



## GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Updated August 2014

The Coastal Conservancy announces the availability of grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations. Funding availability is generally subject to legislative appropriation of bond funds. Included in this document are an introduction to the Conservancy, the grant application process, and the following exhibits which should assist you in preparing an application:

- Exhibit A: Typical Sequence of Activities for Grant Funding
- Exhibit B: Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines
- Exhibit C: Coastal Conservancy Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives
- Exhibit D: Prioritization Required by Proposition 84
- Exhibit E: Climate Change Policy
- Exhibit F: Climate Change Guidance (available at <http://scc.ca.gov/2013/04/24/guidance-for-grantees/#more-2354> )

The grant application form is a separate document available at <http://scc.ca.gov>.

### Introduction

The Coastal Conservancy, established in 1976, is a state agency that uses entrepreneurial techniques to purchase, protect, restore, and enhance coastal resources, and to provide access to the shore. We work in collaboration with local governments, other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners. Our jurisdiction includes the entire coastal zone of California, ocean habitats, coastal watersheds, and the entire nine-county San Francisco Bay region.

To date, the Conservancy has undertaken more than 1,800 projects along the 1,100 mile California coastline and around San Francisco Bay. These projects often accomplish more than one Conservancy goal. Through such projects, the Conservancy:

- protects and improves coastal wetlands, streams, and watersheds;
- helps people get to coast and bay shores by building trails and stairways and by acquiring land and easements. The Conservancy also assists in the creation of low-cost accommodations along the coast, including campgrounds and hostels;
- works with local communities to revitalize urban waterfronts;
- helps to solve complex land-use problems;
- purchases and holds environmentally valuable coastal and bay lands;
- protects agricultural lands and supports coastal agriculture; and
- accepts donations and dedications of land and easements for public access, wildlife habitat, agriculture, and open space.

## Applying for Grants

**Prospective applicants must discuss their projects with Conservancy staff prior to completing or submitting this application. Conservancy staff will determine whether or not an application should be submitted and whether Part A, or both Part A and Part B, should be completed.** Please contact the appropriate Program Manager from the list below, listed from North to South:

North Coast: Del Norte County to coastside Sonoma and Marin Counties)  
Karyn Gear: [kgear@scc.ca.gov](mailto:kgear@scc.ca.gov) or 510-286-4171.

San Francisco Bay Area: Nine Bay Area Counties, excluding the coastside of Sonoma, Marin, and San Mateo Counties  
Amy Hutzel: [ahutzel@scc.ca.gov](mailto:ahutzel@scc.ca.gov) or 510-286-4180

Central Coast: coastside San Mateo County to Santa Barbara County  
Trish Chapman: [tchapman@scc.ca.gov](mailto:tchapman@scc.ca.gov) or 510-286-0749

South Coast: Ventura County to San Diego County  
Joan Cardellino: [jcard@scc.ca.gov](mailto:jcard@scc.ca.gov) or 510-286-4093

## Continuous Submission Dates

Proposals will be accepted on a continuous basis. In addition, periodically grant rounds will be advertised and applications will be accepted for projects of a particular type or for specific locations.

## Application Submissions

Applications should consist of the following files:

- Grant application form (in Microsoft word or rtf format)
- Project maps and design plans (in one pdf file, 5 mb maximum size)
- Project photos (in jpg format)

Applications should be emailed to the Program Manager for the region in which the project is located. If the combined size of all the files is greater than 10 mb, please send files in separate email messages (email messages over 10 mb in size will be rejected by our server).

Please note: all information that you submit is subject to the unqualified and unconditional right of the Conservancy to use, reproduce, publish, or display, free of charge. Please indicate if crediting is requested for any of the photos and/or maps.

## **Grant Amounts**

There are no established minimum or maximum grant amounts. The Coastal Conservancy will base the size of awards on project needs, benefits and competing demands for existing funding.

## **Eligible Applicants**

Government agencies (federal, state, local, and special districts) and certain nonprofit organizations are eligible for funding. Eligible nonprofit organizations must exist under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Eligibility of nonprofit organizations is defined by whether an organization's articles of incorporation (and IRS letter) demonstrate that the organization's purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, the Coastal Conservancy's enabling legislation.

## **Eligible Activities**

The Coastal Conservancy may fund property acquisition and project planning, design, and/or construction in accordance with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (available at <http://scc.ca.gov/about/enabling-legislation/>). Projects should meet the goals and objectives in the Conservancy's Strategic Plan (listed in Exhibit C), and be consistent with the purposes of the funding source, typically bond funds (see Exhibit D for Proposition 84 priorities: Proposition 84 is the source of the majority of the Conservancy's current funding). In addition, project applications should provide information that will enable consideration of any applicable criteria specified in the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines established by the Conservancy's board (see Exhibit B). Regional planning, research, monitoring, and assessments will generally be considered only when directly tied to the furtherance of on-the-ground projects.

## **California Conservation Corps**

The Coastal Conservancy encourages all applicants to consider using the California Conservation Corps for construction projects

## Application Guidance and Samples

1. All answers should be provided in 12 point type.
2. **Project Description** – Limit 2 pages. Provide a clear, detailed description of the project proposed for Conservancy funding. The project description should include the following elements:
  - a. Need for the project – Describe the specific problems, issues, or unserved needs the project will address.
  - b. Goals and objectives of the project. The goals and objectives should clearly define the expected and/or desired outcomes of the project.
  - c. Project Tasks – Describe the specific tasks that will be undertaken, that is describe what will actually be done, as opposed to the results of those actions. The project tasks should also be used to develop the project budget and schedule.
  - d. Work products or other deliverables of the project.
3. **Preliminary Budget** – The preliminary budget should list the major tasks of the proposed project, the estimated cost of the task, and the funding sources (applicant, Conservancy, and other) for the task. The listed tasks should correlate with the tasks described in the Project Description and listed on the Schedule. An example preliminary budget is provided below. The form will automatically calculate the totals if you highlight the entire table, and hit F9.

### *Simplified Sample Budget*

Task Number	Task	Applicant's Funding	Coastal Conservancy	Other Funds	Total Cost
1	Complete Final Designs	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$7,000	<b>\$57,000</b>
2	Complete CEQA	\$5,000			<b>\$5,000</b>
3	Obtain Permits	\$5,000			<b>\$5,000</b>
4	Develop project sign plan and install signs	\$150			<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
					<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>	<b>\$67,000</b>

4. **Schedule** -- List the project tasks and all significant project milestones related (for example, CEQA compliance, obtaining permits, preparation of appraisal and other land acquisition documents, commencement of construction, and project completion). For each item provide the expected completion date and any factors that could influence the timely implementation of the project. Below is a sample schedule.

***Simplified Sample Schedule***

<b>Task or Milestone</b>	<b>Expected Completion Date</b>
Complete Final Design	11/29/2013
Complete CEQA	3/28/2014
Obtain Permits	4/30/2014

5. **Additional questions** –The additional questions are intended to provide the Conservancy with sufficient information to evaluate your project’s readiness, eligibility for funding, and the extent to which the project is consistent with the Conservancy’s Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines (Exhibit A) and adopted *Climate Change Policy (Exhibit E)*. Questions 1-7 should be answered by all applicants. For questions 8-13, enter “not applicable” if the question does not pertain to your project. See Exhibit F: Climate Change Guidance for assistance in answering Questions 10-13. For each question, limit your answer to a half page, with one concise paragraph preferred.
6. **Project Graphics:** Provide the following project graphics with your application. Project maps and design plans should be combined into one pdf file with a maximum size of 5 mb. Project photos should be provided in jpg format.
- **Regional Map** -- Clearly identify the project’s location in relation to prominent area features and significant natural and recreational resources, including regional trails and protected lands.
  - **Site-scale map** – Show the location of project elements in relation to natural and man-made features on-site or nearby. Any key features discussed in project description should be shown.
  - **Design Plan** – Construction projects should include one or more design drawings or graphics indicating the intended site improvements.
  - **Site Photos** – One or more clear photos of the project site.

## EXHIBIT A

### Typical Sequence of Activities for Grant Funding from Application through Project Completion

After discussing your project with State Coastal Conservancy staff, submitting the grant application is the next step in the process of receiving grant funds. There are several steps and additional support that the grantee will need to provide prior to the award of funding and throughout the project. To help prospective grantees understand the process, the requirements and associated time commitments, this document describes the **typical** steps in the process of receiving funds from the State Coastal Conservancy.

1. Conservancy staff review and rank applications to establish priorities for funding (see application for description of selection process). All projects must be authorized for funding by the governing board of the Coastal Conservancy (Board) at a noticed public meeting. Selected high priority projects may be presented to the Board as early as a few months after grantee is notified, or later depending on the project's readiness, urgency for funds, and availability of Conservancy staff.
2. A Conservancy Project Manager is assigned to the proposed project. He/she will contact the grantee to learn more about the project and arrange for a tour of the project site, if appropriate. The Project Manager will be the grantee's main contact at the Conservancy from the beginning to the end of the project.
3. When it is determined that the proposal fits within the Conservancy's priorities, the Conservancy Project Manager will write a detailed Staff Recommendation for the Board's consideration, and includes letters of support gathered by the grantee as an exhibit to the report. The Staff Recommendation is reviewed by several Conservancy staff members, including an attorney and the Executive Officer. Staff Recommendations are started approximately two to three months prior to each board meeting and finalized approximately one month prior to each Board meeting.

Applicants are required to provide staff with all pertinent information in a timely manner to ensure Board consideration at any particular meeting. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to provide letters of support for their proposed project, including letters from key legislators. Letters of support should not be submitted at the time of application, but will need to be provided at least one month prior to the date of the Board meeting at which the proposed project will be considered. Support letters should be addressed to the Chair of the Conservancy, Douglas Bosco, and sent to the Coastal Conservancy at 1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA 94612. The Conservancy Project Manager should be copied on the letter (i.e., include as cc: Project Manager's Name).

4. Board meetings take place about five times each year and are held at various locations around the state. Small, noncontroversial projects may be placed on consent, in which case there is no presentation unless a Board member has questions or comments. Most projects are on the regular agenda and typically the Project Manager will make a brief presentation to

## EXHIBIT A

the Board members, usually followed by a brief presentation by the Grantee. The Board generally votes on staff's recommendations at this same meeting.

5. Following Board approval, the Conservancy Project Manager prepares a draft Grant Agreement. This Grant Agreement, when signed, is legally binding and includes requirements of the grantee and information about how and when funds can be disbursed. Preparation and finalization of a Grant Agreement usually takes at least three weeks. Five copies of the Grant Agreement are sent to the grantee for signatures, and all five must be sent back to the Conservancy. The Executive Officer signs each copy and one fully executed copy is sent back to the grantee.

It is important that the person administering the project for the grantee be familiar with the procedures and requirements of the Grant Agreement. It may be useful for the grantee to arrange a meeting with the Conservancy Project Manager early in the project to review the Grant Agreement conditions.

Expenses incurred before the Grant Agreement with the Conservancy is completed are typically not reimbursable. Such expenses should be discussed with the Conservancy Project Manager early in the application and agreement preparation phase if pre-agreement costs will be a problem for the grantee.

6. The Grant Agreement requires the grantee to prepare additional documents for the Executive Officer's review and approval before the project may begin (or, at least, before the parts of the project for which the Conservancy will be asked to provide reimbursement may begin). Typical accompanying documents may include:
  - A resolution from the grantee's governing board containing the following: (1) authority to enter into an agreement with the Conservancy; (2) approval of the agreement's terms and conditions; and (3) designation of the applicant's authorized representative to negotiate and sign the agreement (be sure to get this on your board's agenda before the date you plan to start work). Ask the Conservancy Project Manager for a template resolution if needed.
  - A work program that includes a budget and schedule of tasks to be completed.
  - The names, titles, and pay rates of staff and any subcontractors.
  - A plan for signs and other outreach acknowledging the Conservancy's contribution to the project.
  - Verification of adequate insurance at the levels required in the Grant Agreement.
  - Proof that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained for construction projects.
  - Written evidence that contractors have complied with bonding requirements for construction projects.
  - Written agreements with landowners, if project is implemented on property not owned by grantee.

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- Other legal documents that may require notarized signatures and recording.

For projects involving the acquisition of real property or conservation easements, appraisals, title documents, draft purchase agreements, escrow instructions, a baseline report, a monitoring and reporting program, and other documents will be required. The Coastal Conservancy's *Environmental Appraisal Specifications* are available from Conservancy staff.

In addition to the items above, the Grant Agreement may require, but is not limited to, any or all of the following:

- Close coordination and communication with Conservancy staff and other entities.
- Acknowledgement of the Conservancy on signs, reports, press releases, social media, and web sites.
- An agreement to operate and maintain the project improvements, typically for 20 years.
- The granting of a license to the Conservancy to use, reproduce, publish, grant to third parties, etc., all material produced, developed, or acquired under the agreement and a limitation on the grantee to use any work produced under the agreement for profit.
- Entry of the project in the California Environmental Information Catalog.
- Indemnification of the Conservancy from liabilities.
- Maintenance of financial records in accordance with the guidelines of the "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles" published by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and retention of records for at least three years following final disbursement by the Conservancy.
- Review of statutory and regulatory provisions related to prevailing wage and other requirements of the California Labor Code to determine the responsibilities of the grantee. The grantee, if required by law to do so, shall pay prevailing wage to all persons employed in any part of the project. Certain sources of state funding may also trigger the requirement for a grantee constructing a public works project to adopt and enforce a "labor compliance program".
- A prohibition against use of the constructed project or acquired real property for mitigation, unless approved by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy.
- The right of the Conservancy to inspect and monitor constructed projects or acquired real property.
- Certification that state funds are not used for acquisition or operation of computer software in violation of copyright laws.
- No unlawful discrimination against employees or applicants.
- Additional requirements if the fund source derives from outside sources of funding, such as mitigation funds or federal grants.

The Grant Agreement describes these and other requirements in greater detail and is the controlling document. If there are any questions about the Grant Agreement, discuss them

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with the Conservancy Project Manager. **Close review of and compliance with the Grant Agreement is essential and is the grantee's responsibility.**

7. Once the Grant Agreement has been signed and the Project Manager has received and the Executive Officer has approved all of the required additional documents, the Project Manager will provide a written approval for the project to commence.
8. Invoices can then be sent to the Conservancy for reimbursement of tasks specifically agreed upon in the Grant Agreement and its accompanying documents. Grantees are required to use a "Request for Disbursement" form (to be provided by the Conservancy Project Manager, along with an instruction sheet) as the form of the invoice. Requests for Disbursement shall be accompanied by receipts, invoices from subcontractors, and any other necessary backup documentation. Each invoice must be accompanied by a supporting progress report. The invoices will be reviewed by the Conservancy Project Manager and the contracts office. Payment will be mailed to the grantee usually within three weeks after the invoice is found to be complete. Generally, the Conservancy is required to withhold ten percent of invoiced amounts until the project is satisfactorily completed.
9. At project completion, the grantee submits a final invoice for remaining project costs and withheld amounts along with a final summary report of the project and any work products specified in the work program as deliverables. For acquisition projects, the request for disbursement is sent to the Conservancy and when all acquisition documents have been approved by the Executive Officer and escrow conditions met, the warrant is sent to and paid out of escrow. For construction projects, an inspection report and as-built drawings of the completed project, as well as documentation that signs were installed, are required. Upon the Project Manager's assessment that all requirements of the Grant Agreement have been met, the final invoice and the withholding are paid. Capital improvement projects must be operated and maintained for the term of the agreement, typically twenty years. Real property must be operated and maintained in keeping with the purposes of the acquisition in perpetuity.

## EXHIBIT B

### **Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines**

(Last updated November 10, 2011 by the  
Board of the State Coastal Conservancy)

#### **REQUIRED CRITERIA**

- **Promotion of the Conservancy's statutory programs and purposes**
- **Consistency with purposes of the funding source**
- **Support** from the public
- **Location** (must benefit coastal, ocean resources, or the San Francisco Bay region)
- **Need** (desired project or result will not occur without Conservancy participation)
- **Greater-than-local interest**
- **Sea level rise vulnerability** (Consistent with Executive Order S-13-08, for new projects located in areas vulnerable to future sea level rise, planning shall consider a range of sea level rise scenarios for the years 2050 and 2100 in order to assess project vulnerability and, to the extent feasible, reduce expected risks and increase resiliency to sea level rise)

#### **ADDITIONAL CRITERIA**

- **Urgency** (threat to a coastal or ocean resource from development or natural or economic conditions; pressing need; or a fleeting opportunity)
- **Resolution of more than one issue**
- **Leverage** (contribution of funds or services by other entities)
- **Conflict resolution**
- **Innovation** (for example, environmental or economic demonstration)
- **Readiness** (ability of the grantee and others to start and finish the project timely)
- **Realization of prior Conservancy goals** (advances previous Conservancy projects)
- **Return to Conservancy** (funds will be repaid to the Conservancy, consistent with the Conservancy's long-term financial strategy)
- **Cooperation** (extent to which the public, nonprofit groups, landowners, and others will contribute to the project)
- **Minimization of Greenhouse Gas Emissions** (project design and construction methods include measures to avoid or minimize greenhouse gas emissions to the extent feasible and consistent with the project objectives)
- **Vulnerability from climate change impacts other than sea level rise** (project objectives, design and siting consider and address vulnerabilities from climate change impacts other than sea level rise)

## EXHIBIT C

### **Coastal Conservancy Strategic Plan, 2013-2018**

A link to the entire Strategic Plan is on our homepage: <http://scc.ca.gov>

#### **Goal 1: Develop the California Coastal Trail as a major recreational amenity, tourist attraction, and alternative transportation system.**

- Objective 1A: Implement projects to promote awareness and use of the California Coastal Trail, including web-based technologies.
- Objective 1B: Place California Coastal Trail signs on existing trails.
- Objective 1C: Design new trail segments.
- Objective 1D: Construct new trail segments.
- Objective 1E: Assist with projects that secure real property or property interests to facilitate the development of the California Coastal Trail.
- Objective 1F: Improve support facilities at existing coastal accessway; where feasible include features to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

#### **Goal 2: Expand the system of coastal public accessways, open-space areas, parks and inland trails that connect to the coast.**

- Objective 2A: Develop projects that expand opportunities for barrier-free access to and along the coast and coastal trails.
- Objective 2B: Open coastal areas that are currently inaccessible or closed to public use.
- Objective 2C: Design facilities to increase and enhance coastal recreational opportunities.
- Objective 2D: Fund construction of new facilities, or reconstruction of dilapidated and unsafe facilities to increase and enhance coastal recreational opportunities.
- Objective 2E: Design new regional trails and river parkways that connect inland populations to the coast.
- Objective 2F: Construct new regional trails and river parkways that connect inland populations to the coast.
- Objective 2G: Acquire land to allow for development of new coastal accessways.

#### **Goal 3: Revitalize coastal and inland waterfronts that provide significant public benefits and promote sustainable economic development.**

- Objective 3A: Develop waterfront revitalization plans that increase accessibility, create more inclusive access opportunities, support commercial and recreational fishing, encourage economic revitalization, promote excellence and innovation in urban design, enhance cultural and historic resources, and that are resilient to a changing climate.
- Objective 3B: Implement waterfront revitalization projects that increase accessibility, create more inclusive access opportunities, support commercial and recreational fishing, encourage economic revitalization, promote excellence and innovation in urban design, enhance cultural and historic resources and that are resilient in a changing climate.
- Objective 3C: Design low cost visitor accommodations to expand access to the coast.
- Objective 3D: Construct low cost visitor accommodations along the coast.

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### **Goal 4: Protect significant coastal resource properties, including cropland, rangeland and forests.**

- Objective 4A: Protect significant coastal and watershed resource properties.
- Objective 4B: Protect working-lands through conservation easements and other agreements.
- Objective 4C: Implement projects that preserve and restore fish and wildlife corridors between core habitat areas along the coast and from coastal to inland habitat areas.

### **Goal 5: Enhance biological diversity, improve water quality, habitat, and other natural resources within coastal watersheds.**

- Objective 5A: Develop plans for the restoration and enhancement of coastal habitats, including coastal wetlands and intertidal areas, stream corridors, dunes, coastal terraces, coastal sage scrub, forests, and coastal prairie.
- Objective 5B: Restore or enhance coastal habitats, including coastal wetlands and intertidal areas, stream corridors, dunes, coastal sage scrub, coastal terraces, forests and coastal prairie.
- Objective 5C: Develop plans to preserve and enhance coastal watersheds and floodplains.
- Objective 5D: Implement projects that preserve, enhance, coastal watersheds and floodplains.
- Objective 5E: Implement projects to improve fish habitat including projects to remove barriers to fish passage, ensure sufficient instream flow, and provide in stream habitat and favorable water temperatures.
- Objective 5F: Complete plans to improve water quality to benefit coastal and ocean resources.
- Objective 5G: Implement projects to improve water quality to benefit coastal and ocean resources.
- Objective 5H: Implement projects to support the recovery of the southern sea otter.

### **Goal 6: Enhance coastal working lands, including cropland, rangeland and forests.**

- Objective 6A: Develop plans for projects that foster the long-term viability of coastal working lands, including projects to assist farmers, ranchers, and timber producers to reduce impacts of their operations on wildlife habitat and water quality.
- Objective 6B: Implement projects that foster the long-term viability of coastal working lands, including projects to assist farmers, ranchers, and timber producers to reduce impacts of their operations on wildlife habitat and water quality.

### **Goal 7: Enhance the resiliency of coastal communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change.**

- Objective 7A: In cooperation with public agencies, universities and non-governmental organizations, identify significant climate-related threats, management challenges and priority technical assistance needed to maintain resilient coastal communities and natural resources.
- Objective 7B: Conduct site-specific, regional and landscape-level vulnerability assessments from sea level rise and extreme storm events, and develop adaptation plans and strategies to address threats to coastal communities and public infrastructure in ways that protect natural resources and provide maximum public benefits.
- Objective 7C: Conduct site-specific, regional and landscape-level vulnerability assessments of uplands and waterways, and develop adaptation plans to address predicted climate change impacts to natural resources, biodiversity, and critical habitat.
- Objective 7D: Implement adaptation pilot projects that reduce hazards from sea level rise and extreme storm events, and which protect natural resources and maximize public benefits.

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- Objective 7E: Implement adaptation pilot projects that address climate change impacts to uplands natural resources, biodiversity and critical habitat.
- Objective 7F: Implement projects that reduce greenhouse gases by increasing carbon sequestration, or by supporting land uses that reduce energy consumption including vehicle miles traveled.
- Objective 7G: Implement tree and vegetation planting projects that reduce urban heat islands and provide other benefits such as reduced energy use, improved air quality, enhanced stormwater management, and improved quality of life.

### **Goal 8: Provide non-regulatory alternatives to reduce conflicts among competing uses in the Coastal Zone.**

- Objective 8A: Implement projects that resolve land-use conflicts stemming from local coastal programs and work toward elimination of “white holes” (areas where there is no certified local coastal program).
- Objective 8B: Implement multi-benefit projects that accomplish multiple objectives and resolve longstanding conflicts.

### **Goal 9: Expand environmental education efforts to improve public understanding, use and stewardship of coastal resources.**

- Objective 9A: Support programs and events that improve public understanding of coastal resources.
- Objective 9B: Support the design and installation of interpretive or educational displays and exhibits related to coastal, watershed, and ocean-resource education, maritime history, and climate-change.
- Objective 9C: Construct or improve regional environmental education centers that educate the public about environmental issues affecting the coast and inland watersheds.

### **Goal 10: Identify and prioritize long-term resource and recreational goals for the San Francisco Bay Area.**

- Objective 10A: Identify and prioritize resource and recreational goals, including projects that protect and enhance natural habitats and other open-space lands of regional significance, such as agricultural lands, and those that improve public access to and around the bay, along the ridges and coast, and to open space and natural areas.

### **Goal 11: Protect and enhance natural habitats and connecting corridors, watersheds, scenic areas, and other open-space resources of regional importance in the Bay Area.**

- Objective 11A: Protect tidal wetlands, managed wetlands, seasonal wetlands, riparian habitat, and subtidal habitat.
- Objective 11B: Protect wildlife habitat, connecting corridors, scenic areas, and other open-space resources of regional significance.
- Objective 11C: Develop plans for enhancement of tidal wetlands, managed wetlands, seasonal wetlands, upland habitat, and subtidal habitat.
- Objective 11D: Enhance tidal wetlands, managed wetlands, seasonal wetlands, upland habitat, and subtidal habitat.
- Objective 11E: Develop plans for enhancement of riparian and riverine habitat or other watershed functions and processes for the benefit of wildlife or water quality, including removal of barriers to fish passage or projects that ensure sufficient instream flow.

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- Objective 11F: Enhance riparian and riverine habitat or other watershed functions and processes for the benefit of wildlife or water quality, including removal of barriers to fish passage or projects that ensure sufficient instream flow.
- Objective 11G: Develop plans to eradicate non-native invasive species that threaten important habitats in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Objective 11H: Eradicate non-native invasive species that threaten important habitats in the San Francisco Bay Area.

### **Goal 12: Improve public access, recreation, and educational facilities and programs in and around San Francisco Bay, along the coast, the ridgelines, in urban open spaces, and natural areas.**

- Objective 12A: Develop plans for projects that provide recreational facilities such as picnic and staging areas, docks and piers, campgrounds, parking lots, interpretive signs, interpretive or educational centers, and natural play spaces.
- Objective 12B: Implement projects that provide recreational facilities such as picnic and staging areas, docks and piers, campgrounds, parking lots, interpretive signs, interpretive or educational centers, and natural play spaces.
- Objective 12C: Complete acquisition projects that increase the amount of land accessible to the public or provide corridors for trails.
- Objective 12D: Develop plans for completing segments of the San Francisco Bay Trail.
- Objective 12E: Construct segments of the San Francisco Bay Trail.
- Objective 12F: Plan segments of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.
- Objective 12G: Construct segments of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.
- Objective 12H: Develop plans for regionally significant public access trails and community connectors, including links between the Bay Trail, Ridge Trail, Water Trail, and Coastal Trail, and links between regional trails and urban communities.
- Objective 12I: Construct regionally significant public trails and community connectors, including links between the Bay Trail, Ridge Trail, Water Trail, and Coastal Trail, and links between regional trails and urban communities.
- Objective 12J: Designate launch sites for the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail.
- Objective 12K: Enhance designated launch sites for the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail.
- Objective 12L: Implement projects that expand opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas.
- Objective 12M: Implement projects that create, expand, or improve environmental educational or interpretive programs, especially those that are available to urban populations.

### **Goal 13: Protect Bay Area working lands and support farmers and ranchers in implementing stewardship of the natural resources on their lands.**

- Objective 13A: Protect working lands, including farmland, rangeland and forests.
- Objective 13B: Implement projects that assist farmers and ranchers to steward the natural resources on their lands.

### **Goal 14: Implement a sustainable funding strategy for the Conservancy projects and programs.**

- Objective 14A: Conduct annual evaluation of agency's budget against its longterm financial plan.
- Objective 14B: Develop and evaluate progress towards achieving annual funding targets.

### **Goal 15: Reorganize the Conservancy's structure to align staff resources with the Conservancy's new sources of funding.**

- Objective 15A: Develop and continue to adapt the organizational structure to align staff resources with the longterm funding strategy.

## EXHIBIT D

### **Prioritization Required by Proposition 84**

Chapter 10 of Proposition 84, the “Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006,” under “Miscellaneous Provisions,” requires the Coastal Conservancy, in evaluating potential projects to be funded with Proposition 84 money that involve acquisition or restoration for the purpose of natural resource protection, to give priority to projects that demonstrate one or more of the characteristics listed below (Section 75071 of the Public Resources Code):

1. Landscape/Habitat Linkages: properties that link to, or contribute to linking, existing protected areas with other large blocks of protected habitat. Linkages must serve to connect existing protected areas, facilitate wildlife movement or botanical transfer, and result in sustainable combined acreage.
2. Watershed Protection: projects that contribute to long-term protection of and improvement to the water and biological quality of the streams, aquifers, and terrestrial resources of priority watersheds of the major biological regions of the state as identified by the Resources Agency.
3. Properties that support relatively large areas of under-protected major habitat types.
4. Properties that provide habitat linkages between two or more major biological regions of the state.
5. Properties for which there is a non-state matching contribution toward the acquisition, restoration, stewardship or management costs. Matching contributions can be either monetary or in the form of services, including volunteer services.

**California State Coastal Conservancy  
Climate Change Policy  
Adopted on June 4, 2009**

**Pertinent Facts**

- A. The State Coastal Conservancy Act of 1976 (Division 21 of the Public Resources Code) establishes the State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) to work cooperatively to protect and restore natural resources, agricultural lands, and to provide public access to and along the coast.
- B. The Legislature later amended the Conservancy's geographic and programmatic jurisdiction to include the entire nine-county San Francisco Bay Area, the protection of coastal and marine habitats, urban waterfronts, coastal watersheds, educational projects and programs, administration of the Ocean Protection Council, and implementation of the California Coastal Trail and the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Plan.
- C. The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) declares that global warming poses a serious threat to the environment of California and requires California to reduce its total greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels.
- D. AB32, the Governor's Executive Orders S-3-05 (2005) and S-13-08 (2008), the Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory dated June 18, 2008, and pending revisions to formal Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) all require that agencies consider global warming with respect to their proposed actions.
- E. The Conservancy's *Strategic Plan 2007* identifies many effects that climate change will have on ocean, coastal and near-coastal resources, and the need to consider these impacts in determining the priority of expenditures in the design and siting of Conservancy-funded infrastructure projects; to support others in order to improve our understanding of the effects of climate change; and to identify tools to mitigate and plan for a range of predicted changes.
- F. The California coast, ocean, and the San Francisco Bay area are experiencing documented adverse changes as a result of global warming, and climate scientists are predicting that these changes will accelerate, posing tremendous impacts and threats to the resources within the Conservancy's jurisdiction.
- G. California's coastal, near shore, and marine resources are expected to experience dramatic physical, ecological, economic and social impacts due to predicted higher air

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and water temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, significant sea-level rise, salinity changes, more severe El Niño climate events, increased storm frequency and intensity, higher coastal erosion rates, greater fire intensity and frequency, increased ocean acidification, changes in ocean circulation and upwelling, saltwater intrusion into water sources for agriculture, and other changes.

- H. Coastal and bay wetland habitats, already significantly altered and reduced in size due to human activities, are expected to be significantly affected by changes in climate-driven processes such as sea-level rise, fresh water flows, and sediment supplies.
- I. Increased coastal erosion will likely reduce the lifespan of and threaten California's existing public and private facilities and structures, beaches and coastal habitats. Sea-level rise and other effects of climate change on the coast and ocean threaten California's \$46 billion ocean-dependent economy.
- J. Many Conservancy projects result in the protection of open space, restoration of urban areas, and development of multi-purpose trails which will help support efforts to implement transit-oriented, high-density development and reduce vehicle miles travelled and greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.
- K. Agricultural protection projects are expected to be vulnerable to higher air temperatures and changes in water supplies, including from saltwater intrusion into groundwater sources.
- L. The protection, restoration, and enhancement of habitats, ecosystem processes, and open space is essential to minimizing threats from global warming to California's biodiversity—an important part of the Conservancy's mission.
- M. The coastal regions of the state are projected to have less severe temperature increases than inland regions, rendering the coastal region even more significant as a refuge for human use and overall biodiversity.
- N. Protection of habitat inland and adjacent to tidal wetlands is essential for offsetting some wetland losses due to sea-level rise and changes in storm frequencies and intensities.
- O. Many habitat restoration projects sequester carbon, an important factor in reducing the concentration of greenhouse gas emissions and slowing the rate of global warming.
- P. The effects of climate change make adaptive management, coupled with monitoring of ecosystem processes, more important than ever to assure that non-climate related stressors are identified and addressed early on, to assure that management actions are effective or "do no harm," and to contribute toward the collective knowledge for use of scientists, managers, and the public.

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### In light of the Pertinent Facts, above, the Conservancy adopts the following climate change policies:

1. The Executive Officer is directed to consider climate change in evaluating which projects to fund and the manner in which projects are selected, in order to reduce vulnerabilities from climate change while continuing to support the resources (public access, open space, etc.) the Conservancy is charged with protecting.
2. Sea-level Rise. Prior to the completion of the National Academies of Science report on sea-level rise, consistent with Executive Order S-13-08, the Conservancy will consider the following sea-level rise scenarios in assessing project vulnerability and, to the extent feasible, reducing expected risks and increasing resiliency to sea-level rise:
  - a) 16 inches (40 cm) by 2050, and
  - b) 55 inches (140cm) by 2100
3. Collaboration to Support Adaptation Strategies. The Conservancy will collaborate with other agencies and entities to develop, support, and implement climate change adaptation plans, strategies and projects that minimize or offset impacts to natural resources, public access, and other matters specified in the Conservancy's enabling legislation.
4. Adaptation Strategies. The Conservancy encourages applications for climate-sensitive projects that include robust adaptation measures and strategies, including pilot or demonstration projects that are consistent with its enabling legislation, strategic plan, and available funding. These may employ innovative strategies for adaptation and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions to minimize effects of climate change on natural resources and public access. Applications are encouraged for, but not limited to the following types of projects or project elements:
  - a) ***Protection of Areas Adjacent to Shoreline Habitats*** in order to support the inland shift of habitats such as tidal wetlands, in response to sea-level rise;
  - b) ***Regional Sediment Management*** to support restoration of natural sediment processes and beneficial reuse of dredge materials to enable tidal wetlands and other shoreline habitats to keep pace with sea-level rise;
  - c) ***Setbacks, Rolling Easements and Planned Retreat*** which 1) relocate developments further inland or away from areas likely to be affected by flooding and erosion within the life of the structure, 2) remove development as hazards encroach into developed areas, or 3) facilitate landward movement of coastal ecosystems subject to dislocation by sea-level rise and other climate change impacts;
  - d) ***Innovative Designs*** that incorporate features that are resilient to climate change impacts and can serve as demonstration projects;
  - e) ***Protection of Land*** for supporting native species in responding to climate change;

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- f) ***Protection of Open Space*** to protect existing and future habitat for species impacted by climate change and to support transit-oriented, high-density development in urban areas that minimize impacts to habitats and that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation;
  - g) ***Restoration of Urban Waterfronts and Urban Coastal Watershed Areas*** to support transit-oriented, high-density development, which help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation;
  - h) ***Conservation, Restoration and Enhancement of Habitats that Sequester Carbon***, including forests, tidal wetlands, and estuarine scrub/shrub habitats;
  - i) ***Development of Multi-use Trails*** that connect communities, provide access to and along the coast, and help reduce vehicle miles travelled;
  - j) ***Management of Invasive Species***, especially projects which prevent introduction or spread of invasive species, in order to reduce the impacts of this major stressor on biodiversity;
  - k) ***Riparian Protection, Enhancement, and Restoration Projects*** that allow for wider riparian corridors to accommodate increased flooding, or provide other benefits such as increased shading to moderate water temperature increases;
  - l) ***Acquisition Planning Projects*** that apply the latest information on climate change impacts and recommendations on reserve design, to identify wildlife migration corridors and natural lands that have a diversity of topography, soils and microclimates, to maximize the survival of native species and biodiversity and preserve ecosystem processes;
  - m) ***Adaptive Management and Monitoring*** of ecosystem and physical processes to support implementation of management actions to achieve project objectives under rapidly-changing climatic conditions; and
  - n) ***Living Shoreline Projects*** which restore and enhance nearshore and tidal habitats such as tidal wetlands, eelgrass and native oysters, to promote sedimentation and protect against shoreline erosion.
5. **Climate Change Research**. When appropriate and consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation and available funding sources, the Conservancy will support priority research projects that are targeted to increasing understanding of climate change impacts to coastal and bay resources, support vulnerability assessments, quantify carbon sequestration benefits of habitat enhancement and restoration projects, and that demonstrate the effectiveness of applied management strategies.

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6. Education, Outreach and Guidance. To the extent feasible with staffing and funding limitations, the Conservancy will collaborate with others to provide current information and guidance to grantees on the latest relevant climate change information and best management practices.
7. Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Conservancy staff will work with applicants to identify, evaluate, and incorporate reasonable measures to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of Conservancy-funded projects. The Conservancy will encourage use of best management practices and innovative designs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and, as possible will support the development of such practices and designs through funding and other actions.
8. Carbon Reduction and Offsets. Conservancy staff will continue to measure, verify and report its overall greenhouse gas emissions with the goal of reducing them; and will explore opportunities to offset emissions from Conservancy operations. The Conservancy will require grantees to obtain the approval of the Executive Officer prior to sale of carbon credits on land for which the Conservancy provided funding to purchase, restore, enhance, or develop.
9. Transportation. Conservancy staff will, where feasible, attempt to reduce their work-related greenhouse gas emissions from travel, through the use of public transportation, carpooling, bicycling, use of low fuel vehicles, clustering meetings and events, and using phone- and web-based conferencing technologies.