

Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks

**American River Parkway
Natural Resource Management Plan
Scope of Work
6/1/2017**



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Natural Resource Management Plan Statement of Intent for the Request for Qualifications

The Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) for the American River Parkway (Parkway) is intended to provide relevant and defensible information to the Parkway Manager for making informed decisions for managing, maintaining, and enhancing Parkway resources. In general, the NRMP shall provide a clear understanding of existing Parkway resources, the effects of disturbances such as flood, fire, invasive species and human impacts, as well as opportunities for protections and enhancements. It should advise resource management for promoting healthy ecosystems and resource protections, while balancing concurrent Parkway goals of flood control, recreational opportunities and public safety.

It is the intent of the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks to solicit and hire the most qualified firm or candidate to complete a NRMP for the Parkway from the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers upstream to the Hazel Avenue Bridge. The NRMP shall meet the standards and expectations outlined in this scope of work as agreed upon by the Department of Regional Parks and the selected firm.

1.0 American River Parkway Natural Resource Management Plan Background

1.1 American River Parkway Plan (Parkway Plan 2008 Chapter 1)

“The American River Parkway is an open space greenbelt which extends approximately 29 miles from Folsom Dam at the northeast to the American River’s confluence with the Sacramento River at the southwest. There are several distinct areas of the Parkway, each having individual features which contribute to their separate identities. The lower American River (LAR) is classified as a “Recreation” river within the State and Federal Wild and Scenic River Systems. The river is the central focus of the Parkway which provides enjoyment to residents and visitors of the Sacramento region. In fact, the American River Parkway is often referred to as “the jewel” of the Sacramento Region.

Recreational activity is important in the maintenance of healthy lives. Residents in the Sacramento region are particularly fortunate in having easy access to the recreational opportunities that the Parkway provides. In addition, visitors to the Sacramento area can also take advantage of the natural, aesthetic and historical resources of the Parkway. While the importance of recreational opportunities is recognized, preserving the natural qualities of the Parkway resource is essential.

The purpose of the Parkway Plan is to provide a guide to land use decisions affecting the Parkway; specifically addressing its preservation, use, development and administration. The Parkway Plan is a policy and action document. It is written to

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ensure preservation of the naturalistic environment while providing limited developments to facilitate human enjoyment of the Parkway. The Parkway Plan also acts as the management plan for the federal and state Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts, as described in Chapter 4 of this Plan.

The Parkway Plan is the policy document for the Parkway. It contains policy statements of a general and flexible nature. The American River Parkway is a regional open space greenbelt which crosses jurisdictional boundaries. The Parkway Plan addresses the entire length of the Parkway which includes areas in the unincorporated County, the City of Sacramento, the City of Rancho Cordova and the Lake Natoma portion of the Folsom Lake State Recreational Area. The County of Sacramento adopts the Parkway Plan as an element of its General Plan. The City of Sacramento and City of Rancho Cordova reference the Parkway Plan in their General Plans. The locally adopted Plan is then submitted to the State legislature for adoption through the Urban American River Parkway Preservation Act, Public Resources Code §5840. The Parkway Plan acts as an informational document and an invitation for citizen participation in the planning process. It also provides basic policy guidance for the future of the Parkway.

The County of Sacramento has the principal responsibility for administration and management of the American River Parkway as guided by the American River Parkway Plan. The American River Parkway Plan is defined to include the American River and adjacent floodplain, from the confluence with the Sacramento River to Folsom Dam. The County of Sacramento, however, has day-to-day management responsibility for the portion of the Parkway from the Sacramento River confluence to Hazel Avenue, exclusive of the fish hatchery facilities. For the purposes of this Plan, the lower American River (LAR) is defined to be from the confluence of the Sacramento River upstream to Hazel Avenue.

There are several portions of the Parkway that are owned and/or managed by State and Federal land managers. California Exposition and State Fair (Cal Expo) owns the Cal Expo floodplain portion of the Parkway upstream from the railroad trestle to the extension of Ethan Way and the American River, adjacent to the Cal Expo property landside of the levee. This portion of the Parkway is managed consistent with the Bushy Lake Preservation Act. Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks may manage this portion of the floodplain by agreement with Cal Expo.

The portion of the Parkway from Hazel Avenue upstream to the Folsom Dam, known as Lake Natoma, is included here as well as being a part of the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area. Lake Natoma is administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation or by the Federal landowning managers. Lake Natoma is patrolled by California State Park rangers and not by County Regional Parks rangers.”

1.2 Natural Resource Management Plan

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In 2008, Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks began a process to develop a NRMP for the Parkway. The original NRMP Stakeholder Committee (Committee) worked with Regional Parks from 2008 to 2010. The Committee was charged with gathering and evaluating natural resource data in order to provide recommendations to both protect and to improve the health of the Parkway's ecosystems and natural values. Although a final document was never completed, this Committee accomplished many important goals including baseline ecosystem mapping of the Parkway. The baseline mapping delineated the Parkway by ecosystem types, with an evaluation of current health, trends and threats in each area. The Committee also identified high value resources as well as degraded areas that could be improved. The Committee made preliminary recommendations for Parkway management, including identifying opportunities for protecting identified high value resources and opportunities for creating desired habitat in degraded areas. The original Committee dissolved after a series of setbacks, including the death of the original Committee Chairperson, significant Department staffing reductions and budget cuts.

In 2014, the Department reinitiated the NRMP effort with the goal of creating a document that would be aligned with the goals and policies of the 2008 American River Parkway Plan. The Department contracted with Chuck Watson of WRC-Environmental to create a NRMP Scope of Work. A new Stakeholder Committee, chaired by Chuck Watson, convened in spring and summer of 2015 to develop a set of recommended draft Plan Specifications (section 2.0) to provide the guidelines and parameters of a Scope of Work. The final NRMP Plan Specifications include all of the Stakeholder developed specifications with supplementary specifications added by Sacramento County Regional Parks staff. Stakeholder participants included delegates from the American River Equestrian Trail Patrol, American River Natural History Association, American River Parkway Advisory Committee, American River Parkway Foundation, California Native Plant Society, Sacramento Running Association, Save the American River Association, and the Sierra Club. The following groups were also invited, but did not send a delegate: the Audubon Society, Friends of the River, and The Wildlife Society.

The Department anticipates that regulations regarding flood management, state and federal Wild and Scenic Rivers, water quality, and endangered species, may all impact the NRMP in some way. The Department is working with local, state, and federal regulatory agencies to craft the NRMP scope of work to minimize any potential conflicts with the NRMP priorities outlined by Parkway stakeholders.

1.3 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Parkway Plan 2008 Chapter 4)

“The 23-mile portion of the American River that extends from below Nimbus Dam to the confluence with the Sacramento River has been designated as a Wild and Scenic River under both the State and Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts. The river has a broad channel with riparian vegetation along the banks and is located within the American River Parkway corridor. River flows in this segment are affected by Folsom

and Nimbus Dams and impacted by other man-made intrusions at several points along the river.”

1.3.0 State Wild and Scenic River System

“The California Legislature passed the State Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) in 1972 (PRC Section 5093.50-5093.70). The legislature said that it was the State’s intent that “certain rivers which possess extraordinary scenic, recreation, fishery, or wildlife values shall be preserved in their free-flowing state, together with their immediate environment, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the State.” The lower American River was included in the State Wild and Scenic River System in 1972 when the State Act was passed.”

1.3.1 Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers System

“The Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed in 1968 and set forth a policy that certain selected rivers possess outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs): scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, and cultural. The Act set forth a policy that would preserve these rivers, or sections thereof, in their free-flowing condition to protect water quality and preserve the outstandingly remarkable values. The lower American River was designated in 1981 by Cecil Andrus, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, under Section 2 (a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Designating the lower American River under the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act results in a prohibition of Federal construction, assistance, or licensing of water projects adversely affecting the characteristics qualifying the river for the national system. The National Parks Service is currently the federal administering agency that has been delegated to make such consistency determinations for the lower American River.”

1.4 Geographic limits of the Natural Resource Management Plan

The scope of work is intended to cover all lands within the boundaries of the American River Parkway from the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers to the Hazel bridge crossing of the American River Parkway.

Reference chapter 10 of the Parkway Plan for the land use maps and categories.

2.0 Natural Resource Management Plan Specifications

The Natural Resource Management Plan Specifications describe the overall guidelines and parameters for the Natural Resource Management Plan.

- 2.1 The NRMP is limited to the goals, policies, and directives specified in the 2008 American River Parkway Plan (all references to the American River Parkway Plan are to the 2008 plan).
- 2.2 The NRMP is a County Parks initiated process which addresses County Parks’ jurisdictional resource management responsibilities on the American River Parkway.
- 2.3 If a natural resource concern, or issue, or recommendation, as mentioned in the American River Parkway Plan, is not analytically addressed and/or implemented (in whole or in part) by the NRMP, the NRMP will;
 - 2.3.0 Identify that concern or issue,
 - 2.3.1 Provide a detailed explanation or justification for its exclusion,
 - 2.3.2 Provide a detailed suggested jurisdictional and institutional framework through which that American River Parkway Plan specified resource concern could be addressed.

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- 2.4 The American River Parkway Plan characterizes the American River Parkway as a naturalistic environment. For the purposes of the NRMP “naturalistic” is defined as an environment altered by various human activities, yet sustains functioning native ecosystem elements.
- 2.5 Functioning native ecosystem elements are defined as communities or vegetation/habitat units that;
 - 2.5.0 Are predominantly composed of the native species, those which would be expected to occur on-site under existing conditions,
 - 2.5.1 May include non-native species so long as they are;
 - a) not invasive, and
 - b) benign with respect to other native species,
 - 2.5.2 May include “naturalized” species; those that have become integrated into the system such as certain introduced fish species, and annual Mediterranean grass species.
- 2.6 Within the context of American River Parkway Plan policies, the NRMP will promote functioning native ecosystem elements and their modifications to emphasize the establishment and sustainability of native species.
- 2.7 The promotion of functioning native ecosystem elements by the NRMP will incorporate into its analysis foreseeable trends in changing site conditions due to natural processes.
- 2.8 The NRMP will conform to and accommodate all local, state, and federal natural resource management laws and regulations applicable to the American River Parkway and the Lower American River, as well as consider all recommended guidelines for natural resource management.
- 2.9 The NRMP will develop resource information and Parkway resource management objectives (section 5.0) sufficient to assist County Parks in providing comments on, and project design and implementation advice to, potential future proponents of projects in the Parkway for minimizing impacts to Parkway natural resource values.
- 2.10 The NRMP will maximize resource management collaboration opportunities with allied agencies by identifying mutually beneficial resource implementation programs, projects, and strategies.
- 2.11 The NRMP will address resource management issues for each of the American River Parkway Plan Land Use categories at levels that match resource management opportunities and constraints prescribed by or implicit in that Plan.

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- 2.12 The NRMP will adopt a Planning Horizon for defining the time over which assumptions, concerns, ongoing natural processes, and trends can be reasonably applied and foreseen.
- 2.13 For the Open Space Preserve, and Recreation Reserve Land Use categories, as defined in the American River Parkway Plan, the NRMP will assess natural resource conditions to the extent necessary to;
 - 2.10.0 Identify areas with resource characteristics which could influence the success of the NRMP in achieving its natural resource objectives,
 - 2.10.1 Provide County Parks with background information on natural resource concerns sufficient to form the basis for recommendations on land use permitting issues, and
 - 2.10.2 Allow County Parks to recommend Land Use category changes based on natural resource management issues during future American River Parkway Plan updates.
- 2.14 For the Nature Study Area, Protected Area, Limited Recreation, and Developed Recreation Land Use categories, as defined in the American River Parkway Plan, the NRMP will develop separate Parkway-wide resource condition standards, as part of developing a balanced management approach, as a basis for various management actions (e.g. management recommendations, use impact monitoring, and restoration/mitigation projects). Resource condition standards are to be based on varying levels or implementation intensities of various management factors, as they relate to natural resources. Management factors to be considered include;
 - 2.14.0 Fire prevention management,
 - 2.14.1 Habitat management,
 - 2.14.2 Trail and recreation management,
 - 2.14.3 Public safety management.
- 2.15 Site-specific resource condition standards will be developed for each Land Use designation (those subject to County Parks' management) in each Area Plan, and as necessary, for each vegetation/habitat unit, or other areas with special biological conditions (such as unique vegetation/habitat occurrence, special species, or other unique circumstances). The site-specific standards will be based on such things as;
 - 2.15.0 Area-Plan specific resource and activity circumstances,
 - 2.15.1 The results of a whole-Parkway scale "desired future condition" analysis.
 - 2.15.2 Wild and Scenic River protection guidelines
 - 2.15.3 Species of Greatest Conservation need

- 2.16 The NRMP will develop proposed policies and/or management strategies necessary to address;
- 2.13.0 Any natural resource management issue, which may be discovered during the NRMP process, but which was not recognized in, or addressed by, the American River Parkway Plan, and
 - 2.13.1 Any natural resource management issue that is addressed by the American River Parkway Plan, but is determined by the NRMP to be inadequate for satisfactory resource protection.
- 2.17 The American River Parkway is subject to illegal camping, fires, and other non-conforming activities that degrade the environment. This is especially prevalent in the “downtown” area of the American River Parkway from Cal Expo through Discovery Park, where safety concerns discourage more use by the general public. The jurisdiction and cooperation of multiple agencies is required to address unsafe activities in the downtown area of the American River Parkway.
- The NRMP will:
- 2.17.0 Locate and characterize the natural resource impacts and threats due to non-conforming activities.
 - 2.17.1 Identify and review possible strategies for the protection of natural resources from the threats due to these kinds of illegitimate activities.
- 2.18 The NRMP will apply agreed to definitions of various “impact” and “resource” statements that were imprecisely used in the American River Parkway Plan. The agreed to definitions for the NRMP include:
- 2.18.0 Directives to “minimize” impacts are understood in the NRMP to mean the alternative with the least adverse impact to Parkway natural resources will be selected.
 - 2.18.1 In the context of special events, directives to “not degrade (not degraded)” are understood in the NRMP to refer to impacts that can be specifically associated with special event activities as opposed to impacts associated with ongoing typical Parkway uses.
 - 2.18.2 In the context of special events, directives concerning “non-degrading” impacts are understood in the NRMP to mean those natural resource impacts that are expected to self-recover to original resource conditions within one year (assuming that yearly special events are not scheduled such that recovery is not possible). This does not preclude post-event impact mitigation actions that may facilitate recovery.

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- 2.18.3 In the context of special events, directives concerning impacts to “natural resources” are understood in the NRMP to mean natural resource features and process that are not associated with park facilities and improvements such as golf courses etc., turf areas, overflow parking area (mowed turf, or mowed areas), native plant gardens, etc., and visual resources or recreational experiential values. The NRMP will delineate these excluded areas for those locations where special events are permitted.
 - 2.18.4 Directives concerning “detrimental” impacts are understood in the NRMP to mean that natural resource conditions will not exceed the natural resource condition standard thresholds as developed in the NRMP for various Land Use categories and Area Plan Land Use delineations.
 - 2.18.5 In the context of the Developed Recreation Land Use category, directives concerning not “destroying any portion of the Parkway” are understood in the NRMP to mean managing these areas in such a way that recreational activities do not result in natural resource impacts to the degree that closure and recovery actions are required.
 - 2.18.6 In the context of the Integrated Vegetation and Wildlife Management Plan, directives to “minimize adverse effects” of non-native species are understood in the NRMP to mean that the concept of diminishing returns is to be recognized and used to determine adequate and acceptable levels of natural resource impacts due to non-native species.
- 2.19 The NRMP will be a scientifically-based “fully-constrained” and “defensible” assessment and planning process which is to include:
- 2.19.0 The use of appropriate assessment and analytical methods,
 - 2.19.1 Explicitly stated, and the full explanation and justification of all assumptions,
 - 2.19.2 The inclusion of existing background material limited by a critical review of defensibility and by its intended application limits,
 - 2.19.3 Conclusions that are supported by explicit reasoning and rationale, and that are explicitly qualified by;
 - a. Limitations of assumptions used
 - b. Limits of defensible data and information
 - c. Uncertainties based on unknowns and other limitations.
- 2.20 The NRMP will be defensible regarding public agency decisions and actions. Of particular importance to the American River Parkway are:
- 2.20.0 CEQA guidelines and NEPA procedures: All agencies with jurisdiction within of the American River Parkway must abide by the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

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- 2.20.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts: The 23-mile portion of the American River that extends from below Nimbus Dam to the confluence with the Sacramento River has been designated as a Wild and Scenic River under both the State and Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts.
- 2.21 One standard for establishing minimum resource conditions will be the non-degradation obligation under the Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council guidelines for the management of 2(a)(ii) state managed federally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, which will include;
 - 2.21.0 Determining resource conditions as of the date (1981) of Lower American River inclusion into the federal system,
 - 2.21.1 Determining resource condition changes, since 1981, due to natural processes outside of management control,
 - 2.21.2 Estimating future change of resource conditions due to natural processes outside of management control,
 - 2.21.3 Developing desired resource condition management objectives,
 - 2.21.4 Establishing minimum standards that reflect either
 - A. 1981 conditions or
 - B. Expected conditions due to changes resulting from ongoing natural processes outside of management control,
 - 2.21.5 Recommending management actions to improve degraded areas.
 - 2.21.6 Developing strategies to maintain or enhance resource conditions.
- 2.22 The NRMP actions, recommendations, and guidelines will be based on an assessment of Desired Conditions, which will set the framework for balancing resource management with recreation, optimizing resource conditions and values, and defining resource management objectives for individual management units.
- 2.23 The resulting NRMP actions and recommendations in each Area Plan will be limited by policies of the American River Parkway Plan.
 - 2.23.0 Any recommended Area Plan modifications must provide a higher level of resource protection, in whole or in part, than prescribed in the American River Parkway Plan.
 - 2.23.1 Any recommended Area Plan modifications must be limited to those that do not require approval by the State Legislature under the provisions of the Urban American River Parkway Preservation Act.
 - 2.23.3 The NRMP may include recommendations for Land Use Category changes or boundary changes, to be considered during future American River Parkway Plan updates.

2.24 The NRMP will have an “adaptive management” element which will include mechanisms and procedures for modifying the NRMP to accommodate such issues as:

2.24.0 Future updates of the American River Parkway Plan

2.24.1 Accommodating possible future changed circumstances such as;

A. Unexpected modifications to the natural setting,

B. New species of concern,

C. New understanding of resource processes and dynamics,

D. New resource management techniques

Natural Resource Management Plan Draft Work Plans

The work plans in Sections 3 through 10 were developed by the Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks to guide firms responding to this RFQ. The draft work plans describe the objectives, assessments and deliverables the Department anticipates will be included in the NRMP development process and in the final NRMP. The work plans will provide guidance for firms responding to this RFQ, including the relevant minimum level of effort necessary to complete the NRMP. The work plans were also developed to provide firms a realistic benchmark for the type of technical expertise that will be necessary to meet the Management Plan Specifications from Section 2 of this RFQ. **Upon selection of the most qualified firm to complete the NRMP, the draft work plans will be revised by the selected firm in consultation with the Department of Regional Parks, to finalize the scope of work, timeline and budget for the completion of the NRMP.**

3.0 Resource Assessments Work Plans

3.1 Fluvial Geomorphology

Objectives

3.1.0 To develop a reconnaissance-level analysis of the past, present, and future river channel processes and trends sufficient to understand relations between changing channel dynamics and natural and infrastructural resources.

3.1.1 To prioritize areas where channel processes and bank erosion are a risk to resources, suggest solutions to protect vulnerable resources, and suggest suitable enhancement projects.

3.1.2 To recommend protections and enhancements for Shaded Riverine Aquatic Habitat.

3.1.3 To review drain outfalls and creek confluences for potential channel impacts, management challenges, solutions, and enhancement opportunities.

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- 3.1.4 To develop guidelines for evaluating bank and in-channel projects proposals, to protect the natural, recreational, and visual resources of the Parkway.
- 3.1.5 To develop a tracking system that identifies results of individual bank and in-channel projects as well as the progressive and cumulative effects of bank and in-stream projects on Parkway resources.

Assessment

- 3.1.6 Describe channel evolutionary trends including past, present and potential future conditions.
- 3.1.7 Identify and describe areas where existing channel conditions are predicted to change, as well as probable causes for these changes.
- 3.1.8 Integrate the influence of changing channel conditions on plant communities and wildlife habitats, sufficient to understand the changes in Parkway natural resource conditions since 1981 as well as potential changes resulting from future channel trends.
- 3.1.9 Assess and prioritize risk to infrastructure and other Parkway resources from channel processes.
- 3.1.10 Suggest strategies to protect infrastructure and other Parkway resources from channel processes.
- 3.1.11 Describe the LAR reaches to be used for specific varying sets of bank and in-channel project guidelines considering: causes of bank erosion; channel evolution and evolutionary trends; project alternatives; natural, recreational; and visual resources.
- 3.1.12 Identify and document recreational impacts to bank erosion and recommend strategies to mitigate these impacts.
- 3.1.13 Determine criteria for identifying Shaded Riverine Aquatic Habitat (SRA).
- 3.1.14 Identify and map areas for SRA protection and enhancement.
- 3.1.15 Identify and describe opportunities for protecting, establishing, and enhancing SRA cover.
- 3.1.16 Inventory and describe drain outfalls and creek confluences.
- 3.1.17 Describe their potential effects on bank and channel processes and Parkway resources; their structural internal integrity and; any suggested management actions.

Deliverables

- 3.1.18 Discussion and mapping of river and channel evolution including relevant causal elements, descriptions of channel conditions as they have influenced changes since 1981, and as they will continue to influence:
 - 3.1.18.1 future plant communities and wildlife habitats,
 - 3.1.18.2 potential future risks to Parkway resources, and
 - 3.1.18.3 identification of potential enhancement project sites.
- 3.1.19 Management recommendations to protect Regional Park infrastructure and other Parkway resources at risk to damage by present and future channel processes.
- 3.1.20 Map of existing Shaded Riverine Aquatic Habitat and recommendations for protection and opportunities for enhancement.
- 3.1.21 Management guidelines and protocols for identifying, prioritizing, and managing bank erosion caused or exacerbated by recreational use.
- 3.1.22 Management recommendations for improving drainage outfall and creek confluences to enhance Parkway resources and/or reduce risks to Parkway resources.
- 3.1.23 A set of guidelines for evaluating bank and in-channel projects proposals.
- 3.1.24 A tracking system of resource impacts from bank and in-channel projects.

3.2 Terrestrial Geomorphology

Objectives

- 3.2.0 To develop an analysis of geomorphic surfaces sufficient to identify potential future plant communities.
- 3.2.1 To identify areas where infrastructure and resources are vulnerable to extreme flows.
- 3.2.2 To identify tributaries and drainages with degraded conditions and develop enhancement strategies and actions.
- 3.2.3 To identify areas where grading may benefit natural resources.
- 3.2.4 To provide input for bluff management issues.

Assessment

- 3.2.5 Map geomorphic surfaces, including inundation areas at 115K and 160K cfs flows, secondary channels active at varying flows, tributaries, and drainages.
- 3.2.6 Map potential future plant communities, baseline data such as: existing vegetation; channel evolution trends; elevation above groundwater; soils and substrates; and flood inundation patterns.
- 3.2.7 Identify and prioritize natural and infrastructural resources at risk due to future extreme flow events.

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- 3.2.8 Recommend management actions for minimizing and avoiding the adverse consequences of extreme flows.
- 3.2.9 Inventory all tributaries and drainages and assess for stability, integrity, and condition (with the outfall assessment in Fluvial Geomorphology.)
- 3.2.10 Identify areas where land grading or tributary alteration may be desirable for enhancing resource conditions.

Deliverables

- 3.2.11 Geomorphic surface map with expected future vegetation and plant communities.
- 3.2.12 Extreme flood inundation map with vulnerable natural and infrastructural resources
- 3.2.13 Prioritized and recommended strategies for minimizing damage from extreme floods.
- 3.2.14 Map and condition description of tributaries and drainages.
- 3.2.15 Recommended strategies to improve conditions of tributaries and drainages.
- 3.2.16 Map of all areas where grading could enhance resource conditions and a discussion of recommended corrective and enhancement strategies applicable to each site.

3.3 Vegetation Management

Objectives

- 3.3.0 To develop an assessment of the plant communities, sufficient to: map and describe the type, distribution, quality, and condition of existing plant communities, including threats and trends; and to meet the needs of the wildlife assessment.
- 3.3.1 To document 1981 vegetation sufficient to define the baseline condition.
- 3.3.2 To describe ongoing trends in plant community changes and expected future conditions.
- 3.3.3 To determine Desired Conditions for vegetation.
- 3.3.4 To identify opportunities, constraints, and recommended strategies for protecting or enhancing plant community conditions to achieve Desired Conditions.
- 3.3.5 To develop a monitoring program for measuring and assessing plant community deficiencies, trends, and success.

Assessment

- 3.3.6 Describe and map 1981 plant communities by type, distribution, and condition, sufficient to establish baseline conditions.
- 3.3.7 Map existing plant communities by type and condition.

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- 3.3.8 Describe present and ongoing plant community trends and project future plant community conditions, based on fluvial and terrestrial geomorphology, and changing site conditions due to ongoing natural adjustments and processes.
- 3.3.9 Identify and map special status, locally rare or threatened plant species and plant communities.
- 3.3.10 Define and map Desired Conditions for plant communities (incorporating wildlife needs), using 1981 baseline conditions as a minimum standard, and considering ongoing natural adjustments and processes.
- 3.3.11 Map and describe vegetation Desired Condition standards by type, distribution, and condition.
- 3.3.12 Develop management strategies, guidelines, and measures for maintaining, protecting, and achieving Desired Conditions.
- 3.3.13 Develop monitoring protocols with clear criteria and standards for tracking vegetation conditions and for identifying thresholds that would trigger a needed management response.

Deliverables

- 3.3.14 Map and description of existing plant communities, including type, distribution, quality, condition, threats and trends.
- 3.3.15 Map and description of 1981 plant communities and conditions.
- 3.3.16 Description and explanation of predicted future plant community conditions.
- 3.3.17 Map, description, and standards of Desired Conditions.
- 3.3.18 Management strategies, guidelines, and enhancement measures for maintaining, protecting, or achieving Desired Conditions.
- 3.3.19 Monitoring program for detecting trends and measuring and assessing success in achieving Desired Conditions.

3.4 Wildlife Management

Objectives

- 3.4.0 To assess wildlife and wildlife habitat, sufficient to: develop wildlife habitat-plant community relationships; prioritize target wildlife species for management, and; describe trends and threats.
- 3.4.1 To identify target wildlife needs including habitat connectivity, patch size, seasonal and other needs.
- 3.4.2 To identify wildlife habitat needs for defining Desired Conditions.
- 3.4.3 To identify opportunities and constraints and to recommend strategies for protecting or enhancing wildlife and wildlife habitat conditions.
- 3.4.4 To develop BMPs to minimize negative impacts to target wildlife.
- 3.4.5 To develop a strategy to minimize impacts of nuisance wildlife species.

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- 3.4.6 To develop a wildlife monitoring program with clear criteria and standards for tracking conditions and for identifying thresholds that would trigger a needed management response.

Assessment

- 3.4.7 Identify and prioritize present and potential target wildlife management species, including special status, and locally important species.
- 3.4.8 Identify habitat needs for each target species such as: plant community types and conditions, patch size, connectivity, condition, and seasonal requirements.
- 3.4.9 Map and describe the existing occurrence of target species and habitats, identify any existing habitat condition limiting factors, and identify threats and trends.
- 3.4.10 Map and describe 1981 wildlife habitat to establish baseline conditions.
- 3.4.11 Provide input to defining Desired Condition for plant communities, based on target species habitat needs.
- 3.4.12 Develop Desired Condition standards for target species on plant community maps.
- 3.4.13 Identify, describe and prioritize nuisance species, including domestic species, that negatively impact target wildlife and their habitat.
- 3.4.14 Develop maintenance and management BMPs for target species, considering seasonal needs, and sensitives to noise, light, and other disturbances, for the management of nuisance species, and for addressing general wildlife concerns.
- 3.4.15 Develop monitoring protocols, with clear criteria and standards for tracking changing target species conditions and for identifying threshold condition criteria to trigger a management response.

Deliverables

- 3.4.16 Description of target management wildlife species habitat needs, trends, and limiting factors.
- 3.4.17 Desired Condition standards for target wildlife.
- 3.4.18 Strategies and recommendations for protecting and improving target wildlife habitats.
- 3.4.19 BMP's for target wildlife and general wildlife habitat protection, restoration and enhancement.
- 3.4.20 Monitoring program for evaluating trends, assessing success in achieving the wildlife resource goals, and for triggering management intervention.

3.5 Wildfire Impact and Risk Reduction

Objectives

- 3.5.0 To assess overall wildfire risk to Parkway resources and infrastructure.
- 3.5.1 To develop strategies for ignition reduction and fuel management, with a range of management strategies tied to varying levels of wildfire risk.
- 3.5.2 To make recommendations for fire prevention, suppression, fire reporting, and preparations for emergency response.
- 3.5.3 To develop post-fire management options.

Assessments

- 3.5.4 Assess wildfire risk to vulnerable Parkway resources, as well as risk of wildfire spreading into adjacent communities. Assessment must: identify, map, and prioritize vulnerable resources; identify fire/fuel breaks; prioritize fuel condition risks; identify high risk ignition locations; and describe fire resiliency or sensitivity of resource.
- 3.5.5 Assess opportunities to reduce wildfire damage risk. Assessment must: identify potential opportunities and practices; assess efficacy, cost, practicality, permitting, seasonality, and durability of each opportunity or practice and; disclose potential impacts from fire-fighting activities and wildfire risk reduction options.
- 3.5.6 Assessment of post fire management options. Assessment must: identify opportunities for post fire management and; assess efficacy, cost, practicality, permitting, seasonality, durability of each opportunity.

Deliverables

- 3.5.7 Recommendations for wildfire risk reduction strategies based on the wildfire risk assessment and the opportunity assessment.
- 3.5.8 BMPs for each strategy
- 3.5.9 Descriptions of levels of intensity and management tied to seasonal and annual levels of wildfire risk.

3.6 Bluff Management

Objective

- 3.6.0 To develop bluff management guidelines for minimizing impacts of bluff retreat to private properties, while protecting natural, recreational, and visual resources.
- 3.6.1 To develop guidelines for bluff-edge land use practices to improve bluff integrity.
- 3.6.2 To develop natural resource management objectives for a riverine zone at the base of bluffs.

Assessment

- 3.6.3 Inventory and describe existing bluff protection practices and structures, including materials, size, facing, adjunct features such as ladders or steps, and any visual screening.
- 3.6.4 Identify land use practices that may influence bluff retreat processes or adversely affect visual resources, including; irrigation management of surface water runoff; structure location, setback and attributes; and the dumping of waste landscape materials.
- 3.6.5 Identify and delineate a riverine zone at the base of bluffs, where bluff retreat processes are not predominant, and where natural, visual and recreational resource management practices will not adversely affect bluff retreat processes.
- 3.6.6 Define site-specific resource management objectives and management strategies for riverine zone areas, which will maximize resources values while not aggravating bluff retreat processes.

Deliverables

- 3.6.7 Homeowner land use practice guidelines for maximizing bluff and bluff protection integrity and for minimizing impacts to visual resource values.
- 3.6.8 Site-specific management strategies to achieve riverine zone objectives.
- 3.6.9 Guidelines for evaluating proposed bluff retreat protection structures considering; adequacy for achieving long term bluff stability; and guidelines for minimizing visual impacts.

3.7 Cultural Resources Management

- 3.7.0 To develop a monitoring program and management recommendations to protect known cultural resources.
- 3.7.1 To prioritize areas within the Folsom Mining District areas by historical value.
- 3.7.2 To recommend high value cultural sites within Folsom Mining District for protection and interpretation, as well as areas that may be suitable for conversion to enhance natural resource values.

Assessment

- 3.7.3 Inventory and characterize conditions of known cultural resource sites including site and cultural resource integrity, and the degree degradation due to recreational activity or other factors.
- 3.7.4 Conduct an independent review of the Folsom Mining District and identify areas with outstanding historical values and those with relatively low historical value which may be suitable for natural resource enhancement.

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- 3.7.5 Identify portions of the Folsom Mining District on the Parkway that could be available for conversion to enhance natural resource values.
- 3.7.6 For each existing cultural resource site and identified high valued Folsom Mining District sites:
 - A. Characterize desired site conditions.
 - B. Identify corrective measures necessary to ensure long-term protection for sites with degraded cultural resource values due to past causes.
 - C. Develop cultural resource protection management strategies.
 - D. Develop site-specific standards to identify overuse conditions.

Deliverables

- 3.7.7 Monitoring protocols, with clear criteria and standards for tracking changing site conditions, for identifying management response and for identifying thresholds that would trigger a needed management response.
- 3.7.8 Identification of significant cultural resources sites.
- 3.7.9 Cultural site-specific characterization of present conditions, desired conditions, measures necessary to correct past impacts, resource protection strategies, and overuse standards, using developed monitoring protocols.
- 3.7.10 Map of Folsom Mining District areas suitable for conversion for enhancing natural resource values.
- 3.7.11 Monitoring program for evaluating trends in site conditions and for identifying overuse thresholds
- 3.7.12 Guidelines for appropriate management actions to address overuse threats and to mitigate resource degradation.
- 3.7.13 Data base, including results of existing conditions monitoring survey.

3.8 Ambient Light Management

Objectives

- 3.8.0 To document and establish a baseline of ambient light through a night sky survey.
- 3.8.1 To survey lighting that is directly entering the Parkway, as well as indirect sources as far as five miles away.
- 3.8.2 To inventory lighting sources within the Parkway.
- 3.8.3 To develop park lighting guidelines necessary for resource protection while providing adequate public safety.
- 3.8.4 To develop a monitoring program to assess long term ambient light conditions in the Parkway.

Assessment

- 3.8.5 Identify, map, and prioritize wildlife habitat areas based on sensitivity to and seasonality of artificial light.
- 3.8.6 Identify, map, and prioritize areas that are important for preserving nighttime aesthetics.
- 3.8.7 Inventory internal Parkway night light sources, including both permanent and temporary lighting.
- 3.8.8 Identify and prioritize areas where internal Parkway lighting conflicts with wildlife sensitivity and nighttime aesthetics, and evaluate nighttime safety concerns at these areas.
- 3.8.9 Conduct a survey of direct and indirect light entering the Parkway.

Deliverables

- 3.8.10 Data base and baseline assessment of current ambient light conditions.
- 3.8.11 A map with description of wildlife and recreational sensitivities to night lighting.
- 3.8.12 An inventory of existing internal Parkway nightlight sources.
- 3.8.13 An assessment of nightlight conflicts with wildlife and recreational aesthetic resource values.
- 3.8.14 Site-specific recommendations to minimize night light conflicts with wildlife and aesthetics.
- 3.8.15 Monitoring protocols for long-term tracking of ambient light conditions.
- 3.8.16 Lighting guidelines future project designs, special event permitting, and BMPs.

3.9 Bank and Channel Management

Objectives

- 3.9.0 To develop guidelines (to protect natural, recreational, and visual resources) for reviewing and providing input for project proposals involving channel bank and in-stream channel modifications.
- 3.9.1 To create a tracking system for cumulative effects and progressive changes to bank and channel resources.

Assessment

- 3.9.2 Identify a range of bank and channel project types for which guidelines may apply.
- 3.9.3 Categorize a set of river reaches appropriate for use in developing guidelines.
- 3.9.4 Consider: project need and cause; protection of natural, recreational, and visual resources; project design and materials; and project alternatives.
- 3.9.5 For in-stream projects, consider protection of water-based recreation, including boating depths, velocities, corridors, float times, carrying capacity, safety risks, and bank use opportunities.
- 3.9.6 Develop protocols for predicting, confirming and tracking potential project effects on Parkway resources.
- 3.9.7 Develop a system for assessing cumulative effects and progressive change to resource values from these projects.

Deliverables

- 3.9.8 Guidelines and protocols for evaluating, reviewing, and providing input to channel bank modification projects to protect natural, recreational, and visual resources.
- 3.9.9 Guidelines and protocols for evaluating, reviewing, and providing input to in-stream channel modification projects to protect recreational activities, resources, and values.
- 3.9.10 A monitoring program for determining project effects on natural, recreational, and visual resources, and for tracking and assessing cumulative effects and progressive change to resource values from these projects.

4.0 Desired Conditions

Objectives

- 4.1.0 To integrate resource management assessments, protections, and enhancement opportunities into a balanced and cohesive vision of Desired Conditions, within the framework of the 2008 Parkway.
- 4.1.1 To integrate desired recreation and viewsapes into Desired Conditions.
- 4.1.2 To determine thresholds for maintaining Desired Condition.
- 4.1.3 To develop a Desired Condition monitoring program with a data management system.
- 4.1.4 To develop management strategies for achieving and maintaining Desired Conditions.

Assessment

- 4.1.5 Identify desired recreational opportunities, considering variability, spatial distribution, and balance, as appropriate to the Parkway.
- 4.1.6 Identify desired viewsapes, considering variability, spatial distribution, and balance.
- 4.1.7 Integrate resource management assessments from Vegetation, Wildlife, Terrestrial Geomorphology, Fluvial Geomorphology, Wildfire Damage Risk, Bluff, Cultural Resources, Ambient Light, and Bank and Channel Management, Parkway Land Use categories and Area Plans, with desired recreation and view scape opportunities to develop Desired Conditions.
- 4.1.8 Define individual management units for Desired Conditions (e.g. plant community polygons).
- 4.1.9 Recommend areas for planted mitigation sites to meet Desired Conditions.
- 4.1.10 Identify grading opportunities for restoration or enhancement.
- 4.1.11 Define management unit condition objectives (maintain or improve).
- 4.1.12 Define threshold standards that would trigger a management response in each management unit.
- 4.1.13 Classify each management unit using desired condition and threshold standards.

Deliverables

- 4.1.14 Description of Desired Conditions and threshold standards for each management unit.
- 4.1.15 A baseline assessment of current condition status.
- 4.1.16 Monitoring protocols, with clear criteria and standards, for tracking changing natural resource conditions and for identifying thresholds that would trigger a management response.
- 4.1.17 A long-term condition data management system to identify problems, trends, and restoration success.

- 4.1.18 Recommendations for areas suitable for grading to facilitate resource enhancement.
- 4.1.19 Recommendations for planted mitigation sites with recommended planting palettes.
- 4.1.20 Management strategies and guidelines for protecting and improving towards Desired Conditions.

5.0 Management and Operations

5.1 Conceptual Level Enhancement Plans

Objective

- 5.1.0 To develop site specific, conceptual-level grading and enhancement plans, adequate for future grant proposals or other funding opportunities.

Deliverables

- 5.1.1 List of areas that would benefit from grading to achieve Desired Conditions.
- 5.1.2 Conceptual grading and enhancement project descriptions, including design objectives, description of resource problem to be addressed, and project enhancement opportunities. Project description to include:
 - 5.1.2.1 planimetric and cross-section drawings;
 - 5.1.2.2 phasing and seasonal recommendations; and
 - 5.1.2.3 potential permitting or mitigation requirements.

5.2 Mitigation Site Designs

Objectives

- 5.2.0 To develop site specific, conceptual level mitigation site-designs.
- 5.2.1 To design parameters suitable for guiding mitigation project site design and site design review.

Assessment

- 5.2.2 Survey all existing planted mitigation project sites and evaluate them for: appropriateness of planting palette for present and potential future site conditions; project effects on wildlife habitat; project effects on recreational and view scape opportunities; plant installation patterns effects on visual and habitat values; installation and maintenance requirements associated with different planting patterns.
- 5.2.3 Identify areas recommended as planted mitigation sites to achieve Desired Conditions.

Deliverables

- 5.2.4 Recommended planting patterns to optimize the relation between installation, maintenance, and monitoring costs with scenic and wildlife habitat values.
- 5.2.5 Conceptual Site Plans for each of the identified recommended planted mitigation areas.

5.3 Exotic Plant Management

Objective

- 5.3.0 To incorporate and expand the existing Invasive Plant Management Plan for long-term invasive exotic plant control.
- 5.3.1 To determine the present status of exotic plant occurrence, in relation to past and ongoing control efforts.
- 5.3.2 To develop priorities, program strategies, guidelines, BMPs, and tracking methods for long-term exotic plant control planning.

Assessment

- 5.3.3 Review history and accomplishments of past existing invasive plant control efforts, including identifying successes and any shortcomings or failures.
- 5.3.4 Inventory and map existing exotic plant populations, including distribution, predominance, trends and significance to plant community, habitat, and recreational/visual values.
- 5.3.5 Develop replicable methods for tracking, mapping, and monitoring target exotic plant populations over time. Methods must be designed to provide data for: comparing populations and occurrence over time; updating the existing prioritization matrix by reprioritizing or adding target species; as well as including opportunities for reporting by volunteers and park users.
- 5.3.6 Inventory the distribution of target exotic plant populations and determine a desired future plant community condition based on present and potential future site conditions.
- 5.3.7 Identify visual and/or recreational resources to be protected during and after conversion activities.
- 5.3.8 Identify, review, and recommend strategies and programs for implementing exotic plant control efforts.

Deliverables

- 5.3.9 Recommended strategies and methods for achieving the identified desired future plant communities, including timing, phasing, planting, and maintenance, and project success criteria.
- 5.3.10 Map of present exotic plant occurrence with a discussion of population dynamics, trends, and significance to plant community, habitat, and recreational/visual values.

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- 5.3.11 Updated prioritization matrix, a list of target species, and a “watch” list for potential new invasive weeds.
- 5.3.12 Plant control strategies and BMP’s for each target species.
- 5.3.13 Conceptual plans for “Conversion-sites” suitable for grant proposal or other special-source funding applications.
- 5.3.14 Monitoring program for tracking activities, progress, and program updating or modification.
- 5.3.15 Assessment of alternative implementation approaches, programs, and strategies with recommendations.

5.4 Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Objective

- 5.4.0 To develop BMPs, to maximize protection of natural resource values for:
 - 5.4.0.1 All current and recommended maintenance and management activities performed by Department staff and volunteer programs.
 - 5.4.0.2 Projects and activities that are subject to County review, permitting, or approval.

Assessment

- 5.4.1 Identify all existing and recommended maintenance and management activities such as: routine park facility maintenance; special events; restoration sites; exotic plant control; fire fuel reduction; construction; and ROW maintenance.
- 5.4.2 Develop BMPs for each activity, including guidelines on methods, materials, scheduling, and recurrence.
- 5.4.3 Consider minimization of impacts including aesthetics, night-lighting, noise, occurrence and distribution of significant target wildlife species according to resource sensitivities.

Deliverables

- 5.4.4 BMP’s for ongoing maintenance and management activities.
- 5.4.5 Guidelines for reviewing or approving project BMP’s.

5.5 Special Event Resource Management

Objective

- 5.5.0 Develop a structured approach for incorporating natural resource protection into the Special Event decision-making process, including recommendations for minimizing and mitigating event impacts.

Assessment

- 5.5.1 Identify existing and potential types and locations of Special Events.
- 5.5.2 Identify a range of natural resource sensitivities and resiliencies that may be impacted by Special Events.
- 5.5.3 Develop a structure for including natural resource impact mitigation into the planning and approval review process, including BMPs, Desired Conditions, and post-event management.

Deliverables

- 5.5.4 Monitoring protocols for Special Events (to be included in the Resource Impact Monitoring Program).
- 5.5.5 Recommendations to improve the Special Event planning and approval process to minimize impacts to natural resources.
- 5.5.6 Recommended BMP's and post-event mitigation.

5.6 Illegal Activities: Impacts and Management

Objective

- 5.6.0 To map, describe, and quantify resource impacts attributable to illegal activities.
- 5.6.1 To suggest potential management approaches for minimizing and mitigating these impacts.

Assessment

- 5.6.2 Identify illegal activities that degrade Parkway resources.
- 5.6.3 Review resource condition assessments to map, describe, and quantify degraded conditions that can be directly attributable to illegal activities.
- 5.6.4 Review and summarize approaches used by other resource managers to minimize such resource impacts in similar settings.

Deliverables

- 5.6.5 Map and description of types, significance, and quantity of resource degradation caused by illegal activities.
- 5.6.6 Recommended management opportunities to minimize resource damage from illegal activities.

6.0 Monitoring Programs

Objective

- 6.1.0 To develop a Resource Impact Monitoring Plan to ensure the protection of the Parkway's resources, its environmental quality and natural values. Plan will clearly define criteria and standards to monitor, evaluate and protect the Parkway's resources from overuse, and provide steps to be taken to restore areas that have been overused.
- 6.1.1 To develop an Interpretive Impact Monitoring Plan to assess and monitor the ability of sensitive cultural and natural features to endure impacts from interpretive activities, and recommend access conditions or permit restrictions, as needed to ensure the long-term protection and preservation of those features.
- 6.1.2 To develop a Desired Condition Monitoring Plan to assess and monitor long term trends of defined Desired Conditions in each management unit. Plan will monitor areas to assess whether they are meeting the desired condition, are trending towards or away from the desired condition, or require restoration or changes in management practices.

Assessments

- 6.1.3 Identify key cultural and natural resources for monitoring.
- 6.1.4 Define damage thresholds for overuse, such as damaged vegetation, change in wildlife species composition, erosion, or soil compaction.
- 6.1.5 Classify the potential of recreational, other park user, interpretation, and special event impacts upon the Parkway's cultural and natural resources for monitoring prioritization.
- 6.1.6 Establish a baseline of existing conditions for park user impacts on natural and cultural resources.

Deliverables

- 6.1.7 Protocols, with overuse threshold criteria, for assessing impacts of park users upon Parkway resources.
- 6.1.8 Recommended strategies and steps to restore areas that have been overused.
- 6.1.9 Protocols for assessing and monitoring conditions, as well as trends, within defined management units.
- 6.1.10 Threshold criteria to trigger needed management actions to maintain, protect, or restore the Desired Condition.
- 6.1.11 Guidelines for cultural resource site protection, and restoration management actions.
- 6.1.12 Data management system for efficiently identifying problems, tracking trends, and measuring restoration success.
- 6.1.13 Comprehensive resource impact monitoring plan.

- 6.1.14 Comprehensive interpretative impact monitoring plan.
- 6.1.15 Comprehensive Desired Condition monitoring plan.

7.0 Natural Resource Improvement and Restoration

Objectives

- 7.1.0 To identify thresholds for responding to degraded resource conditions.
- 7.1.1 To recommend resource management options for improving degraded resource conditions.

Assessment

- 7.1.2 Review Monitoring Program and Desired Conditions to establish thresholds and triggers for management actions.

Deliverables

- 7.1.3 List of a range of management actions to be used to:
 - 7.1.3.1 maintain resource management units at their Desired Condition, and to:
 - 7.1.3.2 improve degraded management units towards Desired Conditions.
- 7.1.4 Guidelines for identifying and applying resource management actions for achieving and maintaining minimum conditions within resource management units.

8.0 Science and Research Program

Objectives

- 8.1.0 To develop an approach for promoting applied research to inform Parkway resource management.
- 8.1.1 To allow public access to the research results.

Assessments

- 8.1.2 Identify and prioritize resource management research needs.
- 8.1.3 Identify potential collaborative research institutions and entities.
- 8.1.4 Identify permit conditions and guidelines for research activities.

Deliverables

- 8.1.5 Recommendations for promoting collaborative research opportunities.
- 8.1.6 Recommendations for sharing research results with the public.
- 8.1.7 Structured program for collaborating with universities and others, on applied research to address identified resource management needs.

9.0 Adaptive Management

Objectives

- 9.1.0 Develop a NRMP update process to accommodate future circumstances: such as climate change; unexpected modifications to the natural setting; new species of concern; new understandings of resource processes and dynamics; new science; and/or new resource management techniques.
- 9.1.1 To review the effectiveness of the NRMP in achieving Desired Conditions.
- 9.1.2 To allow input and review from the public, stakeholders, and resource agencies.

Deliverables

- 9.1.3 A system for future changes, updates and modifications to the NRMP.
- 9.1.4 A system to track and record management decisions for future evaluation.

10.0 Recommendations for Future Updates to the American River Parkway Plan

Objective

- 10.1.0 Develop a set of recommendations to consider for future updates to the American River Parkway Plan.

Assessment

- 10.1.1 Compare NRMP mapping with the existing Parkway Land Use Category boundaries.
- 10.1.2 Review boundary lines and recommend changes to accommodate more precise vegetation, wildlife habitat, and/or site conditions for improved resource management.
- 10.1.3 Suggest Land Use Category changes in areas where greater protections of significant natural resources is recommended, or where such changes would improve the balance of overall Parkway natural resource values.

Deliverables

- 10.1.4 Set of recommendations to consider for future updates to the American River Parkway Plan.
- 10.1.5 A process for evaluating properties adjacent to the American River Parkway for consideration to be included within the Parkway.

11.0 RFQ Response Deliverables

All responses to this RFQ shall include, at minimum, the following information, which shall be used by Sacramento County to evaluate and select the most qualified firm to enter into negotiations for the completion of the Natural Resource Management Plan.

11.1 Introduction and background of the firm, including relevant technical expertise to complete the NRMP, as described by the Plan Specifications and Draft Work Plans.

11.2 Information on at least 3 projects that your firm has completed, which are similar in project deliverables including planning process, technical expertise, public outreach, and project management obligations. Please include the following information for each project.

- Project description
- Explanation of how/why your firm was selected
- Original (anticipated) and actual timeline for project delivery
- Describe a unique or innovative process that your firm has implemented in the delivery of the projects.
- References that can provide an evaluation on project execution, work performance and overall project delivery.
- An internet link, or other method, to electronically review the completed project.

11.3 Complete organization chart that identifies all key staff and sub-contractors by task anticipated to be assigned to this project.

11.4 A biography or resume of each team member assigned to this project.

11.5 A description of how your firm plans to complete the NRMP, including:

- Draft project timeline with deliverables;
- Community engagement plan;
- Regional Parks coordination and communication plan; and
- Anticipated benchmarks throughout the planning and execution of the contract.

11.6 The Natural Resource Management Plan is intended to be a “living document” and an “informational warehouse” for all monitoring programs, implementation measures and management decisions for the American River Parkway. Describe how your firm proposes to develop and implement a system which controls, manages and informs the Department and the community on the progress, outcomes and developments for the Natural Resource Management Plan within the defined planning horizon.

11.7 An overall time estimate for the completion of the Natural Resource Management Plan. Estimate must include:

- A plan for meeting the draft project specifications and deliverables described in this work plan.
- .
- A breakdown of percent time allocated to each team member (as identified in section 11.5) assigned to this project.
- An estimated cost range, based on employee time allocation, for the project delivery.

12.0 Contract Negotiation Provisions

This section describes the contract negotiations anticipated once a firm has been selected and negotiations have been approved by the Board of Supervisors.

12.0 Selected firm shall provide on a time and materials basis, a cost estimate to review and evaluate all available background information provided by Regional Parks including but not limited to maps, plans, research and other data relevant to the NRMP. The time allocation for this process is expected not to exceed two months.

12.1 Selected firm shall prepare a detailed scope and budget proposal, including a project timeline for review by the Department. The timeline shall include all anticipated work included in sections 2-10. It is expected that the selected firm will bare all costs in completing the final scope of work including preparing, modifying, and reviewing the scope with Regional Parks.

12.1.0 At no cost to Regional Parks, the selected firm shall prepare a work flow plan for Department communication, internal review, project oversight, and a method for tracking the scope of work progress and revisions to the scope of work through project completion.

12.1.1 At no cost to Regional Parks, the selected firm shall negotiate contract scope, costs, project schedule and contract terms to reach an agreed upon project scope and contract terms.

12.2 It is the intent of the final scope of work to include a minimum of twelve months support for the monitoring program, as described in section 6.0. Selected firm will be expected to maintain, update and train Regional Parks and other County staff on the use and updating of the data management system, and will perform ongoing field applications, troubleshooting, updates, and necessary modifications during the first twelve months of implementation.