



# CENTERPIECE OF THE PACIFIC FLYWAY

Sacramento Valley rice farms not only produce food, they also provide vital environmental benefits. Approximately 500,000 acres of rice fields in the region, in conjunction with 75,000 acres of managed wetlands, provide food and other habitat requirements for nearly 230 wildlife species. Together, Sacramento Valley rice farms and managed wetland habitats provide:

- Internationally recognized shorebird habitat
- Nearly six million waterfowl and hundreds of thousands of other waterbirds and wetland-dependent species
- More than a dozen raptor species, including owls, hawks and Bald Eagles
- 15 types of reptiles, including threatened Giant Garter Snakes
- Nearly all of the food for millions of migrating ducks and geese in the Sacramento Valley during the winter season

## Teamwork to help our environment

To maximize ricelands habitat, the California Rice Commission works with rice growers, conservation organizations and state and federal agencies to expand and enhance wildlife habitat on rice farms.

## Key initiatives include:

- Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- Waterbird Habitat Enhancement Program
- BirdReturns

