

COASTAL CONSERVANCY

Staff Recommendation  
September 23, 2021

**EXPLORE THE COAST GRANT PROGRAM – 2021-2022**

21-060-01

Project Managers: Fanny Yang, Virgilio Cuasay

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Authorization to disburse up to \$1,721,088 to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for 45 projects that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore the California coast. Participants are drawn from throughout the State and will visit coastal locations from Del Norte County south to San Diego County.

**LOCATION:** Various locations along the coast of California and the San Francisco Bay shoreline (see Exhibit 1)

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EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1: [Project Location Map](#)

Exhibit 2: [Advisory Board Members](#)

Exhibit 3: [Support Letters](#)

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**RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS**

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31119, 31160-31165 and 31400-31410 of the Public Resources Code:

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million, seven hundred twenty-one thousand eighty-eight dollars (\$1,721,088) to 41 nonprofit organizations, 1 tribe, and 3 public entities for 45 projects that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore the California coast. The projects described in the accompanying staff report may be modified to protect the health of participants during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic so long as the modified projects continue to promote the goal of facilitating and enhancing the public's opportunities to explore the California coast. The 45 grantees are as follows (presented in alphabetical order):

- Amah Mutsun Land Trust: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to bring 50 Amah Mutsun Tribal Band members to the Santa Cruz coast to learn about their ancestry and

traditional lifeways, learn about coastal resources from elders and experts, and explore a wide variety of coastal environments with their families and broader community.

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire: Twenty-four thousand four hundred dollars (\$24,400) to bring approximately 65 inland, low-income youth and their mentors to four ocean experience events along the South Coast.
- City Surf Project: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide surfing programs that will serve approximately 125 vulnerable and foster youth in San Francisco throughout the school year, in partnership with four local high schools and five Community Based Organizations.
- Community Nature Connection: Forty-nine thousand eight hundred dollars (\$49,800) to implement the Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program which will provide naturalist-guided coastal trips to approximately 1,000 participants from underserved communities in Los Angeles.
- Crystal Cove Conservancy: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide opportunities for Indigenous youth from Riverside and East Los Angeles and their families to take part in on-the-water cruises to help monitor the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area, participate in a summer surf and beach camp, and take part in intergenerational cultural events.
- Discovery Cube Orange County (Discovery Cube): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide approximately 530 students with a field trip to Newport Bay, where they will observe marine life during a boat trip, collect water quality data that they will later use in the classroom, and collect microplastics data on the beach for a citizen science project.
- Earth Discovery Institute: Forty-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$41,400) to bring approximately 360 students and their parents from Southeast San Diego County to the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge for environmental education and recreational activities.
- East Bay Regional Park District: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to provide adaptive boating experiences for approximately 100 participants from Alameda and Contra Costa Counties who face physical access barriers to on the water recreation at various sites along the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta shoreline.
- Environmental Traveling Companions: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide access to approximately 375 Bay Area participants to the northern California coast for under-resourced youth and people with disabilities, through kayaking adventures in the San Francisco Bay or Tomales Bay.
- Friends of the Dunes: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to provide enjoyable coastal experiences exploring Humboldt Bay's beautiful and diverse coastal environments for approximately 1,000 Humboldt County participants from underserved communities.

- GirlVentures: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to introduce up to 100 youth, primarily girls and gender non-conforming youth, from underserved and marginalized communities to various Bay Area coastal areas for recreational and skill-building activities.
- Greater Farallones Association: Sixteen thousand nine hundred dollars (\$16,900) to deliver coastal field trips to approximately 175 science students from Title 1 high schools in the Point Arena Schools District where they will participate in a community science program focused on intertidal monitoring.
- Groundwork San Diego – Chollas Creek: Forty-one thousand two hundred thirteen dollars (\$41,213) to provide four school-day field trips and two week-long camps to visit various coastal locations in San Diego to approximately 180 5th grade students, high school/university student mentors, and family members from underserved communities of Southeastern San Diego.
- John F. Kennedy High School: Forty-two thousand two hundred dollars (\$42,200) to provide approximately 250 students from John F. Kennedy High School with the opportunity to engage in recreation and educational opportunities along the coast and in coastal education centers at Santa Monica Beach, Long Beach, and Point Dume.
- Jug Handle Creek Farm & Nature Center: Nineteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$19,500) to bring approximately 450 tribal elders, parents, youth, and children from the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Pinoleville Pomo Nation, and other indigenous tribes of Mendocino and Lake Counties to retreats at the Mendocino coast.
- LifeSail Inc.: Twenty-seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$27,200) to provide day sails in Santa Monica Bay for approximately 112 foster youth from marginalized neighborhoods and short-term residential treatment centers in South, Central, and West Los Angeles, and the Antelope Valley.
- LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired: Thirty-five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$35,800) to provide completely accessible coastal recreational activities for approximately 30 blind high school students and young adults from the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Literacy for Environmental Justice: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide up to 550 low-income residents of Bayview-Hunters Point and surrounding communities with kayaking adventures, overnight camping, habitat restoration environmental education and workforce development opportunities along the San Francisco Bay shoreline.
- Little Manila Rising: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide up to 78 low-income youth from South Stockton and surrounding communities with a weekend retreat on the Marin Coast to learn about their connections to the land and the coast and develop stronger relationships with nature.

- Living Coast Discovery Center: Thirty-six thousand four hundred dollars (\$36,400) to offer hands-on environmental engagement opportunities at locations along the San Diego coast for up to 84 youth residents from Housing on Merit, a nonprofit that creates bridges to permanent affordable housing for vulnerable populations.
- Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust: Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to take approximately 720 third and fourth grade students from Title 1 schools in the Long Beach Unified School District and Santa Ana Unified School District on a field trip to Los Cerritos Wetlands for a hands-on learning environmental education experience.
- Los Indios de San Gabriel dba San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide approximately 45 Kizh Nation tribal youth and adult members with a cultural and environmental stewardship day camp and weeklong overnight camp at culturally significant locations along the southern California coast.
- MarinLink (fiscal sponsor for BlindSail SF Bay): Twenty-two thousand four hundred dollars (\$22,400) to provide seven 5-hour sailing lessons for approximately 90-125 blind participants.
- MeWater Foundation: Twenty-three thousand nine hundred dollars (\$23,900) to provide 30 surf and ocean education camps at multiple Bay Area beaches for approximately 600 youth from low-income and trauma-impacted communities primarily from the City of San Francisco.
- Nature for All: Forty-nine thousand nine hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$49,958) to provide a total of 12 wellness-focused coastal trips, which include transportation, meals, interpretation from bilingual naturalists, and family-friendly activities, for approximately 150 participants from disadvantaged communities in and around Los Angeles.
- NatureTrack Foundation Inc.: Thirty-three thousand two hundred dollars (\$33,200) to provide over 200 wheelchair users and others who are mobility impaired with an accessible beach or coastal trail experience along the Santa Barbara Coast.
- North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California: Twenty-five thousand four hundred seventy-seven dollars (\$25,477) to provide four trips to the Central Coast, serving a total of 60 tribal participants consisting of tribal elders and youth from low-income, disadvantaged communities.
- Ocean Discovery Institute: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to take more than 4,000 elementary school students from the City Heights community in San Diego on field trips to see tide pools, wetlands, and kelp forests along San Diego's coast and to the Living Coast Discovery center for interactive environmental education activities.
- Outdoor Outreach: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide approximately 450 low-income youth in Southeastern San Diego, City Heights, and El Cajon the opportunity to enjoy the coast through activities including kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, surfing, fishing, hiking, biking, and tide-pooling at select locations along the San Diego coast.

- Outward Bound Adventures: Thirty-eight thousand dollars (\$38,000) to provide Bishop Paiute Tribal Youth with a 5-day, 4-night experiential outdoor marine biology program along California's Central Coast.
- Play Marin: Forty-three thousand five hundred dollars (\$43,500) to provide approximately 80 youth and their families from Marin City with beach adventures including surfing, kayaking, picnicking, and an education retreat to coastal locations along the Marin coast.
- Reef Check Foundation: Twenty-nine thousand nine hundred dollars (\$29,900) to provide experiential on-and-under-the-ocean stewardship training and marine science educational opportunities to young members of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians.
- Refugee Enrichment and Development Association, Inc.: Forty thousand six hundred dollars (\$40,600) to offer four retreats to approximately 108 low-income refugees from Sacramento who experience geographic, economic, and social stressors to explore the coast in Point Reyes National Seashore.
- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains: Forty-one thousand six hundred dollars (\$41,600) to provide approximately 800 students and their families from Black, brown, and Indigenous communities in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties with a science-based outdoor education experience followed by an afternoon at Malibu Lagoon State Beach.
- Santa Cruz Hub for Sustainable Living (fiscal sponsor for the California Field School): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide four seven-day overnight bicycle camping trips for approximately 60 high school students from the Fruitvale neighborhood in Oakland.
- Shared Adventures: Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to serve up to 300 people with disabilities and their family and/or caretakers from Sacramento/Bay Area, the Central Coast, and the Central Valley for a day of kayaking, snorkeling, out-rigger rides, beach wheelchair rides, marine education, and other activities at Cowell's Beach in Santa Cruz.
- Social Good Fund (fiscal sponsor for Brown Girl Surf): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide surfing and ocean education experiences along the San Mateo Coast for approximately 140 people, primarily girls and women-identifying, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people, primarily from Alameda and other Bay Area Counties.
- The Latino Equity Advocacy & Policy Institute (LEAP): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide weekend coastal camping trips for approximately 476 participants from Huron, a disadvantaged community in the Central Valley, to hike sections of the California Coastal Trail, explore boardwalks, observe marine mammals, and visit the southern portion of Big Sur.
- The Ocean Foundation: Thirty-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$36,500) to provide approximately 80 coastal field trips and ocean education programs for up to 2,500

fourth through seventh grade students and 75 teachers in the industrial-urban community of National City.

- United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Inc.: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to host six shoreline day camps, at Doran Beach and Stinson Beach, for 120 children and adults with developmental disabilities from Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties.
- Ventana Wilderness Alliance: Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to provide two three-day coastal watershed backpacking trips along the Central Coast for approximately 24 low-income youth from Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, and Watsonville area.
- Ventana Wildlife Society: Forty thousand eight hundred forty dollars (\$40,800) to facilitate the “Ocean Prescriptions” program, which involves afternoon, day-long, and overnight coastal trips for up to 215 participants from the Salinas Valley.
- Waterside Workshops: Thirty-five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$35,800) to provide approximately 50 low-income East Bay youth outdoor recreational experiences in their own community and trips to coastal and bayfront sites in San Mateo, Marin, and Sonoma Counties.
- Western Los Angeles County Council, Boy Scouts of America: Thirty-four thousand six hundred dollars (\$34,600) to provide a 3-day ocean camp experience on Catalina Island for at least 150 youth from low-income and underserved Latinx communities of the East San Fernando Valley.
- Wilderness Youth Project: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to take up to 534 students from low-income and underserved communities in Santa Barbara on three field trips to various locations along the Santa Barbara coastline to explore and learn about ocean and coastal ecology, forge relationships with experienced staff of mentors, and develop a lasting connection with their natural surroundings.

Prior to commencement of the project, each grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Any other applicable agreements determined necessary for the project by the Conservancy’s Executive Officer.

Findings:

Based on the accompanying staff recommendation and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapters 3, 4.5 and 9 of Division 21 (Sections 31000 *et seq.*) of the Public Resources Code, regarding undertaking educational projects

relating to coastal resources (Ch. 3), the resource and recreational goals in the San Francisco Bay Area (Chapter 4.5), and the establishment of a system of public accessways to and along the California coast (Chapter 9).

2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The proposed nonprofit organizations are organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

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## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

### **PROJECT SUMMARY:**

Staff recommends the Conservancy authorize disbursement of up to \$1,721,088 to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for 45 projects that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore the coast of California under the Conservancy's Explore the Coast (ETC) grant program.

The purpose of the ETC grant program is to provide coastal experiences for people and communities who face challenges or barriers to accessing or enjoying the coast (ETC Priority Communities). ETC Priority Communities include, but are not limited to, lower-income individuals and households, people with disabilities, people of color, immigrant communities, and foster youth. ETC projects recommended for funding meet one or more of the following priorities: Provides an enjoyable experience at the coast; Reduces economic, physical, operational, or societal barriers to accessing or enjoying the coast; or Inspires an ongoing coastal resource stewardship ethic through active learning and interactive activities.

The ETC grant program includes projects that enhance visitors' ability to learn about natural, recreational, cultural, and historic resources of the California coast and San Francisco Bay shorelines. A variety of activities and programmatic services are eligible for funding under the ETC grant program such as providing transportation, reducing the economic cost of coastal program attendance, providing coastal experiences for persons with disabilities, docent programs that promote awareness of access opportunities or recreational uses of the coast, and overnight coastal experiences for participants. This year's ETC grant program solicitation was released in late January 2021; a webinar was held in the following weeks to provide further guidance for potential applicants on the program and the application. Additional technical assistance was available upon request and Conservancy project staff helped a number of organizations prior to the application deadline.

Each year, the Coastal Conservancy allocates hundreds of thousands of dollars through the Explore the Coast grant program to connect underserved communities to the coast. In recommending projects to the Conservancy, staff aim to equitably distribute this funding and maximize the impact of every dollar spent. To better achieve these goals, Conservancy staff created an Explore the Coast Advisory Board in 2019. Advisory Board members serve a term of two years and can choose to continue their service for another term. This year, 7 new Advisory

Board members were recruited, representing various regions of the State with backgrounds in environmental justice, coastal access issues, tribal advocacy, disability rights, foundation work and funding, grant program administration, and environmental education (Exhibit 2). The Advisory Board advises staff on the application process, application review, and ongoing management of the grant program. The Advisory Board's participation with staff in the review and selection of projects advances equity by giving the communities served by the program an opportunity to provide direct input on their needs and the types of projects that will best serve their needs.

By the March 22, 2021, submission deadline, the Conservancy received 95 project proposals, requesting over \$2.8 million in Conservancy funding. Applications were initially reviewed by staff and then 77 applications were forwarded to the Advisory Board. Each application was reviewed by at least two Advisory Board members. On June 9 and 11, the Advisory Board participated in meetings by Zoom to discuss the applications and provide recommendations to staff. Following this meeting, staff finalized the list of recommended projects.

Of the 95 proposed projects submitted, 45 are recommended for funding under this grant round. In making its funding recommendation, staff considered each project's needs, its overall benefits, and the input from the Advisory Board. Due to this fiscal year's appropriation of \$14 million to the Conservancy for the ETC grant program, the number of projects recommended for funding this year is twice the average number of projects recommended in recent years.

Staff estimates that the proposed 2021-2022 ETC grant program will engage over 18,000 people through the proposed project activities. Of these 18,000 people, project partners estimate that the program will serve over 15,100 low-income Californians, 16,200 people of color, 1,000 homeless or foster youth, approximately 8,800 people for whom English is not their first language, and at least 1,400 people with physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities.

With easing of State and local jurisdiction restrictions related to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, all proposed projects include activities reflective of pre-pandemic operations. However, project partners will continue to respond and modify their programming if needed in order to respond to the evolving nature of community conditions and related public health recommendations.

Staff recommends funding the following 45 projects for the 2021-2022 ETC grants program. The projects are arranged alphabetically by grantee. Each individual project summary includes the grantee; project name; recommended funding amount; geographic region of the participants; a brief project description; and information on the consistency of the proposed project with the Conservancy's proposed funding source, its enabling legislation, and its Strategic Plan. In addition, each project summary provides relevant information for project compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).



**AMAH MUTSUN LAND TRUST**

**\$50,000**

**Tribal Involvement in the Amah Mutsun Land Trust Coastal Stewardship Program**

**Central Coast,  
San Joaquin Valley**

The Amah Mutsun Land Trust’s Coastal Stewardship Program will bring approximately 50 Amah Mutsun Tribal Band members to the Santa Cruz coast to learn about their ancestry and traditional lifeways, learn about coastal resources from elders and experts, and explore a wide variety of coastal environments with their families and broader community. The program includes two weeks of summer camp, which ETC has funded in the past, and adds on 4 coastal field trips during other times of the year. The field trips will be available to camp attendees and their families, and will include two fishing trips, one day of harvesting and processing shellfish and seaweed, and one day on a whale watching tour exploring Monterey Bay. Both camp and field trips will also include resource stewardship activities, recreation, cultural activities, and talking circles. Participants will have the opportunity to take part in recreational activities include playing games on the beach, going on hikes, and doing teambuilding exercises, along with cultural activities like jewelry making, learning coastal ethnobotany, and sharing tribal stories about the coast. The program also incorporates resource stewardship activities in which participants will be removing invasive species, protecting ancient archaeological sites, and removing trash from State beaches.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use. The project includes removing invasive species activities, which are also categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) because they are landscaping activities that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF ORANGE COUNTY AND THE INLAND EMPIRE** **\$24,400**  
**Increasing Diversity in Ocean Conservation Through Mentorship** **South Coast, Inland Southern California**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire’s Increasing Diversity in Ocean Conservation Through Mentorship program will bring approximately 65 inland, low-income youth (ages 10-16) and their mentors to four ocean experience events along the South Coast. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire is a community-based organization that serves some of the most underserved families from the San Bernardino Unified, Riverside Unified, Santa Ana Unified, Tustin Unified and Anaheim Union School Districts. Throughout the grant, students will meet with their Big Brother Big Sister mentor once or twice a month and travel together to their coastal experiences. Participants will have immersive whale and marine life tours on the ocean with the Ocean Institute in Dana Point, conservation science-focused beach cleanups at Dana Point Strands Beach with the Surfrider Foundation, and dock-based marine science exploration with Newport Sea Base. This program will expose youth to a variety of ocean conservation job opportunities and stewardship, while creating long-lasting connections with their mentor and community support systems.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**CITY SURF PROJECT** **\$50,000**  
**Surfing 101** **Bay Area**

City Surf Project’s Surfing 101 program is a 3-week surfing program provided throughout the school year that will serve approximately 125 vulnerable and foster youth in San Francisco in partnership with four local high schools and five Community Based Organizations (CBOs). The

program will provide transportation, equipment, and snacks, as well as introductory surf instruction for school teachers, students, including those with disabilities, and CBOs. Surfing lessons and instructions will be used as vehicles to foster connections to nature, build healthy lifestyle habits, help participants find personal growth, and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. To encourage relationship amongst participants, each surfing session will begin and end with community circles and feature small staff to student ratios.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Section 31162(a) because it improves public access to the bay and coast by providing bay and/or coastal experiences as described above. The project is also consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**COMMUNITY NATURE CONNECTION**

**\$49,800**

**Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program**

**South Coast**

Community Nature Connection (CNC)’s Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program will reduce economic, physical, operational, and societal barriers to accessing the coast by offering naturalist-led coastal trips that include transportation, healthy snacks, and parking fees provided at no cost to participants. CNC will work with six community based organizations in underserved communities within Los Angeles County to provide these coastal access trips to approximately 1,000 participants, including those with disabilities. Upon arriving at coastal destinations, CNC will offer participants interpretive environmental education programs that

will foster ongoing coastal stewardship programs or participants can enjoy the beach as they desire. The program will provide transportation to the coast and coastal areas, increase knowledge in ocean and environmental literacy among participants and provide families and participants information on how coastal areas can be accessed by public transportation.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**CRYSTAL COVE CONSERVANCY**

**\$50,000**

**Crystal Cove Indigenous Justice Program**

**South Coast, Inland  
Southern California**

The Crystal Cove Indigenous Justice Program, organized by the Crystal Cove Conservancy in conjunction with a community partner, Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples, provides opportunities for Indigenous youth to take part in on-the-water cruises to help monitor the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area, participate in a summer surf and beach camp, and take part in intergenerational cultural events. Since the forced removal of Indigenous people from their ancestral homelands, the oceans and beaches ceased to be places of abundance and respite for historically coastal peoples. This program aims to reconnect Indigenous youth to the coast to share knowledge about tribal water practices and offer improved coastal access that is often prevented by structural, cultural, political, and social barriers that disproportionately affect Native communities. The program will engage Indigenous students from the Sherman Indian School in Riverside and Anahuacalmecac International University Preparatory in East Los Angeles, and their families, approximately 300 participants. Programming will take place from February through September each year. To

launch the program in the late winter, approximately 80 students from both schools will take part in Marine Protected Area Science Cruises to explore the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area, where they will be introduced to the area’s cultural significance to the Acjachemen and Tongva Tribal nations and learn about how Crystal Cove State Park works with scientists.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**DISCOVERY CUBE ORANGE COUNTY**

**\$50,000**

**Dive into Citizen Science**

**South Coast, Inland  
Southern California**

Discovery Cube Orange County’s Dive into Citizen Science project will provide approximately 530 students, including those with disabilities, with a field trip to Newport Bay, where they will observe marine life during a boat trip, collect water quality data that they will later use in the classroom, and collect microplastics data on the beach for a citizen science project. The project provides access to the coast for low-income children and English as a Second Language students from Orange County, Los Angeles County, and the Inland Southern California communities. The project will have a pre-field trip workshop in which Discovery Cube educators will conduct a one-hour workshop to spark excitement about visiting the coast, address any physical, cultural or societal barriers, and introduce the concept and importance of being a citizen scientist. During the field trip, students will board an education vessel and will cruise towards the Back Bay and marine protected areas, identify any marine life they see in the harbor, learn to use standardized protocols to collect relevant data, and contribute data to real projects led by professional scientists. The field trip continues in the lab and at the Newport Beach Municipal Beach where students engage in hands-on activities and lab experiences to gain an

understanding of how to discern water quality when swimming in the ocean. At the beach, students examine plastic pollution. Students will also be introduced to a variety of ocean and marine career paths that focus on environmental protection, stewardship, and restoration.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 3: Establishment and Functions of the State Coastal Conservancy, Section 31119(b)(1) because it is an educational project related to the enjoyment of coastal resources.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

## **EARTH DISCOVERY INSTITUTE**

**\$41,400**

### **Earth Discovery Institute Explorers**

**South Coast**

Earth Discovery Institute’s Explorers program will bring approximately 360 students and their parents from Southeast San Diego County to the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge to explore the coast. Southeast San Diego includes a high proportion of families of color, low-income families, and families using English as a second language. Students will hike and observe birds and watershed processes. The program will incorporate Next Generation Science Standards aligned activities pertaining to the wetland and marsh habitat at the refuge. Students will have opportunities to talk with various guest speakers while visiting the refuge so that students can see the numerous career pathways in wildlife conservation. To connect environmental education to stewardship, students will participate in a restoration project by planting native species at the refuge. Students and their families will be invited on a weekend field trip for a kayaking tour of the San Diego Bay, while birdwatching and enjoying time together.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use. The small-scale stewardship activities that involve planting native plants and removing invasive plants are also categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) because they are landscaping activities that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT**

**\$30,000**

**Adaptive Paddling at the East Bay Regional Park District**

**Bay Area**

Adaptive Paddling at the East Bay Regional Park District is a program that provides equipment and training for participants residing in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties who experience physical access barriers to on-water recreation. The program will make it possible for up to 100 people with disabilities to attend the East Bay Regional Park District’s recreation and naturalist-led boating programs which include kayaking, canoeing, and environmental education. Program activities are expected to serve participants for two years and will begin on land, then progress to water at various sites along the Park District’s 40 miles of shoreline along the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. Participants will learn water and boating safety, increasing comfort in the water, while naturalists weave in environmental conservation concepts into the experience to nurture shoreline stewardship.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Sections 31162(a), 31162(d), and 31165 because it improves public access to the Bay for educational and recreational purposes.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.

- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**ENVIRONMENTAL TRAVELING COMPANIONS**

**\$50,000**

**AccessAbility: Inclusive Sea Kayak and Coastal Adventures**

**Bay Area**

Through their AccessAbility program, Environmental Traveling Companions will provide access to the northern California coast for under-resourced youth and people with disabilities, through kayaking adventures on San Francisco or Tomales bay. Environmental Traveling Companions participants learn paddling and navigation techniques and are outfitted with paddling gear and adaptive equipment as needed. Using resources like tactile maps, laminated natural history cards, and lunchtime conservation activities, Environmental Traveling Companions will highlight marine ecosystems, the cultural and human history of the bays, and the plant and animal life that participants encounter during their kayaking adventures. After lunch, participants take part in educational and team-building games and a beach cleanup. On overnight trips, participants also participate in guided hikes, sensory awareness, and reflective activities, and learn about issues impacting California’s coasts, such as climate change and ocean acidification.

Environmental Traveling Companions encourages return visits to the coast by sharing resources such as SF Bay Area Water Trail Accessibility Maps, Wheelchair Rider’s Guide, and information on accessing beach wheelchairs. Environmental Traveling Companion’s 's AccessAbility program inspires joyful connections to the coast; empowers participants with new knowledge of kayaking skills and estuarine ecosystems; and fosters a stewardship ethos for Bay Area beaches and estuaries.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above. The proposed project is also consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Sections 31162(a), 31162(d), and 31165 because it improves public access to the Bay and coast for educational and recreational purposes.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.



- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**FRIENDS OF THE DUNES**

**\$40,000**

**Cultivating Coastal Connections**

**North Coast**

Through its Cultivating Coastal Connections project, Friends of the Dunes will provide coastal experiences exploring Humboldt Bay’s beautiful and diverse coastal environments for approximately 1,000 Humboldt County community participants. Participants will include Latinx and Spanish-speaking families, lower-income households, and the Wiyot Tribe, and will include people who have little or no previous experience exploring the outdoors. The project will include three program components tailored specifically for each community group: 1) monthly, family-friendly nature programs in Spanish led by bilingual Latinx naturalists, including short hikes introducing participants to different coastal environments and access areas and to birdwatching and animal tracking; 2) a series of workshops to help introduce inexperienced participants to the wonders of exploring nature, accompanied by 12 or more coastal location outings; and 3) partnering with the Wiyot Tribe to reconnect Wiyot youth groups and tribal elders to the Samoa Dunes and Wetlands Conservation Area and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.

- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**GIRLVENTURES**

**\$50,000**

**Increasing Coastal Access and Building Environmental Stewardship for Underserved Girls**

**Bay Area**

GirlVentures will introduce a new generation of youth, primarily girls and gender non-conforming youth, from underserved and marginalized communities to our coastal areas. The outdoor leadership programs reduce economic, logistical, and social barriers to coastal access, and provide the opportunity for youth to build confidence, empathy, and life skills, and connect with nature along the coast. In these coastal immersion courses, youth in grades 6-12 will experience the wonders of the California coast during 5 to 14-day expeditions that combine hiking, backpacking, and kayaking, with a social-emotional learning curriculum focusing on the environment, social justice, culture, and leadership. Courses will take place in the spring and summer, serving at least 50 participants annually, for a total of 100 served during the grant period. Programming will take place in Half Moon Bay, Tomales Bay and Point Reyes National Seashore, Butano State Park, Samuel P. Taylor State Park, and at the Richmond Marina.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Sections 31162(a), 31162(d), and 31165 because it improves public access to the Bay and coast for educational and recreational purposes. The proposed project is also consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**GREATER FARALLONES ASSOCIATION**

**\$16,900**

**Connecting Students to the Coast through Community Science**

**North Coast**

The Greater Farallones Association’s Connecting Students to the Coast through Community Science project will deliver coastal field trips to high school science students from the Point Arena Schools District in Mendocino County, a rural, geographically isolated area with limited access to inquiry-based environmental education. This project will connect 175 Title 1 school students to their local coast through a community science program that engages students in intertidal monitoring. Students will first be introduced in the classroom to ecological concepts and marine species that they will encounter and to data collection techniques. On two field trips to rocky intertidal sites, students will measure the distribution and abundance of marine species like sea stars, abalone, sea urchins, anemones, owl limpets, and coralline algae. After each monitoring session, students will return to the classroom to enter their observational data into the program’s online database.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 3: Establishment and Functions of the State Coastal Conservancy, Section 31119(b)(1) because it is an educational project related to the enjoyment of coastal resources.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**GROUNDWORK SAN DIEGO – CHOLLAS CREEK**

**\$41,213**

**Kids to the Coast**

**South Coast**

Groundwork San Diego-Chollas Creek’s Kids to the Coast Program will provide four school-day field trips and two week-long camps to 120 5th grade students, 30 high school/university

student mentors, and about 30 family members from underserved communities of Southeastern San Diego. Participants, including those with disabilities, will explore San Diego’s rich coastal resources by visiting various coastal locations in San Diego, including San Diego Bay Wildlife Refuge, the Living Coast Discovery Center, Tijuana River Estuarine Research Reserve and Beach, Cabrillo National Monument Tidepools, Silver Strand State Beach, San Diego Bay, Mission Bay, the Birch Aquarium at Scripps, and Imperial Beach Pier. Students will actively participate in water sports and related coastal activities to include whale watching, tide pooling, snorkeling, boogie boarding, paddle boarding, and kayaking.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL**

**\$42,200**

**GLEAM Coastal Immersion Experience**

**South Coast**

The Global Leadership & Environmental Action Magnet (GLEAM) is a program within John F. Kennedy (JFK) High School located in the San Fernando Valley. JFK High School is a Title 1 school that serves primarily low-income students, most of whom are also students of color. The GLEAM program provides students, including those with disabilities, opportunities to build a positive relationship with the local environment, to learn about environmental challenges, and participate in advocacy work. Through this grant program GLEAM will serve 250 high school students from JFK by providing them the opportunity to engage in recreation and educational opportunities along the coast and in coastal education centers at Santa Monica Beach, Long Beach, and Point Dume. The grant program will eliminate economic barriers for students, many

of whom have not been to the coast. This will enable them to experience marine ecosystems first-hand and discuss the role of humans in protecting these spaces.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**JUG HANDLE CREEK FARM & NATURE CENTER**

**\$19,500**

**Pomo Coast Connect**

**North Coast**

In partnership with the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Pinoleville Pomo Nation, and other indigenous tribes of Mendocino and Lake Counties, Jug Handle Creek Farm and Nature Center will bring tribal elders, parents, youth, and small kids to the Mendocino coast. Historically, the tribes were removed and consolidated onto lands in eastern Mendocino County; over the course of two years, the “Pomo Coast Connect” project will serve more than 450 tribal residents from all three tribes, enabling tribal members to come to the coast as a community group and engage in cultural practices on the beach, the ocean, and historic coastal Pomo lands. The project consists of six three-day two-night retreats where Indigenous participants will be provided with free overnight accommodations at the Nature Center, while participating in a variety of activities including cultural ceremonies, kayaking the Big River Estuary, whale and seal watching, and tide pool exploration. The project will be designed by tribal members for tribal members, incorporating an element of mentorship and tribal knowledge sharing between elders and youth participants.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**LIFESAIL INC.**

**\$27,200**

**Sailing Adventures for Foster Youth**

**South Coast**

LifeSail Inc.'s Sailing Adventures for Foster Youth project will provide day sails in Santa Monica Bay for 112 foster youth, including those with disabilities, from marginalized neighborhoods and short-term residential treatment centers in South, Central, and West Los Angeles, and the Antelope Valley. Due to being in temporary living arrangements, few foster youth are exposed to hobbies, nature, the ocean, the arts, and other life experiences in the same way as their peers who remain in family homes. The project will enable foster youth participants to experience hands-on sailing, STEM principles in the real world, and ocean stewardship. Participants will learn close quarter and man-overboard sailing maneuvers to collect garbage that accumulates in our coastal waters, and then classify, weigh, and analyze marine debris. The overarching goal of the project is to provide youth with a visceral experience that helps them focus on possibilities outside their immediate environment, that encourages young people to enjoy the wind and waves, and that allows them to observe birds, sea lions, dolphins, and whales. The program will offer a safe, caring place for foster youth to discover their inner and collective strengths through an intimate introduction to the coastal environment using sailing adventures that uplift their lives and perspectives.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for "the Explore the Coast Grant Program."

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

**\$35,800**

**LightHouse for the Blind’s Youth Adventurers**

**Bay Area**

The LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired’s Youth Adventurer Project will provide completely accessible coastal recreational activities for 30 blind high school students and young adults (ages 14 to 26) from the San Francisco Bay Area. Blind youth are often excluded from recreational and outdoor activities, including coastal activities, due to misconceptions about abilities, overprotective families, transportation barriers, and self-confidence issues related to lack of experience. The project will significantly reduce these barriers by offering accessible activities specifically for blind kids at free or reduced cost. Over the course of two years, the project will enable participants to explore and enjoy California coastal locations, learn more about the environment, and develop life skills and confidence. Activities include kayaking, surfing, educational outings, and beach fun; however, while the focus of these activities will be fun and adventure with blind peers and mentors, students will also practice the skills of blindness and independence. They will also develop leadership skills and will learn more about science and the natural world. This project will include environmental education including museum and aquarium visits, group discussions, and opportunities to enjoy and appreciate natural resources.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Sections 31162(a) and 31165 because it improves public access to the bay and coast by providing bay and coastal experiences. The proposed project is also consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**LITERACY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

**\$50,000**

**Eco-Adventures Program**

**Bay Area**

The Eco-Adventures program provides low-income and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) residents of Bayview-Hunters Point and surrounding communities with recreation, environmental education, workforce development, and stewardship activities along the San Francisco Bay shoreline. The program will serve up to 550 school children and community members, at no cost, with kayaking adventures, overnight camping, habitat restoration, hikes, and workshops on San Francisco's natural, cultural, and environmental justice history at Literacy for Environmental Justice's Native Plant Nursery, Sunset Point Campground, and throughout the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area (CPSRA). As part of the program's workforce development element, two candidates will be chosen for the Eco-Apprentice program, a one-year, paid, full-time internship for low-income and BIPOC individuals in the fields of natural resource management and community development. Eco-Adventures is designed to familiarize participants with the CPSRA, San Francisco Bay ecosystems, recreating in shoreline environments, and develop the comfort to become future stewards of the Bay.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for "the Explore the Coast Grant Program."

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Sections 31162(a), 31162(d), and 31165 because it improves public access to the Bay for educational and recreational purposes.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.



- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use. The proposed project is also categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) because removing trash and invasive species and planting native plants are landscaping activities that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

## **LITTLE MANILA RISING**

**\$50,000**

### **Delta to the Sea - Exploring Our Connections to the Coast**

**San Joaquin Valley**

Through Little Manila Rising’s Delta to the Sea program, up to 78 low-income youth from South Stockton and surrounding communities will travel to locations on the San Joaquin Delta and the Marin Coast for a weekend retreat to learn about their connections to the land and develop stronger relationships with nature. Participants, including those with disabilities, will take part in a set of activities, each with a healing focus, including culturally rooted healing practices led by indigenous spiritual elders to build a deeper understanding of the natural world, interpretive programming led by naturalists to learn about ecological resources and local history, coastal hikes to practice mindfulness in nature, and kayaking to gain comfort in outdoor spaces. The program will be conducted through a collaboration between Little Manila Rising and trusted community partners and will be provided at no cost to program participants. Delta to the Sea is designed to address the first-hand and intergenerational traumas that Stockton communities of color face. With healing at the center of all activities, participants will build the individual skills necessary for strengthening community resilience and become better stewards of the environment.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Section 31162(a) because it improves public access to the bay and coast by providing bay and coastal experiences. The project is also consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.

- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**LIVING COAST DISCOVERY CENTER**

**\$36,400**

**Wildlife Day Camps for Housing on Merit Youth**

**South Coast**

The Chula Vista-based Living Coast Discovery Center (Living Coast) will offer hands-on environmental engagement opportunities for up to 84 youth residents from Housing on Merit (HOM), a nonprofit that creates bridges to permanent affordable housing for vulnerable populations. Participants will attend Wildlife Day Camp free of charge in summer 2022 and 2023 at the Center, located in the Sweetwater Marsh Unit of the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and at the Crown Cove Aquatic Center located at nearby Silver Strand State Beach. Through its partnership with HOM, the Living Coast will provide enjoyable coastal experiences for youth populations who are from low-income communities, homeless, or housing insecure. The primary project goal is to reduce the economic and logistical barriers for participating youth to access and enjoy the coast. Participants will be integrated into Living Coast camps for the general public and will participate in a variety of outdoor activities like kayaking and tide pooling along San Diego Bay. Other activities and experiences will include closeup encounters with native wildlife, crafting, storytelling, and use of scientific tools to learn about coastal resource conservation.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS LAND TRUST**

**\$15,000**

**Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust Field Trip for Urban Youth**

**South Coast**

Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust will take approximately 720 3rd and 4th grade students from Title 1 schools in the Long Beach Unified School District and Santa Ana Unified School District on a field trip to Los Cerritos Wetlands. Students, including those with disabilities, will participate in the “Estuary Explorers” program that was created specifically for the Los Cerritos Wetland outdoor classroom area. Students will begin with a brief lesson on the history of the Los Cerritos Wetlands and watersheds and divide into groups to explore the wetlands, planting native seeds and learning about local flora and fauna from a restoration ecologist.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 3: Establishment and Functions of the State Coastal Conservancy, Section 31119(b)(1) because it is an educational project related to the enjoyment of coastal resources.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**LOS INDIOS DE SAN GABRIEL DBA SAN GABRIEL BAND OF MISSION INDIANS**

**\$50,000**

**Kizh Nation Cultural and Environmental Stewardship Camp**

**South Coast, Inland  
Southern California**

The Kizh Nation Cultural and Environmental Stewardship Camp will provide approximately 45 Kizh Nation tribal youth and adult members with day long trips to several culturally significant

locations along the coast including the Dana Point Ecological Reserve, Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve, Los Cerritos Wetlands, Bolsa Chica State Beach, Ballona Wetlands, and others. The camp will also include a weeklong overnight camping trip to Catalina Island. The Tribal participants will be taught ancient stories from Tribal Elders who will highlight the Tribe’s ancestral lineage to the coastal location and the location’s cultural significance within the Tribe’s ancestral territory. In tandem, the participants will be able to explore the native flora and fauna of the location, be taught by the Tribal Biologist about the location’s ecological significance to the Tribe, and discuss ways the Tribe can fulfill its hereditary obligation of stewardship for coastal locations. A main goal of the program is to strengthen the knowledge base within the current and the next generation of the Tribe with the Tribe’s oral history and traditional ecological knowledge so the information can be used to support the protection and preservation of the land and the Tribe’s rich culture in the future generations.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**MARINLINK (FISCAL SPONSOR OF BLINDSAIL SF BAY) \$22,400**

**BlindSail SF Bay Bay Area**

BlindSail SF Bay will provide seven 5-hour sailing lessons for 90-125 blind participants. Participants will sail from Treasure Island Sailing Center, learn safety training, and receive adaptive sailing training with the goal of each blind sailor actively sailing with as little physical interaction from sighted instructors as possible. All blind sailors will be teamed up with a sighted sailor for safety and instruction. Blind sailors will also have access to a tactile map of the Bay and complete a tactile tour of the boat. Communication and teamwork on board are focus points of the project. Blind sailors are encouraged to continue building their sailing knowledge

and skills; those who want an additional challenge can participate in the blind fleet racing clinic. Past participants will mentor new blind sailors, reinforcing the rigging and sailing skills learned.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Section 31162(a) because it improves public access to the bay by providing bay and coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

#### **MEWATER FOUNDATION**

**\$23,900**

#### **MeWater Surf and Ocean Education Outdoor Exploration Camps**

**Bay Area**

MeWater Foundation (MeWater) will provide 30 surf and ocean education camps to approximately 600 youth from low-income and trauma-impacted communities primarily from the City of San Francisco. Led by a team of mental health professionals and surfers, the project provides underserved and at-risk youth with access to their local beaches and coastal areas. All MeWater camps are accessible to youth with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. In addition to surfing lessons, activities include a comprehensive water safety lesson, mindfulness practice and emotional health exercises, snacks, and volunteer-led discussions, which help program participants be present in the moment and channel their energy into positive experiences. The camp will include an overnight camping trip and participants will take a night hike in Muir Woods. For many participants, these camps offer first-time experiences swimming in the ocean, surfing, and camping. Each camp concludes with a beach cleanup that serves the dual purpose of mitigating coastal pollution, while also fostering social responsibility and understanding of environmental issues. Programs will take place at Muir Beach, Stinson Beach, and Bolinas Beach in Marin County, Ocean Beach in San Francisco, and Miramar in Half Moon Bay.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**NATURE FOR ALL**

**\$49,958**

**All Aboard for Nature**

**South Coast**

Nature For All will expand its existing All Aboard for Nature pilot program, with the overarching goal of increasing equitable access to natural areas in and around Los Angeles for the region's most disadvantaged communities that have been especially hard hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. The program will provide a total of 12 free wellness-focused coastal trips for 150 community members that will include transportation, accommodations for those with disabilities, family-friendly and educational activities, meals, and interpretation from bilingual naturalists. Activities will vary depending on location but will include a hike during which participants will learn about the environment of the area being visited, followed by time for journaling, an activity like a nature-based scavenger hunt, and a closing meditation. In closing, participants are invited to join one of Nature for All's Leadership Development Programs, to gain further experience in environmental stewardship, careers, and training in raising awareness of environmental issues and community activism.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for "the Explore the Coast Grant Program."

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.

- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**NATURETRACK FOUNDATION INC.**

**\$33,200**

**NewTracks**

**Central Coast**

NatureTrack Foundation’s New Tracks program will provide over 200 wheelchair users and others who are mobility impaired with an accessible beach or coastal trail experience along the Central Coast. NatureTrack’s staff and over 100 volunteer docents will provide docent-led field trips to beaches and coastal trails for participants. This program will also serve participants that are of varying emotional and cognitive ability, low income, people of color, veterans, and senior adults. Their program will take participants on field trips to coastal sites in Santa Barbara County from Carpinteria to Guadalupe Dunes using a Freedom Trax device, which transforms manual wheelchairs to battery-powered all terrain wheelchairs. During the visits to the beach or coastal trail, NatureTrack docents will engage participants in activities based on their comfort level, such as educational activities, art projects, and self-exploration. Participants will gain self-confidence through independently experiencing beach or coastal trails that have previously been inaccessible to them with manual wheelchairs. They can later volunteer as a docent with NatureTrack or similar organizations to develop leadership skills.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**NORTH FORK RANCHERIA OF MONO INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA**

**\$25,477**

**Coastal Trade Connections**

**San Joaquin Valley**

The North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California’s Coastal Trade Connections project will provide four trips to the coast, serving a total of 60 tribal participants from low-income, disadvantaged communities. Participants will include both tribal elders and youth with one goal being to encourage intergenerational tribal connections. Participants will learn about traditional trading routes, stewardship of coastal resources, resiliency, and the natural history of the ocean and marine life that exists in and around bays, reserves, and estuaries. The two-day trips will also include time for beach play and relaxation. Many participants will be first-time ocean visitors or those who have not been to the ocean for years. Through the project, participants will acknowledge the tribal homelands of the coastal indigenous people by meeting with the Amah Mutsun tribe and discuss how trade impacted tribal homelands located inland.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**OCEAN DISCOVERY INSTITUTE**

**\$40,000**

**Ocean Discovery Institute’s In-School Program: Connecting Young People to Coastal Environments**

**South Coast**

Ocean Discovery Institute’s Connecting Young People to Coastal Environments program will take more than 4,000 elementary school students from the City Heights community in San



Diego on field trips to see tide pools, wetlands, and kelp forests along San Diego’s coast and to the Living Coast Discovery center where they will make observations and engage in interactive activities with plants and animals. The program provides continuous coastal experiences to the same students in every year of their elementary school progression from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Students participate in hikes and exploration of coastal habitats and learn to use tools like binoculars and magnifying glasses. 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in a restoration project at the Sweetwater Marsh. Through these repeated exposures, the program builds the students’ sense of wonder and love for the coast and helps them gain a sense of comfort and belonging there. Each trip will also include messaging for students about how they can return to the coast with their families outside of school hours.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**OUTDOOR OUTREACH** **\$50,000**

**Coastal Adventure Club** **South Coast**

Outdoor Outreach’s Coastal Adventure Club program will recruit 450 low-income youth through trust-based partnerships with Title I schools and youth-serving social service agencies, as well through their open enrollment and family-focused programs that serve youth in low-income communities with limited coastal access. Youth participants will come from Southeastern San Diego, City Heights, and El Cajon. Throughout the year, participants will have the opportunity to enjoy and learn about the coast through activities including kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, surfing, fishing, hiking, biking, and tide-pooling. Youth and their families will participate in two to four outings per month with 1-2 overnight sessions provided (such as overnight beach camping) for school partners. This intensive, eight-week program provides youth with hands-on, nature-based skills such as first-aid and CPR training and adventure-based

program instruction, as well as professional skills such as communication, public speaking, time management, and financial literacy. Graduates of the program will be eligible for job opportunities as outdoor educators at Outdoor Outreach, where they work as peer mentors who empower hundreds of additional youths to see an alternative pathway for themselves and their futures.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

## **OUTWARD BOUND ADVENTURES**

**\$38,000**

### **Otters & Estuaries**

### **Inland Southern California**

Through the Otters & Estuaries program, Outward Bound Adventures (OBA) will provide Bishop Paiute Tribal Youth a 5-day, 4-night experiential outdoor marine biology program along California’s Central Coast. This program is a collaboration between OBA, Bishop Paiute Tribal Leaders, and the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission to expand access to California’s coast and provide opportunities to engage in recreational and stewardship activities to inland tribal youth, primarily ages 15-18 years old, most of whom have never been to the coast due to cost, lack of transportation, disabilities, and other barriers. Youth will discover the diversity of birds, plants, and marine life and learn about wetlands via a kayaking adventure at the Elkhorn Slough estuary guided by scientists from the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Research Reserve. Participants will also go behind the scenes at Monterey Bay Aquarium, view elephant seals at the Piedras Blancas Rookery, and meet innkeeper worms at Morro Bay. Throughout the trip, they will become immersed in the extraordinary world of the threatened southern sea otter. By the end of the program, participants will have a better understanding of conservation concepts and ecological systems, and will have developed skills such as setting up tents, packing backpacks, cooking and cleaning, team-building, communication, and goal-setting and achieving.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**PLAY MARIN**

**\$43,500**

**Coastal Play Marin**

**Bay Area**

The Coastal Play Marin program will provide a variety of coastal experiences to approximately 80 youth from Marin City to expose them to activities on the coast and give them skills and knowledge so that they can return to the coast on their own with friends and families. Coastal opportunities for the kids that live in Marin City are significantly more limited than those in the surrounding communities of Sausalito, Mill Valley and Tiburon. While Marin City is located just a few miles from the coast, many children who live there do not have regular access to the coast, nor have they been able to try ocean-based activities like sailing and surfing. The program includes three parts: 1) kayaking, sailing, and surfing instruction for small groups of youth; 2) two organized day trips to coastal locations for participants and their families to picnic, play, and enjoy the beach; and 3) an educational retreat for 6th graders through NatureBridge at Rodeo Beach. The program will run for eight weeks twice during the year, once in the spring and once in the fall, with a single retreat session in the Fall for 6th graders.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Section 31162(a) because it improves public access to the bay and coast by providing bay and coastal experiences as described above. The proposed project is also

consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

#### **REEF CHECK FOUNDATION**

**\$29,900**

##### **Dive Into Science... Plunge Into Stewardship**

**North Coast**

Through its Dive into Science...Plunge into Stewardship Program, Reef Check Foundation will provide experiential on-and-under-the-ocean stewardship training and marine science educational opportunities to young members of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians. Participants will come from low-income families living in the Sherwood Valley Rancheria where the average household income is \$38,500 and 34% of the population lives below the Federal Poverty Level. At site locations including Russian Gulch State Park, Salt Point State Park, and Fort Ross Historic State Park along the Sonoma-Mendocino Coast, Reef Check will train and certify tribal youth, ages 17-24, in SCUBA, marine biology, ocean conservation, and in the organization's citizen science-based protocol for monitoring Northern California's kelp forest and rocky reef ecosystems. The Program's goal is to create curiosity and a sense of excitement about the ocean and raise awareness of how scientific research, education, and community engagement can help reverse current declines in ocean health and biodiversity while strengthening participants' connection to their ancestral coastline.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for "the Explore the Coast Grant Program."

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.

- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**REFUGEE ENRICHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**\$40,600**

**Refugee Retreats in Point Reyes**

**Sacramento Valley &  
Sierras**

The Refugee Retreats Program will offer four retreats to approximately 108 low-income refugees from Sacramento to explore the coast in Point Reyes National Seashore. Activities of the program will include hiking on trails with scenic views of the ocean, wildlife watching, guided meditation and sunset watching on the beaches, as well as additional camping activities while staying at the Point Reyes Hostel. The key objective of this program is to allow refugees with multiple life stressor-, language-, and transportation-barriers to experience the healing power of the coast as well as to reduce their feeling of depression, anxiety, and isolation. The program will be free for participants and will also include transportation to and from the retreat, transportation to scheduled hikes, meals for 2 days and accommodations. To increase comfort levels during the retreat, participants will also be accompanied by bilingual staff members who speak and understand the Arabic and Dari languages.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS**

**\$41,600**

**Malibu Lagoon Together**

**South Coast**

Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (RCD) Malibu Lagoon Together Program combines a science-based outdoor education experience with an afternoon at the beach. By creating a safe family-oriented introduction to the coast, the program aims to increase the likelihood of families of color spending time at the coast and sending their students to outdoor education experiences. The program will serve 800 students and their families from throughout Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The program will focus on bringing underserved Black, brown, and Indigenous students, and their families to the coast together. For the morning session, student and family groups will be broken into teams to participate at environmental education stations focused on bird watching, local fish of the Malibu Lagoon, watershed modeling and water quality, and plant identification. After this morning of environmental education, participants will eat lunch on the beach and families will be invited to stay and enjoy the rest of their coastal experience in a way that best fits their family. The RCD will provide beach toys, activities for families to engage in, games like corn hole and spike ball, and the opportunity to simply enjoy the sun and sand.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**SANTA CRUZ HUB FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING (FISCAL SPONSOR  
OF CALIFORNIA FIELD SCHOOL)**

**\$50,000**

**California’s Changing Coast Bike Touring Summer Camps**

**Bay Area**

The California Field School will organize four seven-day overnight bicycle camping trips for 60 high school students from the Fruitvale neighborhood in Oakland. Most students from this neighborhood are first-generation youth of color. Students will be traveling by bike from San Francisco to Santa Cruz exploring the indigenous, ecological, and environmental history of the California coast along the way. Participants will take a ferry – learning to get to the coast from their neighborhood by bike – bike, hike, learn from docents, rangers, leaders, and each other. Each day of the bike ride, participants will be introduced to the different coastal regions, track questions in their journals, reflect on what they’ve learned, and read about different experiences on the coast. Participants will learn about the coast from locals and take part in hands-on activities that enhance their understanding of and connection to the land, such as studying habitats, testing water, conducting soundscape experiments, and observing flora and fauna. During morning and evening circle times, participants will have the opportunity to connect with each other by sharing their thoughts, feelings, and experiences from the day through guided discussion.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Section 31162(a) because it improves public access to the bay and coast by providing bay and coastal experiences and Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**SHARED ADVENTURES**

**\$20,000**

**Day on the Beach**

**Multiple**

Shared Adventures is a non-profit organization in Santa Cruz that provides recreational opportunities year-round for people with disabilities by designing activities and outdoor recreation days for full accessibility. The Day on the Beach event is an annual event that welcomes people with disabilities from communities spanning from the Sacramento/Bay Area, Central Coast, and the Central Valley. Participants come to Cowell’s Beach in Santa Cruz for a full day of outdoor recreation, including kayaking, canoeing, SCUBA diving and wheelchair rides along the beach. Shared Adventures conducts outreach to special education programs, independent living centers, Veterans services, residential programs, and social workers to publicize the event. Through this grant program, Shared Adventures will serve about 300 people with disabilities. To accommodate people with various disabilities, a large platform will be temporarily constructed on the beach. To maximize accessibility, there will be roll-out mats, beach chairs, accessible parking, adaptive activities and food service, and physical therapists at all activity venues for assistance.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast as described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use. The project includes the construction of a temporary platform, which is also categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR Section 15311 (Accessory Structures) because it involves placement of a temporary use item at a publicly owned park.



**SOCIAL GOOD FUND (FISCAL SPONSOR OF BROWN GIRL SURF)**

**\$50,000**

**Soul Sister Program**

**Bay Area**

Brown Girl Surf’s flagship outdoor education program, the Soul Surfer Program, will connect about 140 people, mostly girls and women-identifying, non-binary, and gender non-conforming folks of color, to ocean-based recreation. The Surf Sister Program includes a suite of complementary beach-based, female-centered surf programs designed to welcome participants into an inclusive and supportive surf community. It also provides opportunities to grow as surfers, community leaders, and ocean advocates. The program will consist of three components: 1) 28 community surf days lasting four hours each, 2) leadership development sessions for younger participants, and 3) four weeklong summer surf camps. Youth participants will have opportunities to deepen their leadership through BGS’s Youth Rising Leaders and Counselors in Training, receive training in civic engagement around equitable coast access, and foster their passion for ocean conservation.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**THE LATINO EQUITY ADVOCACY & POLICY INSTITUTE**

**\$50,000**

**LEAP Enrichment Activity to the Coast**

**San Joaquin Valley**

Through its LEAP Enrichment Activity to the Coast project the Latino Equity Advocacy & Policy Institute (LEAP Institute) will provide weekend coastal camping trips for approximately 476 farm worker families from Huron, a disadvantaged community in the Central Valley.

Transportation will be provided in electric vehicles obtained through a separate grant program from the California Air Resources Board. Participants, including those with disabilities, will hike sections of the California Coastal Trail, explore boardwalks, observe marine mammals at the Elephant Seal Observation Area, experience the southern portion of Big Sur, and create a journal of their activities. The objective is to provide farmworker families the opportunity to visit the coast, which most residents do not get to experience due to prohibitive costs and lack

of reliable transportation, or disabilities. LEAP is a community-led organization in Huron that runs a number of programs related improving community health and the environment.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast as described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**THE OCEAN FOUNDATION**

**\$36,500**

**Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation**

**South Coast**

The Ocean Foundation’s Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation will provide approximately 80 coastal field trips and ocean education programs for up to 2,500 fourth through seventh grade students and 75 teachers in the industrial-urban community of National City. 90% of National City students are people of color and 20% live below the federal poverty line. All schools in this district are categorized as Title I and lack any other source of consistent environmental education programming outside of Ocean Connectors. The Connecting Youth for Conservation program provides underserved students, including those with disabilities, with free marine science education. The Ocean Connectors program consists of coastal excursions, peer-to-peer learning, and hands-on lessons to engage youth in exploring the coast. Activities include sea turtle, seabird and shark observation, whale watching, and coastal restoration work. The program includes knowledge exchange between students in San Diego and their peers in Nayarit, Mexico about migratory marine life in the Pacific. Students learn to communicate about conservation including artwork, letters, and short video messages. New activities to be introduced to this ongoing program include marine life data collection during whale watching expeditions off the coast of San Diego and Eco Tours by boat, bike and kayak. Ocean Connectors serves all of the schools in National City and strives to cultivate a future

generation of passionate, globally aware, and empowered local residents who take active steps to enjoy and protect ocean health.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 3, Section 31119: Education Projects and Programs because the project will provide education related to the enjoyment of coastal resources for low-income youth.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use. The project includes removing invasive species activities, which are also categorically exempt under Title 14 CCR Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) because they are landscaping activities that do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

**UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF THE NORTH BAY, INC.**

**\$50,000**

**Shoreline Camp**

**North Coast, Bay Area**

The United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Inc., will host six shoreline day camps for 120 children and adults with developmental disabilities from Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties. Each day of the camp (Monday to Thursday) will be differently themed with group activities such as beach Olympics, surfing, hiking, games, yoga, and maker projects like kites, sandcastles, and nature art. The objective of the project is to provide coastal recreation experiences, develop self-confidence for the participants, and gently expose participants to the seashore at Doran and Stinson Beach. The project encourages inclusion through shared activities with non-disabled peer groups and will include student volunteers from Sonoma State University that support all activities while providing an important element of inclusion for participants.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Section 31162(a) because it improves public access to the bay and coast by providing bay and/or coastal experiences as described above. The proposed project is also consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**VENTANA WILDERNESS ALLIANCE**

**\$5,000**

**YiW Wilderness Watersheds Outings**

**Central Coast**

Ventana Wilderness Alliance’s Youth in Wilderness program will take approximately 24 low-income youth (13-18 years old) from Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, and Watsonville area on two three-day coastal watershed backpacking trips along the Central Coast. Students will have an immersive backpacking experience with all gear and food provided. Accommodations for those with disabilities will be made. The trips will be located within one of four watersheds (Villa Creek, Hare Creek, Big Sur River, or Willow Creek) of the Big Sur Coast with education lessons and trail stewardship taught by field instructors. With comfort in the outdoors as the goal, field instructors will teach about outdoor skills, manage group needs, and readily adjust programming based on each group’s agreed-upon goals for their experience. Students will learn about the connection between healthy watersheds and the ocean as well as gain confidence and leadership skills in the outdoors. Program alumni can also participate in student leadership, community leader training, or become field instructors themselves after the experience.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**VENTANA WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

**\$40,840**

**Ocean Prescription Program for Migrant Farmworker Families**

**Central Coast**

Ventana Wildlife Society (VWS) will offer farmworker families time together outdoors at the coast as part of an “Ocean Prescriptions” program designed by a local doctor to help children and families increase wellness. VWS will facilitate the fulfillment of “Ocean Prescriptions” for 215 participants in the Salinas Valley by providing transportation, Spanish-speaking staff and materials, safe and fun experiences, and other resources to increase access to the coast. The program consists of three main components: 1) weekly coastal nature classes for youth that involve activities like hiking, exploring, games, wildlife-watching, science-based nature study such as tide-pooling or sand crab monitoring, and journaling; 2) single-day coastal adventures for families for activities such as kayaking, whale watching, picnicking, games, and exploration; and 3) overnight camping trips for families to Andrew Molera State Park in Big Sur. Through participation in these activities, families develop a deeper connection to the outdoors and increased feelings of wellness. The program seeks to increase participants knowledge about nature and parks, increase their comfort level in visiting nature on their own, begin to make the outdoors a regular part of a healthy family lifestyle.. This groundbreaking work improves the health outcomes for children of migrant farmworker families living with obesity and co-occurring health challenges. Even more, it takes steps toward equitable access to nature, since East Salinas neighborhoods lack open spaces, public parks, or even tree canopy and a clear night sky.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**WATERSIDE WORKSHOPS**

**\$35,800**

**Waterside Workshops SF Bay and Coastal Experiences**

**Bay Area**

Waterside Workshops is a non-profit organization that organizes outdoor recreation, job training, and social services for low-income youth in the Bay Area, including those who are in foster care, who have disabilities, are experiencing homelessness, have been previously incarcerated, or who are on probation. Waterside Workshops has worked with local youth between the ages of 14-24 for 14 years by partnering with local schools, group homes, social workers and other community organizations that refer youth to their program, and 60% of their program staff are people who previously participated in their programs. Through the course of the grant, Waterside Workshops proposes to serve 50 low-income youth by teaching how to recreate outdoors. Participants during the summer and/or school year program will learn how to paddle or sail and will participate with staff and peers in weekly on-water excursions at the Berkeley Aquatic Park or San Francisco South Bay Sailing Basin. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn how to camp and recreate in various California State Parks by attending three 3-day camping trips at Doran Beach Park in Bodega Bay, Point Reyes National Seashore, Sonoma Coast State Park, China Camp State Park, and/or Half Moon Bay State Beach.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Grant Program.”

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5: San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Sections 31162(a) because it improves public access to the Bay and coast by providing bay and/or coastal experiences as described above. The proposed project is also consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.
- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 13, Objective L:** The project expands opportunities for barrier-free access to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

**WESTERN LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNCIL, BSA**

**\$34,600**

**Camp Emerald Bay Youth Access**

**South Coast**

Camp Emerald Bay Youth Access, operated by The Western Los Angeles County Council, Boy Scouts of America (BSA), aims to remove economic, physical, and societal barriers to coastal access and education by organizing a 3-day ocean camp experience on Catalina Island to serve at least 150 youth, including those with disabilities, from low-income and underserved Latinx communities of the East San Fernando Valley. The program will allow for hands-on experiences at the camp's marine center while also providing access to kayaking, snorkeling trips, stand-up paddleboards, coastal marine and island trail hiking activities, swimming lessons, aquarium visits, and campfires for sharing the day's adventures and reflecting on experiences. The program will also provide transportation to and from Catalina Island and overnight accommodations in the camp cabins and wall tents. Through interactive, fun educational activities, youth will gain a deeper understanding of island ecology and conservation while developing stewardship and knowledge of the coastal environment and our impact on it.

**Funding:** The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is from a FY 2021/2022 appropriation from the General Fund specifically for "the Explore the Coast Grant Program."

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 2, Objective A:** The proposed project will expand or enhance opportunities for access for people with disabilities to the coast described above.

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.

## **WILDERNESS YOUTH PROJECT**

**\$40,000**

### **Bridge To Nature**

**Central Coast**

Wilderness Youth Project's Bridge to Nature program will take up to 534 students from low-income and underserved communities in Santa Barbara on three field trips to various locations along the Santa Barbara coastline. Each school year, this program takes students on a series of nine half-day field trips to Santa Barbara natural areas, including at least three trips to the coast. Over the course of the year, students have the opportunity to explore and learn about ocean and coastal ecology, forge relationships with our experienced staff of mentors, and develop a deep and lasting connection with their natural surroundings, including the ocean and Santa Barbara coast. Staff mentors from Wilderness Youth Project guide youth through self-directed exploration, games, awareness practices, naturalist skills, inquiry-based learning, and storytelling.

**Enabling Legislation:** The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways because it expands coastal access and enjoyment by providing coastal experiences as described above.

**Strategic Plan:** The proposed project will further the following strategic objectives:

- **Goal 4, Objective A:** The proposed project improves public understanding and promotes stewardship of coastal resources by providing coastal experiences as described above.
- **Goal 16, Objective A:** The project directly benefits one or more disadvantaged communities.
- **Goal 16, Objective C:** The project helps to increase coastal access for all Californians by providing coastal experiences to underserved populations.

**CEQA:** The proposed project is categorically exempt under Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) because it involves regular operation of coastal locations that will be visited with no expansion of use.



**CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY’S PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA & GUIDELINES:**

The proposed project is consistent with the Conservancy’s Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines, last updated on October 2, 2014, in the following respects:

**Required Criteria**

1. **Promotion of the Conservancy’s statutory programs and purposes:** See the “Consistency with Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation” section below.

2. **Consistency with purposes of the funding source:** See the “Project Financing” section below.

1. **Promotion and implementation of state plans and policies:** The ETC grants program is consistent with the San Francisco Bay Plan (see “Consistency with Bay Plan”, below) as well as the California Coastal Act (Public Resources Code Sections 30000 *et seq*) (“Coastal Act”).

The Coastal Act indicates in Section 30001.5(c) that it is the state’s goal to “maximize public access to and along the coast.” Section 30210 requires that “maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people.” Section 30530 expresses the intent of the Legislature that a program to maximize public access to and along the coastline be prepared and implemented “consistent with the provisions of Chapter 9 of Division 21.” (See “Consistency with Enabling Legislation,” above).

Similarly, the Coastal Act includes several references to the need to increase public knowledge of access opportunities and to involve community organizations in such efforts. Section 30214(c) directs the Coastal Commission and other public agencies to “... encourage the utilization of innovative access management techniques including, but not limited to, agreements with private organizations which would minimize management costs and encourage the use of volunteer programs.” Section 30012 includes the Legislative finding that “an educated and informed citizenry ... is necessary to protect California’s finite natural resources [and] ... through education, individuals can be made aware of and encouraged to accept their share of responsibility for protecting and improving the natural environment.”

The ETC grants program is consistent with and promotes the priorities of the Coastal Act. The projects proposed for funding are consistent with the Coastal Act because all of the proposed projects involve maximizing access to the coast for coastal resource education and recreation. Please see “Project Summary,” above, and “Consistency with Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation”, below, for how the individual proposed projects are consistent with the Coastal Act’s priorities of maximizing coastal access.

3. **Support of the public:** The broad level of support for environmental education, resource protection and enhancement, and public access projects is indicated by the large numbers of people that will participate in the 2021-2022 ETC program. It is estimated that over 18,000 people will be served by the 45 ETC projects. In addition, this suite of proposed ETC projects is supported by elected officials, numerous community and nonprofit organizations, and local agencies (See Exhibit 3).

4. **Location:** See the “Project Summary”.
5. **Need:** Without Conservancy funding, the proposed projects will either not proceed or will need to be scaled back.
6. **Greater-than-local interest:** The projects recommended for funding under this authorization will provide experiences along the state’s coastline and San Francisco Bay for over 18,000 people from throughout the state. The proposed projects will serve more than local needs through transportation from inland and underserved communities to the coast or provision of coastal education and citizen science programs for underserved and inland youth.
7. **Sea level rise vulnerability:** Most of the proposed ETC projects do not entail physical improvements that could be vulnerable to sea level rise impacts, except for small restoration activities, which are primarily for public education objectives. Of the proposed ETC projects that include coastal restoration components that may be susceptible to flooding and storm water surge, especially under future sea level rise projections, restoration of these project areas will enhance native biodiversity and abundance, resulting in larger and likely more genetically diverse populations of native species that have greater potential to adapt to future changes in habitat due to sea level rise. These proposed restoration projects are:
  - Amah Mutsun Land Trust (Tribal Involvement in the Amah Mutsun Land Trust Coastal Stewardship Program)
  - Earth Discovery Institute (EDI Explorers)
  - Literacy for Environmental Justice (Eco-Adventures Program)
  - The Ocean Foundation (Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation)

**Additional Criteria**

8. **Leverage:** See the “Project Financing” section below.
9. **Readiness:** All of the proposed projects described in the “Project Summary” section, above, are ready to implement and will be completed within 1 to 2 years.

**PROJECT FINANCING**

<b>Coastal Conservancy</b>	<b>\$1,721,088</b>
Other Funding (matching funds excluding in-kind)	\$2,344,008
<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$4,065,096</b>

The anticipated source of Conservancy funding is a fiscal year 2021-2022 appropriation to the Conservancy from the General Fund specifically for “the Explore the Coast Program.”

Unless specifically labelled “Required Match” the other sources of funding listed above are provided as estimates. The Coastal Conservancy does not typically require matching funds, nor does it require documentation of expenditures from other funders. Typical grant conditions

require grantees to provide any funds needed to complete the project. Project partners will provide approximately \$2.3 million in matching funds for the 2021-2022 ETC grants. In addition, they will provide another approximately \$2.3 million worth of in-kind services from community and staff volunteer time, outdoor gear, clothing, and equipment donations, free transportation services, and free site and facility usages via partnerships between organizations.

**CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY’S ENABLING LEGISLATION:**

Staff recommends the Conservancy find that the 45 proposed projects are consistent with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation, Division 21 of the Public Resources Code as described in the “Project Summary” section, above. Below is a list of the proposed projects that staff recommends the Conservancy find consistent with the relevant section of the Conservancy’s enabling legislation.

Chapter 3: General Conservancy Powers (includes Educational Projects and Programs)

The projects listed below will be undertaken pursuant to Chapter 3 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, Section 31119, regarding educational projects and programs.

Pursuant to Section 31119(a)(1), the Conservancy is authorized to award grants to nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and public agencies, including federally recognized Indian tribes, for educational projects and programs relating to the preservation, protection, enhancement, maintenance, and enjoyment of coastal resources.

- Discovery Cube Orange County (Dive into Citizen Science)
- Greater Farallones Association (Connecting Students to the Coast through Community Science)
- Little Manila Rising (Delta to the Sea - Exploring Our Connections to the Coast)
- Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust (Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust Field Trip for Urban Youth)
- Ocean Discovery Institute (Ocean Discovery Institute’s In-School Program: Connecting Young People to Coastal Environments)
- Reef Check Foundation (Dive Into Science... Plunge Into Stewardship)
- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (Malibu Lagoon Together)
- The Ocean Foundation (Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation)

Chapter 4.5 San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program

The proposed projects listed below will be undertaken pursuant to Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, Sections 31160-31165, regarding recreational and resource goals in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Pursuant to Section 31162(a), the Conservancy is authorized to award grants to projects located in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area that will help improve public access to, within, and around the bay, coast, ridgetops and urban open spaces through completion and operation of

regional bay, coast, water and ridge trail systems, and local trails connecting to population centers and public facilities. Pursuant to Section 31162(d), the Conservancy is authorized to award grants that promote, assist, and enhance projects that provide open space and natural areas that are accessible to urban populations for recreational and educational purposes. Pursuant to Section 31165, the Conservancy is authorized to award grants for activities that are compatible with the preservation, restoration, or enhancement of ocean, coastal, bay, or watershed resources, or that facilitate environmental education related to these resources. The projects listed below are consistent with these sections as they all help to achieve at least one of these goals, as more particularly described in the “Project Summary” section, above.

- City Surf Project (Surfing 101)
- East Bay Regional Park District (Adaptive Paddling at the East Bay Regional Park District)
- Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC AccessAbility: Inclusive Sea Kayak and Coastal Adventures)
- GirlVentures (Increasing Coastal Access and Building Environmental Stewardship for Underserved Girls)
- LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired (LightHouse for the Blind’s Youth Adventurers)
- Literacy for Environmental Justice (Eco-Adventures Program)
- Marin Link (Fiscal sponsor for BlindSail SF Bay) (BlindSail SF Bay)
- Play Marin (Coastal Play Marin)
- Santa Cruz Hub for Sustainable Living (fiscal sponsor of California Field School) (California’s Changing Coast Bike Touring Summer Camps)
- United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Inc. (Shoreline Camp)
- Waterside Workshops (Waterside Workshops SF Bay and Coastal Experiences)

#### Chapter 9: System of Public Accessways

The proposed projects listed below will be undertaken pursuant to Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, Sections 31400 *et seq*, regarding public access to and enjoyment of coastal resources.

Section 31400 states the Legislature’s intent that the Conservancy play a principal role in the implementation of a system of public accessways to and along the state’s coastline, including San Francisco Bay. All of the proposed projects listed below will be funded by the Conservancy to implement public access objectives, as more specifically described in the paragraphs below.

Section 31400.3 authorizes the Conservancy to provide such assistance as is required to aid public agencies and nonprofit organizations in establishing a system of public coastal accessways, and related functions necessary to meet the objectives of this division. The projects listed below are consistent with these sections as more particularly described in the “Project Summary” section, above.

- Amah Mutsun Land Trust (Tribal Involvement in the Amah Mutsun Land Trust Coastal Stewardship Program)

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire (Increasing Diversity in Ocean Conservation Through Mentorship)
- City Surf Project (Surfing 101)
- Community Nature Connection (Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program)
- Crystal Cove Conservancy (Crystal Cove Indigenous Justice Program)
- Earth Discovery Institute (EDI Explorers)
- Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC AccessAbility: Inclusive Sea Kayak and Coastal Adventures)
- Friends of the Dunes (Cultivating Coastal Connections)
- GirlVentures (Increasing Coastal Access and Building Environmental Stewardship for Underserved Girls)
- Groundwork San Diego – Chollas Creek (Kids to the Coast)
- John F. Kennedy High School (GLEAM Coastal Immersion Experience)
- Jug Handle Creek Farm & Nature Center (Pomo Coast Connect)
- LifeSail Inc. (Sailing Adventures for Foster Youth)
- LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired (LightHouse for the Blind’s Youth Adventurers)
- Little Manila Rising (Delta to the Sea - Exploring Our Connections to the Coast)
- Living Coast Discovery Center (Wildlife Day Camps for Housing on Merit Youth)
- Los Indios de San Gabriel dba San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians (Kizh Nation Cultural and Environmental Stewardship Camp (KNCESC))
- MeWater Foundation (MeWater Surf and Ocean Education Outdoor Exploration Camps)
- Nature for All (All Aboard for Nature)
- NatureTrack Foundation Inc. (NewTracks)
- North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California (Coastal Trade Connections)
- Ocean Discovery Institute (Ocean Discovery Institute’s In-School Program: Connecting Young People to Coastal Environments)
- Outdoor Outreach (Coastal Adventure Club)
- Outward Bound Adventures (Otters & Estuaries)
- Play Marin (Coastal Play Marin)
- Reef Check Foundation (Dive Into Science... Plunge Into Stewardship)
- Refugee Enrichment and Development Association, Inc. (Refugee Retreats in Point Reyes)
- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (Malibu Lagoon Together)
- Santa Cruz Hub for Sustainable Living (fiscal sponsor of California Field School) (California’s Changing Coast Bike Touring Summer Camps)
- Shared Adventures (Day on the Beach)
- Social Good Fund (fiscal sponsor for Brown Girl Surf) (Surf Sister Program)
- The Latino Equity Advocacy & Policy Institute (LEAP Enrichment Activity to the Coast)
- United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Inc. (Shoreline Camp)

- Ventana Wilderness Alliance (YiW Wilderness Watersheds Outings)
- Ventana Wildlife Society (Ocean Prescription Program for Migrant Farmworker Families)
- Waterside Workshops (Waterside Workshops SF Bay and Coastal Experiences)
- Western Los Angeles County Council, BSA (Camp Emerald Bay Youth Access)
- Wilderness Youth Project (Bridge To Nature)

**CONSISTENCY WITH CONSERVANCY'S [2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN](#) GOAL(S) & OBJECTIVE(S):**

The 45 projects proposed for funding assist the Conservancy in meeting a number of its Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives. Relevant Goals and Objectives are listed below, along with the names of the proposed projects that meet each goal. Please see the “Project Summary” section, above, for how each proposed project meets the relevant goal(s) and objective(s).

Consistent with **Goal 2, Objective A**, which seeks to develop projects that expand opportunities for access for people with disabilities to and along the coast and coastal trails, the following proposed projects will contribute to this goal:

- City Surf Project (Surfing 101)
- Community Nature Connection (Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program)
- Discovery Cube Orange County (Dive into Citizen Science)
- Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC AccessAbility: Inclusive Sea Kayak and Coastal Adventures)
- GirlVentures (Increasing Coastal Access and Building Environmental Stewardship for Underserved Girls)
- Groundwork San Diego – Chollas Creek (Kids to the Coast)
- John F. Kennedy High School (GLEAM Coastal Immersion Experience)
- LifeSail Inc. (Sailing Adventures for Foster Youth)
- LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired (LightHouse for the Blind's Youth Adventurers)
- Little Manila Rising (Delta to the Sea - Exploring Our Connections to the Coast)
- Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust (Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust Field Trip for Urban Youth)
- Marin Link (Fiscal sponsor for BlindSail SF Bay) (BlindSail SF Bay)
- MeWater Foundation (MeWater Surf and Ocean Education Outdoor Exploration Camps)
- Nature for All (All Aboard for Nature)
- NatureTrack Foundation Inc. (NewTracks)
- Outward Bound Adventures (Otters & Estuaries)
- Shared Adventures (Day on the Beach)
- The Latino Equity Advocacy & Policy Institute (LEAP Enrichment Activity to the Coast)
- The Ocean Foundation (Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation)
- Ventana Wilderness Alliance (YiW Wilderness Watersheds Outings)
- Waterside Workshops (Waterside Workshops SF Bay and Coastal Experiences)
- Western Los Angeles County Council, BSA (Camp Emerald Bay Youth Access)

Consistent with **Goal 4, Objective A**, which seeks to support educational programs and interpretive events that improve public understanding and promote stewardship of coastal resources, all proposed 2021-2022 ETC projects except BlindSail SF Bay (Fiscally sponsored project of MarinLink) (BlindSail SF Bay) will contribute to this goal.

Consistent with **Goal 13, Objective L**, which seeks to implement projects that expand opportunities for access for people with disabilities to natural areas in the San Francisco Bay region, the following proposed project will contribute to this goal:

- City Surf Project (Surfing 101)
- East Bay Regional Park District (Adaptive Paddling at the East Bay Regional Park District)
- Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC) (ETC AccessAbility: Inclusive Sea Kayak and Coastal Adventures)
- LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired (LightHouse for the Blind’s Youth Adventurers)
- Literacy for Environmental Justice (Eco-Adventures Program)
- Marin Link (Fiscal sponsor for BlindSail SF Bay) (BlindSail SF Bay)
- MeWater Foundation (MeWater Surf and Ocean Education Outdoor Exploration Camps)
- Waterside Workshops (Waterside Workshops SF Bay and Coastal Experiences)

Consistent with **Goal 16, Objective A**, which seeks to prioritize projects for funding that are located in disadvantaged communities or directly benefit disadvantaged communities, the following proposed projects will contribute to this goal:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire (Increasing Diversity in Ocean Conservation Through Mentorship)
- California Field School (Fiscally sponsored by the Santa Cruz Hub for Sustainable Living) (California’s Changing Coast Bike Touring Summer Camps)
- City Surf Project (Surfing 101)
- Community Nature Connection (Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program)
- Crystal Cove Conservancy (Crystal Cove Indigenous Justice Program)
- Discovery Cube Orange County (Dive into Citizen Science)
- Earth Discovery Institute (EDI) (EDI Explorers)
- Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC) (ETC AccessAbility: Inclusive Sea Kayak and Coastal Adventures)
- Friends of the Dunes (Cultivating Coastal Connections)
- GirlVentures (Increasing Coastal Access and Building Environmental Stewardship for Underserved Girls)
- Greater Farallones Association (Connecting Students to the Coast through Community Science)
- Groundwork San Diego – Cholla Creek (Kids to the Coast)

- John F. Kennedy High School - Global Leadership & Environmental Action Magnet (GLEAM) (GLEAM Coastal Immersion Experience)
- LifeSail Inc. (Sailing Adventures for Foster Youth)
- Literacy for Environmental Justice (Eco-Adventures Program)
- Little Manila Rising (Delta to the Sea - Exploring Our Connections to the Coast)
- Living Coast Discovery Center (Wildlife Day Camps for Housing on Merit Youth)
- Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust (Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust Field Trip for Urban Youth)
- Los Indios de San Gabriel dba San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians (Kizh Nation Cultural and Environmental Stewardship Camp)
- MeWater Foundation (MeWater Surf and Ocean Education Outdoor Exploration Camps)
- Nature for All (All Aboard for Nature)
- NatureTrack Foundation Inc. (NewTracks)
- North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California (Coastal Trade Connections)
- Ocean Discovery Institute (Ocean Discovery Institute's In-School Program: Connecting Young People to Coastal Environments)
- Outdoor Outreach (Coastal Adventure Club)
- Outward Bound Adventures (Otters and Estuaries)
- Play Marin (Coastal Play Marin)
- Reef Check Foundation (Dive into Science...Plunge Into Stewardship)
- Refugee Enrichment and Development Association, Inc. (Refugee Retreats in Point Reyes)
- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (Malibu Lagoon Together)
- Shared Adventurers (Day on the Beach)
- The Latino Equity Advocacy and Policy institute (LEAP) (LEAP Enrichment Activity to the Coast)
- The Ocean Foundation (Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation)
- Ventana Wilderness Alliance (YiW Wilderness Watershed Outings)
- Ventana Wildlife Society (Ocean Prescription Program for Migrant Farmworkers and Families)
- Waterside Workshops (Waterside Workshops SF Bay and Coastal Experiences)
- Western Los Angeles (Camp Emerald Bay Youth Access)
- Wilderness Youth Project (Bridget to Nature)

Consistent with **Goal 16, Objective C**, which seeks to Increase coastal access for all Californians, by supporting organizations that provide coastal experiences to underserved populations, all the proposed 2021-2022 ETC projects will contribute to this goal.



## **CONSISTENCY WITH SAN FRANCISCO BAY PLAN**

The ETC Program seeks to provide coastal and bayshore experiences for people and communities who face challenges to accessing or enjoying the coast. Some of the projects under this program are authorized pursuant to Chapter 4.5 of the Conservancy’s enabling legislation, regarding the San Francisco Bay Conservancy Program, and either (1) take place at least in part along the Bay shoreline and/or (2) provide access for people with disabilities in the Bay Area and cite Strategic Plan objective 13L. These projects are consistent with the findings and policies of the San Francisco Bay Plan as described below:

The proposed projects are consistent with the following Bay Plan “**Part IV - Recreation**” section findings: (1) That the Bay and its shoreline provide unique recreational opportunities that can inspire an appreciation of the Bay and can motivate people to participate in responsible management and protection of the Bay; (2) there is increasing need for a variety of accessible, water-oriented recreational facilities and diverse recreational opportunities at these facilities for people of all races, cultures, ages, and income levels; (3) education, interpretation, and community service opportunities in waterfront wildlife and park areas can increase appreciation and stewardship of the Bay and improve public safety; and (4) the importance of the regional Bay, Ridge, and Water Trail systems in connecting communities to the shoreline.

The proposed projects are consistent with the Bay Plan’s “**Part IV - Public Access**” section findings: (1) The Bay provides an environment for numerous forms of public enjoyment including viewing, photography, wildlife observation, nature study, fishing, wading, walking, bicycling, jogging, or just sitting beside the water; (2) the Bay and its shoreline can be refuges from heat and noise and can offer relief from crowded, often stressful, urban areas, thereby contributing to well-being; and (3) certain communities may be physically and/or culturally disconnected from public access areas due to land use patterns, poor public transit, lack of safe bicycle and walking paths, language barriers, economic barriers, and/or culturally inaccessible designs. In addition, Public Access Policy #10 states that diverse and interesting public access experiences should be provided that encourage users to remain in designated access areas to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects on wildlife and their habitat. All projects authorized under Chapter 4.5 will facilitate appropriate enjoyment and use of the San Francisco Bay shoreline in a manner consistent with this policy.

## **CEQA COMPLIANCE:**

Conservancy staff reviewed the 45 proposed projects for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (14 California Code of Regulations, Sections 15000 *et seq.*). All of the proposed projects are categorically exempt under CEQA. Please see the “Project Summary” section above, for more information on each proposed project and its compliance with CEQA. Applicable CEQA exemptions are listed below.

14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15301 (Existing Facilities): All 45 of the proposed 2021-2022 ETC projects are categorically exempt under 14 CCR Section 15301, which

exempts operation, maintenance, and minor alterations of existing facilities or topographic features including pedestrian trails (Section 15301(c)) and wildlife areas and stream channels to protect fish and wildlife resources (Section 15301(i)).

14 CCR Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land): The following proposed ETC projects include removal of invasive species. These activities are categorically exempt under Section 15304, which exempts minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

- Amah Mutsun Land Trust (Tribal Involvement in the Amah Mutsun Land Trust Coastal Stewardship Program)
- Earth Discovery Institute (EDI Explorers)
- Literacy for Environmental Justice (Eco-Adventures Program)
- The Ocean Foundation (Ocean Connectors: Connecting Youth for Conservation)

14 CCR Section 15311 (Accessory Structures): The “Day on the Beach” project by Shared Adventures includes the construction of a temporary platform, which is categorically exempt because it involves placement of a temporary use item at a publicly owned park.

Upon approval of the projects, Conservancy staff will file Notices of Exemption for each project.