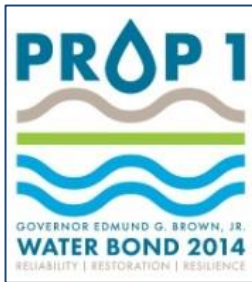


2019 Proposition 1 & Proposition 68 Grant Opportunities



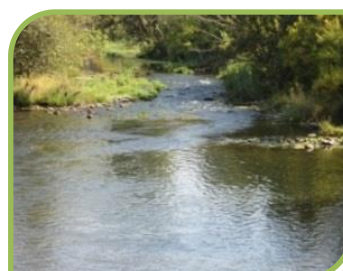
DRAFT

Proposal Solicitation Notice

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Public Comment Deadline: October 17, 2018

WatershedGrants@Wildlife.ca.gov



California Department of Fish and Wildlife



The Mission of the Department of Fish and Wildlife is to manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public

FOREWORD

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is pleased to announce funding opportunities for multi-benefit ecosystem restoration and protection projects under both Proposition 1 and Proposition 68. This Proposal Solicitation Notice for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 focuses on planning, implementation, and acquisition projects across multiple priorities outlined herein.

This Solicitation addresses priorities which will contribute to the objectives of Proposition 1 (Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014); Proposition 68 (California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018); as well as the California Water Action Plan, State Wildlife Action Plan, Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy, Delta Plan, California EcoRestore, Safeguarding California Plan, the California Biodiversity Initiative, and the fulfillment of CDFW's Mission. All qualified, eligible entities are encouraged to submit grant proposals.

Award Information

- Anticipated total available funding: up to \$49 million
 - Up to \$22 million in Proposition 68 funds
 - Up to \$27 million in Proposition 1 funds dependent upon the allocation in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Act
- Grant award notifications anticipated in April 2019
- Grant-funded project work must be complete by:
 - April 30, 2022 for Proposition 68 funds
 - April 30, 2023 for Proposition 1 funds

Eligibility Information

Eligible entities vary slightly between the Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 grant programs. Eligibility for Proposition 1 is defined by California Water Code Sections §79702[p], §79702[s], and §79712. Eligibility for Proposition 68 is defined by Fish and Game Code Section §1501.5[b]. The following entity types are eligible for funding by one or both grant programs: federal, state, and local public agencies within California; Indian tribes; nonprofit organizations; public utilities; and mutual water companies. See section 3.1 for detailed information. Other entities that are not eligible for funding under this Solicitation may work as subcontractors for an eligible applicant.

Proposal Deadline

The complete proposal and all supporting documentation must be submitted via the [CDFW WebGrants System](#) by 4:00 PM, Pacific Daylight Time, on **TBD**.

Application Workshop

CDFW will schedule at least one online workshop to provide technical assistance with the application. Please see CDFW Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 Restoration Grant Programs websites for workshop details. Workshops will be recorded and made available online.

Contacts

For questions about this Solicitation please contact CDFW's Watershed Restoration Grants Branch by e-mail at WatershedGrants@Wildlife.ca.gov.

This document, email list subscription information, and further information about the funding sources can be found at the CDFW websites for the [Proposition 1](#) and [Proposition 68](#) Restoration Grant Programs.

For questions and assistance regarding CDFW WebGrants, please contact the CDFW WebGrants Help Desk at (916) 323-0477 or by e-mail at Prop1Webgrants@wildlife.ca.gov.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CALCC	California Association of Local Conservation Corps
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CCC	California Conservation Corps
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEDEN	California Environmental Data Exchange Network
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
Corps	CCC and CALCC, collectively
CWC	California Water Code
DGS	Department of General Services
DMP	Data Management Plan
GAMA	Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PDT	Pacific Daylight Time
PRC	Public Resources Code
Proposition 1	Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014
Proposition 68	California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018
Solicitation	Proposal Solicitation Notice
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WCB	Wildlife Conservation Board
WRAMP	Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Program

1 BACKGROUND

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 ([Proposition 1](#)), and the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 ([Proposition 68](#)) provide funding to implement the objectives of the [California Water Action Plan](#) for more reliable water supplies, the restoration of important species and habitat, and a more resilient, sustainably managed water resources system; and other priorities identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan, Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy, Delta Plan, California EcoRestore, Safeguarding California Plan, the California Biodiversity Initiative, and the fulfillment of CDFW's Mission.

Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 authorize the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to award \$457.5 million in grant funds to multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects. CDFW distributes these funds on a competitive basis through three grant programs, the Watershed Restoration Grant Program, the Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program, and the Proposition 68 Grant Programs. The [Proposition 1 CDFW Restoration Grant Guidelines](#) were finalized in June 2015. The [Draft Proposition 68 Restoration Grant Guidelines](#) are anticipated to be finalized by mid October 2018. These Guidelines provide a foundation for the basic requirements for project proposals; however, the information in this Solicitation supersedes any discrepancies between the two documents.

Under this Solicitation, approximately \$49 million is anticipated for award. CDFW anticipates funding up to:

- \$24 million for the Proposition 1 Watershed Restoration Grant Program,
- Up to \$10 million for the Proposition 1 Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program,
- \$4.4 million for Proposition 68 Rivers and Streams Restoration Grants,
- \$8.8 million for Proposition 68 Southern California Steelhead Grants, and
- \$8.8 million for Proposition 68 Habitat Improvement Grants.

CDFW anticipates that up to \$4 million of the funding awarded to projects that protect and restore anadromous salmonid habitat will serve as state match for the 2018 [Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund](#) grant. The purpose of this Solicitation is to solicit

proposals limited to the focus areas described in Section 2.

1.1 Proposition 1 Program Requirements

Proposition 1 includes a number of provisions that govern how CDFW may allocate funds authorized by California Water Code (CWC) [Section 79737](#) and [Section 79738](#), including those identified below. Projects must be consistent with the purposes of Proposition 1 to be eligible for funding by either program.

Watershed Restoration Grant Program

- These funds are available for water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects of statewide importance outside of the Delta (CWC §79737[d]).
- Funding shall only be used for projects that will provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations, except for any water transfers for the benefit of subsection (d) of Section 3406 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Title 34 of Public Law 102-575) (CWC §79737[f]).
- Funds shall not be expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of Delta conveyance facilities (CWC §79737[e]).
- Funds may be used to address the unique ecological, flood control, water quality, and hydrological conditions associated with urban creeks and watersheds on the California-Mexico border (CWC §79737[g]).

Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program

- Funding will be available for projects that will provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations (CWC §79732[b]).
- Funds shall not be expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of Delta conveyance facilities (CWC §79738[f]).

1.2 Proposition 68 Program Requirements

Funding will be available for projects that improve a community's ability to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change; improve and protect coastal and rural economies, agricultural viability, wildlife corridors, or habitat; develop future recreational opportunities; or enhance drought tolerance, landscape resilience, and water retention (Public Resources Code [PRC] §80130). It is the intent of the people of California that these funds will be invested in projects that:

- Advance the purposes articulated in PRC section 80132;
- Provide public benefits that address the most critical statewide needs and priorities (PRC §80001[b][1]);
- Leverage private, federal, or local funding or produce the greatest public benefit (PRC §80001[b][2]);
- To the extent practicable, provide workforce training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities (PRC §80001[b][5]);
- To the extent practicable, measure greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon sequestrations associated with projects (PRC §80001[b][7]).

Funds available pursuant to this section shall not be expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of Delta conveyance facilities (PRC §80132[d] and GWC §79738[f]).

1.3 Solicitation Schedule

CDFW will advertise timeline updates through e-mail announcements, postings on the [Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 Program websites](#), and news releases. Please sign up for email updates on the Program website.

Table 1: Proposal Solicitation Process and Anticipated Schedule

Activity	Schedule
Draft PSN Public Review and Comment Period	September 26, 2018 – October 17, 2018
Proposition 1 & Proposition 68 Guidelines and PSN Public Workshop	October 1, 3 & 5, 2018
Release Proposal Solicitation Notice	late October, 2018
Online Application Workshop	TBD November, 2018
Proposals due by 4:00 PM, Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)	mid December, 2018
Deadline for CEQA completion (see Section 3.5)	March 30, 2019
Proposal Evaluation	December 2018 – March 2019
CDFW Director approval	April 2019
Execute grant agreements	July 2019 – December 2019
All project work completed, and final invoice submitted for payment	April 30, 2022 (Prop 68) April 30, 2023 (Prop 1)

2 SOLICITATION FOCUS BY PROGRAM

All Proposition 1 grants funded by CDFW under this Solicitation must fall within the following priorities:

- Proposition 1 Grant Programs
 - Watershed Restoration Grant Program
 - Large-Scale Wildfire Recovery Response and Prevention
 - Manage Headwaters for Multiple Benefits
 - Protect and Restore Mountain Meadow Ecosystems
 - Protect and Restore Anadromous and Other Non-Game Native Fish Habitat
 - Protect and Restore Coastal Wetland Ecosystems
 - Protect and Restore Cross-border Urban Creeks and Watersheds
 - Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program

- Improve Water Quality
- Improve Habitats in the Delta
- Planning for Multi-Benefit Restoration Through Regional Partnerships
- Proposition 68 Grant Program
 - Rivers and Streams Restoration Grants
 - Southern California Steelhead Grants
 - Habitat Improvement Grants

2.1 Watershed Restoration Grants

The Watershed Restoration Grant Program will fund multi-benefit projects of statewide importance outside of the Delta. Projects must be consistent with the purposes of Proposition 1 and contribute to implementation of the [California Water Action Plan](#). In addition, CDFW is seeking projects that contribute to implementation of [State Wildlife Action Plan](#), [Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy](#), [Safeguarding California Plan](#), [Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy](#), [California Biodiversity Initiative](#), state and federal recovery plans, or other relevant state and federal plans. Proposals must address at least one of the following priorities:

1) Large-Scale Wildfire Recovery Response and Prevention

The objective of this priority in response to the increase in frequency and intensity of wildfires and the devastating effects on watersheds, is to fund Planning and Implementation projects in fire-damaged watersheds that will contribute to restoration and recovery of stream and riparian habitats, prevent erosion, protect and improve water quality, and prevent potential future negative ecosystem effects.

Example projects include, but are not limited to:

- Fuel reduction
- Sediment basin construction
- Prevention of upslope erosion
- Restoration of riparian habitat
- Improvement of water quality for aquatic and riparian species
- Post-fire assessments that will inform a future implementation project

Proposed projects that address this priority may include activities that are subject to partial or full streamlining of regulatory requirements. Any such streamlining will have its own procedural and substantive requirements. As with other laws and regulations potentially applicable to applicants' projects, applicants are encouraged to review those requirements. For example, projects that address this priority may include activities that are subject to one or more Governor's emergency proclamations suspending certain state statutes, rules, regulations, or requirements. Those Governor's emergency proclamations require that an individual who desires to conduct activities under such a suspension request that the appropriate Secretary from either the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) or California Natural Resources Agency, or a delegate thereof, determine that proposed project activities are eligible to be conducted under that suspension. CDFW recommends applicants contact the Watershed Restoration Grants Branch and Cal EPA as soon as possible regarding the emergency proclamations' potential applicability prior to applying.

Please note in the event a request for regulatory requirement streamlining is not granted, applicants will remain responsible for all regulatory compliance and permitting, as outlined in Section 3.5. It is important that applicants communicate with CDFW as soon as possible to begin the coordination process.

2) Manage Headwaters for Multiple Benefits

Watersheds in the Cascades, Sierra Nevada and other forested areas of the state are places of origin for more than two-thirds of the state's developed water supply. Many of these crucial watersheds are in poor health. Implementing projects to restore, protect, and enhance the condition, function, and resiliency of forests, streams, meadows, and soils can contribute to a number of objectives, including:

- Improve and protect the quantity and quality of water available year-round
- Improve and protect habitat for wildlife, fish, and plant species
- Reduce the risk and consequences of large, damaging wildfires
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and stabilize carbon storage
- Improve and protect air quality
- Improve local socio-economic conditions and public safety

CDFW seeks projects that contribute to managing headwaters for multiple benefits by:

- Restoring forest health through ecologically sound forest management. Examples of projects include, but are not limited to:
 - Thinning of overstocked forest stands to improve forest health
 - Treatment and prevention of forest pests and invasive species
 - Restoration of riparian areas and hardwood communities
 - Invasive species removal
 - Reforestation of native species
 - Increasing carbon sequestration
 - Decreasing forest vulnerability to climate change
 - Road and culvert decommissioning and sediment control
- Protecting and restoring degraded stream and meadow ecosystems to assist in natural water management and improved habitat
- Protecting strategically important lands within watersheds to ensure continued or improved watershed health, function, connectivity, and resilience

Prioritization of projects to manage headwaters for multiple benefits will take into account project scale and regional importance, degree to which the project addresses landscapes damaged by large, high-intensity fires, and the diversity and significance of the project benefits.

3) Protect and Restore Mountain Meadow Ecosystems

The objective of this priority is to protect and restore and enhance mountain meadow ecosystems in the Sierra Nevada and Cascade ranges. Mountain meadows throughout California's high mountain ranges are in a state of degradation due to land management practices and other factors. Restoring and protecting ecological and hydrological functions to mountain meadows will decrease their vulnerability to climate change and provide many critical functions and services, including increased groundwater storage, reduced and delayed peak flows on streams that flow through meadow systems, improved water quality, protection of climate refugia, and restored and expanded habitat for native species.

Applicants proposing to conduct any project that creates ponds or pools, such as a meadow restoration using pond and plug techniques, are encouraged to include a risk assessment along with appropriate disease monitoring for their project. CDFW has

concerns about the presence and associated effects of Whirling Disease in various headwaters and mountain drainages throughout the state. *Myxobolus cerebralis*, a nonnative parasite, causes the disease that can have adverse effects upon salmonid populations. The disease can be amplified through the construction of preferred habitat for the parasite, such as ponds and other still pools. Specific guidance regarding affected watersheds and monitoring protocols will be forthcoming from CDFW.

Prioritization of projects to protect and restore mountain meadow ecosystems will take into account project scale and regional importance, extent to which the project restores landscapes damaged by large, high-intensity wildfires, the significance and diversity of the project benefits, and, where applicable, relevance to the [Sierra Nevada Meadow Restoration Business Plan \(National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 2010\)](#) and [the Sierra Meadows Strategy](#) (Sierra Meadows Partnership, 2016).

4) Protect and Restore Anadromous and Other Non-Game Native Fish Habitat

The objective of this priority is to protect, restore, or enhance anadromous and other non-game native fish habitat in watersheds of California to aid in the recovery and conservation of these species. CDFW is seeking projects that address limiting factors and priority actions specified in state or federal recovery plans, State Wildlife Action Plan (Chapter 6), and/or other relevant conservation plans, including:

- Removal of high priority fish passage barriers (refer to the [2017 Fish Passage Priorities List](#))
- Installation of screens on priority unscreened diversions and repair/replacement of existing substandard screens (refer to the [2017 Priority Water Diversions for Screening](#))
- Restoration or enhancement of riparian, instream, floodplain, side channel, or estuarine habitat Restoring instream spawning and rearing habitat
- Restoring off-channel rearing, streambank, and riparian habitats and migratory conditions
- Improving instream flow quality and quantity
- Restoration actions to reduce erosion and instream/downstream sedimentation
- Improving adult fish passage through the Sacramento River Flood Control Project
- Protection (acquisition/easements) of important watershed lands and riparian buffers in agricultural landscapes

CDFW will only fund water conservation projects (e.g., off-channel water storage, changes in the timing or source of water supply, moving points of diversion, irrigation ditch lining, piping, stock-water systems, and agricultural tailwater recovery/management systems) that permanently dedicate 100 percent of the water saved due to project implementation for instream purposes to support anadromous fish during water limited seasons. Water conserved by such projects shall be dedicated to the stream for anadromous fish benefits through a mechanism such as a Forbearance Agreement, an Instream Flow Lease, a transfer of water rights pursuant to CWC Section 1735, or an instream dedication pursuant to CWC Section 1707 (1707 petition). Projects for which the main purpose is to enhance stream flow should submit proposals to the Wildlife Conservation Board's (WCB's) [California Stream Flow Enhancement Program](#). In instances where an applicant submits a proposal to CDFW's Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Program and WCB's California Stream Flow Enhancement Program, the applicant should clearly define the streamflow enhancement component(s) of the project in the scope of work (task description) and budget.

Prioritization of projects under this priority will take into account the listing status of the species for which the project is designed to benefit and whether the proposal: focuses on populations and geographies that play an important role in recovery, implements a high priority recovery action identified in a final or public draft recovery plan, addresses restoration activities specified in the State Wildlife Action Plan (Chapter 6), and also addresses other priorities in this solicitation. Prioritization of projects that eliminate barriers to migration also will be informed by CDFW's Priority Unscreened Diversion List (2017) and Updated List of Anadromous Fish Passage Statewide Priority Barriers (2017). Prioritization of projects designed to enhance stream flows will take into account coordination with WCB's California Stream Flow Enhancement Program.

5) Protect and Restore Coastal Wetland Ecosystems

The objective of this priority is to implement multi-benefit projects designed to protect, restore, or enhance coastal wetland ecosystems. These projects will seek to protect and restore diversity, quality, and connectivity across the range of wetland types extending from subtidal areas to upland transition areas, including non-tidal wetlands. Restoring ecological condition and function within coastal wetlands will provide a variety of important benefits, such as improved habitat for fish and wildlife, enhanced flood protection, increased resiliency to sea-level rise and storm events, and improved water quality.

The California Water Action Plan calls upon CDFW to implement large-scale habitat projects along the California coast in strategic estuaries to restore ecological health and natural system connectivity and help defend against sea-level rise. As such, project scale, regional importance, and significance and diversity of the benefits will be considered during prioritization of these projects.

6) Protect and Restore Cross-border Urban¹ Creeks and Watersheds

The ecological health of California-Mexico cross-border urban creeks and watersheds is threatened by urban and agricultural encroachment and pollution, sedimentation, trash, and other stressors. CDFW is seeking projects that address these threats. Projects under this priority should address the unique ecological, flood control, water quality, and hydrological conditions associated with urban creeks and watersheds on the California-Mexico border.

2.2 Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grants

The Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program will fund projects that benefit the Delta². Projects must be consistent with the purposes of Proposition 1 and contribute to implementation of the [California Water Action Plan](#), [State Wildlife Action Plan](#), [Delta Plan](#), [Delta Science Plan](#), [2017-2021 Science Action Agenda](#), [Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy](#), [Delta Conservation Framework](#), and/or [California EcoRestore](#). Proposals must address at least one of the following priorities:

1) Improve Water Quality

The objective of this priority is to plan for and implement multi-benefit projects that contribute to the improvement of water quality in the Delta to improve ecosystem condition, functions, and resiliency, including projects in Delta counties that provide multiple public benefits and improve drinking and agricultural water quality or water supplies. Projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Planning or implementation of a specific on-the-ground water quality improvement

¹ CWC Section 7048(e) defines an "urban creek" as "a creek which crosses built-up residential, commercial, or industrial property, or which crosses land where, in the near future, the land use will be residential, commercial, or industrial."

² Projects under this Program are not required to be physically located within the Delta; however, project activities must demonstrably benefit the Delta. Proposition 1 defines Delta as the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as defined in CWC §12220 and the Suisun Marsh as defined in Public Resources Code §29101.

project

- Development or enhancement of water quality management models and tools
- Implementation of Best Management Practices or other tools that contribute to improving Delta water quality

2) Improve Habitats in the Delta

The objective of this priority is to plan for and implement projects that protect, restore, or enhance aquatic, terrestrial, and transitional habitats to improve the health and resiliency of native fish and wildlife species in the Delta. CDFW is seeking projects consistent with the Delta Plan that contribute to the objectives of California EcoRestore but must not be used to satisfy any regulatory compliance responsibility³. Examples of projects include, but are not limited to:

- Protection, restoration, or enhancement of tidal, sub-tidal, floodplain, riparian, transitional, and terrestrial habitats
- Eradication or control of invasive species to benefit special status, at risk, endangered, or threatened species in the Delta
- Projects that support the beneficial reuse of dredged material for habitat restoration
- Enhancement or development of managed wetlands for subsidence reversal and carbon sequestration

Habitat restoration and enhancement projects must be carried out in alignment with the recommendations in [A Delta Renewed: A Guide to Science-Based Ecological Restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta](#) (A Delta Renewed, SFEI-ASC, 2016) and with Section 1, part II (Habitats) of the [Ecosystem Restoration Program Conservation Strategy for Restoration of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Sacramento Valley and San Joaquin Valley Regions](#) (CDFW, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service 2014).

3) Planning for Multi-Benefit Restoration Through Regional Partnerships

The objective of this priority is to fund the development of regional planning partnerships, composed of local stakeholders, public agencies, and technical experts, and facilitate the

³ Proposition 1 funds cannot be used to meet the existing obligations for habitat restoration established through the biological opinions for the State Water Project and Central Valley Project operations (USFWS 2008, NMFS 2009), and the CDFW Longfin Smelt Incidental Take Permit for State Water Project Delta operations.

collaborative development of regional conservation strategies or plans in the Delta. The [draft Delta Conservation Framework](#) describes the process and lists several example Conservation Opportunity Regions that would benefit from a facilitated planning process to develop a suite of region-specific projects for implementation in the near- and long-term. An example of a successful partnership-based regional plan developed through a similar process is the Suisun Marsh Plan. The Central Delta Corridor Partnership is an example of a novel partnership that is now moving forward through a facilitated process to develop a coordinated strategy for project implementation on public lands and publicly financed lands in the Central Delta.

2.3 Proposition 68 Grant Programs

The specific project types eligible under the Proposition 68 Grant Program are identified below. These are not exhaustive lists of eligible project types. Specifics concerning eligible project types may vary in each solicitation.

1) Rivers and Streams Restoration Grants

These funds are available to restore rivers and streams in support of fisheries and wildlife, including, but not limited to, reconnection of rivers with their floodplains, riparian and side-channel habitat restoration activities, and restoration and protection of upper watershed forests and meadow systems that are important for fish and wildlife resources (PRC §80132[d]).

Examples of projects include, but are not limited to:

- Restoring, protecting, or enhancing habitat
- Reconnecting historical floodplains
- Installing or improving fish screens
- Modernizing stream crossings, culverts, and bridges
- Providing fish passage
- Acquisition of conservation easements for riparian buffer strips from willing sellers
- Improving local watershed management
- Restoration and protection of upper watershed forest and meadow systems
- Removing sediment or trash

Of the funds made available by PRC section 80132(d), at least \$917,000 shall be available in 2019 for restoration projects in the Klamath-Trinity watershed for the benefit

of salmon and steelhead (PRC §80132[d]). Priority will be given to projects supported by multi-stakeholder public or private partnerships, or both, using a science-based approach and measurable objectives to guide identification, design, and implementation of regional actions to benefit salmon and steelhead (PRC §80132[d]).

2) Southern California Steelhead Grants

These funds are available for restoration of Southern California Steelhead habitat consistent with the CDFW Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan and the National Marine Fisheries Service's Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan (PRC §80132[e][2]). Projects that remove significant barriers to steelhead migration and include other habitat restoration and associated infrastructure improvements shall be the highest priority (PRC §80132[e][2]). Examples of projects include, but are not limited to:

- Providing fish passage
- Modernizing stream crossings, culverts, and bridges
- Restoring or enhancing habitat uncovered by large barrier removal projects

3) Habitat Improvement Grants

These funds are available to improve conditions for fish and wildlife in streams, rivers, wildlife refuges, wetland habitat areas, and estuaries (PRC §80132[g]). Funds expended for the acquisition of a permanent dedication of water shall be in accordance with section 1707 of the California Water Code (CWC), where the State Water Resources Control Board specifies that the water is in addition to water that is required for regulatory requirements as provided in subdivision (c) of section 1707 (CWC §79709[a]). The acquisition of long-term transfers of water shall be completed in accordance with CWC sections 1735, 1736 and 1737 (CWC §79709[b]).

Examples of projects include, but are not limited to:

- Short- or long-term water transfers or leases
- Provision of water for fish and wildlife
- Improvement of aquatic or riparian habitat conditions
- Invasive species removal
- Enhancement or acquisition of seasonal ponds, stock ponds or riparian buffer strips in agricultural landscapes

2.4 Project Categories

Eligible project categories for this Solicitation are Planning, Implementation, and Acquisition. Each project category is described below.

Planning

Planning grants provide funding for activities that lead to a specific on-the-ground implementation projects. Eligible activities for Planning projects include, but are not limited to:

- Preparing plans or supplementing existing plans (e.g., watershed and habitat assessments) that will result in a specific project or set of projects
- Developing monitoring, adaptive management, climate change adaptation, and long-term management plans for a specific project
- Coordination with partners to develop standardized monitoring procedures
- Performing necessary studies and assessments, collecting baseline data, and developing project designs related to a specific site or physical project
- Obtaining the services of licensed professional (refer to Section 3.4 for guidance on when licensed professionals are required)
- Acquiring permits
- Preparing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) documents
- Conducting stakeholder and public meetings

Implementation

Implementation grants fund construction and monitoring of shovel-ready restoration and enhancement projects and new or enhanced facilities. Applicants must demonstrate CEQA compliance (see Section 3.5), and submit 65% or higher design plans, Basis of Design Report, and technical studies (see Section 3.8).

Eligible activities for Implementation projects include, but are not limited to:

- Preparation of bid packages and subcontractor documents
- Development of final engineering design
- Finalizing permits
- Construction

- Habitat restoration and enhancement
- Pre- and post-project monitoring and adaptive management
- Finalization and initial execution of a long-term management plan
- Communicating project results to stakeholders and the public

Acquisition

Acquisition grants fund purchases of interests in land or water. Property must be acquired from willing sellers at a price that does not exceed fair market value, as set forth in an appraisal prepared by a licensed real estate appraiser and approved by the Department of General Services (DGS) Real Property Services Section. A completed appraisal, approved by DGS, is not required at the time of proposal submission; however, if awarded, the appraisal must be submitted and approved by DGS prior to the request for distribution of acquisition funds. Costs associated with preparation of the appraisal are ineligible for reimbursement through an awarded grant. Appraisal review by DGS can take up to 4-8 weeks and can cost up to \$10,000.

If a signed purchase option agreement is unavailable to be submitted with the application, a Willing Seller Letter is required from each landowner (see Section 3.6). Once funds are awarded and an agreement is signed with CDFW, another property cannot be substituted for the property specified in the application. Therefore, it is imperative the applicant demonstrate the seller is negotiating in good faith, and that discussions have proceeded to a point of confidence.

Properties acquired can be transferred to a federal, state, local, or nonprofit entity to ultimately own, manage, and steward consistent with the purpose of the grant. CDFW will not hold title to interests in land or water, nor will CDFW enter into forbearance agreements with applicants or other entities. A separate entity must be identified at the time of proposal submission.

Eligible activities and expenses for Acquisition projects include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of fee title or perpetual conservation easements
- Water acquisitions that include permanent, long-term, or short-term water transfers, leases, or dedications
- Project-related administrative costs, including DGS appraisal review, monitoring plan and/or long-term management plan

Ineligible costs include:

- Appraisal preparation
- Environmental Site Assessment
- Mineral Rights Assessment
- Other fees and costs to accomplish the transaction and the conveyance and acquisition of the property
- Title escrow and closing costs

The following information is required at the time of application:

- Parcel numbers, acreage, and willing seller information
- Acquisition schedule
- Description of existing improvements, if any
- Copy of the signed purchase option agreement or willing seller letter(s)
- Appraisal or estimation of fair market value
- Current Preliminary Title Report
- Map showing lands to be acquired, including parcel lines and numbers

Applicants must disclose any known or suspected hazardous material release, threatened release or other environmental condition associated with the property. Prior to execution of a grant agreement for acquisition of an interest in real property, CDFW will assess the risk posed to the intended conservation purposes by the environmental conditions of the property, including any recognized environmental conditions that could occur on the property. As part of that risk assessment, CDFW may require the surface estate landowner or project proponent to provide CDFW and any third parties with a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment. Costs associated with preparation of the Environmental Site Assessment and related activities are not eligible for reimbursement. Successful applicants should consult with CDFW for specific requirements prior to initiating work on an Environmental Site Assessment. If CDFW determines that the risk is not acceptable, and the risk cannot be reduced to an acceptable level within a reasonable amount of time, then CDFW will rescind the grant award.

All grant awards for acquisition of an interest in real property are contingent on a CDFW determination that the risk posed to the conservation values of that property by mineral exploration, development, and related consequences is acceptable. Prior to execution of a grant agreement, CDFW will assess the risk that future mining activities could occur on

the property. As part of the risk assessment, CDFW may require the surface estate landowner or project proponent to provide CDFW and any third parties with an interest in the minerals with a mineral assessment report. Costs associated with preparation of the mineral assessment report and related activities are not eligible for reimbursement. Successful applicants should consult with CDFW for specific requirements prior to initiating work on a mineral assessment report. Based on its risk assessment, CDFW will determine whether the risk of mining and the related consequences for intended conservation purposes is acceptable. If CDFW determines that the risk is not acceptable, and the risk cannot be reduced to an acceptable level within a reasonable amount of time, then CDFW will rescind the grant award.

Grantees shall not conduct or allow any commercial activities on property acquired through these grant programs without written approval by CDFW. Income generated from the property, including income generated from leasing the property or from the sale of equipment, mobile homes, or other tangible assets that are purchased in whole or in part with grant funds, shall only be used to offset the costs of owning, managing, or restoring the property, or, subject to written approval by CDFW, for other conservation purposes. So long as the grantee is receiving income generated from the property or income generated from the property remains unspent, the grantee will be required to provide CDFW with an annual accounting of the income generated from the property. Restrictions on the use of water rights associated with the acquisition of property for non-restoration purposes may also be subject to terms in the grant agreement.

3 PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project is consistent with the eligibility requirements, priorities, project categories, CDFW Restoration Grant Guidelines, Proposition 1, and Proposition 68. Applicants must be in compliance with all stated requirements of this Solicitation and the [Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Guidelines](#) or [Proposition 68 Restoration Grant Guidelines](#).

3.1 Eligible Entities

The following entity types are eligible for Proposition 1 funding (CWC §79712):

- public agencies within California (state agencies or departments, public universities, special districts, joint powers authorities, counties, cities, or other

- political subdivisions of the state (CWC §79702[s]),
- nonprofit organizations registered with the California Secretary of State (CWC §79702[p]),
- federally recognized Indian tribes and state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List,
- public utilities (CWC §79712[b][1]), and
- mutual water companies (CWC §79712[b][2], [3], & [4]).

Additional eligibility requirements for public utilities, mutual water companies, and agricultural and urban water suppliers can be found in Section 2.1 of the [CDFW Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Guidelines](#).

The following entity types are eligible for Proposition 68 (FGC §1501.5[b]):

- public agencies (federal, state, local),
- nonprofit organizations,
- federally recognized Indian tribes and State Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List.

See Section 2.1 of the [CDFW Proposition 68 Grant Guidelines](#).

Proposals from private individuals, for-profit enterprises (except those that are eligible for Proposition 1 funding as a public utility), or out-of-state public entities (except those that are nonprofit organizations registered with the California Secretary of State) are ineligible for funding under this Solicitation, however, these entities can work as subcontractors for an eligible applicant.

3.2 Disadvantaged Communities

Applicants are required to evaluate whether the project will benefit a disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged community. A disadvantaged community is defined as “a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income” (CWC §79505.5). A severely disadvantaged community is defined as “a community with a median household income less than 60 percent of the statewide average” (PRC § 80002[n]). CDFW will ensure that a portion of its Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 funding benefits these communities. To the extent practicable, projects that receive grants will provide workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities. The [Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool](#) shows the location of disadvantaged communities in the

state, based on the *US Census American Community Survey 5-Year Data: 2009-2013*.

3.3 California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps Consultation

Prior to the submission of proposals for this Solicitation, all applicants for implementation projects and for projects that include field work shall first consult with the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Certified Community Conservation Corps (as represented by the California Association of Local Conservation Corps [CALCC]), collectively referred to as the Corps, as to the feasibility and timing of using their services to implement projects (CWC §79734). The CCC is a state agency with local operations throughout the state. CALCC is the representative for the certified local conservation corps defined in Section 14507.5 of the Public Resources Code.

Applicants must submit the standardized [California Conservation Corps consultation form](#). If Corps services are available, applicants must identify the appropriate Corps and the components of the project where work will be completed in the Project Narrative and include estimated costs in the Budget. Applicants awarded funding must thereafter work with either the CCC or CALCC to develop a statement of work and enter into a contract with the appropriate Corps.

3.4 Qualifications and Licensed Professionals

Applicants must demonstrate that the project team has the experience, facilities/equipment, and capacity to successfully perform the proposed tasks by describing prior projects completed by the applicant and other qualifications of the project team. The project team includes all applicant staff and subcontractors that will be performing the work described in the proposal.

Some projects require a California licensed professional engineer or California licensed professional geologist to comply with applicable requirements of the Business and Professions Code including but not limited to [Section 6700 et seq. \(Professional Engineers Act\)](#) and/or [Section 7800 et seq., \(Geologists and Geophysicists Act\)](#). A registered professional shall be required to design/plan the following project types:

- Stream Crossings for fish passage, bridges, bottomless culverts, etc.
- Fish Screening
- Instream Bank Stabilization, slope stabilization, or grading
- Watershed Restoration (Upslope - roads)
- Groundwater Infiltration, storage, or surface/groundwater interaction
- Monitoring Well Installation (if samples logged)
- Tide gates
- Levee breaches
- Geophysical, Geotechnical, or Structural Analysis
- Land surveying

Registered professionals may be required for these project activities. Applications for these project types that do not include a licensed professional in the project team must provide justification for why the services of such a licensed professional are not necessary:

- Grade Control Structures
- Sediment Basins
- Instream Barrier Modifications
- Instream or Riparian Habitat Restoration (non-fixed structures)
- Watershed Evaluation, Assessment, and Planning
- Water Conservation Techniques
- Water Measuring Devices

Implementation projects consisting only of vegetation planting or invasive species removal activities do not require a licensed professional.

3.5 Environmental Compliance and Permitting

Projects funded through this Solicitation must comply with all applicable state, tribal, and federal environmental laws and regulations, including the Delta Reform Act. Applicants are responsible for obtaining all permits necessary to complete project work. Projects that involve the collection of fish, wildlife, or endangered or rare plants must have a valid collection permit. Applicants awarded grants for projects that are covered actions under the Delta Plan will be required to ensure that an adequate written [certification of consistency](#) with the Delta Plan is prepared as part the pre-implementation project permitting requirements, including an adequate adaptive management plan ([Delta Plan](#)

[General Policy 1](#)).

Planning

Planning projects that include preparation of CEQA and NEPA must identify the anticipated state and federal lead agencies and document whether those agencies have accepted the role.

Implementation and Acquisition

Proposals must demonstrate that CEQA will be complete prior to the final funding approval. The deadline for CEQA completion is **March 30, 2019**. For purposes of this Solicitation, CDFW will consider CEQA complete when the lead agency has filed a Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research for that lead agency's approval of the project, or upon adequate documentation that the project qualifies for an exemption. CDFW will exercise its independent judgment about whether its decision to fund a project would be subject to a CEQA statutory exemption or eligible for a categorical exemption. Implementation project proposals should include documentation of compliance with these requirements to the extent it is available at the time the proposal is submitted.

3.6 Land Tenure/Site Control

Applicants for projects that involve access to private property must demonstrate landowner permission to access the site. Implementation projects conducting on-the-ground work must submit documentation showing that they have adequate tenure to, and site control of, the properties to be improved or restored for at least 25 years. When an applicant does not have tenure at the time of proposal submission, the applicant must submit a proposed agreement template, memorandum of understanding, or landowner permission form with the proposal submission. If awarded, an executed site access agreement is required prior to execution of the grant agreement.

Land tenure agreements must provide CDFW access to the project site at least once every 12 months for 25 years. Proof of adequate land tenure includes:

- Fee title ownership
- An easement or license agreement
- Other agreement between the applicant and the fee title owner, or the owner of an

easement in the property, sufficient to give the applicant adequate site control for the purposes of the project and long-term management

- For projects involving multiple landowners, all landowners or an appointed designee must provide written permission to complete the project

Acquisition proposals must include a signed purchase option agreement, or willing seller letter(s) from each landowner indicating that they are a willing participant in the proposed real estate transaction. The letter should clearly identify the parcels to be purchased and state that “if grant funds are awarded, the seller is willing to enter into negotiations for sale of the property at a purchase price not to exceed fair market value,”

3.7 Water Law

For projects involving water diversions or diversion-related infrastructure, an applicant must demonstrate a legal right to divert water consistent with the project proposal and sufficient documentation regarding actual water availability and use.

3.8 Engineering Design Plans

For projects that involve engineering, design phases are defined as follows. A Basis of Design Report and supporting technical studies must accompany all design plans:

1. Conceptual Plans must include:
 - a. A detailed general location and site map indicating the general location of proposed activities and project elements on a single figure
 - b. The layout of the project with all constraints identified
 - c. A demonstration that the project is feasible and is a preferred alternative
 - d. An alternatives analysis that compares several conceptual level plans
2. Intermediate Plans (65% plans) must include:
 - a. Detailed plan views and profiles of any improvements and standard details
 - b. Detailed location and site maps indicating exactly where the project will be built and where project impacts will occur
3. Draft Plans (90% plans) must include:
 - a. Revisions incorporated to Intermediate Plans and details for construction, instructions for erosion and sediment control, staging areas, access, etc.
4. Final Plans (100% plans) must include:
 - a. These plans incorporate any revisions to Draft Plans and represent the final set of design documents. These are the plans used for construction bids.

Engineering design is subject to review and acceptance by CDFW Engineering staff. Review and acceptance of engineering design plans by CDFW engineering staff does not imply CDFW responsibility or liability for the performance of this aspect or any other aspect of the project. Such liabilities and assurances of performance are the responsibility of the applicant and/or their engineering contractor.

3.9 Project Monitoring and Reporting

Applications for Planning projects should describe baseline monitoring and a timeline for development of a full Monitoring Plan. If performance measures are not included at the time of application, they must be developed as a project deliverable.

Applications for Implementation and Acquisition projects must include performance measures and a Monitoring and Reporting Plan that explains how project success will be evaluated. If the project timeline includes preparation of a final Monitoring Plan as a deliverable, a draft Monitoring Plan may be included in the Application.

Performance measures and specific terms and conditions for monitoring and reporting may be negotiated prior to grant execution. Project-specific performance measures should include:

- Links to project objectives with quantitative targets. Include at least one performance measure that can be achieved during the term of the grant. Performance measure categories:
 - Output performance measure: track on-the-ground activities (e.g., acres of habitat restored or preserved, number of trees planted, and number of barriers to fish migration removed)
 - Ecological Outcome performance measure: evaluate ecosystem responses to on-the-ground activities (e.g., responses by target wildlife populations and responses in ecosystem function)
- Description of the monitoring metrics used to document the performance measures.
- Delta projects should include performance measures compatible with Delta Plan performance measures.
- Anadromous salmonid habitat projects may be required to track a suite of standard

performance measures for reporting to NOAA Fisheries.

Monitoring Plans should include:

- Description of the metrics and monitoring that will document project effectiveness / performance, consistent with project performance measures, including baseline monitoring.
- Incorporate standardized approaches and coordination with existing monitoring efforts wherever possible.
- Wetland and riparian projects should be consistent with the [Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Plan \(WRAMP\)](#) framework. Monitoring plans should include [California Rapid Assessment Method \(CRAM\)](#) assessments, if an appropriate CRAM module is available for the project's wetland types. Other appropriate rapid assessment methods should be used if a CRAM module is not available. See [WRAMP Guidance for CDFW Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 Projects](#) for more information.
- Identification of opportunities to extend the monitoring activities (e.g., by using standardized monitoring methods; leveraging on-going monitoring programs; and building partnerships capable of attracting funding)
- Describe the approach for reporting results.
- Delta projects should include an Adaptive Management Plan or explain when it will be prepared.

3.10 Long-term Management and Maintenance

Implementation and Acquisition projects shall summarize long-term management and maintenance planning for the life of the project (25-year minimum). If a detailed Long-Term Management Plan has not been prepared, one must be included as a deliverable. Proposed restoration in the Delta or Suisun Marsh must ensure consistency with Delta Plan adaptive management requirements ([Delta Plan General Policy 1](#)).

3.11 Budget

Applicants should budget for all costs associated with project delivery, for example: presentations to CDFW including travel, long term management plan development, monitoring plan development (if not included in proposal), project signage, publication fees, permit fees, subcontractor costs etc. Subcontractor costs must be reasonable under

the circumstances of the proposal.

Cost Share

Cost share is the portion of the project cost not funded by the awarding agency (CDFW) and is provided by the applicant and/or other sources (e.g., private companies, nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and/or other entities). Cost share must support the proposed project and be spent during the term of the awarded grant. Cost share is not required; however, proposals with higher proportions of secured cost share will receive higher scores during the evaluation process.

Applicants must indicate if any cost share is being used as match for other grants or entities and whether they intend to leverage CDFW Proposition 1 or Proposition 68 funds as match, if awarded. Where applicable, cost share agreements or funding assurances must be submitted prior to grant execution.

Indirect Costs

Indirect cost (administrative overhead) rate calculations and are limited to actual costs not to exceed 20 percent of the direct costs excluding subcontractors and equipment. Any amount over 20 percent will not be funded but may be used as cost share. Indirect costs include, but are not limited to, utilities, office space rental, phone, use of computers and office equipment, postage, and copying directly related to completion of the proposed project. Indirect costs must be broken out and may not be rolled up into Personnel Services.

Ineligible Costs

Following are ineligible costs for reimbursement:

- Costs incurred outside of the grant agreement term
- Costs related to the preparation of the grant proposal
- Indirect costs greater than 20% of the direct costs
- Student tuition and fees
- Intern stipends
- Travel, equipment, and other property costs not specifically identified in the grant budget

- Out of state travel without prior written authorization from CDFW
- Appraisal, title, or escrow costs
- Costs for CEQA or NEPA completion on implementation projects
- Insurance, including liability insurance.

3.12 Data Management

Data management should be consistent with the recommendations of the [Environmental Data Summit white paper](#), complementary to the Open and Transparent Water Data Act ([AB1755](#)), and should comply with the following principles:

- Data are interoperable (machine readable)
- Standard data formats are used for similar data types
- Quality assurance and quality control procedures are documented and followed
- Open and transparent data and metadata are accessible to the public in a reasonable time frame

Data must be documented, understandable to general users, and accessible, except where limited by law, regulation, and policy or security requirements. Data are required deliverables and will be a condition of final payment if awarded.

Applicants must demonstrate that project data will be collected using peer-approved methods, undergo a quality control and accuracy assessment process, include metadata that meet the Department's [Minimum Data Standards](#), and will be properly stored and protected until the project has been completed and data have been delivered. Data delivery can include uploading data to relevant open data portals, including but not limited to:

- Surface water data reported to California Environmental Data Exchange Network ([CEDEN](#))
- Groundwater data reported to [GeoTracker GAMA \(Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program\)](#).
- Species observation data of [tracked species](#) reported to the [California Natural Diversity Database](#) using the online field [survey form](#) or other digital method
- Fish passage assessment data reported to the [California Fish Passage Assessment Database](#)

Projects that include data collection may be asked to prepare a Data Management Plan (DMP) following the guidance provided in the [CDFW DMP instructions](#). For more information about DMPs, see the [California Water Quality Monitoring Council's DMP Fact Sheet](#). The DMPs are short (2-3 page) documents that capture essential information from researchers about their datasets, including:

- Description of the data to be acquired or generated during the project
- Quality control/quality assurance procedures
- The process to manage, describe, analyze, store, curate and publish datasets
- The process for efficient and effective data flow
- The process to address data sharing
- How the DMP is aligned with applicant's established data management approach (if applicable)
- The mechanisms to share and ensure long-term archival of the dataset

3.13 Labor Code Requirements: Prevailing Wage

State grants may be subject to California Labor Code requirements, which include prevailing wage provisions. Certain state grants administered by CDFW are not subject to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1720) of Part 7 of Division 2 of the Labor Code. For more details, please refer to California Fish and Game Code Section 1501.5 and to the [Department of Industrial Relations website](#). Grantee shall pay prevailing wage to all persons employed in the performance of any part of the project if required by law.

4 SUBMISSION PROCESS

4.1 Proposal Submission Deadline

Online submission of proposals must be received before 4:00 PM, PDT on TBD, 2018.

Proposals are subject to Public Records Act requests and may be publicly available.

4.2 Electronic Submission

Proposals must be submitted electronically through CDFW WebGrants online at <https://watershedgrants.wildlife.ca.gov>. The name of this Solicitation in WebGrants is

“2019 Proposition 1 & Proposition 68 Grant Opportunities - Proposal Solicitation Notice.” To access the application, applicants must register an account in WebGrants. The WebGrants Help Desk is staffed Monday – Friday (9:00AM – 4:00PM). Questions regarding the CDFW WebGrants website should be directed to contact the CDFW WebGrants Help Desk at (916) 323-0477 or by e-mail at Prop1Webgrants@wildlife.ca.gov.

The Proposal Application in WebGrants consists of multiple forms. WebGrants includes dropdown menus, text boxes, multiple-choice selections, tables, and attachment upload links. Once submitted, applicants cannot alter their proposal or submit additional information without first contacting the WebGrants Help Desk. Applicants are encouraged to allow sufficient time to submit proposals to avoid last minute errors and omissions.

5 PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCEDURE

5.1 Administrative Review

Administrative review determines if the proposal is complete (Table 2). Proposals which receive a “No” for one or more of the Administrative Review Evaluation Criteria will be considered incomplete and may not be considered for funding under this Solicitation.

Table 2: Administrative Review Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Score
Application is complete	Yes/No
Applicant is an eligible entity	Yes/No
Proposed project is applicable to Solicitation Priorities	Yes/No
Proposed project is not required mitigation	Yes/No
Corps consultation form is complete	Yes/No
CEQA will be complete by March 30, 2019	Yes/No

5.2 Technical Review

All proposals that advance past administrative review will be reviewed by at least three independent technical experts. Technical reviewers evaluate each proposal in accordance with standard review criteria (Table 3) and make narrative comments that support their scores. Each criterion is assigned a point value between zero and five and multiplied by the applicable weighting factor to calculate the criterion score. The sum of

the criterion scores produces the total score for the proposal. Technical reviewers include representatives from CDFW. CDFW may request reviewers from other agencies or other outside experts to participate in the review. Individuals selected to serve as technical reviewers will be professionals in fields relevant to the proposed project (CWC §79707[f]). [Detailed Technical Review Criteria are available here.](#)

Table 3: Technical Review Criteria

Criteria	Weighting Factor	Maximum Score
Purpose, Background, and Scientific Merit	2	10
Community Support and Collaboration	1	5
Diversity and Significance of Benefits	2	10
Climate Change Considerations	1	5
Approach, Feasibility, and Scope	3	15
Monitoring and Reporting	1	5
Durability of Investment and Long-Term Management	1	5
Project Team Qualifications	1	5
Schedule and Deliverables	3	15
Applicant Budget	1	5
Budget Justification	2	10
Cost Share	1	5
Total Possible Points		100

Where standard scoring criteria are applied, points will be assigned as follows:

- A score of 5 points will be awarded where the criterion is fully addressed and supported by thorough and well-presented documentation and logical rationale.
- A score of 4 points will be awarded where the criterion is fully addressed but is supported by less thorough documentation or less sufficient rationale.
- A score of 3 points will be awarded where the criterion is less than fully addressed and is supported by less thorough documentation or less sufficient rationale.
- A score of 2 points will be awarded where the criterion is marginally addressed or the documentation or rationale is incomplete or insufficient.
- A score of 1 point will be awarded where the criterion is minimally addressed or no documentation or rationale is presented.

- A score of 0 points will be awarded where the criterion is not addressed.

Engineering-Geological review will be conducted on Planning and Implementation projects where engineering is included based on guidance provided in Section 3.8. Engineering-Geological review will evaluate and score proposals based on: 1) the soundness of the technical approach and proposed restoration strategy; 2) the characterization of existing site conditions; 3) the status/level of design drawings (if appropriate), and 4) the adequacy of work tasks, project team and budget for addressing technical aspects of the project. There are separate [review sheets for Implementation and Planning Projects](#).

Applications reviewed by engineering staff will be evaluated as follows:

- A score of 0 will be assigned if plans do not appear to meet minimum design level or insufficient information was provided to determine design level/technical adequacy
- A score of 1 will be assigned if concerns were identified that could impact project success
- A score of 2 will be assigned if minimum design level was submitted and the proposal appears to be technically adequate

This score will be provided to the Selection Panel for consideration with the technical review scores.

5.3 Selection Panel Review

CDFW will convene a Selection Panel to review the scores and comments from the Engineer and Technical Review process. The Selection Panel may establish subcommittees, organized around funding priorities, to provide a preliminary ranking for Selection Panel deliberations. Representatives from other agencies and organizations may be invited to participate on the Selection Panel or its subcommittees. The Selection Panel will generate the initial funding recommendations. When developing the funding recommendation, the Selection Panel considers:

- Technical Review scores and comments
- Engineering-Geological Review, if applicable
- Input from CDFW Regional Managers and Staff

- Subcommittee preliminary rankings
- Availability and distribution of funds
- Program purposes
- Balance/distribution of funds: a) by and within priorities, b) by project types, c) by geographic area, or d) by type of institutions
- Results of coordination with partner agencies implementing other relevant granting programs
- Results of coordination with the Delta city or Delta county in which a grant is proposed to be expended or an interest in real property is proposed to be acquired

The Selection Panel may recommend modifications, including reducing requested grant amounts, in order to meet current and any potential future program priorities, funding targets and available funding limitations.

5.4 Final Approval

The Director of CDFW will review the Selection Panel funding recommendations and make the final funding approval. CDFW anticipates awarding grants as early as April 2019, with grant agreement execution approximately six months from award date.

6 REQUIREMENTS IF FUNDED

6.1 Awards

Successful applicants will receive an award letter officially notifying them of their proposal selection and grant amount and work with an assigned CDFW grant manager to develop the grant agreement.

6.2 Grant Agreement

Development of grant agreements will begin following announcement of awards. The applicant must submit additional forms before an agreement is prepared and executed. The applicable forms described in this section are for informational purposes only. **Do not submit these forms with your proposal.** Applicants are required to complete, sign, and return the forms when projects are approved for funding. These additional forms include:

- [Payee Data Record form \(STD. 204\)](#)

- Federal Taxpayer ID Number (for non-profit organizations)
- [Drug-Free Workplace Certification \(STD. 21\)](#)
- Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)

Grant agreements are not executed until signed by both the authorized representative of the grant recipient and CDFW. After developing a grant agreement with an assigned CDFW Grant Manager, grant agreements are subject to a **90-120-day review** period before they are released to the grantee for signature. Work performed prior to the start date of an executed grant agreement will not be reimbursed.

Responsibility of the Grantee

The grantee must be responsive during grant agreement development and will be responsible for carrying out the work agreed to and for managing finances, including but not limited to, invoicing, payments to subcontractors, accounting and financial auditing, and other project management duties including reporting requirements.

Grantees shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and/or ordinances. As may be necessary, the grantee shall be responsible for obtaining the services of appropriately licensed professionals to complete project design plans (See Section 3.4).

Invoicing and Payments

Grant agreements will be structured to provide for payment in arrears of work performed. Funds cannot be disbursed until there is an executed grant agreement between CDFW and the grantee. Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis (i.e., the grantee pays for services, products or supplies, submits an invoice that must be approved by the CDFW grant manager, and is then reimbursed by CDFW). Funds for construction will not be disbursed until the required environmental compliance, permitting, and design documents have been received and accepted by CDFW.

All expenses claimed for reimbursement, including indirect costs, must be supported by appropriate documentation. State auditing requirements are described in Appendix C of the [CDFW Restoration Grant Guidelines](#).

Reporting

Grantees shall submit quarterly progress reports to the CDFW grant manager for the duration of the grant. Annual reports and task-specific reports may also be included as project deliverables

WebGrants

Grantees shall use the CDFW WebGrants for grant management and tracking activities, including but not limited to submitting invoices and deliverables, reporting, and corresponding with the CDFW Grant Manager.

Performance Retention

CDFW may retain from the grantee's reimbursements for each period for which payment is made, an amount equal to 10 percent of the invoiced amount, pending satisfactory completion of the task or grant. Retention withholding will be modified in the following circumstances:

- When the grantee or subcontractor is a public entity contracting for construction of any public work of improvement, CDFW may retain from the grantee's earnings, for each period for which payment is made, an amount equal to five percent of such earnings, pending satisfactory completion of the task or grant (Public Contract Code §7201[b][1]).

Loss of Funding

Work performed under the grant agreement is subject to availability of funds through the state's budget process. If funding for the grant agreement is reduced, deleted, or delayed by the State Budget Act or through other budget control actions, CDFW shall have the option to either cancel the grant agreement, offer to the grantee a grant agreement amendment reflecting the reduced amount, or to suspend work. In the event of cancellation or suspension of work, CDFW shall provide written notice to the grantee and be liable for payment for any work completed pursuant to the agreement up to the date of the written notice and shall have no liability for payment for work undertaken after such date. In the event of a suspension of work, CDFW may remove the suspension of work through written notice to the grantee. CDFW shall be liable for payment for work

completed from the date of written notice of the removal of the suspension of work forward, consistent with other terms of the grant agreement. In no event shall CDFW be liable to the grantee for any costs or damages associated with any period of suspension invoked pursuant to this provision, nor shall CDFW be liable for any costs in the event that, after a suspension, no funds are available, and the grant agreement is then cancelled based on State Budget contingencies.

Actions of the state that may lead to suspension or cancellation include, but are not limited to:

- Lack of appropriated funds
- Executive order directing suspension or cancellation of grant agreements
- A CDFW or California Natural Resources Agency directive requiring suspension or cancellation of grant agreements

Actions of the grantee that may lead to suspension or cancellation of the grant agreement include, but are not limited to:

- Failing to execute an agreement with CDFW within six months of the award announcement. In such situations, the applicant may apply to a future solicitation
- Withdrawing from the grant program
- Failing to acquire land or water at an approved fair market value
- Losing willing seller(s)
- Failing to complete proposed water right changes/dedications
- Failing to submit required documentation within the time periods specified in the grant agreement
- Failing to submit evidence of environmental or permit compliance as specified by the grant agreement
- Changing project scope without prior approval from CDFW
- Failing to complete the project
- Failing to demonstrate sufficient progress
- Failing to comply with pertinent laws
- Failing to adequately address CDFW Engineering-Geological review comments

6.3 General Terms and Conditions

Successful applicants must agree to the appropriate terms and conditions for their entity

type. In accordance with AB 20, awarded University of California and California State University applicants must agree to University Terms & Conditions - Exhibit "C" for University of California and California State University Agreements ([UTC-518 Exhibit C](#)). All other awarded entities must agree to the CDFW [General Grant Provisions](#) for Public or Non-public entities. General Grant Provisions include information regarding audits, amendments, liability insurance, and rights in data.

6.4 Recognition of Funding Source

The grantee must include signage, to the extent practicable, informing the public that the project received funds through CDFW from the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (CWC §79707[g]), or the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (PRC §80001[b][3]), and possibly both. Recognition of funding under this program extends to publications, websites, and other media-related and public-outreach products.

7 DEFINITIONS AND LINKS

7.1 Definitions

Acquisition

Obtaining a fee interest or any other interest in real property, including, easements, leases, water, water rights, or interest in water obtained for the purposes of instream flows and development rights.

Agricultural Water Supplier

A water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water to 10,000 or more irrigated acres, excluding recycled water, including a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right that distributes or sells water for ultimate resale to customers (CWC §10608.12[a]).

Applicant

The entity that is formally submitting a grant application. This is the same entity that would enter into an agreement with the state should the grant application be funded. The grant applicant must be an eligible entity.

Application

The individual application form and any required attachments for grants pursuant to this grant program.

Community Access

Engagement programs, technical assistance, or facilities that maximize safe and equitable physical admittance, especially for low-income communities, to natural or cultural resources, community education, or recreational amenities (PRC § 80002[b]).

Coastal Wetland

Coastal wetlands include saltwater and freshwater wetlands located within coastal watersheds – specifically United States Geological Survey 8-digit hydrologic unit watersheds which drain into the Pacific ([US EPA](#)).

Delta

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as defined in CWC §12220 and the Suisun Marsh as defined in Public Resources Code §29101 (CWC §79702[e]).

Disadvantaged Community

A community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income (CWC §79505.5).

Eligible Costs

Expenses incurred by the grantee during the agreement performance period of an approved agreement, which may be reimbursed by CDFW.

Eligible Entities: Proposition 1: (CWC §79712)

Public agencies (State Agency or department, special district, joint powers authority, city, county, city and county, or other political subdivision of the state (CWC §79702[s])), nonprofit organizations qualified to do business in California and qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code (CWC §79702[p]), public utilities (CWC §79712[b][1]), federally recognized Indian tribes, state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List, and mutual water companies (CWC §79712[b][2], [3], & [4]).

Eligible Entities: Proposition 68: (FGC §1501.5(b))

CDFW may grant funds for fish and wildlife habitat preservation, restoration, and enhancement to public agencies, Indian tribes, and nonprofit entities. This includes any state or federal public agency, special districts, and subdivisions of the state (local governments).

Federally Recognized Indian Tribe

Indian tribes that are recognized by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and listed annually in the Federal Register.

Grant Agreement

An agreement between CDFW and the grantee specifying the payment of funds by CDFW for the performance of the project scope within the term of the agreement by the grantee.

Grant Manager

The CDFW staff person assigned to manage a grant, including to assist with the development of the grant agreement, accept and review invoices and deliverables, and be the first point of contact for the grantee.

Grantee

Refers to the applicant once a proposal is awarded and a grant agreement is executed (i.e., a grant recipient)

Mutual Water Companies

Any private corporation or association organized for the purposes of delivering water to its stockholders and members at cost, including use of works for conserving, treating and reclaiming water. Mutual water companies are organized under California Corporations Code Section 14300. To be eligible for funding, proposals must have a clear and definite public purpose and benefit the customers of the water system and not the investors.

Nonprofit Organization

An organization qualified to do business in California and qualified under section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code (CWC §79702[p], PRC § 80002[j]).

Performance Measure

A quantitative measure used to track progress toward a project objective/desired outcome.

Preservation (Proposition 68)

Means rehabilitation, stabilization, restoration, conservation, development, and reconstruction, or any combination of those activities (PRC § 80002[k]).

Project

Refers to an effort included in the proposal. It may include construction of physical facilities or implementation of non-structural actions.

Proposal

Refers to the application for a project that is proposed for funding.

Proposition 1

“Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014” (Assembly Bill 1471) passed by California voters in November 2018, and as set forth in Division 26.7 of the

Water Code.

Proposition 68

“California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018” (Senate Bill 5) passed by California voters in June 2018, and as set forth in Division 45 of the Public Resources Code.

Protection (Proposition 68)

Means those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to persons, property, or natural, cultural, and historic resources, actions to improve access to public open-space areas, or actions to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural, cultural, and historic resources, and includes site monitoring, acquisition, development, restoration, preservation, and interpretation (PRC § 80002[l]).

Public Agency

A California agency or department [including public universities], special district, joint powers authority, county, city, city and county, or other political subdivision of the state (CWC §79702[s]).

Public Utilities

Privately owned electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, railroad, rail transit, and passenger transportation companies that are regulated by the Public Utilities Commission. To be eligible for funding, proposals must have a clear and definite public purpose and benefit the customers of the water system and not the investors (CWC §79712[b][1]).

Restoration (Proposition 68)

Means the improvement of physical structures or facilities and, in the case of natural systems and landscape features, includes, but is not limited to, projects for the control of erosion, stormwater capture and storage or to otherwise reduce stormwater pollution, the control and elimination of invasive species, the planting of native species, the removal of waste and debris, prescribed burning, fuel hazard reduction, fencing out threats to existing or restored natural resources, road elimination, improving instream, riparian, or managed wetland habitat conditions, and other plant and wildlife habitat improvement to increase the natural system value of the property or coastal or ocean resource. Restoration also includes activities described in subdivision (b) of Section 79737 of the Water Code. Restoration projects shall include the planning, monitoring, and reporting necessary to ensure successful implementation of the project objectives (PRC § 80002[m]).

Review Criteria

Set of requirements used to evaluate a proposal for a specific solicitation.

Selection Panel

Representatives from CDFW, at the supervisory or management level, assembled to review and consider the evaluations of all complete and eligible proposals and to make initial funding recommendations. Representatives from other agencies and organizations may also be invited to participate on the Selection Panel.

Severely Disadvantaged Community

A community with a median household income less than 60 percent of the statewide average (PRC § 80002[n]).

State Indian Tribe

Indian tribes that are listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List.

State Wildlife Action Plan

The [State Wildlife Action Plan \(SWAP\)](#) is the key wildlife conservation planning tool for California. The SWAP takes an ecosystem approach for conserving California's fish and wildlife resources by identifying strategies intended to improve conditions of Species of Greatest Conservation Need and the habitats upon which they depend (CDFW 2015). The SWAP 2015 Update is a guide for resource managers, conservation partners, and the public in how they can participate in conserving California's precious natural heritage.

Subcontractor

An entity other than the project proponent/applicant that performs a portion of the Scope of Work and includes subrecipients, subawardees, independent contractors, and consultants. Applicant budgets cannot charge indirect costs for subcontractors.

Technical Reviewers

A group of individuals assembled to evaluate the scientific and technical merit of a proposed project. May include representatives from CDFW, other agencies, or other outside experts. Individuals selected to serve as technical reviewers will be professionals in fields relevant to the proposed project.

Urban Water Supplier

A supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. An urban water supplier includes a supplier or contractor for

water, regardless of the basis of right, which distributes or sells for ultimate resale to customers (CWC §10617).

Watershed Restoration (Proposition1)

Includes activities to [restore] coastal wetland habitat, improve forest health, restore mountain meadows, modernize stream crossings, culverts, and bridges, reconnect historical flood plains, install or improve fish screens, provide fish passages, restore river channels, restore or enhance riparian, aquatic, and terrestrial habitat, improve ecological functions, acquire from willing sellers conservation easements for riparian buffer strips, improve local watershed management, and remove sediment or trash (CWC §79737[b]).

Wetlands

Lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. For purposes of this classification, wetlands must have one or more of the following three attributes: (1) at least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes; (2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soil; and (3) the substrate is non-soil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year (Cowardin et al. 1979).

7.2 Links

State Departments and Programs:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- [2017 Fish Passage Priorities List](#)
- [2017 Priority Water Diversions for Screening List](#)
- [Areas of Conservation Emphasis \(ACE\) III](#)
- [California Wildlife Habitat Relationships \(CWHR\)](#)
- [CDFW Webgrants: http://watershedgrants.wildlife.ca.gov](http://watershedgrants.wildlife.ca.gov)
- [Coho Salmon Habitat Enhancement Leading to Preservation Act \(Coho HELP Act, AB 1961, Huffman\)](#)
- [CDFW Data Management Plan Instructions](#)
- [Ecosystem Restoration Program Conservation Strategy \(2014\)](#)
- [Grant Opportunities](#)
- [Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act of 2014 \(AB 2193, Gordon\)](#)
- [Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs](#)
- [Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs - Resources for Grantees](#)
- [Proposition 68 Restoration Grant Programs](#)
- [State Wildlife Action Plan \(SWAP\)](#)

California Conservation Corps

- [Hire a Crew: Proposition 1](#)
- [2018 California Conservation Corps Consultation Form](#)

California Natural Resources Agency

- [Bond Accountability Proposition 1](#)
- [Bond Accountability Proposition 68](#)
- [California Biodiversity Initiative](#)
- [California EcoRestore](#)
- [California Water Action Plan](#)
- [Sacramento Valley Salmon Resiliency Strategy](#)

Delta Stewardship Council / Delta Science Program

- [Delta Plan](#)
- [Delta Plan Covered Actions](#)

California Department of Conservation

- [Watershed Program](#)

California Department of Industrial Relations

California Department of Water Resources

- [Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Conservation Strategy](#)
- [Integrated Regional Water Management \(IRWM\)](#)
- [Integrated Regional Water Management Grants](#)

State Water Resources Control Board

- [California Environmental Data Exchange Center \(CEDEN\)](#)
- [Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program \(SWAMP\)](#)

Other Relevant Resources:

California Aquatic Resources Inventory (CARI)

California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM)

California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup

CEQA Information

- [Summary](#)
- [California State Clearinghouse Handbook](#)

Climate Change Information

- [CDFW's Climate Science Program](#)
- [Climate Vulnerability Assessment Cheat Sheet](#)
- [National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy](#)
- [Safeguarding California and Climate Change Adaptation Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding California Plan: 2018 Update](#)
- [Vulnerability of California Fish, Wildlife, and Plants to Climate Change](#)

Coastal Wetlands Information

- [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#)

Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool

EcoAtlas

Enabling Legislation

- [Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 \(Proposition 1\)](#)
- [California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 \(Proposition 68\)](#)

Metadata Information

- [Biogeographic Information and Observation System \(BIOS\)](#)

Mutual Water Companies

- [California Corporations Code §14300](#)

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration

Recovery Plans for Coho Salmon, Steelhead, and Chinook Salmon

- [2013 Task List for the Steelhead Restoration and Management Plan for California \(DFG 1996\)](#)
- [Coho Salmon Recovery Tasks](#) – Although the map images are no longer available, the query and reporting tool is functional and provides the most recent changes to the Coho Recovery Strategy and must be used for task identification instead of the original [Recovery Strategy for California Coho \(DFG 2004\)](#)
- [Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan NOAA Final: January 2012](#)
- [South-Central California Steelhead Recovery Plan NOAA Final: September 2013](#)
- [Recovery Plan for Evolutionarily Significant Unit of Central California Coast Coho Salmon Final Plan: September 2012](#)
- [List of Central California Coast Coho Salmon Recovery Actions](#)
- [Recovery Plan for the Evolutionarily Significant Unit of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Salmon Public Final: September 2014](#)
- [Recovery Plan for the Evolutionarily Significant Units of Sacramento River Winter-Run Chinook Salmon and Central Valley Spring-Run Chinook Salmon and the Distinct Population Segment of California Central Valley Steelhead NOAA Final: July 2014](#)
- [Coastal Multispecies Recovery Plan, North Central California Coast Recovery Domain: California Coastal Chinook Salmon, Northern California Steelhead, Central California Coast Steelhead NOAA Public Draft: October 2015](#)

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

- [Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as defined in Proposition 1 \(CWC §79702\[e\]\)](#)
- [Map of Legal Delta](#)
- [Statutory Definition of Legal Delta \(CWC §12220\)](#)

United States Environmental Protection Agency – National Environmental Policy Act

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

United States Forest Service

Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Plan (WRAMP)