

GET PAID TO FLOOD YOUR FIELDS!

Transform your fields into habitat!

The BirdReturns-Farmlands Habitat program compensates growers for flooding their fields to provide critical habitat for waterbirds during their migration. By managing water depth and timing, private farmlands can meet critical habitat needs for a high diversity of migratory bird species.



WHY IS LATE SUMMER HABITAT IMPORTANT?

Migratory shorebirds begin arriving in the Central Valley in July and often have nowhere to stopover on long migrations. With 95% of historic wetlands gone and most ag lands in production during fall migration, there are few places where they can rest and refuel. After harvest, your ag fields can be managed post-harvest to provide crucial habitat when these birds need it most.

Connection with our ag lands

Over the past 11 years, BirdReturns has built strong partnerships with farmers in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Sacramento Valley to provide migratory bird habitat and help farmers diversify their revenue and support long-term viability of annual crops.

Visit our website at
BirdReturns.org



BirdReturns is managed by the Migratory Bird Conservation Partnership in partnership with the Delta Conservancy, with funding and support from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife .



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BirdReturns-Late Summer Farmlands Habitat Program

Applications NOW OPEN!
February 24–April 4, 2025 @ 11:59pm

Apply at [BirdReturns.org/programs/farmlands](https://birdreturns.org/programs/farmlands)

Flooding Requirements:

- Flooding Acreage: Minimum of 30 acres
- Flooding window: Provide habitat for 5 weeks between July 14 to September 30.
- Enrolled acreage must be fully flooded by the program start date
 - Weeks 1-3: Shallow flooding of ponded mud flats of max. 4 inches.
 - Weeks 4-5: Evaporative drawdown

Who is eligible?

- Farmers located in the Sacramento Valley and the Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta regions.
- Row or field crops where mud flats or shallow flooding can be maintained.



QUESTIONS? VISIT birdreturns.org OR CONTACT US:

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