

**MSCS Changes Recommended by the NCCP Determination Plant Specialist Review Team**

1. Add a definition for "Protect" to the glossary. The intent here is to indicate that "protecting" a species may not necessarily preclude take.
2. Add Delta-coyote thistle to the list of no-take species.
3. Make the following changes (global to all species as appropriate) to species prescriptions and conservation measures:

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**Soft bird's-beak (*Cordylanthus mollis ssp. mollis*):** Reduce the risk of current and imminent threats to maintaining the current distribution and existing populations of soft bird's-beak and reestablish and maintain viable populations throughout its historic range.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Expand potential habitat by improving tidal circulation to diked wetlands that sustain some existing exchange.</li><li>2. Identify opportunities for establishing new populations or expanding existing populations and habitat.</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Conduct surveys in suitable habitat areas within portions of the species' range that could be affected by Program actions to determine the presence and distribution of the species before implementing actions that could result in take or the loss or degradation of occupied habitat.</li><li>2. <del>To the extent practicable, avoid</del> Avoid or minimize [GLOBAL CHANGE] implementing Program actions that could result in mortality or the loss or degradation of habitat occupied by the species.</li></ol> |
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**Suisun thistle (*Cirsium hydrophilum var. hydrophilum*):** Protect and maintain all extant occurrences, establish 10 new populations and increase overall population size ten-fold.

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| <p>1. Identify opportunities for establishing new populations or expanding existing populations and habitat.</p>                                    | <p>1. Conduct surveys in suitable habitat areas within portions of the species' range that could be affected by Program actions to determine the presence and distribution of the species before implementing actions that could result in take or the loss or degradation of occupied habitat.</p> |
| <p>2. Control and reduce populations of non-native marsh species with potential effects on Suisun thistle and potential Suisun thistle habitat.</p> | <p>2. To the extent practicable, avoid implementing Program actions that could result in mortality or the loss or degradation of habitat occupied by the species.</p>   |
| <p>3. Monitor the population size and vigor of all extant occurrences at a two-year interval for the life of the Program [GLOBAL CHANGE].</p>       |   |
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**Mason's lilaepsis (*Lilaeopsis masonii*) and Suisun Marsh aster (*Aster lentus*):** Expand suitable and occupied habitat by 100 linear miles and protect at least 90% of the currently occupied habitat including 90% of high quality habitat, including occurrences in the North, South and East Delta and Napa River Ecological Management Units.

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| <p>1. Maintain processes that support the dynamic habitat distributed throughout the species range and associated with existing source populations (species occurs on eroding margins of levees).</p> | <p>1. Conduct surveys in suitable habitat areas within portions of the species' range that could be affected by Program actions to determine the presence and distribution of the species before implementing actions that could result in take or the loss or degradation of occupied habitat.</p> |
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2. To the extent practicable, design restoration of tidal habitats to create unvegetated, exposed substrate habitat at tidal margins of tidal fresh emergent wetland and riparian habitat.
  3. To the extent consistent with Program objectives, incorporate sufficient edge habitat to support the species in levee set back and channel island habitat restoration designs.
  4. To the extent practicable, maximize sinuosity of restored and created slough channels to increase water-land edge habitat.
  5. To the extent consistent with Program objectives, maintain and restore habitat and populations throughout the species' geographic ranges and expand habitat and populations to their historical and ecological ranges based on hydrologic, salinity and other habitat requirements of the species.
  6. Consistent with Program objectives, incorporate suitable habitat for these species in bank protection designs used in CALFED actions.
  7. Monitor status and distribution of the species at five-year intervals and document establishment and expansion of the species into restored habitat for the life of the Program.
2. For each linear foot of occupied habitat lost, create 5-10 linear feet, depending on habitat quality, of potential habitat within one year of loss.

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**Delta mudwort (*Limosella subulata*) and Delta tule pea (*Lathyrus jepsonii* var. *jepsonii*):** Protect at least 90% of occupied habitat including 90% of high quality habitat throughout range of species to protect geographic diversity; expand suitable and occupied habitat by 100 linear miles.

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**Delta coyote-thistle (*Eryngium racemosum*):** Protect and maintain the 2 known existing populations occurrences and establish 2 additional self-sustaining occurrences.

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| 1. Restore and protect suitable open floodplain habitat along the San Joaquin River.  | 1. Prior to implementation of CALFED floodplain actions, suitable habitat within the historic range of the species should be surveyed for unknown populations.                  |
| 2. Monitor the status and distribution of populations at two-year intervals and evaluate the need for active reintroduction, and reintroduce the species to restored protected habitat when no natural colonization occurs. | 2. <del>To the extent practicable, avoid</del> Avoid implementing Program actions that could result in mortality or the loss or degradation of habitat occupied by the species. |
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**Alkali milkvetch (*Astragalus tener* var. *tener*):** Protect extant populations in each vernal pool region, throughout the range of habitat conditions and genetic variability, and reintroduce species near extirpated populations.

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| 1. Protect extant populations in each vernal pool region, throughout the range of habitat conditions and genetic variability, and reintroduce species near extirpated populations. | 1. Conduct surveys in suitable habitat areas within portions of the species' range that could be affected by Program actions to determine the presence and distribution of the species before implementing actions that could result in take or the loss or degradation of occupied habitat. |
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