
NBWA Funding Request
Marin Resource Conservation District's Marin Permit
Coordination Program

Goal: Air and water quality improvements, habitat restoration, and agricultural sustainability improvements in the watersheds of Marin County

Objectives: Streamline restoration through standardized California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review and permitting; coordinate regulatory approaches for potential program partners from water/sanitary/flood districts

NBWA Request: \$25,902

Term of Project: May – September 2017

Deliverable: Final Administrative Draft Initial Study for the Marin Permit Coordination Program

Landowners and operators are interested in reducing nonpoint source pollution, achieving carbon neutrality, restoring the natural resources of their property, and sustaining agricultural viability in Marin County. However, regulatory approval processes intended to protect natural values often act as *dis*incentives to voluntary efforts. Since 2004, Marin RCD and its partners have used the Marin Permit Coordination Program (PCP) to help landowners plan, permit, fund, implement, monitor, and maintain projects that promote healthy, viable land management practices.

Scope of Work: Marin RCD seeks to renew and expand the scope of activities and geographic area of the PCP for a new 10-year period. The RCD has raised the funds for, and completed, Phase 1 of the project to:

- Develop a detailed project description; summary of existing conditions and create watershed maps of fish, wildlife, vegetation, and land uses; and
- Develop impact avoidance measures

The RCD seeks funds to complete Phases 2 – 3;

NBWA is being asked to contribute \$25,902 toward the funding of Phase 2 [see Table 1 for NBWA-funded tasks]. Matching funds from the RCD will complete the Phase 2 Budget. Phase 2 Work will consist of:

1. Prunuske Chatham Inc. (PCI) and RCD staff will participate in two workshops/meetings to further inform local flood, sanitary and water districts about the PCP, and how they could potentially use the program.
2. RCD staff will present to the Marin RCD Board regarding the meetings with the local flood, sanitary and water districts.
3. PCI/RCD staff will participate in two status meetings during assessment of potential impacts and development of mitigation measures.
4. PCI/RCD staff will consult with Marin County Department Public Work to establish the annual PCP project approval process with the County.
5. PCI will prepare final administrative draft of Initial Study Checklist for RCD's Advisory Team (group of project partners) and NBWA Board to comment.

6. PCI will incorporate comments and prepare final administrative draft of Initial Study Checklist for Marin RCD Board of Directors.
7. PCI will provide technical direction to Marin RCD staff and Board of Directors.

Background: For thirteen years, the Marin PCP has provided programmatic compliance with CEQA for 17 Conservation Practice Standards developed by the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The PCP includes regulatory-agency approved avoidance and mitigation measures for each practice to reduce potential environmental impacts from implementation of the practice to less-than-significant levels. Its geographic area is currently limited to the coastal watersheds of western Marin County.

In 2016, Marin RCD decided to increase the conservation practices authorized from 17 to 33 to meet new needs, to continue incentivizing restoration, and to approve a program with a 10-year lifespan. The program area will also be expanded to include Novato, Miller, and San Antonio Creek watersheds. In addition to the existing PCP partners (NRCS, Point Reyes National Seashore, and Point Blue's Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed [STRAW]), the team will also include the Marin Agricultural Land Trust. Local flood, sanitary and water districts in the county can create their own streamlined environmental programs using Marin RCD's PCP as a model.

Table 1 for NBWA-funded tasks

\$27,252	Senior Regulatory Planner/ Project Mgr.	Project Principal	Senior Wildlife Biologist	Senior Vegetation Ecologist	Certified Planner	Project Admin.	PCI Vehicle	Project Materials	Line Item SubTotals
	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	Day		
Task	\$150	\$150	\$120	\$120	\$105	\$77	\$75	1.15	
CEQA Administrative Draft Initial Study									
Participate in workshops/meetings (2) with MRCD and local flood, sanitary and water districts	16						2		\$2,550
Participate in status meetings (2) with MRCD ED and staff	10						2		\$1,650
Assist RCD staff w/ consultation w/ Marin County DPW	12						1		\$1,875
Prepare and submit Administrative Draft Initial Study Checklist (ISC) to A-Team for comments	47	17	16	6	43	4	0	0	\$17,063
Prepare final Admin Draft ISC for RCD Board	12	4			2	2			\$2,764
Provide technical direction	2	4	2		2				\$1,350
Subtotal	99	25	18	6	47	6	5	0	\$27,252

Table 2: Marin RCD Staff Budget for the Marin Permit Coordination Program Phase 2

Task	Executive Director	Conservation Program Manager	Conservation Scientist	Urban Streams Coordinator	Line Item SubTotals
	Hour	Hour	Hour	Hour	
	\$105	\$88	\$84	\$82	
CEQA Administrative Draft Initial Study					
Host two workshops/meetings with water/flood/sanitary districts to describe the Marin PCP, how it works and define Marin RCD's relationship with the districts	16	16	0	16	\$4,400
Marin RCD Board presentation regarding the interest of the water/flood/sanitary districts interest in the Marin PCP.	2	1	0	4	\$626
Status meeting (2) with PCI	6	6	6	6	\$2,154
Consult with Marin County Depart. of Public Works (DPW)	6	6	0	10	\$1,978
Review Admin Draft Initial Study Checklist (ISC) with A Team	0	6	4	4	\$1,192
Bring final Admin Draft ISC to RCD Board	0	4	0	4	\$680
subtotal	30	39	10	44	\$11,030