#### **ACCESS AGREEMENT**

# AGREEMENT REGARDING ACCESS TO AND USE OF REAL PROPERTY IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT AND MAINTAIN A HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT

# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND AMERICAN RIVERS, INC.

This Access Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by American Rivers, Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the law of the District of Columbia ("the Nonprofit Organization"), and Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, a body corporate and politic created under the laws of the State of California ("the District").

#### PERTINENT FACTS

- A. The District owns certain real property ("the Property"), located in City of Brentwood, Contra Costa County, California, as shown in Attachment A, which is incorporated by reference and attached.
- B. The Nonprofit Organization is an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the California Public Resources Code.
- C. The District has willingly partnered with the Nonprofit Organization to implement a multi-benefit flood management and ecosystem restoration project, the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project ("the Project"). The purpose of the Project is to convert a denuded flood control channel into a healthy riparian corridor without compromising the channel's abilities to safely convey floodwaters.
- D. The Nonprofit Organization has been awarded a grant from the California State Coastal Conservancy ("Coastal Conservancy"), an agency of the State of California established under Division 21 of the Public Resources Code to undertake the Project on the Property. The implementation, maintenance, and completion of the Project are detailed in the grant agreement between the Coastal Conservancy and the Nonprofit Organization ("Grant Agreement"), a copy of which is attached to this Agreement as Attachment B.
- E. In order to protect the public interest in any improvement or development constructed under the Grant Agreement, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 31116(c), the Nonprofit Organization and the District have entered into an agreement for implementation, maintenance, and completion of the Project.
- F. The District certifies that there are no other encumbrances on or rights affecting the Property that would prevent or adversely impact Project implementation.

# In light of the Pertinent Facts above, THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION AND THE DISTRICT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. **<u>DURATION</u>**. This Agreement shall take effect when fully executed, on the date last signed below, and shall run until January 31, 2042 unless the Agreement is terminated earlier by mutual agreement in writing by the parties, with the written consent of the Executive Officer of the Coastal Conservancy.
- 2. <u>AUTHORITY TO PROCEED</u>. The Nonprofit Organization may implement, monitor, and maintain the Property in fulfillment of the Project as described in the Grant Agreement. The Nonprofit Organization may assign without novation the responsibility to implement, monitor, and maintain the Project on the Property.
- 3. <u>DISTRICT MAINTENANCE OF THE PROJECT</u>. Upon completion of Project implementation, and following the revegetation establishment period, the District agrees to maintain the Project for at least the term of this agreement.
- 4. <u>DISTRICT'S USE OF THE PROPERTY</u>. The Property is a corridor primarily used for flood management. Except as provided in this paragraph, the District reserves the right to use the Property in any manner, provided that its use does not unreasonably interfere with the Nonprofit Organization's rights under this Agreement or the Project. During the term of this Agreement, the District shall use the Property in a manner consistent with the purposes and the functioning of the Project. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement does not restrict the District's ability to respond to regulatory orders regarding flood management by agencies with jurisdiction on the Property, or limit flood management activities on the Property that the District reasonably determines are necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.
- 5. CONSTRUCTIVE NOTICE. The terms, conditions and restrictions of this Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure to, the benefit of the parties hereto and their personal representatives, heirs, successors, including any purchasers and subsequent owners or occupants of the Property, and assigns and shall continue for the duration of this Agreement. The District shall notify prospective buyers, lessees, or operators of the Property of this Agreement.
- 6. ACCESS BY THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. The Nonprofit Organization shall have access to the Property under the terms and conditions of a District encroachment permit to accomplish the purposes of this Agreement, including monitoring, during the entire term of this Agreement. The District shall issue the encroachment permit to the Nonprofit Organization prior to the commencement of construction, upon the Nonprofit Organization's agreement in writing to District's conditions. Permit issuance shall not be unreasonably withheld.

- 7. **INSPECTION**. The Nonprofit Organization and the District shall allow the Coastal Conservancy, its agents or employees, to visit the Project site at agreed-upon intervals, but not less than once every year, during the term of this Agreement to determine whether the site is being restored and maintained in a manner consistent with the Grant Agreement.
- 8. <u>LIABILITY</u>. The Nonprofit Organization shall be responsible for, indemnify and save harmless the District, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, damages or costs liabilities arising from Nonprofit Organization's acts or omissions under this Agreement that are connected with or incident to the Project on the Property, except for active negligence of the District, its officers, agents or employees. The duty to indemnify and save harmless includes the duty to defend as set forth in Civil Code Section 2778. Nonprofit Organization's obligation to defend and indemnify District shall not include any amounts paid an Indemnified Party by an insurer as compensation for a claim or any amounts paid by a third party as payment for the claim.
- 9. MITIGATION. The Nonprofit Organization and the District shall not use the Project as mitigation to compensate for adverse changes to the environment elsewhere. Without the written permission of the Coastal Conservancy's Executive Officer, the District and the Nonprofit Organization shall not use or allow the use of any portion of the Property on which the Coastal Conservancy has funded construction of the Project to be used for mitigation to compensate for adverse changes to the environment elsewhere.
- 10. <u>COUNTERPARTS</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and by the parties in separate counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same agreement. This Agreement may also be delivered by facsimile or electronic mail transmission (in PDF or similar format) with the same force and effect as if an original executed counterpart "hard" copy of this Agreement had been delivered by the delivering party.

## 11. **AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**.

## IT IS SO AGREED,

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	AMERICAN RIVERS, INC.
By: Brian M. Balbas Chief Engineer	By: Wm. Robert Irvin President and CEO
Date:	Date:  By:  Kristin May
	Chief Financial Officer  Date:
Approved as to Form:	
California State Coastal Conservancy	
Date:	

## 11. **AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**.

# IT IS SO AGREED,

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	AMERICAN RIVERS, INC.
By: Brian M. Balbas Chief Engineer  Date:	By:  Wm. Robert Irvin  President and CEO  Date: 5/19/2020
	By: Kristin May Chief Financial Officer  Date:
Approved as to Form:	
California State Coastal Conservancy  Date:	

## 11. **AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**.

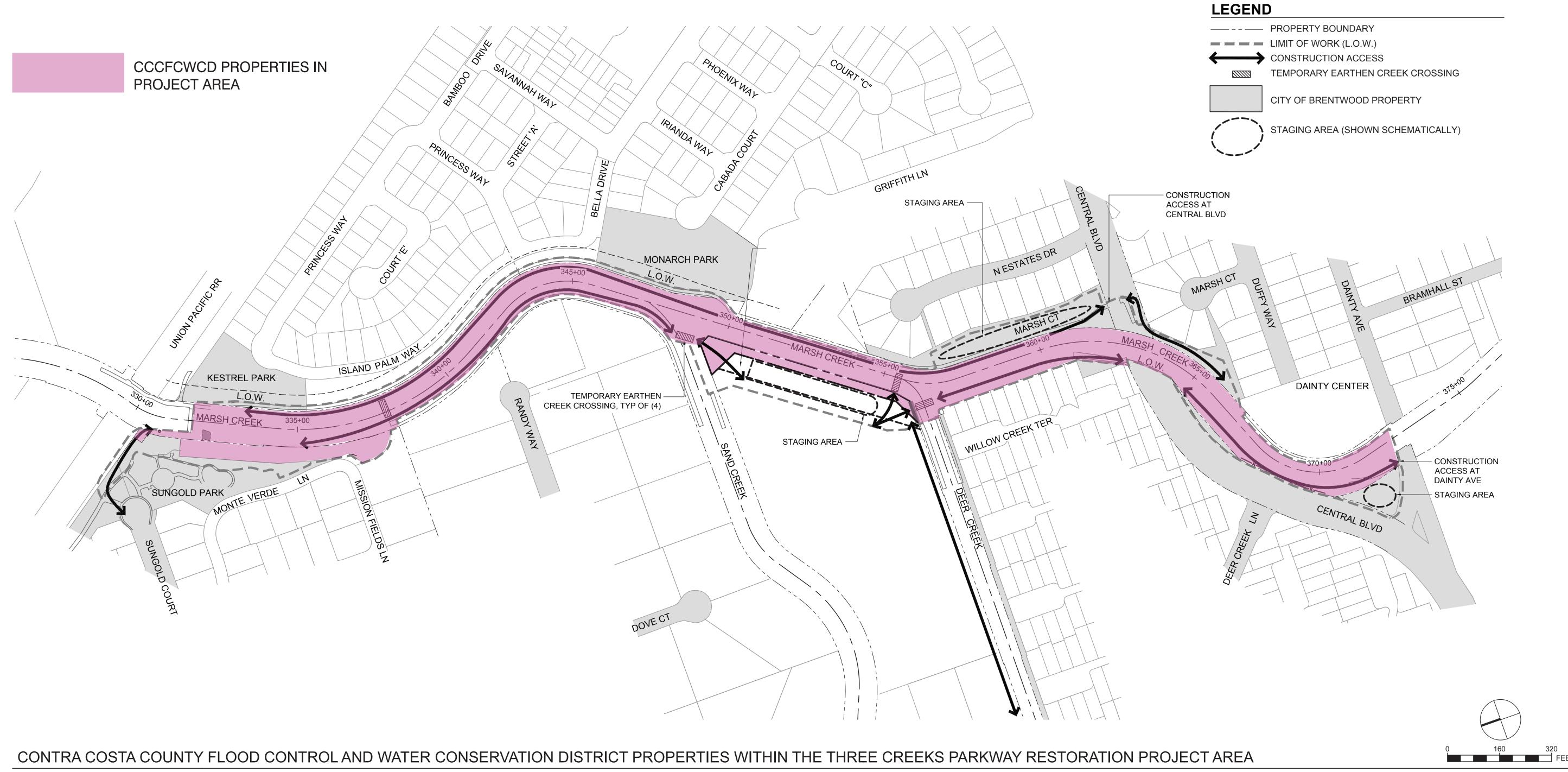
## IT IS SO AGREED,

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT	AMERICAN RIVERS, INC.
By: Brian M. Balbas Chief Engineer Date:	By: Wm. Robert Irvin President and CEO  Date:
	By:
Approved as to Form:	
California State Coastal Conservancy  Date:	

Attachments: A & B

## **ATTACHMENT A**

Map of the Property



## **ATTACHMENT B**

**Grant Agreement** 



AGREEMENT NUMBER	AM. NO.
19-049	
TAXPAYERS FEDERAL EM	PLOYER
23-730596	3

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THIS AGREEMENT, made a n the State of California, by	and entered into this and between State o	day of Man	uly elect	2017		ified and actii	ng
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Executive Officer		State Coastal Con	servano	У	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	, hereafter calle	ed the Conservancy, and
GRANTEE'S NAME American Rivers, Inc.						, hereafter call	ed the Grantee.
The Grantee, for and in conside	ration of the covenants.	conditions, agreements, ar	nd stipulat	ions of the C	Conservancy	hereinafter ex	pressed, does hereby agree
as follows:	a araca ar i cara						
SCOPE OF AGREE	VIENT						
Conservancy") hereby fifty thousand dollars) Parkway Project ("the is incorporated by refe	, subject to this ag project") at Mars crence and attache	greement. The grant sh Creek in Brentwood.  (Continued on the	ee shal od, Coi	l use thes atra Costa	se funds t a County	to complete	e the Three Creeks
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, th	is agreement has been	executed by the parties her	eto, upon	the date firs		ten. RANTEE	
AGENCY	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		GRANTEE (If other than an individual, state whether a corporation, partnership, etc.)				
State Coastal Conservancy		American Rivers, Inc.					
BY (Authorized Signature)		BY (Authorized Signature)					
PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING		PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING					
Samuel Schuchat, Ex	ecutive Officer		Kristin May, Chief Financial Officer			cer	
ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER 1515 Clay Street, 10 <sup>t</sup>	h Floor		ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER 1101 14 <sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 1400				
Oakland, CA 94612	1 1001		Washington, DC 20005				
	Pho	ne: (510) 286-1015					one: (510) 809-8010
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PRIOR AMOUNT ENCUMBERED FOR THIS AGREEMENT	FUND ITEM			CHAPTER	STATUTE	FISCAL YEAR	General Services' approval.
. \$-0-	3760-101-6083	00007(B5862)		23	2019	19/20	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCUMBERED TO DATE	PROJECT NAME				1	L	/
\$450,000.00		arkway at Marsh Cre					Erinda Corpuz
I hereby certify upon my own pe	rsonal knowledge that bud	geted funds are available for the	e period an	d purpose of t	he expenditur	e stated above.	Procurement and Contracts Manager
SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNTING OFF	ICER			DATE /	1		- John asia Managor

☐ PROJECT MANAGER

#### **SCOPE OF AGREEMENT** (Continued)

The Three Creeks Parkway Project consists of widening approximately 4,000 linear feet of the Marsh Creek flood control channel, creating a new floodplain along the low flow portion of the channel, and restoring approximately 12.5 acres by planting native riparian and upland vegetation. The project also includes improving the Marsh Creek Trail and building a pedestrian underpass under Central Avenue that will improve safety for trail users.

The grantee shall carry out the project in accordance with this agreement and a work program, as provided in the "WORK PROGRAM" section, below. The grantee shall provide \$485,780 and any funds beyond those granted under this agreement which are needed to complete the project.

# CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONSTRUCTION AND DISBURSEMENT

The grantee shall not begin construction of the project and the Conservancy shall not be obligated to disburse any funds unless and until the following conditions precedent have been met:

- 1. The Board of Directors of the grantee has adopted a resolution designating positions whose incumbents are authorized to negotiate and execute this agreement and amendments to it on behalf of the grantee.
- 2. The Executive Officer of the Conservancy ("the Executive Officer") has approved in writing:
  - a. A work program for the project, as provided in the "WORK PROGRAM" section, below.
  - b. A plan for installation of signs and acknowledgment of Conservancy support, as provided in the "SIGNS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT" section, below.
  - c. All contractors that the grantee intends to retain in connection with the project. The grantee must provide written evidence to the Conservancy that each contractor has complied with the bonding requirements described in the "BONDING" section, below.
- 3. The grantee has provided written evidence to the Conservancy that:
  - a. All permits and approvals necessary to the completion of the project under applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations have been obtained.
  - b. The grantee has provided for required insurance coverage, including additional insured endorsement, as described in the "INSURANCE" section, below.

# CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONSTRUCTION AND DISBURSEMENT (Continued)

- c. The grantee has entered into all agreements necessary to implement, operate, and maintain the project with all applicable project partners, landowners, and easement holders including but not limited to the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), the City of Brentwood (City), and private landowner(s). Such agreements shall include a prohibition on the use of the project for mitigation consistent with the "Mitigation" section of this agreement.
- 4. The grantee, the Conservancy, and the owners of property on which improvements or facilities will be constructed under this agreement, have entered into, and the grantee has recorded, agreements to protect the public interest in such improvements or facilities, as required by Public Resources Code section 31116(c).

Notwithstanding the above, the grantee may begin to prepare plans, specifications and engineering work, and other pre-construction tasks, upon meeting conditions precedent 1, 2a, 2b, and 2c as pertaining to contractors hired for those tasks, and 3b. All other work may proceed upon full completion of all other Conditions Precedent.

### ADDITIONAL GRANT CONDITIONS

The grantee shall also meet the following conditions:

Prior to the release of funds for construction, the grantee shall provide evidence of completion of the following:

Riparian Area Monitoring Plan. A plan to collect and report monitoring data in a manner that is compatible and consistent with the Statewide Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Program framework (currently available at: <a href="https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring\_council/wetland\_workgroup/index.html">https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring\_council/wetland\_workgroup/index.html</a>) Baseline Condition Report. A "Level 2" baseline riparian assessment utilizing the California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) within the year prior to the beginning of project construction, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing by the Conservancy and the grantee. (More information is available at <a href="http://www.cramwetlands.org/">http://www.cramwetlands.org/</a>). The CRAM assessment shall be completed by a certified CRAM practitioner and the data shall be uploaded at <a href="http://www.cramwetlands.org/">http://www.cramwetlands.org/</a>)

1. The Publication of Project Information. The grantee shall upload project information, including periodic monitoring data, to the project tracker for "EcoAtlas," an online database and web-based viewer of stream and wetland maps, restoration information, and monitoring results (currently available at <a href="https://ptrack.ecoatlas.org/">https://ptrack.ecoatlas.org/</a>), to track project information and aggregate data.

#### ADDITIONAL GRANT CONDITIONS (Continued)

(More information is available at <a href="http://www.cramwetlands.org/">http://www.cramwetlands.org/</a>). The CRAM assessment shall be completed by a certified CRAM practitioner and the data shall be uploaded at <a href="http://www.cramwetlands.org/">http://www.cramwetlands.org/</a>

- 3. The Publication of Project Information. The grantee shall upload project information, including periodic monitoring data, to the project tracker for "EcoAtlas," an online database and web-based viewer of stream and wetland maps, restoration information, and monitoring results (currently available at <a href="https://ptrack.ecoatlas.org/">https://ptrack.ecoatlas.org/</a>), to track project information and aggregate data.
- 4. Plan for Completion of Post-Construction CRAM Assessment. A budget and timeline for the collection of at least one additional CRAM assessment following construction of the project and prior to the completion date of the grant agreement in order to document the change in wetland condition at the project site.

#### TERM OF AGREEMENT

This agreement shall take effect when signed by both parties and received in the offices of the Conservancy together with the resolution described in the "CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONSTRUCTION AND DISBURSEMENT" section of this agreement. An authorized representative of the grantee shall sign the first page of the originals of this agreement in ink.

This agreement shall run from its effective date through January 31, 2042 ("the termination date") unless otherwise terminated or amended as provided in this agreement. However, all work shall be completed by January 31, 2024 ("the completion date"). The grantee shall submit a final Request for Disbursement no later than March 15, 2024.

#### **AUTHORIZATION**

The signature of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy on this agreement certifies that at its August 22, 2019 meeting, the Conservancy adopted the resolution included in the staff recommendation attached as Exhibit B. This agreement is executed under that authorization.

#### Standard Provisions

#### **WORK PROGRAM**

Before beginning construction, the grantee shall submit a detailed work program to the Executive Officer for review and written approval of its consistency with the purposes of this grant agreement. The work program shall include:

- 1. Construction plans and specifications which have been certified by a licensed architect or registered engineer, or approved by the grantee's Public Works Director.
- 2. A schedule of completion for the project specifically listing the completion date for each project component and a final project completion date.
- 3. A detailed project budget. The project budget shall describe all labor and materials costs of completing each component of the project, including the grantee's labor and materials costs and costs to be incurred under a contract with any third party retained by the grantee for work under this agreement. For each project component, the project budget shall list all intended funding sources, including the Conservancy's grant, the grantee's required contribution and all other sources of monies, materials, or labor. The grantee shall review the plans on-site with Conservancy staff.
- 4. A list of best management practices that will be implemented to reduce the project's greenhouse gas emissions.

If all or any part of the project to be funded under this agreement will be performed by third parties ("contractors") under contract with the grantee, then the grantee shall, prior to initiating any contractor selection process, submit the selection package, including any applicable construction plans and specifications that have been certified or approved as described above, to the Executive Officer for review and written approval as to consistency with the purposes of this grant agreement. Upon approval by the Executive Officer, the grantee shall proceed with the contractor selection process. Prior to final selection of a contractor, the grantee shall submit to the Executive Officer for written approval the names of all contractors that the grantee intends to hire. The grantee shall then comply with the above paragraph regarding submission and approval of a work program prior to construction.

The work program shall have the same effect as if included in the text of this agreement. However, the work program may be modified without amendment of this agreement upon the grantee's submission of a modified work program and the Executive Officer's written approval of it. If this agreement and the work program are inconsistent, the agreement shall control.

The grantee shall construct the project in accordance with the approved work program.

### SIGNS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Prior to beginning the project, the grantee shall submit a plan to the Executive Officer for the installation of signs and acknowledgment of Conservancy support. Except as the Executive Officer agrees otherwise, the plan shall commit the grantee to mention the Conservancy's support in its project-related press releases, contacts with the media, and social media postings, and on its website.

The grantee shall install and maintain a sign or signs visible from the nearest public roadway identifying the project, acknowledging Conservancy assistance and displaying the Conservancy's logo and directing the public to the project. The Conservancy shall provide to the grantee specifications for the signs. The signs shall also acknowledge funding from the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) by using the official logo prepared by the California Natural Resources Agency, which the Conservancy has available in various file formats. The grantee may incorporate the required information into other signs as approved by the Executive Officer. In special circumstances, where the placement of signs or the general specifications are inappropriate, the Executive Officer may approve alternative, more appropriate methods for acknowledging the sources of funding. The grantee shall submit plans describing the number, design, placement and wording of the signs, or the specifications of a proposed, alternative method. The Conservancy will withhold final disbursement until the signs are installed as approved by the Conservancy.

### **BONDING AND LIEN RELEASE**

If the grantee intends to use any contractors on any portion of the project to be funded under this agreement, construction shall not begin until each contractor has furnished a performance bond in favor of the grantee and in favor of the Conservancy, individually or as a co-obligee, in the following amounts: for faithful performance, one hundred percent (100%) of the contract value; and for labor and materials, one hundred percent (100%) of the contract value. This requirement shall not apply to any contract for less than \$20,000.

Any bond furnished under this section shall be executed by an admitted corporate surety insurer licensed in the State of California.

For work conducted on private property, the Conservancy shall not disburse to the grantee payment for obligations incurred by the grantee with respect to any contractor or subcontractor of the grantee until the grantee submits to the Conservancy a lien release corresponding to the work invoiced (and complies with the other prerequisites to payment under this agreement).

#### COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

When the Conservancy determines that all "CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONSTRUCTION AND DISBURSEMENT" have been fully met, the Conservancy shall disburse to the grantee, in accordance with the approved project budget, a total amount not to exceed the amount of this grant, as follows:

The withholding for this agreement is five percent. The Conservancy shall disburse funds for costs incurred to date, less five percent, upon the grantee's satisfactory progress under the approved work program, and upon the grantee's submission of a "Request for Disbursement" form, which shall be submitted no more frequently than monthly but no less frequently than quarterly. The Conservancy shall disburse the five percent withheld upon the grantee's satisfactory completion of construction and compliance with the "PROJECT COMPLETION" section, below, and upon the Conservancy's acceptance of the project.

The Conservancy will reimburse the grantee for expenses necessary to the project when documented by appropriate receipts. The Conservancy will reimburse travel and related expenses at actual costs not to exceed the rates provided in Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 3, Subchapter 1, Article 2 of the California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), except that reimbursement may be in excess of these rates upon documentation that these rates are not reasonably available to the grantee. Reimbursement for the cost of operating a private vehicle shall not, under any circumstance, exceed the current rate specified by the State of California for unrepresented state employees as of the date the cost is incurred. The Conservancy will reimburse the grantee for other necessary expenses if those expenses are reasonable in nature and amount taking into account the nature of the project, its location, and other relevant factors.

The grantee shall request disbursements by filing with the Conservancy a fully executed "Request for Disbursement" form (available from the Conservancy). The grantee shall include in the form its name and address, the number of this agreement, the date of the submission, the amount of the invoice, the period during which the work was actually done, and an itemized description, including time, materials, and expenses incurred of all work done for which disbursement is requested. Hourly rates billed to the Conservancy, and specified in the approved work program budget shall be equal to the actual compensation paid by grantee to employees, which may include employee benefits. The form shall also indicate cumulative expenditures to date, expenditures during the reporting period, and the unexpended balance of funds under the grant agreement.

An authorized representative of the grantee shall sign the forms. Each form shall be accompanied by:

1. All receipts and any other source documents for direct expenditures and costs that the grantee has incurred.

#### **COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS** (Continued)

- 2. Invoices from contractors that the grantee engaged to complete any portion of the work funded under this agreement and any receipts and any other source documents for costs incurred and expenditures by any such contractor, unless the Executive Officer makes a specific exemption in writing.
- 3. A supporting progress report summarizing the current status of the project and comparing it to the status required by the work program (budget, timeline, tasks, etc.) including written substantiation of completion of the portion of the project for which the grantee is requesting disbursement.

The grantee's failure to fully execute and submit a Request for Disbursement form, including attachment of supporting documents, will relieve the Conservancy of its obligation to disburse funds to the grantee until the grantee corrects all deficiencies.

# EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDING AMONG BUDGET ITEMS

The total amount of this grant may not be increased except by written amendment to this agreement. The grantee shall expend funds consistent with the approved project budget. Expenditure on items contained in the approved project budget, other than overheard and indirect costs, may vary by as much as ten percent without prior approval by the Executive Officer, provided that the grantee first submits a revised budget to the Conservancy and requests disbursement based on the revised budget. Any deviation greater than ten percent, and any deviation that shifts funds from approved budget items into an overhead or indirect costs category, must be identified in a revised budget approved in advance and in writing by the Executive Officer. The Conservancy may withhold payment for items which exceed the amount allocated in the project budget by more than ten percent and which have not received the approval required above. Any increase in the funding for any particular budget item shall mean a decrease in the funding for one or more other budget items unless there is a written amendment to this agreement.

### PROJECT COMPLETION

Within thirty days of completion of the project, the grantee shall supply the Conservancy with evidence of completion by submitting a final report which includes:

1. A report certifying completion of the project according to the approved work program, including photographs documenting project completion.

#### **PROJECT COMPLETION** (Continued)

- 2. Documentation that signs are installed as required by the "SIGNS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT" section of this agreement.
- 3. A fully executed final "Request for Disbursement."
- 4. A final inspection report by a licensed architect or registered engineer or the grantee's Public Works Director, and a copy of "as built" drawings of the completed project.
- 5. Evidence that the following activities have been completed:
  - a. Post-Construction Condition Report. A "Level 2" CRAM riparian assessment following project construction and prior to the project completion date. The CRAM assessment shall be completed by a certified CRAM practitioner and the data shall be uploaded at http://www.cramwetlands.org/.
  - b. Update Project Information. All relevant project information has been updated in the project tracker on EcoAtlas (currently available at http://ptrack.ecoatlas.org/) to reflect completion of the project.

Within thirty days of grantee's submission of the above, the Conservancy shall determine whether the grantee has satisfactorily completed the project. If so, the Conservancy shall issue to the grantee a letter of acceptance of the project. The project shall be deemed complete as of the date of the letter.

# EARLY TERMINATION, SUSPENSION AND FAILURE TO PERFORM

Before the project has commenced, either party may terminate this agreement for any reason by providing the other party with seven days notice in writing.

Before the project is complete, the Conservancy may terminate or suspend this agreement for any reason by providing the grantee with seven days notice in writing. In either case, the grantee shall immediately stop work under the agreement and take all reasonable measures to prevent further costs to the Conservancy. The Conservancy shall be responsible for any reasonable and non-cancelable obligations incurred by the grantee in the performance of this agreement prior to the date of the notice to terminate or suspend, but only up to the undisbursed balance of funding authorized in this agreement. Any notice suspending work under this agreement shall remain in effect until further written notice from the Conservancy authorizes work to resume.

If the grantee fails to complete the project as required, or fails to fulfill any other obligations of this agreement prior to the termination date, the grantee shall be liable for immediate repayment to the Conservancy of all amounts disbursed by the Conservancy under this agreement. The

# EARLY TERMINATION, SUSPENSION AND FAILURE TO PERFORM (Continued)

Conservancy may, at its sole discretion, consider extenuating circumstances and not require repayment for work partially completed. This paragraph shall not be deemed to limit any other remedies the Conservancy may have for breach of this agreement.

Before the project is complete, the grantee may terminate this agreement for any reason by providing the Conservancy with seven days notice in writing and repaying to the Conservancy all amounts disbursed by the Conservancy under this agreement. The Conservancy may, at its sole discretion, consider extenuating circumstances and allow early termination without repayment for work partially completed.

The parties expressly agree to waive, release and relinquish the recovery of any consequential damages that may arise out of the termination or suspension of this agreement under this section.

The grantee shall include in any agreement with any contractor retained for work under this agreement a provision that entitles the grantee to suspend or terminate the agreement with the contractor for any reason on written notice and on the same terms and conditions specified in this section.

### **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The grantee shall use, manage, maintain and operate the project throughout the term of this agreement consistent with the purposes for which the Conservancy's grant was made. The grantee assumes all operation and maintenance costs of these facilities and structures; the Conservancy shall not be liable for any cost of maintenance, management, or operation. The grantee may be excused from its obligations for operation and maintenance during the term of this agreement only upon the written approval of the Executive Officer.

For purposes of this agreement, "operation costs" include direct costs incurred for material and labor needed for operations, utilities, insurance, and similar expenses. "Maintenance costs" include ordinary repairs and replacements of a recurring nature necessary to prolong the life of capital assets and basic structures, and the expenditure of funds necessary to replace or reconstruct capital assets or basic structures.

### **MITIGATION**

Without the written permission of the Executive Officer, the grantee shall not use or allow the use for mitigation (in other words, to compensate for adverse changes to the environment elsewhere) of any portion of real property on which the Conservancy has funded construction. In providing permission, the Executive Officer may require that all funds generated in connection with any authorized or allowable mitigation on the real property shall be remitted promptly to the

#### MITIGATION (Continued)

Conservancy. As used in this section, mitigation includes, but is not limited to, any use of the property in connection with the sale, trade, transfer or other transaction involving carbon sequestration credit or carbon mitigation.

#### INSPECTION

Throughout the term of this agreement, the Conservancy shall have the right to inspect the project area to ascertain compliance with this agreement.

## INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS

The grantee shall be responsible for, indemnify and hold harmless the Conservancy, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, damages, or costs, including, without limitation, litigation costs and attorneys fees, resulting from or arising out of the willful or negligent acts or omissions of the grantee, its officers, agents, contractors, subcontractors, and employees, or in any way connected with or incident to this agreement, except for the active negligence of the Conservancy, its officers, agents, or employees. The duty of the grantee to indemnify and hold harmless includes the duty to defend as provided in Civil Code section 2778.

The grantee waives any and all rights to any type of express or implied indemnity or right of contribution from the State, its officers, agents, or employees, for any liability resulting from, growing out of, or in any way connected with or incident to this agreement.

Nothing in this agreement is intended to create in the public or in any member of it rights as a third-party beneficiary under this agreement.

The obligations in this "INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS" section shall survive termination of this agreement.

### INSURANCE

The grantee shall procure and maintain insurance, as specified in this section, against claims for injuries to persons and damage to property that may arise from or in connection with any activities of the grantee or its agents, representatives, employees, volunteers, or contractors associated with the project undertaken pursuant to this agreement.

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### **INSURANCE** (Continued)

As an alternative, with the written approval of the Executive Officer, the grantee may satisfy the coverage requirement in whole or in part through: (a) its contractors' procurement and maintenance of insurance for work under this agreement, if the coverage otherwise fully satisfies the requirements of this section; or (b) the grantee's participation in a "risk management" plan, self insurance program or insurance pooling arrangement, or any combination of these, if consistent with the coverage required by this section.

The grantee shall require, in agreements with the public entities and private property owners who will ultimately own the facilities and structures constructed under this agreement, that the public entities and private property owners maintain property insurance as provided in 1.(f) throughout the term of this agreement.

Any required errors and omissions liability insurance shall be maintained from the effective date through two calendar years after the completion date. The grantee shall maintain all other required insurance from the effective date through the completion date.

- 1. Minimum Scope of Insurance. Coverage shall be at least as broad as:
  - a. Insurance Services Office ("ISO") Commercial General Liability coverage, occurrence basis (Form CG 00 01) or comparable.
  - b. Automobile Liability coverage: ISO Form Number CA 0001, Code 1 (any auto).
  - c. Workers' Compensation insurance as required by the Labor Code of the State of California, and Employer's Liability insurance.
  - d. Course-of-construction (also known as "Builder's Risk") insurance covering all risks of loss. (Any proceeds of loss payable under this coverage shall be used to replace, rebuild or repair the damaged portions of the facilities and structures constructed under this agreement.)
  - e. Property insurance covering the loss, damage, or destruction of the facilities or structures constructed under this agreement against fire and extended coverage perils. (Any proceeds of loss payable under this coverage shall be used to replace, rebuild and/or repair the damaged portions of the facilities and structures constructed under this agreement.)
- 2. Minimum Limits of Insurance. The grantee shall maintain coverage limits no less than:

#### **INSURANCE** (Continued)

a. General Liability:
(Including operations, products and completed operations, as applicable)

\$2,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury and property damage. If Commercial General Liability Insurance or other form with a general aggregate limit is used, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to the activities under this agreement, or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.

b. Automobile Liability:

\$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and

property damage.

c. Worker's Compensation

As required by law with Employer's Liability of

no less than \$1,000,000

e. Course of Construction:

Completed value of the project with no coinsurance penalty provisions.

- 3. <u>Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions</u>. Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by the Executive Officer.
- 4. Required Provisions Concerning the Conservancy and the State of California.
  - a. Each insurance policy required by this section shall be endorsed to state that coverage shall not be canceled by either party, except after thirty days' prior written notice by first class mail has been given to the Conservancy; or in the event of cancellation of coverage due to nonpayment, after ten days prior written notice to the Conservancy. The grantee shall notify the Conservancy within two days of receipt of notice that any required insurance policy will lapse or be cancelled. At least ten days before an insurance policy held by the grantee lapses or is cancelled, the grantee shall provide the Conservancy with evidence of renewal or replacement of the policy.
  - b. The grantee hereby grants to the State of California, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, a waiver of any right to subrogation which any insurer of the grantee may acquire against the State of California, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance. Grantee agrees to obtain any endorsement that may be necessary to effect this waiver of subrogation, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not the grantee has received a waiver of subrogation endorsement from the insurer.

#### **INSURANCE** (Continued)

- c. The general liability and automobile liability policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:
  - (i) The State of California, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds with respect to liability arising out of automobiles owned, leased, hired or borrowed by or on behalf of the grantee; and with respect to liability arising out of work or operations, including completed operations, performed by or on behalf of the grantee including materials, parts or equipment furnished in connection with the work or operations.
  - (ii) For any claims related to this agreement, the grantee's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the State of California, its officers, agents and employees, and not excess to any insurance or self-insurance of the State of California.
  - (iii)The limits of the additional insured coverage shall equal the limits of the named insured coverage regardless of whether the limits of the named insurance coverage exceed those limits required by this agreement.
- 5. Acceptability of Insurers. Insurance shall be placed with insurers admitted to transact business in the State of California and having a current Best's rating of "B+:VII" or better or, in the alternative, acceptable to the Conservancy and approved in writing by the Executive Officer.
- 6. <u>Verification of Coverage</u>. The grantee shall furnish the Conservancy with original certificates and amendatory endorsements, or copies of the applicable policy language, effecting coverage required by this clause. All certificates and endorsements are to be received and approved by the Executive Officer before work commences. The Conservancy may require, at any time, complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements affecting the coverage.
- 7. Contractors. The grantee shall include all contractors as insureds under its policies or shall require each contractor to provide and maintain coverage consistent with the requirements of this section. To the extent generally available, grantee shall also require each professional contractor to provide and maintain Errors and Omissions Liability insurance appropriate to the contractor's profession and in a reasonable amount in light of the nature of the project with a minimum limit of liability of \$1,000,000.
- 8. <u>Premiums and Assessments</u>. The Conservancy is not responsible for premiums and assessments on any insurance policy.

#### **AUDITS/ACCOUNTING/RECORDS**

The grantee shall maintain financial accounts, documents, and records (collectively, "records") relating to this agreement, in accordance with the guidelines of "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles" ("GAAP") published by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The records shall include, without limitation, evidence sufficient to reflect properly the amount, receipt, deposit, and disbursement of all funds related to the construction and implementation of the project, and the use, management, operation and maintenance of the real property. Time and effort reports are also required. The grantee shall maintain adequate supporting records in a manner that permits tracing from the request for disbursement forms to the accounting records and to the supporting documentation.

Additionally, the Conservancy or its agents may review, obtain, and copy all records relating to performance of the agreement. The grantee shall provide the Conservancy or its agents with any relevant information requested and shall permit the Conservancy or its agents access to the grantee's premises upon reasonable notice, during normal business hours, to interview employees and inspect and copy books, records, accounts, and other material that may be relevant to a matter under investigation for the purpose of determining compliance with this agreement and any applicable laws and regulations.

The grantee shall retain the required records for a minimum of three years following the later of final disbursement by the Conservancy, and the final year to which the particular records pertain. The records shall be subject to examination and audit by the Conservancy and the Bureau of State Audits during the retention periods.

If the grantee retains any contractors to accomplish any of the work of this agreement, the grantee shall first enter into an agreement with each contractor requiring the contractor to meet the terms of this section and to make the terms applicable to all subcontractors.

The Conservancy may disallow all or part of the cost of any activity or action that it determines to be not in compliance with the requirements of this agreement.

### **COMPUTER SOFTWARE**

The grantee certifies that it has instituted and will employ systems and controls appropriate to ensure that, in the performance of this agreement, state funds will not be used for the acquisition, operation or maintenance of computer software in violation of copyright laws.

#### **NONDISCRIMINATION**

During the performance of this agreement, the grantee and its contractors shall not deny the agreement's benefits to any person on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status, nor shall they discriminate unlawfully against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status. The grantee shall insure that the evaluation and treatment of employees and applicants for employment are free of such discrimination. The grantee and contractors shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Gov. Code §12900 et seq.), the regulations promulgated thereunder (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, §11000 et seq.), the provisions of Article 9.5, Chapter 1, Part 1, Division 3, Title 2 of the Government Code (Gov. Code §§11135-11139.5), and the regulations or standards adopted by the Conservancy to implement such article. The grantee shall permit access by representatives of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing and the Conservancy upon reasonable notice at any time during the normal business hours, but in no case less than 24 hours' notice, to such of its books, records, accounts, and all other sources of information and its facilities as said Department or the Conservancy shall require to ascertain compliance with this clause. The grantee and its contractors shall give written notice of their obligations under this clause to labor organizations with which they have a collective bargaining or other agreement. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, §11105.)

The grantee shall include the nondiscrimination and compliance provisions of this clause in all contracts to perform work under this agreement.

### PREVAILING WAGE

Work done under this grant agreement may be subject to the prevailing wage and other related requirements of the California Labor Code, Division 2, Part 7, Chapter 1, sections 1720-1861. If required by law to do so, the grantee shall pay prevailing wage to all persons employed in the performance of any part of the project and otherwise comply with all associated requirements and obligations.

The grantee shall review applicable statutory provisions and the regulations adopted under the provisions and the information available on the Department of Industrial Relations website (http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Public Works.html) to determine its responsibilities. The grantee may also review the Conservancy publication, *Information on Current Status of Prevailing Wage Laws for State Coastal Conservancy Grantees (March 2015)*, available from the Conservancy on request, for additional information.

### DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

The grantee's signature on this agreement constitutes the certification required by Government Code Section 8355, which requires that all state grantees provide a drug-free workplace by doing all of the following:

- (1) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the person's or organization's workplace and specifying actions that will be taken against employees for violations of the prohibition.
- (2) Establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about all of the following:
  - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace.
  - b. The person's or organization's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
  - c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs.
  - d. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.
- (3) Requiring that each employee engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the drug-free workplace statement and that, as a condition of employment on the grant, the employee agrees to abide by the terms of the statement.

## INDEPENDENT CAPACITY

The grantee, and the agents and employees of grantee, in the performance of this agreement, shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees or agents of the State of California.

#### <u>ASSIGNMENT</u>

Without the written consent of the Executive Officer, the grantee may not assign this agreement in whole or in part.

### TIMELINESS

Time is of the essence in this agreement.

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S DESIGNEE**

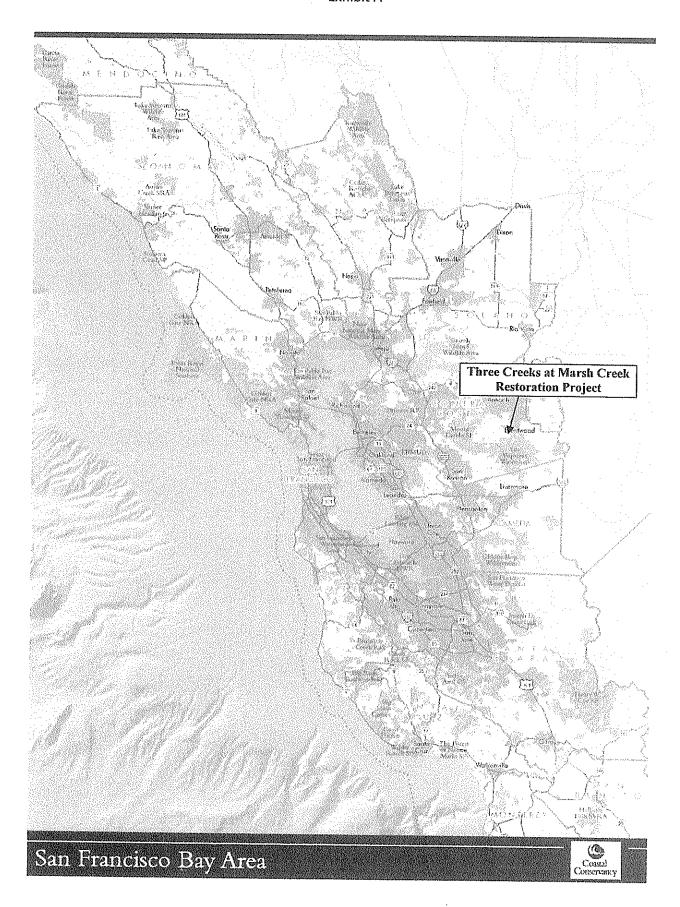
The Executive Officer shall designate a Conservancy project manager who shall have authority to act on behalf of the Executive Officer with respect to this agreement. The Executive Officer shall notify the grantee of the designation in writing.

#### **AMENDMENT**

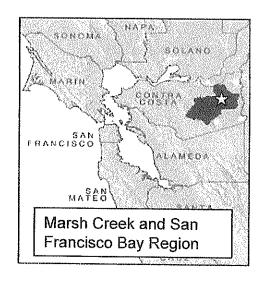
Except as expressly provided in this agreement, no changes in this agreement shall be valid unless made in writing and signed by the parties to the agreement. No oral understanding or agreement not incorporated in this agreement shall be binding on any of the parties.

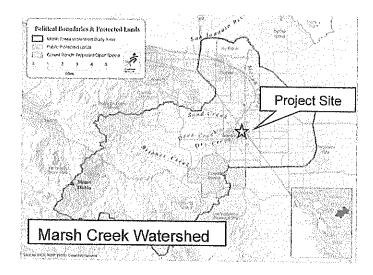
#### **LOCUS**

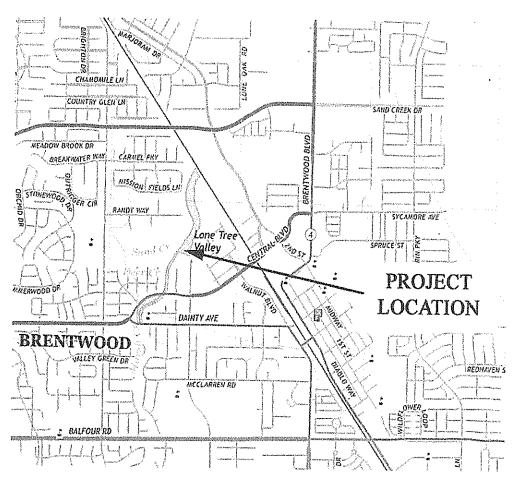
This agreement is deemed to be entered into in the County of Alameda.



#### Exhibit A







Location Map for Three Creeks Parkway

#### Exhibit B

#### **COASTAL CONSERVANCY**

#### Staff Recommendation August 22, 2019

#### Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project

Project No: 18-051-01 Project Manager: Avra Heller

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Authorization to disburse up to \$450,000 to American Rivers for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project, to restore 4,000 linear feet of riparian channel and twelve and a half acres of riparian and floodplain habitat and improve portions of the Marsh Creek Regional Trail along the Marsh Creek flood control channel in Brentwood, Contra Costa County, and the adoption of findings pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

LOCATION: Marsh Creek, Brentwood, Contra Costa County

PROGRAM CATEGORY: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy

#### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1: Project Location

Exhibit 2: Project Design and Photos

Exhibit 3: CEQA Documentation

Exhibit 4: Project Letters

#### **RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS:**

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160–31165 of the Public Resources Code:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed four hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000) to American Rivers for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project, to restore 4,000 linear feet of riparian channel and twelve and a half acres of riparian and floodplain habitat and improve portions of Marsh Creek Regional Trail along the Marsh Creek flood control channel in Brentwood, Contra Costa County, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to commencement of the project, American Rivers shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy the following:

- a. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
- b. The names and qualifications of any contractors retained in carrying out the project.
- c. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding, and Proposition 1 as the source of that funding.
- d. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
- e. Evidence that American Rivers has entered into all agreements necessary to implement, operate, and maintain the project with all applicable project partners, landowners, and easement holders.
- Prior to commencing the project, American Rivers shall enter into and record agreements that the Executive Director determines are required or necessary to protect the public interest in the project.
- 3. In implementing the project, American Rivers shall ensure compliance with all applicable impact avoidance, minimization and mitigation measures and monitoring and reporting requirements for the project that are identified in the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project, adopted by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on September 27, 2016, as well as Addendum I which was included in the Notice of Determination filed on March 29, 2019, and with any mitigation measures, monitoring, and reporting requirements required by permits, approvals or additional environmental documentation for the project."

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

- 1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
- 2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
- 3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the IS/MND and associated MMRP for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project, adopted by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on September 27, 2016, as well as Addendum 1 to that document, which was prepared in December of 2017. These documents were incorporated into the Contra Costa County Public Works Department Notice of Determination dated March 29, 2018, which is attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 3. The Conservancy finds that the project as mitigated avoids, reduces or mitigates any possible significant environmental effects to a level of less-than-significant and that there is no substantial

- evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment as that term is defined by 14 Cal. Code Regs. §15382."
- 4. American Rivers is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code."

#### PROJECT SUMMARY:

Staff recommends that the Conservancy disburse up to \$450,000 to American Rivers to implement the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project ("the project"), a multi-benefit project that will improve water quality in Marsh Creek and the San Francisco Bay Delta and provide improved habitat for a diversity of avian, fish, reptile and mammalian species. The project consists of widening a flood control channel, creating a floodplain, removing nonnative vegetation, and restoring native vegetation along stretches of the Marsh Creek. The project also includes relocating and improving 4,000 linear feet of the Marsh Creek Regional Trail, and construction of a pedestrian undercrossing under Central Avenue to reduce traffic and improve safety.

The Marsh Creek watershed, located in eastern Contra Costa County, is uniquely situated between the Delta and Mt. Diablo, providing an important ecological corridor in a rapidly urbanizing area. Marsh Creek flows 30 river miles from the eastern slope of Mt. Diablo through the cities of Brentwood and Oakley to the San Joaquin Delta at Big Break. American River's vision for Marsh Creek is a stream of clean, cold water, surrounded by stands of native trees and a spread of grasses and wildflowers—a vital and healthy habitat corridor between the Delta at Dutch Slough and Mt. Diablo State Park. Over the past decade, American Rivers has been working to achieve this vision through a variety of activities including organizing community members, implementing restoration and fish passage projects, and restoring a two-acre site along the creek. Unfortunately, 6.5 miles of the creek are still confined to a denuded, trapezoidal flood control channel with steep banks vegetated with non-native grasses and no riparian canopy.

Like many urban creeks, water quality in lower Marsh Creek is impaired by pollutants such as mercury, diazinon, E. coli, and toxic sediment. Previous studies have also identified excessive temperature, nitrates, and low dissolved oxygen as water quality problems. Improving water quality in Marsh Creek is particularly critical to providing ecological services to over 1,100 acres of planned tidal marsh restoration at the mouth of Marsh Creek, including the restoration of Dutch Slough.

Much of Marsh Creek's aquatic and riparian habitat is severely limited, with little complexity, no floodplain wetlands and no shade. The existing engineered channel does not filter or neutralize contaminants, and the Contra Costa Flood Control District's annual mowing program prevents growth of wood vegetation. High velocities during annual peak flow events, which are greatly increased by runoff from newly urbanized surfaces, presumably flush most of the egg and larval stages of aquatic species downstream. Poor water quality from urban runoff is made worse by the lack of wetlands, shade, and microbial activity in the channel.

Relatively high temperatures combined with low-dissolved oxygen levels likely contributed to five major fish kills on Marsh Creek over the last nine years.

The project consists of widening 4,000 linear feet of the Marsh Creek flood control channel, creating a new floodplain along the low flow channel, and restoring 12.5 acres by planting native riparian and upland vegetation. The project includes relocation of the existing creek side trail (a segment of the Marsh Creek Regional Trail) and construction of a pedestrian underpass under Central Avenue that will improve safety for trail users.

Restoration of 4,000 linear feet of creek channel will establish an active channel width-to-depth ratio that effectively transports sediment throughout the reach without excessive aggradation or deposition. The channel bed will be designed to improve in-stream habitat complexity. Laying back the creek banks throughout the project's reach will allow for bank stabilization and will reconnect the creek to a more natural floodplain system. This modified floodplain will improve both water quality and aquatic species' habitat by encouraging the deposition of sediments on the terrace rather than in the stream bed, and will reduce the speed of water flow, which will reduce the flushing of aquatic species' eggs and larvae downstream.

Laying the slope back will widen the creek corridor throughout the project area, translating to plantable space. 12.5 acres of riparian and upland habitat will be restored and planted with native vegetation. This new area of native vegetation will increase bank stability, encourage groundwater recharge, and in alignment with the RWCQB regulatory mandates, use natural bio-filtration methods to treat runoff and improve water quality. Native vegetation will also create improved habitat for native birds and pollinators, critical players in the full restoration of Marsh Creek's riparian habitat.

In order to create room for the creek setback, the project will reestablish a segment of Marsh Creek Regional Trail in a new footprint. Native trees will be planted along the path creating a wooded creek-side trail. The project will also create a new pedestrian underpass under Central Avenue that will greatly improve trail users' safety.

To ensure the success of the project, American Rivers' science team will oversee the development and implementation of an adaptive management and monitoring plan designed to measure the project's success at achieving the following ecological and social goals: 1) increase the area of frequently inundated floodplain and native vegetation alongside the Marsh Creek flood control channel; 2) improve water quality in Marsh Creek and discharging to the Bay-Delta estuary; 3) provide habitat for a diversity of native avian, fish, reptile, and mammal species, including Swainson's hawks and other species covered by the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP), and 4) improve trail user satisfaction. American Rivers will monitor progress toward the ecological and social objectives in accordance with best scientific practices and monitoring guidelines and requirements and will prepare and distribute annual monitoring reports. The monitoring plan will measure the survival, vigor, and diversity of the vegetation planted on the restoration site including the presence of unwanted invasive species; channel stability, erosion, and floodplain aggradation over time; the area, frequency, timing and duration of inundation on restored floodplain; changes in

water quality parameters including macroinvertebrate richness, water temperature, nutrients, methylmercury, and dissolved mercury; the presence and diversity of species using the restored site; and public opinion regarding the value of the restoration. The District will monitor the project to ensure channel stability and flood conveyance capacity. American Rivers and the District have designed the project to accommodate maximum vegetation roughness while meeting flood conveyance objectives to obviate or minimize the need for future channel maintenance for flood conveyance.

The project will be maintained for a minimum of 20 years. Some aspects of the project will be maintained by American Rivers, and American Rivers will enter into agreements with land owners, easement holders, and other project partners including the District, the City, EBRPD, and the Carmel Estates HOA to maintain other aspects of the project.

**Site Description:** The project site is located in Brentwood, on a 4,000-foot stretch of creek channel that encompasses the confluences of Marsh, Sand, and Deer Creeks – hence the name "Three Creeks Parkway." The reach upstream of Dainty Ave. was expanded and revegetated in the 1990s, but the entire creek downstream of the site, with the exception of a 900-foot, recently restored site in Oakley, is characterized by a denuded, trapezoidal channel.

The Contra Costa Flood Control District holds a 100-foot-wide right-of-way along the entire creek corridor. Along many portions of Marsh Creek, residential subdivisions back onto the District's right-of-way, making creek widening very difficult, but this proposed 4,000-foot section of the creek still has several opportunities for creating a wider, creek-oriented parkway. The vast majority of the project will occur on property the District holds rights-of-way or drainage easements over, or properties which they own in fee. The District is the lead agency for the project under CEQA and will grant formal permission for the project in the form of an encroachment permit.

Three elements of the project will occur outside of the properties the District holds easements over or owns outright. These elements will require permission from the various landowners. First, a portion of the flood control channel widening will occur on private property owned by the Carmel Estate Homeowner's Association (HOA) in what is now a water quality basin on the HOA property. The second property, the "Griffith Parcel" which is located on the west bank of the Marsh Creek flood control channel between Deer and Sand Creeks, will serve as a staging area and as a temporary stockpile for sediment dredged in the construction of this project. The Flood Control District is also in the process of purchasing a construction and maintenance access agreement across the Griffith parcel. No restoration work will occur on the Griffith Parcel. Thirdly, some restoration will occur on small parcels of City owned property between Dainty Avenue and Central Boulevard.

American Rivers and the District have met multiple times with the City of Brentwood, Carmel Estates HOA and the owner(s) of the Griffith Parcel. All landowning parties have indicated their support for the project and preliminarily agreed to make the necessary portions of their property available for the project. American Rivers expects to obtain all final legal assurances from the various landowners in 2019.

Grantee Qualifications: American Rivers is a national non-profit organization that works to restore the country's critical river and watershed basins. American Rivers has been developing aspects of the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project since 2004. In 2002, the Natural Heritage Institute (NHI), received a Conservancy grant to create the "Corridor Width Report," and the "Parcel Inventory and Conceptual Stream Corridor Master Plan for Marsh, Sand and Deer Creek," which guided this project's design. NHI staff then negotiated an agreement in 2004 with the City of Brentwood and a creek-side landowner/developer to accommodate creek restoration with a setback and linear park between Sand Creek and the Railroad. American Rivers' staff subsequently took over the project and negotiated the agreements needed to expand the project's scope and funding to its current level.

The Contra Costa Flood Control District is responsible for most of the major drainage facilities in the County and it controls the majority of the project area. American Rivers and the District have been jointly planning and raising funds for the project since July of 2015. Through that partnership the project has now obtained preliminary permission from private property owners to expand the project on the left bank into the Carmel Estates water quality basin and along the critical Hancock property between Sand and Deer Creek.

American Rivers and the Contra Costa Flood Control District have spent years collecting data on the biota, channel conditions and vegetation along Marsh Creek. In 2012, American Rivers used the same proposed restoration approach to restore a two-acre floodplain in Oakley with a unique assemblage of plants native to east Contra Costa County. American Rivers' documentation of salmon utilization of Marsh Creek dates back to the mid-1990s. The project team will continue to monitor water quality, channel habitat, and vegetation success after the project is constructed.

Created in 1934, the EBRPD, has been constructing, operating, and maintaining parks, trails and open space in the East Bay for over 80 years. The District currently manages over 121,397 acres of open space and recreation areas in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. EBRPD manages and maintains Marsh Creek Regional Trail and will continue to maintain the Trail alongside the restoration project future public access work.

Project History: The Conservancy funded a series of conservation and management plans for the restoration of Marsh Creek, including a grant to the City of Brentwood for the 2001 Past, Present and Future of the Marsh Creek Watershed report, (revised 2003), as well as a grant to the Natural Heritage Institute for the 2002 (revised 2015) Corridor Width Report, and the Parcel Inventory and Conceptual Stream Corridor Master Plan for Marsh, Sand and Deer Creek, which was later incorporated into the City of Brentwood's Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan. In 2011, the Coastal Conservancy, as well as the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife funded the East Contra Costa County Historical Ecology Study, a critical document used for the design of the proposed project.

#### **PROJECT FINANCING**

Coastal Conservancy	\$450,000
US Environmental Protection Agency	\$1,376,623
Contra Costa Flood Control District	\$2,472,793
Pamilla Project Owner, LLC / Pulte Home Corporation	\$1,000,000
Delta Conservancy	\$1,827,702
California Department of Water Resources	\$744,404
California Natural Resources Agency	\$496,731
Project Total	\$8,368,253

The expected source of funding for this authorization is an appropriation to the Conservancy from the "Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014" (Proposition 1, Division 26.7 of the Water Code, § 79700 et seq.). Funds appropriated to the Conservancy derive from Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 79730) and may be used "for multi-benefit water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and restoration projects for the watersheds of the state" (Section 79731). Section 79732(a) identifies the specific purposes of Chapter 6, of which the following pertain to this project: subsection (a)(3): restore river parkways and urban river greenways; subsection (a)(4): protect and restore aquatic, wetland and migratory bird ecosystems including fish and wildlife corridors; subsection (a)(9): protect and restore urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, protection of life and property, storm water resource management and greenhouse gas reduction; subsection (a)(11): protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management; and finally, assist in the recovery of endangered species by improving watershed health and instream flows (subsection (a)(12)).

As required by Proposition 1, the proposed project provides multiple benefits. As described above, this project will restore 4,000 feet of flood plain channel, revegetate 12.5 acres of varied riparian and upland habitat, improve water quality in Marsh Creek and the Delta; and improve a highly used, regionally significant recreational trail.

The proposed project was selected through the sixth-round (Bay Area Urban Greening) competitive grant process under the Conservancy's *Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines* adopted in June 2015 (see § 79706(a)). The proposed project meets each of the evaluation criteria in the Proposition 1 Guidelines as described in the "Project Summary" and in the "Consistency with Conservancy's Project Selection Criteria & Guidelines" sections of this report.

American Rivers has organized a wide variety of other funding sources for this project. The organization has secured a total of \$7,918,253 for this project, including a \$1,376,623 grant from the US EPA's SF Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund (\$485,780 of which the

Conservancy considers as matching funds for purposes of project scoring under the Conservancy's Proposition 1 Guidelines), two separate Delta Conservancy grants totaling \$1,827,702, \$2,472,793 from Contra Costa Flood Control District, \$744,404 from the California Department of Water Resources' Urban Streams Restoration Program, \$496,731 from the California Natural Resources Agency California River Parkways Program, and \$1,000,000 from the Pamilla Project Owner, LLC / Pulte Home Corporation.

### CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY'S ENABLING LEGISLATION:

This project is undertaken pursuant to Chapter 4.5 of the Conservancy's enabling legislation, Public Resource Code Sections 31160-31165, to address resource goals in the San Francisco Bay Area. Section 31162 of the Public Resources Code authorizes the Conservancy to undertake projects and award grants in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, including Contra Costa County, that achieve the goals of the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program. All of the proposed project area is within Contra Costa County. The proposed project will serve to achieve the objectives described in:

Section 31162(a), which authorizes the Conservancy to improve public access around the bay, coast, ridgetops, and urban open spaces through trail systems and related facilities. This project will install pedestrian and cycling improvements along Marsh Creek Trail.

Section 31162(b), which authorizes the Conservancy to protect, restore, and enhance natural habitats, connecting corridors, watersheds, scenic areas, and other open-space resources of regional significance. The proposed project will assist in the enhancement of natural habitat for a variety of listed species in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Section 31163(c), which mandates that the Conservancy use specific criteria to develop priority projects within the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program. The project meets the selection criteria under 31163(c), in that it: 1) is supported by and is consistent with adopted regional plans including the Conservancy funded 2001 Past, Present and Future of the Marsh Creek Watershed (revised 2003), the 2002 (revised 2015) Corridor Width Report, and the Parcel Inventory and Conceptual Stream Corridor Master Plan for Marsh, Sand and Deer Creek, which was later incorporated into the City of Brentwood's Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan. The project is also consistent with creek restoration recommendations identified in the East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP; the Contra Costa Flood Control District's 50 Year Plan - From Channels to Creeks; and the Delta Stewardship Council's Strategic Plan, and the Delta Plan; 2) serves a regional constituency by improving water quality discharged into the Bay-Delta, enhancing recreational opportunities along an important connector trail in east Contra Costa County, improving a critical habitat corridor linking Mt. Diablo to the Delta, and restoring riparian and flood plain habitat which may support state and federally protected regional species including Swainson's hawks and western pond turtles; 3) can be implemented in a timely manner; 4) provides the opportunity to implement this multi-benefit project that would be lost or have to be significantly scaled down if the project cannot be implemented in the near future; and 5) will include significant matching funds from the Delta Conservancy.

# CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY'S <u>2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN</u> GOAL(S) & OBJECTIVE(S):

Consistent with **Goal 12, Objective F**, of the Conservancy's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, the proposed project will enhance riparian habitats and other watershed functions and process for the benefit of wildlife.

Consistent with **Goal 13, Objective** I of the Conservancy's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, the proposed project will improve a regionally significant public trail. The existing Marsh Creek trail is heavily used and connects the Science Center at Big Beak Regional Park on the Delta Shoreline to the John Marsh House at Marsh Creek State Park.

# CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY'S PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA & GUIDELINES:

The proposed project is consistent with the Conservancy's Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines, last updated on October 2, 2014, in the following respects:

#### Required Criteria

- 1. **Promotion of the Conservancy's statutory programs and purposes:** See the "Consistency with Conservancy's Enabling Legislation" section above.
- 2. **Consistency with purposes of the funding source:** See the "Project Financing" section above.
- 3. Promotion and implementation of state plans and policies:
  - a. California @ 50 Million: The Environmental Goals and Policy Report (Governor's Office of Planning and Research, 2015) The Project is consistent with the California @ 50 Million report's pillar of natural resource stewardship. By widening Marsh Creek and restoring its floodplain and native vegetation, this project will follow the report's strategic recommendation to "build resilience into natural systems and prioritize natural and green infrastructure solutions" (pg. 23).
  - b. CA Wildlife Action Plan (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2015) The Project is in the Bay Delta-Central Coast Province of the CA Wildlife Action Plan. The restoration will enhance and restore habitats in the region for breeding, foraging and future climate-change related shifts in habitat for a variety of focal species identified in the Plan including Swainson's hawk, the western pond turtle, and the silvery legless lizard.
  - c. Habitat Conservation Plans/Natural Community Conservation Plans. The project will restore native vegetation along the creek, which will advance the goals of the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community

Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) to recover several endangered species in the region, including Swainson's hawk and western pond turtle.

- 4. Support of the public: This project has received broad public support, including support from California Assemblymember Jim Frazier, Contra Costa County Supervisor Diane Burgis, the Contra Costa County Flood Control District, the City of Brentwood, the East Bay Regional Park District, and the Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed. See "Project Letters," Exhibit 4. Wilton Rancheria responded to the Conservancy's Tribal Consultation letter, and subsequent conversations led to the Rancheria's request that a tribal monitor be hired to conduct site visits during the project's construction in addition to the CEQA-required licensed archeologist. \$49,500 of this total grant has been set aside for that purpose.
- 5. **Location:** The property is located in the City of Brentwood in Contra Costa County, within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
- 6. **Need:** This project is ready to proceed. If Coastal Conservancy funds are not secured, the project may have to be delayed unless and until additional funding is located.
- 7. Greater-than-local interest: The project will improve water quality discharged to the Bay-Delta estuary, enhance recreational opportunities along a popular trail in east Contra Costa County, and improve a habitat corridor that links Mt. Diablo to the Delta. Restoration of riparian and floodplain habitat will improve water quality in Marsh Creek and the estuary and provide a natural amenity along the most heavily used section of regional trail that connects the Science Center at Big Break on the Delta shoreline, through Oakley and Brentwood, and on to the John Marsh house at Marsh Creek State Park. The trail through the site is used by cyclists who sometime travel from the Delta to Mt. Diablo as well as a variety of pedestrians making local trips including school-aged children, parents with very young children, and exercising adults. Finally, the project will improve Marsh Creek's functionality as a wildlife corridor between two biologically important landscape features Mt. Diablo and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Numerous native special status species including Swainson's hawk, chinook salmon, western pond turtle, burrowing owl, and river otters currently use Marsh Creek and are expected to benefit from the project.
- 8. **Sea level rise vulnerability:** The project is located approximately six miles inland from the Bay shoreline, at an elevation well above sea level, and is not expected to be directly impacted by sea level rise.

#### **Additional Criteria**

- 9. Leverage: See the "Project Financing" section above.
- 10. Readiness: There has been a multi-agency, multi-year planning process to bring the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project to readiness for implementation. CEQA was completed in 2018 and American Rivers has secured funding for project monitoring and ongoing maintenance of the project. Permit applications to resource agencies have been submitted, and some permits have been secured. The project partners expect to begin project construction in May of 2020.

- 11. Realization of prior Conservancy goals: See "Project History" above.
- 12. Return to Conservancy: See the "Project Financing" section above.
- 13. **Cooperation**: As elaborated upon above, this project is complex and involves a variety of partners, most importantly, the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, EBRPD, City of Brentwood, Carmel Estates HOA, and a private land owner (Hancock).
- 14. Vulnerability from climate change impacts other than sea level rise: The Project will increase regional resilience to climate change by accommodating larger runoff events, providing shade along a creek, improving a wildlife corridor, and using native plants to improve habitat, reducing the irrigation demand of traditional landscaping. There are currently no trees at all along Marsh Creek and the adjacent regional trail. The project will strive to create a nearly continuous shade canopy along all 4,000 feet of trail and at least 2,400 linear feet of creek. The project will also enable the creek channel to convey water flows from larger flood events that are expected to occur as a result of climate change.
- 15. Minimization of greenhouse gas emissions: Over the short term, project construction will result in short-term emissions associated with ground disturbance and use of construction equipment and vehicles, but these emissions will not exceed the applicable BAAQMD thresholds of significance for construction emissions of criteria pollutants. Project proponents will implement BMPs to control fugitive dust and other construction-phase emissions. Over the long term, the project will be a sink for greenhouse gases and sequester atmospheric carbon and nitrogen. There are no plans to seek carbon credits for the restoration work on site.

#### **CEQA COMPLIANCE:**

Staff has independently reviewed and considered the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (MMRP) for the Three Creeks Parkway Restoration Project, adopted by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on September 27, 2016, as well as Addendum I to that document which was prepared in December of 2017. Contra Costa County Public Works Department submitted a Notice of Determination incorporating both documents on March 29, 2018. (Please see the MMRP on pgs. 121-137 of Exhibit 3.) The MND found potentially significant impacts under the categories of air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, and noise. The potential impacts are summarized below along with their proposed mitigation measures:

#### Air Quality

The construction contractor(s) will implement a variety of BMPs to reduce air quality impacts. These practices will include: watering exposed surfaces (parking areas, staging areas, soil stockpiles, unpaved access roads, etc.); covering all loose material that is hauled off-site; removing visible mud and dirt tracked out to adjacent public roads with wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once daily; prioritizing the completion of paving roadways, driveways, and sidewalks; limiting vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15mph; keeping all

construction equipment maintained and tuned; reducing idling time to a max 5 minutes; all diesel-powered equipment larger than 50 horsepower on site for more that two continuous days shall meet US EPA emissions standards for Tier 2 engines; and finally posting a publicly visible sign with Lead Agency's point of contact for dust complaints, as well as a contact number for the air District. All of the measure listed here and in the MMRP will be included in related construction contracts.

#### **Biological Resources**

To avoid and minimize impacts to California red-legged frog, Pacific (Western) pond turtle, and silvery legless lizard during construction activities, the project will implement the following measures:

- The project proponent shall apply for coverage under the HCP/NCCP. Participation in the HCP/NCCP, including implementation of appropriate avoidance and minimization measures and payment of applicable fees would provide the project proponent with incidental take coverage for California red-legged frog, Pacific (Western) pond turtle, and silvery legless lizard.
- Seasonal Avoidance. If required by the Streambed Alteration Agreement or Water Quality Certification, work shall be limited to the dry season, from April 15 to October 15.
- Minimize Nighttime Work. If required by the Streambed Alteration Agreement or Water Quality Certification, nighttime construction shall be restricted to avoid effects on nocturnally active species such as California red-legged frog.
- Environmental Awareness Program. Prior to the commencement of construction activities, a qualified biologist shall present an environmental awareness program to all construction personnel working on site. At a minimum the training should include a description of special-status species that could be encountered, their habitats, regulatory status, protective measures, work boundaries, lines of communication, reporting requirements, and the implications of violations of applicable laws.
- Wildlife Exclusion Fencing. Prior to the start of construction, wildlife exclusion fencing (WEF) shall be installed consistent with the HCP/NCCP to isolate the work area from any habitats potentially supporting special-status animals or through which such species may move. The final project plans shall indicate where and how the WEF is to be installed. The bid solicitation package special provisions shall provide further instructions to the contractor about acceptable fencing locations and materials. The fencing shall remain throughout the duration of the work activities, be regularly inspected and properly maintained by the contractor. Fencing and stakes shall be completely removed following project completion.
- Erosion Control. Graded areas will be protected from erosion using a combination of silt fences, fiber rolls, and erosion control netting. All fill and erosion control materials will be certified to be non-toxic and weed free. Additionally, plastic mono-filament netting shall not be used within the project area. Acceptable materials will include coconut coir matting, hydroseeding, blown straw, and other organic mulching materials.

To minimize impacts to Chinook salmon and steelhead, the following measures will be implemented:

- Seasonal avoidance. In-stream work will be limited from June 1 October 31.
- If in-stream construction or dewatering is required, a qualified biologist will be retained to implement the following measures:
  - a. A preconstruction aquatic survey will be conducted
  - b. Present an environmental awareness program on site, and monitor all instream activities.
  - c. If dewatering is proposed monitor the installation of coffer dams, and check for stranded aquatic wildlife. Dewatering pumps will be fitted with intake screens fitted with mesh no greater than 5mm, and BMPs will be installed to minimize sediment transport during the installation of the dams.
  - d. Native (non-special-status fish spp.) will be relocated up or down stream of the coffer dams. All non-native spp. will be euthanized according to CDFW guidance. If listed salmonids are present NMFS shall be consulted to determine appropriate measures to ensure conformance with ESA. All wildlife encounters will be documented and reported to CDFW.

In order to avoid impacts to nesting Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, burrowing owls, loggerhead shrike, and other bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California's Fish and Game Code (CFGC), a series of mitigation measures will be implemented:

- A qualified biologist will be retained to implement all measures below including presenting an environmental awareness program prior to construction which will include descriptions of special-status species that could be encountered, their habitats, regulatory status, protective measures, work boundaries, and implications of violation of various applicable laws.
- Swainson's hawk is federally listed and is covered under the HCP/NCCP. Every effort should be taken to ensure that no take occurs. Those steps will include:
  - a. Project proponent will apply for coverage under the HCP/NCCP
  - b. Prior to any ground disturbance during nesting season (March 15 September 15), no more than one month prior to construction the qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey will determine if there are any active Swainson's hawk nests within 1,000 ft. of the project site.
  - c. If an active nest is present construction activities are not permitted within 1,000 feet of occupied nest. The qualified biologist can coordinate with CDFW and USFWS as to whether specific conditions warrant a smaller buffer.
  - d. Construction activities can proceed prior to September 15 if biologist determines that the young Swainson's hawks have fledged.

White-tailed kite is a state-listed fully protected species, not covered under the HCP/NCCP. Loggerhead shrike is a state species of special concern; it is not covered under the HCP/NCCP. Incidental take of these birds is not allowed. Burrowing owl is a State species of concern and a

covered species under the HCP/NCCP, to ensure that no take occurs the measures outlined below will be implemented:

- Prior to the removal or significant pruning of any trees, the qualified biologist will inspect them for the presence of raptor nests. This is required year-round. CDFW will be notified if a suspected raptor nest is discovered, and that agency will determine pursuant to CFGC Section 3503.5 whether the tree can be removed.
- Prior to any ground disturbance during nesting season (February 1 August 31), no more than two weeks prior to construction, the qualified biologist will conduct a preconstruction survey and will determine if there are any active white-tailed kite or other migratory raptor nests within 250 ft. of the project site, and whether there are any active nests of loggerhead shrikes or other migratory passerine nests within 100 ft. of the project site. The biologist will also conduct a survey of all suitable burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted by the project. The survey shall be performed no more than 30 days prior to construction to determine if there are any active burrowing owl nests within 500 ft. of the project site.
- Construction activities are not permitted within the 250 ft. perimeter (or 100-foot premier for loggerhead shrike and other passerines) of an occupied nest. However, should site-specific conditions warrant a smaller buffer, the qualified biologist will coordinate with CDFW and/or USFWS to determine appropriate buffer size. Burrowing owl nest sites must be flagged and protected by a designated disturbance-free buffer zone of at least 250 ft.
- Construction activities can proceed prior to August 31 if the biologist determines that the young birds have fledged.
- Burrowing owls may be passively excluded from occupied burrows outside of breeding season (i.e. September 1- January 31) in consultation with CDFW. Passive exclusion is achieved by installing one-way doors on burrow entrances. Doors should be in place for at least 48 hours and monitored to ensure that the nest has been abandoned before construction commences.

In order to avoid, minimize and compensate for unavoidable impacts on waters of the U.S./waters of the State a variety of measures will be implemented. Staff is highlighting some of the measures below, a full list of measures can be found in the MMRP in Exhibit 3 (pg. 129-133).

- Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District will obtain coverage under the HCP/NCCP and include BMPs in all relevant construction contracts. Those BMPs will include:
  - a. Grading will be restricted to an elevation above the Ordinary High Water Mark, and long-term impacts will be minimized by limiting the use of hardened structures in preference of bio-engineering solutions as much as is practicable.
  - Prior to construction the project will secure all necessary authorizations and permits.
  - c. BMPs will be incorporated into all work within and adjacent to the stream channel and riparian habitat, including:



- Construction staff will be trained by a qualified biologist in avoidance and minimization measures
- If dewatering is necessary, water released downstream of work areas must be as clean or cleaner than water flowing into the work area. The MMRP elaborates on specific methods to filter and settle sediment before releasing the water downstream (Exhibit 3, pg. 130).
- Grading or construction near channels will be isolated with silt fencing and other BMPs to prevent sedimentation. BMPs will be regularly inspected.
- Equipment working in channels must be in good working order and free of leaks of fuel, oil, and hydraulic fluids. Drip pans will be placed under vehicles and equipment over waterways, and spill and cleanup materials will be kept onsite.
- Newly graded earthen channel slopes will be revegetated with a native seed mix developed by a qualified restorationist. Seed mixtures applied for erosion control shall not contain invasive nonnative species and must be composed of native species or sterile nonnative species. Mulch will also be applied to all bare surfaces. Mulch and seed mix must be applied prior to the first winter-season rains.

#### **Cultural Resources**

To prevent impacts on cultural resources, the District will retain a qualified archaeologist who will implement the measures identified in the MMRP (Exhibit 3, pg. 133-135).

- A qualified archeologist will train all construction crew workers in reasons for archeological monitoring, regulatory policies and procedures, basic identification of archeological resources, and protocol to follow in case such resources are discovered, conduct initial monitoring, and determine the appropriate level of monitoring for the duration of the project.
- The archeologist will be present on the project site to monitor ground disturbing activities and inspect excavated soils to identify any cultural resources and human remains.
- Should any previously unknown historic or prehistoric resources be discovered, all work within 25 feet of these materials will be stopped until the qualified archeologist has evaluated the potential significance of the finds, and consulted with the lead agency on appropriated mitigation to protect the resources.
- In the event that human remains, or possible human remains, are encountered during project-related ground disturbance, in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the human remains are discovered has determined, that the remains are not subject to the provisions of Section 27492 of the Government Code or any other related provisions of law concerning investigation of the circumstances, manner and cause of death, and the recommendations concerning treatment and disposition of

the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative, in the manner provided in Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

- The County Coroner, upon recognizing the remains as being of Native American origin, is responsible to contact the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours. The Commission has various powers and duties, including the appointment of a Most Likely Descendant (MLD) to the project. The MLD, or in lieu of the MLD, the NAHC, has the responsibility to provide guidance as to the ultimate disposition of any Native American remains.
- Paleontological resources. Prior to project construction, construction crews will be informed of the potential for encountering significant paleontological resources. Should such resources be discovered all work will stop in the area of the discovery until qualified paleontologist has assessed the significance of the find and has implemented appropriate measures to protect or scientifically remove the find.

### **Geology and Soils**

The proposed project shall comply with all recommendations specified in Section 3.3 of the May 2015 Geotechnical Report prepared by ENGEO.

#### Noise

To avoid any detrimental noise impacts, the project contractor will ensure that construction activities will be limited to the hours established in the Brentwood Municipal Code, namely Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, and Saturday 9am-4pm.

Staff concurs that there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment. Staff therefore recommends that the Conservancy find that the project as mitigated avoids, reduces or mitigates the possible significant environmental effects to a level of less-than-significant and that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment as that term is defined by 14 Cal. Code Regs. §15382.

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Upon approval of the project, Conservancy staff will file a Notice of Determination.

