

LOS PEÑASQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION

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



January 30, 2022

Ms. Courtney Pesce

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 Yellow Flag Iris Containment and
Eradication Project.

Dear Ms. Pesce,

On behalf of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation (LPLF), I am writing to confirm assurance of \$150,000 in matching funds for the *Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Yellow Flag Iris Containment and Eradication Project*. Matching funds will be provided through in-kind services from annual lagoon inlet maintenance performed during the spring and breaches of the inlet performed “as needed” during the year to release impounded waters fed by daily nuisance flows of freshwater entering the Lagoon from the watershed that can overtop channel banks and flood the marsh plain.

Inlet maintenance is funded in perpetuity through an endowment that provides \$175,000 per year to LPLF. From this amount, \$30,000 will be applied as complimentary match per year for a total of \$150,000 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 *Iris psuedacorus* within Los Peñasquitos Lagoon according to research performed by scientists from California State University, Long Beach in their ongoing project *Ecology and Impacts of Invasive Yellow Flag Iris in the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Estuary*.

Please contact me if you have any questions at mike@lospenasquitos.org.

Regards,

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

Mike Hastings
Executive Director, Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation