



Agenda Date: 9/18/2007
Agenda Placement: 6F

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: R. Patrick Lowe Jr. for Hillary Gitelman - Director
Conservation, Development & Planning
REPORT BY: DANIELZ ZADOR, PLANNER II , 253-4417
SUBJECT: Wildlife Conservation Commission Budget Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Conservation, Development and Planning requests consideration and approval of the following six (6) grant proposals totalling \$15,079, as recommended by the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission:

1. \$4,000 for Acorn Soupe for their wildlife education program;
2. \$1,000 for the Pacific Coast Hunter Education Association for a new laptop computer;
3. \$3,000 for the Institute for Conservation, Advocacy, Reseach and Education for exotic plant removal and native plant restoration along Suscol Creek;
4. \$2,500 for the California Waterfowl Association for production of a documentary video, "Endangered Species: the Fish & Game Warden;"
5. \$1,979 for Land Trust of Napa County for exotic plant removal in Wantrup Preserve in Pope Valley; and
6. \$2,600 for the Napa County Resource Conservation District for exotic plant removal for a Dry Creek riparian enhancement plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At their August 20, 2007 meeting, the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission reviewed grant proposals from various groups and organizations requesting funding from the Commission budget and unanimously approved six grant proposals for a total amount of \$15,079.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Wildlife Conservation - 100%

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary

Discretionary Justification: Grant funds for projects that enhance wildlife conservation are disbursed from a specific fund intended for that purpose.

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: None.

Consequences if not approved: Wildlife conservation projects will not be undertaken.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposals from Acorn Soupe, the Pacific Coast Hunter Education Association and the California Waterfowl Association are not projects as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

The proposals from the Land Trust Napa County, the Institute for Conservation, Advocacy, Research and Education, and the Napa County Resource Conservation District for exotic plant removal are categorically exempt from the CEQA Guidelines pursuant to Section 15333 (Small Habitat Restoration Projects).

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC) receives funds from California Department of Fish and Game fines earmarked for projects that aid in the preservation, propagation and protection of birds, mammals, fish and amphibians. The requested grants would provide for the following projects:

1. Request from Acorn Soupe for their wildlife education program that educates local youth on wildlife and their habitats and engages students in hands-on stewardship activities (Recommended grant amount: \$4,000.00).
2. Request from Pacific Coast Hunter Education Program for a new laptop computer for use in hunter education programs (Recommended grant amount: \$1,000).
3. Request from Institute for Conservation, Advocacy, Research and Education for exotic plant removal and native plant restoration along Suscol Creek (Recommended grant amount: \$3,000).
4. Request from California Waterfowl Association for production of a documentary video, "Endangered Species: the Fish & Game Warden" to inform the public on the severe shortage of California State Fish & Game Wardens (Recommended grant amount: \$2,500).
5. Request from Land Trust of Napa County for exotic plant removal in Wantrup Botanical Preserve (Recommended grant amount: \$1,979).
6. Request from Napa County Resource Conservation District for Napa County Resource Conservation District for exotic plant removal for a Dry Creek riparian enhancement plan (Recommended grant amount: \$2,600)

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi