

## **Public Input on Second Round of Full Proposals Submitted to the Cosco Busan Oil Spill Settlement – Recreational Use Grant Program**

Date: October 25, 2019

Consistent with the Final Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan for the Cosco Busan Oil Spill prepared by the Cosco Busan Trustee Council<sup>1</sup>, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the California State Lands Commission (CSLC) are overseeing a competitive grant program being implemented by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). An initial request for proposals in 2012 resulted in approximately \$5.6 million in funding disbursements to projects benefiting recreational uses of lands and waters in and around San Francisco Bay and nearby outer coast shoreline.

When all projects funded and completed during the initial round of proposals were finalized, the grant still had money left from unspent contingency funds and from projects that were selected but never implemented. In January 2019, a second request for proposals was released. This request solicited “pre-proposals” for projects that could compensate the public for recreation impacts associated with the Cosco Busan oil spill. In response to this second request for pre-proposals, numerous project concepts were submitted by a variety of local cities, counties, districts and other public and non-profit entities. While these proposals requested a total of \$2.6 million, CDFW and CSLC (the state Trustees) have an estimated total of \$1.1 million to allocate.

The state Trustees, in coordination with the Cosco Busan Trustee Council, requested “full proposals” from applicants whose pre-proposals best matched the grant program funding priorities. The full proposals outlined a variety of deserving projects designed to improve recreational opportunities in areas impacted by the Cosco Busan spill. In July 2019, the state Trustees solicited public input on project concepts outlined in these full proposals.

A total of 47 public comments were submitted to NFWF. All public comments were submitted via email, and all expressed support for some element (or elements) of the Sausalito Community Boating Center (SCBC) project. One comment in favor of the SCBC project directly compared it to the Black Point Boat Launch project, noting that SCBC is “located on a well travelled and patrolled waterway, and closer to many popular destinations” [sic]. Another

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<sup>1</sup> The Cosco Busan Trustee Council is comprised of representatives of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly the California Department of Fish and Game), the California State Lands Commission, the Department of the Interior through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

comment in favor of the SCBC project expressed explicit opposition to the Rotary Fishing (and Recreation) Pier project.

After considering all public input received, the state Trustees made their final project selections based on the evaluation criteria outlined in the [Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan for the Cosco Busan Oil Spill](#), and the amount of funding available. The state Trustees coordinated the selection of projects with the federal Trustees on the Cosco Busan Trustee Council and the Trustee Council has determined that the projects selected by CDFW and CSLC, including project locations, are appropriate restoration under the Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan for the Cosco Busan Oil Spill.