



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 8/14/2018

Agenda Placement: 6L

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Morrison - Director
Planning, Building and Environmental Services

REPORT BY: Brian Bordona, Supervising Planner - (707) 259-5935

SUBJECT: Wildlife Conservation Commission Budget Recommendation in Support of Grant Requests

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Planning, Building and Environmental Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the following grant agreements for the term July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 for proposals of \$5,001 or greater for a total of \$47,987:

1. \$8,000 with Napa-Solano Audubon to maintain and expand the position of Educational Coordinator to continue their educational program that was funded by Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC) the three previous years;
2. \$13,000 with Land Trust of Napa County to provide for post-fire vegetation monitoring, invasive species removal, and trail improvements and realignments to protect rare plant species;
3. \$13,717 with Napa County Resource Conservation District to facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for 20 Napa County high school youths; and
4. \$13,270 with Napa Wildlife Rescue for a part-time education coordinator to manage outreach, give educational presentation, train volunteers, and create educational materials; and for the purchase of a large incubator for orphaned opossum litters.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC) held a regular meeting on July 9, 2018 to conduct their annual grant application review and develop funding recommendations. The WCC reviewed four (4) grant proposals from various groups and organizations requesting funding from the WCC budget and unanimously recommended approval to fully fund all four proposals for a total amount of \$47,987. The funding for WCC grants is provided by Department of Fish and Game court fines, settlements by the District Attorney's office, and the general fund that are intended for this specific purpose.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Budget Unit 21200 (Wildlife Conservation): For Fiscal Year 2018-2019, \$50,000 was budgeted for grant expenditures. Funding for grants is provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife court fines/settlements, local fines/settlements and the general fund that are intended for this specific use. As part of the 2018-2019 budget cycle a general fund contribution of \$12,000 was approved in the event it's necessary to assist in covering the grant funding for this fiscal year. This fund has an estimated available fund balance of \$46,000, which in combination of the \$12,000 general fund contribution would fully cover the subject grant expenditures in this fiscal year.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Wildlife Conservation Commission grants support wildlife conservation and other related projects, consistent with State guidelines. Funding for grants is provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife court fines/settlements, and local fines/settlements that are intended for this specific purpose.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	No impacts beyond Fiscal Year 2018-2019.
Consequences if not approved:	The proposed wildlife conservation projects would not be undertaken at this time and grant funds would not be expended until such time as the Wildlife Conservation Commission could consider grant applications again in 2018 and provide recommendations to the Board.
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposals from the Napa-Solano Audubon, Napa County Resource Conservation District, Land Trust of Napa County, and Napa Wildlife Rescue are not projects as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

The proposal from the Land Trust of Napa County is categorically exempt from the CEQA Guidelines pursuant to Section 15333-Class 33 (Small Habitat Restoration Projects).

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The WCC receives funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife fines and settlements, as well as local fines and settlements from the District Attorney's office that are earmarked for projects that aid in the preservation, propagation, and protection of birds, mammals, fish and amphibians.

The WCC conducts four regular meetings annually, with one meeting dedicated to conducting an annual grant funding review. On July 9, 2018, the WCC held a regular meeting to conduct their annual grant funding review and recommendations. The WCC reviewed four (4) grant proposals from various groups and organizations requesting funding from the WCC budget and recommended approval to fully fund all four grant proposals for a total of \$47,987.

The recommended grants would provide for the following projects:

1. Request from the Napa-Solano Audubon to maintain and expand the Educational Coordinator position and continue their educational program that was funded by the WCC the three previous years - Fiscal Years 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 (Recommended grant amount: \$8,000).
2. Request from the Land Trust of Napa County for post-fire vegetation monitoring, invasive species removal, and trail improvements to prevent erosion and protect rare plant species (Recommended grant amount \$13,000).
3. Request from the Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, which is an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for 20 Napa County high School students (Recommended grant amount: \$13,717).
4. Request from Napa Wildlife Rescue for a part-time education coordinator to manage outreach, give educational presentations, train volunteers, and create educational materials. The request also includes the purchase of a large incubator for orphaned opossum litters (Recommended grant amount: \$13,270 - \$12,500 for the education coordinator and \$770 for the incubator).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi