Watershed Restoration Grant Opportunity for Cross-Border Urban Creeks and Watersheds Environmental Projects

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Office of the Secretary

CalEPA
California Environmental Protection Agency
Proposition 1, 2014

• Voters approved The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)

• Authorizes $7,545 billion in general obligation bonds to fund ecosystems and watershed protection and restoration, water supply infrastructure projects, including surface and groundwater storage, and drinking water protection

• Provides funding to implement the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan:
  1. More reliable water supplies
  2. Restoration of important species and habitat
  3. More resilient, sustainably managed water resources system
California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

CDFW supports two Restoration Grant Programs as outlined in Chapter 6, Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters, and Watersheds, of Proposition 1.

Funding distributed over 10 grant round years (2015-2025):

1. The **Watershed Restoration Grant Program** focuses on water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects of statewide importance outside of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. $285,000,000

2. The **Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program** focuses on water quality, ecosystem restoration, and fish protection facilities that benefit the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. $87,500,000
Watershed Restoration Grants add Cross-Border Criteria

- 2015 Assembly Bill 965, Chapter 668 (Garcia)
  - This bill requires the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish criteria to fund watershed restoration projects that **improve conditions for cross-border urban creeks and watersheds**.

- Ongoing coordination between CDFW and CalEPA’s California-Mexico Border Affairs Office

- Guiding Documents:
  - California Water Action Plan
  - Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team Recovery Strategy

- 2017 Outreach Workshops hosted by CDFW throughout Southern California

- 2017 Solicitation now available – applications due July 14, 2017 (includes priority for Cross-Border Urban Creeks and Watersheds, reference to Recovery Team projects)
Chapter 6 - Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds ($1.5B)

Watershed Restoration Grants ($285 M total; ~$24 M awarded annually)

Projects must meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Cross Border urban creeks and watersheds
- Protect and Restore Mountain Meadow Ecosystems
- Manage Headwaters for Multiple Benefits
- Protect and Restore Anadromous Fish Habitat
- Protect and Restore Coastal Wetland Ecosystems

CDFW ($372.5M)

Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program ($87.5 M)
Proposition 1 – Funding Overview

Total Prop 1 Funding $7.1 Billion

- Water System Operational Improvement & Drought Preparedness
- Clean, Safe and Reliable Drinking Water
- Water Recycling
- Regional Water Security, Climate and Drought Preparedness
- Ground Water Sustainability

Ch. 6
Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters & Watersheds

$1.5 Billion
Proposition 1 – Ch. 6 Overview

- CA Natural Resources Agency, $495
- Department of Fish and Wildlife, $372.5
- Los Angeles River Conservancy, $100.0
- Delta Conservancy, $50
- Coastal Conservancy, $100.5
- Wildlife Conservation Board, $200
- Other Conservancies & OPC, $177
Watershed Restoration Grant Types

1. Acquisition
   • Purchases of land and interests in land or water.

2. Planning
   • Support necessary activities that lead to future on-the-ground implementation projects, including environmental review, design, and project development.

3. Implementation
   • Construction of restoration and enhancement projects and new or enhanced facilities.
Watershed Restoration Grant Types

1. Acquisition
2. Planning
3. Implementation

Distribution of Watershed Restoration Funds by Project Topic:
- Anadromous Salmonid Habitat: 45%
- Mountain Meadow: 10%
- Headwaters: 20%
- Coastal Wetlands: 25%

Distribution of Watershed Restoration Funds by Project Type:
- Implementation: 60%
- Acquisition: 20%
- Planning: 20%
Questions?

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