

# **Napa County**

1195 THIRD STREET  
SUITE 310  
NAPA, CA 94559



## **Agenda**

**Monday, August 24, 2026**

**2:00 PM**

**Board of Supervisors Chambers**

### **Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission**

#### *Members*

*Charles Burton, Chair*

*Alex Pader, Vice Chair*

*Kimberly Richard*

*Molly Moran Williams*

*Leslie Lew*

*Greg Matsumoto*

*Ina Pisani*

*Ava Marie D. Maharaj*

**How to Watch or Listen to the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Meetings**

The Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission will meet pursuant to the annually adopted meeting calendar available at the following link: <https://www.countyofnapa.org/2342/Calendar>

The WCC realizes that not all County residents have the same ways to stay engaged, so several alternatives are offered. Remote Zoom participation for members of the public is provided for convenience only. In the event that the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the WCC reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access.

Please watch or listen to the WCC meeting in one of the following ways:

1. Attend in-person at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1195 Third Street, Napa Suite 305.
2. Watch on Zoom using the attendee link: <https://countyofnapa.zoom.us/j/87073670597>. Make sure the browser is up-to-date.
3. Listen on Zoom by calling 1-669-900-6833 (Meeting ID: 870 7367 0597).

**If you are unable to attend the meeting in person and wish to submit a general public comment or a comment on a specific agenda item, please do the following:**

1. Email your comment to [wildlife@countyofnapa.org](mailto:wildlife@countyofnapa.org) 24 hours in advance of the meeting to ensure that your comment will be shared with all members of the WCC.
2. Use the Zoom attendee link <https://countyofnapa.zoom.us/j/87073670597>. Make sure the browser is up-to-date. When the Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak, click “raise hand”. Please limit your remarks to three minutes.
3. Call the Zoom phone number: 1-669-900-6833 (Meeting ID: 870 7367 0597). When the Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak, press \*9 to raise hand. Please limit your remarks to three minutes.  
\*\*Please note that phone numbers in their entirety will be visible online while speakers are speaking\*\*



The above-identified measures meet all legal requirements for participation and public comment, including those imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act and Executive Order N-08-21.

For more information, please contact the Wildlife Conservation Commission Staff at 707-253-4417 or email [wildlife@countyofnapa.org](mailto:wildlife@countyofnapa.org).

Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, aids or services, including assistive listening devices and interpreters, may be made to Commission staff representative Pamela Arifian at (707) 259-5934 or by email at [pamela.arifian@countyofnapa.org](mailto:pamela.arifian@countyofnapa.org) no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting date. All materials relating to an agenda item which are provided to a majority or all of the members of the Commission by Commission members, staff or the public within 72 hours of but prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection, at the time of such distribution, in the office of the Planning, Building and Environmental Services Department, 1195 Third Street, 2nd. Floor, Napa, California 94559, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., except for County holidays. Materials distributed to a majority or all of the members of the Commission at the meeting will be available for public inspection at the public meeting if prepared by the members of the Commission or Commission staff and after the public meeting if prepared by some other person. Availability of materials related to agenda items for public inspection does not include materials which are exempt from public disclosure under Government Code sections 6253.5, 6254, 6254.3, 6254.7, 6254.15, 6254.16, or 6254.22.

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Commission regarding any subject over which the Commission has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Commission as a result of any item presented at this time.

You may submit public comment for any item that appears on the agenda or general public comment for any item or issue that does not appear on the agenda, as follows: Please provide your name and the agenda item on which you are commenting. Via Email – send your comment to the following email address: [wildlife@countyofnapa.org](mailto:wildlife@countyofnapa.org). Emails received will not be read aloud but will still become part of the public record. All comments will be taken up in the order received.

1. Call to Order (Chair)
2. Roll Call (Staff)
3. Pledge of Allegiance (Chair)
4. Public Comment and Recommendations (Chair)
5. Approval Of Minutes
  - A. Review and approve Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2026. [26-1570](#)  
**Attachments:** [5-18-26 WCC Draft Minutes](#)
6. Agenda Review (Staff)
7. Consideration and Action on Agenda Items
  - A. Receive reports from 2025-26 grant award recipients. [26-1571](#)  
**Attachments:** [Napa Wildlife Rescue 2025-26](#)  
[School Garden Doctor 2025-26](#)  
[RCD Green Futures 2025-26](#)  
[Carolyn Parr Nature Center 2025-26](#)  
[American Canyon Community Parks Foundation 2025-26](#)  
[ICARE- Sign Photos 2025-26](#)  
[Napa - Solano Audubon Report 2025-26](#)  
[Land Trust of Napa County 2025-26](#)  
[North Bay Bear Collaborative 2025-26](#)  
[UCCE Kestrel 2025-26](#)  
[International Bird Rescue 2025-26](#)

- B. Receive a report from Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC) staff regarding the 2026-2027 Grant Cycle, hear presentations from Applicants, deliberate and pass a motion on Recommendations for the Director of Planning, Building & Environmental Services (pursuant to the Napa County Policy Manual Section 8A [Rev. 7/25/2023]) on how the current grant funds should be allocated for the 2026-2027 cycle. **26-1572**

**Attachments:** [Napa WCC Grant Application Requirements 2026-2027 Applications Summary](#)  
[Grant Awards Detail By Year - Recent 10 Years](#)  
[Grant Awards By Organization - Recent 10 Years](#)  
[Grant Awards By Category since 2002](#)  
[Grant Requests vs Funded since 2002](#)  
[North Bay Bear Collaborative 2026-27](#)  
[UCCE Kestrel 2026-27](#)  
[International Bird Rescue 2026-27](#)  
[Napa Wildlife Rescue 2026-27](#)  
[Browns Valley Family Club 2026-27](#)  
[Napa County Resource Conservation District 2026-27](#)  
[Abuelitos Foundation 2026-27](#)  
[Rewilding the Land 2026-27](#)  
[Sustainable St. Helena 2026-27](#)  
[School Garden Doctor 2026-27](#)  
[Napa-Solano Audubon Society 2026-27](#)  
[American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation 2026-27](#)  
[Carolyn Parr Nature Center 2026-27](#)  
[CA White Shark Project 2026-27](#)

- C. Commission members assign themselves the projects they will be responsible for monitoring. **26-1610**

8. **Director or Designee Report**  
9. **Commissioner Comments/ Reports**  
10. **Future Agenda Items**  
11. **Adjournment**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE ABOVE STATED MEETING WAS POSTED AT A LOCATION FREELY ACCESSIBLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE NAPA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 1195 THIRD STREET, NAPA, CALIFORNIA ON 8/13/26 BY 1:00 PM. A HARDCOPY SIGNED VERSION OF THE CERTIFICATE IS ON FILE WITH THE COMMITTEE CLERK AND AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

ANGIE RAMIREZ VEGA, (by e-signature)  
Angie Ramirez Vega, Clerk of the Commission



# Napa County

## Board Agenda Letter

1195 THIRD STREET  
SUITE 310  
NAPA, CA 94559  
[www.napacounty.gov](http://www.napacounty.gov)  
Main: (707) 253-4580

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Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission **Agenda Date:** 8/24/2026

**File ID #:** 26-1570

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TO: Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
FROM: Dana Morrison, Secretary to the Wildlife Conservation Commission  
REPORT BY: Pam Arifian, Planner III  
SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes from May 18, 2026

### RECOMMENDATION

..title

Review and approve Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2026.

..body

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Review and approve Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2026.

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Not a "project" pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Review and approve Meeting Minutes from May 18, 2026.



## **Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Special Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 18, 2026

Location: Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1195 Third Street, Third Floor

Time: 2:00 PM

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting commenced at 2:04 PM.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

#### **Commission Members Present**

- Charles Burton (Chair)
- Alex Pader (Vice-Chair)
- Kimberly Richard
- Molly Moran Williams
- Leslie Lew
- Greg Matsumoto
- Xuexin (Allen) Xie

#### **Commission Members Absent**

- Ina Pisani

#### **Staff Present**

- Dana Morrison, Supervising Planner (Secretary to the Commission)
- Pam Arifian, Planner III
- Daniel Zador, Planner II
- Aime Ramos, Meeting Clerk

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **5A. Review and approve Meeting Minutes from the April 27, 2026, meeting**

The Clerk of the Committee requests approval of minutes from April 27, 2026, regular meeting.

Chair Burton opened public comment; no public comments were received.

Motion by Commissioner Richard to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Moran Williams

Result: Motion Carried (7 – 0)

## **6. AGENDA REVIEW**

Pam Arifian provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

## **7. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AGENDA ITEMS**

### **7A. Commissioners report on the progress of their assigned grant projects for the 2025-2026 Grant Cycle.**

Pam Arifian, Chair Burton, Commissioners Moran Williams and Richard reported on the item.  
No action was taken.

### **7B. Review and discuss proposed ideas for process improvements and provide direction to Staff on items to include in a revised improvements approach for discussion and potential action at a future meeting date yet to be determined.**

Pam Arifian presented updates to the historic information requested at the previous meeting, followed by a presentation on the Mendocino County Fish and Game Commission grant award criteria and evaluation tool, as well as the proposal previously introduced by Commissioner Xie for criteria and ranking tool and Solano County Fish and Game Commission criteria.

Chair Burton made a motion to break down the conversation into two or more discussions, including evaluation criteria and funding strategies. Evaluate selection criteria and then move to funding conversation; Seconded by Commissioner Lew.

Result: Motion Carried (5-2).

Ayes: Xie, Matsumoto, Lew, Burton, Moran Williams

Nays: Richard, Pader

Commissioner Richard made a motion to adopt Mendocino County criteria; seconded by Commissioner Pader.

Result: Motion Carried (7-0).

Commissioner Pader made a motion to amend that motion to add matching funds to Category 6 in “ways to measure it”; seconded by Commissioner Moran Williams.

Result: Motion Carried (7-0).

Commissioner Lew made a motion to add longevity to Category 6 criterion (e.g., from Solano criteria) be sustained over time and provide benefit beyond the immediate project; Commissioner Matsumoto seconded.

Result: Motion failed (2-5)

Ayes: Matsumoto, Xie

Nays: Lew, Burton, Pader, Richard, Moran Williams

Commissioner Lew made a motion to adopt Mendocino Criterion #1 and replace ranking wording for #4 that the proposal meets multiple criteria in the Fish and Game Code; seconded by Moran Williams.

Result: Motion Carried (7-0).

Commissioner Lew made a motion to add verbiage under Criteria #4 regarding equity and serving community verbiage; Commissioner Moran Williams seconded.

Result: Motion Carried (7-0).

Commissioner Lew made a motion to accept Mendocino County criteria with the amendment already approved with additional amendment that #5 be removed; seconded by Moran Williams.  
Result: Motion Carried (7-0).

## **8. DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE REPORT**

Dana Morrison reported that a new youth rep for the Commission will be appointed during the Board of Supervisors meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Dana Morrison announced that the Baseline Date Report (BDR) comment period has been closed.

## **9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Commission members expressed their appreciation for Commissioner Xie's service on the commission and extended their best wishes.

## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Dana Morrison announced that the WCC Grant Award meeting will be held on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 2:00pm for this grant cycle.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:16 PM

**Aime Ramos**, Meeting Clerk



# Napa County

## Board Agenda Letter

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Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission **Agenda Date:** 8/24/2026

**File ID #:** 26-1571

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TO: Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
FROM: Dana Morrison, Secretary to the Wildlife Conservation Commission  
REPORT BY: Pam Arfian, Planner III  
SUBJECT: Final Report for 2025-26 Grant Cycle

### RECOMMENDATION

..title  
Receive reports from 2025-26 grant award recipients.  
..body

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Wildlife Conservation Commission reimbursed a total of \$72,515 of the \$74,909 awarded for the 2025-26 Grant Cycle  
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### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Not a "project" pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Wildlife Conservation Commission awarded a total of \$74,909 to 11 grant recipients for the 2025-26 grant cycle. The total amount reimbursed for eligible project expenses was \$72,515 for the same cycle. The reimbursement total was reduced from the total awarded funds primarily due to a reduced request from North Bay Bear Collaborative, which could not complete some of the approved project components (i.e., data collection) due to the impacts on habitat by the Pickett fire in 2025. Annual reports from recipients on work accomplished with the awarded funds are included as attachments herein.





May 18, 2026

PBES Department  
Brian Bordona  
Planning Director  
1195 3rd Street, 2nd Floor  
Napa.CA 94559

RE: Grant Reimbursement for Napa Wildlife Rescue  
Napa County Funding Agreement No. 260096D

Napa Wildlife Rescue received a grant for \$13,750 through the Napa Wildlife Conservation Commission valid for the time period of September 2025 through June 30, 2026. The purpose of the grant was to assist in funding a full-time position held by Terra Standish, our Education Coordinator /Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician. The grant money was also to be used to help offset the increases in food and medical costs resulting from the increasing number animal patient intakes.

**Terra's earnings for this time period were \$31,397.01** The payroll dates and amounts are attached.

Terra shares her time between the two tasks of Education Coordinator /Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician. **During the 2025/2026 school year Terra visited 43 classrooms, K - 5th grades, at 11 schools in Napa County Each classroom was visited 2-3 times which resulted in 117 visits with 630 students.** Terra's lessons are in compliance with the education standards. She teaches about animal adaptations, animal habitats and behavior. Each classroom was able to visit with one of our Ambassador animals either Maddie, our Red-tailed Hawk, Blossom our Opossum or Juniper our Red-shouldered Hawk. Terra is the trainer and handler for Juniper. A spreadsheet with all of the school visit information is attached.

As Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician Terra examines animals when they are first brought into the clinic. She assesses injuries and gives preliminary medical care such as hydration, wound cleaning and bandaging. She assists with care plans including the determination of appropriate housing and diets. She also supervises volunteers.

In 2025 Napa Wildlife Rescue accepted 1,983 animals (120 species) into care. Approximately 70% of the animals were birds and 30% were mammals. So far in 2026 NWR has taken in 614 animals. The wildlife clinic is open 7 days per week from 9 am- 5pm in the fall and winter and from 8-am - 8 pm in the spring and summer.

A table is attached which shows the accounting for animal care food and medications in 2024 and 2025. In 2024 our costs were \$26,873.20. **In 2025 these costs increased to \$43,952.15, an increase of \$17,078.95 over 2024.**

**We would like reimbursement for the full amount of the grant, \$13,750.00.**

Thank you for the support that you give to our organization.

Sincerely,

Carol Poole, President  
Napa Wildlife Rescue

***Mail: Napa Wildlife Rescue, P.O. Box 2571, Napa CA 94558***

***Wildlife Clinic Location: 4001 Middle Ave., Napa, CA 94559***

***HAWKLINE: (707) 224-4295 (Hawk)***

***Administration: (707) 685-5411***

***Federal I.D. # 68-0271705 nonprofit 501(c)3***

***[www.napawildliferescue.org](http://www.napawildliferescue.org)***

***Follow us on Facebook and Instagram***

Napa Wildlife Rescue Food and Medical Cost Comparison 2024/2025

|                                    | FY 2024 Actual | FY 2025 Actual |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6420 Animal Care/<br>Wildlife      |                |                |
| 6420.01 Food                       | \$11,644.16    | \$19,394.04    |
| 6420.02 Medications                | \$2,832.04     | \$10,282.42    |
| 6420.04 Carnivore<br>Food          | \$7,547.56     | \$7,722.89     |
| 6420.05 Lab Work                   | \$504.01       | \$219.93       |
| 6420.06 Vaccines                   | \$1,334.15     | \$438.30       |
| 6420.07 Medical<br>Supplies        | \$2,012.85     | \$3,200.84     |
| 6420.08 Outside<br>Veterinary fees | \$0.00         | \$992.48       |
| Cremation fees                     | \$998.43       | \$1,701.25     |
|                                    |                |                |
| TOTAL                              | \$26,873.20    | \$43,952.15    |
|                                    |                |                |
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|                                    |                |                |
|                                    |                |                |

| Schools/ Teachers    | Grade Level | Number of visits | Dates                                   | Number of Students |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Bel Aire</b>      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Lisa Ernst           | K           | 2                | April 8 & 15                            | 24                 |
| Cheryl Rainville     | K           | 2                | April 8 & 15                            | 24                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>Browns Valley</b> |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Brandy Briggs        | K           | 3                | April 7, 14, 21                         | 24                 |
| Christina Lawrence   | K           | 3                | Nov 5, 12 & 19                          | 24                 |
| Marian Moffett       | K           | 4                | April 22 & May 13.<br>Nov. 19 & Dec. 13 | 24                 |
| Jenae Fox            | 1           | 2                | Nov 19 & Dec 3                          | 24                 |
| Lindsey Kosanke      |             | 2                | Nov 19 & Dec 3                          | 24                 |
| Cavita Malicki       | 2           | 2                | Jan 28 & Feb 4                          | 36                 |
| Claire Peters        | 2           | 2                | Jan 28 & Feb 4                          | 32                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>Donaldson Way</b> |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Cathy Margolati      | 2           | 3                | Dec 1, 8. & 16                          | 36                 |
| Carrie Cummings      | 2           | 3                | Dec 1, 8. & 16                          | 24                 |
| Whitney Westbrook    | 2           | 3                | Dec 1, 8. & 16                          | 24                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>McPherson</b>     |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Noele Rochon         | 2           | 3                | Jan 13, 20, 27                          | 25                 |
| Jessica Dudley       | 2           | 3                | Jan 13, 20, 27                          | 26                 |
| Stefanie Chappelle   | 5           | 2                | Jan 15, 22                              | 26                 |
| Rebeca Hernandez     | 5           | 2                | Jan 14, 21                              | 25                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>Napa Junction</b> |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Heather Marshall     | 3           | 3                | Jan 5, 12, 19                           | 26                 |

| Schools/ Teachers                   | Grade Level | Number of visits | Dates              | Number of Students |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cerissa Meyers                      | 3           | 3                | Jan 5, 12, 19      | 26                 |
| Danielle Kiehe                      | 3           | 3                | Jan 5, 12, 19      | 26                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Napa Valley Language Academy</b> |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Marisabel Olguin Romero             | K           | 3                | March 2, 9, 16     | 24                 |
| Teresita Ayala                      | K           | 3                | March 2, 9, 16     | 24                 |
| Amy Keane                           | K           | 3                | March 2, 9, 16     | 24                 |
| Araceli Avila                       | K           | 3                | March 4, 11, 16    | 24                 |
| Joe Hall                            | 3           | 3                | Jan 12, 26 & Feb 2 | 24                 |
| Laura Vega                          | 3           | 3                | Jan 15, 22, 29     | 24                 |
| Cathy Carmichael                    | 3           | 3                | Jan 15, 22, 29     | 22                 |
| Karla Silva                         | 3           | 3                | Jan 12, 26 & Feb 2 | 22                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Northwood</b>                    |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Jenny Knox                          | 5           | 3                | Dec 4, 11, 18      | 23                 |
| Karen McKeown                       | 5           | 3                | Dec 4, 11, 18      | 23                 |
| Kendra Leach                        | 2           | 3                | Feb 10, 17, 24     | 26                 |
| Marcia Smith                        | 2           | 3                | Feb 12, 19, 26     | 26                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Phillips Magnet</b>              |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Tiffanie Feigel                     | 5           | 3                | Nov 3,10,17        | 25                 |
| Sarah Magaliano                     | 3           | 2                | April 6, 13        | 26                 |
| Beau Parriott                       | 3           | 2                | April 6,13         | 25                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Vichy</b>                        |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Alison Bolinger                     | K           | 3                | Oct 9, 16 Nov 7    | 24                 |

| Schools/ Teachers                  | Grade Level | Number of visits | Dates               | Number of Students |
|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Jen Barr                           | 3           | 3                | May 7, 15, 21       | 26                 |
| Ashley Toscani                     | 1           | 3                | April 6, 16, 20     | 23                 |
| Jennifer Keiser                    | 3           | 3                | April 22, 29, May 6 | 17                 |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
| <b>West Park</b>                   |             |                  |                     |                    |
| Jennifer Mattei                    | K           | 3                | March 3, 10, 17     | 25                 |
| Jennifer Perkins                   | 2/3         | 2                | Dec 15, April 27    | 26                 |
| Norma Hernandez                    | 2/3         | 2                | Dec 15, April 27    | 25                 |
| Erica Bass                         | 3           | 3                | April 9, 16, 23     | 26                 |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
| <b>Montessori School of Sonoma</b> |             |                  |                     |                    |
| Rachel Cisneros                    | K           | 2                | Jan 14, 22          | 24                 |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             | 117              |                     | 630                |
| <b>11 schools</b>                  |             |                  |                     |                    |
| <b>43 teachers</b>                 |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |

| Client ID | Payroll ID | Check Date | Type | Gross Amount | Net        | Payee             |
|-----------|------------|------------|------|--------------|------------|-------------------|
| 765       | 34         | 09/19/2025 | DD   | \$1975.00    | \$1579.04  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 35         | 10/03/2025 | DD   | \$918.75     | \$781.30   | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 36         | 10/20/2025 | DD   | \$1818.75    | \$1468.41  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 37         | 11/05/2025 | DD   | \$2200.00    | \$1692.53  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 38         | 11/20/2025 | DD   | \$2021.88    | \$1571.21  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 39         | 12/05/2025 | DD   | \$1652.50    | \$1346.21  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 40         | 12/19/2025 | DD   | \$219.41     | \$200.00   | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 41         | 01/05/2026 | DD   | \$2256.25    | \$1738.84  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 42         | 01/20/2026 | DD   | \$2465.63    | \$1878.27  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 43         | 02/05/2026 | DD   | \$2534.38    | \$1923.25  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 44         | 02/20/2026 | DD   | \$1978.13    | \$1551.26  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 45         | 03/05/2026 | DD   | \$2093.75    | \$1629.24  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 46         | 03/20/2026 | DD   | \$2459.38    | \$1874.17  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 47         | 04/06/2016 | DD   | \$2187.50    | \$1692.46  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 48         | 04/20/2026 | DD   | \$2391.54    | \$1829.77  | Terra K. Standish |
| 765       | 49         | 05/05/2026 | DD   | \$2224.16    | \$1717.21  | Terra K. Standish |
|           |            |            |      | \$31397.01   | \$24473.17 |                   |

# Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission GRANT REPORT

**Project Title:** Native Habitat Monitoring for the Protection of Pollinators

**Grantee:** The School Garden Doctor (501(c)(3) Nonprofit | EIN: 83-1551303)

**Reporting Period:** September 1, 2025 – June 15, 2026

**Award Amount:** \$4,700 (Total Project Budget: \$10,00)

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## 1. Executive Summary & Organizational Overview

The School Garden Doctor, established in July 2018, delivers inclusive, nature-forward, and garden-based environmental science programming for youth across Napa County. In response to regional pollinator declines and a critical lack of localized biodiversity data, this project proposed to monitor six distinct habitat sites (three school-based and three public-access gardens). By transforming students into community scientists, this initiative bridged the gap between classroom science curriculum and municipal conservation needs.

**Primary Contact:** > Carrie Strohl, Program Director | Phone: (707) 320-83008 | Email: [carrie@schoolgardendoctor.org](mailto:carrie@schoolgardendoctor.org)

**Mailing Address:** 3299 Claremont Way, #2, Napa, CA 94559

**Board of Directors:** Wendy Fitzgerald, Zinaida Beynon, Vivianna Pena

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## 2. Project Performance & Key Metrics

The project met core quantitative and qualitative benchmarks during the 2025–2026 academic calendar.

### Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- **Sites Monitored:** 4 distinct locations (Stone Bridge School, Calistoga Jr./Sr. High, Valley Oak High, Skyline Park).
- **Youth Engagement:** 150+ students actively trained in formal field tracking protocols.
- **Data Generation:** >500 unique observations submitted to iNaturalist and Calflora, tracking bloom times, phenology, and pollinator abundance.



- **Habitat Infrastructure:** Maintained and expanded a network of registered **Monarch Watch** waystations along a strategic four-mile east-to-west ecological corridor.
- 

### 3. Methodology & Curriculum Integration

The program eliminated historical barriers to outdoor school-year science by embedding data-collection infrastructure directly into standard curriculum units. Key elements included:

- **Tools:** Students utilized specialized field guides and kept nature journals to record robust ecological data.
  - **NGSS Alignment:** Field activities maps directly to California Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Environmental Principles & Concepts (EP&Cs):
    - *Calistoga Jr./Sr. High:* MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4, HS-LS2-6, and HS-LS2-7 (Interdependent Relationships & Ecosystem Dynamics).
    - *Valley Oak High:* HS-LS2-2 (Mathematical scale and biodiversity metrics).
    - *Stone Bridge School:* 5-ESS3-1 (Community-led earth resource protection).
  - **Civic & Agency Partners:** This project was formally endorsed by the **Napa County Wildlife Conservation Coalition** and informally supported by the **Resource Conservation District (RCD)**, and Napa Valley Chapter of the **California Native Plant Society (CNPS)**.
- 

### 4. Wildlife Benefits & Regulatory Compliance

This project directly satisfies **California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Code §13103, Section (a)** by funding structured public education programs rooted in the scientific principles of wildlife conservation.

### 5. Financial & Expenditure Report

The final budget expended for this project was \$5,687.21. The enclosed table summarizes the expenses. We have attached the documentation for our reimbursement request of **\$4,700**.

| Expense category                                     | Amount Requested   | Awarded (47%)     | Actual Spent      | Reimbursable      | Narrative                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Personnel</b>                                     | <b>\$4,250.00</b>  | <b>\$1,997.50</b> | <b>\$2,916.60</b> |                   |                                                                                                        |
| <i>Project Management (The School Garden Doctor)</i> | \$2,000.00         | \$940             | \$666.60          | n/a               | Approximately 1-2 hours per month, plus 3 seasonal teacher meetings and classroom demonstrations       |
| <i>Teacher Stipends</i>                              | \$2,250.00         | \$1,057           | \$2,250.00        | <b>\$1,958.39</b> | 3 @ \$750 ea.                                                                                          |
| <b>Habitat Monitoring Kits</b>                       | <b>\$5,750.00</b>  | <b>\$2,702</b>    | <b>\$2,770.61</b> |                   |                                                                                                        |
| <i>Nocs Zoom Tube</i>                                | \$3,600.00         | \$1,692           | \$1,611.22        | \$1,611.22        | REI.com - \$537.07 + 1074.15                                                                           |
| <i>Field Notebooks</i>                               | \$250.00           | \$117.50          | \$481.64          | \$481.64          | 1 per student; \$1/ea., plus extras                                                                    |
| <i>Local Wildflower Identification Guide</i>         | \$500.00           | \$235.00          | \$248.75          | \$248.75          | <a href="#">California Wildflower Guide   Premium Quality   Earth Sky + Water</a> ; 9.99 ea. +shipping |
| <i>Bee ID Field Guide</i>                            | \$900.00           | \$423.00          | \$400.00          | \$400.00          | <a href="#">Common Bees in California Gardens</a> 19.99 ea. + _____                                    |
| <b>Total Project Budget</b>                          | <b>\$10,000.00</b> | <b>\$4,700</b>    | <b>\$5,687.21</b> | <b>\$2,770.61</b> |                                                                                                        |
|                                                      |                    |                   |                   | <b>\$4,700</b>    | Total Reimbursement Request                                                                            |



## Final Grant Report

June 5, 2026

**Prepared for:** Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Prepared by:** Eric McKee, Senior Education Project Manager, Napa RCD, [eric@naparcd.org](mailto:eric@naparcd.org)

# Green Futures - Equitable Engagement of High School Students in Wildlife Habitat Stewardship and Conservation Careers



*Green Futures students care for a newly planted oak tree with Land Trust of Napa County's Whitney Wyche during a field trip at Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa.*

## Program Summary

122 students from 8 high school classes participated in Napa RCD's Green Futures environmental education program. RCD staff implemented 8 classroom sessions and 4 field trips to Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa. Green Futures increased time spent learning outdoors in nature by 4.5 hours per student. Students planted, monitored, and maintained 85 native oak trees across a 3-acre area.

*"Beyond the academic benefits, these trips provide a critical space for healing. In an era where many of our youth face significant stress and anxiety, the time spent in nature offers a profound sense of calm."*

*- Green Futures partner teacher Julie Lovie*

## Program Description

Green Futures is designed to support students who are historically underrepresented in environmental fields by connecting them with relevant mentors, engaging them in practical skills development, caring for open spaces, and fostering wellness benefits of outdoor learning and stewardship experiences.

Napa RCD strives to improve equitable access to environmental education opportunities for students who may not otherwise have access to meaningful outdoor learning, stewardship experiences, or exposure to environmental careers. Napa RCD partnered with Valley Oak High School (VOHS) as the primary audience for the Green Futures program. VOHS was invited to partner for this program to provide sustained opportunities which build a sense of belonging, purpose, and identity in conservation and stewardship spaces among disadvantaged continuation school students. VOHS students by percent of enrollment are 89% Socioeconomically Disadvantaged, 75.5% Latino or Hispanic, and 32.3% English Learners ([2024-25 VOHS SARC](#)).

To reduce and eliminate barriers and equitably support VOHS, the Green Futures program is offered free of cost to VOHS, covering all expenses for field trip bus transportation, substitute teacher coverage (while the teacher participates in field trips), and a teacher stipend to support their time coordinating curriculum, debriefing, and providing critical feedback.

Additional improvements to equitably support students include:

- **Instructional Clarity & Expectations:** Staff clearly communicate the purpose, expectations, and skills associated with classroom and field trip activities. Students understand what successful participation looks like, and instructional materials are presented through written, verbal, visual, and hands-on formats to support diverse learning styles, language needs, and levels of experience.
- **Career Exposure and Relevance:** Napa RCD recruits, trains, and integrates organizational partners to serve as professional mentors and career role models during field experiences. Green Futures intentionally engages conservation professionals whose backgrounds, experiences, and identities reflect the diversity of participating students, helping youth see environmental careers as accessible, relevant, and attainable. Professional role models support small group sizes, which



create greater opportunities for student engagement and the sense that community members care for and about students and their role in habitat stewardship and conservation. Professional role models from partner organizations and agencies included American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation (ACCPF), Land Trust of Napa County (LTNC), United States Dept. of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

- **Positive Nature Experiences:** Students spend meaningful time outdoors exploring, observing, and interacting with natural environments. By creating positive, engaging, and memorable experiences in nature, the program helps students build comfort outdoors, develop a personal connection to local open spaces, and foster a lifelong appreciation for wildlife and the natural world.

## Objectives

Green Futures is designed to achieve measurable wildlife habitat and student development outcomes through the following objectives:

1. **Stewardship:** Measurably improving the condition of wildlife habitat and native plant abundance in Skyline Wilderness Park.
2. **Nature Affinity & Interaction:** Building students' connection to nature and local outdoor spaces to build a lifelong commitment to stewardship of wildlife and nature.
3. **Conservation Career Exploration:** Improving awareness of, access to, and participation in, environmental skills and careers among historically underinvested-in and underserved populations of students.



*A Green Futures student collects wildlife biodiversity data in her schoolyard*

## Results

| Classroom Date | Field Trip Date | # of Students | Stewardship Activities                  | Career Partners        |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 9/9/25         | 9/11/25         | 26            | 29 native oaks monitored and maintained | ACCPF, LTNC, RCD, NRCS |
| 10/21/25       | 10/23/25        | 49            | 17 native oaks planted                  | ACCPF, LTNC, RCD       |
| 3/3/26         | 3/5/26          | 41            | 15 native oaks monitored and maintained | ACCPF, LTNC, RCD, NRCS |
| 4/30/26        | 5/7/26          | 25            | 24 native oaks monitored and maintained | ACCPF, LTNC, RCD, NRCS |

## Stewardship

- Three acres of native oak habitat within Skyline Wilderness Park (Napa, CA) were cared for by students.
- Students installed 17 new native oak tree plantings creating new wildlife habitat, canopy, and carbon sequestering biomass.
- Students provided critical monitoring and maintenance of 68 young trees, supporting their survival and establishment.
- 90% of students reported participating in at least one direct stewardship action.

*"I remember learning how to plant trees it was a really fun experience."*

*"With the maintenance we did today, [the trees] should grow pretty tall"*

*"When I'm in my 50's or my 40's I'll come back"*

*-Green Futures students*

## Nature Affinity & Interaction

- Increased time learning outdoors by 4.5 hours per student.
- Students ranked field trip experiences as "Very Positive" (4.6 out of 5.0)
- 70% of students voluntarily shared and described positive reflections about their experience. In follow-up surveys students recalled:

*"walking in there in the morning I didn't think I'd have a great time, but being around such positive people/teachers, really made my experience worth it, I left with multiples smiles and laughter."*

*"I remembered nature is good for you and it helps you relax mentally"*

*"I remember enjoying it, having fun and working outside."*

*"We were planting a tree and I remember the smiles we had while digging."*

*"Had lots of fun walking around in a very clean garden and seeing all those animals living in a space that humans built, crazy how nature works"*

*-Green Futures students*

## Conservation Career Exploration

Napa RCD staff recruited, trained, and integrated 9 unique conservation career partners as professional mentors including:

- ACCPF: Joy Hilton (Education Director) and Tammy Saunders (Naturalist)
- LTNC: Clarisa Rosas (Assistant Stewardship Coordinator), Joseph Clark (Stewardship Program Assistant), Whitney Wyche (Stewardship Program Assistant)
- Napa RCD: Francisco Larios (Project Assistant), Eric McKee (Project Manager)
- NRCS: Frank Bradley (Biologist) and Erika Valek (Soil Conservationist)

Through direct observation as well as follow-up surveys, students demonstrated development of practical conservation career skills throughout their experience. The most reported skills reported by students were environmental data collection (90%), tree care (80%), using a GPS

(75%), and plant and animal identification (70%).

- 85% of students reported interacting with at least one professional mentor during their field trip.
- 35% of students expressed curiosity about environmental internships, careers, or a willingness to try conservation work.
- 14 students were uncertain whether environmental careers were right for them, highlighting the importance of continued exposure, mentorship, and career pathway programming for youth who have historically had limited access to environmental professions.



*Students pose for a photo around their oak tree at Skyline Park.*

The results of program evaluation data demonstrated that when students are provided meaningful opportunities to care for the environment, learn outdoors, and connect with relevant conservation professionals, they develop the skills, confidence, and sense of belonging needed to become future stewards of Napa County's wildlife and habitats.

Napa RCD thanks the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission for making these experiences possible. Green Futures would not be possible without the support and assistance from: ACCPF, LTNC, NRCS, Skyline Wilderness Park, and VOHS.

Additional funding for the Green Futures program is provided by: County of Napa PBES, County of Napa Health & Human Services, Innovative Health Solutions, Lewis Cellars Community Grants, North Bay Watershed Association, Steve Rasmussen & Felicia Woytak and individual donations.



Napa County Resource Conservation District  
1303 Jefferson St., Ste. 500B, Napa, California 94559  
Phone: (707) 690-3110

Project RCD2025028

June 10, 2026

**Invoice Submitted To:**

Pamela Arifian  
Napa County PBES  
1195 3rd Street, 2nd Floor  
Napa, CA 94559

**Invoice #:** 1

**Project:** Green Futures

**Period Covered:** September 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

| Description                                   | Hours / Units | Rate              | Cost               |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Personnel</b>                              |               |                   |                    |
| Project Manager Eric McKee                    | 65            | \$ 72.57          | \$ 4,717.05        |
| Accounting & Administration Specialist        | 5             | \$ 50.66          | \$ 253.30          |
| <b>Expenses</b>                               |               |                   |                    |
| Field Trip Sub Teacher Dec 25                 | 1             | \$ 305.80         | \$ 305.80          |
| Field Trip Transportation - Skyline           | 1             | \$ 418.00         | \$ 418.00          |
| Class supplies-thermometer & GPS              | 1             | \$ 723.48         | \$ 723.48          |
| Notebooks for student journals                | 1             | \$ 76.95          | \$ 76.95           |
| Wilderness supplies & measure tapes           | 1             | \$ 216.89         | \$ 216.89          |
| Field Trip Transportation - Skyline           | 1             | \$ 390.00         | \$ 390.00          |
| Field Trip Sub Teacher May 26 - Valley Oak HS | 1             | \$ 336.37         | \$ 336.37          |
| Green Futures Teacher Stipend                 | 1             | \$ 500.00         | \$ 500.00          |
| <b>Travel</b>                                 |               |                   |                    |
| Employee Truck Mileage                        |               | \$ 0.725          | \$ -               |
| Expense overage                               |               |                   | \$ (589.84)        |
|                                               |               | <b>Total Due:</b> | <b>\$ 7,348.00</b> |

Lucas Patzek, Executive Director

6/11/2026

Date



# CAROLYN PARR NATURE CENTER

3107 Browns Valley Road, Napa, CA 94558 | (707) 255-6465 | cpnaturecenter@gmail.com

## REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

Napa County Agreement No. 260089D

Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant — Cycle 56 / 2025–2026

|                              |                            |                                       |                   |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grantee:</b>              | Carolyn Parr Nature Center | <b>Agreement No.:</b>                 | 260089D           |
| <b>Agreement Term:</b>       | Sept 2025 – June 30, 2026  | <b>Date of Request:</b>               | June 15, 2026     |
| <b>Maximum Grant Amount:</b> | \$4,841.00                 | <b>Total Reimbursement Requested:</b> | <b>\$4,841.00</b> |

## REVISED EXPENDITURE TABLE — ACTUAL SPENDING vs. PROPOSED BUDGET

| Project Component                                      | Budgeted           | Actual Spent      | Claimed           | Variance    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Native Plant Specimens (CA Native Plant Society)       | \$1,000.00         | \$338.60          | \$338.60          | -\$661.40   |
| Outdoor Exhibit Signage (Nameplate & Panel Technology) | \$300.00           | \$3,288.40        | \$3,288.40        | +\$2,988.40 |
| Landscaping (Ismael Guardian — labor & materials)      | \$2,500.00         | \$1,369.00        | \$1,214.00*       | -\$1,286.00 |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                                          | <b>\$10,300.00</b> | <b>\$4,996.00</b> | <b>\$4,841.00</b> | <b>—</b>    |

\* Total actual expenditures (\$4,996.00) exceed the maximum grant amount. The \$155.00 difference is absorbed by Carolyn Parr Nature Center. Landscaping claimed amount reduced accordingly.

## SUPPORTING RECEIPTS — DETAIL

### 1. Native Plant Specimens — \$338.60

Vendor: California Native Plant Society | Date: October 18, 2025 | Method: Cash Reserves | Doc: EXP-2026-0601

| Item (Price Tier)  | Qty | Unit Price | Amount          |
|--------------------|-----|------------|-----------------|
| Plant Tag — Blue   | 29  | \$6.44     | \$186.86        |
| Plant Tag — Yellow | 4   | \$12.28    | \$49.12         |
| Plant Tag — Green  | 6   | \$9.65     | \$57.89         |
| Plant Tag — Red    | 6   | \$7.46     | \$44.73         |
| <b>Subtotal:</b>   |     |            | <b>\$338.60</b> |

### 2. Outdoor Exhibit Signage — \$3,288.40

Vendor: Nameplate & Panel Technology, Carol Stream, IL | Date: June 15, 2026 | Method: VISA

| Description                                                                                   | Amount            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Outdoor interpretive exhibit signage and panels                                               | \$3,288.40        |
| Ref: R666282363490   Auth: 615183   Card: VISA ending 6432 (Nancy Lafortune)   PO: Alex Lyman | <b>\$3,288.40</b> |

### 3. Landscaping — \$1,369.00 actual (\$1,214.00 claimed)

Payee: Ismael Guardian | Account: Napa Valley Naturalists, Westamerica Bank #1855 | Method: Check

| Receipt / Doc                         | Date         | Payee           | Description                       | Amount            |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Check #2841                           | Jul 26, 2025 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork – 4.5 hrs                | \$112.50          |
| Check #2843                           | Aug 11, 2025 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork – 3.5 hrs                | \$87.50           |
| Check #2845                           | Sep 17, 2025 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork – 4 hrs 30 min           | \$138.00          |
| Check #2850                           | Oct 11, 2025 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork – 4 hrs                  | \$100.00          |
| Check #2851                           | Oct 11, 2025 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork – 1 hr                   | \$25.00           |
| Check #2852                           | Nov 5, 2025  | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork – Oct 21, Nov 1 & 2      | \$275.00          |
| Check #2857                           | Dec 22, 2025 | Ismael Guardian | Trees                             | \$30.00           |
| Check #2862                           | Feb 12, 2026 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork                          | \$75.00           |
| Check #2863                           | Mar 7, 2026  | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork                          | \$88.00           |
| Check #2864                           | Mar 17, 2026 | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork                          | \$88.00           |
| Check #2866                           | Apr 26, 2026 | Ismael Guardian | Orco Chips / Landscaping Material | \$150.00          |
| Check #2871                           | Jun 6, 2026  | Ismael Guardian | Yardwork                          | \$200.00          |
| Subtotal — actual:                    |              |                 |                                   | <b>\$1,369.00</b> |
| Claimed (after grant cap adjustment): |              |                 |                                   | <b>\$1,214.00</b> |

|                                                       |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTED</b>                  | <b>\$4,841.00</b> |
| Maximum grant amount per Agreement No. 260089D, §3(b) | \$4,841.00        |

#### Submitted by:

Alexander Lyman, Executive Director

Carolyn Parr Nature Center

lymanshermanalexander@gmail.com | 707-738-1916

June 15, 2026

2025 – 2026 Grant Report

Watershed Explorers & Watershed Protectors Program Development

Amount Awarded: \$8,900

## Summary

The American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation (Parks Foundation) requested \$20,000 in funding from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission. Of this \$20,000 request, \$8,900 was awarded. By securing additional funding sources and the NCWC funding, the Parks Foundation met most of the grant goals successfully.

With the support of the Wildlife Conservation Commission. grant, the Parks Foundation delivered over 2,388 hours of environmental and wildlife education to more than:

- 311 Watershed Explorers
- 112 new students in Napa
- 85 Watershed Protectors
- 110 Watershed Trainees

Additionally, over 44 parents and guardians participated in programs to learn about the local wetlands and the Napa River Watershed. Wildlife Conservation Commission. funding supported the delivery of the full Watershed Explorers program to every school in American Canyon, the new Watershed Protectors 5th grade pilot program at Napa Junction Elementary, and the expansion of programming with Napa RCD up valley.

## Program Description and Implementation

During the Watershed Explorers Program, students participated in a three-part series that protects the watershed by getting them involved in hands-on learning. Session 1 is a one hour in-class presentation about the Napa River Watershed, its connection to the San Pablo Bay, and the unique wildlife habitats that exist there. Students learned about the American Canyon Wetlands and its attributes as a filter for the entire water system, reclamation, and biodiversity. Students learned how to make scientific observations, formed hypotheses, and utilized a nature journal to lead into the field day.

During the second session, students participated in a three-hour field day at the Wetlands trails. There they get hands on and rotate through four 30-minute stations from program partners including Suscol Intertribal Council, Napa Solano Audubon, Napa Resource Conservation District, and City of American Canyon Water Reclamation services. The third session brought the Outdoor Connection mobile classroom to the school, allowing students to continue making scientific observations in their nature journals utilizing microscopes and nature specimens as well as learn hands on about the watershed with the water table.

## **New Program Highlight**

Wildlife Conservation Commission. funding also supported the launch of a four-part Watershed Protectors program, designed to equip students with the knowledge and hands-on skills needed to actively engage in wetland restoration. Three 5th-grade teachers at Napa Junction Elementary Magnet School participated in the pilot during fall 2025 and spring 2026, integrating the program into their classroom learning.

The Watershed Protectors program is designed as a multi-session, inquiry-based experience that blends classroom learning with hands-on environmental stewardship. Students begin with an in-class introduction to wetlands, where they explore the definition, ecological importance, and role of these ecosystems in supporting biodiversity and providing essential ecosystem services. Building on this foundation, students learn to distinguish between native and invasive plant species, identify common invasive plants in local wetlands, and understand the impacts these species have on ecosystem health.

Following classroom presentation and preparation, students receive fieldwork training through teacher-led instruction supported by a short video developed by Parks Foundation staff and Teen WILD Volunteers. Students then participate in field experiences at local wetlands where they remove invasive iceplant, collect and disperse native seeds, and document their restoration efforts by mapping and measuring cleared areas. Subsequent monitoring sessions allow students to return to the site to observe plant regrowth, assess soil and habitat conditions, and record the presence of insects and wildlife. Community engagement is an integral component of the program, with local environmental organizations, experts, and family members participating in field days.

## **Original Program Goals**

The Parks Foundation sought to deliver environmental and wildlife education across American Canyon and Napa County, expand access to hands-on watershed learning, and strengthen partnerships with local environmental organizations. A key goal was to continue implementation of the Watershed Explorers program while expanding programming opportunities and reaching approximately 300 Napa County students through the Watershed Trainees program. The development of new programming pathways, including increased stewardship opportunities, was also a priority.

## **Program Challenges and Adaptation**

During the 2025–2026 school year, the Watershed Trainees program faced unexpected challenges that significantly limited the ability to reach the planned audience of 300 Napa County 2nd-grade students. Recent changes to Napa Valley Unified School District’s field trip approval process resulted in the cancellation of participation from three multi-class cohorts.

Despite active outreach and coordination, these administrative barriers constrained program delivery and reduced overall student access during this cycle. In response, the Foundation adapted its approach and successfully implemented the program with one new cohort, serving 110 3rd-grade students at Canyon Oaks Elementary School. While this represents a meaningful impact, it falls short of the intended reach. Moving forward, the Parks Foundation is collaborating closely with teachers, school administrators, the district, and fellow environmental education partners to better navigate and inform the revised field trip approval system, with the goal of removing participation barriers and expanding access in the 2026–2027 school year.

### Outcomes

With the support of Wildlife Conservation Commission. unding, the Parks Foundation delivered over **2,388 hours of environmental education** and reached **618 students** and **44 community members**. The Watershed Explorers program was successfully implemented across all schools in American Canyon, ensuring broad access to watershed education.

The Watershed Protectors pilot program resulted in meaningful environmental and educational outcomes, including the removal of more than **2,500 square feet of invasive iceplant**. Students demonstrated a strong sense of pride in their accomplishments and developed a deeper sense of responsibility for their local environment. One student remarked, “Who knew 11-year-olds could do this? We made a big difference!”

Family and community engagement also increased during this grant period. The Foundation supported family nature visits by providing take-home wetlands maps and nature journals and offering free, family-friendly educational opportunities and conservation days outside of school hours. These efforts extended learning beyond the classroom and encouraged continued exploration and connection to the Napa River Watershed within the broader community.

### Program Quality and Sustainability

The programs continue to provide high-quality, hands-on, inquiry-based learning experiences that connect students to their local watershed and wildlife habitats. Partnerships with organizations such as Napa Resource Conservation District, Napa Solano Audubon, Suscol Intertribal Council, and the City of American Canyon strengthen program delivery and enrich student learning.

The success of the Watershed Protectors pilot program demonstrates strong potential for long-term sustainability. Teachers have already committed to continuing the program in the 2026–2027 school year, pending land use approval by the California State Lands Commission. The program aligns with California Science Content Standards and supports ongoing stewardship and environmental literacy.

### **Acknowledgment and Future Plans**

The Parks Foundation acknowledges the support of the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.. This funding was essential in delivering environmental education programming and in supporting the launch of the Watershed Protectors pilot program, a key advancement in student stewardship opportunities.

Looking ahead, the Parks Foundation plans to expand the Watershed Protectors and Watershed Trainee programs to additional classrooms, increase student participation in Napa County, and continue working with school districts and partners to address access challenges. These efforts will build on current successes and further strengthen opportunities for students to engage in meaningful watershed and habitat conservation work.

INV # 6-10-2026

Expense Invoice: June 12, 2026

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant 2025/2026

Attn: Pamela Arifian

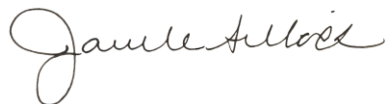
September 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026

Remit payment to The American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation for the following amount: **\$8,900**

| Salary and Wages                  | Hours | Rate | Total          |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------|----------------|
| Education Director                | 112   | \$45 | \$5,040        |
| Naturalist                        | 89.77 | \$43 | \$3,860        |
| Benefits                          |       |      |                |
| <b>Subtotal Personal Services</b> |       |      | <b>\$8,900</b> |

|                                                         |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Operation Expenses (Covered by additional funding)      |                 |
| Administrative Overhead (Covered by additional funding) |                 |
| <b>Total</b>                                            | <b>\$ 8,900</b> |

Warmest Regards,



Janelle Sellick, Executive Director  
American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation  
Tax Id #:47-3226686  
(707) 363-1915  
[janelle@acparks.org](mailto:janelle@acparks.org)

## Original Budget Request

|                                         |                  |                               |                            |                           |                         |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Watershed Explorers Grant Budget</b> |                  |                               |                            |                           |                         |                                                     |
| <b>County Grant Request (\$20,000)</b>  |                  |                               |                            |                           |                         |                                                     |
| <b>Item</b>                             | <b>Rate/hour</b> | <b>Units/<br/>Description</b> | <b>Requested<br/>Funds</b> | <b>Matching<br/>Funds</b> | <b>Total<br/>Budget</b> | <b>Description</b>                                  |
| <b>Personal/Staffing</b>                |                  |                               |                            |                           |                         |                                                     |
| Education Director                      | \$ 45.0          | 400                           | \$7,000                    | \$11,000                  | \$18,000                |                                                     |
| Education Naturalist                    | \$ 43.0          | 400                           | \$7,200                    | \$10,000                  | \$17,200                |                                                     |
| Student Intern/ Program Assistant       | \$ 20.0          | 200                           | \$1,500                    | \$2,500                   | \$4,000                 |                                                     |
| <b>Totals:</b>                          |                  |                               | <b>\$15,700</b>            | <b>\$23,500</b>           | <b>\$39,200</b>         |                                                     |
| <b>Program Expenses</b>                 |                  |                               |                            |                           |                         |                                                     |
| WE - Day 1 In Classroom Supplies        |                  |                               | \$500                      | \$500                     | \$1,000                 | Nature journals, pencils, crayons, nature materials |
| WE- Day 2 Watershed Field Day Supplies  |                  |                               | \$250                      | \$250                     | \$500                   | Journals, First Aid, etc                            |
| WE- Day 3 Trailer Day Supplies          |                  |                               | \$500                      | \$500                     | \$1,000                 | Replacement Scopes and scientific tools             |
| WP - General Classroom Supplies         |                  |                               | \$500                      | \$500                     | \$1,000                 |                                                     |
| WP - Conservation Supplies              |                  |                               | \$1,500                    | \$1,500                   | \$3,000                 |                                                     |
| Student snacks                          |                  |                               | \$400                      | \$600                     | \$1,000                 | Student snacks for field days                       |
| Office, printing materials, etc.        |                  |                               | \$650                      | \$1,850                   | \$2,500                 |                                                     |
|                                         |                  |                               | <b>\$4,300</b>             | <b>\$5,700</b>            | <b>\$10,000</b>         |                                                     |
| Total Requested Funds                   |                  |                               | <b>\$20,000</b>            | <b>\$29,200</b>           | <b>\$49,200</b>         |                                                     |

The program was awarded \$8,900 by the Napa County Wildlife Commission, with the remaining funding gap covered through additional support from the Napa Valley Community Foundation, the Whale Tail Grant, and the Napa Sierra Club.



Watershed Explorers



Powerful Plankton



First People



Sea level Rise



Birding



Mobile Classroom



Mobile Classroom



Nature Journaling



Wastewater



Macro-invertebrates



Watershed Protectors



Spreading Seed



Iceplant Removal



Ice Plant



Site Monitoring



Site Monitoring



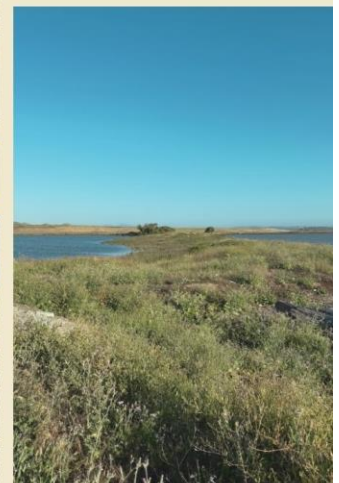
Iceplant Compost Pile



Hauling

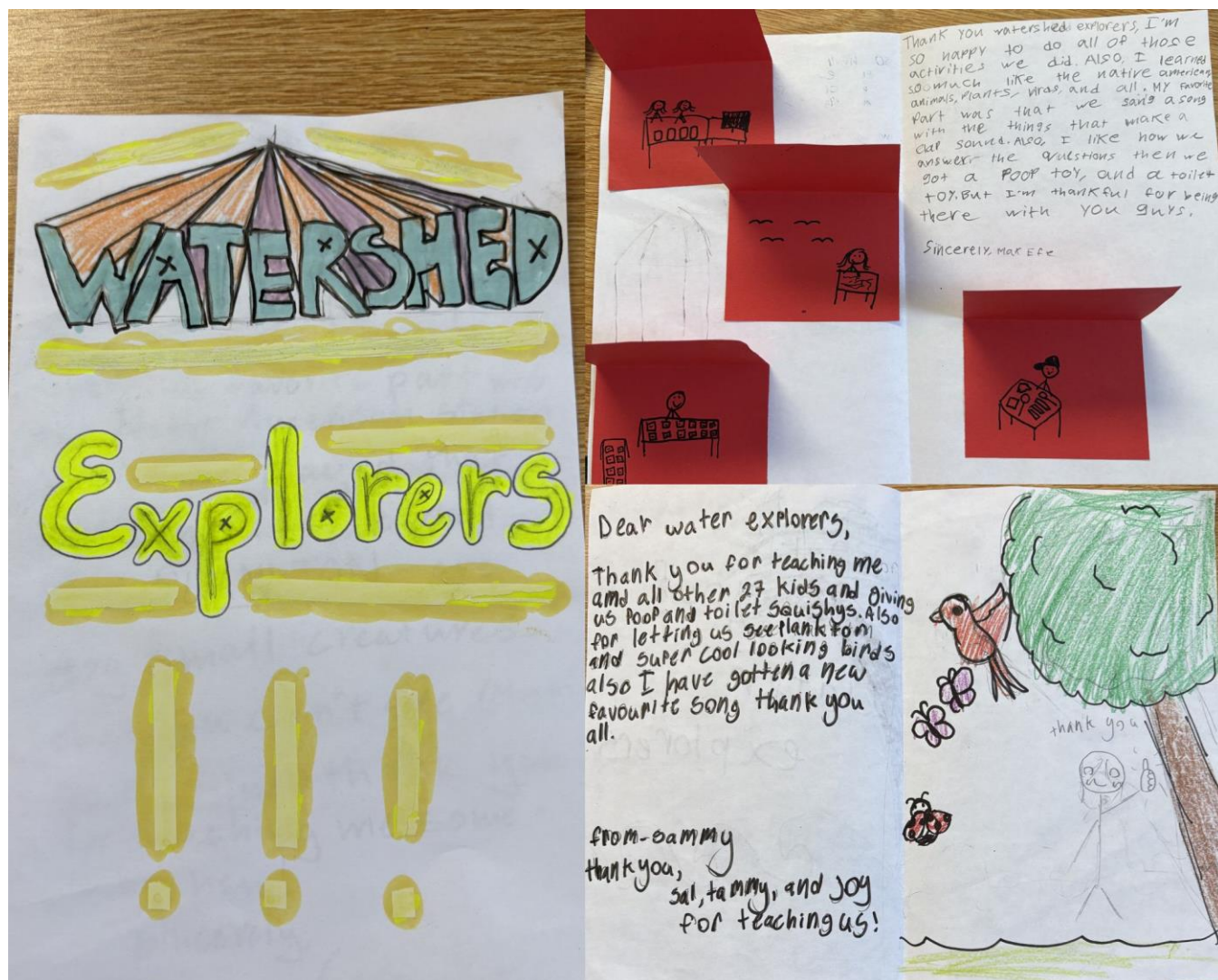


Site Monitoring



New Growth

Thank You Cards





# The Life of Chinook Salmon

Spawning is the ultimate goal in the life of a Pacific salmon. Both males and females will die in the river, in the same spot they were born. Their bodies will provide food for a host of creatures, from raccoons and crows, to aquatic insects.



## Eggs



Salmon start their lives as small eggs buried in gravel nests, called redds, in freshwater streams. The eggs stay hidden in the gravel until they're ready to hatch.

## Spawning Adult



As salmon return upriver to spawn, their bodies adapt to freshwater, change color, and grow hooked jaws. After laying fertilized eggs in new redds, they die, completing their life cycle.

## Jack/Adult



Once salmon reach the ocean, they are considered adults. Depending on the species, most adult salmon stay in the ocean anywhere from 1-6 years while they eat and grow rapidly. Jacks are salmon that return to their freshwater stream earlier than their counterparts and are often smaller in size.



## Smolt



As fry prepare to enter the ocean their bodies adapt as they swim downriver. Smolts start to develop shiny, silver scales and will continue to adapt as they swim towards the ocean.

## Circle of Life

Chinook salmon, like all Pacific salmon, live an anadromous life cycle. They are born in freshwater rivers and streams like Salvador Creek, then travel to the ocean where they feed and grow. After a few years, they return to the same stream where they were born to lay eggs, restarting the salmon life cycle.



## Alevin



Eggs "hatch" into tiny salmon called alevins which still have a yolk sac attached to their bellies to feed them as they grow. Typically, these young fish will stay near their redd.

## Fry



After alevins have fully absorbed their yolk sac, they become fry. Once fry have left their redd, they search for food and try to avoid being eaten. During this stage, fry begin swimming downstream.



GOLDEN STATE  
SALMON  
ASSOCIATION



Project of the Institute for Conservation Advocacy Research and Education



# Tiny Fish, Big Future

## Salmon Nursery in Salvador Creek



Adult salmon return to the creek where they were born to lay their eggs, ending their long journey from the ocean. These fish are weak and vulnerable as they spawn, so please leave the fish undisturbed. After they lay their eggs, the babies hatch here, grow, swim to the ocean, then return years later to repeat the cycle.



### Stay on the Trails

Avoid shortcuts or contact with the water. Erosion and silt can suffocate eggs and baby fish. Leaving the creek undisturbed gives these fish their best chance at surviving to adulthood.

### Watch Your Step

Walking on spawning beds can harm eggs and baby fish. Please do not disturb the fish, the creekbed, or its surroundings.



Project of the Institute for Conservation Advocacy Research and Education

**June 1, 2026**

**To:** Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Re:** Napa-Solano Audubon Society End-of-Year NC WCC Grant Report (2025–2026)

We launched our school programs in the fall of 2025 and began classroom instruction as soon as we identified Napa County teachers who could incorporate our program’s four to five one-hour lessons into their busy schedules. We started in early October at Browns Valley School, followed by programs at Crescent Elementary and Donaldson Way Elementary.

Many schools elected to participate during the spring semester. Beginning in January, we presented programs at Napa Junction, followed by Vichy, Willow, and Alta Heights Elementary Schools, as well as American Canyon High School. Teachers selected from a variety of topics, including Bird Diversity, Bird Adaptations, Bird Migration, Bird Song, and Habitat Conservation. Each classroom series concluded with a bird-walk field trip conducted on school grounds or in nearby parks.

Although our previous Education Coordinator now works as a naturalist for the American Canyon Foundation, she continued to support our efforts by implementing lessons at two schools. We also trained three additional educators—Jane Hicks, Janelle Hall, and Barry Briden—to help deliver our programs in Napa County elementary classrooms.

In addition to our classroom programs, we offered 14 Beginner Bird Walks at the American Canyon Wetlands. A number of students from our school programs participated in these activities with their families. We also led 36 weekly field trips to birding locations in Napa and Solano counties, and 9 monthly field trips throughout the Bay Area for our members and the broader community.

Overall, our school program educators provided instruction to more than **645** individual Napa County students and made over **2,770** student contacts through 4 or more multiple classroom visits. In addition, NSAS sponsored monthly educational speaker seminars featuring local and nationally recognized ornithologists, which were attended by more than **500** community members. We also published three informative newsletters, which were sent by mail and email and made available on our website for all to read.

We engaged students and adults in a variety of volunteer conservation and citizen science activities, including Christmas Bird Counts, Bluebird Box Monitoring, Citizen Science Projects, and Community Education Events. These activities included participation in International Bird Rescue’s Open House, Mare Island’s Winged Migration Expo, and Napa and Solano County Earth Day events. Our volunteers also assisted with Earth Day cleanup efforts along Napa Creek in downtown Napa and participated in Coastal Cleanup Day activities along tributaries of the Napa River. We estimate that more than **650** students and **5,100** adults participated in these community programs and events.

Despite receiving only 47% of the funding requested through our NCWCC grant, we remained committed to achieving the goals outlined in our proposal. We made every effort to serve the number of students and community members originally projected, maximizing available resources to maintain the scope and impact of our planned activities.

Payroll expenses for Napa County classroom educators, field trip leaders, and monthly community speakers who provided school, birding, and community education programs totaled **\$8,723**. Our Education Program expenditures totaled **\$22,564.92** with in-kind donation costs estimated at an additional **\$19,150**.

NSAS also helped launch the statewide California Breeding Bird Atlas by contributing **\$10,000** toward the purchase of specialized database software that will compile breeding bird data from counties throughout California for this important statewide project.

In addition, NSAS contributed more than **\$1,500** in direct support and more than **\$3,500** in in-kind services for local citizen science activities, including Christmas Bird Counts, Climate Research Projects, and Endangered Species Surveys.

To further supplement these paid activities, NSAS members donated more than **3,500 volunteer hours** supporting classroom programs, field trips, citizen science data collection, community speaker series, and public outreach events.

The majority of our activities and grant expenditures are summarized in the attached spreadsheet. Program expenditure vouchers are included in a separate folder.

Please feel free to contact me at [NapaBirder@gmail.com](mailto:NapaBirder@gmail.com) or via phone at 707-246-2795 if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mark Stephenson, President  
Napa-Solano Audubon Society



NSAS NCWCC Expenditures 2025-26

|                                                                                      | Salary/Cost     | In-Kind Donations & Hours |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|--|
| <b>School Programs</b>                                                               |                 |                           |  |  |
| <b>Instruction &amp; Planning</b>                                                    |                 |                           |  |  |
| Tammy Saunders (Fall)                                                                | 450.00          |                           |  |  |
| Jane Hicks (Fall)                                                                    | 600.00          |                           |  |  |
| Jane Hicks (Spring)                                                                  | 693.75          |                           |  |  |
| Janelle Hall                                                                         | 143.75          |                           |  |  |
| Barry Briden                                                                         | 243.75          |                           |  |  |
| Mark Stephenson                                                                      | 1,550.00        |                           |  |  |
| Tammy Saunders (Spring)                                                              | 450.00          |                           |  |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                         | <b>4,131.25</b> |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
| <b>Classroom Materials</b>                                                           |                 |                           |  |  |
| Binoculars 20 Pairs of Nikon Pro3 8 X 42                                             | 2,869.92        |                           |  |  |
| School Program Brochures                                                             | 286.24          |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
| <b>Birding Program</b>                                                               |                 |                           |  |  |
| Beginner Bird Walks with Tom Slyker & Carol Boykin Volunteer In-Kind Donations       |                 | 1,800.00                  |  |  |
| Weekly Field Trips with Andrew Ford                                                  |                 |                           |  |  |
| Andrew Ford - Fall                                                                   | 900.00          |                           |  |  |
| Andrew Ford - Spring                                                                 | 900.00          |                           |  |  |
| <b>Total Weekly Birding Program</b>                                                  | <b>1,800.00</b> |                           |  |  |
| <b>Monthly Field Trips</b>                                                           |                 |                           |  |  |
| Carol Boykin - Walkie Talkies (Filed Trip Safety)                                    | 500.00          |                           |  |  |
| Healdsburg Academy with Wendy Cole & Mark Stephenson 9-21-25                         |                 | 100.00                    |  |  |
| Monterey & Big Sur 10-3 to 10-5-25 Bruce Thomsen & Mark Stephenson                   | 833.00          | 450.00                    |  |  |
| Abbott's Lagoon with Larry Kent & Mark Stephenson 11-15-25                           |                 | 200.00                    |  |  |
| Sacramento Valley Nat. Wildlife Refuges 12-5 to 12-7 Bruce Thomsen & Mark Stephenson | 532.00          | 300.00                    |  |  |
| Cosumnes River Preserve 1-17-26 with Phil Burton & Mark Stephenson                   | 127.00          | 150.00                    |  |  |
| Las Gallinas & Hamilton Wetlands 2-22-26 with Bruce Thomsen & Mark Stephenson        |                 | 150.00                    |  |  |
| Mines Road with Robin Leong 3-28-26                                                  |                 | 150.00                    |  |  |
| Mt. Diablo's Mitchell Canyon 4-23-26 with Phil Burton & Mark Stephenson              |                 | 150.00                    |  |  |
| Mono Lake & Eastern Sierra 6-4-26 to 6-7-26 Ruth Cooper & Mark Stephenson            | 600.00          | 800.00                    |  |  |
| <b>Total Birding Program</b>                                                         | <b>6,192.00</b> | <b>4,250.00</b>           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
| <b>Community Education</b>                                                           |                 |                           |  |  |
| <b>Monthly Speaker Seminars</b>                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
| Mark Stephenson The Biggest Week in Birding 9-11-25                                  | 0.00            | 200.00                    |  |  |
| Dan Airola Seminar Status of Purple Martins 10-9-25                                  | 100.00          |                           |  |  |
| Dr. Bob Lewis A Bord's Rainbow 11-13-25                                              | 0.00            | 200.00                    |  |  |
| Harry Fuller Birding from Here to There 1-8-26                                       | 0.00            | 200.00                    |  |  |
| Michael Heim The ins and Outs of Vaux's Swifts 2-12-26                               | 200.00          |                           |  |  |
| Dr. Jamie Chaves Galapagos Birds & Evolution 3-12-26                                 | 0.00            | 200.00                    |  |  |
| Aaron Heiman Birds of the CA Delta 4-9-26                                            | 200.00          |                           |  |  |
| Benny Jacobs-Schwartz 5-7-26                                                         | 200.00          |                           |  |  |
| <b>Total Speaker Seminar Honorariums</b>                                             | <b>700.00</b>   | <b>800.00</b>             |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
| <b>Room Rental</b>                                                                   | 150.00          |                           |  |  |
| Zoom                                                                                 | 199.90          |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      | <b>349.90</b>   |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |
|                                                                                      |                 |                           |  |  |



|                                                                                | Salary/Cost      | In-Kind Donations & Hours |                     |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <b>Educational Newsletters</b>                                                 | <b>Total</b>     | <b>Tizonne Design</b>     | <b>Digital Copy</b> | <b>Postage</b> |
| Fall                                                                           | 2,182.59         | 375.00                    | 1401.99             | 405.60         |
| Winter                                                                         | 950.36           | 387.50                    | 438.06              | 124.80         |
| Spring                                                                         | 805.25           | 331.25                    | 380.00              | 94.00          |
| <b>Total Newsletters</b>                                                       | <b>3,938.20</b>  |                           |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>Website Design &amp; Hosting Charles Cox</b>                                | <b>405.00</b>    |                           |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>Community Festivals</b>                                                     |                  |                           |                     |                |
| Winged Migration Expo                                                          | 500.00           | 500.00                    |                     |                |
| Napa Earth Day                                                                 | 150.00           | 24                        |                     |                |
| Solano Community College Earth Day Tabling                                     | 0.00             | 8                         |                     |                |
| International Bird Rescue Earth Day Tabling                                    | 0.00             | 16                        |                     |                |
| <b>Total Community Activities</b>                                              | <b>650.00</b>    | <b>548</b>                |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>Citizen Science</b>                                                         |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>1. CBC's</b>                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| Tom Slyker                                                                     | 1,052.31         | 1,000.00                  |                     |                |
| Eva Gomez                                                                      | 400.00           |                           |                     |                |
| St. Helena Parks Rental                                                        | 140.00           |                           |                     |                |
| Volunteer Hours                                                                |                  | 1,000                     |                     |                |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                                                | <b>1,592.31</b>  | <b>1,000.00</b>           |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>2. Bluebird Nest Box Program - Donated Boxes Built</b>                      |                  | <b>1,000.00</b>           |                     |                |
| Volunteer Hours 30 Volunteers 20 weeks                                         |                  | 600                       |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>3. Endangered Species Surveys in Kind Donations</b>                         |                  |                           |                     |                |
| Least Tern Surveys                                                             |                  | 12                        |                     |                |
| Snowy Plover Surveys - Tom Slyker & Mark Stephenson                            |                  | 12                        |                     |                |
| Shorebird Survey - Mark Stephenson, Tom Slyker, Phil Burton & Bruce Thomsen    |                  | 16                        |                     |                |
| Mountain Plover Surveys - Mark Stephenson, Tom Slyker, Pam Condos              |                  | 12                        |                     |                |
| Burrowing Owl Surveys - Mark Stephenson, Tom Slyker, Pam Condos                |                  | 12                        |                     |                |
| Climate Research Surveys Mark Stephenson, Phil Burton, Pam Condos, Adam Cimino |                  | 80                        |                     |                |
| <b>Subtotal In-Kind Surveys Hours</b>                                          |                  | <b>144</b>                |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>4. Breeding Bird Atlas</b>                                                  |                  |                           |                     |                |
| Volunteer hours                                                                |                  | 1,700                     |                     |                |
| Database Software Donation                                                     |                  | 10,000.00                 |                     |                |
| <b>Total Citizen Science</b>                                                   | <b>1,592.31</b>  |                           |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>Office Supplies</b>                                                         |                  | <b>300.00</b>             |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |
| <b>Total Program Costs &amp; In-kind Dollars</b>                               | <b>22,564.92</b> | <b>19,150.00</b>          |                     |                |
| <b>Volunteer Hours</b>                                                         |                  | <b>3,992</b>              |                     |                |
|                                                                                |                  |                           |                     |                |

| Classroom Students & Community Napa County Members Served Template |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Date Classroom Visit                                               | School/ Event             | Teachers Contact Info        | Grade Level | Program/Activity     | Students Served | Student Contacts | Instructor                             |
| <b>School Programs</b>                                             |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |
| 10/08/25                                                           | Brown's Valley Elementary | Gongora, Opp, Hall           | 4           | Bird Families        | 60              | 60               | Tammy Saunders                         |
| 10/15/25                                                           | Brown's Valley Elementary | Gongora, Opp, Hall           | 4           | Bird Adaptations     |                 | 60               | Tammy Saunders                         |
| 10/22/25                                                           | Brown's Valley Elementary | Gongora, Opp, Hall           | 4           | Bird Migration       |                 | 60               | Tammy Saunders                         |
| 11/5/2025                                                          | Brown's Valley Elementary | Gongora, Opp, Hall           | 4           | Bird Walk            |                 | 60               | Tammy Saunders                         |
|                                                                    |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |
| 10/14/25                                                           | Donaldson Way             | Banks, Hesser, McCarver      | 4           | Bird Families        | 90              | 90               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 10/21/2025                                                         | Donaldson Way             | Banks, Hesser, McCarver      | 4           | Bird Song            |                 | 90               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 11/28/2025                                                         | Donaldson Way             | Banks, Hesser, McCarver      | 4           | Bird Migration       |                 | 90               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 11/18/2025                                                         | Donaldson Way             | Banks, Hesser, McCarver      | 4           | Bird Walk            |                 | 90               | Jane Hicks, Barry Briden, Janelle Hall |
|                                                                    |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |
| 4/6/26                                                             | Napa Junction             | Kiehne, Marshall, Myers      | 3           | Bird Families        | 72              | 72               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 4/13/26                                                            | Napa Junction             | Kiehne, Marshall, Myers      | 3           | Bird Song            |                 | 72               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 4/20/26                                                            | Napa Junction             | Kiehne, Marshall, Myers      | 3           | Bird Migration       |                 | 72               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 4/27/26                                                            | Napa Junction             | Kiehne, Marshall, Myers      | 3           | Bird Walk            |                 | 72               | Jane Hicks                             |
| 5/4/26                                                             | Napa Junction             | Kiehne, Marshall, Myers      | 3           | Bird Walk            |                 | 72               | Jane Hicks, Barry Briden, Janelle Hall |
|                                                                    |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |
| 4/6/26                                                             | Vichy Elementary          | Ilsey, Keiser, Lloyd & Ilsey | 4, 5        | Bird Families        | 112             | 112              | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 4/13/26                                                            | Vichy Elementary          | Ilsey, Keiser, Lloyd & Ilsey | 4, 5        | Bird Migration       |                 | 112              | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 4/20/26                                                            | Vichy Elementary          | Ilsey, Keiser, Lloyd & Ilsey | 4, 5        | Bird Song            |                 | 112              | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 4/27/26                                                            | Vichy Elementary          | Ilsey, Keiser, Lloyd & Ilsey | 4, 5        | Habitat Conservation |                 | 112              | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 5/4/26                                                             | Vichy Elementary          | Ilsey, Keiser, Lloyd & Ilsey | 4, 5        | Bird Walk            |                 | 112              | Mark Stephenson                        |
|                                                                    |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |
| 4/9/26                                                             | Willow Elementary         | Blazer, Morton, Stephenson   | 5           | Bird Families        | 82              | 82               | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 4/16/26                                                            | Willow Elementary         | Blazer, Morton, Stephenson   | 5           | Bird Migration       |                 | 82               | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 4/30/26                                                            | Willow Elementary         | Blazer, Morton, Stephenson   | 5           | Bird Song            |                 | 82               | Mark Stephenson                        |
| 5/7/26                                                             | Willow Elementary         | Blazer, Morton, Stephenson   | 5           | Bird Walk            |                 | 82               | Mark Stephenson                        |
|                                                                    |                           |                              |             |                      |                 |                  |                                        |

|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------|------------------|----------|--------|-----------------|
|                                     | 2/26/26                    | American Canyon High School | Jeanne Hillyard       | 11-12 | Diversity        | 142      | 142    | Mark Stephenson |
|                                     | 5/21/26                    | American Canyon High School | Jeanne Hillyard       | 11-12 | Migration        |          | 142    | Mark Stephenson |
|                                     | 5/22/26                    | American Canyon High School | Jeanne Hillyard       | 11-12 | Bird Song        |          | 142    | Mark Stephenson |
|                                     | 5/26/26                    | American Canyon High School | Jeanne Hillyard       | 11-12 | Bird Walk        |          | 72     | Mark Stephenson |
|                                     | 5/27/26                    | American Canyon High School | Jeanne Hillyard       | 11-12 | Bird Walk        |          | 72     | Mark Stephenson |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
|                                     | 5/19/26                    | Alta Heights                | Gracia,Wade, Hulquist | 5     | Bird Families    | 90       | 90     | Tammy Saunders  |
|                                     | 5/26/26                    | Alta Heights                | Gracia,Wade, Hulquist | 5     | Bird Adaptations |          | 90     | Tammy Saunders  |
|                                     | 6/2/26                     | Alta Heights                | Gracia,Wade, Hulquist | 5     | Bird Migration   |          | 90     | Tammy Saunders  |
|                                     | 6/4/26                     | Alta Heights                | Gracia,Wade, Hulquist | 5     | Bird Walk        |          | 90     | Tammy Saunders  |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
| Total Students Served in Classrooms |                            |                             |                       |       |                  | 648      | 2778   |                 |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
| Community Events                    |                            |                             |                       |       |                  | Students | Adults |                 |
| (Estimate)                          | Connolly Ranch Earth Night |                             |                       |       |                  | 30       | 150    |                 |
|                                     | International Bird Rescue  |                             |                       |       |                  | 125      | 25     |                 |
| Jan. 31 - Feb. 1                    | Winged Migration Expo      |                             |                       |       |                  | 200      | 2500   |                 |
|                                     | Napa Earth Day             |                             |                       |       |                  | 175      | 800    |                 |
|                                     | Pacific Flyway             |                             |                       |       |                  | 75       | 20     |                 |
| Total Community Served              |                            |                             |                       |       |                  | 605      | 3495   |                 |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
| Field Trip Participants             | Beginner                   |                             |                       |       |                  | 20       | 168    |                 |
|                                     | Weekly                     |                             |                       |       |                  | 5        | 384    |                 |
|                                     | Monthly                    |                             |                       |       |                  |          | 250    |                 |
|                                     | Winged Migration           |                             |                       |       |                  | 10       | 150    |                 |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
| Monthly Seminars                    |                            |                             |                       |       |                  | 10       | 440    |                 |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |
| Citizen Science Activities          |                            |                             |                       |       |                  | 10       | 232    |                 |
|                                     |                            |                             |                       |       |                  |          |        |                 |

|                                                          |  |  |  |  |     |      |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|-----|------|--|
| Total Students Served in Classrooms and Community Events |  |  |  |  | 660 | 5119 |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|-----|------|--|



June 12, 2025

Attn: Pamela Arifian  
 Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
 1195 Third Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 Napa, CA 94559

Dear Pam,

The Land Trust of Napa County is pleased to report on another year of successful stewardship work that was funded by the Wildlife Conservation Commission. Your generous support toward our environmental education programming at the Mead Ranch Preserve (Funding Agreement #260092D) allowed us to pay for school bus transportation for two fourth grade classes from Pueblo Vista School, and to improve the Mead Ranch Preserve trail system. These improved trails were enjoyed by five fourth grade classes during their class field trips at the preserve this spring. We are extremely grateful to have been able to host more than 100 students at the preserve in 2026, and to provide them with opportunities to connect with and learn about vernal pool and chaparral habitat types, rare native plants, local wildlife, and nearby waterways in meaningful ways. Additionally, the Land Trust hosted two volunteer workdays and two guided public hikes on the preserve during the grant period. We appreciate your partnership in making all of this happen!

Now that these grant related projects are completed, we would like to request reimbursement in the amount of \$5,666.00. Please see the attached invoices and check stubs in the amounts of \$806.00 for the NVUSD school bus, and \$4,860.00 for our trail improvement work with the ACE crews. Please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have about these expenses. Thank you again for your ongoing support for our stewardship projects!

Best,

Megan Lilla  
 Stewardship Project Manager  
 Land Trust of Napa County







ACE Crew Maintaining Trails, March 2026



Pueblo Vista School 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip, April 2026



## **North Bay Bear Collaborative 2025–2026 Napa WCC Grant Deliverables Summary**

While field sampling efforts were significantly affected by circumstances beyond the project's control, including the Pickett Fire and prolonged periods of unsuitable weather, the North Bay Bear Collaborative remained committed to advancing the goals of this grant. A substantial portion of our Napa County sampling efforts occur on Napa Land Trust properties, particularly in the Angwin area, as well as Robert Louis Stevenson State Park, Bothe-Napa Valley State Park, and a few private properties on the napa boundary line next to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. The Pickett Fire, first reported on August 21, 2025, impacted both Duff Preserve and Wildlake Preserve, two primary DNA sampling locations, while weather conditions resulted in the cancellation of planned surveys after October 2025.

Despite these challenges, project partners adapted by expanding opportunistic sample collection, strengthening partnerships with Napa County organizations, investing in volunteer training and community outreach, and increasing wildlife camera monitoring capacity. As detailed in the following sections, the grant supported meaningful progress across multiple project objectives, including public education, volunteer engagement, wildlife monitoring, equipment deployment, and continued black bear conservation efforts throughout Napa County.

### **Labor Costs**

#### **NBBC Project Investigator (PI) – Community Meetings and Outreach**

The Project Investigator completed approximately 18 hours of planning, coordination, travel, and presentation time associated with three community meetings focused on black bear conservation and coexistence in Napa County.

- **Meeting 1 – May 20, 2026: Data and Connectivity Workshop**  
This meeting brought together conservation organizations, researchers, land trusts, and community members to discuss black bear movement, habitat connectivity, wildlife corridor planning, and conservation priorities within Napa County and the greater North Bay region. Participants reviewed current research, discussed movement barriers, and explored opportunities to use DNA and wildlife camera data to support future conservation planning.
- **Meeting 2 – May 28, 2026: Bear DNA Sampling Volunteer Training**  
Hosted at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, this training prepared volunteers and community members for the annual DNA sampling season. Participants learned black bear scat identification, sample collection protocols, safety procedures, sample prioritization methods, and documentation requirements. Volunteers were also introduced to outreach opportunities supporting community science efforts throughout Napa County and neighboring regions.

- **Meeting 3 – Online Zoom Recording: Outreach and Community Engagement Planning**

Meghan Walla-Murphy and the Land Trust of Napa County to develop a Napa County-specific online presentation highlighting local NBBC research, volunteer opportunities, and conservation efforts for public access.

Total Expenditure: \$1750.00

## **Services & Supplies**

### **Field Kit Supplies, Ethanol, Collection Bottles, First Aid, and Safety Gear**

Three complete DNA field kits were assembled and distributed to Napa County-based partner organizations and volunteer crew leaders conducting bear monitoring efforts. Supplies included collection materials, preservation supplies, safety equipment, and field documentation materials.

Total Expenditure: \$405.76

### **Volunteer Training Materials**

We were also able to create and distribute training materials for both volunteers and community members participating in the project. Field protocols, sampling procedures, and educational resources were developed to support DNA collection efforts and ensure consistency in field methods. Sampling protocols and training documents were produced in-house, while volunteer guidance brochures were professionally printed through VistaPrint for use during volunteer training, community meetings, and public outreach activities throughout Napa County.

Total Expenditure: \$485.03

### **DNA Lab Testing**

Due to wildfire impacts and weather-related survey cancellations, fewer samples were collected than originally anticipated. However, NBBC continued to support bear monitoring efforts through opportunistic DNA sample collection reported by community members. Images of potential bear scat observations submitted by the public were reviewed by project staff, and when observations were determined to be likely black bear scat, trained volunteers or staff collected the samples following established protocols. Through this effort, three opportunistic black bear scat samples were collected and submitted to the UC Davis Mammalian Ecology and Conservation Unit for genetic analysis.

Because laboratory processing and genetic analysis are ongoing, results are not expected until late summer or early fall of 2026. These data will contribute to understanding black bear distribution, movement patterns, and genetic diversity within Napa County and the greater North Bay region.

Total Expenditure: \$525.00 (\$175.00 per/sample)

## **Equipment**

### **Wildlife Cameras**

The cameras will be installed on Napa Land Trust properties where bear activity has been documented or is suspected. These sites include areas that have not previously been surveyed through organized scat collection efforts. The camera network will help identify new locations of bear activity, guide future DNA sampling efforts, and support long-term monitoring of black bears within Napa County.

Five Bushnell wildlife cameras were purchased to expand monitoring efforts in Napa County.

Total Expenditure: \$982.98

### **Camera Installation Equipment**

Additional equipment was purchased to support camera deployment, including SD cards, batteries, security boxes, and locking cables.

Total Expenditure: \$309.69

For anyone interested in learning more about the project, please visit this story map created by UC Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science & Management students for the North bay Bear Collaborative while we wait for our new website:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/4621b4e460ff46bb8718b154b7d17de5>



## **UCCE American Kestrel Program – 2026 Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Project Report**



**Project Summary:** Our objective was to monitor American Kestrel nest boxes in Napa County as part of a long-term regional research and monitoring program established in 2023. The data we collect contributes to the larger understanding of the interactions of American Kestrels and working landscapes and supports the conservation of a declining species. To accomplish this, we employed a part-time technician and experienced raptor biologist, Robyn Boothby, to support the ongoing research, monitoring, and outreach efforts in Napa County. The NWCC funds partially supported Robyn’s salary. Robyn worked at the interface of collaborators, landowners, and researchers and played a critical role in managing communication, coordination, and fieldwork efforts in Napa in the 2026 field season.

This project contributes to the enhancement of wildlife habitat and contributes to scientific research that can improve wildlife conservation and management in Napa County. Many natural tree cavities have been removed for development and agriculture, although properly placed and maintained nest boxes can provide a viable alternative for American Kestrel nest sites. The results of this project will generate science-based management recommendations to optimize American Kestrel nest box networks and inform us of their population status in Napa County. Involvement of local land managers and student researchers has fostered a wildlife conservation mindset within the community and helped train the next generation of scientists.



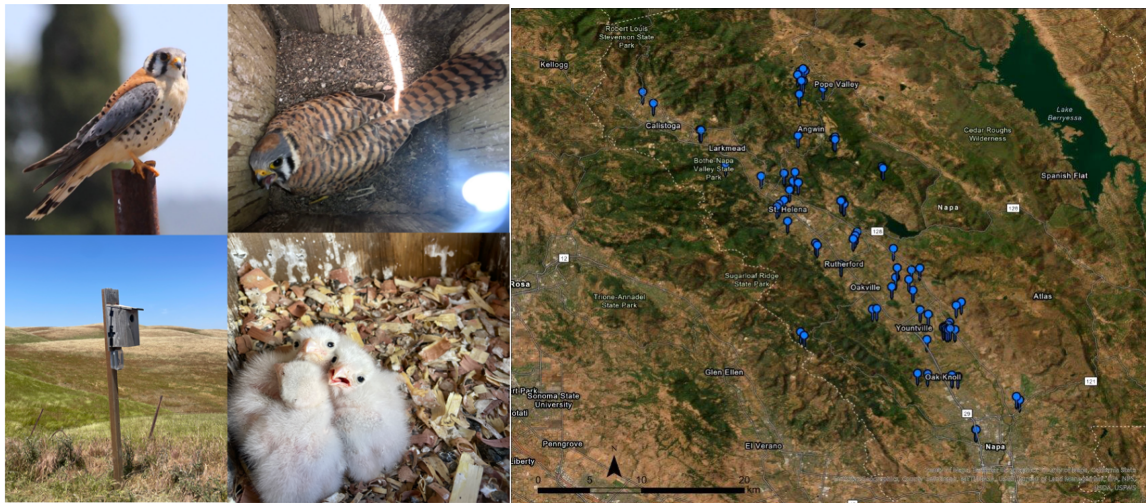
**Photo:** American Kestrel preys upon a rodent in a vineyard. Credit: R Bourbour

## Project Accomplishments— 2026 Mid-season update:

### Research

To date in the 2026 field season, we monitored over 73 nest boxes with more than 274 individual visits in Napa County, including 152 nests and over 707 visits by our team in the larger regional network. We closely monitored over 15 active American Kestrel and 5 Western Screech Owl nests in Napa County, where we gathered information on nest success and phenology. (Western Screech Owls use the same nest boxes.)

We partnered with UC Davis graduate student Mary Badger to deploy state of the art GPS tracking technology on over 15 breeding adult American Kestrels to learn about their home range and habitat selection for a second year. Research efforts also included placing cameras and nest temperature sensors to track provisioning rates related to temperature and land use. We banded and collected trace DNA for a diet study on over 100 American Kestrels. As part of this effort, we recruited four UC Davis student interns who participated in hands on field research efforts, important on the job training and experience for the next generation of wildlife scientists.



**Right:** (Clockwise) Breeding Kestrels-- adult male perched outside of nest box, adult female incubating in nest box, young nestlings, and nest box with camera set up. **Left:** American Kestrel nest box locations in the monitoring network across Napa County.



### *Extension and Science Communication*

Over 10 new land managers joined the monitoring network, and we had over 15 existing land managers participate in the field during research and monitoring work. We spoke at three scientific conferences (a local, national, and an international conference) about research and gave two online presentations to local Bird Alliance chapters.

We engaged the Napa winegrape growing community at an in person vertebrate pest management workshop and the larger California viticulturist community online through a webinar. We also hosted a 3-part online seminar series geared towards general members of the public.



**Top:** Napa vineyard vertebrate pest workshop. **Bottom Left:** Interns and vineyard managers get hands on experience in the field. **Bottom Right:** Presentation at scientific conference.

### *Anticipated Impacts*

The results of this project will continue to be translated into practical, science-based management guidelines and extension materials designed for land managers, agricultural producers, and the public. This research will be the focus of multiple peer-reviewed publications with a conservation and management in agroecosystems focus. These materials and recommendations will be broadly applicable across land use types and operational scales, supporting both agricultural and community-based stewardship of American Kestrel habitat.

At the local and regional scale, increased awareness and understanding of American Kestrels and their role in IPM on agricultural landscapes has already begun to facilitate the adoption and expansion of nest box networks by producers and land managers in the region. This work will increase the availability of nesting habitat, optimally managed landscapes, and will help establish baseline information on kestrel population health.

**Thank you** to the Hrdy Family, J Kreidler, T Slyker, T Clark, J McNerney, K Hunting, S Skalos, H Fendell Hummel, S Wilson, B Esquivel, A Heming, A Varni, A Gromperts, and all property owners and managers who have contributed to this work and allowed access for research and monitoring.



**Grant Report to Napa County Wildlife Conservation  
Commission: *Resolving Negative Human-Wildlife  
Interactions in Napa County: 2025-2026*  
05/19/26**

**Summary**

In Summer 2025, International Bird Rescue was recommended for a \$5,173 grant from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission, which the County approved on 9/30/25. The goal of this project is to address known, ongoing Human-Wildlife Conflicts (negative human-wildlife interactions) in Napa County. The grant's purpose is to offset nutrition, medicine, rehabilitation, and veterinary medical supply costs for birds admitted from within Napa County to our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center in Fairfield. We are pleased to share this Final Report on our activities with you.

**Project Overview**

With Napa County support, we addressed known, on-going Human-Wildlife Conflicts (negative human-wildlife interactions) in Napa County, and addressed numerous elements of California's Fish and Wildlife Code (especially in section 13103), as described in our original application.

Our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center functions as a "referral hospital," treating the most challenging cases that are beyond the capacity or skills of other regional wildlife centers and clinics, and releasing them back into the wild once they are successfully rehabilitated. Unlike traditional veterinary clinics, our patients come to us with no funding, no insurance, and no one responsible for paying the bill. Birds injured by human impact (as the majority of our cases are) require special skills, food, and nutrition in order to be rehabilitated successfully and returned to the environment. Only with philanthropic support from concerned citizens, foundations, corporations, and municipal agencies are we able to meet the demand for our services.

**County-specific Details**

In our last, complete fiscal year (FY25: 10/1/24-9/30/25), we admitted 2,950 wild, native, aquatic birds for care (1,769 in Northern California, and 1,181 in Southern California), on par with historical averages. The average length of time in care for all patients during this reporting period was 22 days (which is a 10% increase from 19.67 days the prior year). Patients represent 94 unique species, including:

- **Federally and State-listed Endangered species** California Least Tern
- **Federally Threatened species** Western Snowy Plover
- **IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Endangered Species** Ashy Storm-Petrel
- **IUCN Near-Threatened species** Elegant Tern
- **"Birds of Conservation Concern"** in our Bird Conservation Regions of "Coastal California" and "California Current:" Black-vented Shearwater, Brandt's Cormorant, Burrowing Owl, Clark's Grebe, Western Grebe, Guadalupe Murrelet, California Gull, Heermann's Gull, Western Gull, Laysan Albatross, Black-footed Albatross, and Willet

### **County-specific Details**

During this same time period, we rescued and rehabilitated 31 wild, native birds from Napa County, representing 14 different species: Black-crowned Night Heron, California Brown Pelican, Canada Goose, Common Goldeneye, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Egret, Greater White-fronted Goose, Green Heron, Kildeer, Mallard, Ring-billed Gull, Snowy Egret, and “**Birds of Conservation Concern**” California Gull and Western Grebe. Rescue locations included Napa, American Canyon, Rutherford, and St. Helena. Common causes of injury included removed from hazardous area, hit by car, and orphaned. The average length of care for these Napa County patients was 11.5 days, and 50% left our care alive (a significantly higher success rate than national wildlife rehabilitation averages). American Canyon is a common release location.

Between 10/1/25 and 5/15/26, the period during which Napa County grant funds were used, we rescued and rehabilitated 9 wild, native birds from Napa County, representing 5 different species: American White Pelican, Canada Goose, Great Blue Heron, Mallard, and Ring-necked Duck. All were rescued in Napa.

Causes of injury included starvation (as we’re seeing in Brown Pelicans currently), orphaned, disease (Bird Flu), fishing entanglements (hook and line), and unknown trauma. The average length of care for these Napa County patients was 13 days, and 50% left our care alive (again, higher than national wildlife rehabilitation averages).

Our work is ongoing and year-round, and we expect additional Napa County intakes throughout the remainder of the spring and summer.

### **Program Methodology**

We were able to efficiently and effectively rescue and rehabilitate so many wild birds because of our well-established response protocols, developed through years of direct, hands-on experience:

1. **Rescue:** Volunteers, citizens, and other rescue agencies transport injured and abandoned birds to our Wildlife Centers.
2. **Triage:** Birds first undergo a triage assessment by our professional veterinary staff where vital signs are taken, the bird's weight and measurements are recorded, and blood work is often done. A medical treatment plan and a nutrition plan are created specific to each bird.
3. **Medical Intervention:** Typically initiated after the first 24-48 hours in care, so that the trauma of capture can abate (remaining mindful that these are wild animals), and we can be assured that the animal has the strength to endure the stress of a medical procedure such as washing or surgery.
4. **Recovery:** Treated birds move to a recovery area, just as a patient would at a human hospital. Here, their progress is closely monitored until they are ready to move to a rehabilitation area.
5. **Rehabilitation:** Heal wounds and gain strength in our predator-proof aviary enclosures.
6. **Release:** When birds have healed and matured to be capable of survival on their own, they are released back into the wild at species-appropriate locations.

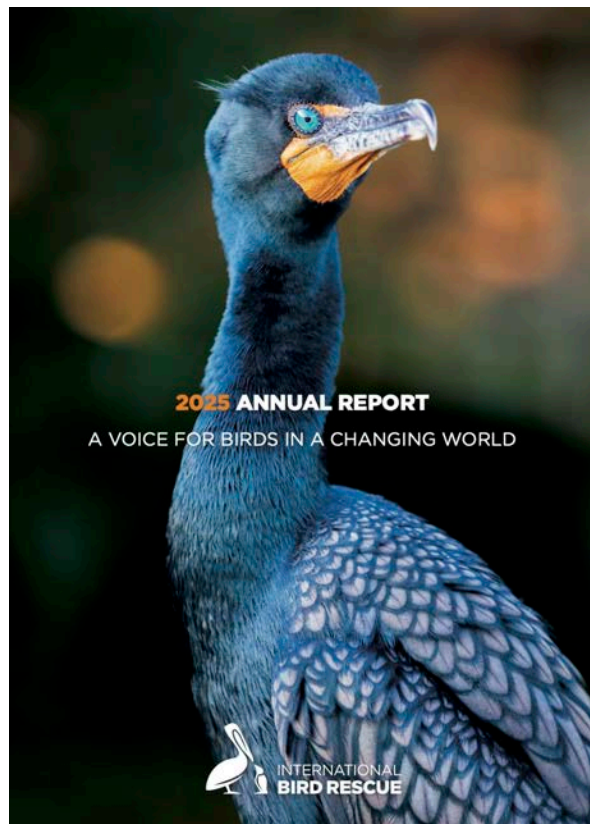
## Financial Report

As described in our original application, as shown below, and in the attached invoice, Commission funds were to be used to pay for material costs of necessary, expendable, animal nutrition (food), medicine, and basic veterinary medical supplies for birds admitted from within Napa County to our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center. No Commission funds were used for personnel, insurance, or capital expenses.

| #      | Date     | Account     | Vendor Name          | Invoiced Amount | Grant Supported   |
|--------|----------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1      | 10/13/25 | Animal Food | McRobert's Sales Co. | \$9,239.65      | \$5,173.00        |
| TOTALS |          |             |                      | \$9,239.65      | <b>\$5,173.00</b> |

## Other Organizational Activity:

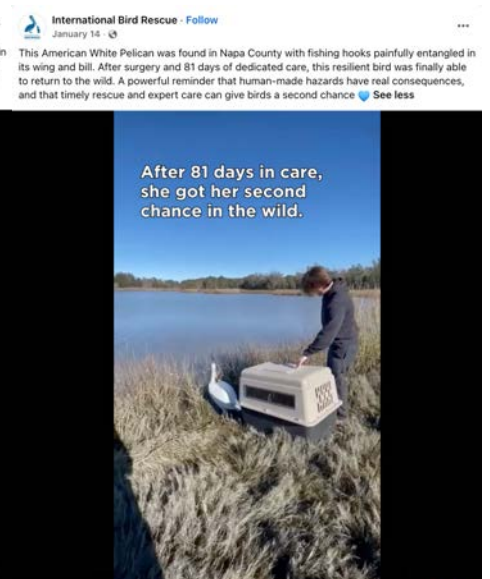
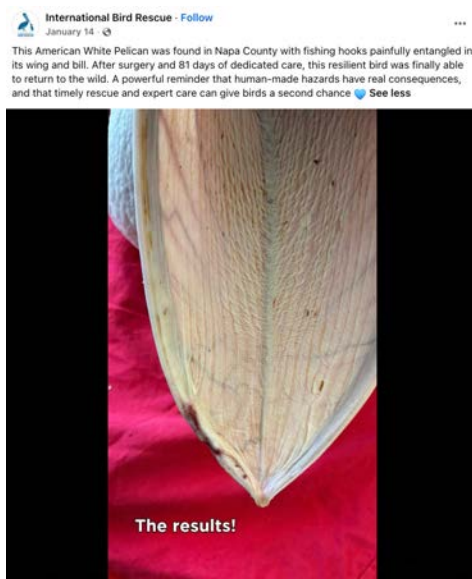
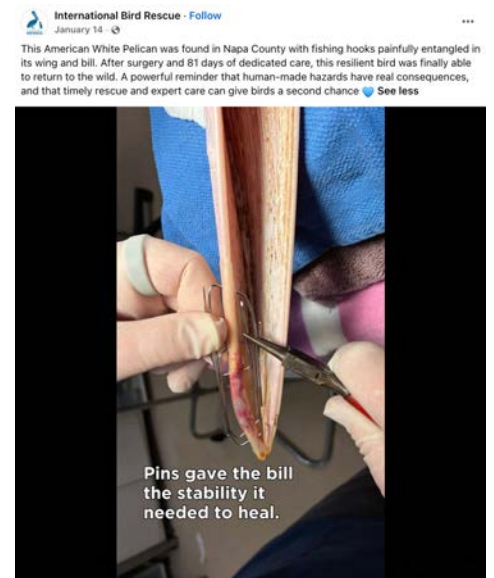
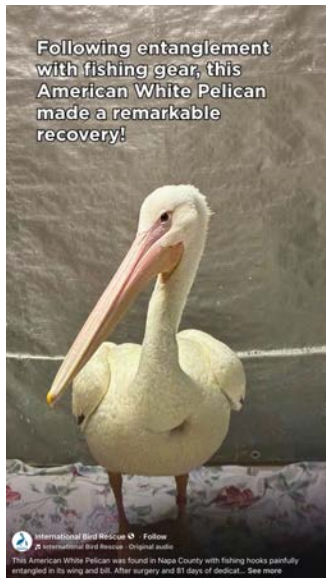
Please see the attached **2025 Annual Report** for more information, including images and more detail about how we are dealing with the current deadly threat facing wild birds: *Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza*, also known as Bird Flu.





<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1387454282313312>

## A Napa County Recovery Story:



### Contact:

International Bird Rescue  
4369 Cordelia Rd.  
Fairfield, CA 94534

Phil Kohlmetz, Grants Coordinator  
E: [grants@birdrescue.org](mailto:grants@birdrescue.org)  
P: 707-704-0350 or 707-207-0380





MCRORBERTS SALES CO., INC.  
PO BOX 489  
RUSKIN, FL 33575-0489  
USA

Page 1 / 1  
**Sales Invoice**  
PSI008487  
Date : October 13, 2025

Sell To : INTERNATIONAL BIRD RESCUE  
  
KELLY NESBITT  
4369 CORDELIA ROAD  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94534

Ship To : INTERNATIONAL BIRD RESCUE - SF  
CENTER  
KELLY BEFFA  
4369 CORDELIA ROAD  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94534

| Purch.Order No. | Customer No. | Salesperson    | Payment Terms | Freight Company | Req. Ship Date   |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
|                 | 01815        | CELESTE BONNER | N30           | CHALLENGER      | October 13, 2025 |

| Cases | Case Size | Description              | Lot # | UOM | Qty     | Unit Price | Total Price |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|-----|---------|------------|-------------|
| 32    | 1X16 KG   | IQF PACIFIC HERRING 5-8  | 28409 | LB  | 1128.76 | 1.65       | 1,862.45    |
| 74    | 1X10 KG   | PACIFIC HERRING 5-8      | 28381 | LB  | 1631.40 | 1.55       | 2,528.68    |
| 42    | 1X30 LB   | IQF PERUVIAN SMELT       | 30954 | LB  | 1260.00 | 2.65       | 3,339.00    |
| 1     | 2X13 KG   | BALTIC HERRING BLOCK 4-6 | 30956 | LB  | 57.32   | 1.00       | 57.32       |

*Kelly E Beffa*  
box SIGN 1VLLPQ71-19JQL93Z  
Oct 14, 2025  
460/7641

ACH/EFT/WIRE Information:  
SUNTRUST BANK NOW TRUIST  
ABA: 061000104  
Account: 1000213937203  
IBAN:

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Subtotal:         | 7,787.45        |
| Freight:          | 800.00          |
| Handling & Other: | 0.00            |
| Tax:              | 652.20          |
| <b>Total:</b>     | <b>9,239.65</b> |

For inquiries please e-mail ryan@mrobertssales.com or call 813-645-2561  
Thank you for your business!



## **2025 ANNUAL REPORT**

A VOICE FOR BIRDS IN A CHANGING WORLD



INTERNATIONAL  
**BIRD RESCUE**



## TEAM

Roaa Abdalla - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Cris Aldana - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Jeanette Bates - *Sr. Wildlife Rehab Tech II*  
 Dr. Nikki Becich - *Relief Veterinarian*  
 Kelly Beffa, RVT - *Wildlife Center Manager*  
 Michelle Bellizzi - *Response & Training Manager*  
 Devin Bergeles - *Projects Specialist*  
 JD Bergeron - *Chief Executive Officer*  
 Barbara Callahan - *Sr. Director of Response Services*  
 Caeley Carnahan - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Alex Carver - *Facilities & Safety Associate*  
 Jenny Chavez - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Kylie Clatterbuck - *Wildlife Center Manager*  
 Anna Corkery - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Sofie Dinglasan - *Wildlife Rehab Tech III*  
 Emily Dixon - *Marketing Consultant*  
 Alex Domeyko - *Director of Development & Partnerships*  
 Dr. Marianne Dominguez - *Relief Veterinarian*  
 Dr. Rebecca Duerr - *Sr. Director of Research & Veterinary Science*  
 Kadi Erickson - *Wildlife Rehab Tech II/Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator*  
 Daniel Flynn - *Program Manager, Conservation & Education*  
 Zac Galván - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Ariana Gastelum - *Marketing & Communications Specialist*  
 Henriette Jewell - *Sr. Wildlife Rehab Tech III*  
 Phil Kohlmetz - *Grantwriting Consultant*  
 Sierra Koop - *Wildlife Rehab Tech II*  
 Suzie Kosina - *Sr. Wildlife Rehab Tech II/Projects Specialist*  
 Isabel Luevano - *Special Projects*  
 Alex Luthi - *IT Specialist*  
 Jennifer Martinez - *Sr. Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Bella McCracken - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Jesse Menne, RVT - *Wildlife Rehab Tech II*  
 Liz Montenegro, RVT - *Sr. Wildlife Rehab Tech I/Program Support Associate*  
 Kelly Nesbitt - *Finance & Admin Associate*  
 Maddie Ogden - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Cheryl Reynolds - *Volunteer Programs Associate*  
 Ashley Scism - *Wildlife Rehab Tech II*  
 Julie Skoglund - *Sr. Director of Operations & Programs*  
 Esme Soler - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Erika Taylor - *Director of Finance & Admin*  
 Violet Taylor - *Development Coordinator*  
 Minh Tran - *Wildlife Rehab Tech I*  
 Dan Vega - *Facilities & Safety Associate*  
 Finn Watson - *Wildlife Rehab Tech III*  
 Emily Werdal - *Wildlife Rehab Tech II*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Prof. Nina Karnovsky  
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 Anjul Patney - *Governance Chair*  
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Robin Brewin  
 Anna Corkery  
 Eugene Chung  
 Zac Galván  
 Quinton Gamboa  
 Cleo Lu  
 Cristopher Pineda  
 Amy Sanchez  
 Esme Soler  
 Tate Weathers

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Gary Baum  
 Russ Curtis  
 Will Gala  
 Ron Morris  
 Scott Pinsky  
 Yixuan (Monica) Qu  
 Khushbu Shah  
 Gary Wagner  
 Michael Warner  
 Morrison & Foerster LLP



OUR MISSION IS  
 TO INSPIRE PEOPLE  
 TO ACT TOWARD  
 BALANCE WITH THE  
 NATURAL WORLD  
 BY RESCUING  
 WATERBIRDS  
 IN CRISIS.

WE DREAM OF A  
 WORLD IN WHICH  
 EVERY PERSON,  
 EVERY DAY, TAKES  
 ACTION TO PROTECT  
 THE NATURAL HOME  
 OF WILDLIFE AND  
 OURSELVES.

As 2025 unfolded, a series of bird crises demanded our attention. 2024 had barely settled when spring brought in displaced cormorant nestlings, followed by pelicans poisoned by harmful algae. Then came yet another wave of 300 starving pelicans, echoing challenges from 2022 and 2024. All while bird flu added complexity and cost to an already demanding year.

Despite the strain, I remain hopeful and grateful to the community that makes this work possible. Our team met the moment with professionalism, innovation, and an inclusive spirit that welcomed every volunteer and partner who stood up, reminding me that helpers will rise to protect the natural world alongside us.

Although we do not always know the cause of a crisis as it unfolds, we know birds are suffering, and our quick actions can prevent loss. In a world where three billion birds have vanished since 1970, our mission carries critical responsibility. We need stronger and more reliable emergency funding that reflects that urgency.

I envision a future where we reach wildlife faster, train more responders in lifesaving skills, work with partners to address threats before they escalate, and engage communities in outreach that inspires daily action. Together, we can rise to what the future is asking. With your commitment and support, we can give birds a second chance at life.

*JD Bergeron*

JD Bergeron, CEO



# TRACKING A YEAR OF CARE

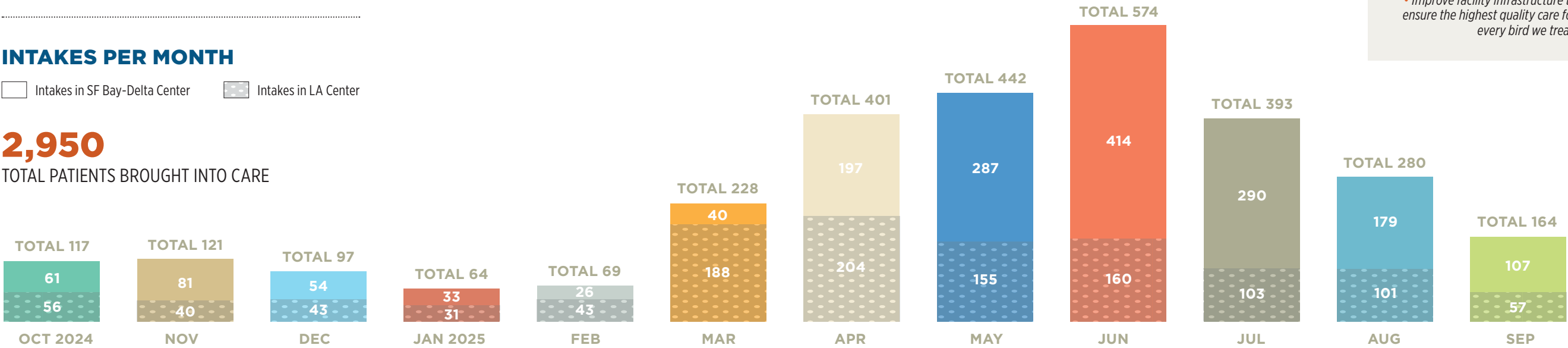
Shaped by unexpected environmental events, seasonal influxes, and persistent bird flu risks, this year's intake trends sparked new research, raised fresh questions, and still allowed us to sustain lifesaving rehabilitation numbers comparable to the previous year.

## INTAKES PER MONTH

Intakes in SF Bay-Delta Center   Intakes in LA Center

2,950

TOTAL PATIENTS BROUGHT INTO CARE



**FUTURE FOCUS**

- Expand staffing and volunteer support to boost research capacity, veterinary care, and overall clinic operations.
- Increase avian flu testing capabilities and sites, and help advance rapid point-of-care diagnostic tools.
- Improve facility infrastructure to ensure the highest quality care for every bird we treat.



**UNIQUE PATIENT**  
**Black-vented Shearwater**

Found washed up on the sands of Manhattan Beach, this bird was admitted to care and treated for starvation and contaminated feathers.



**CORMORANT CHICK RESCUE**

More than 60 Double-crested Cormorant eggs and chicks were rescued from a falling tree in Marina del Rey, CA. With help from the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, a wildlife biologist safely removed the nests. For three months, the young birds received intensive care. Staff wore cloaks and masks to prevent habituation as the chicks learned to self-feed and practiced diving for food.



**PELICAN STARVATION EVENT**

Hundreds of starving young Brown Pelicans were brought to our Los Angeles Wildlife Center and soon showed up in Northern California as well. The fledglings recently departed from their colonies offshore and were turning up in unusual and dangerous places inland from the coast. Many were very young birds, not fully grown, and did not seem to understand how to feed themselves.



**HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM**

More than 90 seabirds, including Brown Pelicans, loons, and grebes, were brought into care showing signs of domoic acid toxicity from a harmful algal bloom in Southern California. Many arrived seizing or disoriented. Because every species responds differently, staff carefully tailored treatment bird by bird, supporting each patient through those critical first days as their bodies worked to clear the toxin.



**UNIQUE PATIENT**  
**Belted Kingfisher**

This bird recovered from head trauma after colliding into a window of an In-N-Out restaurant in Fisherman's Wharf.



**UNIQUE PATIENT**  
**American Barn Owl**

This owl fell victim to a glue trap in Agoura Hills, CA, and underwent a wash to remove sticky residue from its feathers.



**UNIQUE PATIENT**  
**Rhinoceros Auklet**

This orphaned chick was raised in care among young murres and guillemots until it was ready to be released back into the wild.



# COMMUNITY & COLLABORATION

Our impact this year was only possible through collaboration. Working alongside conservation partners, rehabilitation allies, longtime supporters, and even unexpected audiences, we expanded awareness, strengthened community connection, and enabled lifesaving care for birds together.

## FUTURE FOCUS

- Strengthen existing partnerships by deepening collaboration, with new creative approaches, and creating meaningful, lasting impact together.
- Grow recognition in Solano County as a trusted community partner the region knows, values, and proudly champions.
- Create mission-driven collaborations that welcome new, diverse audiences into shared action and care for wildlife.

1,355

OAKLAND ZOO CAMPERS

\$2

DONATED TO IBR PER CAMPER



© Film Watson

### ▲ A JOINT EFFORT IN SHOREBIRD RESCUE

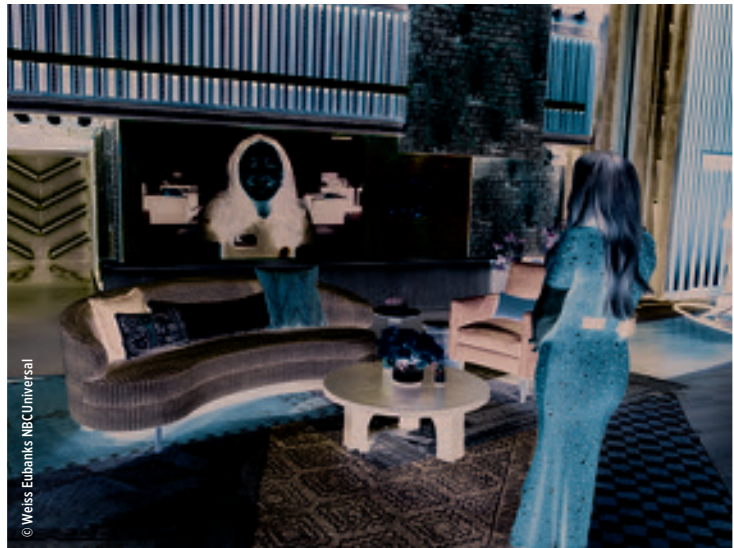
Partnerships proved lifesaving when windstorms buried Western Snowy Plover eggs at Point Reyes and unstable nesting conditions at the Montezuma Wetlands put plover, stilt, and avocet chicks at risk. Biologists from Point Reyes National Seashore Association and Point Blue Conservation Science rushed recovered eggs to our SF Bay-Delta Center to care for 61 shorebird chicks, with our teams collaboratively releasing federally threatened Western Snowy Plovers, strengthening a Pacific Coast population of fewer than 2,000.

### OAKLAND ZOO CAMP ►

Bird Rescue was a featured partner at Oakland Zoo's ZooCamp, aligning with our shared mission of wildlife and nature conservation. Through our collaboration on the Heron Rescue Project, ZooCamp celebrated Oakland's official bird, the Black-crowned Night Heron, on camp shirts alongside the Bird Rescue logo, empowering youth to raise awareness and champion one of our most frequently rescued species.



© Daniel Flynn



© Weiss Eubanks NBCUniversal

### ▲ PARTNERSHIPS THAT INSPIRE

#### Remember to Look Up

Through a feature on The Kelly Clarkson Show, Bird Rescue staff member Jennifer Martines shared our work, inspiring over a million viewers to "look up," appreciate, and protect local wildlife.

#### 'Un Mundo Maravilloso Azul'

In partnership with Dawn, we produced a Spanish-language video of *The Wonderful World of Blue* children's book, expanding conservation storytelling and nature connection for Spanish-speaking kids.

#### Community Support - Nothing Like It!

Bird Rescue partnered with the San Francisco Giants during their community spotlight to raise awareness among 40,000 fans, shining a light on the pelican crisis on the stadium's big screen.

#### A Flying Free Blend

We collaborated with Ampersand Coffee Roasters to launch a bird-friendly roast that elevates conservation awareness while supporting community engagement and care for waterbirds in crisis.



© Ariana Gastelum

### ▲ UNITED FOR SEABIRD RECOVERY

This year, four young Pigeon Guillemots showed the power of care—and partnership. After arriving oiled from a natural seep off the Santa Barbara coast, they were washed, treated, and strengthened at Bird Rescue. Working together with Point Blue Conservation Science and Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network, we transported them to Vandenberg Space Force Base, where they leapt from the cliffs and reunited with their species.

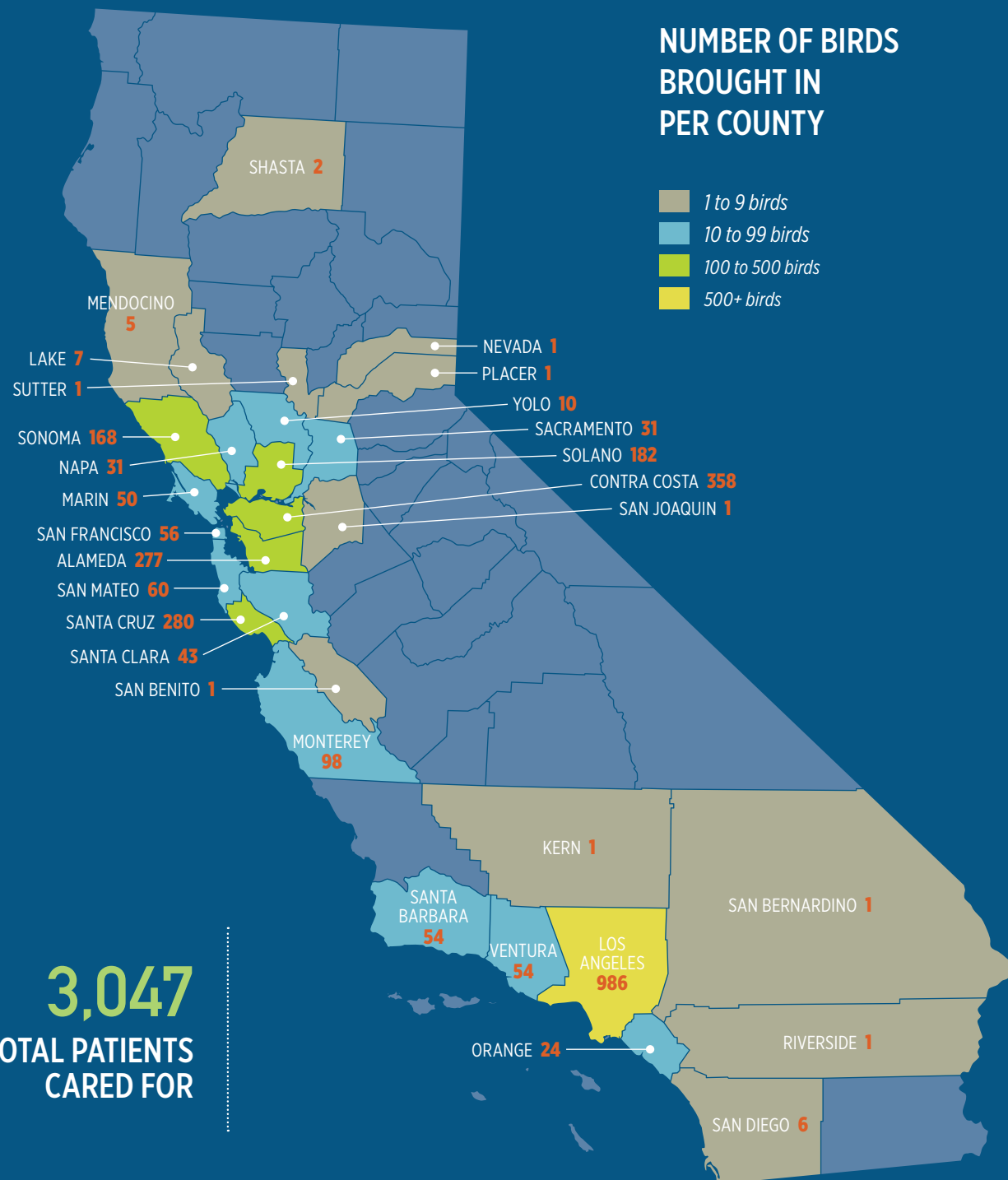




# BY THE NUMBERS

Every number on this page represents a second chance for birds and a community we proudly serve, all made possible by our supporters and our dedicated team.

## NUMBER OF BIRDS BROUGHT IN PER COUNTY



**3,047**  
TOTAL PATIENTS  
CARED FOR

## TOP 8 SPECIES IN CARE



MALLARD - **486**  
*Most abundant species in LA Center*



BROWN PELICAN - **364**



WESTERN GULL - **347**



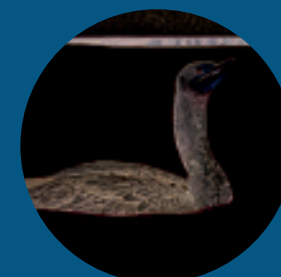
SNOWY EGRET - **274**  
*Most abundant species in SF Bay-Delta Center*



CANADA GOOSE - **190**



BLACK-CROWNED  
NIGHT HERON - **175**



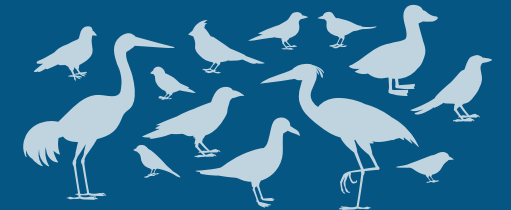
DOUBLE CRESTED  
CORMORANT - **138**



COMMON MURRE - **115**



**67,738**  
TOTAL BIRD DAYS  
IN CARE



**105** DIFFERENT SPECIES  
CARED FOR



**117**  
BIRDS WASHED



**291**  
SURGICAL  
PROCEDURES



**204**  
BROWN PELICANS  
FITTED WITH BLUE  
BANDS

**1,182**  
ORPHANED BIRDS  
BROUGHT INTO CARE





# READY BEFORE WE'RE NEEDED

This year, the team advanced readiness through drills, training, and collaboration, preparing the next generation of responders across the continent. Each exercise strengthens our preparedness to act when disaster strikes.



## FUTURE FOCUS

- Strengthen Search and Rescue capacity with expanded staffing, equipment, and sustainable funding for rapid wildlife response.
- Grow national access to hands-on response training by bringing workshops to new regions including the Gulf.
- Advance preparedness systems that help responders act quickly during emerging toxins, outbreaks, and climate-driven wildlife emergencies.

### 1 BIRD FLU SCREENING SHEDS

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza continues to reshape wildlife care, and this year we invested in new Bird Flu Screening Sheds to increase safety for both birds and people. These units allow staff to assess incoming patients, isolate high-risk cases, and maintain strict biosecurity during outbreaks. This added layer of preparedness helps protect wildlife during unpredictable flu seasons.

### 2 SEARCH & RESCUE PILOT

We launched a Search and Rescue pilot in Los Angeles, putting rapid-response skills into action during a major environmental toxin event. The Bird HelpLine guided staff and trained volunteers toward safe rescue missions, while a new volunteer transport team moved contained birds into professional care. The pilot not only strengthened our ability to reach wildlife more quickly, but expanded access to critical services in underserved coastal communities.

### 3 HONORING A HISTORIC RESPONSE

This year marked 25 years since the Treasure Spill of June 2000, the most successful wildlife rescue event in history, when more than 20,000 African penguins were saved. At the Effects of Oiled Wildlife Conference in South Africa, five members of our team attended, led presentations, and honored the experts whose groundbreaking work proved that preparation, innovation, and teamwork can change the fate of a species. Their legacy continues to guide and inspire us today.

16  
RESPONSE  
TRAININGS &  
DRILLS

1,350  
RESPONSE  
TRAINING  
PARTICIPANTS





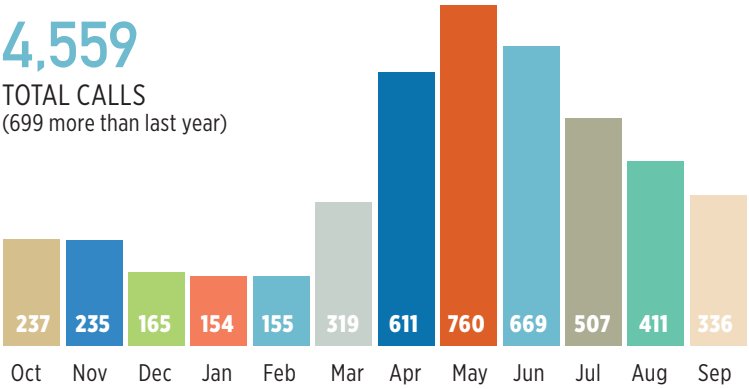
# INSPIRING EVERY PERSON TO TAKE ACTION

This year, we continued to empower and engage people of all ages through hands-on education programs, community outreach events, and real-time support from our Bird HelpLine, ensuring everyone has the knowledge and tools to help wildlife and protect their habitat.

## FOUND A BIRD? CALL 1-866-SOS-BIRD

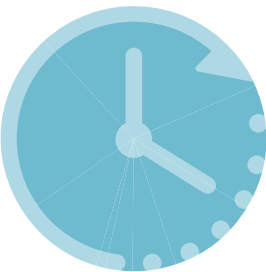
Our Bird HelpLine guides people who want to act to help birds but aren't sure how. This year, we saw continued growth in calls and increased numbers of birds aided through public support.

### TOTAL CALLS PER MONTH



**22** BIRDS RESCUED BY IBR STAFF & VOLUNTEERS AS A RESULT OF THE BIRD HELPLINE

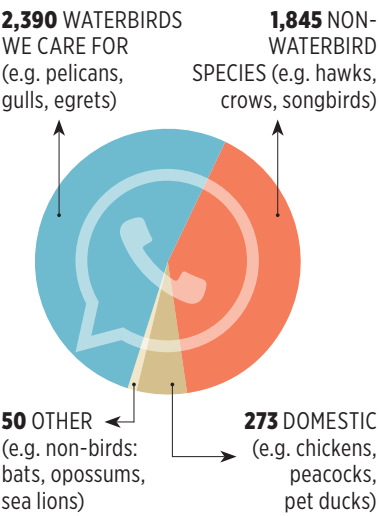
### BIRD HELPLINE RESPONSE TURNAROUND TIME



**68%**  
CALLS RESPONDED TO WITHIN THE HOUR

**1 in 4**  
CALLS RESPONDED TO IN UNDER 10 MINUTES

### THE CALLS WE GET



### CALLS FROM...

**4 COUNTRIES:** Belgium, Russia, South Africa, USA

**14 STATES:** CA, AK, AL, AZ, FL, LA, MA, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OR, TX, WA

**40 COUNTIES**



- Strengthen partnerships with Solano County schools and LAUSD to reach and inspire more students.
- Participate in new community events to engage broader audiences in everyday wildlife action.
- Expand Bird HelpLine volunteer support to better assist callers reporting birds in need.

### CONNECTING TO NATURE AT CORDELIA SLOUGH

Our Northern California youth education program brought in nearly twice as many visitors this year, bolstering Solano County students to build a deeper appreciation for local wildlife in their own backyard. Supported by the Pacific Flyway Fund and California Waterfowl Association, Bird Rescue maintains the habitat and conducts a census tracking over 100 bird species and other wildlife including beavers, otters, and more!



### BECOMING A BIRD RESCUER FOR A DAY IN SAN PEDRO

Students got their hands dirty experiencing what it's really like to be a wildlife rehabber, discovering how oil affects feather waterproofing and carefully practicing the process of cleaning and restoring aquatic birds. With our continued and growing partnerships with Los Angeles Unified School District and collaborating with the Marine Mammal Care Center, we're excited to welcome even more students into our onsite classroom next year.



### SHARING THE WORLD OF WATERBIRDS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

Because Bird Rescue isn't regularly open to the public, outreach events and our annual Open Houses remain one of our most meaningful ways to interact with our community. We welcomed over **400 visitors** to our two Open Houses and attended **62 events**, engaging **7,741 people** through presentations and connecting more people to wildlife conservation and our mission.





# THE HEART OF BIRD RESCUE

259  
VOLUNTEERS  
CONTRIBUTED  
30,497  
HOURS

Our volunteers bring diverse skills, wisdom, and a willingness to wear many hats that truly make all the difference. Whether supporting outreach, caring for patients, or capturing powerful photographs that share birds' stories, volunteer dedication fuels our mission, strengthens our community, and changes lives every day.

The impact is felt in every corner of our organization- answering urgent calls on the Bird HelpLine, supporting education programs, lending administrative and horticulture help, maintaining our facilities, transporting birds in need, and offering leadership and expertise. Because of them, our vision for a world where everyone takes action for birds becomes a little more real each day.



### OUTREACH INSPIRING ACTION

Engaging with the public at events, outreach volunteers share birds' challenges, inspire advocacy and support, and encourage meaningful community involvement to help protect the future of waterbirds.

*"My favorite job has been working in recruiting volunteers and donors and educating the public by making them aware of IBR's critical work and substantial needs. I'm old, now at 75, but I feel I'm 'cool old' and love to share my time and experience with kids of all ages."*

—Mike Eliot

### CLINIC SUPPORT TAKING ACTION

Working side by side with staff, clinic volunteers prepare diets, clean habitats, and care for injured and oiled birds, directly shaping each patient's path toward healing and release.

*"I feel a sense of responsibility to help reverse some of the damage that humans cause to the planet and to the other species that live on it. It's hard to beat close-ups with the birds. Releasing birds back into the wild makes me really happy too."*

—Angie Holdeman



### PHOTOGRAPHY PRESERVING OUR ACTION

Through their lens, volunteer photographers reveal the struggles and triumphs of birds in care, connecting the public to Bird Rescue's mission and fostering support for wildlife.

*"Having this experience of rescuing, rehabilitating, and then releasing a bird that I found in distress ties in beautifully to my ten year anniversary at Bird Rescue. I teared up as I was filming the bird going back into the water. It has definitely inspired my photography, meeting so many bird species and seeing their beauty up close."*

—Katrina Plummer



© Jeanette Bates

## THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

#### 20 + YEARS

Donna Callison  
Marjorie Elliott  
Susan Kaveggia  
Judith Kordich  
David Weeshoff

#### 15-19 YEARS

Eddie Brackett  
Diane Carter  
Arlene Davis  
Karen Howarth  
Nancy Kaump  
Marguerita Scannell  
Karen Sheldon  
Carol Soloski  
Jim Walsh

#### 10-14 YEARS

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Maxine Fredericksen  
Martha Joseph  
Jane Kiss  
Julie Matsuura  
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Bina Ahmad  
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Jacky Alvarez  
Barbara Anderson  
Skylar Andrews  
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- Recruit volunteers from diverse backgrounds to strengthen our mission and expand community impact.
- Attract individuals with specialized skills to enhance bird care, outreach, and organizational support.
- Increase volunteer presence at community events, classrooms, and open houses.



IN GRATITUDE TO OUR DONORS

We are deeply grateful for donors at every level whose generosity makes our work possible. Every contribution creates a life-changing impact for birds in need. Below is a selection of our 2025 supporters. For the full donor list, please visit [birdrescue.org/donors2025](https://birdrescue.org/donors2025)

In the event that we accidentally omitted your name from this list, please contact us at [gifts@birdrescue.org](mailto:gifts@birdrescue.org) and we will update the donor roll immediately.

Seabird Circle donors give monthly, and are our key partners in supporting waterbirds in crisis.

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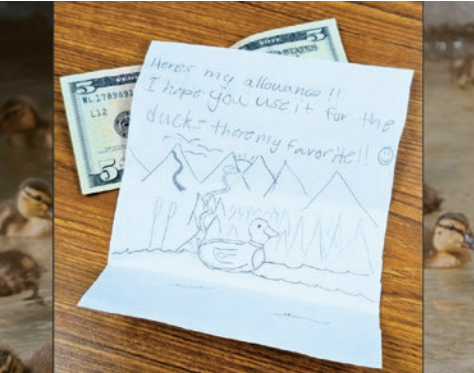
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Fairfield Garden Club  
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Maureen Forney  
Debra M. Frederick  
Frederick Fuentes



NO DONATION TOO SMALL. YOUNG SUPPORTER QUINN DONATED HIS \$5 ALLOWANCE TO HELP HIS FAVORITE BIRD!

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Anna and Benjamin Becker  
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Bruce Berry  
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Janal Borgo  
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DeeAnn Bradley  
Dr. Annemarie Bridy  
Janis Brioza  
Janet and Micah Broude  
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Deborah Bullock  
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Nicole Harper  
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Rene Hendrix  
Cheree Hethershaw  
Chip Holland  
Susan Hoppe, MD  
Debi Howard  
Mary Huber  
Dr. Cynthia Humphreys  
Andrew Hutchinson  
Sandra Ince  
Chelsea Jamieson  
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Ronald Johnson  
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Judy and Steven Kazan  
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Andy Kelchner  
Ellen Kelly



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 Caroline Kim  
 Eileen King  
 Arti Kirch and Cynthia Siegel  
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 Kanan Krishnan  
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 Raymond Sheets  
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Elisa Taylor-Godwin  
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 Verla Winslow  
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 Tina Wong  
 Sheri Woolbert  
 Esther Wright  
 Paul Yonet  
 David Youmans  
 Douglas Yule  
 Kelly Zidar

#### IN MEMORY GIFTS

**In Memory of Shelly Brown**  
 Bob Allen  
 Lawrence and Judy Brown  
 Ruth Gauss  
 Deirdre Laverdiere  
 Kevin McFarland  
 Scott Samuels  
 Janet Waldman

**In Memory of Jeannette Reynolds**  
 JD Bergeron and Travis Harrell  
 Karen Sheldon  
 Nadine Skye-Davis  
 Dr. Margaret Walton

Anonymous  
 in memory of Betty Mowery  
 Ronald Askham  
 in memory of Bill Nichols  
 Alison Garvin  
 in memory of Kathy Baldanza  
 Donna Hodges  
 in memory of James A. Hodges  
 Richard K. Johnson  
 in memory of Nancy R. Teater  
 Eddie Nishizaki  
 in memory of Lela Nishizaki  
 Leah Noroña and Michael Pulkoski-Gross  
 in memory of Jane Gately  
 Carrie and Jim Stark  
 in memory of Barbara Gittings  
 Jacquelyn Thomas  
 in memory of Don Miller  
 Mekel Wakshlag  
 in memory of Ilene Serline  
 Bob Weil  
 in memory of Marcia Goodman  
 Lori Wells  
 in memory of Hazel Lolley  
 Paige and Tomas White  
 in memory of EDA Randolph

#### TRIBUTE GIFTS

**In honor of Toni Arkoosh Pinsky**  
 Janet Steiner  
 Paige W. White

Eliot Beer  
 in honor of Eugen Beer  
 Janis Brioza  
 in honor of Travis Poitras  
 Elizabeth Cain  
 in honor of Martha Joseph  
 Judith Cameron  
 in honor of Ann M. Cantrell  
 Ann M. Cantrell  
 in honor of Anna Christensen  
 Michelle Chang  
 in honor of Jay and Marie Weiner  
 Marilyn Clemenza  
 in honor of Kathleen Shecter  
 Eileen Corder  
 in honor of Columbine Robinson  
 Jack Doehring  
 in honor of John Marley  
 Joseph Durkin  
 in honor of Brendan Champlin  
 Karen Friedman  
 in honor of Kate Reed  
 Andre Goodrich  
 in honor of Elaine Shaw  
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 in honor of John P. Anderson  
 Ruthann Grossman  
 in honor of Gerri Oshry  
 Joyce Ishimoto  
 in honor of Julie Matsuura  
 Joyce Ishimoto  
 in honor of Mary Artino  
 Richard Ivry  
 in honor of Donatella Scabini  
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 Kate Karp  
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 Billy Marker  
 in honor of Tiffany Marker  
 Mary Mazzocco  
 in honor of Jeannette Reynolds  
 Laurie S. Minamide  
 in honor of Joel Minamide  
 Jen K. Moran  
 in honor of Betsy Betsy  
 Amanda Morgan  
 in honor of John Morgan  
 Claire Paschal  
 in honor of Lizzie Paschal  
 Rachel Phillips  
 in honor of Deborah Phillips  
 Sarah Rawson  
 in honor of Zoe Rawson  
 Shannon Reider  
 in honor of Hannah Livnat  
 Floyd Samms  
 in honor of Judy A. Kordich  
 Denyse M. Serrano  
 in honor of Denyse M. Serrano  
 Linda Vasquez  
 in honor of Cory Bennett  
 Jennifer Weissler  
 in honor of Adam Weissler

#### LEGACY SOCIETY

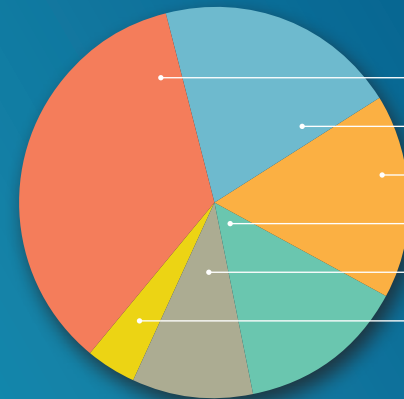
Lucinda Anskin  
 Shelly Barbanica  
 Robert Beckler  
 Jodi Benassi and Travis Poitras  
 Karen Benzel and Dan Brumlik  
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 Dianne Bougher  
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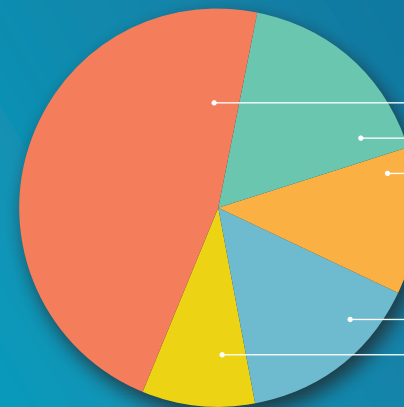
# FINANCIAL HEALTH

## 2025 SUPPORT AND REVENUE TOTAL \$4,542,544



|     |             |                               |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 35% | \$1,578,799 | Grants & Corporate Gifts      |
| 20% | \$898,713   | Individual Gifts              |
| 17% | \$787,595   | Earned Revenue & Other Income |
| 14% | \$631,897   | Legacy & Planned Gifts        |
| 10% | \$457,520   | In-Kind Contributions         |
| 4%  | \$188,020   | Special Events & Sponsorships |

## 2025 EXPENSES TOTAL \$3,619,707



#### PROGRAM EXPENSES:

|     |             |                               |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 47% | \$1,703,409 | Rehabilitation & Research     |
| 17% | \$624,234   | Emergency Response & Training |
| 12% | \$424,823   | Conservation & Education      |
| 76% | \$2,752,466 | Total Program Expenses        |

#### SUPPORT SERVICES:

|     |           |                |
|-----|-----------|----------------|
| 15% | \$543,684 | Fundraising    |
| 9%  | \$323,557 | Administration |

This year brought both planned investments and unexpected challenges. Alongside a major effort to enhance biosecurity in response to avian influenza, Bird Rescue managed several wildlife emergencies where no responsible party was identified, and as a result had to fund 100% of the response costs to ensure birds received the care they needed.

Rising expenses continue to impact the Avian Rehabilitation & Research Program, particularly the increasing costs of food, medical treatment, and wildlife hospital upkeep. We continue to keep a lean staff, relying heavily on volunteer efforts and in-kind support.

Bird Rescue made strategic investments in facilities, upgrading screening spaces and completing essential work on the administrative building. Thanks to donor generosity, and several timely planned gifts, we successfully covered all operating expenses and concluded the year with a strong surplus.

Audited Financial statements can be requested at [gifts@birdrescue.org](mailto:gifts@birdrescue.org)

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INTERNATIONAL  
**BIRD RESCUE**

**birdrescue.org**

**Bird HelpLine: 1-866-SOS-BIRD** (1-866-767-2473)

**Spill Emergency Line: 1-888-447-1743**

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY-DELTA WILDLIFE CENTER**

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# Napa County

## Board Agenda Letter

1195 THIRD STREET  
SUITE 310  
NAPA, CA 94559  
www.napacounty.gov  
Main: (707) 253-4580

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission **Agenda Date:** 8/24/2026

**File ID #:** 26-1572

TO: Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
FROM: Dana Morrison, Secretary to the Wildlife Conservation Commission  
REPORT BY: Pam Arifian, Planner III  
SUBJECT: Review, Discuss and Make Recommendations for the 2026-27 Grant Cycle

### RECOMMENDATION

..title  
Receive a report from Wildlife Conservation Commission (WCC) staff regarding the 2026-2027 Grant Cycle, hear presentations from Applicants, deliberate and pass a motion on Recommendations for the Director of Planning, Building & Environmental Services (pursuant to the Napa County Policy Manual Section 8A [Rev. 7/25/2023]) on how the current grant funds should be allocated for the 2026-2027 cycle.  
..body

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Board of Supervisors allocated a total of \$75,000 for the 2026-27 Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Cycle. The grant application window opened on June 22, 2026, and closed on July 22, 2026, during which time the WCC received 14 eligible grant proposals that requested a total of approximately \$187,739 in funding.

The Commission will receive a report providing a summary of the 2026-27 Grant Cycle proposals and will then hear presentations from and have the opportunity to ask questions of each applicant by the Commission in the order listed herein. Once all applicants have had the opportunity to answer questions, the Commission will deliberate and pass a Motion on Recommendations for the Director of Planning, Building & Environmental Services (pursuant to the Napa County Policy Manual Section 8A [Rev. 7/25/2023]) on how the current grant funds should be allocated for the 2026-2027 cycle.

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The WCC 2026-2027 Grant Awards do not meet the definition of a "project" as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and, therefore, CEQA is not applicable.

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Wildlife Conservation Commission received a total of fourteen (14) grant applications during the 2026-2027 Grant Application Cycle, with requests that total approximately \$187,739 in funding. This reflects an increase from eleven (11) applications totaling a requested \$134,921 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 and a continued elevated total amount of funds requested in a cycle relative to available funds, with the average amount requested per cycle over the last five (5) years (2021-2025) being approximately \$87,384.

### FY 2026-27 BUDGET

The total budget for FY 2026-2027 is \$75,000, which was allocated by the Board of Supervisors from the General Fund to the WCC Grant budget for this grant cycle. The available budget of \$75,000 equates to approximately 40% of the total eligible funding requests.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

The Bylaws task the WCC with supporting those proposals that advance the purposes listed in Section 13103 of the California Department of Fish & Game Code (CDFG). The WCC has established four (4) Selection Criteria Priorities for proposals to aid Commissioners in decision-making; these are listed at the end of Grant Application Requirements, along with the CDFG Code Section 13103, all of which is enclosed in this Agenda Packet, and available on the WCC website. Note: Staff recommend that Commissioners refer to the Selection Criteria and the CDFG Section 13103 criteria documents when reviewing the grant proposals to assist in the discernment of allocation recommendations.



**SUMMARY OF GRANT PROPOSALS RECEIVED**

The following is a summary of the fourteen (14) eligible grant proposals from each of the organizations that submitted applications during the 2026-2027 Grant Cycle; the complete proposal packages can be found as attachments to this agenda item. Also enclosed are the following documents regarding historic grant funding for reference:

- 2026-27 Grant Applications Summary
- Grant Award Details by Year - Most Recent 10 Years
- Grant Awards by Organization - Most Recent 10 Years
- Grant Awards by Category - Since 2002
- Grant Award Requests vs. Funding - Since 2002

The grant applications fall into the following categories (please note that several applications request funding for projects that fall into more than one category):

Environmental Education: 7 applications requesting a total of \$87,654 (47% of total)

Habitat Restoration: 4 applications requesting a total of \$64,401 (34% of total)

Wildlife-Direct Care: 1.5 applications requesting a total of \$19,910 (11% of total)

Wildlife Research: 1.5 applications requesting a total of \$15,775 (8% of total).

**1. North Bay Bear Collaborative - \$15,000**

Support black bear DNA laboratory analysis and outreach efforts in Napa County, as well as partial support for Principal Investigator (PI) staff time at Sonoma Ecology Center (fiscal sponsor for NBBC) to strengthen partnerships with Napa County organizations, expand community engagement, and increase local participation.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration

- Application is complete
- Proposal meets CDFG Code §13103 criteria (a) and (i)
- Proposal meets Napa County WCC Selection Criteria #1 and #4
- Categories: Research, Environmental Education
- Received WCC funding in FY 2025-26

**2. UCCE Napa County American Kestrel Nest Box Network - \$10,550**

Support for salary of a part-time technician to monitor 100 American Kestrel nest boxes throughout Napa County and continue to provide technical assistance to land managers on nest box installation and management through the 2027 field season.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration

- Application is complete
- Proposal meets CDFG Code §13103 criteria (e) and (i)
- Proposal meets Napa County WCC Selection Criteria #1 and #4
- Categories: Research, Restoration
- Received WCC funding twice in FY 2023-24 and FY 2025-26

**3. International Bird Rescue - \$8,110**

Support the cost of the rescue & rehabilitation of approximately 50 aquatic birds from Napa County, including for clinic and veterinary supplies, medicine, food, professional veterinary and rehabilitation staff costs, and utilities costs for stable and supportive rehabilitation habitats.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code §13103 criteria (b) and (c).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1 and #4.
- Category: Wildlife-Direct Care
- Applied for and received WCC grant funding six (6) times since 2019.

**4. Napa Wildlife Rescue - \$23,600**

To support two critical areas of operations: wildlife rehabilitation and community education. The request includes \$14,000 to support 60% of the annual salary for the Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/Education Coordinator (60% of the request (\$14,000) would contribute to one-quarter of salary), with the remaining \$9,600 of the request to offset salary of require



d seasonal Wildlife Care employee.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (a), (b) and (c).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1, #2, and #4.
- Category: Wildlife-Direct Care and Environmental Education
- Applied for and received WCC grant funding twenty (21) times since 1990.

5. Browns Valley Family Club - \$19,345

Install irrigation system, plants, shade sails and educational and interpretive signage at a 5,000 square-foot native pollinator habitat restoration project at Browns Valley Elementary School. The restored garden would provide place-based learning and living laboratory for the School's K-8 educational curriculum.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (a) and (e).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1, #2, and #4.
- Category: Habitat Restoration, Environmental Education
- First time requesting WCC grant funding.

6. Napa County Resource Conservation District - \$10,062

For purchase of tools and supplies to enable Napa RCD and, through the shared tool library, with partnering agencies and organizations to expand on-the-ground conservation outcomes, increase the acreage and effectiveness of restoration work and increase volunteer satisfaction on projects across the County that further RCD's mission to protect and preserve Napa County's land, water, soil and wildlife.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (e).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1 and #4.
- Category: Restoration
- Applied for and received WCC grant funding 21 times since 1999.

7. Abuelitos Foundation - \$18,726

Support implementation of Conn Creek Land Lab, a pilot process-based restoration project in the upland watershed of Lake Hennessey, including 1) Construction of detention structures and other low-tech habitat restoration features; 2) ecological monitoring to measure habitat recovery and guide adaptive management; 3) Community field days that engage volunteers, neighboring landowners, and conservation practitioners in hands-on restoration while demonstrating practical approaches to improving wildlife habitat on working lands.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (e).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1 and #4.
- Category: Restoration
- First time applying for WCC funds.

8. Rewilding the Land - \$32,300

Support the following objectives: 1) Create experiential conservation and restoration education program for students in grades 3-8, and 2) Restore native habitat on a section of prior vineyard land, and 3) Collaborate with community, local experts and volunteers to build a replicable model of environmental stewardship and climate resilience, providing ongoing experiences and education for community members.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (a) and (e).

- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1 and #2.
- Categories: Environmental Education, Restoration
- First time applying for WCC grant.

**9. Sustainable St. Helena - \$9,030**

Support continued restoration of and environmental education at the St. Helena Community Forest, including purchase of native trees, shrubs, grasses and flowering plants, as well as materials for bird boxes, bat houses and raptor perches, and supplies for onsite environmental education.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (a) and (e).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1 (\*pending letter of support from school rep for environmental education) and #2.
- Categories: Restoration, Environmental Education
- First time applying for WCC grant.

**10. School Garden Doctor - \$5,266**

Support staffing and equipment to provide inclusive, accessible out-of-school time birding opportunities in multiple locations in Napa County. Specifically, two programs for youth (3rd - 5th grade; middle- and high schoolers) interested in making deep connections between outdoor experience with wildlife and environmental activism.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criterion (a).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #2 and #4.
- Category: Environmental Education
- Applied for and received WCC grant funding once before (2025-26).

**11. Napa-Solano Audubon Society - \$4,750**

Support programming in Napa County, including wildlife education in schools, field trips, monthly speaker seminars, citizen science projects, and education festivals and cleanup days.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criterion (a).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #2 and #4.
- Category: Environmental Education
- Applied for and received WCC grant funding sixteen (16) times since 1988.

**12. American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation - \$15,000**

Support the Watershed Trainees (K through 3rd grade; \$5,000) and Watershed Protectors (5th grade; \$10,000) programs during the 2026-27 school year, including at education and habitat restoration at the American Canyon wetlands and other watershed locations in the County.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criterion (a) and (e).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #1, #2, and #4.
- Category: Environmental Education, Restoration
- Applied for and received WCC funding three (3) times since 2023.

**13. Carolyn Parr Nature Center - \$10,000**

Develop children's nature education programming area, including: 1) Reading nook and shelving development for children's area; 2) Expansion of the children's book and media collection, including bilingual titles; 3) Development of curriculum-aligned early education materials for K-6 standards; 4) Development of on-site and off-site outreach programming and materials; 5) Fabrication and installation of kinetic, hands-on children's exhibits with rotating display infrastructure.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete.
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criterion (a).
- Proposal meets Selection Criteria #2 and #4
- Category: Environmental Education
- Applied for and received WCC grant funding twelve (12) times since 1981.

14. California White Shark Project - \$6,000

Support research and education about white sharks, including \$4,500 for three (3) research expeditions to the Farallon Islands and \$1,500 to supplement existing funding for development of classroom lesson plans for grades 3-5 (meeting California's NGSS standards) that will then be made available via free download to teachers across the U.S.

Staff Analysis: Eligible for award consideration.

- Application is complete
- Proposal meets CDFG Code ♦13103 criteria (a) and (i)
- Proposal meets Napa County WCC Selection Criteria #2 and #4
- Categories: Research, Environmental Education
- First time applying for WCC grant funding.



## **Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Application Requirements**

### **Eligibility**

All applications for Wildlife Conservation Commission grant funding must demonstrate eligibility as follows:

1. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the last day of the grant cycle as posted. Applications received after this deadline will not be accepted.
2. Project must be located within Napa County.
3. Project must be accomplished within the fiscal year the award is granted.
  - Exception only for applications for land acquisition, which may be submitted as multi-year funding requests.
4. Only one application for funding may be submitted per organization; however, the application may request funding for several projects.
5. For environmental education proposals submitted by or on behalf of schools:
  - No more than one (1) proposal per classroom;
  - Proposals for funding on behalf of schools shall be submitted directly by the district on behalf of individual schools with a maximum of one (1) proposal from each instructional level (i.e., one from the elementary school level, one from junior high, and one from the high school level).
6. Applications must meet the requirements for use of State Fish and Wildlife fine monies (§13103 (see attached)).
  - If your project is eligible under Section 13103(d), (h), (i), or (m), please be advised that the eligibility of the application is subject to CDFW to review and approval.
7. Administrative costs shall be identified in the Expenditure Detail and shall not be included for reimbursement unless otherwise deemed necessary and approved by the Commission.
8. All applications must comply with the following Grant Application Format.

### **Grant Application Format**

#### **Description of Organization**

1. Type of organization or business
2. Purpose for which organization was formed
3. Tax exempt status
4. Date formed as Non-profit
5. Membership: restrictions, number of members, fees, etc.



6. Names of Board of Directors; contact person (include phone number, email address and mailing address)

### **Needs Assessment / Problem Statement**

1. Clear statement of problem
2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested
3. Anticipated results, with time-line
4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective
5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission
  - a. Identify the approved expenditure item(s) the project complies with from CDFG Code §13103 (attached) and which WCC priorities as listed in Selection Criteria Priorities, below.
6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful

### **Attachments**

1. Expenditure detail (sample templates can be provided upon request)
2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds)
3. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies.
4. For environmental education proposals: At least one (1) letter of support from a school board member, principal, teacher, etc.,
5. For land acquisition proposals or capital improvement projects, include discussion on any public access component.

### **Grant Award Information**

The Commission will consider grant applications at a scheduled public meeting following the close of the grant cycle. Representation at the Commission grant award meeting in August is not required but is strongly recommended in order to answer any questions from the Commission.

Please be aware that all proposals granted by the Commission will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement with Napa County, requiring proof of Liability Insurance.

Please be advised that, for projects that fall within the categories of the CDFG Code §13103 requiring approval from the Department (i.e. items (d), (h), (i), (l), and (m)), the County will need to forward the application to CDFW for review and approval. As such, it is recommended that applicants submitting for projects subject to these categories consult with CDFW ahead of submittal.

Grants received must be used within the fiscal year they are granted, unless they are for land acquisition items. The fiscal year term for Napa County is from July 1 to June 30. In order for reimbursements to occur before June 30, receipts/invoices are generally due no later than May 31. Upon approval of a grant, the Commission may request that two a project update reports report per fiscal year be provided to the Commission Secretary on October 1st and April 1st (email or hard copy is acceptable).

**Selection Criteria Priorities:**

1. Eligible proposals which directly benefit wildlife and/or their habitat, and can meet one or more of the purposes listed in §13103 (see attached) will be given a higher priority over projects which do not have a direct benefit.
2. Eligible proposals that are educational in nature and directed toward school age children will be given higher priority if it can be demonstrated that the proposal meets state educational curriculum standards and can easily be integrated into the classroom.
3. Eligible proposals submitted by or on behalf of schools will be given higher priority if the funding would enhance wildlife and would provide long-term educational value over one-time events (i.e., acquisition of books vs. one-time field trip).
4. Proposals which use Commission funding as a match for other funding sources will receive priority consideration.

## California Fish and Game Code Section 13103

Expenditures from the fish and wildlife propagation fund of any county may be made only for the following purposes:

- (a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.
- (b) Temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife.
- (c) Temporary treatment and care of wildlife confiscated by the department as evidence.
- (d) Breeding, raising, purchasing, or releasing fish or wildlife which are to be released upon approval of the department pursuant to Sections 6400 and 6401 onto land or into waters of local, state, or federal agencies or onto land or into waters open to the public.
- (e) Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, construction of fish screens, weirs, and ladders; drainage or other watershed improvements; gravel and rock removal or placement; construction of irrigation and water distribution systems; earthwork and grading; fencing; planting trees and other vegetation management; and removal of barriers to the migration of fish and wildlife.
- (f) Construction, maintenance, and operation of public hatchery facilities.
- (g) Purchase and maintain materials, supplies, or equipment for either the department's ownership and use or the department's use in the normal performance of the department's responsibilities.
- (h) Predator control actions for the benefit of fish or wildlife following certification in writing by the department that the proposed actions will significantly benefit a particular wildlife species.
- (i) Scientific fish and wildlife research conducted by institutions of higher learning, qualified researchers, or governmental agencies, if approved by the department. \*
- (j) Reasonable administrative costs, excluding the costs of audits required by Section 13104, for secretarial service, travel, and postage by the county fish and wildlife commission when authorized by the county board of supervisors. For purposes of this subdivision, "reasonable cost" means an amount which does not exceed 3 percent of the average amount received by the fund during the previous three-year period, or three thousand dollars (\$3,000) annually, whichever is greater, excluding any funds carried over from a previous fiscal year.
- (k) Contributions to a secret witness program for the purpose of facilitating enforcement of this code and regulations adopted pursuant to this code.
- (l) Costs incurred by the district attorney or city attorney in investigating and prosecuting civil and criminal actions for violations of this code, as approved by the department.
- (m) Costs incurred by a county counsel in investigating and prosecuting an action for civil penalties, injunctive relief, or civil penalties and injunctive relief pursuant to Section 5650.1 resulting from unlicensed cannabis cultivation.
- (n) Other expenditures, approved by the department, for the purpose of protecting, conserving, propagating, and preserving fish and wildlife.

\* A scientific collection permit, if required and issued by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, indicates that the project is eligible to receive Fish and Wildlife Propagation funds.

## Wildlife Conservation Commission 2026-27 Grant Cycle

### Summary of Applications For Funding

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>North Bay Bear Collaborative</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support black bear DNA laboratory analysis and outreach efforts in Napa County, as well as partial support for Principal Investigator (PI) staff time to strengthen partnerships with Napa County organizations, expand community engagement, and increase local participation. |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$15,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Research, Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>UCCE Napa County American Kestrel Nest Box Network</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support for salary of a part-time technician to monitor 100 American Kestrel nest boxes throughout Napa County and continue to provide technical assistance to land managers on nest box installation and management through the 2027 field season.                             |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$10,550                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Restoration, Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Offset a portion of annual cost of providing clinic and veterinary supplies and rehabilitation staff costs, medicine, food, as well as utilities costs for stable and supportive rehabilitation habitats for Napa County birds (approximately 50 birds for FY26-27)             |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$8,110                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |



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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | To support two critical areas of operations: wildlife rehabilitation and community education. The request includes \$14,000 to support 60% of the annual salary for the Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/Education Coordinator (60% of the request (\$14,000) would contribute to one-quarter of salary), with the remaining \$9,600 of the request to offset salary of required seasonal Wildlife Care employee. |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$23,600                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Wildlife-Direct Care, Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Browns Valley Family Club</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Install irrigation system, plants, shade sails and educational and interpretive signage at a 5,000 square-foot native pollinator habitat restoration project at Browns Valley Elementary School. The restored garden would provide place-based learning and living laboratory for the School's K-8 educational curriculum.                                                                                               |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$19,345                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Restoration, Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | For purchase of tools and supplies to enable Napa RCD and, through the shared tool library, with partnering agencies and organizations to expand on-the-ground conservation outcomes, increase the acreage and effectiveness of restoration work and increase volunteer satisfaction on projects across the County that further RCD's mission to protect and preserve Napa County's land, water, soil and wildlife.      |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$10,062                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Abuelitos Foundation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support implementation of Conn Creek Land Lab, a pilot process-based restoration project in the upland watershed of Lake Hennessey, including 1) Construction of detention structures and other low-tech habitat restoration features; 2) ecological monitoring to measure habitat recovery and guide adaptive management; 3) Community field days that engage volunteers, neighboring landowners, and conservation practitioners in hands-on restoration while demonstrating practical approaches to improving wildlife habitat on working lands. |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$18,726                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Rewilding the Land</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support the following objectives: 1) Create experiential conservation and restoration education program for students in grades 3-8, and 2) Restore native habitat on a section of prior vineyard land, and 3) Collaborate with community, local experts and volunteers to build a replicable model of environmental stewardship and climate resilience, providing ongoing experiences and education for community members.                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$32,300                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Environmental Education, Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Sustainable St. Helena</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support continued restoration of and environmental education at the St. Helena Community Forest, including purchase of native trees, shrubs, grasses and flowering plants, as well as materials for bird boxes, bat houses and raptor perches, and supplies for onsite environmental education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$9,030                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Restoration, Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>School Garden Doctor</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support staffing and equipment to provide inclusive, accessible out-of-school time birding opportunities in multiple locations in Napa County. Specifically, two programs for youth (3rd - 5th grade; middle- and high schoolers) interested in making deep connections between outdoor experience with wildlife and environmental activism. |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$5,266                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support programming in Napa County, including wildlife education in schools, field trips, monthly speaker seminars, citizen science projects, and education festivals and cleanup days.                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$4,750                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>American Canyon Community &amp; Parks Foundation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support the Watershed Trainees (K through 3rd grade; \$5,000) and Watershed Protectors (5th grade; \$10,000) programs during the 2026-27 school year, including at education and habitat restoration at the American Canyon wetlands and other watershed locations in the County.                                                            |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$15,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>Carolyn Parr Nature Center</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Develop children's nature education programming area, including: 1) Reading nook and shelving development for children's area; 2) Expansion of the children's book and media collection, including bilingual titles; 3) Development of curriculum-aligned early education materials for K-6 standards; 4) Development of on-site and off-site outreach programming and materials; 5) Fabrication and installation of kinetic, hands-on children's exhibits with rotating display infrastructure. education programming area across 5 components: 1) Reading nook and shelving development for children's area (1,400); 2) Expansion of the children's book and media collection, including bilingual titles (\$1,100); 3) Development of curriculum-aligned early education materials for K-6 standards (1,300); 4) Development of on-site and off-site outreach programming and materials (\$1,200); 5) Fabrication and installation of kinetic, hands-on children's exhibits with rotating display infrastructure (\$5,000). |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Applicant Name:</b>  | <b>California White Shark Project</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Project Summary:</b> | Support research and education about white sharks, including \$4,500 for three (3) research expeditions to the Farallon Islands and \$1,500 to supplement existing funding for development of classroom lesson plans for grades 3-5 (meeting California's NGSS standards) that will then be made available via free download to teachers across the U.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funding Request:</b> | \$6,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Category:</b>        | Research and Environmental Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|--------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                      |                  |
| <b>Total Number of Applications:</b> | <b>14</b>        |
| <b>Total Funds Requested:</b>        | <b>\$187,739</b> |



## **Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission**

### **Grant Awards Details by Year 2016-2025**

**Total Funds Requested to Date Since 2002: \$1,570,732**

**Total Funds Granted to Date Since 2002: \$1,103,360**

**Total Funds Reimbursed to Date Since 2002:\* \$826,663**

\*missing data in 2011, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2019

|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                             | <b>2025-2026</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support a portion of the salary for full-time Education Coordinator/Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician, and to offset increased costs for food and medical supplies for direct care of wildlife.                                                                                   |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education & Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$25,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$13,750                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$13,750                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>School Garden Doctor</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Collaborative effort with educators from three Napa schools to monitor six pollinator habitat sites, including three school-based and three public-access locations in Napa. Wildlife and habitat conservation, species and biodiversity data collection, student and public education. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,700                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,700                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support for the Green Futures program, a high school habitat stewardship program piloted in 2024-2025 with Valley Oak High School to educate and grow stewardship skills, including maintenance and monitoring of a 3-acre native oak reforestation plot at Skyline Park.                                                                                             |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$15,636                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$7,348                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$7,348                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Carolyn Parr Nature Center</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support outdoor education and conservation, including native, medicinal and pollinator gardens, dedicated wildlife habitat and immersive nature-based educational opportunities supported by interpretive signage throughout.                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,300                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,841                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,841                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>American Canyon Community &amp; Parks Foundation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support for the Watershed Explorers (10 fourth-grade classrooms of 305+ students in American Canyon and expansion into Napa (100 students)), Watershed Protectors (Pilot new fifth-grade conservation program with 3 classes of 80+ students at Napa Junction Elementary, and Watershed Trainees (at least 9 K-3rd grade classrooms of 260+ students in Napa County). |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$20,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,900                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$8,900                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Institute for Conservation Advocacy Research and Education</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support for the Salvador Creek Signage Project about the life cycle of salmon and critical habitat, specifically for the production costs for two (2) 24-inchx36-inch pedestal signs to be installed by City of Napa Park and Recreation Department at Garfield Bridge. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$8,270                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support for one (1) full-time Education Coordinator and three (3) to four (4) part-time instructors for school and community programs.                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,110                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,752                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,572                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support for educational programs on the Mead Ranch Preserve by improving trails and to support transportation costs for school buses during the 2025-26 school year.                                                                                                    |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$12,055                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$5,666                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$5,666                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Sonoma Ecology Center / North Bay Bear Collaborative</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support the North Bay Bear Collaborative in data collection, community engagement and reporting of analysis of black bear fecal samples for estimating black bear abundance and density in Napa County.                                                                 |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education & Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$7,327                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$6,820                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,618                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>University of California Co-op Extension</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support for the salary of a part-time technician to support ongoing research, technical assistance and monitoring of over 100 American Kestrel nest boxes in Napa County and perform outreach efforts about American Kestrel health and integrated pest management in Napa County. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education & Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,550                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,959                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,947                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Funding for medical supplies and food to support the rescue & rehabilitation of 50-80 aquatic birds from Napa County.                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$5,673                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$5,173                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$5,173                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Number of Recipients 2025-2026:</b>    | <b>11</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Total Funds Requested for 2025-2026:</b>     | <b>\$129,563</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total Awards Granted for 2025-2026:</b>      | <b>\$74,909</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed for 2025-2026:</b>   | <b>\$72,515</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                             | <b>2024-2025</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>American Canyon Community &amp; Parks Foundation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Expand Watershed Explorers program in American Canyon to serve 10 fourth-grade classrooms and pilot expansion into Napa, and develop Watershed Protectors 5th grade conservation program.                                                                                          |



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|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$18,000                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$15,611                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$15,611                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Medical supplies and food to support the rescue & rehabilitation of 60-80 aquatic birds from Napa County.                                                                                                  |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,800                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,127                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,127                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Carolyn Parr Nature Center</b>                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Establish paid part-time Executive Director position for day-to-day operations, develop a strategic plan for fundraising and volunteer drives, outreach to education and other conservation organizations. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | N/A - ineligible per CDFG Section 13103                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$16,640                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$0                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$0                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support AmeriCorps crews to perform vegetation monitoring and habitat restoration at Foote Botanical Preserve                                                                                              |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,500                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$9,086                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$9,086                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                                          |

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| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support the Kids for Monarchs environmental education program with 12 1st-2nd graders, teacher workshop, community event, plan and install 2-3 pollinator habitat projects |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$12,500                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$10,826                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$10,826                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support approximately one-third of salary of full-time Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician / Education Assistant position.                                                  |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education & Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$16,000                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$13,871                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$13,871                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding to support one (1) full-time or 3-4 part-time Education Coordinators and/or College Interns.                                                           |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$7,500                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$6,476                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$6,475                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Total Number of Recipients 2024-2025</b>     | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total Funds Requested for 2024-2025:</b>     | <b>\$85,940</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Total Awards Granted for 2024-2025:</b>      | <b>\$59,997</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed for 2024-2025:</b>   | <b>\$59,996</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                             | <b>2023-2024</b>                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>American Canyon Community &amp; Parks Foundation</b>                                                                                                                    |

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| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding to enhance and expand an educational Watershed Explorers program in American Canyon fourth-grade classes, to allow more students and teachers to partake in field trips, educational lessons and a capstone restoration project. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$15,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$10,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$10,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Carolyn Parr Nature Center</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding to enhance the restoration, expansion, and interpretation of Napa Natives Garden; to provide inclusive language and upgrades to the natural science museum; and to fund free public outreach programs and program materials.     |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$5,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,999                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>California Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Purchase electric motor to facilitate wardens gaining access to shallow ponds in Napa Marsh to enforce compliance checks on waterfowl hunters (rolled over from 2022-23)                                                                             |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Miscellaneous (enforcement)                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,376                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,376                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding for medical supplies and food to support the rescue & rehabilitation of 60-80 aquatic birds from Napa County.                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,850                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,850                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,850                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding to support two (2) six-person AmeriCorps crews to expand the area of restoration within the riparian habitat and remove invasive species in the Linda Falls Preserve along Conn Creek.                                                                      |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$13,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$8,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding to enhance the Kids for Monarchs environmental education program, including classroom visits and field trips, as well as implementation of pollinator planting projects with school groups, and community education opportunities with partner programming. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$13,374                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$5,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$5,485                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Request for funding to support approximately one-third of salary of full-time Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician / Education Assistant position.                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education & Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$15,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$12,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$12,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |



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| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Request for funding to support one (1) full-time or two (2) part-time Education Coordinators and/or College Interns.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$7,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | \$7,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Pope Valley Animal Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Request for funding for free/low-cost spay/neuter and release events for domestic and feral cats. Determined ineligible since no CDFW approval (confirmed via email with CDFW that project is ineligible unless identified specific species it would benefit with known detriment specifically from feral cats) |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Predator Control                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$5,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | \$0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>University of California Coop Extension</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Request for funding for the Human-Wildlife Interactions Advisor to install 15 new American Kestrel nesting boxes around Napa County and a part-time research assistant to obtain and analyze data regarding optimal nesting places and data for boosting the population within Napa County.                     |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$9,913                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$5,170                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | \$5,170                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2023-2024:</b> | <b>9</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Total Funds Requested for 2023-2024:</b>             | <b>\$96,137</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Total Awards Granted for 2023-2024:</b>              | <b>\$59,520</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed for 2023-2024:</b>   | <b>\$59,504</b>                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                             | <b>2022-2023</b>                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>California Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife</b>                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Purchase electric motor to facilitate wardens gaining access to shallow ponds in Napa Marsh to enforce compliance checks on waterfowl hunters (rolled over to 2023-24) |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Miscellaneous (enforcement)                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,376                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,376                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$0                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Rescue and rehabilitation of 50 or more aquatic birds from Napa County 2022-2023                                                                                       |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Hire conservation crews to enhance California red-legged frog habitat at Wragg Ridge Preserve, and to remove invasive goat grass                                       |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$11,520                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$10,375                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$10,375                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Monarch Habitat project materials & technical assistance                                                                                                               |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$14,050                                                                                                                                                               |

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|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$10,375                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$10,366                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | 50% funding for Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/Education Assistant position                                                                  |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Education & Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$20,280                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$10,375                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$10,375                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | Part-time Education Coordinator; part-time College Intern                                                                                        |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Education                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$10,000                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$10,000                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$8,338                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2022-2023</b> | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Total Funds Requested for 2022-2023:</b>            | <b>\$64,726</b>                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Total Awards Granted for 2022-2023:</b>             | <b>\$50,001</b>                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed for 2022-2023:</b>          | <b>\$43,954</b>                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                                    | <b>2021-2022</b>                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>Institute for Conservation Advocacy Research and Education</b>                                                                                |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | Analysis of 2020-2021 Napa River Collaborative Water Quality and Bio-Assessment Sampling Project and preparation of final Bio-Assessment Report. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Research                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$10,000                                                                                                                                         |

|                                                 |                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,000                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$8,000                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                            |
|                                                 |                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Rescue and rehabilitation of 50 or more aquatic birds from Napa County 2021-2022           |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,900                                                                                    |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,000                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,000                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Hire two ecological restoration crews to remove invasive species at Aetna Springs Preserve |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$14,500                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$10,000                                                                                   |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$10,000                                                                                   |
|                                                 |                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                          |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Purchase project materials and provide technical assistance for Monarch Habitat project    |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$9,936                                                                                    |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,000                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$8,000                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Support part-time Education Coordinator                                                    |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                  |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$14,218                                                                                   |



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|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$13,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$13,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | Support part-time Education Coordinator                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$7,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$7,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$7,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2021-2022</b> | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Funds Requested for 2021-2022:</b>            | <b>\$60,554</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Total Awards Granted for 2021-2022:</b>             | <b>\$50,000</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed for 2021-2022:</b>          | <b>\$50,000</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                                    | <b>2020-2021</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>Institute for Conservation Advocacy Research and Education</b>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | Napa River Collaborative Water Quality and Bio-Assessment Sampling Project - Collect water quality, algae and benthic macro-invertebrates (BMI) samples from Napa River tributaries for database of raw data for information and education. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$5,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>International Bird Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | Rescue and rehabilitation of 50 or more aquatic birds from Napa County in 2020-2021                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$4,900                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Design, produce and install signage at Missimer Snell Valley Preserve, including educational interpretive signs and restoration area boundary signs                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$6,955                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$6,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$6,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Multiplier / Pope Creek Weed Project</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | PCWP is a wildlife habitat restoration project under Multiplier. Funds to hire native plant specialist to develop restoration plant to restore native vegetation to areas formerly occupied by invasive plants, and locate and flag sensitive plants that need to be avoided. |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$13,800                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for up to 10 Napa County high school youth during 2020-2021 school year                                                                                               |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$6,844                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$6,844                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$6,844                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Install perimeter fencing on three sides of the new property at 4001 Middle Avenue and repaint exterior of the main building                         |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$16,115                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$8,169                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | \$8,169                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2020-2021:</b> | 6                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Funds Requested 2020-2021:</b>                 | \$53,614                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Total Awards Granted 2020-2021:</b>                  | \$38,513                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed 2020-2021:</b>               | \$38,513                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                                     | 2019-2020                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | Audubon Canyon Ranch                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Sustain monitoring of herons and egrets in Napa County nesting sites through Heron and Egret Project.                                                |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Research                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$9,075                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$7,000                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | California Department of Fish and Wildlife                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Three depth finders to improve game warden patrol abilities of the Napa River, Lake Berryessa, and the sloughs associated with the Napa/Sonoma Marsh |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Miscellaneous - Enforcement                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$6,140                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$5,000                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | International Bird Rescue                                                                                                                            |

|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Rescue and rehabilitation of 40 or more aquatic birds from Napa County for 2019-2020                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Wildlife - Direct Care                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$5,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,500                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | No data                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Friends of the Napa River</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Facilitate Napa County Streamflow Watch, a citizen science data collection program that will begin collection of simple but extensive, quality-controlled, scientifically-defensible data on dry-season streamflow in the Napa River watershed |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$12,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$4,200                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | No data                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Purchase a Utility Task Vehicle to be used for Land Trust's preserve stewardship and conservation easement monitoring programs                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$12,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | No data                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Megan Walla-Murphy</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Help mitigate potential nuisance bear situations by developing a black bear website, create a black bear map, and create and implement a black bear community science program                                                                  |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Educaton                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$4,900                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$1,300                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for up to 20 Napa County high school youth during 2019-2020 school year |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$12,340                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$12,000                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for up to 20 Napa County high school youth during 2019-2020 school year |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$9,000                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$7,000                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2019-2020:</b> | <b>8</b>                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Total Funds Requested 2019-2020:</b>                 | <b>\$70,455</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Total Awards Granted 2019-2020:</b>                  | <b>\$49,000</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed 2019-2020:</b>               | <b>No data</b>                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                                     | <b>2018-2019</b>                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Continued funding for environmental educator to lead Beginning Birding walks, and manage and coordinate citizen science projects                                                |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                         |



|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$8,000                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Post-fire ecological monitoring, restoration, and erosion control at Foote Botanical Preserve                                                                                    |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$13,000                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$13,000                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Napa Youth Stewardship Council facilitation, including conducting stewardship projects with NYSC members and increasing student awareness                                        |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$13,717                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$13,717                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Funding for (1) part-time education coordinator to manage outreach coordination and event presentations and assist during events, and (2) new large incubator for opossum babies |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education & Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$14,040                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$14,040                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2018-2019:</b> | <b>4</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Total Funds Requested 2018-2019:</b>         | <b>\$48,757</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Total Awards Granted 2018-2019:</b>          | <b>\$48,757</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed 2018-2019:</b>       | <b>No data</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                             | <b>2017-2018</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Continued funding for environmental educator to lead Jr bird walks, mentor small groups, organize annual Christmas Bird Count for Kids (CBC4Kids), and creek monitoring; expand program to include Beginning Birding Walks |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$7,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$6,980                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | No data                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Friends of the Napa River</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | River Classroom Watershed Education Program                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$10,000                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | No data                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Continued restoration of Missimer Preserve - invasive species removal                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$16,599                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$12,720                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | No data                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District</b>                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Replacement of salmon tracking antenna on Napa River                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Research                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$6,076                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$6,076                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Laptop computer and 6 new retractable banners for education/outreach                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$2,500                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$2,500                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa County Regional Park &amp; Open Space District (NCRPOSD)</b>                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Napa Girls Outside (Napa GO!) program to encourage and facilitate girls enjoying the outdoors and grow female conservationists, biologists, and environmental leaders                              |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                 | \$4,000                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                   | \$4,000                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                               | No data                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2017-2018:</b> | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Total Funds Requested 2017-2018:</b>                 | <b>\$46,175</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Awards Granted 2017-2018:</b>                  | <b>\$42,276</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed 2017-2018:</b>               | <b>No data</b>                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Fiscal Year:</b>                                     | <b>2016-2017</b>                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>         | <b>Napa-Solano Audubon Society</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>               | Continued funding for environmental educator to lead Jr bird walks, mentor small groups, and organize annual Christmas Bird Count for Kids (CBC4Kids); expand program to focus on creek monitoring |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                                | Education                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|                                                 |                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$7,780                                                                                           |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$7,780                                                                                           |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$7,780                                                                                           |
|                                                 |                                                                                                   |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>California Turn In Poachers and Polluters (CalTIP)</b>                                         |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Rewards for secret witness program to facilitate enforcement of Fish and Game code in Napa County |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Miscellaneous - Enforcement                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$1,000                                                                                           |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$1,000                                                                                           |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$0                                                                                               |
|                                                 |                                                                                                   |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Land Trust of Napa County</b>                                                                  |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | American Conservation Experience (ACE) crews to remove invasive species from Missimer Preserve    |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Restoration                                                                                       |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$13,018                                                                                          |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$13,018                                                                                          |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$11,791                                                                                          |
|                                                 |                                                                                                   |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Regional Park &amp; Open Space District (NCRPOSD)</b>                              |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | Napa River and Bay Trail interpretive signs (~15 signs)                                           |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                         |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$5,800                                                                                           |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$5,800                                                                                           |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                       | \$4,000                                                                                           |
|                                                 |                                                                                                   |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b> | <b>Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD)</b>                                           |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>       | LandSmart Youth Stewards                                                                          |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                        | Education                                                                                         |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                         | \$15,000                                                                                          |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                           | \$15,000                                                                                          |

|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$14,999                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Applicant / Recipient Organization Name:</b>        | <b>Napa Wildlife Rescue</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Grant Project Description Summary:</b>              | Improvements to pre-release flight cage, outfit raptor rehab facility, replace songbird clinic trailer intake and rehab, equipment for care of Ambassador hawk |
| <b>Project Category:</b>                               | Wildlife-Direct Care                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Funds Requested:</b>                                | \$16,461                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Award Granted:</b>                                  | \$16,461                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Amount Reimbursed:</b>                              | \$16,461                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Total Number of Eligible Applications 2016-2017</b> | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Total Funds Requested for 2016-2017:</b>            | <b>\$59,059</b>                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Total Awards Granted for 2016-2017:</b>             | <b>\$59,059</b>                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Total Awards Reimbursed for 2016-2017:</b>          | <b>\$55,031</b>                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                |



**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission**  
**Grant Awards - Most Recent 10 Years**

| Organization                          | 2016-17  | 2017-18  | 2018-19   | 2019-20  | 2020-21  | 2021-22   | 2022-23   | 2023-24   | 2024-25   | 2025-26  | Total     | 2026-27<br>Grant |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------------|
| Abuelitos Foundation                  |          |          |           |          |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ -      | \$ 18,726        |
| American Canyon Community & Parks Fdn |          |          |           |          |          |           |           | \$ 10,500 | \$ 15,611 | \$ 8,900 | \$ 35,011 | \$ 15,000        |
| Audubon Canyon Ranch                  |          |          |           | \$ 7,000 |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ 7,000  |                  |
| Browns Valley Family Club             |          |          |           |          |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ -      | \$ 19,345        |
| California Dept of Fish and Wildlife  |          |          |           | \$ 5,000 |          |           | \$ 4,376  |           |           |          | \$ 9,376  |                  |
| California White Shark                |          |          |           |          |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ -      | \$ 6,000         |
| CalTIP                                | \$ 1,000 |          |           |          |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ 1,000  |                  |
| Carolyn Parr Nature Center            |          |          |           |          |          |           |           | \$ 5,000  |           | \$ 4,841 | \$ 9,841  | \$ 10,000        |
| Friends of the Napa River             |          | \$10,000 |           | \$ 4,200 |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ 14,200 |                  |
| ICARE                                 |          |          |           |          | \$ 4,500 | \$ 8,000  |           |           |           | \$ 8,000 | \$ 20,500 |                  |
| International Bird Rescue             |          |          |           | \$ 4,500 | \$ 4,500 | \$ 4,000  | \$ 4,500  | \$ 4,850  | \$ 4,127  | \$ 5,173 | \$ 31,650 | \$ 8,110         |
| Land Trust of Napa County             | \$13,018 | \$12,720 | \$ 13,000 | \$ 8,000 | \$ 6,500 | \$ 10,000 | \$ 10,375 | \$ 8,500  | \$ 9,086  | \$ 5,666 | \$ 96,865 |                  |
| Megan Walla-Murphy                    |          |          |           | \$ 1,300 |          |           |           |           |           |          | \$ 1,300  |                  |

| Organization                                   | 2016-17         | 2017-18         | 2018-19          | 2019-20          | 2020-21          | 2021-22          | 2022-23          | 2023-24          | 2024-25          | 2025-26          | Total            | 2026-27<br>Grant |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Multiplier<br>PCWP                             |                 |                 |                  |                  | \$ 8,000         |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 8,000         |                  |
| Napa County<br>POSD                            | \$ 5,800        | \$ 4,000        |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 9,800         |                  |
| Napa County<br>RCD                             | \$15,000        | \$ 6,076        | \$ 13,717        | \$ 12,000        | \$ 6,844         | \$ 8,000         | \$ 10,375        | \$ 5,500         | \$ 10,826        | \$ 7,348         | \$ 95,686        | \$ 10,062        |
| Napa Wildlife<br>Rescue                        | \$16,461        | \$ 2,500        | \$ 13,270        |                  | \$ 8,169         | \$ 13,000        | \$ 10,375        | \$ 12,500        | \$ 13,871        | \$ 13,750        | \$103,896        | \$ 23,600        |
| Napa-Solano<br>Audubon                         | \$ 7,780        | \$ 6,980        | \$ 8,000         | \$ 7,000         |                  | \$ 7,000         | \$ 10,000        | \$ 7,500         | \$ 6,476         | \$ 4,752         | \$ 65,488        | \$ 4,750         |
| Rewilding the<br>Land                          |                 |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 32,300        |
| School<br>Garden                               |                 |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 4,700         | \$ 4,700         | \$ 5,266         |
| Sonoma<br>Ecology<br>Center (North<br>Bay Bear |                 |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 6,820         | \$ 6,820         | \$ 15,000        |
| Sustainable<br>St. Helena                      |                 |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 9,030         |
| University of<br>California<br>Coop            |                 |                 |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | \$ 5,170         |                  | \$ 4,959         | \$ 10,129        | \$ 10,550        |
| <b>Total:</b>                                  | <b>\$59,059</b> | <b>\$42,276</b> | <b>\$ 47,987</b> | <b>\$ 49,000</b> | <b>\$ 38,513</b> | <b>\$ 50,000</b> | <b>\$ 50,001</b> | <b>\$ 59,520</b> | <b>\$ 59,997</b> | <b>\$ 74,909</b> | <b>\$531,262</b> | <b>\$187,739</b> |

**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission**  
**Grant Awards since 2002 - By Category**

| <b>Fiscal Yr</b>                        | <b>Land Acq.</b> | <b>Environmental Education</b> | <b>Habitat Restoration</b> | <b>Wildlife-Direct Care</b> | <b>Research</b> | <b>Misc.</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2026-27 Requested                       | \$ -             | \$ 87,654                      | \$ 64,401                  | \$ 19,910                   | \$ 15,775       | \$ -         | \$ 187,739   |
| Percent of total requested by category: | 0%               | 47%                            | 34%                        | 11%                         | 8%              | 0%           |              |
|                                         |                  |                                |                            |                             |                 |              |              |
| <b>Fiscal Yr</b>                        | <b>Land Acq.</b> | <b>Environmental Education</b> | <b>Habitat Restoration</b> | <b>Wildlife-Direct Care</b> | <b>Research</b> | <b>Misc.</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| 2025-26                                 | \$ -             | \$ 56,972                      | \$ -                       | \$ 12,048                   | \$ 5,890        | \$ -         | \$ 74,910    |
| 2024-25                                 | \$ -             | \$ 39,849                      | \$ 9,086                   | \$ 11,063                   | \$ -            | \$ -         | \$ 59,997    |
| 2023-24                                 | \$ -             | \$ 34,750                      | \$ 8,500                   | \$ 11,100                   | \$ 5,170        | \$ -         | \$ 59,520    |
| 2022-23                                 | \$ -             | \$ 20,375                      | \$ 10,375                  | \$ 14,875                   | \$ -            | \$ 4,376     | \$ 50,001    |
| 2021-22                                 | \$ -             | \$ 20,000                      | \$ 18,000                  | \$ 4,000                    | \$ 8,000        | \$ -         | \$ 50,000    |
| 2020-21                                 | \$ -             | \$ 13,344                      | \$ 8,000                   | \$ 12,669                   | \$ 4,500        | \$ -         | \$ 38,513    |
| 2019-20                                 | \$ -             | \$ 20,300                      | \$ 8,000                   | \$ 9,500                    | \$ 6,200        | \$ 5,000     | \$ 49,000    |
| 2018-19                                 | \$ -             | \$ 21,717                      | \$ 13,000                  | \$ 14,040                   | \$ -            | \$ -         | \$ 48,757    |
| 2017-18                                 | \$ -             | \$ 23,480                      | \$ 12,720                  | \$ -                        | \$ 6,076        | \$ -         | \$ 42,276    |
| 2016-17                                 | \$ -             | \$ 28,580                      | \$ 13,018                  | \$ 16,461                   | \$ -            | \$ 1,000     | \$ 59,059    |
| 2015-16                                 | \$ -             | \$ 21,800                      | \$ 10,432                  | \$ 8,986                    | \$ -            | \$ 1,723     | \$ 42,941    |
| 2014-15                                 | \$ -             | \$ 12,389                      | \$ 20,768                  | \$ 2,776                    | \$ -            | \$ 1,600     | \$ 37,533    |
| 2013-14                                 | \$ -             | \$ 23,321                      | \$ 9,836                   | \$ 6,917                    | \$ -            | \$ -         | \$ 40,073    |
| 2012-13                                 | \$ -             | \$ 18,045                      | \$ 8,613                   | \$ -                        | \$ -            | \$ -         | \$ 26,658    |
| 2011-12                                 | \$ -             | \$ 17,383                      | \$ 21,601                  | \$ 25,000                   | \$ -            | \$ 4,050     | \$ 68,034    |
| 2010-11                                 | \$ -             | \$ 22,700                      | \$ 31,192                  | \$ 16,000                   | \$ -            | \$ 7,550     | \$ 77,442    |
| 2009-10                                 | \$ -             | \$ 40,360                      | \$ 44,517                  | \$ 5,000                    | \$ -            | \$ -         | \$ 89,877    |

|                                                          |                  |                   |                   |                   |                  |                  |                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 2008-09                                                  | \$ -             | \$ 10,500         | \$ 6,500          | \$ 18,800         | \$ -             | \$ 17,073        | \$ 52,873           |
| 2007-08                                                  | \$ -             | \$ 7,500          | \$ 7,579          | \$ -              | \$ -             | \$ -             | \$ 15,079           |
| 2006-07                                                  | \$ -             | \$ 5,368          | \$ 4,666          | \$ -              | \$ -             | \$ 1,966         | \$ 12,000           |
| 2005-06                                                  | \$ -             | \$ 7,550          | \$ 2,000          | \$ 2,000          | \$ -             | \$ 7,107         | \$ 18,657           |
| 2004-05                                                  | \$ 28,500        | \$ 2,400          | \$ 9,220          | \$ 4,000          | \$ -             | \$ 1,000         | \$ 45,120           |
| 2003-04                                                  | \$ -             | \$ 6,000          | \$ 6,900          | \$ 3,000          | \$ -             | \$ -             | \$ 15,900           |
| 2002-03                                                  | \$ 20,000        | \$ -              | \$ 5,000          | \$ -              | \$ -             | \$ 4,150         | \$ 29,150           |
| <b>Total<br/>Awarded:</b>                                | <b>\$ 48,500</b> | <b>\$ 474,682</b> | <b>\$ 289,523</b> | <b>\$ 198,234</b> | <b>\$ 35,836</b> | <b>\$ 56,595</b> | <b>\$ 1,103,370</b> |
| Percent of<br>total awarded:                             | 4%               | 43%               | 26%               | 18%               | 3%               | 5%               |                     |
| Percent of<br>total awarded<br>(most recent<br>10-year): | 0%               | 53%               | 19%               | 20%               | 7%               | 2%               |                     |
| Percent of<br>total awarded<br>(most recent 5-<br>year): | 0%               | 58%               | 16%               | 18%               | 6%               | 1%               |                     |

**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission**  
**Grant Awards 2002-2025: Requested vs. Funded**

| Grant Cycle                       | Requested           | Awarded             | Difference        | % Funded   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 2025-2026                         | \$ 129,563          | \$ 74,909           | \$ 54,654         | 58%        |
| 2024-2025                         | \$ 85,940           | \$ 59,997           | \$ 25,943         | 70%        |
| 2023-2024                         | \$ 96,137           | \$ 59,520           | \$ 36,617         | 62%        |
| 2022-2023                         | \$ 64,726           | \$ 50,001           | \$ 14,725         | 77%        |
| 2021-2022                         | \$ 60,554           | \$ 50,000           | \$ 10,554         | 83%        |
| 2020-2021                         | \$ 53,614           | \$ 38,513           | \$ 15,101         | 72%        |
| 2019-2020                         | \$ 70,455           | \$ 49,000           | \$ 21,455         | 70%        |
| 2018-2019                         | \$ 48,757           | \$ 48,757           | \$ -              | 100%       |
| 2017-2018                         | \$ 46,175           | \$ 42,276           | \$ 3,899          | 92%        |
| 2016-2017                         | \$ 59,059           | \$ 59,059           | \$ -              | 100%       |
| 2015-2016                         | \$ 57,245           | \$ 42,941           | \$ 14,304         | 75%        |
| 2014-2015                         | \$ 37,524           | \$ 37,523           | \$ 1              | 100%       |
| 2013-2014                         | \$ 45,074           | \$ 40,074           | \$ 5,000          | 89%        |
| 2012-2013                         | \$ 31,775           | \$ 26,658           | \$ 5,117          | 84%        |
| 2011-2012                         | \$ 125,966          | \$ 68,034           | \$ 57,932         | 54%        |
| 2010-2011                         | \$ 119,102          | \$ 77,442           | \$ 41,660         | 65%        |
| 2009-2010                         | \$ 200,977          | \$ 89,877           | \$ 111,100        | 45%        |
| 2008-2009                         | \$ 52,873           | \$ 52,873           | \$ -              | 100%       |
| 2007-2008                         | \$ 21,239           | \$ 15,079           | \$ 6,160          | 71%        |
| 2006-2007                         | \$ 17,706           | \$ 12,000           | \$ 5,706          | 68%        |
| 2005-2006                         | \$ 43,692           | \$ 18,657           | \$ 25,035         | 43%        |
| 2004-2005                         | \$ 45,341           | \$ 45,120           | \$ 221            | 100%       |
| 2003-2004                         | \$ 28,088           | \$ 15,900           | \$ 12,188         | 57%        |
| 2002-2003                         | \$ 29,150           | \$ 29,150           | \$ -              | 100%       |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                     | <b>\$ 1,570,732</b> | <b>\$ 1,103,360</b> | <b>\$ 467,372</b> | <b>70%</b> |
| Total (recent 10-ysr):            | \$ 714,980          | \$ 532,032          | \$ 182,948        | 74%        |
| Total (recent 5-ysr):             | \$ 436,920          | \$ 294,427          | \$ 142,493        | 67%        |
| Average per year:                 | \$ 65,447           | \$ 45,973           | \$ 19,474         | 70%        |
| Average per year (recent 10-ysr): | \$ 71,498           | \$ 53,203           | \$ 18,295         | 74%        |
| Average per year (recent 5-ysr):  | \$ 87,384           | \$ 58,885           | \$ 28,499         | 67%        |



NAPA COUNTY WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
2026 – 2027 GRANT FUNDING REQUEST APPLICATION

**I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION**

**1. Type of organization or business**

North Bay Bear Collaborative under fiscal sponsorship of Sonoma Ecology Center.

**2. Purpose for which organization was formed**

The North Bay Bear Collaborative is a working group of non-profit organizations, tribes, landowners, and agencies committed to serving as proactive liaisons between humans and bears. The Collaborative works together to teach people how to live among bears safely, train youth in wildlife conservation, and ultimately rebuild a bear culture in the North Bay. One of our primary goals is to mitigate future challenges that may arise from our interactions with bears. We are actively improving infrastructure on private lands and within parks and open space by installing bear proof trash cans and food storage containers in campgrounds and backcountry sites.

Current Bear Collaborative partners include All Hands Ecology, the California Indian Museum and Cultural Center, California State Parks, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, the Land Trust of Napa County, Meghan Walla-Murphy, the Oakland Zoo, One Tam/Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Pepperwood Preserve, private landowners, ranchers, and vineyards, Redwood Coast Land Conservancy, Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue, Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, Sonoma Ecology Center, Sonoma Land Trust, Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, the UC Davis Mammalian Ecology and Conservation Unit, and dozens of dedicated volunteers. For more information on the Collaborative partners please see our story map (<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/4621b4e460ff46bb8718b154b7d17de5>).

Beyond outreach and infrastructure, the North Bay Bear Collaborative is committed to furthering basic understanding of the North Bay's local bear population, dispersal, and habitat use through scientific research and knowledge development. In 2020 the North Bay Bear Collaborative started working with CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to better understand bear abundance and relatedness through a scat and hair DNA study. After the CDFW's three-year study was complete, the North Bay Bear Collaborative continued and expanded the study. This year (2026) is the seventh year of the study making it one of the longest running black bear genetic studies in California.

Beyond our ongoing DNA study, the North Bay Bear Collaborative uses wildlife cameras to track the locations, seasonality, and movements of black bears. Pepperwood initiated the first research camera grid in 2012 and subsequent camera grids were established by the Land Trust of Napa County, One Tam, Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, and Sonoma County

Regional Parks. The North Bay Bear Collaborative uses this data to better understand bear behavior and habitat use. This information is helping members prioritize areas where human bear interactions may become challenging. This data and information is being shared directly with CDFW and other local and state agencies.

The North Bay Bear Collaborative is dedicated and actively engaged in public outreach to ensure that both bears and humans remain safe and thriving in the North Bay. In our experience, the best way to create coexistence between black bears and humans will be through continued education. Members from our collaborative regularly give presentations and share information through social media.

Sonoma Ecology Center is the fiscal sponsor for the North Bay Bear Collaborative. Founded in 1990, Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) is a local non-profit dedicated to working with our community to identify and lead actions that achieve and sustain ecological health in Sonoma Valley and beyond. Since 2012, SEC has been a founding partner of Team Sugarloaf, managing day to day operations of Sugarloaf Ridge State Park in collaboration with California State Parks. In conjunction with our work at Sugarloaf, SEC became the fiscal sponsor and member of the North Bay Bear Collaborative (NBBC, [www.beingwithbears.org](http://www.beingwithbears.org)) in 2019.

### **3. Tax-exempt status**

Sonoma Ecology Center is a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS tax code. Federal EIN# 94-3136500

### **4. Date formed as a nonprofit**

Founded in 1990, Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) was recognized as a nonprofit exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code in March 1996. It is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

North Bay Bear Collaborative was founded in 2019.

### **5. Membership: restrictions, number of members, fees, etc.**

The North Bay Bear Collaborative is a partnership of 19 entities working together to support black bear conservation and foster human-wildlife coexistence across the region. The North Bay Bear Collaborative maintains a volunteer base of over 600 individuals who support our ongoing work.

To help fund bear scat sample collection and support operations, we offer several donation levels for supporters. These tiers include “Sponsor a Scat” (\$125), “Papa Bear” (\$250), and “Mama Bear” (\$500). While these levels currently do not include specific amenities, we are

actively working with our NBBC partners to develop meaningful benefits for future donors. At this time, around 20 individuals have contributed through these donation tiers, demonstrating early and enthusiastic support for this developing initiative.

<https://beingwithbears.org/donate/>

**6. Names of Board of Directors; contact person (include phone number, email address, mailing address)**

Sonoma Ecology Center [Board of Directors](#)

Address: PO Box 1486, Eldridge, CA, 95431

Telephone No: 707-933-7426 / 707-200-8134/ 310-566-3623

Email: [wendy@sonomaecologycenter.org](mailto:wendy@sonomaecologycenter.org) / [maria@sonomaecologycenter.org](mailto:maria@sonomaecologycenter.org) / [phoksumdo.mwm@gmail.com](mailto:phoksumdo.mwm@gmail.com)

Contact Persons and Titles: Wendy Hayes, Sonoma Ecology Center- SEC Research Project Manager / Maria Mauricio- Sugarloaf Volunteer Coordinator / Meghan Walla-Murphy - NBBC Project Lead

## **II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT/Problem Statement**

### **1. Clear statement of problem**

Through the work of partners in the Bear Collaborative, we have gained a preliminary understanding of the habitat use, population abundance, and density of black bears in Napa County and across the North Bay region. In Napa County, existing scat sampling has been carried out by community volunteers and staff at Dunn-Wildlake and Napa Headwaters Preserves. Scat sampling surveys have also been conducted at Robert Louis Stevenson State Park and Bothe-Napa Valley State Park. Since 2020, we have detected over 40+ individual bears in the Angwin and Mt. St. Helena area. In combination with wildlife camera data, we are observing a robust population of reproductive bears in the Angwin and Mt. St. Helena areas.

In the summer of 2025, three Land Trust of Napa County preserves in this area were burned in the Pickett Fire (second time in 5 years), and we were not able to collect samples. Scat collection in the coming year will help us better understand the response of bears to landscape scale disturbance. This data will also be used by the Land Trust of Napa County to plan and implement appropriate black bear habitat enhancement projects (e.g. forest health treatments in remaining Douglas-fir stands, revegetation with native plants favored by black bears, etc.).

Additionally, with this funding, we could address a gap in understanding how bears are using recently expanded habitat corridors in the mountain ranges between the city of Napa and Angwin. Land protection efforts in the Atlas Peak area (Mead Ranch, Walt Ranch, and Sutro Preserve) provide an opportunity to expand the DNA study in an area where public

education (Mead Ranch) and public access (Walt Ranch) is actively being expanded. This data will be used to inform and expand the North Bay Bear Collaborative's efforts to conduct outreach and education in Napa County about how to avoid or minimize bear-human conflicts. A key example is providing guidance on managing attractants (e.g. trash, pet food, bird feeders, beehives, compost, etc.) that are likely to lure wild animals into neighborhoods.

As we continue to learn about the growing black bear population in Napa County, expanding local participation is essential to ensuring that research, habitat conservation, and coexistence efforts are guided by organizations and communities within the county. Participation in the Collaborative is open to any interested organization, and we see significant opportunities to strengthen Napa County's role within this regional network.

A priority is becoming actively involved with the Napa County Wildlife Habitat Conservation Coalition (NCWHCC), whose mission, "to promote open space preservation, habitat restoration, wildlife conservation, and collaboration," closely aligns with that of the NBBC. By participating in Coalition meetings, sharing black bear research and habitat connectivity findings, and offering presentations or guided tours of black bear habitat in Napa County, we hope to foster new partnerships and encourage additional organizations to join the Collaborative.

## **2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested**

The requested \$15,000 grant from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission will support DNA laboratory analysis and outreach efforts in Napa County (**see Attachment 1: Expenditure Details**).

The requested funds will support this critical DNA study to build upon existing population estimates and improve our understanding of black bear abundance, habitat use, diet, genetic diversity, and dispersal patterns in Napa County. In particular, the study will help clarify east-west movement patterns and habitat connectivity. This information will support effective wildlife management and help inform future habitat conservation and restoration efforts specific to Napa County's unique ecosystems.

In addition to supporting field and laboratory research, we are requesting partial support for Principal Investigator (PI) staff time to strengthen partnerships with Napa County organizations, expand community engagement, and increase local participation in the North Bay Bear Collaborative.

To accomplish this work, we are requesting partial support for the Sonoma Ecology Center's Research Project Manager and Volunteer & Community Science Coordinator. Together, these positions provide project management, analysis and reporting, partnership development, volunteer coordination, administrative support, event coordination, and community

outreach needed to expand the Collaborative's presence in Napa County.

The Sonoma Ecology Center will continue to provide the majority of financial support for its participation in the North Bay Bear Collaborative. However, given current fiscal constraints, dedicated funding for Napa County activities will allow staff to sustain partnerships, expand outreach, and build long-term local capacity for black bear conservation.

1. Refine spatial capture-recapture methods using DNA extraction and genetic analysis of black bear fecal samples to estimate abundance and density in Napa County.
2. Collect and analyze black bear fecal DNA to evaluate population size, genetic diversity, relatedness, diet, and movement patterns.
3. Improve understanding of habitat use, dispersal, and east-west connectivity to inform habitat conservation and wildlife management.
4. Continue mapping scat collection sites, camera detections, tracks, and confirmed observations to identify habitat use and wildlife corridors.
5. Expand collaboration with Napa County conservation organizations through participation in the **Napa County Wildlife Habitat Conservation Coalition (NCWHCC)**, presentations, and guided field tours.
6. Support long-term monitoring of black bear populations across Napa, Sonoma, and Marin Counties to track population trends, seasonal movements, and human-bear interactions.
7. Collect black bear fecal DNA to track population and movement. Based on camera trap data, we hope to find at least 35 samples in Napa County.
8. Estimate local black bear abundance and density to establish a baseline for conservation as bears reestablish in the region.
9. Analysis of bear dispersal, occurrence, and genetic diversity and relatedness within Napa and its connections to nearby populations to inform conservation management strategies.
10. Define range, habitat use, and movement corridors through maps of scat collection sites, camera captures, tracks, and confirmed observations.
11. Become actively involved with the Napa County Wildlife Habitat Conservation Coalition (NCWHCC) by participating in meetings, sharing updates on the North Bay Bear Collaborative's research and conservation efforts, and identifying opportunities for collaboration with local conservation organizations. We also plan to offer a presentation or guided field tour highlighting black bear habitat, habitat connectivity, and coexistence strategies in Napa County to increase awareness and foster new partnerships.
12. This research will also support a long-term black bear monitoring initiative across Napa, Sonoma, and Marin Counties, tracking population trends, seasonal movements, and bear-human interactions to aid in conservation and management.



### 3. Anticipated results, with timeline

- **Phase 1: Preparation (Spring to early Summer 2026)**- The North Bay Bear Collaborative will sample in new study locations in Napa County and assemble field DNA collection kits.
- **Phase 2: Data Collection & Community Engagement (Summer–Fall 2026)**- Scat samples will be collected across 4 km<sup>2</sup> grid cells and opportunistic sites by trained teams over four-day intervals. Existing camera traps will monitor bear presence, and the NCWHCC involvement and land trust membership newsletter will promote coexistence and support ongoing fundraising.
- **Phase 3: Analysis, Reporting & Outreach (Late Fall 2026–Spring 2027)**- UC Davis will analyze genetic samples to identify individual bears, estimate population size, and map movement patterns. Results will be shared through outreach events and used to inform regional bear management strategies. Prepare for 2027 sampling.

### 4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective

#### **2026 Phase 1: Prepare for 2026-2027 DNA Study -**

All involved partners are experienced and well-positioned to conduct this research project. For thirty years, SEC has engaged the community and collaborated with multiple government agencies, organizations, landowners, and volunteers in field research, environmental education, habitat restoration and protection (including the Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor:

<https://sonomaecologycenter.org/sonoma-valley-wildlife-corridor/>). SEC as a lead partner in Team Sugarloaf, manages Sugarloaf Ridge State Park and continues to detect bear as part of a long-term wildlife camera monitoring program. Likewise, SEC's Research Team is experienced in watershed sciences, habitat assessments and biological population studies, including work with sensitive and listed species.

The North Bay Bear Collaborative's core team includes expert bear trackers, field biologists, and a network of wildlife camera specialists sharing data on recent bear sightings. This collaborative and a corps of volunteers will be guided by field researchers at SEC, CDFW, and UC Davis.

To prepare for this year's expanded DNA study, the Collaborative will work with the Land Trust of Napa County to sample Dunn-Wildlake and new locations in Napa County. We will prepare this year's materials, study sites, and recruit volunteers. The preparation phase includes creating field DNA collection kits, DNA collection training days, distributing training and education materials for field DNA collection, and creation of volunteer teams.

The North Bay Bear Collaborative has research permission from the Land Trust of Napa County to collect scat samples at Dunn-Wildlake, Mead Ranch, Walt Ranch, and Sutro Preserve.

**2026 Phase 2: Data Collection and Community Engagement** - DNA will be collected through bear scat. To gather necessary data, the Collaborative relies on trained researchers, wildlife trackers, and 50 volunteers to conduct field transects to collect scat samples. As samples can only be gathered in the dry months of the year, we begin in June and end with the first rains of fall. For detailed protocols on our collections methods please see our attached **Appendix A**.

These samples will be collected from pre-established study grids as well as opportunistic collection from scat outside of the study sites. Ideally transects will be surveyed four consecutive days. The same team of volunteers/crew leaders will complete all four days. This will ensure consistency of collection. An experienced field staff member will lead each volunteer team to ensure quality control. Each grid cell will be split into quarters. One quarter will be sampled each day. The volunteer team will conduct a meandering transects, informed by bear sign, across this quarter to ensure the most complete coverage.

In addition to DNA sample collection, camera traps will be monitored for black bear presence and to attempt to identify individuals. Scat samples will be delivered to the UC Davis Mammalian Ecology and Conservation Unit lab for genetic analysis, adhering to protocols for safe storage and transport. Community bear awareness activities, including online and in person meetings, will be organized by Collaborative members to increase community awareness on reducing human-bear conflict, protecting resources, and managing personal property and waste. Ongoing donation appeals will go out through the Bear Collaborative website, newsletters and at outreach events.

**2026 Phase 3: Data Analysis, Reporting, Community Outreach -**

Samples are preserved in accordance with protocols given to us by Dr. Ben Sacks at UC Davis. The UC Davis Mammalian Ecology and Conservation Unit lab will conduct the data analysis of DNA samples. We have been working closely with Dr. Sacks who analyzed our DNA samples from the previous 6 years. He has been instrumental in developing our protocol to ensure that our sample size has statistical relevance. For further information regarding Dr. Sacks' lab, please visit <https://mecu.ucdavis.edu/dr-ben-sacks/>

Results from the fecal DNA collected in previous years yielded an unusually high success rate, compared to other studies in California, with 63% yielding clean DNA. In addition to the DNA analysis, we will be mapping bear occurrences and dispersal. There will be community outreach sharing results and project findings; ongoing fundraising to help continue to support the study annually as well as continued collaboration with the Collaborative to discuss findings and develop an adaptive management plan based on study results.

**5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission Advancing the Protection, Conservation, Propagation, and Preservation of Fish and Wildlife in Napa County.**

**a. Identify the approved expenditure item(s) the project complies with from CDFG Code §13103 (attached) and which WCC priorities as listed in Selection Criteria Priorities, below.**

13103. Expenditures from the fish and wildlife propagation fund of any county may be made only for the following purposes:

**(a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.**

The North Bay Bear Collaborative engages the public in wildlife science through volunteer DNA collection training, bear-awareness community forums, and digital/print educational materials on coexistence and conservation strategies.

**(i) Scientific fish and wildlife research conducted by institutions of higher learning, qualified researchers, or governmental agencies, if approved by the department.**

This project is carried out in collaboration with UC Davis Mammalian Ecology and Conservation Unit, a qualified research institution, and is built on six years of successful and scientifically rigorous DNA analysis.

#### **6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful**

Now in its seventh year, this statistically robust DNA study, developed with guidance from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) scientists, continues to generate reliable population estimates while advancing our understanding of black bear distribution, movement, and genetic connectivity across the North Bay. Over the long term, the study aims to establish a comprehensive estimate of the region's black bear population and track genetic relationships, dispersal, and population trends over time.

With a better understanding of how many black bears are in the North Bay and how they are dispersing, we will be more informed regarding bear and habitat management, able to mitigate negative bear/human encounters (wildlife conflict) and proactively engage our communities. The Bear Collaborative will be publishing the study results to its websites and social media as well as holding community meetings and presentations for interested stakeholders, including local and regional agencies, nonprofits, landowners, trash companies, and the public. The Bear Collaborative and SEC will also be working with the local media to share results and stories from the study. NBBC will distribute the study results in the appropriate forms to each audience; for example, agencies may need detailed GIS mapping and genetics information to help manage habitat while the public will need broad-based knowledge about how they can help reduce human-bear conflict and manage personal property and waste.

**What happens next to conserve the bears?** Once we determine the number and locations of bears, we will collaborate with local landowners, residents, and businesses to develop strategies that keep bears wild and reduce habituation to human presence. Our efforts will focus on reinforcing infrastructure in bear-dense areas such as homes, businesses, and parks to limit easy access to trash while also working with residents and businesses on deterrent strategies for livestock, vineyards, and beehives.

### III. ATTACHMENTS

#### 1. Expenditure detail (sample templates can be provided upon request)

| 1. EXPENDITURE DETAILS                                                         |                  |                      |                                |                    |                   |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Labor Costs                                                                    |                  |                      |                                |                    |                   |              |
| Activity                                                                       | Rate*<br>(\$/hr) | Unit<br>(Total Hrs ) | In-Kind<br>Contributions (Hrs) | Requested<br>Funds | Matching<br>Funds | Total        |
| <i>NBBC Project Investigator (PI)</i>                                          | 150.00           | 526                  | 500                            | \$3,900.00         | \$95,000.00       | \$98,900.00  |
| <i>Analysis/Reporting, Project Management, Collaboration</i>                   | 120.00           | 60                   | 47                             | \$1,560.00         | \$5,640.00        | \$7,200.00   |
| <i>Volunteer, Admin and Event Support</i>                                      | 100.00           | 60                   | 36                             | \$2,400.00         | \$3,600.00        | \$6,000.00   |
| <i>Bear Scat Surveys- NBBC Volunteers</i>                                      | 41.75            | 700                  | 700                            |                    | \$29,225.00       | \$29,225.00  |
| <i>Bear Scat Surveys- Volunteer Crew Leaders</i>                               | 50.00            | 96                   | 96                             |                    | \$4,800.00        | \$4,800.00   |
| Labor Cost Total for Personnel                                                 |                  |                      |                                |                    |                   | \$146,125.00 |
| Services & Supplies (detail by type)                                           |                  |                      |                                |                    |                   |              |
| Description                                                                    |                  | Unit                 | Unit Cost                      | Requested<br>Funds | Matching<br>Funds | Total        |
| <i>Field kit supplies, ethanol, collection bottles, first aid, safety gear</i> |                  | —                    | —                              | \$140.00           | \$200.00          | \$340.00     |
| <i>Volunteer training materials (protocols and procedures)</i>                 |                  | —                    | —                              |                    | \$100.00          | \$100.00     |
| <i>DNA Lab Testing – Napa samples (~35 @ \$200/sample)</i>                     |                  | 35                   | \$200.00                       | \$7,000.00         |                   | \$7,000.00   |
| Services & Supplies Total                                                      |                  |                      |                                |                    |                   | \$7,440.00   |
| GRAND TOTAL                                                                    |                  |                      |                                | Requested<br>Funds | Matching<br>Funds | Total        |
|                                                                                |                  |                      |                                | \$15,000.00        | \$138,565.00      | \$153,565.00 |

## 2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds)

| 2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds)                         |          |       |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------|---------------------|
| Role/Contribution                                                              | Rate     | Hours | Amount              |
| <i>NBBC Project Investigator (PI)</i>                                          | \$150.00 | 500   | \$95,000.00         |
| <i>Analysis/Reporting, Project Management, Collaboration</i>                   | \$120.00 | 47    | \$5,640.00          |
| <i>Volunteer, Admin and Event Support</i>                                      | \$100.00 | 36    | \$3,600.00          |
| <i>Bear Scat Surveys- NBBC Volunteers</i>                                      | \$25.00  | 700   | \$29,225.00         |
| <i>Bear Scat Surveys- Volunteer Crew Leaders</i>                               | \$45.00  | 96    | \$4,800.00          |
| <i>Field kit supplies, ethanol, collection bottles, first aid, safety gear</i> | —        | —     | \$200.00            |
| <i>Volunteer training materials (protocols and procedures)</i>                 | —        | —     | \$100.00            |
| <b>Matching Funds</b>                                                          |          |       | <b>\$138,565.00</b> |

## 3. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies.

### North Bay Bear Collaborative 2025–2026 Napa WCC Grant Deliverables Summary

While field sampling efforts were significantly affected by circumstances beyond the project's control, including the Pickett Fire and prolonged periods of unsuitable weather, the North Bay Bear Collaborative remained committed to advancing the goals of this grant. A substantial portion of our Napa County sampling efforts occur on Napa Land Trust properties, particularly in the Angwin area, as well as Robert Louis Stevenson State Park, Bothe-Napa Valley State Park, and a few private properties on the napa boundary line next to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. The Pickett Fire, first reported on August 21, 2025, impacted both Duff Preserve and Wildlake Preserve, two primary DNA sampling locations, while weather conditions resulted in the cancellation of planned surveys after October 2025.

Despite these challenges, project partners adapted by expanding opportunistic sample collection, strengthening partnerships with Napa County organizations, investing in volunteer training and community outreach, and increasing wildlife camera monitoring capacity. As detailed in the following sections, the grant supported meaningful progress across multiple project objectives, including public education, volunteer engagement, wildlife monitoring, equipment deployment, and continued black bear conservation efforts throughout Napa



County. The Sonoma Ecology Center was awarded \$6,820.00. A total of \$4,618.09 was expended, leaving an unspent balance of \$2,201.41.

## **Labor Costs**

### **NBBC Project Investigator (PI) – Community Meetings and Outreach**

The Project Investigator completed approximately 18 hours of planning, coordination, travel, and presentation time associated with three community meetings focused on black bear conservation and coexistence in Napa County.

- **Meeting 1 – May 20, 2026: Data and Connectivity Workshop**

This meeting brought together conservation organizations, researchers, land trusts, and community members to discuss black bear movement, habitat connectivity, wildlife corridor planning, and conservation priorities within Napa County and the greater North Bay region. Participants reviewed current research, discussed movement barriers, and explored opportunities to use DNA and wildlife camera data to support future conservation planning.

- **Meeting 2 – May 28, 2026: Bear DNA Sampling Volunteer Training**

Hosted at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, this training prepared volunteers and community members for the annual DNA sampling season. Participants learned black bear scat identification, sample collection protocols, safety procedures, sample prioritization methods, and documentation requirements. Volunteers were also introduced to outreach opportunities supporting community science efforts throughout Napa County and neighboring regions.

- **Meeting 3 – Online Zoom Recording: Outreach and Community Engagement Planning**

Meghan Walla-Murphy and the Land Trust of Napa County to develop a Napa County-specific online presentation highlighting local NBBC research, volunteer opportunities, and conservation efforts for public access.

Total Expenditure: \$1750.00

## **Services & Supplies**

### **Field Kit Supplies, Ethanol, Collection Bottles, First Aid, and Safety Gear**

Three complete DNA field kits were assembled and distributed to Napa County-based partner organizations and volunteer crew leaders conducting bear monitoring efforts. Supplies included collection materials, preservation supplies, safety equipment, and field documentation materials.

Total Expenditure: \$405.76

### **Volunteer Training Materials**

We were also able to create and distribute training materials for both volunteers and community members participating in the project. Field protocols, sampling procedures, and educational resources were developed to support DNA collection efforts and ensure consistency in field methods. Sampling protocols and training documents were produced in-house, while volunteer guidance brochures were professionally printed through VistaPrint for use during volunteer training, community meetings, and public outreach activities throughout Napa County.

Total Expenditure: \$485.03

### **DNA Lab Testing**

Due to wildfire impacts and weather-related survey cancellations, fewer samples were collected than originally anticipated. However, NBBC continued to support bear monitoring efforts through opportunistic DNA sample collection reported by community members. Images of potential bear scat observations submitted by the public were reviewed by project staff, and when observations were determined to be likely black bear scat, trained volunteers or staff collected the samples following established protocols. Through this effort, three opportunistic black bear scat samples were collected and submitted to the UC Davis Mammalian Ecology and Conservation Unit for genetic analysis.

Because laboratory processing and genetic analysis are ongoing, results are not expected until late summer or early fall of 2026. These data will contribute to understanding black bear distribution, movement patterns, and genetic diversity within Napa County and the greater North Bay region.

Total Expenditure: \$525.00 (\$175.00 per/sample)

### **Equipment**

#### **Wildlife Cameras**

The cameras will be installed on Napa Land Trust properties where bear activity has been documented or is suspected. These sites include areas that have not previously been surveyed through organized scat collection efforts. The camera network will help identify new locations of bear activity, guide future DNA sampling efforts, and support long-term monitoring of black bears within Napa County.

Five Bushnell wildlife cameras were purchased to expand monitoring efforts in Napa County.

Total Expenditure: \$982.98

#### **Camera Installation Equipment**

Additional equipment was purchased to support camera deployment, including SD cards, batteries, security boxes, and locking cables.

Total Expenditure: \$309.69



**Remit payment address:**  
**Sonoma Ecology Center**  
**PO Box 1486**  
**Eldridge, CA 95431**

**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission**  
**1195 Third Street, 2nd Floor**  
**Napa, CA 94559**  
**Grant Term: 9/1/25- 6/30/26**  
**Grant Agreement for Bear Research Program 260094D**  
**SEC project code: NBBC02**

| SEC project code: NIBC02           |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         | Report 1     |                |                                                 |                     |          |                  |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------|------------------|
| Billable Line Items                |              |       |       |       |       | Total Personnel | Miscellaneous Equipment<br>not to Exceed \$10,000 | Supplies & Materials | Educational Materials<br>Not to Exceed \$2,500 | Merge, Current IRS rate | SubContracts | Total Expenses | Period of Performance:<br>Sept 2023 - June 2026 | Task Totals to Date | Budget   | Remaining Budget |
|                                    | Descriptions | Labor | Labor | Labor | Labor |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                |                                                 |                     |          |                  |
| Project Investigator               |              |       |       |       |       | -               |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         | 1,750.00     | 1,750.00       | 1,750.00                                        | 1,750.00            | 1,750.00 | \$0.00           |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       | -               |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
| Materials - from CA5241            |              |       |       |       |       | -               |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
| Field Supplies, training materials |              |       |       |       |       | -               | 1,050.42                                          |                      |                                                |                         | 1,050.42     |                | 1,050.42                                        | 1,050.42            | 1,100.00 | \$49.58          |
| DNA Lab Testing - Pepperwood       |              |       |       |       |       | -               | 525.00                                            |                      |                                                |                         | 525.00       |                | 525.00                                          | 525.00              | 2,692.00 | \$2,167.00       |
| Wildlife Cameras & Supplies        |              |       |       |       |       | -               | 1,292.67                                          |                      |                                                |                         | 1,292.67     |                | 1,292.67                                        | 1,292.67            | 1,277.50 | -\$15.17         |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
|                                    |              |       |       |       |       |                 |                                                   |                      |                                                |                         |              |                | -                                               | -                   |          |                  |
| Totals                             | -            | -     | -     | -     | -     | -               | 2,868.09                                          | -                    | -                                              | -                       | 1,750.00     | 4,618.09       | \$4,618.09                                      | 4,618.09            | \$6,820  | 2,201.41         |

**For anyone interested in learning more about the project, please visit this story map created by UC Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science & Management students for the North Bay Bear Collaborative while we wait for our new website:**

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/4621b4e460ff46bb8718b154b7d17de5>

**4. For environmental education proposals: At least one (1) letter of support from a school board member, principal, teacher, etc.,**

N/A

## Appendix A:

## 2026 Bear Fecal DNA Field Collection and Opportunistic Protocols

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vRMGCwwW0UGqm22XrRM\\_hqkwTOjOt3jIkjLQQwW9e-gfAFkxnEcByNht2\\_lqJBXkQ/pub](https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vRMGCwwW0UGqm22XrRM_hqkwTOjOt3jIkjLQQwW9e-gfAFkxnEcByNht2_lqJBXkQ/pub)

## 2026 NBBC BEAR DNA PROJECT DATASHEET\_OPPORTUNISTIC

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vRd7JnEB4n7HkIHxQtTJ6BjjzU210rLapyuxToVBuMxcss-ZenXspSw8nMkHkLFA/pub>

2026 NBBC Scat collection data sheet

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vTmEHonXHze3L7qmLEv7NamhC9u3wi3cVm2lRkrglLpFGFYrUiEASxVy7oflYwcQ/pub>

**2026 Bear DNA Study Kit Field Supplies List**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vSxsXwMCfIdDZPrcXJAw27GhubdtGqne0iNU5Jm25RhbnJErww0PcZr2MwFYRrq7khNOCbHwOO0J19w/pub>

**Bear fecal protocol in photos**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vQrBzp9DL1uotV6LrQjNnyqr1N98a1v0\\_hn7XbhEND\\_UckupABP10LWGu6\\_0zl9iH2bCzThJuyJvWo/pub](https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vQrBzp9DL1uotV6LrQjNnyqr1N98a1v0_hn7XbhEND_UckupABP10LWGu6_0zl9iH2bCzThJuyJvWo/pub)

**NBBC Story Map**

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/4621b4e460ff46bb8718b154b7d17de5>

## I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION

1. **Type of organization or business** – I am a University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Human-Wildlife Interactions advisor in Napa County. In my program, I lead applied research projects to address emerging wildlife issues and offer community learning opportunities through field days, seminars, and extension materials. Topics are based on the needs of Napa County residents and businesses, and my goal is to provide measurable benefits to the Napa community. UCCE is housed under the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR).
2. **Purpose for which organization was formed** – UC ANR connects the power of UC research in agriculture, natural resources, nutrition, and youth development with local communities to improve the lives of all Californians.
3. **Tax exempt status** – The University is qualified for tax-exemption as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is also classified as a public charity under Code Section 509(a)(1).
4. **Date formed as Non-profit** – March 23, 1868
5. **Membership: restrictions, number of members, fees, etc.** – N/A
6. **Names of Board of Directors; contact person (include phone number, email address, mailing address)** – Heidi von Geldern: [hvongeldern@ucdavis.edu](mailto:hvongeldern@ucdavis.edu), 530-750-1304, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618-7774

## II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT/PROBLEM STATEMENT

1. **Clear statement of problem** – American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*), North America's smallest native falcon, provide valuable ecosystem services and support sustainable farming practices by preying upon rodent and insect pests that impact agricultural production. However, Kestrel populations have declined across much of North America, and the causes remain poorly understood. Working lands, such as Napa County's vineyards and rangelands, can provide important foraging and breeding habitats for Kestrels, yet agricultural intensification, pesticide use, and increasing climate extremes may negatively impact populations attracted to these landscapes by reducing habitat quality and reproductive success. Because these drivers vary regionally, long-term monitoring is essential to identify local stressors and develop science-based management recommendations that support healthy Kestrel populations in Napa County.



## *Proposal: Napa County American Kestrel Nest Box Network*

In 2023, we initiated the UCCE American Kestrel nest box network in partnership with Napa County landowners and agricultural producers, who now manage over 100 nest boxes across the county. Support from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission allowed us to launch a long-term monitoring program in 2023-2024. Since then, we have expanded the project to include research on diet, habitat-use, dispersal, and responses to extreme heat across Napa, Solano, and Yolo counties. We have also delivered more than 20 field days, workshops, and presentations that connects research findings directly with Napa Valley winegrape growers and other agricultural producers.

Stakeholders across Napa and beyond consistently identify Kestrel conservation and management as an important component of farm sustainability and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs. They seek data-driven recommendations to attract and support Kestrels on their properties, as documented in a 2022 UCCE program needs assessment and through continued stakeholder engagement. This long-term program will integrate information on nest success, diet, habitat-use, and climate resilience to guide conservation and management. By supporting healthy Kestrel populations, this project promotes biodiversity while advancing sustainable agriculture in Napa County.



**Left:** American Kestrel nest box locations in the monitoring network across Napa County.

**Right:** (Clockwise) Breeding Kestrels-- adult male perched outside of nest box, adult female incubating in nest box, young nestlings, and nest box.

- 2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested** – Our objective is to monitor more than 100 American Kestrel nest boxes throughout Napa County while continuing to provide technical assistance to land managers on nest box installation and management. To accomplish this, we request support for a part-

time technician who will coordinate research, monitoring, and outreach activities in Napa County.

The technician is essential to maintaining this large monitoring network and serves as the primary liaison between researchers, collaborators, participating land managers. They will coordinate site access, schedule monitoring visits, maintain communication with participants, provide technical guidance, and support continued expansion of the network in Napa County. The technician will communicate with new vineyards and land managers requesting assistance with nest box installation.

**We request \$10,550 to support technician salary and benefits from July 2026 to June 2027. The technician (\$50,000 annual salary) will work 20% time on the project, equivalent to \$10,000 salary and \$550 benefits (5.5%).** Previous support from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission was instrumental in launching the program and sustaining its growth. Since the beginning of the program, we have raised over \$70,000 in additional grant funding for personnel, travel, and research equipment (See Budget), while also securing resources, such as vehicles and research supplies. **This request will support monitoring and outreach efforts through the 2027 field season in Napa County.**

### **3. Anticipated results with timeline –**

**Short-term:** Improved understanding of American Kestrel ecology, nest box use, and their role within IPM programs in Napa County. Translated findings into practical recommendations applicable across land-use types and operational scales.

**Medium-term:** Increased adoption and expansion of well-managed nest box networks by agricultural producers and land managers. Improved nesting habitat and information on baseline Kestrel population health in Napa County.

**Long-term:** Increased agricultural sustainability by promoting alternatives to pesticide-use within an IPM framework. Preservation of California's natural resources and biodiversity. Nest box management guidelines which contributes to healthier and more resilient agricultural ecosystems.

**Tangible products:** Develop extension publications, fact sheets, webinars, and field demonstrations for Napa County land managers and agricultural producers. We will also produce scientific publications and stay active with the scientific community through conference presentations and attendance.

### **Timeline of events**

**Fall & Winter 2026:** Organize and analyze data from 2026. Prepare and distribute the 2026 Annual Report summarizing findings and present results through annual meeting via Zoom. Continue to support land managers with nest box installation and management assistance while conducting outreach and educational programming.

**Spring 2027:** Monitor nest boxes and conduct field research throughout the breeding season. Continue outreach with agricultural producers, the public, and the scientific community.

**Future:** Continue long-term monitoring, research, and extension efforts to improve Kestrel conservation and science-based management throughout Napa County.

#### **4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective –**

**Communication and coordination:** Napa sites pose a unique challenge for our team, as nests are distributed across many properties. The technician will manage a database of over 50 existing project participants and over 100 nest box locations in Napa County, and they will coordinate site visits and scheduling for monitoring and research. Importantly, they will maintain communication with participants regarding the status of their nest boxes and new participants who seek guidance on new nest box installations.

**Boots-on-the-ground:** The technician will lead monitoring and field data collection. They will use a bluetooth camera on an extendable pole to document occupancy, including the number and timing of eggs, nestlings, and fledglings in active nest boxes, in addition to assisting with other research activities. They will lead data entry and management of databases that result from field data collection.

#### **5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission –** This project advances the Commission's goal of preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat in Napa County (Item 13103e). Many natural cavities have been removed for development and agriculture, although properly placed and maintained nest boxes can provide a viable alternative to natural cavities. The stewardship of American Kestrel nest boxes by land managers across Napa county will greatly increase nesting opportunities for the cavity nesting species in the region.

This project also supports scientific research that improves wildlife conservation and management (Item 13103i). Long-term monitoring provides the data needed to develop science-based recommendations for nest box management, evaluate population trends, and guide conservation planning. By engaging agricultural producers, landowners, students, and community members, the project also strengthens local stewardship and trains the next generation of conservation professionals.

**6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful–**

The success of the proposed project will be measured through three metrics:

- Successful monitoring of more than 100 nest boxes in Napa County, including repeated visits to conduct occupancy surveys and collect data for other research.
- Continued participation and expansion of the network, measured by participant retention, new enrollments, and requests for technical assistance.
- Delivery of extension programming and dissemination of science-based management recommendations through producer meetings, workshops, and field days, with participation tracked annually.

**III. ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. Expenditure detail** – See expenditure detail and budget below
- 2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds)** – See attached expenditure detail and budget below
- 3. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies** – See attached Final Report for 2025-2026
- 4. For environmental education proposals: At least one (1) letter of support from a school board member, principal, teacher, etc.,** – N/A
- 5. For land acquisition proposals or capital improvement projects, include discussion on any public access component.** – N/A

## ATTACHMENTS

### 1. Expenditure Detail

#### Budget

|                          |  |                 |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>Personnel Salary</b>  |  |                 |
| Staff Research Assistant |  | <b>\$10,000</b> |
| <b>Benefits</b>          |  |                 |
| Rate: 5.50%              |  | <b>\$550</b>    |
| <b>Total Requested:</b>  |  | <b>\$10,550</b> |

**The amount requested is \$10,550. The technician (\$50,000 annual salary) will work 20% time during the project period (July 2026-June 2027). This equates to \$10,000 salary and \$550 benefits (5.50% rate).**

**2. Additional funding sources–** This project is supported by grant funding and we seek funds for the 2027 year. In past years, we have received grants from Napa County’s Napa Wildlife Conservation Commission, University of California Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, the Hrdy Family, UC Davis Ecology Graduate Student Fellowship, and the American Ornithological Society. The 2026 field season was supported by the Napa Wildlife Conservation Commission (2025-2026, \$5,000) and Yolo Bird Alliance (2026, \$5,000).

**3. Progress Reports–** 2025-2026 project report attached.

(SEE BELOW)





## **UCCE American Kestrel Program – 2026 Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Project Report**



**Project Summary:** Our objective was to monitor American Kestrel nest boxes in Napa County as part of a long-term regional research and monitoring program established in 2023. The data we collect contributes to the larger understanding of the interactions of American Kestrels and working landscapes and supports the conservation of a declining species. To accomplish this, we employed a part-time technician and experienced raptor biologist, Robyn Boothby, to support the ongoing research, monitoring, and outreach efforts in Napa County. The NWCC funds partially supported Robyn's salary. Robyn worked at the interface of collaborators, landowners, and researchers and played a critical role in managing communication, coordination, and fieldwork efforts in Napa in the 2026 field season.

This project contributes to the enhancement of wildlife habitat and contributes to scientific research that can improve wildlife conservation and management in Napa County. Many natural tree cavities have been removed for development and agriculture, although properly placed and maintained nest boxes can provide a viable alternative for American Kestrel nest sites. The results of this project will generate science-based management recommendations to optimize American Kestrel nest box networks and inform us of their population status in Napa County. Involvement of local land managers and student researchers has fostered a wildlife conservation mindset within the community and helped train the next generation of scientists.



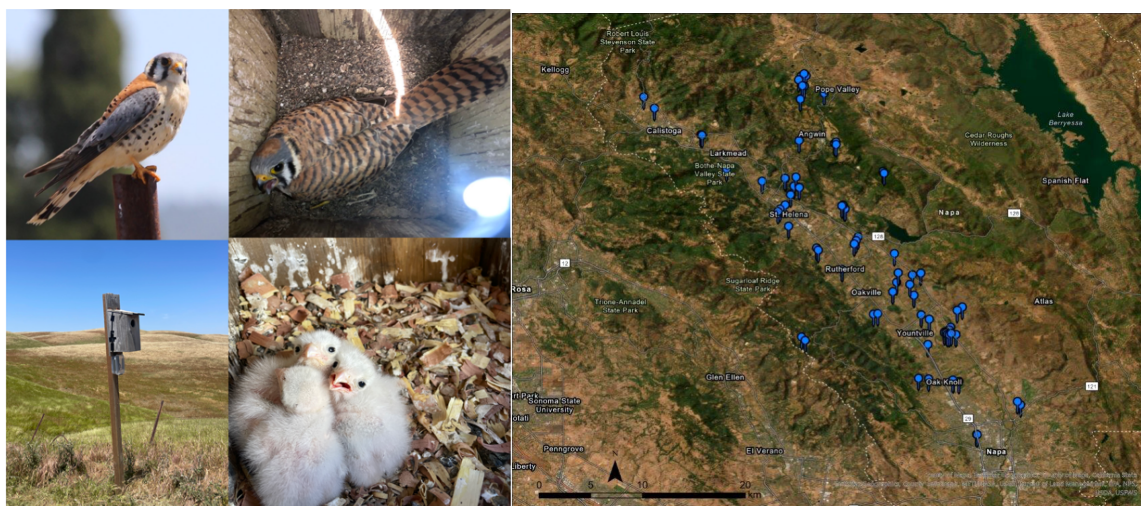
**Photo:** American Kestrel preys upon a rodent in a vineyard. Credit: R Bourbour

## Project Accomplishments— 2026 Mid-season update:

### Research

To date in the 2026 field season, we monitored over 73 nest boxes with more than 274 individual visits in Napa County, including 152 nests and over 707 visits by our team in the larger regional network. We closely monitored over 15 active American Kestrel and 5 Western Screech Owl nests in Napa County, where we gathered information on nest success and phenology. (Western Screech Owls use the same nest boxes.)

We partnered with UC Davis graduate student Mary Badger to deploy state of the art GPS tracking technology on over 15 breeding adult American Kestrels to learn about their home range and habitat selection for a second year. Research efforts also included placing cameras and nest temperature sensors to track provisioning rates related to temperature and land use. We banded and collected trace DNA for a diet study on over 100 American Kestrels. As part of this effort, we recruited four UC Davis student interns who participated in hands on field research efforts, important on the job training and experience for the next generation of wildlife scientists.



**Right:** (Clockwise) Breeding Kestrels-- adult male perched outside of nest box, adult female incubating in nest box, young nestlings, and nest box with camera set up. **Left:** American Kestrel nest box locations in the monitoring network across Napa County.

### *Extension and Science Communication*

Over 10 new land managers joined the monitoring network, and we had over 15 existing land managers participate in the field during research and monitoring work. We spoke at three scientific conferences (a local, national, and an international conference) about research and gave two online presentations to local Bird Alliance chapters.

We engaged the Napa winegrape growing community at an in person vertebrate pest management workshop and the larger California viticulturist community online through a webinar. We also hosted a 3-part online seminar series geared towards general members of the public.



**Top:** Napa vineyard vertebrate pest workshop. **Bottom Left:** Interns and vineyard managers get hands on experience in the field. **Bottom Right:** Presentation at scientific conference.

### *Anticipated Impacts*

The results of this project will continue to be translated into practical, science-based management guidelines and extension materials designed for land managers, agricultural producers, and the public. This research will be the focus of multiple peer-reviewed publications with a conservation and management in agroecosystems focus. These materials and recommendations will be broadly applicable across land use types and operational scales, supporting both agricultural and community-based stewardship of American Kestrel habitat.

At the local and regional scale, increased awareness and understanding of American Kestrels and their role in IPM on agricultural landscapes has already begun to facilitate the adoption and expansion of nest box networks by producers and land managers in the region. This work will increase the availability of nesting habitat, optimally managed landscapes, and will help establish baseline information on kestrel population health.

**Thank you** to the Hrdy Family, J Kreidler, T Slyker, T Clark, J McNerney, K Hunting, S Skalos, H Fendell Hummel, S Wilson, B Esquivel, A Heming, A Varni, A Gromperts, and all property owners and managers who have contributed to this work and allowed access for research and monitoring.



**Grant Proposal to the Napa County Wildlife  
Conservation Commission**

***Resolving Negative Human-Wildlife Interactions in  
Napa County: 2026-2027***

**I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION**

**1. Type of organization or business**

501c3 non-profit public benefit corporation

**2. Purpose for which organization was formed**

International Bird Rescue is a regional and global rescue, rehabilitation, and emergency response organization. Our mission is to inspire people to act toward balance with the natural world by rescuing waterbirds in crisis. We dream of a world in which every person, every day, takes action to protect the natural home of wildlife and ourselves.

**3. Tax exempt status**

We are a federally recognized 501(c)3 non-profit public benefit corporation: FEIN: 94-1739027.

**4. Date formed as Non-profit**

April 27, 1971. 2026 marks our 55<sup>th</sup> year of continuous service to the community.

**5. Membership: restrictions, number of members, fees, etc.**

There are no restrictions on participation with International Bird Rescue. Although we do not have members, we rely on the support of 16 Board Members, 36 full- and part-time staff, over 250 volunteers who contributed the equivalent of 15 full-time staff (30,000+ hours) last year, and over 2,500 individual, corporate, foundation, and municipal supporters who share our values of wildlife conservation, biological diversity, and personal responsibility.

**6. Names of Board of Directors; contact person (include phone number, email address, mailing address)**

Primary Contact: Phil Kohlmetz, Grants Coordinator  
Direct: 707-704-0350  
Email: [grants@birdrescue.org](mailto:grants@birdrescue.org)  
Address: 4369 Cordelia Road, Fairfield, CA 94534

Please see attached Board of Directors and Staff rosters for names and biographies.



## II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### 1. Clear statement of problem

Experts around the world agree that sea- and shorebirds are in a global crisis of survival. Millions of birds die every year due to *Human-Wildlife Conflicts* such as injury from fishing (hooks, nets, and lines), human cruelty, illegal shootings, habitat disruption, starvation, pollution, and climate change-induced hazards such as algae bloom toxicity and the [accelerated spread of infectious diseases](#):

*"H5N1 high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) is currently causing **unparalleled mortality of wild birds** and mammals worldwide with threats to population levels for some species already under multiple anthropogenic [human-caused] pressures. [The current and evolving variants are] expected to continue to spread and cause further negative conservation impacts. Notably, important breeding colonies on oceanic islands are at risk"* (The United Nations-led [Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds](#), 2023).

*"Since the 1970s, [North America] has lost 3 **billion** birds"* (Science, 2019).

**Napa County is especially important to hundreds of species of aquatic birds because of its central location on the Pacific Flyway (a major North-South migratory route along the coasts of North and South America). Immediate human impact in the Napa-Bay-Delta region has concentrated, long-term effects on the global wildlife population.**

**Despite these challenges, intervention makes a difference. It is why we are a first-line responder in the multiple crises facing birds at the local, regional, and international levels.**

We operate 3 Wildlife Centers (our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center in nearby Fairfield, our Los Angeles Wildlife Center in San Pedro, and an Emergency Response Center in Anchorage, Alaska) to provide crucial oil spill and emergency response services to industries and governmental agencies, as well as **daily rescue, rehabilitation, and release of native aquatic birds back to the wild**. We serve ~3,000 native aquatic birds annually, in addition to responding to periodic-but-sadly-inevitable environmental crises that occur (ranging from Brown Pelican starvation events this and last year, a diesel fuel spill in Sacramento in 2022, a Common Murre mass stranding event along the California Coast in 2018, the Cosco Busan oil spill in San Francisco Bay in 2007, the "Mystery Goo" event in San Francisco Bay in 2015, to the Exxon Valdez spill in 1989).

**As a referral hospital, we treat the most challenging cases that are beyond the capacity or skills of other regional wildlife centers and clinics. We receive hundreds of birds from other local rescues and rehabilitation centers for treatment, including from our partners at Napa Wildlife Rescue.**

**This is especially true during the current epidemic of *Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza*, also known as HPAI or "Bird Flu," for which there is not yet a cure.**

Fortunately, we have to-date successfully kept HPAI *out of our clinic*, although it takes extraordinary financial, facilities, and human resources to do so, which we highlight on our blog entry ***Not All Heroes Wear Capes: Suiting Up To Protect from Bird Flu:***



<https://www.birdrescue.org/not-all-heroes-wear-capes-suiting-up-to-protect-from-bird-flu/>

Our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center in Fairfield, CA admits 1,750 local, native aquatic birds annually (three-year average), and releases them back into the wild at species-appropriate locations once they are successfully rehabilitated.

As shared in our latest report to the Commission, during our most recent reporting period (FY25: 10/1/24-9/30/25), we admitted 2,950 wild, native, aquatic birds for care (1,769 in Northern California, and 1,181 in Southern California), representing 94 different species.

During this same period, we rescued and rehabilitated 31 wild, native birds from Napa County of 14 species: Black-crowned Night Heron, California Brown Pelican, Canada Goose, Common Goldeneye, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Egret, Greater White-fronted Goose, Green Heron, Kildeer, Mallard, Ring-billed Gull, Snowy Egret, and **“Birds of Conservation Concern”** California Gull and Western Grebe.

Rescue locations included Napa, American Canyon, Rutherford, and St. Helena. American Canyon is a common release location. Common causes of injury included removed from hazardous area, hit by car, and orphaned. The average length of care for these Napa County patients was 11.5 days, and 50% left our care alive (a significantly higher success rate than national wildlife rehabilitation averages).

Our work is ongoing and year-round.

Unlike traditional veterinary clinics, our patients come to us with no funding, no insurance, and no one responsible for paying the bill. Birds injured by human impact (as the majority of our cases are) require round-the-clock care, capable hands, and large volumes of food and vitamins in order to be rehabilitated successfully and returned to the environment. Only with philanthropic support from concerned citizens, foundations, corporations, and municipal agencies are we able to meet the demand for our services.

## **2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested**

Our primary objective is to rescue and rehabilitate ~ 50 aquatic birds from Napa County annually. Our secondary objective is to secure sufficient financial support from stakeholders to keep our operations sustainable. Our request for a \$8,110 grant will offset a portion of the annual cost of service we provide to the people and wildlife of Napa County (~\$24,330), and represents a modest portion (33%) of that total annual cost, an expense that up until 2019 (when we received our first-ever support from Napa County), we had borne exclusively for over a dozen years on behalf of the citizens and wildlife of Napa County. A Commission grant of \$8,110 would be matched 2:1 by other donors, and would only be used for necessary, program-specific costs.

When philanthropic support does not match the scope of work presented to us, organizational reserves must be used. This is, understandably, not a sustainable solution. The plan to address this financial imbalance includes an organizational investment in greater fundraising resources, increased outreach to local communities and citizens, and requests made to granting organizations like the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Fish and Game commissions and committees in the Counties of Sonoma, Marin, Solano, Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and San Diego have each funded similar requests ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,700 to help ensure our work is sustainable. Without modest financial support from the communities where we work, our ongoing ability to underwrite this service will be jeopardized and we will be unable to continue to conserve these beautiful and vulnerable natural and educational resources.

We have strict financial controls that ensure that any invoice submitted to one funding agency is not submitted to any other agency. Our financial records are audited annually, and we consistently achieve "clean" audit opinions. While it is difficult to say in advance during the granting process with exact certainty what each future invoice will contain, examples of some typical food and supplies (and their costs) include:

Enroquin tablets, 68mg x 250: \$300.43/bottle  
Clavacillin tablets (Clavamox), 62.5mg x 210: \$79.07/bottle  
Nitrile exam gloves, 100: \$19.41/box  
Meloxidyl, 1.5mg/ml x 200ml: \$97.53/bottle  
Clindamycin, 300mg quad tabs x 100, \$77.00/bottle  
Peruvian Smelt, 30lbs/case x \$2.05/lb: \$61.50/case X 60 cases/typical order = \$3690.00  
Night Smelt, 40lbs/case x \$2.35/lb: \$94.00/case X 20 cases/typical order = \$1880.00

These expenses have risen consistently and significantly in the past 48 months due to inflation.

### **3. Anticipated results, with time-line**

An \$8,110 grant from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission will help propagate future generations of wildlife native to, and rescued from, Napa County. It will do this by underwriting a portion of Napa County's share of expenses necessary to provide appropriate nutrition, medicine, care, and recovery habitats to meet the community demand for services between 10/1/26-6/30/27, including for clinic and veterinary supplies, medicine, food, professional veterinary and rehabilitation staff costs, and utilities costs for stable and supportive rehabilitation habitats.

### **4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective**

Over our long history serving Northern California (and emergencies and incidents notwithstanding), there are two "peak seasons" for our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center: "Baby Bird Season" from April to August, and "Migratory Bird Season" from October to February. During both of these events, and throughout the year, concerned Napa County residents bring us wild, injured birds collected from dense urban areas throughout Napa County, and from local shores and waterways.

The grant's purpose is to partially offset direct program expenses including for clinic and veterinary supplies, medicine, food, animal care, and utilities (clean, temperature-conditioned water) necessary to create a stable recovery environment for birds admitted from Napa County to our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center between 10/1/26-6/30/27. All grant funds are expected to be expended or encumbered no later than 06/30/27.

Our plan to meet the demand for our services during these peak times involves having sufficient staff, volunteers, supplies, and financial resources on hand. With 50+ years of experience treating sick and injured wild aquatic birds, we are well-suited to address these ongoing Human-Wildlife Conflicts.

Our established methodology includes:

- A. Rescue: Volunteers, citizens, and referring organizations and agencies transport injured animals to our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center in Fairfield, CA.
- B. Triage: Birds first undergo a triage assessment by our professional veterinary staff where vital signs are taken, the bird's weight and measurements are recorded, and blood work is often done. A medical treatment plan and a nutrition plan are created specific to each bird.
- C. Medical Intervention: Typically initiated after the first 24-48 hours in care, so that the initial trauma of capture can abate (remaining mindful that these are adorable-but-wild animals), and we can be assured that the animal has the strength to endure a medical procedure or surgery.
- D. Recovery: Treated birds move to a recovery area, just as a patient would at a human hospital. Here, their progress is closely monitored until they are ready to move to a rehabilitation area.
- E. Rehabilitation: Birds heal their wounds and gain strength in our predator-proof aviary enclosures.
- F. Release: When birds have healed and matured to be capable of survival on their own, they are released back into the wild at species-appropriate locations. In Napa County, the most common release sites are along the Napa River from the City of Napa to American Canyon, including Wetlands Edge Park.

##### **5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission**

The work of International Bird Rescue **addresses multiple elements of the California Fish and Wildlife Code, especially in Section 13103. (Selection Criteria 1: meets one or MORE of the purposes listed in 13103)**

The proposed project is a direct expression of **13103(b)**: "Temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife." The individual animals we return to the wild are then able to propagate future generations. When we work with Animal Control Officers and Game Wardens, we also address element **13103(c)**: "Temporary treatment and care of wildlife confiscated by the department as evidence."

Additionally (as confirmed by CDFW staff) through both our Wildlife Rehabilitation work and our Wildlife Emergency Response and Preparedness work, we protect and restore local wildlife populations, especially when human impact has negatively affected those populations and individual animals. Our ongoing Research (including collaboration with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and with

OWCN: Oiled Wildlife Care Network) leads to innovations and new standards in wild animal care **(13103(i))**.

Our public education and outreach efforts reach over 100,000 people annually through numerous social media channels and real-time events **(13103(a))**. This includes our Stem-based **Cordelia Slough Youth Outdoor Education Program, available as a free field trip option for students throughout Northern California. (Selection Criteria 2: educational in nature and directed towards school age children)** As a globally-recognized leader in human-wildlife conflicts, we are uniquely positioned to make a difference in inspiring the next generation of environmental champions through hands-on education that teaches wildlife and environmental literacy. Specific STEM-based educational outcomes of this experiential, place-based learning opportunity include:

- Species of plants, insects, and animals; and their roles in our local ecosystem
- Bird beaks and what they eat
- The difference between native, invasive, and introduced species
- The importance of different ecosystems like wetlands and riparian areas
- How to sort trash, recyclable materials, and compost
- Feather structure and how it contributes to waterproofing and flight

In addition:

- The project is specific to animals rescued from and released back to Napa County.
- The project can be completed in one year.
- Commission funds are matched by committed investment from neighboring Counties, corporations, foundations, and individuals. **(Selection Criteria 4: uses Commission funding as a 2:1 match for other funding sources)**
- The application is our only proposal submitted to the Commission and the proposal meets the requirement for Fish and Game monies and there are no administrative costs to be paid through this grant (and expenses are project-specific).
- The proposal complies with the established format and was submitted prior to the deadline.

## **6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful**

Throughout a bird's time with us, from their initial triage assessment to their release, we record data and track their progress using RaptorMed software. In addition, treated birds are banded so that they can be tracked in the wild by other scientists, volunteers, and enthusiasts, and in case a treated bird returns to us for further care. We are one of the few organizations that possess the federal permit to band birds.

The scientific community (including the federal Bird Banding Lab) benefit since we place ID bands on all birds upon their release back in the wild in order to increase the knowledge and data available on rehabilitated birds. The data generated by the banding effort, as well as our internal data is analyzed by our veterinary care team as part of ongoing research, and the results shared at professional conferences and with our partners in the Global Oiled Wildlife Response Oiled Wildlife Response System, a consortium of leading experts solving the challenges of wildlife globally.

### III. ATTACHMENTS

#### 1. Budget / Expenditure Detail

**Annual Napa County Avian Rehabilitation & Research  
FY26 Program Budget: NorCal Avian Rehabilitation & Research  
FY26 Organization Budget**



| REVENUE                                              | Napa County<br>Portion of Program | FY26 Program<br>Budget | FY26 Organization<br>Budget |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Earned:                                              |                                   |                        |                             |
| Client Fees                                          | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$130,710                   |
| Extraordinary earned income (spills, response, etc.) | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$128,325                   |
| Contracts                                            | \$3,686                           | \$129,000              | \$619,583                   |
| Enterprises (Merchandise)                            | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$20,000                    |
| Miscellaneous                                        | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$12,349                    |
| Contributed:                                         |                                   |                        |                             |
| Institutional Giving                                 | \$16,594                          | \$580,806              | \$1,179,600                 |
| Individual Giving                                    | \$3,877                           | \$135,687              | \$874,613                   |
| Extraordinary contributed income (bequests, etc.)    | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$226,394                   |
| Special Events                                       | \$171                             | \$6,000                | \$253,500                   |
| In-kind contributions                                | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$431,000                   |
| <b>TOTAL EARNED AND CONTRIBUTED REVENUE</b>          | <b>\$24,328</b>                   | <b>\$851,493</b>       | <b>\$3,876,074</b>          |

| EXPENSES                                   | Napa County<br>Portion of Program | FY26 Program<br>Budget | FY26 Organization<br>Budget |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Salaries and wages                         | \$14,387                          | \$503,554              | \$2,178,282                 |
| Team and professional development          | \$177                             | \$6,200                | \$28,650                    |
| Advertising, marketing, and communications | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$4,250                     |
| Depreciation and amortization              | \$510                             | \$17,854               | \$51,661                    |
| Dues and memberships                       | \$43                              | \$1,510                | \$19,145                    |
| Facilities, vehicles, and equipment        | \$1,139                           | \$39,848               | \$215,408                   |
| Fundraising expenses                       | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$141,500                   |
| General administrative expenses            | \$3                               | \$100                  | \$38,720                    |
| In-kind expenses                           | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$431,000                   |
| Insurance                                  | \$1,231                           | \$43,089               | \$88,148                    |
| Meetings and conferences                   | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$0                         |
| Outside services                           | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$55,475                    |
| Clinic and Medical Supplies                | \$2,571                           | \$90,000               | \$216,255                   |
| Travel related expenses                    | \$657                             | \$22,988               | \$149,173                   |
| Utilities                                  | \$3,610                           | \$126,350              | \$202,802                   |
| Wildlife Emergency Response Fund           | \$0                               | \$0                    | \$0                         |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES (All Sources)</b>        | <b>\$24,328</b>                   | <b>\$851,493</b>       | <b>\$3,820,469</b>          |
| <b>TOTAL DIFFERENCE / NET</b>              | <b>\$0</b>                        | <b>\$0</b>             | <b>\$55,605</b>             |

Please see Notes on following page



**NOTES:**

Annual expenses for the Avian Rehabilitation and Rescue program in Napa County (left column) are ~3% of annual program costs, and a subset of FY26 (10/1/25 - 09/30/26) Northern California Avian Rehabilitation and Research Program Income and Expenses for FY26 (middle column), which themselves are a subset of Organizational General Operating Budget for FY26, shown in right column.

Clinic Supplies includes animal nutrition (food), vitamins, supplements, medicine, and veterinary clinic supplies such as gauze, sutures, needles, vet wrap, tape, etc. Client Fees include billable services and contract retainers for emergency response held with the Oiled Wildlife Care Network and other companies. In-kind contributions and expenses include the donation of rent on our facilities in both Fairfield, CA and San Pedro, CA, and product donation of DAWN Dish Soap. Utilities for the Avian Rehabilitation and Research program are limited to water and electricity needed to provide a stable clinic and rehabilitation environment (consistent water and air temperatures) for birds lacking the ability to regulate their own temperature. Insurance costs have risen substantially over the past few years, driven by inflation.

International Bird Rescue does not currently have a permanently-restricted endowment, but does have organizational reserves to manage cash flow and a Wildlife Emergency Response Fund to support unpredictable crisis response activity.

The ongoing expense of maintaining the Avian Rehabilitation & Research program continues to rise, driven by increasing costs for food, medical care, and wildlife hospital maintenance. Additionally, emerging wildlife emergencies, such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI, aka "Bird Flu"), are an increasing and ongoing concern. HPAI is a fatal avian virus which adds significant time and expense to our core rescue and rehabilitation work, as we have to quarantine incoming patients while we assess them for symptoms, leading to more staff time, more facilities costs, and more overall time for patients in care. Bird Rescue's programs rely heavily on volunteer efforts and in kind support, which remain essential to sustaining our mission.

Increased expenses in FY26 include personnel (necessary to retain current exceptional talent, as well as to hire a second professional veterinarian to better manage patient load and complexity, as well as to add emergency response capacity to react to unpredictable wildlife emergencies as they happen in real time), insurance (up nearly 30% compared to the prior FY), and facilities costs (due to changes in government funding). The net-positive results of the FY26 and FY25 Budgets are designed to deliver long-term financial balance, replenish working capital, and strengthen cash flow for improved responsiveness (which is necessary for us to remain an effective emergency response organization).

Committed income for the Napa County portion of our program consists of over \$3,000 from individual donors committed to animal protection, over \$3,000 in contracts and fees-for-service, and our own institutional investment of over \$8,000 secured from sources outside of the County. Pending support includes \$8,110 from Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Your support will ensure the program is sustainable and does not further tax our own limited reserves, or force us to redirect funding and services from other Counties to cover the Napa County share of costs.

## **2. List of other funding sources (i.e., matching funds)**

In addition to the bolded notation on the preceding page regarding program income, the total annual operating cost of the Avian Rehabilitation and Research program at the San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center is \$851,493. Grants received from state and local agencies to support the rescue and rehabilitation of wild aquatic birds from within their jurisdictions this year includes:

Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission - \$12,500  
Santa Clara County Fish and Game Commission - \$8,500  
State of California Native Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Fund - \$7,500  
Santa Cruz County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission - \$7,500  
Monterey County Fish and Game Advisory Commission - \$5,000  
Alameda County Fish and Game Commission - \$5,000  
Marin County Fish and Wildlife Commission - \$2,611

Additional major organizational philanthropic support is provided by:

\$100,000: Procter & Gamble, makers of Dawn dish soap (yes, we really did innovate the use of *Dawn* to wash birds over 4 decades ago, and continue to use the product today)

\$90,000: Chevron

\$50,000 Marathon Refinery at Martinez

\$50,000: Thelma Doelger Trust for Animals

\$35,000: Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation Community Fund

\$10,000: Martinez Refining Company

California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oiled Wildlife Care Network are *in-kind* donors of space and technical resources.

## **3. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies.**

The Commission awarded us \$5,173 last year, and \$4,128, \$4,850, \$4,500, \$4,000, \$4,500, and \$4,500 in previous grant cycles. Timely final reports and reimbursement requests were submitted and completed for **all** of the previous grants.

## **4. For environmental education proposals, at least one letter of support**

This request is not directly for educational purposes, but rather to offset expenses for clinic and veterinary supplies, medicine, food, animal care, and utilities for birds admitted from Napa County to our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center between 10/1/26-6/30/27.

## **5. For land acquisition proposals or capital improvements, include discussion on any public access component**

This request is neither for land acquisition nor for capital improvements.

## Board of Directors



**Tim Hayes**, Chair; Region Manager, Marathon Pipeline. Board member since 2023. Tim Hayes is a senior manager in the oil and gas industry, working for 36 years with some of the biggest names in the business including ARCO and British Petroleum. He has dedicated his career to safety enhancement and improving logistics in high-level positions on both the West Coast and East Coast. He currently serves as Region Manager for Marathon Pipeline's Southern California assets. The majority of Tim's career has been dedicated to marine and pipeline operations. Tim holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from California State Polytechnic, Pomona. He spends much of his free time in and around the coastal waters of California with his wife Erika and three adult children.



**Dr. Maria Hartley**, Vice Chair; Global Technical Lead, Chevron Center for Emergency Preparedness and Response. Board member since 2018. Dr. Maria Hartley has been with Chevron since 2008. She is also the assistant lead of Chevron's Environmental Functional Team which is responsible for providing technical specialists to address environmental issues during potential oil spills and other emergencies. She developed and implemented Chevron's industry-leading environmental standards and processes worldwide, such as ESHIA (environmental, social, health impact assessment) and the Natural Resources Environmental Performance Standard, and led permitting initiatives for Chevron's major international capital projects. She advises on biodiversity and endangered species issues and advocacy.

Receiving both her Doctorate and Masters of ecology from Rice University, she is an Adjunct Assistant Professor teaching Ecosystem Management at Rice, and on the Advisory Board of the School of Natural Sciences. Maria is a British citizen, currently residing in Houston, Texas.



**Anjul Patney**, Vice Chair, Governance Chair; Principal Research Scientist, NVIDIA. Board member since 2023. Anjul conducts academic research in computer graphics, esports, machine learning, and virtual and augmented reality as part of NVIDIA's Human Performance and Experience research group. Previously, he was a Research Scientist at Facebook Reality Labs (2019-2021) and a Senior Research Scientist in Real-Time Rendering at NVIDIA (2013-2019). He received his Ph.D. from UC Davis in 2013 and his Bachelors in

Technology from IIT Delhi in 2007. In his personal time, he likes to spend time with his family. He also occasionally fosters dogs from local shelters.



**Martha Joseph**, Secretary; Journalist (*retired*). Board member since 2022. Martha Joseph has been a volunteer at International Bird Rescue's Cordelia wildlife center since 2013. She is an avid bird watcher, hiker, and conservationist. Martha can frequently be found combing the wild and scenic beaches of Point Reyes National Seashore completing bird and marine mammal surveys for Beach Watch, a NOAA shoreline monitoring program managed by the Greater Farallones Association. She is also a supporter of the John Muir Land Trust, first volunteering 30 years ago to assist its successful campaign to purchase Mt. Wanda, once owned by naturalist John Muir and now part of the John Muir National Historic Site. A former journalist for a San Francisco-based newswire service and East Bay newspapers, Martha earned a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley in 1980. After raising two children with her husband in Martinez and spending years volunteering in their schools, she went on to work for the school district for more than a decade.

## Board of Directors



**Tanmay Mathur**, Treasurer; Supply Chain Executive. Board member since 2024. Tanmay is a seasoned supply chain executive with extensive experience in transportation, logistics, operations and supply chain. He has worked for several world class organizations like Shell, Amazon and XPO Logistics across US, Europe and Asia. In his free time, he likes to spend time with his wife and 5-year-old daughter and pursue his hobbies of reading, painting and exploring new places to scuba dive. He holds a bachelor's in chemical engineering from IIT Roorkee and an MBA from Harvard Business School.



**Toni Arkoosh Pinsky**, Past Chair; Community Leader. Board member since 2017. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors, Toni has been an active clinic volunteer at both International Bird Rescue's San Francisco Bay-Delta Rehabilitation Center, and at Wildcare in Santa Rosa since 2015. She started her career with Tiffany & Co. in 1980, and rose to the position of Director Business Sales from 1993 through 2009. Toni has a Bachelor's Degree from California State University - Long Beach. She lives in San Anselmo, CA.



**Dr. Christine Bee**; Group Leader, Merck. Board member since 2024. Dr. Bee is a scientist with 10+ years' experience in the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industry. She currently works in the discovery of novel medicines against cancer and cardiometabolic diseases. Seeing the effects of wildfires, overfishing, coral bleaching and pollution, including the 2002 oil spill of the Prestige, inspired her to make a difference and join International Bird Rescue. Christine holds a doctoral degree in Biochemistry from Ruhr-University Bochum in Germany and has been living in California since 2010. On weekends, she can be found kayaking or hiking with her husband in Marin County, north of San Francisco.



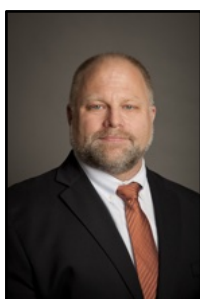
**Nick Bockanic**; Director of Brand Marketing, Universal Pictures. Board member since 2024. Nick acts as the connective tissue externally and within NBCUniversal to convert Universal's films into multidisciplinary franchises that extend across a larger marketing flywheel inclusive of partnerships, sales, consumer products, gaming, and theme park attractions and integrations. In his filmmaker facing role, Nick also partners with Illumination, theatrical marketing, and creative executives to execute brand marketing campaigns that leverage Comcast NBCUniversal's Symphony—a collective brief at Comcast NBCUniversal that leverages the unequalled reach of the company's powerful portfolio of brands to amplify key business priorities. Nick began his career at NBCUniversal in 2016 as a West Coast Page

after finishing his MBA at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. Nick resides in Los Angeles, CA with his husband, dog and 2 cats. In his spare time enjoys hiking, running and tending to his too many plants.

## Board of Directors



**Charong Chow**; Senior Marketing Manager, B2B Content, Adobe. Board member since 2025. Based in Marin County, California, Charong is a Senior Marketing Manager at Adobe, with a focus on the latest generative AI products and features. Her previous experience includes machine learning marketing platforms, internal communications software, and a social app for moms. Prior to marketing technology, Charong was an internationally exhibited video artist and author. A lifelong lover of animals and nature, she spends her free time with her family, hiking with their dog, reading, tending chickens, and grooming Charisma, the Thoroughbred.



**Carmine Dulisse**; President, PCCI, Inc. Board member since 2019. Prior to joining PCCI, Carmine was President and CEO of MSRC where he expanded spill response capability across the Hawaiian Island chain, the U.S. Caribbean, the Great Lakes, enhanced coverage throughout Southern California, and offered inland OSRO (oil spill response organization) coverage to upstream, midstream and downstream operators. Prior to MSRC, Carmine was with Exxon Mobil Corporation for over 30 years in several emergency preparedness and security roles, including as Global Emergency Preparedness & Response Manager. From 2011 to 2015 he was seconded from Exxon Mobil to the Marine Well Containment Company as the Health, Safety, and Environment Officer to build industry capability post-Deepwater Horizon. He sailed for several years and held a Masters License: Unlimited Tonnage and earned degrees from Texas A & M University and Texas Maritime Academy. He also served in the Naval Reserve.



**Zach Hutton**; Partner, Paul Hastings, LLP. Board member since 2022. Zach Hutton is a partner at Paul Hastings, LLP, where he acts as chair of the San Francisco Employment Law Department and co-chair of the Firm's nationwide wage and hour practice group. His practice spans all aspects of employment law, including discrimination and harassment, family and medical leaves, and wage and hour issues. He provides advice and compliance guidance to clients in a variety of industries, including technology, retail, financial services, staffing, hospitality, health care, and insurance. He resides in the Bay Area.



**Professor Nina Karnovsky**; Willard George Halstead Zoology Professor of Biology, Pomona College. Board member since 2025. Prof. Nina Karnovsky is the Willard George Halstead Zoology Professor of Biology in the biology department at Pomona College where she has worked since 2004. Her research is focused on investigating anthropogenic impacts on vertebrates (climate change, invasive species, plastic pollution and contaminants). She has studied seabirds all across the globe from penguins in Antarctica to Arctic seabirds and seabirds in California, Hawaii and Japan. She teaches all flavors of ecology to undergraduates. Her courses include Avian Ecology, Aquatic Ecology, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Advanced Animal Ecology. Some of her students have carried out internships with International Bird Rescue which has been an extremely valuable experience for them. Prof. Karnovsky got her start in bird rehabilitation rescuing and rehabilitating hawks and owls after her sophomore year of college. Prof. Karnovsky received her bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University. She studied penguins in Antarctica for her master's degree which she received from Montana State University. She earned her doctorate at UC Irvine where she studied Arctic seabirds. She is also a former Chair of the Pacific Seabird Group.





**Dr. Paul Krause**; Principal, Ramboll. Board member since 2024. Dr. Krause is an internationally-recognized expert in marine ecology and toxicology. He specializes in issues relating to the impacts of large-scale developments, worldwide. Dr. Krause has developed and led large organization incident management and spill response teams and has responded to many spills from those of National Significance, to regional spills. He has worked closely with industry specialists, regulatory agencies, and non-governmental organizations to help secure beneficial project developments. Additionally, Dr. Krause has managed large ecological evaluations throughout the western United States including Alaska and Hawaii, the Gulf of Mexico, the Pacific Islands, Gulf of Thailand, Brunei, Australia, New Zealand, and West Africa. He received his BS in marine biology and MS in biology from California State University, Long Beach and his Doctoral degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



**Shah Selbe**; Founder, Conservify. Board member since 2023. Shah is an engineer, conservation technologist, and National Geographic Explorer who works with communities, NGOs, academia, and developing countries to identify and develop technologies that can help with their greatest conservation challenges. Conservify's work has included water quality characterization in Peru's Boiling River, biodiversity protection in Botswana's Okavango Delta, tracking glacial melt in Canada's Banff National Park, helping citizen scientists monitor water in the Amazon Rainforest, and drone-based monitoring of Sri Lanka's blue whales. Shah is also a Nelson Institute Fellow at the University of Wisconsin Madison, a New England Aquarium Ocean Conservation Fellow, a PopTech Social Innovation Fellow, and a Rolex Award Finalist. Previously, Shah spent 10 years as a rocket scientist building and launching satellites with Boeing.



**Andy Sullivan**; Communications Manager – Personal Health Care, Procter & Gamble. Board member since 2024. Andy Sullivan leads communications across P&G's North America Dish Care business, which includes brands such as Dawn & Cascade. He has spent the past 13 years at P&G, building brands including Tide, Pampers, Olay, Old Spice, Head & Shoulders and Gillette. Prior to joining P&G, Andy worked as a public relations and marketing agency consultant for global products and brands – developing clients' strategies via media relations, media training, social media, special events and reputation management. He has a Bachelor's degree from Xavier University in Ohio. His home is Cincinnati, Ohio with his wife Nikki and their two sons.



**JD Bergeron**; Chief Executive Officer, International Bird Rescue. Board member since 2015. JD joined International Bird Rescue in July 2015. JD thrives on inspiring people to take action by exposing them to the natural wonders all around us. JD is particularly passionate about birds as indicators of the health of nature. He has more than two decades of progressive experience in international development and founded Chooda, an incubator with the mission to help inspire change through outdoor adventures that engage individuals with world challenges. He is a graduate of Washington University in Saint Louis, but counts his time in the Peace Corps, his international travels, and a month on Midway Atoll among a million albatrosses as the true lessons of his life.



**Chief Executive Officer JD Bergeron** joined International Bird Rescue in July 2015. JD thrives on inspiring people to take action by exposing them to the natural wonders all around us. JD is particularly passionate about birds as indicators of the health of nature. He has more than two decades of progressive experience in international development and founded Chooda, an incubator with the mission to help inspire change through outdoor adventures that engage individuals with world challenges. He is a graduate of Washington University in Saint Louis, but counts his time in the Peace Corps, his international travels, and a month on Midway Atoll among a million albatrosses as the true lessons of his life.



**Senior Director, Response Services Barbara Callahan** has worked in oiled wildlife response, response management, and aquatic animal rehabilitation for 25+ years. She is certified in Federal Emergency Management, was Bird Unit Deputy Leader in the Deepwater Horizon Gulf Spill in 2010, Incident Command Wildlife Coordinator for the Rena Spill in New Zealand, and has been the on-scene coordinator in numerous national and international incidents. In 2019, her 25+ years of service in the field of spill response and management was recognized by the Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force with a coveted Legacy Award for lifetime achievement.



**Response and Training Manager Michelle Bellizzi** has over 15 years of experience responding to more than 25 oil spills around the world, while also simultaneously managing the San Francisco Bay Rehabilitation Program. During the Deepwater Horizon Gulf Spill in 2010, she oversaw the modification and operations of one of four primary care facilities. Her experience within the clinic and on location appoints her as a preferred leader within the Response Services Industry.



**Senior Director of Operations and Programs Julie Skoglund** joined the staff in 2003. With a BS degree in Biology, Julie has worked on multiple spills including the Ventura Oiled Bird Incidents, Point Mugu Oiled Bird Incident, Santa Cruz Mystery Spill, Cosco Busan, and the 2010 Deepwater Horizon incident in the Gulf of Mexico. As Program Operations Manager, Julie oversees the operation of both the San Francisco Bay / Delta and the Los Angeles wildlife Rehabilitation Centers. She is the Treasurer of Pacific Seabird Group, and Secretary for the CalTip Rewards Commission, which encourages the public to provide factual information leading to the arrest of poachers and polluters.



**Director of Research and Veterinary Science Dr. Rebecca Duerr** completed her DVM, MPVM, and PhD degrees at UC Davis, focusing on the care of oiled Common Murres and on the nutritional energetics and physiology of Common Murres and Western Grebes. She co-edited Hand-Rearing Birds (second edition), co-wrote the wild orphans section of Merck Veterinary Manual, and continues to raise the bar of wildlife rehabilitation through innovation at the intersection of clinical wildlife medicine and marine science. Dr. Duerr serves on the Board of Directors of the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association and is a frequent lecturer on avian physiology and pediatrics.



**Los Angeles Wildlife Center Manager Kylie Clatterbuck** has been with International Bird Rescue since 2008 after graduating from California State University Long Beach with a BS degree in Marine Biology. She started as a Rehabilitation Technician and worked as Volunteer Coordinator before earning the position of Center Manager in 2016. Kylie has responded to multiple spills and crisis events over the years including the 2010 Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the 2015 Refugio Oil Spill in Santa Barbara. While balancing life with two children, she is also responsible for managing daily clinic operations, animal care, and facility maintenance for the extensive care of our patients at International Bird Rescue.



**San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center Manager Kelly Beffa RVT** joined the organization in 2014. She graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with a degree in animal science. Kelly has previously worked with harbor seals in British Columbia, sea otters in Monterey, and manatees in Florida before discovering her appreciation of aquatic birds. She completed her associate degree in Veterinary Technology and is a Registered Veterinary Technician. She has participated in multiple spills including the "Mystery Goo" spill in 2015 and a pipeline spill in Huntington Beach in 2021. She was promoted to Wildlife Center Manager in 2022. She serves on the Board of the California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitation.



**Program Manager for Conservation and Education Daniel Flynn** brings over 15 years of experience in conservation education, nonprofit leadership, and community engagement. Daniel held senior roles at Oakland Zoo in both education and marketing. As Senior Marketing Manager and Program Director of School & Community Programs, he built partnerships with community brands and organizations, developed conservation and education programs for schools and families, and led initiatives such as a wildlife trading card program and a park-wide signage overhaul. Daniel holds a BA in Human Development with a minor in Anthropology from California State University, Long Beach. He is a Certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association for Interpretation, TEFL-certified, and a former member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Marketing Committee.



**Director of Finance and Administration Erika Taylor** has 30 years of nonprofit finance and administration experience at land trusts and other environmental nonprofit organizations. She has an MBA in Finance from Golden Gate University and a Bachelors in Natural Resource Management from Cornell University. With her passion for the environment combined with finance and nonprofit management skills, she makes a great fit for the team at Bird Rescue.



**Grants Coordinator Phil Kohlmetz** is a registered Fundraising Counsel with the State of California. He has been with International Bird Rescue since 2017, having spent his entire 30+ year career working to strengthen not-for-profit, public benefit organizations, most notably as Executive Director of the Napa Valley Museum, Development Director of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, and as a long-time Board Member and Past President of the California Association of Museums. He was awarded a Public Leadership Certificate from Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education in 2021. As an active member of the Sierra Peaks Section of the Sierra Club, Phil leads local hike outings and teaches Leave No Trace principles.



# Fact Sheet

International Bird Rescue is a global conservation organization for birds in a changing world.

Since 1971, Bird Rescue has responded to over 250 oil spills and other wildlife emergencies, caring for more than 170,000 birds on six continents. With crisis response centers in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Anchorage, the organization specializes in emergency preparedness and response, day-to-day aquatic bird care, and scientific research. Innovations are shared worldwide to inspire the next generation of wildlife specialists.

Bird Rescue aims to give a voice to waterbirds through conservation, advocacy, and wildlife literacy that builds empathy and encourages action.

## **Mission:**

To inspire people to act toward balance with the natural world by rescuing waterbirds in crisis.

## **Vision:**

We dream of a world in which every person, every day, takes action to protect the natural home of wildlife and ourselves.

## **Goals and Core Program Activities:**

- A) Minimize and mitigate human and industrial impact on wildlife*
- B) Conserve local, regional, and global biological diversity*
- C) Inspire environmental stewardship through three core programs:*
  - Avian Rehabilitation and Research
  - Wildlife Emergency Preparedness and Response
  - Conservation and Education

## **Serving Diverse Geographies from our West Coast base of operations:**

- The Center of the Pacific Flyway: Northern California, Southern California
- The Pacific Northwest: Alaska, Washington, Oregon, British Columbia
- The Gulf Coast: Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida
- Around the world, responding to environmental crises as they occur

## **Wildlife Center Locations:**

- In Northern California: San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Hospital (Fairfield, CA)
- In Southern California: Greater Los Angeles Wildlife Hospital (San Pedro, CA)
- In the Pacific Northwest: Alaska Wildlife Response Center (Anchorage, AK)

### **FY26 Annual Operating Expense Budget: \$3,820,469**

- \$1,586,649 – Avian Rehabilitation and Research (42%)
  - \$851,493 – Northern California: San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center in Fairfield
  - \$672,145 – Southern California: Los Angeles Wildlife Center in San Pedro
  - \$63,011 – Scientific Research
- \$716,211– Wildlife Emergency Preparedness and Response (19%)
- \$304,946 – Conservation and Education (8%)
- \$431,000 – In-kind donations of facilities, equipment, and supplies (11%)
- \$403,560 – Fundraising (10%)
- \$378,103 – Administration and Finance (10%)

### **Support from those who value environmental conservation, wildlife, and biodiversity:**

- 24% earned from fees, enterprises, and contracts for service
- 76% contributed by over 2,500 individuals, foundations, municipalities, and corporations

### **Personnel that make our work possible:**

Board Members: 16  
Professional Staff: 36 (18 F/T, 18 P/T, 23.8 FTE)  
Volunteers: 259, who contribute 30,497 hours of time annually - the equivalent of  
15 *additional* full-time staff

### **Evidence of the impact of our work can be seen in:**

- Over 170,000 second chances given to rescued birds: an average of approximately 3,000 in each of the past 3 years
- The Emmy Award-winning documentary film "*Saving Pelican 895*," which focuses on our response to the 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Disaster
- Sundance and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Judy Irving's 2014 documentary film "*Pelican Dreams*," which follows "Gigi," a wayward California Brown Pelican from her capture on the Golden Gate Bridge to our Northern California Wildlife Center
- Numerous episodes of the Emmy Award-winning ABC television series "*Sea Rescue*"
- *Dawn Dish Soap*, one of the strongest and longest-standing (40+ year) cause-related corporate marketing sponsorships. (Yes, we *really do* use DAWN to wash birds.)

### **International Bird Rescue Primary Communications Platforms: over 100,000 people annually**

- Facebook: 84,000+ followers: <https://www.facebook.com/intbirdrescue>
- X / Twitter: 12,100+ followers: <https://twitter.com/IntBirdRescue> @IntBirdRescue
- Instagram: 19,900+ followers: <https://www.instagram.com/intbirdrescue/> intbirdrescue
- TikTok: 14,200+ followers: <https://www.tiktok.com/@intbirdrescue> int.bird.rescue
- YouTube: 1,100+ subscribers: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SavingSeabirds>
- Bird Rescue News (biweekly) and The Aviary (quarterly): newsletters to 11,000+ unique addresses



Millions of birds die every year due to *Human Wildlife Conflicts* such as injury from fishing (hooks, nets, and lines), human cruelty, illegal shootings, habitat disruption, starvation, pollution, and climate change-induced hazards such as algae bloom toxicity and the [accelerated spread of infectious diseases](#). Experts around the world agree that **aquatic birds are in crisis**:

*"H5N1 high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI, aka "Bird Flu") is currently causing **unparalleled mortality of wild birds** and mammals worldwide with threats to population levels for some species already under multiple anthropogenic [human-caused] pressures. [The current and evolving variants are] expected to continue to spread and cause further negative conservation impacts. Notably, important breeding colonies on oceanic islands are at risk" (The United Nations-led [Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds](#), 2023).*

*"Since the 1970s, [North America] has lost 3 **billion** birds" (Science, 2019).*

**Despite these challenges, intervention makes a difference. It is why we are a first-line responder in the crisis facing birds at the local, regional, and international level. Our core competencies include:**

**1. Avian Rehabilitation and Research:** Our specialty veterinary hospitals in Southern California (Los Angeles) and Northern California (San Francisco Bay-Delta) rescue and rehabilitate thousands of native aquatic birds annually and release them back into the wild. This daily rescue and rehabilitation work maintains and develops our facilities and our team's skills to enable us to respond rapidly to crisis events as they occur. Rigorous scientific research improves animal care and clinical outcomes for the animals that depend on us for life-saving treatment. We conduct clinical trials to compare treatments, investigate pathologies, and perform post-release studies to evaluate our efforts, *such as our ongoing blue-banded pelican citizen science project*. Our long-standing experience and proven results have been integral to establishing the standards, protocols, and best practices for the fields of wildlife emergency response and clinical wildlife medicine.

**2. Wildlife Emergency Preparedness and Response:** We respond to environmental crises around the world. Since 1971, we have **led wildlife rescue efforts in over 250 incidents on six continents**. Global companies that manage petroleum products proactively engage us to provide planning, training, and emergency response. Preparedness services include participating in large-scale oil spill drills and exercises, wildlife crisis response planning, and training for first-responders. Emergency response services include crisis and incident management, wildlife hazing (to deter wildlife from contaminated areas), wildlife capture and rehabilitation, volunteer recruitment, personnel oversight, and documentation services to meet regulatory requirements. Worldwide clients include Alaska Clean Seas, Alaska Chadux Network, Alyeska Pipeline Services (providing services for Hilcorp Alaska, et al), Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Hess, and US Navy Supervisor of Salvage.

**3. Conservation and Education:** Education of emergency first responders, industry workers, youth, and the general public is essential to provide **better long-term outcomes for people and wildlife**. We use a variety of in-person and virtual trainings, digital media, and live events to raise awareness, share best practices, engender hope, and give people **actionable steps to minimize human impact**. Leading initiatives include:

- Our free Bird HelpLine
- Conservation Action Program
- Wildlife Responsibility Program
- Near-threatened Elegant Tern Task Force
- Endangered Snowy Plover Support Initiative
- Cordelia Slough Youth Education Program
- Los Angeles Wildlife Center Education Program



June 24, 2026

To: Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
From: Carol Poole, President, Napa Wildlife Rescue  
RE: Grant Request Application 2026-2027

**Funding Request:**

Napa Wildlife Rescue is requesting \$23,600 to support two critical areas of our operations. Approximately sixty percent (60%) of this request, \$14,000, will contribute to one quarter of the annual salary of our Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician /Education Coordinator. The remaining \$9,600 will help offset the salaries of our required seasonal employee.

**I. Description of Organization/ Eligibility**

Napa Wildlife Rescue is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.  
Federal I.D. #68-0271.  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 2571, Napa CA 94558  
Physical address: 4001 Middle Avenue, Napa CA 94559

The mission of Napa Wildlife Rescue (NWR) is to support and advocate for wildlife through rehabilitation, education, collaboration, and community engagement. Our goal is to promote sustainable and healthy ecosystems in Napa County for both present and future generations.

Founded in 1991, NWR is the only organization in Napa County licensed to rescue, rehabilitate, and release injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife. We operate under permits issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Without Napa Wildlife Rescue, there would be no local resource to care for wildlife in need in Napa County. Wildlife care is needed 365 days per year, and our clinic operates seven days a week to meet this need. In addition to providing animal care, our work helps protect native wildlife populations, promotes coexistence between people and wildlife, and supports the long term ecological health of Napa County.

Our operations are supported by a dedicated team that of paid staff, volunteer home rehabbers, clinic volunteers, and a volunteer Board of Directors. Currently, NWR employ twelve staff members, including seven-full time and four seasonal or part-time staff. All but one staff member are directly involved in animal care.

During the busy spring and summer “baby season,” our animal care team, supported by volunteers, regular works 12 to 13 hour days in staggered shifts to meet the complex needs of the many species and high volume of animals in our care.

|                    |                                        |                                                                          |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President:         | Carol Poole<br>(707) 363-7807          | <a href="mailto:cpoole1135@yahoo.com">cpoole1135@yahoo.com</a>           |
| Co-Vice President: | Breanna Martinico<br>(408) 712-3930    | <a href="mailto:bmartinico@ucanr.edu">bmartinico@ucanr.edu</a>           |
| Co-Vice President: | Vivian Wehner<br>(650) 492-3632        | <a href="mailto:veggieviv@gmail.com">veggieviv@gmail.com</a>             |
| Secretary:         | Linda Howard<br>(707) 255-5173         | <a href="mailto:lindaly1956@sbcglobal.net">lindaly1956@sbcglobal.net</a> |
| Treasurer:         | Angela Nguyen-Dinh<br>(801) 599-4044   | <a href="mailto:aenguyendinh@gmail.com">aenguyendinh@gmail.com</a>       |
| Board Members:     | John Comisky<br>(707) 253-2574         | <a href="mailto:qualjohn@hotmail.com">qualjohn@hotmail.com</a>           |
|                    | Janice Beglau-Taylor<br>(707) 738-4885 | <a href="mailto:jbeglautaylor@gmail.com">jbeglautaylor@gmail.com</a>     |
|                    | Michelle Wynn<br>(650) 455-9422        | <a href="mailto:mrc95128@yahoo.com">mrc95128@yahoo.com</a>               |

## **II. Needs Assessment/ Problem Statement**

The primary mission of Napa Wildlife Rescue is to provide expert medical care, food and safe, temporary shelter for injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife, with the ultimate goal of returning healthy animals to their natural habitats. We are the only organization in Napa County that is legally permitted to provide this care. Whether responding to a fallen nest, an animal struck by a vehicle, or an orphaned baby, NWR is there to help. Without Napa Wildlife Rescue, injured and orphaned wildlife in Napa would have little chance of survival.

Since 2013, NWR has cared for nearly 18,000 animals. In 2025 alone, Napa Wildlife Rescue treated 1,983 animal patients representing more than 120 different species, a 39% increase in patients over the previous year. Of these patients, 33% were mammals representing over 23 species, while birds accounted for 67% of total intakes. This increase reflects the growing need for wildlife rehabilitation services in Napa County.

More than half our patients arrive between May and September during “baby season,” when young wildlife is most vulnerable. The majority of animals brought to NWR have been affected by human activity, whether through vehicle strikes, fishing line or fencing entanglement, poisoning, habitat loss or other environmental pressures. As these challenges increase, so does demand for our services.

From January 1 to June 15, 2026, NWR has admitted 1,044 patients, already a 5.5% increase over the same time period of our record breaking 2025 season. This continued growth places increasing demands on our resources, including food and medical supplies, animal housing, staffing, and rehabilitation time needed to successfully return animals to the wild.

In addition to rehabilitation, NWR is deeply committed to education, particularly among children. Through engaging educational programs and community outreach, we aim to inspire a lifelong appreciation for wildlife and foster a sense of responsibility for protecting local ecosystems.

**Grant Request for 2025-2026: NWR's total grant request is for \$ 23,600.**

Napa Wildlife Rescue respectfully requests **\$23,600** in support from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission to help fund two critical staffing needs that directly support wildlife rehabilitation and conservation education in Napa County.

**\$14,000 - Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician / Education Coordinator Salary Assistance**

NWR requests \$14,000 in salary assistance for our Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/ Education Coordinator, who is in her fifth season with Napa Wildlife Rescue. This full time position costs approximately \$56,000 annually, and this request would fund approximately one-quarter of the yearly salary.

The 2025-2026 grant awarded by the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission covered less than one-third of the cost of this position. NWR secured the remaining funding through additional donors and foundations, and we are seeking continued support to help sustain this important role.

This position serves two key functions within the organization: wildlife rehabilitation and community education.

During the spring and summer “baby season,” when our clinic is at capacity with wildlife, the **Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician** helps ensure wildlife patients receive the individualized care necessary for successful rehabilitation and release. Wildlife in care often require species-specific diets, medications, frequent monitoring, and specialized housing, making this position essential during periods of peak demand.

Key responsibilities include:

- Conducting intake assessments and examination of new patients.
- Coordinating referrals to veterinarian as needed.
- Establishing species/age/patient specific housing and diet plans for each patient.
- Providing basic medical care including bandaging and administration of prescribed medications.
- Supervising volunteers and directing daily animal care responsibilities
- Overseeing NWR's intern program.

During the fall and winter months, this same staff member serves as NWR's **Education Coordinator**. This position helps advance our mission by engaging the public in order to help them better understand and appreciate Napa County's vast wildlife population and varied ecosystems. The program provides students with science-based information about native wildlife, encouraging curiosity, empathy, and environmental stewardship.

Our coordinator visits schools throughout Napa County to teach children about the region's mammals and birds, often accompanied by our ambassador animals for engaging, hands-on learning experiences. The Education Coordinator also manages classroom materials and helps inspire curiosity, empathy, and environmental stewardship by connecting children to the science and wonder of wildlife.

From October 2025 through April 2026 NWR visited eleven Napa County schools, bringing our program to 43 elementary school classrooms. Most classrooms were visited three times. The

program provides students with science-based information about native wildlife, encouraging curiosity, empathy, and environmental stewardship through a three-visit model. The first two visits offer educational lessons in animal traits, species variation, and ecosystems tailored to the specific age range. The third visit includes one of our three ambassador animals, giving the students a chance to see a wild animal up close while reinforcing concepts discussed in the classroom.

NWR offers these programs at no cost to Napa County schools because we believe fostering early connections with the natural world helps children grow into adults who will value and protect it.

We have included a spreadsheet documenting our classroom visits, as well as several appreciation letters from school staff.

### **\$9,600 Seasonal Employee Salary Assistance**

NWR also requests \$9,600 to support one seasonal wildlife care employee during our busiest period of the year, April through October.

As patient admissions continue to rise, so do the demands of direct animal care. In 2026, patient admissions are already 5.5% higher than the same period during our record-setting 2025 season, increasing the need for additional staffing support.

During baby season, clinic operations expand significantly. While Napa Wildlife Rescue operates seven days a week year-round, our hours extend from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. to meet growing community and wildlife care needs.

Funding from this request would support a seasonal employee working approximately 20 hours per week to assist with essential animal husbandry responsibilities, helping ensure wildlife patients receive timely feeding, cleaning, observation, and care during the busiest months of the year. Hourly wages range from \$19–\$20 per hour, depending on experience.

### **Specific Objective, Anticipated Results, Methods**

The specific objectives and methods for the salary of the **Lead Wildlife Technician/Education Coordinator** are:

- Continue the full-time wildlife rehabilitation support by providing medical care, feeding, cleaning, and daily husbandry for an anticipated 2,000+ animals in 2026.
- Provide training and oversight of volunteers and interns.
- Continue the coordination of the Education Program by visiting 40+ K-5 classrooms throughout Napa County.

### **Anticipated Results**

- Wildlife patients will receive timely, species appropriate care that improves rehabilitation outcomes and supports successful release back into their natural habitats.
- Volunteers and interns will receive hands-on training that strengthens clinic operations and expands NWR's rehabilitation capacity during the busy baby season.
- More than **1,000 students** will participate in wildlife education programming that fosters curiosity, empathy, and environmental stewardship.



Success is measured through pre- and post-lesson assessments of student knowledge, feedback from educators, and invitations for repeat visits to the classrooms in the next semester. This data helps us continuously refine the program to ensure it is both engaging and impactful.

The specific objectives and methods for **Seasonal Wildlife Care Employee** are:

- Support the rehabilitation and care of an anticipated 2,000+ wildlife patients in 2026, particularly during the high volume “baby season.”
- Assist with animal husbandry duties including feeding, inclosure cleaning, and other daily care for our patients
- Continue patient tracking through the use of WRMD, a state-recommended tool that tracks patient intake, treatment, and medical outcomes.

### **Anticipated Results**

- Wildlife patients will receive consistent, timely care during the busiest months of the year, improving rehabilitation efficiency and outcomes.
- Increased staffing capacity will help NWR meet growing patient demand while maintaining quality of care despite rising intake numbers.
- Accurate patient tracking and outcome monitoring will support data-driven decision-making and reporting.

Success is measured by Napa Wildlife Rescue’s ability to maintain high standards of daily animal care during peak intake months, meet increased patient demand, and support successful rehabilitation outcomes for an anticipated 2,000+ wildlife patients in 2026.

### **Benefit Relative to the Goals of the Commission**

The continued operation of Napa Wildlife Rescue and the positions of Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician /Education Coordinator and seasonal wildlife care employee directly support the goals and selection criteria of the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

*1) Proposals which directly benefit wildlife and/or their habitat and can meet one or more of the purposes listed in §13103 (see attached) will be given a higher priority over projects which do not have a direct benefit.*

NWR is the only organization in Napa County licensed to rescue, rehabilitate, and release injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife. Without NWR, there would be no local resource equipped to provide critical care for the region’s vulnerable wildlife. More than 1,000 animals admitted to our clinic originate from Napa County. Whenever possible, rehabilitated wildlife are released within one mile from where they were found, helping return native species to their local ecosystem. NWR also provides care from neighboring counties when other rehabilitation options are not available.

Napa Wildlife Rescue directly benefits wildlife by providing medical care, food and housing for native birds and small mammals until they are ready to be released back to the wild. Continued support for staffing positions, including the Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician and seasonal wildlife care employee, ensures Napa County wildlife receive timely, specialized care during both routine operations and periods of peak demand.

The organization and the position of Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician / Education Coordinator also supports the following purposes listed in section 13103:

*(a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.*

NWR provides its wildlife education program at no cost to Napa County schools, because we believe fostering early connections with the natural world helps children grow into adults who will value and protect it. The program provides science based education about native wildlife and ecosystems, encouraging curiosity, empathy, and environmental stewardship.

Our educational curriculum aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for grades 1 through 5, with a particular emphasis on 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. Lessons are developed using the Learning Cycle method, a research-based instructional model from the BEETLES program at the Lawrence Hall of Science, a research based approach designed to promote active engagement, scientific thinking, and long-term retention of scientific concepts.

From October 2025 through April 2026 NWR visited eleven Napa County schools, interacting with over 40 K-5 classrooms, and a total of 117 visits. totaling over 150 visits. Most classrooms participated in a three-visit series consisting of two educational lessons and one visit with one of our three wildlife ambassador animals. This program is offered exclusively to Napa County schools.

*(b) Temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife.*

The primary purpose of Napa Wildlife Rescue is to provide care to ill, injured, and orphaned wildlife, with the ultimate goal of releasing healthy animals back into their home habitat. All care is temporary and focused on recovery and rehabilitation. NWR is the only organization in Napa County licensed and authorized to perform this essential work.

Napa Wildlife Rescue operates two facilities dedicated to the rehabilitation and recovery of wildlife patients. These include our wildlife clinic, **Julia's Refuge**, located in Carneros, where animals receive medical treatment and daily care, and our pre-release property, **Shafer Sanctuary**, located between Napa and Yountville, where animals build strength and practice natural behaviors before release back to the wild.

Napa Wildlife Rescue provides the following services in support of wildlife rehabilitation:

1. **Animal Intake & Assessment:** Admit new wildlife patients brought in by the public, animal control, or partner agencies; conduct initial exams to assess injuries, age, species, and care needs; record vital data in the Wildlife Rehabilitation Medical Database (WRMD)
2. **Medical Support:** Administer medications, fluids, and treatments under veterinarian guidance; clean and dress wounds, monitor recovery, and perform follow-up care.
3. **Feeding & Daily Care:** Prepare and provide species-appropriate diets, including formula, insects, meat, fruits, and vegetation; hand-feed or syringe-feed patients as needed,

particularly during baby season; and maintain clean, safe enclosures designed to minimize stress and prevent habituation to humans.

4. Rehabilitation & Release Preparation: Help animals regain strength, mobility, and natural behaviors necessary for survival in the wild; coordinate with veterinarians and licensed rehabbers; transport and release animals into appropriate habitats.
5. Facility & Team Support: Train and supervise volunteers and interns; maintain medical, feeding, and care logs; manage inventory and supplies; provide guidance to community members seeking wildlife assistance; coordinate with other local organizations for transport and/or moving animals to/from NWR to other organizations for continued rehabilitation when needed (example: if a baby skunk is found alone, it serves the animal better to be rehabilitated with a second baby skunk, rather than alone).

*(c) Temporary treatment and care of wildlife confiscated by the department as evidence.*

On occasion, California Department of Fish & Wildlife wardens bring animals to our facility for care. These include injured wildlife found in the field, as well as animals that have been confiscated during enforcement actions that require treatment, stabilization, and rehabilitation.

*2) Proposals that are educational in nature and directed toward school age children will receive higher priority if it can be demonstrated that the proposal meets state educational curriculum standards and can easily be integrated into the classroom.*

As described previously, Napa Wildlife Rescue's education program is designed for K–5 students and offered exclusively to Napa County schools at no cost. Lessons are aligned with NGSS and based on the Learning-Cycle model from the BEETLES program, allowing them to fit naturally into classroom science curriculum.

Our program focuses on local wildlife and the ways animals interact with the environment around them. Students learn about topics such as habitat, adaptation, ecosystems, and how people can safely coexist with wildlife. Most participating classrooms receive a three-visit series that includes two educational lessons and one visit with one of our three wildlife ambassador animals. Seeing one of our ambassador animals up close helps students connect classroom concepts to a real living animal in a memorable way.

We have included letters from local educators, along with a record of classroom visits, for your review.

*4) Proposals which use Commission funding as a match for other funding sources will receive priority consideration.*

Funding from the Commission is matched by general donations and several unrestricted grants. NWR receives donations from philanthropic foundations and hundreds of individual supporters. 72% of NWR's funding comes from private donations. Approximately 11% of our funding comes from private grants and foundations and 5% from government grants.

### **How to Determine Success**

Napa Wildlife Rescue measures success through wildlife rehabilitation efforts and outcomes, community demand for services, and educational program effectiveness.

The CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife recommends the use of the Wildlife Rescue Medical Database (WRMD) to create a statewide overview of wildlife species and patient outcomes across rehabilitation organizations. NWR uses this system to manage information about all our wildlife patients. In addition to tracking animal admissions and treatments administered, WRMD enables us to monitor our success through release rates as well while recognizing and tracking the many variables which may affect release rates including species, type and severity of injury, age, and environmental conditions.

We also monitor public demand through our HAWK-line, a dedicated wildlife hotline that provides guidance and assistance to community members. This call data provides valuable insight into where human-wildlife interactions are occurring in Napa and surrounding counties. In 2025, the HAWKline responded to 2,882 calls, a 59% increase over the previous year. This, coupled with rising admissions, demonstrates growing community need for NWR's services and highlights the increasing dangers affecting local wildlife populations.

The success of our education program is largely determined by teacher feedback, student engagement, and requests for return visits. Schools including Bel Aire, Browns Valley, McPherson, Napa Valley Language Academy, Stone Bridge, Shearer, Vichy, West Park, Willow and Snow have invited NWR to return for multiple consecutive years. We have also received numerous letters of recommendation and complimentary emails from school staff, as well as thank you cards from students, expressing appreciation for the chance to learn about local wildlife, meet our ambassadors, and better understand the importance of keeping Napa wild.

## **Grant Application 2026-2027 Additional Information**

### **Expenditure Detail**

The position of Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/Education Coordinator currently pays \$25 per hour. With a year end raise, increases in taxes, insurance and workers comp we have calculated a full time cost of \$56,000. The seasonal employee salary will be between \$19-\$20/hour. We anticipate approximately 20 hours per week for six months, for a total of \$9,600.

### **Other Funding Sources**

NWR depends upon grants from foundations including the Richard Reed Foundation, the Glide Foundation, the Gotelli Foundation, Community Projects, and the Native California Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Contribution Grant Program. NWR receives unrestricted large donations from dozens of individuals.

### **Letter of Recommendation**

Four (4) thank you/letters of appreciation from Napa County school employees.

### **Completion/Progress Report of Prior years Funding**

2016-2017- NWR was awarded \$16,461 to purchase and outfit a used trailer to use for songbird rehabilitation and to outfit another trailer for raptor/mammal care. The money was spent appropriately and NWR received reimbursement for \$16,461.

2017-2018 - NWR was awarded \$2500 for a new laptop and six educational banners. These were purchased and NWR received reimbursement for \$2500.

2018-2019 - NWR was awarded \$13,270 to pay the salary of a part time Educational Coordinator and to purchase a Brinsea Incubator. The person was hired and worked for one year. The incubator was purchased. NWR received reimbursement for \$13,270.

2019-2020- NWR did not apply for a grant during this cycle.

2020-2021- NWR was awarded \$8,169 to assist with the cost of constructing a fence around the perimeter of the clinic property at 4001 Middle Ave. The bid for the fence was \$37,000. The fence is complete. NWR received reimbursement for \$8,169.

2021-2022 - NWR was awarded \$13,000 to partially fund the position of Education Coordinator and help complete other tasks including manning a table at the Farmer's Market, printing new informational brochures, and increasing our social media presence. School educational presentations were conducted via ZOOM during the covid pandemic. In January 2022 we made an agreement with Napa Solano Audubon Society to share a part time employee to do classroom presentations on wildlife, incorporating curriculum from both organizations and a visit from an NWR animal ambassador. NWR received reimbursement for \$13,000.

2022-2023 - NWR was awarded \$10,375 to pay a portion of the wages for the Wildlife



Rehabilitation Technician /Education Assistant position. Terra Standish was hired for this position and exceeded the expectations for the position. She visited 35 classrooms, over 900 children. Her multiple visits put her in a classroom over 90 times last season. NWR took in 1,208 animals representing 134 species in 2022. Terra was very important in providing care for these animals. NWR received reimbursement for \$10,375.

2023-2024 - NWR was awarded \$12,500 to partially fund a full-time position of Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/ Education Coordinator. This position is filled by Terra Standish. Terra visited 35 classrooms within Napa County from September 2023 to March 2024. Each classroom was visited 2-3 times which resulted in 107 visits. Each classroom was able to visit with Maddie, our Red-tail hawk ambassador. Over 1,083 students plus their teachers learned about wildlife. NWR received reimbursement for \$12,500.

2024-2025 - NWR was awarded \$13,871 to partially fund the full time position of Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician /Education Coordinator filled by Terra Standish. Terra visited 50 classrooms within Napa County from September 2024 to April 2025. ... NWR received reimbursement for \$13,871.

2025-2026 - NWR was awarded \$13,750 to partially fund the full time position of Lead Wildlife Rehabilitation Technician/Education Coordinator and to help offset increased demand for our services. NWR made 117 classroom visits to 43 classrooms in 11 schools. We saw 1,983 wild patients, a **39%** increase over 2024.

Christina Lawrence  
Browns Valley School  
1001 Buhman Ave Napa, CA 94558  
December 23rd, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I teach 24 delightful kindergarten students at Browns Valley Elementary School in Napa. I am responsible for all aspects of the curriculum from reading and math to science and social studies.

I have had the pleasure of welcoming the Napa Wildlife Rescue program into our classroom for two consecutive years now. What a wonderful experience for our students to experience science lessons from a local organization dedicated to helping our community without the cost of a bus, admission, etc

Students learned many different concepts from the Next Generation Science Standards. They were introduced to the idea of habitats, the needs of living things, and how to take care of our environment. They got to plant their own seeds, draw different habitats and best of all meet a wildlife ambassador. The final visit was truly remarkable. My students welcomed a live hawk into our classroom and got to ask questions and learn about this remarkable creature.

As you can see Napa Wildlife Rescue offers a field trip experience for students in the classroom. They do a wonderful job of instructing students in the current science standards while also creating amazing memories with a real animal. We are all very grateful for the opportunity to welcome Napa Wildlife Rescue into our classroom.

Sincerely,

Christina Lawrence



2670 Yajome Street  
Napa, California 94558  
707.253.3488

**Rosanna Mucetti, Ed. D.**  
Superintendent

**Melissa Phillips**  
Principal

To whom it may concern,

I am a 5th grade teacher, and my colleague and I are always looking for engaging, meaningful ways to bring our curriculum to life for our students. Our school values experiential learning that connects the classroom to the broader world and helps our students become thoughtful, well rounded citizens.

Your wildlife education program was incredibly beneficial to our recent instructional goals. As a teacher, I truly appreciated how the in-person animal experience provided a perfect, real-world foundation for our empathy unit. Furthermore, it served as fantastic source material for our writing unit, giving the students exciting and relevant subjects to focus on while practicing their opinion and informational text writing.

The students gained so much from this visit. They were able to work together collaboratively, making the learning process genuinely fun and memorable. As another 5th grade teacher in our school noted, the hands-on learning and visual aids provided by your team truly deepened the students' understanding of the natural world and instilled in them a crucial sense of responsibility regarding how to better take care of our Earth.

This program is exceptionally valuable and should absolutely continue to receive grant funding. It seamlessly bridges the gap between our core academic standards and essential life lessons about wildlife conservation. Keeping these programs free ensures equitable access for all students, allowing them to connect meaningfully with local wildlife and build empathy in a way that simply cannot be replicated by a textbook alone.

With gratitude,

Rebeca Hernandez & Stefanie Chappelle  
5th Grade Teachers  
McPherson Magnet School  
2670 Yajome Street  
Napa, CA 94558

Raymond Morales  
Browns Valley Elementary  
1001 Buhman Ave.  
Napa CA 94558

1/20/2026

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Raymond Morales and I am a 1st grade teacher at Browns Valley Elementary School. My fellow 1st grade teachers, Jenae Fox and Lindsey Kosanke each teach a class of 24 students. Our school is located in the outskirts of Napa and we serve a diverse population of students.

We have utilized the Napa Wildlife Rescue program for at least the past four years. It fits perfectly with our science standard of animal diversification/classification.

Our students were able to learn what NWR is all about and what to do in the event they find an injured animal. The program we selected was animal adaptation and the kids learned how animals adapt to their habitats. Then, they were able to create an animal of their own and draw a habitat that fit their animal's features. The follow up presentation with the ambassador animal is really cool and my kids still talk about it.

I feel that this is a valuable program to my students and all students because it teaches them real life lessons on the importance of animals, how they should help and care for animals, and allows them to be creative in their own right.

Sincerely,  
Raymond Morales  
1st grade teacher  
Browns Valley Elementary

Karla Silva  
Napa Valley Language Academy  
2700 Kilburn Avenue  
Napa, CA 94558

February 20, 2026

To whom it may concern,

I am a third grade teacher at Napa Valley Language Academy. Napa Valley Language Academy (NVLA) is a K-5 Dual Immersion School in the Napa Valley Unified School District. At NVLA, part of our vision is that our students will acquire the academic, critical thinking, and communication skills necessary to become self-motivated and competent, *lifelong learners*. Our program places the highest value on authentic educational experiences emphasizing the acquisition of a second language, visual and performing arts, *science*, and technology. *Students learn respect for themselves; their community; and the larger, diverse world in which they live while developing a moral consciousness that will help them build integrity into their lives.*

The Napa Wildlife Rescue Education Program partners perfectly with our school's mission. It has helped me make Science literally REAL! I appreciate the various sessions with their unique standard based learning objective. The opportunity to have hands-on experiences is very impactful to students' learning. Nothing beats the experience of trying to catch a 'flying bug' to learn which beak works best or studying a skull mold to determine an animal's diet!

Our students not only have fun learning about animals but to see a real life animal and hear its story really drives in our school mission of *being respectful to their community; and the larger, diverse world in which they live while developing a moral consciousness that will help them build integrity into their lives*. This is a program that gives our students an authentic learning experience that years later they remember and treasure.

I believe this program should continue to exist and thrive because it is effective in educating students about animal science but more importantly it is effective in educating students about animal conservation. I appreciate this program because students grow to be life long stewards of their environment as a result of this learning experience early in life that only The Napa Wildlife Rescue provides!

Sincerely,  
Karla Silva

| Schools/ Teachers    | Grade Level | Number of visits | Dates                                   | Number of Students |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Bel Aire</b>      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Lisa Ernst           | K           | 2                | April 8 & 15                            | 24                 |
| Cheryl Rainville     | K           | 2                | April 8 & 15                            | 24                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>Browns Valley</b> |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Brandy Briggs        | K           | 3                | April 7, 14, 21                         | 24                 |
| Christina Lawrence   | K           | 3                | Nov 5, 12 & 19                          | 24                 |
| Marian Moffett       | K           | 4                | April 22 & May 13.<br>Nov. 19 & Dec. 13 | 24                 |
| Jenae Fox            | 1           | 2                | Nov 19 & Dec 3                          | 24                 |
| Lindsey Kosanke      |             | 2                | Nov 19 & Dec 3                          | 24                 |
| Cavita Malicki       | 2           | 2                | Jan 28 & Feb 4                          | 36                 |
| Claire Peters        | 2           | 2                | Jan 28 & Feb 4                          | 32                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>Donaldson Way</b> |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Cathy Margolati      | 2           | 3                | Dec 1, 8. & 16                          | 36                 |
| Carrie Cummings      | 2           | 3                | Dec 1, 8. & 16                          | 24                 |
| Whitney Westbrook    | 2           | 3                | Dec 1, 8. & 16                          | 24                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>McPherson</b>     |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Noele Rochon         | 2           | 3                | Jan 13, 20, 27                          | 25                 |
| Jessica Dudley       | 2           | 3                | Jan 13, 20, 27                          | 26                 |
| Stefanie Chappelle   | 5           | 2                | Jan 15, 22                              | 26                 |
| Rebeca Hernandez     | 5           | 2                | Jan 14, 21                              | 25                 |
|                      |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| <b>Napa Junction</b> |             |                  |                                         |                    |
| Heather Marshall     | 3           | 3                | Jan 5, 12, 19                           | 26                 |



| Schools/ Teachers                   | Grade Level | Number of visits | Dates              | Number of Students |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cerissa Meyers                      | 3           | 3                | Jan 5, 12, 19      | 26                 |
| Danielle Kiehe                      | 3           | 3                | Jan 5, 12, 19      | 26                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Napa Valley Language Academy</b> |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Marisabel Olguin Romero             | K           | 3                | March 2, 9, 16     | 24                 |
| Teresita Ayala                      | K           | 3                | March 2, 9, 16     | 24                 |
| Amy Keane                           | K           | 3                | March 2, 9, 16     | 24                 |
| Araceli Avila                       | K           | 3                | March 4, 11, 16    | 24                 |
| Joe Hall                            | 3           | 3                | Jan 12, 26 & Feb 2 | 24                 |
| Laura Vega                          | 3           | 3                | Jan 15, 22, 29     | 24                 |
| Cathy Carmichael                    | 3           | 3                | Jan 15, 22, 29     | 22                 |
| Karla Silva                         | 3           | 3                | Jan 12, 26 & Feb 2 | 22                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Northwood</b>                    |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Jenny Knox                          | 5           | 3                | Dec 4, 11, 18      | 23                 |
| Karen McKeown                       | 5           | 3                | Dec 4, 11, 18      | 23                 |
| Kendra Leach                        | 2           | 3                | Feb 10, 17, 24     | 26                 |
| Marcia Smith                        | 2           | 3                | Feb 12, 19, 26     | 26                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Phillips Magnet</b>              |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Tiffanie Feigel                     | 5           | 3                | Nov 3,10,17        | 25                 |
| Sarah Magaliano                     | 3           | 2                | April 6, 13        | 26                 |
| Beau Parriott                       | 3           | 2                | April 6,13         | 25                 |
|                                     |             |                  |                    |                    |
| <b>Vichy</b>                        |             |                  |                    |                    |
| Alison Bolinger                     | K           | 3                | Oct 9, 16 Nov 7    | 24                 |

| Schools/ Teachers                  | Grade Level | Number of visits | Dates               | Number of Students |
|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Jen Barr                           | 3           | 3                | May 7, 15, 21       | 26                 |
| Ashley Toscani                     | 1           | 3                | April 6, 16, 20     | 23                 |
| Jennifer Keiser                    | 3           | 3                | April 22, 29, May 6 | 17                 |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
| <b>West Park</b>                   |             |                  |                     |                    |
| Jennifer Mattei                    | K           | 3                | March 3, 10, 17     | 25                 |
| Jennifer Perkins                   | 2/3         | 2                | Dec 15, April 27    | 26                 |
| Norma Hernandez                    | 2/3         | 2                | Dec 15, April 27    | 25                 |
| Erica Bass                         | 3           | 3                | April 9, 16, 23     | 26                 |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
| <b>Montessori School of Sonoma</b> |             |                  |                     |                    |
| Rachel Cisneros                    | K           | 2                | Jan 14, 22          | 24                 |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             | 117              |                     | 630                |
| <b>11 schools</b>                  |             |                  |                     |                    |
| <b>43 teachers</b>                 |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |
|                                    |             |                  |                     |                    |

## **Browns Valley Family Club Application for the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant**

### **DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION**

The Browns Valley Family Club is at 501(c)(3) non-profit (23-7133974) that:

- Provides resources for activities that: enrich our children globally, culturally and artistically.
- Promote academic growth and achievement.
- Celebrate learning for all students.

This organization was established as a non profit on 6/16/2022.

Our board consists of:

President: Brook Youdell (707) 227-6531, [bvfamilyclub@gmail.com](mailto:bvfamilyclub@gmail.com)

Vice President: Brooke Hannaford

Treasurer: Libby Wade & Scott Haberle

Communication Secretary: Krista Gavira

Recording Secretary: Bonnie Mather

Ways & Means: Sabina Correa

Special Projects: Michelle McCarroll

Historian: Angela Berlogar

Parliamentarian: Brook Hannaford

**BV Family Club Contact for Grant:** Danielle D'Amour, STEAM teacher, 707.637.6240, [danielle@kamalifeayurveda.com](mailto:danielle@kamalifeayurveda.com). Mail to: 1127 Larkin Way, Napa, CA 94558.

### **NEEDS ASSESSMENT/PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Browns Valley Elementary School contains approximately 5,000 square feet of highly degraded landscape formerly dominated by the invasive Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*). This area currently provides little ecological value for native wildlife. Through restoration with nearly 400 California native plants, this project will convert the site into a functioning habitat that supports monarch butterflies, native bees, beneficial insects, birds, and other wildlife while simultaneously serving as an outdoor classroom for more than 600 students annually (see Attachment A).

While the primary objective of this project is wildlife habitat restoration, the restored landscape will simultaneously address an important educational need. Browns Valley students currently score below the California average in science proficiency (22% compared to the approximately 33% statewide). By providing a permanent outdoor learning environment aligned with the Next Generation State Standards, students will engage in authentic scientific investigations while observing real ecological processes rather than learning solely through textbooks. Approximately 620 TK-8 students annually will utilize the garden through bimonthly STEAM instruction and classroom science lessons.

Commission funding will leverage significant in-kind contributions from project partners, including professional restoration planning by Napa RCD, native plant donations from Monarch Joint Venture, volunteer maintenance by California Native Plant Society members, donated compost and mulch from Napa Recycling, and hundreds of volunteer hours contributed by families and students.

The work is estimated to require \$19,344.72 to complete.

These funds will contribute to the relationships and progress we have already established this past school year. The project began as the brainchild of the Napa RCD, the Monarch Joint Venture and the Browns Valley Family Club. The Napa RCD has already invested over 30 hours of their time and resources in preparing the site, creating a site-specific planting and maintenance plan and labor. In addition, the Monarch Joint Venture has also dedicated 8 hours of their time and expertise to make sure that our site creates connected habitat for Monarch Butterflies, CA native bees, predatory insects, spiders, birds and other wildlife. MJV will also provide the nearly 400 plants for the project (see Attachment B).

With the collaboration of the Napa RCD, MJV, over 1,000 volunteer hours contributed by parents, students, teacher and community partners, a small grant from the Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, and donations of mulch and compost from Napa Recycling, we were able to manually remove the Bermuda grass, covered the entire area with sheet mulch and delineated walkways and planting zones (see Attachment C). This progress is promising but we are looking to use the funds from this grant to install the irrigation system, the plants, shade sails and educational and interpretive signage (see Attachment D). The plants and irrigation are planned to be installed in the Fall of 2026. The signage and shed installation are planned to be completed by December 2026. The educational curriculum will begin with the installation of the plants.

The two outcomes of this project align with two of the approved expenditure items in the Fish and Wildlife Code §13103:

*a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.*

*(e) Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, construction of fish screens, weirs, and ladders; drainage or other watershed improvements; gravel and rock removal or placement; construction of irrigation and water distribution systems; earthwork and grading; fencing; planting trees and other vegetation management; and removal of barriers to the migration of fish and wildlife.*

Teachers will utilize the site for place-based learning, allowing students to construct evidence-based explanations regarding ecosystem dynamics and protection. The garden will serve as a living laboratory where students gather empirical field data to fulfill the NGSS concepts. A few examples of how the garden can meet those standards include but are not limited to:

#### Elementary School (Grades K–5)

- **Kindergarten (K-ESS3-1 - Earth and Human Activity):** Students look at the relationship between what plants need and where they live.
  - *Garden Link:* Tracking which insects visit specific native plants to learn how animals and plants depend on each other to survive.
- **2nd Grade (2-LS2-2 - Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics):** This standard directly requires students to study how animals disperse seeds or pollinate plants.
  - *Garden Link:* Students use the pollinator garden to observe, map, and graph the different types of pollinators (bees, butterflies, beetles) interacting with flowers.

- **4th Grade (4-LS1-1 - From Molecules to Organisms):** Focuses on how internal and external structures support survival, growth, and reproduction.
  - *Garden Link:* Comparing the different shapes of native flowers (tubular vs. flat) and matching them to the specialized mouthparts of specific pollinators (hummingbird beaks vs. bee tongues).

#### Middle School (Grades 6–8)

- **MS-LS2-1 (Ecosystems: Resources and Populations):** Analyzing data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations.
  - *Garden Link:* Measuring insect population density and biodiversity within the native garden versus a nearby turf-grass lawn or non-native landscaping.
- **MS-LS2-4 (Ecosystems: Dynamic Changes):** Constructing an argument for how physical or biological changes to an ecosystem affect populations.
  - *Garden Link:* Evaluating how the garden acts as a protective buffer zone, filtering runoff before it hits the adjacent properties and ecosystems.

### **MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS**

Success will be measured through assessing plant survival using the schedule of monitoring and maintenance as follows:

Plant establishment will be assessed one season after planting, and annually for at least three years. Percent survival and irrigation schedule will be noted. Photo monitoring will occur right after planting and then annually for at least three years. Photos will be taken by BV Family Club staff from the same photo point location. This will help show growth and maintenance over the years. BV staff will keep these photos on file and share them if requested.

To ensure the success of the project, the Napa RCD has committed to providing technical expertise for the next 10 years. MJV remains dedicated to the survival of the project. The CA Native Plant Society has also committed to maintaining the garden by watering sheet mulch and keeping the area free of weeds. The BV Family Club has built a solid volunteer group of parents to help maintain the garden as well as a workforce of 600+ students and teachers. This is truly a community effort with a common goal (see Attachment E). Success will be evident by the participation of our student body in maintaining the garden as well as the teacher implementation of the NGSS aligned outdoor lessons.

### **MAINTENANCE PLAN**

**Weeding:** Weeds will be manually controlled every month for the entirety of the project (10 yrs).

#### **Irrigation Schedule:**

Irrigation will begin after planting if the soil is dry and will be on an infrequent but deep watering schedule to establish deep root growth. Soil, exposure, plant types, climate, and topography will factor in.

*1<sup>st</sup> month of watering:* In the first month of watering- we will deeply water once/ week. The exact amount of water depends on soil, climate, and plants but a very general starting point will be between 2-3 gallons per week. We will then observe the plants to tailor the amount. If there is a

prolonged heat wave in the summer, we will assess plant health and determine if additional water is needed.

*Month 2 to year 1 of watering:* We will water deeply every other week during the dry season to encourage deep root growth. We will make sure the soil is wet to at least 18 inches deep and observe the plants to tailor the amount. If there is a prolonged heat wave in the summer, we will assess plant health and determine if additional water is needed.

*Year 2 of watering:* Water deeply about every two weeks in the dry season.

*Year 3 of watering:* Water deeply about every 3-4 weeks in the dry season.

*After about 3 years:* Plants should be established, and irrigation can be turned off, assuming there is no drought. If we enter drought conditions or extreme heat, we will give an occasional deep watering as plants will have better survival and stress response if occasional water can still be provided once established.

Irrigation lines will be continually checked for blockages or leaks during the weeding schedule

Mulch will be replaced as needed until the plants are big enough to outcompete weeds.

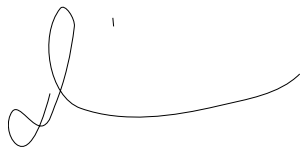
## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

This project represents an investment that will continue yielding ecological and educational benefits long after the grant period ends. Unlike one-time educational programming, this project establishes permanent wildlife habitat and a long-term outdoor classroom expected to benefit both wildlife and students for decades. Each year, hundreds of students will become active participants in habitat restoration, scientific inquiry, and stewardship while simultaneously improving habitat for Napa County's native wildlife. This is something that will leave an indelible mark on our students and foster the development of future Ecologists, Biologists and Conservationists.

The Browns Valley Family Club respectfully requests the Commission's support in transforming an underutilized landscape into a permanent community asset for both people and wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration of our BV Family Club for the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant.

With Gratitude,

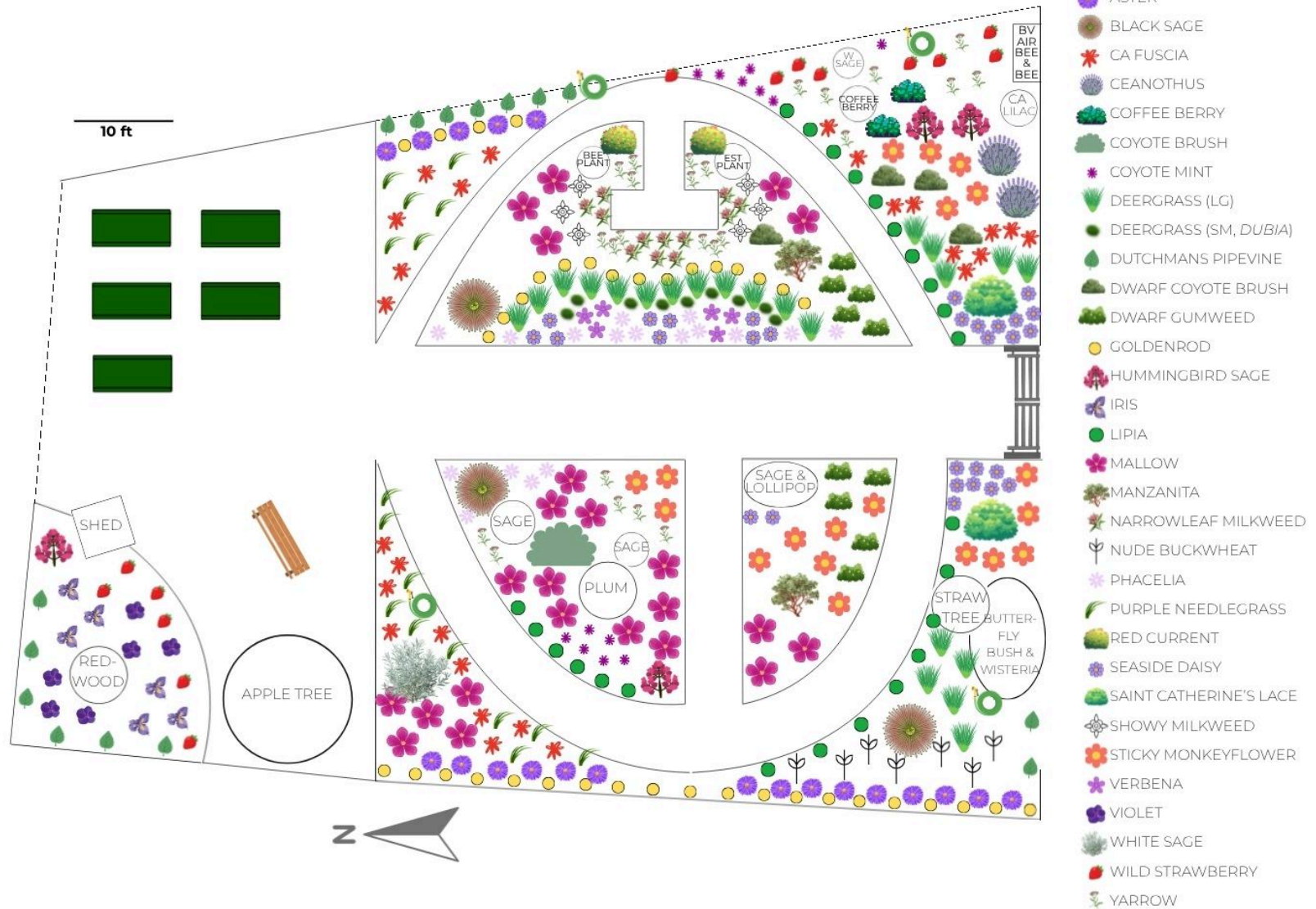


Danielle D'Amour  
STEM Instructor at Browns Valley School  
[danielle@kamalifeayurveda.com](mailto:danielle@kamalifeayurveda.com)  
707.637.6240



# ATTACHMENTS

## Attachment A. Project Landscape Plan



## Attachment B. Plant List

| Common name           | Botanical name                    | Total # in Order |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Hummingbird sage      | Salvia spathacea                  | 4                |
| Ceanothus             | Ceanothus 'concha'                | 2                |
| Coffeeberry           | Frangula californica 'eve case'   | 2                |
| Coyote mint           | Monardella villosa                | 13               |
| Yarrow                | Achillea millefolium              | 13               |
| Moonshine yarrow      | Achillea 'moonshine'              | 13               |
| CA fuchsia            | Epilobium canum                   | 26               |
| Wild strawberry       | Fragaria vesca                    | 14               |
| St. Catherines lace   | Eriogonum giganteum               | 1                |
| Monkey flower         | Diplacus auranticus               | 19               |
| Seaside daisy         | Erigeron glaucus                  | 27               |
| Dwarf coyote brush    | Bacharis pilularis 'pigeon point' | 6                |
| Lipia                 | Phyla nodiflora                   | 24               |
| Deergrass dubia       | Muhlenbergia 'dubia'              | 19               |
| Nude buckwheat        | Eriogonum nudum                   | 7                |
| Black sage            | Salvia mellifera                  | 3                |
| Golden rod            | Solidago californica              | 38               |
| Pacific aster         | Symphyotrichum chilense           | 20               |
| Duchmans pipe         | Aristolochia californica          | 13               |
| Purple needlegrass    | Stipa pulchra                     | 16               |
| White sage            | Salvia apiana                     | 1                |
| Mallow                | Sidalcea malviflora               | 23               |
| Phacelia              | Phacelia californica              | 18               |
| Narrowleaf milkweed   | Asclepias fascicularis            | 12               |
| Showy milkweed        | Asclepias speciosa                | 6                |
| Gumweed               | Grindelia camporum                | 10               |
| Verbena               | Verbena lilacina 'de la mina'     | 8                |
| Red flowering currant | Ribes sanguineum                  | 2                |
| Manzanita             | Arctostaphylos 'Howard McMinn'    | 2                |
| Deergrass rigens      | Muhlenbergia rigens               | 12               |
| Coyote brush          | Bacharis pilularis                | 1                |
| Dog violet            | Viola adunca                      | 6                |
| Douglas iris          | Iris douglasiana                  | 6                |
| Yampah                | Perideridia kelloggii             | 9                |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>    |                                   | <b>396</b>       |



## Attachment C. Project Progress Photos



Photo 1. Before photo - Bermuda Grass Infestation



Photo 2. Sheet Mulching





Photo 3: Bermuda grass eradicated, rocked pathways and planting areas.

## Attachment D. Project Budget

### PLANT AND IRRIGATION MATERIALS:

Plant delivery= \$250

Holding/ outsourcing fee: \$950

Drip line: (\$38.75/ 500 ft roll) need at least 10 rolls: \$387.50

Emitters ½ g/h pressure comp: \$0.25 each, need 2 per plant and extras in case, prob 500= \$125

Spaghetti Tubing: \$16 each, need at least 13: \$208

Clips: 1,000 (\$0.09 each)= \$90

Joints, tees, misc small parts: Est \$100

Timers: \$400

Pressure regulators: \$80 each?= \$160

TOTAL IRRIGATION MATERIALS: \$2,670.50

### IRRIGATION AND PLANTING LABOR

1 foreman @ \$75/hr and 2 laborers @ \$60/hr for 40 hrs (\$75+\$120)40hrs=\$7,800

TOTAL LABOR = \$7,800

### 2 Shade Sales

Sails: <https://a.co/d/0aPw1Gst> 2 @ \$198.99 = \$397.98

Posts: <https://a.co/d/0h4EX3FM> 8 @ 195.99 = \$1,567.92

Labor: \$2,000

TOTAL SHADE SAILS: \$3,965.90

### SIGNAGE

Educational and Interpretage Signage

18"x24" aluminum educational signs with posts: 4 @ \$350.00 each = \$1,400.00

Plant Species Identification Tags: 34 @\$10 each = \$340

TOTAL SIGNAGE = \$1,740.00

### SEATING

3 picnic tables

<https://outdoorschoolfurniture.com/product/y-base-expanded-metal-ada-picnic-table/>

3@ \$1,031.11, Liftgate fee: \$75

TOTAL SEATING = \$3168.32

### TOTAL COSTS

**\$2,670.50 - irrigation materials**

**\$7,800.00 - irrigation labor**

**\$3,965.90 - shade sails**

**\$1,740.00 - signage**

**\$3,168.32 - seating**

**TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST: \$19,344.72**



## **Attachment E. Letters of Support**

July 8, 2026

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant



Re: Letter of Support for Browns Valley Elementary School Native Pollinator Garden

Dear Review Committee,

The Napa County Resource Conservation District (Napa RCD) is proud to provide our enthusiastic support for Browns Valley School's (BVS) application to the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant. We have been working closely with teacher Danielle D'Amour and the school community to transform an underutilized neglected lot on campus into a thriving native pollinator garden that will serve as both critical wildlife habitat and an inspiring outdoor learning space.

This project embodies the intentions of the Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant by transforming a neglected space into a healthy wildlife habitat and vibrant community asset that fosters stewardship, connection, and education. The garden will provide students with meaningful opportunities to engage with nature, participate in hands-on restoration activities, and develop a lifelong appreciation for California's native ecosystems.

The planting plan and design features more than 30 species of California native drought tolerant plants selected to provide continuous blooms throughout the year. The garden is specifically designed to provide habitat for monarch butterflies and other beneficial insects. Importantly, BVS is located within a priority breeding area for western monarch butterflies, making this project particularly valuable to ongoing monarch recovery efforts. By incorporating monarch host plants and season-long nectar resources, the garden will contribute to regional conservation goals while providing students with opportunities to observe and learn about one of California's most iconic species.

Beyond its ecological benefits, this garden will serve as a living demonstration site for students, families, and the broader Napa community. It will showcase what is possible when schools invest in native landscaping that supports biodiversity, conserves water, and creates beautiful spaces for learning and connection. Students will not only benefit from the garden's educational opportunities but will also develop a sense of ownership and pride through their participation in planting and stewardship activities.

Napa RCD is committed to supporting this project through technical expertise, habitat restoration guidance, and continued partnership with BVS. We are confident that this garden will become a lasting resource for wildlife that cultivates compassion, environmental stewardship, and community pride for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration of this worthy project. We strongly encourage you to support BVS's application for the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant.

Sincerely,

Ruby Stahel

Senior Restoration Project Manager

Napa County Resource Conservation District

[ruby@naparcd.org](mailto:ruby@naparcd.org) - 530-304-9254



2233 University Ave W, Suite 426  
St. Paul, Minnesota, 55114  
monarchjointventure.org  
(651) 222-7631  
monarchs@monarchjointventure.org

July 9, 2026

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant

Re: Letter of Support for Browns Valley Elementary School Native Pollinator Garden and Learning Space

Dear Napa County Conservation Commission Grant Review Committee,

The Monarch Joint Venture (MJV) is pleased to support Browns Valley School's (BVS) application for funding through the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Through our *Monarchs & More Western Habitat Program*, MJV has partnered with BVS and the Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to help transform an approximately 5,000-square-foot area of the campus into a thriving California native pollinator habitat. As part of this partnership, MJV is providing technical expertise and nearly 400 California native plants to establish a resilient landscape that will benefit monarch butterflies, native bees and other native pollinators.

This project exemplifies that type of collaborative conservation effort that creates lasting ecological impact. By replacing invasive Bermuda grass with diverse native vegetation, the garden will provide critical nectar resources, host plants, shelter and breeding habitat while increasing biodiversity within an urban landscape. Native pollinator habitats such as this are essential to reversing habitat loss and creating connected landscapes that support wildlife throughout Napa County.

Equally important, this habitat restoration project will serve as a permanent outdoor learning laboratory for nearly 700 students each year. Through standards-aligned, hands-on investigations of pollinator and ecosystem dynamics, students will develop scientific understanding while building a lifelong ethic of conservation and stewardship.

As Baba Dioum famously said, *"In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we are taught."*

The project's success is strengthened by the collaboration among BVS, the Browns Valley School Family Club, Napa RCD, California Native Plant Society, community volunteers and the MJV, ensuring habitat will be maintained and continue to benefit wildlife and students for years to come.

We respectfully urge the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission to support this outstanding project. Your investment will not only restore valuable wildlife habitat but will also inspire future generations of conservationists while creating a lasting community resource that advances wildlife conservation, environmental education and stewardship throughout Napa County.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

**Erin Arnsteen**

Western Program Coordinator - Monarch Joint Venture

[erin@monarchjointventure.org](mailto:erin@monarchjointventure.org) | Ph: (707) 307-0907



1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

June 27, 2026

**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant**

**Re: Letter of Support for the Brown's Valley Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden**

Dear Review Committee,

As Principal of Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Browns Valley Family Club's application for funding to complete our Native Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden.

This project represents a unique opportunity to transform an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project will create valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves more than 600 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden will provide authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project will become a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Browns Valley Elementary is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Troy Holding'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Principal, Browns Valley School



1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

Dear Review Committee,

As a first grade teacher at Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Browns Valley Family Club's application for funding to complete our Native Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden.

This project represents a unique opportunity to transform an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project will create valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves close to 700 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden will provide authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project will become a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Browns Valley Elementary is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'R. Morales'.

First Grade Teacher, Browns Valley School



1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

June 29, 2026

## **Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant**

### **Re: Letter of Support for the Browns Valley Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden**

Dear Review Committee,

As a second grade teacher at Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Browns Valley Family Club's application for funding to complete our Native Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden.

This project represents a unique opportunity to transform an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project will create valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves more than 600 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden will provide authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project will become a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Browns Valley Elementary is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Cavita Malicki*

Second Grade Teacher, Browns Valley School





1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

June 29, 2026

**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant**

**Re: Letter of Support for the Browns Valley Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden**

Dear Review Committee,

As a 7th grade teacher at Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Browns Valley Family Club's application for funding to complete our Native Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden.

This project represents a unique opportunity to transform an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project will create valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves more than 600 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden will provide authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project will become a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Browns Valley School is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

*Joy M. Andrus Ortiz*

7th Grade Teacher

Browns Valley School



1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

Dear Review Committee,

As a Kindergarten teacher at Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support to our STEAM teacher's application for funding to complete our Outdoor Learning Garden on our upper campus. In order to continue the growth of our garden a few things are still needed. The application would fund new picnic tables, irrigation supplies and labor as well as continued maintenance, storage and educational signage.

This project represents a unique opportunity to continue the amazing transformation of what was once an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project has created valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves more than 600 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden now provides authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project is now a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students. Danielle D'Amour, our STEAM teacher, has put in countless hours and funds from her own pocket to help see this project through to the amazing place that it is now.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists, which I know is something near and dear to the heart of Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission. Browns Valley Elementary is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

*Brandy Briggs*

Kindergarten Teacher

Browns Valley School



1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

July 6, 2026

**Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant**

**Re: Letter of Support for the Browns Valley Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden**

Dear Review Committee,

As a kindergarten grade teacher at Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Browns Valley Family Club's application for funding to complete our Native Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden.

This project represents a unique opportunity to transform an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project will create valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves more than 600 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden will provide authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project will become a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Browns Valley Elementary is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Christina Lawrence

Kindergarten Teacher

Browns Valley School



1001 Buhman Avenue, Napa, CA 94558  
707-253-3761 (Fax) 707-259-8421

Dear Review Committee,

As a fifth grade teacher at Browns Valley School, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Browns Valley Family Club's application for funding to complete our Native Pollinator Habitat and Outdoor Learning Garden.

This project represents a unique opportunity to transform an underutilized section of our campus into a thriving native habitat that benefits both wildlife and our students. Through the restoration of approximately 5,000 square feet of land with California native plants, the project will create valuable habitat for wildlife while providing an outdoor classroom for our entire student body.

Browns Valley School serves more than 600 students, all of whom will have access to this space through classroom instruction and our school's STEAM program. The garden will provide authentic opportunities for students to investigate ecosystems, biodiversity, pollination, plant adaptations, conservation biology, and environmental stewardship through hands-on experiences that align directly with California's Next Generation Science Standards.

This project will become a permanent educational resource for our school. Teachers across multiple grade levels will utilize the garden year after year to support science instruction while fostering environmental literacy and stewardship among our students.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration among the Browns Valley Family Club, Napa Resource Conservation District, Monarch Joint Venture, California Native Plant Society, and our dedicated parent volunteers. This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to restoring wildlife habitat while inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Browns Valley Elementary is fully committed to supporting the long-term success of this project. We believe this restoration effort will provide lasting ecological, educational, and community benefits for many years to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Holliday  
5th Grade Teacher



# Proposal: Expanding the Napa RCD Tool Library to Increase Conservation Outcomes



**Prepared for:** Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

**Submitted by:** Napa County Resource Conservation District



## Description of Organization

1. Type of Organization: Napa County Resource Conservation District (Napa RCD) is a local non-regulatory, not-for-profit special district.
2. Purpose: Napa RCD's mission is to empower Napa County's communities to voluntarily conserve, protect, and restore natural resources in a landscape that supports agriculture, urban areas, and wild lands. We provide education, technical assistance with planning and project implementation, cost-share programs, and monitoring services to support a future of abundant water and wildlife, fire-resilient forests, and thriving communities.
3. Tax Exemption Status: Exempt
4. Date Formed: 1945
5. Membership: Napa RCD is governed by 7 Directors serving 4-year terms. The District's Directors are appointed by the Napa County Board of Supervisors in lieu of an election. State law and District policy governs our Board of Directors.
6. Board of Directors: Bruce Barge, Paul Asmuth, Allison Day, Gretchen Stranzl McCann, Jennifer Putnam, Jim Lincoln, and Karen Turjanis.

Contact Person: Ashley Kvitek, Senior Volunteer Project Manager, Napa RCD.  
(707)690-3117, [Ashley@NapaRCD.org](mailto:Ashley@NapaRCD.org), 1303 Jefferson St, Suite 500B, Napa CA 94559

## Needs Assessment / Problem Statement

1. Problem Statement:

As one of the key players in Napa County's conservation network, Napa RCD coordinates volunteer conservation activities that, in the past year alone, engaged 770 participants contributing 3,535 hours of service. These efforts have advanced county and municipal conservation priorities by addressing ecological challenges through trash cleanups, invasive species removal, and oak woodland habitat restoration.

Napa RCD's volunteer program has been active for over 10 years and aims to build a culture of conservation for community members in Napa County. Through service, education, and meaningful connections with the land, we work with our community to foster a shared responsibility for the health of our streams, forests, ag lands, urban landscapes, and wild spaces for generations to come. We don't do this alone and in fact cannot do this alone; we work extensively with partners to accomplish shared



conservation goals. We partner with municipalities, county staff, nonprofit organizations, our local school districts, and regional partners through grants and contracts that further shared goals that protect and restore Napa County's land, water, soil, and wildlife.

Over the past ten years, we have installed over 6,000 acorn plantings and over 300 trees and other native plants at sites throughout the county, removed over 276,700 lbs. of waste from Napa County's streets, creeks, and waterways, and removed invasive species from over 6 acres of park land. The majority of this work has happened on public lands owned by the City of Napa, City of American Canyon, City of St Helena, County of Napa, and the Napa County Parks & Open Space District. This means that our community members not only make a difference on their day of service, but that they can go back to those public spaces and see the results of their service days weeks, months, and even years afterward.

As Napa RCD's volunteer program has grown to encompass a wider variety of conservation activities, our tool library has been left behind. On planting days with up to 60 volunteers, we have just 12 round-head shovels and 20 hoes to go around. At weed-pulling events with a similar turnout, there is just one weed wrench being passed around Westwood Hills Park. We can usually borrow extra shovels from partner organizations, but across the entire county we collectively have only 5 weed wrenches. And if two events happen on the same day, there simply aren't enough tools to go around.

The result is that volunteers spend more time waiting than working and coordinating staff burn hours on logistics instead of restoration. And projects that should move forward stall. Without a right-sized tool library, the program's growth- and the conservation work it enables countywide- is hitting a roadblock it shouldn't have to face.

One of Napa RCD's longest running volunteer activities- oak planting and maintenance- has been active since 2014. This is a well-loved community effort happening at locations throughout the county but focused on Alston Park in the City of Napa and St Helena Community Forest in St Helena. Families and community groups return year after year, often checking to see if the tree they planted the previous fall has survived the summer. During events, 50–70 participants work together

each year to plant or maintain native oaks, but the limited supply of shovels, scissors, hog rings, hoes, and other equipment means that work is frequently interrupted while tools are passed between groups. These delays reduce the amount of restoration that can be accomplished during each event and when volunteers are standing around waiting for something to do, they leave feeling less useful and less accomplished.

Similar constraints affect other conservation programs. During Napa RCD's Earth Day Napa Community Cleanup and the countywide Coastal Cleanup Day, we distribute buckets, reusable gloves, and trash grabbers across multiple sites, but we lack enough materials to fully equip the 150–500 participants who come ready to clean up. At invasive plant removal events, a few weed wrenches must be passed across large work areas, cutting into productive removal time and reducing the acreage we can treat.

Agencies and organizations in Napa County share tools when possible, to enable conservation work across different land types. Napa RCD currently shares weed wrenches with the County Ag Commissioner and the Land Trust of Napa County, McLeods with Napa Open Space, shovels with City of Napa Parks and Recreation, and all of the above with the American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation. The existing pool of shared tools simply cannot keep pace with the number of active conservation projects underway.

The requested funding would directly address the gap between our current tool library and the tools required to carry out conservation work safely and successfully. The growing demand for tools reflects a welcome reality: more people are volunteering for natural resource conservation projects across Napa County. To keep that momentum moving forward, we need to be sure the work isn't limited by something so simple (but expensive) as equipment shortages.

The funding requested for tools and supplies would enable Napa RCD and our partnering agencies and organizations to expand on-the-ground conservation outcomes, increase the acreage and effectiveness of restoration work, increase volunteer satisfaction, and further Napa RCD's mission to protect and preserve Napa County's land, water, soil, and wildlife.

## 2. Objectives and Amount Requested

### Objectives:

- Reduce delays and downtime caused by equipment bottlenecks during large-scale conservation events such as Coastal Cleanup Day, Community Oak Planting Day, MLK Day of Service, and Earth Day Napa by about 20%, allowing more restoration and cleanup work to be completed per event.
- Expand the shared equipment pool available to natural resource agencies and organizations across Napa County, increasing total countywide capacity for on-the-ground conservation work.

Amount Requested: \$10,061.51

## 3. Anticipated Results & Timeline

- Inventory Phase (Sept-Oct)
  - Inventory existing tools and identify needs for conservation work planned in the next 1-3 years.
  - Survey staff and volunteer coordinators to confirm highest-need purchases.
- Purchase Phase (Oct-Nov)
  - Order, receive, and label all new tools and supplies.
  - Set up tool inventory, maintenance schedule, and loan process.
- Implementation & Evaluation Phase (Nov-June)
  - Tools used across active restoration sites: invasive removal, native planting, trash removal, etc.
  - Report on number of volunteer workdays, acres treated, and number of partner requests fulfilled.

## 4. Description of Methods

Napa RCD staff will conduct an informal staff and partner survey to learn about upcoming conservation projects to expect in the next 1-3 years. Once we have a handle on what projects are coming up, and what tools will be required to complete those projects, we can then confirm that what we currently anticipate our tool needs

to be matches up with projected restoration work not just for Napa RCD, but for our partners as well.

Once we have a solid list of needs, we can then move on and purchase the tools required to successfully complete the expected conservation projects planned over the next year. We anticipate needing to buy many tools and supplies in bulk, which will reduce the cost of most of the items we expect to need. We will prioritize the purchase of tools identified by program and volunteer leads as in the highest demand.

Napa RCD's Senior Volunteer Project Manager will put together a centralized tool inventory, maintenance schedule, and loan process to be sure that the tools are not just taken care of, but also available to our partners in conservation throughout the county. If necessary, a plan will be made to replace tools and supplies that need to be replaced on a regular basis.

Tools will be used throughout the county at different project sites, and sharing will be coordinated so that the tools will be used to their fullest extent. Napa RCD tracks how many volunteers we work with each year, how many acres of invasive plants are treated, the amount of trash removed, and plants planted and maintained. Once we have a year of data and tracking, we can evaluate how our tool library is serving our county and decide if we need to purchase a few more tools for different conservation projects.

## 5. Statement of Benefit

This proposal directly supports the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission's goals by expanding volunteer capacity for on-the-ground watershed stewardship across Napa County. Based on prior experience, in 2026-2027, we estimate that volunteers will use the acquired tools to achieve the following watershed benefits over the grant period:

- 7 acres of invasive weeds removed
- 100 native plants put in the ground
- 150 native trees and shrubs maintained
- 3,000 lbs of waste removed from streets, creeks, and the Napa River

The specific piece of §13103 of the CA Fish and Game Code that this proposal supports include:

(e) Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, construction of fish screens, weirs, and ladders; drainage or other watershed improvements; gravel and rock removal or placement; construction of irrigation and water distribution systems; earthwork and grading; fencing; planting trees and other vegetation management; and removal of barriers to the migration of fish and wildlife.

#### 6. Determination of Success

Napa RCD staff and volunteers engage in restoration projects throughout the year, often with the support of volunteers. Napa RCD will track how many volunteers we work with, how many acres of invasive plants are treated, the amount of trash removed, the number of plants planted and maintained, and the number of shared-agency checkouts over one year. Measurable outcomes could include:

- High volunteer satisfaction and sense of purpose
- A 20% reduction in equipment-caused downtime at large-scale events, as determined by informal surveys of volunteers and volunteer coordinators.
- Expansion of the shared tool library to support at least two partner agency tool requests per year.

## Attachments

### 1. Expenditure detail

| Expense                       | Description                 | Number | Item Cost | Total Cost         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-----------|--------------------|
| <b>Supplies</b>               | Weed Wrench- Medium         | 3      | \$239.00  | \$717.00           |
|                               | Weed Wrench- Large          | 2      | \$284.00  | \$568.00           |
|                               | Loppers                     | 10     | \$40.02   | \$400.20           |
|                               | Leather Gloves              | 48     | \$6.00    | \$288.00           |
|                               | Adult Garden Gloves         | 144    | \$1.93    | \$277.92           |
|                               | Kid Garden Gloves           | 50     | \$2.50    | \$125.00           |
|                               | Muck Boots                  | 15     | \$35.95   | \$539.25           |
|                               | 14-Gauge Round-Point Shovel | 40     | \$55.99   | \$2,239.60         |
|                               | Council Tool McLeod         | 6      | \$111.25  | \$667.50           |
|                               | AMS Montana Sharpshooter    | 4      | \$305.98  | \$1,223.92         |
|                               | Wire Cutters                | 4      | \$22.00   | \$88.00            |
|                               | Heavy Duty Scissors         | 10     | \$21.97   | \$219.70           |
|                               | Hog Ring Pliers             | 8      | \$13.79   | \$110.32           |
|                               | Buckets                     | 50     | \$7.89    | \$394.50           |
|                               | Trash Grabbers              | 60     | \$36.71   | \$2,202.60         |
| <b>Total Amount Requested</b> |                             |        |           | <b>\$10,061.51</b> |

### 2. List of other funding sources

| Funding Source                                                                                                                                   | Amount           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| United States Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Grant<br>(includes funds to be used for plants, tools, & plant protection, all combined) | \$112,000        |
| CA Dept of Food & Agriculture Weed Management Area Grant Program                                                                                 | \$200            |
| <b>Total Matching Funds</b>                                                                                                                      | <b>\$112,200</b> |



3. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies.

## **(2025) Green Futures- Equitable Engagement of High School Students in Wildlife Habitat Stewardship and Conservation Careers**

### **Summary**

- 122 students from 8 high school classes participated in Napa RCD's Green Futures environmental education program. RCD staff implemented 8 classroom sessions and 4 field trips to Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa. Green Futures increased time spent learning outdoors in nature by 4.5 hours per student. Students planted, monitored, and maintained 85 native oak trees across a 3-acre area.

### **Stewardship**

- Three acres of native oak habitat within Skyline Wilderness Park (Napa, CA) were cared for by students.
- Students installed 17 new native oak tree plantings creating new wildlife habitat, canopy, and carbon sequestering biomass.
- Students provided critical monitoring and maintenance of 68 young trees, supporting their survival and establishment.
- 90% of students reported participating in at least one direct stewardship action.

### **Nature Affinity & Interaction**

- Increased time learning outdoors by 4.5 hours per student.
- Students ranked field trip experiences as "Very Positive" (4.6 out of 5.0)
- 70% of students voluntarily shared and described positive reflections about their experience.

### **Conservation Career Exploration**

Napa RCD staff recruited, trained, and integrated 9 unique conservation career partners as professional mentors including:

- ACCPF: Joy Hilton (Education Director) and Tammy Saunders (Naturalist)
- LTNC: Clarisa Rosas (Assistant Stewardship Coordinator), Joseph Clark (Stewardship Program Assistant), Whitney Wyche (Stewardship Program Assistant)

- Napa RCD: Francisco Larios (Project Assistant), Eric McKee (Project Manager)
- NRCS: Frank Bradley (Biologist) and Erika Valek (Soil Conservationist)

Through direct observation as well as follow-up surveys, students demonstrated development of practical conservation career skills throughout their experience. The most reported skills reported by students were environmental data collection (90%), tree care (80%), using a GPS (75%), and plant and animal identification (70%).

- 85% of students reported interacting with at least one professional mentor during their field trip.
- 35% of students expressed curiosity about environmental internships, careers, or a willingness to try conservation work.
- 14 students were uncertain whether environmental careers were right for them, highlighting the importance of continued exposure, mentorship, and career pathway programming for youth who have historically had limited access to environmental professions.

The results of program evaluation data demonstrated that when students are provided meaningful opportunities to care for the environment, learn outdoors, and connect with relevant conservation professionals, they develop the skills, confidence, and sense of belonging needed to become future stewards of Napa County's wildlife and habitats.

Napa RCD thanks the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission for making these experiences possible. Green Futures would not be possible without the support and assistance from: ACCPF, LTNC, NRCS, Skyline Wilderness Park, and VOHS.

Additional funding for the Green Futures program is provided by: County of Napa PBES, County of Napa Health & Human Services, Innovative Health Solutions, Lewis Cellars Community Grants, North Bay Watershed Association, Steve Rasmussen & Felicia Woytak and individual donations.

#### **(2024) Engaging schools and community members in western monarch conservation**

- 13 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes totaling 297 students participated.

- 4 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes received a 1-hr class visit that included a hands-on life cycle modelling activity, along with a presentation, educational videos, and student discussion.
- 9 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes received a 1-hr class visit that included a 20–30-minute outdoor monarch migration activity, presentation, videos, and student discussion.
- 6 teachers participated in the program for the first time. 3 of these teachers additionally participated in the Western Monarch Teacher Workshop.
- Napa RCD staff worked with NVUSD and McPherson Magnet Elementary School staff to plan a school garden. Initial meetings were held to scope garden locations and project goals and objectives. Our planning process includes writing a Pollinator Habitat Plan used for our private landowner pollinator habitat restoration projects. These plans consist of a project description, site prep instructions, maintenance plan, documentation of herbicides used on site, plant list, and plant layout. RCD staff met with NVUSD staff to review a draft plan and discuss logistics of implementing a school garden. At this moment, RCD staff has completed the plan, plant list, and plant layout. We are waiting on NVUSD to sign the plan, allowing us to move forward with school staff to purchase plants, complete site prep and plan a volunteer planting day. Our goal is to implement the garden in Fall 2025. This project has allowed Napa RCD staff to build a relationship with NVUSD maintenance and lead district garden staff that will support future projects between the school district and Napa RCD.
- Distributed 8 sets of the monarch migration activity to participating 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers including bilingual Spanish/English materials.

**(2023) Engaging schools in western monarch conservation through Kids for Monarchs**

- 10 groups consisting of 223 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in Kids for Monarchs
  - 7 groups received a single educational experience that consisted of a class visit; class visits included a presentation, student discussion, and indoor and outdoor pollinator and monarch activities.
  - 2 groups received 2 separate educational experiences each, including class visits and outdoor learning time.
  - 1 group received 4 separate educational experiences, each of which included outdoor pollinator and garden activities in their school garden.

Napa RCD also helped this group plant 18 milkweed plants and other native plants in a monarch waystation. The group was an afterschool garden program called Dirt Girls that met every Tuesday from April 30 – June 4 at the Napa Valley Language Academy school garden. Dirt Girls is a program hosted by The School Garden Doctor, a key collaborator in the Kids for Monarch program.

- 3 teachers participated in the program for the first time. 1 is interested in working with Napa RCD to install a native plant garden on their school campus.
- Napa RCD collaborated with School Garden Doctor to install a monarch waystation at Napa Valley Language Academy, including 18 milkweeds and various other pollinator plants.

#### **(2022) Creating and Enhancing Western Monarch Habitat in Napa County**

- 16 Pollinator Habitat Plans were created and will be fully implemented by Fall 2023 with help from other Napa RCD grants. Once implemented, the number of new acres planted to native plants will be about 35 acres.
- 2.5 acres of high-quality monarch and pollinator habitat were created.
- RCD hosted the fall 2022 Xerces Habitat Kit Program plant distribution event.
- RCD taught a one-day class on native plants and pollinators at Napa Valley College and helped students install a Xerces Habitat Kit.
- Coordinated and led Napa County Monarch Working Group which consists of 50 members from 23 organizations. The Working Group partnered closely with Land Trust, Xerces, Western Monarch Society, and US Fish and Wildlife Service on a project to collect and propagate early season milkweed seeds that is not readily available at nurseries.
- Partnered with Western Monarch Society to obtain 1,018 native milkweed plants that were installed at 16 project sites resulting in 0.2 acres of new monarch breeding habitat.

#### **(2021) Creating and Enhancing Western Monarch Habitat in Napa County**

- 17 habitat planting plans were created and implemented
- 2.5 acres of high-quality breeding and migratory habitat were created.
- RCD hosted 2 community planting events with high school students
- RCD worked closely with the Xerces Society and Napa Farmers to implement their Xerces Habitat Kit projects and provide technical and logistical assistance.
- Hosted Monarch Working Group meetings and 1 presentation for the community on Best Management Practices for vineyards adjacent to habitat plantings.

# **Napa WCC Grant – Abuelitos Foundation**

## **Description of Organization**

### **1. Type of organization or business**

Abuelitos Foundation is a Delaware nonprofit corporation based in Napa, California. The Foundation is dedicated to restoring resilient ecosystems on working lands throughout Napa Valley.

### **2. Purpose for which the organization was formed**

Abuelitos Foundation was formed to restore the ecological health and resilience of Napa Valley's working lands. Its work focuses on healthy watersheds as the foundation for abundant wildlife, productive agriculture, clean water, and resilient communities.

The Foundation uses process-based restoration, working with landowners, scientists, public agencies, and community organizations to restore the natural processes connecting water, soil, vegetation, wildlife, and people. Its activities include developing and implementing demonstration projects, coordinating volunteers and partner organizations, supporting ecological monitoring, and sharing findings through educational field days and community outreach.

The Foundation's flagship project is the Conn Creek Land Lab, a collaborative demonstration site in the Lake Hennessey subwatershed. The project restores incised ephemeral channels, improves watershed function, enhances wildlife habitat, and documents ecological outcomes that can inform similar restoration work throughout Napa Valley.

### **3. Tax-exempt status**

Abuelitos Foundation is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is classified as a private foundation under Section 509(a). Its federal Employer Identification Number is 88-0593452. Contributions are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

### **4. Date formed as a nonprofit**

Abuelitos Foundation was incorporated on January 12, 2022.

### **5. Membership**

Abuelitos Foundation has no members. Under its bylaws, all rights that would otherwise vest in members are vested in the Board of Directors. The Foundation therefore has no membership restrictions, membership enrollment, or membership fees. Community members participate through volunteer workdays, educational events, and project partnerships.

## **6. Board of Directors and contact person**

- Tod Mostero, Founder and President
- Vichheka Hang, Vice President
- Ginna Beharry, Treasurer
- Erik Olson, Secretary
- Nick Carson, Director
- Mimi Casteel, Director

### **Primary contact:**

Tod Mostero, Founder and President

Abuelitos Foundation

29 Lynn Drive

Napa, CA 94558-4324

(707) 312-9001

[todmostero@abuelitosfoundation.org](mailto:todmostero@abuelitosfoundation.org)



## Needs Assessment

Abuelitos Foundation is requesting **\$18,726** to support implementation of the Conn Creek Land Lab, our pilot process-based restoration project located in the upland watershed above Lake Hennessey in Napa County. Working in partnership with the vintners at Element 28, the Napa Resource Conservation District, neighboring landowners, and community volunteers, the project is designed to restore degraded ephemeral streams to improve watershed function, recover riparian habitat, and demonstrate practical restoration techniques that can be replicated throughout Napa Valley.

## Problem Statement

Decades of historic land use as a former cattle ranch compacted soils, degraded native vegetation, and dried out the project site by changing the way water moves through it. Historic practices such as channel simplification, native vegetation removal, and overgrazing moved water off the landscape quickly and disrupted the slower hydrologic and ecological processes that these environments were adapted to. These degraded conditions have created a self-reinforcing cycle of drying, erosion, vegetation loss, and increasing instability that requires urgent attention.

Today, despite the change in land use, these scars are still visible along two ephemeral drainages that continue to dry the surrounding landscape. A degraded channel no longer performs the same ecological work of slowing water, storing moisture, building soil, supporting native vegetation, recharging shallow groundwater, or providing the seasonal wetness that native species rely on. Rather, these channels move stormwater rapidly downstream, preventing infiltration into surrounding soils. This causes sediment to be exported from the landscape, polluting the Lake Hennessey reservoir downstream. In turn, shallow groundwater recharge declines and causes native riparian vegetation to struggle. This cycle culminates in increasingly simplified and fragmented wildlife habitats that are vulnerable to extreme rainfall events, drought, chronic wildfire pressure, and increasing temperatures.

The Conn Creek Land Lab aims to address these challenges through a series of low-tech, process-based restoration strategies that have been incorporated into the project's habitat restoration and water quality permits approved by California Department of Fish & Wildlife, and San Francisco Bay Regional Waterboard respectively. Our methods are specifically designed to improve hydrologic function, reduce erosion, enhance riparian habitat, support groundwater recharge, and strengthen long-term watershed resilience, all while becoming increasingly self-sustaining over time.

## Anticipated Results / Description of Methods

Funding from the Wildlife Conservation Commission would directly support three components of the project:

- Construction of detention structures and other low-tech habitat restoration features.
- Ecological monitoring to measure habitat recovery and guide adaptive management.
- Community field days that engage volunteers, neighboring landowners, and conservation practitioners in hands-on restoration while demonstrating practical approaches to improving wildlife habitat on working lands.

### Habitat Restoration Treatments

The project restores degraded ephemeral stream channels using low-impact, nature-based restoration techniques that reduce erosion, slow runoff, promote groundwater recharge, stabilize stream channels, and support the recovery of native riparian vegetation **without the use of excavation, earthwork, or grading**. Approximately 70 restoration structures constructed from locally sourced rock, woody material, and brush will be installed across approximately 500 linear feet of degraded ephemeral channel. Over time, these treatments are expected to improve more than 2,000 linear feet of riparian corridor while increasing habitat complexity and improve conditions for birds, amphibians, pollinators, and other native wildlife while also protecting downstream water quality and strengthening the long-term resilience of the watershed.

The restoration approaches are illustrated in the attached technical drawings prepared by our partners at the Occidental Arts & Ecology Center and are consistent with the methods approved through our California Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act application and Regional Water Quality Control Board restoration permits.

### Community Field Days

Implementation will occur through a combination of staff leadership and community volunteer workdays involving neighboring landowners, students, conservation professionals, and local residents. These events will accomplish meaningful on-the-ground restoration while providing participants with practical experience implementing habitat restoration techniques that can be adapted to other properties throughout the Napa River watershed. In this way, the Conn Creek Land Lab serves both as an active

restoration project and as a demonstration site that builds local stewardship and encourages broader adoption of watershed restoration practices. This summer, these community-driven restoration events are taking place July 29-30<sup>th</sup> and August 28-30<sup>th</sup>.

Outside of the summer implementation window, we will be hosting several other types of community-oriented field days throughout the grant period. These include general tours with neighboring landowners and partners from the community, outdoor ecosystem monitoring education with classrooms from local universities, and process-based restoration workshops with practitioners and interested parties. The next field day of this kind will be our end of summer construction showcase and celebration on October 16<sup>th</sup>, where project volunteers, neighboring landowners, and community partners can see and tour the Land Lab once primed for the upcoming wet season.

## **Ecological Monitoring**

Project success will be evaluated through a comprehensive monitoring program established prior to construction. Baseline data are already being collected and will be compared with post-construction conditions over a five-year monitoring period. Monitoring includes measurements of the following.

### ***Monitoring Parameters and Expected Responses***

#### **Groundwater response** *(12-20 feet deep monitoring wells)*

- Monitor seasonal groundwater elevation and recession.
- We expect higher groundwater levels during the dry-down period and a longer seasonal hydroperiod.

#### **Sediment retention and surface elevation** *(erosion pins and soil-retention rods)*

- Measure erosion and sediment deposition relative to fixed reference points.
- We have already measured net sediment accumulation upstream of the structures, gradual recovery of incised channel elevations, coverage of exposed roots, and reduced lateral drainage from adjacent soils.

#### **Soil moisture and temperature** *(moisture probes and temperature sensors)*

- Measure soil-water retention, peak soil temperature, and seasonal drying rates.
- We expect soil moisture to persist longer, with lower peak temperatures and less daily temperature fluctuation.

## **Precipitation**

- Record rainfall amount, intensity, and timing to interpret groundwater, soil-moisture, runoff, and turbidity responses and compare results across years.

### **Vegetation recovery**

- Monitor plant cover, species composition, recruitment, and bare-ground percentage.
- We expect increased native vegetation cover and diversity as soil moisture improves, temperatures moderate, and erosion declines.

### **Channel stability**

- Track channel-bed elevation, bank erosion, incision, and headcut movement.
- We expect reduced erosion and incision, greater sediment retention, and increasing stability as vegetation establishes and root systems reinforce the soil.

### **Water quality** (*turbidity sampling*)

- Measure turbidity during runoff events.
- We expect reduced peak turbidity and suspended-sediment transport as flow velocity decreases and sediment is retained within the project area.

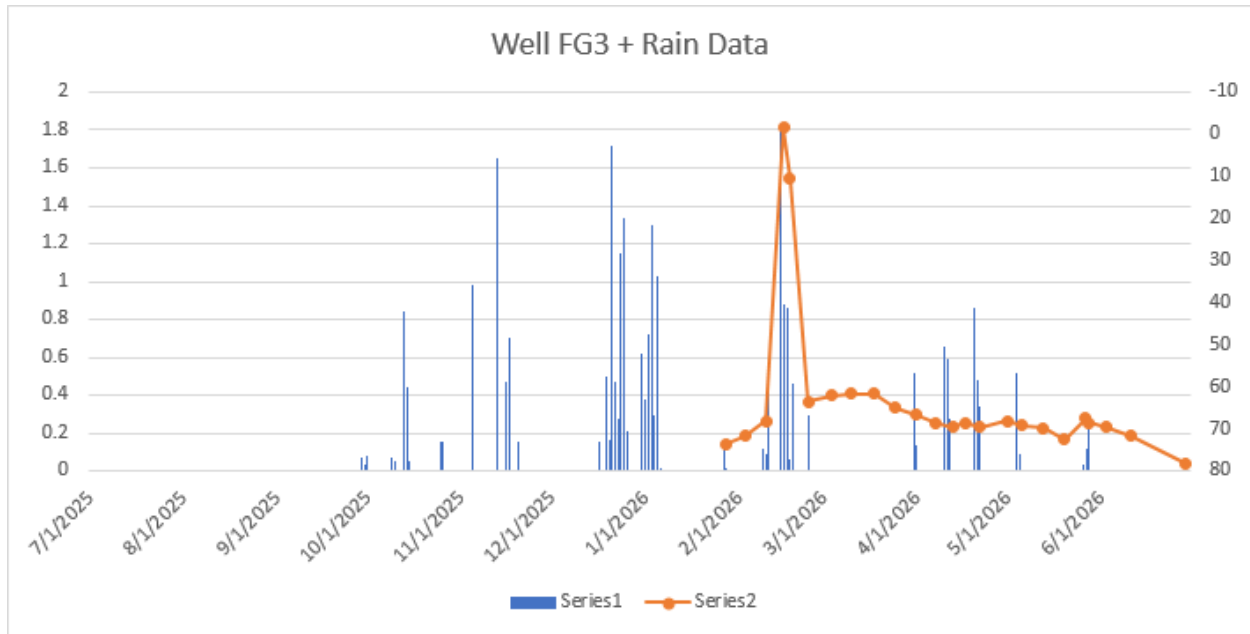
### **Wildlife observations**

- Document species presence, abundance, and habitat use.
- We expect wildlife activity and species diversity to increase as vegetation structure, water availability, and habitat complexity recover.

### **Fixed-point photography and video**

- Capture repeat images from permanently marked locations using consistent angles, scales, and seasonal timing.
- This record will document changes in vegetation, channel form, sediment deposition, erosion, and surface-water movement over time.

Our baseline results have supported what we and the landowners have observed over time, a system that is not able to retain the moisture it receives. Below is a graph of one of our groundwater monitoring wells along the untreated channel (water level in orange) overlaid upon the precipitation data from the 2025-2026 season. Surges in the water table after heavy rains quickly dissipate. The result is a dry riparian zone that is vulnerable to erosion, causes native vegetation to struggle, and degrades wildlife habitat.



In 2025, the first 17 restoration structures were constructed to demonstrate the erosion control capacity of our restoration approach. Within a single year, during which the site received 26.8 inches of rain, we saw sediment and biomass aggradation of up to 5 inches in depth behind some structures. All together, we estimate that these initial structures prevented more than 23 cubic feet of runoff downstream into Lake Hennessey during their first year with below-average rainfall.

Future results will guide adaptive management and provide measurable evidence of project effectiveness.

Day-to-day implementation and monitoring are coordinated by Abuelitos Foundation's Ecosystem Restoration Fellow, working closely with project partners including Element 28 and the Napa Resource Conservation District. This collaborative approach ensures consistent field observations, rigorous data collection, and long-term stewardship of the restoration site.

## Project Timeline

**Summer 2025:** Created the Conn Creek Land Lab and installed the first 17 restoration structures.

**Fall/Winter 2025-2026:** Hired our inaugural Ecosystem Restoration Fellow. Began ecological monitoring of initial structures and baseline conditions. Started permitting pathways for project compliance.

**Spring 2026:** Continued ecological monitoring of initial structures and baseline conditions. Submitted permitting documentation. Kicked off Lake Hennessey Sub-watershed Stewardship Group alongside Napa RCD.

**Summer 2026:** Stage natural materials to prepare restoration sites and conduct community volunteer workdays to install restoration structures.

**July 29-30** – First Volunteer Construction Workdays

**August 28-30** – Second Volunteer Construction Workdays

**Fall 2026:** Complete remaining restoration treatments and native revegetation planting where appropriate. Continue ecological monitoring and documentation. Host educational field days for neighboring landowners, students, agencies, and restoration practitioners.

**Fall 2026 - Winter 2027:** Conduct storm-event monitoring, including sediment retention, groundwater response, channel stability, water quality, and wildlife observations. Evaluate hydrologic performance of installed restoration structures. Continue to host educational field days for neighboring landowners, students, agencies, and restoration practitioners.

**Spring/Summer 2027:** Assess vegetation establishment, habitat recovery, and structure performance. Compile first-year monitoring results and evaluate restoration outcomes.

**2027-2030:** Continue long-term monitoring, adaptive management, maintenance, and annual reporting consistent with the project's approved restoration permits and monitoring plan.



## **Permitting**

Both required permitting pathways, CDFW's 1652 Habitat Restoration Enhancement Act and Waterboard's 401 Water Quality Certification, have been filed and approved. Both agencies, serving as lead agencies on the project, have also issued Notices of Exemption from CEQA.

In addition, we have filed a grading permit exemption application with Napa County.

## **Community Partner Organizations**

- Element 28 Vineyard
- Napa County Resource Conservation District
- Napa County Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Pacific Union College
- Occidental Arts & Ecology Center
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Napa Green
- Napa Valley Vintners
- Napa Communities Firewise Foundation

## **Clear Statement of Benefit Relative to Commission Goals**

The Conn Creek Land Lab directly advances the purposes of the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission by restoring and enhancing wildlife habitat through watershed restoration activities consistent with California Fish and Game Code §13103(e), which authorizes expenditures for the "improvement of fish and wildlife habitat," including watershed improvements, earthwork, rock placement, vegetation management, and related habitat restoration activities.

The project also directly aligns with the Commission's selection priorities by:

- Providing measurable, long-term improvements to wildlife habitat and watershed function.
- Restoring native riparian habitat using practical, science-based restoration techniques.
- Leveraging matching financial support, volunteer labor, and in-kind contributions from Abuelitos Foundation, Element 28, and project partners.
- Establishing a publicly accessible demonstration site where landowners, students, agencies, and community members can observe and participate in habitat restoration on working lands, encouraging broader adoption of similar conservation practices throughout Napa County.

By combining habitat restoration, scientific monitoring, community engagement, and long-term stewardship, the Conn Creek Land Lab creates lasting ecological benefits that extend well beyond a single property and contribute to the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat throughout the Napa River watershed.

# REWILDING THE LAND

## RESTORATION-EDUCATION-COLLABORATION

### Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Application

#### Description of Organization

**1. Type of organization or business**

Public Benefit Corporation

**2. Purpose for which the organization was formed**

Rewilding the Land (RWL) was formed to restore approximately 96 acres of degraded land in Pope Valley, including impaired ponds, a degraded creek system, and formerly terraced vineyard areas, into a functioning regenerative landscape. The site will integrate watershed restoration, habitat recovery, wildfire resilience, and nature-based education, serving as a living demonstration of climate resilience, biodiverse restoration, and community stewardship.

Through phased restoration and hands-on programming, the land will function as both an ecological asset and a place of learning, supporting long-term environmental health and deepening community connection to nature.

**3. Tax-exempt status** - Pending

**4. Date formed as Non-profit** - June 23, 2026

**5. Membership:** No Restrictions. No Members. No fees.

**6. Names of Board of Directors**

Briana Clark - Chair  
605 Hill Road  
Angwin, CA 94508  
(707) 738-8224  
[Briana@rewildingtheland.org](mailto:Briana@rewildingtheland.org)

Christine Waskowiak - Vice Chair  
2909 Redwood Rd, Napa 94558  
(707) 320-3513  
[chriselly.w@gmail.com](mailto:chriselly.w@gmail.com)

Kristin Belair - Treasure  
2962 Sunrise Drive  
Napa, CA 94558  
[k\\_belair@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k_belair@sbcglobal.net)

Mike Hackett - Member at Large  
282 South White Cottage  
Angwin, CA 94508  
[Mhackett54@gmail.com](mailto:Mhackett54@gmail.com)

Vivian Wehner - Secretary  
316 Newton Way  
Angwin, CA 94508  
650-492-3632  
[Veggieviv@gmail.com](mailto:Veggieviv@gmail.com)

## **Needs Assessment / Problem Statement**

### **1. Clear statement of the problem**

California faces increasing climate pressures, including prolonged drought, extreme weather variability, wildfires, and declining biodiversity. There is an urgent need for place-based, scalable models of land restoration and climate action that improve water retention, create wildfire resilience, rebuild habitat, and demonstrate regenerative land stewardship practices. Equally urgent is hands-on environmental education that connects youth to the natural world and builds their understanding of its need for protection.

These projects respond directly to that need by restoring ecological function at the site level, creating a replicable model for similar landscapes across the region, educating youth, and fostering long-term stewardship of wildlands.

### **2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested**

Rewilding the Land will address three specific objectives in the hope of being awarded two grants. The objectives are:

1. Rewild a degraded vineyard and its surrounding forest, creek, and ponds to restore the site's natural biodiversity and increase wildfire resilience
2. Create an experiential environmental education and stewardship program for students in grades 3–8

3. Collaborate with the community, local experts, and volunteers to build a replicable model of environmental stewardship and climate resilience, providing ongoing experiences and education for community members

**Location:** Pope Valley California

### **Summary - Grant Request One - \$12,300**

#### **Execution of Pilot Youth Experiential Environmental Education; Grades 3-5**

- Up to 50 students will be served in the initial year
- Partner schools are:
  - Howell Mountain Public School in Angwin - confirmed
  - Foothill Private School in Deer Park - to be confirmed
- The first year of the student program will:
  - begin in October 2026
  - end in June 2027.
- Students will participate two days per month
- Program will be augmented by their school science curriculum
- An additional summer program is to be determined.

### **Summary - Grant Request Two - \$20,000**

#### **Restoration of Prior Vineyard Land, Ponds and Creek**

- In Pope Valley, CA - RWL will restore ecological function to a
  - 95-acre site
  - 16 acres of prior vineyard land
  - a creek and three ponds
- Create fire resilience in conjunction with CalFire and Firewise
  - Maintain fireroad access to Angwin
  - Remove downed trees
  - Increase back road awareness and access for firefighters
- Create a replicable model for similar landscapes across the region
- Schedule Ten Community Volunteer Workdays
  - Safety Training provided
  - Limit to ten volunteers per project
  - May execute more than one project at a time
- Foster wildlife:
  - Resilience
  - Biodiversity
  - Habitat restoration and protection
  - Long-term stewardship

## Summary - Timeline

### May 2026 through September 2026:

- Create Organizational Structure
- Build Base
  - Consult with Knowledgeable Organizations
    - Napa RCD
    - CDFW
    - Water Board
    - Firewise
  - Apply for required permits
    - Planning Commission
    - Water Board
  - Meet with adjacent programs: see, listen, learn, partner
    - Abuelitos - <https://www.abuelitosfoundation.org/todmostero@abuelitosfoundation.org>
    - Occidental Eco Center <https://oaec.org/who-we-are/about-oaec/>
    - Ag Innovations - Genevieve Taylor; [genevieve@aginnovations.org](mailto:genevieve@aginnovations.org)  
<https://aginnovations.org/about-us/ag-innovations-team/#toggle-id-2> - Upper Putah Creek project
    - Cal Flora - Native Plant Nursery- <https://www.calfloranursery.com/>
    - Develop one year, two year and 3 year plan
  - Meet with Impacted Community
    - School Principals
    - Teachers
    - Parents
    - Qualified Facilitators (volunteers)
    - Launch and Maintain information Campaign
    - Create Social Media Outreach
    - Write Press Releases
    - Sit for interviews by local publication writers
      - Eyes on Napa
      - Napa Valley Features

### October 2026 to-June 2027

- Launch Student Environmental Program
- Launch Water and Land Restoration
- Launch Firewise and CalFire Plan



## Summary - Staff

- Founder
- Board of Directors
- Educators
- Facilitators
- Experts in each phase of the program
  - Advisory Counsel
  - RCD
  - CDFW
  - Firewise
  - Forestry Expert
  - Hydrologist
  - Irrigation Specialist
- Volunteers

## Details Grant Request #1: \$12,300.00

### Execution of Pilot Youth Experiential Environmental Education; Grades 3-5

#### First, Important Note:

#### Developmental Awareness

Children ages 8–10 process complex environmental information differently than older students, which directly shapes how the curriculum is designed:

- **Concrete over abstract:** They understand nature through direct experience — bugs, hikes, parks, weather — rather than abstract ecological concepts like "biodiversity" or "carbon cycles."
- **Oscillation between smallness and agency:** They can feel awed and insignificant next to something vast (the ocean, the sky, dinosaurs) while also feeling proud and capable after a hands-on action like planting a garden or recycling.
- **Not yet systemic:** They can grasp simple chains (bees → flowers → food) but not complex feedback loops or long-term consequences; concepts like climate change are often understood only vaguely, if at all.

Accordingly, the grade 3–5 curriculum is built as a progression of foundational steps that lead into the more advanced grade 5–8 program.

## Specific Objectives:

By Year End 3rd - through-5th Grade Students will Exhibit:

### Learning Outcomes

- **Self-expressed connection to nature**
  - *Indicator:* Ability to express observations and connection to nature through art, writing, and storytelling; increased awareness and ability to identify wildlife, trees, and plants; reduced initial discomfort when encountering unfamiliar natural settings
  - *Method:* Student artwork, writing samples, and verbal reflections collected at intervals; facilitator observation notes on comfort level in the field
- **Ecosystem understanding**
  - *Indicator:* Understanding of simple local ecosystems, demonstrated through an individual project; ability to explain basic ecological principles in a peer-to-peer activity
  - *Method:* Individual project review and educator evaluation; peer-teaching session observed and scored by facilitators
- **Data collection skills**
  - *Indicator:* Application of sample collection and measurement-taking skills; ability to compare before-and-after mitigation results; increasing ability to draw "if this, then that" conclusions; proficient use of handheld microscope and magnifying glass
  - *Method:* Field journal notes; facilitator checklist tracking skill demonstration across sessions
- **Applied restoration skills**
  - *Indicator:* Participation in age-appropriate restoration activities, including invasive plant removal, native plant and wildlife identification, native seed and slip collection, propagation of native plants, and watershed and pond data collection
  - *Method:* Facilitator sign-off per activity; participation log tracking hands-on tasks completed across the year
- **Ecological literacy**
  - *Indicator:* Ability to recognize a basic healthy versus unhealthy watershed (e.g., identifying murky vs. clear water, describing changes after aeration); ability to recommend simple restorative solutions and explain why restoration matters
  - *Method:* Facilitator-led verbal assessment during field sessions; short written or verbal explanation captured in student journal
- **Leadership and stewardship**
  - *Indicator:* Demonstrated growth in leadership and stewardship behavior over the course of the program
  - *Method:* Before-and-after facilitator and teacher observation notes

### Projected First Year Budget for Youth Experiential Environmental Education:

| <i>Observation-Collection-Reflection-Expression</i>             | # Needed | Price | Total        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------|--------------|
| Art Materials                                                   | 50       | 20.00 | 1000.00      |
| Notebooks                                                       | 50       | 10.00 | 500.00       |
| Pens                                                            | 50       | 1.00  | 50.00        |
| Protective gloves                                               | 50       | 10.00 | 500.00       |
| Youth Sized Hand Shovel                                         | 50       | 30.00 | 1500.00      |
| Specimen sample containers                                      | 50       | 10.00 | 500.00       |
| Small nets                                                      | 50       | 6.00  | 300.00       |
| Magnifying glasses                                              | 50       | 7.00  | 350.00       |
| Hand-Held Mini Microscopes                                      | 50       | 53.00 | 2650.00      |
| Single Use Cameras                                              | 50       | 30.00 | 1500.00      |
| Backpack Tote bags                                              | 50       | 69.00 | 3450.00      |
| Total Pilot Youth Program Expenses.<br>Dollar Amount Requested. |          |       | \$ 12,300.00 |

### 3. Anticipated results, with timeline:

Upon completion of Unit I, October 2026 through December 2026, students will have developed:

Upon completion of Unit I, students will have developed:

- **Nature observation skills**, using their senses to engage directly with the environment
- **Data collection knowledge**, including use of a staff gauge to measure water depth, hand-held nets and water sample collection bottles, leaf collection, and photo/camera documentation
- **A concrete sense of place in nature**, expressed through direct experience rather than abstract explanation
- **Journaling skills**, used to record observations in the field
- **A basic understanding of habitat, biodiversity, and ecosystem**, and the distinctions between them, introduced through visual diagrams

#### **4. Detailed descriptions of methods designed to achieve objectives:**

##### **Unit I: Meet Your Place**

**Theme:** "Where am I?"

##### **Activities**

- Sit-spot observation practice
- Get your hands wet. Learn watershed basics
- Ready for a hike. Identify native plants, animals, scat, and footprints
- Collect samples of non-native and native plants
- Photo journaling
- Create a nature journal

##### **Experiential Projects: Students will:**

- Experience biodiversity with all of their senses
  - Close your eyes, what do you hear?
  - What do you smell?
  - Open your eyes. What do you see?
  - Touch what's around you and feel the earth's textures
- Begin nature collection during hikes
- Collect initial creek and pond measurements and forest data
- Create map of the site showing:
  - Creek
  - Pond
  - Forest
  - Wildlife corridors
  - Restoration areas

##### **Art Connection**

- Leaf prints
- Nature Collage
- Mapping
- Landscape sketches

##### **Upon completion of Unit II, January 2027 through June 2027**

##### **students will have developed:**

- A basic understanding of watersheds, water cycles, and aquatic ecosystems, and why each matters to overall environmental health
- The skills to begin more complex restoration of aquatic and watershed ecosystems

## Unit II: Water is Life

**Theme:** "Follow the Water"

### Activities

- Water quality testing
  - Ponds
  - creek
- Macroinvertebrate exploration
- Watershed model demonstrations
- Measure creek depth and flow
- Initial identification of non-native plants in watershed
- Initial restoration of watershed

### Experiential Project

- Students become creek and pond scientists
- Students learn how to collect data using:
  - staff gage
  - water flow monitor
  - self collected water samples
- Students compare findings
  - microscopic look at water samples
  - collected data from 3 different places in creek and 3 ponds
  - compare data with prior season
  - document your findings
- Students learn ways to mitigate unhealthy ponds and creeks
  - initiate restoration of creek and ponds based on collected data
  - initiate restoration of watershed based on data

### Art & Storytelling

- Watercolor paintings
- Write a story from the perspective of a fish, frog, or pollinator
- Game, "What am I?"

### 5. Fish & Wildlife Code; 13103/Chapter 2 a:

Nature Study, Wildlife Conservation, and Educational Aids.

"(a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation..."

## 6. How will we determine success after year one of the youth program?

- **Student engagement**
  - *Indicator:* Consistent willingness to participate in activities; positive interaction with peers and facilitators; active verbal and physical involvement in sessions
  - *Method:* Daily facilitator debriefs; session-by-session observation logs using a standardized engagement rubric (e.g., 1–5 scale across participation, cooperation, and initiative)
- **Knowledge gained**
  - *Indicator:* Measurable increase in ecological and conservation knowledge from start to end of program
  - *Method:* Pre- and post-program survey (10–15 questions covering core concepts taught during the year); scored and compared for percentage improvement per student
- **Project completion**
  - *Indicator:* Successful completion of individual restoration or research projects by year's end
  - *Method:* Educator sign-off checklist; brief student presentation or written project summary; completion rate tracked as a percentage of enrolled students
- **Connection to nature**
  - *Indicator:* Increased self-reported comfort and confidence in natural settings
  - *Method:* Simple 1–5 self-assessment survey administered at program start and end; compared for average score increase
- **Stewardship mindset**
  - *Indicator:* Demonstrated enthusiasm for nature paired with a stated desire to protect it
  - *Method:* Short student reflection collected three times during the year (fall, winter, spring); qualitative coding for stewardship-oriented language, tracked over time



## **Details Grant Request # 2 - \$20,000**

### **1. Clear Statement of the Problem as stated on page 2**

California faces increasing climate pressures, including prolonged drought, extreme weather variability, wildfires, and declining biodiversity. There is an urgent need for place-based, scalable models of land restoration and climate action that improve water retention, create wildfire resilience, rebuild habitat, and teach regenerative land stewardship practices to both adults and youth.

Rewilding the Land responds directly to these needs by restoring ecological function at the site level, creating a replicable model for similar landscapes across the region, educating youth, and fostering long-term stewardship of wildlands.

### **2. Specific Objectives -**

- Replace vineyard with its original native Oak trees
- Rewild 96-acres of land, 2 ponds and a creek
  - Remove fencing that impairs wildlife movement
  - Regenerate Biodiversity
  - Restoring ecological function
  - Replace non-native with native plants & trees

### **Description of Methods:**

#### **Creek/Pond/Land Restoration:**

#### **Year One Phase I: October 2026 through January 2027**

- Schedule four volunteer workdays
- Limit initial volunteer participation to ten per project, plus staff
- Include at least one subject-matter expert to inform each planned activity
- Include a project manager to help organize and implement the plan
- Confirm acquisition of all needed supplies
- Develop a volunteer outreach plan
- Build a 16 ft x 12 ft shade house for propagating native plants from on-site seeds and plant slips
- Remove five identified dead trees (experienced adults only)
- Remove one mile of old barbed-wire cattle fencing
- Flag native plant species on-site
- Flag invasive, non-native plants along 200 feet of watershed
- Fuel reduction of brush
- Apply gully stuffing techniques in two selected sections of the creek – a process-based method using natural materials to reduce erosion and support water infiltration (OAEC,

"Gully Stuffing") — to slow water flow, reduce bank loss, and raise and expand water levels while improving absorption, thereby reducing water loss and improving habitat quality

- Burn vine piles through Firewise/CalFire

#### Year One Phase II: February 2027 through June 2027

- Schedule six volunteer workdays
- Staff and advisors will assess the watershed for damage following winter weather
- Staff and advisors will determine the next invasive plant removal section along the creek
- Volunteers will prepare the shade house for propagation of native seeds and plant slips collected on-site
- Remove invasive, non-native plants from 200 feet of creek watershed
- Begin restoring cleared sections with native plants
- Retrofit irrigation system, supervised by an RWL volunteer team member
- Plant 250 native oak trees
- Install an aerator in Pond One (to be named by students)
- Staff and a hydrologist will collect data on the creek and three ponds in preparation for Year Two mitigation

| <b>Supplies forCreek - Land Restoration Activities</b> |                 |              |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>Assess-Reflect-Learn-Plan-Act</b>                   | <b># Needed</b> | <b>Price</b> | <b>Total</b>    |
| Staff Gage                                             | 4               | 80.00        | 320.00          |
| Lopper Shears                                          | 10              | 28.00        | 280.00          |
| Machete                                                | 10              | 30.00        | 300.00          |
| Shovels                                                | 10              | 28.00        | 280.00          |
| Leaf Rakes                                             | 5               | 25.00        | 125.00          |
| Bow Rakes                                              | 5               | 32.00        | 160.00          |
| Pruning Shears                                         | 15              | 29.00        | 435.00          |
| Battery Chainsaw - Large Size                          | 3               | 500.00       | 1,500.00        |
| Battery Chainsaw - Small Size                          | 3               | 300.00       | 900.00          |
| Chain Saw Bar Oil                                      | 12              | 10.00        | 120.00          |
| Gloves                                                 | 48              | 25.00        | 1,200.00        |
| Safety Glasses                                         | 50              | 8.00         | 400.00          |
| Storage Bins                                           | 8               | 30           | 240.00          |
| Storage Shelves                                        | 2               | 370.00       | 740.00          |
| Mixed Oak Trees                                        | 500             | 16.00        | 8,000.00        |
| Native Plants                                          | 500             | 10.00        | 5,000.00        |
| Wheel Barrows                                          | 2               | 130          | 260             |
| Shade House Materials: Metal Frame & Shade Cloth       | 1               | 1480         | 1480            |
| <b>Total Restoration Expenses</b>                      |                 |              |                 |
| <b>Specific Dollar Amount Requested.</b>               |                 |              | <b>\$21,740</b> |

### 3. Anticipated Results and Timeline

- Weather and CalFire scheduling permitting, vine piles and non-native grasses will be removed through a planned controlled burn training session in fall 2026
- One mile of cattle fencing will be removed by hand during the second workday, fall 2026, with metal recycled afterward
- Game cameras will be installed in fall 2026 to assess the impact of fence removal on wildlife movement
- The shade house will be completed
- An irrigation design engineer will complete a revised irrigation design by late winter 2027
- The revised irrigation system will be installed by spring 2027
- 250 mixed oak trees will be planted by early summer 2027, marking the beginning of restoration on the former working land
- Wildfire risk will be reduced on the former vineyard land

### 4. Detailed Description of Methods

#### **Remove one mile of barbed-wire cattle fencing**

#### **Remove grape vine piles and non-native grasses from the former vineyard**

- Conducted via controlled burn
- Completed through Firewise/CalFire training

#### **Redesign the existing irrigation system to support native oak planting**

- Create an engineered design
- Purchase needed supplies

#### **Install the retrofitted irrigation system, supervised by an expert/team member**

- Provide supplies
- Provide directions
- Oversee installation

#### **Source native oak species (plants, trees, and acorns)**

- Cal Flora Nursery will supply stock ([calfloranursery.com](http://calfloranursery.com))
- Students will collect acorns on-site
- Students will propagate seedlings

### **Hand-plant 250 of the total 500 native oak trees in the former vineyard area**

- Include families, children, and students in planting
- Create a map so "Tree Stewards" can name and track their trees

### **Remove five dead pine trees, led by an experienced forester**

- Chainsaws will be used
- Some trees will remain on-site as "nursery trees" for insects and amphibians
- Remaining trees will be removed to reduce fire risk

### **Thin fuel load on one acre of forest, led by Firewise or workday volunteers**

- Completed using hand tools
- Resulting natural materials will be used for gully stuffing

## **5. Clear Statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission**

**Improving of Habitat; Land - Fish & Wildlife Code; 13103/Chapter 2 e:**

## **6. Our success will be determined by:**

### **Completion of Phase I - II Restored Creek and Land Habitat**

- **Creek corridor and terrace restoration**
  - *Indicator:* Three acres of creek corridor and terraces restored to native vegetation cover
  - *Method:* GPS-mapped restoration boundaries; annual drone survey comparison
- **Non-native plant removal**
  - *Indicator:* 90% removal of target invasive species (e.g., yellow star-thistle, blackberry, vinca) in monitored plots
  - *Method:* Fixed quadrat surveys pre/post treatment; photo-point monitoring
- **Gully stuffer installation**
  - *Indicator:* Two gully stuffers installed and functioning
  - *Method:* Before-and-after photos; visual assessment; before-and-after streamflow measurements
- **On-site native plant propagation**
  - *Indicator:* Completion of shade house for plant propagation; number of native plants propagated on-site and planted per year
  - *Method:* Shade house nursery construction; planting boxes; propagation logs; planting records

- **Wildlife connectivity**
  - *Indicator:* Linear feet of fencing removed; number of new wildlife corridors/crossings established
  - *Method:* Site survey; camera trap movement data across connectivity points
- **Vineyard-to-oak-woodland conversion**
  - *Indicator:* Half of former vineyard land rewilded with native oaks
  - *Method:* Number of oak saplings planted; GPS-mapped planting zones; annual survival rate assessment
- **Community interest and participation**
  - *Indicator:* Number of volunteers, volunteer hours, and workshop/event attendees; newsletter/social media followers
  - *Method:* Sign-in sheets; event registration; engagement analytics
- **Wildlife abundance**
  - *Indicator:* Species richness and abundance detected on-site
  - *Method:* Camera trap surveys; eBird/iNaturalist community science data; seasonal wildlife counts

### Expenditure Details

1. Expenditure details are provided within the application.
2. There are currently no other funding sources.
3. Rewilding the Land is a newly formed organization.
4. A letter of recommendation from a school board member is attached.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to offer my support for Rewilding the Land and its efforts to secure funding for its youth experiential environmental education program.

As a longtime member of the Howell Mountain Elementary School Board, I believe strongly in providing students with meaningful, hands-on learning opportunities that complement the education they receive in the classroom. Rewilding the Land's proposed program presents an exciting opportunity for students in our community to experience science firsthand by exploring local ecosystems, learning about watersheds and native habitats, collecting and analyzing environmental data, and gaining a greater understanding of the natural environment that surrounds them.

Our community is uniquely positioned to benefit from this type of program. Students would have the opportunity not only to learn about environmental science but to observe and participate in real world conservation and restoration efforts. Experiences such as water quality testing, studying creek and pond ecosystems, identifying native plants and wildlife, and tracking environmental changes over time can help bring science to life in a way that is difficult to replicate within the walls of a classroom.

I am particularly encouraged by the potential for students to return to the same environment over time, collect data, observe seasonal changes, and see the impact of restoration efforts firsthand. This type of ongoing, project-based learning can strengthen students' understanding of science while also encouraging curiosity, critical thinking, responsibility, and stewardship of their local community.

The Rewilding the Land's vision has the potential to provide a valuable educational resource for students in Howell Mountain and the surrounding community. I support their efforts to obtain grant funding to develop this program and look forward to exploring opportunities for our students to participate in these hands-on educational experiences.

Sincerely,

Ryan Hackett

Board Member  
Howell Mountain Elementary School District



# Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Environmental Education at the St. Helena Community Forest

*Native Habitat Restoration, Bird Conservation,  
Pollinator Habitat, and Community Stewardship*

**Grant Proposal Submitted to**  
Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

|                                    |                                                                       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Applicant</b>                   | Sustainable St. Helena an Environmental Alliance                      |
| <b>Mailing Address</b>             | P.O. Box 402, St. Helena, CA 94574                                    |
| <b>Project Location</b>            | St. Helena Community Forest, 1 Chaix Lane, St. Helena, CA 94574       |
| <b>Federal Tax ID</b>              | 86-3594916                                                            |
| <b>California Organization No.</b> | 4683332                                                               |
| <b>501(c)(3) Status</b>            | Tax-exempt public charity; incorporated in 2021                       |
| <b>Primary Contact</b>             | Paul Asmuth, Treasurer   707-738-0896  <br>pasmuth.usaows@comcast.net |
| <b>Amount Requested</b>            | \$9,030                                                               |

Website: [www.sustainablestheleena.org](http://www.sustainablestheleena.org)



July 22, 2026

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

Re: Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Application - St. Helena Community Forest

Dear Commissioners,

Sustainable St. Helena an Environmental Alliance, respectfully requests \$9,030 to expand wildlife habitat and environmental education at the St. Helena Community Forest. The proposed project combines native habitat restoration, bird and bat habitat improvements, pollinator enhancement, student field learning, citizen science, and community stewardship.

The Community Forest is an established conservation project with a strong record of measurable success. Since its creation in 2011, more than 2,500 trees have been established. In June 2025, approximately 40 volunteers planted more than 160 native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowering plants representing 19 California native species. Existing nesting structures have also performed exceptionally well: during the most recent breeding season, 12 of 13 installed structures were occupied, including bluebird boxes used by Western Bluebirds and Tree Swallows, an American Kestrel box, and a Barn Owl box that fledged three owlets.

The requested funds will support approximately \$3,000 in native plants, \$1,000 in drip-irrigation materials, \$4,530 in bird boxes, bat houses, raptor perches, poles, and hardware, and \$500 in environmental education supplies. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service recommends fall planting for the native species proposed, and the project timeline has been structured accordingly.

The project directly advances California Fish and Game Code Section 13103(e), improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, and Section 13103(a), public education relating to fish and wildlife conservation. It will also leverage substantial in-kind support from the City of St. Helena, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Napa County Resource Conservation District, Silverado Farming, Napa-Solano Audubon Society, local schools, and community volunteers.

Thank you for considering this request and for the Commission's continued commitment to protecting Napa County's wildlife resources.

Sincerely,

  
Paul Asmuth  
Treasurer

Sustainable St. Helena an Environmental Alliance



Project at a Glance

**Project purpose.** Expand native wildlife habitat and environmental education through fall planting of diverse native vegetation, installation of bird and bat habitat structures, pollinator enhancement, student learning, citizen science, and volunteer stewardship.

| Project Indicator                    | Current or Proposed Scale                                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community Forest                     | 16-acre City-owned site                                      |
| Trees established                    | 2,500+                                                       |
| Bird species documented              | 35+                                                          |
| Native plants installed in June 2025 | 160+ plants representing 19 native species                   |
| Volunteer participation              | Approximately 40 volunteers at the 2025 planting             |
| Student participation                | Approximately 100 students annually through 3-5 field visits |
| Existing nesting structures          | 10 bluebird boxes, 2 American Kestrel boxes, 1 Barn Owl box  |
| Recent nesting success               | 12 of 13 structures occupied; 3 Barn Owl owlets fledged      |
| Grant request                        | \$9,030                                                      |

Fish and Game Code Alignment

California Fish and Game Code Section 13103(e): improvement of fish and wildlife habitat through native vegetation, irrigation for habitat establishment, bird nesting boxes, bat houses, and raptor perches.

California Fish and Game Code Section 13103(a): supervised public education relating to wildlife conservation through student field investigations, bird monitoring, owl pellet studies, nature journaling, pollinator education, forest ecology, and citizen science.







## Executive Summary

The St. Helena Community Forest is a living demonstration of ecological restoration in a vineyard-dominated landscape. Located adjacent to the Napa River, the 16-acre City-owned property has been transformed through long-term planting, habitat improvement, volunteer stewardship, and environmental education into a growing refuge for birds, pollinators, bats, and other wildlife.

Native plant diversity is especially important in an extensive vineyard environment. Vineyards are central to Napa County's economy and cultural identity, but they are managed for agricultural production rather than native biodiversity. The Community Forest complements the surrounding landscape by restoring a diverse mosaic of native oaks, shrubs, grasses, and flowering plants that provide food, nesting sites, shelter, and seasonal resources for wildlife. As the forest matures, it will function increasingly as an ecological stepping stone along the Napa River corridor.

Plant diversity supports wildlife diversity. Native plants sustain native insects, including specialist bees, butterflies, moths, and other pollinators. Those insects are essential food for Western Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, American Kestrels, and many other birds documented at the site. Increasing botanical diversity therefore strengthens the entire food web, from soil organisms and pollinators to songbirds, raptors, bats, and mammals.

Sustainable St. Helena requests \$9,030 to install additional native vegetation, expand drip irrigation, add bird boxes, bat houses, and raptor perches, and provide educational supplies. The project will be implemented with technical guidance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, which recommends fall planting for optimal establishment of the proposed native species.

The Community Forest already serves as an outdoor classroom. In partnership with the Napa County Resource Conservation District and local schools, students have participated in native planting, forest ecology, owl pellet collection and dissection, bird observation, nature journaling, pollinator education, carbon-cycle instruction, and habitat restoration. The grant will expand these activities and support approximately 100 students through three to five field experiences during the project period.

## 1. Organizational Description

Sustainable St. Helena an Environmental Alliance is a California nonprofit corporation incorporated in 2021 and recognized as a tax-exempt organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Its Federal Tax Identification Number is 86-3594916, and its California Organization Number is 4683332.

The organization's mission is: Working to conserve, preserve, and protect our natural resources and habitats. Reversing environmental degradation through actionable climate solutions and education. Collaborating with government, industry, organizations, and individuals to protect the health and future of our community and the natural environment.

Sustainable St. Helena works collaboratively with local government, conservation organizations, educational institutions, agricultural partners, and volunteers. Its programs emphasize habitat restoration, climate resilience, environmental education, community stewardship, and long-term management of natural resources.

### Board of Directors

Madeline Chandler - President  
Leslie Stanton - Vice President  
Paul Asmuth - Treasurer  
Elaine DeMan - Board Member  
Carolyn Sanders - Board Member

## Applicant and Contact Information

|                        |                                                                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Organization</b>    | Sustainable St. Helena an Environmental Alliance                               |
| <b>Mailing Address</b> | P.O. Box 402, St. Helena, CA 94574                                             |
| <b>Project Address</b> | 1 Chaix Lane, St. Helena, CA 94574                                             |
| <b>Website</b>         | <a href="http://www.sustainablestheleena.org">www.sustainablestheleena.org</a> |
| <b>Contact</b>         | Paul Asmuth, Treasurer                                                         |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 707-738-0896                                                                   |
| <b>Email</b>           | <a href="mailto:pasmuth.usaows@comcast.net">pasmuth.usaows@comcast.net</a>     |

Sustainable St. Helena has not previously received Napa County Fish and Game Fine Money funding for this project.

## 2. Statement of Need

Napa County supports a rich diversity of resident and migratory wildlife. Urban development, intensive agriculture, drought, habitat fragmentation, and climate change increase the importance of small but connected habitat areas that provide food, cover, breeding sites, and movement corridors.

The St. Helena Community Forest occupies a strategic location near the Napa River within an extensive vineyard environment. The site provides a refuge of native plant diversity and habitat structure in a landscape where large areas are necessarily managed for agricultural production. Diverse native habitat at the Community Forest complements neighboring vineyards by supporting wildlife while respecting agricultural priorities.

The native plant palette has been developed with technical guidance from Chip Bouril, District Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Species were selected to maximize bird, pollinator, and habitat benefits while avoiding plants identified as potential hosts associated with Pierce's Disease because of the site's proximity to Napa Valley vineyards.

The Community Forest already supports more than 35 documented bird species, including waterbirds, raptors, woodpeckers, owls, songbirds, and seasonal migrants. Existing bluebird, kestrel, and Barn Owl boxes have demonstrated that suitable structures are quickly used when secure nesting habitat is provided.

Continued investment is needed to expand the diversity and density of native vegetation, increase nesting and roosting opportunities, strengthen pollinator resources, maintain plant establishment through efficient irrigation, and involve students and volunteers in long-term stewardship.

## 3. Project Description

### Native Habitat Restoration

The project will install approximately 160 additional native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowering plants. Species will be similar to those successfully planted in June 2025, including locally appropriate oaks, Toyon, Coffeeferry, Ceanothus, California Buckwheat, Hummingbird Sage, Snowberry, Pacific Ninebark, Deer Grass, Yarrow, and other native plants selected for wildlife and pollinator value.

Following NRCS guidance, planting will occur in fall rather than winter to take advantage of cooler temperatures and seasonal rainfall, thereby improving establishment and reducing irrigation demand. All new plantings will be connected to drip irrigation.

### Bird, Bat, and Raptor Habitat

Grant funds will purchase and install additional Western Bluebird boxes, songbird nesting boxes, American Kestrel boxes, Barn Owl boxes, bat houses, raptor perches, poles, and hardware. Structure placement will reflect species-specific habitat needs, existing vegetation, access for monitoring, and avoidance of unnecessary disturbance.



## Environmental Education and Citizen Science

The Community Forest will continue serving as an outdoor classroom. Students will participate in bird identification, nest-box monitoring, habitat assessment, nature journaling, owl pellet investigations, pollinator studies, forest ecology, carbon-cycle lessons, and restoration activities. The project anticipates serving approximately 100 students through three to five field experiences.

## Community Stewardship

Approximately 40 volunteers are expected to participate in planting and stewardship. Silverado Farming will pre-dig planting holes where appropriate to improve safety and efficiency. Volunteers will sign the City of St. Helena liability waiver and, when applicable, the Napa County RCD waiver. Sustainable St. Helena carries Directors and Officers insurance and will obtain general liability insurance for grant-funded volunteer events if required.

## 4. Objectives and Anticipated Results

- Install approximately 160 native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowering plants selected for wildlife and pollinator value.
- Extend drip irrigation to support establishment and long-term survival.
- Install additional bird nesting boxes, bat houses, and raptor perches.
- Increase food, shelter, nesting, roosting, and hunting opportunities for wildlife.
- Engage approximately 100 students through three to five field experiences.
- Engage approximately 40 volunteers in restoration and stewardship.
- Document plant survival, structure installation, nest occupancy, fledging success when observable, wildlife use, student participation, and volunteer participation.

## 5. Project Methods

- Finalize the native plant list in consultation with NRCS and purchase locally appropriate plant material.
- Prepare planting sites and irrigation extensions in early fall.
- Conduct a supervised fall volunteer planting event consistent with NRCS recommendations.
- Install bird boxes, bat houses, and raptor perches in suitable locations during late fall.
- Coordinate school visits with the Napa County RCD and participating educators.
- Monitor plant establishment and wildlife use throughout the project period.
- Maintain records for the Commission's final report, including expenses, participation, photographs, installation counts, and observed outcomes.

## 6. Project Partners

| Partner                                     | Role                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| City of St. Helena                          | Owns the Community Forest property and supports access, stewardship, irrigation infrastructure, and recycled water.                                        |
| USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service | Provides technical guidance on native species selection, pollinator value, agricultural compatibility, Pierce's Disease considerations, and fall planting. |
| Napa County Resource Conservation District  | Supports student field education, environmental curriculum, volunteer coordination, and habitat stewardship.                                               |
| Silverado Farming                           | Provides practical site support, including pre-digging planting holes to improve volunteer safety and efficiency.                                          |
| Napa-Solano Audubon Society                 | Provides bird-conservation expertise and supports wildlife observation and monitoring.                                                                     |
| Local Schools                               | Participate in supervised field experiences in ecology, habitat restoration, birds, pollinators, and citizen science.                                      |

## 7. Evaluation

| Area                  | Performance Measures                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Habitat restoration   | Number of native plants installed; survival during establishment; irrigation completed; expansion of native habitat.            |
| Wildlife habitat      | Number and type of structures installed; nest-box occupancy; fledging success where observable; bird and wildlife observations. |
| Education             | Number of students; number of field visits; activities completed; participation in citizen science and habitat monitoring.      |
| Community stewardship | Number of volunteers; volunteer hours where recorded; completion of planting and maintenance activities.                        |

Results will be summarized in the final report submitted to the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

## 8. Project Timeline

| Time Period      | Activity                                                                                                                      |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Early Fall 2026  | Finalize species list; purchase native plants, irrigation materials, habitat structures, and educational supplies.            |
| Fall 2026        | Prepare sites, extend drip irrigation, and conduct a volunteer native planting event in accordance with NRCS recommendations. |
| Late Fall 2026   | Install bird boxes, bat houses, raptor perches, poles, and hardware.                                                          |
| Winter 2026-2027 | Monitor establishment, inspect irrigation, and maintain new plantings.                                                        |
| Spring 2027      | Conduct student field programs, bird observations, nest monitoring, pollinator education, and citizen science.                |
| Summer 2027      | Evaluate outcomes, document nesting and plant                                                                                 |



|                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| establishment, compile expenditures, and submit final report. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|

## 9. Budget and Expenditure Detail

| Budget Item                                                 | Purpose                                                                                                      | Amount         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowering plants         | Approximately 160 native plants selected for wildlife, pollinator, and ecological value.                     | \$3,000        |
| Drip irrigation materials                                   | Tubing, fittings, emitters, connectors, and related materials for establishment.                             | \$1,000        |
| Bird boxes, bat houses, raptor perches, poles, and hardware | Habitat structures and installation materials based on the Clark's Sustainable Systems quote.                | \$4,530        |
| Educational supplies                                        | Field notebooks, clipboards, identification materials, binocular-related supplies, and monitoring materials. | \$500          |
| <b>TOTAL REQUEST</b>                                        |                                                                                                              | <b>\$9,030</b> |

## 10. Other Funding Sources and Matching Contributions

- No cash match is requested. The project is substantially leveraged by in-kind contributions and existing infrastructure.
- City of St. Helena: land ownership, recycled irrigation water, access, and existing irrigation infrastructure.
- Sustainable St. Helena: project management, coordination, administration, volunteer leadership, monitoring, and long-term stewardship.
- USDA NRCS: technical guidance regarding plant selection, pollinator habitat, agricultural compatibility, and planting timing.
- Napa County RCD: educational collaboration, field instruction, volunteer coordination, and waiver procedures when applicable.
- Silverado Farming: site preparation and pre-digging assistance.
- Napa-Solano Audubon Society and community volunteers: bird expertise, observation, stewardship, and labor.

## 11. Public Access and Community Benefit

The St. Helena Community Forest is a City-owned community conservation site used for organized volunteer activities, educational field experiences, wildlife observation, and community stewardship. Grant-funded habitat improvements will benefit the public through supervised educational visits, volunteer restoration events, interpretation of wildlife habitat, and continued opportunities to observe and learn about native plants and wildlife. Access and activities will remain subject to City requirements, site conditions, and appropriate supervision.

## 12. California Fish and Game Code Section 13103 Compliance

### Section 13103(e) - Improvement of Fish and Wildlife Habitat

The project will improve wildlife habitat by increasing native plant diversity and structural complexity; expanding food resources for insects, pollinators, birds, and mammals; providing nesting and roosting structures; creating raptor hunting perches; and supporting plant establishment through efficient drip irrigation.

### Section 13103(a) - Public Education Relating to Fish and Wildlife Conservation

The project will provide supervised public and student education through wildlife observation, bird identification, nest monitoring, owl pellet investigation, nature journaling, pollinator ecology, forest ecology, carbon-cycle instruction, restoration, and citizen science.

## 13. Why This Project Matters

Healthy wildlife populations depend on healthy, diverse habitats, and healthy habitats depend on communities willing to restore and care for them. The St. Helena Community Forest demonstrates what can be accomplished when science, education, agriculture, local government, and volunteer stewardship work together.

Within a vineyard-dominated landscape, the Community Forest restores ecological complexity. Every native tree, shrub, grass, and flowering plant contributes food, cover, nesting habitat, and resilience. Every nesting structure adds a breeding opportunity. Every student field experience builds ecological understanding. Every volunteer event strengthens community ownership of conservation.

## 14. Conclusion

For a modest investment of \$9,030, the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission can build upon an established project with documented habitat, wildlife, educational, and community outcomes. The proposed work directly advances the Commission's statutory purposes, leverages substantial in-kind support, follows NRCS technical recommendations, and will provide benefits that increase as the Community Forest matures.

Sustainable St. Helena respectfully requests favorable consideration of this proposal.

## Certification and Signature

I certify that the information presented in this proposal is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that grant funds, if awarded, will be used for the purposes described.



Paul Asmuth, Treasurer

Sustainable St. Helena an Environmental Alliance

Date: 7/22/24

## Clark's Sustainable Systems

P.O. Box 15  
St. Helena, CA 94574

## Quote

| Date     | Quote # |
|----------|---------|
| 7/8/2026 | 248     |

| Name / Address                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Paul Asmuth<br>141 Knoll Circle<br>St. Helena, CA 94574 |

| Rep | Project |
|-----|---------|
| THC |         |

| Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Qty | Total                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| Chateaux Style Blue Bird Box                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 12  | 780.00                  |
| 5' EMT pole for perimeter mounting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 12  | 120.00                  |
| Any field work provided. Labor involved in digging holes and setting poles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 12  | 300.00                  |
| Barn Owl Box                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2   | 800.00                  |
| 12' Steel pole w/ welded plate set in concrete                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 2   | 300.00                  |
| American Kestrel Box                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2   | 300.00                  |
| American kestrel pole - 18' 1 1/2" pole w/ 2" galv. receiving pole & concrete.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 2   | 370.00                  |
| Four Chamber Bat House                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2   | 300.00                  |
| Bat house pole 18 feet w/ ground mount, set in concrete                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 2   | 370.00                  |
| Song Bird Box w/ slanted roof / tree mount                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8   | 520.00                  |
| Raptor Perch/ 1 1/2" black pipe w/2" galv. receiving pipe & concrete.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2   | 370.00                  |
| Paul: I envision placing boxes on West side of property this time to somewhat mirror what we have up already.<br>The wood duck boxes would be placed along river attached to two different tree locations.<br>The song bird boxes would be placed in the older forest on the trees about 10 feet off the ground. These provide nesting habitat for nuthatches, titmouse, chickadees, wrens, etc.<br>The raptor perches would be placed out in the open areas to maximize daytime raptor activity for hunting ground squirrels and other rodents.<br>Merchandise |     | 0.00                    |
| I stand behind all my work and guarantee the workmanship.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |     | <b>Total</b> \$4,530.00 |



July 31, 2026

**Pam Arifian**

Planner III – Conservation

Napa County Planning, Building & Environmental Services

1195 Third Street, Suite 210

Napa, CA 94559

**Re: Letter of Support for Sustainable St. Helena Environmental Alliance Wildlife  
Conservation Commission Grant Proposal**

Dear Ms. Arifian:

On behalf of St. Helena Montessori School, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Sustainable St. Helena Environmental Alliance's proposal, **"Enhancing Wildlife Habitat and Environmental Education at the St. Helena Community Forest."**

As Director of the Adolescent Program, I believe this project represents an exceptional educational opportunity that closely aligns with our Montessori philosophy and our curriculum emphasizing environmental stewardship, ecological literacy, and experiential learning. Our students regularly engage in the study of native flora and fauna, ecosystem relationships, biodiversity, and the responsibility we all share in caring for the natural world. The St. Helena Community Forest provides an outstanding living classroom where these concepts can be experienced firsthand.

The proposed project's educational components—including native habitat restoration, wildlife monitoring, bird and pollinator observations, nature journaling, citizen science, and hands-on conservation work will offer meaningful learning experiences that extend well beyond the traditional classroom. Students participating in these activities will gain practical knowledge of California's native ecosystems while developing scientific observation skills, environmental awareness, and a lifelong ethic of stewardship.

We are especially supportive of the proposal's commitment to engaging students directly in planting native species, monitoring habitat improvements, documenting

school + farm



wildlife use, and learning how healthy ecosystems support both biodiversity and resilient communities. These experiences exemplify Montessori education, where authentic work in nature fosters independence, curiosity, collaboration, and respect for the interconnectedness of all living things.

The educational objectives described in the grant proposal strongly support California Fish and Game Code Section 13103(a) by providing supervised public education related to wildlife conservation and habitat restoration. They also complement the habitat enhancement goals identified under Section 13103(e), creating a model in which conservation and education reinforce one another.

We appreciate Sustainable St. Helena Environmental Alliance's leadership in creating opportunities for students to become active participants in restoring and caring for our local environment. We look forward to continuing opportunities for collaboration that connect classroom learning with meaningful community conservation efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal. St. Helena Montessori School is proud to support this grant application and the educational benefits it will provide to our students and the broader Napa Valley community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexander Heil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a stylized "H".

**Alexander Heil**

Adolescent Program Director  
St. Helena Montessori School

July 13, 2026

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
County Administration Building  
1195 Third Street  
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Commissioners:

Napa-Solano Audubon Society (NSAS) hereby applies for the Wildlife Conservation Commission grant funding cycle for 2026-2027. We have a strong track record of providing outdoor education to Napa County residents of all ages.

**Description of Organization**

1. Type of organization or business: non-profit 501(c)(3) organization
2. Purpose for which organization was formed: The NSAS mission is: "...to share the joy of birding, engaging citizens in experiencing the wonder of birds, to use science-based data to increase our understanding of native birds and their habitats, to promote education to transfer our inspiration and deeper understanding into meaningful conservation action to protect birds and their habitats for future generations in Napa and Solano Counties."
3. Tax exempt status: 501(c)(3) non-profit  
California tax ID: 94-2375760  
Federal tax ID (EIN): 237325783
4. Date formed as Non-profit: September 18, 1973
5. Membership: restrictions, number of members, fees, etc.: No restrictions.  
Membership fees for Local Chapter memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$35 for families. Our current membership base includes over 400 Local Chapter members and approximately 800 National Audubon memberships assigned to our chapter who live in Napa and Solano Counties.
6. Names of Board of Directors; contact person (include phone number, email address and mailing address):  
  
Mark Stephenson, President

Jane Hicks, Co-President and **contact person** (707-373-7011, [hixholtz@earthlink.net](mailto:hixholtz@earthlink.net), P.O. Box 10006, Napa, CA 94581)

Phil Burton, Vice-President and Program Chair

David Kassel, Treasurer

Helena Kassel, Secretary

Judy Kahle, Membership Chair

Yvonne Baginski, Conservation Chair, Napa County

Roberto Valdez, Conservation Chair, Solano County

Pam Condos, Holly Jessop, Robin Leong, Directors-at-Large

## **Needs Assessment / Problem Statement**

### **1. Clear statement of problem**

We are increasingly concerned that our nation as well as countries around the globe are losing valuable habitat to sustain native bird and animal populations. To this point, it is estimated that our planet has lost over 4 billion birds during the past 40 years. We are also concerned that students in our K-12 school systems have limited time to study science concepts and especially learn about the biology of our native birds and animals as well as the importance of using scientific data to inform habitat preservation to sustain native plant and animal populations. With the support of your grants in previous years, we have been able to maintain and expand our programs in many schools and in our community. We are looking forward to 2026-27 as an opportunity to further expand our school and community outreach to sustain and grow our programs for years to come in Napa County.

### **2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested**

Proposed activities for 2026-2027:

#### **A. Education in the Napa County Schools:**

- (1) Continue teaching our 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade curricula to schools such as Donaldson Way and Napa Junction Elementary Schools and high school-level curriculum to schools such as American Canyon High School.

- (2) Hire an Education Coordinator to increase our outreach and teaching to Napa County Schools.

**B. Beginner, Weekly & Regional Field Trips**

Continue to provide regular Beginner and Weekly Bird Walks, and Regional Field Trips for students, families and community members.

**C. Monthly Speaker Seminars**

Continue to fund our monthly speaker seminar program with National and Local expert ornithologists who educate us on a variety of topics from Birding to Conservation.

**D. Citizen Science**

Continue to engage Community Members in Citizen Science activities related to birds and conservation, including Christmas bird counts, breeding bird surveys, western bluebird nestbox maintenance and monitoring, heron nesting colonies monitoring, endangered species monitoring, and other activities in Napa County.

**E. Educational Festivals**

Continue to support Community Events that foster a love and deeper understanding for birds and our environment such as the International Bird Rescue Open House, Napa Earth Day, activities at the Pacific Flyway Center, and the Winged Migration Expo.

**To help fund these activities, we are requesting \$4,750.**

**3. Anticipated results, with time-line**

**Education in the Napa County Schools:** In the 2025-2026 grant year, we taught our curriculum of at least three weekly bird classes and at least one birding field trip to 506 Napa County Elementary School students and 142 Napa County High School students (648 total students). Our goal for the 2026-2027 grant year is to teach at least this many students by June 30, 2027. During the 2025-2026 grant year, we taught in multiple classrooms at Willow Elementary, Donaldson Way Elementary, Brown s Valley Elementary, Napa Junction Elementary, Vichy Elementary, and Alta Heights Elementary Schools, and American Canyon High School for a total of seven schools. Our goal for the 2026-2027 grant year is to increase these efforts by teaching at eight to ten Napa County Schools.

**Beginner, Weekly, and Regional Field Trips:** In the 2025-2026 grant year, we held numerous field trips in these categories, with many participants from Napa County. Nine hundred eighty-seven people, including adults and students, attended these field trips. Our goal for the 2026-2027 grant year is to hold a minimum of fifteen or more student/family-oriented Beginner Bird Walks at the American Canyon Wetlands in addition to numerous Weekly and Regional Field Trips by June 30, 2027. Beginner and Weekly field trips are open to all at no cost while the Regional field trips require membership in NSAS. We keep the cost of the NSAS annual membership low at \$25 per individual and \$35 per family to encourage participation.

**Monthly Speaker Seminars:** We are in the process of organizing the speakers for the monthly seminars on birds and conservation related topics for the 2026-2027 grant year. Seminar locations alternate between Napa and Benicia and are held in the months of September, October, November, January, February, March, April, and May. Attendance is open to all both in person and via Zoom. We plan to complete eight seminars by June 30, 2027.

**Citizen Science:** In the 2025-2026 grant year, we participated in the following Citizen Science projects: the Christmas Bird Count in the Angwin area; National Audubon Climate Watch (seasonal [winter and summer] monitoring of target species using point count data in seven Napa County locations), and Bird Seasons (weekly monitoring of specific species at the American Canyon Wetlands). We currently monitor 150 nesting boxes of western bluebirds and American kestrels at five parks and open spaces as well as several school yards in Napa (Alston Park, American Canyon Wetlands, O'Brien Park, Trancas Crossing Park, and Lakeview Park). We also monitor fifty nesting boxes in Newell and Lynch Canyon Open Spaces. We monitored colonies of the federally endangered western snowy plover in Napa County in coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. We monitor heron and egret colonies in Moore Creek Park and several other locations. We participate in the annual Point Blue Shorebird Survey which collects data on shorebird migration in several estuaries in Napa County. We also participate in Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology Nest Watch Project. This project collects information on the timing and success of nesting birds by visiting known nest sites weekly during the breeding season (February – July). We will continue these Citizen Science activities in the 2026-2027 grant year. In addition, during the next five years we are partnering with Audubon Chapters and birders across the state to complete the first California Breeding Bird Atlas.

**Education Festivals and Cleanup Days:** In the 2025-2026 grant year, we participated in the regional Winged Migration Expo, which included birding field trips, presentations and educational tabling in Napa County; Napa Earth Day including clean-up of the Napa River, and Coastal Cleanup Day on the Napa River. We anticipate participating in a similar number of education festivals and cleanup days by June 30, 2027.

#### **4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective**

**Education in Napa County classrooms:** lessons taught to students include Bird Diversity, Bird Song, Habitat Conservation, Bird Adaptations, and Bird Migration. Each series of lessons concludes with a bird walk around campus and / or at a nearby natural area such as American Canyon Wetlands and Newell Open Space. Bird walks allow students to observe live birds, their field marks and behaviors, and reinforce the importance of concepts such as wildlife conservation taught in the classroom lessons.

**Beginner, Weekly, and Regional Field Trips:** People of all ages learn more about birds, their habitats, and conservation on these trips. Field trips are led by experienced birders who are eager to share their knowledge.

Goals for the 2026-2027 grant year: A minimum of fifteen Beginner Bird Walks at the American Canyon Wetlands, a minimum of eighteen Weekly Bird Walks, and a minimum of ten Regional Field Trips.

**Monthly Speaker Seminars:** Our speaker coordinator is already contacting potential speakers for the 2026-2027 grant year.

**Citizen Science:** Each Citizen Science project has a specific protocol. For example, we follow protocols established by the National Audubon Society for the Christmas Bird Counts and for Climate Watch, protocols established by Nature's Notebook / USA National Phenology Network for Bird Seasons, and protocols established by the National Bluebird Recovery Database for western bluebird nesting monitoring.

#### **5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission**

- a. Identify the approved expenditure item(s) the project complies with from [California Fish and Game Code](#) §13103 and which WCC priorities as listed in Selection Criteria Priorities.

Our activities advance the purposes of §13103 of the California Fish and Game Code as excerpted here:



13103. Expenditures from the fish and wildlife propagation fund of any county may be made only for the following purposes:

(a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.”

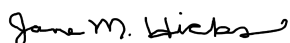
Our classroom curricula, public education through information seminars and field trips and other community outreach clearly meet the intent of §13103.

**6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful**

Annual reports are prepared for all activities. Feedback from participants will be analyzed for satisfaction with activity content and suggested improvements.

To summarize, Napa-Solano Audubon Society provides a wide assortment of outdoor education opportunities for the people of Napa County. The Commission's awarding us a grant in the amount of **\$4,750** will help us continue these beneficial experiences for our residents.

Sincerely,



Jane Hicks, Co-President  
Napa-Solano Audubon Society

**Attachments**

1. Expenditure detail – See 2026-2027 Expenditures (Attachment 1).
2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds) – See 2026-2027 Expenditures (Attachment 1).
3. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies – See NSAS\_NWCC\_5-year\_report\_2021-22-2025-26.pdf (Attachment 2).

4. For environmental education proposals: At least one (1) letter of support from a school board member, principal, teacher, etc., - See letter from K. Stephenson, Fifth Grade Teacher at Willow Elementary School (Attachment 3a) and letters from Enrique, Anonymous, and Anais, Fourth Grade Students at Donaldson Way Elementary School (Attachments 3b-3d), three Bird Art thank you letters from students (Attachments 3e-3g), and three thank you letters from Alana, Sebastian and a mallard duck (Attachments 3h-3j).

| NSAS NCWCC Budget 2026-27                              |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
|                                                        | Salary and Materials | In-Kind Volunteer Hours | NSAS Contribution | In-Kind Grants | NCWCC 26-27 Grant Request |
| School Programs                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Instruction & Planning                                 |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| 10 Schools 4-5 lessons including Bird Walks            | 6,250.00             |                         | 3,850.00          | 1,000.00       | 1,400.00                  |
| Classroom Materials                                    | 300.00               |                         | 100.00            | 100.00         | 100.00                    |
| Total Schools Program                                  | 6,550.00             | 60                      | 4,550.00          | 500.00         | 1,500.00                  |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Birding Program                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| 15 Beginner Bird Walks                                 | 1,500.00             |                         | 800.00            | 200.00         | 500.00                    |
| 30 Weekly Field Trips with Andrew Ford                 | 3,000.00             |                         | 1,500.00          | 500.00         | 1,000.00                  |
| 10 Monthly Field Trips                                 | 3,000.00             |                         | 2,800.00          | 100.00         | 100.00                    |
| Total Birding Program                                  | 7,500.00             | 400                     | 5,000.00          | 1,000.00       | 1,500.00                  |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Community Education                                    |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| 8 Monthly Speaker Seminars                             | 1,600.00             |                         | 900.00            | 200.00         | 500.00                    |
| Room Rental                                            | 200.00               |                         | 200.00            | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Zoom Fees                                              | 200.00               |                         | 200.00            | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Total Seminar Program                                  | 2,000.00             | 80                      | 1,000.00          | 500.00         | 500.00                    |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Educational Newsletters                                |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Design                                                 | 1,000.00             |                         | 1,000.00          | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Color Copy Production                                  | 2,500.00             |                         | 1,500.00          | 500.00         | 500.00                    |
| Postage                                                | 1,000.00             |                         | 1,000.00          | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Total Newsletters                                      | 4,500.00             | 60                      | 3,500.00          | 500.00         | 500.00                    |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Website & Email Design & Hosting                       | 500.00               | 1,250                   | 500.00            | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Community Festivals                                    |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Winged Migration Expo Field Trips                      | 700.00               | 200                     | 250.00            | 200.00         | 200.00                    |
| Napa Earth Day Festival & Activities Materials         | 150.00               | 50                      | 150.00            | 50.00          | 50.00                     |
| Pacific Flyway Center / Intern. Bird Rescue Open House | 150.00               | 25                      | 150.00            | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Total Community Activities                             | 1,000.00             | 275                     | 500.00            | 250.00         | 250.00                    |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Citizen Science                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| CBCs (Coordinator Salaries)                            | 2,000.00             | 12,000                  | 1,600.00          | 250.00         | 250.00                    |
| Bluebird Nest Box Program (Replacement Boxes)          | 500.00               | 540                     | 250.00            | 0.00           | 250.00                    |
| Endangered Species Surveys in Kind Donations           | 0.00                 | 50                      | 0.00              | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Climate Research Surveys                               | 0.00                 | 120                     | 0.00              | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Breeding Bird Atlas                                    | 0.00                 | 1,400                   | 0.00              | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
| Total Citizen Science                                  | 2,500.00             | 14,110                  | 1,500.00          | 250.00         | 500.00                    |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Office Supplies                                        | 500.00               | 0                       | 500.00            | 0.00           | 0.00                      |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
|                                                        |                      |                         |                   |                |                           |
| Total Program Costs & In-kind Dollars                  | \$25,050.00          | 16,235                  | \$17,050.00       | \$3,000.00     | \$4,750.00                |
|                                                        |                      | (Hours)                 |                   |                |                           |

| <b>2021-22 Tammy Saunders/ Louisa Liu</b>                   | <b>Classes / Events</b> | <b>Students / Participants</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Mark Stephenson/Tom Slyker/</b>                          |                         |                                |
| <u>Schools were closed to volunteers until January 2022</u> |                         |                                |
| Classroom Visitations                                       | 27                      | 575                            |
| Saturday Bird Walks                                         | 30                      | 450                            |
| Monthly Birding Field Trips                                 | 10                      | 170                            |
| Monthly Speaker Series                                      | 8                       | 480                            |
| Beginning Bird Walks                                        | 4                       | 13                             |
| <b>Special Events</b>                                       |                         |                                |
| Christmas Bird Count 4 Kids Connolly Ranch                  | 1                       | 22                             |
| SF Bay Flyway Festival                                      | 1                       | 160                            |
| Earth Night Connolly Ranch                                  | 1                       | 200                            |
| Earth Day Cleanup                                           | 1                       | 20                             |
| Earth Day Napa Oxbow                                        | 1                       | 500                            |
| Treasury Winery Estates                                     | 1                       | 40                             |
| Il Fiorello Olive Oil Company                               | 1                       | 30                             |
| UC Master Gardeners of Napa Valley Open House               | 1                       | 200                            |
| Nest Box Training                                           | 4                       | 30                             |
| Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Program                        | 16                      | 30                             |
| <b>Total Events / Participants</b>                          | <b>107</b>              | <b>2920</b>                    |
|                                                             |                         |                                |
| <b>2022-23 Tammy Saunders/Grace Gable,</b>                  | <b>Classes / Events</b> | <b>Students / Participants</b> |
| <b>Mark Stephenson/ Tom Slyker</b>                          |                         |                                |
| Classroom Visitations                                       | 24                      | 716                            |
| Saturday Bird Walks                                         | 30                      | 540                            |
| Monthly Birding Field Trips                                 | 10                      | 180                            |
| Monthly Speaker Series                                      | 8                       | 480                            |
| Beginning Bird Walks                                        | 4                       | 80                             |
| Jr. Audubon Bird Walks                                      | 4                       | 34                             |
| <b>Special Events</b>                                       |                         |                                |
| Christmas Bird Count 4 Kids Connolly Ranch                  | 1                       | 30                             |
| St. Helena Garden Club                                      | 1                       | 20                             |
| SF Bay Flyway Festival                                      | 1                       | 500                            |
| Earth Night Connolly Ranch                                  | 1                       | 160                            |
| Earth Day Treasury Wine Estates                             | 1                       | 40                             |
| Earth Day Il Fiorello Olive Oil Company                     | 1                       | 30                             |
| Benicia Library Sustainability Fair                         | 1                       | 80                             |
| Earth Day Cleanup                                           | 1                       | 20                             |
| Earth Day Napa Oxbow                                        | 1                       | 500                            |

|                                                                           |                         |                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pacific Flyway Center Migratory Bird Day                                  | 1                       | 100                            |
| UC Master Gardeners of Napa Valley Open House                             | 1                       | 200                            |
| Napa Parks and Rec Summer Camps                                           | 4                       | 180                            |
| Bothe-Napa State Park Summer Camps                                        | 1                       | 80                             |
| Nest Box Training                                                         | 4                       | 30                             |
| Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Program                                      | 16                      | 30                             |
| <b>Total Events / Participants</b>                                        | <b>116</b>              | <b>3314</b>                    |
| <b>School Visitations &amp; Events Individuals Served</b>                 |                         | <b>4030</b>                    |
|                                                                           |                         |                                |
| <b>2023-24 Tammy Saunders/Jane Hicks/<br/>Mark Stephenson/ Tom Slyker</b> | <b>Classes / Events</b> | <b>Students / Participants</b> |
| Classroom Visitations                                                     | 16                      | 1203                           |
| Saturday Bird Walks                                                       | 16                      | 251                            |
| Monthly Birding Field Trips                                               | 10                      | 164                            |
| Monthly Speaker Series                                                    | 8                       | 423                            |
| Beginning Bird Walks                                                      | 14                      | 265                            |
| Jr. Audubon Bird Walks                                                    | 4                       | 72                             |
| <b>Special Events</b>                                                     |                         |                                |
| Christmas Bird Count 4 Kids Connolly Ranch                                | 1                       | 8                              |
| Benicia Christmas Bird Count                                              | 1                       | 60                             |
| Angwin Christmas Bird Count                                               | 1                       | 48                             |
| Earth Night Connolly Ranch (August)                                       | 1                       | 100                            |
| Earth Day Cleanup                                                         | 1                       | 20                             |
| Earth Day Napa Oxbow                                                      | 1                       | 500                            |
| American Canyon Community Parks Foundation<br>Earth Day Bird Walk         | 1                       | 25                             |
| Solano Community College Earth Day                                        | 1                       | 75                             |
| Vallejo Earth Daze                                                        | 1                       | 400                            |
| UC Master Gardeners of Napa Valley Open House                             | 1                       | 500                            |
| Napa Parks and Rec Summer Camps                                           | 3                       | 105                            |
| Nest Box Training                                                         | 1                       | 30                             |
| Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Program                                      | 16                      | 30                             |
| <b>Total Events / Participants</b>                                        | <b>82</b>               | <b>3068</b>                    |
| <b>School Visitations &amp; Events Individuals Served</b>                 | <b>98</b>               | <b>4071</b>                    |
|                                                                           |                         |                                |
| <b>2024-25 Tammy Saunders/Jane Hicks/<br/>Mark Stephenson/ Judy Kahle</b> | <b>Classes / Events</b> | <b>Students / Participants</b> |
| Classroom Visitations                                                     | 20                      | 1138                           |
| Saturday Bird Walks                                                       | 21                      | 324                            |
| Monthly Birding Field Trips                                               | 10                      | 187                            |

|                                                                                                             |                         |                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monthly Speaker Series                                                                                      | 8                       | 491                            |
| Beginning Bird Walks                                                                                        | 13                      | 153                            |
| Jr. Audubon Bird Walks                                                                                      | 4                       | 32                             |
| <b>Special Events</b>                                                                                       |                         |                                |
| Christmas Bird Count 4 Kids Connolly Ranch                                                                  | 1                       | 15                             |
| Benicia Christmas Bird Count                                                                                | 1                       | 74                             |
| Angwin Christmas Bird Count                                                                                 | 1                       | 36                             |
| Winged Migration Expo                                                                                       | 1                       | 750                            |
| Earth Night Connolly Ranch (August)                                                                         | 1                       | 200                            |
| Earth Day Cleanup                                                                                           | 1                       | 23                             |
| Earth Day Napa Oxbow                                                                                        | 1                       | 600                            |
| American Canyon Community Parks Foundation<br>Earth Day Bird Walk                                           | 1                       | 15                             |
| UC Master Gardeners of Napa Valley Open House                                                               | 1                       | 350                            |
| Napa Parks and Rec Summer Camps                                                                             | 3                       | 80                             |
| Nest Box Training                                                                                           | 1                       | 30                             |
| Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Program                                                                        | 16                      | 30                             |
| <b>Total Events / Participants</b>                                                                          | 85                      | 3390                           |
| <b>School Visitations &amp; Events Individuals Served</b>                                                   | 105                     | 4528                           |
|                                                                                                             |                         |                                |
| <b>2025-26 Tammy Saunders/Jane Hicks/<br/>Mark Stephenson/ Tom Slyker / Barry Briden /<br/>Janelle Hall</b> | <b>Classes / Events</b> | <b>Students / Participants</b> |
| Napa Classroom Visitations                                                                                  | 31                      | 648                            |
| Weekly Bird Walks                                                                                           | 18                      | 389                            |
| Monthly Birding Field Trips                                                                                 | 10                      | 250                            |
| Monthly Speaker Series                                                                                      | 8                       | 440                            |
| Beginning Bird Walks                                                                                        | 20                      | 188                            |
| Winged Migration Expo Bird Walks                                                                            | 10                      | 160                            |
| <b>Special Events</b>                                                                                       |                         |                                |
| Benicia Christmas Bird Count                                                                                | 1                       | 100                            |
| Angwin Christmas Bird Count                                                                                 | 1                       | 60                             |
| Earth Night Connolly Ranch                                                                                  | 1                       | 180                            |
| International Bird Rescue                                                                                   | 1                       | 150                            |
| Winged Migration Expo information table                                                                     | 1                       | 2700                           |
| Pacific Flyway Center                                                                                       | 1                       | 95                             |
| Napa Earth Day                                                                                              | 1                       | 975                            |
| Napa Parks and Rec Summer Camps                                                                             | 0                       | 0                              |
| Nest Box Training                                                                                           | 2                       | 30                             |
| Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Program                                                                        | 20                      | 30                             |



|                                                           |     |      |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|--|
| <b>Total Events / Participants</b>                        | 94  | 5747 |  |
| <b>School Visitations &amp; Events Individuals Served</b> | 125 | 6395 |  |

Willow Elementary School  
1480 El Centro Avenue, Napa CA 94558  
(707) 253-3771  
Willow.nvusd.org



Dear Napa County Wildlife Conservation Selection Committee,

I am happy to write this letter of support for Napa-Solano Audubon Society's Education Programs in our schools. Napa-Solano Audubon have been presenting lessons in our 4th and 5th grade classrooms for at least 10 years. The Audubon educators visit our classrooms with a series of lessons that engage our students deeply in learning about birds and their environments.

Their program's include presentations and hands-on lessons that cover a range of topics including bird identification, adaptations, migration, birdsong, human impact on bird habitats and conservation. These lessons connect seamlessly with our state standards and curriculum and inspire our students' natural curiosity. Our students actively participate, asking insightful questions and developing a genuine appreciation for birds, wildlife and conservation.

As a result of their program, our students recognize and observe birds, noting their physical characteristics, behaviors, and habitats. The enthusiasm they bring back to class is evident in their discussions, creative projects, and overall engagement in science. This program directly benefits our Spring outdoor education trip to the Marin Headlands.

I wholeheartedly recommend continued support for the Napa-Solano Audubon Society's Education Programs. They enrich our classrooms and nurture in our students a lifelong respect and interest in stewardship for the natural world.

Sincerely,  
Kris Stephenson  
5th Grade Teacher



Thank you MISS-  
Jane for the bird-  
lessons I enjoyed  
learning about.

With thanks  
encirle



Thank you MISS Jane  
for the bird lessons  
I enjoyed learning  
about birds

Attachment 3c





To Miss, Jane

Thank you for the bird lessons.

I enjoyed learning about all different birds.

Happy Holidays!

Love,  
Anai







HummingBird

Cockatiel





Blue Jay



crow



cardinal



western blue bird



owl



parrot





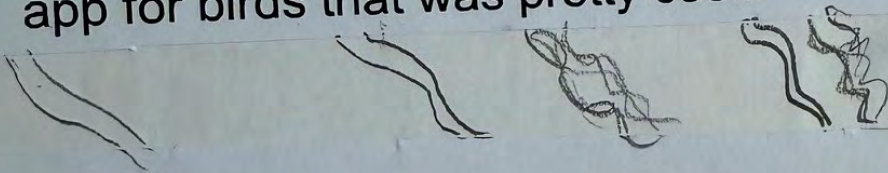


Dear Mr Stephonson and Audubon Society.

Attachment 3h

Hello my name is Alana from Mrs Gomez class. My favorite part of your presentation was when we went outside with binoculars and looked at different kinds of birds. It was really interesting because we saw a swallow, ducks, snow egret, yellow finch, hummingbird, Red winged bird, turkey vulture, and last but not least bewick wren.

The reason why I liked it is because I saw birds I didn't know that much about and when we went outside I heard the different kinds of birds that had beautiful voices and ok voices to communicate and when they responded back when we used the app for birds that was pretty cool.



THANK YOU FOR TEACHING US ABOUT BIRDS .

Love, Alana





**Dear Mr. Stephenson and Audubon Society,**

**I learned a lot. I learned so much about birds and their habitats. I learned more about one of my favorite birds, the cardinal. Thank you for coming to our school to teach us about birds and stuff. I am grateful for you coming.**

**My favorite activity is when we used the binoculars. I liked it because I saw many different types of birds. It was very fun. My favorite bird that I saw was a Ring-necked pheasant.**

**From,**  
**Sebastian**



Thank you  
Mr. Stephenson!



Mallard duck



## I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION / ELIGIBILITY

### 1. Type of Organization or Business

American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation (Parks Foundation), a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. <sup>1</sup>

### 2. Purpose for Which the Organization Was Formed

To connect nature and community, protect the environment, support park and trail improvements, and provide environmental education opportunities for youth and families throughout Napa County.

### 3. Tax Exempt Status

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID #47-3226686.

### 4. Date Formed as a Nonprofit

March 2015.

### 5. Membership

Voluntary membership program supporting environmental education and conservation initiatives. Current membership includes approximately 48+ individuals and families. No restrictions on membership participation.

### 6. Names of Board of Directors and Contact Person

See attached Board of Directors list.

Contact Person:

Joy Hilton, Education Director  
American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation  
101 W. American Canyon Road, Suite 508-102  
American Canyon, CA 94503  
(707)563-3757  
[Joy@acparks.org](mailto:Joy@acparks.org)

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT / PROBLEM STATEMENT

### 1. Clear Statement of Problem

Local watersheds, wetlands, and wildlife habitats provide exceptional opportunities for environmental education and conservation. The Napa River Watershed supports a diverse array of fish, birds, amphibians, and native plant communities while serving as a critical connection between Napa County and the San



Pablo Bay ecosystem. Despite the ecological importance of these resources, many elementary school students have limited opportunities to experience local habitats firsthand or learn about fish and wildlife conservation through meaningful outdoor education.

Since 2021, the Parks Foundation has successfully developed and expanded watershed education programming to address this gap.

- 2021–2022: Served 100 students at two American Canyon elementary schools.
- 2022–2023: Expanded to serve 305 students.
- 2023–2024: Served 335 students, twelve teachers, and 40 chaperones through the full Watershed Explorers program.
- 2024–2025: Watershed programs expanded to serve 676 students, 23 teachers, and more than 50 parents and guardians.
- 2025–2026: Wildlife Conservation Commission funding supported 618 students, 19 teachers, and more than 45 parents and guardians through Watershed Explorers, Watershed Trainees, and the new Watershed Protectors pilot program. The program delivered over 2,388 hours of environmental education and resulted in the removal of more than 2,500 square feet of invasive ice plant from local wetland habitat.

The success of the Watershed Protectors pilot program demonstrated both the need and enthusiasm for continued stewardship opportunities among Napa County students. Teachers have requested expansion of programs, allowing younger students to build confidence in outdoor settings through Watershed Trainees and older students to actively improve wildlife habitat through Watershed Protectors.

Additionally, growing development pressures, invasive plant species, habitat fragmentation, and increasing human use of wetland areas continue to affect local ecosystems. Students and families must understand their role in protecting fish and wildlife habitat and be provided opportunities to participate directly in restoration and conservation efforts.

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## 2. Specific Objectives and Specific Dollar Amount Requested

The Parks Foundation respectfully requests \$15,000 from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission to support the Watershed Trainees and Watershed Protectors programs during the 2026–2027 school year.

### Watershed Trainees — \$5,000

The Watershed Trainees program is an introductory environmental education experience designed for Kindergarten through 3rd-grade students throughout Napa County.

Funding will support:

- Service to approximately 12–18 K–3rd grade classrooms.
- Direct participation of 350–500 students.
- Guided wetland hikes and outdoor learning experiences.
- Trail safety education.
- Wildlife observation activities.
- Nature journaling and scientific observation.
- Family engagement opportunities encouraging return visits to natural areas.

Students learn to identify birds, insects, native plants, and wildlife while developing confidence in outdoor environments. Through age-appropriate activities and guided exploration, students begin building a lifelong connection to nature and local conservation efforts.

### Watershed Protectors — \$10,000

The Watershed Protectors program builds upon foundational watershed education and engages upper elementary students in hands-on stewardship projects benefiting local wildlife habitat.

Funding will support continued development of the successful pilot program. New Students will learn about wetland ecology, invasive species, native habitats, wildlife conservation, and environmental stewardship while participating in, hands-on, habitat improvement projects.

## Program Outcomes

### Watershed Trainees

- Serve 12–18 classrooms throughout Napa County.
- Reach approximately 350–500 K–3rd grade students.
- Increase student knowledge of local birds, wildlife, and watershed ecosystems by 50%.
- Demonstrates a 60% increase in student comfort and confidence in outdoor environments.
- Students will name at least one positive benefit from spending time outdoors with family.

### Watershed Protectors

- Serve approximately 80–100 fifth grade students.
- Remove a minimum of 2,000 square feet of invasive vegetation and disperse native seeds across restoration areas.
- Engage students in wildlife and habitat monitoring activities, documenting species observations and restoration progress at stewardship sites.
- Increase student stewardship behaviors, with at least 90% of participants identifying three or more actions they can take to protect local fish and wildlife habitat.
- Foster long-term stewardship and environmental leadership among participants.

## 3. Anticipated Results with Timeline

Students will increase their understanding of watershed systems, fish and wildlife habitat, biodiversity, environmental stewardship, and the actions individuals can take to improve local ecosystems.

### Timeline

| Activity                                           | Participant/Activity                                                                 | Timeline                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Program Planning &amp; Partner Coordination</b> | Curriculum updates, school recruitment, partner and NVUSD meetings, supply purchases | August–September 2026     |
| <b>Watershed Trainees</b>                          | Fall school nature walks and exploration (K–3 classrooms)                            | September – December 2026 |
| <b>Watershed Protectors</b>                        | Classroom presentation and activities                                                | October - November 2026   |
| <b>Habitat Restoration Activities</b>              | Student invasive removal, seed collection, and dispersal                             | Nov – Dec 2027            |
| <b>Watershed Trainees Expansion</b>                | Additional Napa County schools                                                       | January – April 2027      |

|                                            |                                            |                  |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Habitat Restoration Site Monitoring</b> | Student stewardship projects               | Feb – Mar 2027   |
| <b>Family Nature Events</b>                | Community engagement opportunities         | March – May 2027 |
| <b>Program Evaluation &amp; Reporting</b>  | Surveys, partner debriefs, final reporting | May – June 2027  |

#### 4. Detailed Description of Methods Planned to Achieve the Objective

The Parks Foundation will continue working directly with Napa Valley Unified School District teachers, administrators, and environmental education partners to recruit participating classrooms and coordinate programming.

The Watershed Trainees program will provide guided outdoor learning experiences at the American Canyon Wetlands and two additional watershed locations throughout Napa County. Each class will begin with trail safety instruction followed by age-appropriate wildlife observation and exploration activities. Students will learn how to observe wildlife responsibly, identify native plants and animals, understand habitat requirements, and recognize the connection between local wetlands, the Napa River, San Pablo Bay, and the Pacific Ocean.

To reduce transportation barriers, the Foundation will continue partnerships with the Napa Resource Conservation District and other local organizations to identify additional program sites closer to participating schools. This approach has proven successful and allows more equitable access to high-quality environmental education opportunities.

The Watershed Protectors program will build on the highly successful pilot completed during 2025–2026. Students will participate in habitat stewardship activities that improve local wetland conditions while reinforcing fish and wildlife conservation concepts introduced through classroom learning. During the pilot year, students removed more than 2,500 square feet of invasive iceplant and demonstrated increased understanding of conservation and stewardship responsibilities.

Program partners will include Napa Resource Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Point Blue Conservation Science, and local conservation professionals. These partnerships provide students with opportunities to learn directly from experts and gain exposure to careers in conservation and environmental science.

#### 5. Clear Statement of Benefit Related to Goals of the Commission

The goal of the Watershed Trainees and Watershed Protectors programs is to protect local fish and wildlife resources by developing environmental literacy, stewardship ethics, and hands-on conservation skills among Napa County youth.

The proposed project directly benefits the approved expenditure categories identified in California Fish and Game Code §13103:

##### A. Public Education Relating to the Scientific Principles of Fish and Wildlife Conservation

Both Watershed Trainees and Watershed Protectors provide supervised, curriculum-based environmental education focused on watersheds, wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat, biodiversity, ecological relationships, and conservation science. Students participate in structured learning experiences utilizing nature study facilities, educational materials, field investigations, and hands-on scientific observation.

## E. Improvement of Fish and Wildlife Habitat

The Watershed Protectors program engages students in habitat improvement activities including invasive vegetation removal, restoration monitoring, native seed dispersal, and stewardship projects that directly improve local fish and wildlife habitat. These activities align with Fish and Game Code provisions supporting habitat enhancement and vegetation management.

### Project Objectives

- Objective 1: Deliver environmental education to 350–700 Napa County students.
  - Objective 2: Provide Watershed Trainees programming to 12–18 K–3rd grade classrooms.
  - Objective 3: Provide Watershed Protectors participation to three 5<sup>th</sup>-grade classes.
  - Objective 4: Increase understanding of fish and wildlife conservation principles.
  - Objective 5: Connect students with local wetlands, watersheds, and wildlife habitats.
  - Objective 6: Increase family engagement with local natural areas.
  - Objective 7: Provide exposure to environmental science and conservation careers.
  - Objective 8: Support long-term habitat stewardship and restoration activities benefiting local wildlife.
- 

## 6. Describe How You Intend to Determine if the Proposed Activity is Successful

Program evaluation remains a critical component of both Watershed Trainees and Watershed Protectors.

The Parks Foundation will utilize:

- Student pre- and post-program surveys.
- Teacher evaluations.
- Student observation data.
- Facilitator reports.
- Restoration activity records.
- Participant attendance tracking.
- Community participation metrics.

Past evaluation data demonstrates significant gains in environmental understanding among participating students. During previous Watershed Programs, student understanding of watershed concepts increased by 75%, including understanding what a watershed is, why watersheds are important for local communities and the environment. Additionally, when asked how they could help protect the watershed and local wildlife habitat, only 23% of students could provide an accurate response prior to participation, compared with 93% following program completion. These results demonstrate the program's effectiveness in increasing environmental literacy, stewardship awareness, and understanding of fish and wildlife conservation principles.

For Watershed Protectors, restoration outcomes will also be measured through documentation of stewardship activities, habitat improvements, and observations of restoration sites. Building on the successful 2025–2026 pilot, the Foundation will continue tracking habitat enhancement outcomes alongside educational achievements.

Teacher feedback, partner evaluations, and student reflections will help ensure the programs remain relevant, effective, and aligned with both educational standards and the goals of the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

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Funding Requested: See attached document

Watershed Trainees Program: \$5,000

Watershed Protectors Program: \$10,000

Total Request: \$15,000



|                         | Item                            | Rate/hour  | Units/<br>Description | # of School<br>Groups | Matching<br>Funds | Total Budget       | Description        |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                         | <b>Personal/Staffing</b>        |            |                       |                       |                   |                    |                    |
| Protectors              | Personnel<br>1(\$46/h)          | \$46.00    | 60                    | 3                     | \$3,500.00        | \$8,280.00         | \$4,780.00         |
|                         | Personnel<br>2(\$43/hr)         | \$43.00    | 40                    | 3                     | \$1,800.00        | \$5,160.00         | \$3,360.00         |
|                         | Personnel<br>3(\$31/h)          | \$31.00    | 10                    | 3                     | \$70.00           | \$930.00           | \$860.00           |
| Trainees                | Personnel<br>1(\$45/h)          | \$46.00    | 4                     | 14                    |                   | \$2,576.00         | \$2,576.00         |
|                         | Personnel<br>2(\$40/hr)         | \$43.00    | 3                     | 14                    |                   | \$1,806.00         | \$1,806.00         |
|                         | Personnel<br>3(\$31/h)          | \$31.00    | 1                     | 14                    |                   | \$434.00           | \$434.00           |
| <b>Totals:</b>          |                                 |            |                       |                       | <b>\$5,370</b>    | <b>\$19,186</b>    | <b>\$13,816</b>    |
| <b>Program Expenses</b> |                                 |            |                       |                       |                   |                    |                    |
|                         | Nature Journals<br>(Pack of 30) | \$40.00    | 5                     | 1                     | 200               | \$200.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | Cart wagon                      | \$400.00   | 1                     | 1                     | 400               | \$400.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | science Supplies                | \$50.00    | 5                     | 1                     | 250               | \$250.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | bags                            | \$35.00    | 2                     | 1                     | 70                | \$70.00            | \$0.00             |
|                         | gloves                          | \$50.00    | 4                     | 1                     | 200               | \$200.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | hand sanitizer                  | \$10.00    | 2                     | 1                     | 20                | \$20.00            | \$0.00             |
|                         | printing                        | \$30.00    | 3                     | 1                     | 90                | \$90.00            | \$0.00             |
|                         | misc                            | \$68.00    | 1                     | 1                     | 68                | \$68.00            | \$0.00             |
|                         | Sign Printing                   | \$50.00    | 4                     | 1                     | 200               | \$200.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | Scavenger Hunt<br>Printing      | \$25.00    | 14                    | 1                     | 350               | \$350.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | penciles                        | \$8.00     | 14                    | 1                     | \$112.00          | \$112.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         |                                 |            |                       |                       |                   |                    |                    |
|                         | Student Snacks                  | \$80.00    | 2                     | 3                     | 480               | \$480.00           | \$0.00             |
|                         | Administration                  | \$2,877.90 | 1                     | 1                     | 1693.45           | \$2,877.45         | \$1,184.00         |
|                         | Cost for supplies               |            |                       |                       |                   | \$4,717.45         |                    |
|                         | <b>TOTAL PROJECT COST:</b>      |            |                       |                       |                   | <b>\$23,903.45</b> | <b>\$15,000.00</b> |

American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation  
2026 Board List

No Board Members Receive Compensation

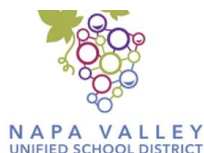
|                                  |                                               |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Charlie Plummer- President       | The Vineyard House, Global Director of Sales  |
| Cathy Margolati - Vice President | Teacher, Napa Valley Unified School District  |
| Gladys Milligan – Treasurer      | Bank Manager, Redwood Credit Union            |
| Sarah Minahen - Secretary        | County of Napa                                |
| Raffi Boloyan                    | Community Development Director, City of Dixon |
| Sean Hughes                      | Engineer – Testing Engineers                  |
| Christine Barnett                | American Canyon Orthodontics, Business Owner  |
| Elmer Andrei-Manaid              | Local Business Owner                          |
| Andre Crisp                      | Legend Napa Valley, Winery Owner, Vintner     |
| Ed Pingol                        | Ed Pingol Photography                         |
| Hazel Evans                      | Napa Global Institute                         |
| Dr. Joesph Carillo               | Retired Pediatrician                          |

Additional Funding Sources 2026 – 2027

Watershed Trainees & Watershed Protectors

Watershed programs are supported by a variety of other funding sources. Private fundraising, grants, events, and corporate sponsorships all contribute to ongoing programs' costs.

- Napa Valley Community Foundation – annual program grants funding youth education programs
- Private fundraising – annual Foundation membership drive and general donors
- Sierra Club Redwood Chapter – annual program grant funding for environmental education (in process)
- Whale Tail Grant, California Coastal Commission– two-year grant funding watershed education (ends April, 2027)
- Mennen Environmental Foundation – annual grant funding watershed education (in process)



## **Donaldson Way Elementary School**

American Canyon, CA 94503  
707-644-4486 or 707-253-3524 – Fax: 707-253-6290  
Website: [dwes-nvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/](http://dwes-nvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/)



Dear Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission,

Please accept this letter of support for the American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation's application to expand watershed education and conservation programs.

The Foundation provides important hands-on watershed education opportunities and has been a leader in bringing these programs to schools in American Canyon. As a valued partner in our community the Foundation takes curriculum concepts in biology, watershed science, and ecology and offers hands-on learning and field days for youth. These experiences support student learning and create real life meaning for our science curriculum. In addition to providing a deep learning experience, Foundation programs create memorable experiences that expose kids to careers in science and conservation.

Last spring for the first time our Donaldson Way 2nd grade classrooms were able to bring the Mobile Classroom to our site for a day of learning! Our students loved the hands-on learning and exploration. One memorable experience was observing specimens in the microscopes, animal and plant prints and learning about nature journaling; they were so excited to bring home their own journal to share with their family and continue their observations past that day.

As an educator, I believe in the importance of conserving the Napa River and its watersheds as a source of education, recreation, and enjoyment for our community. We are grateful to have leaders in our community that take the initiative to support environmental education, and support expansion of these efforts.

We appreciate your consideration of this grant proposal and fully support programs and initiatives of the Foundation. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cathy Margolati  
2nd Grade Teacher  
Donaldson Way Elementary

Dear Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission,

Please accept this letter of support for the American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation's (Foundation's) application to expand watershed education and conservation programs.

The Foundation provides important hands-on watershed education opportunities and has been a leader in bringing these programs to schools in American Canyon. As a valued partner in our community, the Foundation takes curriculum concepts in biology, watershed science, and ecology and offers hands-on learning and field days for youth. These experiences support student learning and create real-life meaning for our science curriculum. In addition to providing a deep learning experience, Foundation programs create memorable experiences that expose kids to careers in science and conservation.

As a 5th-grade teacher at Napa Junction Elementary, my students and I had the privilege of participating in this program firsthand. The impact was immediate and profound. Through the Foundation's engaging curriculum and field activities, I watched my students shift from passive learners to active stewards, demonstrating a genuine care and responsibility for the environment right in their own backyard.

As an educator, I believe in the importance of conserving the Napa River and its watersheds as a source of education, recreation, and enjoyment for our community. We are grateful to have leaders in our community that take the initiative to support environmental education, and support expansion of these efforts.

We appreciate your consideration of this grant proposal and fully support programs and initiatives of the Foundation. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

[Heather Feinberg](#)

5th Grade Teacher, Napa Junction Elementary School

[hfeinberg@nvusd.org](mailto:hfeinberg@nvusd.org)

Dear Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission,

Please accept this letter of support for the American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation's (Foundation's) application to expand watershed education and conservation programs.

The Foundation provides important hands-on watershed education opportunities and has been a leader in bringing these programs to schools in American Canyon. As a valued partner in our community the Foundation takes curriculum concepts in biology, watershed science, and ecology and offers hands-on learning and field days for youth. These experiences support student learning and create real life meaning for our science curriculum. In addition to providing a deep learning experience, Foundation programs create memorable experiences that expose kids to careers in science and conservation.

This past year 5th grade students at Napa Junction were included in the expanding program of watershed education. 5th grade students were able to have their science standards included in the program by identifying and understanding the native ecosystem of the wetlands. Students were then able to see and interact with human impacts on the ecosystem and take actionable steps to remove invasive ice plants and then document native plant and insect populations returning. We look forward to continuing this work, giving students a hands-on opportunity to build their science skills and have an impact on their community.

As an educator, I believe in the importance of conserving the Napa River and its watersheds as a source of education, recreation, and enjoyment for our community. We are grateful to have leaders in our community that take the initiative to support environmental education, and support expansion of these efforts.

We appreciate your consideration of this grant proposal and fully support programs and initiatives of the Foundation. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Brett Brown

Napa Junction Magnet Elementary School

brett\_brown@nvusd.org





## Where Nature and Community Flourish Together

2024 – 2025 Grant Report

Watershed Explorers & Watershed Protectors Program Development

Amount Awarded: \$15,611

The American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation (Parks Foundation) requested \$18,000 in funding from the County Wildlife Commission. Of this \$18,000 request, \$15,611 was awarded. With this funding, the Parks Foundation met the grant's goals and successfully expanded Watershed Explorers by partnering with the Napa Resource Conservation district and serving 55 4th grade students from Shearer Elementary School in Napa, 27 high school students from Valley Oak High School, and 34 AP Environmental Science students from American Canyon High School. During the 2024/2025 school year, the existing, expanded, and new programs served a total of **676 students** in Napa County. Parks Foundation staff developed the new Watershed Protectors pilot program and secured participation with three 5th-grade classes at Napa Junction Elementary School, beginning in fall 2025,

With the support of the Wildlife Commission grant the Parks Foundation delivered over **2,500 hours** of environmental and wildlife education to more than **315 fourth graders** in American Canyon as well **116** new students in Napa, and **245 K-3rd graders** from American Canyon. Additionally, over 50 parents and guardians participated in programs to learn about the local wetlands and the Napa River Watershed. Wildlife Commission funding supported the delivery of the full Watershed Explorers program to every school in American Canyon, new pilot programming in K-3rd graders at Napa Junction Elementary, the expansion of programming with partners up valley, and the development of the new Watershed Protectors program being piloted in the fall of 2025.

During the Watershed Explorers Program, students participated in a three-part series that protects the watershed by getting them involved in hands-on learning. Session 1 is a one hour in class presentation about the Napa River Watershed, it's connection to the San Pablo Bay, and the unique wildlife habitats that exist there. Students learned about the American Canyon Wetlands and its attributes as a filter for the entire water system, reclamation, and biodiversity. Students learned how to make scientific observations, formed hypotheses, and utilized a nature journal to lead into the field day. During the second session students participated in a three-hour field day at the Wetlands trails. There they get hands on and rotate through four 30-minute stations from program partners including Suscol Intertribal Council, Napa Solano Audubon, Napa Resource Conservation District, and City of American Canyon Water Reclamation services. The third session brought the Outdoor Connection mobile classroom to the school allowing student to continue making scientific observations in their nature journals utilizing microscopes and nature specimens as well as learn hands on about the watershed with the water table.

In May 2024 teachers from Willow Elementary School in Napa contacted Parks Foundation staff to request participation in the Watershed Explorers program. A modified, two-part education program was developed and scheduled as a pilot expansion into Napa schools. Unfortunately, Willow Elementary could not secure busing to the American Canyon Wetlands and had to cancel the program for the 2024/2025 school year. Wanting to bring watershed education up the valley, the Parks Foundation partnered with the Napa Open Space District to bring 55 4th graders from Shearer Magnet School to Skyline Wilderness Park. Foundation staff also worked with the Napa RCD on a high school program, assisting with watershed education at Skyline Wilderness Park for 27 students from Valley Oak High School, and 35 AP Environmental Science students from American Canyon High School.

Wildlife Commission funding also supported the development of a 4-part Watershed Protectors program that will empower students with the knowledge and skills needed to actively participate in the restoration of wetlands, fostering a sense of responsibility for their local environment and encouraging lifelong stewardship of natural resources. Three 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers at

Napa Junction Elementary Magnet School have signed on to pilot the program in the fall of 2025. The breakdown of the new plan is as follows.

**Program Title: Watershed Protectors**

**Program Objective:**

To engage students in hands-on learning experiences that promote environmental stewardship by actively participating in the restoration of wetlands habitats through invasive plant removal and the planting of native species.

**Target Audience:** Ages 5<sup>th</sup> grade

**Duration:**

3 to 4 week program

**Program Components:**

1. **Introduction to Wetlands/ Invasive Species Education in class presentation**
  - **Understanding Wetlands**
    - ♣ Definition and importance of wetlands
    - ♣ Overview of wetland ecosystems and their role in biodiversity
    - ♣ Introduction to the concept of ecosystem services
  - **Invasive vs. Native Plants**
    - ♣ Identifying common invasive species in local wetlands
    - ♣ Understanding the impact of invasives on native ecosystems
    - ♣ Discussion of local biodiversity and conservation efforts
    - ♣ Benefits of planting native species
    - ♣ Identifying and selecting appropriate native plants for the area
    - ♣ Discussion of local plant nurseries and resources
2. **Fieldwork Training (In-class, by the teacher showing her class a short video created by Parks Foundation Staff)**
  - **Session 3: Field Safety and Techniques**
    - ♣ Safety protocols for fieldwork
    - ♣ Techniques for invasive Ice plant identification and removal
    - ♣ Proper use of tools and equipment for restoration tasks
3. **Hands-On Invasive Removal**
  - **Session 4: Invasive Plant Removal**
    - ♣ Field trips to local wetlands
    - ♣ Practical experience in removing invasive plants (iceplant)
    - ♣ Documentation of work done (e.g., mapping and measuring areas cleared)
    - ♣ Create a plant monitoring plot to track restoration progress
4. **Planting Native Species**
  - **Session 5: Hands-On Planting**
    - ♣ Field trips for planting native species in previously cleared areas
    - ♣ Techniques for planting and caring for new plants
    - ♣ Monitoring and maintaining the newly restored areas, collecting data

**Reflection and Assessment (done by teacher, with guidance from parks foundation staff)**

- **Final Session: Reflection and Impact**
  - Group discussion on experiences and lessons learned
  - Assessment of the ecological impact of their efforts
  - Presentation of findings and personal reflections through creative mediums (e.g., posters, videos)

## Community Involvement:

- Collaboration with local environmental organizations and experts
- Involvement of parents and community members during field days
- Opportunities for students to lead community awareness (e.g.. students make posters about invasive ice plant)

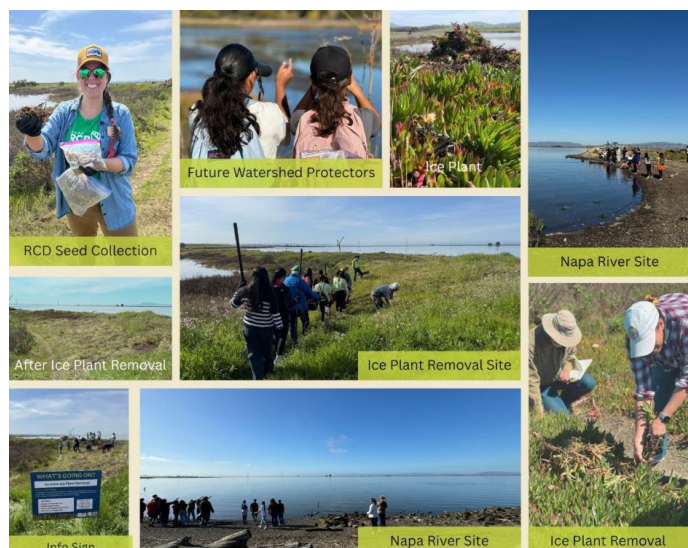
## Outcomes:

- Increased understanding of wetlands and their ecosystems
- Development of practical skills in ecological restoration
- Enhanced teamwork and leadership abilities
- Greater awareness and commitment to environmental stewardship



## Watershed Explorers

## Watershed Protectors Site:





## 2025 – 2026 Grant Report

### Watershed Explorers & Watershed Protectors Program Development

Amount Awarded: \$8,900

#### **Summary**

The American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation (Parks Foundation) requested \$20,000 in funding from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission. Of this \$20,000 request, \$8,900 was awarded. By securing additional funding sources and the NCWC funding, the Parks Foundation met most of the grant goals successfully.

With the support of the Wildlife Conservation Commission. grant, the Parks Foundation delivered over 2,388 hours of environmental and wildlife education to more than:

- 311 Watershed Explorers
- 112 new students in Napa
- 85 Watershed Protectors
- 110 Watershed Trainees

Additionally, over 44 parents and guardians participated in programs to learn about the local wetlands and the Napa River Watershed. Wildlife Conservation Commission. funding supported the delivery of the full Watershed Explorers program to every school in American Canyon, the new Watershed Protectors 5th grade pilot program at Napa Junction Elementary, and the expansion of programming with Napa RCD up valley.

#### **Program Description and Implementation**

During the Watershed Explorers Program, students participated in a three-part series that protects the watershed by getting them involved in hands-on learning. Session 1 is a one hour in-class presentation about the Napa River Watershed, its connection to the San Pablo Bay, and the unique wildlife habitats that exist there. Students learned about the American Canyon Wetlands and its attributes as a filter for the entire water system, reclamation, and biodiversity. Students learned how to make scientific observations, formed hypotheses, and utilized a nature journal to lead into the field day.

During the second session, students participated in a three-hour field day at the Wetlands trails. There they get hands on and rotate through four 30-minute stations from program partners including Suscol Intertribal Council, Napa Solano Audubon, Napa Resource Conservation District, and City of American Canyon Water Reclamation services. The third session brought the Outdoor Connection mobile classroom to the school, allowing students to continue making scientific observations in their nature journals utilizing microscopes and nature specimens as well as learn hands on about the watershed with the water table.

#### **New Program Highlight**

Wildlife Conservation Commission. funding also supported the launch of a four-part Watershed Protectors program, designed to equip students with the knowledge and hands-on skills needed to actively engage in



wetland restoration. Three 5th-grade teachers at Napa Junction Elementary Magnet School participated in the pilot during fall 2025 and spring 2026, integrating the program into their classroom learning.

The Watershed Protectors program is designed as a multi-session, inquiry-based experience that blends classroom learning with hands-on environmental stewardship. Students begin with an in-class introduction to wetlands, where they explore the definition, ecological importance, and role of these ecosystems in supporting biodiversity and providing essential ecosystem services. Building on this foundation, students learn to distinguish between native and invasive plant species, identify common invasive plants in local wetlands, and understand the impacts these species have on ecosystem health.

Following classroom presentation and preparation, students receive fieldwork training through teacher-led instruction supported by a short video developed by Parks Foundation staff and Teen WILD Volunteers. Students then participate in field experiences at local wetlands where they remove invasive iceplant, collect and disperse native seeds, and document their restoration efforts by mapping and measuring cleared areas. Subsequent monitoring sessions allow students to return to the site to observe plant regrowth, assess soil and habitat conditions, and record the presence of insects and wildlife. Community engagement is an integral component of the program, with local environmental organizations, experts, and family members participating in field days.

### **Original Program Goals**

The Parks Foundation sought to deliver environmental and wildlife education across American Canyon and Napa County, expand access to hands-on watershed learning, and strengthen partnerships with local environmental organizations. A key goal was to continue implementation of the Watershed Explorers program while expanding programming opportunities and reaching approximately 300 Napa County students through the Watershed Trainees program. The development of new programming pathways, including increased stewardship opportunities, was also a priority.

### **Program Challenges and Adaptation**

During the 2025–2026 school year, the Watershed Trainees program faced unexpected challenges that significantly limited the ability to reach the planned audience of 300 Napa County 2nd-grade students. Recent changes to Napa Valley Unified School District’s field trip approval process resulted in the cancellation of participation from three multi-class cohorts.

Despite active outreach and coordination, these administrative barriers constrained program delivery and reduced overall student access during this cycle. In response, the Foundation adapted its approach and successfully implemented the program with one new cohort, serving 110 3rd-grade students at Canyon Oaks Elementary School. While this represents a meaningful impact, it falls short of the intended reach.

Moving forward, the Parks Foundation is collaborating closely with teachers, school administrators, the district, and fellow environmental education partners to better navigate and inform the revised field trip approval system, with the goal of removing participation barriers and expanding access in the 2026–2027 school year.

## Outcomes

With the support of Wildlife Conservation Commission. unding, the Parks Foundation delivered over **2,388 hours of environmental education** and reached **618 students** and **44 community members**. The Watershed Explorers program was successfully implemented across all schools in American Canyon, ensuring broad access to watershed education.

The Watershed Protectors pilot program resulted in meaningful environmental and educational outcomes, including the removal of more than **2,500 square feet of invasive iceplant**. Students demonstrated a strong sense of pride in their accomplishments and developed a deeper sense of responsibility for their local environment. One student remarked, “Who knew 11-year-olds could do this? We made a big difference!”

Family and community engagement also increased during this grant period. The Foundation supported family nature visits by providing take-home wetlands maps and nature journals and offering free, family-friendly educational opportunities and conservation days outside of school hours. These efforts extended learning beyond the classroom and encouraged continued exploration and connection to the Napa River Watershed within the broader community.

## Program Quality and Sustainability

The programs continue to provide high-quality, hands-on, inquiry-based learning experiences that connect students to their local watershed and wildlife habitats. Partnerships with organizations such as Napa Resource Conservation District, Napa Solano Audubon, Suscol Intertribal Council, and the City of American Canyon strengthen program delivery and enrich student learning.

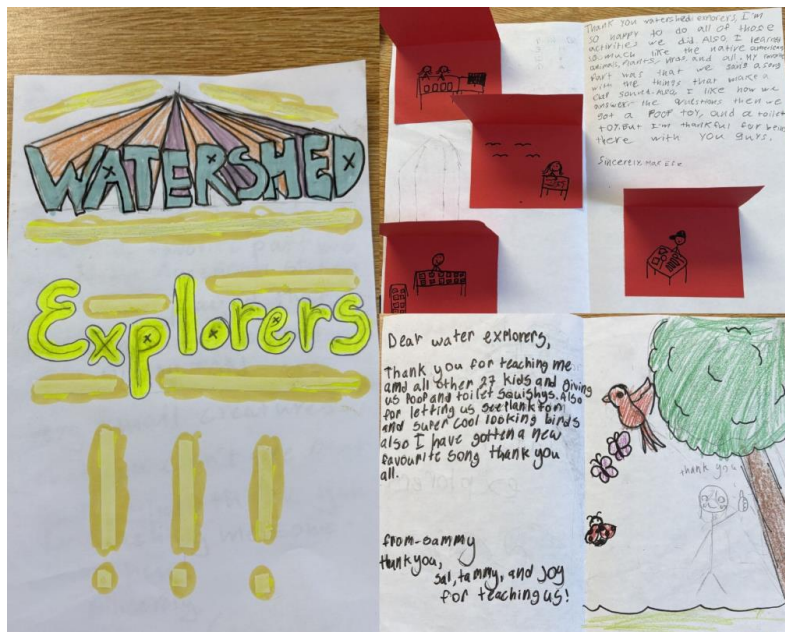
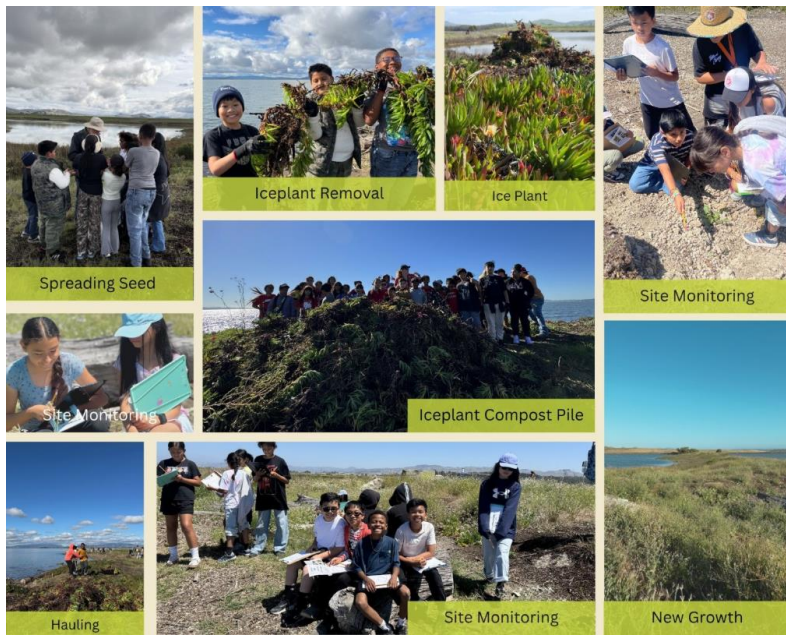
The success of the Watershed Protectors pilot program demonstrates strong potential for long-term sustainability. Teachers have already committed to continuing the program in the 2026–2027 school year, pending land use approval by the California State Lands Commission. The program aligns with California Science Content Standards and supports ongoing stewardship and environmental literacy.

## Acknowledgment and Future Plans

The Parks Foundation acknowledges the support of the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.. This funding was essential in delivering environmental education programming and in supporting the launch of the Watershed Protectors pilot program, a key advancement in student stewardship opportunities.

Looking ahead, the Parks Foundation plans to expand the Watershed Protectors and Watershed Trainee programs to additional classrooms, increase student participation in Napa County, and continue working with school districts and partners to address access challenges. These efforts will build on current successes and further strengthen opportunities for students to engage in meaningful watershed and habitat conservation work.

The program was awarded \$8,900 by the Napa County Wildlife Commission, with the remaining funding gap covered through additional support from the Napa Valley Community Foundation, the Whale Tail Grant, and the Napa Sierra Club.



# **Carolyn Parr Nature Center**

2026–27 Application for Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Funds  
Project Focus: Children's Nature Education Programming

## **I. Description of Organization / Eligibility**

### **1. Type of organization or business**

Non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation.

### **2. Purpose for which organization was formed**

The organization's fundamental purpose is to provide engagement and education toward the preservation, protection, and conservation of Californian and Napa County natural habitats. The organization's goal is to operate and maintain a natural science museum where individuals of all ages may acquire a greater understanding of, appreciation for, and opportunities for a closer relationship with, their native flora and fauna.

### **3. Tax exempt status**

501(c)(3) non-profit. Federal Tax ID (EIN): 94-2496573.

### **4. Date formed as Non-profit**

April 11, 1978.

### **5. Membership**

No restrictions. Yearly membership from date of sign-up; current count 30–40 members. Membership levels and fees: Student \$5, Individual \$10, Family \$25, Patron \$50. Admission to the Museum is free, including several community events held throughout the year. Educational presentations are free to all members and children under 13, with a \$5 fee for non-members; reservations required unless otherwise noted.

### **6. Names of Board of Directors**

- Stephanie Dahl, President
- Rabbit Hardt, Vice-President
- Nancy LaFortune, Chief Financial Officer
- Joyce Nichols, Secretary
- Karen Swain, Member
- Adrienne Molieri, Member

Contact Phone: 707-738-1916

## **II. Needs Assessment / Problem Statement**

## **1. Clear statement of problem**

The Carolyn Parr Nature Center, in order to further its mission of conservation education, requires funding to develop a dedicated children's nature education programming area, a resource that has long been improvised from limited shelving, an aging book collection, and materials that have not kept pace with current K–6 science curriculum standards. As Napa has grown increasingly shaped by tourism-oriented development, the CPNC remains one of the few consistently free, accessible points of entry for local children to encounter conservation education directly. That accessibility is undermined, however, by a children's area that has not been substantively updated in years.

Our current children's corner lacks adequate shelving and organization, leaving books and hands-on materials difficult for young visitors to browse and for volunteers to maintain. The book collection itself is dated, with many titles no longer reflecting current native species information, contemporary conservation science, or the bilingual accessibility our community needs. Volunteers who lead programming for school groups and families are working without a developed, standards-aligned curriculum, relying instead on improvised activities that vary in quality and consistency from visit to visit.

This gap affects both our on-site and off-site programming. On-site, family and school-group visitors encounter a children's area that does not match the quality of the rest of the Center's exhibits. Off-site, our ability to bring conservation education directly into classrooms, senior living facilities, and community events such as Earth Day is limited by a lack of portable, durable materials designed for travel and repeated use. Our educational outreach is intended to complement state curriculum guidelines for Life Sciences, Earth Science, and Ecology across Kindergarten through 6th Grade, and a properly developed programming area is essential to delivering on that intention consistently rather than incidentally.

Beyond books and shelving, the children's area's exhibit infrastructure has not kept pace with what it needs to be: a single static tactile exhibit anchors the space but has gone without restructuring or updates in years, and the area's skins and skulls cubby, a hands-on favorite for young visitors, has not been restocked with new specimens in some time. Neither offers the rotating display capacity that gives repeat visitors a reason to return. Every other exhibit at the Center is static once installed, which serves our adult and general-audience galleries well but does little to sustain a child's attention or curiosity over multiple visits. Restructuring and updating the existing tactile exhibit, restocking the skins and skulls cubby with new specimens, and building the rotating display infrastructure needed to keep the space fresh going forward would let the children's area function as a living, evolving classroom rather than a fixed corner, directly supporting the Center's mission to conceptualize and inspire engagement with our shared Napa ecology.

## **2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested**

Objective: The organization's fundamental purpose is to provide engagement and education toward the preservation, protection, and conservation of Californian and Napa County natural habitats, with young learners as a particular focus of this cycle's request. To meet this objective, we are asking the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission for \$10,000.00 to develop our children's nature education programming area across five coordinated components:

- Reading nook and shelving development for the children's area
- Expansion of the children's book and media collection, including bilingual titles
- Development of curriculum-aligned early education materials for K–6 standards



- Development of on-site and off-site outreach programming and materials
- Fabrication and installation of kinetic, hands-on children's exhibits with rotating display infrastructure

Should the Commission's award fall short of the full request, our priority order for these five components is: first, Children's Interactive Exhibit Fabrication & Installation; second, Curriculum & Educational Materials Development; third, Reading Nook & Shelving Development. This ordering reflects which components deliver the most durable, standards-aligned educational value if funding must be scaled to a partial award.

### **3. Anticipated results, with time-line**

The anticipated result of a \$10,000.00 grant from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission will be a fully developed, standards-aligned children's nature education area, physically organized, well-stocked, paired with curriculum our volunteer educators can deliver consistently, and anchored by hands-on exhibits that draw repeat visitation. Shelving and reading-nook improvements will begin immediately upon grant approval and are projected to take 2–3 months to complete. The book and media collection can be procured and catalogued within a similar window. Curriculum development, requiring coordination with an educational consultant and alignment to state standards, is projected to take 4–6 months. Off-site outreach materials will be developed in tandem, with new programming ready to deploy to schools, senior living facilities, and community events such as Earth Day within the same period. Design and fabrication of the kinetic children's exhibits and rotating display infrastructure is the longest-lead component, projected at 5–7 months from design through installation, with the first rotation of exhibits ready to open within the grant period.

### **4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective**

#### **Reading Nook & Shelving Development**

- Select and purchase shelving and seating suited to young visitors
- Install shelving, seating, and storage/display bins
- Reorganize the children's area for browsing and program use

#### **Children's Book & Media Collection**

- Identify current gaps in native flora, fauna, and conservation titles
- Purchase youth field guides and bilingual (English/Spanish) titles
- Catalogue and shelve the expanded collection

#### **Curriculum & Educational Materials Development**

- Engage a curriculum consultant to align activities to K–6 state standards
- Develop and print/laminate durable activity materials
- Assemble tactile and specimen-based learning kits

#### **On-Site & Off-Site Outreach Program Development**

- Assemble portable outreach travel bins for classroom and event use
- Purchase outreach supplies (magnifiers, collection trays, nets)
- Train docents and educators on new curriculum and outreach materials
- Schedule and conduct off-site visits to schools, senior facilities, and community events

### **Children's Interactive Exhibit Fabrication & Installation**

- Restructure and update the existing static tactile exhibit into a kinetic, hands-on display
- Restock the skins and skulls cubby with new specimens
- Design additional kinetic, hands-on didactic elements that let children physically engage with Napa's ecological systems
- Fabricate durable, child-safe exhibit components from sustainable materials
- Build lightweight rotating display infrastructure to support a changing exhibit calendar
- Install the initial exhibit rotation within the children's programming area

### **5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission**

A developed children's nature education programming area allows the CPNC to serve the future of Napa's conservation goals directly at their root: through the children who will inherit stewardship of our native habitats. Improved shelving and an expanded, bilingual book collection will make the Center more welcoming and accessible to families across our community. Curriculum-aligned materials will let our volunteer educators deliver consistent, standards-based learning rather than improvised activities. Expanded on-site and off-site programming will extend our reach into classrooms and community spaces that might not otherwise encounter conservation education. Kinetic, hands-on exhibits paired with rotating display infrastructure will give the Center's youngest visitors a physical, memorable way to conceptualize our shared Napa ecology, and a changing exhibit calendar that gives families a genuine reason to return. These goals are in service of California Fish and Game Code §13103(a), and align with the Commission's stated priority for educational proposals that meet state curriculum standards and can be integrated into the classroom, as well as proposals offering long-term educational value over one-time events.

### **6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful**

We will measure success through growth in the number of children and school groups engaging with the Center's programming, both on-site and off-site; the number of off-site visits conducted to schools, senior living facilities, and community events; feedback from teachers and program partners on curriculum alignment and quality; return visitation associated with each new exhibit rotation; and the continued ability of volunteer docents to deliver programming confidently and consistently using the new materials. Beyond these measures, we consider our deeper metric of success to be the number of children who leave a CPNC program with a genuine, lasting curiosity about the native flora and fauna of their own community.

### III. Attachments

#### 1. Expenditure Detail

The following is a good-faith estimate; final vendor quotes and consultant rates will be confirmed prior to execution and reported per the Commission's grant agreement terms.

| Item                                                    | Rate  | Units | Total          |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Custom Shelving Units                                   | \$140 | 4     | \$560          |
| Reading Nook Seating & Rug                              | \$400 | 1     | \$400          |
| Storage & Display Bins                                  | \$20  | 12    | \$240          |
| Installation Labor                                      | \$200 | 1     | \$200          |
| <b>Reading Nook &amp; Shelving Development Subtotal</b> |       |       | <b>\$1,400</b> |

| Item                                                   | Rate | Units | Total          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|----------------|
| Native Flora & Fauna Picture Books                     | \$18 | 30    | \$540          |
| Youth Field Guides                                     | \$15 | 20    | \$300          |
| Bilingual (English/Spanish) Nature Books               | \$20 | 13    | \$260          |
| <b>Children's Book &amp; Media Collection Subtotal</b> |      |       | <b>\$1,100</b> |

| Item                                                               | Rate | Units  | Total          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------|----------------|
| Curriculum Consultant Fees (K–6 Standards Alignment) \$35/hr       |      | 20 hrs | \$700          |
| Printed & Laminated Activity Materials                             | \$10 | 30     | \$300          |
| Tactile / Specimen Learning Kits                                   | \$50 | 6      | \$300          |
| <b>Curriculum &amp; Educational Materials Development Subtotal</b> |      |        | <b>\$1,300</b> |

| Item                                                                | Rate  | Units | Total          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Portable Outreach Travel Bins                                       | \$75  | 4     | \$300          |
| Outreach Program Supplies (magnifiers, trays, nets)                 | \$20  | 25    | \$500          |
| Off-Site Transportation Stipend                                     | \$250 | 1     | \$250          |
| Docent/Educator Training Materials                                  | \$75  | 2     | \$150          |
| <b>On-Site &amp; Off-Site Outreach Program Development Subtotal</b> |       |       | <b>\$1,200</b> |

| Item                                      | Rate    | Units | Total   |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|
| Rotating Display Framework & Track System | \$1,000 | 1     | \$1,000 |
| Kinetic / Interactive Didactic Components | \$300   | 7     | \$2,100 |

|                                                                               |       |    |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----------------|
| Fabrication Materials (durable, weather-safe)                                 | \$40  | 30 | \$1,200        |
| Skins & Skulls Cubby Specimens                                                | \$50  | 6  | \$300          |
| Installation & Fabrication Labor                                              | \$400 | 1  | \$400          |
| <b>Children's Interactive Exhibit Fabrication &amp; Installation Subtotal</b> |       |    | <b>\$5,000</b> |

## **GRAND TOTAL**

**\$10,000**

## **2. List of other funding sources**

- Membership fees
- Educational events fees
- Fundraising events
- Expanded grant applications
- Gift shop sales
- In-kind donations

## **3. Letters of support**

Letters of support from Karla Bunter, Aftercare Education at Stone Bridge School, Amy Heitzmann, and Alex Lyman, Director of the Robert Louis Stevenson Museum, speaking to CPNC's long-standing value to Napa families, children, and the broader museum and education community, are included below.

To the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the Carolyn Parr Nature Center's 2026-27 grant application to the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The Carolyn Parr Nature Center has long served the Napa community as a free, accessible resource for conservation education, and this year's request will strengthen that mission specifically for young learners. The proposed project will expand the Center's children's book and media collection, develop curriculum-aligned early education materials, and create new hands-on, kinetic exhibits that give children a direct, memorable way to engage with Napa's native ecology. These improvements will support consistent, standards-aligned educational programming both on-site and in outreach visits to schools and community events.

Programs like this give young people accessible, hands-on opportunities to learn about the natural world around them, and they build a foundation of environmental awareness and stewardship that carries into adulthood. I believe this project is a strong and worthwhile use of Commission funds, and I fully support the Carolyn Parr Nature Center's request.

Sincerely,

Karla Bunter

Aftercare Education, Stone Bridge School

karla.b@stonebridgeschool.org

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my support for the Carolyn Parr Nature Center (CPNC) in their application for 2026-27 Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant funding. I believe the CPNC deserves conservation grant funding because the Center provides many free and low-cost opportunities for the Napa community, and in particular Napa children, to participate in educational and conservation efforts that align with the goals of the Commission, and of the California Department of Fish and Game. It's been quite a few years since I've visited the Center, but it was a mainstay of my son Alex's childhood in Napa. The Center's resources and activities contributed to his early, and enduring, deep love of and appreciation for animals and their role in nature and conservation. He spent many hours at the Center, and participated in many camp days. He loved it so much, he's back at the Center as a volunteer.

The all-volunteer staff at CPNC maintains the Center and offers its activities relying on local financial resources that come directly from low-cost memberships and donations from community members. Over the years, these funds have stretched only so far, leaving some of the CPNC materials outdated and in need of a refresh and replenishing. Additional resources from the Commission will allow CPNC to update and resupply its Center signage and educational materials to reflect current conservation practices. With the Commission's help, I believe CPNC can further conservation efforts in Napa County, by continuing its free and low-cost activities with new, and more relevant conservation and educational materials and activities to be enjoyed by those who want to see Napa County wildlife thrive.

For these reasons, I hope you consider CPNC as a top contender for this grant.

Yours sincerely,  
Amy Heitzmann

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing in my capacity as Director of the Robert Louis Stevenson Museum in St. Helena to express my support for the Carolyn Parr Nature Center's 2026-27 application to the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

As the director of a fellow Napa Valley cultural institution, I have seen firsthand how much local museums rely on community trust, volunteer dedication, and modest but consistent public funding to keep their doors open and their programming relevant. The Carolyn Parr Nature Center has been a steady presence in Napa's educational landscape for decades, offering free and low-cost access to conservation education at a time when that kind of accessible, hands-on learning is increasingly hard to find.

Our two institutions have collaborated directly on the Silverado Safari program, through which CPNC helped connect natural history to local Napa Valley history in a way that felt genuinely seamless rather than bolted together. That partnership showed me how effectively CPNC bridges disciplines, giving visitors, especially young ones, a richer, more intersectional understanding of both the land and the history layered on top of it. It is exactly the kind of interpretive skill that makes their proposed children's nature education area such a promising investment.

This cycle's request, focused on developing a dedicated children's nature education area, including expanded materials, curriculum-aligned programming, and new hands-on exhibits, reflects the kind of forward-looking investment that keeps a small nonprofit museum relevant to the next generation. I know



from my own work how difficult it is to build standards-aligned educational programming and physical exhibit infrastructure on a volunteer-driven budget, and how meaningful outside funding is to making that possible.

I fully support the Carolyn Parr Nature Center's request and hope the Commission will give it favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Alex Lyman

Director, Robert Louis Stevenson Museum

#### **4. Completion/progress report of projects completed over the past 5 years using Fish & Game Fine Monies**

With the support of a \$10,000.00 Wildlife Conservation Commission grant awarded for the 2023–24 cycle, the CPNC completed a three-part project addressing our Napa Native Garden, our interior exhibits, and our community outreach capacity.

The Napa Native Garden was restored and expanded with new native plant specimens, an improved irrigation system, and new identification and interpretive signage, creating a stronger habitat and way-station for local pollinators while giving visitors a self-guided introduction to native flora before they enter the building.

Interior exhibits were upgraded with newly designed, professionally produced signage, including Spanish-language translations to better serve Napa's Hispanic community, along with an interactive bilingual audio component and a tour-guide speaker system for outdoor tours. The Education Outreach Fund allowed the Center to expand its free public events and school-outreach materials, supporting presentations aligned with Life Sciences, Earth Science, and Ecology curriculum standards for Kindergarten through 6th grade.

Building on that foundation, the CPNC's 2025-26 Wildlife Conservation Commission request of \$15,000.00 proposed continued work across three areas: further restoration and expansion of the Napa Native Garden to support larger and more frequent use by school groups and the public; improvements to the Center's Nature Library, early education materials, and exhibit housing; and expansion of public event and outreach programming, including a sustainable stock of materials to support a growing calendar of free community events and school partnerships. The Commission awarded approximately \$5,000.00 of this request, and CPNC prioritized that funding accordingly.



## **1. Description of Organization**

### **1.1 Type of Organization or Business**

The California White Shark Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit led by researchers Dr. Paul Kanive and Scot Anderson. Our mission is to monitor and assess the white shark population off central California. Scot Anderson began white shark research at the Farallon Islands in 1987, and Dr. Kanive has studied white sharks since 2008, specializing in estimating population parameters used to inform policymakers, the scientific community, and the general public. Scot Anderson pioneered the photo-identification method used to identify individual white sharks today. By photographing each shark's uniquely shaped dorsal fin—much like a human fingerprint—researchers can reliably identify and track individual sharks over time.

Together, we have built the world's longest continuous dataset on a white shark population, spanning more than 30 years. Our team has authored or co-authored over 35 peer-reviewed papers that have advanced scientific understanding and informed policy and conservation measures.

### **1.2 Purpose for Which Organization Was Formed**

This project was originally institutionally funded, but monetary support was lost in 2020 due to COVID-related budget cuts. To preserve the continuity of this dataset, we established our independent nonprofit in 2022. Through volunteer labor and limited donations, we have maintained uninterrupted data collection—critical for accurate population analyses and long-term conservation.

### **1.3 Tax-Exempt Status**

IRS Status: 501(c)(3)

### **1.4 Date Formed as a Nonprofit**

7/15/2022

### **1.5 Membership**

- Membership Program: None
- Restrictions: N/A

- Fees: N/A

## **1.6 Board of Directors & Contact Information**

Paul Kanive, PhD — President  
Email: paulkanive@gmail.com

Scot Anderson — Vice President  
Email: sharkman1137@earthlink.net

Dave Ritter — Treasurer  
Email: rittercraft@gmail.com

Maxine Meckfessel – Outreach Coordinator  
Email: maxinedianemeck@gmail.com

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## **2. Needs Assessment / Problem Statement**

### **2.1 Clear Statement of the Problem**

The California White Shark Project aims to expand our elementary education program into Napa County, building on the success we've had in Sonoma and Marin classrooms. To do this effectively, we must continue funding our core research operations, as the data we collect in the field forms the foundation of the curriculum we bring to students. Our presentations rely on real images, real shark identifications, and real scientific discoveries from our field season—making continued research essential for delivering accurate, engaging, and up-to-date educational content.

White sharks are a keystone predator in California's marine ecosystem, yet their population dynamics remain vulnerable to environmental change, human impacts, and shifting prey availability. Long-term monitoring is essential to detect population trends, assess recovery, and inform state and federal management decisions. In addition, widespread misconceptions and fear-based media portrayals have contributed to public misunderstanding of white sharks and their ecological role. Education is one of the most effective tools to counter misinformation, and our school presentations—successfully implemented in Sonoma and Marin Counties—provide students with accurate, engaging, science-based information about white sharks and our local coastline.

### **2.2 Specific Objective & Funding Request**

#### **Objective:**

The objective of this project is to complete a full 2026 white shark research field season (~September to December) and collect high-quality photographic and video identification data on individual sharks along the central/northern California coast. These data will strengthen our long-term population dataset and support updated abundance and demographic estimates for this ecologically critical species.

In addition to our field research, we plan to expand our successful education program—currently offered in Sonoma and Marin Counties—into Napa County classrooms. Our presentations for 3rd–5th grade students provide an engaging, science-based introduction to white sharks, marine ecosystems, and the California coastline. By bringing unique research, images, and scientists into the classroom, we spark curiosity, build environmental literacy, and deepen students’ understanding of local marine wildlife.

Our white shark education program aligns directly with California’s NGSS standards for grades 3–5, including ecosystem dynamics, structure and function, and scientific inquiry. The lessons integrate seamlessly into existing classroom units on marine life, California geography, and human impacts on the environment. Hands-on activities—such as dorsal-fin matching and examining real shark skin and jaws—reinforce NGSS science practices and provide teachers with ready-to-use, standards-aligned instructional content. Moreover, we currently have \$1,500 in funding allocated toward hiring a graduate student who will help us develop our presentation/scientific publications into a lesson plan. This funding was granted to our nonprofit from the West Marin Fund and is budgeted to be 50 hours, at \$30 per hour. This lesson plan will then be downloadable on our website, free, and available to teachers across the US to use in their classrooms.

#### **Funding Request:**

\$6,000

We respectfully request **\$6,000** to support our 2027 research and education efforts. The requested funds will be allocated as follows:

- **\$4,500** to cover the costs of **three research expeditions to the Farallon Islands** (\$1,500 per expedition, including vessel charter). Historically, the fee has been \$1,500 but we anticipate this to increase as a result of rising fuel costs.
- **\$1,500** to supplement our existing funding for our graduate student. The originally budgeted 50 hours will not be sufficient to complete the development of our classroom lesson plans, and these additional funds will ensure the project can be completed.

### **2.3 Anticipated Results & Timeline**

#### **Timeline:**

- September–December 2026: Field sampling (approx. 35 sampling days between the Farallon Islands and Tomales Point)
- Year-round: Data processing, permit applications, catalog updates, population modeling, and educational outreach presentations at local schools

#### **Anticipated Results:**

- Updated identification records for new and returning sharks
- Integration of 2026 data into the 30+ year dataset



- Improved population estimates and demographic trend analyses
- Increased community awareness through school presentations
- Deploy PAT (Pop-up Archival Transmitting tags) tags on the target demographic

## 2.4 Methods to Achieve Objective

Our education program consists of an interactive classroom presentation that introduces students to what white sharks are, how we study them, and why this research matters. We use hands-on learning tools—including shark skin samples, jaws, and other visual materials—to create an engaging, tactile experience. Students also participate in a dorsal-fin matching activity, allowing them to practice the same identification techniques used by researchers in the field.

To support this educational outreach, we conduct a full field research season each fall. We hold state and federal permits to attract white sharks to our research vessel for data collection. Our goal for 2026 is to complete approximately **35 sampling days**, during which we collect high-resolution photographs and underwater video of individual sharks.

### Sampling Approach:

- Conduct fieldwork at Bodega Head, Tomales Point, and the South Farallon Islands
- Attract sharks using a seal decoy and a small (<2 kg) piece of permitted salvaged marine mammal blubber
- Photograph and video-record dorsal fins to identify individuals using unique, stable natural markings
- Document sex, size class, and behavior for each shark encountered
- Integrate all observations into our long-term dataset of **600+ catalogued sharks**

These methods allow us to estimate abundance, survival, recruitment, and long-term population trends—data that directly inform both our scientific work and the educational content we bring into classrooms.

## 2.5 Benefit Relative to the Goals of the Commission

This project advances the purposes of California Fish and Game Code §13103 by conducting scientific research that supports the conservation and management of California's marine wildlife while developing educational resources for Napa County students that increase public understanding of white sharks and their role in maintaining healthy ocean ecosystems.

We recognize that the species we study are not found in Napa County. However, the ecological importance of white sharks extends far beyond the waters they inhabit. Through this project, we aim to provide Napa County students with opportunities to engage in authentic California-based marine science, fostering scientific literacy, environmental stewardship, and an appreciation for one of the state's keystone marine predators.

## **2.6 Compliance with California Fish & Game Code §13103**

This project aligns with the following allowable expenditures under §13103:

- (a) Scientific research relating to fish and wildlife conservation
- (d) Public education programs
- (e) Acquisition, development, or maintenance of wildlife habitat (indirectly through population monitoring data)

It also aligns with Wildlife Conservation Commission priorities related to:

- Marine species conservation
- Long-term ecological monitoring
- Community education and outreach

## **2.7 Evaluation Plan**

Success will be measured by:

- Number of sampling days completed
- Number of sharks photographed and identified
- Number of new individuals added to the catalog
- Quality and completeness of data integrated into the long-term dataset
- Number of educational presentations delivered and students reached

Annual reports will summarize field effort, data collected, and progress toward population modeling goals.

### **List of Other Funding Sources**

Each fall we solicit from new and existing donors for private donations. Historically, we have received grants from Marin and Sonoma Fish and Wildlife Commissions. We applied for 2026 but are awaiting their announcement period.

### **Letters of Support (Environmental Education Proposals Only)**

We have included two (2) letters of recommendation in our grant application.



# United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Interior Regions 8, 9, 10, and 12  
555 Battery Street, Suite 122  
San Francisco, CA 94111

IN REPLY REFER TO:

2026-5-22

Re: Letter of support for Grant Application (Paul Kanive and Scot Anderson)

Dear Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission:

I am writing to provide strong support for Paul Kanive and Scot Anderson's northern Californian white shark research program. Their work has provided important insights into white shark ecology, reproduction and population status informing managers and the public about best management approaches. They are well qualified as established and professional white shark experts who have authored over 35 scientific publications on white sharks and other marine wildlife. For many years I managed the research permit program at Point Reyes National Seashore. Paul and Scot are exceptional collaborators and science communicators making their research accessible and usable for Federal and other managers.

Their discoveries over the past 20+ years are the foundation of our understanding of California's white sharks and I expect their future research to continue providing important, actionable information. Ongoing research and monitoring of California top predators is needed to sustainably manage our coastal and recreational resources.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ben Becker, Ph.D.  
Science Advisor  
Californian Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit  
[Ben\\_becker@nps.gov](mailto:Ben_becker@nps.gov)  
415-250-4596



June 8, 2026

Re: Recommendation to Napa Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Program Letter of Recommendation for California White Shark Program (CWSP)

Dear Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission,

My name is Nichole Roberts, and I am a TK teacher in Napa Valley Unified School District. I have had the pleasure of knowing Maxine Meckfessel for the past five years.

On October 4, 2024, Maxine visited my fourth grade classroom in Sonoma through the California White Shark Program to speak to my fourth-grade class about their work. She shared many topics with my students, including how sharks are tracked in California, what they eat, their size, and how important it is to maintain sharks within a healthy ocean environment. This was truly an extraordinary learning experience for my fourth graders.

Maxine shared her passion and experience with the California White Shark Project in a meaningful and engaging way. She was well prepared with an interactive PowerPoint presentation that included video clips, pictures, and a life-size cutout of a great white shark. She also brought in shark jaws for students to observe. My students were engaged throughout the entire presentation.

This presentation and learning experience should be shared throughout all local schools and I am hoping the program receives sufficient funding to visit Napa classrooms, including the one I am now teaching in. Students in Napa County can benefit greatly from learning about topics that extend beyond the California curriculum. They can develop an understanding of the importance of sharks and the role they play in our ecosystem.

Please consider continuing to support the California White Shark Project so that Napa County classrooms can benefit from the same valuable learning experiences my students received. Continued support will provide positive educational opportunities for students and may inspire interest in future career paths.

Sincerely,  
Nichole Roberts  
TK Teacher  
West Park Elementary School



# Napa County

## Board Agenda Letter

1195 THIRD STREET  
SUITE 310  
NAPA, CA 94559  
www.napacounty.gov  
Main: (707) 253-4580

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Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission **Agenda Date:** 8/24/2026

**File ID #:** 26-1610

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TO: Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission  
FROM: Dana Morrison, Secretary to the WCC  
REPORT BY: Pam Arifian, Planner III  
SUBJECT: Commission Member Project Monitoring Assignments

### RECOMMENDATION

..title

Commission members assign themselves the projects they will be responsible for monitoring.

..body

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Commission members assign themselves the projects they will be responsible for monitoring during the 2026-27 grant project season and will report back to the Commission in spring 2027.

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Not a "project" pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Commission members are responsible for monitoring the awarded projects at least once during the 2026-27 project timeline and reporting back to the Commission during a scheduled meeting in spring 2027 prior to the subsequent grant award cycle. Commission members assign themselves the projects they will be responsible for monitoring.