 - Pasadena: \$400,000 - Carbon Offset through Tree Planting Project
 - Santa Clarita: \$500,000 - Valley Vista Acquisition Project

- Tulare: \$458,260 - State Route 99-Cartmill Ave. Interchange Landscaping Project
- Visalia: \$499,502.60 - City of Visalia Urban Forest Expansion Project
- **Feather River Land Trust:** \$1,000,000 - Anderson Ranch Conservation Easement Project
- **Hollywood Beautification Team:** \$712,000 - Tree Planting & Community Greening Project (Berendo)
- **Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts Point Rancheria:** \$501,500 - Richardson Ranch Resource Lands Acquisition Project
- **Lakeside's River Park Conservancy:** \$444,650 - Caster/Cactus Pond Acquisition Project along the San Diego River
- **Mojave Desert Land Trust:** \$300,000 - Quail Wash Acquisition Project
- **Pacific Forest Trust, Inc.:** \$500,000 - Butte Creek Meadows Working Forest Conservation Easement Project
- **Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District:** \$1,000,000 - Alamos Canyon Acquisition Project
- **Redwood Community Action Agency:** \$143,134.56 - Chah-GAH-cho Enhancement Project
- **River Partners:**
 - \$395,213 - Daley Preserve Habitat Restoration Project
 - \$500,000 - Jelly's Ferry Habitat Restoration Project
- **Sacramento Tree Foundation:** \$468,523 - Bear River Habitat Trail Project
- **Sierra Foothill Conservancy:** \$413,776.65 - Bean Meadow Restoration Project
- **Truckee Donner Land Trust:** \$590,000 - Coppins Meadow Property Acquisition Project
- **Trust for Public Land:**
 - \$500,000 - Arroyo Burro Creek Riparian Corridor Acquisition Project
 - \$500,000 - Ramirez Canyon Phase III Acquisition Project
 - \$500,000 - Ryan Creek Conservation Easement Acquisition Project
 - \$500,000 - San Luis Rey River Acquisition Project
- **Ventura Hillsides Conservancy:** \$1,000,000 - Walker-Hearne Ranch Acquisition Project
- **Western Rivers Conservancy:** \$1,000,000 - Blue Creek Preserve: A Sanctuary for Fish and Wildlife Project
- **Zen Foundation:** \$276,989 - Green Gulch Creek Habitat Enhancement Project

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program encourages projects that produce multiple benefits which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and risks associated with climate change, and demonstrate collaboration with local, state and community entities to protect and conserve natural resources.

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