

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Members</u></p> <p>Terry Scott, Chair *** Stephen Orndorf, Vice Chair *** Alex Pader Ina Pisani Vic Nienu Kimberly Richard Greg Matsumoto Liesl Wolf</p>	<p><u>AGENDA</u></p> <p>COMMISSION MEETING</p> <p>Monday, July 9 – 3:00-5pm Napa County Administration Building Human Resources Training Room 1195 Third Street, Room 103 Napa, CA</p>	<p><u>Staff Representatives</u></p> <p>Brian Bordona - <i>Supervising Planner</i> Engineering & Conservation Div., PBES <i>Secretary to the WCC</i></p> <p>Daniel Zador - <i>Planner</i> Engineering & Conservation Div., PBES</p> <p>Kyra Purvis - <i>Planner</i> Engineering & Conservation Div., PBES</p> <p>Laura Anderson - <i>Attorney</i> County Counsel's Office</p>
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1. **Call to Order** (*Chair*)
2. **Public Comment**
In this time period, anyone may comment to the Commission regarding any subject over which the Commission has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Commission as a result of any item presented at this time.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Meeting of April 4, 2018 (*Chair*)
4. **Introduction of New Commission Member Liesl Wolf (youth representative)** (*Staff*)
5. **Update and Discussion of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget** (*Staff*)
6. **Review, Discussion and Recommendations on Grant Funding Requests for FY 2018/19: allocation of WCC funds from California Department of Fish and Game fines and settlements, and local fines and settlements that are designated for this purpose** (*Chair*)

Project Funding Requests

- a) **Napa-Solano Audubon** – Maintain and expand the position of Educational Coordinator to enable the continued development of educational curriculum, lead field trips and bird walks, mentor and organize Citizen Science volunteers of all ages. This position has been funded by the WCC in 2015, 2016, and 2017, and there are plans to expand the position fulltime in the next several years: \$8,000.00 (Sally Baumer)
- b) **Land Trust of Napa County** – Request for funding for post-fire vegetation monitoring, invasive species removal, and trail improvements to prevent erosion and protect rare plant species: \$13,000 (Mike Palladini)

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Dan Zador at 707-259-8329 or by e-mail at daniel.zador@countyofnapa.org

- c) **Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD)** – Request for funding to facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for 20 Napa County high school youth: \$13,716.50 (Eric McKee)
- d) **Napa Wildlife Rescue** – Request for funding for a part-time education coordinator to manage outreach, give educational presentations, train volunteers, and create educational materials (\$12,500); and for the purchase of large incubator for orphaned opossum litters (\$770): \$13,270 (John Comisky)

7. **Commission member grant 2018-19 assignments for monitoring** (*Chair/Commission*)

8. **Other Updates/Announcements and Future Agenda Items** (*Commission & Staff*)

9. **Next Meeting Date: September 24, 2018**

10. **Adjournment**

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

<u>Members</u>	<u>MINUTES/ACTION SUMMARY</u> REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING Monday, April 9, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. Napa County Administration Building Lobby 1195 Third Street, Napa, CA	<u>Staff Representatives</u>
Terry Scott, Chair *** Stephen Orndorf, Vice Chair *** Alex Pader Ina Pisani Vic Nienu Kimberley Richard Greg Matsumoto Liesl Wolf		Brian Bordona <i>Supervising Planner</i> Engineering & Conservation Div., PBES <i>Secretary to the WCC</i> Daniel Zador - <i>Planner</i> Conservation Div., PBES Kyra Purvis - <i>Planner</i> Conservation Div., PBES Laura Anderson- <i>Attorney</i> County Counsel's Office

1. **Call to Order** (Chairman) – Approximately 2:10 p.m. (after transportation to and arrival at Missimer Snell Valley Napa County Land Trust Preserve Parking Lot)

Members Present: Alex Pader, Ina Pisani, Vic Nienu, Terry Scott, Greg Matsumoto

Members Absent/Excused: Stephen Orndorf, Kim Richard, Liesl Wolff

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Brian Bordona, Daniel Zador, Kyra Purvis

2. **Public Comment**

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Outcome: No comments received.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Meeting of February 5th, 2018

Outcome: Alex Pader moved to approve minutes. Motion seconded by Greg Matsumoto. Motion Passed 5-0.

4. **Welcome New Commission Member Liesl Wolf (Staff)**

Outcome: Staff: Kyra shared with the group that newly appointed Youth Representative Liesl wasn't able to attend the meeting but we look forward to meeting her. She is a freshman at St Helena high school and a big angler. Discussion completed.

5. **Update and discussion of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year budget (Staff)**

Outcome: Staff updated the WCC on the current budget balance of approximately \$38,000 after pending fines. Brian Bordona discussed the budget request staff will make with the Board of Supervisors as part of the annual budget adoption process intended to result in a balance of \$50,000. Discussion completed.

6. **Signing of Bill Ryan appreciation letter** (Commission & Staff)

Outcome: Commission Chair Scott signed the Letter of Appreciation for Bill. Discussion completed.

7. **Grant Monitoring Reminders** (Staff)

Outcome: Kyra Purvis reminded the members to provide updates on current project that they are monitoring at the next meeting in July. Discussion completed.

8. **Other Updates /Announcements and Future Agenda Items** (Commission & Staff)

Outcome: Staff reminded staff about Earth Day 2018 on April 22nd (Sunday this year). Discussion completed.

9. **Next Meeting Date: July 9th, 2018** (location pending)

Outcome: Staff reminded the members to be ready for the annual Grant Meeting in July.

10. **Commence Field Trip to:**

- i. **The Missimer Snell Valley Napa County Land Trust Preserve for discussion and viewing of habitat restoration, Snell Valley Road, Pope Valley, CA** (Mike Palladini)

Outcome: Mike Palladini showed the commission around the property at the preserve during a spring bloom of wildflowers where many rare and native plants could be witnessed. The WCC learned about restoration practices, and met some of the restoration workers. Discussion completed.

Adjournment at approximately 4:20 pm

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant Funding FY 2010/11 through 2017/18

Grant Applicant	DFG Criteria ¹	Previous WCC Authorized Funding YR (\$) ²								Total Authorized WCC Funding to-date	2018 WCC Fund Request
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
Napa Solano Audubon Society	a, g, i				\$596	\$1,940	\$10,000	\$7,780	\$6,980	\$27,296	\$8,000.00
Napa Wildlife Rescue (formerly Wildlife Rescue Center of Napa County)	a, b, g	\$10,000	\$5,000		\$2,867	\$2,766	\$6,486	\$16,461	\$2,500	\$46,080	\$13,270.00
Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District	a, e, g		\$10,000		\$14,725	\$6,250	\$1,800	\$5,800	\$4,000	\$42,575	
Napa County Resource Conservation District	e, g, i	\$5,192	\$16,000			\$10,450	\$2,500	\$15,000	\$6,076	\$55,218	\$13,716.50
Land Trust of Napa County	a, e, i		\$10,000			\$10,000	\$10,432	\$13,018	\$12,720	\$56,170	\$13,000.00
CALTIP	a, k							\$1,000		\$1,000	
California Native Plant Society Napa Valley	a, e	\$8,000			\$8,000					\$16,000	
California Native Plant Society Martha Garden	a, e	\$14,000								\$14,000	
Bay Institutes Students and Teachers (STRAW)	a, e	\$12,000								\$12,000	
Audubon Canyon Ranch	i	\$6,000	\$4,000							\$10,000	
Natural Resource Conservation Service	e	\$7,700								\$7,700	
Mt. George Elementary School	a	\$3,000								\$3,000	
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	g	\$7,550			\$4,050	\$1,600	\$1,723			\$14,923	
Napa Sanitation District	e		\$6,000							\$6,000	
PRBO Conservation Science	a, e		\$5,333							\$5,333	
NORCAL Environmental Student Network	a		\$1,100							\$1,100	
ICARE	e	\$4,000	\$1,333	\$8,613	\$5,336	\$4,518				\$23,800	
San Francisco Estuary Institute	e, i		\$2,666							\$2,666	
New Tech High School	a, g		\$1,602							\$1,602	
Friends of the Napa River	a, e		\$5,000	\$15,235			\$10,000		\$10,000	\$40,235	
Napa Valley State Parks Association	a			\$2,810						\$2,810	
Napa Tuleyome	a, e				\$4,500					\$4,500	
Totals		\$77,442	\$68,034	\$26,658	\$40,073	\$37,524	\$42,941	\$59,059	\$42,276	\$394,008	\$47,986.50
								AVG/YR		\$49,250.94	

¹ See enclosed CDFW Code Section 13103 (propagation fund categories)

² Napa County Staff Report Consent Items (BOS approved)

California Fish and Game Code

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.
- (b) Temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife.
- (c) Temporary treatment and care of wildlife confiscated by the department as evidence.
- (d) Breeding, raising, purchasing, or releasing fish or wildlife which are to be released upon approval of the department pursuant to Sections 6400 and 6401 onto land or into waters of local, state, or federal agencies or onto land or into waters open to the public.
- (e) Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, construction of fish screens, weirs, and ladders; drainage or other watershed improvements; gravel and rock removal or placement; construction of irrigation and water distribution systems; earthwork and grading; fencing; planting trees and other vegetation management; and removal of barriers to the migration of fish and wildlife.
- (f) Construction, maintenance, and operation of public hatchery facilities.
- (g) Purchase and maintain materials, supplies, or equipment for either the department's ownership and use or the department's use in the normal performance of the department's responsibilities.
- (h) Predator control actions for the benefit of fish or wildlife following certification in writing by the department that the proposed actions will significantly benefit a particular wildlife species.
- (i) Scientific fish and wildlife research conducted by institutions of higher learning, qualified researchers, or governmental agencies, if approved by the department.
- (j) Reasonable administrative costs, excluding the costs of audits required by Section 13104, for secretarial service, travel, and postage by the county fish and wildlife commission when authorized by the county board of supervisors. For purposes of this subdivision, "reasonable cost" means an amount which does not exceed 3 percent of the average amount received by the fund during the previous three-year period, or three thousand dollars (\$3,000) annually, whichever is greater, excluding any funds carried over from a previous fiscal year.
- (k) Contributions to a secret witness program for the purpose of facilitating enforcement of this code and regulations adopted pursuant to this code.
- (l) Costs incurred by the district attorney or city attorney in investigating and prosecuting civil and criminal actions for violations of this code, as approved by the department.
- (m) Other expenditures, approved by the department, for the purpose of protecting, conserving, propagating, and preserving fish and wildlife.

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission
Grant Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

The enclosed grant applications have been reviewed by Wildlife Conservation Commission staff. Staff has determined that each application advances the purposes listed in Section 13103 of the California Fish and Game Code, and is therefore eligible for grant funding by the Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Project Funding Requests

Attachment A) Napa-Solano Audubon – Maintain and expand the position of Educational Coordinator to enable the continued development of educational curriculum, lead field trips and bird walks, mentor and organize Citizen Science volunteers of all ages. This position has been funded by the WCC in 2015, 2016, and 2017, and there are plans to expand the position fulltime in the next several years: \$8,000.00 (Sally Baumer)

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ATTACHMENT A
NAPA-SOLANO AUDUBON

RECEIVED

JUN 08 2018

Napa County Planning, Building
& Environmental Services

Napa-Solano Audubon's 2018 Application for WCC Grant Funds

I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION/Eligibility

1. Type of organization or business
Non-profit 501(c)3 Organization
2. Purpose for which organization was formed
The NSAS mission is: "...to share the fun of birding, promote conservation and scientific understanding of wild birds and their habitats, and offer engaging science-based education emphasizing the communities of Napa and Solano Counties."
3. Tax exempt status
501(c)3 non-profit
California tax ID: 94-2375760
Federal tax ID (EIN): 237325783
4. Date formed as Non-profit
Sept 18, 1973
5. Membership: restrictions, number of members, fee, etc.
No restrictions. Membership fees for Local Chapter memberships are \$25 individual, \$35 family. Current membership base includes ~1000 National Audubon memberships assigned to our chapter, (we do not collect membership fee for these) and ~200 Local Chapter members (we do collect membership dues from these members). All our programs and regular walks are open to members and non-members at no charge. Monthly field trips to distant locations may require additional fee to offset costs. Special fund-raising events in April also have a fee.
6. Names of Board of Directors; contact person (include phone number, email address, mailing address)

Napa-Solano Audubon Society Board Members as of June 5, 2018

Position	Member
President	Sally Baumer
Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Dave Kassel
Secretary	Helena Kassel
Membership Chair	Patty Heidl
Education Chair	Eric McKee
Program Chair	Barbara Navolanic
Field Trip Chair	Carol Boykin
Communications Chair (Newsletter, Publicity, Web)	Vacant
Conservation Chair	Nancy Piotrowski, Ph.D.
Member-at-Large	Jane Hicks

Member-at-Large	Dr. Bob Martin
Member-at- Large (Benicia CBC & BAAC Rep)	Robin Leong

Contact Person:

Sally Baumer

Napa-Solano Audubon President

1736 Devonshire Dr., Benicia, CA 94510

sally.birder@sbcglobal.net, Home: 707-745-2362, Cell: 707-486-3814

All applicants must use the following format when submitting proposals for Wildlife Conservation Commission review and possible action:

II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT/Problem Statement

1. Clear statement of problem

The challenge that our organization faces is that we would like to outreach to the ethnically diverse and low-income communities in Napa County and to broaden the scale and impact of our environmental education and volunteerism platform. Our organization also seeks to positively impact the lives of youth, with an emphasis on the historically underserved Latino children attending schools in the Napa Valley Unified School District. There is concern that without continued outreach and environmental education into the community at large, especially the youngest generation, the ethics and values that drive conservation leadership will not persist as strongly as they will be needed in the future. To ensure that a high level of public awareness of the importance of birds and bird habitat remains in the Napa Valley, and that there is a generally well-developed feeling of concern for the welfare of birds and wildlife, the Napa-Solano Audubon Society is striving to fill the gaps in environmental education in this regard. To that end, we would like to introduce the Youth Equity in Birding program into more low-income, socio-economically disadvantaged communities and schools.

The 2017 Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission grant that was awarded to the Napa-Solano Audubon Society enabled us to continue to provide an Avian Ecology and Environmental Education classroom outreach program. We contracted a half-time Environmental Education Coordinator to fulfill this role for us. In addition to the \$7,000 grant awarded by the NCWCC, we also received two separate contracts for environmental education services from the City of American Canyon and the Napa Resource Conservation District. Further funds to support the position were provided through donations and fundraisers. This allowed us to grow the position to 20 hrs/week. **In the 2017-2018 school year the goal of our Environmental Education Coordinator was to deliver 40 classroom programs and reach over**

1000 school children in Napa County. We exceeded our target goals for the year. She visited school sites and presented diverse science-based curriculum about bird nesting, behavior, conservation, and impacts of climate change on birds. She also led class field trips, Junior Audubon bird walks for kids, and provided activities at various community events. This grant also allowed us to continue the annual Napa CBC4Kids, a special citywide bird count for kids, which had 30 birders participating, and was co-sponsored by the Napa County Library and Connolly Ranch.

With the help of NCWCC grant support, we created the role four years ago. It began as an internship in 2014, then a small position of 10 hrs/week in 2015-16 and 16 hrs/wk in 2016-17. In 2017-18, we succeeded in growing the position to 20 hrs/wk. We expanded the role to include organizing our Citizen Science volunteers of all ages. This past Spring, the Environmental Education Coordinator provided volunteer trainings, and now coordinates 16 volunteer Nestbox Trail Monitors, that are currently monitoring 72 Western Bluebird Nestboxes in Napa County. In the 2017 season, volunteer monitors tracked **66 successful Western Bluebird fledglings**, which have been identified as Climate Threatened by the National Audubon Society. **55 Tree Swallows also successfully fledged** from our nestboxes. The current nesting season is still ongoing, but we are excited by the preliminary observations. Nesting results will be uploaded to Cornell University's Nestwatch.org website to help track bird populations nationally.

Our long-term goal is to independently fund a full-time Environmental Education Coordinator position within the next 3-4 years. Our increased capacity for community outreach that was made possible through last year's grant has indirectly helped us to raise more money in 2017 than in prior years. However, we still need support to keep these important education, outreach, and conservation programs in place.

To accomplish this goal, we will need a total of ~\$20,000 to support this position. We are requesting \$8,000 from NCWCC in this grant request. We have also recently submitted a grant to the National Audubon Society which will raise \$9,000 for the position. In addition, we have recently received a grant from the Solano County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund for \$2,500 to support classroom visits, fieldtrips for at-risk youth, and community volunteer events in Solano County. Funds raised through the Napa-Solano Audubon and a chapter grant from Audubon California will also be used.

2. Specific objective & specific dollar amount requested

Objective: Contract 50% FTE Environmental Education Coordinator for the 2018-2019 School Year. The Environmental Education Coordinator will operate the Youth Equity in Birding Program, Classroom Outreach, Field Trips, and Citizen Science Programs.

Dollar amount requested = \$8000, if less funds available, we can scale the position appropriately.

3. Anticipated results, with time-line

The activities of the past year will be maintained and also enhanced by introducing the Youth Equity in Birding Program for the 2018-2019 school year. This project focuses on the need for birding and environmental education for children and youth in the Napa Valley by increasing the Napa-Solano Audubon's capacity to provide classroom presentations and bird walks in underrepresented communities. The Youth Equity in Birding Program will expand our education program offerings and allow our organization to reach more minority children in the Napa Valley. The mission of this program is to provide access to outdoor environmental education experiences that are typically unavailable in low-income communities of color. Birding is an immediately accessible way to gain an understanding of conservation ethics. It increases a child's awareness of their environment, and it we believe it should be available to all. Our Youth Equity in Birding Program aims to introduce more children to the concepts of bird conservation and build more bird-friendly communities throughout the Napa Valley.

- a. The specific measurable goals for the Youth Equity in Birding Program are to provide 60 classroom presentation and reach out to at least 1,300 students in the Napa Valley.
- b. 50% or 30 of the classrooms visited will be at elementary schools where more than 40% of the children are considered socioeconomically disadvantaged.
- c. NSAS's Environmental Education Coordinator will also provide 30 classrooms with outdoor education experiences, incorporating nearby or adjacent parks into the field trips, providing binoculars, activity guides, bird monitoring and introductory bird identification skills.
- d. As stated above, the goal for the number of schools visited will be increased from approximately 40 per year to 60, and the number of students reached will be increased from approximately 1000 per year to 1300.
- e. The number of community events we attend will be maintained, such as Harvest Festivals and Earth Day Celebrations, at 10 per year.
- f. In addition, the number of Junior Audubon walks will be maintained at approximately 10 per year.
- g. The number of schools participating in Nest Box monitoring has been increased from 4 schools to 6. In May, two new elementary schools received Nest Boxes installed at their campus to give their students an opportunity to observe more wildlife on their school grounds. Therefore, monitoring training and classroom presentations on the nesting cycle will be needed next Spring to encourage the students to take ownership of their nestboxes.

The Environmental Educational Coordinator will continue to manage our Citizen Science volunteers. We actively recruit volunteers of all ages, and especially emphasize including children with their accompanying guardian. Volunteers study wildlife directly and help us collect much-needed data. Because we will have several projects, with numerous volunteers that need mentoring and assistance, we will utilize some of the Educational Coordinator's time to ensure the programs are successful.

These include:

- h. Leading family-friendly Beginning Birding Walks twice per month, the bird lists gathered from these walks are posted on Cornell University's E-Bird website.
- i. Educating our volunteer Citizen Scientists on monitoring protocols, including providing training workshops, answering questions via email and/or phone, as well as training in the field.
- j. Managing the Citizen Science teams to ensure data is collected on a regular basis.
- k. Ensuring data collected are entered into a national data bases
- l. Citizen Science projects include
 - i. Climate Watch – organized by National Audubon, Napa-Solano Audubon volunteers collect data twice per year to assess if predictions on the effects climate change on specific species are correct. The results are posted along with Citizen Science findings from other Audubon chapters nationwide on Audubon.org.
 - ii. NestWatch – collects information on the timing and success of nesting Western Bluebirds, Tree Swallows and other birds that occupy nestboxes monitored by volunteers. Weekly visits and data recording during the nesting season provide us with data about our local cavity nesting birds.

4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective

School presentations and curriculum – We will continue to use existing curriculum that was developed over the past two years, as well as develop additional modules on **Citizen Science and Diversity in Environmental Sciences**. We will work closely with the teachers to ensure that all curriculum meets their goals, including Teaching to the Standards. This is accomplished by providing teachers, prior to the start of the school year, a packet that describes each of the potential modules we have. They can then select from this list of curricula, working it into their lesson plans, or ask us to adjust existing or create new curriculum that meets their specific needs.

Our Environmental Education Coordinator will identify and reach out to schools in Napa County that would be interested in having us present our curriculum to the classes.

5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission – to complete

The Youth Equity in Birding Program is in sync with the goals of the commission because it is a public-school classroom outreach program to enhance children's understanding of Avian Ecology, wildlife and bird conservation. Broader scientific principles associated with conservation such as Climate Change, habitat loss, and the scientific process are also covered, depending on the teacher's requests. The curriculum is planned and follows the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology slideshow series on birds, with some adaptations and additional curriculum development needed to adjust the presentation to each grade level. Short films about specific life cycles of some birds are available at the teacher's request. In-person nature observations are made possible through this program, as we take field trips to adjacent parks or school gardens and fields to observe birds nearby. (Depending on school funding, we have been invited to lead bird walks on school coordinated off-site field trips). Binoculars are provided for the students, along with instruction on field safety and binocular use. For the schools that have already participated in our Nestbox Trails program, such as Donaldson Way Elementary, we time classroom visits to incorporate a supervised bird and nestbox monitoring activity or visiting a nearby Nestbox Trail, such as at McPherson Elementary School.

6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful
 1. Reached 1300 students
 2. Presented in 60 classrooms, 30 of these classrooms will have at least 40% of the students identified as socioeconomically disadvantaged
 3. Provided 30 classrooms with outdoor education experiences, incorporating nearby or adjacent parks into the field trips, providing binoculars, activity guides, bird monitoring and introductory bird identification skills.
 4. Mentored at least 10 volunteers who are participating in Citizen Science bird monitoring projects.
 5. Submitted final reports on nesting success for cavity nesters monitored on NestWatch.org.
 6. Completed at least 10 surveys in both January and June for Climate Watch,
 7. Trained 4 volunteers on Climate Watch Survey methods.
 8. Uploaded all Climate Watch data onto the Climate Watch website.

III.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Expenditure detail (sample templates can be provided upon request)
2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds)
3. Letters of support (a letter of support from a school board member, principal, teacher, etc., shall be included with environmental education proposals)
4. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Game Fine Monies.

No proposals accepted after filing deadline. Representation at the Commission meeting is strongly recommended in order to answer questions from the Commission

Attachment 1

NSAS Youth Equity in Birding Classroom Outreach and Citizen Science Program

Environmental Education Coordinator tasks	# of hours	Cost if \$22.50/hr	In-Kind NSAS	In-Kind City of Napa	In-Kind AmCan Parks&Rec	In-Kind Safari West	Solano County FWPF Grant	In-Kind Other sources and Grants	Request NCWCC	Detailed Description
Jr Audubon Walks	30	\$ 675	\$ 100.00					\$ 225.00	\$ 350	675 10 walks @ 3 hours/walk = 30hr 60 school visits, 2 hours/school visit, 1.5 hours/vist prep time =
School visits & Field Trips	210	\$ 4,725	\$ 600.00				\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,650	210hr 4 months, 1X/week, 3 hr/visit =48hr
NestWatch Monitoring	48	\$ 1,080	\$ 100.00			\$500		\$ 100.00	\$ 400	
Other Events	50	\$ 1,125	\$ 660		\$ 425				\$ -	5hours/event, 10 events =50hr 2.5 Hours/week, 40 weeks = 100 hours
Curriculum development	100	\$ 2,250	\$ 200.00					\$ 100.00	\$ 2,000	2,300
Volunteer Coordination - Educational tasks	120	\$ 2,700	\$ 400.00					\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000	2,900
Volunteer Coordination - Citizen Science Teams	120	\$ 2,700	\$ 300.00					\$ 800.00	\$ 1,800	2,900
Training Workshops for Citizen Scientists	32	\$ 720	\$ 100.00					\$ 240.00	\$ 400	740
Beginning Birding Workshops & Workshop Marketing	120	\$ 2,700	\$ 500	\$ 750	\$ 1,000					\$ 2,250
Grant Writing and Grant Management	50	\$ 1,125	\$ 500.00					\$ 200.00	\$ 400	\$ 1,100
Sub-total	880	\$ 19,800	\$ 3,460	\$ 750	\$ 1,425	\$ 500	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,165	\$ 8,000	\$ 19,800
										\$ 19,800

NOTE: This is an estimate of how the hours might be allocated to accomplish each of the tasks. Actual allocation will vary, though the tasks and goals will remain the same.

Attachment 2

NSAS Youth Equity in Birding Classroom Outreach and Citizen Science Program

Matching Funds Detail

	# of hours	In-Kind NSAS	In-Kind City of Napa	In-Kind AmCan Parks&Rec	In-Kind Safari West	Solano County FWPF Grant	In-Kind Other sources and Grants	Matching Funds Totals
Environmental Education Coordinator tasks								
Jr Audubon Walks	30	\$ 100.00					\$ 225.00	
School visits & Field Trips	210	\$ 600.00				\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	
NestWatch Monitoring	48	\$ 100.00			\$500		\$ 100.00	
Other Events	50	\$ 660		\$ 425				
Curriculum development	100	\$ 200.00					\$ 100.00	
Volunteer Coordination - Educational tasks	120	\$ 400.00					\$ 1,500.00	
Volunteer Coordination - Citizen Science Teams	120	\$ 300.00					\$ 800.00	
Training Workshops for Citizen Scientists	32	\$ 100.00					\$ 240.00	
Beginning Birding Workshops & Workshop Marketing	120	\$ 500	\$ 750	\$ 1,000				
Grant Writing and Grant Management	50	\$ 500.00					\$ 200.00	
Sub-total	880	\$ 3,460	\$ 750	\$ 1,425	\$ 500	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,165	\$ 11,800



Donaldson Way Elementary School

Marilyn B. Abelon, Principal

430 Donaldson Way, American Canyon, CA 94503
707-644-4486 or 707-253-3524 – Fax: 707-253-6290
Website: dwes-nvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/
A California Gold Ribbon School



6/5/2018

Dear Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission:

I am a Fifth Grade teacher at Donaldson Way Elementary School in American Canyon. Donaldson Way is part of the Napa Valley Unified School District and has four Fifth Grade classrooms. We pride ourselves on project-based learning, a wildlife friendly campus, and the use of technology in the classroom.

This year we were pleased to have Crystal DeMarco, the Environmental Education Coordinator for the Napa-Solano Audubon Society, present to each of our Fifth Grade classrooms on two occasions about Avian Ecology, Birdsongs, and Bird Nesting. She also presented a birding activity at our Earth Day Celebration at our school. In addition, she and an Audubon volunteer helped to repair our Western Bluebird Nestboxes and provided the teachers with training, information and resources for understanding how to monitor nestboxes. Having a professional environmental educator visit our campus brings the field of environmental science to life for our students, and further enhances our own efforts at being a sustainable campus. Donaldson Way Elementary has invested in creating a school garden, creekside habitat restoration, and now has eight nestboxes to monitor!

This is a wonderful partnership and opportunity for the schools in the Napa Unified School District. We have appreciated having these exciting and informative classroom presentations about birds, the bird walks, and other site visits, and hope that the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission will continue to support this worthwhile community environmental education program.

Sincerely,

Maureen McCullough

Attachment 4

Progress Report of previously funded projects: NSAS Educational Program (funded 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18)

The WCC awarded grants to Napa-Solano Audubon Society for the 2015-2018 school year to hire an Environmental Education Coordinator and expand our Education, Outreach and Citizen Science programming. Crystal DeMarco replaced Alex Greene September of 2017 and currently fills the position. Below is a summary of activities funded by this grant.

1. School Visits

- Goal of **40 Classroom** visits was met in 2017-2018 School Year with 14 classroom visits incorporating a guided bird walk or nestbox monitoring field activity.
- Two additional schools: Browns Valley Elementary School, and Yountville Elementary School requested and received free nestboxes for their campuses.
- **1008** students received our school programs in 2016-2017 school year (30% increase from 2015-2016).
- We visited **19 schools** (46% increase from 2015-2016). 16 of these schools were part of the Napa Valley Unified School District while 3 were private schools.
- Programs and field trips were delivered to **38 classes** (35% increase from 2015-2016) ranging in age from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade. Program subjects included:
 - i. Bird Adaptations
 - ii. Birdsong
 - iii. Nesting
 - iv. Bird Migration
 - v. Feathers: Form & Function
 - vi. Human Impacts on Birds
 - vii. Avian Biodiversity

2. Special Events

- **March 2018 - Spring Celebration at American Canyon:** Pollinator Station 1000 Visitors
- **April 2018 - Earth Day American Canyon Habitat Restoration:** 7 Student Volunteers from American Canyon High School, 1 Teacher, and 15 Community Volunteers.
- **January 2018 - Climate Watch Volunteer Bird Surveys:** 10 Survey Routes Completed, target species was the White Breasted Nuthatch
- **January 2018 - MLK Day** Habitat Restoration at Sustainable Demonstration Vineyard: 50 Participants
- **2017 CBC4Kids:** 30 Participants attended this half-day citizen science event held at the Napa Main Library and in Napa city parks on December 16th, 2017. A live raptor joined us from Napa Wildlife Rescue and Connolly Ranch also partnered on the event. Young adults were paired with adults to lead each team, expert birders from the Napa-Solano Audubon Society helped lead the groups.

- **Fall 2017 Harvest Festival at Connolly Ranch (Free)** Nestbox and Face painting: 1000 Participants.
- **Coastal Cleanup Day:** NSAS helped co-captain a site for this trash cleanup event along the Napa River on September 17th 2016.
- **Visions of the Wild Festival:** An educational table and interactive activities were provided at this festival in American Canyon on September 18th 2016.
- **Soscol Water Treatment Facility Open House:** An educational table, birding crafts and bird walks were provided by NSAS at this Open House event on October 15th, 2016.
- **Birding for the Blind:** An evening lecture and a morning bird walk for blind and visually impaired veterans at the Enchanted Hills Camp on November 12th and 13th, 2016.
- **Christmas Bird Count 2015:** Around 25 children attended.
- **Bluebird Box Build & Install with CCC:** On February 17th, 2017 a group of California Conservation Corps volunteers built bluebird boxes with NSAS and installed boxes at two elementary schools in Napa. We partnered with Solano Land Trust to facilitate this event.
- **Bird Nesting Talk:** A talk about bird nesting at the Carolyn Parr Nature Center on March 11th 2017 included a bird nest building activity and a display of many bird nests (permit renewed in fall of 2016).
- **Jr Audubon Big Day:** On April 22nd, 2016 a youth team participated in our second annual Birdathon (a 24 hours birding competition) and logged a total of 124 species.

3. Napa Creek Bird Monitors

- In Spring 2018, **Vintage High School Students** were trained on nestbox monitoring at Salvador Creek, and also on general bird monitoring using E-Bird for a class project. 3 trainings and monitoring sessions.
- A citizen science bird study using local teens to collect data. **12 additional bird surveys** (a total of 26 in 12 months) were performed by these students between May and November 2016. For 3 months the surveys were supervised directly by one of the students, who earned his Eagle Scout Badge by facilitating the study during this time.
- The **4 participating students** gathered preliminary results of the study, put together a powerpoint and presented it to the **Watershed Information and Conservation Council** on January 26th 2017.
- The Eagle Scout candidate developed a separate powerpoint presentation about the study and presented it at a Blue Oak Middle School science class on December 7th 2016.

4. Jr Audubon Bird Walks

- 8 walks offered between January 2018-May 2018: **28 Participants**
- Free bird walks offered to youth and their families at rotating locations in Napa County.
- **8 walks** between August 2015 and April 2016 (reduced by 50% compared to 2015-2016 in order to focus our energy on higher impact work).
- We again partnered with Napa Land Trust to gain access to locations for some walks.

5. Bluebird Nestbox Trails Monitoring

- Spring 2018: **7 new nestbox trail monitors trained** on monitoring protocol
 - i. Master spreadsheet created to share information on this informative Citizen Science Project.
 - ii. Multiple meetings and site trainings held with individual nestbox monitors
 - iii. 8 Nestboxes repaired at O'Brian Park in Napa
 - iv. 8 Nestboxes repaired and cleaned at Alston Park
- Spring of 2017 Nestbox Trails Volunteer Monitored 65 total nestboxes
 - i. 66 Western Bluebirds Fledged
 - ii. 55 Tree Swallows Fledged
- A volunteer citizen science monitoring network was organized and began implementing their work in March of 2017.
- **15 monitors and one girl scout** troop attended trainings held in Napa and in Solano (by our partner Solano Land Trust) and each committed to weekly monitoring of their assigned boxes from mid March to late July 2017. They have continued to monitor nestboxes at the American Canyon Wetlands for the 2018 Spring nesting season.
- **71 boxes at 8 sites** across Napa County are now being monitored on a weekly basis, and the scientific data they collect on the breeding phenology of cavity-nesting birds is being recorded and stored. At two school sites students are doing the monitoring themselves rather than an external volunteer. Site are:
 - i. **American Canyon Wetlands**
 - ii. **Newell Preserve**
 - iii. **American Canyon High School**
 - iv. **Donaldson Way Elementary School**
 - v. **Phillips Elementary School**
 - vi. **Napa RCD Experimental Vineyard**
 - vii. **O'Brien Park**
 - viii. **New Technology High School**
- Partners on this project have included Solano Land Trust, California Conservation Corps and City of American Canyon Parks and Recreation (provided funding for supplies and installation at two sites). Permission for installation has been granted by Napa City Parks, Napa Valley Unified School District and American Canyon Parks and Recreation.

[Nest Boxes at Schools Timeline \(funded 2014/2015\)](#)

The progress on the effects of this grant are detailed above under the "Bluebird Nestbox Trails" heading.

[Hummingbirds at Home \(funded 2013/2014\):](#)

This project has been reworked. Our original focus was on the Hummingbirds@Home project that is supported by National Audubon. Information given at our tabling events include a tri-fold flyer on 3 of our local hummingbirds and the effects climate change may have on their future habitats and a one page flyer that details plants native to Napa and Solano counties that provide habitat for hummingbirds. Additionally, we continue to provide the children's activity of building a hummingbird feeder out of recycled materials.

ATTACHMENT B
LAND TRUST OF NAPA COUNTY



GRANT FUNDING REQUEST FOR

Post-Fire Ecological Monitoring, Restoration, and Erosion Repair on the Foote Botanical Preserve

Submitted: June 6, 2018

For funding in FY 2018-2019

CONTACT:

Mike Palladini

Stewardship Program Manager

mike@napalandtrust.org

707.261.6317

1700 Soscol Avenue, Suite 20, Napa, CA 94559

www.napalandtrust.org

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DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION/ELIGIBILITY

1. TYPE OF ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS

Land Trust of Napa County is a community-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

2. PURPOSE FOR WHICH ORGANIZATION WAS FORMED

The Land Trust of Napa County is dedicated to preserving the character of Napa by permanently protecting agricultural, wild, and scenic lands. In our 42-year history, the Land Trust has completed over 200 land projects, forever protecting more than 67,000 acres of land – 14% of Napa County. The Land Trust collaborates with the community to protect our most cherished places, while supporting our economic livelihood and well-being. For Napa County this means outdoor living & natural habitat, water resources, vistas and farmland.

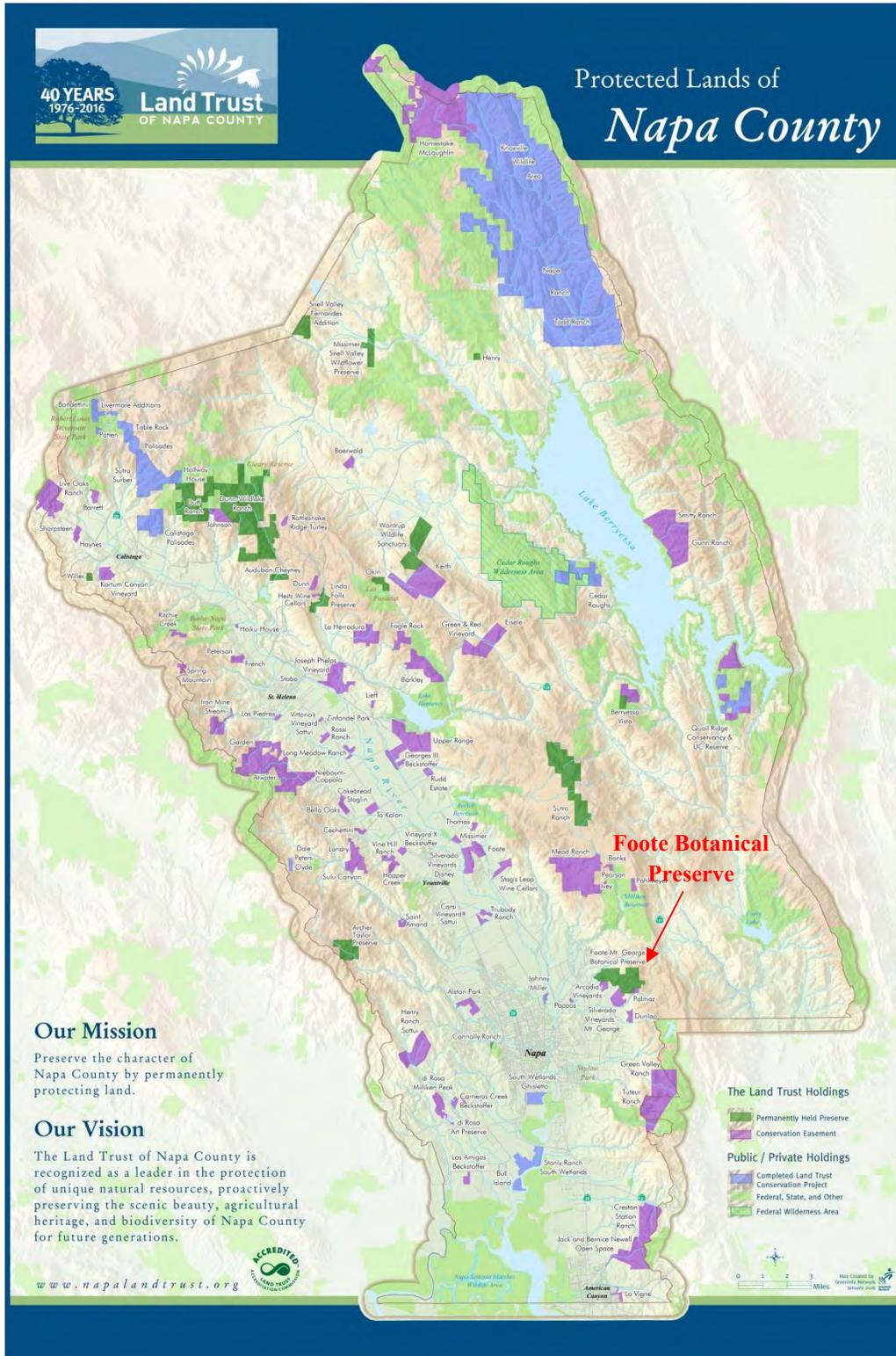
The Impact: Why It’s Important

Outdoor Living & Natural Habitats	Urban development must be balanced with the need for green space that is vital to our health and well-being. In partnership with state and local agencies, the Land Trust has preserved more than 26,000 acres of open space, which are now eight public parks and recreational areas. In addition, the Land Trust owns nine unique permanent preserves accessible year-round for recreation via our Field Trip Program. Collectively, these areas create dynamic habitat corridors that help keep wildlife out of crop lands and residential areas and in their natural habitat.
Water	Sustainable water quality and quantity are fundamental challenges for every community. To date, the Land Trust has helped Napa County protect over 50 miles of waterways that provide everyday drinking water for Napa, St. Helena and Angwin, as well as recreation on the Napa River and Lake Berryessa.
Vistas	Miles of protected ridgeline stretch from Newell Open Space Preserve in American Canyon to the Palisades of RLS State Park in Calistoga. These beautiful views along Highway 29 and Silverado Trail support Napa’s thriving tourism industry and make it a unique place to call home.
Farmland	The San Francisco Bay region is one of the nation’s leaders in local food and boasts an agricultural industry worth \$1.9 billion annually. Napa’s world-class vines, produce and livestock have been at the heart of this economic engine for generations. Today, over 9,000 acres of permanently protected farmland support our continued agricultural vitality.

How We Do It:

- **Conservation Agreements** - the Land Trust partners with individual landowners to develop an optimal conservation plan to preserve their land forever.
- **Land donations** – the Land Trust selectively accepts donations of land, ensuring it becomes protected open space forever as part of our permanent preserves network.
- **Property transfers** – the Land Trust assists local, state, and federal agencies (like Fish & Wildlife, State Parks, and City Parks) to acquire open space, parks and wildlife refuges.

Lands Protected by the Land Trust of Napa County



3. TAX EXEMPT STATUS

Land Trust of Napa County is a community-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

4. DATE FORMED AS NON-PROFIT

Land Trust of Napa County formed as a nonprofit in 1976.

5. MEMBERSHIP

The Land Trust of Napa County offers a wide range of membership levels with no restrictions. Suggested membership donations start at \$30 per year for Student/Senior. The total number of members in 2018 is approximately 1,200.

6. NAMES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF CONTACT PERSON

Name	Title
Greg Bennett	Chair
Steve Carlin	Vice Chair
Linda Cantey	Treasurer
Ann Taylor Schwing	Secretary
Paul Asmuth	
Robin Baggett	
David Beckstoffer	
John Coleman	
Malcolm Mackenzie	
Bill Nemerever	
Richard Seiferheld	
Jack Stuart	

Staff Contact:

Mike Palladini
 Land Stewardship Manager
 1700 Soscol Avenue, Suite 20
 Napa, CA 94559
 mike@napalandtrust.org
 707.261.6317

NEEDS ASSESSMENT/PROBLEM STATEMENT

1. POST FIRE VEGETATION MONITORING, INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL, AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS TO PREVENT EROSION AND PROTECT GERMINATING RARE PLANT SPECIES

The Foote Preserve on Mt. George encompasses 764 acres of relatively undisturbed natural habitat located northeast of the city of Napa. The Preserve was acquired by the Land Trust of Napa County in 1977, given under the agreement that the native habitat would be conserved. This Preserve, comprised largely of chaparral habitat, hosts more than 300 plant species and numerous vegetation types- including chaparral, grassland, redwood, and riparian. Numerous plant species are significant for reasons such as rarity, geographic distribution, and ecological functions. Maintenance and management of the vegetation thus has benefits that extend beyond simply preserving the plants themselves, but also preserving their significant value or function.

There is much opportunity for ecological restoration and post-fire research on the Foote Botanical Preserve following of the 2017 fires. The Preserve is mostly comprised of chaparral habitat, which is a plant community that is adapted to patterns of fire. Among the native chaparral species that are germinating in great numbers since the 2017 fire is *Ceanothus purpureus*, (holly leaved ceanothus), a fire obligate which requires stimulation by fire to germinate, and a rare plant with very limited range. The largest extant population of this species occurs on Mt. George. Prior to the 2017 fire, the *C.purpureus* population was steadily dwindling as it had been more than 50 years since the previous fire on the Preserve, and the few surviving shrubs were being outcompeted for light resources by other species. In the months following the 2017 fires, LTNC staff established a series of survival monitoring plots in order to capture survival rates of the germinating seedlings. While observing the returning population of *C.purpureus*, we noticed that many of the seedlings are now establishing within the tread of parts of the Preserve's decades old trail system. In order to ensure the health and survival of the resurging *C.purpureus* population, the Land Trust is working with botanists and plant ecologists to protect these new seedlings. Our current plan is to re-route parts of the trail system, and potentially transplant seedlings to more protected areas on the Preserve.

As part of the Land Trust's long-term conservation management plan for the Preserve, we feel that it is important to take this opportune moment to record post-fire vegetation recovery throughout the property. LTNC is currently working with local botany expert Jake Ruygt of Napa Botanical Services on surveying post-fire plant species on the property. This past spring, a series of vegetation plots were established in burned areas in order to record species abundance and diversity and to monitor post-fire regeneration. These plots, which are set throughout different habitat types, elevations, and fire intensities (measured by the amount of vegetation remaining after the fire) will be compared and contrasted. We anticipate the data gathered from these plots to reveal what the seedbank composition is in various areas on the Preserve, what the regrowth capabilities are of some species, and how the habitat in general responds to fire.

Thus far, post-fire botanical surveys have revealed the occurrence of many species which are considered either fire opportunists or fire obligates. Fire opportunists are species which, prior to the

fire, were present on the Preserve in low numbers and may have spread through vegetative growth only. Since the fire, these opportunists have greatly increased in number and are now flowering in order to quickly contribute to their seedbank post-fire. Fire obligates are species that are absent for long periods of time and which have a seed coat that requires some level of fire stimulation in order to germinate. These obligates appear for only one to two years after a fire and primarily consist of annual forbs.

Additional work that the Land Trust is looking to address on the Foote Preserve is controlling invasive plant species which seem to have been stimulated by the fire, such as *Genista monspessulana* (French broom), *Rubus armeniacus* (Himalayan blackberry), *vinca major*, and a number of invasive annual grasses. While the majority of acreage on the Preserve is uninvaded by non-native invasive plant species, the areas which have historically received the most disturbance from humans (along trails, wagon roads, and homesteading residences) tend to be the areas where exotic species occur most on the property. One such location, known as the Tupper Home site had a minimal amount of French broom prior to the fire as the Land Trust and volunteers have spent several years aggressively removing this plant. Just after the fire, we noticed a proliferation of French broom seedlings growing at this site. It is important that we work to remove these plants before they get a chance to flower and drop seeds, as the seedbank of this species can remain viable for up to fifteen years. By removing the current influx of these seedlings, we hope to exhaust the majority of the seedbank in this particular area.

Also at this site, LTNC has been working diligently to remove an invasion of Himalayan blackberry through manual removal techniques. Over the past five years, we have made considerable progress in reducing the blackberry stand. Now that the fire has burned off the above ground portion of this plant, we have an advantage in seeking out and removing the root system of the remaining blackberry in the area. By controlling the existing invasions of exotic invasive plant species, LTNC is working to protect and enhance the overall ecological health of the Preserve.

The Land Trust is also looking to improve erosion issues that have become apparent post-fire along the trail system, as we are now able to see more of the trails where vegetation has burned. In the coming year, we plan to identify the most problematic areas of runoff and water damage found along the trail system, and will focus on the repair of these sections in order to reduce excess sediment deposition into the Sarco Creek Watershed.

2. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE & AMOUNT REQUESTED

The Land Trust of Napa County would like to request \$13,000 in order to fund two full weeks of service from an American Conservation Experience (ACE) crew towards restoration efforts (implementing protective measures for *C.purpureus*, invasive species removal, and erosion repair along sections of

trail) on the Foote Botanical Preserve on Mt. George. This amount would additionally cover 50% of the cost for conducting post-fire botanical surveys on the Preserve as well.

3. TIMELINE

- **Fall/Winter 2018/2019** American Conservation Experience crew to focus on post-fire ecological restoration on Foote Preserve, which will likely include:
 - Re-routing sections of trail as needed to avoid passing through *C.purpureus* habitat; Transplanting *C.purpureus* seedlings from trails to more protected areas
 - Removal of invasive plant species such as French broom, Himalayan blackberry, and Vinca
- **Fall/Winter 2018/2019** American Conservation Experience crew works to improve sections of trail by using effective methods of erosion control in order to reduce sediment deposition to the Sarco Creek Watershed.
- **Spring 2019** Napa Botanical Services to survey and monitor post-fire vegetation plots

3. METHODS PLANNED TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVE

After identifying the previously mentioned opportunities for ecological restoration, post-fire species monitoring, and erosion repair projects on the Preserve, LTNC has come up with the following management strategies to reach our goals:

- 1) LTNC will work closely with two knowledgeable consultants for our *Ceanothus purpureus* protection plan: Tom Parker, Biology Professor at San Francisco State University, and Jake Ruygt, local botany expert, each of whom are very familiar with the Foote Preserve and the species we are looking to manage there. Under the guidance of these experts, LTNC will create a plan to best protect the recovering population of this species through monitoring survival rates, re-routing sections of trail to avoid areas where seedlings are germinating within the current trail, and potentially by transplanting seedlings out of the way of foot traffic. Funds requested in this grant proposal would pay for LTNC to hire American Conservation Experience crews to help carry out this work.
- 2) In spring of 2019, LTNC will continue to work with Jake Ruygt who will monitor vegetation plots and continue to survey species occurring on the property. Funds requested in this proposal would cover approximately 50% of the cost towards these professional services.
- 3) LTNC will hire a crew from the American Conservation Experience (ACE) to perform the work required to remove invasive French broom (*Genista monspessulana*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), and other invasive species such as *Vinca major* from burned areas where these

species are vigorously resprouting. The hired crews will also work under LTNC's guidance to repair erosion damage along sections of trail where water damage has occurred. ACE crews are highly trained in best practices for trail construction and maintenance and have helped LTNC improve several trail systems over the years.

4. BENEFITS RELATIVE TO GOALS OF THE COMMISSION

The projects that the Land Trust is proposing relate to the goals of the Commission in several ways. First, by continuing to survey and monitor the fire following plant species on the Foote Botanical Preserve, we are contributing to future management planning, research development, and long-term preservation, which is listed in the California Fish and Game Code 13103 under items (e) and (i). A responsibility of the Land Trust in managing the Foote Preserve is to maintain the habitat in its most natural state historically (the state pre-human alteration), both for the health of the flora, fauna, and soils and for fire safety reasons. By better understanding the species that occur on this property under a spectrum of conditions, we are better able to protect this rich ecosystem. Already, since the 2017 fire took place, several rare fire following plant species have been observed, including: *Triteleia lugens* (rare plant list 4), *Hesperolinon bicarpellatum* (rare plant list 1B2), *Papaver californicum*, and *Sidalcea hickmanii* ssp. *Napensis* (rare plant list 1b1). Of particular interest within this group of observed plants has been the *Papaver californicum*, which is also known as the fire poppy. The 2018 record of the fire poppy on the Foote Preserve by Jake Ruygt is only the second Napa County record of this plant in history, the first having been taken in 1913. We know that the most recent fire on the Foote Preserve prior to 2017 had taken place in 1964, which means that the seed bank for this plant had been dormant for 53 years. Information such as this is extremely valuable in management for species protection and for gaining a better comprehension of ecological processes.

By managing the *Ceanothus purpureus* (rare plant list 1b2) population as mentioned in this proposal, we aim to protect the resurgence of this rare shrub, while learning more about its characteristics and growth requirements along the way.

LTNC will be meeting the goals of the Commission through vegetation management and ecological restoration through our practices of removing invasive non-native species from the Preserve.

Finally, the Land Trust will be contributing to improvement of fish and wildlife habitat through watershed improvements as we work to reduce runoff and sediment deposition through improving water damaged areas along the trail system occurring within the Sarco Creek Watershed.

5. HOW WE WILL DETERMINE OUR SUCCESS

In order to best track the success of each of these projects, the Land Trust will carefully collect data along the way. When removing invasive plant species, we will document metrics (such as area worked in and cubic yards of biomass removed) as we have in the past. Photo documentation and detailed notes are very helpful in tracking success of invasive species removal work. The goal is to steadily decrease the amount of invasives which occur in the focus areas annually.

When working on trail improvements for erosion control purposes, LTNC will document before and after photos, and will also observe each section of trail's performance during the wet season to learn if there are further improvements to be made. By consulting with partner trail experts at ACE, we are confident that we will be able to take the steps necessary to repair the runoff issues of concern.

As previously mentioned, vegetation plots have already been established which will be monitored each year to provide information on the post-fire ecology on the Preserve. By diligently tracking this information and building our data set through working with expert botanists and ecologists, we will be following best practices in preserve management. Additionally, vegetation monitoring plots have already been established for *Ceanothus purpureus*, throughout the Preserve, and we will continue to closely monitor this species' health and survival in the years to come.

ATTACHMENTS

1. EXPENDITURE DETAIL / OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Budget Category	WCC Proposed Funding	Matching Funds*	Total Project Budget
Professional Services			
American Conservation Experience: <i>Fall/Winter 2018/2019</i>	\$11,500.00		\$11,500.00
Napa Botanical Services <i>Spring 2019 Plant Surveys</i>	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Professional Services Subtotal	\$13,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$14,500.00
Supplies & Other Expenses			
Travel	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Restroom rentals for ACE Crews	\$0.00	\$680.00	\$680.00
Supplies Subtotal	\$0.00	\$740.00	\$740.00
LTNC Staff Time			
Stewardship Program Manager	\$0.00	\$2,785.00	\$2,785.00
Assistant Stewardship Coordinator	\$0.00	\$1,736.00	\$1,736.00
LTNC Staff Subtotal	\$0.00	\$4,521.00	\$4,521.00
Project Total	\$13,000	\$6,761	\$19,761

*Difference between Project Budget and WCC Budget Request amounts will be paid by Land Trust of Napa County from General Operating and Preserve Endowment Funds.

2. LETTER OF SUPPORT – TOM PARKER, PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY, SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY



Department of Biology
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, California 94132

Tel: 415/338-1549
FAX: 415/338-2295

5 June 2018

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission
Grant Committee

Dear Commission Members:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the Land Trust of Napa County's request for funding towards ecological restoration and erosion control efforts throughout the trail system at the at the Foote Botanical Preserve in the coming year. As a professor at SF State University, for the past 20 years I have been conducting research on the preserve within the chaparral. I'm an expert in the ecology and evolution of manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* species) and California lilacs (*Ceanothus* species), especially concerning rodent scatter-hoarding dispersal, seed banks and seed predators, which means I'm also an expert in chaparral fire ecology. Additionally, I have joined the Land Trust as a guide during several themed hikes for Land Trust members on Mt. George, and in the past for the general public, which covered topics such as *Arctostaphylos* diversity and post-fire ecology.

Currently, ecological restoration and post-fire research is needed on the Foote Botanical Preserve on Mt. George in the aftermath of the 2017 fire. The preserve is mostly comprised of chaparral habitat, which is a plant community that is adapted to patterns of fire. Among the native chaparral species that are germinating in great numbers since the 2017 fire is *Ceanothus purpureus*, (holly leaved ceanothus), a fire obligate and a rare plant with very limited range (the species is only found in the volcanic soils on the hills of the eastern side of Napa Valley. This plant was nearly missing from the site as adults at the time of the fire, and only remained as seed in the soil. The recovery of this species is critical to re-establish populations and the subsequent soil seed bank.

Funding from the WCC would allow the Land Trust to take necessary steps to allow for the best possible survivorship of *C. purpureus*. In many areas, most seedlings are currently growing in trails and will either need to be transplanted into more protected areas, or in some cases, trails will need to be closed or rerouted. Additionally, I am especially in favor of the Land Trust's plans to focus on the removal of target invasive species in order to improve the overall ecological health for the chaparral and other plant communities found on the preserve.

The proposed grant from the Wildlife Conservation Commission would greatly enhance LTNC's ability to move forward with important post-fire monitoring, ecological restoration, and trail maintenance on the preserve.

Sincerely,

V. Thomas Parker
Professor of Biology

3. PROJECTS COMPLETED WITH PAST WILDLIFE COMMISSION FUNDS

2017-2018

Land Trust of Napa County was awarded \$12,720 from the Commission towards working with American Conservation Experience (ACE) crews who spent two weeks continuing work to remove invasive *Aegilops triuncialis* (barbed goatgrass) and *Vicia villosa* (hairy vetch) from within the 60 acre restoration area of the Missimer Snell Valley Preserve. This past spring, two six person crews successfully removed another 90 cubic yards of invasive biomass during their time on the Preserve.

2016-2017

The Commission awarded the Land Trust \$13,018 to hire American Conservation Experience (ACE) Crews to focus on manually removing invasive *Aegilops triuncialis* (barbed goatgrass) and *Vicia villosa* (hairy vetch) from within the 60 acre restoration area of the Missimer Snell Valley Preserve. A seven person ACE crew spent one week removing *V.villosa* in April 2017, and an eight person crew spent one week plus one day removing *A.triuncialis* in May 2017. These crews were able to carefully identify and remove these invasive species throughout the restoration site, which is home to 222 native plant species, 11 of which are considered special status species. Between the two weeks of work, the crews removed over 100 cubic yards of invasive biomass.

2015-2016

Land Trust of Napa County was awarded \$10,432 from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission in 2015 towards continued riparian restoration along a half mile stretch of Conn Creek at the Linda Falls Preserve in Angwin. These funds allowed LTNC to hire two American Conservation Experience (ACE) crews to continue invasive species removal and plant native seedlings throughout the half mile streamside restoration site along Conn Creek. With the support of NCWCC, LTNC was able to propagate and outplant 1,150 native riparian plants throughout the restoration site. These plants were collected from seeds and cuttings directly from native species located on the Preserve.

2014-2015

The WCC granted the Land Trust \$10,000 to initiate a large scale habitat restoration project at Linda Falls which focused on the removal of invasive Himalayan blackberry, large periwinkle, and French broom from sensitive riparian habitat along Conn Creek.

WCC funds allowed LTNC to hire an ACE crew in July 2014 to first remove these invasive species and install erosion control features along the creek banks, and to propagate and out-plant locally-collected site-appropriate native plant species in previously invaded areas.

2011-2012

The WCC awarded the Land Trust \$10,000 in 2011 for the research, development and installation of illustrated ecological signage and trail markers for trailheads and trails. The project was extended as the Land Trust increased its staff capacity to achieve project goals and objectives. Completed in mid-2013 by the new Land Stewardship Manager, signage now provides staff, volunteers and visitors with central and trail-head maps as well as illustrated educational signs detailing the unique environmental characteristics of each of the Land Trust's nine permanent preserves.

2009-2010

In 2010 the WCC awarded the Land Trust \$4,000 for an erosion control project at three of the wildlife habitat ponds at Wantrup Wildlife Sanctuary in Pope Valley. This repair project was ambitious for The Land Trust's land management program; however we took on the challenge because the problems continued to grow. The work corrected the erosion and repaired the riparian areas continuing to protect habitat for migratory birds and state species of special concern such as the yellow warbler, the willow flycatcher, Wilson's warbler, McGillavray's warbler, the tri-colored blackbird, and the yellow-breasted chat.

2007-08

In 2008 the WCC awarded us \$1,979 to pay for the removal of blackberry stems from the Wantrup Wildlife Preserve. We made significant progress towards the blackberry removal with the money from the WCC. Unfortunately, the blackberry problem at Wantrup is larger and will take more resources than we had originally anticipated. We are continuing to work on this problem with volunteers and with additional funds from other sources. We remain dedicated to restoring natural habitats on all of our nature preserves.

2006-07

LTNC received \$1,965 from the Commission to use as matching grant money on an NRCS Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project grant. The grant allowed us to complete ecological restoration projects at Archer Taylor and Foote Botanical Preserves. At Archer Taylor, the funds were used to pay a local nursery to germinate native shrub plugs from plants collected at the Preserve. These plugs will be planted this fall and we anticipate closing

out the WHIP grant. At the Foote Preserve the funds helped to pay for a second year of spraying the herbicide Transline to eradicate yellow star thistle. We have made tremendous progress in eradicating yellow star thistle from some areas of the Foote Preserve, including near the Tucker Homestead. The spraying allowed us to reduce the thistle population in that area to a size that can be managed with annual hand pulling by volunteers. The WCC money was essential for enabling us to follow through on two long-term restoration projects.

2005-06

The Commission awarded the Land Trust of Napa County a \$1,500 grant during its 2005-06 grant cycle as partial funding of wildlife enhancement projects at two Land Trust preserves. The lion's share of the grant funds, \$1,000, was used to reroute water flow around a small dam on the Wantrup Wildlife Preserve. The contractor that was hired to reroute the overflow at the Wantrup Wildlife Preserve completed the project by the spring of 2006. The work eliminated the downstream creek erosion problem and improved the wildlife habitat value of this stream. The Archer Taylor Preserve Stewardship Committee used \$500 of the grant to partially fund equipment needed for clearing and preparing areas infested with invasive exotic plants. Volunteers used the equipment to cut and remove woody vegetation by an historic homestead and to lay tarps on a half-acre of Vinca. This work enabled the committee to restore native plants to the area in 2007.

2004-05

In 2004, the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission graciously provided grant funds in the amount of \$2,220 to The Land Trust. These funds were used to assist with the control of the invasive exotic plants Vinca, English ivy and yellow star thistle at the Archer Taylor and Foote Botanical Preserves. This effort has furthered our goals of restoring our properties to native habitats and to be model stewards of all our holdings.

The Land Trust was also awarded funds for acquisition of a parcel of land surrounded by Robert Louis Stevenson State Park. The property, a 147-acre in-holding in the park formerly owned by the Bandettini family, was listed as a high priority by State Parks. With the assistance of the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Land Trust was able to obtain title to the Bandettini property. The Commission grant covered the closing costs and interest. The Land Trust intends to hold title until the State completes steps for taking ownership of the property.

ATTACHMENT C
NAPA COUNTY RCD

PROPOSAL: Napa Youth Stewardship Council



June 8, 2018

Prepared for:

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

Submitted by:

Napa County Resource Conservation District



I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION/Eligibility

Organization Name: Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD)

Organization Type: Special District

Organization Purpose: The RCD empowers the community to voluntarily conserve, protect, and restore natural resources in a landscape that supports wild lands, agriculture, and urban areas. We provide technical assistance, educational programs, monitoring programs, and funding sources to help land managers meet their conservation goals.

Tax Exempt Status: Tax exempt (#94-1569332)

Date Formed: 1945

Membership: Not applicable

Board of Directors: Gretchen Stranzl McCann, President
Jim Lincoln, Vice President
Ashley Anderson
Rainer Hoenicke
Jon Kanagy
Beth Painter
Bill Pramuk

Contact person: Eric McKee, Education Program Coordinator

Address: 1303 Jefferson Street, Suite 500B
Napa, CA 94559

Telephone: (707) 252-4189 x 3120

Email: Eric@NapaRCD.org

II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT/Problem Statement

1. Problem statement

Currently, Napa County high school students have limited options for participating in environmental science. Schools offer environmental science or related classes such as biology or geology, all of these classes are based in the classroom and incorporate very few field experiences per year if any. Teachers have limited capacity to offer and lead school-based field days or coordinate extracurricular clubs to serve student interest in the environment. High school students have given us the feedback that they are frustrated – their studies are developing their civic interests, and knowledge of ecology but there are few outlets for them to take action. Relevant career training is also being promoted in the County in tandem to the project-based learning initiative, and there is strong emphasis on recruiting professionals to work with students on projects as a demonstration of real-world, career application of the classroom learning.

Napa Youth Stewardship Council (NYSC) is the only program that offers students the opportunity to take classroom engagement further by connecting environmental sciences into the tangible local issues and actionable projects in their own watershed. The extracurricular club addresses gaps for teens related to opportunities to 1) participate in conservation service-learning, 2) expand watershed literacy, and 3) have pathways to stay involved in environmental stewardship and science into college and career.

In addition to furthering students' connection with watershed management, stewardship, and conservation, NYSC also develops leadership skills among teens, with the goal of mentoring students to become the next generation of environmental and conservation leaders in our community. Furthermore, NYSC is uniquely open to teens from any school in Napa County, to form a diverse cohort which encourages collaborative dialogue and shared peer-to-peer experiences in relevant local environmental issues.

NYSC was launched in 2015 by Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) in partnership with Friends Of the Napa River (FONR) and funded by a seed grant from the Wildlife Conservation Commission. The program was subsequently funded for two years by a private foundation and a competitive grant from US EPA obtained by Napa RCD. Over the last 3 years, 50 students have participated in NYSC. In that time, NYSC students have accomplished the following: engaged over 2,500 volunteers in watershed stewardship, planted 992 oaks and 230 native shrubs, collected 3,070 lbs. of litter, coordinated or participated in 23 service projects, and met with 20 conservation professionals.

2. Specific objective and dollar amount requested

- Facilitate Napa Youth Stewardship Council, an extracurricular environmental stewardship leadership club for up to 20 Napa County high school youth during school year 2018-2019.

- Improve wildlife habitat and watershed function in Napa County through conducting stewardship projects with NYSC members such as tree planting, trash clean-ups, riparian restoration, or other activities as deemed appropriate by technical staff.
- Increase student awareness of Napa County’s watersheds, including open space lands, agriculture, and urban ecology.

The RCD requests \$13,716.50 from the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission to fund labor, materials, and coordination of NYSC.

RCD will use in-kind services and matching funds when appropriate to ensure successful delivery of the project. RCD and project partner Land Trust of Napa County (LTNC) will provide \$6,888.50 of matching funds.

Total project proposal is \$20,605.00.

3. Anticipated results and timeline

Anticipated results

- Form and facilitate a cohort of up to 20 Napa County high school students as the Napa Youth Stewardship Council
- Students lead or participate in a minimum of 3 environmental service-learning projects including:
 - planting 100 native plants or trees with the Land Trust of Napa County
 - leading a volunteer stewardship project for residents of Napa County on Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service
 - serving as Site Captains for volunteers on Earth Day Cleanup and removing 150 pounds of pollutants from the Napa River watershed
- Students participate in 5 experiential education meetings exploring natural resource stewardship, science, and professions. Meeting activities may include monitoring wildlife cameras at Dunn-Wildlake Ranch Preserve, presentation related to Napa River fisheries monitoring, and interview with local conservation professionals about career opportunities
- Students report changes in: conservation behaviors, environmental literacy, awareness of Napa County open space areas, agriculture, and urban ecology, and interest in pursuit of environmental studies and careers



Timeline

(Subject to change depending on weather, project coordination needs, and student availability)

July 2018

- Develop outreach plan to recruit cohort of students
- Recruit additional partners to present at NYSC meetings and assist with NYSC stewardship projects as needed
- Develop student assessment tool

August 2018

- Modify existing NYSC application
- Coordinate service projects and education days
- Develop meeting agendas and curriculum

September 2018

- Conduct outreach program to recruit NSYC cohort
- Collect and review applications, contact students
- Survey students about current watershed awareness and stewardship behaviors

October 2018: Education Meeting #1

- Students learn about the significance of native flora as it pertains to watershed health and natural resource management
- Students prepare to lead a native plant restoration service project for the public

November 2018: Service Project #1

- Students lead or participate in a native plant restoration volunteer project with **Land Trust of Napa County**

December 2018: Education Meeting #2

- Students continue botany and ecology study and learn about best practices for hosting and guiding community service projects
- Students prepare to lead a native plant restoration project for MLK Jr. Day of Service

January 2019: Service Project #2

- Students host and lead volunteers for a native plant restoration service project for MLK Jr. Day of Service with **Land Trust of Napa County**

February 2019: Education Meeting #3

- Students visit Dunn-Wildlake Ranch Preserve with **Land Trust of Napa County**
- Students learn about wildlife ecology, land management, and careers in conservation

March 2019: Education Day #4

- Students train to serve as Site Captains for Earth Day Cleanup

- Students learn about stormwater pollution prevention and riparian water quality

April 2019: Service Project #3

- Students host and lead volunteers for Earth Day Cleanup removing litter and pollutants and educating volunteers

May 2019: Education Day #5

- Students visit a local open space area or preserve with **Land Trust of Napa County**
- Students continue studies in watershed health, natural resource management, ecology, and careers in conservation
- Students complete exit surveys

June 2019

- Summarize and report results of program

Ongoing:

- Compile and refine Napa Youth Stewardship Council curricula
- Continue enhance program and seek funding to sustain NYSC

4. Detailed description of methods planned to achieve objective

RCD staff will outreach to all Napa County high schools to promote program and recruit students, as well as any eligible students who have previously participated in the program. Staff will coordinate with project partners, stakeholders, and collaborators to identify meaningful stewardship and service-learning opportunities which will be integrated into the agenda for the project. Previous collaborators included: Friends of Napa River, Land Trust of Napa County Napa-Solano Audubon, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District, and Watershed Information and Conservation Council of Napa County.



Building on the success and lessons learned from the first three years of facilitating NYSC, in school year 2018-2019, RCD will facilitate the NYSC curriculum across approximately eight meetings. Meetings will be structured to focus students in planning and implementing stewardship projects with conservation partners. In order to increase student ability and confidence among the cohort, RCD staff will facilitate activities designed to build leadership skills. A portion of NYSC meetings will be held in open space areas and outdoor locations as access, weather, and project availability allows, to increase students' familiarity with our

watersheds. Staff will also develop a survey to evaluate student's behavior, attitude, and understanding at the start and end of the program.

Through the NYSC experience, RCD will engage students in planning and implementation of community stewardship events, such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Earth Day, and other existing opportunities within the County. During stewardship project days NYSC students will serve as volunteer captains and mentors to their peers, other younger students, and the public while providing participants contextual education about the need for stewardship locally.

RCD will sub-contract with Land Trust of Napa County (LTNC) to collaboratively achieve goals and objectives of NYSC. LTNC staff will provide planning assistance and co-facilitation for four meetings, and provide service-learning opportunities, access to LTNC properties, and technical coordination of restoration activities.

RCD's Education Program Coordinator will provide primary oversight of the NYSC cohort. RCD's Conservation Program Assistant will develop leadership exercises and outreach materials, provide student facilitation, and coordinate communication with students.

5. Clear statement of benefit relative to the goals of the Commission

The RCD's NYSC program directly addresses the following goals of the Wildlife Commission as listed in Section 13103 of the Fish And Game Code:

- (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 recording, training models, and nature study facilities.*

- (e) Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, including, but not limited to, construction of fish screens, weirs, and ladders; drainage or other watershed improvements; gravel and rock removal or placement; construction of irrigation and water distribution systems; earthwork and grading; fencing; planting trees and other vegetation management; and removal of barriers to the migration of fish and wildlife.*

NYSC students will participate in an environmental education and leadership curriculum developed by RCD, and will subsequently lead, guide, and interpret environmental education outwardly to members of the public who participate in the youth-led service projects.

NYSC students will actively complete service projects that will directly result in: removal of pollutants to the Napa River and planting of trees and other vegetation that create structural and genetic diversity for native flora, fish, and wildlife.

6. Describe how you intend to determine if the proposed activity is successful

The success of NYSC will be determined by the number of high school students that apply for and participate in NYSC, and the number of service-learning projects and experiential education meetings in which students participate. Additionally, pre/post survey results will be evaluated to determine if students behaviors, actions, and understanding of natural resource issues has changed. Finally, success will be measured by quantitative results of projects to be determined, including but not limited to: number of trees planted, number of volunteers engaged, area of invasive species removed, number of bird boxes maintained and monitored, or number of native plants installed.

III. ATTACHMENTS

1. Expenditure detail:

Item (Labor/Personnel)	Rate (\$/hr)	Units	Requested Funds	Matching Funds	Total
<i>Education Program Coordinator</i>	\$65.00	168	\$5,460.00	\$5,460.00	\$10,920.00
<i>Conservation Program Assistant</i>	\$42.00	140	\$5,880.00		\$5,880.00
<i>Office Manager</i>	\$72.00	10		\$720.00	\$720.00
<i>Executive Director</i>	\$93.00	4		\$372.00	\$372.00
<i>Land Trust: Assistant Stewardship Coordinator</i>	\$35.00	40	\$1,400.00		\$1,400.00
Sub-Total			\$12,740.00	\$6,552.00	\$19,292.00

Item (Materials)	Rate	Units	Requested Funds	Matching Funds	Total
<i>Mileage, RCD</i>	.545/mi	200	\$109.00		\$109.00
<i>Mileage, LTNC</i>	.545/mi	200		\$109.00	\$109.00
<i>Plants, RCD</i>	\$3.50	65	\$227.50		\$227.50
<i>Plants, LTNC</i>	\$3.50	65		\$227.50	\$227.50
<i>Snacks</i>	\$30.00	8	\$240.00		\$240.00
<i>NYSC Shirts</i>	\$20.00	20	\$400.00		\$400.00
Sub-Total			\$976.50	\$336.50	\$1,313.00

Project Total: \$20,605.00

Total Requested Wildlife Commission Funds: \$13,716.50

2. List of other funding sources (i.e. matching funds)

Funding Sources	Amount
<i>Land Trust of Napa County</i>	\$336.50
<i>RCD Funds</i>	\$1,092.00
<i>RCD contract with County of Napa to support watershed education</i>	\$5,460.00
Total Matching Funds	\$6,888.50

3. Letters of Support

Attached

4. Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Wildlife Fine Monies.

In 2012, the Wildlife Commission provided partial funding to Friends of Napa River to work with the RCD for the pilot year of the Acorns to Oaks project, which resulted in Friends of Napa River and RCD facilitating the planting of 255 valley oak seedlings at five different properties with 280 school children in Napa County.

In 2013, the Wildlife Commission provided partial funding to the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District to work with RCD to conduct 10 field trips to the Napa River Ecological Reserve and develop and disseminate a curriculum guide to the Eco Reserve. This project is still in progress. To date, RCD has lead 4 field trips to the Eco Reserve and has developed two drafts of the curriculum guide. RCD acquired an additional ~\$4,000 from the Napa Community Foundation to pay for putting the guide on USB thumb drives and distributing them to Napa County teachers.

In 2014, 2015, and 2016 the Wildlife Commission awarded grants to help support the Acorns to Oaks Project, a joint effort between the RCD and Friends of the Napa River. This project had three main objectives that have been accomplished: 1) plant 5,000 acorns throughout the valley 2) educate landowners and children about the plight and importance of our oak trees; and 3) give Napa County children hands-on learning experiences. The project also developed in-class activities for teachers to experiment with acorn germination and oak seedling development. Over the past three years, dozens of field trips and community events have been held and we are nearly to the goal of planting 5000 oak trees. In addition, students and volunteers have been monitoring germination success, applying protective mulch, and weeding invasive species.

In 2015, the Wildlife Commission provided RCD with funding to purchase kayaks to conduct salmon spawner surveys in the Napa River. The kayaks have been successfully used for the past two seasons and have allowed RCD to cover approximately 4 times the area previously surveyed on foot. In winter 2016, RCD was able to survey from Calistoga to Oak Knoll (approximately 29 miles) using these kayaks.

In 2015, RCD worked with the Friends of the Napa River (FONR) with funds from the Wildlife Commission to develop, coordinate, and implement the Napa Youth Stewardship Council. Thirteen students from five local high schools were recruited to meet once monthly to plan and implement conservation-minded service projects. Students conducted 3 community oak tree planting days serving over 430 people, planting 500 trees, coordinated a multi-part service project installing 10 western bluebird nesting boxes, spread 0.25 acres of native wildflower seed, and demonstrating home compost to volunteers, and other projects still in progress.

In 2017, RCD received funding from the Commission to purchase the necessary electronic components and installation supplies to rebuild the Napa River PIT tag antenna.



June 6, 2018

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission
1195 Third St., Suite 210
Napa, CA 94559

Dear Commissioners,

The Land Trust of Napa County (LTNC) is pleased to write this letter in support of the Napa Resource Conservation District's (NRCD) proposal for a grant with the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission.

In recent years, the Land Trust and the Napa Resource Conservation District have been strengthening our partnership in delivering environmental education and service learning opportunities to local youth groups on protected properties throughout the county. These collaborative efforts have been very successful as the NRCD has developed phenomenal educational curriculum and programs and has very strong ties with local youth and school groups, while the Land Trust is able to provide meaningful stewardship projects in a myriad of protected properties throughout the county. In past years, we have worked together to host students from Pope Valley Elementary, Justin Sienna High School, New Technology High School, and Youth Stewardship Council members to engage in service learning events at Connolly Ranch, Linda Falls Preserve, Dunn-Wildlake Preserve and the Wantrup Preserve. The Land Trust looks forward to collaborating with the RCD in the coming school year to provide more positive educational experiences on LTNC lands with the Youth Stewardship Council.

Thank you for your consideration for funding this proposal. Please feel free to contact Megan Lilla, the Land Trust's Assistant Stewardship Coordinator, if you have any questions regarding this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DP", is written over the name "Doug Parker".

Doug Parker

President & CEO





VINTAGE HIGH SCHOOL

Home of the Crushers

1375 TROWER AVENUE • NAPA, CALIFORNIA 94558
(707) 253-3601 PHONE (707) 253-3604 FAX

Michael Pearson
Principal

Sarah O'Connor
Assistant Principal

Peter Abbot
Assistant Principal

Katelyn Estudillo
Assistant Principal

Dear Wildlife Conservation Commission Board:

As an Advanced Placement Environmental Science and Biology teacher at Vintage High School, I support the RCD's proposal for the Napa Youth Stewardship Council program. I rely on RCD programs and volunteer projects to consistently provide my students with opportunities that we simply cannot provide during a normal school day or year. I feel programs like NYSC are important because they extend stewardship beyond the classroom as a tangible future and course of study. These activities validate the lessons I teach in class as legitimate conservation practices that are taking place right here in Napa.

Additionally, the NYSC program provides an outlet for my most impassioned students to pursue environmental science even further. This helps galvanize their interest and additionally gives students resume building experiences that will help them in their applications for schools and scholarships related to conservation. Finally, I also link activities like this as extra credit opportunities for our class, which gives students meaningful ways to improve their grade and their understanding of the environment locally and globally.

RCD has a strong history of contributing to the success of our AP class, and I always appreciate their ability to connect scientists and career professionals in an engaging and accessible manner for our students. I hope this endorsement helps you in your decision, and I hope to send more of my students in the RCD programs like NYSC. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dean Wagner

Advanced Placement Environmental Science Teacher



American Canyon High School

Damon Wright, Principal

3000 Newell Drive
American Canyon, CA 94503

Phone: 707-265-2710
FAX: 707-644-1139

Dear Wildlife Commission Board,

I teach 2 sections of Advanced Placement Environmental Science at American Canyon High School. I would like to express my support for Napa RCD's proposal for the Napa Youth Stewardship Council program. Napa RCD has been actively involved with our students leading field trips, assisting with environmental projects, organizing an environmental service club, and providing instruction that aligns with our science curriculum.

Napa RCD has been an invaluable partner to American Canyon High School. Grant opportunities such as the Youth Stewardship Council are crucial opportunities to connect our curriculum to relevant, hands-on opportunities for our students. Field opportunities with the RCD allow our students to see real world connections for relevant concepts such as climate, carbon, and conservation. Partnering with the RCD will grant our students additional opportunities to take their learning beyond the classroom and into the community. I have had several students of mine participate in the Council each year, and it is a great extension of our class.

Lessons provided by the RCD support the Next Generation Science Standards we currently utilize, emphasizing scientific inquiry and participation in real-world science, as well as helping the students to appreciate the value of rich biodiversity in a healthy ecosystem. Having professional staff from RCD and their partners gives students exposure to exciting careers environmental science during a formative time in their education. Students who have participated in past RCD field trips and class presentations have given very positive feedback about their experience. I hope you will consider the Youth Stewardship Council program proposal as we welcome the opportunity to work more closely with the RCD.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Hillyard
AP Environmental Science Teacher

ATTACHMENT D
NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE



P.O. Box 2571, Napa, CA 94558 707-224-4295 www.napawildliferescue.org
Federal I.D. # 68-0271705, a nonprofit 501(c) 3 corporation

Proposal:

Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission

May 12, 2018

I. DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION & ELIGIBILITY

Napa Wildlife Rescue (NWR) was established as a 501(c) 3 nonprofit corporation in 1991, to rehabilitate ill, injured, or orphaned Napa County wildlife and promote public awareness through community outreach.

Background

NWR operates under permits from the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. NWR has a Clinic Manager, a part-time administrative assistant and over 100 active volunteers and rehabbers. Paid volunteers also manage our intake/dispatch HAWK line phone to assist the public with wildlife related questions, arrange wildlife rescues and transports.

Current Operation

The organization's primary function is to rehabilitate sick, injured, or orphaned Napa County wildlife. Some of the most frequently encountered animals include a wide variety of songbirds as well as woodpeckers, crows, hummingbirds, quail, doves, owls, hawks, falcons, foxes, squirrels, jackrabbits, fawns, raccoons, and opossums. Our rehabilitation system includes three types of facilities: 1) A central clinic on Silverado Trail, which has been augmented significantly in the past year with a larger, refurbished Songbird Clinic, and a new Raptor/Mammal Clinic. 2) A network of species-specific satellite home care sites. 3) A pre-release compound called the Shafer Sanctuary, which has pre-release facilities for: Raptors (Hawks, Owls, etc.), Corvids (Ravens and Crows) and Raccoons. The Sanctuary site allows wildlife in the final stage of rehabilitation to build strength and "wild-up" in a pristine riparian environment, as the last step before release.

The process begins when members of the public inform us of wildlife they believe to be in distress and needing help. Ideally this is a phone call to our Hawkline (707 224-Hawk), which is



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Federal I.D. # 68-0271705, a nonprofit 501(c) 3 corporation

manned 7 days a week. Hawkline volunteers assess the situation remotely by species, behavior, visible evidence of injuries, etc. to determine the next steps. Sometimes the instruction is to leave animals that are actually exhibiting normal behavior (whether it seems so to humans or not) where they are. Other times we dispatch rescuers, or instruct the finder how to handle the animal for transport to our intake center at Silverado Veterinary Hospital. Trained NWR volunteers check the intake center for animals (three times a day in high season and once a day in low season) and either transport patients to the Clinic or contact the appropriate home care person for the assessment of the patient. After rehabilitative care, healthy animals are released back into their native habitats in accordance with strict species-specific release criteria.

Current Board Members:

President: John Comisky, 707 253-2574 qualjohn@hotmail.com
Vice President: Carol Poole, 707-363-7807 cpoole1135@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Deborah Brown, 707-226-1077 ilovelucy@anomalink.com
Secretary: Linda Howard, 707-255-5173 lindaly1956@sbcglobal.net
Board Members: Phyllis Hunt, 707-363-1350 phyllis@phyllisphunt.com
Eve-Anne Wilkes eaw@napanet.net
Lee Loban lobanlee@yahoo.com
Jim Brandt, 707-259-0762 jim@napageneralstore.com

Contact Persons: John Comisky, 908-295-4474 qualjohn@hotmail.com
Phyllis Hunt, Board Member 707-254-9448, phyllis@phyllisphunt.com

The Board may be contacted by mail at: P.O. Box 2571, Napa, CA 94558

II. NEEDS ASSESSMENT/Problem Statement

The Napa Wildlife Rescue is the only licensed organization in Napa County permitted to rehabilitate and release healthy wild animals back into their native habitat, thus providing a unique and valuable service to the community. NWR accepts all Napa County wildlife for rehabilitation, except for large game animals. Throughout the year, hundreds of bird, raptor and mammal species are returned to the wild following the specialized care of NWR volunteers. In 2017 we cared for 1083 patients.



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Problem Statement for Request 1

In addition to our rehabilitation efforts, NWR has grown significantly in our school and community outreach in the last 3 years. These programs are aimed at building wildlife appreciation and prevention – through awareness of human activities that might put wildlife at risk, and promotion of the Hawkline and NWR as the places to go when help is needed. We also focus on building wonder and love for wildlife, particularly in the schools, that we hope will develop into an environment of support for Napa’s wildlife community. In addition, as a 99%+ volunteer organization, we have an ongoing need to attract and engage new volunteers to cover attrition and expand our scope.

Our educational programs are often enhanced by the presence of our two Ambassador Animals (an Opossum and a Red-tailed hawk), compelling photographic and video displays, engaging signage and informative presentations. We have presented in person to over 900 school children and adults over the last year, including:

- Napa Farmers’ Markets throughout the season
- American Canyon Summer Camp
- Carolyn Parr Museum
- St. Helena Montessori
- Snow Elementary School.
- Napa County Library
- Phillips Elementary School
- River Middle School (2)
- Paradigm Winery
- Canyon Oaks Elementary School
- PSI
- St. Helena Harvest Festival
- Wild American Canyon, American Canyon Library and Resource Conservation District
- Connolly Ranch
- Clos du Val
- Audubon Christmas Count for Kids
- Home School Presentation with Donna Gunning
- Yountville Elementary School



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- Napa Junction Elementary School



- St. Helena Library
- KVON
- AC Am Can by the Bay
- NCUSD Family Festival
- Napa Earth Day

The programs are provided at no cost to the schools and other community groups/organizations, and the costs for housing and supporting our ambassador animals is paid for out of our operating budget, which is funded almost entirely by donations.

We supplement the live programs with a regular newsletter to a growing subscriber base; maintain an active web site, our Facebook page (FB is nearing 4,000 followers and individual posts have reached up to 20,000 readers), and this year have added Instagram, which is growing rapidly. In total, these activities are key underpinnings to maintaining and growing NWR's support base.

As a result of these successes, however, requests for educational presentations and appearances are continuing to grow, straining our ability to meet the demand. In the case of wildlife, the skills required to manage a program of this sort, include not only presentation skills and materials, but also the handling of the wildlife ambassador animals themselves. This is particularly challenging with an Ambassador such as a Red-tailed Hawk, which requires both

Providing rescue and rehabilitative services for wildlife in Napa County



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specialty skills and an intimate relationship with the bird, acquired through frequent interaction. We currently have only one person with those credentials for the Hawk, and she is also our lead raptor rehabilitator. We have two people for the Opossum Ambassador presentations, but we primarily rely on one who is also our lead opossum rehabilitator. Coordination of logistics and attendance at these events thus competes with rehabilitation work. We have come to a point where additional resource is needed to maintain and expand the programs.

New funding request for this grant #1: Our grant request is for funding to contract a part-time Education Coordinator who will maintain or begin the following activities:

- Manage the outreach coordination for school and event presentations.
- Work directly with our Ambassador Animals to assist the lead handlers/presenters and stand-in when they are not available.
- Attend presentations/events and manage equipment (e.g. projection, sound, etc.), signage and logistics.
- Augment staffing at Farmer's Markets and other booth type presences.
- Assist in the ongoing training of new volunteers.
- Build and manage our educational inventory of presentations, banners, pamphlets, etc.
- Support and help to grow our social channels as needed

1 person for 16 hours per week at \$15 per hour: ***\$12,500***

Problem Statement for Request #2

Opossums can have large litters of up to 12 babies, as many as 3 times per year. When a mother opossum is killed (often as the result of a car hitting them), the babies sometimes survive in the pouch. When this occurs, all the babies need to be removed and raised in rehabilitation. In between feedings, they need to be kept in an incubator to substitute for the mother's warmth. Our current large incubator is at end-of-life. We are in need of a large incubator that can accommodate big litters at one time.



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New funding request for this grant 2: 1 Large Brinsea incubator for large opossum litters.

Amazon Price Quote - Brinsea Products Larger Brooder/Intensive Care Unit for Warming Newly Hatched Exotic Chicks or Sick and Injured Birds

Price: \$769.99 & **FREE Shipping**

1 person for 16 hours per week at \$15 per hour:	\$12,500
1 larger Brinsea Incubator	<u>\$ 770</u>
Total	\$13,270

Grant Request Summary

Timeframe:

NWR will be able to complete all projects within the scope of the grant timeframes.

Additional Benefit of all listed projects:

NWR programs meet the California Fish and Wildlife Code, 13103

(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.*

(b): *Temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife.*



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III. ATTACHMENTS

Letters of Support



May 14, 2018

To whom it may concern,

I write this letter at the request of John Comisky, president of Napa Wildlife Rescue. I have been familiar with NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE for many years having used them as a resource in my personal life and for the last three as a member of the Community Engagement team at Napa Valley Unified School District. In addition to the many presentations done in our schools, NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE has been a partner and regular presence in our annual event Family Festival since the event's inception three years ago. Family Festival provides an opportunity for parents and students to learn about all the various services and programs available to them in our community.

At this year's event hundreds of children were introduced to Patronus the ambassador opossum. Patronus, a rescue opossum who could not be released back into the wild, is a mild-mannered, very healthy and downright cute example of a species that is often misunderstood, feared, and spurned by humans. In this short interaction students were able to learn about the opossum, their wild and urban habitats, what they eat, and the many positive attributes and benefits opossums bring to our ecosystems. This informal example serves to illustrate the type of work that NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE can do to teach our children to respect the natural world, have compassion for local wildlife, and understand how the animals they may encounter in Napa County help humans.

Global citizenship has been identified as a core value of Napa Valley Unified School District. Kindness, respect, and compassion for others and our world are attributes of global citizenship that we strive to instill in our students every day in the classroom. Supporting NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE and their efforts to grow their educational and outreach capabilities will enable the organization to reach more students and families throughout our community, reinforcing their goals as well as those of NVUSD.

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NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE has brought together a strong, growing team that will work well to ensure these efforts enjoy long term sustainability. NVUSD's schools can look forward to collaborating with and benefiting from new and expanded services and resources with this grant should it be approved. NAPA WILDLIFE RESCUE has my support and best wishes on this exciting venture.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Baker
Communications Media Specialist

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2425 Jefferson Street, Napa, CA 94558

(707) 253-3715

www.nvusd.org

From: Josh Seitchik <josh@connollyranch.org>

Sent: Monday, July 3, 2017 3:25 PM

To: John Comisky

Cc: Hylah Egeland

Subject: Re: Napa Wildlife Rescue

Hi John,

The kids loved it! I checked in with all my staff and it worked great for all of our age groups. I think having you guys come and bring animals here really compliments our curriculum - I love the partnership between our two programs.

Our Americorps volunteer coordinator's term ended, so Hylah Egeland (our Program Director) is now going to be your direct contact for future visits. I have cc'd her on this email. Please pass on her info to whoever needs it on your end.

Thank you!

Josh

From: Nancy Graumann <ngraumann@nvusd.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Meirve Davey <meirve@daveygroup.net>

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Date: Mon, Nov 13, 2017 at 1:17 PM

Subject: Re: Donations from Girl Scouts El Dorado Hills

To: Linnaea Furlong <wildlifeadmin@napawildliferescue.org>

Hi there I just wanted to follow-up with you about our visit last week. The girls really enjoyed meeting Patronus and everyone was so nice it made the trip extra special for us. Thank you again for organizing this and pass on our thanks to everyone.

Subject: Re: Wildlife presentation

Date: October 20, 2016 at 7:43:23 PM PDT

To: Janice Taylor <rosie31@sbcglobal.net>

Thank you for coming! The kids really enjoyed it! The total number of students was approximately 110 total, 4 teachers, the vice principal joined us for the first session, as well as a teacher's aide.



Sent from my iPad



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Completion/progress report of projects completed over past 5 years with the use of Fish & Wildlife Fine Monies:

Major Projects completed with grant funding from Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission:

2017/2018 Cycle:

- Produce 6 new retractable banners with built in carrying cases and stand assemblies. *Outcome - The banners have been produced and in use for several months at a variety of events.*
- Purchase new laptop for our outreach and educational programs. *Outcome – The computer has been purchased and is an active element of appropriate educational events. In addition, a compatible sound system was donated to augment it.*



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2016/2017 Cycle: A replacement Song Bird Clinic was purchased, refurbished for Song Bird rehabilitation and put into operation for the 2017 season. It is currently serving a steady flow of patients. We would like to invite the Commission Members to tour it, as calendars allow. It constitutes a significant improvement to our wildlife care facilities and will serve hundreds of patients this year. This sign on the outside, crediting the NWCC was donated by a supporter.



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2015/2016 Cycle: A large aviary for final stage rehabilitation of Corvids (Crows and Ravens) was constructed at NWR's Shafer Sanctuary. It has been in continuous usage for both Corvids and Raptors (Birds of Prey). Members of the Commission made a site visit in 2016 to tour the property and facility.

We now have a new "mega" aviary for Raptors on the property that was constructed since the Commission's last tour.



Thank you for the opportunity to apply.

Best,

John Comisky
President Napa Wildlife Rescue