

R-19-14 Meeting 19-67 May 22, 2019

AGENDA ITEM 2

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Award of Contract to Hammer Fence for Construction of Livestock Fencing to Protect Riparian Corridors at Bluebrush Ranch in the Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS



- 1. Authorize the General Manager to award a contract to Hammer Fence to construct livestock riparian fencing for a base contract amount of \$73,060.
- 2. Authorize a 15% contingency of \$10,960 to be reserved for unanticipated issues, for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$84,020.

SUMMARY

Purisima Creek traverses the Bluebrush Ranch grazing unit located in the Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve (OSP). The proposed livestock exclusionary fence along both sides of Purisima Creek will protect riparian habitat and water quality (See Attachment 1). A Request for Bids (RFB) was issued on March 27, 2019 resulting in one bid from Hammer Fence as the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. The General Manager recommends awarding a contract to Hammer Fence for a base contract amount of \$73,060, and authorizing a 15% contingency of \$10,960. The contract work is scheduled to be complete by the end of this fiscal year. Sufficient funds for the Project are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 Budget.

DISCUSSION

The Bluebrush Ranch grazing unit borders both sides of Purisima Creek in the lower section of Purisima Creek Redwoods OSP. The need for riparian fencing on both sides of Purisima Creek to protect sensitive riparian habitat from potential livestock damage was identified in the Rangeland Management Plan for Bluebrush Ranch, as approved by the Board in August 2012 (Report 12-80). Purisima Creek is a perennial creek that supplies water to several residences downstream from the Bluebrush Ranch, heightening the importance of keeping cattle out of the creek. This is a Measure AA project under Portfolio #03 Purisima Creek Redwoods: Purisimato-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing, that will improve the grazing infrastructure and protect key riparian corridors in the Preserve.

Contractor Selection

A Request for Bids was posted on the District website, BidSync, and released to five builders' exchanges on March 27, 2019. Legal notices were posted in the *San Mateo County Times and Half Moon Bay Review*. In addition to posting on BidSync, staff contacted livestock fencing

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contractors directly who have previously completed fence projects on other District grazing properties.

Staff held a mandatory pre-bid meeting and site walk that was attended by one contractor. Sealed bids were due on April 18, 2019. The sole bid received is summarized below:

Bidder	Location	Total Base Bid	Percent +/- from Estimate (\$70,610)
Hammer Fence	Tracy, CA	\$73,060	+ 3.5%

The General Manager recommends awarding a contract to Hammer Fence, which is the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY2018-19 budget includes \$95,360 for the Purisima Creek Fence Construction project (MAA03-003). There are sufficient funds in the project budget to cover the recommended action and expenditures.

MAA03-003 Purisima Creek Fence Construction		
Adjusted Project Budget:	\$95,360	
Spent-to-Date as of 4/19/19:	\$0	
Encumbrances:	(\$4,310)	
Award of Contract, including 15% contingency:	(\$84,020)	
Budget Remaining (Proposed):	\$7,030	

The following table outlines the Measure AA Portfolio #03 *Purisima Creek Redwoods: Purisima-to-Sea Trail, Watershed Protection and Conservation Grazing* budget, costs-to-date, and the fiscal impacts related to the aforementioned project.

MAA#03 Portfolio Allocation:	\$7,608,000
Life-to-Date Spent (as of 04/19/19):	(\$1,011,533)
Encumbrances:	(\$64,793)
Award of Contract including contingency:	(\$84,020)
Portfolio Balance Remaining (Proposed):	\$6,447,654

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

This item was not previously reviewed by a Board Committee.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act, including adjacent neighbors.

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CEQA COMPLIANCE

Project Description

The project consists of constructing a new riparian fence on a cattle grazing property. The fencing will exclude cattle from sensitive vegetation along a perennial creek and protect water resources. The fencing will be standard wildlife-friendly livestock fencing comprised of five strands of wire. The top four strands of wire are barbed and the bottom strand is wildlife-friendly smooth wire.

CEQA Determination

The District concludes that this project has previously been evaluated for significant effects on the environment under CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) and found to be less than significant or categorically exempt as follows:

The Board certified the CEQA findings as part of the approved Rangeland Management Plan for Bluebrush Ranch in 2012, which determined that the cattle exclusion fencing is categorically exempt under Article 19, Section 15304 Minor Alterations to Land (R-12-80).

NEXT STEPS

Pending Board approval, the General Manager will execute a contract with Hammer Fence to complete the riparian livestock fencing as recommended in this report. Construction is scheduled to start at the beginning of June 2019 and be completed by June 30, 2019.

Attachment:

1. Bluebrush Ranch Location and Project Map

Responsible Department Head: Michael Jurich, Land and Facilities Manager

Prepared by:

Susan Weidemann, Property Management Specialist II

Graphics:

Nathan Greig, Data Analyst I

ATTACHMENT 1

