

Application submission acknowledgement

[Main Menu](#)

Thank you for submitting an application for the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program!

An email will be sent to you confirming that we have received your application within 15 minutes. Please note that your proposal identification number (PIN) for this application is: 9124. Please provide this PIN in the subject line on any correspondence or emails regarding your application.

Your input is valuable. Please tell us about your experience using the FAAST online application submittal tool by completing a [short survey](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Division of Financial Assistance staff at FAAST_ADMIN@waterboards.ca.gov or 1-866-434-1083 M-F 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please [contact us](#).

FAAST *Financial Assistance Application Submission Tool*[Logout](#)**Application preview and Submission****Welcome Jeff Pratt, of Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD). Thursday, June 8, 2006**

This is a preview of your completed application. Please review and confirm the information is accurate. You may print this information using the "File -> Print" menu option on your browser. Once you have verified the information, and entered your Initials, please click on the "Submit Now" button to officially submit your application to the SWRCB.

General Information**RFP Title:** 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program**Submitting Organization:** Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD)**Organization:****Project Title:** PIN# 9124 - Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project (Project)

Project Description: The Project includes removal of Matilija Dam and ecosystem restoration in Matilija Creek and along 16 miles of the Ventura River. The purpose of the Project is to remove a barrier to 17 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for the southern steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), restore sediment transport functions from the upper watershed to the coastline for the purpose of beach nourishment, and provide recreation benefits. Project components proposed for grant funding are removal of giant reed (*Arundo donax*) upstream and downstream of the dam and protection of water supplies via installation of two wells at Foster Park. This grant would fund implementation of these two Project components as described in the Final Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (September 2004). This document serves as the watershed assessment, management and restoration plan for the mainstem of the Ventura River.

Applicant Details**Applicant Organization:** Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD)**Organization:**

Applicant Address: 800 S. Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA - 93009-1610

Project Budget**Funds Requested:** \$ 5,000,000**Cost Matching Funds:** \$ 1,679,050**Total Budget Funds:** \$ 6,679,050**Project Location****Latitude & Longitude:** 34.4848 ; -119.3086**Watershed:** Ventura River Watershed**County:** Ventura**Responsible RWQCB:** 4 Los Angeles RWQCB**Funding Program****Applied****Amount Recommended by SWRCB**

Funding Program	Applied	Amount Recommended by SWRCB
Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program (AWQGP) PROP 40	No	\$0.00
Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program (AWQGP) PROP 50	No	\$0.00
Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (CNPS) PROP 50	No	\$0.00
Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) IMPLEMENTATION PROP 40	Yes	\$5,000,000.00
Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP) PLANNING PROP 40	No	\$0.00
Nonpoint Source (NPS) Implementation Program 319(h)	No	\$0.00
Nonpoint Source Pollution Control (NPSPC) Program PROP 40	No	\$0.00
Urban Stormwater Program (USWP) PROP 40	No	\$0.00

Project Management Role**First Name****Last Name****Phone****Fax****Email**

Project Director: Authorized Representative from Applicant Organization to execute funding agreement	Jeff	Pratt	805-654-2040	805-654-3350	Jeff.Pratt@ventura.org
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Project Manager: Day to day contact on this project from Applicant Organization Peter Sheydayi 805-654-2016 805-654-3350 Peter.Sheydayi@ventura.org

Applicant Information

Name: Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD)
 Address: 800 S. Victoria Ave
 Ventura, CA - 93009-1610
 Federal Tax Id: 956000944

Person Submitting Application

Name: Jeff Pratt
 Phone No: 805-654-2040
 Fax: 805-654-3350
 Email: Jeff.Pratt@ventura.org

Legislative District	Primary	Additional
Senate District	17	19
Assembly District	37	35
US Congressional District	24	23

Contact Agency	Contact Name	Phone	Email
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	MaryAnn Jones	213-576-6692	MAJones@waterboards.ca.gov
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	Raymond Jay	213-576-6689	RJay@waterboards.ca.gov
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	Macaria Flores	213-576-6761	MAFlores@waterboards.ca.gov
State Water Resources Control Board	Erin Ragazzi	916-341-5733	enragazzi@waterboards.ca.gov
State Water Resources Control Board	Ibyang Rivera	916-341-5440	IRivera@waterboards.ca.gov
State Water Resources Control Board	Jule Rizzardo	916-341-5822	jrizzardo@waterboards.ca.gov
State Water Resources Control Board	Aubree French	916-341-5729	afrench@waterboards.ca.gov

Cooperating Entity	Role on Project	Contact Name	Phone	Email
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Stakeholder	Darrell Buxton	213-452-4007	Darrell.W.Buxton@usace.army.mil
City of Ventura	Project Manager/Landowner	Don Davis	805-677-4133	ddavis@ci.ventura.ca.us

Q# Application Question

- DIRECTIONS:** Please enter responses to the questions below and also provide the attachments named in the Solicitation Notice. PLEASE NOTE: This page contains full proposal application questions which are listed below for you to answer, as well as the questions and answers you gave to the concept proposal listed on the bottom half of the page. The concept proposal questions and answers are provided for your information and for your use in copying and pasting into the full proposal questions. You will not be evaluated based on any changes you make to the concept proposal application questions, so focus only on your answers to the full proposal questions.
- Identify the applicant's entity type by selecting an option from the drop down menu below. Describe any "Other" answer in the text box below. In the text box below, explain how the Applicant is eligible for the requested funding program and whether the Applicant has legal authority to enter into a grant agreement with the State Water Board. Describe any legal agreements amongst the applicant's partner agencies and/or organizations that ensure performance of the Proposal and tracking of funds. If additional space is needed to respond to Question #2, applicants should provide this information in Attachment N (Exhibit I-1) of the application.

Answer: Public / Local Public Agency

Answer: The Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) is a Public Agency as defined in Appendix E of the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program Guidelines, and thus an eligible applicant for these funds. The VCWPD has the legal authority to enter into a grant agreement with the State Water Board. VCWPD would implement and manage the implementation of project components (giant reed removal and well installation at Foster Park); therefore legal agreements with other agencies are not necessary to ensure performance or tracking of grant funds. Please also see Attachment N for additional information.

- If applicable, include a copy of the certification of incorporation for the organization as Attachment M in the Attachments Tab. A copy of the certification of incorporation is required for nonprofit organizations, as described in Exhibit I-1 (page 72) of the Guidelines. Select Yes or No from the drop-down box below to indicate whether or not you will be providing the certification of incorporation.

Answer: No, not applicable

- Is the applicant requesting a waiver or reduction based on the disadvantaged community (DAC) status? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu below. If applicable, describe how the minimum match requirement will be met in the text box below. Additionally, applicants requesting a waiver or reduction of the funding match based on disadvantaged community status must complete and submit Attachment D as part of their Full Proposal application.

Answer: No

Answer: Not applicable.

5. Has an urban water management plan been submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) as described in Section VI.K (page 28) of the Guidelines? Select Yes or No from the drop-down menu below and provide an explanation if necessary in the box below.

Answer:

Answer: The City of Ventura is a water purveyor and has submitted an Urban Water Management Plan with the most recent plan submitted in 2005. The Ventura County Watershed Protection District is not a water purveyor and thus is not required to submit an Urban Water Management Plan.

6. Describe why the proposed project is eligible for funding (i.e., explain how the proposed project meets the eligible project types identified in Section III.C (pages 12-14) and Appendix A (page 29) of the Guidelines).

Answer: The sequence of Project implementation is the key to successful ecosystem restoration in Matilija Creek and the Ventura River. This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. Well installation will address water supply reliability for the City of Ventura and is necessary because of potential increases in turbidity associated with dam removal. Giant reed control will result in large scale removal of invasive vegetation which will improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat, enhance wetlands, restore open space and enhance steelhead migration and spawning. These two Project components will initiate implementation of the overall Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project, which will improve sediment transport and steelhead habitat in the Ventura River watershed.

7. Briefly describe how the Full Proposal is consistent with the Concept Proposal. Describe any modifications made since the submittal of the Concept Proposal and how they have impacted the scope of work. Outline the reviewer comments you have incorporated, if applicable. If reviewer comments have not been incorporated, please explain why.

Answer: The giant reed removal component has been modified since submittal of the Concept Proposal. The well installation component has not been modified. The Concept Proposal indicated approximately 250 acres of giant reed would be removed from a 2000 acre project area. The Full Proposal indicates 140 acres of giant reed will be removed from a 931 acre project area. These modifications have not impacted the scope of work. One comment was received on the Concept Proposal regarding quantifiable reduction in pollutant loads. It was not addressed because the project is an ecosystem restoration project and is focused on control of exotic plants and improvement of habitat, hydrology, and sediment transport functions. Beneficial and negative impacts of giant reed removal are addressed in the attached NEPA/CEQA document (Attachment Q - see below for file guide) and in Attachment J.

8. Indicate whether this Project is eligible for bonus points by addressing environmental justice needs. Select yes or no from the drop down box. If you select "Yes" you must provide Attachment H as part of the Full Proposal application submittal.

Answer: Yes

9. Indicate whether this Project is eligible for education and outreach bonus points. Select yes or no from the drop down menu. If you select "Yes" you must provide Attachment I as part of the Full Proposal application submittal.

Answer: Yes

10. Has the scope of work been modified from what was proposed at the Concept Proposal phase? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu. If "Yes" is selected, elaborate and discuss the reason for modification or reference the section of the Proposal where documentation was provided. If you adequately addressed this subject in a previous question, you may reference the question number in the text box below.

Answer: Yes

Answer: The giant reed removal project component has changed. As described in Attachment A, G, J, K, this component will remove 140 acres of giant reed from a 931 acre project area. This component was modified to fit within the grant budget. Costs of over \$10 million were estimated for 250 acres of giant reed control in the overall 2000 acre Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project study area. More than half of the giant reed will be targeted by this grant proposal, beginning upstream of Matilija Dam in Los Padres National Forest Lands and continuing downstream to the Highway 150 (Baldwin Road) Bridge. Removal in the upstream areas occurs first to minimize reinfestation by propagules carried by stream flows to downstream areas.

11. Does this Project satisfy, in part or in full, the requirements of any California Water Board's regulation, permit, or order? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu. If "Yes" is selected, provide the Permit and/or Order number.

Answer: No

Answer: Not applicable.

12. Once the Proposal has been submitted to State Water Board, any privacy rights as well as other confidentiality protections offered by law with respect to the application package and project location are waived. Check the box below to indicate the Applicant has read and understands this requirement.

Answer: Applicant Understands

13. Grant agreements funded by the State Water Board will specify the following: "Under no circumstances may a Grantee use funds from any disbursement under this Grant Agreement to pay costs associated with any litigation the Grantee pursues against the State Water Resources Control Board or any Regional Water Quality Control Board. Regardless of the outcome of any such litigation, and notwithstanding any conflicting language in this agreement, the Grantee agrees to complete the Project funded by this agreement or to repay all of the grant funds plus interest." This language was adopted by the State Water Board on February 1, 2006 in Resolution No. 2006-0011. Check the box below to indicate the Applicant has read and understands this requirement.

Answer: Applicant Understands

14. Is the Applicant or was the Applicant a party to a current or pending legal challenge to any State Water Board or Regional Water Board regulation or order, which either requires performance of the Project, or though not required, whose terms or conditions would be satisfied in whole or in part by performance of the Project? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu and describe below.

Answer: No

Answer: Not applicable.

15. Projects funded under the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and/or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Check the box below to indicate the applicant has read and understands this requirement.

Answer: Applicant Understands

16. Which Program Preference(s) (Section IV.D., Pages 17 and 18 of the Guidelines) does your Proposal meet? Please list and reference the sections of the application where documentation is provided?

Answer: The giant reed removal and well installation components address the following Program Preferences as described in the Guidelines: 1. Integrate and provide multiple benefits. 2. Provide safe drinking water and water quality projects that serve disadvantaged communities. 3. Improve local and regional water supply reliability. 4. Include watershed management partnerships that use a community based collaborative approach to meeting the State's watershed management goals. These Program Preferences are further discussed in Attachments A, G, H, I, J and K.

17. Does the proposed Project include any modification of a river or stream channel? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu. If yes, briefly discuss how these impacts will be mitigated and reference sections of the application where full documentation of this information is provided.

Answer: Yes

Answer: Giant reed removal will result in large-scale removal of vegetation biomass from the Ventura River and Matilija Creek. Applicable mitigation measures are described in the NEPA/CEQA document (Attachment Q and also found at <http://www.matilijadam.org>) and are also summarized in Attachment J. In addition, Best Management Practices to address project impacts will be included in the plans, specifications, and bid documents for each project component (giant reed removal and well installation) to ensure impacts are minimized. Attachment Q (NEPA/CEQA document) file guide: Public Draft (3-14 of 81); Final EIS/EIR (15-20 of 81); Errata (21-25 of 81); Board documents (26-32 of 81); Final Report/Main Report (33-48 of 81); Final Report Technical Appendices (49-82 of 81 - a slight error in counting files, thus one additional file). The Notice of Determination for the EIR is: AttQ_EnvClearanceList_31of81.

18. Does the proposed Project have any implications with respect to conflict between water users, water rights disputes, and/or interregional water rights issues? Select Yes or No from the drop-down menu below and briefly discuss and reference sections of the Proposal where additional water rights information is provided.

Answer: No

Answer: The wells at Foster Park do not conflict with other water users, or affect the water rights of the City of Ventura or others holding water rights. The wells will not be used to divert water above existing average annual levels. This issue is described in the NEPA/CEQA document (part of Attachment Q and also found at <http://www.matilijadam.org>) and in Attachments A and J.

19. Are the Applicant and/or cooperating entities in violation of any water right permit requirements, including payment of fees? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu. If yes, please elaborate and discuss the status or progress towards resolving the violation.

Answer: No

Answer: Not applicable.

20. Does the Project assist in meeting one or more of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program goals? Select yes or no from the drop-down menu below. If yes, the Project must be consistent with the CALFED Programmatic Record of Decision. Please include here or reference the section of the Proposal where this information is provided.

Answer: No

Answer: The project does not meet one or more of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program goals but the well installation project component allows the City to supply local, rather than State water to residents in Ventura, thereby reducing demand on the State Water Project.

21. Did the State Water Board notify the applicant (as part of the Concept Proposal feedback) of approval to request the alternate reporting requirements (Appendix J [pages 110-112] of the Guidelines) for the proposed Project?

Select Yes or No from the drop-down menu. If yes, discuss why the proposed project should be considered for the alternate reporting requirements.

Answer: No

Answer: Not eligible for alternate reporting requirement pursuant to State Water Board comments on the Concept Proposal.

22. Is the Applicant eligible for the Accelerated Selection and Contracting Procedure (ASCP)? If "Yes", the applicant must submit the following information as part of Attachments Q and R of the application, under the "Attachments" Tab.

1. Describe how the project is part of an approved watershed management plan that is consistent with Water Code Section 79098. Provide proof of an approved watershed management plan (i.e., include the cover of the plan as part of Attachment R and reference how the plan meets the requirements of Section 79078 in Attachment R.

2. Describe how the Project is fully permitted, including all CEQA requirements, and ready to be implemented. Provide a list of the permits, including the name of the agency granting the permit, and the permit date(s) as part of Attachment R. CEQA documents should be provided as part of Attachment Q.

3. Identify the source of required matching funds or services and verify they are from non-State sources.

Answer: No

23. Does the proposed project implement an existing / completed total maximum daily load (TMDL) or a TMDL under development? Select from the drop-down menu and indicate which TMDL(s) in the text box. A table of existing / completed TMDLs and TMDLs under development is available on the [2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program webpage](#). Please provide the TMDL(s) as they are listed under the Project Name column of the tables provided online.

Answer: Not Applicable - No TMDL

Answer:

24. This light purple bar represents the end of the Full Proposal Application questions.

The questions below are the ones you answered in the Concept Proposal phase of the application. They are provided below for your use in cutting and pasting into the applicable full proposal questions above. **ONLY THE FULL PROPOSAL QUESTIONS ABOVE WILL BE EVALUATED BY THE TECHNICAL REVIEWERS. Technical reviewers will not evaluate any changes you make to your concept proposal answers below.**

25. Have you applied for consideration in more than one grant program? Select yes or no from the drop down menu below.
If yes, based on your project scope of work, timeline and the eligibility requirements, please indicate your order of preference to receive funding (you may select an order of preference for up to three programs.)

(For example, if you applied to both the Coastal NPS and Urban Stormwater programs, and your first choice was Coastal NPS, you would enter the following in the box below: "1 = Coastal NPS, 2 = Urban Stormwater").

Answer: No

Answer:

26. Describe the problem(s) the project is proposing to solve and the source(s) of the problem(s), if known.

Answer: The Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project covers nearly 33 miles of Ventura River and Matilija Creek from the ocean to the headwaters. Built in 1947 for water storage and flood control, Matilija Reservoir originally held 7000 acre-feet of water. Sediment accumulation has reduced reservoir capacity to 500 acre-feet of water today; water storage capacity will be completely lost in 20 years. Removal of the dam will open 17.3 miles of spawning and rearing habitat in Matilija Creek to endangered steelhead. Dam removal will restore sediment transport to correct river floodplain and beach erosion. Removal of giant reed will improve native habitats that support 26 special-status species and reduce water consumption by giant reed on more than 2000 acres of the river corridor. The Project will remove a major steelhead barrier and giant reed, protect water supply and quality, and restore more than 2000 acres of degraded riparian and estuarine habitats in the Ventura River watershed.

27. Indicate the expected project benefits to water quality and beneficial uses.

(For example, if the project meets a water quality objective(s) identified in a Regional Water Board Basin Plan, specify which one(s) it meets and describe how the project will benefit water quality by meeting the objective(s)).

Answer: The Project meets several water quality objectives for the Ventura River (RWQCB 4 Basin Plan). Ventura River and Matilija Creek support 20 of 24 identified beneficial uses, and the Project will improve all 20. This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed

removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. Well installation improves municipal, domestic, and agricultural water supply, and industrial process supply. The wells will provide a back-up source of water when the river is too turbid for operation of existing facilities. Giant reed removal enhances ground water supply, freshwater replenishment, warm and cold freshwater habitat, improves estuarine, wetland and marine habitats, special-status species habitat, and spawning and migration of aquatic organisms. Removal of giant reed allows native plant recruitment which reduces water consumption and improves habitat for aquatic and terrestrial species.

28. Describe the approach the project is proposing to use to solve the problem(s) and the technical basis for the selected approach.

Answer: The Project implements a technical approach to solving identified problems. Throughout the Ventura River and Matilija Creek, steelhead habitat, native riparian vegetation, water supply, sediment transport, and recreation are addressed and will be improved. A Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) analysis conducted by a multi-agency Environmental Working Group quantified improvements to steelhead and riparian habitat, and natural processes by comparing the Project to the "No Project" alternative and all other alternatives. Bureau of Reclamation experts conducted extensive sediment transport models to quantify the sediment volumes under various hydrologic regime scenarios and project alternatives. These and other data were analyzed to determine the best Project components. Design studies, a structural evaluation of the dam, geotechnical report, and economic studies were also conducted as part of the Feasibility portion of the Project.

29. Identify any risks to water quality associated with the proposed approach described in Question 4.

(For example, if the project has the potential to cause violations of any water quality standard, even temporarily, please discuss that risk here).

Answer: Short-term turbidity impacts to Ventura River surface waters are expected during construction of Project components and during sediment transport events. These impacts could result in diminished water supply and harm to aquatic life. These risks will be minimized by the high-flow bypass, desilting basin, installation of new wells, and slurry of fine sediments to upland locations. The Project will control sediment transport during storm events with temporary soil cement barriers upstream of the dam location. Construction of Project associated levees, bridges, recreation components, and other activities will occur only with approved, effective best management practices to avoid water quality impacts. Risks to water quality from pollutants or harmful elements released from the stored sediments were investigated and are expected to be minimal. Additional testing of sediments will occur during the construction phases of the Project.

30. Provide a list and brief description of all major project work items and the associated schedule for completion of all major project work items.

Answer: During Preliminary Engineering Design (PED), design plans & specifications will be prepared for each Project component. This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) installation of two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. Giant Reed Removal: Removal and retreatment 6/2006-10/2010. Foster Park Wells: Two wells installed for alternate water source 8/2006-10/2008. Levees: Built near Casitas Springs, Live Oak Acres, Rice Road 9/2006-12/2008. Bridges: Santa Ana, Camino Cielo reconstructed (in part or whole) 1/2007-10/2008. High Flow Bypass: Robles Diversion retrofit to sluice sediment during high flows 10/2006-12/2008. Desilting Basin: Robles Diversion new facility to trap sediment 1/2008-11/2009. Dam and Sediment Removal, Recreation: Sediment slurry, grading in former lake area, dam removal and recreation component installed 10/06-4/12.

31. Enter the estimated percentage of the total project budget for major project work items dedicated to the following categories:

- A) Pollution Prevention / Technology Transfer
- B) Management Practice Implementation
- C) Assessment / Inventory
- D) Monitoring
- E) Development of Local Watershed Management Plan
- F) Pilot Study
- G) Research & Development
- H) Demonstration
- I) Restoration
- J) Water Supply Augmentation
- K) Other

(For example, if your project is 70% Pollution Prevention / Technology Transfer and 30% Monitoring, you would write: "A,70 ; D,30")

Only enter whole number percentages [i.e., 20 = 20%]. Percent total cannot exceed the value of 100).

Answer: Of the Project components that would be funded by this grant, the estimated percentage of the budget is as follows. B,5%; I,84%; K,11%.

32. Enter the percentage of the project type that will be devoted to the following categories:

- A) Drinking Water

- B) Fisheries Enhancement and/or Stream Restoration
- C) Riparian & Wetland Habitat Restoration
- D) Flood Control / Water Supply
- E) Groundwater
- F) Erosion and/or Sediment Control
- G) Coastal
- H) Wastewater Collection, Treatment, & Recycling
- I) Urban Runoff & Stormwater Quality
- J) Pesticides
- K) Agriculture
- L) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
- M) Other.

(For example, if your project is 60% Drinking Water and 40% Groundwater, you would write: "A,60 ; E,40"
Only enter whole number percentages [i.e., 20 = 20%]. Percent total cannot exceed the value of 100). IF "AGRICULTURE" (Category K) IS SELECTED, THE APPLICANT MUST SPECIFY IF A RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION, OR IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT IS PROPOSED. ADDITIONALLY, IF PROPOSING A RESEARCH OR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, PROVIDE JUSTIFICATION IF REQUESTING ALTERNATE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Answer: Of the Project components that would be funded by this grant, the estimated percentage of the budget is as follows. A,13%; C,87%.

33. Is this an IWMP Planning project or an implementation project? (Select one from the drop down box.)
If this is a planning project, make sure you have applied for and meet the requirements of IWMP Planning. NOTE: Only select "planning" if your project is the development of a local watershed management plan (California Water Code Section 79078), in the Integrated Watershed Management Program. All other projects should be "implementation."

Answer: Implementation

Answer: This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam, as described in the Final Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and EIS/EIR (September 2004). This study serves as the watershed management and restoration plan for the mainstem of the Ventura River.

34. Select the applicant's organization type from the drop down menu below.

For each program ranked in Question #1, explain how the applicant's organization type meets the eligible applicant requirements presented in Section III.B on Pages 11 and 12 of the Guidelines.

Answer: Public Agency

Answer: The Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) is a Public Agency as defined in Appendix E of the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program Guidelines, and thus an eligible applicant for these funds.

35. For each program selected in Question #1, describe how the project meets the eligible project types identified in Section III.C on Pages 12-16 of the Guidelines.

Answer: The Project includes many components. The sequence of Project implementation is the key to successful dam removal and habitat restoration of Matilija Creek and the Ventura River. This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. Well installation will address water supply reliability for the City of Ventura and is necessary because of potential increases turbidity associated with dam removal. Giant reed removal will result in large scale removal of invasive vegetation which will improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat, enhance wetlands, restore open space and enhance steelhead migration and spawning. These two Project components will initiate implementation of the Project, which seeks to restore sediment transport and steelhead habitat throughout the Ventura River watershed.

36. If you are applying for the Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP), is your project eligible for the Accelerated Selection Contracting Procedure (ASCP) as described in Section 30948 of the Public Resources Code and the Guidelines?

If you answered yes, explain in the box below.

Note: IWMP-specific information is presented on in Appendix C on Pages 37 and 38 of the Guidelines.

Answer: No, not eligible for ASCP

Answer:

37. Check the boxes below to indicate which of the priorities your proposed project will address? Select all boxes that apply.

To help you answer this question, you can view priorities in two different formats:

- (1) All Priorities in one document (Full Text of Appendix G of the Guidelines) or
- (2) All Priorities by Region (Appendix G split into regions).

Answer: Regional Water Board Ocean Protection Council Partner Agency

38. Please select an option from the drop down menu below regarding Regional Water Board Priorities.

To help you answer this question, you can view priorities in two different formats:

- (1) All Priorities in one document (Full Text of Appendix G of the Guidelines) or
 (2) All Priorities by Region (Appendix G split into regions).

If your project addresses a Regional Water Board Priority, please use the comment box to reference the number of the primary priority as identified in Appendix G of the Guidelines and briefly describe how it addresses that primary priority in the box below. If it addresses multiple Regional Water Board Priorities, please indicate the other priority(ies), by number, and explain in the box below.

Answer: Meets one or more RB Prior.

Answer: RWQCB 4 Priority 24: Habitat Restoration. Removal of giant reed will restore riparian corridors, wetlands and native terrestrial habitats and allow native riparian and upland transitional species to recolonize in the Ventura River watershed. Restoration of riparian corridors is anticipated to benefit 26 special status-species including steelhead, least Bell's vireo, red-legged frog, and many other riparian dependent species. Aquatic habitats are also expected to improve following native plant recruitment with respect to water temperature, shade, and diversity of benthic invertebrates. Control of this invasive plant will also reduce a source of this material from Ventura County and reduce its spread to coastal beaches and other watersheds.

39. Please select an option from the drop down menu below regarding State Water Board Priorities.

To help you answer this question, you can view priorities in two different formats:

- (1) All Priorities in one document (Full Text of Appendix G of the Guidelines) or
 (2) All Priorities by Region (Appendix G split into regions).

If your project addresses a State Water Board Priority, please use the comment box to reference the number of the primary priority as identified in Appendix G of the Guidelines and briefly describe how it addresses that primary priority in the box below. If it addresses multiple State Water Board Priorities, please indicate the other priority(ies), by number, and explain in the box below.

Answer: Does NOT meet any SW Prior.

Answer:

40. Please select an option from the drop down menu below regarding Ocean Protection Council (OPC) Priorities.

To help you answer this question, you can view priorities in two different formats:

- (1) All Priorities in one document (Full Text of Appendix G of the Guidelines) or
 (2) All Priorities by Region (Appendix G split into regions).

If your project addresses an OPC Priority, please use the comment box to reference the number of the primary priority as identified in Appendix G of the Guidelines and briefly describe how it addresses that primary priority in the box below. If it addresses multiple OPC Priorities, please indicate the other priority(ies), by number, and explain in the box below.

Answer: Meets one or more OPC Prior.

Answer: The Project addresses priorities described California's Action Strategy Final Report (10/2004). This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. Removal of giant reed implements the Aquatic Nuisance Species Action Strategy (App. I, Sec. A). Removal of giant reed will improve aquatic habitat in the Ventura River and reduce this source of material from Ventura County. The Project also implements the Coastal Sediment Management and Coastal Erosion action strategy (App. I, Section B). Removal of Matilija Dam will restore sediment transport to eroded beaches in Ventura County. The OPC recently authorized \$2 million of state funds to the public/private partnership focused on removal of Matilija Dam (10/04/2005). These funds will be used during the PED phase of the project, which was recently initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the VCWPD.

41. Please select an option from the drop down menu below regarding Partner Agency Priorities.

To help you answer this question, you can view priorities in two different formats:

- (1) All Priorities in one document (Full Text of Appendix G of the Guidelines) or
 (2) All Priorities by Region (Appendix G split into regions).

If your project addresses a Partner Agency Priority, please use the comment box to reference the number of the primary priority as identified in Appendix G of the Guidelines and briefly describe how it addresses that primary priority in the box below. If it addresses multiple Partner Agency Priorities, please indicate the other priority(ies), by number, and explain in the box below.

Answer: Meets one or more PA Prior.

Answer: The Project meets several Partner Agency priorities including: SCC Priority 29c Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration; DFG Priority 13 and SC-03 Ventura River; DWR General Priority 3 Improved ecological

function of floodplains and stream corridors; CDF Priority 1a and 1c Vegetation Management (Fire and Fuels Reductions). The SCC and DFG specifically identified the Project and its components as a statewide priority because it will meet multiple state agency priorities (i.e., sediment transport, habitat restoration, protection and recovery of endangered species, invasive species control). These priorities were also identified broadly by DWR and CDF which have observed widespread degradation of watersheds as a result of the spread of invasive species and the existence of obsolete water project facilities.

- 42. Indicate the Calwater Watershed ID number for the watershed(s) that your Project encompasses. To find your Calwater Watershed ID number, follow the instructions below. Your application will not be penalized if you are unable to find your Watershed ID number. Instructions: Step 1 - Click [here](#) to search for your Calwater ID Number. Step 2 - You will see a map of the State of California. There is a row of buttons at the top of the page above the map. Click once on the "XY" button located in the middle of the row of buttons. Step 3 - Enter the coordinates of your project location in the search box and click "Submit" Step 4 - At the bottom of the page, look at the row of data for NAD 83. The Calwater ID Number is located in the second to last column labeled "CALWAT2.21" and is a ten digit number such as 5508.100001. Step 5 - Enter the ID number into the box below, along with the decimal point.**

Answer: Project activities (including the Foster Park wells and the majority of giant reed removal) will occur in the Buenaventura (Ventura River) Watershed. Buenaventura: 4401.000000. In addition, fish passage will be restored and giant reed will be removed from the following four watersheds. Some Project components (i.e., dam removal) will occur in Lower Matilija Creek. Middle Matilija Creek: 4402.200101; Lower Matilija Creek: 4402.200102; North Fork Matilija Creek: 4402.200104; Upper Matilija Creek: 4402.200105.

- 43. Is the Project located in an area of special biological significance (ASBS)? (Select yes or no from the drop down menu). If yes, identify the ASBS in the box below by ASBS Number and by name and briefly describe how your Project will benefit the ASBS. Click [here](#) for an online listing of ASBSs.**

Hint: Once you click the link above, scroll to the bottom of the webpage to view the table of ASBSs. For example, the first listing in the table is the Redwoods National Park, which is ASBS number 8.

Answer: No, not located in ASBS

Answer:

- 44. In the questions automatically included online in FAAST, you entered the primary watershed for your project. If your project encompasses multiple watersheds, list the name of each watershed, using the watershed management areas (WMAs) identified in the applicable Watershed Management Initiative (WMI) Chapter. Please see [Appendix B](#) of the Guidelines for a list of the WMI Chapters for each Region.**

Answer: Ventura River Watershed

- 45. For your primary watershed and each of the watersheds listed in response to Question 20, indicate if the watershed has an established watershed group. If an established watershed group(s) exists, provide the name of the group(s).**

Answer: The Project was developed through a collaborative stakeholder process and the Project team included Non-Profit and Non-Governmental Organizations: American Rivers, BEACON, California Trout, Friends of the Ventura River, Matilija Coalition, Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, Southern California Steelhead Coalition, Surfrider Foundation-Ventura Chapter. Federal Agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. State Agencies: DFG, SCC, RWQCB 4. Ventura County Agencies: Board of Supervisors, Public Works, VCWPD, Executive Office, Environmental & Energy Resources Dept. Other Local Agencies: Cities of Ventura, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme.

- 46. For a Project that encompasses multiple water bodies, list the name and portion / segment of each water body covered by the Project. (For example, Upper Feather River and Lower Sacramento River).**

Answer: Matilija Creek, Ventura River, Pacific Ocean.

- 47. For a Project that extends beyond more than one Regional Water Board boundary, please list the Regional Water Boards your project spans in the box below.**

Answer: Not applicable. The Project is located entirely within RWQCB 4.

- 48. If your project implements an adopted Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or supports a TMDL under development, briefly describe: (1) the TMDL, (2) the anticipated pollutant load reductions that will be achieved; and (3) how your project is consistent with the identified TMDL,**

OR

If your project does NOT implement an adopted TMDL or support a TMDL under development, select "Not Related to TMDL" from the drop-down menu below and briefly describe the anticipated pollutant load reductions or measurable water quality benefits that will be achieved from implementation of your project.

Answer: Not Related to TMDL

Answer: According to the RWQCB 4 TMDL Fact Sheet (12/12/2002) a Draft TMDL for all pollutants in the Ventura

River is expected in 2009. This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. These two Project components would be completed prior to publication of the Draft TMDL for the Ventura River. Healthy riparian corridors have repeatedly been shown to have a direct water quality benefit to aquatic habitat and water supply. Additional water quality benefits offered by the Project are described in the answer to Question #3.

- 49. How do you propose to measure and document your project's benefits to water quality and beneficial uses (e.g., before and after concentrations of a constituent, miles of river restored, percent load reduction, number of people educated, data that conforms to the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program template and Quality Assurance Project Plan, increase amount of water banked or recharged, acres of open space protected or restored, amount of stormwater captured, etc.)?**

Answer: The Project studies quantified ecosystem restoration benefits, such as volume of sediment transported, miles of steelhead habitat restored for fish, and acres of giant reed removed. To ensure that these and other Project goals are met, a preliminary Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan was developed (Appendix K of the EIS/EIR). The Project budget includes more than \$5.5 million for further refinement and implementation of this plan. It evaluates the effectiveness of the implemented restoration measures and allows adaptive changes, as needed, to obtain Project objectives. Water quality, including turbidity monitoring, in accordance with SWAMP data requirements for Ventura County will occur. Habitat monitoring protocols and performance criteria will be developed and implemented with technical committee input and approval. The plan will be actively used for approximately 10 years beginning with the current PED phase of the Project.

- 50. Describe how the proposed project furthers a comprehensive watershed approach.**

Answer: The Project addresses nearly 33 miles of Ventura River and Matilija Creeks, from the ocean to the headwaters. The term "ecosystem" describes a multidisciplinary approach that addresses the key functions of a river system: fisheries health, riparian habitat, water quality and quantity, flood protection, and sediment transport/beach nourishment. The Project components are synergistic and together will improve endangered species and other biological resources, while protecting valuable water resources.

- 51. Is the proposed project consistent with a completed watershed assessment or an adopted plan? If you selected yes, please continue to question 28. If you selected No, please skip to question 29.**

Answer: Yes

- 52. Identify the watershed assessment or the name of the adopted plan and describe with specific examples, how your project implements the plan, and whether your project has been identified as a priority in the plan.**

Answer: The Final Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and Project EIS/EIR (September 2004) is a watershed assessment, as well as a watershed management and restoration plan because it identifies a series of specific actions that together will improve the habitat and water quality of the Ventura River. This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two water wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. These two components are first in the implementation sequence. The EIS/EIR was adopted and certified by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on December 14, 2004.

- 53. If a plan has not been adopted or the specific project is not identified in the plan, indicate when the plan is scheduled for adoption. If no adoption is scheduled, explain why.**

Answer: Plan scheduled for adoption

Answer: The Final Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study EIS/EIR was adopted and certified by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on December 14, 2004. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Final Record of Decision for the Project is pending.

- 54. Is this project being undertaken pursuant to a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or TMDL? Select yes or no from the drop down menu and describe in the box below.**

Answer: No

Answer: This grant would fund two Project components including: (1) two water wells at Foster Park; (2) giant reed removal upstream and downstream of Matilija Dam. NPDES permits will be obtained for construction projects in advance of any well installation, earthwork, water diversion, dewatering, or other discharge as required by Sections 401 and 402, and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

- 55. What type of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document will be prepared for this project? (Select from drop down menu below.) If this question is not applicable, please write "Not applicable" in the text box below. What is the status of the CEQA document, if applicable?**

For Frequently Asked Questions about CEQA please click [here](#).

Answer: Environmental Impact Report

Answer: The EIS/EIR for this project was adopted and certified by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on December 14, 2004.

- 56. Will the project require State or Federal permits (e.g., 401 certification, 404 permit, or Department of Fish and Game [DFG] Streambed Alteration Agreement)? What is the status of the permit application(s), if applicable?**

Answer: Permits reqd & in process

Answer: The Project and the two components described herein (water well installation and giant reed removal) will

require a variety of permits. These will include: Clean Water Act Section 401, 402, and 404 permits, DFG Section 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreements, and Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultations with NOAA Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Permit applications will be submitted by the VCWPD during the PED phase. It is anticipated that the existing Clean Water Act Section 404/401 Regional General Permit (RGP No. 41) for giant reed removal will apply to this component, which will expedite processing of these two permits. The wells may be placed outside the ordinary high water mark of the Ventura River, therefore Section 401 and 404 permits may not be required for this component. It is anticipated that all permits will be processed and obtained to meet the construction schedule described in Question #6.

57. Does this project satisfy, in part or in full, the requirements of any State Water Board or Regional Water Board regulation, permit, or order not disclosed in response to Question #30? If you answer yes, explain which ones in the box below.

Answer: No

Answer:

58. Describe the anticipated source and amount of proposed funding match for the project.

Answer: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and VCWPD have signed a cost sharing agreement for the PED phase of the Project. Future agreements will cover the construction phase. Federal project funding is obtained through the annual appropriations process. The Project budget from 2005 through 2017 totals \$123,800,000. The overall budget breakdown is as follows: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers \$77,000,000 and VCWPD \$46,000,000. The requested grant funding will cover \$5,000,000 of the VCWPD portion of the overall budget. The budget for Project components included in this grant request are \$800,000 for installation of the Foster Park wells and \$6,223,700 for giant reed removal. This request for \$5,000,000 of grant funding would cover the cost of installing two wells and a portion of the giant reed removal. Matching funds totaling \$2,023,700 (29%) would be provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

59. What is the availability of the funding match or is the funding match already secured for the project?

(Note: Indicating the availability of funding match that later becomes unavailable will be considered a deviation from the proposed project and may result in the grant being withdrawn, or a determination of non-eligibility if a funding match is required.)

Answer: On December 22, 2004, the Chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed the final report signifying to the U.S. Congress that all internal questions and concerns had been addressed and that the Project had their full support. Federal funds become available annually as appropriations occur.

60. Has the project described in this Concept Proposal been funded, in part or in full, previously by other grants? If so, explain.

Answer: Yes

Answer: The Feasibility Study portion of the Project has received significant federal, state and local funding. Studies and planning efforts that were funded [in part] with grants include: Appraisal Report (BOR 2000), Final Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study EIS/EIR (September 2004), Preliminary Engineering Design (2005-ongoing). The Project components described in this proposal (well installation and giant reed removal) have not been funded in full or in part by any previous grant or concurrent grant application.

61. Have you applied for other funds from another program for this specific project? (This includes programs not administered by the State Water Board.) If yes, identify the agency and program.

Answer: Yes

Answer: In 2005 the VCWPD applied for funding from the California River Parkways Program for several Project components totaling \$9,001,985, including giant reed removal activities. Specifically, both the Parkways Program and the 2005-06 Consolidated Grants Program applications request funding for the giant reed removal from upstream of Matilija Dam downstream to the Pacific Ocean, which is estimated to cost a total of \$6,223,700. No other grant funding applications have been made for the Foster Park wells.

62. Please enter the estimated "Start Date" (work start date) and "End Date" (work completion date) for the proposed project in mm/yyyy format. Please also provide the submittal date(s) of the final report and final invoice. (The draft report and final report are typically due two (2) months and one (1) month prior to the work completion date, respectively.)

Answer: Start Date 01/2007. End Date 12/2008. Final Report 10/2008. Final Invoice 11/2008.

63. Is project planning and design complete?

Answer: Yes

Answer: Project planning was completed with adoption and certification of the EIS/EIR (December 2004). The PED phase of the Project is underway. This effort will result in plans and specification for each of the Project components including the Foster Park wells. Due to the nature of giant reed removal, detailed maps and specifications that contractors would use to execute giant reed removal will be prepared instead of standard engineering and design plans. Large scale giant reed removal was successfully completed by the VCWPD in several locations within Ventura County in recent years. The detailed specifications from these projects will be used as a model for this giant reed removal effort.

64. Do you have a project team on board with the necessary expertise to carry out the project? Select yes or no from the drop down menu and briefly discuss your response in the box below.

Answer: Yes

Answer: The Project team includes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the VCWPD, with the assistance of U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Geological Survey. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies routinely execute and assist local sponsors with projects of this magnitude and technical complexity. The VCWPD staff includes experienced engineers, scientists, and technicians with expertise in execution of construction projects, surface and ground water quality, giant reed removal and habitat restoration, AutoCAD, and GIS. The Groundwater Section of the VCWPD is the principal regulatory entity for new and abandoned water wells in Ventura County. These staff have extensive knowledge of California Well Standards and have experience with water well design and construction.

65. Identify and briefly discuss similar projects that the Applicant and Cooperating Entity(ies) have completed successfully.

Answer: Arundo Removal Demonstration Project. The VCWPD together with the Ventura County Arundo Task Force successfully treated and removed giant reed to demonstrate a variety of methods in the Ventura River near Casitas Springs. This project was conducted in conjunction with of the Ventura County Resource Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The VCWPD routinely removes giant reed from habitat restoration sites throughout Ventura County for as mitigation for VCWPD projects. The VCWPD Groundwater Section has regulatory responsibility for Ventura County and issues well drilling permits. Staff have expertise in determining proper sealing depths, inspection and placement of annular seals, monitoring of well construction and demolition, and assignment of State Well numbers to new wells.

66. Has the Applicant or any of the Cooperating Entities previously received funds from a solicitation administered by the State Water Board or Regional Water Boards? (Please select Yes/No from the drop down menu.) If you answered yes, indicate project titles, contract or grant agreement numbers, and status of funding (e.g., contract or grant agreement in negotiation, ongoing, closed out, terminated, etc.). (Only include projects funded since January 2000.)

Answer: No

Answer:

67. Has the Applicant or any Cooperating Entities entered into a contract or grant agreement: (1) that was terminated; (2) in which funds were withheld by the State Water Board; or (3) that has been the subject of an audit in which there were findings regarding the management of the project or funds by the Applicant or a Cooperating Entity? If so, please explain in the box below, including actions taken to address the problem(s).

Answer: No

Answer:

68. Is the Applicant or was the Applicant a party to current or pending legal challenge to any State Water Board or Regional Water Board regulation, or order, which either requires performance of the project, or though not required, whose terms or conditions would be satisfied in whole or in part by performance of the project? If so, please explain in the box below (include the name and case number in your explanation).

Answer: No

Answer:

69. The Project Director has read and understands the General Terms and Conditions of the Grant Agreement. If the Project Director does not agree with the terms and conditions, a grant award may be denied. (All applicants will be required to check the box and initial in the box below.)

Answer: I agree

Answer: Jeff Pratt, P.E. Director Ventura County Watershed Protection District 800 S. Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009-1610

Attachment Title

[Attachment A ProjDesc 1of5](#)

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Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 76of81	6/8/2006 10:20:56 AM
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Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 78of81	6/8/2006 10:22:23 AM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 79of81	6/8/2006 10:23:16 AM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 7of81	6/7/2006 5:01:55 PM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 80of81	6/8/2006 10:24:28 AM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 81of81	6/8/2006 10:25:17 AM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 82of81	6/8/2006 10:27:38 AM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 8of81	6/7/2006 5:03:10 PM
Attachment Q EnvClearanceList 9of81	6/7/2006 5:03:48 PM

Certification & Submission

Please read before signing and submitting application.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information I have entered on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and that I am authorized to submit the application on behalf of the applicant. I further understand that any false, incomplete or incorrect statements may result in the disqualification of this application. By initialing below, I waive all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the application on behalf of the applicant, to the extent provided in this funding solicitation.

After completing the application, please enter your initials certifying the accuracy of the application and click the "Submit Now" button. **After submission you will no longer have the ability to modify your application.** If you would like to submit your application later, click the "Return to Application" button.

Enter your initials

Submission Date: 6/8/2006

If you have any questions, please contact us.