



November 8, 2018

CRC Members and Friends,

The California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation (“Foundation”) continues its work to preserve the Pacific Flyway by putting tax-deductible sponsorships and donations to work creating quality habitat in the Sacramento Valley. We plan to continue our targeted investments into bird habitat but also participate in exciting new efforts to explore the use of winter-flooded rice fields to help salmon populations.

If successful, efforts to use winter flooding to help fish could lead to greater support for rice production and winter water to help both birds and fish. We’re pleased to report that the Foundation has received a generous \$100,000 grant from the S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation as matching funds to help secure a \$600,000 funding agreement with USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to support an innovative salmon habitat pilot project with UC Davis and our conservation partners. This new initiative is summarized in the enclosed California Rice outreach document titled, *Helping Salmon in the Sacramento Valley*. In all, \$1.4 million dollars has been dedicated for this work between NRCS and the generous project funders listed on this document.

Meanwhile, our core mission to build upon our legacy of providing food for millions of migrating waterbird in the Sacramento Valley continues. In addition to approximately 50,000 acres of existing conservation projects, we invested over \$60,000 this fall to secure an additional 1,000 acres of high quality habitat for shorebirds that simply would not have been there without donations from everyday bird lovers like you.

This is a valuable opportunity to expand the breadth of our wildlife conservation programs in the region while, at the same time, demonstrating the continued long-term need for adequate surface water supplies in the Sacramento Valley to achieve multiple environmental benefits from a healthy and viable California rice industry.

Please consider a tax-deductible to the California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation today. You may also visit the Foundation online at <http://calricewaterbirds.org> or contact Paul Buttner at (916) 206-5340 or pbuttner@calrice.org to learn more.

Sincerely,

Tim Johnson, President-CEO
California Rice Commission

Paul Buttner, Chairman-Executive Director
California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation

Enclosures