

**From:** Allen, Cara@Wildlife

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 9:28 AM

**To:** Cassie Gilson; Corey Brown; David Gonsalves; DOF Boards & Commissions; Don Nottoli- District 5; Donald Terry; Gayle Miller; Jeff Harris; Karessa Belben; Kim Lunetta; Letitia Oliver (Supervisor Nottoli Scheduler); Lucchesi, Jennifer@SLC; Marie Magdaleno ; Monica Lozano; Nicole Cuellar; Phil Serna - District 1; Renae McClain-White; Rich Desmond - District 3; Stephanie Kauss; Steve (Grant) Green; Thomas, Kevin@Wildlife

**Cc:** Donnelly, John@Wildlife; Lucas, Shannon@Wildlife; Fris, Rebecca@Wildlife

**Subject:** WCB's New General Grant Guidelines

Members of the Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee,

On March 22, 2022, WCB released its new [General Grant Guidelines](#) (Guidelines) which simplifies and streamlines the grant application process for applicants with a single pre-application and full application process. This change supports the State's Cutting the Green Tape Initiative and will make the grant application process more transparent and streamlined for everyone. This new application process will be used for all WCB grant programs, including the Lower American River Conservancy Program (LARCP).

This change does affect LARCP since we had planned to release the final solicitation notice for Proposition 68 funds in the spring of 2023. Now, we will use the new Guidelines to receive applications on a continuous basis for projects that benefit the lower American River Parkway. What's great about this new process is that every application we receive will be considered by all WCB grant programs, opening the door to other funding sources and opportunities for Parkway projects. This new process also allows WCB staff to work directly with applicants, at any time, to develop a better project.

We currently have \$3,840,000 remaining from Proposition 68 for LARCP projects. We planned on releasing these funds in spring 2023 to allow time for our current planning grants to be nearly finished so that project proponents can apply for implementation grants. To still provide this opportunity for our current planning projects, any applications we receive between now and February 2023 that meet the requirements of LARCP and are not selected for funding by another WCB program, will be presented to the Advisory Committee for funding recommendation at our first meeting in 2023.

Applications will be evaluated by at least two advisory committee members and WCB and will have similar scoring criteria as we have used in the past. All projects will continue to meet LARCP specific requirements such as consistency with the Parkway Plan and a recommendation for funding by the advisory committee. For projects proposed in the Parkway, applicants will complete a subset of questions that are specific to LARCP. The response to these questions will help staff determine if a project meets specific requirements for funding under LARCP.

Please read the Guidelines at your convenience and spread this exciting news to your constituents. On April 1, 2022, we hosted a public workshop on the new Guidelines and

its recording can be found on the [WCB Grants Page](#). If you have any questions about our new Guidelines, please contact LARCP program manager Cara Allen at [cara.allen@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:cara.allen@wildlife.ca.gov) or (916) 926-9584. There will also be an opportunity at our next regular meeting in fall (date and location TBD) to answer any questions.

Thank you,

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