## CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

### SAN DIEGO REGION

(SDRWQCB)

#### SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Project Requested by The San Diego River Park Foundation

Name of Project Volunteers in Action Stewardship Trailer

Date of Request April 12, 2005

Point of Contact Rob Hutsel

Phone (619)297-7380

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**Project Summary:** 

Total Life Cycle Cost for the Project: \$16,500.00
Project Overhead/Management \$1500.00
Design/Consultation \$0.00
Construction/Implementation \$ \$15,000.00
Long Term Maintenance/Oversight \$0.00
Total Project Cost \$16,500.00

Watershed/Water Body/Location for Project

San Diego River

Project Proposed Start Date and Time Line

September 1, 2005 - August 31, 2008

Organization Sponsoring Project: The San Diego River Park Foundation

(EIN 01-0565671)

Name of Project Manager Aaron Herzl

Phone (619)-297-7380

Designated Project Trustee Rob Hutsel

Description of Project Trustee capability or commitments to ensure that the project will be complete:

The San Diego River Park Foundation is the only organization dedicated to stewardship of the entire San Diego River Watershed. As the chair of the San Diego River Coalition, we are uniquely qualified to long-term commitment of stewardship activities. We are currently involved with several relatively large projects including the \$452,000 San Diego River Restoration Project, \$950,000 Lower San Diego River Private Landowner Incentive Program; and the \$4,139,000.00 Flood Control, Habitat Restoration and Recharge on the San Diego River Project.

Statement of Project Trustee ability/authority to receive and disburse funds The San Diego River Park Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit California corporation.

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#### DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION

#### 1. PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

The Volunteers in Action Stewardship Trailer is available to the 56 organizations of the San Diego River Coalition for community cleanups, non-native plant removals and habitat restoration projects. It contains the tools and supplies necessary to support these volunteer activities, such as trash bags, gloves, safety equipment, shovels, rakes, trash pickers, water pumps, and chain saws. The trailer is housed and maintained by The San Diego River Park Foundation (SDRPF).

The project would be to support this trailer for a three year period. The trailer supports 30 - 40 events per year. Most of these events are sponsored by groups in the urban canyons of Mission Valley, such as the Friends of Buchanan Canyon, Ruffin Canyon, and Dove Canyon, as well as groups working along the River including the Friends of Mission Valley Preserve, Audubon Society-San Diego Chapter, Friends of the San Diego River Mouth. This project would be to supply the trailer, provide for SDRPF staff time to keep the trailer stocked and to deliver it to events, as well as administering the project.

#### 2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The urban canyons of the San Diego River watershed have significant amounts of trash and invasive, non-native plants. Trash is either washed into these canyons, is dumped there, or is the result of illegal encampments. This trash can ultimately wash into the river toward the San Diego River Estuary and the Ocean. Non-native plants can also spread downstream or "invade" existing nearby native plant communities. Community groups and other interested parties can greatly help with removing trash and non-native plants from these areas if provided the necessary support and training. In addition, participants in these activities become better informed about the impact of trash and non-native plants and can help reduce their sources from within the adjacent communities.

There are many groups desiring to serve as stewards for the San Diego River. Often these groups do not have the tools and supplies necessary to conduct stewardship activities. They generally do not have the funding or the formal organizational structure to raise funding necessary to make the initial capital investment for these tools. By providing the necessary tools and supplies, more community members can be engaged in stewardship activities. SDRPF is already providing these services but funding has ended for this program. Funding is needed to continue these activities.

# 3. HOW WILL THE PROJECT BENEFIT WATER QUALITY AND BENEFICIAL USES?

Water quality of the San Diego River will be improved by the removal of trash from canyons and areas along the River and the Estuary. A beneficial use of the River is also the associated endangered species with the River and its habitat. By reducing the amount of non-native habitat, the quality of the natural habitat will be improved assisting species

such as the endangered least Bell's vireo. Another beneficial use is non-contact recreation. The removal of trash can reduce public health concerns associated with trash and refuse, making trails more attractive to users.

#### 4. HOW WILL THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROJECT BE MEASURED?

Success of the project will be measured by

- 1. The number of volunteers involved in supported activities
- 2. The amount of trash and non-native plants removed
- 3. The number of events supported

#### 5. DETAILED WORK PLAN

Please include a detailed supplemental report of the proposal/project that includes the following:

#### a. Scope of work (work to be performed)

#### Task 1 Acquire Tools and Supplies

Current trailer tools and supplies will be inventoried and purchases will be made to augment them.

#### <u>Task 2</u> Support Community Events

Based upon the current SDRPF maintained calendar of events, tools and supplies will be made available to community groups. The trailer will be delivered to events as needed by SDRPF staff who will provide any training necessary and collect data on the success of the events.

#### <u>Task 3</u> Re-stock Supplies

On a quarterly basis or as-needed, SDRPF staff will re-stock the trailer to replace used supplies and damaged tools.

#### Task 4 Monitor Activities

SDRPF will maintain records from each event to include date, time, location, number of volunteers, and results of activities.

#### Task 5 Reporting

Results of activities will be reported to SDRWQCB on a six month basis. A annual and final report will be prepared to document the results of monitoring activities as well as expenditures.

#### b. Budget

Annual Costs		3-year Program Costs
Tools and supplies	\$2500	\$7500
Mileage (\$.405/mile)	\$400	\$1200
Trailer Costs	\$600	\$1800
Project Management	\$1500	\$4500
Project Administration	\$500	\$1500

c. Task descriptions

See detailed work plan above.

- d. Methods and materials n/a
- e. Resource needs n/a
- f. Regulatory issues (environmental reviews, permits, etc.)

No permits or regulatory reviews are anticipated for this project.

g. Schedule

This program is for 3 years.

Task 1

0-1 month

Task 2

0 - 36 months

Task 3

every 3 months

Task 4

0 - 36 months

Task 5

every 6 months

h. Work products and documents to be retained for records Event activity data records and reports

i. Other information about the proposed project that may be of interest to the SDRWQCB.

I certify that the information provided in this application is an accurate and complete report of the costs, scope of work and expectations of this proposed project I am submitting to the SDRWQCB