

## **Rancho Jamul Mitigation Bank San Diego County, California**

Wildlands, Inc. established the Rancho Jamul Mitigation Bank in fall of 2000 in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Rancho Jamul Mitigation Bank consists of approximately 150 acres of riparian and wetland habitat on a 3700-acre preserve site that has been identified in the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program as an important biological resource area. The project requires restoration of two creeks that have been significantly degraded by past grazing practices; project goals include reversing the erosional processes that threaten the integrity of the creeks and the hydrology of the adjacent meadows. Another major goal of the project is to establish nesting habitat for the least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii arizonae*), an endangered bird of the region.

Significant environmental benefits are already taking shape. Wildlands' monitoring results show continuing nesting by the least Bell's vireo. Creek banks and floodplains have been modified to reverse the erosional processes that threatened the creeks' integrity and restore wetland hydrology. Wetland, riparian, and oak woodland plantings are thriving. Land management staff dedicated to the Rancho Jamul project provide ongoing stewardship, funded by a substantial endowment fund, which is managed by the CDFG to protect the site in perpetuity.

About Wildlands: Wildlands, Inc. was the first private enterprise west of the Mississippi to be fully authorized to develop a commercial mitigation bank and sell credits



that compensate for lost wetland habitat. In addition to planning, permitting, and managing mitigation obligations, Wildlands staff create habitat construction designs, supervise habitat construction, and perform ecological monitoring and long-term land stewardship. Since its first project in 1994, Wildlands has established eleven other large-scale restoration and land preservation projects and manages thousands of acres of natural and restored lands. Wildlands is based in Rocklin, California and has regional offices in San Diego, Oakland, and the Seattle area.

Wildlands, Inc.  
3855 Atherton Blvd.  
Rocklin, CA 95765  
916-435-3555  
[www.wildlandsinc.com](http://www.wildlandsinc.com)