

# **Public Input on Full Proposals Submitted to the Refugio Beach Oil Spill Settlement: South Coast Shoreline Parks and Outdoor Recreation Grants Program 2023 Request for Proposals**

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Prepared by:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR), California State Lands Commission (CSLC), Regents of the University of California (UC Regents), collectively the “state Trustees”, & National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)

Consistent with the Final Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan for the Refugio Beach Oil Spill prepared by the Refugio Beach Trustee Council, the state Trustees are overseeing a competitive grant program being implemented by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. In October 2021, an initial request for proposals was released, allocating \$866,301 to projects. In February 2023, a second request for proposals was released for the funds remaining in the areas of Coal Oil Point Nature Reserve, Ventura County, and Los Angeles County. This request solicited “pre-proposals” for recreation projects that could compensate the public for the loss of use and enjoyment of public beaches, parks, and other public or natural resources as a result of the Refugio Beach Oil Spill.

Eight pre-proposals were submitted by a variety of local cities, counties, tribal nations, and other public and non-profit entities. The state Trustees, in coordination with the Refugio Beach Trustee Council, requested “full proposals” from all 8 pre-proposals. Six (6) full proposals were submitted and outlined a variety of deserving projects designed to improve recreational opportunities in areas impacted by the Refugio Oil Spill. In October 2023, the state Trustees solicited public input on project concepts outlined in these full proposals.

A total of two (2) public comments were submitted to NFWF. All public comments were submitted via email and were in support of the Improvement of the Pond Trail at Coal Oil Point Reserve project. These comments stated that the Pond Trail is in need of repair due to damaged trees and would help the public to stay on the trail without damaging surrounding sensitive ecosystems and the addition of benches would enhance the recreational value for visitors and would allow for better

viewing of the Reserves unique habitats.

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