

**Pajaro River Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update  
Project Solicitation Form**

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

**General Project Information**

<b>Project Title:</b>	Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program
<b>Project Location:</b>	Upper Pajaro Watershed
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	\$100,000

**Brief Project Description (1 to 2 sentences):**

This project provides multiple techniques to provide conservation of the upland areas around the waterways draining into Soap Lake and the Pajaro River to protect water quality, preserve flood attenuation and provide wildlife habitat and connectivity.

**Project Proponent Information**

<b>Contact Name:</b>	Kelli Camara
<b>Affiliation:</b>	Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (RCDSCC)
<b>Address:</b>	820 Bay Ave, Suite 136, Capitola, CA 95010
<b>Phone Number:</b>	831-464-2950
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:kcamara@rcdsantacruz.org">kcamara@rcdsantacruz.org</a>

**Other participating agencies/organizations (if applicable):**

Resource Conservation District of Monterey, San Benito Resource Conservation District, Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District, USFWS, NMFS, USACE, DFG, RWQCB, County of San Benito, County of Santa Clara

**DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Description**

**Please provide a description of your project (including the location) and its purpose, what will be constructed and/or implemented, how the project will function, the area(s) and/or entities that will be affected by or will benefit from the project, and any potential obstacles to implementation.**

This project is modeled after the Santa Cruz Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program. This project, sponsored by the Santa Cruz RCD and San Benito RCD, will address agricultural non-point source pollution by streamlining the permitting process for best management practices (BMPs). The existing, partially developed PIR program for the Upper watershed will be expanded to include additional practices to better support rangeland practices, such as stock ponds, and fish passage improvements.

Projects designed to prevent and reduce transport of sediment, nutrients and pesticides, improve critical habitat and enhance ecosystem function will be easier to implement through this program. The program supports TMDL implementation, agricultural waiver compliance, and endangered species. Through working with willing private landowners, many practices that would otherwise get stuck in the permitting process can be implemented. The RCD and

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NRCS have the technical expertise and relationships with landowners to implement up to 5 projects per year for the first 3 years.

**Technical Feasibility**

**Discuss the technical feasibility of the project. If possible, cite references that contain information about the proposed project and detail the technical feasibility of the project.**

The RCD has the ability to get the permits needed to complete the program. The SBRCD and LPRCD have a consultant on hand to get the program permits finalized and expand the program. The NRCS and RCD have the technical expertise to execute the program and complete the outreach needed for the program.

**Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Regional Goals & Objectives**

**Put an X next to any goal that the proposed project will achieve.**

**Water Supply**

	1. Meet 100% of M&I and agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in wet to dry years including the first year of a drought.
	2. Meet 85% M&I and 75% agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in second and subsequent years of a drought.
	3. Identify and address water supply needs of disadvantaged communities in the Pajaro River Watershed.
	4. Implement water conservation programs to reduce M&I and agricultural water use consistent with SBx7-7 and CVPIA.
	5. Maximize the use of recycled water during the irrigation season and expand other uses of recycled water.
x	6. Optimize the use of groundwater and aquifer storage.
0	7. Maximize conjunctive use opportunities including interagency conjunctive use.
	8. Optimize and sustain the use of existing import surface water entitlements from the San Felipe Unit.
x	9. Maximize the beneficial use of existing local water supplies while protecting existing surface water rights.

**Water Quality**

x	1. Meet or exceed all applicable groundwater, surface water, wastewater, and recycled water quality regulatory standards.
	2. Identify and address the drinking water quality of disadvantaged communities in the Pajaro River Watershed.
x	3. Protect groundwater resources from contamination including salts and nutrients.

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|---|--|
| x | 4. Address impacts from surface water runoff through implementation of Best Management Practices or other surface water management strategies. |
|   | 5. Meet or exceed delivered water quality targets established by recycled water users.   |

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**Flood Protection**


x	1. Implement flood management strategies throughout the watershed that provide multiple benefits.
	2. Reach consensus on the Pajaro River Risk Reduction Project necessary to protect existing urban areas and infrastructure from flooding and erosion from the 100-
X	3. Work with stakeholders to preserve existing flood attenuation by implementing land management and conservation strategies throughout the watershed.
x	4. Develop approaches for adaptive management to minimize maintenance requirements and protect quality and availability of water while preserving ecologic
	5. Provide community benefits beyond flood protection such as public access, open space, recreation, agriculture preservation and economic development.

**Environmental Protection and Enhancement**

x	1. Address opportunities to enhance the local environment and protect and/or restore natural resources, in cooperation with landowners, when developing water
x	2. Improve biological and cultural resources, including riparian habitats, habitats supporting sensitive plant or animal species and archaeological/historic sites when
0	3. Address opportunities to protect, enhance, or restore habitat to support Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary marine life in conjunction with water supply
x	4. Address opportunities for open spaces, trails, parks along creeks and other recreational projects in the watershed that can be incorporated with water

**Integration and Coordination**

**Put an X next to any Resource Management Strategies (RMS) that the proposed project will address.**

Reduce Water Demand	Agricultural Water Use Efficiency	
	Urban Water Use Efficiency	
Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers	Conveyance - Delta	
	Conveyance - Regional/local	
	System Reoperation	
	Water Transfers	
Increase Water Supply	Conjunctive Management & Groundwater Storage	X 
	Desalination	
	Precipitation Enhancement	
	Recycled Municipal Water	
	Surface Storage - CALFED	
	Surface Storage - Regional/local	
Improve Water Quality	Drinking Water Treatment & Distribution	
	Groundwater Remediation /Aquifer Remediation	0
	Matching Quality to Use	

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	Pollution Prevention	x
	Salt & Salinity Management	x
	Urban Runoff Management	<b>0</b>
Improve Flood Management	Flood Risk Management	
Practice Resources Stewardship	Agricultural Lands Stewardship	x
	Economic Incentives (Loans, Grants, & Water Pricing)	<b>X</b>
	Ecosystem Restoration	x
	Forest Management	
	Recharge Area Protection	x
	Water-Dependent Recreation	
	Watershed Management	x
Other Strategies	Crop Idling for Water Transfers	
	Dewvaporation or Atmospheric Pressure Desalination	
	Fog Collection	
	Irrigated Land Retirement	
	Rainfed Agriculture	
	Waterbag Transport/Storage Technology	

**Please describe:** Practices included in the program include: plantings, clearings and restoration of declining habitats; water recovery, structures for water control and basins; spring development and stream bank protection; and pipeline and fencing.

**List the projects that were integrated to develop a single proposed project, if applicable.**

**List the agencies and organization that are working together to implement the project.**

Resource Conservation District of Monterey, San Benito Resource Conservation District, Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District, USFWS, NMFS, USACE, DFG, RWQCB, County of San Benito, County of Santa Clara

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**Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation**

Put an X next to any climate change adaptation or mitigation strategy the proposed project will contribute to.

**Adaption Strategies**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Improve water supply reliability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expand conjunctive use of multiple water supply sources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase water use and/or reuse efficiency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide additional water supply
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote water quality protection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce water demand
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advance / expand recycled water use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote urban runoff reuse
<input type="checkbox"/>	Address sea level rise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Address other anticipated climate change impacts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improve flood control
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote habitat protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Establish migration corridors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Re-establish river-floodplain hydrologic continuity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Re-introduce anadromous fish populations to watershed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enhance and protect watershed forest and meadow systems

**Please describe:** Practices included in the program include: plantings, clearings and restoration of declining habitats; water recovery, structures for water control and basins; spring development and stream bank protection; and pipeline and fencing.

**Mitigation Strategies**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase water use efficiency or promote energy-efficient water demand reduction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improve water system energy efficiency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advance / expand recycled water use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote urban runoff reuse
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote use of renewable energy sources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribute to carbon sequestration

**Please describe:**

**Does the proposed project reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions and/or improve energy efficiency? If so, explain how.**

No.

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**Social Benefits and Impacts**

**Does the project provide specific benefits to disadvantaged communities and/or Native American tribal communities? If so, explain.**

This program would help landowners through the time and expense of individual permits. This will provide a benefit to disadvantaged communities by making it easier for permitting of projects on their properties.

**Does the project address any known environmental justice issues?**

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**Project Cost**

Total Estimated Capital Cost	\$100,000
Annual Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Cost	\$0
Cost Basis (Year)	2012
Source(s) of Funding for Capital	
Source(s) of Funding for O&M Cost	
Project Life (years)	2
Provide link to project cost estimate, if available	

**Economic Feasibility**

**Has a benefit:cost or cost effectiveness analysis been completed for your project? If so, please cite reference and briefly summarize. If no economic analysis has been completed for the project, the project may receive zero points out of a possible 100 points for the financial considerations criteria unless the project is a DAC project. If the project is not a DAC project but the B:C ratio is expected to be greater than 1, please provide a justification. The lack of an economic analysis may also affect the project's readiness score.**

Costs to expand and complete the program would be \$100,000, including staff time and \$3,000 in permits. This would result in landowners only needing to pay for \$300 in permit per project instead of the full permitting costs with each agency.  
Each year, for the first 3 years, the program could support the implementation of 5 projects at \$5,000/ project for program time and most projects costs are between \$30-80,000 with matching funds from sources such as DFG, Cities or Counties, USFWS, NRCS other grants. Implementation could cost approximately \$500,000 per year, but is dependent on the types of projects included in the program for that year.

**If known, please provide the Benefit:Cost Ratio.**

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**Provide a detailed discussion of the benefits the project will provide. To the extent possible, quantify changes and benefits (e.g. water quality and water supply benefits) that will result from project implementation; otherwise, describe benefits qualitatively.**

This project benefits any project that qualifies for the program and needs permits by reducing time and cost of the permitting process. Specifically, private landowners will be able to complete water supply, water quality and habitat restoration projects that will benefit users throughout the watershed.

**Project Readiness**

<b>Proposed Project Start Date:</b>	current
<b>Anticipated Project Completion Date:</b>	12/1/15

**Please indicate the status (pending, in process, complete) of the following.**

Project Element	Status	% Complete	Estimated Completion Date
<i>Feasibility Study</i>	complete	100	
<i>Preliminary design</i>	complete	100	
<i>CEQA/NEPA</i>	n/a		
<i>Permit Acquisition</i>	in process	40	2015
<i>Construction Docs</i>	pending		