

# Middletown Rancheria Wetland Program Plan



**KUCCI WUWWE CREEK RESTORATION SITE**

**Middletown Rancheria Environmental Center**

**22223 Rancheria Rd.**

**Middletown, CA 95461**

**Version 2 - April 29, 2011**

## **OVERVIEW**

Middletown Rancheria (MR) is in the process of developing a comprehensive wetland program for Rancheria lands. This is a preliminary report to outline the activities needed to develop the Middletown Rancheria Wetland Program Plan.

The intention of this program is to assess the wetlands present, monitor them over time and protect and /or restore wetland function and water quality. The plan will incorporate elements of the EPA Core Elements Framework (CEF).

Middletown Rancheria will collaborate it's efforts with all other parties involved with or interested in wetlands including local organizations, community groups, county, state, and federal agencies.

Definitions and terminology consistent with existing uses will be integrated into the final plan.

Middletown Rancheria lands are within the Upper Putah Creek Watershed. This plan will integrate a watershed view, illustrating Rancheria lands as a part of the watershed.

Middletown Rancheria will seek partnerships in the planning and implementation of the overall plan. Tribal policy will be developed strengthening community support. Outreach and education will be incorporated into the plan to involve MR residents as well as local members of the community.

## **REGULATION**

All appropriate regulations with regard to wetlands will be reviewed and any permits required for any of the actions proposed will be procured prior to commencement of work. This relates specifically to CA DFG (California Dept. of Fish & Game) 1600 streambed alteration permits and section 10 and 404 of the USACE (US Army Corps of Engineer) as well as CA RQCB (CA Regional Water Quality Control Board) . MR will seek CA State Water Quality Control Board (CSWQCB) section 401 certification under the Clean Water Act if a permit is found to be required.

## **GOAL**

*The intention of this program is to assess the wetlands present, monitor them over time and protect and /or restore wetland function and water quality.*



*Hoodoo Creek, Middletown Rancheria*

## **PLANNED ACTIONS**

### **FY 2011**

#### **1. Plan Development**

An overall action plan will be developed from which all planned actions will be carried out.

#### **2. Assessment**

Levels 1, 2, and 3 as outlined in US EPA Monitoring and Assessment guidelines (#1) will be utilized to assess wetland on Middletown Rancheria.

### **FY 2011-2012**

The first step is an overall assessment of Rancheria lands to located and document wetlands and riparian areas on the Middletown Rancheria. Assessment activities will be conducted over a one year time period.

**Action 1.a.** An overall assessment of Middletown Rancheria lands will be conducted to locate and identify existing wetlands. (Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.a.)

**Action 1.b.** Once identified, accepted delineation and assessment methods will be used to measure and quantify wetlands for this plan. ( Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.b.)

**Action 1.c.** A detailed assessment of wetlands will be conducted to collect data for all wetland/riparian areas identified. Data of each type, along with the current condition and function of all identified wetlands will be collected. Assessment efforts will be coordinated with all relevant parties. All pertinent data will be integrated into the plan. ( Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.c.)

#### **3. Monitoring**

Once wetlands have been identified, monitoring will be performed for 2 to 3 years in order to document wetland extent and function.

### **FY 2012-2014**

#### **Action 1.a.**

Reference sites will be identified that represent a baseline for protection and restoration efforts. (Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.a.)

#### **Action 1.b. and 1.c**

Assessment data will be integrated into monitoring efforts. Monitoring of the existence and extent of habitat as well as wildlife uses will be performed. A comprehensive monitoring plan will be developed for all wetland areas identified in the assessment. (Monitoring and Assessment 1.b.) A review of all existing data will be conducted and integrated into the plan. (Monitoring and Assessment 1.c.)

**Action 1.d.**

Monitoring of wetland water quality, with the goal of using the data collected to develop wetland water quality standards. (Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.d.)

**Action 1.e.**

An inventory of native plants and documentation of all non-native plants will be performed and monitored over time. Non-native and invasive plant density and a discussion of habitat vulnerability potential will be included. (Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.e.)

**Action 1.f.**

Impacts and influences to wetlands will be identified and recommendations for land use and reduction of impacts will be developed. (Monitoring and Assessment objective 1.f.)

**Action 1.g.**

Trends identified through monitoring efforts will be utilized to formulate restoration, wetland protection and enhancement plans. (Monitoring and Assessment 1.g.)

**4. Protection**

**Action 1.a.**

Monitoring data will also identify those areas that require protection measures. (Protection and restoration 1.a.)

**Action 1.b.**

A wetlands protection program will be developed to maintain and preserve existing wetlands on the Rancheria. (Protection and restoration 1.b.)

**5. Restoration**

Trends identified through monitoring efforts will be utilized to formulate restoration, wetland protection and enhancement plans.



Silt Laden Pond

## **FY 2015**

### **Action 1.c.**

Wetland areas found to be degraded will be evaluated for their potential to be restored. Invasive plants, hydrologic problems and erosion issues are some examples of restorable wetland degradation. (Protection and restoration 1.c.)

### **6. Water Quality**

#### **Action 1.d.**

Monitoring of surface water utilizing all relevant water quality criteria will be applied to wetlands on the Rancheria. Water quality standards developed in Action 2.b. Monitoring and Assessment will be applied in the formulation of management plans and wetland uses, restoration/mitigation plans and protection measures. (Protection and Restoration 1.d.)

**FY 2016**

**7. Reporting**

**Action 1.a.**

A final report containing all data and descriptions of all action items undertaken for the entire program period will be produced. ( Item 1.a. Reporting)

**Past Wetland Projects**

Middletown Rancheria planned and implemented a wetland restoration project on Rancheria lands in 2010. Please refer to attached plan "Middletown Rancheria Restoration and Erosion Control Plan, Kucci Wuwwe Creek, Reach 1A".

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Chris Simon, Environmental Director

