

**Call for Projects for the Tenth Cycle of the
TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program**

Threat Reduction Stewardship Grant Application

Grant Application Form and required supplementary materials (hereafter referred to as “application”) cannot exceed eight pages.

Applicant Name: City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Department, Open Space Division

Address: 202 C Street, 5th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: 619-685-1350

Email: jpaetow@sandiego.gov

Name of Property: Lusardi Canyon

General Location: Lusardi Canyon north of Carmel Valley Road

Jurisdiction: City of San Diego

Total Acres: 428 acres

Estimated Acres Requiring Management: minimum 2 acres

Owner(s) of Property: City of San Diego

Land manager(s) of property (include name[s]): Jonathan (JJ) Paetow, Park Ranger, City of San Diego, Parks and Rec, Open Space Division

Brief project summary that includes your primary goal and objectives. (200-word maximum)

The primary goal of this project is to enhance degraded coastal sage scrub (CSS) habitat for the threatened California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica*) in the City of San Diego’s Lusardi Canyon Open Space. Prior to becoming conserved open space, Lusardi Canyon was historically used for grazing and farming activities which contributed to the introduction of nonnative plant species and reduced habitat quality. Today, much of Lusardi Canyon is dominated by highly invasive artichoke thistle (*Cynara cardunculus*) as well as other non-native grasses and forbs. The objectives of this project are to 1) Remove artichoke thistle and other invasives within the identified site using a combination of weed control methods including goat grazing, biomass removal (dethatching), and targeted herbicide application, and 2) install CSS habitat appropriate plants in the disturbed areas to enhance the habitat and create weed buffers.

Quantify expected results (add bullets as necessary)

- Disturbed area currently dominated by Artichoke thistle and other non-native plant species will be converted to high quality CSS habitat.
- Wildfire impacts will be reduced by replacing flashy annual fuels with up to 2400 CSS container plants.
- Weed management efforts will reduce artichoke thistle weed cover by 95% within the designated project area.
- Reduce other invasive weeds (mustard, annual grasses, tocolote thistle) in the project area by 75%.

Brief description of dedicated staff and/or consultants/contractors that would work on the Project.

(200-word maximum)

The City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Open Space Division, Black Mountain Ranger District will coordinate with the contractors to implement the project. Contracted restoration crews with experience working in open space preserves will be used as available to complete these tasks. City Park Rangers will also perform day to day

**Call for Projects for the Tenth Cycle of the
TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program**

activities in the area such as qualitative site visits, volunteer coordination, follow-up weed management and supplemental watering when needed.

Funding Needs Summary

Please indicate how much funding is being requested from SANDAG.

Budget Item	Requested Funding Amount	Description
Personnel Expenses Staff	\$0	Includes staff time for non-administrative work on the project
Personnel Administrative Expenses	\$0	Includes all staff time to administer the contract
Consultant/Contractor Expenses	\$60,000	Includes all costs for consultant/contractor services
Other Direct Expenses	\$20,000	Includes all equipment, supplies, mileage, etc.
Totals	\$80,000	

**if applicable*

Project Application

The application will include: (a) the purpose of the project; (b) the scope of work by tasks; (c) the proposed budget by task; and (d) a schedule for each task. Applicants must clearly identify their proposed tasks in the scope of work, funding requested for each task (please identify staff hours and cost separately from consultant/contractor costs), start and end dates of the tasks, and deliverables.

Project Purpose

Please describe how the proposed project meets the following criteria:

1. *The proposed project specifically addresses relevant high-priority Management Strategic Plan (MSP) species and their habitats. Refer to the MSP for Conserved Lands in Western San Diego County.*

The proposed project will be addressing the following high priority MSP animal species: California gnatcatcher, Blainville’s horned lizard, and San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit. These three species rely on high quality CSS habitat and have recently been observed in Lusardi Open Space and surrounding areas. This project will specifically address MSP goals and objectives for these species by enhancing habitat and reducing threats associated with invasive plant species (habitat degradation, wildfire threat). Enhancement plantings will include the addition of coastal cholla (*Cylindropuntia prolifera*), prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia littoralis*) and San Diego barrel cactus (*Ferocactus viridescens*) which may indirectly benefit coastal cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis*) as well.

2. *The proposed project will address an urgent need and includes actions that will reduce or manage an identified threat.*

This project will address the urgent need to control invasive artichoke thistle as well as other nonnative grasses and forbs that are out competing and degrading CSS habitat in Lusardi Canyon. The project will identify under utilized methods that can save money and effort in biomass removal especially the extremely labor-intensive Artichoke Thistle.

3. *Success criteria have been identified and will be monitored and reported. Success of the proposed project is likely with clear, measurable, proven results that will promote conservation.*

Call for Projects for the Tenth Cycle of the TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program

The project will produce the following quantifiable results:

- Replace annual fire prone fuels with up to 2400 CSS container plants.
- Reduce artichoke thistle weed cover by 95% within the designated project area.
- Reduce other invasive weeds (mustard, annual grasses, tocolote thistle) in the project area by 75%.

The project will also create a roadmap for the successful utilization of goat grazing to control large areas of non-native vegetation. The roadmap and the successful completion of this project will result in the addition of tightly controlled grazing into the management toolbox for other open space land managers.

4. *Any activities necessary to maintain the proposed project after the 18-month grant period have been identified and funding for those activities has been secured. Please explain what source of funding (if any) has been used to fund this activity in the past and what kind of funding is available to support this work in the future (if needed).*

The activities necessary to maintain the project after the 18-month grant period include: supplemental watering (as needed), Invasive species control, and qualitative monitoring to adjust management actions. City staff and the robust volunteer groups in this area will continue these tasks as part of continued management of the MHPA preserve.

5. *To be eligible for funding, the proposed project must be on lands conserved for native habitat within the MSP area. Where is the project located and where work will be conducted? (Attach a map)*

The project is located within Lusardi Canyon Open Space a undeveloped parcel in the Black Mountain Ranger District and is designated as conserved land within the City of San Diego’s MHPA preserve.

6. *Does the proposed project provide a co-benefit to CBO Network Communities and foster social equity? Please describe. Additional Points can be awarded if this is relevant to the project and is appropriately described to meet the qualifications listed in the Call for Projects.*

This project does benefit the communities by removing aggressive nonnative species. These species have degraded the existing habitat and limiting the native plants and wildlife present in the community. Access to public land is a key component to the City of San Diego’s Parks Master Plan objectives of creating “Parks for All”. The adjacent communities are not in the CBO network but still will benefit from access to restored public lands

Scope of Work by Task

Please break down the application into discrete tasks and include a task name, description of each task, quantifiable expected results, and discrete deliverables for each task.

Exhibit A – Proposed Project Scope of Work

Task No.	Task Name	Task Description	Quantifiable Results/Deliverables
1.	Implementation	Bring goats in for controlled grazing of site. Fence off any existing native species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent cover of thatch and dead standing biomass will be reduced by 95% within the enhancement areas. • Percent cover of weed species will be reduced by 75% within in the enhancement areas. • Install up to 100 cactus cuttings, 2400 CSS container plants and seed in enhancement

**Call for Projects for the Tenth Cycle of the
TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program**

			areas. At least 60% survival of container plants is expected over 18 months.
2.	Monitoring	Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly visits to site to determine health of site and needs of site. This includes one pre-project monitoring visit to document baseline conditions.
3.	Maintenance	As-needed maintenance (includes follow up weed control, supplemental irrigation, trash removal, fence/sign repair and trail access maintenance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance activities will be scheduled as needed based on qualitative monitoring results. A minimum of three maintenance visits will be conducted.
4.	Quarterly Reports	Prepare quarterly reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five progress reports will be prepared quarterly following each monitoring visit. The quarterly reports will detail enhancement and/or maintenance activities performed during the reporting period as well as monitoring results.
5.	Final Report	Prepare final report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One final report will be prepared 18 months after the Notice to Proceed. The final report will summarize all enhancement, maintenance and monitoring activities performed over the course of the project and will include the results of the final monitoring visit.
6.	Administrative	Project management, consultant coordination and invoice preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invoices will be submitted quarterly along with quarterly and final reports.

Budget by Task

Exhibit B – Proposed Project Budget

Task No.	Task Name	Grant Request
1.	Implementation	\$43,000
2.	Maintenance	\$37,000
3.	Monitoring	\$0
4.	Quarterly Reports	\$0
5.	Final Report	\$0
6.	Administrative	\$0
	Subtotal	\$80,000
	Total	\$80,000

**Call for Projects for the Tenth Cycle of the
TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program**

Please include a specific budget for each task described in the Scope of Work (Section B above). This should include both requested SANDAG funds and any matching funds proposed for each project year. *If matching funds are proposed, please distribute the match commitment proportionately.*¹ Applicants are encouraged to identify phasing in their application in case full funding for the project is not available. You may add or subtract rows and columns as needed. *This funding category is intended to fund restoration and enhancement projects taking place over a three- to five-year period and will not cover on-going annual costs within applicant's organization.*

Project Schedule

Exhibit C – Proposed Project Schedule (Assumes fall 2022 NTP)

Task No.	Task Name	Proposed Start Date	Months Needed to Complete Task	Task End Date
1.	Implementation	"3" Months from NTP	"18" Months	06/30/2024
2.	Maintenance	"3" Months from NTP	"18" Months	06/30/2024
3.	Monitoring	"3" Months from NTP	"18" Months	06/30/2024
4.	Quarterly Reports	"3" Months from NTP	"18" Months	06/30/2024
5.	Final Report	"17" Months from NTP	"1" Months	06/30/2024
6.	Administrative	"1" Months from NTP	"18" Months	06/30/2024

Please explain why and how much additional time would be needed in the event of any delays due to NTP being provided beyond fall 2022 and/or unexpected weather conditions such as drought that could occur during the proposed project implementation.

Should project implementation be delayed or if extreme weather impacts the project, an additional 3-6 months may be needed to complete the planting and conduct weed control in the appropriate part of the growing season

Notice Regarding Prevailing Wages

California law requires that public works projects pay prevailing wages for workers.

Yes No

Applicant acknowledges that any work that qualifies as a "public work" within the meaning of California Labor Code Section 1720 shall cause Applicant and its subcontractors to comply with the provisions of California Labor Code Sections 1775 et seq, which includes the payment of prevailing wages to all workers performing prevailing wage work.

Applicant acknowledges that if Applicant or its subcontractors will engage in the performance of a public work as defined by California Labor Code Sections 1720 et seq. and will utilize persons who are not employees of a public entity, registration and payment of an annual registration fee to the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) shall be required of each entity performing the work. This requirement applies to anyone affected by the public works statutes found in the California Labor Code, including but not limited to landscapers, fencers, surveyors, soil testers, dredgers, heavy equipment operators, and inspectors.

**Call for Projects for the Tenth Cycle of the
TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program**

- Applicant acknowledges that if Applicant will award any subcontracts for the performance of a public work:

Applicant shall notify SANDAG 30 calendar days prior to the award of each subcontract so SANDAG can create a Project Registration Form (aka PWC-100 form) for each subcontract using the DIR online database. Applicant will provide to SANDAG the name, DIR registration number, and contractor's licensenumbers of each subcontractor so SANDAG can verify, prior to Applicant's award of the subcontract for a public work, that the selected subcontractor is currently licensed and registered with the DIR. If SANDAG finds that the selected subcontractor is not licensed and registered with the DIR, SANDAG will promptly notify Applicant and Applicant will not be permitted to award the subcontract to the selected subcontractor.

- Applicant shall notify SANDAG ten business days prior to the subcontractor performing the prevailingwage work so SANDAG can prepare for labor compliance monitoring.
- If there are any changes to a subcontractor or lower-tier subcontractor, Applicant will advise SANDAG ofthese changes as soon as those changes are known to the Applicant.

Required Statements from Applicant

- | Yes | No | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant has read and understands the Sample Grant Agreement (Agreement) and Invoice Template (Attachment 4). |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | If the Board of Directors approves the proposed project application, the applicant agrees to sign and return the Agreement to SANDAG, without exceptions or amendments, within 45 days of receipt. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant agrees to comply with SANDAG's Board Policy No. 035, Competitive Grant Program Procedures, which outlines "Use-it-or-lose-it" project milestone and completion deadlines. Board Policy No. 035 is included in the Agreement, and also is on SANDAG's website at: sandag.org/organization/about/pubs/policy_035.pdf |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that 10% of all invoiced amounts will be retained until the completion of the proposed project. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that for proposed projects with matching funds, retention will be withheld beyond the 10% retention for each invoice submittal that does not meet the proportionate matching funds requirement. These additional matching funds will not be released until proportionate matching funds are reached for the project to-date. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that all invoices must be accompanied by written, documented support of the charges for requested reimbursement of grant funds and payment will not be made by SANDAG until all documents are satisfactorily submitted. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that invoices and reports must be submitted on a quarterly basis within three weeks after each period close covering January 1 to March 31; April 1 to June 30; July 1 to September 30; and October 1 to December 31. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that the EMP quarterly report template (to be sent to the grantee after NTP is issued and can be found at sandag.org/index.asp?classid=17&projectid=447&fuseaction=projects.detail) must be used to document quarterly progress and that invoices with errors will be returned to the grantee for correction prior to being processed by SANDAG staff. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that the final invoice must be accompanied by written, documented support of the charges for requested reimbursement of grant funds; a final report (prepared in accordance with the final report template to be sent to grantee after NTP is issued and can be found at sandag.org/index.asp?classid=17&projectid=447&fuseaction=projects.detail); and all outstanding deliverables in order to receive final payment and have retained funds released. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant understands that to be considered eligible for funding, a resolution complying with the requirements of Board Policy No. 035, Section 4.1, must be submitted to SANDAG at least two weeks prior to the recommendation by the Regional Planning Committee of the list of prioritized project applications. SANDAG will provide applicants with advance notice of the Regional Planning Committee's anticipated meeting date. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The applicant agrees to submit all project data/information to SANDAG and to upload data and reports to a project page created by the applicant on the SDMMP web portal in a format consistent with regional management databases. |

I have the authorization to submit this application (Grant Application and required supplementary materials) on behalf of my organization.

Erika Ferreira , Deputy Director, Open Space Division: City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department

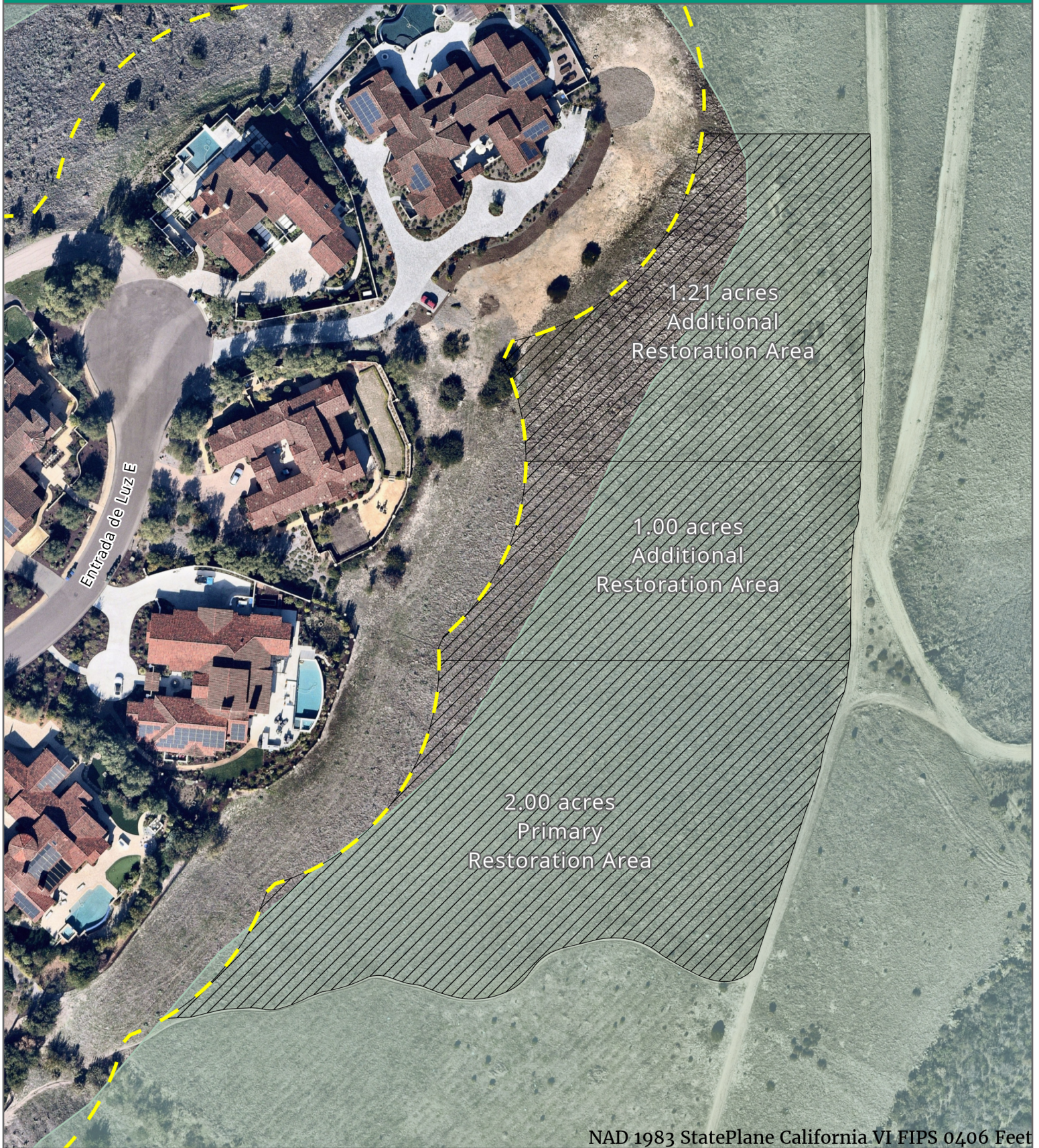
Applicant Name and Title (print or type)






Applicant Signature

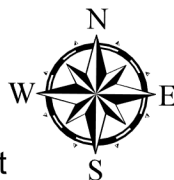
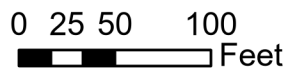
1-28-2022

Date



NAD 1983 StatePlane California VI FIPS 0406 Feet

-  Restoration Area
-  MHPA
-  City Property Boundary



Map prepared by the City of San Diego
Department of Park & Recreation
Open Space Division.
Last update: 2022-01-28

