




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

DATE	October 15, 2024
TITLE	Authorization to Amend a Contract with Ecological Concerns in the Amount of \$15,050 for Planting and Maintenance of Pallid Manzanita: Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park
DIVISION	Acquisition, Stewardship, and Development
FROM	Matt Graul, Chief of Stewardship Ken Wysocki, Assistant General Manager of Acquisition, Stewardship & Development
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) authorize an amendment of \$15,050 to an existing \$49,950 contract with Ecological Concerns, Inc. for a total contract amount of \$65,000 for the planting and maintenance of Pallid manzanitas in Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park.

BACKGROUND

The Park District began planting Pallid manzanitas in January 2024 to create a new population in Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park to comply with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for the Roberts Pallid Mitigation Project as well as help with the recovery of this special status species. This ITP involves mitigation for the destruction of a single Pallid manzanita discovered in a landscaped area within the footprint of the Roberts pool renovation project. The ITP requires the Park District to have a minimum of five adult manzanitas thriving in a new population by 2032. In addition, this will help meet a species recovery goal in the Park District's Pallid Manzanita Management Plan (2017), to increase the number of Pallid manzanita populations. The map shows the approximate planting area (RD-1) and the Roberts Pool Capital Project location.

After collecting bids from three specialized habitat restoration firms vetted as part of the September 2022 Request for Qualifications, Ecological Concerns Inc. was chosen for their knowledge of phytosanitary practices and experience with special-status manzanita planting and maintenance. Ecological Concerns, Inc. has assisted the Park District staff in complying with the ITP regulatory requirements for planting, maintaining, and monitoring the new pallid manzanita population. Planting Pallid manzanita plants at the new site, RD-1, in Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park, has been completed.

This action will approve an amendment to Ecological Concern's existing contract for \$49,950. An

initial contract was established with Ecological Concerns, Inc., for \$25,000 in January 2024. Due to increased maintenance and water needs, it has since been amended by \$15,000 in June 2024 and again by \$9,950 in September 2024 to avoid a lapse in watering. It was determined that additional maintenance and watering would be required to keep the plants healthy through the end of the year. An amendment for \$15,050 will cover the watering needs for the remainder of 2024.

ANALYSIS

Ecological Concerns Inc. assisted with the planting and continues to help direct the monitoring, watering, and maintenance. Pallid manzanitas are known to be challenging to grow in the wild and require regular monitoring. Manzanitas do not show signs of water stress and can be easily killed with too little water before establishment. The watering of the plants includes using a truck towing a water tank out to the location and slow hand watering each plant's basin. The plan was to water the plants monthly throughout the dry season until the rainy season begins. Watering began in April but increased to weekly watering in June due to an unseasonable June heat wave. The proposed contract increase of \$15,050 will allow monitoring, watering, and maintenance to continue through the end of this year.

FISCAL IMPACT

This action will authorize an amendment of \$15,050 with Ecological Concerns Inc. for a revised total contract amount of \$65,000 for professional services related to planting, maintenance, and monitoring.

The first year of the ITP permit obligation was funded from the Stewardship Department's operating budget.

ATTACHMENT

Roberts and Reinhardt Redwood Pallid Manzanita Map



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 10 -
OCTOBER 15, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND A CONTRACT WITH ECOLOGICAL
CONCERNS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,050 FOR PLANTING AND
MAINTENANCE OF PALLID MANZANITA: REINHARDT REDWOOD
REGIONAL PARK**

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) is undertaking planting Pallid manzanita in Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park (Redwood) to comply with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Incidental Take Permit (ITP) from the Roberts Pallid Mitigation Project as well as to help with the recovery of this special status species; and

WHEREAS, Ecological Concerns Inc. was initially contracted in the amount of \$25,000 in January 2024 to assist in this effort because of their knowledge of phytosanitary practices and experience with special status manzanita planting and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, due to increased maintenance and water needs, it has since been amended by \$15,000 in June 2024 and again by \$9,950 in September 2024 to avoid a lapse in watering; and

WHEREAS, the plan was to water the plants monthly throughout the dry season until the rainy season begins, however, due to an unseasonable June heat wave, weekly watering was required; and

WHEREAS, a contract amendment in the amount of \$15,050 is required to allow the continuance of monitoring, watering, and maintenance through the remainder of 2024; and

WHEREAS, funds for the first year of the contract came from the Stewardship Department's operating budget;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorizes an amendment in the amount of \$15,050 to the contract with Ecological Services bringing the total contract amount to \$65,000 as presented to the Board on October 15, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Park District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, and adopted October 15, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: