

Grant Applications and Fish and Wildlife Committee Recommendations 2026

	Organization	Type of Org	Project Title	Type of Project	Location of Project	Requested Funding Amount	Recommended Funding Amount	Staff Summary of Request	FWC Rationale for Recommendation
A	Boise State University	school	Assessing the demography of a threatened Golden Eagle population in California	(i) scientific research *CDFW has confirmed this project is eligible to receive funds under FGC Section 13103 (i)	Countywide	\$4,245.00		<p>This is a request for funds for a project that uses non-invasive genetic sampling of molted feathers to estimate survival and population size of golden eagles in the Atlatomont Pass Wind Area of California. Grant funds will be used for Qiagen DNeasy Blood & Tissue Kit, envelopes, razor blades, pipette tips and indirect costs.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> All lab work, including DNA extractions and genetic analyses are expected to be complete by August 2026. Lab supplies will be needed continuously throughout the duration of this time. Following completion of lab work, analyses on data collected will be conducted.</p>	
B	CA State Parks - Diablo Range District	government	Developing a Grazing Management Framework at Marsh Creek SP	(e) habitat improvement (i) scientific research *CDFW has confirmed this project is eligible to receive funds under FGC Section 13103 (e) and (i)	East County	\$25,800.00		<p>This is a request for funds to assess current grazing practices, infrastructure, and vegetation conditions to develop a conservation-oriented framework for a grazing management plan at Marsh Creek State Park. Grant funds will be used for a consultant, contract administration and project implementation.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> A start date was not provided. Estimated duration of project is one year.</p>	

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C	Contra Costa Resource Conservation District	government	Tracking Western Pond Turtle Upland Traversal with GPS Loggers	(i) scientific research *CDFW has confirmed this project is eligible to receive funds under FGC Section 13103 (i)	East County	\$19,196.00		<p>This is a request for funds to track Western Pond Turtle upland habitat traversal and dispersal to inform habitat management strategies. Grant funds will be used to purchase GPS trackers, trap nets, miscellaneous monitoring equipment and full chest waders.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> January 2026 - September 2026</p>	

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D	Lindsay Wildlife Experience	non-profit	Wildlife Intensive Care Unit	(b) temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife.	Countywide	\$24,390.00		<p>This is a request for funds to purchase an intensive care unit to supply regulated oxygen and heat therapy for injured and debilitated wildlife.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule::</u> The project can begin upon receipt of funding notice and be completed within 30 days of order placement.</p>	

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E	California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC)	non-profit	Training a new workforce to improve riparian habitat in Contra Costa County	(a) education (e) habitat improvement	Central County	\$16,606.00		<p>This is a request for funds to train Pittsburg Civicorps crews on Arundo donax’s impacts, removal techniques, and best management practices (BMPs) for controlling invasive plants, in order to build local capacity to address this invasive species within the Alhambra Creek Watershed. Grant funds will cover wages for the science program manager (oversight, field training), conservation specialist (curriculum development, partner meetings, coordinating and planning, classroom and field training delivery), grants & contracts manager (invoicing, contracting, social media), and Civicorps crews (classroom and field training for up to ten Corpsmembers and one supervisor), as well as travel mileage (one round trip to Civicorps Pittsburg for classroom training and two round trips to Martinez for field days).</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> February 2026 - December 2026</p>	

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F	Cal State East Bay, Concord Center	school	Establishing Pollinator Habitat at Cal State East Bay Concord Center	(e) habitat improvement	Central County	\$7,456.92		<p>This is a request for funds to establish native plant hedgerows and patches to provide pollinator habitat on approximately three acres within a large meadow at the entrance to the Cal State East Bay Concord Center. Grant funds will be used to purchase native plants, colored flags, hoes, a utility cart, two root slayers, and signage.</p> <p><u>Proposed Schedule:</u> Project will start in early 2026. An end date was not provided.</p>	

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G	Contra Costa Resource Conservation District	government	Marsh Creek Steelhead Trout Spawning and Breeding Habitat Enhancement	(e) habitat improvement	East County	\$19,622.00		<p>This is a request for funds by the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District, in partnership with the Marsh Creek Watershed Council, to restore Steelhead trout spawning habitat in Marsh Creek through gravel addition, volunteer engagement, redd monitoring, and fostering long-term community stewardship via education and signage. Grant funds will be used to purchase gravel, rubber boots, work gloves, 5-gallon buckets, rakes, bobcat rental, gravel delivery, streambed alteration permit, waste discharge permit, and a biological monitor contractor.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> January 2026 - February 2027</p>	

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H	International Bird Rescue	non-profit	Ethically and Effectively Resolving Human/Wildlife Interaction Issues in Contra Costa County Through Temporary Emergency Treatment and Care of Injured and Orphaned Wildlife	<p>(a) public education</p> <p>(b) temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife.</p> <p>(c) temporary treatment and care of wildlife confiscated by the department as evidence.</p> <p>(i) scientific research</p> <p>* CDFW confirmed in 2023 that IBR projects are additionally eligible to receive funds under FGC Section 13103 (c) and (i)</p>	Countywide	\$20,719.92		<p>This is a request for funds to replace obsolete and inoperable equipment and materials essential for rehabilitating injured and orphaned wildlife in Contra Costa, including herons, egrets, and “Birds of Conservation Concern” such as California Gull, Western Gull, Western Grebe, and Brandt’s Cormorant in the Coastal California Bird Conservation Region. Grant funds will be used to purchase the following items: Bovie MI-750 LED Surgical Light; Bovie MI-550 Exam Station Lights; Raypak 106 105,000 BTU Propane Gas Warm Water Pool Heater; Disinfectant Station; OSHA-compliant Fortress Aluminum 4-Riser Stair Systems; Brinsea TLC-50 Advance Series II ICU/Recovery Incubators; Vitamix Commercial-grade Blenders with Trian Containers; Welch Allyn Veterinary 3.5V Ophthalmoscope; and a Frigidaire 28” Freezer Refrigerator.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u></p> <p>This project can begin within 30 days of grant approval, and be completed within nine months.</p>	

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I	John Muir Land Trust	non-profit	Pacheco Marsh Outdoor Education	(a) public education	Central County	\$14,636.00		<p>This is a request for funds to support school field trips to Pacheco Marsh, where students will engage in hands-on learning about wetland ecology, native species, and the importance of conservation. Grant funds will be used for bus transportation, binoculars, spotting scope, miscellaneous supplies, and a stewardship manager.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> Planning: Winter - Spring 2026 Programming: Spring - Summer 2026</p>	

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J	Save Mount Diablo	non-profit	Tracking Kestrel Re-Population on Mount Diablo, Year 2	(e) habitat improvement (i) scientific research (n) other expenditures, approved by the department **CDFW confirmed in 2025 that this project is eligible to receive funds under FGC Sections 13103 (e), (i) and (n).	Countywide	\$5,680.24		<p>This is a request for funds to continue the project that began in 2025 with a grant from the CCC Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund to expand nest box location and data gathering for kestrels. In 2026, SMD proposes to further expand the nest box area, in three new and/or expanded sites, to support more population expansion, to further evaluate overall nest box usage and best locations for boxes, and to also evaluate for possible impacts of avian influenza. Grant funds will be used for two research interns, additional WIFI bluetooth trail cameras for Curry Canyon, Schwendel Ranch and Youngs Canyon, lithium batteries, SD cards and materials for nest boxes.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> A schedule was not provided.</p>	

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K	KIDS for the BAY	non-profit	Watershed Action Program	(a) public education (e) habitat improvement	West County 66% East County 34 %	\$8,400.00		<p>This is a request for funds to support their 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. Grant funds will be used for field trip bus transportation.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> Funds will be used during the 2025–2026 school year and spent by May 2026.</p>	

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L	Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee The Watershed Project	non-profit	Mira Vista Field Restoration Project	(e) habitat improvement	West County	\$12,740.00		<p>This is a request for funds from the Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee, in partnership with The Watershed Project, to restore Mira Vista Field, an 8-acre site in urban West County, to native serpentine grassland. Grant funds will be used for restoration tools, updated plans, and public outreach to enhance ongoing efforts and provide nature study opportunities for local students. Items to be purchased include hand tools, string trimmers, mowers, stakes, flagging, exclusion fencing, “habitat restoration area” signs, bobcat rental, refurbishing a bulletin board, installing entrance signage, website hosting, printing postcard handouts and an updated restoration guide, as well as food and beverages for a public outreach and volunteer appreciation event.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> The project would be completed within one year of grant approval.</p>	

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M	Marine Science Institute	non-profit	2026 Delta Discovery Voyage Program	(a) public education	Central County 48% East County 52%	\$5,096.00		<p>This is a request for funds to support the 2026 Delta Discovery Voyage program, which provides hands-on, Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) - aligned science education to approximately 3,700 Contra Costa County 5th graders aboard MSI's research vessel. The program fosters student understanding of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta ecosystem, promotes environmental stewardship, and supports local teachers with curriculum and resources. Grant funds will be used for supplies (buckets, fish keys, vinyl posters, otter trawl net, hand nets, net plankton, and vials), vessel and vehicle fuel, and marina fees.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> January 2026 - May 2026</p> <p>**MSI requests that if the final approval of this grant takes place in 2026, that they may be reimbursed retroactively to allow them to purchase supplies in December, before the voyages begin in January.</p>	

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N	Mt. View Sanitary District	government	Moorhen Marsh & the MVSD Wetlands Education Program	(a) public education (e) habitat improvement	Central County	\$53,769.00		<p>This is a request for funds for a water circulation improvement project in Moorhen Marsh and a wetlands educational program. Grant funds will be used for wetlands student booklets, animal specimens (otter, beaver, mallard, muskrat), field trip supplies (dip nets, water quality testing, etc.), stainless steel LTC fine bubble aeration discs with compressors, solar generator and power station, and aeration supplies (tubing, cables, etc.)</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> January 2026 - December 2026</p>	

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O	The Watershed Project	non-profit	Steelhead Trout Protection Research Project	(a) public education (e) habitat improvement	West County	\$13,405.00		<p>This is a request for funds from The Watershed Project (TWP). They will partner with the John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JMTU), who also submitted an application (see below) on a 2026 Fish Barrier Assessment in Wildcat Creek, identifying barriers that limit trout migration and steelhead access to lower watershed habitat. TWP will lead work in the lower watershed, monitoring water temperature and connectivity, conducting trash cleanups, and providing public education. Grant funds for this application will support barrier assessments, water quality monitoring, trash cleanup, public education, safety items, accounting services, and liability insurance.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> February 2026 - January 2027</p>	

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P	John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited	non-profit	Upper Wildcat Creek Habitat and Fish Passage Barrier Study	(e) habitat improvement	West County	\$5,755.00		<p>This is a request for funds from the John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited (JMTU). They will partner with The Watershed Project (TWP), who also submitted an application (see above) on a 2026 Fish Barrier Assessment in Wildcat Creek, identifying barriers that limit trout migration and steelhead access to upper watershed habitat. JMTU will lead work in the upper watershed, conducting fish passage evaluations and monitoring water temperature and dissolved oxygen, while collaborating with TWP to standardize methods, equipment, training, and data documentation. Grant funds will support barrier assessment work and water quality monitoring in the upper watershed and will be used to purchase Onset DO Sensor Caps, Onset DO Sensor Batteries, a Spherical Crown Densiometer, a laser level, a staff gauge, and measuring tapes.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> March/April 2026 - December 2026</p> <p>**The applicant requests an exception to the grant funding cost reimbursement requirement due to financial hardship. Please refer to the grant application for the applicant's statement of financial hardship.</p>	

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Q	Wildcat Canyon Community School	school	Habitat Restoration and Ecological Education for Future Generations	(a) public education (e) habitat improvement	West County	\$5,250.00		<p>This is a request for funds to continue restoring native habitat on their 91-acre campus and expand a native ecosystem teaching garden. Building on 2023 restoration work funded by a previous Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grant, this project will add resilient native trees and wildflowers, protected from gophers and deer. Students from preschool to 8th grade will engage in hands-on restoration and outdoor learning. Grant funds will be used for native trees, native wildflower seeds, gopher cages, welded wire fencing, t-posts and plant labeling materials.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> January 2026 - December 2026</p> <p>**The applicant requests an exception to the grant funding cost reimbursement requirement due to financial hardship. Please refer to the grant application for the applicant's statement of financial hardship.</p>	

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R	Worth a Dam	non-profit	The Water Guardians/Aqua Squad	(a) public education	Central County	\$895.00		<p>This is a request for funds to support an educational activity that teaches children about the critical role beavers play in maintaining healthy waterways. Through interactive exhibits, children learn how beaver dams improve water quality, reduce erosion, and recharge groundwater. Participants collect stickers at four stations to earn a beaver-themed necklace and complete a quiz to reinforce learning. The program includes a large chalk mural illustrating beaver benefits, created by a local artist. Grant funds will be used for materials to support the activity and artist supplies which include water attributes cards, small sticker books, location map festival brochures, attribute graphics, mini glass bottles w/eye and cork, beaver charms, cotton waxed cord and chalk pastels.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> The event date is to be determined.</p>	

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S	Sierra Club Delta Group of the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter	non-profit	Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action	<p>(a) public education</p> <p>(d) Breeding, raising, purchasing, or releasing fish</p> <p>(n) other expenditures, approved by the department *</p> <p>*CDFW has confirmed this project is eligible to receive funds under FGC Section 13103 (a), (d) and (n)</p>	East County	\$13,000.00		<p>This is a request for funds for a locally focused pilot project to improve native Chinook salmon survival and success in Marsh Creek through habitat restoration, classroom salmon-rearing programs, educational signage, and volunteer creek monitoring. Grant funds will be used for aquarium kits, signage, cleanup gear, youth waders, printed materials, engagement tools, and interns.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> Project will begin upon funding approval. Full completion by January 2027.</p> <p>**The applicant requests an exception to the grant funding cost reimbursement requirement due to financial hardship. Please refer to the grant application for the applicant's statement of financial hardship.</p> <p>This application was received approximately one hour after the deadline due to laptop issues.</p>	

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T	Earth Team	non-profit	Water Quality Monitoring in Contra Costa Watersheds	(a) public education (e) habitat improvement	East County 50% West County 50%	\$5,000.00		<p>This is a request for funds to acquire dedicated water quality monitoring equipment to support Earth Teams' ongoing high school internship programs across multiple Contra Costa County watersheds. 56 paid interns at Antioch, Pittsburg, Richmond, and Pinole high schools will conduct water quality and benthic macroinvertebrate surveys, invasive species removal, and native plant restoration at sites in 2025-26. Grant funds will be used to purchase water quality equipment and supplies including: YSI EcoSense meters, Vernier Go Direct sensors, calibration solutions, backup probes and cases.</p> <p><u>Project Schedule:</u> September 2025 - May 2026</p> <p>This application was originally received prior to the deadline. The applicant explained that formatting and PDF conversion issues caused the application to exceed the page limit, so they resubmitted a revised version the following business day to comply with requirements.</p>	
					Total	\$281,662.08			
		Total Available Funds as of August 13, 2025				\$579,995.18			
					Remainder	\$298,333.10			

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Subtotals By Region	Requested Funding Amount	Percentage of Total Amount Requested	Recommended Funding Amount	Percentage of Total Amount Recommended for Approval
East	\$85,623.92	30.40%		
West	\$45,194.00	16.05%		
Central	\$95,809.00	34.02%		
Countywide	\$55,035.16	19.54%		
TOTAL	\$281,662.08	100.00%		