

United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
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http://www.senate.gov/~boxer

July 25, 1997

Kate Hansel
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 9th Street, #1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hansel:

I am writing in support of the Sonoma County Water Agency's application for CALFED Bay-Delta funding.

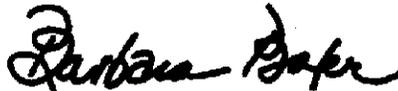
I understand that the five proposed projects would create significant environmental benefits while improving the quality of life for Sonoma County residents.

These important restoration efforts are designed to provide critical improvements to water quality, protect and restore the ecosystem by helping sustain diverse and valuable plant and animal species, and facilitate wetlands restoration. More specifically, the Sonoma County Water Agency plans to upgrade wastewater treatment centers to meet tertiary-treatment levels, reduce discharges of treated wastewater to San Pablo Bay, provide recycled water to local agriculture, supply an alternative to freshwater use for wetland restoration, and off-set freshwater diversions in the San Antonio Creek Watershed.

CALFED funding is important to the advancement of these worthy projects. I urge you to give Sonoma County Water Agency's application your most serious consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Gia Daniller in my San Francisco office at 415-403-0113.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

BB/gd/jls

1700 MONTGOMERY STREET 2280 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY 650 CAPITOL MALL 2300 TULARE STREET 625 B STREET 210 NORTH E STREET
SUITE 340 SUITE 545 SUITE 6544 SUITE 130 SUITE 900 SUITE 210
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111 EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 FRESNO, CA 93721 SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401
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DWR WAREHOUSE

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July 28, 1997

Kate Hansel
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: CALFED Bay-Delta Program Proposals for Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs from the Sonoma County Water Agency in Response to the 1997 Category III Request for Proposals (RFP)

Dear Ms. Hansel:

Enclosed please find ten (10) copies of each of the following five (5) CALFED Bay Delta Program Proposals submitted to you, as required, by 4:00 p.m., on July 28, 1997, by the Sonoma County Water Agency:

1. Napa -Sonoma Marsh Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration
2. City of Petaluma Treatment Plant Upgrade
3. Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District Treatment Plant Upgrade
4. Reclaimed Water Pipeline Connecting City of Petaluma and City of Santa Rosa Subregional Treatment Plants
5. San Antonio Creek Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study

Each of these projects meets the eligibility criteria as presented in the RFP. Please direct all questions and correspondence regarding these grant requests to Carolyn Barbulesco on my staff. She can be reached at (707)521-1807.

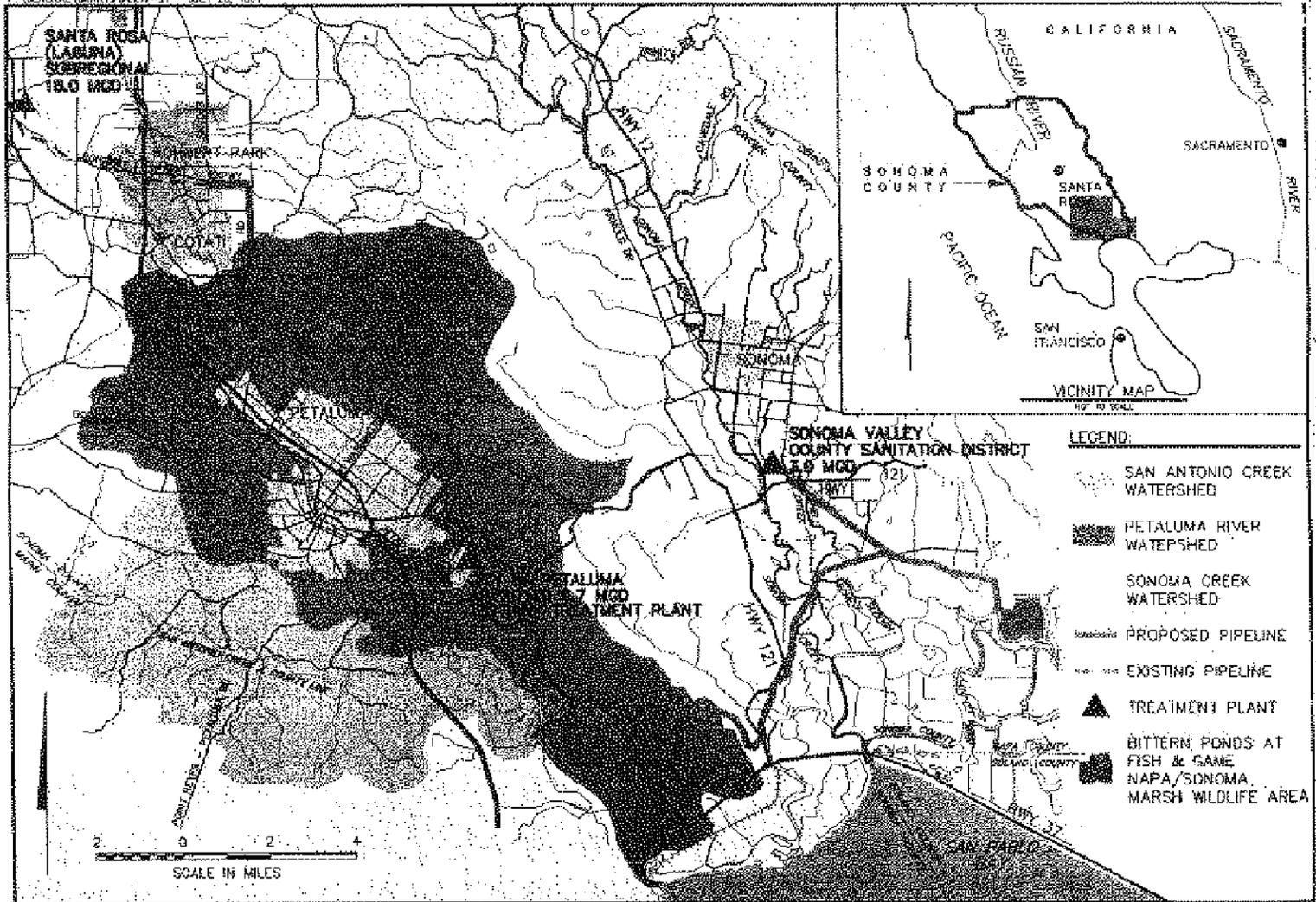
We look forward to your prompt review and favorable response to these proposed projects, which are located within the identified geographic priority area of the North San Francisco Bay. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy D. Poole".

Randy D. Poole
General Manager/Chief Engineer
Sonoma County Water Agency

cc: Carolyn Barbulesco



SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY
 2150 West College Avenue
 Santa Rosa, CA. 95403

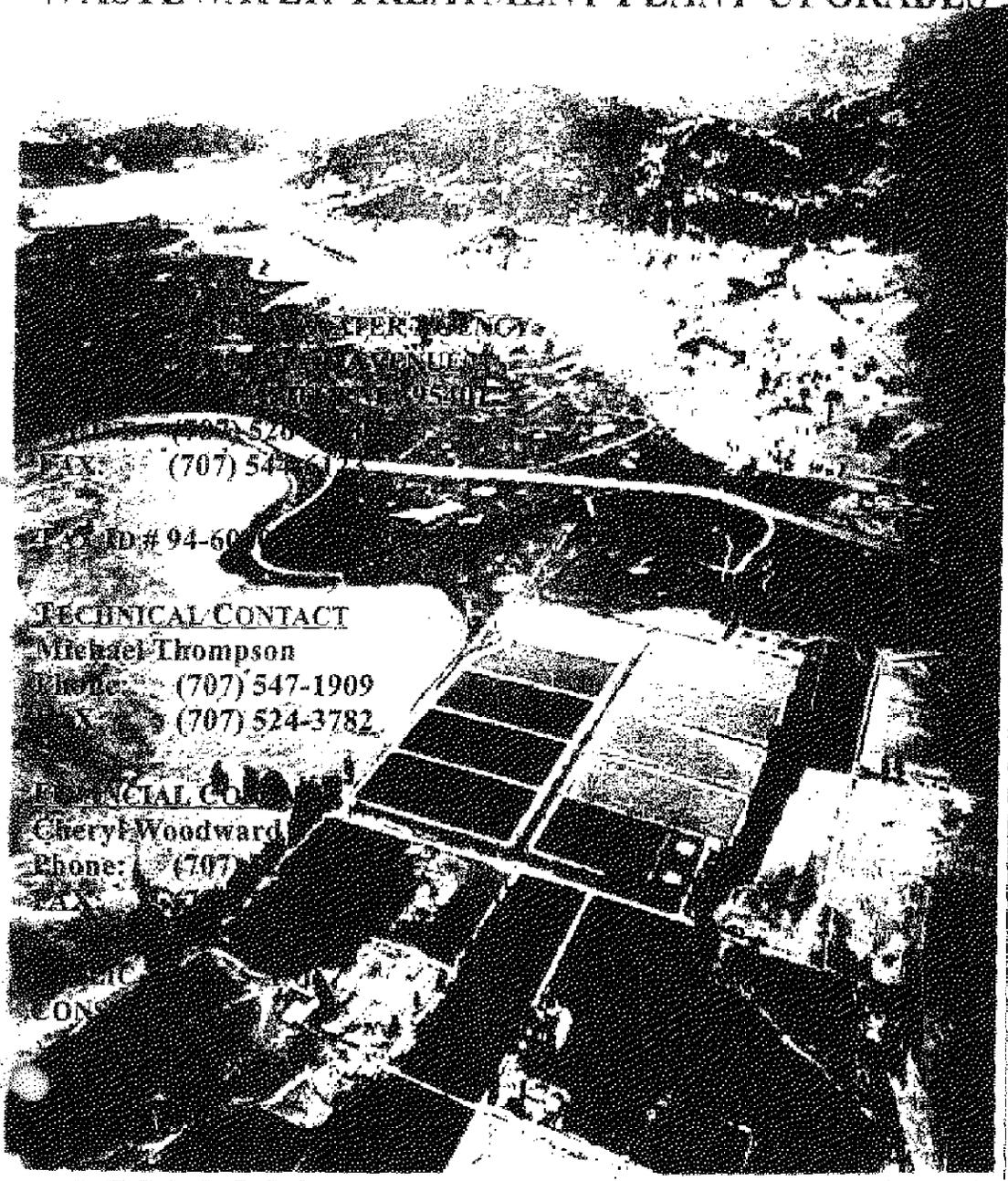
PROPOSED WETLANDS RESTORATION AND
 RECYCLED WATER PROJECTS
 IN NEED OF FUNDING

1-003565

1-003565

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CITY OF PETALUMA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES



EMERGENCY
APRIL 1991

PHONE: (707) 524-5200

FAX: (707) 547-4444

FAX ID # 94-60

TECHNICAL CONTACT

Michael Thompson

Phone: (707) 547-1909

FAX: (707) 524-3782

FINANCIAL CONTACT

Cheryl Woodward

Phone: (707) 547-1909

FAX: (707) 524-3782

CONSULTING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CITY OF PETALUMA TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

The City of Petaluma is located in southern Sonoma County approximately 30 miles north of San Francisco and lies within the Petaluma River watershed, which covers an area of 146 square miles. The Petaluma River bisects the city of Petaluma and flows in a southerly direction into San Pablo Bay, with the lower portion of the Petaluma River forming one of the largest tidal marshes in the Bay-Delta region. Several of the tributaries to the Petaluma River support anadromous fisheries.

The City of Petaluma (Petaluma) operates a wastewater collection and treatment system that provides sewer service to a population of approximately 50,000 people in the city and surrounding areas. Petaluma's treatment plant is designed and permitted to treat 5.2 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater to meet secondary standards. Between November 1 and April 30, 1.1 billion gallons of reclaimed water from this treatment plant is discharged into the Petaluma River and the San Pablo Bay/North Bay Marshes complex. Between May 1 and October 31, a portion of the reclaimed water is used for irrigation on agricultural lands in the southern Petaluma area.

Petaluma has prepared and certified an environmental impact report for a project to replace the existing treatment plant with a 6.7 mgd tertiary-treatment plant. Petaluma has also prepared a request for proposals (RFP), seeking bids from private companies to build, operate, and maintain the planned treatment plant. As a result of the RFP process, Petaluma received two bids for the project, one of which was from the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA). SCWA is submitting an estimate for the cost of building a publicly owned and operated wastewater treatment plant for Petaluma. SCWA is seeking CALFED funds to assist in the construction of a publicly owned and operated tertiary-treatment plant.

By implementing this upgrade, water quality in the Petaluma River and North Bay Marshes would improve because the tertiary water would be of much higher quality than the water currently discharged by the treatment plant. The San Pablo Bay/North Bay Marshes complex provides habitat for all the fisheries of the Priority Species list including chinook salmon, delta smelt, splittail, steelhead trout, green sturgeon, and striped bass, and also for migratory birds. In addition, because there are fewer restrictions on the reuse of tertiary-treated reclaimed water, a greater demand for this water is anticipated. Increased reuse demand would reduce the amount of reclaimed water discharged to surface waters.

SCWA has also proposed connecting the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District's (CSD) and Petaluma's wastewater treatment plants to provide reclaimed water to the former bittern ponds in the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Napa-Sonoma Marsh Wildlife Area for wetland restoration. These ponds contain large amounts of extremely concentrated seawater constituents that must be diluted to make the ponds suitable for wildlife. Currently, this proposal would use secondary-treated reclaimed water produced by these treatment plants for dilution of bittern pond water. The benefits and viability of the proposed intertie would increase significantly if the reclaimed water discharged to these ponds met tertiary-treatment standards.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Description and Approach

The City of Petaluma (Petaluma) is located in the Petaluma Valley (Figure 1) and operates a wastewater collection and treatment system that provides sewer service to a population of approximately 50,000 people in the City of Petaluma and surrounding areas. Petaluma's treatment plant is designed and permitted to treat 5.2 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater to meet secondary standards. Between November 1 and April 30, 1.1 billion gallons of reclaimed water from this treatment plant is discharged into the Petaluma River. Between May 1 and October 31, a portion of the reclaimed water is used for irrigation on agricultural lands in the southern Petaluma area.

Petaluma has prepared and certified an environmental impact report for a project to replace the existing treatment plant with a 6.7 mgd treatment plant (Figure 2). Petaluma has also prepared a request for proposals (RFP), seeking bids from private companies to build, operate, and maintain the planned treatment plant. As a result of the RFP process, Petaluma received two bids for the project, one of which was from SCWA. SCWA is submitting an estimate for the cost of building a publicly owned and operated wastewater treatment plant for Petaluma. To assist in the implementation of this project, SCWA is seeking CALFED funds to construct a publicly owned and operated tertiary-treatment plant. The project would include financial planning, project design, project construction, and treatment plant operations and maintenance.

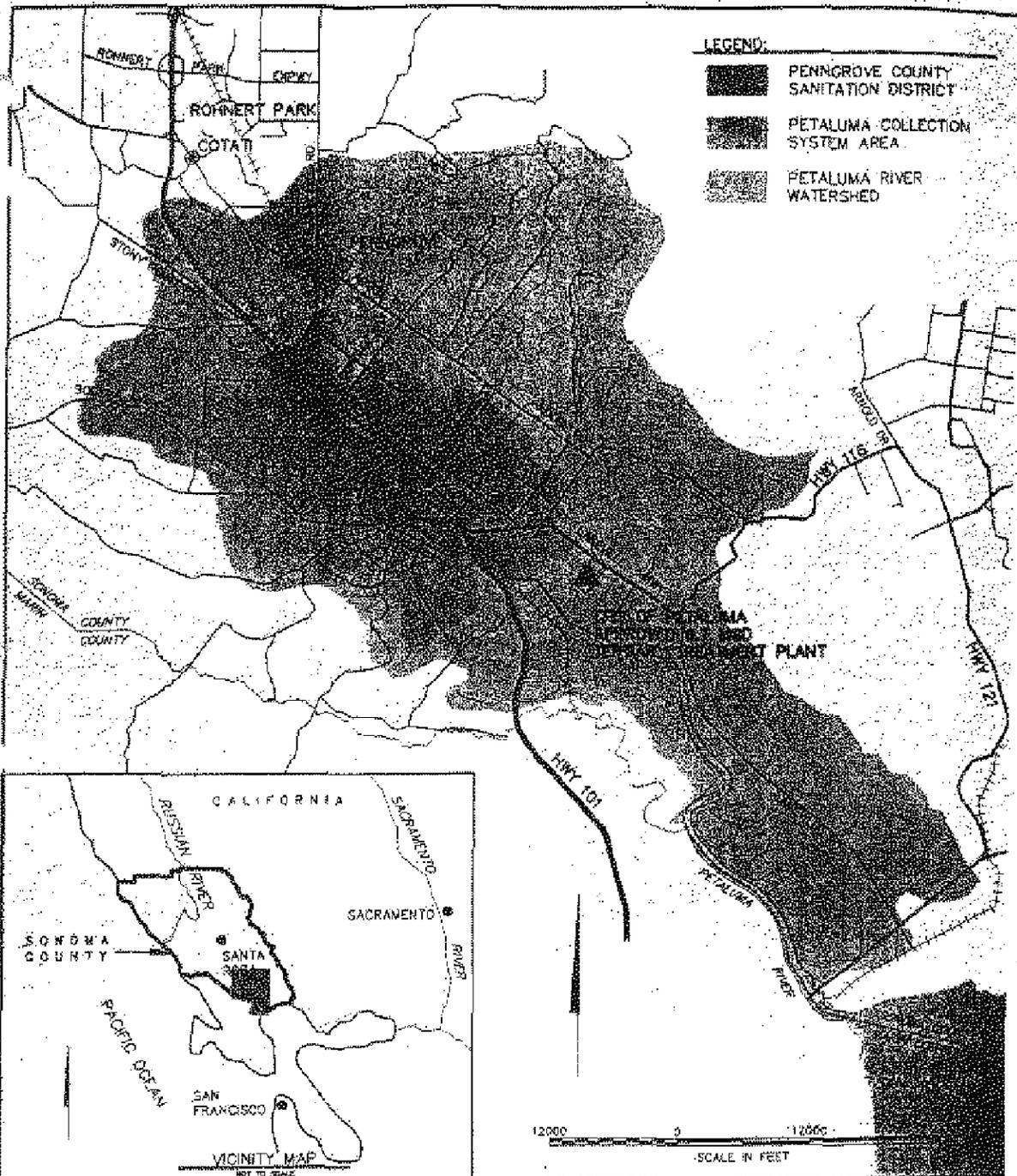
The improvements necessary to complete the project could be constructed on property owned by Petaluma and therefore would not require acquisition of additional land or easements. Because there are less restrictions on the reuse of tertiary-treated reclaimed water, there would be greater demand for this water from agricultural, industrial, and municipal users. Treatment plant upgrades to produce tertiary-treated water would improve water quality in the Petaluma River, because (1) the reclaimed water would be of higher quality than the current secondary-treated reclaimed water produced by the treatment plant, and (2) discharges to the Petaluma River would be decreased as a result of additional reuse of the reclaimed water for direct beneficial uses. This project would cost approximately \$30,000,000 and could be completed within three to five years. Future operations and maintenance costs for operating the treatment plant would continue to be funded through annual sewer charges to Petaluma customers.

B. Location and/or Geographic Boundaries of Project

The City of Petaluma is located in southern Sonoma County approximately 30 miles north of San Francisco and lies within the Petaluma River watershed, which covers an area of 146 square miles. The Petaluma River bisects the city of Petaluma and flows in a southerly direction into San Pablo Bay, with the lower portion of the Petaluma River forming one of the largest tidal marshes in the Bay-Delta region. Several of the tributaries to the Petaluma River support anadromous fisheries.

C. Expected Benefits

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve water quality by (1) reducing reclaimed water discharges to the Petaluma River, and (2) improving the quality of water that is discharged. Water Quality is the primary stressor (as defined by the ERPP) addressed by the proposed project. Priority



PREPARED BY: JULY 25, 1987
 SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

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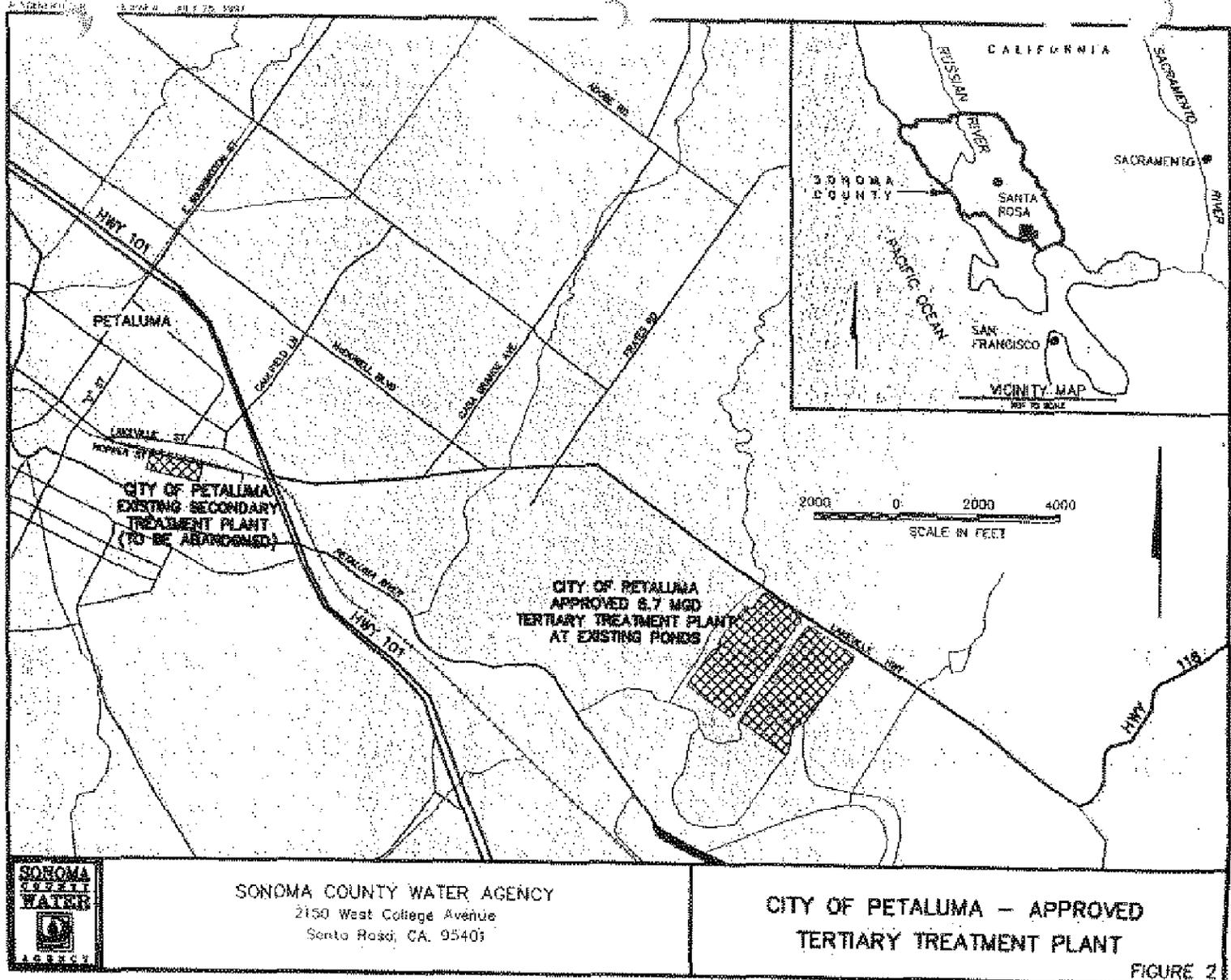


FIGURE 2

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species, habitat and expected benefits are summarized in Table I. Further details on expected benefits are discussed below.

Table I. Summary of priority species, habitat usage and expected benefits from implementation of the proposed City of Petaluma Treatment Plant upgrade project.		
Priority Species	Habitat in Project Vicinity	Expected Benefits
Winter-run and spring-run chinook salmon	Chinook juveniles have been found in the North Bay Marshes by CH2M Hill in 1996. Although these specimens were determined to be fall-run progeny, their presence suggests that the North Bay Marshes are suitable rearing habitat for chinook juveniles.	The North Bay Marshes and San Pablo Bay provide habitat for all of the fisheries on the Priority Species list. Implementation of the proposed project will improve water quality in the Petaluma River, San Pablo Bay, the North Bay Marshes and their tributaries. Currently, the City of Petaluma Treatment Plant discharges approximately 1.1 billion gallons of secondary-treated water into the San Pablo Bay/North Bay Marshes complex between November 1 and April 30 each year. The proposed project will greatly improve the quality of water discharged by the treatment plant. In addition, it is anticipated that there will be a greater demand for direct beneficial use of the tertiary-treated reclaimed water, thereby reducing the need to discharge into surface waters.
Delta smelt	Delta smelt have been documented in the North Bay Marshes by CDFG (1977) and Wetlands Research Associates (1995). Delta smelt do not breed in the North Bay Marshes, but use the area for juvenile rearing and foraging.	
Splittail	Sacramento splittail have been observed in the North Bay Marshes by CDFG (1977) and CH2M Hill (1996). Splittail use the North Bay Marshes during all life history phases, including spawning, juvenile rearing and foraging.	
Steelhead trout	Steelhead are known to inhabit every major tributary to San Pablo Bay and the North Bay Marshes. Steelhead spawn in the tributaries and use the North Bay Marshes during migration and rearing.	
Green sturgeon	Green sturgeon have been collected in San Pablo Bay (Moyle 1976).	
Striped bass	Striped bass are an economically important game species throughout the entire San Pablo Bay region.	
Migratory birds	Hundreds of thousands of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds rely on the San Pablo Bay/North Bay Marshes complex. The marsh is used by migratory birds during all phases of life history, including breeding, foraging, roosting, and overwintering.	Expected benefits to migratory birds are the same as described for the fisheries above.

Primary Stressors and Benefits

The ERPP has identified several water quality stressor subcategories within the North Bay region, including increased contaminants, that will benefit from implementation of the proposed project.

Increased Contaminants: Currently the Petaluma treatment plant annually discharges approximately 1.1 billion gallons of secondary-treated wastewater into the San Pablo Bay/North Bay Marsh complex. The proposed project will greatly improve the quality of the water discharged by the treatment plant. In addition, because there are less restrictions on the reuse of tertiary-treated reclaimed water, greater demand for this water from agricultural, industrial, and municipal users is anticipated. Additional reuse of reclaimed water will reduce the volume of wastewater discharged into the Petaluma River.

Potential Benefits to Other Ecosystem Restoration Programs

SCWA has proposed connecting the Sonoma Valley CSD's and Petaluma's wastewater treatment plants to provide reclaimed water to the former bittern ponds in the CDFG Napa-Sonoma Marsh Wildlife Area for wetland restoration. These ponds contain large amounts of extremely concentrated seawater constituents that must be diluted to make the ponds suitable for wildlife. Currently, this proposal would use secondary-treated reclaimed water produced by these treatment plants for dilution of bittern pond water. The benefits and viability of the proposed intertie would increase significantly if the reclaimed water discharged to these ponds met tertiary-treatment standards.

Potential Benefits to Third Parties

Because there are less restrictions on the reuse of tertiary-treated reclaimed water, there are greater potential direct beneficial uses for such water. This reclaimed water could be used to offset potable water use, thereby reducing demand on freshwater resources. Tertiary-treated reclaimed water also has much wider allowable uses for agriculture, which could result in a reduction in agricultural diversion of freshwater.

D. Biological Justification

Project Need: Currently the Petaluma treatment plant annually discharges 1.1 billion gallons of secondary-treated wastewater into San Pablo Bay. The proposed project would significantly improve the quality of that discharge.

Proposed Approach and Alternatives: The proposed approach is presented in detail in Project Description. Alternatives to the proposed project include continued discharge of secondary-treated reclaimed water into San Pablo Bay, or trying to create increased demand for reuse of secondary-treated water.

Basis for Expected Benefits: All of the priority species listed in *C. EXPECTED BENEFITS* are known to exist in the vicinity of the proposed project. The proposed project will improve water quality in one of the largest tidal marshes in the Bay-Delta Region.

Durability of Expected Benefits: The expected benefits associated with the proposed infrastructure are anticipated to continue as long as the proposed facilities remain operable.

Project Status: Petaluma has prepared and certified an environmental impact report for a project to replace the existing tertiary-treatment plant. Petaluma has also prepared an RFP, seeking bids from private companies to build, operate, and maintain the planned treatment plant. See *A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION* for further detail.

E. Proposed Scope of Work

Completion of the proposed project will require the preparation of design plans and specifications for the proposed treatment plant, project construction, and treatment plant operation and maintenance. The project would be constructed as a "design-build" project and would be awarded to a single engineering and construction firm. Descriptions of these tasks are presented below.

Task 1 - Financial Plan: A financial plan would be prepared that evaluates the financing options and annual sewer service charges necessary to support the proposed project. A financial plan would be completed within 12 to 18 months of receiving authorization to proceed.

Task 2 - Project Design: The detailed design of a new tertiary treatment plant would be required. Design plans and specifications for construction of the project would be prepared as part of this task. Draft construction plans would be prepared at the 30%, 60%, and 90% stages of design. These plans and specifications will be prepared within 18 to 24 months after authorization to proceed.

Task 3 - Project Construction: This task includes construction of the treatment plant, project management, and construction inspection. The deliverable product resulting from these activities will be a tertiary treatment plant. This task will be completed within 24 to 36 months after preparation of the design plans and specifications.

Task 4 - Operation and Maintenance: Following completion of the proposed project, the treatment plant will require ongoing operations and maintenance to ensure continued compliance with the applicable discharge permits. Monitoring reports that are associated with the operation of the treatment plant will be used to document these operations.

F. Monitoring and Data Evaluation

To analyze the effectiveness of this program in improving the quality of Petaluma River and San Pablo Bay waters, a water quality monitoring program would be implemented. Water quality monitoring would be conducted near former discharge points into the Petaluma River. Baseline sampling would be conducted in these areas to determine water quality prior to improving and/or reducing wastewater discharge and to provide data for future analytical comparison. Monitoring would incorporate all elements typically tested in wastewater prior to discharge, including biological dissolved oxygen (BOD), total suspended solids, pH, chlorine residuals, copper, zinc, and others.

In addition, monitoring would be conducted on drainages present in areas where reclaimed water is, or will be used, for irrigation and other purposes. Monitoring would involve analyzing water quality and quantity (flow volume) during late spring, summer, and fall months to assess improvements in water quality and flow due to a reduction in agricultural use of creeks and streams. Where possible, baseline sampling would be conducted in these creeks and drainages to determine water quality and quantity prior to project implementation and to provide data for future analytical comparison.

G. Implementability

Construction of a tertiary treatment plant for Petaluma can be performed using conventional wastewater treatment equipment. Costs associated with a portion of the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the project would be funded by Petaluma.

As indicated previously, all of the improvements necessary to complete the treatment plant upgrade project would be performed on property owned by Petaluma, and, therefore, no additional easements or land would need to be obtained. The treatment plant currently operates in accordance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued to Petaluma by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region. This permit allows for secondary-treated reclaimed water to be discharged to the Petaluma River between November 1 and

PROJECT DESCRIPTION 4

April 30. Treatment plant upgrades that result in the production of tertiary-treatment standards would further ensure compliance with the less-stringent secondary-treatment requirements specified in the NPDES permit.

Petaluma currently provides reclaimed water to several agricultural users in the southern Petaluma Valley that use the water for hay fields and pastures. Since July 1996, the SCWA has worked with local agriculture representatives to evaluate the potential for increasing use of reclaimed water for irrigation. Preliminary calculations indicate that the demand for tertiary-treated reclaimed water exceeds the aggregated production capacity of all wastewater treatment plants in Sonoma County. SCWA representatives have held numerous meetings with the City of Petaluma Counsel, City of Petaluma engineering and administrative staff, and agricultural leaders. Based on these efforts, there is wide ranging support for upgrading Petaluma's treatment plant to tertiary standards and for providing reclaimed water to agricultural, municipal, and industrial users. Many potential users of reclaimed water could be serviced through Petaluma's existing reclamation system.

IV. COSTS AND SCHEDULE TO IMPLEMENT PROPOSED PROJECT

A. Budget Costs

The total estimated cost for the proposed project is \$30,000,000. A breakdown of the budgeted costs and funding source for each task is presented below.

Task Description	CITY OF PETALUMA			Total Cost
	Direct Salary and Benefits	Service Contracts	Construction Contracts	
Financial Plan	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Project Design	\$200,000	\$1,200,000	\$0	\$1,400,000
Project Construction	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$22,000,000	\$23,500,000
Total - City of Petaluma Funding	\$1,800,000	\$1,200,000	\$22,000,000	\$25,000,000

Task Description	CALFED GRANT			Total Cost
	Direct Salary and Benefits	Service Contracts	Construction Contracts	
Financial Plan	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Project Design	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$1,500,000
Project Construction	\$0	\$0	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
Total - CALFED Grant Funding	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$5,000,000

Task Description	PROJECT TOTALS			Total Cost
	Direct Salary and Benefits	Service Contracts	Construction Contracts	
Financial Plan	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Project Design	\$200,000	\$2,700,000	\$0	\$2,900,000
Project Construction	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$25,500,000	\$27,000,000
Total - Project	\$1,800,000	\$2,700,000	\$25,500,000	\$30,000,000

B. Schedule Milestones

It is anticipated that this project could be completed within 5 years of receiving the necessary funding. Schedule milestones for each task are presented below.

Task	Estimated Completion (from start of project)
Financial Plan	12 months
Project Design	24 months
Project Construction	60 months

C. Third Party Impacts

There are no apparent third party impacts associated with the proposed project.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

Organization of Staff and Other Resources:

The Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) is a special District created by the California State Legislature (Statutes of 1949, Chapter 994 as amended). SCWA is empowered to produce and furnish surface and groundwater for beneficial uses; to control and dispose of flood, storm, and other waters; to generate electrical energy; to provide sanitary sewerage services; and to provide recreational services in connection with flood control and water conservation works. SCWA exercises all of these powers.

New legislation was enacted in 1994, to add wastewater disposal to SCWA's responsibilities. SCWA assumed management responsibilities for County sanitation districts and zones on January 1, 1995, from the former Sonoma County Department of Public Works. Included in the Sonoma County sanitation districts and zones are the Sonoma Valley CSD, Forestville County Sanitation District, Graton Sanitation Zone, Sonoma County Airport Sanitation Zone, Geyserville Sanitation Zone, South Park County Sanitation District, and Occidental County Sanitation District. SCWA's principal sanitation functions are to oversee, operate, and maintain the sanitation zones as determined by the various terms required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued by the North Coast and/or San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

SCWA has two principal water supply functions. SCWA owns and operates a water transmission system which delivers water to a number of public and investor-owned water distribution systems in Sonoma and Marin Counties. This transmission system is financed, constructed, and maintained pursuant to an Agreement for Water Supply and Construction of the Russian River-Cotati Intertie Project, dated October 25, 1974, and last amended June 28, 1995. SCWA also regulates the flow of the Russian River for the benefit of agricultural, municipal and instream beneficial uses within Mendocino and Sonoma Counties and municipal uses in Marin County. This function is carried out pursuant to Decision 1610 of the California Water Resources Control Board dated April 17, 1986. This Decision amended the several appropriative water rights permits held by SCWA and established the criteria for the coordinated operation of two federal projects, the Coyote Valley Dam Project on the East Fork Russian River and the Warm Springs Dam Project on Dry Creek. SCWA controls the water supply storage space of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Projects under contracts with the United States Government. The water transmission system is operated as an enterprise with revenues derived from water and power sales. The regulation of the Russian River is a governmental function and all costs associated with the USACE projects are paid with the proceeds of countywide levied property taxes, except in the case of Marin and Mendocino County beneficiaries which pay a water charge in lieu of the Sonoma County property tax.

Pursuant to a license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, SCWA constructed and operates a 2.6 megawatt hydroelectric project at Warm Springs Dam. The power is sold to Pacific Gas and Electric Company pursuant to an "as delivered" Public Utilities Commission approved Interim Standard Offer No. 4 power purchase contract. The project was financed by the water transmission system enterprise fund and power sales revenues are pledged to that fund.

SCWA maintains recreational areas at a number of its facilities. The most important of these is Spring Lake Park which was constructed by SCWA and is operated by the County of Sonoma Regional Parks Department under a service contract with SCWA.

The County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors is, ex officio, the Board of Directors of SCWA. The County Administrator, County Clerk, County Assessor, County Tax Collector, County Auditor, County Treasurer, County Counsel, County Purchasing Agency and District Attorney are, unless otherwise provided by the Board of Directors, also ex officio officers of SCWA. SCWA is administered by the General Manager/Chief Engineer, Randy D. Poole, who serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

Collaborating Participants

SCWA is seeking statements of support for this project application from various agencies and organizations with shared environmental interests and concerns. SCWA's solicitation of support letters is taking place concurrently with the preparation of this application. A complete list of the 35 agencies and organizations contacted is provided in Appendix 1. Letters received prior to the application deadline will be attached for your review. Additional letters will be forwarded to CALFED as they are received.

Technical, Administrative and Project Management Roles

Randy D. Poole, General Manager/Chief Engineer of the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) will serve as the Principal Administrator for the project, providing direction and assigning project management and technical functions to SCWA staff. Fiscal review will be supervised by the Administrative Services Officer for SCWA. Grant reporting requirements will be monitored and coordinated by the Grants Procurement Manager.

Biosketches

Randy D. Poole, General Manager/Chief Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency
Randy D. Poole holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Engineering from Oregon State University (1976) and is a registered Professional Civil Engineer in the States of California and Oregon. He is currently the General Manager/Chief Engineer for the Sonoma County Water Agency. Prior to that, his professional career includes service as Chief Engineer for the Sonoma County Water Agency (1991-94), Chief Engineer/Assistant General Manager for the Marin Municipal Water District (1989-91), and Senior Engineer for the City of Portland, Bureau of Water Works, in Portland, Oregon (1986-89).

Mr. Poole is experienced in CEQA and environmental issues, all levels of management for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of major water, wastewater, and recreational water facilities, including dams, treatment plants, reservoirs, pump stations, storage tanks, groundwater well field systems, larger-diameter pipelines, and other appurtenant facilities. He is also experienced in all phases of water and wastewater supply transmission, storage, pumping, distribution, water rights issues, and groundwater recharge-extraction programs. His professional memberships include the American Water Resources Association, American Water Works Association, and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Renee T. Webber, Supervising Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency

Renee T. Webber holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies, with a minor in Water Resources, from California State University, Sacramento (1984). She is currently the Supervising Environmental Specialist (Environmental Impact Studies and Reports) for the Sonoma County Water Agency, where she supervises and coordinates the environmental review of public and private construction and development projects, is responsible for the preparation of appropriate environmental reports for such projects, and performs related duties as required.

Ms. Webber has a thorough knowledge of Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, current programs and court decisions pertaining to environmental protection. She is well informed about environmental considerations in the design, location, and construction of public (flood control, highway, water supply, sanitation) and private (residential, commercial, industrial) projects as well as citizen and public interest groups dealing with environmental matters.

Sean K. White, Supervising Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency

Sean K. White holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries Biology from Humboldt State University (1991). He is currently the Supervising Environmental Specialist (Fisheries) for the Sonoma County Water Agency, where he manages the Fisheries Enhancement Program. Prior to that, his professional career includes service as the resident Fisheries Biologist and Wildlife Ecologist for Wetlands Research Associates, Inc., in San Rafael, California, and also a Director on the Marin Municipal Water District Board of Directors.

Mr. White has authored the fisheries component for numerous environmental documents, including *Biological Assessment, Route 37 Improvements White Slough Specific Area Plan Environmental Studies (1995)*, *Cargill Salt Environmental Assessment (1994)*, and *Redwood High School Marsh Enhancement Monitoring (1993)*. In addition, he has engaged in a wide variety of fishery resource surveys and has utilized numerous restoration techniques.

Michael D. Thompson, Civil Engineer, Sonoma County Water Agency

Michael D. Thompson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (1982). In addition, he holds a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering and a Master of Business Administration degree, both from the University of California, Davis (1987). He is a registered Professional Civil Engineer as well as a Registered Environmental Assessor in the State of California. He is currently a Civil Engineer for the Sonoma County Water Agency. Prior to that, his professional career includes service at two Novato, California, firms -- as Senior and Associate Engineer for PES Environmental, Inc. (1989-96), Project Engineer for Harding Lawson Associates (1987-89) and as Staff Engineer for S. S. Papadopoulos, Davis, California.

Mr. Thompson has provided environmental engineering services to both private and public sector clients. He is familiar with a wide variety of civil and environmental engineering projects. He has prepared structural designs using steel, concrete, and earth building materials, performed groundwater modeling, become familiar with regulations associated with drinking water quality and wastewater discharge, directed earthwork grading projects, supervised and trained technical staff, and managed complex environmental investigation and remediation projects.

COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Conflicts of Interest

The Sonoma County Water Agency, as Applicant, will comply with all State and Federal conflict of interest laws, including but not limited to, Government Code Section 1090, and Public Contract Code 10410 and 10411 for State conflict of interest requirements.

References for Similar Projects

Similar projects in which the Sonoma County Water Agency has served as a partner, participant, or lead agency are described in the following project reports:

1. Sonoma Valley County Sanitation Districts Hudeman Slough Discharge Management Plan, 1994
2. Hudeman Slough Mitigation and Enhancement Wetlands, 1996
3. Sonoma County Water Agency Fisheries Enhancement Program
4. Adobe Creek Fishway Construction and Habitat Restoration
5. Russian River Action Plan

APPENDICES

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Richard Charter

6947 Cliff Avenue, Bodega Bay, CA 94923
(707)875-3482 (707)875-2345 fax (707)875-2947

July 22, 1997

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

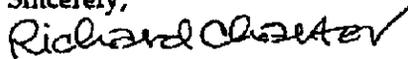
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of a grant proposal by the Sonoma County Water Agency for a recycled water distribution pipeline connecting the City of Petaluma and the City of Santa Rosa Subregional Treatment Plants. It is clear that this project could facilitate the restoration of degraded bayfront wetland habitat at the Cargill site and would also provide a very significant contribution to the utilization of treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation and for other constructive purposes.

I have been a direct participant in the restoration of tidal wetlands at the Sonoma Baylands Project and the Petaluma River Tidal Marsh Restoration Project during my former tenure as Executive Director of the Sonoma Land Trust. I appreciate the complexity of habitat restoration projects and the challenges faced by agencies seeking to carry out such projects, particularly when it comes to securing an allocation of fresh water in a water-scarce region.

My support is contingent upon thorough environmental review of the proposed project and the concurrence of all relevant regulatory agencies that the project would enhance the health of San Francisco Bay.

Sincerely,



Richard Charter

SONOMA COUNTY CONSERVATION ACTION

500 Pacific Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Phone: (707) 571-8566 • FAX: (707) 575-8903

Tuesday, July 22, 1997

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Randy Poole
General Manager
Sonoma County Water Agency
2150 West College Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

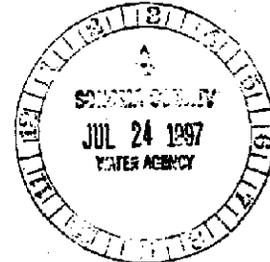
Dear Randy:

I am writing on behalf of Sonoma County Conservation Action, the county's largest conservation organization with more than 7,500 member households in Sonoma County. Conservation Action organizers personally contact 50,000 households per year, which provides us with a clear sense of the local political pulse.

We are writing in reference to the application for Cal/Fed grant funding by the Sonoma County Water Agency for proposed wastewater pipeline projects which would serve to provide irrigation with tertiary-treated wastewater to agriculture in southern Sonoma County and to flush the Cargill salt pond site in southern Napa County with overflow wastewater for purposes of restoring the Cargill site as a functioning bay wetland.

Conservation Action supports the Agency's application for Cal/Fed funding for the southern Sonoma County project, for the following reasons and subject to the caveats listed on the following page:

- Tertiary treated wastewater is a high-quality resource developed at great cost by the communities of our county.
- Local agriculture should benefit from the use of this water rather than demanding more withdrawal of fresh water from the Russian River.
- A vital agricultural economy is the best defense against urban encroachment into the world-class agricultural lands of Sonoma County.
- In light of the historical eradication of 90% of San Francisco Bay's wetlands, the restoration of 10,000 acres of bay wetlands at the Cargill site would constitute a major step forward in enhancing the biological health of the Bay.



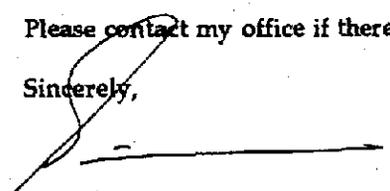
Conservation Action's tentative endorsement of this project is subject to the following conditions:

- That the net environmental impacts of the proposed projects be thoroughly studied and that all appropriate regulatory agencies agree that the project would enhance the health of land and waterways in Sonoma County and of San Francisco Bay ecosystems.
- That the Sonoma County Water Agency adopts policies which commit the Agency to principles of stewardship and environmental responsibility in managing its reclaimed water collection and distribution systems.
- That the Agency commit to creating permanent mechanisms, such as advisory committees, through which the local environmental community will have greater access to information about the activities of the Agency and greater input into the decision-making of the Agency.

If these criteria are agreed to by the Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County Conservation Action supports SCWA's application for Cal/ Fed grant funding for the Cargill project.

Please contact my office if there are questions.

Sincerely,



Mark Green
Executive Director

July 22, 1997

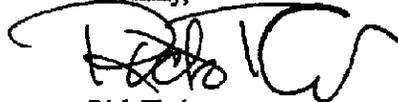
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Sonoma County Water Agency Fund Requests

The Sonoma County Grape Growers Association urges you to support the five major restoration planning efforts by the Sonoma County Water Agency. All projects will have a beneficial effect on the Sonoma County environment. These projects will significantly improve habitat for fisheries, migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds in the Bay Area. A healthy wildlife habitat is important to achieve a sustainable Bay Area where agriculture can thrive. Also, one of the projects may potentially benefit agriculture in the Lakeville area, which we strongly support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cordially,



Rick Theis
Executive Director



SONOMA COUNTY
grape
growers
ASSOCIATION

850 Second Street, Suite C • Santa Rosa, California 95404 • (707) 576-3110





Madrone Audubon Society
INCORPORATED

JUL 23 1997

July 22, 1997

CALFED
1416 9th Street #1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Bay Delta Program
Sonoma County Water Agency

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Madrone Audubon Society, a local chapter of the National Audubon Society, expresses its support for a CALFED grant for the Napa-Sonoma Marsh Wildlife Project proposed by the Sonoma County Water Agency.

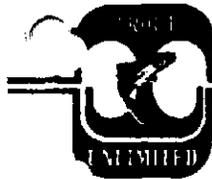
This project would enable millions of gallons of tertiary treated wastewater from the Laguna Subregional Wastewater Treatment Plant to be piped to the former Cargill Salt Ponds in order to de-salinize the ponds so that they may be used for wildlife habitat. Madrone Audubon supports the concept of re-use of wastewater because it furthers the laudable goal of the Clean Water Act to prevent outfall to our natural waterways while at the same time reducing the strain on natural water sources. Madrone Audubon Society also strongly favors restoring former wetlands to their original state as we have lost far too many acres of wetlands to development and agriculture. Another potential benefit from this project is that it may encourage the City of Santa Rosa to opt for a re-use method, rather than discharge into the Russian River, when it determines which wastewater disposal option it will choose later this year. The project, as proposed by the Water Agency, is truly a win-win situation.

The support of Madrone Audubon is premised upon the understanding that there will be a significant and direct environmental benefit from the project. We urge CALFED to approve the grant request of the Water Agency but with the proviso that the capital improvement that results from the grant continue to be used in a way that is of primary benefit to the environment.

Thank you for your consideration of our position in this important issue.

Very truly yours,

Dan Kahane, Vice-President



the 2000 2000 Cal Fed
Sonoma Chapter

North Bay Chapter, 632 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

July 22, 1997

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear CAL-FED Bay-Delta Program:

This letter is to confirm Trout Unlimited's support for the Sonoma County Water Agency proposal to reuse reclaimed water from the Santa Rosa Subregional Treatment plant for restoration of Bay Wetlands at the Cargill Salt Ponds.

Trout Unlimited is a cold water fishery conservation organization with 95,000 members internationally and 1,100 members in the North Bay Chapter. Our membership is particularly concerned about the Coho Salmon and Rainbow Steelhead Trout fisheries of the Russian River and opposes any further degradation of the Laguna de Santa Rosa (an Impaired Waterway), Mark West Creek, and the Russian River by resource wasteful waste water discharges to threatened and endangered salmonid habitat.

A program to reuse the Subregional plant's reclaimed water for restoration of Bay Wetlands is the type of proposal we can support that will actually use this valuable water resource for environmental enhancement rather than waste over 8 billion gallons of water annually discharging it to the once thriving salmonid habitat of the Russian River.

We urge CALFED to approve funding for the upgrading of the Sonoma Valley and Petaluma treatment plants to tertiary treatment and restoring 8,000 acres of Cargill salt pond to important wetland and fishery nursery habitat by providing a pipeline from Santa Rosa's Subregional treatment plant to the Petaluma Plant and the Sonoma Valley plant to the Cargill salt ponds. This pipeline will also allow for North Bay agricultural economic development by reuse of the nutrient-rich water along the pipeline's route.

Trout Unlimited would be pleased to be represented on a citizen advisory committee to the Sonoma County Water Agency to help in the implementation of this project and restoration work planned in the North Bay and Russian River watersheds.

Sincerely,
TROUT UNLIMITED

R. Brian Hines
Board of Directors
North Bay Chapter

Sincerely,
TROUT UNLIMITED

Mike Swaney
Conservation Chairman
California State Council

cc: Stan Griffin, Regional VP