



(916) 653-6725

October 3, 2011

Bruce Joab, EEF Grant Coordinator
California Department of Fish and Game
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
1700 K Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, CA 95811-4022

Dear Mr. Joab,

California State Parks is pleased to submit the seven attached applications for the Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF) Grant. These applications represent high-priority restoration activities in coastal units of the State Park System from Humboldt to San Diego Counties. Each of these proposed projects will restore coastal or estuarine habitats consistent with the goals and requirements of the EEF grant. A map is attached to illustrate the locations of the units where these activities are proposed.

The following projects are being submitted on behalf of State Parks:

<u>Project Name / Location</u>	<u>Project Objective</u>	<u>Amount Requested & Fund Year / Project Completion Date</u>
Little River State Beach Revegetation and Retreatment Project / North Coast Redwoods District	Revegetate 10 acres of dunes with native plants in a 40-acre dune restoration area and eradicate newly sprouted European beachgrass in the remaining 30 acres.	\$33,901.78, 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2014
Habitat Restoration for Recovery of Western Snowy Plover at Manchester State Park/ Mendocino District	Eradication of European beachgrass from a 54-acre dune area and potential snowy plover breeding habitat.	\$81,000, 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2013
Invasive Plant Assessment and Removal at Benicia State Recreation Area Tidal Marsh / Diablo Vista District	Assess and prioritize invasive plant species of greatest threat in a large tidal marsh area followed by reduction of target species by herbicide treatment.	\$60,000, 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2015

China Camp State Park Wetland Enhancement / Marin District	Remove or reduce the most threatening invasive plants in a tidal marsh area.	\$25,000, 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2014
European Beachgrass Removal and Restoration at Zmudowski State Beach / Monterey District	Restore 40 acres of dune habitat (snowy plover breeding area) by removing European beachgrass and reseeding with native dune plants.	\$40,779.20, 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2013
Dune Restoration at Morro Strand State Beach / San Luis Obispo Coast District	Eradicate European beachgrass and iceplant in 13 acres of dune habitat (snowy plover breeding area).	\$50,000 from 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2014 <i>This is a three year project that will request a total of \$150,000 through 2013.</i>
Removal of Hoary Cress from High Saltmarsh at Los Peñasquitos / Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve, San Diego Coast District	Remove invasive hoary cress in an 8-acre portion of a coastal estuary (wintering habitat for snowy plover).	\$25,498, 2012 Grant Fund Project completion: 2015

Each of the projects identifies and describes much-needed habitat restoration or enhancement work, including work in sensitive dune habitat, tidal marshes, and a southern California coastal estuary. Each of these projects will improve habitat that is essential for native California plant, fish, and wildlife species. Five of the projects would benefit the federally threatened western snowy plover, a species that breeds and/or overwinters at over 1/3 of the coastal units in the State Park System. Two proposed projects will enhance tidal marsh habitat, a sensitive habitat that is the subject of a federal recovery program, benefiting rare native wildlife such as California clapper rail. Further, each of these applications describe and draw on State Parks' staff expertise and previous successful efforts to restore, enhance, and maintain native California habitats.

State Parks headquarters Natural Resources Division coordinated the preparation of these applications by State Park District environmental staff. As a part of that coordination, headquarters staff evaluated 30 proposed coastal habitat restoration projects and selected those that were most closely aligned with the objectives and requirements of the EEF RFP. Headquarters staff also reviewed and revised written proposals in coordination with each applying District. This process provided headquarters with the opportunity to identify the statewide resources that can be allocated to ensure the completion of these projects.

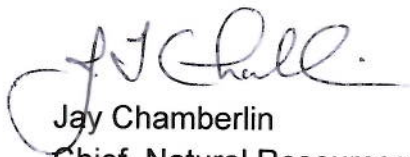
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Our recommendations to OSPR serve as a demonstration of the full commitment of the Department to completing any of the projects that are selected for funding. We emphasize this commitment since several of the applications are from units that were proposed for closure by State Parks in May of 2011 to meet budget reduction requirements. In closed units, the Department will continue to be responsible for meeting its natural resources stewardship obligations under the Public Resources Code and other applicable statutes. Therefore, natural resources restoration and on-going management work is authorized to continue in closed units just as in other units of the State Park System.

While headquarters staff has been involved in identifying, refining, and supporting these project proposals, any projects selected and funded by OSPR will be implemented and managed principally by State Park District staff in collaboration with headquarters.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these applications for the current EEF Grant. State Parks looks forward to helping contribute to the success of this and other investments in public resource stewardship.

Sincerely,



Jay Chamberlin
Chief, Natural Resources Division
California Department of Parks and Recreation

cc: Jay Harris, Natural Resources Program Manager, North Coast Redwoods District, California State Parks
Renee Pasquinelli, Natural Resources Program Manager, Mendocino District, California State Parks
Cyndy Shafer, Acting Natural Resources Program Manager, Diablo Vista District, California State Parks
Bree Hardcastle, Natural Resources Program Manager, Marin District, California State Parks
Tom Moss, Natural Resources Program Manager, Monterey District, California State Parks
Vince Cicero, Natural Resources Program Manager, San Luis Obispo District, California State Parks
Darren Smith, Natural Resources Program Manager, San Diego Coast District, California State Parks



Figure 1. Locations of State Park Projects Applying for EEF Grant