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Proposition 1 Grant Program Update

Staff Report

CYCLE 4 – FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 SOLICITATION PLANNING

Agenda Item 9 brings the draft Grant Guidelines before the Board for consideration

APPROVED PROJECT UPDATE

In its first three grant cycles, the Conservancy awarded or reserved \$29.2 million of Proposition 1 funds for eligible projects. A brief overview of each grant cycle, the status of each project by grant cycle (in numerical order of the assigned grant number), and a map of all approved project locations (Figure 1) are included herein.

CYCLE 3 – Fiscal Year 2017-2018

The Board awarded or reserved \$18.9 million for nine projects (four planning and five implementation). Staff is working with grantees to negotiate grant agreements.

<u>Project</u>	Bay Point Habitat Restoration Project (Implementation)
<u>Amount Awarded</u>	\$2,100,000
<u>County</u>	Contra Costa
<u>Conservancy ID</u>	Prop 1-1701
<u>Grantee</u>	East Bay Regional Park District
<u>Overview</u>	Restore 44 acres of wetland and grassland and 5,595 linear feet of low order saline emergent marsh channel at Bay Point Regional Shoreline Park
<u>Board Action/Deadline</u>	Conditional Approval – August 2018
<u>Conditions/Status</u>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Revised budget.2. Plan for addressing Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District comments.3. Memo addressing the Delta Stewardship Council’s comments.
<u>Grant Agreement Status</u>	Grant Agreement Pending
<u>Update</u>	The grantee is working toward clearing conditions: they have submitted a revised budget and sent letters to the vector control district and Delta Stewardship Council.

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Project Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving aquatic habitat resiliency on working lands along the Sacramento River (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$661,189

County Yolo

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1702

Grantee American Rivers

Overview Develop restoration design plans for seven different project sites at River Garden Farms in order to restore ecosystem function in floodplain, wetland, and riparian habitats and provide habitat connectivity on a large working farm

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – August 2018

Conditions/Status

1. Revised budget.
2. Letter verifying that this Central Valley Habitat Exchange project is not mitigation.
3. Memo addressing Delta Stewardship Council comments.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grant manager has reached out to the grantee to discuss the conditions of approval.

Project Mitchell Trust Farm Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Easement Acquisition (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$2,829,718

County Yolo

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1707

Grantee Yolo Habitat Conservancy

Overview Purchase a multi-species habitat conservation easement on the 275.31-acre Mitchell Trust Farm property to protect important habitat for listed species in perpetuity

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – August 2018

Conditions/Status

1. Revised budget.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grantee is working toward clearing conditions and meeting the conditions of the land acquisition checklist: they are drafting budget justifications and Board authorization language.

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Project **Knightsen Wetland Restoration and Flood Protection Project (Planning)**

Amount Awarded \$1,225,000

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1709

Grantee East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy

Overview Advance planning for restoring wetlands and managing and treating stormwater on public land in Knightsen

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – August 2018

Conditions/Status 1. Letter of authorization to apply for grant funding to the Conservancy.
2. Revised budget.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grantee is working toward clearing conditions and meeting the conditions: they are drafting a revised budget.

Project **Grizzly Slough Floodplain Restoration Project at the Cosumnes River Preserve (Implementation)**

Amount Awarded \$8,700,800

County Sacramento

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1710

Grantee Department of Water Resources

Overview Restore wetland and riparian habitat to the 334-acre site by breaching the levee and reintroducing tidal and seasonal flooding, and by establishing native vegetation

Board Action/Deadline Reserved Funding – October 2018

Conditions/Status 1. Revised budget.
2. Memo addressing Delta Stewardship Council comments.
3. Presentation of flood impacts to Conservancy Board.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grantee is working toward completing a CEQA addendum and clearing conditions: they are presenting to Board at May meeting.

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Project Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project #2 (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$999,318

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1711

Grantee American Rivers

Overview Add one acre of habitat to the current Three Creeks Parkway Restoration project, thereby enhancing the ecological benefits of that project while satisfying flood conveyance needs to protect the local area, and allowing the larger project to move forward

Board Action/Deadline Reserved Funding – October 2018

- Conditions/Status
1. Revised budget.
 2. Additional information explaining the decision not to hire an engineer to aid in project design.
 3. Appropriate engineering design documents to qualify as an implementation project.
 4. Plan for addressing Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District comments.
 5. Memo addressing Delta Stewardship Council comments.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grantee is working toward completing a CEQA addendum.

Project Bees Lakes Habitat Restoration Plan (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$592,500

County Yolo

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1712

Grantee City of West Sacramento

Overview Develop a detailed habitat restoration plan to restore disturbed riparian habitat, control non-native species, improve pond water quality, and improve the ability of the Bees Lakes area to support listed species

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – August 2018

- Conditions/Status
1. Revised budget.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grant manager has reached out to the grantee to discuss the conditions of approval.

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<u>Project</u>	Stone Lakes Restoration Project (Planning)
<u>Amount Awarded</u>	\$635,573
<u>County</u>	Sacramento
<u>Conservancy ID</u>	Prop 1-1713
<u>Grantee</u>	Ducks Unlimited Inc.
<u>Overview</u>	Planning to restore approximately 257 acres of seasonal wetland and 39 acres of riparian seasonal wetland, and enhance 20 acres of existing low-quality wetland on the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
<u>Board Action/Deadline</u>	Conditional Approval – August 2018
<u>Conditions/Status</u>	1. Revised budget.
<u>Grant Agreement Status</u>	Grant Agreement Pending
<u>Update</u>	The grant manager has reached out to the grantee to discuss the conditions of approval.
<u>Project</u>	Nutria Eradication Project (Implementation)
<u>Amount Awarded</u>	\$1,125,577
<u>County</u>	Multiple
<u>Conservancy ID</u>	Prop 1-1718
<u>Grantee</u>	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
<u>Overview</u>	Eliminate nutria from all known and discovered locations in California to prevent nutria from causing significant ecological damage in the Delta
<u>Board Action/Deadline</u>	Approved
<u>Conditions/Status</u>	None
<u>Grant Agreement Status</u>	Grant Agreement Pending
<u>Update</u>	Staff is developing a grant agreement.

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CYCLE 2 – Fiscal Year 2016-2017

The Board awarded or reserved \$4.4 million for four projects (one planning and three implementation). Three grant agreements have been executed, and one has been delayed due to permitting issues. All new information is highlighted.

Project Dutch Slough Revegetation (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$2,900,000

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1602

Grantee Reclamation District 2137

Overview Establish and maintain 468 acres of native tidal marsh, riparian, and grassland vegetation at the Dutch Slough restoration site

Board Action/Deadline Conditional Approval – July 2017

Conditions/Status All conditions have been met.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update Due to permitting delays, construction did not begin during the 2017 construction window. Therefore, the revegetation phase, to which Conservancy funds are being applied, will also be delayed. Staff plans to delay execution of the grant agreement until 2019 to ensure implementation does not exceed the 3-year grant funding term.

Project Petersen Ranch: Working Waterway Habitat Enhancement Project (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$444,795

County Solano

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1605

Grantee Solano Resource Conservation District

Overview Restore 13.5 acres of riparian habitat and improve water quality through improved cattle management practices on approximately 525 acres of actively farmland along Lindsey Slough

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 9/1/17

Update The project team has installed an irrigation system, prepared the ground for seeding, and planted 9,000 feet with native grasses and plugs.

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Project Restoration of Priority Wetlands for Endangered Species at the Cosumnes River Preserve (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$943,549

County Sacramento

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1608

Grantee Sacramento County Regional Parks

Overview Restore 110 acres of freshwater wetlands to benefit listed species

Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – September 27, 2017

Conditions/Status All conditions have been met.

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 1/8/18

Update The grantee has begun monitoring and has completed the first oak planting.

Project Investigations of restoration techniques that limit invasion of tidal wetlands (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$107,655

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-1612

Grantee The Regents of the University of California (UC Davis)

Overview Identify improved methods for tidal wetland revegetation that reduce invasion by non-native plants at Dutch Slough

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 1/8/18

Update The grantee has hired a post-doctoral researcher to complete the work of the grant. Work is scheduled to begin in July 2018.

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CYCLE 1 – Fiscal Year 2015-2016

The Board awarded or reserved funding \$5.9 million for eight projects (four planning and four implementation). To date, six grant agreements have been fully executed; staff is working with grantees to prepare grant agreements for the remaining two projects. All new information is highlighted.

Project Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat and Drainage Improvement Project (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$2,000,000

County Yolo

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-003 (1503 on map)

Grantee Ducks Unlimited

Overview Implement habitat and working landscape enhancements in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – original March 22, 2017, 1st extension to July 26, 2017, 2nd extension to January 24, 2018

Conditions/Status All conditions have been met.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update Staff is awaiting information from the grantee to complete drafting of the grant agreement. The project is scheduled to break ground in 2019.

Project Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$89,450

County All Delta Counties

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-005 (1505 on map)

Grantee California Land Stewardship Institute

Overview Develop a program for working with farmers to improve water quality, which is specific to the crops grown and water quality concerns in Delta counties

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 1/9/17

Update The grantee is developing Best Management Practices for tomatoes, and wine grapes.

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Project Sherman Island Wetland Restoration Project Phase III (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$100,000

County Sacramento

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-008 (1508 on map)

Grantee Ducks Unlimited

Overview Plan and design for the restoration of 1600 acres of emergent wetlands

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 10/20/2017.

Update The grantee has created a concept design; other deliverables have been delayed due to inclement weather and lack of a site access agreement.

Project Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$836,409

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-009 (1509 on map)

Grantee American Rivers

Overview Convert denuded flood control channel at the confluence of Marsh, Sand, and Deer Creeks into a healthy stream corridor

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 6/27/17

Update The landowner Access Agreement is being finalized. The project will break ground in 2019. This agreement will require an amendment for time.

Project Paradise Cut Flood and Conservation Easement Acquisition Project (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$2,000,000

County San Joaquin

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-010 (1510 on map)

Grantee San Joaquin Resource Conservation District

Overview Purchase flood and conservation easements to protect agriculture for Swainson's Hawk and to protect the opportunity to build a new flood bypass at Paradise Cut in the future

Board Action/Deadline Funding Reserved – March 2017

Conditions/Status All conditions have been met.

Grant Agreement Status Grant Agreement Pending

Update The grantee is pursuing several avenues for advancing this project given its complex legal issues. The grantee will determine the viability of this project by August 2018 with a goal of closing escrow in June 2019.

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Project Paradise Cut Conservation and Flood Management Planning Project (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$99,924

County San Joaquin

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-012 (1512 on map)

Grantee San Joaquin Resource Conservation District

Overview Develop a conservation and flood management plan for a new flood bypass at Paradise Cut

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 7/6/17

Update The project team has begun drafting an existing conditions report and is moving forward with scheduling agency coordination meetings.

Project Wildlife Corridors for Flood Escape on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Project (Implementation)

Amount Awarded \$688,195.64

County Yolo

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-016 (1516 on map)

Grantee Yolo Resource Conservation District

Overview Restore up to 5 miles (22 acres) of floodway-compatible wildlife and pollinator habitat, providing a transit corridor for wildlife during floods

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 1/24/17

Update The agreement was amended to provide money for the unforeseen modeling requested by the Central Valley Flood Protection Board. The grantee has conducted monitoring and weed management.

Project Lower Marsh and Sand Creek Watershed Riparian Restoration Planning Project (Planning)

Amount Awarded \$73,493

County Contra Costa

Conservancy ID Prop 1-Y1-2015-019 (1519 on map)

Grantee American Rivers

Overview Improve restoration project efficiency within the Marsh/Sand Creek watershed through development of a programmatic CEQA document and permit, including stormwater planning.

Grant Agreement Status Active as of 10/19/16

Update The grantee is moving forward with a Programmatic Mitigated Negative Declaration CEQA document.

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BACKGROUND

The Conservancy's Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program funds \$50 million in multibenefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities. The Grant Program is a two-step process, requiring both a concept proposal and a full proposal. Full proposals are subject to a rigorous scoring and evaluation process by both staff and a professional review panel, and are recommended for funding based upon score and funding availability.

Contact

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