

Meeting Date: January 27, 2015
Page 1



1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6
West Sacramento, CA 95691
www.deltaconservancy.ca.gov

Request for approval to receive funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency in the total amount of \$249,180 and subsequently enter into a contract with the San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center in the amount of \$102,780 to improve reporting on performance measures for wetland restoration projects.

January 27, 2016

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff requests approval to receive funds from the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) in the amount of \$249,180. Staff also requests Board authorization for staff to enter into a contract with the San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center (SFEI/ASC) for \$102,780 to implement specific tasks in the pending contract.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Conservancy, in partnership with the Delta Stewardship Council, is integrating project data and performance measures between EcoAtlas and Delta View and developing new capabilities to improve reporting on performance measures for wetland restoration projects. The US EPA is partially funding this project with \$124,180 awarded in this FY 15-16 budget period for phase I and anticipates that \$125,000 will be awarded in FY 16-17 for Phase II.

BACKGROUND

The Delta Reform Act of 2009 established the Conservancy and includes two relevant mandates; (1) to protect and enhance habitat and habitat restoration; and (2) to protect and improve water quality. These efforts are consistent with the following objectives as outlined in the Conservancy's 2012 Strategic Plan:

- Objective 4.1: Gather and communicate additional technical expertise on matters relevant to the Conservancy's mission
- Objective 4.2: Create an open repository for information and analysis pertinent to the Conservancy's mission
- Objective 1.3: Aid in protecting and improving water quality to protect the Delta ecosystem and economy
- Objective 3.1: Identify restoration priorities in collaboration with existing federal, state, regional and local governmental and non-governmental entities engaged in Delta restoration
- Objective 4.4: Promote shared understanding of key issues related to agriculture, the Delta economy, and restoration based on accurate information

Meeting Date: January 27, 2015
Page 2

In addition, both the Delta Plan and Proposition 1 call for the careful tracking of restoration efforts and reporting on performance measures. This project will benefit both the tracking and reporting of restoration projects under the Delta Plan, Proposition 1, and other grant programs.

BUDGET

The total project cost is \$382,680, which includes \$249,180 to be awarded by the US EPA and \$133,500 provided in matching funds by the Conservancy, SFEI/ASC, and the Delta Stewardship Council.

The US EPA awarded \$124,180 for phase I in FY 15-16, of which \$21,400 will support the Conservancy and \$102,780 will be contracted to SFEI/ASC. The US EPA anticipates awarding an additional \$125,000 for phase II in FY 16-17, of which \$21,400 will support the Conservancy, and an additional \$103,600 will be included in an amendment to the contract with SFEI/ASC. The budget by task is shown in the Grant Summary (Attachment 2).

Contact Person:

Shakoora Azimi-Gaylon, Deputy Executive Officer
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
Phone: (916) 375-2086