

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

Project Information

1. **Proposal Title:**

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

2. **Proposal applicants:**

Lota De Castro, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Suzanne Arena, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
William Bennett, Department of Water Resources
Debbie Carlisle, Department of Water Resources
Ted Frink, Department of Water Resources
Glenda Marsh, Department of Water Resources
Rick Kyper, Department of Water Resources
Erica Kegel, Department of Water Resources
Chris Wilkinson, Department of Water Resources

3. **Corresponding Contact Person:**

William Bennett
Department of Water Resources
901 "P" Street, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 95814
916 651-9202
bennett@water.ca.gov

4. **Project Keywords:**

Anadromous salmonids
At-risk species, fish
Fish Passage/Fish Screens

5. **Type of project:**

Implementation_Pilot

6. **Does the project involve land acquisition, either in fee or through a conservation easement?**

No

7. **Topic Area:**

Fish Passage

8. **Type of applicant:**

Local Agency

9. Location - GIS coordinates:

Latitude: 37.594

Longitude: -121.9009

Datum:

Describe project location using information such as water bodies, river miles, road intersections, landmarks, and size in acres.

*Sunol Dam is located at 37.594 and -121.9009 Niles Dam is located at 37.586 and -121.9617

10. Location - Ecozone:

Code 16: Inside ERP Geographic Scope, but outside ERP Ecozones

11. Location - County:

Alameda

12. Location - City:

Does your project fall within a city jurisdiction?

No

13. Location - Tribal Lands:

Does your project fall on or adjacent to tribal lands?

No

14. Location - Congressional District:

10

15. Location:

California State Senate District Number: 7

California Assembly District Number: 15

16. How many years of funding are you requesting?

2

17. Requested Funds:

a) Are your overhead rates different depending on whether funds are state or federal?

No

If no, list single overhead rate and total requested funds:

Single Overhead Rate: 10

Total Requested Funds: 1,550,000

b) Do you have cost share partners already identified?

No

c) Do you have potential cost share partners?

No

d) Are you specifically seeking non-federal cost share funds through this solicitation?

No

If the total non-federal cost share funds requested above does not match the total state funds requested in 17a, please explain the difference:

18. Is this proposal for next-phase funding of an ongoing project funded by CALFED?

No

Have you previously received funding from CALFED for other projects not listed above?

No

19. Is this proposal for next-phase funding of an ongoing project funded by CVPIA?

No

Have you previously received funding from CVPIA for other projects not listed above?

No

20. Is this proposal for next-phase funding of an ongoing project funded by an entity other than CALFED or CVPIA?

No

Please list suggested reviewers for your proposal. (optional)

William Bennett DWR 916.651.9202 bennett@water.ca.gov

Carrie Austin RWQCB 510-622-1015 cma@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov

Peggy Oroloffson RWQCB 510-622-2402 pro@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov

21. Comments:

Environmental Compliance Checklist

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

1. CEQA or NEPA Compliance

a) Will this project require compliance with CEQA?

Yes

b) Will this project require compliance with NEPA?

Yes

c) If neither CEQA or NEPA compliance is required, please explain why compliance is not required for the actions in this proposal.

2. If the project will require CEQA and/or NEPA compliance, identify the lead agency(ies). If not applicable, put "None".

CEQA Lead Agency: San Francisco PUC (SFPUC)

NEPA Lead Agency (or co-lead:) Army Corps of Engineers

NEPA Co-Lead Agency (if applicable):

3. Please check which type of CEQA/NEPA documentation is anticipated.

CEQA

-Categorical Exemption

-Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration

EIR

-none

NEPA

-Categorical Exclusion

Environmental Assessment/FONSI

-EIS

-none

If you anticipate relying on either the Categorical Exemption or Categorical Exclusion for this project, please specifically identify the exemption and/or exclusion that you believe covers this project.

4. CEQA/NEPA Process

a) Is the CEQA/NEPA process complete?

No

If the CEQA/NEPA process is not complete, please describe the dates for completing draft and/or final CEQA/NEPA documents.

Preliminary Draft EIR - 8/13/02 Final EIR - 1/7/03

b) If the CEQA/NEPA document has been completed, please list document name(s):

5. **Environmental Permitting and Approvals** (*If a permit is not required, leave both Required? and Obtained? check boxes blank.*)

LOCAL PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Conditional use permit

Variance

Subdivision Map Act

Grading Permit

General Plan Amendment

Specific Plan Approval

Rezone

Williamson Act Contract Cancellation

Other Required

STATE PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Scientific Collecting Permit

CESA Compliance: 2081

CESA Compliance: NCCP

1601/03 Required

CWA 401 certification Required

Coastal Development Permit

Reclamation Board Approval

Notification of DPC or BCDC

Other

FEDERAL PERMITS AND APPROVALS

ESA Compliance Section 7 Consultation Required

ESA Compliance Section 10 Permit

Rivers and Harbors Act

CWA 404 Required

Other

PERMISSION TO ACCESS PROPERTY

Permission to access city, county or other local agency land.

Agency Name:

Permission to access state land.

Agency Name:

Permission to access federal land.

Agency Name:

Permission to access private land.

Landowner Name:

6. Comments.

A street use permit will be obtained from Alameda County or Caltrans.

Land Use Checklist

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

1. Does the project involve land acquisition, either in fee or through a conservation easement?

No

2. Will the applicant require access across public or private property that the applicant does not own to accomplish the activities in the proposal?

Yes

3. Do the actions in the proposal involve physical changes in the land use?

Yes

If you answered yes to #3, please answer the following questions:

- a) How many acres of land will be subject to a land use change under the proposal?

less than 1 acre

- b) Describe what changes will occur on the land involved in the proposal.

Removal of existing concrete dam structures.

- c) List current and proposed land use, zoning and general plan designations of the area subject to a land use change under the proposal.

Category	Current	Proposed (if no change, specify "none")
Land Use	Water Storage	Restore free flowing creek.
Zoning	A - Agriculture	none
General Plan Designation	Water Storage	none

- d) Is the land currently under a Williamson Act contract?

No

- e) Is the land mapped as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Local Importance under the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program?

No

- f) Describe what entity or organization will manage the property and provide operations and maintenance services.

SFPUC

4. Comments.

Conflict of Interest Checklist

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

Please list below the full names and organizations of all individuals in the following categories:

- **Applicants listed in the proposal who wrote the proposal, will be performing the tasks listed in the proposal or who will benefit financially if the proposal is funded.**
- **Subcontractors listed in the proposal who will perform some tasks listed in the proposal and will benefit financially if the proposal is funded.**
- **Individuals not listed in the proposal who helped with proposal development, for example by reviewing drafts, or by providing critical suggestions or ideas contained within the proposal.**

The information provided on this form will be used to select appropriate and unbiased reviewers for your proposal.

Applicant(s):

**Lota De Castro, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Suzanne Arena, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
William Bennett, Department of Water Resources
Debbie Carlisle, Department of Water Resources
Ted Frink, Department of Water Resources
Glenda Marsh, Department of Water Resources
Rick Kyper, Department of Water Resources
Erica Kegel, Department of Water Resources
Chris Wilkinson, Department of Water Resources**

Subcontractor(s):

Are specific subcontractors identified in this proposal? Yes

If yes, please list the name(s) and organization(s):

Environmental Science Associates Environmental Science Associates

Helped with proposal development:

Are there persons who helped with proposal development?

Yes

If yes, please list the name(s) and organization(s):

Bill Bennett Department of Water Resources

Debbie Carlisle Department of Water Resources

Ted Frink Department of Water Resources

Rick Kuyper Department of Water Resources

Glenda Marsh Department of Water Resources

Erika Kegel Department of Water Resources

Comments:

Budget Summary

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

Please provide a detailed budget for each year of requested funds, indicating on the form whether the indirect costs are based on the Federal overhead rate, State overhead rate, or are independent of fund source.

Independent of Fund Source

Year 1												
Task No.	Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies & Expendables	Services or Consultants	Equipment	Other Direct Costs	Total Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Cost
1	project initiation	16	707	922						1629.0		1629.00
2	Project Management/Administration	368	16,256	21,214						37470.0		37470.00
3	Engineering/technical support/review	96	4,241	5,534						9775.0		9775.00
4	Environmental /Regulatory Support	192								0.0		0.00
		672	21204.00	27670.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48874.00	0.00	48874.00

Year 2												
Task No.	Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies & Expendables	Services or Consultants	Equipment	Other Direct Costs	Total Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Cost
		0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Year 3												
Task No.	Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies & Expendables	Services or Consultants	Equipment	Other Direct Costs	Total Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Cost
		0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Grand Total=48874.00

Comments.

see Attachment 4 of the Proposal.

Budget Justification

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

Direct Labor Hours. Provide estimated hours proposed for each individual.

Project initiation/management/administratioin - 1,152 Engineering/technical support/review - 352 Environmental/regulatory support - 192 Topographic survey - 240 Clerical - 384 Preparation of design documents - 2,148 Construction inspection - 1,280

Salary. Provide estimated rate of compensation proposed for each individual.

Total salaries over 3 year life of project: Project initiation/managment/administration - 50,885 Engineering/technical support/review - 14,765 Environmental/regulatory support - 8,481 Topographic survey - 10,602 Clerical - 12,517 Preparation of design documents - 88,304 Construction inspection - 42,865

Benefits. Provide the overall benefit rate applicable to each category of employee proposed in the project.

Benefits and overhead over 3 years of project Project initiation/management/administratioin - 66,405 Engineering/technical support/review - 19,268 Environmental/regulatory support - 11,068 Topographic survey - 13,835 Clerical - 16,335 Preparation of design documents - 115,237 Construction inspection - 55,938

Travel. Provide purpose and estimate costs for all non-local travel.

no expenses planned

Supplies & Expendables. Indicate separately the amounts proposed for office, laboratory, computing, and field supplies.

For removal of both dams: Concrete - 2,100 Sheet piles for coffer dam (includes installation) - 312,400 Rock fill - 56,700 4 Pumps - 16,000 Bid and award construction contract - 5,000

Services or Consultants. Identify the specific tasks for which these services would be used. Estimate amount of time required and the hourly or daily rate.

Task Total Number of Hours Total Labor Cost Estimate/Task Project Management 487 \$45,705 CEQA 1,786 \$160,145 Permits 1,332 \$116,640 Technical Studies 152 \$14,080 Total 3,769 \$337,650

Equipment. Identify non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one (1) year and an acquisition cost of more than \$5,000 per unit. If fabrication of equipment is proposed, list parts and materials required for each, and show costs separately from the other items.

None

Project Management. Describe the specific costs associated with insuring accomplishment of a specific project, such as inspection of work in progress, validation of costs, report preparation, giving presentatons, reponse to project specific questions and necessary costs directly associated with specific project oversight.

Project management/administration - 50,178 Construction inspection - 42,865

Other Direct Costs. Provide any other direct costs not already covered.

None

Indirect Costs. Explain what is encompassed in the overhead rate (indirect costs). Overhead should include costs associated with general office requirements such as rent, phones, furniture, general office staff, etc., generally distributed by a predetermined percentage (or surcharge) of specific costs.

Overhead not broken out in information provided for this proposal. It is included in Attachment 4 in the Year 1 budget as Benefits and Overhead. Overhead includes costs associated with general office requirements.

Executive Summary

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

This proposal requests funding based on the objective of the task force. With financial sponsorship from the CALFED program, the removal activities of Niles and Sunol will be an essential component of the overall goal to reestablish fish migration in Alameda Creek. The Alameda Creek watershed, the largest drainage to southern San Francisco Bay at nearly 700 square miles, once supported viable runs of anadromous fish. Development has greatly altered the watershed, including such changes as the channelization of the lower 12 miles of the creek for flood control, the construction of the San Antonio, Calaveras, and Del Valle Reservoirs for water supply, and the construction of a concrete drop structure to stabilize the channel around a transit overpass. Changes such as these have subsequently made the spawning habitat within the watershed inaccessible for returning anadromous fish. There have been many observations of Anadromous steelhead trout attempting to migrate up Alameda Creek. In the late 1990's these fish have been observed in ever-increasing numbers, due possibly to favorable conditions for out-migration of smolts or maybe just due to increased observation effect. The presence of these fish has rekindled interest in their restoration by the public, elected officials, and the responsible management agencies. In 1999 a task force comprised of various stakeholders was convened to investigate the possibility of restoring a sustainable population of steelhead to the Alameda Creek watershed. Coincident with this interest is the existence of a federal restoration program administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that could provide funding for capital improvements as part of the restoration effort.

Proposal

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Removal of the Niles and Sunol Dams on Alameda Creek

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A PROJECT DESCRIPTION: PROJECT GOALS AND SCOPE OF WORK

1. Problem

Alameda Creek watershed is one of the largest watersheds in the San Francisco Bay Region. The watershed has four major tributaries: Alameda Creek, Arroyo de la Laguna, Arroyo Valle, and Arroyo Mocho, that drain through the lower reach of Alameda Creek (Figure 1). The watershed drains the west-side coastal hills of the San Francisco Bay in the region of the Livermore Valley, where much of the watershed is developed and densely populated. A significant portion of the upper watershed is managed as public wilderness park owned by East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD), and protected drainage for water supply owned by San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). There are three major flood control and water supply reservoirs in the upper drainage, two owned by SFPUC and one operated by DWR as part of the State Water Project (Lake Del Valle). There are also at least 18 other man-made structures documented in the watershed that are potential or known barriers to fish migration that were documented from a survey of the drainage to identify the potential to restore anadromous steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) populations in the basin (Gunther et al. 2000).

The Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup (FRW) was formed due to increased interest and local sightings of returning adult steelhead in lower Alameda Creek and to address impacts to steelhead within the watershed following the federal ESA listing of steelhead ESU's in California by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The FRW includes representatives of county water districts and local and private agencies, including SFPUC, and public interest groups interested in the ecological health and management of natural resources in the basin. Genetic studies documented that *O. mykiss* collected from the tributaries consisted of stock from the Central California Coast ESU and not hatchery origin (Nielsen and Fountain 1999 as referenced in Gunther et al. 2000). With the verified genetics data, the FRW set out to conduct a study of the watershed habitat conditions to identify potential problems or issues to restoring steelhead in Alameda Creek.

The FRW is coordinating efforts in the basin to address issues of fish passage at the 18 identified potential fish barriers in the creek. The first barrier removal project implemented in the basin was to remove 2 concrete dams at RM 23.8 and 24 respectively, in the EBRPD Sunol Regional Wilderness Park this past August 2001. Construction funds were obtained by EBRPD through grant money and matching funds from local businesses and citizen groups. The CALFED/DWR Fish Passage Improvement Program contributed cost share funds of \$25K to complete the project.

Other current program actions for the FRW on Alameda Creek specifically, include supporting investigations for fish passage modifications or removals of the first downstream structures (4 inflatable dams with diversion intakes and a bridge protection weir) that impede adult steelhead migration into the drainage between RM 9 and 11.

PG&E is investigating its pipeline crossing structure at RM 19 and SFPUC has two inactive concrete diversion dams, Niles and Sunol dams. This proposal is to acquire funding to implement construction for the removal of Niles and Sunol dams.

Niles and Sunol dams, within Niles Canyon of Alameda Creek are significant barriers to steelhead migration owned by SFPUC. Niles Dam, located at RM 11.9, is approximately 6 ft high with a dysfunctional fish ladder that impedes passage at flows up to 500 cfs, conservatively. Sunol Dam is approximately 8 ft high by 25 ft wide also with a dysfunctional fish ladder that is a significant barrier even at higher flows (Gunther et al. 2000).

These dams are no longer integral parts of the water system for SFPUC and they are proposing to implement engineering design feasibility studies to address fish passage at each structure. The SFPUC has budgeted \$1.2 million to develop environmental documents and conduct CEQA/NEPA compliance for alternatives to improve fish passage that will include dam removals. Removal of Niles Dam will significantly improve access to an additional 5 miles of high quality stream shaded riverine aquatic habitat between Niles Dam and Sunol Dam. Then removal of Sunol Dam will open another approximately 2.5 miles of high quality stream habitat up to the next barrier at the PG&E pipeline crossing at RM 18.6. The project will ultimately restore over 75 miles of prime steelhead spawning and rearing habitat.

This is a significant gain in habitat access for threatened steelhead because of the highly urbanized surrounding areas. The fact that this stream corridor still has existing high quality habitat conditions that could assist in the future recovery of listed steelhead is significant for this region. This is especially true in the case of Alameda Creek watershed because of two factors: the prime protection of large tracts of undisturbed upper watershed (EBRPD and SFPUC protected lands); and the level of development and impacts to adjacent regional watersheds that have much less opportunity for this level of restoration and potential gains in high quality aquatic habitat.

With the recent removal of the 2 concrete dams upstream in Sunol Park, there will be only two other remaining significant and one minor barrier to remove to open more than 16 miles of pristine steelhead habitat in the drainage above Niles and Sunol dams. The next two significant barriers are the PG&E pipeline crossing and the Alameda Creek Diversion Dam. PG&E is currently considering options to modify the pipeline crossing structure which when modified will add another nearly 10 miles of habitat. The Diversion Dam is significant to current water supply infrastructure but discussions are ongoing about alternatives to remove that structure for alternative water supply sources.

Funding of the construction to remove Niles and Sunol dam provides a unique opportunity to continue the momentum of public interest and agency support in the actions to restore access to critical habitat with the goal to achieve positive recovery actions for at-risk federally listed fish in the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The cooperative and joint ventures of the member agencies and public interest groups in the FRW provide a positive example of a highly urbanized region taking responsibility, making major steps

and funding commitments to regain severely impacted public fisheries resources. Additional funding from sources such as CALFED to projects such as the Niles and Sunol dam removals will have positive repercussions on a regional scale for the benefit and recovery of ecosystem functions in the Bay-Delta.

2. Justification

The project to improve fish passage within the Alameda watershed will meet the goals and objectives of the CALFED ERP Implementation Plan as identified in the Strategic Goals (SG 1, SG 3, and SG 4). This project includes removal of Niles and Sunol Dams to meet the objective of improving fish passage.

Improving passage at the two sites will provide consistent access to approximately 18 miles of high quality shaded riverine habitat suitable for spawning and rearing of steelhead. This project is the first step in ongoing and planned stream restoration efforts occurring in Alameda Creek as well as other tributaries in the Niles Canyon. The City of San Francisco and the DWR Fish Passage Improvement Program are planning for the removal of Niles and Sunol Dams and restoration of the stream channel by 2003. This is in addition to habitat assessments, sediment source evaluations, and fish population investigations related to river restoration planning efforts that are ongoing.

This project is one in a series of steps planned in an ongoing restoration effort occurring in the Alameda Creek watershed. The FRW that was formed in 1999 has demonstrated that the stakeholders have engaged in a serious approach to meeting the common restoration goals set forth by CALFED. In addition, the fact that the SFPUC has already invested 1.2 million dollars towards environmental permitting and monitoring activities for the project underscores the serious commitment. Other current program actions for the FRW on Alameda Creek specifically include SFPUC's Niles and Sunol Dams. This proposal to acquire funding to implement construction for the removal of these two structures.

The Resources Agency recently demonstrated a high profile interest in support of the fish passage improvement goals by promoting a project that removed two swim dams within Niles Canyon and publicly endorsing the removal of Niles and Sunol Dams. DFG has also shown their agency's support in the dam removal effort for Niles and Sunol, as evidenced by the letter included as an attachment to this proposal (attachment 5).

The project's implementation would enhance the creek's ability to deliver State Water Project water in the watershed and improve water reliability for Zone 7, the City of San Francisco, ACWD and other local agency recipients.

2. Approach

As part of an ongoing watershed restoration program on the Alameda Creek, this project is being achieved to fulfill the goals and objectives of the CALFED Eco System Restoration Program and the USFWS Andronomous Fish Restoration Plan. This project and others along the creek brings a diverse group of stakeholders, agencies, community groups and related entities together to work out mutually beneficial fisheries upgrades. The project has proceeded through preliminary planning and design and is now ready to proceed to environmental and construction. San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) has allocated \$1.2 million for environmental work and design and has hired Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to complete the environmental documentation. All environmental work, permitting and preconstruction activities will be completed by 1/703.

Hypothesis: Removal of Niles and Sunol Dams will contribute to the recovery of federally and state listed steelhead trout.

Expected outcome: Improved fish passage and survival of adult and juvenile fish while improving the efficiency and management of instream and diverted flows.

Below is the schedule for the proposed project:

Project Management		
Task PM1: Project Management Work Plan	2 weeks, starting at NTP	11/2/01
Task PM2: Project Management	On-going throughout project	1/10/03
Mailing List and Public Distribution		
Task M1: Mailing List and Public Distribution	On-going throughout project	1/10/03
CEQA		
Task C1: Consult With Responsible and Trustee Agencies	4 weeks, starting at NTP	11/16/01
Task C2: Notice of Preparation (NOP)/Initial Study	12 weeks, starting 2 weeks into Task C1	1/25/02
Task C3: Scoping Meetings & Public Outreach	14 weeks, starting at NTP	1/25/02
Task C4: Preliminary Draft EIR (PDEIR)	12 weeks, starting after Tasks P2 and P3	5/10/02
Task C5: Screen Check & Draft EIR	4 ½ weeks, starting after Task C4	6/11/02
Task C6: DEIR Public Review & Meetings	45 days, starting after Task C5	8/13/02

Task C7: Preliminary Draft Summary of Comments and Responses	6 weeks, starting after Task C6	9/24/02
Task C8: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program	8 weeks, starting after Task C5	10/8/02
Task C9: Screen Check and Draft Summary of Comments and Responses	5 ½ weeks, starting after Task C7	10/31/02
Task C10: File Notice of Determination	6 weeks, starting after Task C9	12/17/02
Task C11: Final EIR	3 weeks, starting after Task C10	1/7/03
Permits		
Task P1: Interagency Meeting	2 weeks, starting after Task P2	1/18/02
Task P2: Biological Studies	11 weeks, starting after NTP	1/4/02
Task P3: Wetland Delineation	13 weeks, starting after NTP	1/18/02
Task P4: Informal Biological Assessment	12 weeks, starting after Task P2	3/29/02
Task P5: ACOE Permit Application	14 weeks, starting after Task P2	4/12/02
Task P7: JARPA	7 weeks, starting after Task P5	5/17/02
Design		
Task D1: Final design	16 weeks	5/7/03
Construction		
Task Co1: Bid and Award Contract	16 weeks, after Task C7	8/7/03
Task Co2: Construction inspection	8 weeks, after Tasks Co1	2/14/04
Task Co3: Sunol and Niles Dam Removal	24 weeks	4/15/04
Task Co4: Environmental mitigation	During pre-post contraction	
Monitoring		
Task M1: Post construction monitoring	5 years	

Listed below are regional, state and federal agencies that will likely review and comment on the environmental evaluation document for this project or will have permit authority over the project (potential agency concerns are shown in parentheses):

California Department of Fish and Game –Streambed Alteration Permit (State-listed threatened and endangered species)

United States Fish and Wildlife Service – Section 7 Consultation (Federal listed threatened and endangered species)

National Marine Fisheries Service – Section 7 consultation for Central California Coastal Steelhead (Critical Habitat for threatened and endangered species)

United States Environmental Protection Agency – NEPA Compliance (Preparation of legally adequate environmental documents, compliance with water and air quality regulations)

United States Army Corps of Engineers – Section 10 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (Potential impact on navigable waters of the US)

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board – Section 401 Clean Water Act (Compliance with California State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act)
State Historic Preservation Office – California Register of Historic Resources (Loss of historically or architecturally significant buildings or structures)

National Park Service – US Department of Interior – National Register of Historic Places, Historic American Engineering Record and Historic American Building Survey (Compliance with Federal Historic Preservation Act)

State Lands Commission (Public trust for water related commerce, navigation, fisheries, recreation, open space, and habitat)

4. Feasibility

In April 2000, SFPUC completed a feasibility study for removal and/or modification of fish passage barriers at the Niles and Sunol Dams. Six alternatives were considered for each dam. The alternatives for Sunol and Niles Dams were as follows:

Alternative 1: Cut the dam without notches:

Description: Remove the upper portion of the dam to a desired elevation so that the fish can easily pass over the top of the dam. The final height of the dam and the thickness of concrete to be removed would be determined as a result of an engineering analysis and the recommendations of the fisheries biologist.

Alternative 2: Cut the dam and cut notches:

Description: Lower the entire dam to the construction joint below the bottom of the aqueduct and cut notches. The final size of the notches would be determined as a result of hydrologic and engineering analysis, and the recommendations of the fisheries biologist.

Alternative 3 – Cut notches (without cutting the dam):

Description: This alternative does not lower the dam. It provides notches in the dam for the upstream passage of the fish. The notches are cut so that the fish moving upstream

would typically enter the notch.

Alternative 4 – Drill holes through the dam

Description: Cut or drill circular or rectangular holes through the dam. The holes or the cut areas will be 50% of the length of the dam.

Alternative 5: Remove dam completely

Description: This alternative would entail the removal of the entire dam.

Alternative 6: Fish Passageways

Description: Fishway structures are used to provide fish access past dams and other barriers. They generally consist of a flume with baffles, or a series of stepped pools that slow water to a velocity more easily negotiated by fish. They also reduce the height a fish needs to leap.

Conclusion:

The feasibility study confirmed the viability of the project. There are several alternatives to facilitate fish passage, each with its own advantages and disadvantages. After reviewing the 6 alternatives, SFPUC believes that Alternative 4 – removal of the dams completely presents the best alternative with the following advantages and disadvantages:

Advantages:

1. Best option for full fish passage
2. The creek would be restored to its original condition with restoration of the site to its natural state as much as possible.
3. No future modifications to the dam need be done, the job is complete.
4. No maintenance for fish passage concerns.

Disadvantages:

1. The sediment accumulated at the upstream base of the dam would wash downstream. It will degrade the quality of the water.
2. If the sediment is contaminated, it will have to be disposed of properly.
3. Lowering the water levels may possibly have a detrimental effect to other (possibly endangered) species.
4. Potential harm to the riparian forest along the banks.
5. This solution would result in the largest amount of concrete to be disposed.

Upon completion of the environmental work SFPUC will chose the preferred alternative using sound science, economics and the reality of conditions present at each dam.

All environmental compliance documentation is scheduled to be completed before the construction will begin. The permitting agencies, are in support of the project with no constraints anticipated. Monitoring of the project sites will be done concurrent with construction activities to ensure that construction meets all environmental compliance.

Outreach constraints:

SFPUC is the sole landowner involved in this project. This ensures that other contingencies, such as other landowners, will not delay this schedule or disrupt the process. However, significant outreach will occur prior to any construction taking place. SFPUC is closely involved with the community groups in the area and will ensure that those affected will be properly notified.

Outreach conclusion: The Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup (Workgroup) continues to be a stakeholder driven grassroots effort focused on developing mutually beneficial and acceptable alternatives to improve fish passage on the Alameda Creek. Lead by the efforts of Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the Alameda County Water District, East Bay Regional Park District, the California Coastal Conservancy, the City of Fremont, California Fish and Game, the Alameda Creek Alliance (a citizens group), Army Corp of Engineers and National Marine Fisheries Service the Workgroup meets monthly to communicate and seek funding for restoration activities on the Creek. The removal of Niles and Sunol Dams has been a long time effort of the Workgroup.

This project has the full support of the Alameda Creek Workgroup which represents a diverse workgroup of motivated public agencies, stakeholders, regional and local interests. Additionally, a public relations subcontractor will be retained in order to manage all necessary public notification, outreach and community contact.

Construction constraints:

1. The construction window will be restricted to the period starting April 15 through October 15 when water in the creek is at a minimum.
2. The Demolition of the dam may require construction of cofferdam on the upstream or downstream sides of the dam. The cofferdam will be in two phases – one half of the dam at a time. Barges may have to be employed for access to the location and for driving the piles for the cofferdam.
3. General access to both the sites is difficult. The contractor will have to use equipment suited to this difficult access. Also, the staging area that will be available to the contractor will be very limited.
4. Full containment of concrete particles during demolition may be required to avoid release of calcium sediment to the creek bed.

Construction conclusion: All construction contingencies can be addressed by close communication of the construction contractor and careful management of the schedule.

Permitting constraints:

1. Additional work/time may be required in the event that US Fish and Wildlife and/or National Marine Fisheries Service requires formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
2. Additional work/time maybe require if extensive comments are received that reveal information contrary to assumptions made.

Permitting conclusion: All of these contingencies can be addressed by adherence to the project schedule.

5. Performance measures

Text on Performance Measures for the CalFed application:

Project Activities:

- (1) topographic surveys for existing dams and sediments
- (2) sediment analyses
- (3) wetland delineation
- (4) riparian vegetation community and tree mapping
- (5) threatened and endangered species inventory along both impoundments
- (6) fisheries inventory upstream/downstream of both dams.
- (7) preparation of a water diversion plan
- (8) preliminary design for removal of dams
- (9) preparation of environmental and permitting documents
- (10) preparation of bid documents for dam removal
- (11) post construction monitoring

6. Data handling and storage

Construction project electronic data will be handled and stored on a secure network and uploaded onto the SFPUC website. All pertinent information gathered, evaluated and applied to the project will be kept in a permanent file at the SFPUC Utilities Engineering Bureau and made available to CALFED upon request. Expected products/outcomes:

1. Environmental Compliance/Permit Documentation and Certification
2. Monitoring reports/updates
3. Final project report
4. Presentation to CALFED Ecosystem Roundtable and Site Visit

7. Expected Products/Outcomes

Project Outputs:

- (1) Topographic map of dams and vicinity
- (2) Report on Sediment Analyses , fishery, threatened and endangered species inventory

- (3) Wetland Dileneation Report
- (4) Preliminary Design Documents for dam removal
- (5) Environmental Documents and Permits
- (6) Bid Documents for Dam Removal
- (7) Mitigation and Monitoring Report

Project Outcomes:

- (1) Removal of two (2) barriers to fish passage within the Alameda Creek (SFPUC is a full participant in a long term planning process to remove or modify barriers to fish passage within the Alameda Creek Watershed).
- (2) Restoration of assumed natural channel profile for approx. 1/10 mile in the Niles Dam vicinity and 1/2 mile in the Sunol Dam vicinity.

8. Work Schedule

See attachment 3

B APPLICABILITY TO CALFED ERP AND SCIENCE PROGRAM GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND CVPIA PRIORITIES

1. ERP, Science Program and CVPIA Priorities

The Alameda Creek watershed is covered in the CALFED ERP geographic scope under the broader Bay Region within the South San Francisco Bay. Alameda Creek is outside ERP Ecozones but within the multi-regional scope of ecosystem restoration goals.

This proposed fish passage improvement-stream ecosystem restoration project meets many of the CALFED multi-regional and Bay Region priorities. The removal of Niles and Sunol dams to improve access of steelhead to historic critical habitat will meet four (MR-3; MR-4; MR-5; MR-6) of the six multi-regional priorities identified in the Draft Stage 1 Implementation Plan. The dam removals will also meet restoration priorities and actions for the Bay Region (BR-1; BR-6; BR-8)

The Niles and Sunol dam removals will MR-3 priorities by providing public education information in regards to restoration of streams impacted by dams through the feasibility studies and monitoring of the removal of the two dams. Information on the dam removal/stream restoration projects will be made available through the FRW websites and printed newsletters available to the public at large.

Removal of the Niles and Sunol dams will restore natural fluvial processed back to the Niles Canyon reach of the creek. The natural fluvial and ecosystem processes will benefit from the removals and will ultimately be more sustainable through future climatic conditions, whether wetter or drier, and meet MR-4 priorities for sustainable restoration.

The two dams have trapped sediments and evaluations of the sediments will provide information on assessing potential sources of mercury contamination contributed to the Bay-Delta ecoregion from Bay tributaries which will address priorities within MR-5.

Recovery of at-risk species (e.g.: steelhead)(MR-6; BR-6; BR-8; SG2), will be an objective met by the process of the dam removals. Monitoring plans will have

performance measures that will provide data useful for comparing to other restoration actions within and between tributary streams of the region. Data will be used to develop conceptual models addressing restoring fluvial processes addressing pre- and post-dam removal conditions and the observed responses of physical habitat conditions and biological processes and interactions observed following restoration of floodplain, riparian, and fluvial/hydraulic connectivity. The information on responses of steelhead or other fish populations to the restored fluvial processes will help in understanding the implications of engineering related restoration and specifically the effects of dam removals on Bay ecosystem linkages. The riparian and aquatic habitat restoration and monitoring will provide additional data that will be used to evaluate the approaches to dam removal and stream restoration effects for ecosystem processes recovery and specifically those effects on recovery of at-risk species such as steelhead.

The Niles and Sunol dams fish passage improvement project will achieve CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Strategic Goals and Objectives. Specifically, the objectives of the projects specifically meet SG-2 of rehabilitation of natural processes that will support natural aquatic and terrestrial biotic communities and habitats benefiting native species for the region. The project will meet Objective 6 by re-establishing floodplain-channel connectivity that will support natural processes within riparian and riverine habitats. It will meet Objective 7 by restoring more natural fluvial geomorphic sediment transport processes providing more consistent and regular distribution of coarse sediments derived within the watershed helping the recovery of floodplain processes and riparian zone maintenance. The removal of hard structures from the natural channel will restore the fluvial sediment transport processes that naturally define and reshape aquatic riverine habitat and re-establishing river channel conditions that more closely mimic pre-disturbance river conditions and habitats (Objective 8). The expected outcome of benefits to steelhead populations through increasing access to historic habitat would meet SG-3 in assisting in local recovery of populations that would support recreational fish harvest in the future. The dam removals will meet SG-4 as well, through restoration of large expanses of aquatic shaded riverine habitat, floodplain ecosystems and steelhead spawning and rearing habitat that has been restricted to steelhead uses.

2. Relationship to Other Ecosystem Restoration Projects

The Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration (CEMAR) is coordinating and facilitating the operations of the multi-stakeholder group (Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup) working to restore steelhead trout in the Alameda Creek watershed. This group will be implementing the recommendations of the watershed assessment prepared in 1999. This effort is being funded by a California Coastal Salmon Recovery Project grant from the Department of Fish and Game, and will be administered by the Alameda County Public Works Agency.

San Francisco Bay Program of the California Coastal Conservancy approved \$20,000 for the coming year to fund further genetic testing of trout in the Alameda Creek watershed.

This information will be vital for planning the supplementation/initiation of the steelhead run in the watershed by identifying appropriate fish populations that could be used in the restoration effort. The genetics work will be completed by Dr. J Nielsen of USGS by fall 2001.

Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District is funding USGS consultants to examine sedimentation transport and deposition issues in Alameda Creek, including analysis of the possible sediment flux from the Bay. Estimated the cost of past and ongoing USGS studies are about \$500k per year.

The first four major migration barriers include an inflatable dam (owned by the Alameda County Water District) integrated with a flow-control structure (owned by the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District) where the BART and railroad tracks cross Alameda Creek in Fremont ("the BART weir"). This structure is within the flood control channel constructed by USACE. The ACWD has submitted a fish passage improvement project to the USACE for 1135 Program funds since the flow control weirs are part of USACE flood control channel features. That project will The USACE is implementing the Preliminary Restoration Plan (PRP) for evaluating fish passage and fish screens at ACWD intakes and inflatable dam at the BART weir. ACWD or ACFCWCD will provide the USACE a letter of intent to proceed with the project to accompany the PRP. The next phase of the Program, the Environmental Restoration Report (ERR), could move forward in 2002 if some of the projects ahead of the Alameda Creek project in the \$1135 program do not move forward as scheduled and the \$500k needed for the ERR will become available.

3. System-wide ecosystem benefits

Alameda Creek drains a 700 square mile watershed, the largest in the East San Francisco Bay Area and contains prime stream spawning habitat in Niles Canyon and Sunol and Ohlone Regional Wildernesses. Dams, as well as other water control projects have had negative impacts on the populations of steelhead and salmon. The Niles and Sunol dams, once used to divert water for consumptive purposes upstream from the city of Fremont, are now abandoned. They block passage of steelhead at all but the highest flows. An old fish ladder at the Niles Dam appears to be non-functional. The remnant steelhead run in Alameda Creek could be enhanced if these barriers to fish migration were removed, due to the creation of rearing, resident, and migratory habitats. Many other species of plants, fish, and wildlife would benefit as well.

C. QUALIFICATIONS

SFPUC will provide a project manager and will be responsible for overall coordination, onsite inspection for funding compliance, facilitation with the stakeholders and agencies, programmatic and financial reporting.

Organizational Chart and Detailed Qualifications Listed in Attachment 2.

D COST

1. Budget

See Attachment 4

2. Cost Sharing

There is no cost sharing at this time

E Local Involvement

Local involvement

1. Background:

The Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup (Workgroup) was established in early 1999 and continues to be a stakeholder driven effort focused on developing mutually beneficial and acceptable alternatives to improve fish passage on the Alameda Creek. Lead by the efforts of Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the Alameda County Water District, East Bay Regional Park District, the California Coastal Conservancy, the City of Fremont, California Fish and Game, the Alameda Creek Alliance (a citizens group), Army Corp of Engineers and National Marine Fisheries Service the Workgroup meets monthly to communicate and seek funding for restoration activities on the Creek. The removal of Niles and Sunol Dams has been a long time effort of the Workgroup.

Outreach Strategy: Planned and scheduled meeting will be organized and conducted by SFPUC staff. Since SFPUC is the only affected land owner, disruption due to construction activities will be limited. Landowners in affected areas along the creek will be notified in writing during the environmental documentation process. In coordination with the Workgroup, SFPUC communications staff will notify neighbors, interest groups, stakeholders, federal, state and local agencies regarding project plans, construction and management issues. SFPUC will contact local schools to provide site tours of the Alameda Creek Watershed and this particular project.

Outcome: Continued communications and information stream to local stakeholders, agency representatives and interested groups and individuals regarding project plans, construction and management issues. We anticipate that this project will further the cooperative long-term agreements that will support mutual commitment to operation and maintenance of the creek health and fishing upgrades

F COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

AGREEMENT TO ALL STANDARD TERMS ND PROCEDURES

In order to apply for CALFED funding for this important project, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission agrees to all standard terms and procedures that accompany the CALFED funding program.

G. LITERATURE CITED

Aceituno, M. E., Caywood, M. W., Nocoloa, S. J., and Follett, W. L. (1976) Occurrence of native fishes in Alameda and Coyote Creeks, California. California Fish and Game. 62:195-206.

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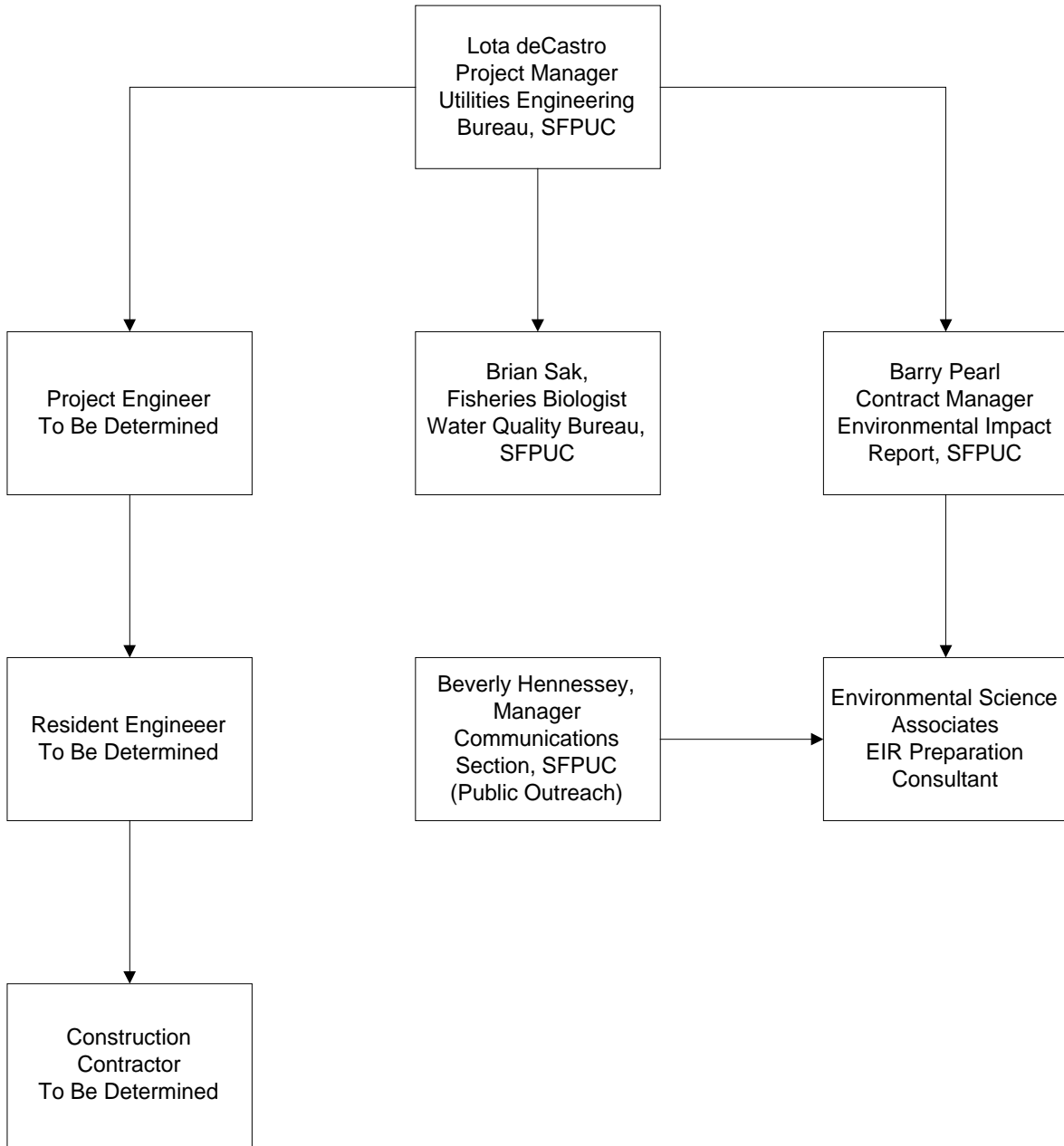
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Trihey & Associates, Inc. (December 21, 2000) Draft Report, Impacts of Dam Removal Niles and Sunol Dams Alameda Creek. Prepared for City of San Francisco

Attachment 1: Map



Attachment 2: Qualifications Table



Name	Role/Responsibility	Availability	Conflict of Interest	Comment
Lota deCastro	Engineer/Project Manager	Available as needed As required by Project	None	Utilities Engineering Bureau, SFPUC
	Engineer/Project Engineer	Available as needed As required by Project	None	Utilities Engineering Bureau, SFPUC
	Engineer/Resident Engineer	Available as needed As required by Project	None	Utilities Engineering Bureau, SFPUC
Brian Sak	Fisheries Biologist	Available as needed As required by Project	None	Water Quality Bureau, SFPUC
Barry Pearl	Planner/Contract Manager	Available as needed As required by Project	None	Planning Bureau, SFPUC
Beverly Hennessey	Manager/Public Relations	Available as needed As required by Project	None	Communications Section, SFPUC

Attachment 3: Work Schedule

TASK	2001			2002				2003				Winter	
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall		
Permitting													
Permitting													
Project Initiation		■	■										
Project Management/Administration		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Engineering/Technical Support		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Environmental Documents & Permits		■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Presonstruction monitoring		■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Engineering													
Topographic Surveys		■	■	■									
Conceptual Plan/Preliminary Design	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
Final Design and Plans & Specs			■	■	■	■	■	■					
Construction Contract Bid Process							■	■	■	■			
Construction Inspection									■	■			
Construction for Dam Removal									■	■	■	■	■
Enviromental Mitigation									■	■	■	■	■
Monitoring													
Post Construction Monitering									■	■	■	■	■
Fish & Aquatic Invertebrate Monitoring									■	■	■	■	■
Riparian Revegetation Monitoring									■	■	■	■	■
Project Management	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Quarterly Reports					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Final Monitoring Reports													
■ CALFED ERP funds - \$1,500,000													
■ San Francisco PUC funds - \$1,250,000													

Attachment 4: Budget Schedules

REMOVE SUNOL DAM

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1	Mobilization and Demobilization (10%)		LS	\$66,000
2	Install concrete plug at the entrance of the tunnel	3 cy	\$700	\$2,100
3	Install sheet piles cofferdam	7,700 sq. ft.	\$22	\$169,400
4	Fill rock to stabilize the piles	825 tons	\$36	\$29,700
5	Drain water	2 pumps	\$4,000	\$8,000
6	Remove the dam	1,100 cy	\$400	\$440,000
7	Remove the tower on the far side	27 cy	\$400	\$10,800
SUM				\$726,000
15% Contingency				\$108,900
Construction Cost				\$834,900
Project Management, Design and Inspection (40%)				\$333,960
Sub Total				\$1,168,860
Estimate				\$1,168,860
TOTAL				\$1,169,000

REMOVE NILES DAM

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1	Mobilization and Demobilization (10%)		LS	\$25,800
2	Install sheet piles cofferdam	6,500 sq. ft.	\$22	\$143,000
3	Fill rock to stabilize the piles	750 tons	\$36	\$27,000
4	Drain water	2 pumps	\$4,000	\$8,000
5	Remove the dam	200 cy	\$400	\$80,000
Sum				\$283,800
15% Contingency				\$42,570
Construction Cost				\$326,370
Project Management, Design and Inspection (40%)				\$130,548
Sub Total				\$456,918
Estimate				\$457,000
GRAND TOTAL				\$1,626,000

Budget Summary

Task Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Project Initiation	1629			1,629
Project Management/Administration	37470	39,096	39,096	115,661
Engineering/Technical Support/Review	9775	-	24,258	34,033
Environmental /Regulatory Support	19549	-	-	19,549
Topographic Survey	24437	-	-	24,437
Historical Studies	0			-
Clerical	19549	9,303	-	28,852
Consultant Project Management	42570	10,643		53,213
Mailing List/Public Distribution	7380	-		7,380
CEQA				-
<i>Consult with Responsible and Trustee Agencies</i>	9,563			9,563
<i>Notice of Preparation (NOP) / Initial Study</i>	19,880			19,880
<i>Scoping Meetings & Public Outreach</i>	7,025			7,025
<i>Preliminary Draft EIR (PDEIR)</i>	95,384			95,384
<i>Screen Check & Draft EIR</i>	32,450			32,450
<i>Public Review DEIR / Hearings</i>	6,410			6,410
<i>Preliminary Draft RTC</i>	30,723			30,723
<i>Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program</i>	8,248			8,248
<i>Screen Check / Draft RTC</i>	8,053			8,053
Pre-Construction Monitoring	50,000			50,000
				-
CEQA (cont.)				-
File Notice of Determination		1,605		1,605
Final EIR		4,053		4,053
Permits		-		-
<i>Interagency Meeting</i>		8,270		8,270
<i>Biological Studies</i>		21,979		21,979
<i>Wetland Dileneation</i>		11,883		11,883
<i>Informal Biological Assessment</i>		19,993		19,993
<i>ACOE Permit Application</i>		18,375		18,375
<i>ACOE Review</i>		13,830		13,830
<i>JARPA</i>		13,175		13,175
<i>DFG/RWQCB Review</i>		15,830		15,830
Ground Water Monitoring		18,435		18,435
Water Resource Analysis		31,455		31,455
Preparation of Design Documents		203,541		203,541
				-
				-
Bid and Award Contract			5,000	5,000
Construction Inspection			98,803	98,803
Sunol Dam Removal			834,900	834,900
Niles Dam Removal			326,370	326,370
Environmental Mitigation			300,000	300,000
Post-Construction Monitoring			250,000	250,000
	20			

Project Budget -Year 1						
Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits & Overhead (per year)	Travel	Supplies and Expendables	Services or Consultation
Project Initiation	16	707	922			
Project Management/Administration	368	16,256	21,214			
Engineering/Technical Support/Review	96	4,241	5,534			
Environmental /Regulatory Support	192	8,481	11,068			
Topographic Survey	240	10,602	13,835			
Historical Studies						
Clerical	192	8,481	11,068			
Consultant Project Management						42,570
Mailing List/Public Distribution						7,380
CEQA						
<i>Consult with Responsible and Trustee Agencies</i>						9,563
<i>Notice of Preparation (NOP) / Initial Study</i>						19,880
<i>Scoping Meetings & Public Outreach</i>						7,025
<i>Preliminary Draft EIR (PDEIR)</i>						95,384
<i>Screen Check & Draft EIR</i>						32,450
<i>Public Review DEIR / Hearings</i>						6,410
<i>Preliminary Draft RTC</i>						30,723
<i>Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program</i>						8,248
<i>Screen Check / Draft RTC</i>						8,053
Pre-Construction Monitoring						50,000
First Year Subtotal						

REMOVAL OF NILES AND SUNOL DAMS						
Project Budget -Year 2						
Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies and Expendables	Services or Consultation
Project Management/Administration	384	16,961	22,134			
Engineering/Technical Support/Review						
Environmental /Regulatory Support						
Topographic Survey						
Clerical	192	4,036	5,267			
Consultant Project Management						10,643
CEQA (cont.)						
<i>File Notice of Determination</i>						1,605
<i>Final EIR</i>						4,053
Permits						
<i>Interagency Meeting</i>						8,270
<i>Biological Studies</i>						21,979
<i>Wetland Delineation</i>						11,883
<i>Informal Biological Assessment</i>						19,993
<i>ACOE Permit Application</i>						18,375
<i>ACOE Review</i>						13,830
<i>JARPA</i>						13,175
<i>DFG/RWQCB Review</i>						15,830
Ground Water Monitoring						18,435
Water Resource Analysis						31,455
Preparation of Design Documents	2,148	88,304	115,237			
Second Year Subtotal						

REMOVAL OF NILES AND SUNOL DAMS

Project Budget -Year 3

Task Description	Direct Labor Hours	Salary (per year)	Benefits (per year)	Travel	Supplies and Expendables	Services or Consultation	Equipment
Project Management/Administration	384	16,961	22,134				
Engineering/Technical Support/Review	256	10,524	13,734				
Environmental /Regulatory Support							
Topographic Survey							
Clerical							
Bid and Award Contract					5,000		
Construction Inspection	1280	42,865	55,938				
Sunol Dam Removal						834,900	
Niles Dam Removal						326,370	
Environmental Mitigation						300,000	
Post-Construction Monitoring						250,000	
Third Year Subtotal							

Attachment 5: Letter of Support from Marty Gingras, DFG

M e m o r a n d u m

To : CalFed Grant Program, Ted Frink, DWR

Date: 10-4-01

From : Department of Fish and Game: Central Coast Region

Subject: Grant Proposed for Removing Niles and Sunol Dams

This memo is in support of DWR's proposal to improve steelhead trout migration and salmonid habitat in Alameda Creek by removing the Niles and Sunol dams. These dams no longer serve practical purposes, block or severely impede migration of steelhead trout, and have taken valuable steelhead (and residential rainbow) trout habitat. Failure of one or both dams will cause substantial adverse effects to aquatic habitat.

Removing these dams will completely restore fish passage and local hydrology, and will require minimal post-project maintenance. When restored, the reaches where channel topography is now adversely affected by the dams would become (again) valuable steelhead and rainbow trout habitat. Dam removal is thus preferred to either notching or laddering, both of which would require on-going maintenance and would fail to restore the reaches where channel topography is now adversely affected by the dams.

Removing these dams will provide significant opportunities to advance restoration science, whereas notching or laddering the dams would provide relatively few such opportunities. Likewise, removing these dams will likely capture a greater degree of positive public interest than would either notching or laddering the dams.

Although migration barriers and impediments exist downstream of these dams, significant activity is underway that appears certain to restore fish passage up to the Niles dam. The Niles and Sunol dams should be removed while the funds and necessary social "momentum" is available, rather than after downstream migration difficulties have been overcome.

Sincerely,

Marty Gingras
Associate Fisheries

Biologist

Coordination

South District

Drive, Suite 100

Watershed Restoration

Central Coast Region-

20 Lower Ragsdale

Monterey, CA 93940
Phone (831) 649-2885
FAX (831) 649-2894