

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION –DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION'S STEELHEAD AND STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT ON ARROYO SEQUIT, PHASE II, IMPLEMENTATION.

DISCUSSION

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is authorized to administer Proposition 50 (Water Code §79500 et seq.) funds for projects that restore and protect the water quality and environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays, and near-shore waters. Proposition 50 designated funds specifically to implement priority actions specified in the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan as recommended by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC).

On June 16, 2011, the SMBRC adopted Resolution 11-03 that approved a two phase project to design and implement the Steelhead and Stream Restoration Project on Arroyo Sequit (Project) to replace two in-stream crossings, and remove one check dam in order to open 4.5 miles of stream habitat to steelhead trout. The State Water Board approved the Project on September 19, 2011 through [Resolution No. 2011-0045](#). Phase I includes the planning, design, and permitting portions of the Project and is funded with a \$300,000 Proposition 50 grant to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation. Phase II includes construction of the Project and is funded in part by a \$1.3 million Proposition 50 grant to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks).

On March 22, 2012, the President of the United States issued Executive Order 12491, "Improving Performance of Federal Permitting and Review of Infrastructure Projects". This Order designated the Project as a national "Initial Priority Project" to ensure coordinated federal review and expedited permitting.

State Parks has determined, based on 90% design plans, that the construction costs for the Project will likely be \$493,887 higher than originally estimated due to the increased 1) size of the bridge abutments that are needed to support the bridges, 2) unit cost for concrete, 3) utility relocation costs, and 4) rock material for stream restoration. Therefore State Parks requested a budget augmentation of up to \$155,000 for the Project from the SMBRC to fund a portion of the increased costs. The SMBRC approved the augmentation through Resolution 13-06 on August 15, 2013. In addition to the augmentation from the SMBRC, State Parks requested additional funding in the amount of \$209,000 from the Wildlife Conservation Board and has secured an additional \$130,000 of internal funds from State Parks. The funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board are expected to be secured by contract in January 2014. These additional funds are expected to be enough to complete the Project.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board:

1. Approve up to an additional \$155,000 for the Project from Proposition 50 Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program funds for increased construction costs?
2. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance to execute grant agreements and/or amendments to add up to \$155,000 to the Project?

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds authorized from Proposition 50 through the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program are sufficient to fund the recommended augmentation to the Project.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

Yes. Los Angeles Regional Water Board staff assists the Division of Financial Assistance to manage the Project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should:

1. Approve up to an additional \$155,000 for the Project from Proposition 50 Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program funds for increased construction costs.
2. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance to execute grant agreements and/or amendments to add up to \$155,000 to the Project.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to ensure adequate flows for fish and wildlife habitat. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective 3.3, "Ensure that adequate stream flows are available for the protection of fish and wildlife habitat while meeting the need for diversions of water for other uses".

DRAFT

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2013-

APPROVING ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION'S STEELHEAD AND STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT ON ARROYO SEQUIT, PHASE II, IMPLEMENTATION

WHEREAS:

1. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is authorized to administer Proposition 50 funds for the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) to implement priority actions in the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan.
2. On June 16, 2011, the SMBRC adopted Resolution 11-03 approving a \$1.3 million Proposition 50 grant to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) to implement the Steelhead and Stream Restoration Project on Arroyo Sequit, Phase II, Implementation (Project).
3. On September 19, 2011, the State Water Board adopted [Resolution 2011-0045](#) approving the Project.
4. The Project is a national "Initial Priority Project" pursuant to Executive Order 12491, "Improving Performance of Federal Permitting and Review of Infrastructure Projects", dated March 22, 2012.
5. On August 15, 2013, the SMBRC adopted Resolution 13-06 to approve an augmentation of up to \$155,000 from Proposition 50 funds for construction-related costs for the Project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves up to an additional \$155,000 for the Project from the Proposition 50 Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant Program funds for increased construction costs.
2. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance to execute grant agreements and/or amendments to add up to \$155,000 to the Project.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on October 8, 2013.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board