

November 19
2014

FEDERAL FUNDING OPTIONS FOR HABITAT CONSERVATION PLANNING

Jaimee Lederman
UCLA Luskin School



AREAS OF NEEDED FUNDING

- **3 phases of an HCP**
 - Planning
 - Land Acquisition/Implementation
 - Management and Monitoring
- **Funding vs. Financing**
 - Funding: revenues to acquire land/other required mitigation
 - Financing: a way to leverage funding for earlier access
- **→ Successful strategies need both**

“THE UNFUNDED MANDATE”

- Federal Planning Funds
- Recovery Funding
- Levering Public Infrastructure Funds
- Federal Land Management
- Financing



PLANNING FUNDING

- **Section 6 CES Funding**
 - Decreasing while the number of HCPs increase
 - Competitive across California
- **Other Federal Grants**
 - Wetland Program Development Grants (EPA)
 - National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program

BEYOND MITIGATION

- Efforts beyond mitigation qualify for Sec. 6 land acquisition funding
 - NCCP in California
 - Ex: Williamson County – Better for Species
 - Part of larger conservation efforts
- Other grants beyond Sec. 6
 - National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Program
 - Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - Wetland Funding

LEVERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

- Mutually beneficial relationships
- Transportation Funding
 - Highway mitigation funds can be available in advance of development
 - Ex: Williamson, Coachella
 - Federal Agencies are looking for opportunities to streamline permitting
 - Partnerships with HCPs increase competitive grants access for transportation projects
- Others
 - DRECP
 - Wind Power
 - Bay Delta

FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT

- Acquiring lands adjacent to/in partnership with federal agencies for economies of scale
 - Ex: Balcones
- Contribute to recovery efforts on federal land
 - Ex: Clark County
- Partner with federal land management agencies to donate land that is then managed as part of the agency

FINANCING MECHANISMS

- **Allow to time-shift funds forward**
- *Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)*
 - The TIFIA program provides Federal credit assistance (via secured loans, loan guarantees, and lines of credit) to nationally and regionally significant surface transportation projects.
 - TIFIA may support other elements of projects that are subject to advance mitigation requirements, thereby freeing state resources for those efforts.
 - Amendments to TIFIA have been proposed which would make advance mitigation an eligible TIFIA expense.
- Similar program for water infrastructure

MOVING FORWARD

- Expand the LWCF
- Allow for conservation financing
- “Conservation Clearinghouse” to group funding across programs for a holistic view
- Integrate planning with federal infrastructure agencies

Any Questions?



Contact Info: Jaimee.Lederman@ucla.edu