

More information

The Conservancy makes information available to interested parties. The best place to start is at the Conservancy's web site at: www.natomasbasin.org. Copies of the Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan can be obtained by contacting the Conservancy at its offices in Sacramento:

The Natomas Basin Conservancy
1750 Creekside Oaks Drive, Suite 290
Sacramento, CA 95833

Information is also available from these sources:

California Department of Fish and Game
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
916-653-4875

California Department of Fish and Game
Conservation Education
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1240, Sacramento, CA 95814
916-653-6420

*Q: Who is the most important person
in preserving our environment?*

*A: You are! Your values, priorities
and actions will determine our
legacy to future generations.*

Glossary and Abbreviations

CDFG California Department of Fish and Game

Conservancy The Natomas Basin Conservancy. A California non-profit public benefit corporation serving as “plan operator” of the Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan.

Giant garter snake (GGS) (*Thamnophis gigas*) The giant garter snake is one of the largest garter snakes of the genus *Thamnophis*, with a total length up to 4.5 feet or greater. The garter snake in the Sacramento Valley and Delta regions has a dorsal ground color often dark brown to olive or nearly black, a complete dorsal strip varying in color from dull yellow to bright orange, and often orange on the ventral surfaces as well. Officially listed as a “threatened” species under federal and state authority, it is one of the two primary species protected under the NBHCP.

Managed marsh Seasonal or perennial wetland managed for habitat values for the giant garter snake, a federally protected species, and other covered species. Such land must meet minimum requirements as described in the NBHCP which include, but are not limited to, an assured water supply that will serve the marsh from April through September of each year. The marsh will be a combination of open water, land with wetland vegetation, and other upland areas and may include a buffer area at the periphery. The Conservancy must develop detailed management plans pursuant to Chapter IV, Sections C.1 and D of the NBHCP for those Conservancy lands designated as managed marsh, in coordination with and subject to the approval of the CDFG and USFWS.

Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan (NBHCP)

The NBHCP applies to the 53,341-acre interior of the Natomas Basin, located in the northern portion of Sacramento County and the southern portion of Sutter County. The Basin contains incorporated and unincorporated areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County and Sutter County. The purpose of the NBHCP is to promote biological conservation along with economic development and the continuation of agriculture within the Natomas Basin. The NBHCP establishes a

multi-species conservation program to mitigate the expected loss of habitat values and incidental take of protected species that would result from urban development, operation of irrigation and drainage systems, and rice farming. The goal of the NBHCP is to preserve, restore, and enhance habitat values found in the Natomas Basin while allowing urban development to proceed according to local land use plans. The NBHCP is a supporting document for federal Section 10(a)(1)(B) and State Section 2081 permit applications. Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act allows incidental take of endangered or threatened species subject to its permit requirements. Similarly, State Section 2081 of the California Fish and Game Code allows the California Department of Fish and Game to enter into management agreements that allows activities which may otherwise result in habitat loss or take of individuals of a state listed species.

Permit or incidental take permit A permit issued by the USFWS under Section 10 (a)(1)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act which authorizes the incidental take of a covered species which may occur as a result of urban development, rice farming and management activities with the permit area. Permit may also be used to collectively refer to Section 10 (a)(1)(B) permit, and the Section 2081, management authorization, of the State of California.

Swainson’s hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) The state-listed threatened Swainson’s hawk is a medium sized buteo (25 to 35 ounces) and is distinguished from other buteos by long, narrow, pointed wings. Swainson’s hawk plumage varies greatly. Light phase birds have buff white wing linings with darkly barred brown flight feathers; dark phase birds are dark brown with white undertail coverts, and intermediate reddish plumage occurs between phases.

TAC Technical Advisory Committee. The TAC consists of six members, two each appointed from the City of Sacramento, the California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

