

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

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Project title: Watershed Action Program

Organization/Individual applying: KIDS for the BAY, a project of Earth Island Institute

(Organization type: please check one – government, ☒ non-profit, school, other (explain)

Address: KIDS for the BAY, 1771 Alcatraz Ave, Berkeley, CA 94703

Telephone: (510) 734-3835

Fax:

E-mail: mandi@kidsforthebay.org

Name and title of contact person: Mandi Billinge, Executive Director/Founder

One sentence summary of proposal: KIDS for the BAY is requesting funding to support our Watershed Action Program to engage eight elementary school classes, including 200 students, their teachers and families, in under-resourced schools in Contra Costa County, in hands-on watershed education and stewardship.

Requested grant: \$8,400

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Mandi Billinge, Executive Director/Founder

☒ I understand that projects that qualify as “public works” under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):

Mandi J. Billinge

Signed on July 31, 2025

Clear Form

KIDS for the BAY

Watershed Action Program

2. Project Description

The KIDS for the BAY (KftB) Watershed Action Program (WAP) will engage low-income students, families and teachers in under-resourced schools in Antioch, El Cerrito, Hercules, Pittsburg, Richmond or San Pablo in hands-on environmental science education and watershed stewardship. Two hundred elementary school students in eight classes will connect with nature in their local watersheds and on special field trips to creek, bay and delta habitats. Students will discover wildlife in unique aquatic environments, explore and investigate like scientists, and make personal connections with nature. KftB will work together with partner schools to increase access to nature for all students, and to support Next Generation Science Standards with meaningful, hands-on learning.

Students will become environmental leaders at school and at home by taking action for their environment, making behavior changes and teaching their families and school communities how to protect their local watershed and wildlife. Students will collect and analyze data to assess the health of their local watershed. Each class will work together to select and complete an Environmental Action Project in their community, to improve human, fish and wildlife health through hands-on learning, leadership and stewardship.

Eight teachers will increase their confidence in using the local watershed as an educational resource, and empowering students to become environmentalists. Teachers will develop their skills in teaching hands-on environmental science and stewardship. Grade level teams of teachers will continue teaching KftB programs in future years through our follow-up teacher support Blue Watershed Classrooms program.

Watershed Action Program (WAP) objectives for the 2025-2026 school year in Contra Costa County schools:

- Two hundred students will increase their knowledge of watershed science in the classroom and in the field and become stewards of their local watershed and wildlife
- Two hundred family members will make behavior changes to reduce stormwater pollution
- Eight teachers will increase their confidence in using the local watershed as an educational resource and in empowering students to become environmental and wildlife stewards
- The WAP will be integrated into the curricula and culture of partner elementary schools and will engage school principals, teachers, students, and their families.

The WAP for each class will include:

- Four two-hour lessons at the school site both in the classroom and in the local watershed
- A nature-based field trip to a creek, bay or delta habitat
- An Environmental Action stewardship and leadership project
- Professional development and professional-level academic credit units for teachers through our partnership with California State University, East Bay.

Environmental Action Projects will develop students' leadership skills and will include the following options:

- Clean up and restore local urban creeks
- Monitor water quality, assess creek health and share findings
- Track the brands of plastic trash removed from local habitats and school neighborhoods to address corporate responsibility for plastic pollution
- Teach family members and peer students how to safely prepare and cook fish from the San Francisco Bay and delta to reduce the intake of toxins
- Create environmentally friendly pesticides to replace toxic pesticides for school gardens
- Presentations to families and buddy classes to educate others about water conservation and stewardship.

How the WAP Will Benefit the Fish and Wildlife of Contra Costa County

The WAP meets the requirements in letter (a) and some requirements in letter (e) of Section 13103 of the Fish and Game Code, as described below.

(a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal

instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.

The WAP will provide public environmental education focused on watershed ecology and health to third, fourth, and fifth grade classes in low-income, under-resourced elementary schools. Students will learn how to improve local creek and bay habitats in order to protect local fish and wildlife and ecosystems from pollution. The WAP is formal instruction that supports Next Generation Science Standards and is pursuant to a planned curriculum that includes watershed lessons, field trips, and Environmental Action Projects. Instructional techniques engage visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners, as well as English Language Learners and students with special educational needs. The WAP also provides professional development for teachers with the unique opportunity for teachers to learn alongside their students. Training and ongoing support are provided to enable teachers to continue teaching the WAP each year to new classes of students, which greatly increases the reach of the program.

(e) Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, [...] planting trees and other vegetation management.

The WAP addresses improvement of fish and wildlife habitat by:

- reducing nonpoint source stormwater pollution to the watershed
- cleaning up trash from school campuses/neighborhoods and creek and bay habitats
- partnering with local restoration organizations to complete planting projects in creek and bay habitats.

3. Project Schedule

KftB will use the funds received to support the WAP in partner schools in the 2025-2026 school year. The funds will be used by May 2026, less than a year from the date the grant is announced, if this grant application is successful.

4. Project Budget

The total project budget for the eight WAP classes is \$80,000. The \$8,400 grant from the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund will be spent on providing transportation to outdoor field trip sites for WAP students, teachers and families.

Expenses	Amount
Field trip bus transportation: 8 buses * \$1,050	\$8,400
Total	\$8,400

5. Annual Organizational Budget

The current annual organizational budget for KIDS for the BAY is \$716,000.

6. Organization Description Statement

KIDS for the BAY (KftB) has provided vital environmental education programs to under-resourced elementary schools in low-income communities in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, for the past 33 years. KftB in-depth, multiple-visit programs provide professional development for teachers and academic enrichment for students, turning the local watershed into a living laboratory for learning and environmental stewardship. Students find joy in connecting with nature, get excited about learning hands-on environmental science, and become inspired environmentalists. KftB students learn that everyone has the right to live in a clean and healthy environment, including wildlife and people. Students are empowered to become leaders in their communities. Teachers learn alongside their students and receive the training, tools and resources needed to use the local watershed environment as a key educational resource.

KftB partners primarily with low-income, under-resourced elementary schools in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties where more than 65% of our school students are low-income students and more than 87% are students of color. Approximately 47% of students are English Language Learners. KftB teaching strategies, including English Language Learner support, and culturally responsive classroom management techniques focusing on diversity, equity and inclusion, ensure equitable access to learning for all students. Students with special educational needs are included in our programs. KftB programs address environmental health and justice issues that affect the communities we partner with, for example: access to nature and corporate responsibility for plastic pollution. KftB hands-on activities in the outdoors engage all students. Students are excited to connect with nature, engage in meaningful learning experiences and protect the local watershed environment. KftB is a project of Earth Island Institute, our 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor.

Advisory Board Member	Affiliation	KftB Role
Leilani Alo lanisf70@gmail.com	Senior Philanthropic Advisor Marin Community Foundation	Advisory Board President
Kimberly Aguilar kimberly.c.aguilar@gmail.com	Spanish Bilingual Elementary School Teacher, OUSD	Education Advisor
Kate Gallagher kate.gal56@gmail.com	Retired Teacher/Science Education Consultant, OUSD	Education Advisor
Jenny Park jennipark@gmail.com	Managing Director, Climate One	Communications & Development Advisor
Sheela Shankar boomshivshankara@gmail.com	Former Development Director Rose Foundation, now a consultant	Development Advisor
Clifford Thompson, D.Ed clifford.thompson@wccusd.net	Fifth Grade Teacher, WCCUSD, Board Member, OUSD	Education Advisor

7. Qualifications Statement

KIDS for the BAY is now celebrating our **thirty-third year** of providing engaging, hands-on environmental education programs to schools in the San Francisco Bay Area. Since 1992, **114,407 student Environmentalists** have graduated from our programs and **4,528 partner teachers** have increased their confidence in teaching hands-on environmental science both in the classroom and in the outdoors as a result of KIDS for the BAY's programs. Our students have significantly improved their local watershed environments through education and action. Since 1992, KftB students have:

- Cleaned up **45,299 gallons of trash** from school neighborhoods and local creek and bay habitats
- Planted **20,300 native plants** in creek and bay habitats
- Removed **35,580 invasive plants** from creek and bay habitats
- Become **leaders in their families and in their school communities**, and taught others how to protect, clean up and restore local watershed environments, through student-led schoolwide assemblies, class presentations to families, and educational posters and videos created and shared by our young environmentalists.

Mandi Billinge, Executive Director/Founder

Mandi founded KIDS for the BAY and has directed program and organization development for the past thirty-three years. Mandi was originally a classroom teacher in an inner-city London school, and a biologist and estuarine ecologist. She founded KIDS for the BAY to bring the same exciting, hands-on environmental science projects that she taught in her own classroom into schools in the San Francisco Bay Area.

8. Individuals Responsible

KftB Staff Overseeing Project:

Mandi Billinge, Executive Director/Founder

Yvette Diaz Samyoa, Program Manager/Environmental Educator

KftB Staff Performing Project:

Anais Wilson, Lead Program Coordinator/Environmental Educator

Additional Program Coordinators: Libby Kirk, Sabreena Verma, Neda Ibrahim

Grants & Communications Coordinator: Amy Asmussen

For more information on the [KIDS for the BAY Staff Team](https://kidsforthebay.org/about-us/staff/), please use this link:

<https://kidsforthebay.org/about-us/staff/>

9. Permits: No permits are required for this project.

2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Application Cover Page

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Project title: MIRA VISTA FIELD RESTORATION PROJECT

Organization/Individual applying: THE WATERSHED PROJECT

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain))

Address: 1327 South 46th Street, Bldg 155, Richmond CA 94804

Telephone: (510) 665-3430

Fax:

E-mail: juliana@thewatershedproject.org

Name and title of contact person: Juliana Gonzalez, Executive Director

One sentence summary of proposal: Support of restoration work to restore Mira Vista Field, located in urban West Contra Costa County, to native serpentine grassland.

Requested grant: \$12,740 (lesser amount feasible)

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Adèle Ho, Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee member

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Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):

Juliana Gonzalez

Signed on 7/31/25



Mira Vista Field Restoration Project

Introduction

This grant application, by the Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee with nonprofit The Watershed Project as partner and fiscal sponsor, supports and revitalizes ongoing work to restore Mira Vista Field, an 8 acre property located in urban West Contra Costa County, to native serpentine grassland. This restoration meets the goal of California Fish & Game Code Section 13103(e), improvement of wildlife habitat through vegetation management. In addition, it provides a venue for nature study by Mira Vista Elementary School students.

Restoration work is complex and time intensive, so using the most effective tools and processes possible can make all the difference. Grant funding will support and revitalize our efforts to restore this precious jewel, with tools and equipment, an updated plan of action, and enhanced public education and outreach.

Project Objectives:

- Preserve neighborhood natural grassland open space including localized seeps/springs
- Protect native plant species and wildlife
- Provide educational opportunities for schoolchildren
- Educate the public as to importance of wildland spaces within urbanized areas
- Promote community connections and involvement
- Added benefit: Improved wildfire resilience in an area adjoining a high risk zone for wildfires

Site Description and Background:

The Mira Vista Field site has long been a source of community and connection to nature. Members of the surrounding community have been using the property for recreational purposes for 40+ years..... walking, jogging, dog walking, bird watching... and they have spent thousands of hours weeding non-native plants and propagating native plants at the site. The site has become a neighborhood gathering place, with people meeting and connecting on their daily ventures to the field.

The parcels that make up the field comprise approximately 8 acres of undeveloped land located just below Mira Vista Elementary School in unincorporated Contra Costa County. We call it “Mira Vista Field”. The property is owned by West Contra Costa Unified School District but as agreed with the District 30 years ago, is used and maintained on a daily basis by a group of about 50 neighbors led by the Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee. The land is home to 32 species of native plants, some of which are now rare due to the area’s development over the years. The field is a remarkable remnant of serpentine grassland....what much of the hills of the East Bay used to be. Close to 70 species of birds have also been identified at the field. It is a National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat, an island of wildland in the midst of urban development.



Mira Vista Field community restoration site (outlined in green).

A plant inventory and habitat restoration guide was developed for Mira Vista Field by The Watershed Project around 2005. Volunteers from the community have implemented some of the basic methods to remove non-native species in target areas, with some success. With the recent formation of a Stewardship Committee, we have been able to encourage more volunteers to take part in the restoration weeding activities. Building our volunteer team is necessary to continue the work of restoration, and we need the tools to enable them to effectively contribute and work to improve the native flora and wildlife habitat.

More information on the field is available on the website, www.miravistafield.org.

Project Proposal:

Grant funds are requested to support ongoing enhanced implementation of the habitat restoration work at the field, and to educate and encourage the community to appreciate and participate in the restoration of this precious place. Specifically, we are requesting funding for the following tasks.

1. **Purchase new weeding tools, equipment, and materials** needed to continue the restoration of the native grassland at Mira Vista Field. These would include hand pick axes, string trimmers (weed whackers), hand mowers with thatch collection, backpack sprayers (for spraying vinegar on invasive weed seedlings before they can grow up), wooden stakes and flagging (for marking off “no mow” native plant areas), “Habitat Restoration Area” signs, as well as materials needed to fence off the seep area from entry by dogs (since this is an important resource for local birds).

We have found through our experience and research so far that properly timed mowing can have a significant impact in the elimination of non-native grasses and weeds. Although the School District does the major mowing at the field (after we mark off “no mow” areas containing high concentrations of native plants and grasses), it is nearly impossible to get them to mow at exactly the right time. Having hand mowers and weed whackers of our own will allow us to accomplish the necessary mowing in high priority and target restoration areas.

2. **Fund rental equipment** needed to mulch walking paths. Each year that we are able to obtain free wood chips, we host volunteer days to place wood chip mulch on the walking paths at the field in preparation for wet winter weather when the paths would otherwise become muddy. Throughout the winter people continue to frequent the field, and without wood chip mulch on the walking paths we find that they walk on the vegetation as they try to avoid the muddy paths. This year, we have acquired a large amount of chips from the School District’s tree removals, and we will need to rent 2 Bobcats for 2 days in order to spread the chips on the paths. This will support the restoration effort by preventing trampling of native plants!
3. **Public Education / Signage**
 - a. **Refurbish existing bulletin board.** The current bulletin board is falling into disrepair after more than 20 years of use. We believe that a nicer unit with new plexiglass, and organized with field information in a designated area and community postings in another, would be more inviting for field visitors to read. Information about the value of native grasslands, both for wildlife and for people, and on human (and dog, since so many field users are dog owners) co-existence with nature, along with upcoming field work days, native plants and weeds of the month, would be posted on a secure section and another section would be open for community postings. County Fish & Wildlife Committee grant funding would be acknowledged on the new bulletin board.
 - b. **Install signage** encouraging use of the mulched walking paths, discouraging digging in the restoration areas by dogs, and also encouraging courteous and responsible dog walking and cleaning up after one’s dog. Design of the signage would be accomplished by a local designer and/or volunteer, working with the Stewardship Committee.

Installation of these items would be done by volunteers, as part of a volunteer work day.

4. **Update our existing website.** The current website was created with an older platform; it is rather boring and not easy to navigate. Updating of the website would be done by one or more volunteers from our group; funding is requested from grant funds for the cost of the new web platform for startup fees and an initial 1 year.
5. **Create a postcard with QR code** linked to the website. This would be used as a handout at local events. Requested funds are for printing of 200 postcards.

6. **Update the *Mira Vista Field Restoration Guide*.** This document was authored by The Watershed Project in 2005, and there have been changes in plant distributions at the field as well as new developments in grassland restoration methods. Part of this update will involve a re-surveying of the plants present at the field and locating them on a map. Another part of the update will involve gathering information on current restoration methods that have been successful in similar geographic/geologic/climatic regions of the Bay Area, i.e., “learning from other successful restoration projects”. This information will be used to update recommended practices to be (or continue to be) implemented at Mira Vista Field in order to continue down the path of restoration to native grassland, and to develop a long term plan with specific target areas to focus on¹. This work will be accomplished by volunteers from the Stewardship Committee; requested grant funds are for printing of the updated guide and maps.
7. **Host a *Community Outreach and Volunteer Appreciation Event* at the Field.** This would be an event with food and beverages, speakers, and informational handouts, held at the field to celebrate the new bulletin board and signage, introduce and welcome new volunteers, and generally create excitement about the restoration work.

Budget:

Task #	Description (detailed breakdown for each Task available upon request)	Subtotals
1	Restoration tools, equipment and materials - hand tools, string trimmers (2), mowers (2), stakes, flagging, exclusion fence. "habitat restoration area" signs	\$ 4,620
2	Mulching pathways so people do not trample restoration areas - Bobcat rental to spread donated wood chips	\$ 2,000
3	Refurbish bulletin board, install signage at entrances to field	\$ 5,150
4	Website hosting – startup cost and first year annual fee	\$ 450
5	Postcard handout - printing	\$ 120
6	Restoration Guide Update - printing	\$ 200
7	Public Outreach and Volunteer Appreciation Event – food and beverages	\$ 200
TOTAL GRANT REQUEST		\$ 12,740

NOTE: Although we would love to receive funding for all tasks listed, we are open to the funding of individual task(s) if that better serves the Committee’s funding goals for this round of applications.

Schedule: All purchases associated with Task 1, and all the work of Tasks 2 – 7, would be completed within 1 year of grant award.

Organizational Information:

The Watershed Project (TWP) is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization headquartered in Richmond, whose mission is to inspire San Francisco Bay Area communities to understand, appreciate, and protect our local watersheds. It has been in existence since 1997. More info here: <https://thewatershedproject.org> TWP provides fiscal sponsorship to local watershed groups, and has a 28-year track record of responsible money management, and strong record of successfully fulfilling local, state, and federal contracts and grants. Its Board of Directors includes: Heidi Nutters (Chair), Melissa Garvey (Treasurer), Rei Scampavia (Secretary), and Members Nahal Ghoghaie-Ipakchi and Maria Katticaran. The 2025-2026 budget for TWP is \$1,692,777.

The Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee operates solely on donations; annual expenditures are roughly \$1,000.

Project Personnel:

The Watershed Project - Juliana Gonzales, Executive Director of The Watershed Project since 2015.
Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee - Adèle Ho (Civil Engineer, Project Manager, retired Public Works Director), Jim Hanson (Landscape Architect, CNGA² former Board member, CNPS³ East Bay Conservation Chair), and local residents/long time field advocates Gena McCarthy, Nel Benningshof, Trish Clifford, Guillermo Ortiz, Michael DeClerck, Michael Curran, and June Kamerling.

Permits: No permits are required for work associated with the proposed grant funded work; it is part of our ongoing maintenance work at the field, as agreed upon with the School District (property owner).

¹ We anticipate using the “Bradley Method”, which recommends beginning with an area of existing high diversity of native plants and then working outward from there.

² California Native Grasslands Association

³ California Native Plant Society

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

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Project title: 2026 Discovery Discovery Voyage Program

Organization/Individual applying: Marine Science Institute

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain)
X

Address: 500 Discovery Parkway Redwood City, CA 94063

Telephone: (650) 364-2760

Fax: (650) 364-0416

E-mail: Marilou@sfbaymsi.org

Name and title of contact person: Marilou Seiff, Executive Director

One sentence summary of proposal: Marine Science Institute delivers Delta Discovery Voyages with students in Contra Costa County and this grant would provide meaningful outdoor excursions with lessons that will last a lifetime.

Requested grant: **\$5,096.00**

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Lilly C. Lew, Institutional Giving Manager

☒ I understand that projects that qualify as “public works” under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):



Signed on 6/27/2025

Clear Form



Marine Science Institute Proposal for Funding Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Grant

Date: August 1st, 2025
To: Maureen Parkes; Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee (FWC)
From Primary Contact: Marilou Seiff, Executive Director, marilou@sfbaymsi.org, 650-364-2760
MSI Annual Budget: \$2,617,000
Title of Program: 2026 Delta Discovery Voyage Program

Project Description:

MSI delivers the Delta Discovery Voyage (DDV) to CCC 5th grade students with hands-on science curriculum aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), aboard our 90-foot research vessel, the *Robert G. Brownlee*, on the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. At an average of 3,700 students per season, MSI has educated more than 77,000 CCC 5th graders since 2003. We are asking the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee (FWC) to partially fund the 2025 DDV program (specifically Supplies, Vessel/Vehicle Fuel and Marina Fees) with a grant of \$5,096, so Delta wildlife and water education will continue without interruption.

DDV Program Description:

MSI's Delta Discovery Voyage Program addresses both the education and environmental needs of Contra Costa County (CCC). To gather input from teachers, we will host the DDV Teacher Fair in September 2025. We will introduce the program to new teachers and rekindle the excitement among returning teachers. Teachers will register their classes at this event. We anticipate our DDV program schedule will be near full by the end of the event.

Based on previous years, **we expect to educate at least 3,700 CCC 5th graders this year.** Among the students we will educate this year, approximately 1,800 (48%) will come from schools in Central CCC, and 1,900 (52%) will come from schools in East CCC. Our San Francisco Bay Discovery Voyage program is available when our ship comes to the Richmond Marina for 2 weeks in October each year. (The Richmond-based education is different from the DDV program since it focuses on life in the brackish water ecosystem of the Bay vs the freshwater ecosystem of the Delta.)

Local teachers reported they are under-supported to provide academically rigorous, culturally relevant, and meaningful environmental science education for their students. Approximately 46% of fifth grade students from CCC schools have historically scored below proficiency in science in standardized tests. DDVs teach exciting, place-based science to Contra Costa County students that expand their learning beyond the classroom and enables them to discover their relationship with the local natural environment. MSI's DDV program supports CCC teachers by providing grade-specific and developmentally appropriate curriculum plans and these activities align seamlessly with NGSS goals.

These students and their families source their drinking water from the Delta, yet they know little about their own direct effect on the Delta ecosystem. Most do not know the characteristics of the watershed and the importance of protecting this precious natural resource. By educating students every year - especially at this impressionable age on these topics and practical stewardship habits they can employ, water quality and supply will improve, and Delta wildlife will thrive.

Delta Discovery Voyage Outcomes

Through the 3-1/2-hour instructional voyage on the Delta aboard the R/V Robert G. Brownlee and the completion of the Water Patrol Activity, students will learn these key concepts:

- Drinking water comes from the Delta; all residents of the Delta region have a special responsibility to help keep the water/habitat clean (stewardship).
- A watershed is an area of land that drains water, sediment, and dissolved minerals to a common outlet; the Delta's watershed boundaries are quite large and cover urban, rural, and unincorporated areas of Contra Costa County.
- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) needs to be transported to special disposal facilities.

- Mercury, a significant Delta contaminant, is sourced from fluorescent lightbulbs and other Household Hazardous Waste products.

The 2026 Delta Discovery Voyage Program satisfies the eligibility requirements of Section 13103 **(a)** of the Fish & Game Code for requesting funding from the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund. It provides public education that is aligned with CA Common Core and NGSS for public schools, and to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation by using supervised formal instruction conducted with a planned curriculum and aids to education.

MSI agrees to obtain advance written approval from the FWC of any communication/written material that may be understood to represent the views of the FWC and to provide the FWC with reasonable opportunity to review, comment and approve the communication/written material in advance. MSI also agrees to use the following statement, if funding is granted: "Delta Discovery Voyage equipment and ship fuel are funded in part by the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee."

Project Schedule:

Dates	Task Name	Description
September 2025 (Date TBD)	Host Teacher Fair	Teachers attend an in-person event at Big Break OSP to learn about the DDV program and register their classes.
1/ - 2/27/2026	Teach programs	5 th grade students from Contra Costa County schools participate in DDVs.
1/5 - 2/27/2026	Inform DDV funders	Host Delta Donor Voyage on 2/10/24. Host funders, as requested, on Delta Discovery Voyage instructional programs. Attend meetings hosted by funders.
3/1-5/1/2026	Evaluation and report	Evaluate all teacher surveys; compare outcomes to objectives. Create and submit a funder report. Host funder teleconference.
12/31/2026	Additional reports	Submit additional reports to funders, as requested.

MSI Request for Exception to Expenditure Timing Requirement

Per current guidelines, project expenditures eligible for reimbursement must occur only after the Board of Supervisors (BoS) approves grant funding. While MSI has taken care to ensure that all project expenditures are scheduled to begin after BoS approval, we recognize that delays in the decision-making process can sometimes occur. Therefore, MSI respectfully requests an exception to this requirement. If grant approval decisions are not finalized until 2026 and our program is set to begin in January 2026, we seek permission to make necessary purchases in December 2025 to ensure timely implementation. We fully understand that this request does not imply, or guarantee grant approval, and we accept the risk that early expenditures may not be reimbursed if funding is not awarded.

Project Budget:

Expenses	2025-2026 DDV Budget	CCCFWC Project Budget	Description
Payroll and Benefits	\$174,564		
Outside Services	\$6,070		
Supplies and Operating Expenses	\$12,852	\$1,463	Expendable supplies – Buckets, Fish Keys, Trawl Nets, Hand/Plankton Nets. Click here for a complete list
Travel and Fuel	\$8,092	\$2,800	Vessel fuel
Occupancy	\$5,746		
Insurance, Repairs, Other	\$15,676	\$833	Harbor fees
Depreciation	\$32,016		
Total Expense	\$255,016	\$5,096	

Organization Description:

The Marine Science Institute (MSI) is a 501c3 organization founded in 1970. Our mission is to inspire environmental stewardship through hands-on learning and exploration of San Francisco Bay ecosystems. We provide NGSS-aligned curriculum and field trips for schools on the San Francisco Bay and Delta aboard our 90' research vessel, the *Robert G. Brownlee*; at our shoreside campus in Redwood City; on the Pacific coast; and in school classrooms via our Mobile Aquarium. MSI programs provide students with the opportunity to observe, touch, and discuss live animals from the Bay, Delta and/or coastal ecosystems while building fundamental knowledge in biology, physics, microbiology, and chemistry.

MSI Board of Directors and Officers:

Tuan Nguyen, Board Co-Chair ; Chief Financial Officer, Kinevant Sciences

Neeraj Pendse, Board Co-Chair; VP Head of Product Management, Elo Touch Systems

Will Cheung, Treasurer ; VP of Finance Planning & Analysis, Visa Inc.

Syed Arij, Secretary; VP of Product Management, Walgreens

Clark Morey, Member at-Large ; Senior Account Director, Adobe

Tim Davis, Member at Large; Global Escalations Team Manager, Marketo

James Roberts, Financial Consultant

Victoria Hunter, Member at Large; Digital Biomarker Director, Koneksa

Jack Spallino, Member at Large; Principal, J. Spallino & Associates Commercial Real Estate

Manvinder Singh, Member at Large; VP of Product Management, Redis

Laura Bajuk, Member at Large; Nonprofit Executive

Other Funders:

Other agencies who fund the Delta Discovery Voyage program include Contra Costa Water District, Delta Diablo, Central San, Golden State Water Co, Dean and Margaret Leshner Foundation, Corteva and Marathon Petroleum.

Qualifications of Marine Science Institute:

Since 1970, **MSI has educated over 1.3 million students** through programs that build science knowledge, spark curiosity, and inspire stewardship for the local environment. MSI completed the upgrade of our school curricula to achieve alignment and implementation with NGSS in 2015. All curriculum is presented with strong conservation messages and new habits students can apply to their everyday lives to encourage their personal environmental stewardship behaviors.

Key personnel responsible for the Delta Discovery Voyage program and qualifications:

Marilou Seiff, Executive Director: Marilou has been with the Marine Science Institute since November 1996 and became Executive Director in 2003. Before MSI, Marilou worked as an Aquatic Biologist at the Pacific Environmental Laboratory, a diver at the Marineland of the Pacific, and a biologist at the California Department of Fish & Game. Marilou holds a B.S. in Biology from Stanford University, and a M.S. in Biology from the University of the Pacific.

Karen Peluso-Galaviz, Ship Program Manager: Karen directs all aspects of the ship- and canoe-based programs including hiring, training, and scheduling of all Science Instructors and Marine Educators. She started at MSI as an Instructor with the Delta Discovery Voyage program in 2003 and became MSI Ship Program Manager in 2006. Prior to MSI, Karen held educator roles with Save the Bay, Don Edwards SF Bay NWR, and the Common Murre Restoration Project. Karen has a B.S. in Biology from Murray State University in Kentucky.

Jackson Gentry, Senior Captain: Jackson captains R/V *Robert G. Brownlee*, performs vessel maintenance, trains and oversees the crew on program procedures and safety protocols. Jackson has obtained and maintains licenses or permits in US Coast Guard (USCG) Masters 100GT NC, CA Dept of Fish and Game (DFG) Scientific Collection, CA DFG Commercial Fishing, CA DFG Commercial Fishing Vessel Operator, USCG Marine Safety and Survival Drill Instructor, NorEastern Trawl Advanced Deck and Equipment Skills, and Southern CA Merchant Marine Training Master and Towing Instruction.

Inspiring respect and stewardship for the marine environment through experiential learning.

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**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

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Project title:

Organization/Individual applying:

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain))

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Name and title of contact person:

One sentence summary of proposal:

Requested grant:

Proposal prepared by (name & title):

I understand that projects that qualify as “public works” under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (*Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered*):



Signed on 8/1/25

Project: Moorhen Marsh and the Mt. View Sanitary District Wetlands Education Program

Mt. View Sanitary District (MVSD) respectfully requests financial assistance for the improvement of wildlife habitat in Moorhen Marsh and its wetlands education program serving Contra Costa County students from January 2026 to December 2026.

2) Fish and wildlife of Contra Costa County will benefit from this project through the enhancement of water circulation by increased aeration in the Moorhen Marsh ponds. Moorhen Marsh is host to the MVSD Wetlands Education Program. The students who participate in this program develop an understanding of fish and wildlife in Contra Costa County and are given tools that they can put into action in the community to help protect this wetlands habitat.



This project meets the requirements of Section 13103(a) by providing public education through the MVSD Wetlands Education Program and Section 13103(e) through the improvement of Moorhen Marsh's native habitat. The following describes the project:

MVSD's treated effluent flows into a series of wetlands ponds that make up Moorhen Marsh, rather than a deep-water outfall as most treated wastewater does. Moorhen Marsh is completely dependent on MVSD's advanced secondarily treated effluent for its water. Without the approximately 1.2 million gallons of effluent provided by MVSD's treatment plant every day, this historic marsh would cease to exist.

Moorhen Marsh, enhanced by the reclaimed effluent, is rich and diverse in wildlife that includes the western pond turtle, North American river otter, mink, North American beaver, and many species of birds and fish. It also assists in the treatment process by reducing nutrients as the effluent travels through the marsh before flowing into Peyton Slough and eventually out to the Carquinez Strait.

Like wetlands and water bodies throughout California, Moorhen Marsh has seen an increase in algal blooms. Algal blooms can pose a significant threat to humans, wildlife, and aquatic ecosystems. To fight this threat, MVSD and its consulting environmental specialist will increase aeration in Moorhen Marsh by installing fine bubble aeration discs with weighted specialized aeration tubing, powered by a solar generator. Increasing aeration in the ponds will optimize oxygen levels and ecosystem health by reducing and controlling algae. Installing a solar power station to support the aeration ensures a sustainable energy source.

Moorhen Marsh, a healthy and vibrant wetland environment, provides the backdrop for MVSD's Wetlands Education Program. The complimentary field trip experience serves all Contra Costa County elementary schools and allows students to explore Moorhen Marsh, dip net for aquatic animals, tour MVSD's treatment plant, and learn about water pollution prevention and aquatic animal adaptations. The treatment plant tour gives students a first-hand look at how wastewater is treated so it can be safely returned to the environment and describes how everyone can participate in keeping our creeks and waterways clean by learning what is safe to pour down the drain. While participating in the wetlands field trip hike, students look for mammal signs, learn how to find and observe birds like great blue heron and Canada goose, perform dip-netting activities for closeup inspection of a variety of fish and invertebrate species, and perform water quality testing. MVSD uses ethically sourced

animal specimens to provide students with a close examination of birds and mammals and the adaptations that help them live and thrive in a wetland environment like Moorhen Marsh.

During the program, students receive an educational booklet to record their experiences. The booklet is designed specifically for the MVSD wastewater treatment plant, Moorhen Marsh, and its wildlife. If funding is granted, the Fish and Wildlife Committee will be acknowledged for their support via these student booklets, MVSD social media platforms, the MVSD website and additional outreach communication to the community.

MVSD started this program in 1996, and an average of 1,600 students benefit from the program each school year. The community's students as well as the county's fish and wildlife benefit from the program as it increases awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the functions and values of wetland habitats and the wildlife they support.

3) Project Schedule

Date	Project Task
January-26	Purchase booklets
	Finalize field trip supplies & order
	Source animal specimens & order
February-26	Field trips resume after winter break
May-26	Finalize aeration parts/supplies & order
June-26	Education program ends
July-26	Finalize field trip supplies & order
	Aeration project installed
August-26	Education program starts
December-26	Field trips end for winter break

4) Project Budget

Project Expenses	Quantity (if applicable)	Funds Requested
Wetlands Student Booklets - branded MVSD, FWC	1,600	\$3,270
Animal Specimens (otter, beaver, mallard, muskrat)	4	\$5,341
Field trip supplies (dip nets, water quality testing, etc.)	n/a	\$850
Stainless steel LTC fine bubble aeration discs with compressors	12	\$17,328
Solar Generator & power station	1	\$25,230
Aeration supplies (tubing, cables, etc.)	n/a	\$1,750
Total		\$53,769

5) The MVSD Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Budget appropriates funds for anticipated expenditures of \$12.8 million for all District funds with total revenue projections of \$12.9 million with Fiscal Year-end June 30, 2026. The FY25-26 O&M budget projects revenues of \$11.3 million and expenditures of \$9.1 million and reflects a 3% increase in expenditure from the prior year. Sewer Service Charges and other miscellaneous charges and fees fully support operations and maintenance expenditures.

6) Mt. View Sanitary District's mission is to protect the public health and environment, in a safe and reliable manner, at a reasonable cost while providing wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services for a portion of the City of Martinez and adjacent incorporated lands. The Board of Directors consists of Gregory Pyka, President, Jared Ruddell, Vice President, Brian Danley, Julia Halsne, and Marjan Javadi.

Mt. View Sanitary District is proud to be affiliated with Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (BACWA), Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group (BAPPG), California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), and the California Water Environmental Association (CWEA).

7) Mt. View Sanitary District frequently consults botanists, biologists, docents, and environmental specialists in water treatment through vegetation and will continue to do so for the management of Moorhen Marsh and its related educational programs.

8) Mt. View Sanitary District's Deputy General Manager, Stacey Ambrose, and Public Outreach & Administrative Services Supervisor, Robin Mitchell, are responsible for overseeing Moorhen Marsh and the Wetlands Education Program.

9) No permits are required to implement the MVSD Wetlands Education Program or for the water circulation improvement project in Moorhen Marsh.

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

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Project title: Steelhead Trout Protection Research Project

Organization/Individual applying: The Watershed Project

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain)
X

Address: 1327 South 46th Street Building 155 Richmond, CA 94804

Telephone: (510) 665-3430

Fax:

E-mail: satoko@thewatershedproject.org

Name and title of contact person: Satoko Mills, Environmental Monitoring Manager

One sentence summary of proposal: Steelhead Trout Protection Research includes Fish Barrier Assessment, water temperature and connectivity, other WQ monitoring with John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JMTU) in Wildcat Creek

Requested grant: **\$13,405**

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Juliana Gonzalez, Executive Director

☒ I understand that projects that qualify as "public works" under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (*Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered*):

C Juliana Gonzalez

Signed on 7/29/25

Clear Form



Project Description: The Watershed Project (TWP) and the John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JMTU) propose to take action to protect steelhead trout in Wildcat Creek. Steelhead trout is listed as a threatened species under the federal and California Endangered Species Act. According to East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) research, steelhead trout exist in Lake Anza, and TWP's 2025 benthic macro-invertebrate survey (BMI) found sufficient food sources for native trout to thrive below Lake Anza. We also found through our current survey with JMTU that Upper Wildcat offers suitable habitat for their spawning and rearing. But there are no trout downstream of Lake Anza in the lower reaches of Wildcat Creek.

TWP and JMTU will carry out a Fish Barrier Assessment with community science volunteers in 2026 to identify any barriers negatively affecting trout migration. Our research project will be a partnership between TWP and JMTU to cover the entire creek, with JMTU taking the lead in the upper watershed and TWP taking the lead in the lower watershed. (JMTU is also submitting a grant proposal for their work). Together, we will standardize protocols, equipment, training, and data documentation. TWP will continue to monitor the water temperature and connectivity, which are important parameters in the lower area, while JMTU will monitor the water temperature and dissolved oxygen in the upper area. TWP's trash cleanups will physically improve the habitat.

The Watershed Project respectfully requests \$13,405 from the Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife Committee to support steelhead trout protection research activities. We will use these funds towards purchasing equipment to assess fish barriers, water temperature loggers, water quality monitoring equipment, lab analysis fees, educational materials for public events, and supplies for trash cleanups. We will measure barrier structures such as culverts, bridges, crossings, weirs, dams, and passage status, and water depth and flow (velocity), to assess whether steelhead trout can pass through or not.

We will share the data we collect on the Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS), which is the state-wide inventory owned by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). In lower Wildcat Creek, TWP has been deeply involved with the Fish Passage re-design—which could enhance our efforts with the fish barrier assessment and improve the fish passage.

The proposed activities and data collection will be a key part of TWP's Wildcat Watershed Innovation Leadership & Development Group (WWILD) community engagement events. We'll provide public education tools for the local community, such as a trout story book for kids, "*Kiyana and the Wildcat Creek*," to engage them through bilingual storybook readings in English and Spanish.

Lower Wildcat Creek is often dry during the dry season, producing a lack of connectivity from the upper to lower watershed. Steelhead trout need creek connectivity in order to migrate toward the ocean from spring to summer. Using HOBO loggers, The Watershed Project (TWP) continuously monitors sites in the lower watershed to detect the presence or absence of water and measure temperature. TWP supplements this data with monthly videos of water flow and photographs of creek water levels taken by community volunteers at 10 educational water-level monitoring stations. The photographic series will provide a timelapse showing the creek's variability.

Because steelhead trout are a threatened species and there is limited evidence that resident rainbow trout can reestablish anadromous runs once lost, it is crucial to protect the existing steelhead population in Wildcat Creek. Our research and data collection will inform future fish barrier removal projects, while our educational events and cleanups will engage the community. Thank you for considering The Watershed Project's proposal.

Benefit to Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife: This project will identify current potential problems for steelhead trout migration and habitat. We will share our results with the state-wide interactive map, BIOS, and will help inform future fish barrier removal plans. All our research and activities will directly protect steelhead trout, which is listed as an endangered species. TWP will also share our data with the community to educate and generate a stronger voice for this iconic wildlife protection.



The Watershed Project proposal to the 2026 Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife
Propagation Fund – Protecting Steelhead Trout in Wildcat Creek

Requirements of Fish and Game Code: The project promotes public education relating to fish and wildlife conservation as indicated in Section 13103(a) of the Fish and Game Code. It also improves fish and wildlife habitat as indicated in Section 13103(e).

3. and 4. Project Schedule and Budget

Project	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Fish Barrier Assessment and other data collection												
Plan and Training, Assessment Activity												
HOBO logger and WQ data collection												
BMI Survey												
Data Sharing												
Submit Fish Barrier data, share HOBO data												
Upload WQ data to CEDEN, TWP website												
Cleanup												
Cleanup Events												
Report												
Report Writing												

Item	Cost
<i>Fish Barrier Assessment</i>	
Measuring tapes (100 ft, 300ft)	\$130
Flow sensors (1)	\$210
Tree Canopy Densiometer (1)	\$185
Auto Level (1)	\$930
Leveling rod (1)	\$220
<i>Lab Fees</i>	
Price to preserve and ID 1 BMI sample	\$450
<i>Water Connectivity, WQ Monitoring</i>	
Calibration standards for Wildcat Creek (pH, Conductivity, Nitrate, Turbidity)	\$900
Replace meters (HOBO loggers, parts, modules), batteries, and any maintenance items	\$3150
<i>Trash Cleanup Items</i>	
Trash bags (10; heavy duty, 55 gallon, 50 count box)	\$240
Trash pickers (20)	\$600
<i>Trash Monitoring Items</i>	
Microplastics monitoring kit (2)	\$1170
<i>Public Education Materials</i>	
Education materials for public events (posters, stationery)	\$600
Creek Cleanup Volunteer Workdays or public event snacks	\$500
Print Flyers	\$100
Educational Water-level monitoring station signages (10 sites)	\$2500
<i>Safety Items</i>	
Safety vest (3), First-Aid (5), Waders (2), Insect repellent (2), Decontamination (1)	\$320
<i>Other Items</i>	
Accounting Services and Liability Insurance x \$100/month	1,200
Total Cost	\$13,405



5. Annual budget for applying organization

The Watershed Project's organizational budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 is \$1,620,777.

6. Statement describing the applying organization, Board of Directors, and officers of the organization, and listing all affiliated organizations.

The Watershed Project began in 1987 as the education department of the San Francisco Estuary Institute, before becoming its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 1997. Based in Richmond, our mission is to inspire San Francisco Bay communities to understand, appreciate, and protect our local watersheds. TWP's goals include increasing awareness and stewardship of natural resources and building healthier habitats in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Watershed Project's Board of Directors includes Nahal Ghoghaie-Ipakchi, Senior Climate Team Leader at BluePoint Planning; Melissa Garvey, Treasurer, is the Director of Projects and Planning at the National Restaurant Association.; Maria Katticaran, an urban designer and architect passionate about creating sustainable and resilient cities; Heidi Nutters, Principal Program Manager at the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, and Rei Scampavia, WRA plant biologist. Our partners for the proposed work include John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JMTU), East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), and Safe Organized Spaces (SOS).

7. Statement describing the qualifications of the sponsoring organization and participating individuals for completing the project.

The Watershed Project has won many awards for our work over the last 25 years, including the 2023 Outstanding Contra Costa Watershed Protection Award for the North Richmond Watershed Connections project, the 2021 Leadership in Sustainability Award from Sustainable Contra Costa, and the 2019 Contra Costa County Watershed Leadership Award. Since its inception, The Watershed Project has engaged over 30,000 community members in creek and wetlands restoration efforts; and fostered the work of over 40 grassroots community creek groups. Our actions have helped to educate thousands of community members about water quality issues and how to make critical behavior changes to create a healthier watershed, and help improve water quality and enhance habitat for native fish and wildlife.

Satoko Mills oversees TWP's creek and oyster monitoring programs. She holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Nihon University and has experience as a water quality analyst at an environmental laboratory. Paula White, TWP's Senior Manager for Urban Watershed Stewardship, coordinates the Richmond data collection effort for the Taking out the Trash source control and waste reduction project. She serves as Contra Costa County's Coastal Cleanup Day coordinator. Roger Wachtler with JMTU leads the Wildcat Creek Habitat Study. Roger is the president of the JMTU and has been responsible for deploying and maintaining the Onset Hobo units. Peter Mangarella is responsible for report writing. He studied Civil Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University and Stanford University (PhD). Ed Culver, a fisheries biologist with the EBRPD, will assist with permitting and fish barrier assessment training.

8. List of individuals responsible for performing project and responsible for overseeing project.

Satoko Mills will coordinate the Fish Barrier Assessment and all monitoring programs, including purchasing equipment, volunteer coordination, data analysis, grant management, reporting, and partnership building. Paula White will oversee the entire program and provide supervision.

9. Statement describing the status of permit approvals necessary to perform the project (if applicable).

The Watershed Project obtained a Scientific Collection Permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2024 for a Benthic Macroinvertebrate survey (expires on 03/20/2027). TWP and JMTU will obtain an extension on an existing Research Permit from EBRPD to take a fish barrier assessment.

10. Request for an exception to the grant funding cost reimbursement requirement due to financial hardship or an exception for a small project under \$1,000. N/A

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

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Project title: Upper Wildcat Creek Habitat and Fish Passage Barrier Study

Organization/Individual applying: John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain))

Address: 2550 9th Street, Suite 104, Berkeley, CA 94710

Telephone: 510-280-5368 (TU office)

Fax:

E-mail: pmangarella44@gmail.com

Name and title of contact person: Peter Mangarella, Conservation Chair (510 289 8163)

One sentence summary of proposal: Provide equipment and supplies to measure fish habitat and conduct fish passage barrier assessment in Upper Wildcat Creek.

Requested grant \$5755

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Peter Mangarella, Conservation Chair, John Muir TU

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Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):

Peter Mangarella

Signed on 29 July 2025

Clear Form

2026 Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund

Wildcat Creek Habitat and Fish Passage Study

Project Description

Significant work is being conducted in Wildcat Creek to reconnect the watershed so as to facilitate the restoration of resident and anadromous trout (steelhead). For example a recent project in lower Wildcat Creek included the redesign of a poorly functioning fish passage, funded by a \$1.2M grant from the Department of Water Resources. Construction is planned for 2026.

In 2024 and 2025 the John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JMTU), in collaboration with The Watershed Project and the East Bay Regional Park District, has been monitoring the suitability of Wildcat Creek to provide spawning and rearing habitat. These data have shown that upper Wildcat Creek has all the needed elements for native trout to thrive and anadromous fish to utilize for spawning and rearing, but there are no trout to be found downstream of Lake Anza. Why?

It would appear that watershed wide fragmentation of Wildcat Creek is limiting the range of native trout and preventing anadromous steelhead from accessing the habitat in the upper watershed. Moreover what work that has been done on documenting access issues is outdated. We need current fish passage barrier data that will motivate stakeholders (and grant funding agencies) in addressing this issue.

The fish passage barrier identification study is designed to cover the entire watershed. JMTU would take the lead in the upper watershed, and The Watershed Project (TWP) would take the lead on the lower watershed. (TWP is submitting a separate grant application to the Fish and Wildlife Committee for their portion of the work.)

Methods, equipment, training and data documentation would be developed jointly, consistent with guidance from the California Fish Passage Forum (<https://www.cafishpassageforum.org/>) including inputting all water quality data into the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) and Fish Passage Barrier Data into the California Passage Assessment Database (<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/pad/home>).

Stream crossings and other potential impediments to passage will be evaluated using the first-phase assessment protocols identified in Part IX of the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2003). Based on this evaluation, crossings will be assigned to Green, Gray, or Red categories as outlined in the manual. Data collected will allow for future ranking of individual sites for redesign.

Collaboration

The study will be coordinated with The Watershed Project (TWP) and East Bay Regional Park District.

Benefit to fish and wildlife of Contra Costa County

The Wildcat Creek Habitat and Fish Passage Study will provide a direct benefit to anadromous fish species in Wildcat Creek by better understanding spawning and rearing conditions in the creek, and interventions necessary to accompany fish passage improvements. The shorter-term benefit will be to

restoring the range of the upper Wildcat resident trout population and the longer-term benefit will be to restoring the historic steelhead runs.

Requirements of Fish and Game Code

The project improves fish and wildlife habitat as indicated in Section 13103(e).

Project Schedule

Task	Timeline
Fish Barrier Equipment Purchase	March/April 2026
Fish Passage Barrier Training	April 2026
Fish Passage Barrier Identification	May -December 2026
Maintain and Replace Hobo Loggers	As Needed
Collect and compile data	Semi-Annually
Input data to CEDEN & CA Fish Passage Assessment Database	Semi-Annually
Prepare and Submit Final Report	March 2027

Project Budget

item	number	unit cost	total	comments
Onset DO Sensor Caps	18	115	2070	
Onset DO Sensor Batteries	6	250	1500	factory installation
Spherical Crown Densiometer	1	125	125	measures tree canopy
Laser Level	1	800	800	
staff gauge (leveling rod 25 ft)	1	150	150	
measuring tapes (100 ft & 300 ft)	1	100	100	
subtotal			4745	
state/local taxes (10.75%)			510	
shipping (estimate)			500	
Total			\$5755	

Statement describing organization, Board of Directors, and affiliated organizations

The John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2016. The Chapter is part of Trout Unlimited National, and Trout Unlimited California. The John Muir Chapter encompasses Alameda County, Contra Costa County, and a portion of Solano County. Within this area there are about 900 members of Trout Unlimited. The principal office of Trout Unlimited is 2550 9th St., Suite 104, Berkeley CA 94710. The John Muir Chapter's Board of Directors consists of Roger Wachtler, President, Richard Unger, Treasurer, Peter Mangarella, Conservation Chair, Mary Tealdi, Steven Cochrane, Mira Radosevich, Craig Martz, and Zach Spotts. Our partners for this grant proposal include The Watershed Project, and the East Bay Regional Park District.

Statement describing qualifications of sponsoring organization and participating individuals

Roger Wachtler with Trout Unlimited, leads the Wildcat Creek Habitat Study. Roger is president of the John Muir Chapter and has been responsible for deploying and maintaining the Onset Hobo units. Other JMTU volunteers include Mary Tealdi, Mira Radosevich and Craig Martz. Roger and Mira have recently taken a CDFW class in Rapid Passage Assessment. Craig Martz is a retired CDFW Environmental Program Manager with experience in fish barrier assessment. Peter Mangarella is responsible for report writing. He studied Civil Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University and Stanford University (PhD).

Satoko Mills oversees the creek and oyster monitoring programs at The Watershed Project. She holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Nihon University and worked as a water quality analyst at an environmental laboratory before joining The Watershed Project. She also has experience doing restoration projects in creeks, wetlands, and open spaces, and she is passionate about maintaining clean water and restoring native plant communities in order to enhance ecosystem resilience. She also recently completed a class in Rapid Fish Passage Assessment put on by the CDFW Passage Assessment Database staff.

Responsible individuals: Roger Wachtler, Mary Tealdi, Criag Mertz, Mira Radosevich and other TU volunteers will conduct the habitat monitoring and fish passage assessment. Satoko Mills with The Watershed Project will assist in coordinatiion with the lower watershed work. Ed Culver, a fisheries biologist with the EBRPD is the assigned stewardship staff contact.

Permits: Trout Unlimited and The Watershed Project have a Research Permit from the East Bay Regional Park District that extends to May 18, 2026. We have received verbal approval from EBRPD that they will accept an amendment to extend our current research project to May !8, 2029 and to add fish passage barrier assessment to the scope of work.

Exception For Non-Profit Organizations That Can Demonstrate Financial Hardship: The John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited is primarily funded by a remittances from TU National based on the number of TU members in the JMTU area. That remittance is approximately \$1000 per year and must cover various chapter operational expenses. The JMTU bank account as of June 2025 was \$5500.

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

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Project title: Habitat Restoration and Ecological Education for Future Generations

Organization/Individual applying: Wildcat Canyon Community School

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain)
X

Address: 3800 Clark Rd, El Sobrante CA 94803

Telephone: (510) 815-9332

Fax:

E-mail: SerenaWHorn@gmail.com

Name and title of contact person: Serena Horn, WCCS Garden Coordinator

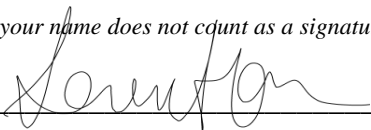
One sentence summary of proposal: The purpose of this project is to restore native wildlife habitat on the campus of Wildcat Canyon Community School, and to expand ecosystems education to the entire student body.

Requested grant: **\$5,250.00**

Proposal prepared by (name & title): **Serena Horn, WCCS Garden Coordinator**

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Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):



Signed on _____

Clear Form

Description of the Project

How does this project benefit the fish and wildlife of Contra Costa County?

The purpose of this project is to restore native wildlife habitat on the campus of Wildcat Canyon Community School (WCCS), and to educate future generations in the community about our native ecosystem. The children often bring home stories of wildlife sightings, including the deer, coyote, rabbits, hawks, heron, lizards, and a multitude of other creatures that live on the 91 acre campus, which borders the hills of Wildcat Canyon Regional Park in Contra Costa County. Preschool through 8th grade students venture into Wildcat Canyon regularly, and there is a great emphasis on outdoor education, land stewardship, and harmony with the natural world.

This project will continue the restoration of previously disturbed hillsides and allow for the creation of a new native ecosystem teaching garden. Restoration efforts will be carried out by the students and school community volunteers of WCCS, with an emphasis on educating participants on the ecological benefits of planting native plants and the impacts on wildlife. Funds from the grant would be used largely for the purchase of native plants, as well as some gopher and deer protection.



Continued Restoration of Hillsides

In 2022, the campus required removal of several stands of mature Monterey Pines that were determined to be in a state of decline due to infestation with Red Turpentine Bark Beetles. Left behind was a large area of exposed hillside and disturbed habitat, prone to erosion and invasive non-native plant species. In 2023, through generous funding from the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee, students and community volunteers worked to clear invasives like artichoke thistles, replacing them with native trees and shrubs like oaks, buckeye, elderberry, and sage. If awarded funding, the school community would be able to continue this important restoration work to help reduce erosion, improve species diversity, promote habitat, and provide shade. Given a second opportunity two years later, we will be able to choose the plants that have performed the best with the least amount of irrigation, deer, or gopher protection.



Teaching Gardens and Ecosystems Education

Ecological literacy is a valued part of WCCS curriculum. Grant funding would provide materials to expand immersive learning experiences to students throughout the grades. Students will explore the riparian forests and oak woodland habitats of adjacent Wildcat Canyon, and then have the opportunity to create their own native ecosystem teaching garden on campus. We could expand on the successes of 2023 grant funding, incorporating a project in which the whole school could participate and learn from. While planting oak trees, kindergarteners will have the opportunity to dig into the richness of soil life. First and second graders will inspect the caterpillars of the pipevine swallowtail that come to feed on newly planted California Pipevine. Fourth and fifth graders will explore the medicinal history and indigenous significance of the California bay, yarrow, and sage found in their local hills and watershed. Middle schoolers will delve deeper into ecosystem science, learning about keystone plant species and local native habitat, and use this knowledge to inform the garden design. Ultimately, these experiences will help students to cultivate a profound understanding of the delicate balance and interconnectedness sustaining all life, inspiring the next generation of ecological advocates and change-makers.

In addition to the planting that will be incorporated into the school curriculum, WCCS hosts monthly volunteer work days, during which hillside restoration will occur. Project leaders will educate school community volunteers about native plant species and their ecological implications through workshops, printed materials, and social media outlets. If granted funding, WCCS will also use these platforms to acknowledge funding for the project by the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee.

How does this project meet the requirements of Section 13103 of Fish & Game Code, letter (a) and (e)?

This project meets the requirements of Section 13103 **(a)** “Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum”...and **(e)** “Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including...planting trees and other vegetation management.”

Project Schedule

January 2026: purchase native trees and shrubs for hillside restoration

February 2026: Plant native trees and shrubs for hillside restoration, during specially designated school volunteer workshops and class times

March 2026: Finish native hillside planting

June-August 2026: K-8th curriculum development

September 2026: K-8 students take hikes into neighboring hills of Wildcat Canyon, observing and exploring local ecological communities

October - November 2026: sow native wildflower seeds (yarrow and CA poppy) on hillsides, students design native teaching garden

November-December 2026: students plant and create signage for native teaching garden

Project Budget

Item	Total Cost
Native trees and shrubs, 5 gallon, approx. 20	\$1,600
Native trees, shrubs, and perennials, 1 gallon, approx. 150	\$2,700
California native wildflower seeds	\$200
Gopher cages - 15 gallon and 5 gallon	\$400
6' x 100' welded wire fencing to protect young trees from deer	\$150
T-posts	\$150
Plant labeling materials	\$50
Total cost of project	\$5,250

Annual Budget for Applying Organization

Wildcat Canyon Community School is unique in that it follows a “pay what you can” tuition model. WCCS strives to offer schooling to all families that wish to be there, with a tiered tuition model, in which families choose the tuition tier they can afford. The primary source of income for the school is tuition, supplemented by fundraising, which totalled \$2,327,519 for the 2024-2025 school year. Expenses totalled 2,481,376; 80% of which was allocated toward payroll. The school is currently facing a deficit of \$50,000-\$100,000 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Statement describing the applying organization, listing the Board of Directors

Wildcat Canyon Community School is an independent, collectively governed, non-profit school that offers preschool through 8th grade. The school supports the education of 193 students, engaging both teachers and parents in cooperative community leadership to accomplish all of the school's necessary functions. WCCS aspires to provide education that promotes the joy in learning, honors the land, and values diversity and social justice. The WCCS community upholds the belief that we are all a part of this beautiful land, as well as its stewards and caretakers.

Circle of Trustees (Parents and Faculty):

Jubilee Daniels, Meaghen Liebe, Traver Riggins, Gingi Allen, Paul Smith, Alvin Lopez, Melanie Hatch, Fahad Khan, Vika Sirova, Miya Kitahara, Nick Valaris, and Allegra Guarino.

Affiliated organizations: Bay Area Center for Waldorf Teacher Training

Statement describing the qualifications of the sponsoring organization and participating individuals for completing the project

In addition to the successful completion of projects funded in 2023 by the CCFW Committee, WCCS has completed previous native planting projects, which included extensive invasive weed management, irrigation installation, native plant propagation, and native plant re-establishment. Community members with relevant expertise in native landscape design, habitat restoration, and ecological education have guided these projects. Other parent volunteers and students demonstrated an interest and commitment to native habitat restoration by personally purchasing plants and committing the time and labor to start the hillside restoration process.

**List of individuals responsible for performing project and of individuals responsible for overseeing project**

Serena Horn and Doug Streblow will oversee the project. Serena is the WCCS garden coordinator and a parent volunteer. She has a B.S. in biology and is passionate about ecosystem science and native plants of the San Francisco Bay Area. She also works as a nurse in the pediatric ICU at UCSF. Doug holds a degree in Environmental Education. He has developed and delivered hands-on environmental education programs in over 25 middle and high schools, and is also a WCCS parent volunteer.

Other individuals responsible for performing the project include:

Heather Madison - WCCS 5th grade teacher and summer camps director, B.S. in Biology, passionate about outdoor education and immersive learning in the natural environment, also a WCCS parent

Traver Riggins - WCCS garden/ecological literacy teacher, UC Master Gardener, certified in agroecological education, also a WCCS parent

David Weis - WCCS parent volunteer, local native landscape designer and installation

Request for an exception to the grant funding cost reimbursement requirement due to financial hardship

If approved by the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee, in order to accomplish this project, WCCS requests that half of the funding is disbursed upon potential awarding of the grant, and half upon completion of the project.

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

R

Project title: The Water Guardians / Aqua Squad

Organization/Individual applying: Worth A Dam

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain)
X

Address: 1205 Castro Street

Martinez California 94553

Telephone: (925) 228-3190

Fax:

E-mail: hdshrnrkr@comcast.net

Name and title of contact person: Heidi Perryman

One sentence summary of proposal: A community based activity teaching the ways in which beaver dams help s store and improve water quality.

Requested grant: **\$895.00**

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Heidi Perryman

☒ I understand that projects that qualify as "public works" under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):



Signed on 7-15-25

Clear Form



THE WATER GUARDIANS / AQUA SQUAD

*'The availability of [potable] water, more than any other environmental factor, will determine where we live and what we do.'*ⁱ

Water is essential for all life; be it human, animal, plant or insect. Yet less than one percent of all water on earth is fresh and available for use. Given its critical importance, any animal that saves and improves that water has to be of similar value. We are just beginning now to understand how lucky we are to share our waterways with beavers who instinctively tend this resource in such a way that it benefits their own lives and others. Beaver dams improve water quality by reducing toxins and nitrogen, as well as assisting with sediment removal, nutrient cycling, erosion control and water clarity. The deeper water of beaver ponds recharges groundwater and these benefits increase as temperatures warm from climate change.ⁱⁱ

Learning about the finite nature and critical importance of water is part of how children come to understand resource scarcity and the impacts of their actions and choices on others. It prepares them for stewardship and introduces them to environmental science. Understanding the water cycle and its effect on survival is a key lesson in how the world works, and it is a mistake to tell this story without including the role of the beaver.

The Water Guardians is an activity designed to highlight the beaver's key role in that critical cycle. It shows their stewardship of water and how their work preserves and filters it, reducing sediment and removing toxins, slowing it down in its course and pushing it underground where it becomes cooler. Compared to a stream without beavers a waterway with beavers is deeper, cooler, cleaner and slower, Children will learn this as they collect the four stickers that describe these qualities then place them on a water attributes card that features them all. Complete cards can be presented to earn a miniature vial of water with a beaver charm on a cord that they can wear, so that children can more easily remember the important connection between the two.

To begin, children will receive an empty "Water attributes card" with four unfilled spaces on it. Then they will use the map to find the four exhibits where they can earn stickers by discovering how beavers and their dams affect each quality. Participating booths will be water-focused exhibitors who present an illustration that shows beavers and their dams doing one of these. (For example, this illustration from Elizabeth Sanders at Cows and Fish an nonprofit in Alberta does a great job showing how beaver dams clean and filter water.





When the child correctly understands what quality the image is representing, he or she will be given that sticker to place on their card. Cards and signs will be distributed to sponsors on the morning of the festival by members of scout troop 429 who have participated with the festival in the past. When participants have collected all four they return to the start booth to claim their pendant necklace.

Meanwhile, artist Amy G. Hall will be simultaneously illustrating a 10 foot square in the plaza with chalk the day before and day of the festival – showing how beaver dams affect and improve water. Amy is an award-winning street and graphic artist from Napa with a special interest in beavers. She loves and is loved at the festival and has agreed to do this two-day piece without fee provided Worth A Dam pays for needed materials. This will be her eighth year chalking for the festival and we have found that her dynamic role really crystalizes the festival focus for all participants, even the adults.

After gathering stickers and earning their necklace, children will be able to finish the activity by completing a short “after quiz” that allows them to show what they have learned. Correct surveys will be raffled for prizes awarded after the festival to better incentivize participation. (We have found a beaver kit puppet makes a great and inexpensive motivator in getting kids eager to complete the after- quiz!) Parents enjoy seeing what their children learned, and it’s not uncommon for kids to correct their parents proudly during this period. Results will be analyzed along with sponsor and parent feedback to fine-tune next year’s activity.

Responsible parties:

Project oversight and planning: Heidi Perryman.

Map distribution: Cheryl Reynolds

Water Guardian Art: Amy G Hall

Signs & water stickers: Boy scout troop 429

Exhibitors: to be chosen beforehand from participating exhibits.

Post-test collection: Jon Ridler

Project Budget (itemized):

The following expense list outlines costs for the activity. Note that in-kind donated services include: sponsor consultation and participation, image and activity design and Amy G. Hall two day artwork.

Water attributes card x 100	75
90 small sticker book X 5	65



Location map festival brochure x 500	350
Attribute Graphic X 6	90
100 Mini Glass Bottles w/ Eye and cork	100
100 Beaver charms	100
100 Yards Cotton Waxed Cord	15
Chalk pastels x 7	100
	895

Eligibility for Grant Requirements:

The Water Guardians or Aqua Squad meets requirements for **13103(a)** by providing a specific curriculum of supervised learning in a unique community setting where children can learn alongside parents and siblings. By learning about the way beavers store and enhance water quality children can also learn how their own actions can conserve and protect water as well. While they are busy solving this puzzle in real time, Amy's mural will reinforce what they have learned, illustrating an answer that is unfolding 'under their feet', showing all present how beavers guard and benefit water and how all of us can help along the way.

Requesting Organization: Worth A Dam is an unincorporated association formed in 2008 to maintain the Martinez beavers in Alhambra Creek. In January 2014, it became a fiscally sponsored project of Inquiring Systems Inc.(ISI), a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation with EIN: 94-2524840. Worth A Dam education and outreach has been instrumental in teaching other cities how and why to live with beavers. The beaver festival has an annual budget of \$5000.00. In addition to holding the yearly festival and providing presentations and training on beavers throughout the year, we maintain an internationally visited website, with daily updates on beaver news and research from around the world. In 2022 we organized the first California Beaver Summit with Sonoma State University. Our members are:

Heidi Perryman - President
Jon Ridler – Treasurer
Leslie Mills: Education

Cheryl Reynolds - Vice President
FROgard Schmidt – Art
Virginia Holsworth: Volunteers

ⁱ Aysu B, Aral N, Aydoğdu F and Gürsoy F (2025) Children's attitudes towards water: a scale development study. *Front. Educ.* 10:1552082. doi: 10.3389/feduc.2025.1552082

ⁱⁱ Dewey, C., Fox, P.M., Bouskill, N.J. *et al.* Beaver dams overshadow climate extremes in controlling riparian hydrology and water quality. *Nat Commun* **13**, 6509 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-022-34022-0>

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

S

Project title: Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action

Organization/Individual applying: Sierra Club Delta Group of the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain)
X

Address: 2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite I Berkeley, CA 94702

Telephone: (714) 504-0838

Fax:

E-mail: psseger65@gmail.com

Name and title of contact person: Paul Seger, Chair

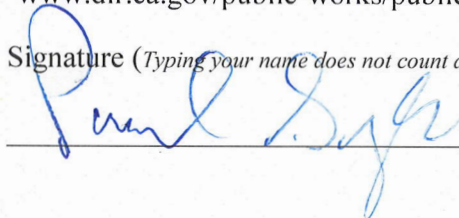
One sentence summary of proposal: A pilot program to expand Marsh Creek salmonid success through monthly habitat cleanups, classroom-based hatchery education, protective trail signage, and volunteer stewardship training.

Requested grant: \$13,000.00

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Paul Seger, Chair Sierra Club Delta Group

☒ I understand that projects that qualify as "public works" under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):



Signed on Aug 1, 2025

Clear Form

Sierra Club Delta Group – Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Proposal

Project Title:

Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action

Organization Applying:

Sierra Club Delta Group

Type:

501(c)(4) nonprofit

Contact:

Paul Seger, Chair – Sierra Club Delta Group

Email:

psseger65@gmail.com

Phone:

714-504-0838

Project Description

The Sierra Club Delta Group proposes a locally focused pilot project to improve the survival and success of native Chinook salmon in Marsh Creek, while expanding community-based stewardship and education. This combines practical habitat service work, protective signage, and local classroom-based salmonid rearing modeled on proven programs like Oregon's Eggs to Fry and California's CAEP.

Key elements include:

1. **Habitat Action & Stewardship:** We have built steady momentum through our "First Saturday Marsh Creek Cleanups," drawing consistent local participation each month. These actions have already removed over 60 tires, shopping carts, e-waste, and debris, reclaiming spawning corridors, and improving water quality for salmon.
2. **Classroom-Based Hatchery Program:** We intend to secure 5–6 aquarium kits for local junior high and high schools, providing students direct, hands-on experience raising salmon eggs and fry. Fertilized eggs and milt will be sourced with appropriate oversight.
3. **Educational & Protective Signage:** Signage along the trail will build awareness and deter violations, using durable, vandalism-resistant materials and QR codes linking to stewardship resources and reporting tools.
4. **Creek Watch Volunteer Training:** Volunteers will be trained to monitor creek conditions, recognize poaching risks, and report violations quickly.

Benefit to Fish & Wildlife

This project benefits Contra Costa fish and wildlife by:

- Improving habitat quality through consistent debris removal.

- Expanding public understanding of local salmon life cycles and anti-poaching laws.
- Strengthening deterrence and rapid response to poaching and dumping through signage and Creek Watch.
- Building long-term stewardship values in youth through classroom hatcheries and local engagement.

Relevant Fish & Game Code Sections

This project qualifies under:

- 13103(a): Public education
- 13103(d): Breeding/raising/releasing fish
- 13103(h): Predator control/anti-poaching
- 13103(m): Legal protection support

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has confirmed the project's eligibility under FGC §13103 (a), (d), and (m).

Project Schedule

Activities will begin upon funding approval in early 2026, including finalizing partnerships, distributing equipment, installing signage, and training volunteers. Classroom hatcheries, Creek Watch, and cleanups will run continuously, with full completion by January 2027.

Budget (Itemized)

- Aquarium kits for classrooms: \$7,000–\$7,500
- Trailhead signage: \$1,500–\$2,000
- Cleanup gear: \$750–\$1,000
- Youth waders/boots: \$750–\$1,000
- Educational print materials: \$500–\$750
- Stickers, T-shirts, engagement tools: \$750–\$1,000
- Interns: TBD

Estimated Total: \$11,500–\$13,000

Annual Budget (Organization)

The Sierra Club Delta Group operates under the national Sierra Club. We have no salaried staff or overhead, ensuring all funds directly support materials and stewardship. The Delta Group is a local group of the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter, and the chapter's budget is attached for reference.

Statement Describing the Applying Organization

The Sierra Club Delta Group, a local entity within the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter, is dedicated to grassroots environmental protection, education, and community stewardship in

East Contra Costa County. The group focuses on regional issues impacting the California Delta, with a strong emphasis on watershed health, youth education, and climate resilience.

Founded as part of the national Sierra Club's mission to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet, the Delta Group has been active for more than seven years and operates entirely through volunteer leadership and community collaboration. The group's efforts combine environmental advocacy with hands-on restoration and public education, building a broad base of support from residents, schools, and local partners.

The Sierra Club Delta Group is currently led by:

- Paul Seger, Chair
- Patt Young, Vice Chair
- Bruce Ohlson, Board Member
- Joe Kovalick, Treasurer
- Bud Chaddock, Salmonid & Watershed Advisor

The Delta Group's work is supported administratively and fiscally by the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter, a nonprofit 501(c)(4) organization. While the Delta Group does not employ paid staff or incur administrative overhead, it benefits from the compliance, governance, and finance infrastructure of the chapter. This structure ensures that all grant funds directly support program work in the field, including education, materials, and stewardship activities.

Affiliated organizations include:

Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter (parent chapter)

The Delta Group's proven track record in environmental education and stewardship makes it a strong and accountable applicant for the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.

Statement of Qualifications

For more than seven years, the Sierra Club Delta Group has led local conservation, cleanups, and education. Project leads: Paul Seger (Chair) and Bud Chaddock (Salmonid & Watershed Advisor), with local educators and Creek Watch volunteers.

Status of Permits

No construction requiring permits is planned. Any fish rearing will comply with agency oversight.

Request for Cost Reimbursement Exception

If awarded, we request early disbursement of funds to allow timely procurement of educational materials and signage production. We understand this may require a simple contract per CDFW direction, and we are prepared to comply.

We may request an advance under the hardship exception due to our volunteer-only structure and zero overhead.

CAPITOL OFFICE
1021 O STREET, SUITE 7320
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 651-4003

DISTRICT OFFICE
420 VIRGINIA STREET, SUITE 1-C
VALLEJO, CA 94590
TEL (707) 551-2389

SENATOR.CABALDON@SENATE.CA.GOV

California State Senate

SENATOR
CHRISTOPHER CABALDON
THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT



COMMITTEES
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE 4
CHAIR
APPROPRIATIONS
EDUCATION
HOUSING
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

JOINT COMMITTEE
RULES

July 24th, 2025

Contra County Fish & Wildlife Committee
c/o Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553-4601

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Sierra Club Delta Group's grant application for the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund. The project, Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action, offers a practical and inspiring model for combining environmental education with habitat restoration work in Contra Costa County.

The project is specifically aimed at improving the survival and success of native Chinook salmon in Marsh Creek, while expanding community-based stewardship and education. Given the continued decline of Chinook salmon in Northern California, this project represents an essential step forward.

By continuing and expanding monthly creek cleanups, the Sierra Club Delta Group is taking direct action to improve water quality and spawning habitat for Chinook salmon. Their proposed classroom hatchery program will give local students firsthand experience with salmon life cycles, fostering a deeper understanding of ecosystem balance and the importance of habitat conservation.

The Sierra Club Delta Group has a strong track record of successful grassroots conservation efforts. I strongly urge your consideration of this project for funding under the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund. The Marsh Creek Stewards project represents a cost-effective and high-impact opportunity to protect native salmon, empower young people, and strengthen local stewardship in one of the Bay Area's most ecologically important waterways.

If you have additional questions, please reach out to me at (530) 750-7917.

Sincerely,

Senator Christopher Cabaldon
Senator, District 3

MAILING ADDRESS:
City Hall
150 City Park Way
Brentwood, CA 94513
Phone: 925.516.5400
Fax: 925.516.5401
www.brentwoodca.gov

CITY MANAGER
150 City Park Way
Phone: 925.516.5440
Fax: 925.516.5441

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
150 City Park Way
Phone: 925.516.5405
Fax: 925.516.5407

**FINANCE AND
INFORMATION SYSTEMS**
150 City Park Way
Phone: 925.516.5460
Fax: 925.516.5401

HUMAN RESOURCES
150 City Park Way
Phone: 925.516.5191
Fax: 925.516.5446

PARKS AND RECREATION
150 City Park Way
Phone: 925.516.5444
Fax: 925.516.5445

POLICE
9100 Brentwood Boulevard
Phone: 925.634.6911
24 Hr. Dispatch: 925.809.7911
Fax: 925.809.7799

**PUBLIC WORKS
Engineering Division**
150 City Park Way
Phone: 925.516.5420
Fax: 925.516.5421

Operations Division
2201 Elkins Way
Phone: 925.516.6000
Fax: 925.516.6001

July 30, 2025

Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee
c/o Maureen Martin
1025 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

**RE: Letter of Support for the Sierra Club Delta Group: Marsh Creek
Stewards Proposal**

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the City of Brentwood, I am proud to voice our support for the Sierra Club Delta Group's Marsh Creek Stewards proposal. Marsh Creek is a vital natural asset for our community, and this initiative offers an effective way to protect and enhance it through hands-on cleanups, educational programs, and meaningful community involvement.

Brentwood is committed to fostering environmental responsibility and youth leadership. The Marsh Creek Stewards project complements our ongoing efforts to maintain safe trails, improve public access to natural spaces, and safeguard local habitats.

We applaud the Sierra Club Delta Group for their dedication to the health of Marsh Creek and encourage you to give their proposal full consideration.

Sincerely,



Darin Gale
Interim City Manager, City of Brentwood

Shannon Shaw
Mayor
District 4

Hugh Henderson
Vice Mayor
District 2

Aaron Meadows
Councilmember
District 1

George Fuller
Councilmember
District 5

Anissa Williams
Councilmember
District 3

Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee
c/o Maureen Martin
1025 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Letter of Support for Marsh Creek Stewards Proposal – Sierra Club Delta Group

Dear Members of the Fish and Wildlife Committee,

On behalf of the City of Oakley, I am pleased to offer our support for the Sierra Club Delta Group's *Marsh Creek Stewards* proposal, currently under consideration for funding through the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.

The City of Oakley values the importance of community engagement, environmental stewardship, and public education — all of which are integral to this proposal. Marsh Creek is a treasured resource for our city and region, and the combination of classroom education, interpretive signage, and monthly cleanups represents a thoughtful and practical approach to building long-term care for the creek and its wildlife.

The City has worked consistently to improve trail access, promote safe and responsible public use of natural areas, and support volunteer efforts that benefit habitat quality. We view the *Marsh Creek Stewards* initiative as complementary to these goals and a welcome opportunity to deepen collaboration with local stakeholders and youth leadership in particular.

We commend the Sierra Club Delta Group for its proactive vision and ongoing stewardship of the Marsh Creek corridor. We hope the Committee will look favorably upon this grant proposal and the potential it holds to empower our residents, educate our youth, and strengthen the ecological health of this vital watershed.

Sincerely,



Shannon Shaw
Mayor
City of Oakley





BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
MARILYN M. TIERNAN
PRESIDENT

JASON SHAW
VICE PRESIDENT

PAUL SEGER
JOE KOVALICK

GENERAL MANAGER:
DANIEL MUELARTH

GENERAL COUNSEL:
WESLEY A. MILIBAND

BOARD SECRETARY:
KAIT KNIGHT

July 22, 2025

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
715 P Street,
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Letter of Support for Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and
Habitat Action— Sierra Club Delta Group**

Grant Administrator:

On behalf of Diablo Water District, I am pleased to offer our support for the Sierra Club Delta Group's proposal, *Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action*, submitted to the Country Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.

This thoughtful, community-based initiative directly aligns with Diablo Water District's mission to protect public health and the environment. The project not only improves local fish habitat and water quality in Marsh Creek, but also strengthens our community through hands-on education and stewardship—key values reflected in our mission of sustainable water services and environmental guardianship.

The project's emphasis on youth engagement, education, and volunteer stewardship mirrors our guiding principles of innovation, transparency, and community partnership. By empowering the next generation to care for our local ecosystems, the Sierra Club Delta Group is creating lasting benefits for both wildlife and people.

We commend the Sierra Club Delta Group for their proposal as a worthy and impactful use of public conservation funds.

Sincerely,

Dan Muelrath
General Manager
Diablo Water District

Contra Costa County
Fish and Wildlife Committee
c/o Maureen Parkes
Contra Costa County Department of
Conservation and Development
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553
Email: Maureen.Parkes@dcd.cccounty.us

Colin J Coffey
Ward 7, East Bay Regional Park District
Hercules, CA
Email: colincoffey@comcast.net

July 25, 2025

Re: Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Application Submitted by Sierra Club Delta Group

To the Committee: I am writing to express strong support of the application of the Sierra Club Delta Group of East Contra Costa and their proposal, Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action. I represent Ward 7 on the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), an area that encompasses most of northern and eastern Contra Costa, from Hercules to Brentwood. In addition, I am a member of the Delta Group Chapter of the Sierra Club, and I have been active for the past several years in the effort to organize and launch the newly formed Marsh Creek Watershed Council. I also participate as a member of the Delta Protection Commission's Sacramento / San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Advisory Committee.

The proposal as summarized is a pilot program to expand Marsh Creek salmonid success through monthly habitat cleanups, classroom-based hatchery education, protective trail signage, and volunteer stewardship training. As the Committee knows, the revitalization of Marsh Creek as a more natural and resilient eco-system and habitat, with an emphasis on projects and stewardship promoting the return of salmon to this historic spawning Delta tributary, has been a priority over the last two decades. Contra Costa County, County Flood Control, Brentwood, Oakley, California State Parks, DWR, EBRPD, Friends of Marsh Creek, Native Tribes, and numerous other government and non-government organizations and funders such as the Coastal Commission and Delta Conservancy, have all contributed to ongoing efforts to restore, enhance, and protect this vital watershed.

The Sierra Club Delta Group's proposal, if supported, helps fill a gap in these efforts. Aside from the important projects that have been successful (e.g., Three Creeks, Oakley Community Park, the Fish Ladder) and occasional Coastal Clean Up day and other organized clean up efforts, there is not to my knowledge an ongoing year-round organized cleanup, community education, or community based Marsh Creek protection program. The creek and salmon protection component of the Delta Group's proposal is of particular importance. Fundamentally, the various agencies with the ability to "police" Marsh Creek, including the cities, County, and EBRPD police departments (and the EBRPD East County Trails park rangers), cannot be everywhere all the time to catch poachers. Having participated in these efforts, I know it is particularly difficult to act against poaching since it is hard to tell the difference between legal and illegal fishing taking place along the creek. If more signage and especially community education reaching everyday users of the Marsh Creek Trail could arm folks with the ability to discourage and report poaching, it would make a world of difference for the success of salmon spawning up the creek.

As an EBRPD Director representing much of the Marsh Creek Watershed, I can inform the Committee that this proposed program by the Sierra Club Delta Group aligns well with the Park District's own stewardship efforts. The Park District is a major landowner within the Watershed. The Park District conducts Delta educational programming at the Big Break Visitor Center and occasionally along the Marsh Creek Trail, and the Park District has a dedicated park ranger crew based in Oakley that maintains the Marsh Creek Trail. The Delta Group's proposed programs would be welcomed and supported by the Park District. Indeed, the Delta Group has held numerous programs at the Big Break Visitor Center, supported at times by the Big Break Naturalists and park rangers.

I want to attest to the value of the Delta Group's leadership on this proposed project. It includes highly experienced and respected local educators like Paul Seger and others who have engaged youth in environmental education. Notably, legendary local angler Bud Chaddock also leads the Group. I have come to know the members of the proposal's leadership team over the past several years and I'm confident they can bring the proposal to a successful implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Sierra Club Delta Group's proposal for the Wildlife Propagation Fund 2025 grant for this exciting new Marsh Creek Watershed program.

Colin J Coffey
Ward 7, East Bay Regional Park District
Hercules, CA
Email: colincoffey@comcast.net
July 25, 2025



July 25, 2025

I write on behalf of Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed to support the grant application of the Sierra Club Delta Group to the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund. The Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed is a Non-Profit group dedicated to the conservation and preservation of the Marsh Creek Watershed in Eastern Contra Costa County. Marsh Creek rises on the eastern slopes of Mount Diablo, flows through the farmlands and towns of Brentwood and Oakley and - until recently - emptied into the San Joaquin River at Big Break. In the past year, Marsh Creek became an integral part of the Dutch Slough Project with the removal of the levee separating it from the Project's Emerson Parcel portion. The creation of this new Marsh Creek estuary system expands marshland habitat for the Creek's Fall-run Chinook Salmon smolts to feed and adapt to salt water conditions. The addition of other Marsh Creek bank widening and revegetation efforts including the Three Creeks channel widening and revegetation project at the junction of Deer and Sand Creeks, lays the foundation to recreate riparian habitat along the entire length of the Marsh Creek corridor.

The Grant application complements the Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed's current efforts to involve communities along the Watershed in the preservation and restoration of Marsh Creek's natural resources.

- A **monthly creek cleanup** program already drawing participation from across Oakley and Brentwood;
- **Interactive educational signage** that deters poaching and dumping while guiding the public to take protective action;
- A **classroom-based hatchery program** modeled on successful egg-to-fry education efforts;
- And a **Creek Watch volunteer training** effort to deepen local engagement and create a visible culture of stewardship.

Establishing a regular Creek Watch monitoring program and a Creek Cleanup program along with signage will support early remediation of toxic spills and illegal dumping and fish poaching along Marsh Creek. The Friends will support and collaborate with these Sierra Club programs. We plan to align our existing Creek Cleanup program, and our Oakley primary school Science Week program with Sierra Club activities.

We urge you to consider full funding of this program as it provides significant benefits to Marsh Creek and the public and wildlife along its course.

Thanks for your time and consideration,



B. Margesson

Barry Margesson

President Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed

barrymargesson@gmail.com

Dear California Department of Fish and Wildlife,

I am writing to express my support for the **Sierra Club Delta Group** and their proposed **Egg-to-Fry pilot program**.

I have worked with members of the **Sierra Club Delta** group over many years. I have found them to be a trusted resource in my work on water when I have filled different roles:

- President of the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
- Volunteer in the San Francisco Bay Water chapter of the Sierra Club
- My profession in both industrial waste water treatment and in advocacy

The **Egg-to-Fry program** has the potential to make a real difference not just in material gains like the restoration in the Marsh Creek for salmon, but it also has the potential to make a difference in the hearts and minds of students, teachers and volunteers, allowing people to get their hands dirty and really understand the effort and resources that go into a successful restoration project. It will be an unforgettable learning experience, and develop appreciation for the natural resources heritage that we all benefit from as Californians.

The **Sierra Club Delta Group** is uniquely positioned to execute on the **Egg-to-Fry pilot program**. They bring not only experience in Municipal Water, but also pair that experience with a background in teaching. The **Sierra Club Delta group** has long worked for a sustainable regional ecology.

I wholeheartedly recommend the **Sierra Club Delta Group** for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife grant. They bring passion and excellence to their work and bring a strong background of success in promoting community sustainability.

Best Regards,
Mariah Lauritzen
Environmental Advocate

**Contra Costa County
2026 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund
Application Cover Page**

Office Use Only:

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Project title: Water Quality Monitoring in Contra Costa Watersheds

Organization/Individual applying: Earth Team

(Organization type: please check one – government, non-profit, school, other (explain)
X

Address: 1301 South 46th Street, Building 155, Richmond, CA 94804

Telephone: (510) 213-4921

Fax: (844) 704-4030

E-mail: manuel@earthteam.net

Name and title of contact person: Manuel Alonso-Martinez

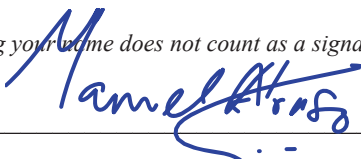
One sentence summary of proposal: To purchase water quality equipment and materials in order for Earth Team to collaborate data with all the County partners working in watershed health

Requested grant: \$5,000.00

Proposal prepared by (name & title): Manuel Alonso

☒ I understand that projects that qualify as “public works” under California law, such as construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under contract and paid in whole or in part out of public funds may trigger requirements including prevailing wage, public bidding, and contractor registration. Applicants proposing such activities will be required to demonstrate full legal compliance. (For more information go to the California Department of Industrial Relations Public Works webpage: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/public-works/publicworks.html>.)

Signature (Typing your name does not count as a signature. If this section is empty, your proposal will not be considered):



Signed on 7/31/25

Clear Form

2) Project Description

For many years, Earth Team's Restoration Action program (RAP) has worked together with numerous agencies and community organizations to help protect and restore Contra Costa County watersheds. With annual internship programs running at Antioch High School, Pittsburg High School, Liberty Union, and Richmond High, we have been training and mobilizing a high-school workforce to participate in water quality data collection, analysis, restoration of native vegetation, and community outreach.

Most recently, our work has focused on sites such as the Upper San Basin, Pinole Creek, San Pablo Creek and the Three Creeks project, partnering with American Rivers and with support from the Rose Foundation, NOAA B-WET, Friends of Pinole and Marsh Creeks, CCRCD and others. Our trained paid interns work as research assistants to help restore watershed health in several sites in Contra Costa County.

However, it is surprising that Earth Team does not own yet proper water quality equipment and has had to rely on borrowing it from other organizations, resulting in timing conflicts very often and multiple complications. Given the longevity of our organization, serving to meet environmental education and protection needs (Earth Team was founded in 1984), and the amount of data we have collected in multiple projects, it will only make sense that we acquire the equipment we need to continue serving our community.

This project will benefit Contra Costa fish and wildlife by promoting scientific research, improving habitat, and educating the public. It meets Section 13103 (a) and 13103 (e) requirements. The research team will use scientific methods and instrumentation to perform WQ surveying, benthic macroinvertebrate surveying, invasive species removal, and native plant installations in several ongoing sites during 2025-26 and will be able to meet invitations to mobilize its trained youth workforce to participate in water quality events.

The problem with the high-end sonde-based systems that we have been borrowing for years is that they require expensive calibration chemicals + annual maintenance, giving them an annual cost of maintenance in the thousands of dollars. Currently, the classroom kits we use when lacking a borrowed sensor are more durable and easier to deploy. Still, they do not produce sufficient quality data to support student investigations or meet the scientific standards required for many projects to which we are invited to participate.

The proposed equipment configuration in Task 1, will support our internship model of small-group learning and fieldwork for up to 15 students per site.

Objective 1: Improve Earth Team's scientific instrumentation infrastructure by acquiring the following equipment to monitor water quality in 2026 in several restoration sites

Task 1: Purchase the following items

- Four YSI EcoSense handheld meters for DO, pH, and conductivity (~\$500-700 each, \$2,800 total)
- Vernier Go Direct sensors for student teams (\$150-\$250 per sensor, \$1,000 total)
- Calibration solutions, backup probes, cases (\$800-\$1,000)

This equipment, materials, and supplies will support small-group learning and fieldwork for up to 15 students per site, and it would have several key advantages over our current setup.

- Improves student experience: better data quality than kits and calibration than sophisticated monitors
- Reduces staff burden: easier training and maintenance
- Fewer replacement + upkeep costs
- Program alignment: fits Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences

Task 2: 56 paid interns at several Contra Costa public high schools (Antioch, Pittsburg, Richmond, Pinole) will meet once a week for 32 weeks after school for 2-3 hours and/or weekends with project staff, restoration experts, and an aquatic biologist, to implement several field days (4-6 hrs per day) at several designated areas. Interns will collect WQ and benthic macroinvertebrate data for 3 field days, once every 3 months. Interns will conduct 3-5 habitat restoration field days in the months between data collection field days. Data collected will continue to add to the baseline established at multiple sites.

Objective 2: Inform community members and high school’s pathways and science teachers about the school’s ongoing restoration efforts with Earth Team at Upper Sand Creek Basin and the Three Creeks Project, the importance of restoring these watersheds, and the multiple benefits it brings to East Contra Costa County.

Task 3: Interns will create two informative color posters to display their work at their schools for school staff, students, and community members to observe. A tabling event will be organized during a lunch rally to show the equipment and talk with interested students.

3)Project Schedule

Activities	Time Frame	Locations
Interns from 4 Contra Costa County Public High Schools are recruited	September-25	Antioch, Pittsburg, Pinole, Richmond
WQ monitoring, habitat restoration	October-25	Marsh Creek, Pinole Creek, San Pablo Creek,
WQ Monitoring and benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring data collection	December-25	Marsh Creek, Pinole Creek, San Pablo Creek,
Second WQ monitoring and benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring Data Collection	April-26	Marsh Creek, Pinole Creek, San Pablo Creek,
Third WQ monitoring events	May-26	Marsh Creek, Pinole Creek, San Pablo Creek,
Data Analysis and Informative Signs	May-26	
Final Report and presentations, tabling in several campuses	May-26	Antioch City Hall and Antioch High

5) Earth Team Annual Budget (Fiscal Year 2025-26): \$580,000

6) Organization and Board of Directors

Earth Team mission is to empower teens to become lifelong environmental stewards through experiential education, skills development, and the building of strong community connections. Board members are: Mark Westwind, Paul Wicks, John Steere, Hope Fry, Caedmon Bear and Manuel Alonso.

7) Qualifications and Key Staff

Earth Team has been leading innovation in the environmental education field, providing programs to public schools in 3 counties in the SF Bay Area since 2000. It has an excellent track record of successful grants/project management, as well as an excellent reputation with the schools based on the high quality of its programs, fiscal transparency and cost efficiency. Each year we provide 150 internships to high school students in the San Francisco East Bay area with environmental science activities in the classroom and in the field. Team received the Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Award (GEELA) in the environmental justice category (2011

8) Responsible Individuals

Noah Slager, Earth Team, PI. Program Director, Noah graduated from Columbia University with a degree in Earth Science and Anthropology. As an undergraduate, he performed research on paleoclimate variability in the Italian Dolomites and led an outreach project which provided resources and supplies to those struggling with housing in the Morningside Heights community.

Jamie Skillen: Project Manager. She attended college at CSU Monterey Bay. There, Jamie fell in love with ocean conservation and sustainability, volunteering at the environmental education center, MEarth, and taking up a part-time job at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. After graduating with a degree in Environmental Education in 2020, Jamie joined the Aquarium's Interpretive Programs department as a Naturalist. She delivered public programs and lead private tours all while inspiring ocean conservation to a diverse range of guests, donors, volunteers, and staff.

Manuel Alonso, Earth Team's Executive Director, Ph.D Anthropology and Archaeology, will provide support in planning, implementation and evaluation and will coordinate project evaluation. Prior to joining Earth Team in April 2013, he worked for 20 years in executive positions with several nonprofit organizations.

9) Permits

Permits are provided by our partners the CCC Flood Control District, FOMCW, FOPCW, American Rivers, RCD.

4) Project Budget: \$5,000

	LABOR COSTS					
Line Item	Budget Item	Rate	Hrs./Units	FWC	Match	Total
	Task 1 – Planning, Research Training					
1	Earth Team PI (Program Associate)	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total Task 1			\$0	\$0	\$0
	Task 2/3 – Field Days - Data Collection/Analysis					
2	Earth Team PI (Program Associate)	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3	14 Research assistants (stipend)	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total Task 2/3			\$0	\$0	\$0
	Task 4 – Public outreach and education events					
4	Earth Team PI (Program Associate)	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5	14 Research assistants (stipend)	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total Labor Costs			\$0	\$0	\$0
	DIRECT COSTS					
	Project Supplies, Educational Materials & Services					
6	Water quality equipment and supplies	-	-	\$5,000	\$ -	\$5,000
7	Signage, public outreach flyers, posters	\$0	0	\$0	\$ -	\$0
	Total supplies			\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
	Travel					
8	Transportation to/from research site (14 interns)	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9	PI Mileage to / from research location	\$0.00	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total travel			\$0	\$0	\$0
	Contractors & Subcontractors					
10	Data contractor (webpage, video, data mapping)	\$0	8	\$0	\$ -	\$0
	TOTAL PROJECT COST			\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000