



To: Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District
Attn: Larry Dotson, Senior Engineer
2975 North Farmersville Blvd.
Farmersville, CA 93223

From: Brian Poochigian, City of Visalia Mayor

Date: November 14th, 2023

Subject: Letter of Support for Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District Application
for the Kaweah Subbasin Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to offer support for Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District (District) in putting forth their application to the Kaweah Subbasin Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program. The District is proposing to expand their existing recharge facility (Paregien Basin) located immediately south of Highway 198 and east of Road 168. The project is ideally positioned northeast of the disadvantaged community of the City of Farmersville and immediately south of the Kaweah Oaks Preserve. The Paregien Basin Phase II Expansion will serve to create opportunities for the District to increase regional water supply sustainability, alleviate flood flows during wet years, provide habitat improvements for wildlife conservation, and create areas where the community can visit and view the diverse wildlife that the facility will attract. The proposed efforts include expanding an existing basin to incorporate features such as islands, native tree plantings, and native vegetation to attract pollinators and nesting habitat. The regional waterway of Deep Creek meanders through the whole property, which contains existing riparian areas of mature Valley Oak Woodlands. Structures for ducks, owls, and possibly hawks will also be incorporated to promote the enhancement and diversity of the existing and proposed habitats.

This project aligns with the District's management goals through the conversion of agricultural land to achieve long-term groundwater sustainability, water quality improvements, provide for wildlife conservation and multiple community benefits. The City of Visalia recognizes the value of the District's Paregien Basin Phase II Expansion Project that will increase water management sustainability, promote water supply reliability within the Kaweah Groundwater Subbasin, provide wildlife conservation and foster community enrichment.

Sincerely,

Brian Poochigian

Brian Poochigian, City Mayor

November 15th, 2023