



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE** September 3, 2024

**TITLE** Authorization to Apply for Grant Funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response’s Environmental Enhancement Fund for the Owl Alley Watershed Restoration Project at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline in an Amount Up to \$1.2 Million

**DIVISION** Finance and Management Services

**FROM** Katy Hornbeck, Grants Manager  
Deborah Spaulding, Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Service/Chief Finance Officer

**APPROVED** Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

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**RECOMMENDATION**

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize a grant application to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response’s Environmental Enhancement Fund for the Owl Alley Watershed Restoration Project at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline in an amount not to exceed \$1.2 million.

**BACKGROUND**

The Environmental Enhancement Fund grant program is administered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response. The objective of this grant program is to award grants to nonprofit organizations, cities, counties, districts, state agencies, and departments to support environmental enhancement projects.

An enhancement project is a project that acquires habitat for preservation, or improves habitat quality and ecosystem function above baseline conditions, and that meets all the following requirements: 1) is located within or immediately adjacent to waters of the state, 2) has measurable outcomes within a predetermined timeframe, and 3) is designed to acquire, restore, or improve habitat or restore ecosystem function, or both, to benefit fish and wildlife. Based on these conditions, staff recommends the Owl Alley Watershed Restoration Project at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline.

**ANALYSIS**

*Owl Alley Watershed Restoration*

The project will remove legacy water impoundments between upland headwaters and the San Francisco Bay marsh at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline (Point Pinole), restore watershed function and native biodiversity, and increase adaptation to sea level rise. The project will restore approximately 1,000 linear feet of creek and wetland and widen the mouth of the wetland at Whittell Marsh, increasing local resiliency to sea level rise.

Point Pinole contains important habitat for a suite of species, including osprey, waterbirds, and the Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse. Human modifications to the landscape of Point Pinole for industrial use have left a legacy of barriers for water (roads, ditches, berms, culverts, etc.). At the site of Owl Alley, several of these flow barriers will be removed. This project will establish critical transition zones between Point Pinole's marsh, coast, and upland habitats. By restoring the topography and facilitating more natural hydrologic processes, the project will result in a more resilient and biodiverse landscape.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

This action proposes submission of one grant application totaling an amount not to exceed \$1.2 million. If awarded, funding would be budgeted into a new project.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

None.



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 09 -  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE’S OFFICE OF SPILL PREVENTION AND  
RESPONSE’S ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT FUND FOR THE OWL ALLEY  
WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT AT POINT PINOLE REGIONAL  
SHORELINE IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$1.2 MILLION**

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Office of Spill Prevention and Response is soliciting proposals under the Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF) for projects that acquire habitat for preservation or improves habitat quality and ecosystem function above baseline conditions, is located within or immediately adjacent to waters of the state, has measurable outcomes within a predetermined timeframe, and is designed to acquire, restore, or improve habitat or restore ecosystem function, or both, to benefit fish and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, the East Bay Regional Park District has identified the Owl Alley Watershed Restoration Project at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline which meets the EEF funding conditions; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby:

1. Approves the filing of one application for funds up to \$1.2 million; and
2. Appoints the General Manager or Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO as agent of the East Bay Regional Park District to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendment, payment requests and perform such acts, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project; and
3. Authorizes the Assistant General Manager of Finance and Management Services/CFO or Budget Manager to amend the current year’s budget, without further Board action, upon receipt of the executed grant contract from the Grants Manager. The budget amendment will include an increase in budgeted revenue and a corresponding increase in appropriation for the amount stipulated in the grant contract.

Moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_, and seconded by Director \_\_\_\_\_, and adopted September 3, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: