

# LOS PEÑASQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 940  
Cardiff by the Sea  
CA, 92007



Ms. Courtney Pesce

January 30, 2022

SANDAG  
401 B Street, Suite 800  
San Diego CA 92101

RE: TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Land Management Grant Program – Assurance of Matching Funds for the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Southern Fore-dune and Salt Marsh Restoration Project.

Dear Ms. Pesce,

On behalf of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation (LPLF), I am writing to confirm assurance of \$221,500 in matching funds for the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Southern Fore-dune and Salt Marsh Restoration Project. Matching funds will be provided through in-kind services from two fully funded, complimentary projects that will support the project proposed for EMP funds: Los Peñasquitos Lagoon HMMP Project (\$21,500) and annual lagoon inlet maintenance (\$200,000).

Referred to as LPLF/SCE Restoration Project in the proposal, the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon HMMP Project is currently underway within a 2-acre area located adjacent to proposed project site. \$21,500 will be applied as match through in-kind services for dedicated funds spent from this project for site maintenance between 2022/23 to 2026/27 to remove invasive species such as annual veldt grass and reduce/eliminate source populations to prevent re-establishment at this project site and within adjacent areas, such the proposed project site. This project is fully funded with LPLF controlling all funds from implementation through to completion.

Inlet maintenance is funded in perpetuity through an endowment that provides \$175,000 per year to LPLF. From this amount, \$40,000 will be applied as complimentary match per year for a total of \$200,000 over the five-year lifespan of the proposed project. Inlet maintenance is critical to avoid prolonged inlet closures and flooding of the lagoon with brackish waters that facilitates the infestation and establishment of invasive plants that displace native halophytes; impairment of habitat for light-footed Ridgway's rail (SO) and Nuttall's lotus (SO); and loss of nesting/breeding habitat for Belding's savannah sparrow (VF) and wandering skipper (VF).

Please contact me if you have any questions at [mike@lospenasquitos.org](mailto:mike@lospenasquitos.org).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Hastings".

Mike Hastings  
Executive Director, Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation