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Consideration of Amendment to Budget and Scope of Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program Agreement for Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving Aquatic Habitat Resiliency on Working Lands Along the Sacramento River Staff Report

Grantee	American Rivers
Project Number	Prop 1-1702
Award Year	2018
County	Yolo
Category	Planning
Original Award Amount	\$647,701.44
Amended Request Amount	\$665,367.44
Request	Budget and Scope Amendment

This agenda item presents a request to increase the total budget and change the scope of work of the grant agreement. It does not propose a change to the term.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board approve the increased budget and changes to the scope of work as explained in this report.

DESCRIPTION

The Grantee requests approval to remove two of the eight project sites from the scope of work and reallocate the associated funding. The Grantee also requests an additional \$17,666. The reallocated and additional funds will be combined to cover unanticipated additional cultural resource surveying costs.

The two project sites that the Grantee proposes to remove from the scope of work are Floodplain Site 3 (20 acres) and the Wetland Connectivity site (one acre). The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is developing restoration project designs at Floodplain Site 3 with anticipation that the location may serve as mitigation for DWR operations. There is direct overlap with the site of the restoration project for which the Conservancy Board awarded grant Prop 1-1702 and the DWR-planned restoration site. The Wetland Connectivity site was originally identified as a potential site for restoration as part of the Prop 1-1702 grant, but during the planning process it was found that the site is not fully situated on River Garden Farms' property, which precludes work from being conducted. Keeping the site in the scope of work would use Proposition 1 funds for designing a plan that could not be implemented.

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The Grantee has requested approval to reallocate the budget for Floodplain Site 3 and the Wetland Connectivity site (a total of \$17,900), and award of an additional \$17,666 to pay for cultural resource surveying that was not anticipated at the time the grant was awarded. As implementation of the project progressed, the Grantee identified significant gaps in existing data and information relating to the potential presence of sensitive cultural resources at the project sites; this information is necessary for design and permitting required for successful completion of this planning project.

If the budget and scope of work are not amended, the Grantee will not be able to complete the cultural resource surveying which will prevent the development of design plan outputs and will create some plans that cannot be utilized.

BACKGROUND

In April of 2018, as part of the Cycle 3 of the Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program, the Board awarded grant funds for the Restoration Planning at River Garden Farms: Improving Aquatic Habitat Resiliency on Working Lands Along the Sacramento River. The objective of this planning project is to develop engineering design plans and to secure environmental permits for multiple sites on the property of River Garden Farms that can be used for future implementation of multi-benefit habitat restoration efforts (such as planting plans and floodplain design). This is the first amendment requested for this project.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE

Move that the Board approve an amendment to the grant agreement with American Rivers for Prop 1-1702 to add cultural resource surveying to the scope of work; remove work on Floodplain Site 3 and the Wetland Connectivity site from the scope of work and reallocate associated funding to the budget for cultural resources surveying; and award an additional \$17,666 to be used for cultural resource surveying.

CONTACT

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