

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
PRELIMINARY FUNDING COMMITMENT (PFC)
CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM
FAAST PIN: 25777

RECIPIENT: University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

PROJECT TITLE: MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING IN THE SANTA BARBARA REGION
(PROJECT)

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$1,987,869

TOTAL CBI GRANT REQUEST: \$1,987,869

GRANT MANAGER: Andrew Tsiu, Environmental Scientist (916-319-9123 or
Andrew.Tsiu@Waterboards.ca.gov)

AUTHORITY

The Clean Beaches Initiative (CBI) Grant Program provides funding for projects that restore and protect the water quality and the environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays and near shore waters. The CBI Grant Program was initiated in response to the poor water quality and significant exceedances of bacterial indicators revealed by Assembly Bill (AB) 411 monitoring at California's beaches. Funding is available from the *Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act* (Proposition 84). In addition, there are unused or re-appropriated funds remaining from the *California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 40) and the *Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 50).

The State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2012-0020 on June 5, 2012, which revised the CBI Guidelines used to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants for Proposition 84, Chapter 7 funds, and any unused or re-appropriated Proposition 40 and 50 CBI funds. The resolution authorized the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance (Division) to approve proposed projects, execute grant agreements and amendments to implement the proposed projects and utilize funds from projects which are withdrawn or completed under budget to fund additional projects recommended by the Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF), or augment the scope and budget of projects previously awarded.

The Concept Proposal for this Project was submitted to FAAST on August 7, 2013. The CBTF met on February 25, 2014 and recommended this Project be invited to submit a detailed application. A revised scope of work and budget was submitted and was sent to the CBTF on April 24, 2014. No further comments were received from the CBTF. The applicant submitted a Detailed Application to FAAST on July 21, 2014, and it has been determined to be complete. This PFC shall be posted on the State Water Board's internet website, and circulated to the CBTF for review and comment prior to the Deputy Director executing a grant agreement.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

This research is to perform microbial source tracking (MST) at three priority beaches in the Santa Barbara (SB) region (East Beach at Sycamore Creek, Goleta Beach, and Leadbetter Beach). The goal

is to improve public health by identifying the sources of microbiological contamination in order to determine appropriate implementation projects to improve beach water quality.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed work will use the Source Identification Protocol Project (SIPP) methods described in the California Microbial Source Identification Manual (http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/beaches/cbi_projects/docs/sipp_manual.pdf) to identify sources of fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) contamination at three CBI priority Beaches; Leadbetter Beach, East Beach at Sycamore Creek, and Goleta Beach.

To develop hypotheses regarding potential sources of FIB, the study will follow the tiers of the SIPP Manual. The first phase is reconnaissance, which will include collection and analysis of historical water quality and water flow monitoring data, development of GIS maps of physical infrastructure and environmental features, and field reconnaissance of the watershed for infrastructure and land use to guide the study design and sampling locations. Hypotheses regarding FIB sources and sample locations will be stated, vetted and agreed upon with all stakeholders and approved by the Grant Manager. If sufficient information is gathered in the data and field reconnaissance stage of the project and indicates a clear significant source of FIB contamination, the source identification work for that beach will conclude at that stage, and implementation of appropriate improvements will be recommended.

If FIB sources are not clear following reconnaissance, MST will be conducted for up to two AB411 periods at each beach. The sample locations and the potential addition of groundwater sampling, dye studies, and other endeavors, will be selected on a final basis during the course of consultative, and well-informed, study design, and approved by the Grant Manager. After the results are compiled following the end of each AB 411 sampling period and after the initial analysis of samples and data is complete, a preliminary analysis of results will be communicated to all appropriate stakeholders and the Grant Manager via a stakeholder meeting. If results from the prior AB411 sampling period indicate that human fecal contamination is present and if the results can be spatially related to human fecal sources that demonstrate a clear indication of necessary infrastructure remediation, the second phase of sampling will be discontinued and the next beach MST study will begin. The second AB411 season involves additional sampling to confirm what was discovered during the first season, to further pinpoint sources of FIB.

The total eligible cost of the Project is \$1,987,869. The UCSB requested a CBI grant amount of \$1,987,869 for the Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

For this project, the UCSB has filed a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for CEQA compliance at the State Clearing House on August 7, 2013. The project meets the following exemptions:

Section 15306: Class 6 Information Collection - Basic data collection and research with no disturbance to an environmental resource. No environmental impacts are expected a result of this project.

FISCAL IMPACT

As of July 1, 2014, the cumulative balance available for the CBI Grant Program funded by Proposition 40, 50, and 84 is:

July 1, 2013:	\$49,520,820
Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Approved PFCs	13,061,198
UCSB - FAAST PIN: 25777	<u>\$1,987,869</u>
Funds Remaining for Future Commitments:	\$34,471,753

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

The Project does not directly impact a Regional Water Board.

ROUTINE, NON-CONTROVERSIAL PROJECT

The proposed Project is routine and non-controversial based on Division staff's consideration of the documents and information provided by the UCSB, regulatory agencies, and written responses from the general public. There has been no indication of a protest or controversy regarding the proposed Project.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The PFC will be posted on the State Water Board's internet website for public review for 10 days.

APPROVAL

Using the authority delegated by the State Water Resources Control Board on June 05, 2012, in Resolution No. 2012-0020, I hereby:

Approve a Clean Beaches Initiative Grant Program Preliminary Funding Commitment of \$1,987,869 for the UCSB's Microbial Source Tracking in the Santa Barbara Region.

Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance

Date

Reviewed by:
Office of Chief Counsel
Date: