Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

(Applicant must answer all questions)

Cover Sheet:

a) Name of Applicant Organization: Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 05-0557231

c) Project Title: Partnership between Allensworth, Alpaugh and Angiola

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: South Tulare County

e) Amount of Grant Request: $115,501

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Name: Caroline Farrell
Full mailing address: 1012 Jefferson Street, Delano, CA 93215
County where organization's office is located: Kern
Phone: 661-720-9140 x 302
Email: cfarrell@crpe-ej.org
Website: www.crpe-ej.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters):

Tulare County has received grant funding through the Strategic Growth Council to address arsenic contamination in drinking water by combining the resources of the towns of Allensworth and Alpaugh with clean water from a nearby irrigation district, Angiola Water District. The Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment is providing in kind support for that grant by outreaching to resident in Alpaugh and Allensworth to ensure community participation in the feasibility study.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:

It focuses on the rehabilitation and improvement of residential water in two severely economically-disadvantaged unincorporated communities in Tulare County (Allensworth and Alpaugh) facing arsenic contaminated drinking water above the federal standards.

Application:

1) Detailed Project Description *(5 pages maximum)*:

This proposal seeks to leverage pre-existing funding secured by the County and community-based organizations to pilot and develop community water and wastewater sustainability plans that can serve as a model for best practices to enhance equity and water resources management for small, rural water, and wastewater systems.

With the assistance of community-based organizations, Tulare County received a $2 million grant from the Department of Water Resources to identify common challenges to drinking water systems in the Tulare Lake Basin, which covers areas of four counties (Kern, Kings, Fresno, and Tulare). Together with SGC planning grant funding, these small systems will be able to fund pilot projects to improve water and wastewater sustainability in Tulare County. In addition, the County received $939,860 from the Strategic Growth Council, $427,687 of which is to conduct a feasibility analysis for consolidating the water systems in Allensworth, Alpaugh, and Angiola.

By exploring the potential for water system consolidation between rural communities, non-domestic water districts, the County, and cities, the rural communities included in this proposal will be able to model and identify best practices for improving countywide and regional water sustainability in other rural counties.

Describe the proposed project including:

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

This grant will support CRPE's outreach efforts in Allensworth and Alpaugh to ensure informed community participation in the feasibility study. The project requires that the County bring small, rural, economically-disadvantaged communities together to engage in conversations on their shared needs, plans, and desires for their water and wastewater systems. During the planning process, a steering committee will be formed which will lead a series of community meetings, hosted jointly with CRPE to gather resident input. Residents and stakeholders will retain a strong advisory and oversight role in the implementation of the project through regular, formal gatherings. This grant will support:

- 5 Trainings for the Allensworth Community Services District Board and community residents from Allensworth and Alpaugh on water board governance, community participation policies, water district personnel policies, and budget formation and implementation.
- Legal and Technical support for the Allensworth Community Services District to revise its personnel manual and develop service protocols.
- Translation services for outreach materials related to the outreach for feasibility planning meetings and Community Steering Committee meetings include flyers, handouts, and training materials. CRPE will also provide Spanish interpretation services during the meetings.

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.

These strategies are geared to building the capacity of the communities of Allensworth and Alpaugh to participate as strong partners in feasibility plans to assess consolidating the water districts of Alpaugh, Angiola, and Allensworth. If consolidation is going to be a feasible option, each community and its water district needs to play an active and informed role to ensure its community's needs are accurately assessed and met. By upgrading water systems, evaluating opportunities for collaborative management or systems consolidation, and improving water infrastructure, unincorporated rural communities will be able to access safer, and cleaner, drinking water. Additionally, as water infrastructure stabilizes, the likelihood of septic or other contamination should decrease considerably.

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.

Water resources are currently both underutilized and stretched thin, in part because failing water infrastructure systems threaten groundwater supply, increase the risk of contamination, and can result in extreme water damage (for example, a broken main pipe in Allensworth caused significant damage to the local school and road in addition to wasting finite water resources). This proposal would gauge the feasibility of combining and consolidating water service areas to decrease water waste, improve how water is currently utilized, support the development of localized water sustainability plans, and develop tools and targets for water conservation. If successful, this could also serve as a model for similar water systems.

d. Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners. Up to two letters of recommendation from the community may also be attached *(letters do not count towards page limit)*.

Allensworth is an unincorporated community in South Tulare County. The population comprises majority of people of color: 92.6% are Latino, 5.3% African-American, and 48.3% of the families in the community have been below the poverty line in the last 12 months according to the 2010 Census. Alpaugh is also an unincorporated community in South Tulare County. The population is 84.5% Latino.

2) Project Budget:
Attach a line-item project budget. The budget should specifically describe all project costs *(attachments do not count towards page limit)*. See attached budget. The budget focuses on staff time needed to outreach to members of the community, train residents to participate in the feasibility study, translate materials for the community in advance of the feasibility study meetings, and provide interpretation at the meetings. In addition, we will also be providing childcare to enable parents to attend and covering the cost of renting the Allensworth Community Center from the Allensworth Progressive Association.

3) Specify Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities:
Attach (or include in the Project Description) a list of deliverables, and a timeline chart showing when project activities will be conducted and key deliverables produced. Since timing of grant awards, if any, is uncertain, please consider your timeline and deliverables carefully. Two possible options are to propose a project with a flexible start date (i.e. – the project could start on receipt of the grant), or to propose ongoing activities with established activity schedules and deliverables (i.e. – funding would be applied to these activities and deliverables to the extent that it is received).
(Attachments do not count towards page limit.)

This is an ongoing project. The County will be convening meetings for the feasibility study over the next two years.

Months 1-6: CRPE conduct outreach to inform Allensworth and Alpaugh residents about the Strategic Growth Council grant and to discuss the pros and cons of consolidation. We will also identify residents interested in either serving on the Steering Committee or engaging the public participation processes.
Months 2-6: We will provide four trainings for the Allensworth Community Services District to improve its internal administration so that it can effectively participate in the feasibility study. These trainings will include: 1) Governing Board Roles & Responsibilities; 2) Personnel Management; 3) Billing Protocols and Customer Right to Know requirements; and 4) How to run and effective meeting.
Months 6-13: We will also provide at least two trainings to the Steering Committee once convened. These trainings will include how to run an effective meeting and best practices in public outreach.
Months 6-24: CRPE will mobilize residents from Allensworth and Alpaugh to the public meetings the County schedules. Our goal is to have 150 engaged and informed residents participating.
Months 6-24: Once the Steering Committee meetings begin, we will hold at least one training a week prior to the meetings for community residents in Allensworth and Alpaugh. These trainings will focus on review the state of feasibility study, helping the community formulate questions or comments on the study and then to coordinate community participation. During the Steering Committee meetings, we will provide childcare and interpretation services. At least two weeks prior to the meetings we will translate the meeting materials into Spanish so all members of the community can understand and participate in the meetings. Because the County is leading the process, we cannot predict when the convenings will begin. We hope to have a schedule from the County in the beginning of the year.

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:
Attach (or include in the Project Description) answers to the following questions *(attachments do not count towards page limit)*:

a. Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)? No this project is not required to offset impacts of a discharger.

b. How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California? The project's benefits include: providing access to potable water to residents of Allensworth and Alpaugh, reducing administrative expenses to small water systems and low income consumers, and increasing water supply for landscaping and agricultural uses in the community of Allensworth and Alpaugh.

c. Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff. This project will not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

d. Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal. This proposal is related to a grant given to Tulare County from the Strategic Growth Council to complete a feasibility study on consolidating the water systems of Alpaugh, Allensworth, and Angiola. As part of the Strategic Growth Council grant, CRPE committed to providing in-kind support for that grant on community outreach, translation, and legal support. This grant proposal would fund CRPE's activities in support of that grant.

Triple A Feasibility Study Budget

Personnel	
Community Organizer (.2 FTE)	7400
Staff Attorney (.15 FTE)	7650
Organizing Director (.05 FTE)	3650
Legal Director (.05 FTE)	4250
Direct Expenses	
Office Supplies	2,000
Childcare	5,000
Translation	60,000
Facility Fees	10,000
Travel @.56 x 25 trips per year	486
Total Expenses	100,436
Indirect Expenses @ 15%	15065.4
Total	115,501

December 31. 2013

Dear Grants Committee:

We are writing to support the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment's (CRPE) grant application to the Rose Foundation. The Allensworth Progressive Association is the longest running non-profit in Allensworth. It was created in 1908 by Colonel Allen Allensworth, the communities' founder, to ensure the betterment of the community. In recent years, CRPE has been one of the APA's closest allies. CRPE assisted the APA in preventing the siting of a 16,000 cow dairy within one mile of the community and the state's only African American Historical Park. CRPE helped bring the community together by providing translation at Community Council and Community Services District meetings.

Recently, CRPE has been assisting Allensworth residents with a range of issues including lack of access to healthy food and potable water. Residents have to travel approximately 40 miles roundtrip to shop for groceries and basic necessities. Residents started a community garden in 2010, but due to the limited capacity of the community's water wells, the project was placed on hold. At this time, our major priority is to secure an adequate supply of potable water.

CRPE has been instrumental in helping our community secure a grant for the amount of $495,000 by the Strategic Growth Council. This grant will help us work together with two other water districts (Alpaugh Community Service District and Angiola Water District) to identify a potential regional solution for reducing arsenic in the drinking water in the communities of Allensworth and Alpaugh.

The Allensworth Progressive Association fully supports any funding that can support the efforts of CRPE to help our community fully implement the Strategic Growth Council grant. As we often say, Allensworth is "a community that refuses to die", but we want to do more than survive. We want to thrive.

Denise Kadara, President
Allensworth Progressive Association

Central California Environmental Justice Network

CV WATER QUALITY GRANT APPLICATION

Name of Applicant Organization: Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)

Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN) operates under Social & Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE), an organization that serves as CCEJN's fiscal sponsor: **Social & Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE)** is a tax-exempt public charity as recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501 [c] (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Tax Identification #: 95-4116679

Project Title: Advancing Community Engagement to Monitor, Report Hazards, and Preserve the Water Quality of Fresno and Kern Counties.

Project's Primary Geographic Area: Fresno, Kern Counties.

Contact Information for This Grant:

Cesar Campos
4270 N. Blackstone Ave #212
Fresno, CA 93726
559-485-1416 ext 116
cesar.campos.12@outlook.com
ccejn.wordpress.com

Summary Description of Project:
CCEJN is proposing to use our already established resident reporting networks of environmental hazards in these counties to engage residents in actively monitoring and reporting hazards that will ultimately lead to the prevention of water contamination. CCEJN seeks funding to embark in a resident education campaign with the goal of reaching over 200 residents—the residents will learn to identify water contamination hazards, and methods to report to FERN (Fresno Environmental Enforcement Network) and KEEN (Kern Environmental Enforcement Network) respectively. CCEJN also seeks to establish 3 "Water Watchers" groups in the communities of Arvin, Lamont, and Lanare. These groups will be instrumental in keeping continuous logs on water quality issues in their communities. All of the logs as well as the reports will be addressed or investigated by our FERN & KEEN taskforces, which both include representatives from the RWQCB.

Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:
This project will primarily focus on resident education—beneficial to preventing water contamination as they will be instrumental in identifying and addressing sources of pollution. A second benefit will arise in educating the public, which is that people educated to identify and address pollution are less likely to be sources of contamination themselves. This project will focus on identifying sources of pollution to log and report; sources that already plague these counties like: arsenic, pesticide use, nitrates, industry run-off, etc. Finally, this project will focus primarily on preserving underground water quality.

Central California Environmental Justice Network

CCEJN APPLICATION

1.) Detailed Project Description

Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN) is an organization that serves as a network of environmental justice organizations expanding throughout the San Joaquin Valley. CCEJN was formed in 2000 with the mission of preserving the natural resources of the Central Valley through organizing, empowering residents, and coordinating communication among the many agencies that are currently working on environmental justice issues in this region. CCEJN created the Central Valley Air Quality Coalition (CVAQ) as a hub of agencies directly related through their passion for clean air. Recently CCEJN was merged with the San Joaquin Valley Cumulative Health Impact Project (SJV CHIP) as the leading organization in working to prevent negative cumulative health impacts for San Joaquin Valley residents. Even more recently, CCEJN acquired two resident reporting networks of environmental hazards, the Fresno Environmental Reporting Network (FERN) and Kern Environmental Enforcement Network (KEEN) in Fresno and Kern Counties respectively. The acquisition of these projects has allowed us to expand our focus of work to include a wide arrange of environmental problems. The projects have also allowed us to work more closely with regulatory agencies in order to create stronger regulations, and more integral avenues of enforcement in order to protect San Joaquin Valley residents from sources of pollution. Finally, the acquisition of these projects has allowed us to bring a tool to communities, empowering them to take control of their own water, air, and land. CCEJN is currently seeking funds to complete the project: *Advancing Community Engagement to Monitor, Report Hazards, and Preserve the Water Quality of Fresno and Kern Counties.* This project will serve to address multiple contamination sources in both counties. This project will also serve to begin a paradigm shift with these communities that allows for greater water conservation and pollution reduction.

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

CCEJN seeks to directly involve residents by launching a series of community meetings, trainings and events that will educate residents about the toxins that are or can potentially harm ground-water quality. These trainings will serve to help communities understand the primary causes of pollution. The residents will also learn how to use the Fresno Environmental Enforcement Network (FERN) and Kern Environmental Enforcement Network (KEEN) projects; these tools will give residents a way of speaking up against the hazards that they are noticing. We pursue to reach over 200 residents in both counties through these community events. These events will educate citizens on several topics: identifying inadequate/illegal pesticide applications, illegal water storage, illegal water discharge, areas of water run-off, household items that harm water quality, correct disposal and storage of contaminants in the households, local and current water quality, etc.

Grant funding will also be used for aiding the enforcement and investigations of these complaints/reports. As part of the KEEN/FERN projects, CCEJN has established a taskforce in each county that investigates, discusses, and works to resolve the community concerns. The taskforces also help to connect residents, non-profit agencies, and regulatory government agencies in a manner that allows for constant collaboration and multi-agency approaches to resolving hazards wherever possible. Currently in our taskforces we have members of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. EPA, Cal/EPA, Department of Public Health, Environmental Health, California Air Resources Board, Department of Toxic Substances Control, County Agricultural Commissioners, and the Department of Pesticide Regulation just to name a few. Funding from this proposal will help to keep the meetings consistent, aid with the cost of coordinating the meetings, and embark in engaging more agencies, residents and non-profits in joining the taskforces.

CCEJN also seeks funds to help with the creation of three "Water Watcher" resident groups in the communities of Arvin, Lamont, and Lanare. These three communities are among many in the Central Valley that have traditionally been plagued with poor water quality. They have been picked strategically to serve as pilot projects for the "Water Watcher" groups, because they are currently undergoing some sort of water improvement project. Lanare in Fresno County is undergoing a process to identify the best alternative for acquiring safe drinking water through the Department of Public Health Safe Drinking Water Fund. Arvin is undergoing a process with the California Endowment and Community Water Center to bring safe drinking filters to schools and day care centers. Lamont is currently part of the Building Healthy Communities-South Kern project that is bringing in resources to the community. Our focus with "Water Watchers" is to build off the momentum that is surging in these communities to establish a group of residents that is interested in monitoring and preserving water quality in their community. These "Water Watchers" will begin to document data on problematic facilities, or other sources of pollution, which will be stored through our FERN/KEEN databases and will be used to aid in enforcement actions. These groups will also explore local water quality decisions and the process for those decisions to be made, so that they may intervene and seek for stronger water regulations and more protection to water quality.

Funding from this proposal will also help in miscellaneous costs of the project like fiscal sponsor costs and other unpredictable costs. Furthermore, these funds will serve for website maintenance costs for FERN (fresnoreport.org) and KEEN (kernreport.org). The websites will be instrumental in connecting with community residents and allowing for residents to learn about the most current regulatory data that the Regional Water Quality Control Board has in regards to potential pollutants. The KEEN/FERN websites have been used in the past to create an information link between residents and enforcement agencies; CCEJN wants to maximize that link by creating a resources page that will aid people in understanding water jurisdictions, water threats, and potential areas where residents can help.

b. How will these activities benefit water quality?

Involving residents in solving water quality issues is perhaps one of the most important roles of this project. Residents, and their families, are the ones most directly affected by poor water quality and are the ones who will most directly benefit from improvements. Residents are also a great source of information, because they are the ones living in the communities and better understand the type of hazards that harm their water quality. Involving residents in report/complaint generation will give us countless community advocates paying attention to the sources of pollution around them. This type of help is unprecedented and can really help the RWQCB, DPH, EPA, and environmental

agencies really understand what causes pollution to begin with. Furthermore, as mentioned before, residents who are aware of actions that can contaminate water are more unlikely to commit actions that can contaminate water. By creating a culture in communities surrounding water health, we are ensuring that communities invest in safe water and seize to dispose of toxins in a way that harms water.

Investigation and enforcement will really improve water quality because they will deter future polluting actions. As we get more people interested and knowledgeable in report making, we will see an increase in investigations and enforcement. These type of enforcement actions will hold polluters accountable for their actions and result in the deterrence of future actions that will harm water quality. This deterrence only heightens as industry and polluters understand that the community cares and is paying attention to those actions that will harm the health of residents and families.

The establishment of community "Water Watcher" groups will become an ongoing system of accountability for industry and other residents that will aid in preventing water contamination. These groups can become self-sustainable and add another level of protection and communal responsibility for creating safe environments where water and humans can thrive. The amount of data collected through these groups will aid communities in understanding their role and responsibility for maintaining proper water quality. Empowering residents to share that feeling can only lead to more public participation and more public input to the regulations and strategies of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

c. What is the strategic importance of this project if it completed?
The strategic importance of this project can be measured in two main points. First, the resident reporting network model that KEEN/FERN employ is a model that has gained positive attention throughout the state. The attention has come from many government agencies that are seeing the importance in involving community in decision making processes and are seeing the importance of involving residents in enforcement actions. Currently, this model has taken many shapes and has helped government agencies, like DTSC, Cal/EPA, and CARB carry out programs and gather community information. The strategic importance of this project is that it allows the RWQCB to use these network for advancing their public information and enforcement goals. As CCEJN seeks to expand these type of projects, because they are a great tool for communities, the RWQCB will be able to speak of this program and support the formation of more networks like this ones in other counties. Establishing these type of efforts in other counties will also further the goals of many regulatory agencies that wish to have stronger ties with residents. Furthermore, this project will help to form a model for the "Water Watchers" groups that CCEJN wants to establish in rural communities. These groups will be strategically important in future data gathering and water advocacy throughout local and state jurisdictions. Success in this model will aid more communities to form similar groups and advance water quality throughout our region.

d. Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners.
Throughout the Central Valley, we see a large amount of communities that have been traditionally disenfranchised from decision making processes of the State of California. These communities suffer from low education attainment, high un/underemployment, poor air/water quality, and high poverty as well as linguistic isolation. The demographics of both counties are as follows, according to the 2010 census and CalEnviroScreen:

Fresno County	*Kern County*
Population: 930,450 Hispanic: 50.3% White: 32.7% African American: 4.8% Asian: 9.3% Citizenship Status for Foreign Born Populations: Not A U.S. Citizen: 67.2% Income Level: Median Household Income: $46,903 Environmental Justice: 15 zip codes in the top 10% for CalEnviroScreen	Population: 839,631 Hispanic: 49.2% White: 38.6% African American: 5.4% Asian: 3.9% Citizenship Status for Foreign Born Populations: Not A U.S. Citizen: 68.9% Income Level: Median Household Income: 48,021 Environmental Justice: 6 zip codes in the top 10% for CalEnviroScreen

Both of these counties place high in levels of environmental justice red zone communities and are places that can greatly benefit from increasing the health of our water quality. Cleaner water will positively affect the health outcomes of our residents and shift the paradigm to one that is more conscious and active in preserving and protecting the resources of our region.

The demographics of the three communities identified for the "Water Watcher" pilot projects are:

Lanare	Lamont	Arvin
Population: <1000 Hispanic: 88.1% African American: 8.3% Citizenship Status for Foreign Born Populations: Not A U.S. Citizen: 68.1% Income Level: Median Household Income: $46,136 Environmental Justice Zip Code is listed in the top 10% of CalEnviroScreen	Population: 15,120 Hispanic: 94.5% White: 4.6% Citizenship Status for Foreign Born Populations: Not A U.S. Citizen: 81.7% Income Level: Median Household Income: $35,168 Environmental Justice Zip Code is listed in the top 20% of CalEnviroScreen	Population: 19,304 Hispanic: 92.7% White: 5.1% Citizenship Status for Foreign Born Populations: Not A U.S. Citizen: 76.9% Income Level: Median Household Income: $29.740 Environmental Justice Zip Code is listed in the top 20% of CalEnviroScreen
There are many strategic partners in Lanare including non-profits like: Leadership	Strategic Partners in Lamont are: The California Endowment, the Regional	Strategic Partners in Lamont are: The California Endowment, the Regional

Counsel for Justice and Accountability, Community Water Center, and regulatory agencies like the Department of Public Health, Safe Drinking Water Fund.	Water Quality Control Group, Building Healthy Communities—South Kern, Dolores Huerta Foundation, and others.	Water Quality Control Group, Building Healthy Communities—South Kern, Community Water Center, Dolores Huerta Foundation, and others.

2.) Project Budget

For a complete line item budget, please see the excel attachment labeled "CCEJNProjectBudget."

3.) Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities

For a complete breakdown of the timeline for the project activities and deliverables, please see the attachment labeled "CCEJNDeliverables&Timeline"

4.) Questions and Statements

a. This project is not independently required by any discharger. This project is not proposed as mitigation to offset the impact of any discharger. This project is solely a project led by Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN) as a community organization wishing to improve the water quality in our region.

b. This project will benefit groundwater and surface water quality by allowing residents to actively engage in preserving those resources. Among other benefits CCEJN is certain that this project will help deter future actions from individuals and industry that may pollute our water. Along with the deterrence of pollution this project will serve to shift the paradigm in communities to make them empowered in preserving and protecting the water among them.

c. This project will not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board. No funding allocated to this project will serve to fund any action done by either entity. However, CCEJN believes that indirectly this project can benefit the processes undertaken by the State and Regional Water Boards, through further community participation, advocacy, and data gathering. These benefits will ultimately benefit those communities served by the agencies.

d. No funds for this project have been provided or requested through any voter-approved propositions.

CCEJN Deliverables and Timeline

3.) Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities

Task		Deliverable	Begin Date	Completion Date
Task 1--Embark in a series of community trainings, workshops and events.		Reach over 200 people	Upon receiving grant	1 year from initial date
Task 1.1	Develop materials, presentations, brochures, activities for trainings.		Upon receiving grant	2 months from initial date
Task 1.2	Schedule & conduct 8 community trainings—organize to get 12+ attendance.		2 months from receiving grant	10 months from beginning date of task 1.2.
Task 1.3	Schedule & conduct 3 community workshops (Bring maps and begin highlighting and identifying potential sources of pollution that the community is concerned about.)	Identify potential sources of pollution that can be investigated by the community as well as the RWQCB.	6 months from receiving grant	4 months from beginning date of task 1.3
Task 1.4	Participate in 2 large scale community events that have traditionally gathered large attendance. (i.e. festivals, health fairs, etc.)	Distribute 100+ informational materials. Speak to residents about groundwater quality, protection and preservation.	2 months from receiving grant	10 months from beginning date of task 1.4.
Task 2—Aid in the investigation and enforcement of complaints/reports.		Successfully address or resolve 8 water quality	Upon receiving grant	12 months after receiving grant.

		complaints/reports. (Resolved refers to a community complaint that resulted in an enforcement action or fine. Addressed refers to complaints that were investigated but because of a lack of regulation or timely response the department was unable to enforce.)		
Task 2.1	Prepare for KEEN and FERN monthly meetings.		Monthly meetings	Funding applied to these activities to the extent received.
Task 2.2	Spend 30 hrs increasing the relationship between KEEN/FERN taskforces and the RWQCB	Co-host 3 community trainings (of the 8 mentioned above). FERN/KEEN Coordinator to spend time exploring ideas for multi-agency approaches to the water quality reports. (i.e. perhaps after a problem is resolved, the RWQCB may see that community education is needed. FERN/KEEN non-profits can collaborate doing that.)	4 months from receiving grant. (Collaboration of educational campaigns as requested).	10 months from receiving grant. (Collaboration of educational campaigns as requested).
Task 2.3	Spend 10 hrs evaluating the current permitting process and jurisdictions of the RWQCB.	Provide a synopsis and comprehensive presentation to RWQCB representatives about areas where enforcement gaps may exist.	6 months from receiving grant.	10 months from receiving grant.
Task 3 – Establish 3 Water Watcher groups in the communities of Lanare, Arvin, and Lamont.		Engage 8-10 residents in each community to participate in active monitoring and data collection. Collect daily and monthly logs of water quality via non-instrumental methods. (i.e smell, taste, color, price, etc.)		
Task 3.1	Begin organizing in the three communities—build off the momentum of partner groups in the area.		Upon receiving grant.	3 months from receiving grant.
Task 3.2	Begin conducting focus groups with community residents/groups interested in this monitoring	Build a system of recording data using written logs, phone calls, and simple household experiments.	4 months from receiving grant.	5 months from receiving grant.
Task 3.3	Establish monthly meeting of the residents conducting logs	Explore options and discuss findings.	6 months from receiving grant	Indefinitely
Task 3.4	Establish a system of incorporating the data into KEEN/FERN databases	Use the data to present to the RWQCB and improve areas of enforcement as well as regulations	8 months from receiving grant	Indefinitely
Task 4 – Develop website access and information capacity.		Aid with the project deliverables	6 months from receiving grant	Updates to be completed within 3 months

				of begin date of task 4. (Benefits to carry on indefinitely).
Task 4.1	Upload updated and current information on regulations and enforcement		6 months from receiving grant	Indefinitely
Task 4.2	Use website as an organizing tool	Track and update water quality reports	Upon receiving grant.	Indefinitely
Task 4.3	Use database for logging all information gathered from Water Watcher groups.	Be able to analyze data and gather patterns and metrics.	Upon establishing groups (expected 7 months after receiving grants)	Indefinitely

CCEJN Budget Proposal

Advancing Community Engagement to Monitor, Report Hazards, and Preserve the Water Quality of Fresno & Kern Counties.

Expense					Deliverables--See Attachment Titled "CC			
	Task 1.1	Task 1.2	Task 1.3	Task 1.4	Task 2.1	Task 2.2	Task 2.3	Task 3.1
FERN/KEEN Coordinator Time	600	1400	600	500	200	900	300	1000
Print Materials	600			600				600
Meeting expenses		800	300	250	350			
Website maintenance					400	500		
Miscellaneous								
Fiscal Sponsor (6.5%)								

CEJNDeliverables&Timeline"							Total
Task 3.2	Task 3.2	Task 3.3	Task 3.4	Task 4.1	Task 4.2	Task 4.3	
600	600	600	400	300	100	400	8,500
600	200						2,600
	800	600					3,100
			800	400	500	600	3,200
							1,300
							1,300
							20,000

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase)

COVER SHEET

Applicant: Clean Water Fund
IRS Classification: 501 (c) 3
EIN No: 52-1043444
Project Title: Developing a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement fund for disadvantaged communities
Geographic Area; San Joaquin Valley
Amount of Grant Request: $47,000

Contact: Jennifer Clary
350 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Ste. 200
Oakland, CA 94612 (Alameda County)

O: (415) 369-9160
Email: jclary@cleanwater.org
Website: www.cleanwaterfund.org

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to develop an organizational framework as well as potential funding sources for a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement program for communities not served by a public water system. Clean Water Fund (CWF) proposes to convene a technical advisory committee to develop a permanent program. The project will consist of:

- Investigation of potential program models;
- Convening and facilitation of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to guide investigations and make recommendations on program elements. The TAC will consist of representatives of funding entities, service providers, regulators and impacted communities;
- Compiling and vetting recommendations for distribution to a broader group of experts for peer review and comment;
- Development of final reports consisting of research conducted, TAC Recommendations, final program recommendation, and next steps for establishing the program.

Water Board, Beneficial Use and or Pollutant Addressed by Project: This project will benefit the MUN beneficial use by developing a program that can provide assistance to well owners that need to upgrade their well to provide safe drinking water. It will additionally assist in protecting groundwater aquifers from inadequately constructed or poorly maintained wells that can serve as a conduit for contamination.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DEVELOPING A PERMANENT WELL REHABILITATION AND REPLACEMENT FUND FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Clean Water Fund (CWF) respectfully requests the sum $47,000 to address the drinking water needs of disadvantaged communities and small systems in unincorporated areas. This project would develop the organizational, financial, and legal framework for a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement program that can assist disadvantaged communities that are not served by a public water system. Limited efforts have been funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by service entities such Self-Help Enterprises and the Rural Community Assistance Corporation, but have been restricted in both scope and funding.

The genesis for this project lies in the recommendations of the Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group (DWSG), convened in 2012 in response to the release of the UC Davis Nitrate Report developed on behalf of the State Water Board. The DWSG, which included CWF, was asked to develop a shared understanding of the challenges faced by communities with nitrate contaminated water in the Tulare Lake Basin and Salinas Valley, and to identify promising solutions to address those challenges. In its report to the Governor, the DWSG identified systems serving between 2 and 14 connections as particularly vulnerable, as they do not meet the US EPA definition of a public water system.[1] Specifically, the report noted that:

> *(t)he scope and magnitude of the drinking water problems for disadvantaged communities and small systems in unincorporated areas is not fully understood, due to limits in or a lack of current and ongoing assessment of conditions. Additional efforts are necessary to collect and manage information to inform planning and implementation of solutions.*

A key issue, as noted in the report, is the lack of funding for repair or replacement of contaminated systems as well as funding for the on-going operation and maintenance of upgraded systems. The report points out that

> *most existing funding sources are not available for improvements for private wells or infrastructure that is not part of a public water system.*

The DWSG issued a second report in August of 2013 that focused on identifying funding gaps and potential new funding sources; that report also identified the needs of disadvantaged communities without an existing public water system as a key gap in existing funding programs.[2] Funding needs identified in that report include funding for testing of wells for small systems and private wells to evaluate the problems, project pre-planning and planning, legal entity formation

[1] *Final Report to the Governor's Office,* Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group, August 20, 2012

[2] *Report on New and Expanded Funding Sources to address the needs of disadvantaged communities in unincorporated areas that do not have safe drinking water,* Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group, August 13, 2013

and Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) processes, construction of new infrastructure, mitigation of pollution impacts, wastewater infrastructure improvements to prevent further contamination, data gathering and management, on-going technical assistance and training, O&M costs, and interim costs

There are currently no reliable funding options for addressing the infrastructure needs of state or local small systems (2-14 connections). An existing program for domestic well rehabilitation funded by the USDA Rural Development Program and administered by the Rural Community Assistance Corporation is a revolving loan program for home-owners with an income at or below the Median Household Income of the County. The program has significant limitations, including:

1) Limited funding available from USDA;
2) Loan cap of $11,000 per homeowner;
3) No funding for related infrastructure improvements, including distribution pipes, that may be needed for small systems;
4) Not available for septic system upgrades, a common source of well contamination.

In order to develop an organizational framework that provides the funding and administration of a permanent program that addresses these drinking water funding gaps and infrastructure needs for small and disadvantaged communities, CWF will convene a technical advisory committee (TAC). CWF will staff and facilitate the TAC, which will consist of service providers, funding entities, regulators, and impacted disadvantaged communities. The role of the TAC will be to identify research needs, direct and review research, make recommendations on specific program elements, and approve a final program framework. A final report will outline the recommendations of the TAC, input from peer reviewers, and supporting information gathered in the course of the project, as well as next steps to establish the recommended alternative.

a. <u>Specific Project Activities (9 months)</u>

Months 1-2: Convene Technical Advisory Committee (TAC): CWF will use its extensive connections from past program efforts and also consult with project partners to identify members that represent technical service providers, regulators, impacted communities and experts in finance and other disciplines. The final TAC will be limited to 11-15 persons.

Months 2-8: Facilitate TAC activities. Our estimate is that the TAC will hold 2-3 in-person meetings and 2-4 meetings by conference call. In-person meetings will be held at the most convenient Central Valley location for participants, and travel stipends will be made available as needed. Impacted community representatives will be eligible to receive a stipend for participation in in-person meetings.

TAC Responsibilities:

- Identify and agree upon program outcomes
- Direct information-gathering efforts needed to answer key questions
- Develop draft recommendations
- Review and approve final recommendations and next steps

Months 1-6: Research. CWF will provide support to TAC and conduct research to provide information as needed. A timetable of research could be:

- In months 1-2, Identify successful funding and program models, both public and private, to provide initial background material to TAC.
- In months 2-6, research and compile information requested by TAC

Months 4-8: Develop list of peer reviewers to review and comment on recommended program; provide comments to TAC for review and revision of final document

Months 5-9: Develop draft and final report, including options investigated, input from TAC and peer reviewers, final recommendations and next steps for implementation.

Questions to be addressed through this process include:

1) Identifying the scope of the program. Should this be a scalable program that begins in a discrete geographical area (such as the Tulare Lake Basin[3]) and expands as resources allow? Should the program funding only drinking water wells, or should it include septic systems? Could/should the program fund distribution system upgrades for state or local small systems, or wellhead treatment for contaminated sources?
2) What is an appropriate entity to house the program? What are the benefits and drawbacks to program housed in a public agency versus a non-profit? What level of staffing and expertise is required? What entities have the capacity and expertise to house a new program? What legal and/or regulatory steps would be required to establish the program?
3) What sources of public and private funding can be identified and/or confirmed? Can the potential program demand be estimated?
4) How do we identify and target the most impacted communities for assistance? How can we limit red tape for applicants while still ensuring the health of the program? What technical assistance can and should be built into the program?

b. <u>How this project would benefit water quality</u>

The Central Valley Water Board's Irrigated Lands Program identifies unprotected wellheads as a source of nitrate contamination. By making funding for well upgrades and improvements more accessible, this program will protect groundwater quality by removing conduits for contamination such as improperly sealed wells and inadequate septic systems. These improvements will address nitrate contamination that impacts not just the health of individual well owners, but also the health of groundwater aquifers.

c. <u>The strategic importance of this project if completed.</u>

[3] The Tulare Lake Basin is unique in that it has developed information on communities not served by a public water system. A pilot study, funded by the Department of Water Resources and conducted by Tulare County, is scheduled for public release in 2014, and has identified 195 communities of at least 15 homes in the Basin that are not currently served by a public water system. A database of unincorporated communities in the Tulare Lake Basin and their water and wastewater needs is in development.

This project will address an issue that was prioritized by a diverse group of stakeholders, including environmental, environmental justice, agricultural, water agency and local government representatives, and will reinforce the value of the collaborative model used by the DWSG. A successful program will also allow local regulators to be more aggressive in their oversight of these wells and the communities they serve, because they will be able to refer those communities to an entity that can assist them in addressing their water needs.

d. <u>Benefits to disadvantaged communities</u>

Currently, when residents or communities discover that their well requires upgrades, they are left to fund improvements themselves (an impossibility for very low-income communities) or simply do without safe drinking water. The DWSG found that most wells not regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act are required to conduct very little ongoing water quality monitoring, so their water quality problems can go undetected for years. Local environmental health or public health officers responsible for overseeing these systems have limited capacity to do so and have little ability to offer assistance to those wells that are found to be problematic. As the state enters a third dry year, many of these shallow wells will lose access to groundwater, creating emergency situations in some communities.

Providing an ongoing source of funding to address critical water quality issues can benefit the health and safety of impacted communities.. Having a consistent fund will also make it easier to promote the fund, for instance by working with local health officers that are responsible for regulating communities not served by a public water system.

While limited data is available about specific communities not served by a public water system, what evidence is available provides considerable cause for concern. The 2012 UC Davis Nitrate report identified more than 220,000 residents impacted by nitrate contamination in the Tulare Lake Basin and Salinas Valley, with 34,000 of those residents reliant upon domestic wells. In 2006, the State Water Board's GAMA Domestic Well Project sampled 181 private domestic wells in Tulare County; nearly three-quarters of the wells tested exceeded at least one drinking water standard, with approximately 41 percent of the total tested exceeding the drinking water standard for nitrate.

Research conducted under the auspices of UC Berkeley and published in 2011[4] indicates that the most impacted communities are also more likely to be Latino. Researchers found that across all eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley, a positive correlation existed between water systems that served larger proportions of Latinos and increased nitrate levels in the water systems, and that Latinos in the San Joaquin Valley are disproportionately exposed to higher levels of nitrates in drinking water. In addition, researchers found that this relationship is strongest in smaller water systems. The study used public water systems for its analysis; water quality and

[4] *Environmental Justice implications of arsenic contamination in California's San Joaquin Valley,* Balasz et.al, Environmental Health Journal 2012 11:84

demographic information on communities not served by a public water system is not adequate to support such an analysis[5].

Project Budget- Attached

Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities

1. A list of TAC participants
2. Research conducted to support TAC deliberations, including examples of other funding models for similar programs
3. A list of outside peer reviewers consisting of impacted communities, NGOs, finance specialists, academics, service providers and regulators.
4. Consensus and non-consensus recommendations from TAC.
5. A roadmap for establishment of a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement program, as well as potential funding sources for such a program.

Timeline chart for deliverables can be found in a separate attachment.

[5] The Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group is expected to release a report in January identifying the data gaps of communities not served by a public water system.

CLEAN WATER FUND

Developing a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement fund for disadvantaged communities

	TOTAL
EXPENSES	
Personnel:	
Project Coordinator	$10,068.55
Project Supervisor	$1,609.28
Project Director	$1,045.00
Accounting	$854.55
Communications	$342.10
Salaries	$13,919.48
Fringe Benefits	$4,315.04
Total Personnel	**$18,234.52**
Contracts:	
Stipends for community participation	$1,500.00
Travel Stipends	$3,750.00
Research Assistant	$4,075.00
Legal Review and analysis	$8,000.00
Total Contracts	**$17,325.00**
Direct Expenses:	
Meeting Expenses	$1,000.00
Telephone & On-Line Expenses	$980.00
Supplies	$280.00
Copying & Printing	$1,840.00
Postage & Delivery	$930.00
Travel	$710.00
Rent	$900.00
Equipment Lease & Repair	$270.00
Miscellaneous	$257.75
Total Direct Expenses	**$7,167.75**
INDIRECT COST (capped at 10%)	**$4,272.73**
TOTAL	**$47,000.00**

Rose Foundation Jan. 2014
CWF Central Valley Water Quality Proposal
Developing a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement fund for disadvantaged communities

DELIVERABLES

Task #	Description	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Deliverables
1.	Convening TAC										List of TAC members
2.	Initial Research										Background on similar programs
3.	In-Person TAC #1										Key Questions and outcomes
4.	Directed Research										Additional data collection as directed by TAC
5.	TAC meetings by phone										Address key questions; develop initial recommendations
6.	In-Person TAC #2										Finalize draft recommendations
7.	Peer Review of draft proposal										circulate draft recommendations for peer review
8.	TAC review, meeting										finalize recommendations with TAC
9.	Draft, final reports										Draft report with research findings, recommendation and next steps

Developing a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement fund for disadvantaged communities

A proposal by Clean Water Fund (CWF)

Additional Questions

a. Is this program independently required by any discharger, or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)? ***NO***

b. How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?

This project is designed to fill an identified gap in drinking water protection; providing assistance to residents not served by a public water system. The process as outlined will allow experts in this issue to focus their attention on this specific problem and potential solutions. The result will not only improve water quality for impacted communities, but will address conduits to contamination by properly sealing and rehabilitating inadequately constructed wells.

c. Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

This project shall not directly benefit the State or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

d. Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this proposal.

Funds for this project have not be provided by, nor are requests pending with, any voter-approved propositions, or sources related to Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. CWF currently does not have any outstanding proposals for funding this project, but plans to include this project in future applications. If funding for all or part of this project becomes available, we will immediately notify the Rose Foundation and amend our proposal.

Self-Help Enterprises

A Nonprofit Housing and Community Development Organization

December 27, 2013

Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Clean Water Fund Project support

Dear Mr. Little:

On behalf of Self-Help Enterprises (SHE), I am writing to support the proposal from Clean Water Fund to develop a permanent well rehabilitation and replacement program. For the past 40 years, SHE has assisted small disadvantaged communities in developing over 150 water and wastewater projects serving more than 28,000 people in the San Joaquin Valley counties. Such disadvantaged communities are recognized as having critically high rates of poverty and unemployment, with many having an urgent need for investment in water and wastewater infrastructure. SHE has provided technical assistance to the water and/or sewer providers in these disadvantaged communities to enable them to address critical community facilities needs.

Many of the disadvantaged communities we assist lack a public water system, and as a result, have great difficulty in addressing their serious drinking water needs. While we expect that new efforts for regionalization will assist some of these communities, there is still a great need to address the infrastructure needs for very small communities and homeowners on private wells.

SHE has administered grants from the USDA Rural Development program that provides low-interest loans to homeowners to rehabilitate or replace their private wells and pumps. While valuable, this funding has limitations; it can only be distributed as loans of no more than $11,000 per household, and is limited to funding wells and pumps. We think there is a need for a more permanent program with more flexibility to fund the full array of infrastructure needs for small communities not served by a public water or sewer system.

We think the proposed Technical Advisory Committee is a good way to engage the many interested parties that can contribute to the development of a successful program, and would be happy to participate in a targeted effort of limited duration to develop such a program. We have worked with Clean Water Fund on the issue of funding for community water and wastewater projects for more than a decade, and are certain that the organization possesses the expertise and commitment to successfully complete this project.

Sincerely,

Paul Boyer

Paul Boyer
Community Development Manager

NeighborWorks CHARTERED MEMBER

Main Office: 8445 W. Elowin Court • P.O. Box 6520 • Visalia, CA 93290
North Valley Office: 2413 West Cleveland, Suite 101 • Madera, CA 93637
Phone (559) 651-1000 • Fax (559) 651-3634 • info@selfhelpenterprises.org • www.selfhelpenterprises.org

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER
EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

January 3, 2014

Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Clean Water Fund Project support

Dear Mr. Little,

Community Water Center (CWC) is a 501(c)3 grassroots organization located in Visalia, California. Our mission is to create community-driven water solutions through organizing, education and advocacy in California's San Joaquin Valley. We have collaborated with Clean Water Fund since our founding in 2006 to accomplish this goal.

I am happy to support Clean Water Fund's Project "*Developing a Permanent Well Rehabilitation and Replacement Fund.*" As the coordinator for the Asociacion de Gente Unida por el Agua (AGUA) coalition, which includes over 80 representatives from low-income and people of color communities, including youth and private well owners, from 19 community organizations and 8 nonprofit agencies, CWC is well aware that the problems of safe drinking water in the San Joaquin Valley are not limited to public water systems. CWC also participates in the Tulare Lake Basin Disadvantaged Community Water Study (TLB Study), which is developing an inventory of communities in the basin. The preliminary findings of that study and those of the UC Davis Nitrate Report indicate that more than 200 communities in the Basin, with a total population exceeding 100,000, are not served by a public water system.

A continual fund that serves these residents is sorely needed. The Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group, which I co-chaired from May of 2012 to the present day, has prioritized the needs of disadvantaged communities not served by a public water system in their reports to the Governor. This project is the first effort to implement those recommendations.

The Community Water Center and Clean Water Fund have a long history of collaborating to help Central Valley communities. In this case, CWC will serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee in order to provide input and feedback from and to AGUA coalition members.

Community Water Center strongly supports efforts to improve the health and lives of San Joaquin Valley residents, and asks your support for Clean Water Fund's proposal.

Sincerely,

Community Water Center
311 W. Murray Ave. Visalia, CA 93291 ● Tel. (559) 733-0219 Fax (559) 733-8219
www.communitywatercenter.org

Laurel Firestone
Co-Executive Director and Attorney at Law

Community Water Center
311 W. Murray Ave. Visalia, CA 93291 ● Tel. (559) 733-0219 Fax (559) 733-8219
www.communitywatercenter.org

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

(Applicant must answer all questions)

Cover Sheet:
a) Name of Applicant Organization: Community Water Center (CWC)

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 80-0267674

c) Project Title: Clean Water for Disadvantaged Communities

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Tulare Lake Basin and Eastside San Joaquin Valley

e) Amount of Grant Request: $45,870 – $689,484 (scalable)

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Name: Laurel Firestone, Community Water Center
Full mailing address: 311 W. Murray Ave. Visalia, CA 93291
County where organization's office is located: Headquarters – Tulare County, second office in Sacramento County
Phone: 559-733-0219 / 916-706-3346
Email: laurel.firestone@communitywatercenter.org
Website: www.communitywatercenter.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters):
The Community Water Center will further efforts to ensure clean sources of drinking water for disadvantaged communities in the San Joaquin Valley and Tulare Lake Basin. CWC will accomplish this through three main strategies: 1) Water Quality Monitoring in Disadvantaged Communities; 2) Community Outreach and Education in Disadvantaged Communities; and 3) Supporting Community Participation in Watershed Planning. Water quality monitoring will help develop a better understanding of local groundwater quality and identify impacts on beneficial uses, particularly for disadvantaged community drinking water supplies. Education and engagement of disadvantaged communities will enable proactive action to prevent and mitigate contamination of groundwater used as a source of drinking water. Community participation in IRWMPs and groundwater quality management plans will ensure that water quality needs of disadvantaged communities will be addressed and sources of community drinking water supplies will be protected and improved.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:

This project will address groundwater contamination of sources of drinking water in disadvantaged communities in the Tulare Lake Basin and the Eastside San Joaquin Valley. The project aims to protect and enhance groundwater quality to better support the beneficial use of municipal water supplies for disadvantaged communities. The primary groundwater contaminants impacting drinking water sources of disadvantaged communities in these regions include: Arsenic, Nitrate, Perchlorate, Uranium, 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP), 123 Trichloropropane (123 TCP), and bacteria.

Detailed Project Description – Community Water Center

1) Detailed Project Description *(5 pages maximum)*:

Describe the proposed project including:

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

1) *Water Quality Monitoring in Disadvantaged Communities*:

The Community Water Center (CWC) will provide water quality sampling for community and individual wells in disadvantaged communities. In particular, sampling will include testing for common local groundwater contaminants, such as nitrate, arsenic, DBCP, uranium, 123 TCP, total coliform, and others as appropriate.

**Low End Budget Activities: At a minimum, CWC will conduct screening of individual wells and community taps for common contaminants, including arsenic and nitrate, using field monitoring equipment utilized by previous CDPH private well testing efforts. The results of sampling will be shared with the water users along with information on how to get certified lab testing, other potential co-contaminants that should be tested for based on results, and what can be done to prevent further contamination and mitigate existing contamination problems.

**High End Budget Activities: If a greater amount of funding is available, CWC will conduct the following much more extensive water quality monitoring activities. CWC will outreach to individual property and business owners, residents and schools representatives in disadvantaged communities with private wells in vulnerable groundwater environments in order to conduct certified lab monitoring for at least 300 wells within at least three communities that do not have water quality monitoring information. CWC will provide language and culturally appropriate information regarding the need to test water quality, how to participate in this water sampling project and how to continue to test wells to monitor water quality, and as well as information on well disinfection and maintenance. Additionally, CWC will provide information to all participants on the results of water sampling and what can be done to address any contamination problems detected. Additionally, CWC will tabulate the information for each community and hold community meetings to share overall results from the sampling and support consideration of next steps if widespread contamination is found. Individual sampling results will be shared with individuals, local communities and local and regional water agencies, while protecting individual confidentiality if requested. (Note: The exact number of communities will depend on the total number of wells in each community and total number of likely contaminants for which sampling is conducted. Please note that this activity is scalable and can be adapted to budgets on a wide range of scales.[1])

2) *Community Outreach and Education in Disadvantaged Communities*:

CWC and the AGUA coalition will provide outreach and education to disadvantaged communities on local water quality and ways to prevent and mitigate contamination of community drinking water sources. One primary activity will be subcontracting to the AGUA coalition to provide support for outreach and education efforts. Formed in February 2006, AGUA is a grassroots coalition of over 80 representatives from low-income and people of color

[1] The total need for water monitoring in small communities with domestic wells is extensive. According to *Addressing Nitrate in California's Drinking Water* (UC Davis Nitrate Report, 2012), approximately 245,000 people rely on about 74,000 domestic wells within the Tulare Lake Basin and Salinas Valley. There are an estimated 20,000 private domestic wells in Tulare County alone, and hundreds of communities that rely on private domestic wells in the San Joaquin Valley.

communities, including youth and private well owners, from 19 community organizations and 8 nonprofit agencies dedicated to securing safe, clean and affordable drinking water in California's San Joaquin Valley. At monthly AGUA meetings, members learn about the water contamination problem in the Valley and identify concrete actions to address the issue at the local and regional levels. Additionally, AGUA members develop local community outreach events, including during National Drinking Water Week, to highlight local groundwater contaminants impacting drinking water and teach ways to prevent and mitigate contamination. The majority of AGUA's member communities have a grassroots community group that operates on a local level. These groups serve as AGUA's main mechanism of outreach and organizing. Tied into the fabric of the San Joaquin Valley, AGUA members inform neighbors and residents of nearby communities through their informal and formal networks. Using bilingual fliers, broadcasts on Spanish language radio such as Radio Campesina and Radio Bilingue, and house visits, AGUA members are constantly providing outreach and education on local water quality and growing the number of interested groups and communities.

In addition, CWC will provide bilingual educational materials on local water quality for disadvantaged communities, as well as work with local media in both English and Spanish to highlight local water quality challenges along with local efforts to prevent and mitigate contamination.

3) *Supporting Community Participation in Watershed Planning*:
CWC will support disadvantaged community participation in Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) and support integration of disadvantaged community water needs into the development of groundwater quality management plans. Specifically, CWC will conduct capacity and leadership development workshops through AGUA and provide direct training and support to disadvantaged community representatives to foster direct community engagement in local IRWMPs, particularly in the Upper Kings, Kaweah, Tule River and South Kern County watersheds. Additionally, CWC will directly engage in key local IRWM and groundwater management planning efforts, primarily in the Upper Kings, Kaweah, Tule and South Kern watersheds to provide suggestions on how to ensure watershed planning adequately addresses local disadvantaged community water needs. This may include written comments, meeting participation, as well as program plan or policy development with local IRWM and groundwater management planning efforts.

At the High End Budget Level, Task 3 would include additional activities of organizing and coordinating regional representation for DACs within the five IRWM or other regional planning efforts in the Tulare Lake basin. This would include facilitating regular meetings and communication between new and existing DAC representatives to coordinate DAC plans, policies and projects within IRWMPs. Additional CWC staff would also support the development of written comments, plans, policies or projects in at least three more (five total) local IRWMPs and groundwater management plans to protect and improve groundwater that serve as sources of drinking water for disadvantaged communities.

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.
Water quality monitoring will help develop a better understanding of local groundwater quality and identify impacts on beneficial uses, particularly for disadvantaged community drinking

Detailed Project Description – Community Water Center

water supplies. The Tulare Lake Basin Disadvantaged Community Water Study[2] found nearly 200 clusters of at least 15 homes that were not served by a public water system, more than a third of the small communities in the Tulare Lake Basin. With the exception of the private domestic wells sampled as part of voluntary projects,[3] little information is publicly available concerning the location and water quality of private domestic wells. Yet domestic wells in disadvantaged communities are often relatively shallow and may not have been adequately constructed, resulting in extremely high vulnerability to groundwater contamination. As a result, these small, rural disadvantaged communities are disproportionately impacted by contamination. Domestic well monitoring results can also be a relatively early indicator of broader contamination challenges to beneficial uses. Therefore, domestic well monitoring information is crucial both to better understand impacts on beneficial uses, and to better tailor water quality protection and improvement efforts.

Additionally, community education allows, both those most impacted and those that may be contributing to water quality, to help prevent contamination and mitigate the impacts of contamination on beneficial uses, particularly for disadvantaged communities. It also helps engage those most impacted by contamination in raising public support for water quality improvement and protection activities. Public support is vital for the success of water quality improvement projects, particularly new efforts that require changes in practices.

Community participation in IRWMPs and integration of community needs into groundwater quality management plans will ensure that water quality needs of disadvantaged communities will be addressed in watershed protection and planning efforts and sources of community drinking water supplies will be protected and improved. Without engagement from disadvantaged communities, watershed planning efforts have focused on protection of other beneficial uses. As a result, there has been a lack of plans and projects to improve water quality for the sources of drinking water for disadvantaged communities. By engaging in these processes, this project will help those plans more fully protect and improve groundwater quality, particularly for disadvantaged communities.

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.
Disadvantaged communities are the proverbial canary in the coal mine as they are often reliant on one or two water sources, and therefore pollution of groundwater supplies can leave whole communities without access to safe drinking water. However, little information exists as to the source water quality in communities, particularly those without regulated public water systems. Additionally, community members often lack information on what can be done to prevent contamination and how to mitigate the impacts of groundwater pollution. Moreover, local and regional water planning efforts have traditionally focused on the needs of irrigation and larger cities, and only recently are beginning to try to better incorporate and integrate the needs of small disadvantaged communities. This grant would help address all of these needs and provide

[2] This study, funded by the Department of Water Resources and conducted by Tulare County, is still in progress. It is still refining development of a database of unincorporated communities in the Tulare Lake Basin and their water and wastewater needs. More information is available at http://www.tularecounty.ca.gov/cao/index.cfm/tulare-lake-basin-disadvantaged-community-water-study/.

[3] The State Board's GAMA Program has sampled private domestic wells in five county focus areas since 2002, including Tulare and Monterey Counties. Through its continuing collaboration with the USGS, GAMA is also testing private domestic wells as part of its Priority Basin Project (called GAMA Shallow Aquifer Assessment).

important information that will ultimately allow for improved water quality for beneficial uses in the region.

Through our work, and in partnership with AGUA, CWC ensures communities have a voice in water planning and decision making that affects whether they have access to clean water. Through our current pilot projects, we have engaged hundreds of local representatives from disadvantaged communities in some local water planning efforts. This project would take the next step to focus on capacity building, to empower these residents to more actively and effectively participate in local and regional water quality planning efforts.

At the High End Budget Level, Task 3 would include additional steps of actually organizing and coordinating regional representation for DACs within IRWMs, which is consistent with one of the recommendations of the Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group in the New and Expanded Funding Sources report submitted in the summer of 2013. This recommendation was one of the key gaps identified by the groups to help move disadvantaged communities forward in developing sustainable and affordable solutions to their water challenges.

d. **Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners.**

CWC strongly believes that residents of impacted disadvantaged communities are the most effective advocates for water quality protection. Our approach is built on the premise that we must first and foremost work to empower impacted communities to speak for and represent themselves. CWC's approach honors and respects impacted communities by ensuring that they lead, rather than follow, problem-solving efforts. With that lens, CWC works to ensure that rural, low-income communities of color in California's San Joaquin Valley, and agricultural areas throughout the state, have access to clean and affordable drinking water now and in the future by working to reduce the major sources of groundwater contamination from agriculture and supporting disadvantaged community participation in Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMPs) and support integration of disadvantaged community water needs into the development of groundwater quality management plans.

Community Water Center's target population includes rural, low-income communities in the San Joaquin Valley, as 55% of the communities with chronic drinking water violations in the State are in the San Joaquin Valley (California Department of Public Health, 2012). The demographics of the disadvantaged community residents that CWC has worked with in these efforts have been approximately 80% women or girls and 90% Latino. The median annual income in the average community with which CWC works is less than 60% of the statewide average (defined as severely disadvantaged in the drinking water funding programs through the State). Nearly every community with which we work is primarily comprised of farm-worker families, many of whom are either mono-lingual Spanish or limited-English speakers. These communities are *the* most vulnerable communities due to the lack of political power and resources. The Center provides the information and tools for residents to be empowered in creating vital change in their communities around safe drinking water.

In this project, CWC will subcontract directly with the AGUA coalition as a direct project partner. AGUA is composed of and led by representatives of disadvantaged Valley communities impacted by contaminated water. This includes primarily rural, unincorporated low-income

Detailed Project Description – Community Water Center

communities in the southern San Joaquin Valley. All substantive decisions in AGUA are decided through discussion and a vote of the Coordinating Council. AGUA's Coordinating Council is comprised of 19 voting community representatives including youth and 8 nonvoting NGO representatives that work in the Valley, and is therefore entirely reflective of the communities AGUA serves. All of these members participate in each of the coalition's decisions, and each member has a particular responsibility within AGUA's water contamination campaign; however, only community representatives are able to vote on decisions, while non-profit agency members provide advice and recommendations within the Coordinating Council.

In addition to AGUA, CWC also has a large network of community and organizational partners though our projects over the past nine years. Most recently and relevant to this project, CWC engaged approximately 50 local community leaders as part of piloting the San Joaquin Valley Leadership Institute. Additionally, CWC continues to manage a contacts database of over 700 local stakeholders interested in disadvantaged community water issues in the Tulare Lake Basin through the Upper Kings Basin Water Authority's Disadvantaged Community Pilot Project & Tulare Lake Basin Disadvantaged Community Pilot, for which CWC served as the lead contractor for community outreach and stakeholder engagement.

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER
Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program
Additional Questions and Statements

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:
Attach (or include in the Project Description) answers to the following questions *(attachments do not count towards page limit)*:

a. **Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?**

No.

b. **How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?**

Water quality monitoring will help develop a better understanding of local groundwater quality and identify impacts on beneficial uses, particularly for disadvantaged community drinking water supplies.

Community education will help prevent contamination and mitigate the impacts of contamination on beneficial uses, particularly for disadvantaged communities.

Community participation in IRWMPs and integration of community needs into groundwater quality management plans will ensure that water quality needs of disadvantaged communities will be addressed in watershed protection and planning efforts and sources of community drinking water supplies will be protected and improved.

c. **Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.**

This project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board function or staff.

d. **Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.**

No funding is currently secured or pending to support the specific activities and budget items listed in this project. CWC and AGUA have secured funding sources from private foundations and donors to support CWC core programmatic activities, which include education and outreach and participation in water planning efforts generally, however the activities and specific budget items listed here are not covered by any other source of funding. If CWC or AGUA receive any additional funds that would cover the activities and budget items listed here, CWC will contact the Rose Foundation and discuss appropriate budget or work plan modifications to ensure that any funds provided by the Rose Foundation for this project do not duplicate these other sources.

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER
Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program
Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities

Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities

1. Water Quality Monitoring in Disadvantaged Communities Activities:
Low End Budget Activities with Timelines and Deliverables:

a. Outreach to at least 40 individual well users in disadvantaged communities
    a. Timeline: Month 1-3
    b. Deliverables: Direct contact with at least 40 individuals
b. Conduct screening of individual wells and community taps for common contaminants, including arsenic and nitrate, using field monitoring equipment utilized by previous CDPH private well testing efforts.
    a. Timeline: Month 3-8
    b. Deliverables: field sampling for arsenic and/or nitrate for at least 40 wells or taps in disadvantaged communities in vulnerable groundwater environments.
c. Share the results of sampling with the water users along with information on how to get certified lab testing, other potential co-contaminants that should be tested for based on results, and what can be done to prevent further contamination and mitigate existing contamination problems.
    a. Timeline: Month 8-12
    b. Deliverables: Sampling results and educational materials for at least 40 field sampling results provided to water users.

High End Budget Activities with Timeline and Deliverables[1]:

a. Outreach to individual property and business owners, residents and schools representatives in disadvantaged communities with private wells in vulnerable groundwater environments. This includes distributing language and culturally appropriate information regarding the need to test water quality, how to participate in this water sampling project and/or how to continue to test wells to monitor water quality, and as well as information on well disinfection and maintenance.
    a. Timeline: Primarily in months 1-3, although extending up through month 5.
    b. Deliverable: Individual contact and distribution of flyers to at least 300 individual private well users in at least 3 disadvantaged communities.
b. Conduct certified lab monitoring for at least 300 wells within at least three communities that do not have water quality monitoring information.
    a. Timeline: Primarily in month 3 – 6, although extending through month 8 if necessary.

[1] This portion of the project is scalable and deliverables can be adjusted to the amount of funding available to reach more or fewer communities, wells or contaminants. As noted in the narrative, there is significant need around water quality monitoring of domestic wells that can be addressed with additional funds. According to *Addressing Nitrate in California's Drinking Water* (UC Davis Nitrate Report, 2012), approximately 245,000 people rely on about 74,000 undocumented domestic wells within the Tulare Lake Basin and Salinas Valley. There are an estimated 20,000 private domestic wells in Tulare County alone, and hundreds of small communities that rely on individual domestic wells in the San Joaquin Valley.

b. Deliverables: Sampling results for at least 300 wells within a total of at least 3 communities for arsenic, nitrate, uranium, EDB/DBCP, 123 TCP and total coliform.[2]

c. Provide information to all participants on the results of water sampling and what can be done to address any contamination problems detected. This includes distributing language and culturally appropriate information regarding how to continue to monitor water quality, and as well as information on well disinfection and maintenance.
   a. Timeline: Months 4-8 (within weeks of receiving results, or immediately for acute contaminants).
   b. Deliverables: Written results and materials distributed to at least 300 individual private well users in at least 3 disadvantaged communities.

d. Tabulate the information for each community and hold community meetings to share overall results from the sampling and support consideration of next steps if widespread contamination is found.
   a. Timeline: Months 7-12.
   b. Deliverables: One community summary tables developed for each of at least three communities showing monitoring results, and at least one (likely two) community meetings held in each community for each least three communities to discuss results and support discussion and development of next steps to develop solutions.

e. Share individual sampling results with individuals, local communities and local and regional water agencies, while protecting individual confidentiality if requested.
   a. Timeline: Months 8-12.
   b. Deliverables: Water Quality results from wells and drinking water sources sampled.

1) Community Outreach and Education in Disadvantaged Communities.

a. Trainings at AGUA meetings
   a. Timeline: AGUA meetings and workshops will be monthly
   b. Deliverables: at least 11 AGUA meetings

b. Local community outreach and education event in local communities
   a. Timeline: May of the year grant funds are made available.
   b. Deliverables: at least 40 local DAC representatives receiving information directly through participation in at least one local event

c. Local media efforts (interviews, tours, etc.) to raise awareness of local water quality challenges and what can be done to prevent and mitigate contamination
   a. Timeline: at least once per quarter.
   b. Deliverables: at least 2 media stories in Spanish or English covering water quality challenges and efforts to protect or mitigate contamination.

[2] Note that the exact number of wells and contaminants will vary depending on amount received, and the specific constituents appropriate and number of wells identified in each community.

2) Supporting Community Participation in Watershed Planning.

a. Support DAC participation in local IRWM meetings
   a. Timeline: at least once per quarter
   b. Deliverables: At least 10 local disadvantaged communities directly participating in local IRWMs by the end of the grant period.

b. Training workshops for residents and water board members representing disadvantaged communities to understand and better engage in IRWM planning efforts.
   a. Timeline: Months 3-9
   b. Deliverables: at least 10 DAC representatives participation in at least 2 training workshops.

c. Written comments and or development of policies and/or projects will vary depending on the timing of the grant but will happen at least once over the course of the year.
   a. Timeline: Written comments submitted at least once for at least two different local IRWMs, timing will vary depending on timing of funding.
   b. Deliverables:
      i. Low End Budget Deliverable: Development of written comments, plans, policies or projects in at least two local IRWMPs and groundwater management plans to protect and improve groundwater that serve as sources of drinking water for disadvantaged communities.
      ii. High End Budget Deliverable: Development of written comments, plans, policies or projects in at least five local IRWMPs and groundwater management plans to protect and improve groundwater that serve as sources of drinking water for disadvantaged communities.

d. (High End Budget Activity Only) Coordination of DAC representatives to participate and represent DACs collectively within five IRWM regions of the Tulare Lake Basin.
   a. Timeline: At least monthly communication throughout grant period.
   b. Deliverable: Regular meetings and communication with at least 10 DAC representatives from the five regions; development of DAC representation structure for the TLB region within IRWMs.

CWC CV SEP Project Line Item Budget Narrative

LOW END BUDGET EXPENSES	Total	Task 1) Water Quality Monitoring	Task 2) Community Outreach and Education	Task 3) Supporting Community Participation in Watershed Planning	Line Item Narrative
CWC Personnel	$26,000	$5,000	$5,500	$15,500	Includes Community Organizing and Advocacy Staff at .25 FTE and Technical Analyst staff at .06 FTE
AGUA Coalition subcontract	$10,000	$0	$7,000	$3,000	Subcontract to AGUA to cover portion of AGUA coordination, AGUA community stipends, AGUA mtg expenses & AGUA travel
Water Sampling	$2,000	$2,000	$0	$0	Field Monitoring Kit supplies to test for arsenic & nitrate
Travel	$3,000	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000	Travel from CWC's Visalia office to community locations
Supplies, printing, mtg expenses, etc.	$700	$0	$500	$200	Printing, postage and meeting costs
Direct Costs Subtotal	$41,700	$8,000	$14,000	$19,700	Total Direct Project Costs
Indirect costs@ 10%	$4,170	$800	$1,400	$1,970	10% to cover a portion of accounting, insurance, and other non-allocable overhead costs.
TOTAL	**$45,870**	**$8,800**	**$15,400**	**$21,670**	If only partial funding for this project is available, we would prefer Task 2 & 3 be prioritized. All tasks within this budget can be scaled back but would require scaling back deliverables to adjust for actual funding amounts.

HIGH END BUDGET EXPENSES	Total	Task 1) Water Quality Monitoring	Task 2) Community Outreach and Education	Task 3) Supporting Community Participation in Watershed Planning	Line Item Narrative
CWC Personnel	$273,242	$188,816	$5,500	$78,926	Task 1 LOW END BUDGET activities PLUS Includes contacting community residents and property owners; store owners and School Representatives, conduct community meeting(s) in English and Spanish (if needed), collect water samples, deliver to lab, explain results to residents for a total of 300 individual wells between approximately 3 communities, which total an additional .47 FTE for Community Organizing and Outreach Staff as well as an additional .5 FTE for technical analyst staff. Task 2: same activities as in LOW END BUDGET Task 3: LOW END BUDGET activities PLUS includes 1 FTE for a Community Water Planning Analyst.
AGUA Coalition subcontract	$10,000	$0	$7,000	$3,000	Subcontract to AGUA to cover portion of AGUA coordination, AGUA community stipends, AGUA mtg expenses & AGUA travel
Water Sampling	$53,300	$53,300	$0	$0	Task 1 includes LOW END BUDGET activities PLUS Certified laboratory analysis for 300 wells (in approximately 3 communities) for arsenic, nitrate, uranium, EDB/DBCP, 123 TCP, and total coliform
Travel	$6,000	$4,000	$1,000	$1,000	Travel from CWC's Visalia office to community locations
Supplies, printing, mtg expenses, etc.	$2,200	$1,500	$500	$200	Printing, postage and meeting costs
Direct Costs Subtotal	$344,742	$247,616	$14,000	$83,126	Total Direct Project Costs
Indirect costs@ 10%	344742.3	247616.1	14000.1	83126.1	10% to cover a portion of accounting, insurance, and other non-allocable overhead costs.
TOTAL	**$689,484**	**$495,232**	**$28,000**	**$166,252**	If only partial funding is available above LOW END BUDGET, we can scale TASK 1 in this HIGH END BUDGET to meet available funding by targetting fewer communities, fewer wells, and potentially fewer contaminants depending on what is appropriate for the area. Final deliverables would be adjusted to actual funding available. Task 3 is not easily scalable as it would require new staff to conduct expanded activities beyond the LOW END BUDGET activities.

VECINOS UNIDOS

Working to improve the quality of community services in the communities of Orosi, Cutler and East-Orosi

December 13, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Vecinos Unidos, a grassroots community group working to improve the quality of community services in the Cutler, Orosi and East-Orosi communities we strongly support Community Water Center's funding application. We have worked with CWC for over 7 years, and we truly believe that CWC has been an essential resource to our community and in the state.

Through education, organizing, advocacy and with technical assistance, CWC has empowered us and many local residents to collectively work together to ensure that all residents one day can have access to safe and affordable drinking water in California. Among the many victories that CWC had during the past year, one of the most notable is the passage of AB 685, The Human Right to Water Act Governor Jerry Brown signed into law, establishing a state policy that every Californian has a human right to safe, clean and accessible drinking water.

CWC also works very hard to ensure that residents from my community along with many others that also make-up the AGUA coalition, have a voice in vital water planning efforts such as in our local integrated regional water management plans.

The Community Water Center is an important resource for our community, and we strongly recommend funding for support of the Community Water Center's important work. If funded, CWC will be able to continue to work with communities like ours and continue to provide the necessary resources and assistance to help us achieved our goal to improve our quality of water not only for our communities, but for many others in the state in similar situations.

Sincerely,

Veronica Mendoza & Jesus Quevedo

El Quinto Sol De America
Leadership, Education, Art and Culture

December 16, 2013

Tim Little
Executive Director
Rose Foundation For Communities and the Environment
6008 College Ave Suite 10
Oakland, CA 94618

Dear Tim,

I write this letter in support of The Community Water Center (CWC) proposal to the Rose Foundation for funding to expand their work. El Quinto Sol de America (EQS) has worked with CWC for many years. CWC continues to make great progress in water justice issues in the San Joaquin Valley and other areas of California.

The Community Water Center has been able to provide technical assistance to all EQS staff and has always been available for community meetings in the unincorporated areas of Tulare County. CWC has become the lead organization in water justice. It is the local liaison for decision makers as well as community leaders.

El Quinto Sol de America fully supports their proposal to the Rose Foundation. If you have any questions please call Isabel Arrollo at 559.562.3060 or email her at Isabel@elquintosoldeamerica.org

Sincerely,

Irma Medellin
Executive Director
El Quinto Sol de America
www.elquintosoldeamerica.org

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

(Applicant must answer all questions)

Cover Sheet:

a) Name of Applicant Organization: El Quinto Sol de America

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: Fiscally Sponsored

c) Project Title: Water and The Right to Know

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Tulare County

e) Amount of Grant Request: $50,000

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Name: Isabel Arrollo
Full mailing address: 115 N. Elmwood Ave, Lindsay, CA 93247
County where organization's office is located: Tulare
Phone: 559.562.3060
Email: Isabel@elquintosoldeamerica.org
Website: www.elquintosoldeamerica.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters):

The Water and The Right To Know program will serve as an educational program, giving the four communities of Tooleville, Tonyville, Plainview and El Rancho the individualized tools that each community needs in order to have a deep understanding of the water quality issues they face and to restructure their current water boards in an effort to have community members engaged in their own water systems. Not only would The Water and The Right To Know program provide information to residents, it will strengthen the bridge between decision makers, agencies and community.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:

The bodies of water that will be addressed by this project are the existing water systems in the communities of Tooleville, Tonyville, Plainview and El Rancho. Many different toxins, such as nitrates, arsenic, pesticides and lead from old piping, pollute these systems. We feel that this program will be very beneficial to the communities because residents will be better informed when they faced with hard decisions regarding their water systems.

Project Description

While working in the communities of Tonyville, Tooleville, Plainview and El Rancho and developing an action plan for each, it became apparent to community members and staff that water quality and access to information regarding the water systems in these communities was limited and that a change was needed. El Quinto Sol de America is excited to submit this proposal to the Rose Foundation because it will provide the basis for change in the communities that we love.

Water and The Right To Know will be a program that transforms, educates and moves communities by providing technical assistance, guidance and support to local water boards that have been isolated, not only from the Regional Water Board but also from the Tulare County Board of Supervisors and the State Water Board. Through this program, El Quinto Sol de America (EQS) will also ignite communities' participation in their local water systems.

Based in Lindsay, a small city of approximately 10,000 people, EQS is concentrating its work in the disadvantaged unincorporated communities of Plainview, Tonyville, Tooleville, El Rancho and in the city of Lindsay. The majority of the residents in these communities are low-income farm workers, predominantly monolingual Spanish speakers. These communities are for the most part isolated and removed from the policies and decisions that directly impact their quality of life. They are not involved in local and regional policy processes that affect their ability to secure clean drinking water. Not only is the water unsafe to drink due to high levels of nitrates and other toxins, but they also have inadequate infrastructure that is unmaintainable due to high costs and old and deteriorating piping in their homes. Many of these communities lack a sewage system and currently rely on old septic tanks. Current Water Board members have little or no experience in the decision-making process and are uninformed of the resources available to them. Also, there is a complete lack of resources in Tulare County that provide funding, technical assistance and guidance for these communities.

The Water and The Right to Know is a three objective program. Objective 1 is to increase the knowledge of and participation of residents in their local water systems. EQS will accomplish this through identifying new leaders, providing technical assistance and serving as a guide through the entire process so that community members feel supported and able to be the decision makers for their local water systems. EQS will be hosting regular house meetings that will be facilitated by an organizer that would be hired through this grant. The organizer will use popular education methods, as well as art and culture based leadership tools. These house meetings will be interactive and provide the foundation (ie: public speaking, governance structure, etc) for community members to be feel empowered in making informed decisions.

Objective 2 is to have fully functioning water boards that are informed and efficient by first completing a needs assessment that will allow us to identify the needs of each community and tailor a training curriculum to each community. This will lead to water boards that are fully functioning in that they understand their roles and responsibilities and are proactive in making positive choices that will improve their communities. While EQS already has established relationships with the existing water boards, the Water and The Right To Know program organizer will formally introduce themselves to each water board. They will then assess the needs of each water board and begin to facilitate individually tailored trainings to each water board as a whole, or to individual water board members as needed.

The last objective is to build new and further develop existing relationships with community partners, such as The Community Water Center, Tulare County Redevelopment Agency, Tulare County Association of Governments, Lindsay Public Works, Lindsay Redevelopment Office and The Tulare County Board of Supervisors, specifically Supervisor Allen Ishida. The Water and The Right To Know program organizer will set up one on one meetings with each new and existing partners to introduce themselves, the program and objectives. He/she will attend important partner meetings (ie: AGUA coalition meetings, public hearings, etc). Partners will be invited to

host specific trainings for community groups that have been identified as a need by the organizer, so that communities become familiar with these partners.

El Quinto Sol has been present in these four communities for the past 10 years and has established a deep-rooted relationship with community members. Because of this, the community welcomes new programs and we feel they would be willing to fully participate in activities and processes associated with this program.

The Water and The Right To Know program is not required by any discharger and is not proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project. This project will not study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity nor will it provide any benefit to the State of California. This project will not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Water Board functions or staff. Finally, funds for this project have not been provided by section 319 of the Clean Water Act or other grant programs or funding sources.

Project Budget

Salary	$30,000
Travel (gas stipend for organizer. $150/month for 12 months)	$2,000
Educational Materials	$3,500
Meeting Expenses (location rental, water and snacks for each meeting)	$3,000
Member Stipends (in the event that a community member needs to travel, we would give them a small stipend to offset their loss of wages)	$2,000
Travel (to cover the costs of transporting community members to meetings, trainings, etc)	$2,000
Indirect costs	$5,000
Fiscal Sponsor Fee (5% of grant total)	$2,500
Total	$50,000

Project Timeline and Deliverables
Start Date: upon receipt of grant

Goal 1: Increase knowledge and participation of community residents in their local water systems.
Month 1-3: Organizing of the community
Month 4: Begin to participate in local water boards, as well as AGUA coalition
Month 4-7:Begin trainings in: Robert's Rules of Order, Who Are Your Decision Makers, Policy Process, How a Bill Becomes a Law.
Month 7-12: Identify potential new leaders from existing pool of participants in each community and train them to become part of the water board.
Month 12: Have at least 3 new members appointed to their respective water boards.

Goal 2: Have fully functioning water boards that are informed and efficient.
Month 1-2: Organizer will become familiar with the existing water board structures in each community
Month 3-5: Organizer will complete a needs assessment of each water board, which will identify the needs of each particular board, allowing for a individualized training curriculum.
Month 6-12: Provide all of the individualized technical assistance necessary for each water board to become fully functioning, in that they understand their roles and responsibilities and are proactive in making positive choices that will improve their communities.

Goal 3: Establish new and further develop relationships with community partners.
Month 1-3: Organizer will formally introduce themselves to partner groups.
Month 3-4: Identify possible training opportunities from partner groups for community members.
Month 5-12: Facilitate the process between partner groups and community members, and continue providing the opportunity cross communication.
Month 1-12: Organizer will attend partner group meetings and will inform EQS staff on important events, such as health fairs, public hearings and community forums.

December 22, 2013

The Rose Foundation
1970 Broadway, Suite 600
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Tim Little and The Rose Foundation,

El Quinto Sol de America has been a great resource to my community of Tooleville. I am a newly appointed water board member and cannot wait for El Quito Sol to begin The Water and The Right to Know program. My name is Eunice Martinez and I have volunteered, on and off, for El Quinto Sol de America for the past 5 years. My home has been utilized for Kid's Day, usually in April, which a resource fair for children and their families.

El Quinto Sol de America is a great resource for me and many others. It has provided me with information and assistance. The staff at EQS is knowledgeable and informed. They know what agency or person I should call when a community member is in need. Please call me at 559-667-6134 with any further questions.

Thank you,

Eunice Martinez

Eunice Martinez

December 22, 2013

The Rose Foundation
1970 Broadway, Suite 600
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Tim Little and The Rose Foundation,

I, Maria Barajas, recommend El Quinto Sol de America (EQS) for the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants program. I have been a volunteer with El Quinto Sol for over ten years and have been part of the leadership committee in Plainview since it's inception. With EQS I have had the opportunity to improve my leadership skills, participate in public hearings and visited the state capitol to talk about the issues within the community of Plainview.

El Quinto Sol de America has not only been a support for me, but for the entire community of Plainview. Our committee has made small, but long lasting changes that are improving the lives of our children and all community residents.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 559.568.2043

Thank you,

Maria Barajas
Maria Barajas

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

(Applicant must answer all questions)

Cover Sheet:
a) Name of Applicant Organization: Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, a project of the Tides Center

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 94-3213100

c) Project Title: El Agua es Vida (from Mr. Gonzalez)

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Fresno and Tulare Counties (to expand with additional funding)

e) Amount of Grant Request: $45K (conservative) - $145K (aggressive)

f) Contact Information for this Grant:

Name: Veronica Garibay
Full mailing address: 2115 Kern Street, Suite 320, Fresno, CA 93721
County where organization's office is located: Fresno County (headquarters are in Fresno, additional one-person offices are located in Sacramento and Riverside Counties)
Phone: (559) 369-2790
Email: vgaribay@leadershipcounsel.org
Website: www.leadershipcounsel.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters):

This project will include two components: (1) a septic to sewer conversion project, and (2) a sustainable land use, reliable drinking water project. Our septic to sewer campaign will eliminate failing septic systems by advocating for and facilitating projects that connect disadvantaged communities to public wastewater systems. Our project will start in the communities of Lanare and Matheny Tract where residents complain of failing septic systems and related impacts on drinking water quality, such as bacterial contamination. We will partner with community based organizations, local government and other stakeholders to develop and implement community driven septic to sewer conversion projects. Our Sustainable Land Use, Reliable Drinking Water project will incorporate advocacy to improve water reliability and water quality for disadvantaged communities into advocacy campaigns related to sustainable land use development – e.g. advocacy campaigns related to SB 375 implementation and general plans.

We will partner with community based organizations and a diverse coalition of land use advocates initially in Fresno and ultimately in other counties.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:
This project will address groundwater quality and supply initially in the Tulare Lake Basin and potentially in other regions / water basins. The project will protect groundwater quality and supply to support the beneficial use of municipal water supplies for disadvantaged communities. Our primary focus in our septic to sewer campaigns will be contamination from bacteria and nitrates. The sustainable land use, reliable drinking water project seeks to enhance drinking water quality and supply thereby protecting drinking water sources from contaminants including arsenic, nitrate, 123 Trichloropropane, perchlorate, DBCP, hexavalent chromium or any other contaminant present in groundwater. Specifically, the sustainable land use project component will help to ensure that communities and individuals that rely on groundwater will not have to seek other, possibly contaminated aquifers in the event that groundwater overdraft impacts their drinking water supply wells.

Application:

1) Detailed Project Description *(5 pages maximum)*:

Describe the proposed project including:

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

Project 1: Septic to Sewer Conversion:

Based on a conservative budget

Alongside residents of impacted communities, Leadership Counsel will lead efforts through all stages of a septic to sewer conversion project from idea inception to project completion. Specifically, Leadership Counsel will undertake community education and outreach in the communities of Lanare, Matheny Tract and Riverdale (the community adjacent to Lanare) to engage impacted residents in the development and implementation of septic to sewer campaign. Leadership Counsel will also develop and implement a community survey to identify and characterize septic system deficiencies, quantify septic system maintenance costs, and gauge (or demonstrate) the willingness of home owners and rate payers to pay for connection fees, service charges and any other costs related to septic to sewer conversion.

In partnership with community based organizations and other stakeholders, Leadership Counsel will initiate and facilitate discussions amongst representatives from key local governments, the State Water Resources Control Board, and Upper Kings Integrated Regional Water Management stakeholders to identify funding and technical assistance opportunities to ensure project completion and success. Leadership Counsel will also work with government agencies and technical assistance providers to ensure project readiness such as any LAFCO approvals and any other conditions of funding or project implementation. Throughout the process, Leadership Counsel will work with stakeholders and involved parties to ensure community participation in and successful implementation of all project stages.

Based on an aggressive budget

In addition to activities listed above, we will engage in a comprehensive valley-wide study to identify other viable communities for septic to sewer system conversion projects such as Fairmead in Madera County. Based on that study and existing interest at the community level, we will identify communities in which we will engage in strategies similar to those we will undertake in Lanare and Matheny Tract. We will adjust our specific activities depending on where each community is in the process of connecting to a public wastewater system.

We will also author and distribute a report on opportunities for septic to sewer system conversions that will include an analysis of needs, funding programs, best practices, sample outreach materials, sample survey templates and other materials that have proven helpful in similar campaigns.

Project 2: Sustainable Land Use, Drinking Water Reliability

Based on a conservative budget

We are engaged in local and regional advocacy related to medium and long term land use planning processes related to the expanding role of SB 375 and "smart growth" in local and state land use and planning frameworks. With funding from Rose Foundation we will incorporate the importance of protecting drinking water resources in existing communities into our discourse and strategies and will educate diverse members of local and statewide coalitions on the relationship between land use and drinking water quality and reliability in disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. We will also educate ourselves to better understand the relationship between land use and water quality, supply and reliability in disadvantaged communities. Additionally, we will identify short term opportunities to incorporate programs and policies that support water quality and reliability for disadvantaged communities through medium and long term planning processes such as the Fresno County General Plan Update and City of Fresno General Plan.

Based on an aggressive budget

We will undertake a comprehensive analysis of local, regional a statewide land use processes that could impact water quality and reliability in disadvantaged communities and will engage impacted communities in a strategy to incorporate consideration of drinking water quality into discussions and decisions related to those planning processes. Potential targets include continued Strategic Communities Strategy development at the various metropolitan planning organizations per SB 375, city and county general plan updates and other regional planning processes. In partnership with community based organizations and other stakeholders, we will assess and identify opportunities to incorporate consideration of water quality and reliability into regional growth conversations throughout the San Joaquin Valley with a probable concentration on Fresno, Tulare and Madera Counties. We will also develop and distribute a report focused on the relationship between California's evolving land use and planning framework and water quality and reliability in disadvantaged communities.

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.

A project to convert communities from failing septic systems to public wastewater systems will prevent nitrate and bacterial contamination of groundwater.

Ensuring the incorporation of water quality and reliability concerns for disadvantaged communities into programs and policies designed to further more sustainable land use planning will protect against groundwater overdraft which can impact the reliability of water both with respect to supply and quality as some communities and individuals will have to find alternative water sources which could be contaminated, should overdraft continue to occur.

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.

Failing septic systems continue to be a significant contributor to nitrate and bacterial contamination of drinking water sources. Our work will address the problem in select communities but will also serve as template, or model, that may be replicated throughout the region – or even the state – to encourage, facilitate and ensure the elimination of failing and leaching septic systems and cesspools. Our project may also serve as a broader example of regional collaboration and local government cooperation which is a key component to sustainability in disadvantaged communities in the region and state.

We have not found that discussions, advocacy or strategy development related to sustainable land use planning in the San Joaquin Valley have included issues related to water quality and reliability especially with respect to disadvantaged communities. Litigation on discrete projects has served as the primary means of addressing the relationship between water supply and long term land use planning. That litigation has not, heretofore, aimed to protect water quality and reliability in disadvantaged communities (often the most vulnerable communities) and has not translated into medium and long term planning processes that look prospectively at the relationship between water quality and reliability and land use planning. The result is significant overdraft, wells at risk of running dry and individuals and communities possibly faced with finding alternative drinking water sources. Incorporating water quality and reliability into local and regional growth discussions and decision-making will aim to protect drinking water reliability in disadvantaged communities but will also address the broad and growing crisis in water reliability confronting the region. To the extent that there is a comprehensive discussion on water supply in the region, our work will ensure that disadvantaged communities are not left out of any strategies aimed at addressing the water supply crisis.

Engaging impacted community residents is crucial to supporting long term, sustainable change in both the context of improved service delivery by way of the septic to sewer conversion component of our project as well as through effective and equitable land use planning by way of our sustainable land use, reliable drinking water component. Only through effective community engagement will those changes and policies that we collectively strive be sustainable and reinforce further improvements in target communities and beyond.

d. Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners.

The more conservative sewer to septic project will directly benefit the communities of Lanare and Matheny Tract, both severely disadvantaged communities as defined by California Law with high poverty rates. Both Lanare and Matheny Tract are majority Latino (75-90 percent) and have an African American population as well. Both communities are historically African American. Expansion of the septic to sewer conversion project will target similarly disadvantaged communities, specifically those with median household incomes at or below 60% of the state median household income. Similarly, to the extent that our work will serve as a template that may be replicable throughout California, the project will benefit disadvantaged communities throughout the state.

For this septic to sewer system conversion project we will work primarily with community based organizations (Matheny Tract Committee and Community United in Lanare), non-profit organizations (Self Help Enterprises and Community Water Center), relevant local governments (Lanare Community Services District, Riverdale Public Utility District and the City of Tulare) the Upper Kings IRWMP and the State Water Resources Control Board. To the extent that we are able to expand the project, we will work with appropriate community based organizations, Asociación de Gente Unida por El Agua and local governments and regional bodies such as IRWMPS. We will also work with organizations such as Clean Water Action and PolicyLink to engage in a comprehensive analysis of septic to sewer system conversion opportunities.

Our sustainable land use, reliable drinking water project component will intentionally focus on promoting and protecting water reliability for disadvantaged communities, often the communities most vulnerable to irresponsible planning. Based on a conservative budget, we will focus our work with disadvantaged communities in Fresno County – those with higher poverty rates and with median incomes at or below 60% of the household median income, and in particular those relying on relatively shallower drinking water wells at greater vulnerability to overdraft. To the extent we can expand our project we will focus on disadvantaged communities in other planning regions and develop model programs and policies that may be replicated to protect drinking water reliability in disadvantaged communities throughout the region, and even the state.

For this sustainable land use, reliable drinking water project we will work with residents and community based organizations from disadvantaged communities, such as Lanare and the community of West Fresno in the City of Fresno along with a diverse set of stakeholders including ClimatePlan, PolicyLink, FIRM, Fresno Metro Ministries, American Farmland Trust, Centro la Familia and Centro Binacional. To the extent that we can expand our work into other counties we will work with appropriate community based organizations including Asociación de Gente Unida por el Agua.

2) Project Budget:
Attached

3) Specify Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities:
Attached

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:

a. Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?

   No

b. How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?

   As discussed in greater detail above, the project will protect beneficial uses from further contamination and from depletion and will protect groundwater from contamination and depletion.

c. Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

   This project will not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Water Board functions or staff

d. Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.

   No.

LEADERSHIP COUNSEL FOR JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Attachment: Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities

Note: The timeline identified for work within the more conservative budget scenario is in line with work we plan to engage in starting in the late winter of 2014. Rose funding will allow this work and activities to be more robust. The timeline identified for the more aggressive budget scenario starts when funding becomes available.

Project 1: Septic to Sewer Conversion

Conservative Budget Scenario

Lanare

1. Community Education and Outreach efforts: Leadership Counsel will create educational materials and hold community education workshops in the Community of Lanare to engage impacted residents in the development and implementation of septic to sewer campaign. Leadership Counsel will also engage neighboring Riverdale residents to provide education on regional benefits of potential physical and managerial consolidation to the Riverdale wastewater system.
   a. Timeline: Months 1-12
   b. Deliverable: Community education pamphlets on water quality protection, grant and financing opportunities available and pros and cons of physical and managerial consolidation. At least 6 community meetings will be held during the one year grant period.
2. Community Survey: Leadership Counsel will develop and implement a community wide survey in Lanare to identify septic system issues, quantify maintenance costs, and gauge willingness of home owners and rate payers to pay for connection fees, wastewater service fees and other related costs.
   a. Timeline: Months 2-6
   b. Deliverable: Survey tool and methodology for implementation. Analysis of compiled survey results.
3. Regional Discussions with Appropriate Agencies: In partnership with Community United in Lanare, Leadership Counsel will initiate discussions amongst the Lanare Community Services District, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the Upper Kings Integrated Regional Water Management stakeholders to assess and identify funding opportunities for feasibility and construction components of this campaign. Leadership Counsel will also hold community workshops in Lanare to present findings and opportunities to community residents.
   a. Timeline: Months 2-12
   b. Deliverable: At least 3 meetings held amongst the stakeholders throughout the one year grant period.

4. Initiate Discussion with Riverdale Public Utility District (RPUD); Leadership Counsel will establish a working relationship with RPUD and its general manager to explore the possibility of managerial and physical consolidation of wastewater systems between Riverdale and Lanare. Leadership Counsel staff and Lanare residents will attend RPUD regular board meetings to provide updates, share information, and continue relationship building.
    a. Timeline: Months 3-ongoing
    b. Deliverable: Community United in Lanare residents will attend at least 2 RPUD meetings.
5. Participate in Upper Kings IRWMP Process: In partnership with the Community Water Center and the Asociación de Gente Unida para el Agua, Leadership Counsel and Lanare residents will attend quarterly meetings to secure technical assistance and possibly funding for wastewater system feasibility study and/or construction.
    a. Timeline: at least once per quarter
    b. Deliverable: At least 5 Lanare/Riverdale residents will attend 4 IRWMP meeting
6. Coordinate completion and submission of application for feasibility studies by Lanare CSD: Leadership Counsel will ensure that the Lanare CSD has all of the appropriate powers (LAFCO) to submit an application for a wastewater system. Additionally, staff will coordinate efforts between SWRCB, Upper Kings, IRWMP, and Lanare CSD to ensure that applications for funding are complete and accurate.
    a. Timeline: Ongoing
    b. Deliverable: Lanare CSD will have all approvals in place to submit applications for funding to the State Water Resources Control Board and/or to the Upper Kings IRWMP.
7. Funding Sources: Leadership Counsel will work with Fresno County, Self Help Enterprises and other interested stakeholders to identify creative funding mechanisms to finance connection fees and on property plumbing costs. We will host community workshops to present findings and recommendations to community residents.
    a. Timeline: Month 3- 9
    b. Deliverable: At least 3 meetings with all interested partners to identify funding mechanisms.

Matheny Tract

1. Community Education and Outreach: Leadership Counsel will create educational materials and hold community education workshops in Matheny Tract to engage impacted residents to ensure implementation and completion of a septic to sewer campaign.
    a. Timeline: Months 1-12
    b. Deliverable: Community education pamphlets on water quality protection, grant and financing opportunities available and pros and cons of receiving wastewater service from the City of Tulare. At least 6 community meetings will be held during the one year grant period.

2. Community Survey: If necessary will develop and implement a community wide survey in Matheny Tract to identify septic system issues, quantify maintenance costs, and gauge willingness of home owners and rate payers to pay for connection fees, wastewater service fees and other related costs.
    a. Timeline: Months 4-8
    b. Deliverable: Survey tool and methodology for implementation. Analysis of compiled survey results. Timeline: Months 2-4 of grant period
3. Funding Sources: Leadership Counsel will work with the City of Tulare, County of Tulare, Matheny Tract Committee, Self Help Enterprises and other interested stakeholders to identify creative funding mechanisms to finance connection fees and on property plumbing costs. We will host community workshops to present findings and recommendations to community residents.
    c. Timeline: Months 3- 9
    d. Deliverable: At least 3 meetings with all interested partners to identify funding mechanisms. 1-2 letters submitted with written recommendations for financing opportunities for Matheny Tract Residents. At least 2 community workshops to present findings and recommendations to Matheny tract residents.
4. Facilitate project implementation and completion: Leadership Counsel will work with Matheny Tract Committee, the City of Tulare, Tulare County and Self Help Enterprises to ensure community engagement and successful feasibility study completion and submission of application for project construction.
    a. Timeline: Months 9-12
    b. Deliverable: Completion of Feasibility Study, submission of funding for construction.

Aggressive Budget Scenario

1. Analysis of septic to sewer opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley: Leadership Counsel will work with community based organizations, local agencies and other organizations to develop a comprehensive analysis of opportunities for septic to sewer opportunities based on the state of septic systems and proximity of public wastewater systems.
    a. Timeline: Months 1-6
    b. Deliverable: Analysis of septic to sewer conversion opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley including mapping if necessary along with an assessment of funding opportunities, best practices, model outreach materials and model survey templates.
    c. Deliverable: Analysis of septic to sewer conversion opportunities in the San Joaquin Valley including mapping if necessary.
2. Direct involvement with select communities: Leadership Counsel will identify a select number of communities in the San Joaquin Valley with whom we will work directly to facilitate and initiate a septic to sewer conversion project.
    a. Timeline: Months 3-12
    b. Deliverable: Initiation of septic to sewer campaign in 1-3 communities.

Project 2: Sustainable Land Use, Reliable Drinking Water

Conservative Budget Scenario

1. Incorporate drinking water quality into land use and planning strategies: Convene stakeholders to create a land use/water management framework for existing communities. Leadership Counsel will bring together diverse stakeholders to create a framework that aligns smart growth planning with water reliability (quality and quantity) in existing communities.
    a. Timeline: Months 1-4
    b. Deliverable: At least 6 meetings held during a one year grant cycle to create framework.
2. Identify opportunities though land use planning processes: In partnership community based organizations and other interested stakeholders, we will assess and identify opportunities to include drinking water reliability into ongoing land use planning processes such as the Fresno County General Plan Update and the City of Fresno General Plan.
    a. Timeline: Months 1-12
    b. Deliverable: Participation by 5-10 members of residents from disadvantaged communities in decision making processes in Fresno; 1-2 programs or policies designed to protect drinking water reliability

Aggressive Budget Scenario

1. Identify strategic land use planning processes. In partnership with community based organizations and other stakeholders, we will identify opportunities to incorporate drinking water reliability into ongoing land use planning processes.
    a. Timeline: Months 1-12.
    b. Deliverable: Participation by 3-4 disadvantaged communities in decision making processes in three counties, most likely Fresno, Tulare, Madera .
    c. Deliverable: Incorporation of concerns regarding drinking water reliability into 2-3 medium – long term land use planning processes.
2. Release a report focused on expanding smart growth framework to include importance of planning for and sustaining water reliability in low income rural communities.
    a. Timeline: Months 9-12
    b. Deliverable: Final report discussing water vulnerabilities in existing neighborhoods as it relates to land use planning

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program

Alternative Project Budgets		
Personnel (portion FTE for conservative budget) / (portion FTE for more aggressive budget)	Conservative Scenario	Aggressive Scenario
Co-director (.2) / (.3)	$12,300	$18,450
Policy Advocate (.25) / (1.25)	$11,250	$56,250
Staff Attorney (.1) / (.15)	$5,100	$7,650
Benefits @ 30% (max. 32%)	$8,595	$24,705
Total Personnel	**$37,245**	**$107,055**
Non-Personnel		
Operating Costs		
Phones / internet	$402	$2,010
Equipment and Supplies	$200	$1,800
Travel	$800	$2,400
Printing	$100	$2,000
Meeting expenses	$400	$2,000
Total Non-Personnel	**$1,902**	**$10,210**
Direct Costs	**$39,147**	**$117,265**
Indirect Costs (15%)	$5,872	$17,590
Total Direct and Indirect	**$45,019**	**$134,855**
Other Costs		
Subcontracts		
For GIS mapping		$10,000
Total Other Costs		**$10,000**
Grand Total	**$45,019**	**$144,855**

BUDGET NOTES

Personnel

The co-director will be responsible for leading both the septic to sewer and sustainable land use and water reliability projects and will supervise both the policy adovacte and staff attorney in related activities

The policy advocate(s) will work under the co-director's supervision to implement the project deliverables. Deliverables tied to the more aggressive budget will require an additional 1 FTE policy advocate

The staff attorney will assist in project implemetnation and will be responsible for legal analysis of relevant laws and regulations inlcluding those related to LAFCO processes and proposition 218

Non-Personnel

Phones and Internet cost are the portion of landline, internet and cell phone costs attributable to the project

Equipment and supplies includes meeting supplies and supplies for education and outreach. The more aggressive budget will allow for a laptop for the additional FTE Policy Advocate

Travel costs include local travel for community meetings and meetings with stakeholders

Printing includes printing costs for edcuational materials and for reports (as applicable)

Meeting costs include food and miscellaneous meeting expenses

Indirect costs include our fee to Tides Center for administrative services and other indirect costs

COMMUNITY WATER CENTER
EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

January 2, 2014

Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Leadership Counsel's Proposal: El Agua Es Vida

Dear Grant Selection Committee,

The Community Water Center strongly supports Leadership Counsel's proposal: El Agua Es Vida.

Converting communities from failing septic systems to public wastewater systems is critical not only to protecting groundwater quality but also to improving community health and community sustainability. Additionally, improving and sharing best practices with respect to public sewer expansion will improve water quality and health in communities throughout the region and will promote regional solutions and collaboration to improve drinking water quality and access to basic services. We look forward to collaborating with Leadership Counsel and other project partners to ensure that this project is a success.

We also strongly support Leadership Counsel's effort to address water quantity and reliability through land use planning processes. Leadership Counsel has taken the lead in the region in ensuring that disadvantaged communities are involved in and included in sustainable planning efforts and plans and look forward to seeing the intentional inclusion of water quality and reliability in those efforts and campaigns. La Asociación de Gente Unida por el Agua has expressed interest in working with Leadership Counsel on this issue and we look forward to collaborating with Leadership Counsel and supporting AGUA's involvement in utilizing land use planning processes to protect and promote drinking water reliability in the Tulare Lake Basin and throughout the region

Sincerely,

Laurel Firestone

Laurel Firestone, Co-Executive Director and Attorney at Law

Community Water Center
311 W. Murray Ave. Visalia, CA 93291 ● Tel. (559) 733-0219 Fax (559) 733-8219
www.communitywatercenter.org

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

Cover Sheet:

a) Name of Applicant Organization: Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs/ WildPlaces

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: WildPlaces is fiscally sponsored by SEE, 501c3, 95-4116679

c) Project Title: Rio Limpio

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Tulare and Kern Counties

e) Amount of Grant Request: $15,000

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Nicole Celaya
35625 Hwy. 190 Ste. 203, Springville, Ca 93265
Tulare County
559-559-5263
nicole@wildplaces.net
www.wildplaces.net

g) Summary Description of Project: WildPlaces is a grassroots, community-based non-profit which organizes single and multi-day educational outings for underserved youth from Tulare and Kern Counties. We also hold community-based environmental education, restoration and clean up events that restore the Tule River and Kern River watersheds, as well as surrounding ranchlands and wilderness areas. Our partnership with the U.S Forest Service allows us unique restoration access in Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument. Rio Limpio is WildPlaces' river stewardship program formed in collaboration with the Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument and several other partner organizations. This program involves education, public outreach, and engaging youth volunteers in three to four annual river clean-ups and education events conducted on the Tule River. As part of the Rio Limpio program, WildPlaces also engages student groups from several area schools in hands-on restoration and improvement projects. Students and teachers work with natural resource professionals to implement watershed and wildlife habitat improvement projects on both public and private lands. Through their participation in our programs, we hope youth will gain an understanding that our public lands are safe, accessible and fun places to recreate throughout

one's entire life. We also strive to instill in them a sense that they are stakeholders and are capable of having a positive impact on their public lands and communities.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project: Tule River, Tule River Watershed

Application:

Detailed Project Description

1a) The Rio Limpio program begins with outreach to local schools and student groups. Throughout the school year, WildPlaces staff works with students from Monache High School, Burton Pathways Charter High School, the Porterville College M.E.Ch.A. club, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Gay-Straight Alliance groups of Visalia and Fresno. Using specific curriculum, art projects, field trips, experiments, and presentations we strive to educate students on the importance of water conservation and cleanliness, native and drought tolerant plants for gardens, the water cycle, basic watershed system design, and individual ethical responsibility. During the summer, students participate in more hands-on projects such as river clean-ups, community outreach events, outdoor trips, collaboration with other groups, and watershed restoration. Students also participate in the Great Sierra River Clean-Up, a state-wide collaboration to clean California's rivers and measure the total amount of trash removed. Last year, our volunteers helped remove over 78,000 pounds of trash. Once students finish the program, we continue to recruit them as future educators and leaders; every summer, WildPlaces hires a River Docent to work alongside the Program Coordinator to provide outreach to users of the Tule River during high impact times. The Coordinator and Docent work as a team, speaking with the public about water quality and delivering literature and trash bags. WildPlaces staff has already begun working with local schools and will continue to provide classroom education for the remainder of the school year. We will also continue with the River Docent position and will be working with the Forest Service and Sequoia Natural History Association on various restoration projects in the Giant Sequoia National Monument, Jennie Lakes Wilderness, and along the Tule River. In the past, the Coordinator position was responsible for all WildPlaces programs, which has not been conducive to our vision. We have had to limit and reduce the number of clean ups and outdoor trips due to the lack of staffing. This year, WildPlaces is looking to hire a full-time, seasonal Coordinator specifically for the Rio Limpio program in order to maximize our impact and provide quality experiences for as many youth as possible. With sufficient funding, WildPlaces will be able to host four river clean ups and three restoration projects. Support of the Rio Limpio program will help to fund all of these activities, including supplies, transportation, outreach materials, and staff.

1b) All of the Rio Limpio program activities are focused on raising individual awareness in order to empower our local community members to take part in keeping our Tule River clean. By raising awareness and providing education, WildPlaces hopes to instill in our youth a sense of pride and responsibility for local water sources. Most residents in Tulare County are not aware of the high levels of contamination in their water, so education is the key in providing the first steps for community involvement. Once the youth understand the basics of the watershed, they are able to grasp their role in the connection between our rivers and their own household water sources. When students participate in projects and clean ups, not only does it help to alleviate the pollution on the river, but it also encourages the youth to create change and pursue other avenues of activism. Past students have recruited friends and family to our clean ups, have returned as leaders and employees, and some have even pursued education and careers in environmental stewardship. Rio Limpio also helps to raise political awareness around policies that affect water quality, creating a new generation of informed and educated voters. Improving water quality for Tulare County residents begins with education, and WildPlaces' Rio Limpio program is specifically focused on this aspect.

1c) Since 2001, WildPlaces has been working with local youth and partner organizations to help keep the Tule River clean and provide meaningful educational experiences to our participants. The Rio Limpio program has opened up countless opportunities for dialogue and collaboration, has mobilized and harnessed the power of our youth and volunteers for the benefit of the watershed, and has contributed to the decrease in trash found along the Tule River over the years. Clean ups and outreach provide valuable support to the U.S. Forest Service, whose small staff are unable to offset the amount of trash left by river users.

Other partner organizations include the Tulare County Agricultural Commission, Tulare County Office of Education, Kaweah Fly Fishers, the Hume Lake Ranger District, and the Giant Sequoia National Monument. Our partnerships with these groups, along with our extensive pool of volunteers, is the most vital aspect of the Rio Limpio program, so continued and additional funding will assist in maintaining and expanding our network and range of influence. As one of the only local non-profit organizations addressing the pollution along the Tule River, WildPlaces is in a unique position to affect change and provide the necessary support and people power to help improve the water quality of the Tule River Watershed.

1d) Along with the above mentioned organizations, WildPlaces works with various student groups, schools, and organizations in order to draw from an extensive pool of volunteers and participants. These partners include Monache High School, the Porterville College M.E.Ch.A. club, the Boys and Girls Club, the Dolores Huerta Foundation, Burton Pathways Charter High School, the Girl Scouts of Porterville, the Gay-Straight Alliance groups of Visalia and Fresno, and various elementary schools that participate through the Tulare County Office of Education. Participants in the Rio Limpio program also include families from the cities of Porterville, Strathmore, Lindsay, Visalia, and Bakersfield, communities which have some of the worst water qualities in the United States, so establishing a connection to the health of the local watershed is an integral educational goal. Due to the high poverty level of the local children (40%), the large population of Latino agricultural workers in the San Joaquin Valley, and the gross underfunding of the public schools, the youth are limited in their access to and knowledge about public lands and watersheds. Most live within forty miles of the forests and rivers of the Sierra Nevada but are unable to visit due to economic and social barriers. Because of this, youth are unable to experience and understand the connection between the quality of the natural environment and its effects on their own health and overall well-being. WildPlaces takes many of these underprivileged youth into the public lands to learn about their local environment in order to teach responsible outdoor practices, focusing on the effect of human impact on the environment, issues around clean water, and responsibility to the local watershed. By providing gear, food, and transportation at no cost to the youth, we are able to give educational and recreational opportunities to local at-risk and disadvantaged youth and families that they may not otherwise have had. In addition, WildPlaces strives to provide employment opportunities to past

participants in order to continue to invest in our local youth and supply them with valuable experience and training for future jobs.

2) Budget

EXPENSES	COSTS
Advertising/Marketing/Promo (Shirts, video, web production, posters)	$2,075
Conferences/Meetings/Trainings (Outdoor wilderness training)	350
Insurance	195
Personnel Expenses (Salaries for coordinator, docent, cook, educators)	11,000
Printing/Reproduction (Flyers, posters)	400
Production Costs (Food)	700
Rent	612
Supplies (Gloves, trash bags, picker-uppers, paint, buckets, dispensers, art and curriculum supplies)	770
Telephone/Internet/Fax/Email	63
Travel/Transportation	1,200
Fiscal Agent Fees	1,200
Total Expenses	**$18,565**

3) The following deliverables will be completed based on the receipt of adequate funding.

DELIVERABLE	COMPLETION DATE
Weekly classroom delivery of watershed curriculum	January-June 2014
Hiring of full time Rio Limpio Coordinator	May 2014
Hiring of part time River Docent	June 2014
Tule River clean up #1	June 2014
Tule River clean up #2	July 2014
Tule River clean up #3	August 2014
Great Sierra River Clean up	September 2014
Restoration project #1	July 2014
Restoration project #2	August 2014
Restoration project #3	August 2014
Community Earth Day outreach event	April 2014

4a) The Rio Limpio program is not required by any discharger and does not address or offset any other project.

4b) The Rio Limpio program benefits the quality of the Tule River Watershed in the following ways: addresses, mitigates, and educates on the issue of pollution along the Tule River caused by the human impact of river users; improves water quality and quantity in the Southern Sierra Nevada through watershed recovery and meadow restoration projects; provides labor and support for the U.S. Forest Service; teaches water conservation and stewardship practices for future river users and voters; exposes disadvantaged youth to the Tule River Watershed and hands-on outdoor education.

4c) This project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

4d) Previous funding for the Rio Limpio program has come from such organizations as the Foundation for Youth Investment, the California Wildlands Grassroots Fund, and the County of Tulare; at this time, there are no other pending requests or applications for the 2014 season though there are plans to apply for additional funding if necessary. WildPlaces has thus far been unable to secure the necessary funding for a full-time Rio Limpio Coordinator, so support from the Rose Foundation would not be duplicative of any other possible funding.

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Sequoia National Forest, Giant Sequoia National Monument | Western Divide Ranger District, 32588 Highway 190, Springville, CA 93265, (559) 539-2607 / (559) 539-2067 (fax), www.fs.fed.us/r5/sequoia/

File Code: 2600

Date: 12/31/2013

Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

To Who It May Concern,

As the Wildlife Biologist for Giant Sequoia National Monument for Sequoia National Forest, I would like to express my support of WildPlaces *Rio Limpio Program* grant proposal. This proposal clearly meets the criteria of the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program and provides direct benefits for the Tule River, its surrounding watershed, and local community.

WildPlaces is a non-profit organization committed to the preservation and conservation of California's natural and rural landscapes, and the communities that rely on them. They have taken an active role in participating with Sequoia National Forest in meeting water quality objectives by participating in restoration projects such as *Rio Limpio* and others. I have personally collaborated with WildPlaces over the last 10 years and found them to be a valuable partner for watershed improvement projects, as well as, an outdoor educator that can speak on these issues with both youth and adults.

The *Rio Limpio* events provide clean-ups for the Tule River to mitigate trash and other forms of pollution that negatively affect the watershed. They also provide monitoring assistance to identify user-created trails that contribute non-point pollution sources, to track noxious weed populations, and to assist in their removal. Collectively their work improves water quality, scenic beauty of the river corridor, and its recreation value, thereby contributing to the economic viability of the community.

WildPlaces takes a collaborative approach to help find long-term solutions to improve water quality. Their work exposes local disadvantaged youth and adults to the outdoors; and assists in raising awareness for a new generation of environmental stewards who will feel a responsibility to their watershed. I have found WildPlaces to provide quality leadership and staff capacity for these types of programs, and the ability to mobilize and develop community minded citizen volunteers. I have found WildPlaces to be a fiscally accountable organization with grant funds received. You can be confident in knowing that any funding provided will go toward the work proposed.

Sincerely,

Robin S. Galloway
Wildlife Biologist

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase)
COVER SHEET

a) Name of Applicant Organization: California Indian Environmental Alliance

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 27-0861293

c) Project Title: ***Central Valley Tribal Exposure Reduction Project***

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Clearlake and Cache Creek, within the Sacramento Valley portion of the San Francisco Bay Delta Watershed

e) Amount of Grant Request: $ 106,535.00

f) Contact Information for this Grant: California Indian Environmental Alliance
Name: Sherri Norris
Full mailing address: PO Box 2128, Berkeley, CA 94702
County where organization's office is located: Alameda County
Phone: (510) 848-2043
Email: sherri@cieaweb.org
Website: www.cieaweb.org

g) Summary Description of Project:

The ***Central Valley Tribal Exposure Reduction Project*** is a partnership between the California Indian Environmental Alliance, the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo, the Habematolel of Upper Lake Pomo and a Governance Body of California Indian Tribes from the Clearlake, Cache Creek and Sacramento Valley Watershed. The goal of this project is to identify and secure fishing locations safe from mercury and PCBs, by ranking waters lowest in mercury, identifying those that need further remediation and developing workplans to bring locations within levels that would support the fishing by California Indian Families with the strongest possible fish tissue targets. Together the three components of this Project will provide an ***Exposure Reduction*** model for identifying and securing safe fishing locations to support California Tribes and result in cleaner water standards.

The three components of this Project consist of:

1) Identify and inform California Indian Tribes and communities on Safer Fishing Locations
2) Required cleanup and remediation
3) Protect these Safer Fishing Locations

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:

This project will address the levels of mercury and PCBs found in the Sacramento Watershed Valley from Clearlake, Cache Creek and the Sacramento Watershed Valley for the purpose of reducing the exposure of California Indian families from mercury and PCBs by identifying and securing safer fishing locations. Cache Creek feeds into Prospect Slough, which accounts for approximately 70 kilograms per year or 58% of the total mercury import from the Sacramento River into the San Francisco Bay.

Mercury is a neurotoxin and a developmental toxicant entering the human body through fish consumption. It affects developing fetus' and children causing permanent learning disabilities, affecting the liver, kidneys, central nervous and cardiovascular systems and when exposed as youth, can increase the chance of developing type 2 diabetes by 65%. PCBs are included in all Office of Environmental Health and Hazard (OEHHA) mercury advisories because they both impact fish in California waters and therefore human health.

Tribes in the Cache Creek and Sacramento River Watershed are traditional fishing peoples, who for thousands of years have relied on local fish culturally, spiritually, and nutritionally for their existence and who continue to rely on fish.

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase)
APPLICATION

1) Detailed Project Description:

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

The ***Exposure Reduction through Subsistence Fishing Project*** is a partnership between the California Indian Environmental Alliance, the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo, the Habematolel of Upper Lake Pomo and a Governance Body of California Indian Tribes that will guide the Project. The *Governance Body* will consist of California Indian Tribes from the Clearlake, Cache Creek and Sacramento Valley Watershed. The current project partners are working to confirm a third California Indian Tribe from the Cache Creek and/or Sacramento portions of this Watershed.

The goal is to address mercury and PCB toxins in a way that identifies locations that are least toxic and coordinates cleanup efforts to provide *Exposure Reduction* options for the families in the region. The four components of this Project consist of:

1) Identify and inform on Safer Fishing Locations. Goal: Inform the People about which water bodies contain traditional fish which can be consumed at the highest amount possible. We will survey California Tribal staff and Tribal Members on which regional waterbodies and traditional species are of most concern, compare these with the BOG/SWAMP database and existing studies to determine which locations are potentially lowest in mercury and/or other toxins. The Governance Body will then prioritize those with the lowest levels of toxins for composite fish sampling, conduct sampling, and complete the data sets that OEHHA requires in order to issue safer fish advisories. With oversight of the project's Governance Body, CIEA staff will work with OEHHA to issue "safer" fish consumption advisories and then distribute this information to California Tribes and communities in the region.

2) Required cleanup and remediation. The goal is to target locations which are in range, but unable to support higher rates of fish consumption and which could improve water quality with additional remediation support. We will work with the Central Valley Regional Water Board (CVRWB), local agencies, landowners and California Indian Tribes to design remediation plans and identify funding to initiate cleanup.

3) Protect these Safer Fishing Locations. Work with California Tribes to integrate remediation plans and protection of these safer waters in future Central Valley Regional Water Board Basin Plan Amendments and appropriate Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) plans.

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.

We have a goal to create a model for identifying and securing locations to support the needs of California Tribal families; levels at which allow for continued fish consumption and cleaner water standards. The three components of this Project will rank waters in this area by cleanest locations, develop further cleanup plans, identify sources to fund this work and protect watersheds. We will utilize programs established by the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB), regional Water Board, and IRWM Plans under the Department of Water Resources (DWR).

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.

This Project will create a model to improve water quality beyond what has been possible through current agency efforts and works to meet the needs of communities who rely on fish. Together the components of this Project provide an **Exposure Reduction** model that will be useful to regional Water Boards, California Tribes, and disadvantaged communities in the state.

CIEA has worked with California Tribes since 2003 distributing information about mercury in California Waters and holding strategy meetings to address this toxin. In each case the top two questions that California Indian families and disadvantaged communities ask remain the same: 1) which local fish and waters are safe to eat from, and 2) how do we secure safe fishing locations? To answer these questions CIEA began work with the agencies tasked with regulating water bodies and issuing fish consumption advisories.

During the creation of the Bay Delta Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Mercury CIEA and Bay Delta California Tribes worked to strengthen the fish tissue targets in the plan. The resulting TMDL includes an Exposure Reduction Program, promoted by Clean Water Action, CIEA, and our colleagues. CIEA hopes to strengthen this program by providing successful examples in keeping with the original vision: to reduce exposure to toxins without placing the burden on the community.

At the same time, the OEHHA continued to produce fish consumption advisories to educate the public on which water bodies contain contaminated fish and what fish species can be more safely consumed in these impacted locations. CIEA worked with the OEHHA and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) so that these advisories were clear for the public. We have consistently held that families need to know which water bodies contain the lowest levels of toxins so that traditional fish can be consumed at the highest possible levels. Families would like to eat their traditional foods including fish as the main source of their nutrition.

CIEA currently distributes OEHHA's advisories and provides a regional list of nearby water bodies sorted by their fish tissue thresholds and by lowest levels of mercury. Our

source is the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program and its Bioaccumulation Oversight Group (SWAMP/BOG) portal, however OEHHA states that since these data sets are incomplete they cannot be used to provide safer waters advice.

CIEA's goal has always been to inform families which locations are lowest in toxins and to secure locations that can support eating fish so that communities can benefit from traditional diets. This program would address all of the above concerns and provide an alternative method of assessing and remediating locations based on community needs.

d. Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including demographics and primary community partners. *See 2 letters of support attached.*

Income distribution in this region varies widely as many wealthy people and retirees maintain residences near Clearlake, Cache Creek, and in pockets along the Central Valley Watershed. The unemployment rate in Clearlake as of August 2013 is 11.6%, this is nearly double the national average of 7%. Age distribution in Clearlake, as of 2011, shows that 24.1% of residents were under the age of 18. The unemployment rate in this group is at 19%. These statistics point to a demographic group that brings in little income and is generally more at risk to environmental toxins. In Lake County Native Americans comprise 3.1 % of the total population, a number that is double the national average of 1.5%.

Our project will provide these communities with confirmed safer fishing location information about their region and provide California Indian Tribes with a prioritized regional cleanup and remediation plan. This plan will focus not only on identifying toxic locations, but also to find those that are least toxic in order to bring them within levels that will support the strongest possible water quality standards.

It will also provide support for California Tribes and communities to participate in the consensus building efforts required for safer water quality standards in targeted waters. These efforts will result into regional basin plan amendments and IRWMPs. One or more of the remediation plans created through this *Central Valley Tribal Exposure Reduction Project* could be then submitted for funding by California Indian Tribes in the Clearlake, Cache Creek, or Sacramento Watersheds. Or potentially include the Sacramento and Westside IRWMs and Tribes.

This project is a partnership between the California Indian Environmental Alliance, the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo, the Habematolel of Upper Lake Pomo, and a Governance Body of California Indian Tribes who will guide it.

2) Project Budget: *See attached.*

3) Specify Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities: *See attached.*

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:

a. Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?

This project is currently not required by any discharger and it is not proposed mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's projects. It is however an example of a potential Exposure Reduction project, which is a component of the Bay Delta Mercury TMDL. The Exposure Reduction has not yet been defined and the program is still under development. We are therefore offering a potential model for one such Exposure Reduction project.

b. How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?

This project will initially study surface water quality, related groundwater, and water quantity in order to identify water bodies that can support safer fishing and high standards of fish tissue targets. In the process, it will identify waters that can support the highest possible levels of fish consumption, assist in ranking these locations, and identify others that with remediation and management can be improved. It will also secure the funding needed to remediate one or more water bodies so that families can eat traditional foods from the waters.

c. Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

This project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Water Board functions or staff, other than it will provide these agencies with a model for successful Exposure Reduction.

d. Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.

The Department of Water Resources receives Prop. 84 funding to administer and distribute funds for the IRWM grant program. However to date, California Tribes and Disadvantaged Communities have not received these funds to coordinate their efforts. CIEA is working with DWR staff to use remaining Prop. 84 Technical Assistance Money to provide trainings for Tribes and DACs and this is in our work plan. However CIEA will not be receiving Prop. 84 funds for our staff time for coordination, facilitation, travel, phones, or preplanning meetings with Tribes to complete these efforts.

BUDGET - CIEA, SVBP, HULP: "Central Valley Tribal Exposure Reduction Project"

Activities - *	Staff Hrs	Expenses
Governance Meeting #1 - Program & task distribution confirmation (66 hours prep & 4 hr. meeting, $150 food, $40 printing, $60 stipends x 6 persons)	66	$ 2,682.00
1) Identify and Inform on Safer Fishing Locations.		
a. Literature Review sort BoG/SWAMP database with OEHHA values (120 hours, $5 printing)	120	$ 3,245.00
b. Governance Meeting #2 (20 hours prep & 4 hr meeting, $ 60 stipends for 6 persons, $90 food, $110 gas, $60 printing)	24	$ 1,268.00
c. Complete and distribute ranking survey (gas for outreach distribution)		$ 330.00
c. Rank waters based on surveys and those with lowes toxins (52 hours work, $110 gas, $60 printing, $36 conference call)	52	$ 1,610.00
d. Fish Tissue Sampling Training & method coordination meeting (16 hours prep, 6 hour meeting, $250 lunch, $110 gas, $60 printing, $36 confernce call, $600 paid training consultant)	22	$ 1,650.00
e. Gather fish tissue samples & send to lab (416 hours, $440 gas, 216 fish samples x $300)	416	$ 76,172.00
f. Governance Meeting #3 - Outcomes Meeting (16 hours prep 6 hr meeting, $80 stipends x 6 persons, $90 light lunch, $110 gas, $60 printing, 2 consultants at $450 each)	22	$ 2,234.00
g. Meetings with OEHHA to issue "safer" fish consumption advisories (36 hour prep, $30 perdiem, $18.00 in Gas, $1.00 printing)	36	$ 49.00
h. Distribute safer advisories to California Tribes and communities (24 hours, $180 perdiem, $220 gas, $200 printing, $360 community stipend)	24	$ 1,608.00
2) Required cleanup and remediation		
a. Distribute Sampling results with CA Tribes ranked locations (36 hours)	36	$ 972.00
b. Literature review of potential sites (36 hours)	36	$ 972.00
c. Contractor & Agency remediation discussions (42 hours, $97 gas)	42	$ 1,231.00
d. Governance Meeting #4 - Determing cleanup Workplan (46 hours, $90 light lunch, $110 gas, $60 printing, $900 staff time environmental directors and community experts)	46	$ 2,402.00
e. Seek funding for remediation & discuss with agency staff (36hours)	36	$ 972.00
4) Protect these Safer Fsihing Locations		
a. Hold Watershed Strategy Workgroup Meeting (46 hours, $90 light lunch, $110 gas, $60 printing, $ 900 tribal staff stipends)	46	$ 2,402.00
b. Coordinate Tribal inclusion in Westside & Sacramento IRWMP, governance structures and funded projects (120 hours, $60. perdiem, $110 gas)	120	$ 3,530.00
c. Coordinate Tribes and DACs IRWM technical assistance training (56 hours, $120 perdiem, $110 gas, $60 printing)	56	$ 1,802.00
d. Recommend CVRWCB and SWRCB on Basin Plan amendments (6 hours)	6	$ 162.00
e. Advise Bay Delta Mercury TMDL Exposure Reduction Program (6 hours)	6	$ 162.00
Report & Billing Completed (24 hours)	40	$ 1,080.00
Total Staff Hrs:	1252	$ 106,535.00
Total all		**$ 106,535.00**

* All Tribal & CIEA staff hours = $27/hour (includes taxes & benefits)

Completed - Jan. 11, 2013 (SN)

TIMELINE - CIEA, SVBP & HULP "Central Valley Tribal Exposure Reduction Project"

Dates		Activities	Key deliverables
Mo. 1	Governance Meeting #1 - Program & task distribution confirmation		details & tasks assigned
	1) Identify and Inform on Safer Fishing Locations.		
Mo. 1		a. Literature Review sort BoG/SWAMP database with OEHHA values	Regional ranking list (toxins low to high)
Mo. 1		b. Governance Meeting #2 - Confirm regional waters ranking	Survey distribution & gathering coordination
Mo. 1-3		c. Complete and distribute ranking survey for Tribes, Tribal staff & communities	Water Ranking Survey - to 6 Tribes/communities
Mo. 3		c. Rank waters based on survey and those with lowes toxins	Waters ranked (toxins low to high)
Mo. 4		d. Fish Tissue Sampling Training & method coordination meeting	Methodoly standard coordination
Mo. 4-6		e. Gather fish tissue samples & send to lab	96 Samples = 3 samples per composite, average of 8 species per location, 4 locations
		f. Governance Meeting #3 - Outcomes Meeting	2 safer fish consumption advisories
Mo. 7-8		g. Meetings with OEHHA to issue "safer" fish consumption advisories	2 safer fish consumption advisories
Mo. 9-12		h. Distribute safer advisories to California Tribes and communities	Distribute 2 new advisories to 6 communities = 600 individuals reached
	2) Required cleanup and remediation		
Mo. 7		a. Distribute Sampling results with CA Tribes ranked locations	Identify top 5 potential remediation locations
Mo. 8-10		b. Literature review of potentential sites	Remediation reccomendation report
Mo. 8-10		c. Contractor & Agency remediation discussions	Workplans for 1-2 remediation sites
Mo. 10		d. Governance Meeting #4 - Determing cleanup Workplan	Workplans for 1-2 remediation sites
Mo. 11-12		c. Seek funding for remediation & discuss with agency staff	Submit 2 proposals for each site
	4) Protect these Safer Fishing Locations		
Mo. 6		a. Hold Watershed Strategy Workgroup Meeting	Develop ongoing workplans
Mo. 6&10		b. Coordinate Tribal inclusion in Westside & Sacramento IRWMP, governance structures and funded projects - IRWM Schedule Dependent	IRWM guidance and program recommendations and meetings with agencies - 2 docs
Mo. 5		c. Coordinate Tribes and DACs IRWM technical assistance training with DWR - DWR & Contrator Dependent	Day long training to increase competiveness of Tribes & DAC projects
Mo. 5		d. Recommend CVRWCB and SWRCB on Basin Plan amendments - WB dependent	Basin Plan Amendment submission as identified
Mo. 11		e. Advise Bay Delta Mercury TMDL Exposure Reduction Program	Share our model, sucesses & lessons learned
Mo. 12	Report & Billing Completed		Final Report & Budget

Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians

January 2, 2014

Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
Attn: Tim Little
1970 Broadway, Suite 600
Oakland, CA. 94612-2218

Dear Tim Little and Staff of the Rose Foundation,

The Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians and it's Environmental and Natural Resource Department supports the ***Exposure Reduction through Subsistence Fishing Program*** as submitted by the California Indian Environmental Alliance (CIEA) to the *Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program* of the Rose Foundation. This Program will provide California Tribal communities with confirmed safer fishing locations and assist us in conducting targeted regional cleanup and remediation of waters that are prioritized by our People.

Our goal is to provide a model for water evaluation and remediation efforts in order to provide families with safe fishing location at levels that are in keeping with cultural and nutritional needs.

The Scotts Valley Band of Pomo will participate in this program in partnership with CIEA and other California Indian Tribes that will assist and guide the program as part of the *Governance Body*. In addition, the Tribal environmental staff will receive support through this grant to conduct program activities and complete the outcomes of this program.

We look forward to working with CIEA, other regional California Tribes and applicable agencies to provide families with safe exposure reduction options.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gabriel Ray, Tribal Chairman
Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians

Cc: SVEPA doc.file

1005 Parallel Drive • Lakeport, California 95453
(707) 263-4220 • FAX (707) 263-4345

Pomo of Upper Lake
Habematolel

375 E. Hwy. 20, Suite I
P.O. Box 516
Upper Lake, CA 95485
Phone: 707-275-0737
Fax: 707-275-0757
Toll Free: 1-877-543-5102
www.upperlakepomo.com

January 2, 2014

Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
Attn: Tim Little
1970 Broadway, Suite 600
Oakland, CA. 94612-2218

Dear Tim Little and staff of the Rose Foundation,

The Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Environmental Department supports the ***Exposure Reduction through Subsistence Fishing Program*** as submitted by the California Indian Environmental Alliance to the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program of the Rose Foundation. This Program will provide California Tribal communities with confirmed safer fishing locations and assist us in conducting targeted regional cleanup and remediation of waters that are prioritized by our People.

Our goal is to provide a model for water evaluation and remediation efforts in order to provide families with safe fishing location at levels that are in keeping with cultural and nutritional needs.

Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Environmental Department will participate in this program in partnership with CIEA and other California Indian Tribes and will guide the program as part of the *Governance Body* and Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake staff will receive support through this grant to conduct program activities and complete the outcomes of this program.

We look forward to working with CIEA, other regional California Tribes and applicable agencies to provide families with safe exposure reduction options.

Sincerely,

Paula Britton
Environmental Director

CPSC
California Product Stewardship Council

1822 21st Street, Suite #100
Sacramento, CA 95811
916-706-3420

www.CalPSC.org

January 3, 2014

The Rose Foundation
Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612
Submittal via email: grants@rosefdn.org

SUBJECT: Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program Proposal

Dear Mr. Little,

The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), as a 501(c)3 organization, thanks you for the opportunity to present our application requesting $80,276 over 18 months from the Rose Foundation's Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program to expand our pharmaceutical disposal education, outreach and partnership building efforts in the central valley to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from pharmaceutical contamination.

Requested information about the proposal is as follows:

CPSC's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 77-0695467

Project Title: "Don't Rush to Flush" (DRTF) Central Valley expansion

Project's Primary Geographic Area: San Joaquin County

Amount of Grant Request: $80,276 (scalable: approx. $5,000/site for take-back bin, including supplies, Public Relations campaign, and labor)

Contact Information for this Grant:
Heidi Sanborn, California Product Stewardship Council
1822 21st Street, Suite #100, Sacramento, CA 95811
County where organization's office is located: Sacramento
Phone: 916-706-3420
Email: Heidi@calpsc.org
Website: www.calpsc.org

Summary Description of Project: Funds will support community education and partnership building to establish and promote permanent take-back sites for unwanted medications in San Joaquin County targeting disadvantaged populations, helping protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from pharmaceutical contamination. CPSC previously received a Rose Foundation grant to develop the "Don't Rush to Flush" project in Yolo and

Sacramento counties, and this proposal builds on that project's successes. This project will develop partnerships supporting a sustainable medication take-back system in San Joaquin County by recruiting pharmacies and others in the product chain to share the costs of safe collection and disposal of medications. Medication take-back sites commit to paying for ongoing disposal, providing this service to the community free of charge beyond the grant term. Outreach will educate the public focusing on Spanish speaking and disadvantaged areas, medical providers, and others in the product chain about the problems caused by flushing medications, and about using the take-back sites to safely dispose of unwanted medications. To measure success, the increase in take-back sites, medications collected, and consumer and pharmacist knowledge will be tracked.

Description of the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:
Water Body: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed

Pollutant Addressed: Home-generated pharmaceuticals, prescribed or over-the-counter, for use by animals or humans, of all forms (pills, liquids, gels, creams, patches).

Pharmaceuticals are now cited as a "contaminant of emerging concern," and cannot be fully removed by wastewater treatment plants.[1] Flushing medications can be a direct source of contamination, as modern wastewater treatment plants are not equipped to remove all medications. In addition, water or "leachate" that has moved through a landfill may be collected and treated at the same wastewater treatment plants that cannot fully remove all medications. This project proposes to establish household medication collection sites at pharmacies, hospitals and other convenient locations available to the public, providing this service free of charge, and to educate the public about proper medication disposal in order prevent consumers from stockpiling medications, flushing them down the toilet, or throwing them away in the trash.

CPSC has previously received four grants from the Rose Foundation, three of which are completed with great success and the fourth is the foundational building block for this grant. CPSC is very grateful for the support and the significant results we have had in protecting the watersheds and aquatic systems, thanks to the Rose Foundation. We look forward to working with you again to protect California's water resources.

Sincerely,

Heidi Sanborn

Heidi Sanborn
Executive Director

Attachments:
- A) Application and Supplemental Question Answers
- B) Project Budget
- C) Deliverables & Timeline
- D) Two Letters of Recommendation:
  1. University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
  2. City of Stockton Municipal Utilities Division

[1] The Cycle of Emerging Contaminants, Susan T. Glassmeyer, May 2007 Water Resources IMPACT, vol. 9 no. 3, American Water Resources Association (www.awra.org/impact/issues/0705impact.pdf)

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

Detailed Project Description:

The goal of the "Don't Rush to Flush" (DRTF) Central Valley expansion project is to support safe medication disposal in San Joaquin County by establishing medication take-back sites and conducting a coordinated education and outreach campaign targeting low-income/disadvantaged populations, to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from unwanted and expired pharmaceutical pollution.

Founded as a 501(c)(3) in 2007, as the statewide leader in the extended producer responsibility (EPR) movement, the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) has been at the forefront of bringing tangible benefits of effective, front-end EPR policy solutions to California's 38 million residents. CPSC has made remarkable progress in educating local governments, businesses, policy makers and other community stakeholders, resulting in the implementation of best-practice EPR policies that address the root cause of product waste which directly threatens the health of our communities, such as unused pharmaceuticals.

CPSC is responding to California's product waste crisis, and often, product waste becomes pollution found in the Delta watershed. Pharmaceutical waste is showing up at public hazardous waste collection events and in our waterways because we lack both adequate opportunities to properly dispose of unwanted medications and adequate systems to remove them from our wastewater. Trace amounts of pharmaceutical compounds have been found in our groundwater and drinking water, contributing to a public health threat that affects the entire food chain.[1] By providing safe and convenient disposal opportunities for unused pharmaceuticals, we begin to take the first steps toward protecting our water supplies and our families from pharmaceutical contamination. Due to the high costs of water treatment technologies to remove pharmaceuticals from the water, the only viable solution is prevention and source reduction, which is exactly what this project will accomplish.

Proper medication disposal via take-back programs would prevent contamination of the water supply from drugs that are currently flushed down toilets but are not removed from water by treatment plants. Likewise, medication take-back programs would prevent potential groundwater contamination by pills that are currently thrown away in the household trash.

CPSC is driving a paradigm shift to a coordinated approach between industry and local government to reduce the costs and environmental and health impacts of pharmaceutical waste, and has fostered partnerships in the City of Stockton and San Joaquin County with the following organizations:

- University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy& Health Sciences
- Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce, and Statewide Asian Chamber of Commerce
- San Joaquin County and City of Stockton governments, City and County utilities, public health and law enforcement agencies
- San Joaquin County General Hospital and St. Joseph's Medical Center
- SWOOCH ("Serving With Other Organizations to Change Humanity"), a local community-service based organization that encourages disadvantaged youth to become involved in their communities.
- Waste haulers and disposal companies, including Republic Services, Waste Management and Barnett Medical Services (medical waste transporter).

[1] Only Half of Drugs Removed from Sewage, Brian Bienkowski, Environmental Health News 11/22/2013 (www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2013/november/emerging-contaminants-report)

We will build on these partnerships to establish more medication take-back sites, educate more people in key stakeholder groups especially Spanish speaking and low-income areas, and create more press and buzz supporting medication take-back sites that are convenient for the public to use. The Don't Rush to Flush Sacramento/Yolo project (a 2012-2013 Watershed Protection project funded by your foundation) earned statewide recognition for the "Best Public/Private Partnership Award" from CalRecycle and DTSC, and generated statewide press on television and on Capital Public Radio -- we can do it again in San Joaquin County through support from these partnerships!

As a bonus, San Joaquin County and the City of Stockton plan to fund household medical sharps take-back as an in-kind investment to this project. Due to the risk of needlestick injuries, it is not legal to throw away used medical sharps in household trash. Sharps can also contain drug residues. Without a convenient disposal option, sharps are often illegally disposed, either flushed down the toilet or dumped in public restrooms, rural areas and even in rivers and streams. Illegally disposed sharps impact the local waterways and recreation, and impede wastewater treatment plants. Sharps take-back, along with medication collection, would further benefit the ecosystem as well as the health and safety of the public.

Specific activities to be funded with this grant:

CPSC is requesting $80,276 over 18 months to pay for bins, education, outreach and partnership building promoting a permanent and convenient medication take-back system as a way to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from contamination by pharmaceuticals flushed from homes in San Joaquin County. The proposed project is scalable and funding can be applied to activities to the extent it is received, as outlined in the attached budget.

Building on the model materials developed under the DRTF Sacramento/Yolo project, CPSC will expand our outreach to local governments, businesses and the general public to build support for pharmaceutical EPR in the Central Valley. CPSC will work closely with the City of Stockton Municipal Utilities Division and San Joaquin County to develop and implement this EPR project, with a specific focus on household medications. *To that end, there are three specific **outcomes** with **deliverables** we will achieve with this grant:*

Deliverable 1 – Meetings and Presentations: Conduct up to eight meetings/presentations with key stakeholder groups, such as the San Joaquin Pharmacists Association, San Joaquin Medical Society, California Society of Health Systems Pharmacists Central Valley Chapter, Northern San Joaquin Veterinary Medical Association, and other healthcare organizations, local water district, law enforcement and other local government agencies, and other relevant parties in the Stockton/San Joaquin County region, to invite participation on the project and longer-term support of paying the disposal costs and promoting the "Don't Rush to Flush, Meds in the Bin We All Win!" message to protect water quality. ***Outcome 1:*** *Presentations to key stakeholders resulting in support and participation in the project which includes financial commitments to develop a sustainably funded program in San Joaquin County.*

Deliverable 2 – Take-Back Sites: Establish 8-16 new permanent medication take-back sites in the Stockton/San Joaquin County region, supported by outreach materials promoting the new and existing collection locations for unwanted and expired medications. CPSC will recruit new take-back locations using a recruitment packet based on the materials developed for the Sacramento/Yolo DRTF project. ***Outcome 2:*** *Establish a minimum of eight to sixteen new permanent medication take-back sites and promote them heavily in the region to ensure they are well utilized.*

Deliverable 3 – Promotion and Outreach: Retain a Public Relations firm and build on the PR campaign from the Sacramento/Yolo DRTF project to customize for the San Joaquin County market. Collaborate with key project partners to develop a comprehensive public education program to ensure the public and medical community get two messages: (1) Do not flush unused medications down the toilet and (2) Bring unused medications to new or existing conveniently located take-back sites in San Joaquin County.

Outcome 3: *Obtain partnerships with at least one group each from the healthcare, media, education, and business communities to support ongoing education and outreach about the medication take-back system established. Utilize print ads, billboards, radio ads, and other methods to promote the take-back sites and educate the public not to flush unwanted mediations. An online presence will allow the public to easily access and share educational and outreach materials through the DRTF website (dontrushtoflush.org) and social media pages (www.facebook.com/DontRushToFlush and twitter.com/DontRushToFlush). CPSC will also disseminate information on pharmaceuticals EPR broadly through our website www.calpsc.org.*

Funding from the Rose Foundation will be used to provide CPSC's technical assistance and partnerships to expand the existing minimal medication collection program in San Joaquin County to ensure a sustainably funded program that does not increase local government costs. The grant will pay for CPSC staff time, medication collection bins and support materials (signage, labels with English-Spanish instructions), initial media coverage and first brochure printing. Ongoing costs of medication disposal, PR and brochure printing beyond the grant term will be covered by project partners to ensure a **truly sustainable project beyond the grant term.**

Ultimately, the success of the project is to create new opportunities for safe and convenient household medication disposal across San Joaquin County that has sustainable funding sources by other stakeholders beyond local government. CPSC will:

- Obtain commitments from enough non-government stakeholders to add at least eight permanent medication take-back sites in San Joaquin County.
- Create a medical community and public awareness program about not flushing unused medications, that at a minimum reduces the quantity of medications flushed to the point that by the end of the project we can measure the results through public surveys that identify a significant increase in awareness that medications should never be flushed.
- Engage a minimum of eight new pharmacies, clinics, medical groups and hospitals to work with CPSC on educating the business community about the need to educate the public to never flush medications down the toilet. In partnership with these locations, we will develop the public education materials, print them, and disseminate them and document through attached copies and pictures for the final grant report.

How these activities would benefit water quality:

Currently there are only two permanent collection sites for expired and unwanted medications in San Joaquin County, the central HHW Facility located in Stockton and a small medical supply retailer in Tracy. The majority of the County's more than 700,000 residents have very limited access to medication disposal opportunities. This project will increase the number of permanent medication collection sites in the county by 400 percent or more, directly capturing significant quantities of medications that would otherwise be flushed into the water supply, disposed in the trash which can potentially contaminate the water supply, or stockpiled in the home. By making it convenient for consumers, especially those in disadvantaged communities, to properly dispose of medication at community take-back sites this project will help protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from contamination by household pharmaceuticals. Additionally, our education and outreach campaign will educate the business community and the public not to flush medications down the toilet, and to use the new take-back sites to protect water quality in the Central Valley.

The strategic importance of project if it is completed:

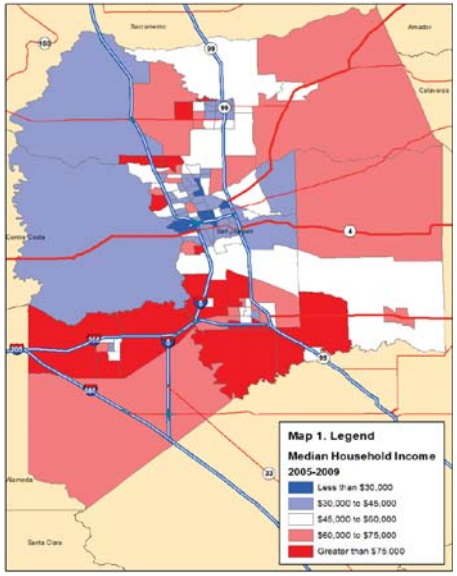
San Joaquin County will join with several other key California jurisdictions in having convenient medication take back programs and public education. In Alameda County alone, the County was paying

approximately $40,000 per year in hard costs using local volunteers to host collection locations and promote the medication take-back program. The County did this in response to a community driven effort to remove stockpiled medications from homes, however they simply do not have the funds for one-time or ongoing costs to expand the existing 28 locations to the 60 or so they need. San Joaquin County does not have the funds for a robust program either. This project will garner support for product stewardship and provide much needed medication take-back sites throughout the County. To demonstrate the impact of these projects here is a quote from Robert F. Kennedy Jr. on the importance of producer responsibility and local government actions:

> *"I am a firm supporter of extended producer responsibility as a policy approach that can reduce waste and improve water quality while protecting public and environmental health. I believe this ordinance is setting a national precedent. When companies and state and federal governments fail to act on environmental issues, it is imperative that local governments are allowed to take action to protect public health and the environment.* -- Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Senior Attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council and Board Chairman of Recycling Reinvented, on Alameda County's Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance.

By demonstrating that pharmaceutical stewardship works at the local level, we can build support for a statewide solution to address household pharmaceutical waste. Disadvantaged communities do not have the ability to pay for expensive reverse osmosis water treatment and are reliant on water straight from the tap so it must be high quality. Convenient, statewide collection systems for hazardous and problematic products would alleviate much of the confusion and frustration experienced by consumers and would make it easier for end users to properly manage these products.

Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners: This project will reach out to pharmacies, hospitals, veterinarians and other potential take-back sites in some of the most underserved and disadvantaged communities of the County, beginning with the lowest income areas, which have poverty rates of 20 percent or higher. According to the San Joaquin County 2011 Community Health Status Report, lower income communities have greater disadvantages, such as less access to nutritious food, education, medical care, and safe and sanitary living conditions – including clean drinking water. People living in poverty also tend to have more chronic illnesses, and the many disadvantages faced by children living in poverty can compromise their future earnings ability.



The lowest income communities in San Joaquin County are concentrated in the cities of Stockton and Lodi. The University of the Pacific's Regional Analyst March 2011 issue looks at the

latest results of the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey, and provides this income map. Of the bottom 25 percent of income census tracts in the county, three are in east/central Lodi, and 27 are in Stockton. The lowest income area is downtown Stockton, between Park Avenue on the north, Hazelton Avenue on the south, Center Street on the west, and the railroad tracks on the east. The area immediately to the north between Park Avenue and Harding Way is the second poorest in the county. In addition to areas near downtown and south Stockton, the census tracts around Tam O'Shanter Lane and Bianchi Road near the railroad in north-central Stockton were among the eight areas in the county with median household incomes below $30,000.

County Demographics: According to the 2012 census estimate there are 702,612 residents in San Joaquin County with an approximate demographic breakdown of 35% White, 39 % Hispanic, 15% Asian, 8% African American, and the remainder Native American/Alaska and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. Additionally 23% of the county residents are foreign born, 39% speak a language other than English at home, and 17 % are below poverty level. The population of the county is dispersed through the seven incorporated cities and 21 census designated places with six unincorporated areas. Stockton, the largest city has nearly 300,000 residents. The six other cities combined have approximately 240,000 residents and the remainder of the county's 163,000 residents are spread throughout the rest of the county. Spanish is a predominant language in many of the low-income communities and this project will focus half the education and outreach budget on those communities including using church groups, social groups, and other non-traditional outreach methods to ensure the project supports disadvantaged communities.

CPSC will partner with the San Joaquin County Public Works Department, City of Stockton Solid Waste and Utilities departments, Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce, SWOOCH, and the University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy to engage stakeholders and reach out to these communities. Additionally, CPSC will work with waste haulers and medical waste disposal companies, local law enforcement agencies, and local hospitals to spread the DRTF educational messages.

Supplemental Question Answers:

A) This project is not independently required by any discharger or proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s).
B) This project will protect both ground water and surface water quality by reducing contamination by improper disposal of household pharmaceuticals. By establishing convenient and permanent medication take-back sites, promoting the sites, and educating the public and healthcare community to use these sites instead of flushing or trash disposal, this project will prevent tons of unwanted and expired household medications from winding up in wastewater or household trash, which can contaminate surface and ground waters. The project will also track the number of new medication collection sites established in the region, the increase in medications collected over the grant term, and the changes in consumer and pharmacist behavior and knowledge about proper medication disposal.
C) This project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.
D) No funds for this project have been provided by, nor are there requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources.

ATTACHMENT B

California Product Stewardship Council

Rose Foundation Central Valley Grant Proposal Budget*

Employee Wages	Hours	Hourly Rate	
Executive Director	42	93	$ 3,906
Program Manager	230	60	$ 13,800
Associate	91	28	$ 2,548
Intern	60	18	$ 1,080
Total Employee Hours/Wages	**423**		**$ 21,334**

Contract Services	Hours	Hourly Rate	
Public Relations Consultant	40	100	$ 4,000
Accounting Consultant	20	70	$ 1,400
Total Contract Services			**$ 5,400**

Expenses	
Medication Collection Containers (8-16) Delivered	$ 18,400.00
Media Buys & Printing to Promote Med Take-Back Sites	$ 34,000.00
Travel	$ 1,142.00
Total Expenses	**$ 53,542.00**
Total Budget	**$ 80,276.00**

*This project is scalable and funding will be applied to activities and deliverables to the extent that it is received.

ATTACHMENT C

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program

"Don't Rush to Flush" Central Valley Expansion (Medication Take-Back Partnership) Project

Project Deliverables & Timeline

Timeline: Project will start on receipt of the grant. Eighteen month project with flexible start date (estimate March 2014 to September 2015).

Goal: Get unwanted medications out of homes, streets and waterways by establishing and promoting permanent take-back sites in San Joaquin County. *Take-back sites commit to paying for ongoing disposal costs of medications collected in their bins, providing this service to the community free of charge, and making this program sustainable.*

Objective	Deliverables	Schedule
Objective 1: Meetings & Presentations	Conduct up to 8 meetings/presentations with key stakeholder groups in the Stockton/San Joaquin County region to invite participation on the project and longer-term support of paying the disposal costs and promoting the "Don't Rush to Flush, Meds in the Bin We All Win!" message to protect water quality, to a combination of local government agencies, pharmacies, hospitals and medical clinics, law enforcement, water districts and treatment plants, other healthcare and water quality organizations, and other relevant parties. ***Outcome 1:*** *Presentations to key stakeholders resulting in support and participation in the project which includes financial commitments to develop a sustainably funded program in San Joaquin County.*	March 2014 – June 2014 (3 months)
Objective 2: Take-Back Sites	Establish 8-16 new permanent medication take-back sites in the Stockton/San Joaquin County region supported by outreach materials promoting the new and existing collection locations for unwanted and expired medications. CPSC will recruit new take-back locations using a recruitment packet based on the materials developed for the Sacramento/Yolo project. ***Outcome 2:*** *Establish a minimum of eight new permanent medication take-back sites and promote them heavily in the region to ensure they are well utilized.*	April 2014 – September 2014 (6 months)
Objective 3: Promotion & Outreach	Retain Public Relations firm and build on the PR campaign from the Sacramento/Yolo DRTF project to customize for the San Joaquin County market. Collaborate with key project partners to develop a comprehensive public education program to ensure the public and medical community get two messages: 1) Do not flush unused medications down the toilet and 2) Bring unused medications to new or existing conveniently located take-back sites in San Joaquin County. ***Outcome 3:*** *Obtain partnerships with at least one group each from the healthcare, media, and business communities to support ongoing education and outreach about the medication take-back system established. Utilize print ads, billboards, radio ads, and other methods to promote the collection sites and educate the public not to flush unwanted mediations. An online presence will allow the public to easily access and share educational and outreach materials through the DRTF website (dontrushtoflush.org) and social media pages (www.facebook.com/DontRushToFlush and twitter.com/DontRushToFlush). CPSC will also disseminate information on pharmaceuticals EPR broadly through our website www.calpsc.org.*	July 2014 – September 2015 (14 months)
Reporting	Prepare grant reports to Rose Foundation per contract.	Ongoing (ending September 2015)

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy & Health Sciences

December 18, 2013

Attention: Mr. Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: Letter of Recommendation for the California Product Stewardship Council – Central Valley Water Quality Community Grant Proposal

Dear Rose Foundation:

On behalf of Rho Pi Phi Professional Pharmaceutical Fraternity at the University of the Pacific School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, I would like to express my strong support for the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), who is seeking Central Valley Water Quality Community Grant funds to support safe medication disposal in San Joaquin County. For the past few years the brothers of Rho Pi Phi have helped to organize and participate in the bi-annual DEA Drug Take Back events. At these events fraternity members have provided consultations to local residents, distributed outreach materials, and helped with the collection of both medical waste and unused medications. However, there is a great need to have the program expanded to include year-round collection at multiple sites.

The proposed project will provide much needed additional medication take-back sites. In addition, the project will be combined with a coordinated education and outreach campaign to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from contamination by unwanted and expired medications.

CPSC is raising the collective conscience about the impacts of product waste—especially as related to adverse effects on water quality—and the need for better solutions through educating local governments, consumers and businesses to bring about extended producer responsibility in California. CPSC's efforts to engage and educate the community have been fundamental in the success of Don't Rush to Flush in Yolo and Sacramento counties, a 2012-2013 Watershed Protection project funded by your foundation. This proposal builds on that success, to educate, in particular, some of the county's most underserved communities, to develop partnerships among pharmacies and others in the product chain, to share in the cost of recovery and safe disposal, and to develop a sustainable medication take-back program in the Central Valley.

Rho Pi Phi will continue to provide support for the project and collaborate with CPSC on the recruitment of take-back sites, stakeholder engagement, public outreach and education. We are committed to ensuring the proposed project is highly successful and beneficial to the communities of San Joaquin County, and will be an outstanding value for the investment made.

For these reasons, Rho Pi Phi Professional Pharmaceutical Fraternity highly recommends funding of the California Product Stewardship Council's Central Valley Water Quality Community grant proposal.

Respectfully,

Joel Wagner Pharm.D.
Associate Clinical Professor
Rho Pi Phi Faculty Advisor
Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
University of the Pacific

CITY OF STOCKTON
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES • 2500 Navy Drive • Stockton, CA 95206 • 209-937-8700
www.stocktongov.com

December 19, 2013

Mr. Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

Letter of Recommendation for the California Product Stewardship Council – Central Valley Water Quality Community Grant Proposal

On behalf of the City of Stockton Municipal Utilities Department, I write to express strong support for the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), who is seeking Central Valley Water Quality Community Grant funds to support safe medication disposal in San Joaquin County. The proposed project will provide much needed medication take-back sites and a coordinated education and outreach campaign, to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed from contamination by unwanted and expired medications.

CPSC is raising the collective conscience about the impacts of product waste - especially as related to adverse effects on water quality - and the need for better solutions through educating local governments, consumers and businesses to bring about extended producer responsibility in California. CPSC's efforts to engage and educate the community have been fundamental in the success of Don't Rush to Flush in Yolo and Sacramento counties, a 2012-2013 Watershed Protection project funded by your foundation. This proposal builds on that success, to educate, in particular, some of the county's most underserved communities, to develop partnerships among pharmacies and others in the product chain, to share in the cost of recovery and safe disposal, and to develop a sustainable medication take-back program in the Central Valley.

As a key partner in the project, we have worked with CPSC to coordinate developing the proposal. Our organization will provide in-kind support of staffing to the project and collaborate with CPSC on the recruitment of take-back sites, stakeholder engagement, public outreach and education. We are committed to ensuring the proposed project is highly successful and beneficial to the communities of San Joaquin County, and will be an outstanding value for the investment made.

Letter of Recommendation for the California Product Stewardship Council – Central Valley Water Quality Community Grant Proposal

For these reasons, City of Stockton Municipal Utilities Department highly recommends funding of the California Product Stewardship Council's Central Valley Water Quality Community grant proposal.

C. MEL LYTLE, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

CML:CW:rmk

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase)

Application Form – Cover Page

a) Name of Applicant Organization: **Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center**

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: **77-0279240**

c) Project Title: **Snowy peaks to Valley rivers - protecting the source, the flows, and water quality for downstream users**

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: **Upper and middle watersheds of the Tuolumne, Stanislaus, and Mokelumne Rivers**

e) Amount of Grant Request: **$67,150**

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Name: **John Buckley**
Full mailing address: **P.O. Box 396, Twain Harte, CA 95383**
County where organization's office is located: **Tuolumne County**
Phone: **(209) 586-7440 (office) (209) 918-2485 (cell)**
Email: **johnb@cserc.org**
Website: **www.cserc.org**

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters):

The precious snowpack of our region flows down to foothill and Central Valley water users and is also the lifeblood of the mountain ecosystem.

Using this grant, CSERC will be at the forefront of water quality monitoring and watershed restoration efforts. CSERC will serve as a key advocate in the media and at IRWMP, water district, county, and Rim Fire recovery sessions. CSERC will raise awareness - reaching 5,000 Central Valley participants with programs about the source of their water and the need to avoid pollution and to use water wisely.

CSERC's water quality reports and monitoring will identify where pathogenic bacteria poses risk to water consumers and recreational forest visitors – especially low-income visitors who seldom possess expensive water filters. CSERC will also work to effectively influence land planning decisions and policies, development projects, and forest treatments that contaminate water or diminish the flow of rivers into the Central Valley.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:

CSERC will focus the majority of water quality monitoring within the Tuolumne and Stanislaus River watersheds, with some monitoring also in the Mokelumne River watershed. CSERC's water quality and watershed protection efforts will be applied across all three rivers' watersheds, with a special emphasis on the Rim Fire watershed of the Tuolumne River due to fire severity and the immediate need. The wet meadow and riparian area surveys and restoration workday efforts will primarily focus on the Mokelumne and Stanislaus River watersheds. The Rim Fire watershed restoration and recovery work will primarily focus on the Tuolumne River. The IRWMP advocacy and CSERC's land planning and development efforts will strive to protect water in all three watersheds, as will public awareness outreach to schools and to community organizations (concerning the source of their water and the benefits of using water wisely). The key pollutants addressed by this project will primarily be fecal coliform, *E. coli*, sediment loads, and forestry herbicide contaminants.

CSERC Application – Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program

Detailed Project Description

This grant proposal focuses on **Water Quality Sampling and Protection, Public Awareness and Involvement, Engagement in IRWMP Planning, and Watershed Restoration** program efforts. The following section highlights (a) the specific activities, (b) how each activity will benefit water quality, (c) the strategic importance, and (d) the benefits to disadvantaged communities.

1) Water Quality Monitoring and Protection

If funded, in the year period following receipt of grant dollars, CSERC staff will strategically identify highly visited public forest streams that are most vulnerable to fecal coliform and *E. coli* contamination from livestock. **With 50 days of staff field time, a total of 200 water quality samples (following State Water Board protocols) will be taken at strategically selected sites.** Samples will be tested at an independent laboratory. Results of violations will be reported to the Water Board and to the Forest Service, plus the results will help build a legal record for water quality compliance.

In the foothills, local resource district staff and community volunteers already do "stream team" monitoring of water quality in creeks. However, the results are not passed on to the Water Board, the IRWMP group, or to the media. **CSERC will partner with the stream team to display and communicate the sampling results that reveal where septic systems and other contaminants pollute Woods Creek, Sullivan Creek, and other foothill streams.**

A third water quality monitoring effort, totally dependent upon funding, would be to sample in the Lower Tuolumne River at LaGrange and in the Lower Stanislaus at Knights Ferry to test for pathogenic bacteria and water temperature during summer conditions.

Separate from the three very specific project actions listed above, CSERC will also provide a high level of field monitoring for projects implemented by Tuolumne County, Calaveras County, the U.S. Forest Service, Yosemite Park, private lumber companies, and water districts across the vast region. By not only reviewing project documents, but actually going out into the field to monitor when projects become active, CSERC staff frequently finds violations, unexpected watershed impacts, rutted roads, eroding hillsides, or other issues. Above and beyond the actual immediate value of finding watershed or water quality impacts caused by projects, the fact that utility districts, loggers, developers, and agency officials know that CSERC will be monitoring has value in itself. It motivates a far higher degree of follow-through in order not to have CSERC find a violation and publicize it in the media. Field monitoring truly matters.

2) Raising Public Awareness About Water and Engaging the Community

CSERC will build upon two decades of highly effective environmental education outreach that provides free programs about water and water conservation to schools and community groups. If funded, **CSERC will create a new slide show program "Where does your water come from?" to supplement the popular "Water – our precious gift" program that is already in high demand. In the first year of funding, CSERC will reach 5,000 participants in Central Valley urban communities** of Stockton, Lodi, Modesto, Ceres, and Turlock - teaching students about water quality, the source of their water, and how to use water wisely.

In a separate educational outreach effort, **CSERC will develop a new presentation that will be compelling for colleges and community groups It will also focus on the source of local water, water conservation opportunities, and the value of reducing pollution. These presentations will motivate college and community participants to volunteer with CSERC's watershed and riparian area restoration projects on public lands of the region.**

3) Engagement in IRWMP Planning

For the past six years, CSERC has led the environmental community's involvement in the Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Watershed Planning process for the upper watersheds of the Tuolumne River and Stanislaus River. The vast area covered by this IRWMP includes private lumber company timberlands, the Stanislaus National Forest, Yosemite Park, various other state and federal lands, and a wide diversity of private lands. The utility districts and county politicians participating in the IRWMP consistently press for new dams, new diversions, and more removal of water from streams, rivers, and subsurface sources. In contrast, CSERC has been the key voice for water quality, aquatic species, and adequate natural flows in the streams and rivers of the region.

It is a significant investment of CSERC staff time to participate in not only the collaborative Watershed Advisory Committee, but also to attend and give input at the Joint Powers Agency that has evolved to be the final decision-making body for the IRWMP.

While CSERC and other NGO's no longer have voting clout for final decisions, the need for the IRWMP and JPA to prove to the State that it is truly functioning in a collaborative manner is a strong club that allows CSERC to voice input and gain results. This past year CSERC's work helped steer the IRWMP towards non-controversial water and watershed enhancement projects that won nearly $3 million in State funding. If CSERC fails to continue to read every document, review every proposal, and inform other NGOs about flaws and problem issues, then the potential for the IRWMP to be manipulated to bolster "good old boy" water projects is high.

4) Watershed Restoration Program Efforts

CSERC's watershed protection program is divided into two separate areas of focus. First, **CSERC staff rallies volunteers from across the region to engage in hands-on restoration and enhancement projects for wet meadows, wetlands, riparian areas, and denuded watersheds on public lands.** In 2013 the Center set a new record with 18 successful "hands-on" projects that involved daylong volunteer efforts by 170 volunteers. CSERC is not asking for grant funding for the hands-on volunteer workday restoration efforts or all the preparation, supplies, coordination, and outreach tied to those workdays. REI in Stockton has generously funded the Volunteer Workdays efforts for the past three years and will be approached again for grant support in 2014.

However, by doing the workday projects, the credibility and the partnership that CSERC staff builds with U.S. Forest Service and BLM officials and hydrologists directly aids our Center when it comes to influencing management actions within the region's vast watershed. **CSERC does seek grant funding for our highly effective meadow and riparian area surveys and field monitoring for livestock impacts that often reveal where volunteer workdays are needed for restoration.** When we find head-cuts, crumbling stream banks, lowering water tables in meadows, eroded off-road-vehicle routes, or other watershed impacts while doing our meadow and riparian area surveys, we report those problems to agency officials. The result is often a request for CSERC to gather volunteers to build a fence to exclude livestock from a wet meadow, or for CSERC to rally volunteers to close off and naturalize illegal off-road routes.

Funding is vitally needed for CSERC's monitoring at the start of the summer/fall field season, periodic surveys mid-season, and a complete wrap-up series of surveys in the fall to document violations, successes, and restoration needs.

Closely tied to CSERC's meadow and riparian surveys and field monitoring of livestock impacts is CSERC's highly visible advocacy work that promotes significant changes in Forest Service livestock policies and water quality BMPs. Due to CSERC's water quality sampling, reports to the State Water Board, and on-going intensive advocacy and media outreach, the issue of livestock impacts to riparian areas and water quality has risen to a far higher level of discussion at agency dialogues.

Due to the staggering watershed impacts of the massive Rim Fire that burned last summer across the Tuolumne River watershed, CSERC is playing a pivotal role in collaborating with other NGOs, the timber industry, politicians, and water interests. CSERC has already helped narrow down salvage logging plans to the least controversial acres of the burned landscape, plus CSERC is leading the charge to use the best available science to speedily reforest the incinerated watershed in an ecologically sustainable manner that recognizes the recurrent role of wildfire. (Please note that CSERC is seeking funding elsewhere for the specific watershed work within the Rim Fire that compliments other watershed objectives.)

How Will These Activities Benefit Water Quality?

The water quality monitoring of forest streams and the reporting of sample results of foothill streams will inform State Board staff, bring attention to the sources of pollution, and provide a media hook to publicize the need for change to halt contamination. The Public Awareness educational outreach will make students and community members aware of the precious value of water and aid them in understanding how to conserve water and avoid pollution. CSERC's leadership with the IRWMP process will help gain state dollars for watershed and water quality or conservation projects, plus it ensures that nature's needs are heard by other IRWMP participants. The watershed restoration and protection program will provide an incredibly broad range of benefits ranging from reduced erosion, direct restoration of habitat, reduced degradation of riparian areas, and most visibly in the short term, major attention to watershed needs in the Rim Fire. **Collectively, the above combine to focus public attention on water quality needs.**

What Will Be the Strategic Importance of the Proposed, Interconnected Efforts?

Individually, the Water Quality Monitoring, Public Awareness Outreach, IRWMP Engagement, and Watershed Restoration efforts will all lead to enhanced watershed health and cleaner water. Collectively, CSERC efforts on these four program areas will frequently bring water issues in front of the media and residents of the mountain, foothill, and Central Valley region. **The more that regional residents know where their water comes from, the threats that put their water at risk, steps they can take to support solutions, and actions they can take to make personal choices to benefit water – the more likely regional residents will act on that knowledge.**

What Will Be the Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities?

In the Tuolumne-Stanislaus IRWMP, the county and utility districts have proven to the Department of Water Resources that almost the entire rural communities of Tuolumne and Calaveras County qualify as Disadvantaged Communities. CSERC, however, believes that in contrast to the foothill region, it is the broad rural and lower economic neighbor communities of the Central Valley where true disadvantaged communities exist. Accordingly, while CSERC could make claims as to how foothill area residents will benefit from our work, the narrower focus should be on how truly lower-economic disadvantaged residents of the Central Valley will benefit.

Whenever DAC individuals visit the public forest, CSERC's water quality sampling, monitoring, and advocacy work increases the likelihood for agency management to have minimized pollution that could lead to giardia or cryptosporidium contamination of streams or recreational waters. Downstream DAC water users will benefit from CSERC's broad watershed protection and project monitoring work, both of which reduce sediment and pollution discharging into downstream waters (rivers and reservoirs) that serve Central Valley residents. **While it might not seem to be the prime benefit, it is CSERC's perspective that the greatest single value of all of our extensive programs and efforts is the raising of public awareness in youth**

and community groups in the Central Valley's DAC communities. Latinos and other minorities are becoming the dominant cultural and racial majority in California, and yet many urban-based Latino or other minority communities have little direct connections to water, little knowledge about concerns over water quality, or much awareness as to how their voices can rise together to bring attention to water issues. **CSERC's expanded educational outreach programs will plant seeds of awareness that not only will make Central Valley residents know about their public lands in the mountains and foothills, but also where their water comes from, why water quality can be at risk, and how they can personally make wise water use choices.**

Timeline and Deliverables

Unlike some grant requests that CSERC has submitted previously to the Rose Foundation, the four-pronged programs described above in this application are not narrowly "time limited". All actions and programs described in this application can begin immediately in 2014. Each program area of work will either be initiated upon the receipt of grant funds, or a reduced amount of program effort will move forward in 2014 based upon the limited general support funds that CSERC is able to raise from members and other grant sources. Without the requested grant funding spelled out in the application, CSERC will simply not attempt to do much of what is proposed as key actions. Where CSERC's planned meadow or stream restoration workday projects or Rim Fire watershed advocacy work depend on grant funds from other sources, CSERC will do our best to fill in using our general support dollars, if those grants do not materialize.

If these Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants are highly competitive and only a subset of the proposed actions can be funded, then we will gratefully apply any designated grant to that specific program of work. Collectively, however, our objective with this proposal is to engage as speedily as possible in the four program areas due to the clear benefits that will result from the proposed actions.

Other requested answers:

This project is not independently required by any discharger, nor is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s).

As described previously, this project will benefit surface water quality and the beneficial use of water in the State of California through locating sources of pollution, raising attention to options for eliminating contamination, and raising public awareness.

This project will not directly benefit the State Water Board nor any Regional Water Board functions or staff.

As previously described, funds for this project have not been provided by, nor are any requests for funding pending with any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources.

Given the short time frame to develop this application at the holiday period, my personal apology if anything is incomplete. Thanks!

John Buckley, executive director

CSERC Project Budget for Central Valley Water Quality Community Grant

1) Water quality monitoring and protection		
Forest stream water sampling	200 samples @ $55 lab test	$11,000
600 hours of staff time (2 staff – 50 field days 6 hrs per day)		$18,000
Mileage – 3,200 miles of forest travel		$1,750
		$30,750
Limited staff time to coordinate foothill stream monitoring results and report to State Water Board and county		**$900**
Staff time – 5 days of river sampling - LaGrange and Knights Ferry		**$2,200**
2) Public awareness programs and travel		
Preparation and development of new Water Source program		$3,000
30 days of director's time – 9 hrs per day to reach 5,000 viewers		$9,600
Materials and supplies (new projector)		$1,500
		$14,100
3) Engagement in IRWMP planning and project development		
2 staff, 10 days of monthly mtngs, + 150 hrs prep time		**$5,500**
4) Watershed restoration program efforts		
Wet meadow and riparian field surveys and reports		
30 days of fieldwork X 2 staff – 420 hrs		$12,600
Mileage – 2,000 miles		$1,100
		$13,700
Rim Fire work to be funded by other sources	$20,000	
Restoration workday work to be funded by REI	$15,000	
Total Funding Request to the Rose Foundation for this application		**$67,150**

Attachments:

We have struggled at these holidays to get responses back from our many partners to provide letters of support. We anticipate sending in a minimum of one letter of support prior to the deadline.

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase)
Application Cover Sheet

a) Name of Applicant Organization: The Sierra Fund

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 501(c)(3); EIN #68-0485725

c) Project Title: Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Collaborative Serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Crest of the Sierra Nevada to the Sacramento River, from the Cosumnes River watershed in the south to the Yuba River watershed in the south

e) Amount of Grant Request: $493,803for three years, beginning upon grant award.
(Year One $144,606 Year Two $140,475 Year Three $208,722)

f) Contact Information for this Grant:

Name: Elizabeth "Izzy" Martin
Full mailing address: 206 Sacramento Street, Suite 101, Nevada City, CA 95959
County where organization's office is located: Nevada County
Phone: (530) 265-8454 x 211
Email: izzy.martin@sierrafund.org
Website: www.sierrafund.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters): This project will leverage a $5.5 million grant awarded by the Department of Water Resources to The Sierra Fund's program "CABY Headwaters Resilience and Adaptability Program", a collaboration between fifteen government and non-profit organizations. Funding would allow project partners to more deeply engage with tribal leaders, disadvantaged community members, and others in the region as funded projects (from mercury remediation activities to meadow restoration to installation of new water pipes) are implemented. The project would create project educational materials, develop a portfolio of projects that emerge from consultation with tribal leaders and disadvantaged community residents, and convene community meetings about watershed plans. An important outcome of the project would be increased participation from these constituencies in the Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) collaborative.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project: This multi-faceted project will work to improve water quality in the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba River watersheds. It targets surface water pollutants including legacy mercury from gold mining, discharges from old or malfunctioning sewer systems, and sediment from storm water. The beneficial uses promoted by this project include improved water quality; increased public understanding of threats to water quality and actions that can be taken to protect or improve water quality and public health; and improved public involvement in decisions affecting their watershed.

Detailed Project Description:
Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Collaborative Serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers

The Problem
150 years ago the rivers of the Sierra Nevada were dammed, and thousands of miles of ditches dug to convey these waters to serve the gold and silver mines and towns of the Sierra Nevada and Sacramento Valley. The Original People of the area were overrun, then murdered or imprisoned on reservations or died of foreign diseases. When the price of gold fell too low, the mines shut down with no required reclamation. The ditch and reservoir system was repurposed to serve as the headwaters of the state's developed water projects and hydroelectric power system, shipping their water and power to the cities of the state.

After nearly a century of water diversions, hydraulic and placer mining, and heavy clear-cutting, the water resources of this region are devastated. Salmon runs from the Sierra to the sea are blocked from by enormous dams, the watersheds poisoned with mercury and other toxins, the forests clogged with dangerous fuel loads that now threaten the very towns and cities that they were once cleared to build. The Original People have been left unrecognized, impoverished and invisible.

The Opportunity
In the last decade people in the region have begun to assess and address these enormous problems. Local conversation groups are joining with towns, agencies and the increasingly public indigenous tribal leadership to work on stream restoration and legacy mine assessment and remediation, to repair antiquated water infrastructure, to steward meadows to improve water storage, and to engage our youth and our community in these efforts. Driven in part by funding from the State of California's Department of Water Resources (DWR) program to promote Integrated Regional Water Management planning, many groups in the central Sierra Nevada have joined together to create the Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) group to develop watershed wide plans aimed at protecting and stewarding the natural resources in this region.

In early 2013 The Sierra Fund (TSF) was asked by the CABY IRWM to develop and submit a $5.5 million proposal to implement a spectrum of projects for a deeply integrated, watershed wide program. Our three-year proposal, written collaboratively by our partners on a shoestring budget, was ranked #4 in the state, and we have been recommended for full funding. Our contract with DWR will likely be completed in late spring or early summer 2014.

The strings on DWR funding are notorious for severely restricting project activities. We hope to leverage the $5.5 million government grant that we have secured with funding from the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program to:

- effectively educate and engage the community and tribal leaders in water quality projects;
- steward the collaboration among CABY partners;
- ensure that the wider public can participate in our work; and
- build public support for water quality improvements in our region.

TSF and our partners are asking the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment's Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program to help us to leverage the incredible opportunity

provided by the CABY IRWM implementation grant, by granting us three years of funding to match the three years of work already funded by the state.

The Partners
The CABY IRWM is collaboration between more than 40 government and non-governmental agencies that have "endorsed" the CABY Plan that was published in 2006 (now being updated). Many of these partners came together in developing the projects funded by the grant that TSF will be managing (See Attachment A.2. Budget Notes for a summary of the projects that were funded):

Non-Profit Partners: American Rivers, American River Conservancy, Camptonville Community Partnership, Sierra Native Alliance, South Yuba River Citizens League, Yuba Watershed Institute, Wolf Creek Community Alliance

Government Partners: Bureau of Land Management, Cities of Placerville and Grass Valley, Camptonville Community Service District, El Dorado Irrigation District, Nevada Irrigation District, Tahoe National Forest, Placer County Water Agency

Disadvantaged Communities (DACs): The DWR defines as "disadvantaged" any community with an annual median household income (MHI) less than 80 percent of the statewide annual MHI. Based on the 2010 Census, 18 communities within the CABY Region are now identified as DACs (MHI is $48,706 or below). Several of the projects in the collaboration serve disadvantaged communities (as defined by DWR), including Camptonville, Grass Valley, North San Juan, and North Auburn.

Program Objectives, Activities, Timeline and Outcomes

Objective 1: Improve participation by DAC members in implementation of CABY projects.
CABY has developed a plan and some materials for reaching out to the region's disadvantaged community members about the watershed issues – but these outreach activities are not funded by the DWR grant. In addition, TSF has created educational materials about the water quality problems in the area and their impacts on area fish – and the hazards associated with eating this fish – and is prepared to launch a major campaign to alert the public about these hazards, but there are stringent restrictions on the public outreach elements of the campaign. There has been some effort to reach out to tribal leaders and disadvantaged community members about watershed concerns but there is no consistent, ongoing strategy to engage with these leaders and communities. In order to simulate participation by tribal leadership and disadvantaged community members we need to invest real time and resources.

Activities and Timeline
1. a) Recruit and hire community outreach staff person fluent in Spanish who has experience working with or connecting to the Original People of this region. *(Summer 2014)*

1. b) Identify and reach out to federal and state recognized tribal leaders as well as traditional tribal leaders to: inform them about the water quality problems and associated fish advisories; describe the CABY implementation projects; confer about how best to include their leaders and ideas in project implementation; and listen to their concerns and interests in order to inform TSF's outreach program and the CABY collaborative process. *(Throughout CABY project implementation, 2014 – 2017)*

1. c) Identify other disadvantaged community groups in North San Juan, Grass Valley, Camptonville, North Auburn, and surrounding regions to encourage their understanding of the projects proposed for

their communities and invite their participation in these and other projects. *(throughout CABY project implementation, 2014 – 2017)*

1. d) Distribute Spanish-language CABY materials already developed through the CABY planning process to Spanish-speaking members of the disadvantaged community. Develop new materials and outreach methods that reflect an evolving understanding of outreach amongst this community in the region. *(Throughout CABY project implementation, 2014 – 2017)*

1. e) Work with disadvantaged community members to develop written water quality improvement projects that are: consistent with the CABY plan; that would benefit their community; and that could be used to develop grant proposals to implement these projects. These would be compiled into a "portfolio of projects" that can be used to direct future endeavors. *(2015-2017)*

Outcomes
1. a) One or more leaders from the Original People of the area, and/or from the disadvantaged communities, serving on the Planning Committee of the CABY IRWM.

1. b) A portfolio of projects developed by members of the region's tribal leadership and disadvantaged community members to help improve and protect water quality in the region. The portfolio will be translated into Spanish and/or other relevant languages and distributed in the third year of the project. These projects will be integrated into the existing CABY plan as needed.

1. c) Deeper and more effective participation in CABY water quality protection activities around the region by tribal leaders and disadvantaged community members, supported by an effective database.

1. d) Improved implementation of water quality projects that respond to specific concerns of disadvantaged community members.

1. e) New outreach methods and materials that can be used in next steps of activity and evaluation by an independent consultant of the effectiveness of this effort based on pre- and post-project measures.

Objective #2: Build public awareness of and participation in water quality improvement projects.
It is vital that the public understand and support the investments the state is making in protecting and restoring water quality in order to continue to enjoy support for these kinds of investments.

The DWR grant covers very limited expenses for community outreach and public education. Several projects (such as the NID Combie Project, TSF's Angler Survey Project, American River's project in Grass Valley and SYRCL's meadow restoration project) include funding for activities related to community engagement, including: holding community meetings, meeting with elected officials or agency staff of regional agencies that are also part of these projects, creating educational materials about the projects, participating in existing forums and conferences, or other activities vital to achieving our goals of excellent implementation of the grant.

However, not all of the projects include a community outreach component at this time, and most are not geared to meet the needs and interests of disadvantaged communities. There is no funding for a more consistent, comprehensive and integrated public education effort around the projects' costs and benefits that will be implemented over the next three years. And, DWR funds cannot be used to talk

about the need for additional funding or actions to solve long term problems such as the impacts of global climate change on the watershed, or the impacts of legacy mining toxins.

Activities and Timeline
2. a) Develop and maintain a list of key contacts of all CABY project implementation participants, including media contacts, and new contacts as the projects evolve and reach out into the community. *(Begin immediately, ongoing through 2017)*

2. b) Identify and reach out to potential community partners in each project area to talk about the benefits of the project activities to help ensure that implementation efforts are well coordinated with other activities already underway in each area. This includes organizing or attending meetings of key stakeholders in the region that are already undertaking watershed restoration activities, as well as seeking individual meetings with elected and appointed officials, conservation groups, business leaders and other stakeholders in the areas to be served by the projects. *(2014 – 2017)*

2. c) Work with project partners to develop short written descriptions (with excellent photos and graphics) for each funded project to create an attractive project portfolio that can be used for public education and outreach. *(Mid-2015, updated in 2017)*

2. d) Develop the capabilities of the TSF and CABY website elements (beyond the minimal work funded by the DWR grant for coordinating project data gathering and reporting) to serve as a more effective public education tool and allow for state-of-the art capabilities for project collaboration and research around the specific projects funded by the DWR Implementation grant. *(2014, then updated as needed)*

Outcomes
2. a) A complete database of individuals and organizations interested in the projects funded by the DWR grant reflecting their interests, skills and constituency.

2. b) Attractive materials describing the projects while in process and when completed, including the problems being addressed and the benefits that these projects bring to the watershed.

2. c) An updated and effective website for CABY implementation projects funded by this grant.

Objective #3: Support development of CABY IRWM capacity to serve the community.
The CABY IRWM is considered the "gold standard" for how integrated water management planning is supposed to be done across large watershed regions because of its unique collaborative structure that includes both local government agencies and non-profit watershed organizations. Part of the collaborative structure includes a 501(c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization, the "CABY IRWM", which TSF CEO Elizabeth Martin currently serves as Chair of the Board of Directors. This non-profit organization was awarded a $650,000 planning grant in 2012 to bring the existing plan up to date. This plan is nearly complete, and certification of the plan by DWR is expected in the spring of 2014.

One section of the new plan examines the current governance structure of CABY and makes some suggestions for activities and organizational changes to improve the effectiveness of the group. However, the CABY IRWM has no staff to carry out these suggestions. CABY has relied exclusively upon consultants for work conducted under the planning grant as well as all convening and coordinating activities. There has never been funding available for this non-profit organization to hire its own staff to

do activities such as fundraising or grant writing. For this reason the CABY Planning Committee asked TSF to lead the grant development work for the $5.5 million implementation proposal.

Funding in the DWR implementation grant covers expenses to organize and staff meetings between the grant project partners to coordinate projects – but not to conduct meetings of the overall CABY Planning Committee, Coordinating Committee or Working Group meetings. In the past these activities have all been coordinated by paid consultants. However, there is no longer funding for these coordination activities from any source. This is a key gap that the Rose Foundation grant will help to fill.

TSF will work with the CABY IRWM to create a strong and sturdy organizational model that can support the activities required for collaboration – whether this includes CABY eventually hiring its own staff or continuing to rely on other organizations to provide services toward the collaborative effort.

Activities and Timeline
3. a) Participate in meetings of the CABY Planning Committee and other CABY related committees. This may include convening meetings, keeping meeting minutes, advertising meetings, hiring a facilitator and other activities as directed by the CABY partners. *(2014 – 2017)*

3. b) Work with other CABY organizational partners to implement the plans outlined in the newly developed CABY plan, including the recommendations in the Governance Chapter. *(2014 – 2017)*

3. c) Reach out to and attract new organizations to participate in the CABY collaborative effort. *(Begin in 2014, then additional outreach as needed through 2017)*

3. d) Maintain and improve a database of all CABY participants including current and correct contact information, understanding of their talents and skills, and organizational affiliations. *(2014 – 2017)*

3. e) Work with CABY to improve their overall website beyond just the project activities that are funded in the DWR grant. This would include adding reports and links to the website as these materials become available over the course of this grant as well as posting key organizational documents for the CABY non-profit such as Board meeting minutes or contact information. *(2014, updates as needed through 2017)*

Outcomes
3. a) Reliable and effective CABY meetings with good meeting notice, agendas, participation, record-keeping and follow-through.

3. b) An up-to-date database of all CABY participants.

3. c) Improved participation in the CABY process by key stakeholders, measured by quantity and quality of participation.

Attachments

A. 1. Budget for the Project 2014 – 2017

A. 2. Budget Notes

B. Answers to Required Questions or Statements

C. Project Timeline and Deliverables

D. Letters of Support for this project application from:

American Rivers

Nevada Irrigation District

Attachment A.1. Proposed 3-Year Budget *(to begin if/when grant awarded)*

Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Collaborative Serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers

See Attachment A.2. for budget notes, indicated by bracketed numbers (#)

Personnel Expenses (1)	**Year 1**	**Year 2**	**Year 3**	**Total**
Elizabeth Martin, Project Director	15% FTE	15% FTE	15% FTE	15% FTE
Kerry Morse Communications Director	25% FTE	25% FTE	25% FTE	25% FTE
Carrie Monohan, Science Director	5% FTE	5% FTE	5% FTE	5% FTE
Community Organizer	100% FTE	100% FTE	100% FTE	100% FTE
AmeriCorps Community Outreach Assistant	100% FTE	100% FTE	100% FTE	100% FTE
Accounting & Reporting	10% FTE	10% FTE	10% FTE	10% FTE
Total Personnel	**$ 106,094**	**$ 111,614**	**$ 126,695**	**$ 344,403**
Program Expenses				
Educational Materials				
Design/print pre-Project portfolios (1,000 copies, 10 pg) (2)	5000			**$ 5,000**
Design/print post-Project portfolios (1,000 copies, 10 pg) (3)			6000	**$ 6,000**
Design and print DAC proposed project portfolios for future projects (4)			25,000	**$ 25,000**
Spanish language translation for materials	2500		2500	**$ 5,000**
Community event materials, event rental space (5)	750	1000	750	**$ 2,500**
Print Fish Advisory posters (6)	250	250	250	**$ 750**
Website Design improvements (7)	5000			**$ 5,000**
Website maintenance, update		2400	2400	**$ 4,800**
Travel (8)				
Organizer and TSF Staff travel to each community/year (mileage, per diem)	2000	2500	2500	**$ 7,000**
TSF staff travel to meet with CABY partners (mileage, per diem)	1500	1800	1800	**$ 5,100**
TSF Staff travel to CABY meetings	500	500	500	**$ 1,500**
Program Evaluation by 3rd Party Consultant			10,000	**$ 10,000**
Total Program Expenses	**$ 17,500**	**$ 8,450**	**$ 51,700**	**$ 77,650**
Total Personnel + Program Expenses	**$ 123,594**	**$ 120,064**	**$ 178,395**	**$ 422,053**
Program Administration Expenses	**$ 21,011**	**$ 20,411**	**$ 30,327**	**$ 422,053**
Rent, Utilities, Insurance, & other overhead @ 17% of program & personnel expenses				
Total Project Budget	**$ 144,606**	**$ 140,475**	**$ 208,722**	**$ 493,803**

(9) This budget is matched by a grant from DWR - see the Budget Notes for an overall budget and summary of the projects funded by the DWR grant

Attachment A.2. Budget Notes

1. Personnel Expenses: This includes funding for the following positions including all employer taxes and benefits:

a. **Elizabeth "Izzy" Martin, CEO of The Sierra Fund and Project Director,** will devote 15% of her time to this project, providing ongoing support to the Community Organizer position as well as overseeing the integration of this project with the overall project funded by the DWR. She will facilitate consideration and adoption of new governance recommendations for the CABY committees and 501(c)3 organization. Izzy is an organizer and advocate with thirty years of experience working in rural communities to promote economic and environmental justice. She worked with farm workers, farmers and environmentalists to develop pioneering programs to promote organic agriculture and reduce community exposure to pesticides. While serving as Nevada County Supervisor Izzy led the fight in the legislature to put the Yuba River into the state's wild and scenic river system, spearheaded the effort to clean up an abandoned mine in her district, and began a successful five-year campaign to establish the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. Izzy is shown at the left addressing the plenary audience at TSF's Community Mining Summit, the first event ever held in the West to address the problems associated with legacy gold mining (Summit was sponsored by the Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment).

b. **Dr. Carrie Monohan, Science Director**, will spend 5% of her time ensuring that all project materials and reports meet a rigorous scientific review prior to publication or distribution. Dr. Monohan leads the Mercury and Sediment Abatement Initiative as part of the DWR-funded project package. She is shown at right with some of the students working on TSF's project to address mercury discharge at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Project (science and engineering on this project funded by DWR grant).

c. **Kerry Morse, Communications Director**, will devote 25% of her time to this project. Kerry will develop and produce the educational materials and oversee the upgrade of the website. She will coordinate the media outreach activities and oversee the Community Organizer media outreach activities. She will be responsible for program reporting.

d. The **Community Organizer** will be hired when funding is received from the Rose Foundation for this project. TSF will reach out through our networks to recruit an excellent individual for this position.

e. Our **AmeriCorps Community Outreach Assistant** serves a one-year term through the Sierra Nevada Alliance's Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership. For 2014-2015 The Sierra Fund will

provide a cash match of $10,000 per full-time member, and for 2016 this rate will increase to appx. $20,000 per member. The Sierra Fund's current AmeriCorps Outreach Assistant Amber Taxiera will serve through September 2014. This position provides essential, cost-effective support to our organizing work and includes tabling at events, logistical assistance for community meetings, distribution of materials, and assistance with special projects.

f. **Bookkeeping and accounting** will be done by TSF administrative staff, at 4 hours per week.

2. Design/Print Pre-Project Portfolios: TSF will work with each project to develop a short informative piece about the project, its benefits and partners. These will include "pre-project" photos where possible and contact information for each lead agency. An overall explanation of the project will be developed as well. These materials will be posted to the website and will be printed and distributed as part of the first year of outreach activities.

3. Design/Print Post-Project Portfolios: TSF will work with each project to develop a short informative piece about the project implementation outcomes. These will include "post-project" photos where possible as well as an explanation of the benefits of the project and any future plans. These materials will be posted to the website and will be printed and distributed as part of the last year of outreach activities.

4. Design & Print Tribal/DAC proposed project portfolios for future projects: The Organizer will work with tribal leadership and community leaders in the DAC communities where projects are operating (Northern Auburn, North San Juan, Camptonville and Grass Valley) to help articulate projects or programs that would benefit their communities' goals for water quality, cultural resiliency and economic empowerment. At least one project from each community, and possibly more, will be included in a project "portfolio" of potential future projects that specifically arise from this community engagement. These projects will also be incorporated into the next update of the CABY IRWM Plan.

5. Community Event Materials and Room Rental Expenses: There is funding in 3 out of the 7 funded projects for public outreach, including one public event. However, the remaining 4 projects have no funding for community outreach and public events. This line item of $2,500 would be used to cover the expenses for 7 community events – one in each community. Where the local sponsor of the project has funding to hold one meeting we will work with that group to help coordinate a second event with one as a "pre-project" activity, the other "post-project" activity and/or sponsor a public event that is targeted at the disadvantaged community members. These funds will be used to print event materials and posters and rent the facility if needed.

6. Print Fish Advisory Posters: The Sierra Fund has worked closely with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (Cal EPA) and the Department of Public Health to stimulate a fish advisory poster that is specific to the region targeted in TSF/CABY DWR grant. The DWR grant will cover expenses associated with research into fish consumption in the area, as well as posting of a limited number of locations. However, we hope to print many more posters and take these beyond the limited locations described in the DWR grant.

7. Website Design Improvements: The website for the CABY process has been maintained by consultants for the fairly narrow purpose of keeping the organizations and individuals already in the coalition informed. The website needs to be re-tooled to be useful to the new constituents that we hope to attract with our outreach. In addition, the materials that are created as a result of the work funded by this grant will need a place to be posted. Each project will have its own web page developed as the projects begin and updates can be posted to that page, as well as to the overall "summary page"

that will describe this project. We expect 2-4 hours of maintenance per month once these pages are established.

8. Travel Expenses: Travel expenses are based on years of experience doing outreach in our rural region, which will require face-to-face meetings with individuals, agencies and organizations in each of the seven communities targeted for this grant. Our current mileage reimbursement rate is $.51/mile, and per diem is $30/day. These rates have not been adjusted in several years, and we anticipate increasing them in the next year. Our Community Organizer and AmeriCorps Outreach Assistant will account for the majority of mileage, while our CEO will also participate in regular meetings with project partners. Organizer travel to each community is based on six trips per year. Travel to meet with project partners is based on four trips per year to meet with each project lead organization, and additional travel to quarterly CABY meetings.

9. TSF/CABY Projects Recommended for Implementation Funding : The following is a summary of the specific project budget amounts over the three year life of the project, and each set of project partners, for each project funded in the DWR grant award to TSF/CABY (contract pending):

Project Name	Organizations/ Lead Sponsor	Budget
Natural Resources		
Meadow Restoration and Prioritization in the Yuba, Bear and American River Watersheds	South Yuba River Citizens League (primary), Sierra Native Alliance, Tahoe National Forest (Yuba River and American River Ranger Districts), American Rivers, American River Conservancy, Yuba Watershed Institute	$308,016
Mercury and Sediment Abatement Initiative	The Sierra Fund (primary),Tahoe National Forest, South Yuba River Citizens League, Yuba Watershed Institute, Bureau of Land Management, Nevada Irrigation District, Sierra Native Alliance	$1,498,524
Infrastructure/Water Use Efficiency/Green Infrastructure and Flood Management		
Wolf Creek Watershed: Restoration, Stormwater Source Control, and Flood Management in a Disadvantaged Community (DAC)	American Rivers (primary), City of Grass Valley, Wolf Creek Community Alliance, Sierra Native Alliance	$342,499
Camptonville Water System Improvement Project (DAC)	Camptonville Community Service District (primary), Camptonville Community Partnership, Sierra Native Alliance	$789,341
Water Efficiency, Water Quality and Supply Reliability in the CABY Region: Locksley Intertie and Mt. Vernon Interties for DACs; Canal Lining, Gauging Stations and Water Efficiency Education	Nevada Irrigation District and Placer County Water Agency	$997,500
City of Placerville Waterline Replacement	City of Placerville	$950,000
Renewable Energy with Micro and Small Hydro: El Dorado County Small Hydroelectric Development Program	El Dorado Irrigation District	$380,000
Total Funding		$5,543,032

Attachment B: Answers to Required Questions or Statements

a. **Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?**

No.

b. **How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?**

The project activities proposed to the Rose Foundation will enhance implementation of a coordinated set of surface water quality improvement projects described in the Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWP) originally adopted in 2006 and now in the final phase of being updated. Adoption of the updated plan and certification of the plan by the state DWR is expected by the end of March 2014.

The Sierra Fund worked with its partners to develop a suite of projects that are consistent with this updated plan, described in our successful proposal to the Department of Water Resources "CABY Headwaters Resilience & Adaptability Program." These projects are summarized in Attachment A.2. Budget Notes.

Each project has extensive technical justification documents that outline the problems and project outcomes of each. Identified outcomes from these activities include evaluation and implementation of methods to reduce legacy mercury contamination of area water bodies, improvements in water conservation, and meadow restoration and assessment activities

The cost-benefit analysis of this suite of projects, conducted as part of the application process by an independent firm, found that each of the individual projects would yield benefits. It estimated monetized benefits totaling millions of dollars, alongside non-monetized benefits ranging from improved water quality and reliability to improved recreational opportunities and social infrastructure. The evaluation concludes "the likelihood that we have underestimated the benefits of the projects is far greater than the likelihood that we have overestimated them. " (Proposal materials available upon request)

Project funding from the Rose Foundation will provide resources to ensure that as these projects are implemented within the collaborative structure of the CABY Working Group a broader set of community players are brought into a strong organization. By working together on real projects – like new pipelines for Placerville, or meadow restoration in the upper watershed – the power of collective, transparent action is demonstrated. Building the capacity of the CABY Working Group is crucial to keeping the momentum of collaboration amongst leaders working on water policy – in contrast to the more than one hundred year old maxim: "In California whiskey is for drink'n, water is for fight'n."

c. **Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.**

This project does not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

d. **Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources?** If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.

Yes. This project strategically leverages the recommended $5.5 million award to TSF from Proposition 84, Round 2 Implementation Funding from the Department of Water Resources. In this proposal to the Rose Foundation, we are seeking funds to conduct activities specifically not funded by the DWR grant. The proposal outlines activities and a timeline for the funds requested from Rose Foundation through the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) designed to:

- Improve participation by disadvantaged community members in identifying, planning and implementing various projects to improve water quality in the region;
- Strengthen and sustain the collaborative integrated water management structure of the CABY IRWM; and
- Improve the visibility of water quality problems in the region and steps that the community can take to protect themselves from exposure to toxins while insisting that the water quality problems be assessed and remediated.

For example, funding is requested to help us leverage the DWR grant to help improve community understanding of the dangers associated with eating certain species of fish, known to be contaminated with toxic methylmercury, caught in lakes and reservoirs of the Sierra Nevada and the Sacramento Valley. DWR funding can be used to fund us to print and put up some posters in locations on public property or where we have access on private property – but it cannot be used to broadly educate decision makers about the serious nature of this exposure, the sources of the mercury that is contaminating the fish, and the need to take steps to remediate the abandoned mines that are the source of this legacy mercury. The DWR funds cannot be used to conduct a more active outreach campaigns distributing information at fairs, community events and other existing venues about the dangers associated with mercury contaminated fish. And, they cannot be used to ensure that the people most impacted by contaminated local fish – subsistence and indigenous people fishing for food for their families – understand the risk and can work collectively with the rest of the community to protect themselves and their families.

Attachment C: Project Timeline and Deliverables

Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Collaborative Serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers		
Objective 1: Improve participation by DAC members in implementation of CABY projects		
Activity	**Deliverables**	**Timeline***
Recruit and hire Organizer	written job description, position filled	month 4
Identify and contact tribal leaders in the region	improved data base of contact information	begin in month 5, ongoing after that
Identify and contact disadvantaged community members in targeted communities	improved data base of contact information	begin in month 5, ongoing after that
Distribute Spanish-language and other materials in CABY region	widey distrbuted materials	begin in month 5, ongoing after that
Develop and distribute new outreach materials/translate into Spanish as needed	new materials	in year 2 and 3
Portfolio of projects developed by disadvantaged community leaders (translate as needed)	project portfolios	end of year 2
Recruit CABY working group members	new leadership on CABY Planning Committee	end of year 3
Evaluate effectiveness of outreach effort	3rd party evaluation report	end of year 3
Objective 2: Build public awareness of and participation in water quality improvement projects		
Develop list of key contacts including media, elected officials, conservation groups	improved data base of contact information	begin in month 5, ongoing after that
Organize one community meeting in each project area (seven community meetings)	meeting material	begin month 6, finish year 2
Attend community events in each project area	calendar of public outreach activities	begin in month 6, finish by end yr 3
Work with project proponents to develop project-specific educational materials as well as an overarching summary of the projects	materials describing each project before and after implementation	begin in month 4, finish end of year 3
Reach out to print, radio and television news to highlight each project	press releases and other materials	begin month 6, finish end year 3
Improve CABY website to facilitate community understanding of the projects	improved website	begin in year 2, ongoing
Objective 3: Support development of CABY IRWM capacity to serve the community		
Hold quarterly CABY meetings	agendas, minutes	quarterly 2014 - 2017
Implement new CABY plan	new organizational structure, new projects developed	begin in month 4, then ongoing
Update CABY partner database	updated database	ongonig
Recruit new partners to join CABY	new CABY members	month 6, ongoing

* Timeline begins after award of grant for this purpose

American Rivers
Rivers Connect Us

December 31, 2013

Tim Little
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
Attn: CV Water Quality Program
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for The Sierra Fund's Proposal "Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Program serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers"

Dear Mr. Little,

I am writing to urge your support for The Sierra Fund's proposal "Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Program serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers." I have reviewed a draft of this proposal and support its objectives and activities.

American Rivers (AR) is a national river conservation organization that works to protect wild rivers, restore damaged rivers, and conserve clean water for people and nature.

Staff in the AR Nevada City office has been working in the collaborative Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) group that has been working together for seven years to identify opportunities for collaborative action on large landscape watershed planning. The grant that we worked with The Sierra Fund to write and submit to the Department of Water Resources included two important projects with AR involvement. One works with the City of Grass Valley, an identified Dis-advantaged Community (DAC), the Sierra Native Alliance and the Wolf Creek Community Alliance to restore and improve stormwater management in a heavily mine-impacted watershed in downtown Grass Valley. The other works to accelerate meadow restoration in the American River watershed to benefit water supply, provide critical habitat, protect cultural resources and increase landscape and water supply resiliency to climate change.

Based on previous experience, The Sierra Fund has demonstrated their ability to successfully work collaboratively, and this proposal outlines an important opportunity for them to bring these skills to our local watersheds. I strongly support their proposal to help increase participation in CABY by members of disadvantaged community members, and to generally provide needed support to the CABY non-profit over the next several years.

Please feel free to call me at 530.575.8212 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Luke Hunt, PhD
Director of Headwaters Conservation

432 Broad Street | Nevada City, CA 95959 | phone 530.478.0206 | fax 530.478.5849 www.AmericanRivers.org

NID

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945-5424 ~ www.nidwater.com
(530) 273-6185 ~ Fax: (530) 477-2646 ~ Toll Free: (800) 222-4102

January 3, 2014

Mr. Tim Little
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
Attn: CV Water Quality Program
1970 Broadway, #600
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for The Sierra Fund's Proposal *"Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Program serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers"*

Mr. Little,

I am writing this letter in support of The Sierra Fund's proposal "Building an Integrated Regional Water Management Program serving the Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers." I have had an opportunity to review a draft of this proposal and believe that the work they are proposing will greatly enhance the overall impact of our collaborative efforts.

Nevada Irrigation District (NID) is one of the many partners within the greater Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) group and we are committed to the success of our collective Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The District currently serves treated and agricultural customers in portions of three counties (Yuba, Nevada, and Placer) and manages watersheds in a total of four counties, the three previously mentioned and Sierra County. Our total service area is 287,000 acres with a total watershed of approximately 70,000 acres. Considering the magnitude and diversity of our operational territory, NID recognizes the need for a strong and functional IRWMP.

The CABY group has been working for more than seven years to identify opportunities for large scale collaborative watershed planning projects. We worked hand in hand with The Sierra Fund last spring to write and submit, to the Department of Water Resources, a $5.5 million grant, which has been recommended for full funding. This is due in no small measure to the quality of the Sierra Fund's Staff and their ability to tackle projects like this with multiple contributing partners. This grant includes truly vital projects to our region, such as the water interties between our district and Placer County Water Agency as well as funding for our cutting edge project to demonstrate a new reservoir management technology that has the potential to return reservoir storage capacity while removing mercury from sediment.

The Sierra Fund has continually demonstrated their ability to do the hard work of project management and implementation, as well as their commitment to making CABY a collaborative success. Please strongly consider this request for funding. We believe this effort will amplify the leadership we need in our region and help us improve our ability to communicate and collaborate around watershed management issues.

Please feel free to call me at 530-273-6185 if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Remleh Scherzinger, P.E.
General Manager

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

(Applicant must answer all questions)

Cover Sheet:

a) Name of Applicant Organization: Sierra Streams Institute

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, EIN # 68-0429132

c) Project Title: Bear River Watershed Assessment Project

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: The Bear River Watershed

e) Amount of Grant Request: $144,786 year 1; $218,220 year 2; $250,800 year 3.

f) Contact Information for this Grant:

Name: Joanne Hild

Full mailing address: 431 Uren Street Suite C, Nevada City, CA 95959

County where organization's office is located: Nevada

Phone: (530)265-6090 x200

Email: joanne@sierrastreams.org

Website: www.sierrastreamsinstitute.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters): The Bear River Watershed Assessment Project is an effort to engage the community and all stakeholders in the development of a comprehensive assessment of the Bear River watershed and its tributaries, resulting in benefits to the disadvantaged community of Grass Valley through the improvement of surface and ground water quality and quantity. Building on the efforts by project partner Wolf Creek Community Alliance to monitor and protect Wolf Creek, a sub-watershed of the Bear River, the resulting assessment will allow stakeholders to prioritize remediation actions and to develop projects that address impacts to water quality and quantity.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:

The project addresses the Bear River and its subwatershed Wolf Creek, and seeks to characterize the pollutants that affect it, notably bacteria, sediment and legacy mining contaminants.

1) Detailed Project Description:

Introduction:

The Bear River Watershed Assessment Project is an effort to conduct a comprehensive watershed assessment focused on the significantly impacted Bear River watershed. The project brings together and coordinates the many stakeholders and prior efforts in the Bear, using the community of Grass Valley and the Wolf Creek sub-watershed as the impetus to perform an integrated assessment of the entire watershed. Successful completion of the assessment will increase cooperation and lead to water quality improvements, with resulting benefits to the disadvantaged community of Grass Valley, the only incorporated city in the watershed.

The Bear River in the western Sierra Nevada flows for 65 miles from just below Lake Spaulding at 5500 feet to its confluence with the Feather River in the Central Valley. One of the most severely impacted rivers in northern California, stewardship efforts have historically been hampered by many factors related to land ownership, regulatory oversight divided among multiple government agencies, many public and private water diversions, and the lack of human communities on the Bear River.

Major impacts to the Bear include:

- One of the most heavily managed rivers in the state for water conveyance, with flows largely controlled by Nevada Irrigation District (NID) and PG&E
- Serious impacts from hydraulic mining, with an estimated 160 million cubic yards of mining sediment stored in the lower Bear – resulting in its alteration from a wide shallow river to a deeply incised one
- Listed under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act for mercury (primarily in its reservoirs and Greenhorn Creek) resulting from historic gold extraction practices. Methyl mercury, especially in warmer low elevation reservoirs, is a serious problem for fisheries in the watershed. For example, half of the spotted bass sampled in Camp Far West reservoir exceeded the FDA action level of 1.0ppm.
- Almost total loss of the Bear's viability for salmon, with only a few stray salmon remaining. The USFWS's Central Valley Project Improvement Act Tributary Production Enhancement Report of May 1998 identifies "Instream flows, high water temperatures, unscreened diversions, poor water quality, partial or complete migration barriers and illegal harvests [as] factors limiting salmon and steelhead migration, spawning, incubation and rearing success in the Bear River" (p. 4-57).

Located within the watershed is the 80 square mile Wolf Creek sub-watershed, which flows through the city of Grass Valley. Wolf Creek suffers from severe impacts similar to those that afflict the Bear, but with the addition of the problems associated with urban waterways. In Grass Valley the creek is extensively channelized, lined in concrete or encased underground. As recently as 2007, a section of the creek was buried under the parking lot of a new Holiday Inn Express in downtown Grass Valley. The creek is used by NID as a conveyance canal for irrigation from mid-April to mid-October, with water diverted from Deer Creek in the Yuba watershed. NID water comprises the majority of Wolf Creek's summer flow through Grass Valley. Urban development infringes into its riparian corridor and up to its constrained banks. Accidental releases of wastewater at the City of Grass Valley's waste water treatment plant on Wolf Creek as well as numerous septic tanks close to the riparian zone cause periodic sewage spills into the creek, resulting in Wolf Creek being 303(d) listed for bacteria. Grass Valley has one of the highest concentrations of abandoned mines in the Sierra, with 74 known abandoned mines within the city limits of Grass Valley, and 337 in the Wolf Creek Watershed, plus tailing piles, placer diggings, acid mine drainage, and old hydraulic mining sites.

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

The overall goals of the Bear River Watershed Assessment Project are 1) coordinate the many stakeholders in the watershed for the purpose of identifying the environmental issues that confront the Bear River and Wolf Creek watersheds; 2) create an assessment that will serve as a guide for future efforts; and 3) reach consensus on a decision-making process for future restoration actions. Building on the nine years of water quality monitoring and community partnerships established by project partner Wolf Creek Community Alliance, we will focus in the first year on the Wolf Creek sub-watershed as a pilot. Using the process, partnerships and data from the Wolf Creek assessment, we will expand in the second year to the entire Bear River watershed, as well as implementing a targeted restoration project in the Wolf Creek watershed that is responsive to the assessment findings.

Specific activities planned are as follows:

1. Work with project partners Wolf Creek Community Alliance, Bear Yuba Land Trust and the city of Grass Valley to identify and convene stakeholders in the Wolf Creek watershed in order to begin planning a comprehensive watershed assessment. Planning steps include identifying watershed conditions, developing the assessment team, working with the community, deciding the boundaries of the analysis and the assessment area, gathering existing data, and determining data gaps.
2. Collect and organize data about the watershed in the general categories of geography, hydrology, climate, geology, sediment, water quality, aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, land and water use and management, and socioeconomics.
3. Analyze and synthesize the data for development of an assessment report
4. Determine the decision-making process for implementing projects in response to the assessment findings
5. Leverage the Wolf Creek stakeholder engagement to expand the assessment process to the whole Bear River Watershed, beginning with an update of the Bear River Disturbance Inventory (UC Davis, 2003). The assessment will include developing and implementing a monitoring plan.
6. Plan and implement a pilot native revegetation project in the Wolf Creek watershed, guided by the findings of the watershed assessment.

The tasklist, deliverables and timelines are outlined in the attached document. The workplan will be accomplished through the efforts of a watershed coordinator, working with a laboratory director to oversee the monitoring program. Sierra Streams Institute has an in-house laboratory and much experience with water quality monitoring data collection and analysis. Sierra Streams Institute is a leader in biological assessments, including the collection and identification of macroinvertebrates and the collection and evaluation of mass algae. Stakeholder meetings will be facilitated by a consultant with expertise in local environmental issues.

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.

Completion of the Bear River Watershed Assessment will result in tangible water quality improvements for this severely impacted watershed. The watershed assessment will begin by working with all stakeholders to identify impacts to water quality, and then collecting and analyzing data that will allow us to characterize these impacts. This step is a necessary precursor for developing projects and securing funding, and has been the missing piece in the multitude of piecemeal efforts in the Bear River watershed to date.

Sierra Streams Institute has a highly successful track record in the neighboring Deer Creek watershed of implementing projects that have brought dramatic improvements to water quality, as measured by our thirteen years of consistent water quality data. One notable outcome has been a more than five-fold increase in salmon spawning activity since 2011. Our success stems from the successful completion in 2003 of a watershed assessment, the Deer Creek Coordinated Resources Management Plan (CRMP). The

CRMP process brought together all of the stakeholders in the watershed in a sometimes contentious but ultimately productive collaboration, which led to our success in securing funds and implementing projects that have resulted in measurable water quality improvements. With our track record and our many key partnerships, we are in an excellent position to facilitate the necessary coordination that will enable real water quality improvements to be realized in the Bear River.

The project will leverage existing efforts by using our experience and many partnerships to facilitate cooperation and to reach consensus. Efforts and partnerships to date in the Bear River Watershed include:

- The Bear River Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) Group, formed in 1998 with agencies and groups from Placer, Nevada, Yuba and Sutter counties. In 2001, the Bear River CRMP changed its name to the Bear River Workgroup. It is now defunct.
- Bear River Watershed Disturbance Inventory and Spatial Data Encyclopedia (UC Davis, 2003) – a report for the Bear River CRMP Group and Nevada County Resource Conservation District
- Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator grant to hire a watershed coordinator to explore, in part, water delivery re-routing opportunities that could also improve flows (2004 – 2007).
- Bear-Yuba Watersheds Interagency Abandoned Mine Lands Project, a study of mercury contamination in fish and other aquatic organisms in the Bear and Yuba River watersheds (2000)
- Water quality monitoring in the Wolf Creek watershed, led by our project partner Wolf Creek Community Alliance. The Wolf Creek Water Quality Monitoring Data Analysis Report 2004 – 2012 (Wolf Creek Community Alliance 2013) was funded by Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
- Bella Vista Foundation-funded effort by Wolf Creek Community Alliance to consolidate nine years of water quality monitoring data in the Wolf Creek watershed. Sierra Streams Institute is providing fiscal leadership, project oversight, volunteer training and lab services (2013-2014). Our partnership was formalized by a Memorandum of Understanding dated February 8, 2012.
- Since 2005, Placer Land Trust has prioritized the Bear River as a focus area for conservation, particularly the middle stretch of the Bear River from Lake Combie downstream to Camp Far West Reservoir. Placer Land Trust has protected over four miles of Bear River frontage and 3,600 acres of contiguous land in the Bear River watershed in Placer County.
- On the Nevada County side, Bear Yuba Land Trust has secured permanent protection for over 3,500 acres of land in the Bear River watershed including a 652 acre working ranch with two miles of Bear River and two miles of Little Wolf Creek frontage. Bear Yuba Land Trust holds 16 acres on Wolf Creek in a conservation easement that includes the North Star Mine, a significant source of ongoing contamination in the Wolf Creek watershed.
- American Rivers has taken the lead in preserving and restoring the Bear Valley, an impacted Sierra meadow owned by PG&E in the Bear River watershed. Other organizations involved in Bear Valley restoration include South Yuba River Citizens League and The Sierra Fund.
- Led by project partner Bear Yuba Land Trust, a consortium of groups and individuals are developing fourteen miles of recreational trails in the watershed, with plans for an extensive trail system in the future
- Groups active in restoring, protecting and enhancing the watershed include the Bear Yuba Land Trust, Granite Bay Flycasters, Friends of Spenceville, Gold Country Fly Fishers, Trust for Public Land, Placer Legacy, Placer Land Trust, Placer County Resource Conservation District, Nevada County Resource Conservation District, South Yuba River Citizens League, Wolf Creek Community Alliance, The Sierra Fund, Sierra Club, Sierra Watch, Foothills Water Network, American Rivers, and Beale Air Force Base.

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.

The Bear River Watershed Assessment Project is an effort to bring stakeholders together in this under-stewarded watershed at a unique moment in its history. Although significant efforts have been in place on behalf of the Bear River since at least 1998, these efforts have not so far been successful in achieving the comprehensive assessment necessary for planning next steps. The CRMP process initiated in 1998 led to development of a Disturbance Inventory but the CRMP itself was never written. A watershed coordinator was funded in 2004, but was not successful in bringing the parties together as needed. Due to lack of organizational capacity and funding for Wolf Creek Community Alliance's water quality monitoring program, there are gaps in data collection and analysis. No comprehensive monitoring effort has taken place in the Bear River watershed.

Now however, the watershed – with its history of extremely fragmented ownership that defies coordinated management - is on the brink of transformation, as a result of a confluence of events: the compulsory dispersal of lands owned by the public utility Pacific Gas & Electricity (PG&E) for conservation purposes; the subdivision and planned residential development of lands in the middle watershed; and the placement of large swathes of agricultural land in the lower watershed into permanent protection.

With conservation and recreational development efforts underway by a large number of disparate entities, combined with the need for coordinated management of newly protected lands and for watershed protection to be in place for land slated for development, the time is right for a coordinated effort to ensure that these efforts are in accordance with the wishes of the communities and with the needs of the many stakeholders.

d. Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners. Up to two letters of recommendation from the community may also be attached *(letters do not count towards page limit)*.

The project offers a substantial benefit to the disadvantaged community of Grass Valley in Nevada County, through which Wolf Creek flows and which depends on the severely impacted Bear River watershed for its water supply. Coordinating the efforts on behalf of Wolf Creek and the Bear will allow for the prioritization and development of projects that will improve water quality and reduce impacts to the watershed.

Grass Valley is a small town of 12,808 people (2010 Census) in Nevada County, California in the historic Gold Rush region of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. From 1849 to 1959, over 17 million ounces (582 US tons) of gold were extracted in Nevada County (Koschmann and Bergendahl, 1968). Hundreds of abandoned gold mines remain in the Gold Country region, with 74 in Grass Valley alone, leaving behind toxic pits, acid mine drainage, and vast piles of mine waste containing high levels of toxic metals including lead, arsenic, cadmium, and mercury. Mine waste is ubiquitous throughout Grass Valley and is present in soil, trails, roads, yards, and near homes. Mining formed the basis of the area's economy for one hundred years, until the industry's decline after World War II.

The California Gold Rush enriched the fortunate few, and fueled the explosive growth in the 19th century of the entire state and nation. However, along with many other largely rural Sierra Nevada foothills communities that were "Ground Zero" during the Gold Rush, the current residents of Grass Valley bear a disproportionate burden both of cleaning up the aftermath of the Gold Rush, and enduring unknown human health impacts. The sheer number of mining-impacted sites in Grass Valley is daunting, particularly in light of the limited financial resources of this rural community.

Grass Valley is a "financially disadvantaged community", with a median income of $35,385, which is 72% of the statewide average (www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/resourceslinks.cfm). 79.1% of students in the Grass Valley School District are eligible for free and reduced lunch. Like most Foothills communities, Grass Valley's population is predominantly (78.6%) non-Hispanic white. Grass Valley's unemployment rate is currently 7.8%. In reality, the picture is far worse than suggested by this number, because Nevada

County is a rapidly aging county with scarce jobs, causing young families to leave the area in droves. Grass Valley schools have experienced almost two decades of declining enrollment, with two of the city's four public schools closing in the last five years. The Area 4 Agency on Aging projects that 71% of the county's population will be aged 60 or older by the year 2020, putting a severe strain on the county's limited resources ("'Silver Tsunami': Are We Prepared?", The Union, October 9, 2012). Given the extent of the contamination issue caused by its history as a gold mining town, the rural community lacks resources to fund the costs of remediation.

The city of Grass Valley recently completed an EPA-funded community-wide assessment of commercially-zoned brownfield sites within the historic downtown, focused on both hazardous substances and petroleum. The assessment confirmed the extent of Grass Valley's contamination problem, comprised of a combination of mine-scarred lands, long-forgotten buried fuel tanks and unsafe dumping practices. One abandoned gold mine, Lava Cap Mine, located six miles from Grass Valley, is classified as a Superfund site. In 2000, the Drew Tunnel at the North Star Mine in Grass Valley was accidentally breached, resulting in the discharge of an estimated 400,000 gallons each day of highly contaminated water from the mine into the city's wastewater treatment plant – nearly a quarter of the plant's total flow. The excessive effluent has led to the facility exceeding its intake capacity and overflowing into Wolf Creek at least three times in the past five years, according to the state water board. Such spills often lead to fines for the city. In 2011, Newmont Mining Company acquired the 748 acre North Star Mine property that includes several gold mines, for the construction of a new dedicated wastewater treatment plant. After many delays and further impacts to Wolf Creek, it is hoped that the plant will be constructed in the summer of 2014, 18 months after the February 2013 deadline mandated by the State water board. ("Newmont not holding up its end of bargain", The Union, December 14, 2013). Project partner Bear Yuba Land Trust holds sixteen acres of the property along Wolf Creek in a conservation easement, including the North Star Mine site.

Grass Valley has a large homeless population, estimated at 500 in a 2013 survey. This population sector is especially vulnerable to Grass Valley's mining legacy, with contaminated abandoned mine lands being a major source of open space where homeless people camp. Illegal encampments along Wolf Creek pose a serious problem for water quality, with monitoring data showing high bacteria levels probably related to homeless camps. Resolving the human and environmental issues related to Grass Valley's homeless problem is an important priority for the community, which will be addressed in the Watershed Assessment process. A new 50-bed homeless shelter was opened in December 2013 funded by grants and donations, a testament to the community's will to find a solution.

We have just begun a pilot biological study measuring accumulation of mining contaminants in women residing in Gold Country. The study is led by Sierra Streams Institute in partnership with University of Nevada Reno and Cancer Prevention Institute of California, funded by California Breast Cancer Research Program. Sixty women living in Grass Valley and the surrounding areas of western Nevada County will provide urine and toenail samples and complete a residential and activity survey to determine the relative contributions of such factors to levels of cadmium and arsenic in their bodies. Ultimately, the study partners hope to examine the relationship between breast cancer rates and the locations of abandoned minesites.

Partners: The Bear River Watershed Assessment project has a large number of community partners, primarily the City of Grass Valley, Wolf Creek Community Alliance and Bear Yuba Land Trust (letters of support included from Grass Valley and Bear Yuba Land Trust). Sierra Streams Institute is a founding member and current president of the Yuba Bear Watershed Council, a forum of stakeholders in the Bear and Yuba watersheds. Founded as the Yuba Watershed Council in 1999 to foster collaboration and partnerships, the council had become moribund and was recently revitalized by Sierra Streams in partnership with South Yuba River Citizens League, with a revised MOU and a new focus on the Bear River. Hosted by NID, the Council meets on a quarterly basis with membership that includes a wide range of watershed and other community groups, local, state and federal government agencies, and private businesses. In February 2013, the Council hosted a forum focused on the Bear River, with several presentations aimed at informing council members about the Bear's issues and about conservation efforts in the watershed, and encouraging partners to collaborate on behalf of the Bear. The Council will serve as a forum for reaching out to stakeholders for the proposed Watershed Assessment Project.

2) Project Budget:

Attach a line-item project budget. The budget should specifically describe all project costs *(attachments do not count towards page limit).*

Budget is attached

3) Specify Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities:

Attach (or include in the Project Description) a list of deliverables, and a timeline chart showing when project activities will be conducted and key deliverables produced. Since timing of grant awards, if any, is uncertain, please consider your timeline and deliverables carefully. Two possible options are to propose a project with a flexible start date (i.e. – the project could start on receipt of the grant), or to propose ongoing activities with established activity schedules and deliverables (i.e. – funding would be applied to these activities and deliverables to the extent that it is received).

(Attachments do not count towards page limit.)

Tasklist, deliverables and timeline attached

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:

Attach (or include in the Project Description) answers to the following questions *(attachments do not count towards page limit):*

a. Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?

b. How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?

c. Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

d. Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.

Responses are attached

Bear River Watershed Assessment Project

Task list, deliverables and timeline

Task	Timeline	Deliverables
1. Project management 1.1 Coordinate ongoing monthly water quality monitoring program 1.2 Coordinate and manage restoration projects 1.3 Write grants for future project implementation 1.4 Recruit and train community volunteers 1.5 Supervise data entry and calibration and instrument logs 1.6 Report regularly to Technical Advisory Committee 1.7 Ensure adherence to existing Quality Assurance Project Plan 1.8 Complete fiscal and progress reporting for Rose Foundation	For the life of the project	Quarterly TAC reports; annual data reports to State Board; calibration and instrument logs; minimum of five grants written; annual grant reporting
2. Wolf Creek assessment planning 2.1 Identify and convene Wolf Creek stakeholders 2.2 Identify watershed condition 2.3 Develop the assessment team 2.4 Decide the boundaries of the analysis and the assessment area 2.5 Gather existing data 2.6 Determine data gaps 2.7 Develop monitoring plan, building on water quality database collected since 2004 by Wolf Creek Community Alliance	Month 1 - 6	Monitoring plan; water quality database; list of assessment team members; map of watershed analysis area
3. Wolf Creek data gathering 3.1 Implement monitoring plan 3.2 Collect and organize data about the watershed in the general categories of geography, hydrology, climate, geology, sediment, water quality, aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, land and water use and management, and socioeconomics 3.3 Compile Disturbance Inventory 3.4 Present monitoring data to State Water Resource Control Board	Month 1 - 8	Disturbance inventory; water quality monitoring report to State Board
4. Wolf Creek Assessment plan development 4.1 Analyze and synthesize the data 4.2 Develop assessment report	Month 4 - 12	Assessment report

Task	Timeline	Deliverables
5. Wolf Creek Restoration Planning 5.1 Working with the community, develop decision-making process for planning projects in response to assessment findings 5.2 Plan a pilot restoration/revegetation project for Wolf Creek 5.3 Identify bacteria hotspots 5.4 Identify heavy metal hotspots	Month 10 - 18	Restoration plan for pilot project; list of bacteria hotspots; list of heavy metal hotspots
6. Implement restoration project for Wolf Creek 6.1 Implement stakeholder-identified project, to be determined	Month 13 - 24	Photodocumentation of pilot restoration; other deliverables dependent on project specifics
7. Bear River Assessment Planning 7.1 Identify and convene Bear River stakeholders 7.2 Identify watershed condition 7.3 Develop the assessment team 7.4 Decide the boundaries of the analysis and the assessment area 7.5 Gather existing data 7.6 Determine data gaps 7.7 Develop monitoring plan and update Disturbance Inventory	Month 12 - 24	Monitoring plan; water quality database; list of assessment team members; map of watershed analysis area
8. Bear River data gathering 8.1 Implement monitoring plan 8.2 Collect and organize data about the watershed in the general categories of geography, hydrology, climate, geology, sediment, water quality, aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, land and water use and management, and socioeconomics. 8.3 Update disturbance inventory 8.4 Present monitoring data to State Water Resource Control Board	Month 15 - 26	Updated disturbance inventory; annual water quality monitoring report to State Board
9. Bear River Assessment plan development 9.1 Analyze and synthesize the data 9.2 Develop assessment report	Month 26 - 36	Assessment report

Bear River Watershed Assessment Project – Additional Questions

a. Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?

No. The project is not required by any discharger, nor proposed as mitigation to offset any impacts.

b. How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?

The primary goal of the project is to study water quality and quantity through development of a comprehensive watershed assessment that engages all stakeholders and the community. The assessment will lead to the development of projects that will provide benefits to many of the beneficial uses of the State of California, specifically: agricultural supply, areas of special biological significance, cold freshwater habitat, commercial and sport fishing, freshwater replenishment, groundwater recharge, fish migration, municipal and domestic supply, preservation of rare and endangered species, recreation, fish spawning, and wildlife habitat.

c. Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

The proposed project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

d. Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.

Funds for this project have not been provided by, nor are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources.

First Year Budget

Item	Amount	Subtotals	Notes
Salaries & Wages			
Watershed Coordinator: 1560 hours@ $32/hr	$49,900.00		1
Laboratory Director: 1040 hours @ $28/hr	$29,100.00		2
Facilitator:	$10,000.00		3
Benefits			
Watershed Coordinator	$8,586.00		4
Laboratory Director	$5,900.00		5
Subtotal Salary & Wages		$103,486.00	
Water Quality Monitoring Program			
Wolf Creek Community Alliance monitoring program	$10,500.00		6
Equipment	$8,500.00		7
Testing Supplies	$2,500.00		8
Travel	$500.00		
Training Supplies	$250.00		
Subtotal Monitoring		$22,250.00	
Operating Costs			
Printing	$100.00		
Rent	$3,700.00		9
Postage	$350.00		
Telephone	$250.00		
Mileage	$500.00		
Meeting supplies	$150.00		
Subtotal Operating		$5,050.00	
Administration		$14,000.00	10
First Year Total		$144,786.00	

First Year Budget Notes

1	Watershed Coordinator first year will be ¾ time and duties to include; develop a monitoring plan, bring together stakeholders to develop a watershed assessment plan with timeline for implementation, assist WCCA in watershed monitoring and hire an consultant to facilitate stakeholder meetings (anticipate ~35 meetings), write grants.
2	Lab Director: half time person to oversee the monitoring program, calibrate instruments, analyze constituents per monitoring plan (nutrients, bacteria, mercury, TSS , etc.), obtain field samples (algae, macros, physical habitat, etc.)
3	Facilitator: to facilitate approximately 35 meetings with stakeholders to assist in developing an assessment plan for the watershed. Cost: 35 two hour meetings @$100/hr plus 30 hours preparation & consulting time.
4	Watershed Coordinator Benefits: Soc Security- $49,920 * 7.65%= $3,820, UI- $21,000*4.6%=$966, SDI-49,920*0.6%=$300, Worker's Comp- $49,920*2.5%=$1,250, Health Care 12mo @ $187.50/month=$2,250.
5	Lab Director Benefits: Soc. Security-$29,120*7.65%=$2,230, UI-$966, SDI- $29,120*0.6%=$175, Workers Comp- $29,120*2.5%=$730, Health Care $150/mo for 12 months = $1,800.
6	Wolf Creek Community Alliance: would provide funds to have WCCA staff attend community meetings and participate in monitoring programs.
7	Equipment: 2 Turbidity meters @ $1,000, 2 Conductivity meters @$800, 2 DO meters @ $1,200, 4 pH meters @ $125, physical habitat equipment, e.g. stadia rods, densitometers ,etc. $1,000, $1,000 for stereo microscope.
8	Testing supplies: Calibration solutions for testing equipment, alcohol for macro id, consumables for mercury analyzer, laboratory glassware, laboratory consumables such as weighing paper, cleaning chemicals, etc.
9	Rent: cost of office space for Watershed Coordinator and Laboratory Director: approximately 500 square foot for 12 months at $1.25 per square foot but does not include laboratory space.
10	Administration: covers the cost of liability insurance ($1,000), Supervision of employees ($9,000), Accountant/payroll/audit ($2,000), utilities ($1,000), Clerical Support ($1,000).

Second Year Budget

Item	Amount	Subtotals	Notes
Salaries & Wages			
Watershed Coordinator: 2080 hours@ $32/hr	$66,560.00		1
Laboratory Director: 1560 hours @ $28/hr	$43,680.00		2
Facilitator:	$12,000.00		3
Benefits			
Watershed Coordinator	$11,200.00		4
Laboratory Director	$8,680.00		5
Subtotal Salary & Wages		$142,120.00	
Water Quality Monitoring Program			
Lab Macro Identification	$8,000.00		6
Equipment	$6,000.00		7
Laboratory heavy metal analysis	$5,000.00		8
Testing Supplies	$2,500.00		9
Travel	$500.00		
Training Supplies	$500.00		
Subtotal Monitoring		$22,500.00	
Restoration on Wolf Creek (Offered as an example. Project specifics to be determined)			10
Mapping restoration area	$4,500.00		
Invasive plant removal	$15,000.00		
Replanting with natives	$8,500.00		
Subtotal Restoration		$28,000.00	
Operating Costs			
Printing	$250.00		
Rent	$3,750.00		11
Postage	$350.00		
Telephone	$250.00		
Mileage	$750.00		
Meeting supplies	$250.00		
Subtotal Operating		$5,600.00	
Administration		$20,000.00	12
Second Year Total		$218,220.00	

Second Year Budget Notes

1	Watershed Coordinator first year will become full time and duties to include; develop a monitoring plan for the whole Bear watershed, bring together stakeholders to develop a watershed assessment plan for the Bear main stem with timeline for implementation, continue assisting WCCA in watershed monitoring, develop and start water quality monitoring on the Bear main stem, hire a consultant to facilitate stakeholder meetings (anticipate ~40 meetings) for the Bear main stem, write grants.
2	Lab Director: ¾ time person to oversee the monitoring program for Wolf Creek & Bear main stem, calibrate instruments, analyze constituents per monitoring plan (nutrients, bacteria, mercury, TSS, etc.), obtain field samples (algae, macros, physical habitat, etc.), train new volunteers for the Bear main stem, supervise new monitoring program.
3	Facilitator: to facilitate approximately 40meetings with stakeholders to assist in developing an assessment plan for the watershed. Cost: 40 two hour meetings @$100/hr plus 40 hours preparation & consulting time.
4	Watershed Coordinator Benefits: Soc Security- $66,560 * 7.65%= $5100, UI- $21,000*4.6%=$966, SDI-$66560*0.6%=$400, Worker's Comp-$66,560*2.5%=$1,700, Health Care 12mo @ $250/month=$3,000
5	Lab Director Benefits: Soc. Security-$43,680*7.65%=$3,350, UI-$966, SDI-$43,680*0.6%=$265, Workers Comp- $43,680*2.5%=$1,100, Health Care $250/mo for 12 months = $3,000.
6	Macroinvertebrate Identification: Expected 40 samples @ $200 each.
7	Equipment: 1 Turbidity meter @ $1,000; 1 DO meter @ $1,200, 1 Conductivity meter @ $800, small equipment i.e. pH meters, physical habitat materials @ $1,000, 2 stereo microscopes @ $1,000 ea.
8	Laboratory analysis: expected extra analysis for heavy metals (e.g. lead, arsenic, etc.) from mining legacy in order to understand the level of contamination in this watershed. About 50 samples @ $100.
9	Testing supplies: Calibration solutions for testing equipment, alcohol for macro id, consumables for mercury analyzer, laboratory glassware, laboratory consumables such as weighing paper, cleaning chemicals, etc.
10	Restoration costs: anticipated cost for a typical restoration identified during the first year's assessment.
11	Rent: cost of office space for Watershed Coordinator and Laboratory Director: approximately 500 square foot for 12 months at $1.25 per square foot but does not include laboratory space.
12	Administration: covers the cost of liability insurance ($2,000), Supervision of employees ($12,000), Accountant/payroll/audit ($2,500), utilities ($1,500), Clerical Support ($2,000).

Third Year Budget

Item	Amount	Subtotals	Notes
Salaries & Wages			
Watershed Coordinator: 2080 hours@ $32/hr	$66,560.00		1
Laboratory Director: 2080 hours @ $28/hr	$58,240.00		2
Facilitator:	$6,000.00		3
Benefits			
Watershed Coordinator	$11,200.00		4
Laboratory Director	$10,200.00		5
Subtotal Salary & Wages		$152,200.00	
Water Quality Monitoring Program			
Laboratory heavy metal analysis	$7,500.00		7
Testing Supplies	$5,500.00		8
Lab Macro Idenification	$15,000.00		9
Travel	$1,000.00		
Training Supplies	$500.00		
Subtotal Monitoring		$29,500.00	
Restoration on Bear River			10
Americorp Restoration Coordinator	$7,500.00		
Mapping restoration areas	$8,000.00		
Invasive plant removal	$20,500.00		
Replanting with natives	$15,000.00		
Subtotal Restoration		$43,500.00	
Operating Costs			
Printing	$250.00		
Rent	$3,750.00		11
Postage	$350.00		
Telephone	$250.00		
Mileage	$750.00		
Meeting supplies	$250.00		
Subtotal Operating		$5,600.00	
Administration		$20,000.00	12
Third Year Total		$250,800.00	

Third Year Budget Footnotes

1	Watershed Coordinator first year will become full time and duties to include; develop a monitoring plan for the whole Bear watershed, bring together stakeholders to develop a watershed assessment plan for the Bear main stem with timeline for implementation, continue assisting WCCA in watershed monitoring, develop and start water quality monitoring on the Bear main stem and hire an consultant to facilitate stakeholder meetings (anticipate ~40 meetings) for the Bear main stem.
2	Lab Director: Full time person to oversee the monitoring program for Wolf Creek & Bear main stem, calibrate instruments, analyze constituents per monitoring plan (nutrients, bacteria, mercury, TSS , etc.), obtain field samples (algae, macros, physical habitat, etc.), train new volunteers for the Bear main stem, supervise new monitoring program.
3	Facilitator: to facilitate approximately 20meetings with stakeholders to assist in developing an assessment plan for the watershed. Cost: 20 two hour meetings @$100/hr plus 20 hours preparation & consulting time.
4	Watershed Coordinator Benefits: Soc Security- $66,560 * 7.65%= $5100, UI- $21,000*4.6%=$966, SDI-$66560*0.6%=$400, Worker's Comp-$66,560*2.5%=$1,700, Health Care 12mo @ $250/month=$3,000
5	Lab Director Benefits: Soc. Security-$58,240*7.65%=$4,450 UI-$966, SDI-$58,250*0.6%=$350, Workers Comp- $58,250*2.5%=$1,450, Health Care $250/mo for 12 months = $3,000.
6	Equipment: 1 Turbidity meter @ $1,000; 1 DO meter @ $1,200, 1 Conductivity meter @ $800, small equipment i.e. pH meters, physical habitat materials @ $1,000, 2 stereo microscopes @ $1,000 ea.
7	Laboratory analysis: expected extra analysis for heavy metals (e.g. lead, arsenic, etc.) from mining legacy in order to understand the level of contamination in this watershed. About 75 samples @ $100.
8	Testing supplies: Calibration solutions for testing equipment, alcohol for macro id, consumables for mercury analyzer, laboratory glassware, laboratory consumables such as weighing paper, cleaning chemicals, etc.
9	Macro Identification: Expected 75 samples for identification @$200 each.
10	Restoration costs: anticipated cost for an typical restoration identified during the first year's assessment.
11	Rent: cost of office space for Watershed Coordinator and Laboratory Director: approximately 500 square foot for 12 months at $1.25 per square foot but does not include laboratory space.
12	Administration: covers the cost of liability insurance ($2,000), Supervision of employees ($12,000), Accountant/payroll/audit ($2,500), utilities ($1,500), Clerical Support ($2,000).

Bear Yuba LAND TRUST
Formerly Nevada County Land Trust

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Chris Gee
Conservation Coordinator

December 12, 2013

Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway #600
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Little,

On behalf of Bear Yuba Land Trust, I am pleased to offer my enthusiastic support for the application by Sierra Streams Institute for the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program for funds to complete a community-driven watershed assessment for the Bear River. The proposed project will specifically benefit the disadvantage community of Grass Valley and the Wolf Creek watershed, a tributary of the Bear.

The Bear River, including its major tributary Wolf Creek, is one of the most heavily impacted watersheds in the Sierra Nevada, and suffers from a range of human activities, including multiple dams, low flows for the success of certain aquatic species, lack of integration of management because of fragmented land ownership patterns (e.g. power and water agencies, federal, state and private) and the absence of a central organizing structure to work out uses, as well as loss of habitat for listed species including threatened species of Chinook salmon and Black Rail.

Bear Yuba Land Trust is a Grass Valley-based non-profit organization dedicated to land conservation and stewardship to sustain our region's quality of life. Bear Yuba Land Trust has made a commitment to protecting lands within the Bear and Yuba River watershed, to minimize further impacts from development, and to reestablish a critical wildlife corridor. Our efforts so far have resulted in the permanent protection of nearly 6,000 acres land including a 652 acre ranch we have purchased to manage as a working landscape, which includes 2 miles of Bear River waterfront and 2 miles of Little Wolf Creek. We hold 16 acres on Wolf Creek in a conservation easement, a property that includes the North Star Mine, a significant source of ongoing contamination in the Wolf Creek watershed.

Efforts to protect the Bear River will be greatly enhanced by coordination within the watershed. Sierra Streams Institute is proposing that we create a forum where all stakeholders can work together on prioritized goals, leading to the development of a much-overdue Watershed Assessment that will guide future efforts in the watershed. I urge you to fund this important effort to protect the Bear River,

Sincerely,

Marty Coleman-Hunt
Executive Director
Bear Yuba Land Trust

ACCREDITED LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

12183 Auburn Rd • Grass Valley, CA 95949
Phone: 530.272.5994 • *Fax*: 530.272.5997
Website: www.BearYubaLandTrust.org • *Email*: info@BearYubaLandTrust.org

GRASS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL
125 East Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945

Office of the Mayor

Council Members
Dan Miller, Mayor
Jason Fouyer, Vice Mayor
Jan Arbuckle
Lisa Swarthout
Howard Levine

A CENTENNIAL CITY

December 19, 2013

Tim Little, Executive Director
Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway #600
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Letter of Support for a Watershed Assessment on Bear River and Wolf Creek

Dear Mr. Little:

On behalf of the City of Grass Valley, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the application by Sierra Streams Institute to the Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program for funds to complete a Watershed Assessment for Wolf Creek and the Bear River. The City has a history of supporting organizations and efforts for the purpose of cleaning up and restoring its water resources. The City's support is consistent with the City's General Plan policies which promotes efforts to protect, enhance and restore water resources and habitats in the region.

With a median income of $35,385, approximately 73% of the statewide average, Grass Valley is considered a disadvantaged rural community. Some of our local waterways have contamination problems dating back to the Gold Rush. Although the Gold Rush enriched the entire state and nation, Sierra Nevada communities such as Grass Valley bear a disproportionate burden of cleaning up. Wolf Creek flows through the heart of Grass Valley and continues to be affected by water quality impacts caused by many factors over the years, including the regional gold mining history. Development of a watershed assessment that brings together all of the stakeholders in the watershed is a critical next step in restoring Wolf Creek and the Bear River.

Thank you for considering this proposal. If you need further clarification of the City's support for this project, please call Tom Last, Community Development Director at (530) 274-4711.

Sincerely,

Dan Miller, Mayor

Telephone (530) 274-4310 – Fax (530) 274-4399
www.cityofgrassvalley.com

Central Valley Water Quality Community

Grants Program (Pilot Phase)

Application Form

(Applicant must answer all questions)

Cover Sheet:

a) Name of Applicant Organization:
The Waldo Holt San Joaquin Wildlife Conservancy
P.O. Box 4073, Stockton , Ca, 95204
www.waldoconservancy.org

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number:
The Waldo Holt San Joaquin Wildlife Conservancy is a 501 (c)(3) Private non-profit, EIN Number:26-1268746

c) Project Title:
The Waldo Holt Riparian Habitat Acquisition Program

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area:
San Joaquin County riparian habitats

e) Amount of Grant Request:
We are requesting the funds needed to acquire and manage 30 acres of riparian habitat in one or more target areas of the Waldo Holt Riparian Habitat Acquisition Program (Attachment A), using the following calculation for land acquisition and management:

Acquisition		Management	
(30 ac. X $2500/ ac.)	+	(30 ac. X $1785.92/ac)	= $128,577.60

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Name: Dan Gifford
Full mailing address: 519 W. Locust St. Lodi, Ca, 95240; ph. 209-369-7338
County where organization's office is located: San Joaquin County
Phone:209-464-3866
Email: janehumes@aol.com
Website: www.waldoconservancy.org

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters):
The Waldo Holt Riparian Habitat Acquisition Program (project) will identify, acquire, and protect remaining riparian habitat in San Joaquin County. Riparian habitat has been defined as "transitional between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, providing linkages between water bodies and adjacent uplands and include portions of terrestrial ecosystems that significantly influence exchanges of energy and matter with aquatic ecosystems" (RHJV 2004). The California Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates that 95% of California's original riparian habitat has been lost to development. The remaining riparian habitat in the Central Valley of provides a multiplicity of benefits. Rivers and their floodplains provide many "river services" to the surrounding local community. These include:

- Conveyance and delivery of water supply
- Effective conveyance of flood waters (and the associated protection of property from associated floodplains), riparian plants on the floodplain attenuate floodwaters and trap large debris.
- Maintenance of water quality through biological processing of pollutants and physical filtering of sediments and organic material.
- Wildlife habitat and regional migration corridor provide cover for fish and wildlife during migration.
- Recreation Opportunities

Long-term monitoring and management of the riparian will be done by our partner, the San Joaquin Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP). Any habitat that is acquired and conserved by the project is over-and–above the conservation requirements of the SJMSCP, does not serve as "mitigation" under the terms of the SJMSCP, and will not be credited to the SJMSCP. The SJMSCP compensates for loss of habitat land to development by preserving equivalent land. The SJMSCP does not normally conserve riparian areas because the land lost to development is farmland, not riparian. Our project will strengthen and enrich SJMSCP habitat preserves. By coordinating our riparian acquisitions with SJMSCP's land acquisitions we will preserve adjoining riparian which will enhance the habitat value of the agricultural land acquired under the SJMSCP. Handing over the monitoring and management responsibilities will free WHC to focus on acquisition and protection.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:
We are interested in acquiring riparian habitat along the important waterways in San Joaquin County, namely: Mokelumne River, San Joaquin River, Calaveras River, and Stanislaus River and their associated perennial and intermittent streams.

Application:

1) Detailed Project Description *(5 pages maximum)*:
Describe the proposed project including:

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.
We propose to use Rose Foundation funds to purchase riparian habitat along target waterways in San Joaquin County. Initially we are requesting funds to acquire 30 acres of riparian habitat. We are currently developing a Habitat Acquisition Plan that will identify and prioritize future habitat acquisitions in coordination with the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation & Open Space Plan (SJMSCP). A partial list of target acquisition properties already has been developed in cooperation with the SJMSCP and is included in Attachment A.

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.
Protection of riparian habitat greatly affects water quality. Riparian vegetation provides a protective buffer between the water body and adjacent agricultural, commercial, and residential land uses which generate pollution and sedimentation. Riparian habitat buffers waterways in agricultural and residential landscapes from pollution and sedimentation, shades the waterway preventing thermal pollution, and contributes nutrients and habitat.

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.
Our project is linked to our partner the SJMSCP (see attached SJMSCP letter of support). The SJMSCP is a fifty year Habitat Conservation Plan permitted under the State and Federal Endangered Species Acts and is based on the concept of replacement habitat. Under the terms of the SJMSCP, as growth and development in San Joaquin County converts wildlife habitat to residential and commercial development, equal amounts of the same type of land are placed into SJMSCP habitat preserves. In practice, the land being developed is usually farmland rather than riparian. Due to patterns of development, this usually means that the farmland uplands are acquired and preserved leaving adjacent riparian habitat unprotected. The goal of the project is to identify and acquire these unprotected riparian habitats and incorporate them into the SJMSCP preserve system as "core habitat elements".

The nature of our relationship with the SJMSCP is as follows. WHC is a small nature conservancy. Our mission is to conserve riparian habitat, the most important habitat type in our community. However, we lack the staff and funding necessary to manage land that we acquire. Therefore, WHC needs a land manager.

The SJMSCP is a government entity that is constrained by the terms and conditions of its Conservation Strategy. A strategy that, due to patterns of development, "under-conserves" riparian habitat. The principle objective of the SJMSCP is the conservation of listed species. It is widely acknowledged that protecting riparian habitat has significant benefits to Central Valley listed species. The SJMSCP needs a means of protecting riparian habitat, while staying with the terms of its Conservation Strategy.

Our project both enhances the overall value of SJMSCP preserves and leverages WHC's ability to protect riparian habitat in San Joaquin County. WHC's efforts are "leveraged" because as a small conservancy we are not able to effectively manage land, and by combining our talents and efforts with those of the SJMSCP we can focus on our mission of protection of a vital habitat resource.

d. Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners. Up to two letters of recommendation from the community may also be attached *(letters do not count towards page limit)*.
Disadvantaged communities surround the majority of the Mokelumne, Calaveras, and San Joaquin Rivers. Disadvantaged communities are located along the Mokelumne River from Lockeford to Woodbridge (including the City of Lodi); along all of the Mokelumne River's south bank from south of Thornton to the northern San Joaquin County line; the entire North Fork of the Mokelumne River is classified as a disadvantaged community; disadvantaged communities encompass the entire north bank of the Calaveras River from the eastern San Joaquin County line west to the community of Linden; all of the Calaveras River through the City of Stockton, and all communities along both banks of the Calaveras River from SR 99 to its confluence with the San Joaquin River are disadvantaged; all communities along the San Joaquin River north of Lathrop to the northern San Joaquin County line are classified as disadvantaged; along the Stanislaus River, the southern portion of the Ripon community is disadvantaged.
http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=e820c15e3a1e483a812320cd22b97d69

Conserving riparian habitat has many benefits for these disadvantaged communities. To this day, many disadvantaged people fish to feed their families, so conserving our waterways makes common sense. Rivers and streams in the Central Valley historically have been a source of economic development. Benefits to all communities, rich or poor, come from protecting natural resources in the face of economic development. Recent years have seen endangered species listings of once abundant fish like salmon and steelhead. Our group feels that riparian habitat protection should be included in plans for economic development so that our water ways continue to play a role. As an illustration of this, the Stockton Record recently featured an article on how salmon are involved in our local communities (Stockton Record, Dec. 17, 2013 "Spawning a Ministry" http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20131217/A_NEWS/312170320).

Lastly, the Waldo Holt Conservancy and the SJMSCP are themselves community based. Seven years in the making, the SJMSCP includes stake holders from local business, agricultural, and environmental interests. Similarly, the Waldo Holt Conservancy is a grass-roots organization sponsored by the local community, chaired by a group that includes many social activists that are dedicated to preserving the environment in San Joaquin County.

2) Project Budget:
Attach a line-item project budget. The budget should specifically describe all project costs *(attachments do not count towards page limit)*.
Cost associated with this project includes the cost of acquiring conservation easements on target parcels, plus the cost of providing long-term management and monitoring. Costs of acquisition

and land management are in line with real cost experienced by the SJMSCP over the last 13 years of implementation. The valuation for riparian habitat is based on discussion with respected appraisal firms. Although riparian habitat lands provides "core habitat", the actual value in real dollars is appraised as "nuisance value" by most appraisal firms. The following is provided after consulting with Steve Mayo, Program Administrator for the SJMSCP.

1. One-time costs:

   a) One-time acquisition cost of $2500/ac includes: transaction cost (escrow fees, notary, recording, and title insurance)

   b) Management: We do not anticipate conducting management actions such as habitat restoration or rehabilitation in conjunction with purchase of Conservation Easements on existing riparian habitat. Therefore, the cost of individual management plans for proposed acquisitions will be negligible. We do however, anticipate tiring-off management plans for adjoining SJMSCP preserves at no cost to WHC.

2. Continuing costs: A one-time payment of $1785/ac provides an endowment sufficient to ensure on-going services for the following:

   a) Compliance monitoring.

   b) Enforcement of conservation easement.

3. Taxes: WHC is proposing to purchase conservation easements on parcels of private property. When a land owner sells a conservation easement and retains the fee title, the landowner is liable for all property taxes, and not WHC.

4. Insurance: Purchase of a conservation easement does not require the purchase of insurance other than title insurance noted above in 1. a) Transaction costs.

3) Specify Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities:
Attach (or include in the Project Description) a list of deliverables, and a timeline chart showing when project activities will be conducted and key deliverables produced. Since timing of grant awards, if any, is uncertain, please consider your timeline and deliverables carefully. Two possible options are to propose a project with a flexible start date (i.e. – the project could start on receipt of the grant), or to propose ongoing activities with established activity schedules and deliverables (i.e. – funding would be applied to these activities and deliverables to the extent that it is received).
(Attachments do not count towards page limit.)

WHC is taking the flexible schedule approach. Over the course of 2014 WHC and SJMSCP will identify and target parcels for acquisition. Once negotiations are completed with all the necessary components (contemporaneous appraisal, preliminary title review, management plan, and legal description) WHC will apply the funds from the Rose Foundation toward the acquisition of the lands to be protected into escrow and contribute funds to SJMSCP to establish a management and monitoring endowment account.

- Identify targeted lands available for acquisition by Dec 31, 2014
- Commence acquisition negotiations through 2015 (including draft easement/protection language)
- Finalize acquisitions through December 31, 2016

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:
Attach (or include in the Project Description) answers to the following questions ***(attachments do not count towards page limit):***

a. **Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?**

This proposal is not part of any discharge requirement or any requirement for mitigation. This project will result in acquisition of land or conservation easements which accomplish the mission of the Waldo Holt Conservancy, namely "to preserve and protect wildlife habitat in San Joaquin County". Furthermore, any land or interest acquired may not be used to satisfy any of the SJMSCP's mitigation requirements.

b. **How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?**

This project will benefit water quality by preserving riparian habitat along San Joaquin County waterways by buffering the waterways from adjacent sources of pollution and sedimentation.

c. **Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.**

This project will not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.

d. **Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal**.

There have been no funds provided by, nor are there any requests for funds pending with any voter –approved propositions, or sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act. In 2012 The Waldo Holt Conservancy applied for: 1. Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition Grant funds under Section 6 of the federal Endangered Species Act. 2. Land Acquisition Grant under the Bureau of Reclamation's, Central Valley Project Conservation Program and Central Valley

Project Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program, Funding Opportunity Application No. R13FA20001. Neither of these requests were approved.

<u>Note to Rose Foundation Reviewers</u>: "Attachment A" is taken from a previous grant application to the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, and is meant here as an illustration of the kind of land purchases we are pursuing in partnership with the SJMSCP. Parcel 1 (Eagle Lake), and Parcel 2 (Fisk) each contain riparian habitats (32.09 acres and 9.40 acres respectively). In the event that the SJMSCP purchases conservation easements on one or more of these properties, we would acquire the riparian habitats and fold them into the overall preserve.

Attachment A

This proposal will establish a program of Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition, wherein Waldo Holt Conservancy acquires, and SJMSCP manages, riparian habitat. Habitat acquired and conserved via this proposal is over-and–above the conservation requirements of the SJMSCP, does not serve as "mitigation" under the terms of the SJMSCP, and will not be credited to the SJMSCP's conservation obligation. Never-the-less, riparian habitat conserved by the proposal will strengthened and enrich existing and future SJMSCP habitat preserves (SJMSCP, 2001).

LOCATION: The project is located in the northern end of the San Joaquin Valley, in San Joaquin County. The focus of the acquisitions is in an area along the San Joaquin River that provides habitat for State and Federal listed species (see map 1). The following is a description of the habitat present on each parcel:

Parcel 1 (Eagle Lake): Great Valley riparian forest 32.09 ac., Freshwater pond 12.06 ac., mixed grassland/scrub 21.88 ac.

Parcel 2 (Fisk): Great Valley riparian forest 3.32 ac., Great Valley Valley oak riparian forest 6.08 ac., Valley grassland 14.92 ac., freshwater pond 11.10 ac., irrigation ditches 2.29 ac., grazing/cropland 25.85 ac..

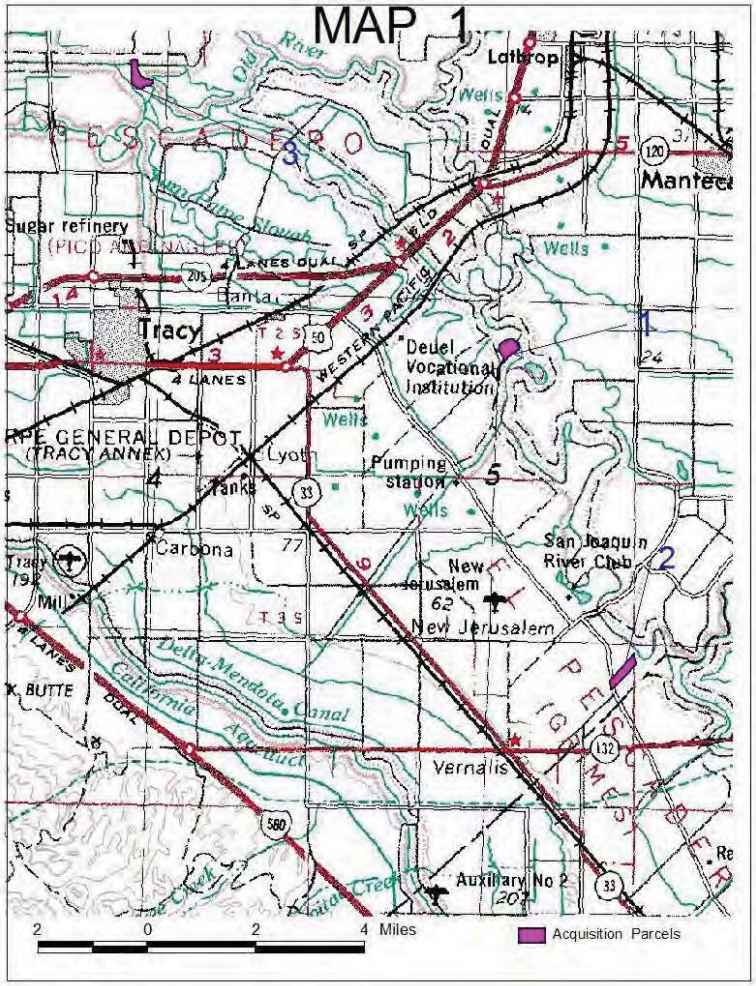
Parcel 3 (Jacques): valley grassland 54.7 ac. freshwater emergent wetland 11.2 ac.

ESTIMATED COST:
Project costs consist of the purchase price of a conservation easement on each parcel plus the costs of an endowment covering SJMSCP's long term management and monitoring of each conservation easement. The price of conservation easements was derived using a SJMSCP estimate of $2500 per acre. Similarly, current endowment costs were taken from the SJMSCP website at $1785.92 per acre. Parcels are listing in the order of their purchase priority:
(Please note that these are included as examples of available parcels in connection with SJMSCP purchases. Costs include riparian and upland habitat and do not equal what we would pay for the riparian portion).

Parcel 1 Eagle Lake: (49.2 ac. X $2500/ac). + (49.2 ac. X $1785.92/ac.) = $210,867.26.

Parcel 2 Fisk: (66.5 ac. X $2500/ac.) + (66.5 ac. X $1785.92/ac.) = $285,013.68.

Parcel 3 Jacques: (62.4 ac. X $2500/ac.) + (62.4 ac. X 1785.92/ac.) = $267,441.41.



S J C O G, Inc.

555 East Weber Avenue ● Stockton, CA 95202 ● (209) 235-0600 ● FAX (209) 235-0438

San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation & Open Space Plan (SJMSCP)

Ken Vogel
CHAIR

Jeff Laugero
VICE CHAIR

Andrew T. Chesley
PRESIDENT

Member Agencies
CITIES OF
ESCALON,
LATHROP,
LODI,
MANTECA,
RIPON,
STOCKTON,
TRACY,
AND
THE COUNTY OF
SAN JOAQUIN

March 26, 2013

Waldo Holt San Joaquin Wildlife Conservancy
Attn: Jane Humes
P.O. Box 4073
Stockton, CA 05204

Re: Letter of Reference -Waldo Holt San Joaquin Wildlife Conservancy (WHSJWC) Grant Proposal

Dear Rose Foundation reviewer:

This letter is in support and cooperation with the WHSJWC for the grant proposal the conservancy is writing to your wonderful Foundation to secure funding for a WHSJWC Acquisition Plan. The WHSJWC is a grassroots entity which shares the same vision as our agency for the protection and proliferation of species within San Joaquin County.

As the Program Manager of the SJMSCP, I fully support and endorse the WHSJWC's plan to create an Acquisition Plan complimentary to the SJMSCP conservation strategy of the county-wide regional habitat conservation plan. The meshing of the two conservancy goals and strategies will provide the species of San Joaquin County a greater level of protection.

Please feel free to have the Rose Foundation contact me with any questions regarding our joint efforts.

Sincerely,

STEVEN MAYO
Program Manager

Friends Of the Lower Calaveras River

PMB #463, 4719 Quail Lakes Dr., Ste. G
Stockton, CA95207

December 30, 2013

Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment
1970 Broadway, Suite 600
Oakland, CA 94612-2218

Dear Grant Evaluation Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the Waldo Holt San Joaquin Wildlife Conservancy's (Waldo Holt Conservancy) application for funds that would enable it to acquire and protect essential wildlife habitat in the San Joaquin River watershed. The Waldo Holt Conservancy consists of an extremely dedicated group of volunteers with a shared passion for preserving and enhancing the incredible diversity of riparian wildlife that is the environmental heritage of this region and its inhabitants. Acquiring habitat is the core of their mission, but they have been integral to the functioning of other small volunteer groups with similar focus. As the current coordinator for the Friends of the Lower Calaveras River, I can attest to the Waldo Holt Conservancy's effectiveness in working with diverse stakeholders.

The Friends of the Lower Calaveras River was formed in 2007 by 30 Stockton citizens who were concerned with the state of the river that bisects our community. The Calaveras River system, including Mormon Slough and the Stockton Diverting Canal, are listed as "critical habitat" for Endangered Species Act "threatened" Central Valley steelhead trout and was historically home to a great diversity of fish and wildlife. The river system has been dramatically altered for flood control and water supply purposes, which has deteriorated the ecosystem services the system once provided. In the process, the people of Stockton became disconnected and unaware of the natural resource that belongs to them. One of the chief purposes of the Friends of the Lower Calaveras River is to encourage people of diverse backgrounds to learn about and reclaim ownership of this resource.

The majority of our activities are designed to educate people about the river and its untapped potential. These include, among other events: 1) monthly river walks led by experts (fisheries, birding, nature journaling, etc.) and free to the public; 2) yearly "Calaveras River Appreciation Day" events for local disadvantaged high school students; 3) holding a yearly "San Joaquin County State of Our Rivers Symposium" to encourage knowledgeable and responsible decision making by local elected officials; 4) coordinating 2-3 river clean-ups per year to highlight the problems with litter and empower citizens to do something about it. I doubt that any of this would be possible without the support of the Waldo Holt Conservancy.

The Friends of the Lower Calaveras is not currently a 501c(3) organization, while the Waldo Holt Conservancy is, and the conservancy acts as our fiscal sponsor. The conservancy and its members, however, do much more than help us to fund activities. They are an active part of our steering committee and play a role in everything that we do. When the Friends of the Lower Calaveras River reaches out to diverse community members to engender an awareness of and concern for our river system, Waldo Holt Conservancy is right there, also advancing the idea of preserving wildlife habitat.

Please consider funding of the Waldo Holt Conservancy's request as an investment not only in the environmental health of a formerly magnificent and now decimated riparian forest, but also as an investment in the people of this area who badly need the ecosystem services and cultural enhancement that healthy natural areas provide. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have for me by email: ssherman@riverofskulls.org.

Sincerely,

Stacy L Sherman

Stacy Luthy Sherman, Ph.D.
Coordinator, Friends of the Lower Calaveras River

Central Valley Water Quality Community Grants Program (Pilot Phase) Application Form

Cover Sheet:

a) Name of Applicant Organization: California Urban Streams Alliance-The Stream Team

b) Applicant Organization's IRS Classification and EIN Number: 27-3718947

c) Project Title: The Stream Team

d) Project's Primary Geographic Area: Sacramento River Watershed (Yuba, Sutter, Butte, Glenn, Tehama, Shasta counties).

e) Amount of Grant Request: $90K ($15K/County)

f) Contact Information for this Grant:
Name: Timmarie Hamill
Full mailing address: 1282 Filbert Ave.
County where organization's office is located: Butte
Phone: 530 342-6620
Email: thamill@sunset.net
Website: http://www.thestreamteam.org/

g) Summary Description of Project (1,000 characters): The Stream Team continues to take a leadership role in facilitating citizen involvement in stewardship actions in the Sacramento Valley. We cultivate and maintain partnerships with community organizations, Resource Agencies, Resource Conservation Districts, IRWMP's, schools, universities/community colleges, and municipal stormwater programs, providing an important opportunity for expanding effective stewardship actions to achieve water resource protection and management goals that specifically target disadvantaged communities throughout the Sacramento Valley.

Project Objectives: 1) Leverage citizen involvement and knowledge to accomplish low-cost watershed assessments and ecosystem restoration; 2) Facilitate stewardship actions to achieve water resource management goals and objectives; 3) Implement Low Impact Development (LID) demonstration projects to reduce stormwater runoff; 4) Integrate science ambassador programs in schools; and 5) Implement Residential Landscape Irrigation Conservation Education/Outreach.

h) Describe the Water Body, Beneficial Use and/or Pollutant Addressed by this Project:
Project Water Body: Sacramento River and its tributaries near disadvantaged communities.
Pollutants to be addressed: Turbidity, total solids, pesticides, urban runoff, and specific TMDL constituents where developed. In addition, baseline water conditions will be documented to provide reliable, scientifically defensible environmental data in watersheds where watershed data is limited.

Application:

1) Detailed Project Description *(5 pages maximum)*:
Describe the proposed project including:

a. Specific activities to be funded with this grant.

Task 1. Water Quality (WQ) Monitoring
Task 1.1 Document baseline WQ conditions (update monitoring plan and QAPP)
Task 1.2 Document that WQ standards are being met (compare with basin plan/TMDL criteria).

Task 2. Watershed Assessment, Planning, and Protections
Task 2.1 Enhance communications and coordination among stakeholders (host meetings/workshops)
Task 2.2 Assess effectiveness of IRWMP efforts (provide pre-post IRWMP project data)
Task 2.3 Manage invasive species (facillitate invasive plant removal/native planting events)
Task 2.4 Improve riparian and fish habitats (creek clean-ups, remove fish barriers)
Task 2.5 Improve foothill/forest management (wet-weather dirt road survey/tours)

Task 3. Pollution Prevention
Task 3.1 Minimize WQ impacts from urban runoff (implement education to reduce landscape runoff).
Task 3.2 Low Impact Development (LID) projects (rain gardens, rain barrels, vegetated buffer strips)
Task 3.3 Mark storm drains and conduct dry weather outfall monitoring

Task 4. Improve Public Awareness
Task 4.1 Disseminate WQ Data Findings (public workshops, reports)
Task 4.2 Establish Science Ambassador Program (1-3 schools per county)
Task 4.3 Stewardship Training (WQ snap-shot day, trash surveys, Adopt a monitoring site)
Task 4.4 Integrate Recreational Opportunities (hiking, biking trail maps, youth fishing days)

Task 5. Reporting
Task 5.1 Quarterly Progress Reports
Task 5.2 Final Data and Project Report

b. How these activities would benefit water quality.
Stream habitats will be protected and enhanced through community education and increased stewardship actions, runoff pollution will be reduced through restoration and implementation of LID projects, and water quality data will be generated to track long-term watershed health and determine affectiveness of management decisions.

c. The strategic importance of project if it is completed.
The Stream Team serves as a strategic model for integrating public involvement in watershed protection and improvement efforts. By leveraging citizen involvement and knowledge we accomplish low-cost watershed assessments and ecosystem restoration leading to improved water quality. Using basic concepts of scientific measurements, sampling design principles, and data quality management procedures, volunteers generate usable, reliable, scientifically-defensible data needed to make informed decisions regarding water quality impact and effective stewardship solutions.

Tributaries that drain into the Sacramento River Watershed are integral to the overall function of the Sacramento River ecosystem and are important for providing safe drinking water, ground water recharge, flood control, critical habitat for listed and endangered fish and wildlife.

Significant population growth in the Sacramento Valley is projected, thus associated sources of pollutants will become more important to pinpoint and control. A variety of cumulative impacts can stress aquatic systems and impair their beneficial functions. Non-point source pollutants, including sediment, synthetic materials from roads and automobiles, fertilizers, nutrients, sewage leaks, and animal waste, can flow from the land into creeks. Creek monitoring provides useful baseline information that can be used to track these potential impacts. Baseline information collected now tracks changes over time, identifying sources of pollutants and informing management decisions.

Citizens also have specific knowledge and expertise about their local environment, and they can provide access to areas within watersheds that would otherwise be inaccessible. In addition, their improved understanding of the ecological function of creek systems leads to increased use of pollution prevention measures. Citizen volunteers have a proven capacity to accurately and precisely perform monitoring tasks and ensure data quality objectives are achieved. Through their informed participation, crucial information is collected.

d. **Benefits to disadvantaged communities, including the demographics of the communities served and specifically identification of primary community partners**.
This project targets disadvantaged communities, which include a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds (Latino, African American, Hmong, disabled) to develop their interest and skills in watershed science. Through their participation, these experiences can lead to interest in science careers and increased participation in environmental decision-making. The community of Environmental Sciences lacks diversity, and outreach to disadvantaged communities is needed to address this discrepancy. This is especially important due to the fact that environmental degradation is often greatest in disadvantaged communities. Natural resource management is a growing area of career opportunity, yet these diverse communities are not represented within the field. This project will help citizens (and youth) from disadvantaged communities explore career opportunities in science, which can lead to increased cultural and socioeconomic diversity within the discipline.

Questions (2 and 3) Combined: **Project Budget/Deliverables/Schedule:**
Project Budget is based on a 1-Year Budget of $15K per county (one watershed/county/disadvantaged community) and can be scaled accordingly as needed to reduce the number of watersheds included, and/or a reduction in tasks as appropriate budget becomes available.

Task 1. **Water Quality (WQ) Monitoring**
Task 1.1 Document baseline WQ conditions (update monitoring plan and QAPP)
Task 1.2 Document that WQ standards are being met (compare with basin plan/TMDL criteria).

Budget: $6K
Deliverables: Updated Monitoring Plan, QAPP, Data Summaries w/basin plan objectives described
Timeline: Quarterly (from start date)

Task 2. **Watershed Assessment, Planning, and Protections**
Task 2.1 Enhance communications and coordination among stakeholders (host meetings/workshops)
Task 2.2 Assess effectiveness of IRWMP efforts (provide pre-post IRWMP project data)
Task 2.3 Manage invasive species (facilitate invasive plant removal/native planting events)
Task 2.4 Improve riparian and fish habitats (creek clean-ups, remove fish barriers)
Task 2.5 Improve foothill/forest management (wet-weather dirt road survey/tours)

Budget: $3K
Deliverables: workshop attendance list, agenda, announcement, pre and post RWMP monitoring site established and monitored, attendance list and schedule of events (invasive plant removal/planting events/creek clean-ups, dirt road survey)
Timeline: Quarterly (from start date)

Task 3. **Pollution Prevention**
Task 3.1 Minimize WQ impacts from urban runoff (implement education to reduce landscape runoff).
Task 3.2 Low Impact Development (LID) projects (rain gardens, rain barrels, vegetated buffer strips)
Task 3.3 Mark storm drains and conduct dry weather outfall monitoring

Budget: $2K
Deliverables: List of LID projects implemented, # of storm drains marked, copies of runoff education materials and site plans.
Timeline: Quarterly (from start date)

Task 4. **Improve Public Awareness**
Task 4.1 Disseminate WQ Data Findings (public workshops, reports)
Task 4.2 Establish Science Ambassador Program (1-3 schools per county)
Task 4.3 Stewardship Training (WQ snap-shot day, trash surveys, Adopt a monitoring site)
Task 4.4 Integrate Recreational Opportunities (hiking, biking trail maps, youth fishing days)

Budget: $2K
Deliverables: List of participants, List of Youth and participating schools, schedule of events, maps
Timeline: Quarterly (from start date)

Task 5. **Reporting**
Task 5.1 Quarterly Progress Reports
Task 5.2 Final Data and Project Report

Budget: $2K
Deliverables: Quarterly Progress Reports, Final Report
Timeline: Quarterly Reports (from start date), and Final Report (3 months from end date)

3) Specify Deliverables and Timeline for Project Activities:

Provided above.

4) Address the Following Questions or Statements:

a. **Is this project independently required by any discharger or is this project proposed as mitigation to offset the impacts of any discharger's project(s)?** No

b. **How will this project benefit or study groundwater or surface water quality or quantity, and the beneficial uses of the State of California?** This project protects the beneficial uses of the Sacramento River, by reducing runoff pollution and improving public understanding of water quality issues, and solutions.

c. **Include a statement that this project shall not directly benefit the State Water Board, or Regional Water Board functions or staff.** This project does not directly benefit the State Water Board or Regional Board functions or staff, and is not required as mitigation or as a result of a discharge fine.

d. **Have funds for this project been provided by, or are any requests for funding pending with, any voter-approved propositions, sources related to section 319 of the Clean Water Act, or other Grant Programs or Funding Sources? If so, describe such other received or pending funding, and describe how it is not duplicative of the funds being sought in this project proposal.** Although in-kind contributions have been identified to support this project, there is no additional or pending funding available to support this effort.