

## Identifying and Estimating Management Costs

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In-Lieu-Fee Webinar \* June 3, 2013

# **Biological Goals**

- Preserve the abundance and diversity of native plant and animal species within the Bank.
- **Protect the Bank** from the effects of adjacent land uses that may adversely impact the Bank.
- Repair or restore any adverse condition within the Bank that may affect or potentially affect the Bank.

## **Conservation is a Long-term Commitment**

- The land does not take care of itself
- Bad things happen
- You can't choose your neighbors
- Land Management involves risk
- You need a Plan!



## The Management Plan

Meridian Ranch Mitigation Bank Operations And Management Plan

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Source document: California Long-Term Management Plan Template

# **Determining Management Costs**

How does one calculate the base amount of funding necessary for perpetual site maintenance?

- 1. Review CE and Management Plan for actionable tasks
- 2. Correlate rates to specific tasks/materials
- 3. Determine re-occurence interval for actions/items
- 4. Apply investment rate to calculate total funding for each task/item

## Management Actions: Example

• 5.3.2 Thatch Management

**Three current methods :** 

- 5.3.2.1 Grazing
- 5.3.2.2 Mowing
- 5.3.2.3 Controlled Burns



# **Range of Activities**

- <u>Relatively simple:</u> Meridian Ranch – vernal pool landscape. Uses grazing as a key management tool.
- <u>Relatively complicated:</u> Cosumnes – floodplain restoration. Requires annual mowing to remove herbaceous cover to allow natural riparian recruitment.





## Determining Management Costs Defining Tasks and Frequency

Management Plan Action	Description of Tasks from Management Plan	Cost Basis
ment A.6 Vegetation Management		
Update Grazing Plan		This task occurs once every five years, and allocates three hours for the Monitoring Biologist, and an hour for the Bank Manager's to review current conditions on the site and to make adjustments to the grazing density or timing and duration of grazing activities.
Grazing Coordination (Implementation)	Implement annual grazing on the Bank to reduce thatch and control existing populations of non-native invasive species. This task occurs every year.	This task occurs every year and consists primarily of coordinating with the grazing lessee. Two hours a year are allocated for the Ban Manager, and four hours a year are allocated for the Monitoring Biologist for this task.
Local agency coordination (Implemenation)	Coordinate vegetation management with local agencies. Estimated cycle of occurrence is every five years for this task	This task occurs once every five years and primarily consists of a review of local ordinances for any changes in requirements for firebreaks or setbacks. One hour of time for the Bank Manager and another hour for the Scientific Technician are budgeted for this item
ment B.1 Trash and Trespass		
Monitor sources of trash and trespass	During each site visit, record occurrences of trash and/or trespass. Record type, location, and management mitigation recommendations to avoid, minimize, or rectify a trash and/or trespass impact.	This task occurs each year and is covered under the hours allotted to the two annual walk-through surveys and is funded by the existing endowment for the Property.
Annual Trash collection	At least once yearly collect and remove trash and repair and rectify vandalism and trespass impacts.	This task occurs annually and is alloted 4 hours for a Field Technician for trash removal and to rectify trespass impacts.
ment B.2 Fire Hazard Reduction		
Mow or graze to reduce to reduce fuel	Graze at levels to reduce vegetation in fire prone areas, and comply with County fire ordinances in a manner approved by the IRT.	This task occurs every year and occurs through implementation of t Grazing Plan and is funded by other tasks within the Endowment.
Monitor nesting birds	A ground nesting bird survey will be conducted if firebreaks are to be cut between February 15th and July $1^{st}$ . Areas with nesting birds will be avoided by a minimum of 250 feet until nesting is complete to minimize impacts to these individuals.	Firebreaks are not anticipated as a normal practice and firebreaks a not normally installed prior to July 1st, the official beginning of the fire season. If required before July 1st, contingency funds can be used to create the firebreaks.
ment C.1 Fences and Gates		1
Monitor condition of fences and gates	During each site visit, record condition of fences and gates. Record location, type, and recommendations to implement fence and/or gate repair or replacement, if applicable. Additional focus to be made to the fence along Meridian Road, as it is the primary area for potential public access.	This task occurs every year and occurs through implementation of t Grazing Plan and is funded by other tasks within the Endowment.
Fence, signage, and gate maintenance	Maintain fences and gates as necessary by replacing posts, wire, and/or gates.	This task occurs each year and allots 6 hours for a Field Technician complete the necessary maintenance.
Fence materials for maintenance		Costs of \$3.7 per linear foot are based upon a current cost estimate from a fencing contractor. 10% of the perimeter fence will be replaced every five years.
Signage		This task occurs every 10 years, and calculates the cost of replacing the perimeter signs for the Bank (14 signs).

# Assigning Costs to Tasks

- Recommendation: do you own research
- Sources:
  - Consultants
  - Contractors
  - Local cooperative extension office
  - County agriculture production reports
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service
    - Grant program reports
    - Example: Env. Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Cost-Share Figures
  - Local Farmers/Ranchers

#### Meridian Ranch Mitigation Bank

FINAL

#### Long-Term Management Endowment Schedule

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•	•		\$43,2
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## Converting Tasks to Dollar Costs

\$64,936	\$43,291
\$64,936	
\$109,936	\$476,201
	\$586,137
	\$109,936

# **PAR Software - Tasking**

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## PAR Software - Worksheets

#### Section 8 - Initial & Capital Tasks and Costs

Property Title: Budget: PAR		C	Dataset: CA004	PAR ID	: P141VER1		05/17/2005
Task list	Specificaton	Unit	Number of Units	Cost / Unit	Annual Cost	Times Years	Tota Cosi
ACQUISITION							
Inspection	Property inspection	L. Hours	4.00	43.00	172.00	1.0	172.00
Legal Assistance	Prepare/review documents	C. Hours	6.00	215.00	1,290.00	1.0	1,290.00
Conservation Easement	Acquisition - Lots 46, 172, A	L. Hours	8.00	50.00	400.00	1.0	400.00
Conservation Easement	Acquisition - Lots 46, 172, A	Item	1.00	125.00	125.00	1.0	125.00
Sub-Total							1,987.00
SITE CONSTRUCTIO	N/MAINT.						
Fence	Maintenance/materials	Year	1.00	250.00	250.00	1.0	250.00
Lock	Padlock	Item	1.00	9.00	9.00	1.0	9.00
Fence	Maintenance/labor	L. Hours	16.00	33.00	528.00	1.0	528.00
Sub-Total							787.00
BIOTIC SURVEYS							
Project Management	Plan/coordinate	L. Hours	12.00	43.00	516.00	3.0	1.548.00
Plant Ecologist	Quantitative Monitoring	L. Hours	76.00	43.00	3,268.00	1.0	3,268.00
Plant Ecologist	Qualitative Monitoring	L. Hours	20.00	43.00	860.00	3.0	2,580.00
Ornithologist	CAGN; cactus wren	L. Hours	50.00	43.00	2,150.00	3.0	6,450.00
Science Director	Oversight and Review	Hours	26.00	46.50	1,209.00	3.0	3,627.00
Other	Adaptive Management	Year	1.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	3.0	7,500.00
Sub-Total							24,973.00
HABITAT MAINTENA	NCE						
Exotic Plant Control	Hand Removal, Labor	L. Hours	24.00	33.00	792.00	3.0	2.376.00
Exotic Plant Control	Herbicide	Item	1.00	140.00	140.00	3.0	420.00
Exotic Plant Control	Backpack Spray	L. Hours	16.00	33.00	528.00	3.0	1,584.00
Exotic Animal Control	Cowbird trapping (5 traps)	Contract	1.00	32,000.00	32,000.00	3.0	96,000.00
Sub-Total							100,380.00
PUBLIC SERVICES							
Patrolling	Monthly	L. Hours	50.00	33.00	1,650.00	3.0	4,950.00
Sign	Boundary	Item	25.00	6.00	150.00	1.0	150.00
Sign	Labor	L. Hours	8.00	33.00	264.00	1.0	264.00
Other	Meetings	L. Hours	16.00	43.00	688.00	3.0	2,064.00
Sub-Total							7,428.00

## Ongoing Habitat Management: Beaver Control



Intensive Management: Prescribed Burning



### Pensacola Bay Mitigation Bank



Eddy Electric Service

P O Box 108 Courtland, CA 95615



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	DATE	INVOICE #	
1:	2/2/2010	6529	

BILL TO		
Westervelt Ecological Services 600 North Market Blvd., Suite 3 Sacramento, CA 95834		
	1	
		;

## Unanticipated Maintenance: Vandalism

	ſ	P.O. NO.	TE	RMS
		Ditch Pump	N	et 30
DESCRIPTION	R	ATE	AMOL	JNT
12/01 -12/02 Labor - Run new conduit & wire		485.00		485.00
3x70' Wire #1		185.00		185.001
70' # PVC sch 40 conduit 70' #8 wire		140.00 66.00		140.001 66.001
210' #12 wire	an - 1997 a - 1997 Sa	90.30	·· · • ·	90.301
10' super strut		45.99		45.997
1 - slice box 8x8x6 RT PVC, PVC radius. PVC male adapters, clamps	2	31.32 27.54		31.321
		27.04		27.541
Sales Tax Voundalism repair Mon Cosumnes - maint		8.75%		51.29
Thank You				
We Appreciate your Business			i i	
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n af fair. Na State				14
Please Pay From This Invoice. A service	F	<u> </u>		2.2
charge of 1.5% per month (APR 18%) will be		Total	9	51,122.44
applied on invoices 30 days past due.		<u> </u>		

## Adaptive Management Example: Burke Ranch Conservation Bank Well & Trough

### Grazing inherent part of management. But...

### No developed water source on the site

- Cattle depended on deepest pools for water
- Cattle couldn't be used in dry season to help manage thatch