



California State Wildlife Grant Success Stories

In the five years since its inception, the State Wildlife Grants Program has played an important role in the conservation of California's wildlife. The following are some of the projects funded through State Wildlife Grants:



Photo by DFG

Western Burrowing Owl,
Photo Courtesy of
California DFG

Conservation: Protecting Imperiled Land, Water, and Wildlife **Western Burrowing Owl**

State Wildlife Grant funding is being used to develop a conservation strategy for the western burrowing owl. The strategy includes research that will identify specific needs and actions as well as mitigation banks and farmer-friendly management approaches. The owl assessment and strategy documents will help assure long term conservation of the owls through an adequate geographic distribution, while also helping to conserve other grassland-dependent species.



Photo by USFWS

Tricolored Blackbird, Photo
Courtesy of USFWS

Management: Proactive Measures that Benefit Wildlife and People **Tricolored Blackbird**

The Department of Fish and Game is using State Wildlife Grant funds to conduct studies and support the public/private working group's efforts to identify conservation measures for the benefit of the tricolored blackbird. One such effort includes working with private landowners to compensate them for any crop degradation resulting from a delay in harvest to allow for undisturbed nesting habitat for fledglings until they are able to survive on their own. This is a proactive way to conserve these birds for future generations to enjoy, saving taxpayer money by preventing another endangered species listing.



Photo by USFWS

Greater Sage-grouse, Photo
Courtesy of USFWS

Research: Gathering Information to Take Action **Greater Sage-grouse**

The greater sage-grouse is in decline. Using State Wildlife Grants, the California Department of Fish and Game is funding a three-year study of the greater sage-grouse, gathering baseline information on seasonal population ranges, migration patterns, and delineation of seasonal habitats for use in conservation planning. This information will lead to the development and assessment of conservation efforts and guide management and restoration activities. It will also help us deal with the emergence of West Nile Virus in isolated populations of genetically-unique grouse.

Congress has appropriated \$18.3 million in State Wildlife Grants to California since 2001. This has been matched with at least \$4 million state and partner funding.