RESTORATION
KUULANAPO WETLAND PRESERVE

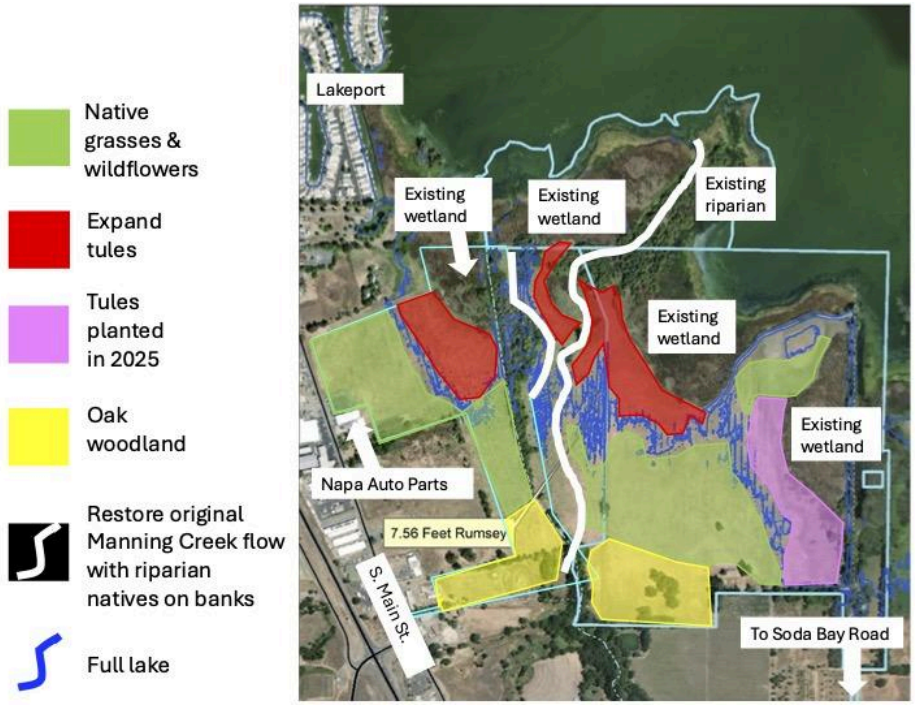
In early 2025 the Lake County Land Trust was awarded a $1.18 million grant to create a design to restore the Kuulanapo Wetland Preserve. The grant is administered by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and is funded through California Climate Investments. This project is a partnership with the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians whose traditional home includes the Preserve. Together we are partnering with experienced engineers and scientists at FlowWest LLC (https://www.flowwest.com/).

Over the next two years, this funding will enable the development of a fully engineered and permitted restoration design for the Preserve. Once implemented, restoration will provide more ecologically balanced habitats for the Preserves diverse wildlife including the threatened Clear Lake hitch.

One important focus area is a cutback waterfall on Manning Creek on the eastern Preserve that developed from flood and agricultural-related modifications to the land. During winters with average or modest rainfall, the waterfall is a daunting fish passage barrier for Clear Lake hitch, who are not skilled jumpers like salmon.

The funding will provide the needed resources for Lake County Land Trust staff, FlowWest engineers and biologists, and tribal partners to design a fully restored wetland, upstream tributary system, and upland habitat that will not only help the Clear Lake Hitch recover, but improve lake and stream shoreline habitat, provide for traditionally important cultural spaces for Lake County tribes, and improve lake water quality by utilizing the extensive wetland to capture and retain nutrient-rich sediment.

Kuulanapo Mapping



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In Partnership