



Agenda Date: 2/8/2005
Agenda Placement: 6H

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Cathy Gruenhagen for Hillary Gitelman - Director
Conservation, Development & Planning

REPORT BY: Jeff Sharp, Planner III , 259-5936

SUBJECT: Request for approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a letter in support of the Selby Creek Watershed Partnership's grant proposal to the Department of Water Resources for stream-bank restoration and enhancement.

RECOMMENDATION

Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board request approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a letter in support of the Selby Creek Watershed Partnership's grant application to the Department of Water Resources for the implementation of stream-bank and channel restoration and enhancements.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 27, 2005, the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County, an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors, recommended County support of a grant application to fund stream restoration efforts along Selby Creek. The grant was prepared by the Selby Creek Watershed Partnership (SCWP) and submitted to the the Department of Water Resources Urban Streams Restoration Program.

In 2004, SCWP hired Bioengineering Associates to conduct a survey and produce an assessment of stream conditions for the entire length of Selby Creek. The resulting effort detailed restoration recommendations for over a mile of stream bank and formed the basis of the SCWP grant proposal. SCWP is hoping to acquire funding through the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Urban Streams Restoration Program, and other agency grants and direct owner contributions to implement projects identified in the assessment.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Not A Project Under CEQA [See Guidelines For the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, 14 CCR, Article 20, Sec.15378].

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Selby Creek is approx 8500 feet long. It officially begins at the confluence of Bider Creek and Dutch Henry Creek just above the Silverado Trail in Calistoga. From there it runs out to the Napa River crossing under Larkmead Lane somewhere near its half way point.

In the fall of 2003 the neighbors along the creek began to organize. Selby Creek Watershed Partners (SCWP) was started as way to address the erosion problems that many landowners were experiencing on their banks by looking at the creek as an entire system rather than just dealing with the issues on a parcel basis. By working as a watershed stewardship they would not only be able to more effectively deal with the immediate concerns of property damage due to continued erosion, but also take on the bigger goal of improving the overall quality of the watershed through restoration of the creek.

As their first project, in 2004, SCWP hired Bioengineering Associates to produce a survey and assessment of conditions for the entire length of Selby Creek. This survey and the accompanying assessment detail both bioengineering and revegetation recommendations for over one mile of stream bank. It forms the basis of the project that SCWP is hoping to fund through a combination of grants and direct owner contributions.

The SCWP's also participated in the initial testing of the Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) website. The WICC is providing SCWP a way to reach out to the community and facilitate participation in the greater goal of watershed restoration throughout Napa County. A letter of support from the County Board of Supervisors for the SCWP's grant application, as recommended by the WICC Board, will help them towards their goal of the restoration of Selby Creek through a public-private partnership.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Selby Creek Support Letterv3

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Michael Stoltz