

**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: July 21, 2026
Agenda Item #: Report B
Agenda Item Subject: Cosumnes Stream Gage Project

To: SRCD Board of Directors
From: SRCD Staff

Background

Permits:

- Still waiting on final LSAA agreement to be issued.

Biological Mitigation

- CDFW has requested on-site mitigation monitoring for up to five days during construction. Vollmer has provided that additional cost estimate for review. This was another cost that was unable to be originally scoped by Vollmer or any consultant, as it is a project request from CDFW.
- General Construction Monitoring (Gen) — an Assistant Biologist onsite during construction (up to 5 days, travel time included), plus a few hours of Senior Biologist time. **This comes to \$6,980 (\$6,240 labor + \$740 mileage).**
- Everything else is unchanged from the original — WEAP, Bio-1 through Bio-6, the rates, and all the notes and assumptions are the same.
- Previous cost estimate: \$23,427
- New cost estimate: \$30,407
- **Requested increase: \$6,980**

Discussion:

- Any questions from Board members are welcome

Recommendations

- Approve the cost adjustment as presented to finalize mitigation.

VNLC BUDGET TABLE

Proposed Budget to Provide Biological Support Services for the Sloughhouse Stream Gauge Installation Project

Prepared by Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting, July 10, 2026

Biological Task

WEAP: Worker Environmental Awareness Program

Bio-1: Avoidance of Sensitive Vernal Pool Species

Bio-2: Avoidance of Giant Gartersnake (*per day* cost for monitoring)

Bio-3: Avoidance of Protected Nesting Birds

Bio-4: Avoidance of Special-status Plant Species

Bio-5 & Bio-6: Impacts to Sensitive Habitats (including aquatic habitats)

Gen: General Construction Monitoring (Includes travel time. Assumes maximum of 5 days)

LABOR		WEAP	Bio-1	Bio-2	Bio-3	Bio-4	Bio-5&6	Gen	TOTAL
Senior Biologist		2	0	0	56	60	10	4	132
Assistant Biologist		8	0	12	0	15	10	60	105
TOTAL LABOR HOURS		10	0	12	56	75	20	64	237

LABOR (cost)	Rate/Hr.	WEAP	Bio-1	Bio-2	Bio-3	Bio-4	Bio-5&6	Gen	TOTAL
Senior Biologist	\$135	\$270	\$0	\$0	\$7,560	\$8,100	\$1,350	\$540	\$17,820
Assistant Biologist	\$95	\$760	\$0	\$1,140	\$0	\$1,425	\$950	\$5,700	\$9,975
TOTAL LABOR COST		\$1,030	\$0	\$1,140	\$7,560	\$9,525	\$2,300	\$6,240	\$27,795

OTHER DIRECT COSTS (ODCs)		WEAP	Bio-1	Bio-2	Bio-3	Bio-4	Bio-5&6	Gen	TOTAL
Vehicle Mileage (\$0.725/per mile)		\$140	\$0	\$140	\$932	\$460	\$200	\$740	\$2,612
TOTAL ODCs		\$140	\$0	\$140	\$932	\$460	\$200	\$740	\$2,612

TOTAL PROJECT COST*		\$1,170	\$0	\$1,280	\$8,492	\$9,985	\$2,500	\$6,980	\$30,407
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*Does not account for all days required for giant gartersnake monitoring--this is a per day cost since the number of construction days is unknown.

Notes and Assumptions:

WEAP

This budget includes the preparation of training pamphlets. It assumes that all workers involved in the project can be trained at the same time and during a single day. An additional \$600 will be required for each additional session. This measure applies to all seven project sites.

Bio-1

This measure assumes that our recommended timing will be adhered to (outside the wet season), in which case there would be no cost. This measure applies only to the Bleacher project site.

Bio-2

This is a per day cost for an Assistant Biologist to be onsite for an 8-hour day. Includes travel time and direct costs per day. Only applies to work within aquatic habitats. This measure applies only to the Hadselville and Silva project sites. The total cost does not account for the (remote) possibility of encountering a gartersnake, which would require budget on a time and materials basis to contact environmental agencies and provide additional documentation and other support.

Bio-3

This is the cost to conduct a single nesting bird survey at each of the seven project sites, but costs only apply if work is carried out within the nesting season, from February through August. Budget is included for seven separate surveys since it is assumed that a survey will be required at each site on different days as construction activities commence.

Bio-4

This involves up to three rounds of surveys by a single Senior Biologist within the Ilich, Deer Creek, Bleacher, and Jackson Creek project sites. All survey rounds will be conducted over a single 14-hour day, with each to be preceded by one hour of preparation work. The budget includes the preparation of a botanical resources report, requiring 15 hours for a Senior Biologist and 15 hours for an Assistant Biologist (30 hours total).

Bio-5 & Bio-6

This involves marking all sensitive habitats, including riparian vegetation and valley oak habitat (Bio-5) as well as wetlands and other aquatic habitats (Bio-6). The perimeter of all such habitats will be clearly marked with brightly colored flagging. The flagging will consist of ribbon flagging placed at eye level wherever possible. Where woody vegetation is not sufficiently present to support ribbon flagging, pin flags will be used to demarcate the habitats.

Note: for additional information pertaining to the biological tasks addressed above, see the Biological Resources Evaluation Report prepared in April of 2026 by VNLC on behalf of FlowWest.