

Mendocino County Fish & Game Project Proposal Summary Sheet

(This must be the first page of the submitted proposal)

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1. Contractor: _____
 2. Type of Contractor: _____
 3. Taxpayer/Organizational ID/EID Number: _____
 4. Street Mailing Address: _____
 5. City, State, Zip Code: _____
 6. Contact Person: _____
 7. Telephone Number: _____
 8. Email address: _____
 9. Website address(es): _____
 10. Project Title: _____
-
11. Fish and Game Code Section 13103 Category: _____
 12. Amount Requested (\$): _____
 13. Objectives: _____

 14. Specie(s) Benefited: _____
 15. Work Schedule: _____
 16. Site Location (include reference to nearest city, town, and/or prominent landmark:

 17. Site Location – GPS Coordinates: _____
 18. **We would also like to be considered for funding** from the Ft. Bragg-based Salmon Restoration Association <http://www.salmonrestoration.com/> (for salmon habitat enhancement/restoration, salmon conservation, or salmon education projects). _____ YES _____ No.

Please also fill out the following, if applicable:

19. Stream: _____

20. Tributary to: _____

21. Major Drainage System: _____

The deadline for receiving proposals is 5:00pm, December 31, 2016.

Proposals must be submitted by email as a PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .TXT, or ZIP file to the Commission at: mendofishgamecommission@gmail.com. **Applicants must also mail or hand-deliver eight double-sided copies** to the Commission c/o County Planning & Building Services.

Grant applicants are encouraged to attend the Tuesday, January 17, 2017 meeting of the Commission, location to be announced, beginning 5:00pm, to make a brief (5 minute) presentation regarding their proposal.

Applicants without personal computers or internet access to the Commission website can request assistance from County branch libraries in Ukiah, Ft. Bragg, Willits, Coast Community (Pt. Arena), and Round Valley (Covelo) to download and print the application materials. *Note: County library personnel can also assist with scanning and emailing completed proposals.*

For additional information, please call Fish and Game Commission at (707) 234-6094, or email the Commission at mendofishgamecommission@gmail.com.



Mendocino County Fish & Game Project Proposal

PROJECT TITLE: Watershed Education and Protection Through Distribution of a Cannabis Best Management Practices (BMPs) Guide

BACKGROUND

The cannabis “green rush” has led to significant decreases in water quality and quantity throughout Mendocino County and the North Coast, stressing salmonids nearly to the brink of extinction in several watersheds. In addition, improper use and storage of fertilizers and pesticides have led to a disturbingly high rate of mammal poisonings, most notably of the Pacific fisher, but also documented deer and bear mortalities. A recent study by Bauer, et al (2015) of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife documented extreme negative effects on watershed health and sensitive aquatic species due to cannabis cultivation, including impacts from increased sediment, petroleum products, fertilizers, and killing agents; forest conversion and fragmentation of land; and water diversions especially during low-flow periods.

New laws and regulations for both medical and recreational cannabis cultivation are bringing new standards to cannabis production, but many growers remain ignorant of best management practices (BMPs). To address this problem, in April 2016, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) published the only peer-reviewed BMP guide for cannabis cultivators created by a resource agency, titled *Watershed Best Management Practices for Cannabis Growers and Other Rural Gardeners*. The guide was extremely well received and virtually all 1,000 existing copies were distributed within three weeks. Though the guide is available for free download in English and Spanish at the MCRCD website (www.mcrd.org), requests for the hard copy guide remain very strong.

The MCRCD mission is to assist communities to voluntarily conserve, protect, and restore wild and working landscapes. 100% of the MCRCD annual budget comes from local, state and federal grant programs, professional service agreements, and tax-deductible donations. The original funding for the BMP guide was provided by the State Water Resources Control Board. That funding was exhausted last spring. Due to the high level of interest in the guide, the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Department donated funds for 500 copies of the guide (100 in Spanish and 400 in English). All of those copies have also been distributed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will provide for a reprinting of 1,000 copies of the *Watershed Best Management Practices Guide for Cannabis Growers and Other Rural Gardeners*. The guide provides a non-technical, easy to read outline of best management practices for water use and conservation, erosion and sediment control, soil health, alternatives to and safe use and storage of agrichemicals, as well as a brief overview of permitting for cultivation, land development, roads and water storage. The guide is consistent with the requirements of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control permit, but it is not a direct recitation of them. In addition, the guide is a more user-friendly document than the Regional Board documents and provides illustration and photos. The guide also includes easy-to-use checklists with numerous on-line resources for further education. Though the target audience is cannabis cultivators, the guide is useful for any small-scale crop farmer. It can be viewed or downloaded free at www.mcrcd.org/resources/publications. The guide will be distributed free to cannabis and other growers through cannabis advocacy groups, ag supply stores, and watershed organizations.

Who Will Benefit: Direct benefits will go to cannabis farmers and other rural farmers who are interested in but unaware of how to protect their stream and watershed. Changes in behavior and farming will directly benefit sensitive aquatic and terrestrial species and downstream water quality.

Estimated Number of People Reached: One thousand people will directly benefit from receiving a hard copy of the guide. Many thousands more will benefit from reading a copy of the guide.

This project will comply with the F&G Code Section 13103 (a) and (m):

13103. Expenditures from the fish and wildlife propagation fund of any county may be made only for the following purposes:

(a) Public education relating to the scientific principles of fish and wildlife conservation, consisting of supervised formal instruction carried out pursuant to a planned curriculum and aids to education such as literature, audio and video recordings, training models, and nature study facilities.

(m) Other expenditures, approved by the department, for the purpose of protecting, conserving, propagating, and preserving fish and wildlife.

BUDGET

The guides cost \$7 per copy for the MCRCD to produce them. This sum includes not only the cost of the printing itself, but staff time to prepare the print-ready PDF, make changes to correct minor errors, arrange with the printer, proof a sample copy, and advertise and distribute the guides.

1000 guides @ \$7 per guide = \$7000

Revision:

Text review (4 hours @ \$90/hr*)	\$ 360.00
Graphic design (2 hours @ \$100/hr)	\$ 200.00
Proof new copy (2 hours @ \$90/hr)	\$ 180.00

Printing:

Cost per copy (1000 @ \$5/copy)	\$5000.00
Tax (9.125%)	\$ 456.00

Distribution:

Outreach (4 hours @ \$90/hr)	\$ 360.00
Delivery** (3 hours @ \$65/hr)	\$ 195.00
Postage	\$ 50.00
Mileage (234 miles @ \$0.56/mile)	\$ 131.00
Bookkeeping (1 hour @ \$67/hr)	\$ 67.00

Total \$6999.00

*Staff hourly rate includes benefits, overhead, insurance, etc.

**Delivery includes distribution of the guide to ag and farm supply businesses throughout the county.

MCFGC contribution (85%):	\$5950.00
MCRCD match (15%):	\$1049.00
Total:	\$6999.00

SCHEDULE

March 2017: Minor revisions to guide
April 2017: Reprint
May 2017: Distribute until gone

ATTACHMENTS

The guide can be viewed at www.mcrcd.org/resources/publications. The MCRCD currently has less than five hard copies left and therefore cannot provide each Commissioner one for review.