



FARMS

Leadership Program

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Dan Ray
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
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April 16, 2002

Re: "Cultivating Watershed Stewardship," Proposal #71

Dear Dan,

This letter is to clarify the information posted by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (ERP) Selection Panel, specifically the Initial Recommendations and the reviews of our proposal, Cultivating Watershed Stewardship.

The first point of clarification is regarding Total Requested Funding. While our proposal was recommended for funding "As Is," the accompanying dollar amount was listed as \$136,137, which is actually the amount of *overhead* that we were requesting, not the Total Requested Funds. Question 17, "Requested Funds" on the Project Information Sheet, is where this amount (\$136,137) is listed. The Budget Summary shows the grand total to be \$1,497,500. Unfortunately, I misread the section of Question 17, "*if no, list single overhead rate and total requested funds*" to be referring *only* to the amount of overhead we were requesting, rather than the entire proposal funding request. On the Budget Justification, under Indirect Costs (final line), you will see that I used this number again to show that 10% of the direct costs would equate to \$136,137.

In order to implement the program "Cultivating Watershed Stewardship" as proposed, the **total requested funding is \$1,497,500**. We have a great deal of matching funds; in fact, Table 6 of the proposal lists all of these in detail. The total is \$3,031,000, more than double our Total Requested Funds. These matching funds (or, cost share) are *in addition to* our funding request, not included within the budget summary, as was suggested by the Budget Panel (see Question 5). Once again, our request is for the entire amount listed in the Budget Summary in order to implement this very highly reviewed proposal.

The second item of clarification is regarding Task 3, "To Create a Farm and Nature Center", which is divided into two subtasks; conduct a Center feasibility study and utilize Center as a professional development hub for local and regional education and restoration.

The Environmental Education Panel suggested not funding this Task, citing that it is not within a watershed that is a high priority for the CALFED Bay-Delta Area. I would like to clarify the following items about the importance of this Center:

- 1) First, the Farm and Nature Center is located in Winters, CA (not Willows, as was written in the Selection Panel Review). The location in Winters is within the Sacramento Region, and specifically the Putah Creek Ecozone (10.2), which is a part of the greater Yolo Basin Ecozone. As stated in the Draft Stage 1 PSP Priorities for the Ecosystem Restoration Program, the first priority for programs is Multi-Regional, followed by Sacramento Region.



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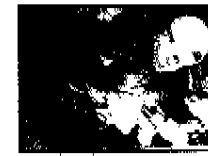
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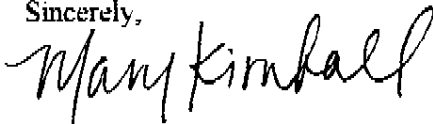
Letter to Dan Ray, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, Continued.

- 2) The Farm Center is, by design, Multi-Regional. Its intent is not to focus on one particular watershed, but rather have a Multi-Regional approach. At this time, it is already serving 10 individual schools as a part of the SLEWS Program, five of which are within Sacramento City Limits, as well as serving schools as far away as Berkeley (Bay Region). As the home of the Statewide FARMS Leadership Program, the Farm Center is serving an additional five high schools in the North State, including Orland, Corning, Chico, Oroville, and Princeton, and another five in Yolo, Sacramento, and Solano counties. The goal of Task 3 is to be able to expand even further the number of schools, teachers, students, and other partners throughout the entire CALFED Bay-Delta Region.
- 3) Expanding the opportunities for Regional environmental education is the goal of the Farm and Nature Center. We are located in prime agricultural farmland, literally alongside of Putah Creek, and our programming therefore has the unique aspect of providing education about the interrelationships between agriculture and the environment in a way that most educational centers are unable to provide.
- 4) Wildlife-Friendly Farming is at the HEART of our educational programming, and the Farm Center would be a demonstration area, a hands-on learning area, and a "hub" for all of Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Bay Region educational programs that want to add Wildlife Friendly Farming into their curriculum. Adopt-A-Watershed is one such organization, already asking for bus tours, teacher trainings, partner collaboration activities, and student field days. In fact, the Farm Center would be a Regional Center for Adopt-A-Watershed, who are expanding their growth in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Regions and need a more CENTRAL location for training and education, which the Farm Center provides.

Providing the funding for Task 3 would only strengthen our overall proposal, providing an educational center that is different from any other in California, and provides students, teachers, landowners, and others the important opportunities for learning about ecosystem restoration, wildlife-friendly farming, and natural resource conservation in a prime location in Northern California.

Please consider our request for the total funding of \$1,497,500 as stated in the proposal's budget summary, and which includes Task 3. If Task 3 were not funded, the total would be \$1,325,526. Thank you very much for your time and consideration of this matter, and please feel free to call me at (530) 795-1520, or email at Kimball@quiknet.com should you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Mary Kimball
Associate Director
FARMS Leadership, Inc.