

## **Buena Vista/Kern Lake Conservation Report**

The freshwater and saline wetland complex associated with Buena Vista and Kern lakes provides extremely important wintering, breeding and migratory areas for tens of thousands of waterfowl and other water-dependent animals. With nearly 100,000 acres of rivers, sloughs, marshes and ponds, this area was historically a major hub in the Central Valley wetland system, critical for the survival of many plant and animal species.

Important strategies for maintaining and restoring this region include re-establishing and sustaining wetlands, restoring upland areas and aiding in the recovery of unique wildlife species. Services provided include: flood water storage, water purification and filtration in marshes and natural air pollution control by planting native annuals and perennials.

The Buena Vista Lake - Kern Lake Conservation Report recommends the following:

- Protect 25,000 acres of existing uplands, such as shrubland and grassland;
- Restore 26,000 acres of uplands;
- Restore 24,000 acres of wetlands; such as marshes, floodplains, creeks and ponds;
- Complete Buttonwillow Ecological Reserve;
- Complete Coles Levee Ecosystem Preserve, managed by Aera Energy LLC;
- Complete Kern Water Bank, managed by Kern Water Bank Authority;
- Complete Tule Elk State Reserve, managed by California State Parks;
- Complete Lokern Preserve, managed by Center for Natural Lands Management; and
- Establish a new state, federal or private Wildlife Area.

[Read more](#) about Buena Vista - Kern Lake conservation goals, objectives and site-specific recommendations.