

Threat Reduction Stewardship Grant Application

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

Applicant Name:¹ Friends of Famosa Slough

Address: PO Box 87280, San Diego, CA 92138-7280

Phone: 619-224-4591

Email: cindybuc@gmail.com or info@famosaslough.org

Name of Property: Famosa Slough Wildlife Preserve

General Location²: W. Point Loma Blvd and Famosa Blvd in the city of San Diego

Jurisdiction³: City of San Diego

Total Acres: The Famosa Slough Wildlife Preserve is 37 acres

Estimated Acres Requiring Management: 0.7 acres

Owner(s) of Property:⁴ City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Department

Land manager(s) of property (include name[s]): Erika Ferreira, Mark Berninger, City of San Diego employees

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

This project is designed to reduce the threat of altered hydrology and threat of loss of ecological integrity to the salt marsh vegetation community at Famosa Slough. In 2000, treatment ponds were built and vegetated at the south end of the Famosa Slough to clean all stormwater flows and retain dry-weather stormwater flows from the surrounding watershed of about 100 acres south of the Slough. The series of ponds and berms collect freshwater runoff as well as sediments, trash, and nutrients, but sediment has built up which reduces their effectiveness. The goal of this project is to restore the treatment ponds and berms and keep the dry weather freshwater and undesirable material from going into Famosa Slough, and thus reducing the risk of type conversion, and the resulting loss of ecological integrity of the strategic habitat of salt marsh vegetation community, and associated MSCP species. The treatment ponds are in urgent need of renovation to prevent the berms from failing and damaging the salt marsh habitat that is downstream. This project will remove sediment so that the dry weather freshwater is retained in the ponds rather than crossing the berm into the saltwater marsh areas, preserving the salt marsh.

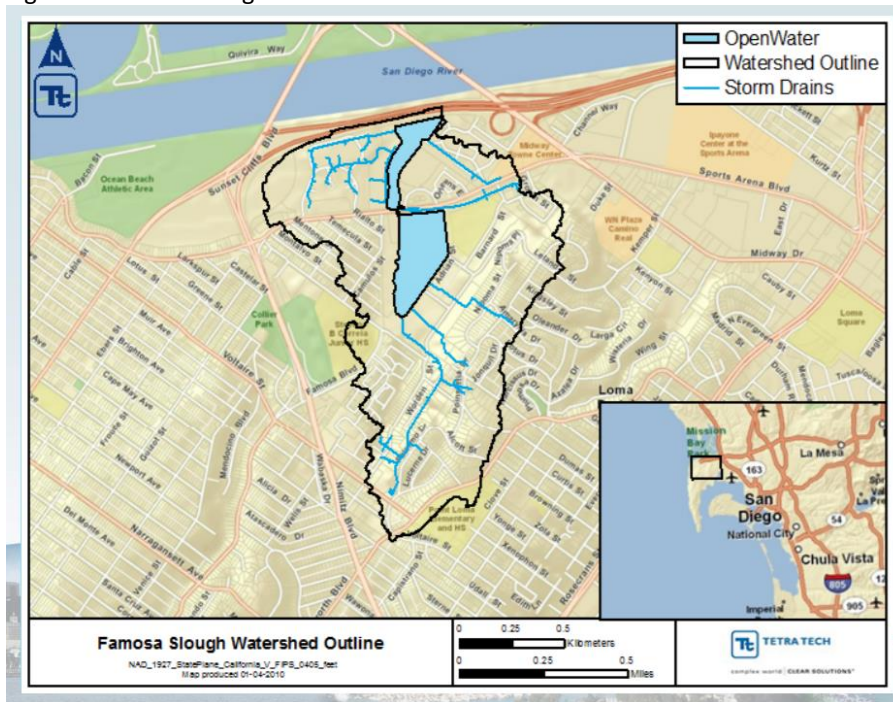
¹ While collaboration is encouraged in the development of the grant application, the application must identify one organization as the lead entity that will enter into the grant agreement with SANDAG.

² Physical address, or closest cross streets or property boundary.

³ Name of city where the project is located. County of San Diego can be listed for the unincorporated areas of the region.

⁴ If the applicant is not the landowner, please submit a letter or right-of-entry permit from the landowner granting permission to perform the land management duties as outlined in the application. Failure to provide the letter or right-of-entry permit will lead to disqualification of the application. *Attached letter or right-of-entry permit (if applicable) does not count toward eight-page maximum.*

Figure 1: Famosa Slough Watershed Outline



Quantify expected results (add bullets as necessary)

- Removing approximately 340 cubic yards of material from the treatment ponds and regrading the ponds will result in water that spreads out across the whole pond, increases the retention time and enhances water quality improvement, and reduces the amount of freshwater flowing into the salt marsh habitat downstream. This retention will also improve the consumption of nutrients from stormwater flow. This reduction keeps them from flowing into the salt marsh and open water habitats and will reduce the likelihood of eutrophication of the slough. This is important as the open water areas of the Slough are subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) order from the Regional Water Control Board for eutrophication.
- Also, the ponds are vegetated with riparian plants and more plants will flourish with the water in the ponds reaching more areas (willow trees, etc.).
- Renovating the berms will improve their longevity, function, and greatly minimize their chance of failure of the berms from the frequent overflows that currently are occurring during rain events. Failure of the berms would carry unwanted soil into the wetland habitat, would allow dry-weather freshwater flows into the saltmarsh area and the resulting type conversion, and restoration would be costly and damage native wetland vegetation.
- Removing trash that has been collected within the treatment ponds will improve the habitat of the riparian ponds, improve the health of the animals in the ponds, and reduce the chance of trash flowing downstream into the salt marsh habitat, and then further on to the San Diego River, Dog Beach, and the ocean.
- The project will be designed to maximize the removal of non-native plants from the treatment ponds and to improve outcomes for native species of plants, birds, insects, etc. The targets for removal include palm trees, Brazilian pepper trees, kikuyu grass, smilo grass, etc.
- Appropriate native plants will be restored to areas that are opened up during the removal and will enhance the habitat value of the ponds.
- Currently water stands in deep ponds at each of the entry points within the ponds because of the accumulated sediments. This increases the mosquito complaints in the region. After the removal the water will spread out

broadly and will soak into the soil more quickly, reducing the mosquito population.

Brief description of dedicated staff and/or consultants/contractors that would work on the Project. (200-word maximum)

Surveying, design, permitting, removal, and disposal will be done by an experienced contractor, such as Merkel and Associates. They have done very similar work on the treatment ponds at Famosa Slough in the past.

Administration of the grant will have a dedicated lead, Jim Peugh, Chairman of the Board and retired civilian Physicist and Engineer for the US Navy. Mr. Peugh has successfully managed grants and construction projects of similar size and scope at the Famosa Slough in the past. He will be supported by Tim Fleming (an Architect) and Cindy Pencek (a Document Specialist) to ensure quarterly reports and the project page on SDMMP website are in place and updated as appropriate.

The Friends will do the revegetation and maintenance of all replacement plants. The Friends of Famosa Slough is an all-volunteer organization with 7 Board Members, plus 5 key volunteers who help weekly, and a large volunteer pool (20-30 people) who attend monthly events to work on projects such as non-native plant removal, planting native plants, and watering newly installed plants.

Funding Needs Summary

Please indicate how much funding is being requested from SANDAG.

Budget Item	Requested Funding Amount	Description
Personnel Expenses Staff	No funding requested (120 volunteer hours on revegetation)	Includes staff time for non-administrative work on the project
Personnel Administrative Expenses	No funding requested (160 volunteer hours)	Includes all staff time to administer the contract
Consultant/Contractor Expenses	\$53,000	Includes all costs for consultant/contractor services
Other Direct Expenses	Not applicable	Includes all equipment, supplies, mileage, etc.
Totals	\$ 53,000	

Project Application

Project Purpose

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.

1. This project is critical to maintaining the strategic habitat of salt marsh vegetation community of the Famosa Slough, and associated MSP species. The slough is host to Wandering skippers (observations on inaturalist:https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?captive=any&place_id=any&project_id=2952&taxon_id=108343&verifiable=any), and is visited by most of the birds on the list of salt marsh associated MSP

species (Reddish egret, American peregrine falcon, Long-billed curlew, Osprey, Belding's savannah sparrow, California brown pelican, Elegant tern, and sporadically California least tern; Light-footed Ridgway's rails have been seen, and have nested in Famosa Slough in the past. Observations on ebird: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L246035>).

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

2. The identified threats are the threat of altered hydrology, and the threat of loss of ecological integrity for the strategic habitat of the salt marsh vegetation community. The urgency comes from the fact that the amount of debris that has built up since the ponds were last maintained in 2010 is so severe that the ponds are not functioning as built. Water from rainstorms typically flows over the earthen berms instead of through the pipes and the armored spillways.

Criteria 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.

3. Success of the project will be achieved when debris has been removed and fine regrading done to allow for stormwater to fill the ponds and be retained/cleaned as designed. Berms will no longer be at high risk of failing, and the intended separation between salt marsh habitat and riparian/stormwater ponds will have been achieved. Large non-native plants will no longer be present, and bare areas will be revegetated.

Criteria 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).

4. After renovation, the stormwater treatment ponds are not expected to need large-scale maintenance for another 10 years. Friends of Famosa Slough has a donor base of people from the neighborhood who give to support smaller projects. The Friends of Famosa Slough will provide the volunteer works and plants to revegetate any bare areas of the treatment ponds with appropriate native plants. The Friends of Famosa Slough will have volunteer Work Parties to remove non-native plants from the treatment ponds, as well as the salt marsh areas of the slough.

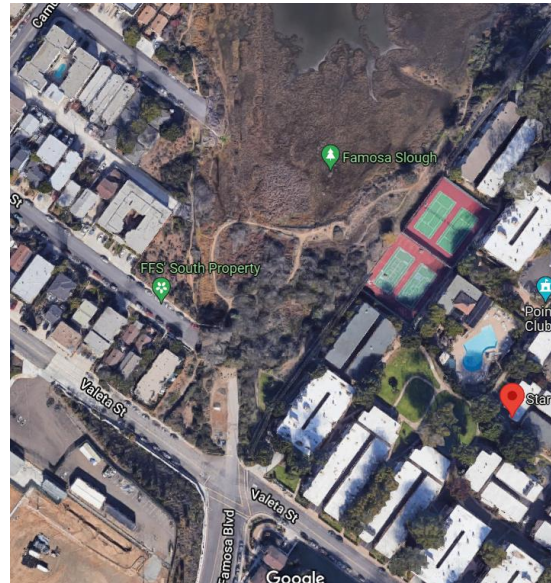
Criteria 5: To be eligible for funding, the proposed project must be on lands conserved for native habitat within the MSP area. Where is the project located and where work will be conducted? (*Attach a map*)

5. Maps provided

Figure 2: Map Showing South part of Famosa Slough



Figure 3: Inset of Southernmost part of Famosa Slough where treatment ponds are located



6. Does the proposed project provide a co-benefit to CBO Network Communities and foster social equity? Please describe.

Famosa Slough is near disadvantaged communities. The Friends of Famosa Slough lead field trips for local schools including Correia Middle School, High Tech High, and community groups via the YMCA.

Scope of Work by Task

Exhibit A – Proposed Project Scope of Work

Task No.	Task Name	Task Description	Quantifiable Results/Deliverables
1.	Site surveying & Restoration Plan	Engineers to survey ponds and berms and create restoration plan	Detailed restoration plan
2.	Agency Permitting	Submitting paperwork and acquiring appropriate CEQA permits for the project	Permits acquired
3.	Removal, testing and disposal of debris and fine grading	Collection and transportation of debris, dirt, and trash to a disposal site, and fine grading of the treatment ponds. Also removing obstructions from the weir structures between the ponds	More than 340 cubic yards of material removed, fine grading completed to engineer's specs in restoration plan. Testing for 3 discreet samples to determine appropriate disposal.
4.	Restoring berms	Upgrade/rebuild berms per engineer's specs in restoration plan	Build up the berms and taper in armour lock geogrid at spillway edges.
5.	Removal & disposal of non-native plants	Remove large non-native plants and transport to a disposal site	Any palm trees, pepper trees, etc. that had been growing in the treatment ponds will be removed

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

6.	Revegetation	Add appropriate native plants to revegetate and bare areas	Planting to achieve the Restoration Plan Goals for plant success.
7.	Administrative	Contract administration to completion of project	Payment of all contractors and all accounting for the grant monies. Timely status reports.

Budget by Task

Exhibit B – Proposed Project Budget

Task No.	Task Name	Grant Request
1.	Site surveying & Restoration Plan	\$ 8,000
2.	Agency Permitting	\$ 3,000
3.	Removal, testing and disposal of debris and fine grading	\$ 28,000
4.	Restoring berms	\$ 8,000
5.	Removal & disposal of non-native plants	\$ 4,000
6.	Revegetation (FFS dollar contribution for plant material, volunteer labor of 120 hours to be contributed by FFS)	\$2,000 revegetation contractor + (FFS labor and dollars below)
7.	Administrative (volunteer labor of 160 hours to be contributed by FFS)	See FFS below)
Grant request		\$53,000
Contribution of Dollars from Friends of Famosa Slough to be spent on buying plants for revegetation		\$3,000
Contribution of volunteer hours from FFS for planting and administration (280 hours)		\$6,100
Total Value		\$60,100

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.	Site surveying & Restoration design	0.5 Months from NTP (Assume Oct 2022)	4 Months	02/15/2023
2.	Agency permitting	2/15/2023	2 Months	04/15/2023
3.	Removal, testing, and disposal of debris and fine grading	4/15/2023	5 Months	09/15/2023
4.	Restoring berms	6/15/2023	2 Months (concurrent)	9/15/2023
5.	Removal & disposal of non-native plants	9/15/2023 (this could start earlier)	1 Month	10/15/2023
6.	Revegetation	10/15/2023	1 Month	11/15/2023
7.	Administrative	11/15/2023	2 Months for final report/invoicing (Admin ongoing throughout project)	1/15/2024

Notice Regarding Prevailing Wages

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

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.

Yes No

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.

Yes No

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 license numbers 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.

Yes No

- Applicant shall notify SANDAG ten business days prior to the subcontractor performing the prevailing wage work so SANDAG can prepare for labor compliance monitoring.

Yes No

- If there are any changes to a subcontractor or lower-tier subcontractor, Applicant will advise SANDAG of these changes as soon as those changes are known to the Applicant.

Yes No

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 available 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 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 <i>two weeks</i> 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 SDMMMP 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.

Cindy Pencek, Board Member Friends of Famosa Slough

Applicant Name and Title (print or type)

C. Pencek

1/29/2022

Applicant Signature

Date