



YOLO BASIN FOUNDATION

Mission

Expanding public appreciation and stewardship of wetlands and wildlife in the Yolo Basin through education and innovative partnerships.

Who We Serve

Since 1997, YBF has provided environmental education to more than 85,000 K-12 students and engages over 10,000 participants annually through tours and public programs. This program will specifically engage Title 1 schools and underserved communities, as well as local community organizations, which provides a broad spectrum of people.

Project: Mobile Visitor Center (MVC)

The Mobile Visitor Center (MVC) is a groundbreaking initiative designed to engage both urban and rural communities in wetland conservation by addressing the critical gap in public awareness and access to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. This project utilizes our recently acquired Zero Emission Vehicle, which has been custom-designed and outfitted to serve as a mobile platform for bringing hands-on environmental education directly to underserved communities. Ready for deployment, the MVC is now equipped to travel to the YBWA, neighborhoods, and events, providing opportunities for greater public engagement about the wetlands, particularly in areas where access to hands-on environmental education is limited.

How Grant Funds Will Be Used

- MVC operating costs
- Part-time Naturalist salary
- 50% Community Engagement Coordinator salary

How the Project is Transformational

In a region where less than 5% of historic wetlands remain, YBF programs are critical in building public understanding and long-term stewardship of this vital ecosystem. Funding will expand outreach to communities that have long been underserved and provide interesting programs to a variety of local community neighborhoods, government agencies and educational institutions. This outreach will inspire the next generation of environmental stewards while advancing long-term conservation of the Yolo Basis and critical wetlands.

Sustainability

By expanding the wetlands curricula throughout the Sacramento area with the MVC, YBF will engage people in environmental stewardship for the Foundation, ensuring that there are volunteers to sustain the programs for new generations. Through continued successful fundraising, YBF will ensure that the Mobile Visitor Center and its two staff will continue this ambassador program.

What is Unique About This Project

By connecting people to one of the region's most important landscapes supporting wildlife, flood protection, climate resilience, and agriculture, YBF advances critical community priorities including environmental conservation, climate adaptation, equitable access to nature, and public education. Ultimately, this project is an investment in both the environment and the people who will safeguard it.