



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## FISH AND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
(831) 454-3154 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

### AGENDA

November 3, 2016

7:00 PM

Board of Supervisors Chambers  
- Fifth Floor -

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS
5. PRESENTATIONS:
  - A. Presentation of Proclamation for Captain Don Kelly
  - B. Transportation for Santa Cruz County Stewards - O'Neill Sea Odyssey
  - C. CDFW CalTIP Program
  - D. Exploring the San Lorenzo River Series- Museum of Natural History and Coastal Watershed Council
  - E. Native Animal Rescue
  - F. Raising Awareness of Santa Cruz Counties' Ocean Conservation Efforts – California Marine Sanctuary Foundation
  - G. Snowy Plover Signage and Coastal Dune Enhancement at Seabright State Beach - State Parks
  - H. Watershed Conservation Hallway Display - County of Santa Cruz Water Resources Division
  - I. 2017 Salmonid Restoration Federation Support - Salmonid Restoration Federation
  - J. Invasive Weed Management through the Santa Cruz Weed Management Area - Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
  - K. Winter Preparedness Workshop for the South Santa Cruz County - Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County
6. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS (15 minutes)
7. BUSINESS MATTERS
  - A. Update on Fish and Game Propagation Fund (5 minutes)
  - B. Update on Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance (15 minutes)
  - C. Update on garbage in the Pajaro (5 minutes)
  - D. NOAA Fisheries released final Multi-Species Recovery Plan (10 minutes)  
The [recovery plan](#) and supporting materials are now posted, and be sure to check out our [website feature story](#).
  - E. Discuss and Approve 2017 Meeting Schedule
8. STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - A. Report on 2016 Juvenile Salmonid and Stream Habitat Monitoring Program (10 minutes)
  - B. FWAC annual report to review in December
9. CORRESPONDENCE
  - A. Grant Reports (see Item 8C)
  - B. Fish and Game Commission Notices
    - A. Notice of proposed regulatory action re: proposed penalty enhancements for illegal take of game
    - B. Notice of 15 day continuation for upland bird regulations
    - C. Notice of proposed regulatory action re: tribal take in north coast marine protected areas
    - D. Notice of proposed regulatory action re: extension of closure related to high domoic acid.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. The Planning Department Conference Room is located in an accessible facility. If you are a person with a disability and require special assistance in order to participate in the meeting, please contact Kristen Kittleson at (831)454-3154 or TDD number (454-2123) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.



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Fish and Game Advisory Commission

### MINUTES

Santa Cruz County Governmental Center  
Fifth Floor  
Santa Cruz, California

September 1, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM
2. ROLL CALL.

Present: Commissioners Berry, Robin, Johnson, Baron, Noyes, Shikuma,  
Excused: Frediani, Maridon, Freeman, Grant  
Absent: none

3. GUEST INTRODUCTIONS. Ed Schehl, Raindancer Media; Chris Coburn, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County and Sierra Ryan, County of Santa Cruz
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Commissioner Baron made a motion to approve the August 4, 2016 minutes; Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. All aye, the motion passed.
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS. Ed Schell thanked the commission for the funding to complete the Climate Change Hits Home: Santa Cruz video. The video is available through the website: [climatechangehitshome.com](http://climatechangehitshome.com)
6. PRESENTATIONS:
  - A. Chris Coburn, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County – Soquel Creek Streamflow Stewardship Project. The RCD received funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board for a planning and study grant to evaluate the most effective ways to improve streamflow in Soquel Creek. The RCD is partnering with Trout Unlimited. The study will focus on opportunities for off-stream storage, including ponds or tanks. The RCD is working again on an enhancement project for Scott Creek lagoon in connection with the Scott Creek Highway 1 Bridge Replacement. Just recently, ESA was chosen as a consultant to complete modelling and other studies for the restoration design. Chris also reported briefly on a number of projects that the RCD is constructing this season.
  - B. Sierra Ryan, County of Santa Cruz, reported that the County recently submitted a grant application to study conjunctive use within the San Lorenzo Valley Water District systems. Sierra also described the recently received grant to assist with planning in the Mid-County Groundwater Basin. The grant will focus on collecting information and communicating with private well pumpers in the basin who are not represented through the water districts.

7. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS. Lois Robin reported that Ken Reiller has identified an immense aquifer recharge area near Murphy's Crossing/Pajaro River and that a project to move the levees back in this area could greatly help with aquifer recharge. Commissioner Noyes provided some information about the Soberanes Fire in Big Sur.  
BUSINESS MATTERS
  - A. Public Grants Program and budget. Commissioner Shikuma made a motion to approve the Request for Proposals so that it reads "benefits native wildlife and habitats"; Commissioner Robin seconded the motion. All aye, the motion passed. At the last meeting, the commission voted to increase the funding amount for the Public Grants Program to \$15,000, which will be proposed in the Board letter with the grant funding recommendations
  - B. Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance letter to Board of Supervisors. The letter from the commission has been submitted to the CAO's office and will go to the Board later in September. Staff informed the commission that the State Water Boards sent a letter to the County regarding their proposed regulations.
  - C. Grant Reports. Reports from grant recipients were included in the agenda packet. Jordon Plotksy plans to complete the mountain lion video; staff will request another update in about 6 months.
  - D. General discussion of topics for upcoming meetings. There is interest in discussing the fish rescue program and requirements at the November meeting. Staff will ask Joe Kiernan, NOAA Fisheries, to present during the winter.
8. STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.
  - A. Stream habitat and juvenile salmonid monitoring has begun. In the San Lorenzo Watershed, juvenile steelhead numbers are low at some sites and ok at other sites.
9. CORRESPONDENCE
10. ADJOURNMENT - 8:55 PM.

NOTE: The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2016.  
Submitted by K. Kittleson; Water Resources/Fish and Wildlife/2016 Agenda and Minutes

**County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
GRANT APPLICATION**



1. Project Name: Transportation for Santa Cruz County Stewards
2. Amount of funding requested: \$1,500
3. Project Description: O'Neill Sea Odyssey (OSO) is requesting funding for bus transportation to assist Santa Cruz County classes to participate in its free, oceanography and environmental education program.
4. Project objectives and goals: Transportation for Santa Cruz County Stewards will provide bus transportation for three Santa Cruz County classes to enable them to participate in OSO.
5. Background and history of the problem: Most science lessons in elementary schools grades 4-6 do not have the exciting setting of the ocean as a living classroom. That is what that OSO provides, first using our field trip and secondly with ocean science curriculum that connects the ocean to what they learn in their own classroom. O'Neill Sea Odyssey began providing bus transportation funds in 2006 when a donor heard that some schools could not participate in our free field trip because they could not afford transportation to OSO. She provided grants of up to \$15,000 until 2010 when her financial circumstances changed. An increasing number of school classes have requested transportation scholarships, which are also, we have learned anecdotally, effective in the recruitment of classes from lower income schools. The scholarships will be provided to school districts to directly pay invoices for bus transportation. In the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2016, a year in which it served a total of 201 classes, or 5,242 students, OSO spent \$41,348.06 in bus costs for 78 classes, an average of \$530.10 per class. In the fiscal year (and school year) that ended on June 30, 2015 OSO spent \$33,615.86 on bus transportation for 67 classes, an average of \$501.73 per class. The average cost for Santa Cruz County is slightly less than it is for surrounding areas. O'Neill Sea Odyssey will grant bus scholarships until the grant is expended, and its grant report will include a list of bus invoices paid.
6. How will the project be accomplished: Transportation for Santa Cruz County Stewards will support bus scholarships for approximately 3 school classes, or up to 90 students, to participate in OSO. Schools can use bus transportation to get students to OSO's location at the Santa Cruz

Harbor but often can't pay for it. Teachers who apply to OSO can also request bus transportation funds under the "Transportation Scholarships" section of OSO's website. Once an application is received, the applying teacher is guided by OSO's Education Coordinator to select the most affordable available. OSO encourages classes from the same school to come the same day and share a bus, saving money. The criteria to determine eligibility are: a) schools with the highest percentage of free/reduced lunch subsidies have top priority, and b) schools with logistical challenges in arranging transportation have the next priority.

7. Budget.

Item	Requested	Match (OSO)	Match (Team O'Neill)	Total
Bus transportation	\$1,500	\$7,500		\$1,500
OSO Program Costs			\$5,100	\$12,600
TOTAL AMOUNTS	\$1,500	\$7,500	\$5,100	\$14,100

8. Timeline for completion: This request, if granted, would be expended from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018, to align with the Commission's funding timeline.

9. Background or history of your organization: O'Neill Sea Odyssey is an award-winning, hands-on, ocean-going science and environmental stewardship program aboard a 65-foot catamaran for 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The program includes three onboard learning stations: navigation, including compasses and triangulation; marine ecology, including the kelp forest, marine mammals, and human impacts on Monterey Bay; and marine biology, specifically examining and learning about plankton. These stations are complemented by three stations at an education center on land: navigation, including reading and plotting navigational charts; marine ecology, covering the water cycle, watersheds, and ocean pollution from land-based activities; and marine biology, where the plankton samples collected on the boat are examined further using microscopes. Teachers are provided with additional lessons they can implement before and after the trip, and each class completes a community service project.

The program is free of charge, but participating classes earn their trip by first completing an approved community service project such as the incubation of steelhead eggs, cleaning and restoring wetlands, or restoring sand dunes. Each May, OSO makes its application available to prospective school classes at [www.oneillseaodyssey.org](http://www.oneillseaodyssey.org) for the following school year. Classes are then scheduled and OSO works with each classroom teacher to undertake a community service project, ocean-going field trip, and in-classroom curriculum.

### **1.PROJECT NAME**

California Department of Fish & Wildlife CalTIP Program.

### **2. AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUESTED**

**\$1,000.00**

### **3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

CalTIP or “ Californians Turn in Poachers and Polluters” is a confidential secret witness program that encourages the public to provide the Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Enforcement Division (Wardens) with factual information leading to the arrest of poachers and polluters. Citizens report these potential violations by calling a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week telephone hotline. Calls are immediately referred to local enforcement agencies and /or local Wildlife Officers. The program offers undisclosed rewards of up to \$1,000.00 for tips which lead to a citation or arrest.

A reward may be requested by either the reporting party or by the Wildlife Officer involved in the case on behalf of the reporting party. It is only 1-3% of the individual’s reporting these violations who actually request a reward. The vast majority are more interested in protecting the State’s natural resource and seeing violators brought to justice. Many times the interface does not stop there. Wildlife Officers often relate that the reporting party remains in contact providing continued observation and/or information.

Reward request cases are reviewed quarterly by the 10 member volunteer CalTIP Rewards Committee (along with CDFW representative Lt. Mike Milotz) and evaluated as to their merit, considering the involvement of the reporting party, the impact on the resource (species or habitat), if the activity was cruel or inhumane, the impact on the local community, if the tip was a major breakthrough, if it was a one time or continuing activity, and the risk to the reporting party. Rewards generally average \$300, although a more egregious case could validate as much as \$1,000.00

Poaching is the illegal taking of fish and wildlife. It can involve hunting or fishing out of season, the taking of more fish or game animals than the law allows, and the illegal commercialization of species including abalone, sturgeon, bears, reptiles and many others. Equally devastating crimes include pollution of industrial and household waste, habitat destruction, and the insidious practice of transporting and introducing non-native undesirable fish (like northern pike and white bass) into California’s lakes and rivers. Just as much of a concern is Internet crime, which can involve the illegal sale, trading and bartering of wildlife. Illegal commercialization of wildlife is a multi-million dollar industry right here in California, and is valued at hundreds of millions worldwide. The illegal black market trafficking of wildlife could be eliminated if people would simply refuse to purchase wildlife parts.

Poachers/polluters devastate nature by breaking laws designed to assure proper wildlife management and species survival. Poaching is an insult to the vast majority of hunters and anglers who obey these laws. Because poaching is a crime of secrecy and stealth, it’s full

impact in California is impossible to fully identify. However, enough poaching is documented to realize that it exacts a very heavy toll.

#### **4. PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND GOALS**

The CalTIP objective is to substantially reduce poaching and polluting in California and to have the public's participation in the program. To successfully fight poaching and pollution, Fish and Wildlife Officers must have help from legitimate sportspersons, hunters, anglers, and concerned individuals who witness or become aware of a poaching or polluting incident. CDFW is making an effort to promote CalTIP not only to the hunting/fishing enthusiasts, but the overall outdoor recreationalist as well, hikers, sightseers, bikers, photographers, etc.

While California's natural resources are vast, a population of over 38 million puts a strain on preserving these resources. Laws intended for regulating and preserving these resources are violated regularly by careless and reckless individuals. It is through the coalition of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the CalTIP Rewards Committee, those who are financially supporting the CalTIP program, and perhaps most importantly, the public, that a strong community partnership is being built and that poaching and polluting no longer are a threat to California's wildlife and the habitat upon which they depend.

#### **5. BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF THE PROBLEM**

The CalTIP Program was developed in 1981 in response to growing concerns by the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the general public about the problems of poaching, polluting and wildlife crime in California. The Department recognized the challenge that 400 Wildlife Officers have of patrolling 159,000 square miles of terrain, 1,100 miles of coastline, 30,000 miles of rivers and streams, 4,800 lakes and reservoirs, 80 major rivers, 1,000 native fish and wildlife species, 6,300 native plant species and 360 threatened or endangered species. They need the public's help to be their eyes and ears. Wildlife Officers patrol on foot, by plane, boat, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and horseback. There is approximately one Wildlife Officer for every 100,000 constituents in California today.

The CalTIP program is sponsored, but not funded by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The rewards program is required to be self-supporting with funding typically coming from County Fish and Game Commissions, businesses, organizations and concerned individuals. All use of the grant funds are specifically used for the reward payments. The moneys will be used by the CalTIP Rewards Committee who will administer the money as a reward for citizens who report fish and game violations and/or pollution activities which lead to a citation or arrest. The CalTIP program is fully described on the Department's website at [www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov).



## **6. HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE ACCOMPLISHED (design specification or plans, if applicable)**

1. A citizen witnesses or becomes aware of a Fish and Game violation or act of polluting.
2. He/she calls 1-888- DFG-CALTIP (888-334-2258) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with factual information. Or the informant may submit anonymous tips to CDFW using **tip411. tip411** an internet based tool from Citizen Observe.com that enables the public to text message an anonymous tip to wildlife officers. Additionally, CDFW has launched a CalTIP smartphone application which similarly enables the public to share an anonymous tip and/or photograph with wildlife officers, both of which lets officers converse anonymously with the tipster.
3. A report is taken by the dispatcher.
4. The information is relayed to the CDFW region where the alleged offence occurred and an investigation is undertaken locally.
5. A officer investigates the report (often with the continued assistance of the reporting party) and depending on the circumstances, may either issue a warning, write a citation or make an arrest.
6. If the information supplied by the caller leads to a citation or arrest, the caller is eligible for a reward.
7. The reporting party (caller) may request a reward or the officer involved in the case may make a recommendation for a reward on behalf of the caller.
8. The case is then reviewed by a volunteer citizen's group known as the "CalTIP Rewards Committee". Reward amounts are determined by noting the circumstances and the assistance rendered by the caller. The CalTIP Rewards committee determines if a reward will be paid and for how much.
9. The CalTIP rewards come entirely from donations, no state funds are used. The CalTIP Rewards Committee, not CDFW, both receive and administers these funds.

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The Department's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) will begin marketing CalTIP more towards pollution and not just hunting/fishing. OSPR will be promoting CalTIP as the primary way to report inland petroleum spills. Currently they only have 1-800-Oil-s911 for marine spills.

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### THREE 2016 SANTA CRUZ CO CASES FROM THE CalTIP FILES

1. 4-7-16. "1440 Multiversity" multi- millionaire building on Carbonera Creek, near Scotts Valley, without a 1602 and causing multiple bank collapses and creek pollution.
2. 8-24-16. An RP called to report multiple exotic taxidermy was for sale out of the back of a truck at a flea market. The suspect had a zebra skin, leopard skin, bear skull and claws, and a juvenile red tail hawk mount all for sale.
3. Warden Chris Foster and Lt. Schindler responded to a CalTIP where a Black-Crowned Night Heron was shot with a pellet pistol at the Santa Cruz Harbor. They were able to track down the suspect rather easily, since the RP took a photo of the suspect's vehicle and license plate. He was cited for FGC 3800(a), unlawful take of a non-game bird.



**WILDLIFE OFFICERS TOTAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, 2015 THROUGH JULY 2016**

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HRS WORKED-----11,077  
CONTACTS -----13,525  
WARNINGS -----695  
CITATIONS-----185  
PHYSICAL ARREST-----118

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CALTIP'S 2015 THROUGH JULY 2016**

HRS WORKED-----112  
CONTACTS-----137  
WARNINGS-----16  
CITATIONS-----1  
PHYSICAL ARREST-----5

**DEPARTMENTS EFFORTS ENFORCING CALTIP'S STATE WIDE 2015 THROUGH JULY 2016**

HRS WORKED-----3,302  
CONTACTS-----4,090  
WARNINGS-----396  
CITATIONS-----226  
PHYSICAL ARREST-----36

**7. BUDGET (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies) SPECIFY IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS COMMITTED TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT.**

CalTIP does not utilize a budget, rather reward amounts are determined and established upon the current dollar amount available that has been contributed to the program at time of consideration. The following spreadsheet would be an anticipated yearly budget estimate for 2017.

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CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE OFFICERS FOUNDATION  
 CALTIP DONATIONS AND REWARDS  
 JULY 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 2016

<b>DONORS (BY COUNTY)</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013*</b>
	Department of Fish & Game	1,720.06		0.00	1,720.06	0.00
	County of Monterey	3,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
	County of Nevada	600.00		200.00	400.00	0.00
	County of San Diego	3,000.00		1,000.00	2,000.00	0.00
	County of San Luis Obispo	250.00		0.00	250.00	0.00
**	County of Santa Clara	1,000.00		0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	County of Santa Cruz	800.00		800.00	0.00	0.00
	Chico Area Flyfishers, Inc.	200.00		0.00	200.00	0.00
	United Way	148.99	16.98	50.53	71.40	10.08
	Private Individual	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>		<b>15,719.05</b>	<b>1,016.98</b>	<b>8,050.53</b>	<b>5,641.46</b>	<b>1,010.08</b>
<b>REWARDS (BY COUNTY)</b>						
	County of Butte	1,650.00	500.00	350.00	800.00	0.00
	County of El Dorado	350.00		350.00	0.00	0.00
	County of Humboldt	300.00		300.00	0.00	0.00
	County of Kern	600.00		0.00	600.00	0.00
	County of Lake	650.00	400.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
	County of Lassen	1,000.00		0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	County of Mendocino	500.00		0.00	0.00	500.00
	County of Merced	50.00		50.00	0.00	0.00
	County of Modoc	550.00		400.00	150.00	0.00
	County of Monterey	250.00		0.00	250.00	0.00
	County of Nevada	150.00		150.00	0.00	0.00
	County of Plumas	650.00	500.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
	County of Sacramento	200.00		200.00	0.00	0.00
	County of San Benito	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	County of San Diego	2,650.00	600.00	200.00	750.00	1,100.00
	County of San Mateo	200.00		0.00	0.00	200.00
	County of Santa Clara	500.00		0.00	500.00	0.00
	County of Tehama	200.00		0.00	200.00	0.00
	County of Tulare	450.00	250.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
	County of Ventura	600.00		0.00	500.00	100.00
	County of Yolo	100.00		0.00	0.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL REWARDS</b>		<b>11,850.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,150.00</b>	<b>4,200.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b>NET</b>		<b>3,869.05</b>	<b>-1,483.02</b>	<b>5,900.53</b>	<b>1,441.46</b>	<b>-1,989.92</b>
* July through December 2013						
** County has been invoiced as requested, but check has not been received.						

## **8. TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION**

Since 1981, The Department of Fish and Wildlife CalTIP program has provided a way for the public to anonymously report (poaching / pollution). Through the ongoing support and use of the program and it's partnership between the community and the Department of fish and Wildlife, CalTIP will continue to provide an endless resource for the public to report these violations and maintain the essentials for wildlife and it's habitat into the future. 2016 marks the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CalTIP program. CDFW will be making a marketing promotion thanking the public for their support and participation in this ongoing program.

## **9. BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF YOUR ORGANIZATION**

Since 1995 the Santa Cruz County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission has been a strong supporter and has made grant funding available to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife CalTIP program. The CalTIP program was directed and operated from it's inception by the CalTIP Citizens Review Board and then followed by the CalTIP Foundation. As of June 30, 2013 the 33 year old CalTIP program dedicated to supporting efforts to bring poacher and polluters to justice merged with the California Wildlife Officers Foundation (CWOFF), a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that supports officers in times of special need, further described at [www.calwof.org](http://www.calwof.org).

The merge of CalTIP and CWOFF stemmed from a shared appreciation that the goals of the two organizations were similar and a shared desire to work together to strengthen the capacity of those who protect California's natural resources. The CWOFF board of directors have created a subordinate committee (CalTIP Rewards Committee) to review and administer the CalTIP Rewards program. This committee has been giving financial rewards to witnesses who have reported poaching and polluting violations through the state's CalTIP hotline 1 888 DFG-CALTIP.

The CalTIP program can be found on the Department of Fish and Wildlife website. Both the phone line and more fully described at [www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
GRANT APPLICATION 2016

1. Project name: **Exploring the San Lorenzo River Series**

2. Amount of funding requested

\$4000

*For each of the following sections, give a brief description:*

3. Project Description

The Coastal Watershed Council (CWC) and Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History (SCMNH) will collaborate on a series of free educational walks and a BioBlitz event along the San Lorenzo River to educate the community about this important wildlife habitat and inspire stewardship. This collaboration brings together two successful programs previously supported by the County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Commission: SCMNH's "Birding Along the San Lorenzo River Walk Series" and CWC's "Ecosystem Expeditions."

In the Exploring the San Lorenzo River series, CWC and SCMNH will coordinate weekly walks along the San Lorenzo River for school aged children and their families. Birders, wildlife specialists, fisheries biologists and water quality scientists will guide participants in interactive studies of the birds, fish and other wildlife of the lower San Lorenzo River. Participants will learn to identify species, learn about their life cycles, habitats and behavior. They will also learn about the impacts of humans on their ecosystems. CWC and SCMNH will support this on site learning with activities and games that help students and their families retain knowledge and see their position along and role in this diverse urban river ecosystem.

Building on our organizations' combined experience in environmental education, the Exploring the San Lorenzo River series will provide unique educational experiences inspired by best practices in outdoor education, including hands-on exploration, student-led learning, and opportunities to apply knowledge. The walks will build positive memories that connect youth and their families to nature, and foster a sense of responsibility for the health and quality of native fish and wildlife habitats. Attendees will leave each tour with clarity on what actions they can take to preserve and protect San Lorenzo River habitat.

A BioBlitz event will conclude the Explorations of the San Lorenzo River series on the morning of Earth Day. Using the California Academy of Sciences' popular free data collection program, iNaturalist, BioBlitz participants will conduct biological surveys along the San Lorenzo River and put to use the identification skills and ecological knowledge they have acquired throughout the series. We will invite and encourage past tour participants and Earth Day attendees to participate in this BioBlitz and join a global community of citizen scientists.

According to the California Academy of Sciences, “Bioblitzes not only help land managers build a species list and atlas for their park and provide invaluable data for researchers, they also highlight the incredible biodiversity in these...oases.” Participating in a BioBlitz is a popular way for communities to learn together, connect with their local ecosystems and take part in conserving it.

#### 4. Project objectives and goals

**Goals:** As members of the San Lorenzo River Alliance, CWC and SCMNH work together to reconnect a healthy San Lorenzo watershed to a vibrant community. It is our collective goal to educate the public about the river and raise awareness of the river’s integral role in the health of our community and the ecosystems it supports. Through the Alliance, we provide Santa Cruzans opportunities for exploration and discovery in the riverine ecosystem. We also strive to reframe the river as a space for community gathering and recreation, and inspire pride of this ecosystem and community resource. The Exploring the San Lorenzo River series is an example of how educational events model positive engagement around the river. We aim to inspire and equip participants to take action and engage with efforts to support the health of the San Lorenzo River ecosystem.

**Objective:** The Museum and CWC will host 10 bird, fish and wildlife tours and one culminating BioBlitz, along the San Lorenzo River from February to April 2017, bringing 250 school age youth and family members to visit the river and learn about local wildlife in this habitat. Attendees will also discuss actions they can take to preserve and protect the ecosystem, such as cleaning up after pets, conserving water and participating in stewardship projects that directly impact the riverine ecosystem, such as invasive removal and trash clean-ups.

#### 5. Background and history of the problem

The San Lorenzo River is an integral part of Santa Cruz’s history, public health and local economy and is the primary source of drinking water for nearly 100,000 people. It is home to threatened steelhead trout and endangered Coho salmon and local and migratory bird species. Yet Santa Cruzans have a mixed relationship with the San Lorenzo River and its riverfront parks with specific concerns of public safety and accessibility of the river for positive uses. In order to better make informed decisions and to take daily actions that support the mutual health of humans and wildlife, we must build a positive association with this habitat.

The Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History and the Coastal Watershed Council have been working together for a healthy San Lorenzo River in direct partnership since the formation of the San Lorenzo River Alliance in 2013.

The Museum’s mission is to connect people with nature and inspire stewardship of the natural world. Annually it serves over 3,000 students and their parents through its Science In Nature Experiences field trips alone, plus thousands more visitors to the Museum only half a mile away from the San Lorenzo River. CWC’s mission is to preserve and protect coastal watersheds through community stewardship, education and monitoring. CWC

engages hundreds of volunteers each year in habitat restoration and water quality monitoring and teaches 2,500 students and their parents about the San Lorenzo River watershed. With the combined expertise in science, education, outreach and stewardship, this collaboration introduces students of all ages to their San Lorenzo River watershed.

Over the past two seasons of the Birding Along the San Lorenzo River Series, and last year's Ecosystem Expeditions, we heard time and time again that people want to get to know the river but are hesitant or unsure of how to do so on their own. With recent incidences of crime and a history of unhealthy water, the reputation of the river suffers. In combination with this negative reputation, the lack of positive uses for the Riverwalk is discouraging to those who may be curious. Through feedback from attendees and ongoing community engagements, CWC and the Museum have identified the following opportunities that can be addressed through the Exploring the San Lorenzo River Series:

- Many members of the community are curious about the Santa Cruz Riverwalk and express interest in formal events that demonstrate how to enjoy the riverside park and paths, that attract people of all ages and that teach people something new. These events often bring people to visit the Riverwalk for the very first time.
- By bringing more people to the Riverwalk to exercise, view wildlife and socialize, we energize the park, making everyone feel more safe and familiar so they might begin to experience this area on a regular basis outside of formal events.
- Introducing activities such as birding, looking for aquatic organisms or collecting water quality data helps the community feel a connectedness to the river and can spark interest in protecting local wildlife.
- Connecting best management practices that individuals can implement to their direct environmental benefit inspires people and increases the likelihood that families will take direct action to benefit local fish and wildlife habitat.

6. How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable)

In Exploring the San Lorenzo River series, the CWC and SCMNH provide a window into the natural world for youth and their families; an eye-opening experience that will increase their awareness and change the way they identify with the San Lorenzo River ecosystem. This awareness is the first step to cultivating care and a sense of stewardship for the environment.

By offering these free of charge and family friendly activities, we will provide opportunities for diverse families to explore the river and their community. We know that educational programming that focuses on hands-on engagement and outdoor exploration are most impactful. With this in mind we will create educational walks that emphasize participant engagement throughout, with activities such as participating in bird counts, using a model to understand how the watershed connects us to the river, or handling artifacts that show animal adaptations. Each tour will create memories of youth and families having fun in nature that incentivize further participation in additional river-centric events. With this in mind, the walks are formatted as a series as multiple exposures have greater cumulative learning benefits than one-off lessons.

In order to reach a broad network of Santa Cruz school aged youth and their parents, CWC



and SCMNH will “cross-pollinate” Exploring the San Lorenzo River series with our existing education programs. Walks will be offered to biology classes, youth programs, and spring break camps led by SCMNH and CWC for local school-aged children. Walks will be promoted through our combined education programming in more than 70 schools. By promoting this series to community partners like Nueva Vista, Oikonos, and the Bird School that cater to families, as well as to students of both CWC and SCMNH school programs, we will reach a broad range of area families.

The SCMNH and CWC will:

- Collaborate to coordinate 10 weekly walks from February to April 2017 and one culminating BioBlitz on Saturday, April 22, 2017, on Earth Day.
- Develop activities and curriculum appropriate for engaging youth.
- Coordinate event logistics with the experts leading the walks.
- Support walks with activities and games both throughout and as wrap-up activities to engage youth and support the lessons provided by these experts.
- Design and distribute promotional materials including:
  - print advertisements,
  - a webpage specific for the series,
  - social media engagement including with BioBlitz/iNaturalist networks, utilizing both organization’s networks and mailing lists, and
  - speaking directly with students and their parents and teachers during CWC and SCMNH school, after school and spring break programs.
- Process registrations and confirmations for up to 250 participants.
- Secure appropriate City of Santa Cruz event permits, participant waivers, etc.
- Facilitate the events by checking in participants, providing support and assurance for positive learning experiences for families and ensure safety of participants.
- Informally survey event attendees to assess learning outcomes then share further opportunities to engage with the San Lorenzo River and Santa Cruz Riverwalk.

7. Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project.

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History			
Staff Time – Education Manager (50 hours)	\$1170	\$230	\$1400
Staff Time – Museum Programs Coordinator (40 hours)	\$400	\$320	\$720
Mileage	\$30	\$0	\$30
Coastal Watershed Council			

Staff Time – River Scientist	\$1570	\$550	\$2120
Mileage	\$30	\$0	\$30
General			
Honoraria for Expert Guides (\$50 each)	\$550	\$0	\$550
Program supplies (binoculars, microscopes, name tags, signage, educational activity materials)	\$150	\$250	\$400
Advertising (print, radio, online)	\$100	\$150	\$250
<b>TOTAL AMOUNTS</b>	<b>\$4000</b>	<b>\$1500</b>	<b>\$5500</b>

8. Timeline for completion

Program planning will take place November - December 2016 and will include coordinating and scheduling guest speakers, applying for permits, developing promotional materials, and designing curriculum for youth engagement and the BioBlitz.

This 11-week series (including 10 weekly walks and one BioBlitz) will begin on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Walks will occur weekly on Saturday mornings except for a weekday walk during spring break camp (April 3-7). The final BioBlitz event will be held on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22. Earth Day organizers are aware of the proposed event and are eager to promote it as part of a suite of city-wide Earth Day activities.

Following the Explore the San Lorenzo River Series, we will share our observations and data publicly so that people can continue to learn about and engage with the San Lorenzo River ecosystem.

9. Background or history of your organization

Founded in 1905, the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History is a community-supported 501(c)3 nonprofit which has been independent from the City of Santa Cruz since 2009. The Museum is dedicated to its mission of connecting people with nature and inspiring stewardship of the natural world. It provides engaging exhibits and educational programs on the diverse

cultural and natural history of the Santa Cruz region for both children and adults throughout the year. The Museum's education team is currently working with a network of environmental educators and district leaders from around the Monterey Bay to ensure that their youth programs meet the needs of students, teachers, and the local community. Its field-based experiences all support new science standards and emphasize foundational science practices and critical thinking skills that support success both academically and beyond.

The Coastal Watershed Council (CWC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit, was formed in 1995 in response to the declining health of watersheds connected to the Monterey Bay. CWC's mission is to preserve and protect coastal watersheds through stewardship, education and monitoring. Over the past 21 years, CWC has educated thousands of students and trained thousands of volunteers to protect the natural resources along California's Central Coast. CWC's technical experts follow state and federal protocols to generate scientifically valid data that inform key decision-makers. CWC's history has positioned us as well-respected leaders in watershed protection.

County of Santa Cruz Fish and Game Advisory Commission  
GRANT APPLICATION 2016

1. Project name: Wildlife Rehabilitation
  
2. Amount of funding requested: \$2,000 (8% of Direct Costs for Wildlife Rehabilitation)

*For each of the following sections, give a brief description:*

3. Project Description: Treatment and rehabilitation of injured, sick and orphaned native animals of Santa Cruz County, with the ultimate goal of release back into the wild.
  
4. Project objectives and goals: NAR provides the community with a place to bring injured and orphaned wildlife. Experienced rehabbers care for the animals (around the clock when necessary) until the animals are ready to be released back to their natural habitat. NAR strives to have a high release rate.
  
5. Background and history of the problem: Native animals are injured and orphaned mainly by the actions of people and their pets. When people find an animal that needs help, they are glad to know they can bring it to NAR where experienced rehabbers will take care of it. Rescue volunteers also pick up distressed animals and transport them to our center.
  
6. How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable):  
NAR provides an emergency room/intake center open 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm (or until dark in winter). Since animal techs live on the property, animals are often received after hours as well. Animals are evaluated on arrival and their injuries treated. The animal's care and treatment plan is determined, including a specialized diet specific to their species and age. Many animals are cared for at our intake center, while some receive care off-site by rehabbers knowledgeable about a specific species. The animals are cared for until they are deemed capable of living in the wild, and then are released to a suitable habitat.  
Several veterinarians provide services to NAR for free or for a nominal amount. We do have to pay for vaccinations and medications. NAR works directly with 911 emergency, local law enforcement, lifeguard, animal services, and park personnel, who bring animals to us. We also receive animals from the general public, and have volunteers who rescue animals in response to phone calls.

7. Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project:

Item	Funds (8%) Requested	Match (92%) Contribution	Total Amount
Food Costs for Wildlife	1,424	16,376	17,800
Medication & Vet Service	352	4,048	4,400
Wildlife Supplies	224	2,576	2,800
Totals	2,000	23,000	25,000

With an increase in the number of animals received by NAR over the past two years, we are asking for help to pay for the expanded costs associated with rehabbing this larger number of wildlife. Food costs are one of our greatest expenses due to the specialized food needed. This year the expenses for feeding Raptors and Canids has escalated because we've had a significant increase in the numbers of those species (Owls, Hawks, Coyotes & Fox). The price of frozen rodents we feed them is also extremely high. (We can no longer get free rodents from the SF Zoo as in the past). We also purchase fish for the seabirds, formula for the baby mammals, mealworms, various bird seed, Ensure, nutritional supplements, etc. The expense "Medication and Vet Service" include the costs of vaccines, antibiotics, de-wormers, etc. Again this expense increased due to the higher number of Canids, Skunks, and Racoons in our care. "Wildlife Supplies" include paper products, vet wrap, laundry and cleaning supplies, gloves, etc. We also had to purchase more cardboard pet carrier boxes (used primarily to transport seabirds).

Funding for 92% of our costs (\$23,000) is provided from the following sources:

Vincent J. Coates Foundation Grant	\$ 8,000
New Leaf Markets (enviro-tokens for bags)	\$ 4,000
City of Santa Cruz	\$ 3,600
City of Capitola	\$ 1,176
General Public	\$ 6,224

8. Timeline for completion: Requested funding is for one year.

9. Background or history of your organization: Since 1980, Native Animal Rescue (NAR) has treated between 1,300- 2,700 animals every year. NAR is the only organization in Santa Cruz County licensed by the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife to rehabilitate wild animals from this area. Trained staff and volunteers answer phone calls, rescue, intake, assess, and rehabilitate animals, both at our main intake center and several off-site foster homes. NAR also provides educational displays and talks at events and in classrooms, stressing how we can coexist peacefully with the wildlife in our area. NAR has training workshops on both rescue and rehabilitation procedures. We are actively engaged in media outreach through e-newsletters, Facebook, and our website [www.nativeanimalrescue.org](http://www.nativeanimalrescue.org). Our website gives instruction on handling distressed wildlife, as well as other wildlife resources. NAR produces two printed newsletters a year, and other informative flyers. NAR receives funding from the general public, foundations, trusts, local and state governments.

County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
**GRANT APPLICATION**

County of Santa Cruz Fish and Game Advisory Commission  
**GRANT APPLICATION 2016**

1. *Project name*

**Raising awareness of Santa Cruz Counties' ocean conservation efforts**

2. *Amount of funding requested-* \$2000

3. *Project Description*

The California Marine Sanctuary Foundation proposes to leverage existing outreach and education materials to increase awareness of local ocean conservation efforts in Santa Cruz County. The purpose of this project is to provide businesses (kayak and surf shops, waterfront restaurants, charter boats, etc.) and partners the tools needed to raise awareness of our local ocean conservation issues. This project will reproduce and disseminate educational materials including: (1) waterproof, tear-proof fishing brochures for ocean users (fishers, kayakers, boaters); (2) laminated replicas of local marine maps highlighting state and federal protected areas, (3) laminated replicas of a poster celebrating California's leadership in ocean conservation. First, existing regulatory brochures produced in collaboration with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will be reprinted. Used by ocean recreation businesses, CDFW enforcement personnel and State Parks, these tri-fold brochures with fold out maps are out of stock and have been requested by many waterfront locations and organizations in Santa Cruz. Second, laminated replicas of the coastal protection regulatory panels are invaluable resources for enforcement officers, rangers and staff at ocean recreation businesses. Thirdly, laminate replicas of the ocean conservation poster are popular for use at waterfront businesses, interpretive centers, schools and more. Funds will be used to reprint and distribute materials into the hands of Santa Cruz waterfront businesses, local law enforcement (CDFW, lifeguards), State Parks, non-profits and more. Outreach will be conducted and products disseminated to local businesses and other points of interest at the wharf, Boardwalk and Santa Cruz Harbor. Staff will be given suggestions for use and integration of the materials into their existing outreach. This project has the potential to yield a high benefit at a low cost. Please see Appendix for photos of each product.

4. *Project objectives and goals*

**Goals:**

- To increase awareness of California's statewide network of marine protected areas
- To educate underserved and diverse audiences about California's ocean conservation efforts.
- Provide educational tools for coastal and marine conservation outreach

- To help support enforcement officials in the field

**Objectives:**

- Distribute 550 waterproof, tear-proof brochures to Santa Cruz County ocean recreation businesses, state parks and CDFW enforcement personnel
- Distribute laminated replicas of interpretive materials for use by docents, outreach staff, enforcement officials.

5. *Background and history of the problem*

Passed into state law in 1999, the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) directed the state of California to redesign and manage a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) in order to protect marine life and habitats, marine ecosystems, and marine natural heritage. The MLPA was also meant to improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance. The California network of MPAs now stretches from Oregon to the Mexico border, encompassing 124 protected areas, and serves as a testament to the power of committed political leadership and strength of a collaborative public process.

Nevertheless, the challenges of implementation remain and few resources are available to increase public awareness. Most Californians are not aware of the leadership role our state is playing in conserving our ocean, however, California leads the nation in safeguarding our ocean habitats and marine life. Santa Cruz, a gateway to the Monterey Bay, identifies itself as an eco-conscious destination for ocean aficionados. There are numerous ocean recreation businesses, State Parks, non-profits and interpretive centers that could benefit with low cost educational tools at their disposal.

6. *How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable)*

CMSF would be in charge of reprinting of materials and identifying proper recipients. Once materials are re-printed, CMSF will conduct outreach and teach recipients of materials' suggestions for use. Multiple local partners including Save Our Shores, Sanctuary Exploration Center, State Parks, Seymour Center, O'Neill and others will disseminate materials to the public.

7. *Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project.*

The requested budget for this project is \$2000.

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
Santa Cruz waterproof brochure printing (550)	\$1293.29		\$1293.29
Laminate Poster Replica (20) @\$6 each	\$120.00		\$120.00
	\$120.00		\$120.00



Laminate Harbor Panel Replica (20) @\$6 each			
Outreach and Distribution	\$166.71	\$500 In-Kind	\$666.71
Management and Administration (15% of Total)	\$300.00		\$300.00
TOTAL AMOUNTS	\$2000	\$500	\$2500

#### 8. Timeline for completion


Project will be complete by June 2016?

#### 9. Background or history of your organization

The California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (CMSF), established in 1995, has played a crucial leadership role in supporting ocean conservation in California. We focus our efforts on community outreach, education, research, and resource protection for conserving and protecting the extraordinary environment and resources of coastal protected areas, marine sanctuaries, and reserves in California. By adhering to our strict policy to maintain a very high ratio of program expenses to management, administration, and fundraising fees, we have been able to ensure more unity across units, better integration of information, and greater impacts. Our successes are often attributed to the private/public innovative partnerships that we cultivate. This proposal would allow CMSF to build upon previous investments in Santa Cruz County and fill a missing niche by providing businesses and agencies the necessary tools to teach the public about local ocean conservation.

# Santa Cruz MPA Materials

## Harbor Brochure



To protect, maintain, enhance and restore California's marine ecosystems for their ecological values and their use and enjoyment by the public through good science and effective communication.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Marine Region

**Santa Cruz Harbor**  
(831) 475-6143 or  
scph@santacruzharbor.org  
www.santacruzharbor.org

California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
www.dfw.ca.gov

For boatowners and regulations go to:  
www.dfw.ca.gov/marine/DFW

Help stop poaching & polluting, call  
1-888-493-6244 (62273)


Report lost fishing gear:  
1-888-493-6244 (62273)  
or  
www.lostfishinggear.org

This publication is available in  
alternate formats by contacting  
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation  
831-647-6209  
or info@montereybay.org

Also Name: Santa Marine Conservation Area  
Greyhound Rock State Marine Conservation Area  
National Elephant Seals Marine Reserve  
Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve  
Herring Gull Slough State Marine Reserve  
Sequoia Canyon State Marine Conservation Area  
Petaluma Channel State Marine Conservation Area

**A Guide to  
Fishing and Marine  
Protected Areas**


**Santa Cruz Harbor**



**California Marine Protected Areas**  
The California statewide MPA network includes four different types of MPAs that vary in their purposes and levels of protection, ranging from limited to include. The MPA designations are:

- State Marine Reserves (SMR):** No damage or take of living, geologic, or cultural marine resources is allowed.
- State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA):** No commercial take of resources is allowed, but some recreational take may be allowed (restrictions vary).
- State Marine Recreational Management Area (SMRMA):** Some recreational and/or commercial take of marine resources may be allowed (restrictions vary).
- State Marine Recreational Management Area (SMRMA):** Restricts the take of living marine resources while allowing for waterfowl hunting to occur (restrictions vary).

**Santa Cruz Harbor Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)**



MPA	Allowed Uses
National Elephant Seals and Herring Gull Slough	Take of all living marine resources is prohibited.
Alio Nuevo	Commercial take of giant kelp by hand.
Greyhound Rock	Recreational and commercial take of salmon, steel and giant kelp by hand. Recreational take of lobster by hook and line from shore only.
Herring Gull Slough	Recreational take of clams on north shore of slough near the Head Landing Wildlife Area only and fishing by hook and line.
Sequoia Canyon	Recreational and commercial take of orange fish.

**Regulations**  
This document does not replace the official regulatory language found in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 632.

**A Fishing License is required for any fishing.**  
All existing take requirements still apply in addition to the areas listed above.  
\*Other means to fish, gillnet, trawl, capture or kill fish, mollusks, or crustaceans, or attempting to do so.

**Fishing and California's Marine Protected Areas**

**What are Marine Protected Areas?**  
Marine protected areas (MPAs) are special designated underwater areas, similar to the nation's parks, forests and wilderness areas on land, that prohibit or limit the take of marine life.

**Why does California need MPAs?**  
MPAs are proven tools for protecting, enhancing and restoring marine life. MPAs foster healthy habitats and cultural diversity, safeguarding the ocean's bounty for the economic and recreational opportunities of future generations.

**How many MPAs are in California?**  
California was the first state in the nation to establish a statewide network of MPAs. There are now 124 MPAs from the border of Oregon down to Mexico. These MPAs protect a variety of key habitats and line protected areas along the coast.

**Is Fishing Allowed in MPAs?**  
Fishing and the take of marine life such as shellfish or seaweed is not allowed in about half of California's marine protected areas. An inset map of local MPAs with their regulations is provided in this brochure.

**MPAs & Fishing Regulations**  
Scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone or other internet enabled device to visit the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife's MPA mobile website. The website allows you to search for information about MPA boundaries and regulations. You can also use your GPS location to locate the closest MPAs and determine whether or not you are currently in an MPA.

**Go Fishing**  
Recreational & Commercial Fishing information:  
phone: 831-649-2870  
website: www.dfw.ca.gov/marine/fishing

Recreational Groundfish "hotline"  
831-649-2881  
Recreational Salmon "hotline"  
707-576-3429



## MPA Poster

**TURNING THE TIDE  
CALIFORNIA'S UNDERWATER PARKS**

California leads the nation in safeguarding our ocean habitats and marine life. New hope is being secured for ocean ecosystems as California's network of marine protected areas, or underwater parks, establishes safe havens for our future.

**COASTAL TREASURES**

- Special places such as kelp forests, rocky reefs, and coastal wetlands.
- Over 124 state marine protected areas and special closure zones (16% of California's coastal waters).
- Homes for sea otters and elephant seals, rockfish and garibaldi, abalone and spiny lobsters and millions of other marine organisms.
- Improved opportunities for research, recreation, exploration and education.



## Harbor Panel

**Conserving California's Coastal Treasures**

California's marine protected areas (MPAs) conserve, restore, and improve the health of our oceans, similar to national parks and forests on land. The California MPA network includes MPAs and other protected areas. Each area is unique in its purpose and allowed uses.

Protected areas around Santa Cruz Harbor are:

- National Elephant Seals, Elkhorn Slough, and Mono Cape Slough State Marine Reserves (SMR)  
No take, damage, injury or possession of any living geologic or cultural resource is allowed.
- Alio Nuevo, Greyhound Rock, Sequoia Canyon, Elkhorn Slough, and Petaluma Ledge State Marine Conservation Areas (SMCA)  
Some recreational and/or commercial take of marine resources may be allowed.

MPAs - Good for the Ocean, Good for You!  
Know the Rules Before You Head Out.

For Ocean Fishing Laws and Regulations go to:  
www.dfw.ca.gov/marine/regulations

For MPA boundaries, maps, coordinates, and allowed uses, go to:  
www.dfw.ca.gov/marine/mpa

Santa Cruz Harbor:  
(831) 475-6143

Report Violations:  
888-334-CALF (888) 334-2238



County of Santa Cruz Fish and Game Advisory Commission  
**GRANT APPLICATION**

County of Santa Cruz Fish and Game Advisory Commission  
**GRANT APPLICATION 2015**

1. Project name

Snowy Plover Signage and Coastal Dune Enhancement at Seabright State Beach

2. Amount of funding requested

\$2,000.00

*For each of the following sections, give a brief description:*

3. Project Description

California State Parks will install signs and plant native dune species with volunteer school groups at Seabright State Beach to protect and enhance habitat for the Western Snowy Plover - a threatened bird species that winters at this site. California State Parks will continue their current partnership with local non-profit organizations, Point Blue Conservation Science, and Groundswell Coastal Ecology to protect the plover and enhance its' habitat. This effort includes, educational and public outreach opportunities by planting native plants to protect habitat for animals.

4. Project objectives and goals

The purpose of this project is to protect the threatened Western Snowy Plover through education of the public. Installing signage along the Seabright harbor jetty and rear beach will inform beachgoers about the presence of plovers who rest there during the winter months. Asking visitors to share the beach suggests the importance of protecting the plover and the impact caused by walking, jogging and bringing dogs into areas where the plovers rest.

These signs will foster active participation in the protection of threatened wildlife by showing individuals that they can make a difference in the fate of this species by simply leashing their dogs, and/or watching where they walk. The location of Seabright State Beach within the urban envelope allows for the incorporation of the community into the mission to protect the Plovers and preserve the native habitat of this public beach. This project has already, and will continue to encourage local students to engage in environmental stewardship through native planting projects and the creation of environmental artwork to be featured in the plover signs. Overall,

this project seeks to fulfill California State Parks' mission...to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

## 5. Background and history of the problem

Seabright State Beach is home to a wintering flock of the Western Snowy Plover - a species listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, and as a "species of special concern" in the state of California. While California State Parks has made significant progress in raising public awareness of the needs of Snowy Plover in their breeding habitat in recent years, most Seabright beachgoers are oblivious to the presence of wintering Plovers at this site, and of the harm caused by disturbing them. Flushing birds (causing them to fly while feeding or resting) has been shown to stress them and reduce their fitness to breed. High rates of visitation at this site can be detrimental to the local plover population of Seabright State Beach. However because of this high rate of visitation, strategically placed signs have the potential to reach a large and diverse audience.

## 6. How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable)

This project entails the purchase of sixty custom 8.5"W x 11"H signs made with 0.080 aluminum with 1" rounded corners and pre-drilled holes. A vinyl print of the sign artwork will be adhered to the aluminum surface and covered with a clear overlamine. This choice of sign material will provide maximum protection from graffiti, and from extreme elements such as wind, rain, sun, sea spray and storm surges, which they will need to withstand.

The signs feature artwork from local elementary school students who visited the Plovers at Seabright State Beach and learned about the impacts of disturbing resting shorebirds. The designs are three unique drawings with a shared message. See attached signs.

The signs will be located in two places, 1. installed permanently on the rocks of the Seabright jetty with a combination of adhesive and bolts; and 2. fixed to metal posts and installed in the sand along the upper section of the beach, using methods already proven to be effective in current Plover projects such as those at Sunset State Beach. The posted signs on the beach will be reinstalled each year in the fall and removed only to prevent damage from storms. California State Parks' Natural Resource Management crew from the Santa Cruz district will provide the labor for sign installation and maintenance

7. Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project.

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
60 Plover signs	\$1,400.00	\$0	\$1,400.00
300 Native plants	\$600.00	\$0	\$600.00
Sign installation labor	\$0	\$800.00	\$800.00
Volunteer planting/plant maintenance	\$0	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Fencing material/hardware	\$0	\$350.00	\$350.00
TOTAL AMOUNTS	\$2,000	\$8,150.00	\$10,150.00

8. Timeline for completion

California State Parks will install the signs as soon as possible, ideally within the next month. Native plant restoration and maintenance through Groundswell Coastal Ecology will continue throughout the year and into 2017.

9. Background or history of your organization

Since 1864, California State Parks has provided for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California through the preservation of natural and cultural resources. Over 67 million people visit the diverse California State Parks system each year. In addition to public recreation, California State Parks is committed to the preservation of threatened plant and animal species and the protection of California's extraordinary biodiversity.

Snowy Plover Signage and Coastal Dune Enhancement  
at Seabright State Beach

California State Parks

Portia Halbert  
Environmental Scientist  
(831) 335-6386  
[Portia.Halbert@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Portia.Halbert@parks.ca.gov)

October 20th, 2016

Seabright State Beach is home to the largest wintering flock of the threatened Western Snowy Plover in the Santa Cruz area. This flock locates itself in a spot where it is continually flushed by the extensive foot traffic on this popular beach. These Plovers are disturbed by beachgoers and pet owners with unleashed dogs, who are unaware of the presence of these birds and of the effects of flushing or disturbing them.

California State Parks will install a series of signs to inform and educate the public about the resting Snowy Plovers and reduce disturbances to the flock. This project also involves restoration of the native coastal dune habitat to create a biodiverse environment that will support native wildlife at Seabright State Beach. The location of this restoration project within the urban envelope also creates extensive opportunities for community outreach. This project is in alignment with the funding priorities and selection criteria of this grant, as it benefits local, native wildlife species and habitats, incorporates educational opportunities for school children related to wildlife, supports California Fish and Game related law enforcement, and promises high benefits at a low cost. With a measure as simple and inexpensive as adequate signage, harm to the snowy plover can be drastically reduced, and the natural resources of Seabright State Beach preserved.

The Western Snowy Plover is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, and as a “species of special concern” in the state of California. While the Plover once thrived along the Pacific coast, today less than two thousand remain, primarily due to human activity and development. Plovers are small, well camouflaged on the beach, and hide in footprints on the sand. Because of this they can be found at high tide line where human foot traffic is most concentrated. These traits put the plover at high risk on public beaches like Seabright State Beach. While California State Parks has made significant progress in raising public awareness of the threatened status of the Plover in recent years, most Seabright beachgoers remain ignorant of the presence of Plovers at this site, and of the need to share the beach with these birds. This simple effort to inform and educate the public will have substantial results. The installation of approximately five permanent signs on the jetty rocks will deter the public from straying into the flock of Plovers. Additional signs installed on posts along the upper section of the beach will provide further information and warn beachgoers walking along the sand.

The majority of funding for this project will go towards the purchase of approximately sixty custom 8.5”W x 11”H signs of 0.080 aluminum with 1” rounded corners and pre-drilled holes. A vinyl print of the design will be adhered to the aluminum surface and covered with a clear overlaminant. This choice of sign material will provide maximum protection from graffiti, and from extreme elements such as wind, rain, sun, sea spray and storm surges, which they will need to withstand. A series of these signs will be installed permanently on the rocks of the Seabright jetty with a combination of adhesive and bolts. Additional signs will be fixed to metal posts and installed in the sand along the upper section of the beach, using methods already proven to be effective in current Plover projects such as those at Sunset State Beach. The signs mounted on posts on the beach will be reinstalled each year, removed only to prevent damage from storms. California State Parks’ Natural Resource Management crew from the Santa Cruz district will provide the labor for sign installation. The proposed order of sixty of these signs will provide for at least ten years of continued protection for the Plovers at the Seabright location.

The signs will feature drawings from local elementary students, incorporating educational opportunities for school children in the mission to protect the Plover. Through California State Parks’ partnership with Point Blue Conservation Science - a non-profit organization dedicated to

conserving wildlife and ecosystems through science, partnerships and outreach - a local class of 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Mount Madonna Elementary was taken to observe the plovers at Seabright State Beach. Inspired by their field trip, these students created the artwork to be used for these signs, spreading their newfound environmental awareness beyond the walls of the classroom to the greater Santa Cruz community. Targeting a diverse audience by involving local schools and the wide range of individuals who visit Seabright State Beach, these signs will foster active participation in the protection and preservation of California's natural resources by showing individuals that they can make a difference in the fate of this species by simply leashing their dogs, or watching where they walk. These signs are meant to get the public enthusiastic and *excited* about environmental awareness. The students from Mount Madonna are eagerly awaiting their next field trip to Seabright State Beach to see the fruition of their project.

The remaining funds will be allocated for native plant restoration through Groundswell Coastal Ecology, a local non-profit organization that has put considerable time and money into coastal dune restoration projects at Seabright State Beach. This organization prioritizes the maximization of community outreach in coastal restoration projects, and has identified Seabright State Beach as an urban restoration opportunity that promises both social and environmental gains for the community. Through a partnership between California State Parks and Groundswell Coastal Ecology, local 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from Gault Elementary participated in a native plant restoration project at Seabright State Beach that not only increased biodiversity, but also served to empower new generations of coastal stewards. Groundswell Coastal Ecology has plans to continue and expand their program at Seabright. The receipt of funding for this project will ensure a rich learning opportunity where students can experience native coastal plant communities and wildlife, right in their own neighborhood. California State Parks believes this restoration project will allow Seabright State Beach to serve as the classroom, and living laboratory for surrounding schools and community.

Along with creating education programs for school age children, these signs will support California Fish and Game related law enforcement, and display information regarding the California Code of Regulations. Disturbing wildlife is a violation of CCR T-14 4305 and 36 CFR 2.2(a)(2) and carries a fine, and dog off leash is a violation of CCR 4312(e) and carries additional fines. This information will be communicated to the public through the signs to reinforce the consequences of harming endangered species like the Plover. This message, combined with a selection of student artwork, results in a sign that is adequately informative, yet easily accessible and engaging for the average beach visitor. In addition to fulfilling the priorities of this Commission, this project seeks to fulfill California State Parks' mission to preserve biodiversity, educate and inspire the public while providing access to high quality recreation. California State Parks, Point Blue Conservation Science and Groundswell Coastal Ecology have each identified Seabright State Beach as a site not only in need of restoration, but as a site with the potential to become a rich resource to the local environment and community.



BUDGET

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
60 plover signs	\$1,400.00	\$0	\$1,400.00
300 native plants	\$600.00	\$0	\$600.00
Sign installation labor	\$0	\$800.00	\$800.00
Volunteer planting/plant maintenance	\$0	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Fencing material/hardware	\$0	\$350.00	\$350.00
TOTAL AMOUNTS	\$2,000	\$8,150.00	\$10,150.00

# Plovers Resting Near Jetty



## Please Leash Your Dog

Disturbing wildlife is a violation of CCR T-14 4305, 4312 & 36 CFR 2.2(a)(2) and carries a fine.

SEABRIGHT STATE BEACH



# Don't Bug The Plovers



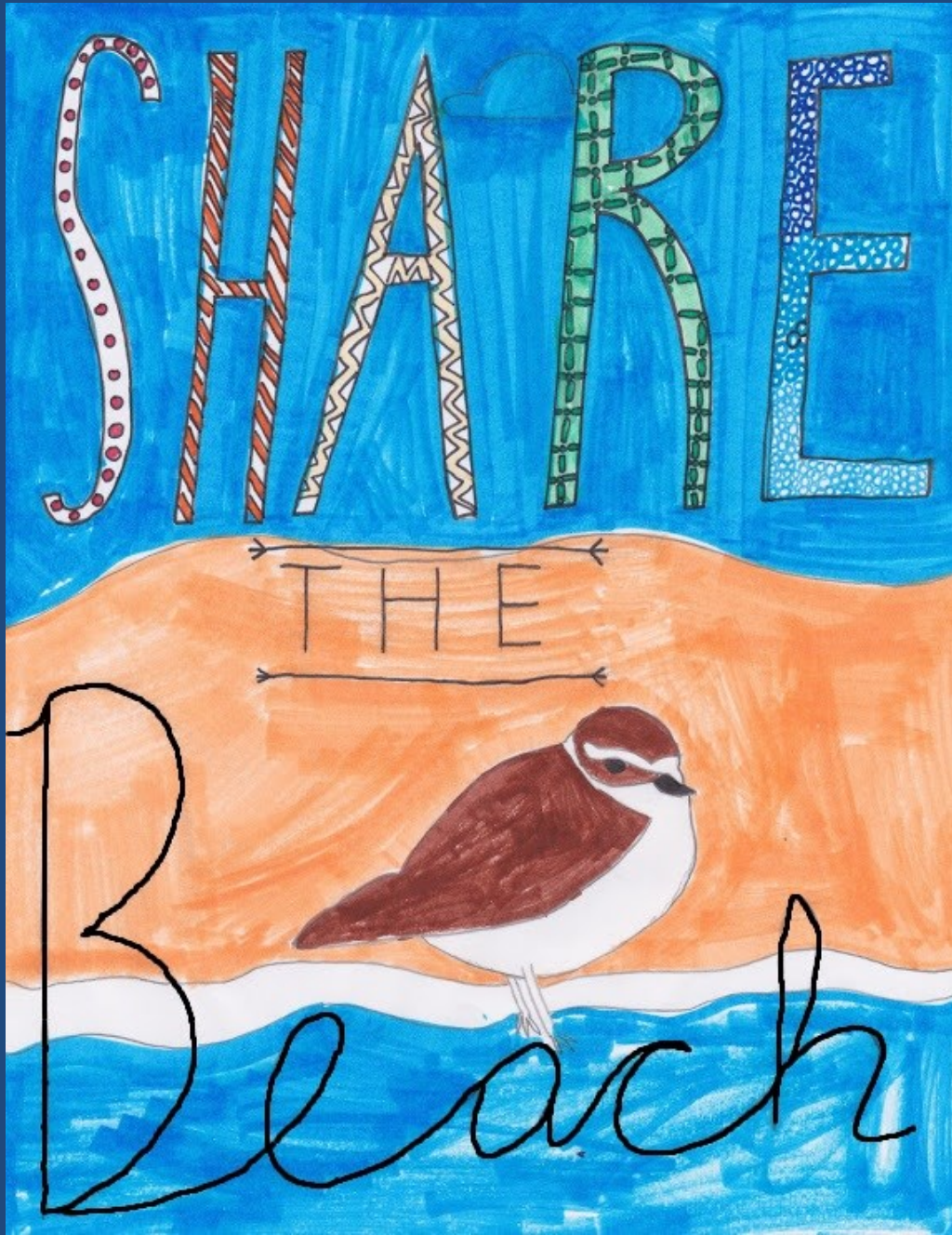
## Please Leash Your Dog

Disturbing wildlife is a violation of CCR T-14 4305, 4312 & 36 CFR 2.2(a)(2) and carries a fine.

SEABRIGHT STATE BEACH



# Plovers Resting Near Jetty



## Please Leash Your Dog

Disturbing wildlife is a violation of CCR T-14 4305, 4312 & 36 CFR 2.2(a)(2) and carries a fine.

SEABRIGHT STATE BEACH



County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
**GRANT APPLICATION**

1. Project name  
Watershed Conservation Hallway Display
  
2. Amount of funding requested  
\$2,250

*For each of the following sections, give a brief description:*

3. Project Description

In 2008, the Planning Department completed a Watershed Conservation outreach display that hangs on the fourth floor of the County Building. The display is adjacent to both the Planning Department's and Public Works' public counters with traffic of hundreds of people per month. The display is frequently visited while people wait at the Planning Department's Building and Zoning Counters. The existing display has faded significantly and is slightly damaged.

The proposed project will update the display to continue using this high visibility location for outreach about current watershed conservation efforts. The updated hallway display will include 7 large panels (36" X 45") that will cover a range of watershed topics and one smaller panel that explains the Santa Cruz County Stream Care Guide, which is available at the Planning Department's counter area.

The proposed project will create 3 new panels for the display: Sandhills Habitat, Santa Cruz Salamanders and Landscape Connections (wildlife corridors). Four panels will be revised and updated and will include steelhead and coho salmon distribution and conservation, riparian protection and enhancement, and water resources. The display will be updated also to increase photo size, decrease the amount of text and highlight a few key ideas.

In addition, the project will explore ways to increase the visibility of the display including signs about the display in other parts of the County Building, participating in the First Friday arts event, adapting the panels for the County's website and printing individual panels for outreach events in the community.

4. Project objectives and goals

The goal of the project is to create outreach materials about Watershed Conservation. The project will focus on a hallway display to educate visitors to the County Building and employees about watershed conservation, but will also include re-using the materials for on-line outreach and for outreach events.

5. Background and history of the problem

This hallway display will provide information on local watershed conservation efforts to the general public and County employees. Much of this information is not widely available through

websites and local media.

6. How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable)

The County’s Fishery Resource Planner will coordinate the project. Information and photos will be collected from local watershed partners and resource experts such as Land Trust for Santa Cruz County, the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz and the NOAA Science Center. Watershed partners and County staff will review and comment on draft text and photos. A graphic artist will design the new panels and revise the existing panels. The County’s Geographic Information Services will print the panels and a local business will mount them on foam board.

7. Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project.

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
Project Coordination		\$ 3,900	\$ 3,900
Graphic artist	\$ 2,000	\$ 730	\$ 2,730
Printing the panels		\$ 556	\$ 556
Mounting the panels		\$ 250	\$ 250
Expert Consultants	\$ 225	\$ 225	\$ 500
<b>TOTAL AMOUNTS</b>	<b>\$2,250</b>	<b>\$5,436</b>	<b>\$7,936</b>

This budget does not include the match contribution of staff time from watershed partners to contribute information and photos and to review draft panels.

8. Timeline for completion

The project is expected to take 6-9 months. The project will start in spring 2017 and is expected to be completed by October 2017.

9. Background or history of your organization

Environmental Health has an extensive history of managing and completing grant projects

County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
**GRANT APPLICATION**

1. **Project name:** 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference
2. **Amount of funding requested:** \$2,000

*For each of the following sections, give a brief description:*

**3. Project Description**

The Annual Salmonid Restoration conference offers an unparalleled opportunity for stakeholders with a vested interest in the recovery of California's native salmonid populations to engage in technical education. The four-day conference highlights regional and topical issues that affect salmonids and their diverse habitats by offering exemplary field tours, technical workshops, concurrent sessions, and a plenary session on the state of salmonid recovery in California. Field tours include all-day visits to dynamic, state-of-the-art restoration sites. Concurrent sessions focus on biological, physical, and policy-specific issues that affect habitat restoration and recovery of native populations of wild anadromous salmonids. The plenary session features distinguished keynote speakers including legislators, renowned academics, watershed visionaries, and scientists at the forefront of the restoration movement in California.

**4. Project objectives and goals**

The goals of the conference are to: improve salmonid habitat restoration efforts; teach California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and NOAA Fisheries protocols and methodologies to help recover salmon populations; educate resource professionals about restoration techniques that address limiting factors to salmon; and engage the watershed community about the need and mechanisms to protect and restore wild salmon populations.

The objectives of the conference are to: inform individuals and groups about restoration opportunities, technical and educational methodologies, and innovative developments; provide hands-on training focused on salmonid restoration techniques; acquaint conference participants with the NOAA Fisheries Salmon and Multi-species Recovery Plans, CDFW's Stream Habitat Manual, and the California Coastal Monitoring Program for Salmon and Steelhead; facilitate communication and cooperation among restoration practitioners, contractors, resource managers, agency personnel and landowners, highlight specific regional and local watershed problems, treatments and restoration opportunities; and address recovery actions outlined in the various salmon Recovery Plans.

**5. Background and history of the problem**

Anadromous fisheries in California are in a steady state of decline. The once abundant runs of salmon, steelhead, and trout in California have dwindled to small populations. Chinook and Coho salmon are extinct in much of their historic range and are listed as threatened / endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The salmonid restoration field emerged to improve habitat conditions and enhance native Salmonid recovery efforts. It is vital that restoration practitioners, landowners, and agencies that are entrusted to uphold public trust values have an opportunity to learn from each other's habitat restoration successes and failures so that together we can restore salmonid habitat.

The Central Valley is considered the heartland of California and the agricultural breadbasket of the country. The San Joaquin and Sacramento River systems provided the most productive salmon habitat in the state. Development, rural-residential land uses, commercial agriculture, and the state's water infrastructure have greatly altered and impaired the natural hydrograph, floodplains and remaining wild salmon habitat.

The 2017 Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference will highlight restoration techniques to address water scarcity, sediment, fish passage, and other factors that limit salmonid recovery. The conference location varies year-to-year but the conference agenda focuses on statewide threats and opportunities for salmon restoration and recovery. This year, the conference will be in California's Central Valley region and will focus on issues that affect other central and Sierra Nevada watersheds.

The conference will focus on restoration techniques, water conservation practices, and recovery strategies to address the root causes of salmonid decline and opportunities for watershed restoration.

#### **6. How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable)**

SRF will host the 2017 in Davis, CA to emphasize the recovery strategies that are being implemented in the North and Central Valley regions. The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference is a statewide conference that attracts presenters and participants throughout California and the greater Pacific Northwest. The Conference will address limiting factors affecting salmonids and recovery strategies identified in the NOAA Fisheries salmon and steelhead recovery plans as well as the recent Multi-species plan. Specifically, the conference will offer full-day workshops covering topics about Life-cycle Modeling to Inform Conservation, Restoration, and Recovery Planning; Fish Passage from Tidewater to the Sierra; and State of Beaver Restoration in California. Field tours will highlight restoration efforts in the Stanislaus and American Rivers, the Yolo Bypass and Putah Creek, and the Lower Sacramento Valley, as well as a legislature tour in Sacramento. Sessions will address biological, genetic, and policy issues that affect salmonid recovery. Concurrent sessions will include:

- Reintroduction of Salmon into their Historic Habitats
- Swirling in Sediment and Slowing Fisheries Recovery
- Creating Private Investment Opportunities to Get Water Instream for Fish
- Protecting, Connecting, and Re-imagining Floodplain Habitat: Strategies for Restoring the Benefits of Floodplains to Juvenile Salmon
- Using Photogrammetric & Aerial Vehicle Technology to Support Salmonid Restoration Planning and Engineering
- Central Valley Recovery Planning and Restoration
- Reviving a River: Spring-Run Chinook Reintroduction and Restoration of 150 Miles of the San Joaquin River
- Hatchery Supplementation: Friend or Foe?
- Estimating Juvenile Salmonid Survival Across Diverse Spatiotemporal Scales
- Visioning Salmon Recovery — Restoring Ecological Function in the Central Valley's Working Landscapes through Science, Collaboration, and Structured Decision Making



The production and coordination of the conference is accomplished by identifying tour, workshop, and session coordinators, building a strong conference agenda, working with co-sponsors and restoration partners, conducting targeted outreach, and coordinating conference logistics.

**7. Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project.**

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
Conference Scholarships (5 @ \$200 each)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Personnel- SRF Staff		\$50,000	\$50,000
Conference Proceedings		\$15,000	\$15,000
Facility		\$10,000	\$10,000
Catering & Logistics		\$20,000	\$20,000
Transportation		\$10,000	\$10,000
Sub-contractors	\$1,000 videographer	\$9,000	\$10,000
Printing & Postage		\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>TOTAL AMOUNTS</b>		<b>\$117,000</b>	<b>\$119,000</b>

**8. Timeline for completion**

The SRF Conference will be held March 29 - April 1, 2017. The Conference timeline to complete tasks associated with the conference begins approximately 12 months before the conference. SRF is currently circulating the 2nd Call for Abstracts, conducting co-sponsor outreach, coordinating logistics, and finalizing the agenda. In November, we will circulate the Final Call for Abstracts, select presentations, post the final agenda, and craft the conference agenda packet. SRF will open registration in December, distribute conference materials, and conduct logistics necessary for coordinating a conference with six field tours, four workshops, ten concurrent sessions, and a Plenary Session with renowned keynote presenters. In January we copy-edit, design, and produce the Conference Proceedings, as well as continue to process conference registration and conduct media outreach. In February and March, we focus on logistics, donations and co-sponsorships, and publicity. After the conference, we do extensive follow-up including making powerpoint presentations available, synthesizing the conference evaluations, and making the Plenary session video and other conference highlights available online for broader dissemination.

**9. Background or history of your organization**

Salmonid Restoration Federation (SRF) is a non-profit organization that promotes stewardship, sustainable management, and restoration of California's salmon, steelhead, and trout populations and their habitat. SRF provides critical educational services for California's community-based salmonid restoration organizations and agencies by producing an annual conference, regional field schools, and technical symposia. SRF's statewide conference on salmonid restoration provides an opportunity for field tours, technical workshops, panels, and a plenary session on the state of salmonid recovery.

SRF was formed in 1986 to help stream restoration practitioners advance the art and science of watershed restoration. Our organization promotes restoration, stewardship, and recovery of California native salmon, steelhead, and trout populations through education, collaboration, and watershed capacity building. Our goals are to restore and recover California salmonids, improve water quality in California watersheds, and enhance watershed restoration efforts in California. To accomplish these goals SRF coordinates workshops and tours to highlight water conservation techniques, programs, and strategies to improve instream flows for both humans and fish.

SRF is uniquely qualified to perform the proposed work based on our long and successful history of providing technical education training in the fisheries restoration field. For over 30 years SRF has been producing the premier salmonid restoration conference that focuses on biological, environmental, and physical issues that affect salmonids. For over 20 years SRF has been producing intensive field schools on various habitat restoration techniques including water conservation, sediment reduction, and erosion control; bioengineering and stream bank stabilization; and fish passage design and implementation.

SRF also produces several regional restoration events including the Annual Coho Confab, the Spring-run Chinook Symposium, and the Steelhead Summit. The beneficiaries of our educational programs are restorationists, planners, watershed stewards, consultancies, agency personnel, landowners, and students. Our technical trainings are attended by hundreds of people in the watershed restoration field and the information that they receive is disseminated back to communities through Resource Conservation Districts, water agencies, state, county, and federal agencies, as well as academia.

In recent years, SRF has been engaged in water conservation and water rights education to build support for community-based water conservation pilot projects that can be transferred to other watersheds.

**County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission**

**GRANT APPLICATION**

- Project name

*Invasive Weed Management through the Santa Cruz Weed Management Area (SCCWMA)*

- Amount of funding requested

*\$3,000*

*For each of the following sections, give a brief description:*

- Project Description

*The mission of the Santa Cruz County Weed Management Area (SCCWMA) and its partners is to coordinate activities necessary for the prevention, detection, control, and eradication of noxious and non-native invasive weeds in Santa Cruz County. Despite significant need and interest in the SCCWMA, it has operated in fits and starts over the years due to the fact that the effort has lacked dedicated funding to carry out its mission. We are currently seeking funding to revitalize the SCCWMA and develop a strategy to ensure long-term sustainability. The SCCWMA will bring together all interested landowners and land managers (private, city, county, state, and federal), to coordinate and leverage resources and expertise to address common weed control problems. The proposed project will 1) support staff time to both convene the SCCWMA and coordinate with the Monterey County WMA, 2) provide education for private landowners on invasive species and their detrimental effect to our local ecosystems through workshops, literature or other outreach events, as identified by members of the SCCWMA, 3) redevelop the SCCWMA website to serve as a reference source for the public and a sharing forum for partners on invasive weed identification and management, 4) develop a rapid response team to assess high priority areas implement a plan to eradicate or manage the invasive plant species identified, and 5) develop and implement strategies to ensure long-term sustainability of the SCCWMA.*

- Project objectives and goals

*Project Goal*

*The overall goal of the SCCWMA is to reduce or eliminate the potential impacts resulting from the introduction, establishment or spread of invasive plant species in Santa Cruz County through prevention,*

*detection, and management. The specific goal of this proposal is to secure funding to revitalize the SCCWMA, conduct limited education and outreach, identify high priority areas, and develop a plan to secure long-term support for the effort. To support this, the proposed project will meet the following objectives:*

### *Project Objectives*

*1) Increase community awareness through public education and outreach about the cost and effect of weeds on our local ecosystems and economy.*

*2) Develop a rapid response team to detect emergent weed populations within the county before they become established.*

*3) Facilitate increased communication and sharing of information between the public, landowners, land users and managers to facilitate the containment, suppression, and eradication and prioritize weed management activities via development of a website.*

*4) Identify potential sources of funding for long-term support of the SCCWMA.*

- *Background and history of the problem*

Invasive plants can increase wildfire potential, reduce water resources, accelerate erosion and flooding, threaten wildlife, degrade range-, crop- and timberland, and diminish outdoor recreation opportunities. According to the California Invasive Plant Council, \$82 million per year represents current costs of control, monitoring, and outreach. Invasive plants often do not have sufficient root structures to bind soil and large areas dominated by invasive plants are much more likely to erode during large storm events. Erosion and the deposition of fine sediment and increased embeddedness of streams is considered to be one of the most significant factors affecting salmonid recovery in Santa Cruz County. Another impact that invasive species can have on stream condition is that invasive plants provide less streamside shade, which increases water temperature, which is of particular concern for coho recovery. On the terrestrial side, the often explosive growth of invasive plants and weeds displaces native plants, which can lead to a monoculture that reduces overall species diversity. Invasive plants often prevent new trees from becoming established and leave them more susceptible to disease or blow down. Finally, some invasive plants are of particular concern related to fire owing to their combustibility and because they can act as fuel ladders through a forest canopy.

- How will the project be accomplished (design specifications or plans, if applicable)

- 1) *The RCD will convene three (3) SCCWMA meetings independently or in partnership with Monterey County WMA.*
- 2) *The RCD will work with WMA members to develop and maintain a website to disseminate information to partners and to the public.*
- 3) *The RCD, with WMA members, will develop educational information about invasive weeds, the threat of weeds to local ecosystems, management techniques and when to contact local agencies for assistance.*
- 4) *The RCD and WMA members will develop a rapid response team composed of volunteers and partners that can identify invasive species and understand proper management techniques.*
- 5) *The RCD will prepare a brief strategic plan that identifies potential sources of ongoing funding for the SCCWMA.*

- Budget (include sufficient detail to explain use of grant monies). Specify if there are any sources of other funds committed to the proposed project.

Item	Funds Requested	Match Contribution	Total Amount
Convene (3) WMA meetings	\$1,152.10	\$ 1,500.00	\$2,652.10
Develop /Distribute educational materials	\$685.38	\$ 750.00	\$1,435.38
Develop WCCWMA website	\$447.26	\$ 150.00	\$597.26
Develop Rapid Response Team	\$237.63	\$ 750.00	\$987.63
Draft Strategic Plan	\$477.63	\$ 150.00	\$627.63
<b>TOTAL AMOUNTS</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$3,300.00</b>	<b>\$6,300.00</b>

8. Timeline for completion

*All activities will be completed within one year of grant award with the following anticipated schedule:*

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date of Completion</b>
<i>Convene three (3) SCCWMA meetings</i>	<i>March 31, 2017, June 30, 2017 December 31, 2017</i>
<i>Develop SCCWMA website</i>	<i>June 30, 2017</i>
<i>Develop and distribute educational materials</i>	<i>June 30, 2017, December 31, 2017</i>
<i>Draft strategic plan</i>	<i>December 31, 2017</i>

9. Background or history of your organization

*Established in 1942, the RCD of Santa Cruz County is a non-regulatory special district with the mission of working with landowners to protect and restore natural resources. The RCD offers a variety of services tailored to address local natural resource issues while balancing the environmental and economic needs of our community. The RCD supports local units of government, organizations, watershed and landowner groups including road and homeowner associations, educators, students, private sector natural resource professionals and contractors, and the general tax-paying public.*

*The RCD has worked with private landowners, private entities and public agencies on the restoration of ecologically sensitive areas of the county for the past 20 years. In 2008/2009, the RCD took over management of the WMA from the Santa Cruz County Agricultural Commissioner and with funding from the California Department of Food and Agriculture and in partnership with SCCWMA members, developed a Memorandum of Understanding, the SCCWMA Strategic Plan, and implemented a number of high priority and successful projects to eradicate yellow starthistle, pampas grass, and acacia.*

*However, with the loss of funding in 2011, and the continual loss of staff and members through 2013, the SCCWMA became defunct by 2014. At the request of local community members and with the support of agency staff from the City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz, Bureau of Land Management, and United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the RCD is prepared to revitalize the SCCWMA for Santa Cruz County.*

## County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission

### GRANT APPLICATION

1. **Project Name:** Winter Preparedness Workshop for the South Santa Cruz County

2. **Amount of funding requested:** \$2,968.50

3. **Project Description:**

The project will be to conduct a winter preparedness workshop in south Santa Cruz County in the Corralitos area. The workshop will focus on how residents can prepare for winter storms in a manner that protects their property and the environment. Key messages will be (1) drainage, (2) road management, (3) stream/riparian protection and (4) septic repair and maintenance and (5) BMPs for livestock. Specific tasks will include:

- Creating a mailing list for targeted residences.
- Developing, printing and mailing a notice to be sent to each residence within the target area.
- Securing workshop location and presenters.
- Preparing workshop materials.
- Conducting the workshop.

4. **Project Objectives and Goals:**

The goal of the workshop will be to educate rural property owners who do not normally attend such events about the potential environmental impacts that winter storms can have on their property and the surrounding environment and what they can do to prevent them. Attendees will primarily learn how to identify and fix problems associated with residential drainage, rural roads, livestock keeping, septic systems and streams and riparian systems (large wood management).

5. **Background and History of Problem:**

The Corralitos Creek watershed is located in Santa Cruz County and includes the east side of the City of Watsonville. The watershed is an area of about 53 square miles and is a tributary to the Pajaro River. Corralitos Creek is listed as impaired for sediment and bacteria. Land uses in the watershed included forest and open space (81%), with smaller areas of irrigated agriculture (7%), low intensity residential (5%), pasture (4%), and urban lands (2%). The upper watershed of Corralitos Creek and its Browns Creek tributary is designated "high potential" habitat for [steelhead trout](#) (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and is a top priority stream for the protection and restoration anadromous fish.

Paved and unpaved roads are known to contribute to significant sediment input into Corralitos Creek and the Rider Creek Tributary. the Rider Creek Sediment Management Plan, Santa Cruz County, California (WRC Environmental, 1991) documented that "sediment export for the Rider Creek has been observed to bury portions of the Corralitos Creek [during baseflow conditions]... resulting in the loss of steelhead rearing habitat in Corralitos Creek." The Pajaro River TMDL, which covers Corralitos Creek, recommends outreach activities targeting landowners who own and maintain rural roads.



The Corralitos Creek Bacteria TMDL sites small livestock operations, discharges to public storm drains, and septic systems as contributing factors to water quality impairments. The TMDL recommends educating landowners on BMPs to livestock management and septic system maintenance.

**6. How will the Project Be Accomplished:**

RCD and County staff will work from the successful model provided by several recent workshops held in the Sam Lorenzo Valley entitled ‘Rural Roads and Rain Barrels’ (100 attendees) and ‘Get Ready for Winter’ (85 attendees). On average, the RCD provides receives in-site technical assistant requests from about 10-20% of the attendees. We estimate an approximately 1–2% attendance based on the card mailer. However, we feel that outreach in this manner is essential if the intent of the workshop is to reach residents who do not normally attend such events – and with whom the greatest benefit can often be realized. The RCD will partner with the County as well as other interested organizations to conduct the workshop.

**7. Budget**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Units (hours)</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Total</b>
Project Specialist	25	\$84.74	\$2118.50
Postage	1	\$750.00	\$750.00
Room Rental	1	\$100.00	\$100.00
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$2,968.50</b>

**8. Time for Completion**

Total project timeline will be for six months following award.

**9. History of Organization:**

The RCD has roots in the County dating to the 1940’s. In the 1970’s, the Pajaro and Redwood Resource Conservation Districts merged to form the Santa Cruz County RCD, which was recently re-named to the RCD of Santa Cruz County. The two core business areas of the RCD include (1) watershed restoration and protection, and (2) conservation and stewardship in agriculture. The RCD has a long history of successful project and grant management.

**Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission**  
**Proposed 2017 Meeting Schedule**

Regular Meetings

March 2, 2017

May 4, 2017

June 1, 2017

September 7, 2017

November 2, 2017 – Public grants special meeting

December 7, 2017

Possible dates for additional meetings:

February 2, 2017

April 6, 2017

August 3, 2017

October 5, 2017