

APPENDIX 9: Decision matrix tables from San Joaquin and Sacramento Valley Manager Workshops

Table 1. Within site decision matrix developed at the Grasslands Ecological Area / San Joaquin Valley Shorebird Workshop on June 24, 2014.

Decisions¹	Uncertainty	Data Used / Needed	Value / Need of PFSS	Data summary Improvements
Which wetland to flood?	Where are the birds and which areas traditionally are productive?	Used: Recent and historic data on management, flood date.	Spatial summaries of distribution and abundance of shorebirds by year at multiple scales.	Add habitat prioritization maps to map-based summary application.
When to flood? - Flood up date and rate - Drawdown date and rate	How much habitat available elsewhere in the region? Need better info on actual availability to know when and how much to flood.	Biological surveys conducted at some refuges (e.g. San Luis NWR) to identify priority units.	Regular water / habitat tracking including vegetation free wetlands	Add polygon tool to allow custom summary of data by region.
How to flood? - Water depth - Plumbing - All at once or gradually?		Water schedule and allocation determined by water district.	Support additional conservation funds – data are proof of value	Shorebird survey data from migration and winter period (July – April)
How much habitat needed?	How much water is available?		Show importance of wetland habitat	Habitat summaries through time at multiple spatial scales would be good data summary application improvement. In other words, summarize more than just the bird data.
Vegetation management - How to manage - Vegetation type - Structure - % cover		Needed: Shorebird habitat data on “shorebirds acres” (appropriate depth and vegetation free).	Help guide priority areas for conservation	

¹key constraints = budget, mosquito abatement, capacity to analyze data

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Table 2. Among site decision matrix at the Grasslands Ecological Area / San Joaquin Valley Shorebird Workshop on June 24, 2014.

Decisions¹	Uncertainty	Data Needed	Value / Need of PFSS	Data summary Improvements
When to flood?	Water supply	Where are the birds and which areas traditionally are productive?	Spatial summaries of distribution and abundance of shorebirds by year at multiple scales.	Add prioritization maps to map-based summary application.
How to move water most efficiently?	Water movement			
	Canal maintenance			Add polygon tool to allow custom summary of data by region.
How much water needed to flood?	Surface area flooded on landscape and thus overall habitat availability.	Shorebird habitat data on “shorebirds acres” (appropriate depth and vegetation free) particularly relative to timing of water application	Support additional conservation funds – data are proof of value	
Where to put water; particularly private versus public land?	Weather		Show importance of wetland habitat and identify high use areas	Habitat summaries through time at multiple spatial scales would be good data summary application improvement. In other words, summarize more than just the bird data.
	Timing of when to flood / manage for shorebirds	Shorebird survey data from migration and winter period (July – April)	Help guide priority areas for conservation.	
		Regular water / habitat tracking including vegetation free wetlands	Track shorebird habitat availability and impact of management actions.	
		How much habitat available elsewhere in the region? Need better info on actual availability.	More seasonal surveys would improve value to inform when to flood.	

¹key constraints = budget, mosquito abatement, capacity to analyze data, coordinating many public and private land owners / managers.

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Table 3. Within site decision matrix at the Sacramento Valley Shorebird Workshop on June 26, 2014.

Decisions ¹	Data Used	Data Needed	Value / Need of PFSS	Data summary Improvements
When do we need habitat?	Recent and historic data on management, flood date	Where are the birds and which areas traditionally are productive	Compare use in wet versus dry years to guide which years wetland habitat is really needed.	Add prioritization maps to multimap
-Flood up date and rate				Add polygon tool
-Drawdown date and rate				
How much habitat?	Biological surveys conducted at some refuges (e.g. Sac Refuge)	Shorebird habitat data (appropriate depth and vegetation free)	More seasonal surveys would improve this.	
Vegetation management				
- How managed?				
- Vegetation type				Spatial summaries by year
- Structure				
- % cover				
Water depth	Water schedule and allocation determined by water district	Shorebird survey data from through the migration and winter period (July – April)		Habitat summaries through time at multiple spatial scales
How to compliment with private lands?	Infrastructure maintenance	Regular water / habitat tracking – including water depth and vegetation free wetlands	Improve quality vs. quantity vs. need	
				Support additional conservation funds – data are proof of value
				Show importance of rice
				Help guide priority areas for conservation (e.g. WHEP)

¹key constraints = budget, legal mandates, topography of wetland, recreation hotspots, staff availability

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Table 4. Among site decision matrix developed at the Sacramento Valley Shorebird Workshop on June 26, 2014.

Decisions ¹	Data Used	Data Needed	Value / Need of PFSS	Data summary Improvements
How many shorebirds do we need to support in the in Sac Valley?	CVJV Implementation Plan 2006	Regular monitoring of shorebird populations and trends coordinated across the Sac Valley	Population estimates to determine progress towards CVJV goals by CVJV planning basin and species composition	Population estimates by wetland complex and CVJV basins
When do we need habitat?		Shorebird survey data from through the migration and winter period (July – April)	Track migration phenology Track water / no-water Track available – vegetation free wetlands	Trend and spatial distribution of shorebirds Trend and spatial distribution of water, vegetation free wetlands, land cover and post-harvest rice practices.
Where do we need habitat?		Regular water / habitat tracking	Track changes in land cover type Track post-harvest rice practices using citizen scientists? Track water / no-water Track available – vegetation free wetlands Track changes in land cover type PFSS would be better if surveyed more seasons	Ability to adaptively understand the implications of the distribution and abundance of habitat on shorebirds to optimize habitat management.

¹key constraints = budget, politics of hunting (flooded by opener), mosquito abatement, water availability (timing and amount uncertain)