

Final Selection Panel Review

0043

Fish Friendly Farming Environmental Certification Program

California Land Stewardship Institute

Applicant amount requested: \$1,000,243

Fund This Amount: \$1,000,243

The proposal outlines a very strong approach, and this appears to be a good project. The applicant has been successful in involving land owners. The Selection Panel recommendation is to fund with conditions with a revised dollar amount, but not to exceed the requested amount, as appropriate based on the suggested changes outlined below. The main drawback of this proposal is that it needs a stronger emphasis on, and greater detail in, its monitoring and economic analysis. The applicant should provide information on the qualifications and experience of the people involved in the monitoring plan and economic analysis (i.e., provide CVs of the people providing the work). The applicant needs to clarify criteria used for the selection of restoration components. The applicant also needs to clarify criteria for cost sharing creek restoration and erosion control projects. Establishing criteria for high priority areas, key resource concerns, and access as demonstration site should help maximize environmental benefits from cost-sharing.

Two letters of support, a set of questions from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and a letter from the applicant addressing the findings of the Panel were received.

Comments from the RWQCB raised questions about the criteria used to identify potential areas for the program, the specific types of problems and the restoration techniques that will be used by the applicant. These points are addressed in the letter from the project Principal Investigator (PI).