



NFWF



**Walker Basin  
Restoration Program**

#### PRESS RELEASE

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) Walker Basin Restoration Program (WBRP) has successfully purchased the Stanley Ranch property, making this the tenth acquisition for the WBRP. Stanley Ranch is located at the north end of Mason Valley; it spans nearly 200 acres and includes one mile of the Walker River corridor.

The property is a key location for the WBRP as it connects the river corridor from the south end of the Nevada Department of Wildlife's Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area (MVWMA) through the Walker River Paiute Reservation all the way to Walker Lake. The property includes the Wabuska Gage, which will be a key monitoring station for both leased and acquired water. A NFWF caretaker will reside on the property to allow time for consultations with neighboring landowners, Walker Basin water managers and others.

NFWF previously acquired two ranches on the north end of Mason Valley that included river corridor and upland habitat. The acquired surface water from both of those ranches (and from other WBRP acquisitions) will be protected for the instream benefit of Walker River and Walker Lake, while the majority of the land (including the river corridor portion) has been donated to the State of Nevada's Department of Wildlife for annexation onto the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area under which it will be available for public recreation and conservation practices in perpetuity.

The Stanley Ranch purchase is the program's second ranch acquisition in 2013. It builds on a variety of WBRP efforts to work with willing landowners to acquire water, re-vegetate retired farmland, and reduce the overall water usage in the Basin while protecting agricultural, environmental and habitat interests in the Walker River Basin.

