



**Consideration of Amendment to the Term of the Nutria Eradication Project Grant (Prop 1-1718)
Staff Report**

| | |
|---|--|
| Project Title | Nutria Eradication Project |
| Grantee | California Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| Project Number | Prop 1-1718 |
| Award Year | 2018 |
| County | Multiple |
| Category | Implementation |
| Original Award Amount | \$1,125,577.00 |
| Amended Request Amount | \$1,125,577.00 |
| Amendment Request (Term, Scope, or Budget) | Term |

This agenda item requests approval to extend the funding end date of the grant to accommodate project delays due to COVID-19 and wildfires.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board approve amendment of the funding end date from August 31, 2021 to January 9, 2022.

DESCRIPTION

Impacts from COVID-19, poor air quality due to wildfires, and other issues have delayed the project. The grantee has requested approximately four additional months to complete all tasks in the scope of work for the grant. Conservancy staff have determined the request to be reasonable given the circumstances and one which the Conservancy can administratively accommodate.

In parallel to the requested extension of the funding end date and in accordance with policy established by the Board, staff has approved the removal of the USDA-Wildlife Service as a subcontractor on this project. The \$600,000 budget for that subcontractor has been reallocated to Personnel Services to allow the grantee to accomplish the same goals. The associated indirect costs have also been reallocated.

If the funding term is not extended, the grantee will not be able to complete the full extent of the surveying effort and trapping efforts, which are crucial to the effort to eradicate nutria from California.

BACKGROUND

In April of 2018, as part of the Cycle 3 of the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program, the Board approved the award of grant funds for the Nutria Eradication Project. The objective of this implementation project is to eradicate invasive nutria from California. The main goals of this multi-benefit project are to identify the locations of nutria infestations, reduce nutria populations state-wide to zero or near-zero level, and conduct long-term monitoring to ensure that new populations do not arise. This is the first amendment requested for this project.

CONTACT

Aaron Haiman, Environmental Scientist
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
aaron.haiman@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
(916) 376-4023