

**CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR THE NINTH CYCLE OF THE  
TransNet ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM  
LAND MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

Applicant Name: City of San Diego, Parks & Recreation Department, Developed Regional Parks  
Address: 2125 Park Blvd, San Diego, Ca 92101  
Phone and Email Address: 619-235-1124 mllanos@sandiego.gov  
Name of Property: Florida Canyon Open Space  
General Location: East and West banks of Florida Canyon  
Jurisdiction: City of San Diego  
Total Acres: 146  
Estimated Acres Requiring Management: 2  
Owner(s) of Property: City of San Diego  
Land manager(s) of property: District Manager: Mario Llanos, Sr. Park Ranger: John Anderson, Horticulturist: Magen Shaw, Park Ranger: Roberto Bejar

**Project Summary**

Florida Canyon (LAT 32.725264 Long -117.14826) is located in the heart of Balboa Park, it falls within the Multipul Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and Multipul-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) protection zone and is roughly 147 dedicated acres of Open Space set aside for preservation. Florida Canyon Open Space is an ecological area of significant importance, as it is one of the last expanses of native habitat in Downtown San Diego. The native habitat within Florida Canyon Open Space area has been damaged and depleted for numerous decades due to increased recreational use, human encroachment, urban expansion, loss of connectivity, and an un-designated trail system. This damage has directly lead to systemic erosion and the degradation of the biological health of the canyon. Three sites within Florida Canyon, totaling approximately 2 acres, have been identified as the proposed project location (Figure 1) due to extensive habitat loss, erosion, presence of invasive species, impacts from human presence and encroaching urban development. Ecological restoration of these heavily depleted areas is the primary project goal. The main objectives of the proposed project are to preserve existing native species, control invasive species, re-establish native vegetation and habitat, control erosion, establish a designated trail system, fence sensitive areas to reduce disturbance, and install signage.

**Expected Results**

- Within 6 to 12 months removal of invasive plant material reduced un-checked growth and decreases chance of increase of invasive plant material downstream.
- Within 6 to 12 months the selected project sites will be protected from human encroachment and by decreasing rouge trails with fencing and patrols will decrease erosion and further damage to approximately 2 acres of highly utilized natural land.

**Staff and Consultants**

The City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation, Developed Regional Parks Division has full time staff available to assist in the monitoring and protection of the designated areas, including District Manager, Mario Llanos, Senior Park Ranger, John Anderson, Horticulturist, Magen Shaw and 7 additional Park Rangers. The Parks and Recreation department will work with City Purchasing and Contracts to hire a City approved contractor to assist Parks and Recreation staff with project activities.

### Funding Needs Summary

Budget Item	Requested Funding Amount	Description
Personnel Expenses Staff	\$0.00	Staff time for non-administrative work on the project will be provided by the City of San Diego.
Personnel Administrative Expenses	\$0.00	Staff time to administer the contract will be provided by the City of San Diego.
Consultant Expenses	\$80,000.00	Includes all costs for contractor/consultant services.
Other Direct Expenses	\$0.00	Includes all equipment, supplies, and plant material etc.
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$80,000.00</b>	

## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### A. Project Purpose

1. The Management Strategic Plan for Conserved Lands in Western San Diego County (MSP) identifies high-priority MSP species for conservation, several of which were identified as existing within the proposed project site using the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and by conducting biological surveys onsite. MSP Species identified as currently existing onsite include orange-throated whiptail (*Cnemidophorus hyperythrus beldingi*), wart-stemmed ceanothus (*Ceanothus verrucosus*), snake cholla (*Cylindropuntia californica* var. *californica*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), San Diego barrel cactus (*Ferocactus viridescens*), willowy monardella (*Monardella viminea*), San Diego mesa mint (*Pogogyne abramsii*), costal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) and Nuttall's scrub oak (*Quercus dumosa*). Several MSP species were also identified as historically existing onsite, including San Diego thorn-mint (*Acanthomintha ilicifolia*), California adolphia (*Adolphia californica*), San Diego goldenstar (*Bloomeria clevelandii*), variegated dudleya (*Dudleya variegata*), Palmer's goldenbush (*Ericameria palmeri* spp. *palmeri*), and Blainville's horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*). There is also potential that other MSP species may utilize the proposed project site, such as Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), coastal cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus sandiegensis*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), western bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and several other MSP species. The vegetation types found within Florida Canyon include chaparral, costal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub, riparian scrubs, non native vegetation, and urban/developed. Preservation of these habitats is beneficial to the MSP species listed above.

2. The proposed project will address an urgent need to reduce habitat loss by controlling invasive species, controlling erosion, directing recreational activities away from critical habitat and reducing human encroachment through the establishment of designated trail systems and fencing of areas undergoing ecological restoration. In order to accomplish defined objectives and goals, funding awarded will be used to hire a contractor to assist with implementation of the project, purchase all vegetation, materials and supplies needed. Staff time will be provided by the City of San Diego.

3. Criteria for success has been identified and will be monitored and reported on a monthly basis. The project sites within Florida Canyon will be monitored for vandalism, trespass and encroachment weekly by City of San Diego Park Rangers assigned to Developed Regional Parks.

4. Reports will be compiled 6 and 12 months after restoration activities and fencing installation projects are complete to quantify the containment of the area. Revegetation of natural native plants and installation of specific USFWS control fencing in other City of San Diego Open Spaces has proven to be successful with quantifiable results that have promoted conservation. Success of reducing the impact to this area with the removal of invasive species, re-vegetation and fencing is likely to produce an 80% containment perimeter around and at the ingress and egress of selected sights.

5. Florida Canyon is managed by The City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Department, Developed Regional Parks, The Balboa Park Metropolitan Rangers have 3 primary and 4 secondary Rangers and one Sr. Park Ranger assigned to this area. For long term success, regular patrols will be conducted to regulate and enforce perimeters and provide contact with contractors and after a year provide direct maintenance to preserve the integrity of the perimeter.

6. Florida Canyon is located within the City of San Diego's JEWEL of the City "Balboa Park". It is located between the South West curb line at Park Blvd and Morley Field drive, running South bound to Zoo Place and then down to Florida Street. On the Eastern end it is surrounded by the Morley Field sports complex with Florida Street at Upas Street bisecting the East and West slopes of the canyon ending at the North East corner of Pershing Drive and Florida Street. Florida Canyon falls within MSP-Management Unit:2 , Name 2 Type MU.

# Florida Canyon



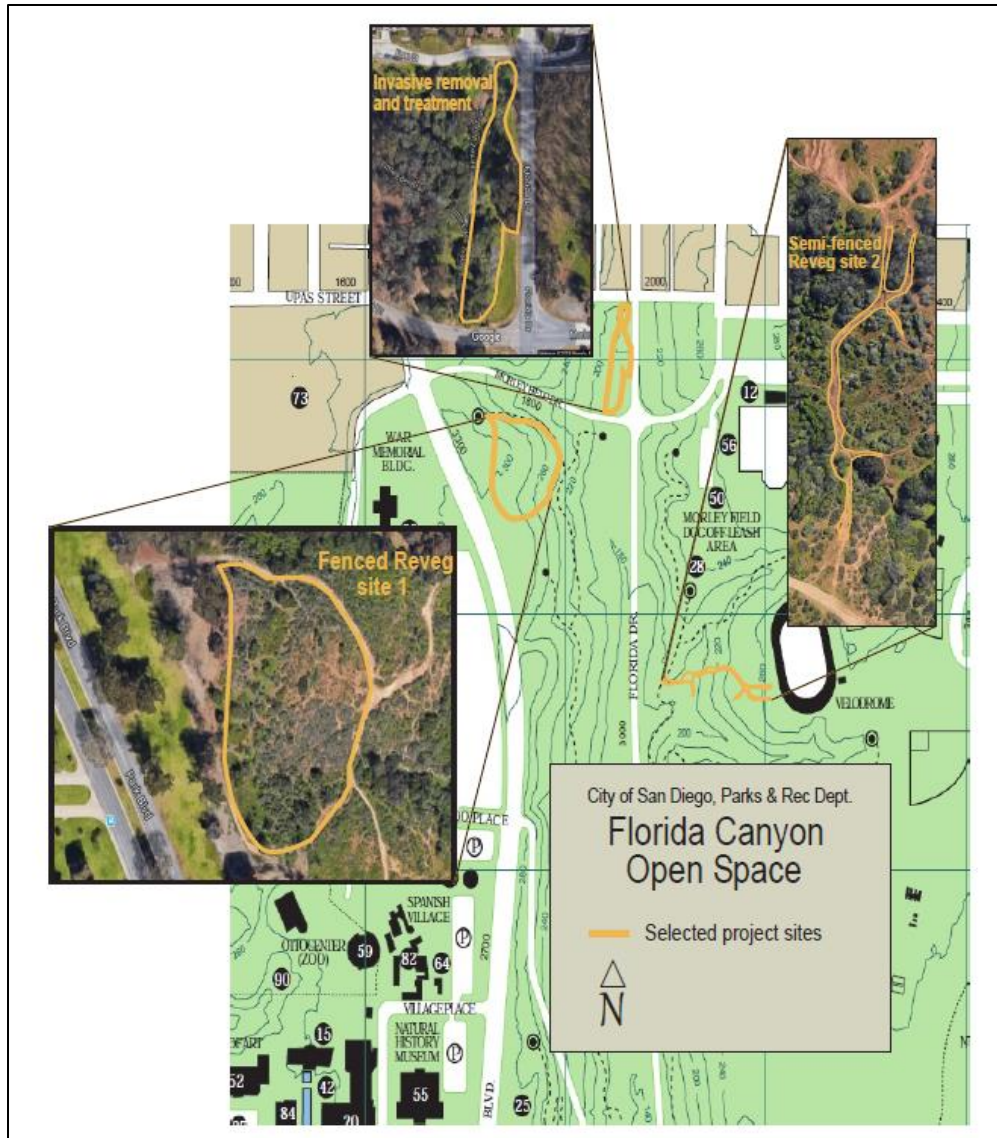


Figure 1: Proposed Project Location

B. Scope of Work by Task and Proposed Project Budget

**Exhibit A – Proposed Project Scope of Work**

Task No.	Task Name	Task Description	Quantifiable Results/Deliverables
1	Invasive removal	Contractor removes and treats invasive plants at strategic location at top of riparian creek	Reduces spread of invasive species down stream
2	Re-vegetation	Contractor provides plants and related hydrologic	Increases habitat density and closes rouge trails

		Component for maintenance period of one year	
3	Fencing	Contractor provides fencing to protect perimeter of re-veg site	Reduces encroachment and trespass
4	Pre- installation and removal Monitoring	Monitor and document selected sites before completion of tasks	Data Collection
5	Post- installation and removal Monitoring	Monitor and document selected sites after completion of tasks	Data Collection
6	Quarterly reports	Quarterly Reporting	Quarterly Reports
7	Final Report	Final Report	Final Reports
8	Administrative	Administrative	Implementation of project

**Exhibit B – Proposed Project Budget**

<b>Task No.</b>	<b>Task Name</b>	<b>Grant Request</b>
1	Invasive removal and treatment	\$ 6,000
2	Revegetation to include one year of Maintenance by contractor	\$ 50,000
3	Fencing	\$24,000
4	Pre-project monitoring	\$0.00
5	Post-project monitoring	\$0.00
6	Quarterly reports	\$0.00
7	Final Report	\$0.00
8	Administrative	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$80.000</b>
<b>Indirect Cost (0%)</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>80,000</b>

## Project Schedule

### Exhibit C – Proposed Project Schedule

Task No.	Task Name	Proposed Start Date	Months Needed to Complete Task	Task End Date
1	Invasive removal and treatment	"3" Months from NTP	"12" Months	03/01/2019
2	revegetation	"3" Months from NTP	"18" Months	09/01/2019
3	Fencing	"3" Months from NTP	"12" Months	03/01/2019
4	Pre-project monitoring	"1" Months from NTP	"1" Months	02/01/2019
5	Post-project monitoring	"12" Months from NTP	"18" Months	09/01/2020
6	Quarterly reports	"3" Months from NTP	"18" Months	09/01/2020
7	Final Report	"18" Months from NTP	"18" Months	09/01/2020
8	Administrative	"1" Months from NTP	"18" Months	09/01/2020

Please explain why and how much additional time would be needed in the event of any delays due to NTP being provided beyond Fall 2018 and/or unexpected weather conditions such as drought that could occur during the proposed project implementation.

If the NTP develops a delayed starting date beyond Fall 2018 and or for any unexpected weather such as drought, the project sites will be continued to be monitored and patrolled to prevent further damage. The invasive removal part of the project can start without limitations. However, the revegetation, erosion and fencing scope of the project will be held over for a time when the soil has been saturated by rains to increase the success rate of the planted materials.

### NOTICE REGARDING PREVAILING WAGES

SANDAG's Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Land Management Grant Program projects are funded with *TransNet* revenues consistent with the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance adopted by the voters in November 2004 (SANDAG Ordinance 04-01). Although SANDAG Ordinance 04-01 does not require payment of prevailing wages, California law may require that public works projects pay prevailing wages for workers.

Applicant acknowledges that SANDAG has strongly encouraged Applicant to seek legal counsel regarding whether the Proposed Project will require applicant to pay prevailing wages and agrees that SANDAG will have no liability for conducting this analysis. X Yes  No

Applicant acknowledges that if awarded an EMP Land Management Grant, the grant agreement between SANDAG and the grantee requires grantee's compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances applicable to the Agreement. X Yes  No

REQUIRED STATEMENTS FROM APPLICANT

- X Yes  No The applicant has read and understands the Sample Grant Agreement (Agreement) and Invoice Template (Attachment 4).
- X Yes  No If the SANDAG Board of Directors approves the proposed project proposal, the proposed applicant agrees to sign and return the Agreement to SANDAG, without exceptions or amendments, within 45 days of receipt.
- X Yes  No 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 the following link: [sandag.org/organization/about/pubs/policy\\_035.pdf](http://sandag.org/organization/about/pubs/policy_035.pdf)
- X Yes  No The applicant understands that 10 percent of all invoices will be retained until the completion of the proposed project.
- X Yes  No 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.
- X Yes  No The applicant understands that invoices and reports must be submitted on a quarterly basis within three weeks after the period covering January 1 to March 31; within three weeks after the period covering April 1 to June 30; within three weeks after the period covering July 1 to September 30; and within three weeks after the period covering October 1 to December 31.
- X Yes  No The applicant understands that the EMP quarterly report template (to be sent to the grantee after NTP is issued) 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.
- X Yes  No 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 all outstanding deliverables in order to receive final payment and have retained funds released.
- X Yes  No 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 proposals. SANDAG will provide applicants with advance notice of the Regional Planning Committee's anticipated meeting date.
- X Yes  No The applicant agrees to submit all project data/information to SANDAG in a format compatible with the regional management database.

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

  
Herman Parker, Parks and Recreation Director, City of San Diego.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date 01/12/2018