



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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January 22, 2016

Agenda Item #3 a ii

To: Executive Committee, SMBRC

From: Tom Ford, Executive Director

Re: Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority (SMBRA) FY 2016 Budget

Action Requested of the Executive Committee:

- Review and recommend Governing Board consideration of approval of the SMBRA FY 2016 Budget

Background

The SMBRA was created by a joint exercise of powers agreement between the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) and operates as a local public agency within the Santa Monica Bay Watershed and the jurisdictional boundaries of the SMBRC and the District with the purpose of broadening funding opportunities for projects within the Santa Monica Bay.

The SMBRA Governing Board will meet prior to the SMBRC February 2016 meeting to consider and adopt the budget. The joint exercise of powers agreement requires the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to review and consider approval of the SMBRA annual budget following approval by the SMBRA Governing Board.

On pages two and three of this report you will find descriptions for four projects for 2015-2016.

On pages four and five of this report you will find and overall budget for the SMBRA for 2015-2016 as well detailed budgets for each of the aforementioned projects.



Project Descriptions for SMBRA 2016

Los Angeles World Airports Dunes Restoration Project

The goal of this newly-proposed project is to restore and enhance the natural habitats and implement effective long-term habitat management at LAX dunes through collaboration between the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and the SMBRA. LAWA and the SMBRA will mutually benefit from this cooperation with sharing of costs and resources as the project will greatly advance the goals and objective called for by the Bay Restoration Plan as well as various restoration and management plan of the dune habitats adopted over the years by LAWA. The project also provides for research opportunities, community involvement and environmental awareness and stewardship, youth and workforce development, rare species and habitat preservation and enhancement, and the maintenance of the dunes facility and safe airport operations.

Clean Vessel Act (CVA) – Boater Education Program

Through a multi-year grant from the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterway Division to the SMBRA from the State. The goals of this ongoing program are to reduce water contamination from boating activities through pumpout station monitoring, mobile pumpout service outreach (Honey Pot Day), direct boater outreach, and volunteer development and coordination (Dockwalker).

Wetland Protection Development Project (WPDG) Project

Through a grant from the US EPA Wetland Protection Development Grant Program to the SMBRA, the goal of this project is to advance a coordinated and consistent approach to wetland monitoring and assessment in accordance with the monitoring and assessment strategies developed by the State of California and USEPA. This project will build upon substantive efforts initiated in recent years to develop standardized intensive (i.e. Level 3, L3) wetland assessment methods and a framework and fill the need for an expansion of these effort necessary to continue progressing towards a comprehensive and cohesive statewide monitoring strategy. The intensive methods provide information on ecological function, are more diagnostic of restoration performance and regulatory compliance, and are important for the validation of rapid assessment methods. The lack of consistent approaches to intensive assessment limits our ability to share information between projects, precludes use of L3 data in ambient monitoring, and fosters inefficiencies as each project develops independent, non-comparable protocols and databases. Specifically, this project will field test and conduct comparative analysis at several wetland locations throughout Southern California (including Ballona Wetlands) the Level 3 intensive methods. Timing is optimal for this project to meet the need for the expansion of the development, evaluation, and implementation of standardized L3 assessment procedures.



Malibu Lagoon – Restoration and Enhancement Project – Monitoring Grant

Through a grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation to the SMBRA, the goal of this project is to assess and document the post-restoration habitat conditions of Malibu Lagoon. Specifically, the project goal will be achieved through organization and performance of all surveys, monitoring, data analysis and reporting needed to meet the required Coastal Development Permit conditions for the Malibu Lagoon Restoration and Enhancement Project (COP # 4-07-098) as documented in Biological and Water Quality Monitoring Plan and Vegetation Assessment and Monitoring Plan. The project also involves coordination and supervision for volunteer plant maintenance crews. All data collected each year will be compiled, analyzed, and a cumulative annual report will also be produced under this project.

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SMBRA Budget for-2016 and Project Specific Budgets

SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION AUTHORITY		PAGE 1 OF 2
PROPOSED 2015-2016 BUDGET		
REVENUE:		
	Los Angeles World Airports Dunes agreement**	\$ 94,000
	Clean Vessel Act (CVA) - Boater Education Grant*	\$ 190,807
	Wetland Protection Development Project (WPDG) 2 Grant*	\$ 99,937
	Malibu Lagoon Restoration and Enhancement Project Agreement*	\$ 140,196
	OTHER:	
	County of Los Angeles contribution***	\$ 10,285
TOTAL REVENUE:		\$ 535,224
EXPENSES:		
Los Angeles World Airports Dunes Project		
TASK NO.	TASK DESCRIPTION	
1	LAWA-Approved Activities for the Ongoing Trained Identification and Removal of Invasive Plant Species, Planting of Native Species, and Habitat Maintenance for the LAX Coastal Dunes Improvement Project (CDIP)	45,150
2	Annual Management Plans and Quarterly Progress Reports Prepared for LAWA	4,900
3	Recruitment, Training, and Management of Volunteer Workers	2,450
4	Data Collection and Monitoring of Restoration Efforts and Preparation of Landscaping Monitoring Report(s)	39,500
5	Revised or Supplemental Ecological Landscaping Plan(s)	-
6	Public Relations, Media, and Community Engagement	2,000
7	Identification of Additional Funding for Ecological Habitat Restoration	-
PROJECT TOTAL		\$ 94,000
Clean Vessel Act (CVA) - Boater Education Program		
TASK NO.	TASK DESCRIPTION	
1	Pumpout Monitoring Activities	16,736
2	Mobile Pumpout Service Outreach - Honey Pot Dat Activities	30,499
3	Direct Boater Outreach Events	58,394
4	Volunteer Development and Coordination - Dockwalker Program Activities	41,237
5	Project Management Activities	43,941
PROJECT TOTAL		\$ 190,807

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Wetland Protection Development Project (WPDG) 2 Project		
TASK NO.	TASK DESCRIPTION	
1	Consolidate Regional Data Sets	13,667
2	Field Implementation of Level 3 Monitoring Protocols	41,833
3	Refine Level 3 Monitoring Manual	40,500
4	Outreach and Data Management	3,937
PROJECT TOTAL		\$ 99,937
Malibu Lagoon Restoration and Enhancement Project		
TASK NO.	TASK DESCRIPTION	
1	Project Management	\$22,648
2	Download and clean data, maintain database	\$7,764
3	Field surveys	\$24,132
4	Chemistry lab analyses	\$20,571
5	Benthic macroinvertebrate lab analyses	\$26,331
6	Avian monitoring (Cooper Ecological Monitoring Inc.)	\$9,643
7	Fish Surveys (none)	\$0
8	Annual reporting	\$5,357
9	Data probe maintenance	\$6,429
10	Date probe replacement	\$3,214
11	Mileage	\$1,211
12	Equipment and supplies	\$3,750
13	Volunteer Management	\$9,145
PROJECT TOTAL		\$ 140,196
OTHER EXPENSES:		
	Annual Audit	\$ 10,285
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 535,224
TOTAL REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES:		\$ -
* Secure revenue, funding agreement in place		
** Likely funding, but no executed agreement yet		
*** Secure revenue, committed funds from County of LA		

