



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 8/29/2017

Agenda Placement: 6I

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 the following:

1. Approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the following grant agreements for the term July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 for proposals of \$5,001 or greater for a total of \$42,276:
 - a. \$6,980 with Napa-Solano Audubon to maintain and expand the position of Educational Coordinator to continue their educational program that was funded by WCC the two previous years (2015/2016 and 2016/2017);
 - b. \$10,000 with Friends of the Napa River to support watershed education and environmental sciences for children;
 - c. \$12,720 with Land Trust of Napa County to support removal of invasive exotic plant species throughout the Missimer Snell Valley Preserve; and
 - d. \$6,076 with Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to support a steelhead and salmon monitoring program through the use of Passive Integrated Transponders (PIT) tags used to track and identify fish.
2. Approval of the two following grant proposals totaling \$6,500, not requiring grant agreements:
 - a. \$2,500 with Napa Wildlife Rescue for the purchase of a laptop computer and new banners to enhance the quality and profile of outreach and educational efforts; and
 - b. \$4,000 with Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District for the creation of a program called Napa Girls Outdoors to provide guided nature hikes and focus outreach to girls and women of Napa County.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC) held a regular meeting on July 10, 2017 to conduct

their annual grant application review and develop funding recommendations. The WCC reviewed grant proposals from various groups and organizations requesting funding from the WCC budget and unanimously recommended approval of six (6) grant proposals for a total amount of \$42,276.00. The funding for WCC grants is provided by Department of Fish and Game court fines and settlements, as well as local fines and settlements, 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 2017-2018, \$50,000 was budgeted for grant expenditures. 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 use. As part of the 2017-2018 budget cycle a general fund contribution of \$13,500 was approved if necessary to assist in covering the grant funding for this fiscal year. This fund has an estimated available fund balance of \$51,998 at the beginning of Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and the grant expenditures should be fully covered by this fund balance 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 2017-2018.
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, Friends of the Napa River, Napa County Resource Conservation District, Napa Wildlife Rescue, and Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District 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 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 10, 2017, the WCC held a regular meeting to conduct their annual grant funding review and recommendations. The WCC reviewed grant proposals from various groups and organizations requesting funding from the WCC budget and unanimously recommended approval of several grant proposals for a total of \$42,276.

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 two previous years (Recommended grant amount: \$6,980).
2. Request from Friends of the Napa River to support watershed education and environmental sciences for children (Recommended grant amount: \$10,000).
3. Request from the Land Trust of Napa County to support removal of invasive exotic plant species throughout the Missimer Snell Valley Preserve (Recommended grant amount: \$12,720).
4. Request from the Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to support a steehead and salmon monitoring program through the use of Passive Integrated Transponders (PIT) tags used to track and identify fish (Recommended grant amount: \$6,076).
5. Request from Napa Wildlife Rescue for the purchase of a laptop computer and new banners to enhance the quality and profile of outreach and educational efforts (Recommended grant amount: \$2,500)
6. Request from the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District for the creation of a program called Napa Girls Outdoors to provide guided nature hikes and focus outreach to girls and women of Napa County (Recommended grant amount: \$4,000).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi