



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-14-77
Meeting 14-12
May 14, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 5

AGENDA ITEM

Grant Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Funding Assistance for the Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Adopt a Resolution approving the terms and conditions of the proposed grant agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for funding assistance for the Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project;
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the Grant Agreement prior to submission of a request to the Grantor for disbursement of grant funds.

SUMMARY

In March 2012, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) Board of Directors authorized an application for grant funding through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP) (R-12-34). The District was not selected for funding during the 2012 grant cycle. District staff worked with CDFW staff and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) representatives to incorporate suggested changes in an effort to be more competitive and resubmitted for the 2013 grant cycle. Details of the resubmitted 2013 grant application can be found in the June 12, 2013 report to the Board (R-13-58). The District was notified in February of this year that its 2013 proposal was selected for funding, in the amount of \$230,970 for the Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project located in the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve. In order to receive these funds, the granting agency requires a Resolution from the Board of Directors approving the terms and conditions (Attachment 1) and authorization for the General Manager to enter into the Grant Agreement to complete the project.

DISCUSSION

The Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project involves watershed restoration activities that will be undertaken on roads within the Driscoll Ranch portion of the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (Attachment 2). The District acquired the Driscoll Ranch property in 2005. The existing road network on this portion of the preserve was created as a result of the more than 100 year ranching history as well as to provide access to the former La Honda oil field that is located on a portion of the property. Unfortunately, this road network has not been maintained well since originally constructed, resulting in erosion and sediment delivery to the adjacent creeks.

The project targets a reduction in sediment input from the rural road sources within the Harrington, Bogess and La Honda Creek drainages, which are tributaries to San Gregorio Creek. San Gregorio Creek is a sediment impaired watershed that is habitat for two federal and state endangered fish species: Coho salmon and steelhead. Sediment is a known limiting factor for these species as it impacts their ability to breed and thrive within a stream. In 2012, the NMFS issued the Central California Coast Coho Recovery plan and identified core areas (those with highest priority for immediate action) within the San Gregorio Creek Watershed. A presentation of this plan and core areas within the District lands was presented to the Board on October 24, 2012 (R-12-105). Project sites are located within these core areas.

The District received notice in February 2014, that its Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project was selected for funding in the amount of \$230,970. The District has until March 31, 2017 to complete the project.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total project cost is \$354,015, with \$230,970 to be provided by the CDFW. Matching funds required from the District total \$123,045 which includes \$40,152 in administrative overhead and staff time as “in-kind” match. The FY2014-15 budget approved by the Board in March, 2014 included \$50,000 for this project. In FY2015-16, the remaining project funds will be recommended for the Board’s consideration to cover the total cost of the project, including grant matching funds which will be provided as reimbursement to the District.

The following table presents the anticipated cost breakdown for this project over the next 2 years. It is important to note, that these estimates assume completing all of the on the ground construction in one season. However, it may become apparent that work needs to be spread over two construction seasons (due to a limited work window due to species concerns, equipment availability, or other unanticipated issues). In the event this occurs, any unfinished work will be budgeted for in FY2016-17. This flexibility allows the District to bid and complete the project by the grant imposed deadline of March 31, 2017.

Table 1.

Fiscal Year	Anticipated Total Project Cost	CDFW FRGP Share	MROSD Share	
			Direct Cost	“In-kind”
FY2014-15	\$50,000 (approved)	\$1,000	\$29,998	\$19,002
FY2015-16	\$304,015 (to be requested)	\$229,970	\$52,895	\$21,150
TOTAL	\$354,015	\$230,970	\$82,893	\$40,152

In addition to the costs outlined above, in an effort to make the District’s project more competitive, \$25,000 was expended in FY2013-14 to complete important cattle exclusion fencing along the Harrington Creek riparian corridor and to implement important road erosion prevention projects. These project components were included in the project proposal when initially submitted in 2012, however the project was not awarded funding.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

The Planning and Natural Resources Committee previously reviewed the project May 21, 2013 and the staff proposal to complete important cattle exclusion fencing along the Harrington Creek and to implement important road erosion prevention projects.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

The Resolution approving the terms and condition and authorizing the General Manager to execute the Grant Agreement are covered by the Mitigated Negative Declaration that was prepared for implementation of the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve Master Plan that was approved by the Board in August 2012 (R-12-83).

NEXT STEPS

Upon receipt of a signed grant agreement by the CDFW (anticipated June 2014), staff will begin to expend the \$50,000 allocated in the FY2014-15 budget for this project. These funds are designated for planning and development of contract documents, including preparation of final grading plans and specifications, related technical investigations, permitting, and bid package development. Implementation of the work is anticipated to occur over two construction seasons (2015 and 2016). Once construction bids are received and evaluated, staff will return to the Board to obtain approval for the recommended contractor(s). Throughout the grant period, staff will submit for eligible grant reimbursement of funds. Final grant reporting and dispersal of funds will be completed by March 2017.

Attachments

1. Resolution Approving the Proposed Terms and Conditions of a Grant Agreement to Receive Grant Funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project P1330405
2. Project Map

Responsible Department Head:
Kirk Lenington, Natural Resources

Prepared by:
Julie Andersen, Planner II, Natural Resources

RESOLUTION NO. 14-__

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE
DISTRICT APPROVING THE PROPOSED TERMS AND
CONDITIONS OF A GRANT AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE
GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FOR THE
DRISCOLL RANCH SEDIMENT REDUCTION TO SAN
GREGORIO CREEK PROJECT P1330405**

WHEREAS, the Legislature has established the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program administered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Grantor) to award grants to public agencies, Indian Tribes, and nonprofit organizations to implement restoration activities that benefit the preservation and recovery of anadromous salmonids; and

WHEREAS, the District operates the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve including the former Driscoll Ranch which is located within an area identified in the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, 2012 Central California Coast Coho Recovery plan as a core area (highest priority) for immediate action within the San Gregorio Creek Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the District's mission includes the protection and restoration of the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the District has been selected as a grantee to receive grant funds awarded under eligibility guidelines adopted by the Grantor; and

WHEREAS, procedures established by the grantor require the grantee to certify, through a resolution that the grantee approves the terms and conditions of the proposed Grant Agreement to complete the Driscoll Ranch Sediment Reduction to San Gregorio Creek Project and agrees to enter into the Grant Agreement prior to submission of a request to the Grantor for disbursement of grant funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District hereby:

1. Certifies that the District has reviewed the proposed Grant Agreement and agrees to the proposed terms and conditions; and
2. Certifies that the District has or will have available the required match and sufficient funds to complete the funded project; and
3. Certifies that the District has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project; and
4. Delegates the authority to the General Manager, as agent and representative of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, agreements, amendments, payment

requests, and so on, which may be necessary to comply with the Grantor's grant requirements and for completion of the Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District on May 14, 2014, at a Regular Meeting thereof, by the following vote:

- AYES:**
- NOES:**
- ABSTAIN:**
- ABSENT:**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Secretary
Board of Directors

President
Board of Directors

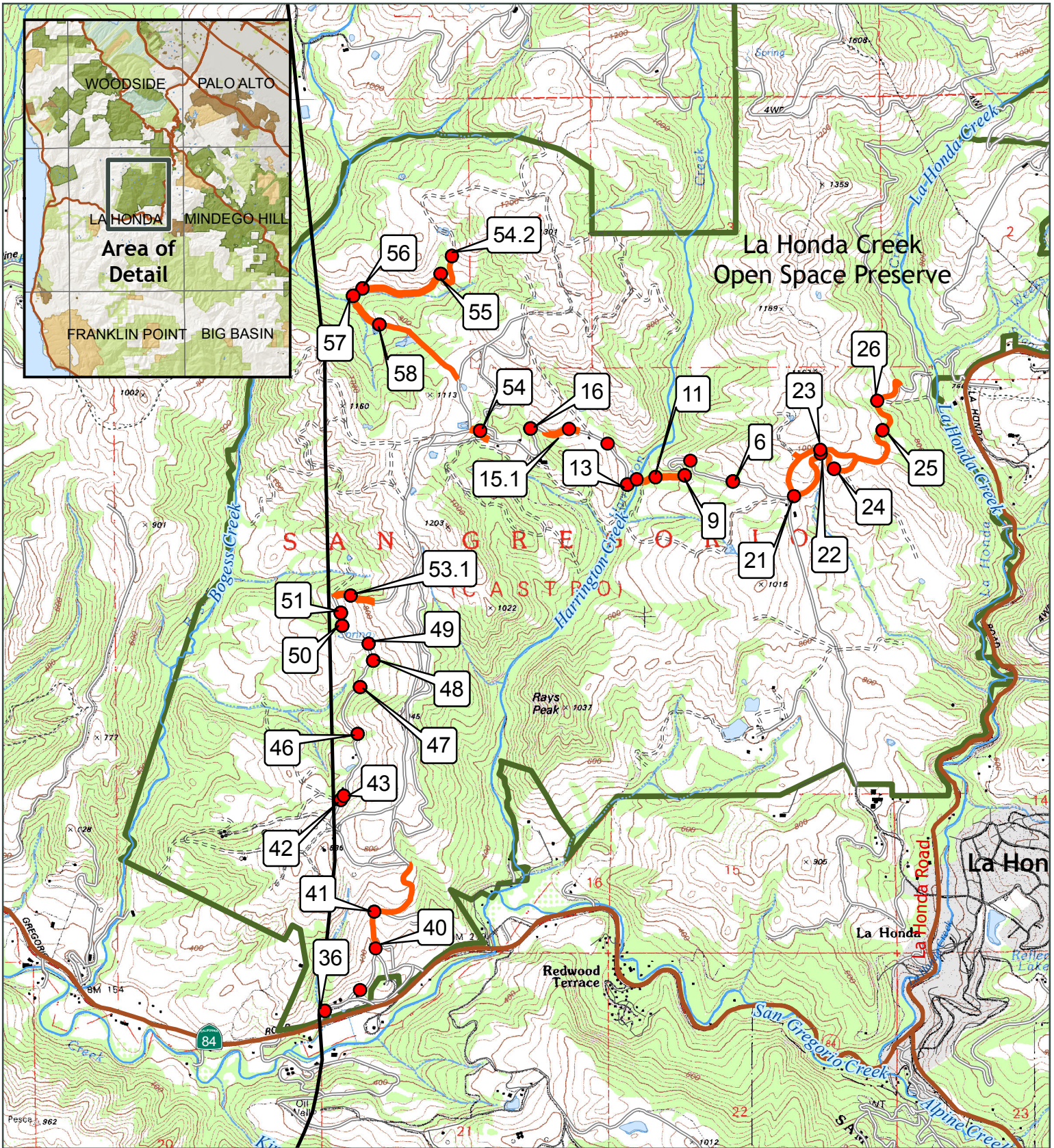
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

General Counsel

I, the District Clerk of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District by the above vote at a meeting thereof duly held and called on the above day.

District Clerk

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Project Location

- Project Sites
- Linear Project Sites
- MROSD Preserve
- Coastal Zone Boundary
- Minor Unpaved Road
- Seasonal Unpaved Ranch Road
- Minor Paved Road
- Major Road

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(MROSD)



Miles 0 0.475 0.95
May, 2013

While the District strives to use the best available digital data, this data does not represent a legal survey and is merely a graphic illustration of geographic features.