Annual Report
California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation

September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018
Chairman’s Message

Wrapping up our second full year of operations has me thinking about the exciting future opportunities that await us. We paused a bit last Spring and elected not to deploy funding to the ground, like we had in the previous two Spring seasons, because we could not be confident that our habitat investment options would result in real, quantifiable and additional habitat. So, we held onto those funds and invested them into high quality Fall 2018 projects that we will be telling you all about in our next 2018-19 Annual Report.

However, this fiscal year was exciting because we made great strides towards our collaborative growth objectives with the California Rice Commission (CRC). Our Foundation is linked with and strongly supported by the environmental work of CRC which is, in part, why we can put such a high percentage of our donors’ generous contributions right onto the ground for wildlife. We also can strategically leverage our funding expenditures to attract federal investments by packaging up our projects to qualify as matching funds on federal habitat grants successfully awarded to CRC. This is how we can truly maximize the breadth of our projects funded by your valuable contributions.

As part of our coordinated strategic work with CRC in 2018, we made strides in both expanding our staff capacity and improving our opportunities to pursue matching conservation funding through the new Farm Bill wildlife provisions that CRC and its conservation partners successfully placed into the new bill. These combined achievements include:

- Hiring Luke Matthews, current UC Davis Masters Student in the Avian Sciences Graduate Group
- Expanding Farm Bill authority to fund our waterbird practices for up to 10 years
- More than doubling the amount of federal funding available for our habitat work that can be matched with our donors’ contributions to this Foundation

Thanks to you, we are already hard at work to enable these new provisions to expand the breadth of our project work right here in the Sacramento Valley. We will be applying for millions of dollars in federal wildlife conservation funding using your contributions as match to help us be successful and make your donations work twice as hard for the birds, fish and other wildlife here in California rice country.

Sincerely,

Paul Buttner, Chairman
California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation
Annual Report
California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation

September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018

The California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation ("Foundation") was created in 2015 for the purpose of receiving tax-deductible donor funds to implement activities that create and promote real habitat projects on the ground in and around California ricelands. In the near-term, it utilizes annual donations (for a five-year period) that are pre-determined as qualifying matching funds for a California Rice Commission (CRC) grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) under the NRCS’s Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The Foundation has a longer-term goal of attracting donations beyond these matching RCPP dollars in an effort to transition the Foundation into a viable conservation organization operating beyond this RCPP period, which will phase out in the 2019-2020 timeframe.

Second Full Year of Operations

Fiscal Year 2017-2018 marked the second full fiscal year of the California Ricelands Waterbird Foundation ("Foundation"). This period included the following activities:

1) Evaluation of habitat investment opportunities with a deliberate decision to defer investments until the fall of 2018 (just after the period of this report)
2) Annual collection of multi-year pledges
3) Continuing efforts to pursue additional donations (beyond the pledges)

Evaluation of Habitat Enhancement Project Investments

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, we evaluated existing opportunities to invest our donor contributions in a manner that would result in “additional” habitat projects that would not have otherwise occurred without our Foundation’s involvement. In previous years we easily identified projects to extend winter flooding deeper into the spring season that definitely would not have happened without our funding. However, the Board was not convinced that our 2018 spring opportunities could meet that “additional” standard so we decided to defer these

---

1 The “pledges” for the Foundation are defined as a specific set of commitments made by companies and individuals to support the Foundation with donations that represent important matching funds enabling CRC to successfully secure a $7 million grant from NRCS in 2015.
investments until the Fall of 2018. This resulted in nearly 1,500 acres of high quality habitat for shorebird that will be fully described in our next annual report for fiscal year 2018-19.

Collection of Multi-Year Pledges

The Foundation implemented its annual invoicing process to collect the re-occurring original pledges to match the RCPP funding from NRCS. This was our fourth year of collecting these pledges. Our collection of those dollars resulted in $37,200 of donations to the Foundation to support next fiscal year’s habitat investments.

Second-year of Pursuing Additional Donations

On a fairly small scale, the Foundation continued some additional fundraising activities based on upon the limited extra time certain Officers could devote to the effort. This included a year-end fundraising outreach campaign using Twitter and a joint fundraising letter produced and distributed by the Foundation and CRC.

Our extra fundraising efforts (beyond the RCPP pledges) resulted in $16,817 of additional donations to the Foundation to support next fiscal year’s habitat investments.
California Rice lands Waterbird Foundation
Supporters
2017/18

Visionaries ($5,000+)
American Commodity Company
Farmers’ Rice Cooperative
Matteoli Brothers
Montna Farms
Robbins Rice Company
The Eddie Williamson Family Foundation

Leaders ($2,500+)
Paul and Sandi Bonderson, Jr.
Rominger Rice
Sun Valley Rice Company
E.D. Willey & Sons

Champions ($1,000+)
Conaway Preservation Group LLC
Roberta Firoved
R. Gorrill Ranch Enterprises
Kal Ag
John Salmonson
Sean V. Doherty Farms

Builders (Up to $999)
Bernice Bertapelle Michele Martin
Paul Buttner McCorkle Farms
Mildred Day Patricia McDaniels
Trucie DeWit Anthony O’Rourke
DePue Warehouse Josh Sheppard
Fred Durst Monica Smith
Hans Herkert Taresh Farms
Meghan Hertel Scott Tucker
Summary of the Foundation’s Financial Statement

CALIFORNIA RICELANDS WATERBIRD FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS OF AUGUST 31, 2018 AND 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$75,022</td>
<td>$21,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$75,022</td>
<td>$21,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$75,022</td>
<td>$21,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$75,022</td>
<td>$21,166</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2018 AND 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$54,730</td>
<td>$49,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledges</td>
<td>37,200</td>
<td>38,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Support and Revenue</td>
<td>91,930</td>
<td>88,107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>32,411</td>
<td>28,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation incentive payments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation website</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>5,552</td>
<td>4,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>38,074</td>
<td>71,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in Net Assets</td>
<td>53,856</td>
<td>17,062</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Assets Beginning of year      | 21,166   | 4,104    |
Net Assets - Ending of year       | $75,022  | $21,166  |