

State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

**PROPOSITION 1 COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

Section 1. Preamble and Definitions

*1.0. Preamble.*

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) is codified as Division 26.7 of the Water Code. Proposition 1 authorizes \$7.545 billion in general obligation bonds for state water projects, including surface and groundwater storage, ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration, and drinking water protection. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy’s (“Conservancy”) Proposition 1 Competitive Grant Program Guidelines (“Guidelines”) specifically pertain to competitive grants for multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects pursuant to Water Code Section 79731(h), and for projects to protect and enhance an urban creek pursuant to Water Code Section 79735(a).

In addition to the purposes defined in Proposition 1 and outlined further below, projects funded by Proposition 1 must carry out at least one of the three objectives of the [California Water Action Plan](#) (“Water Action Plan”). Together, Proposition 1 and the Water Action Plan represent tremendous strides in the State’s ability to address the current challenges posed by drought and create a sustainable strategy for managing its water resources and supply. The priorities and strategies identified will help protect our natural resources from severe dry periods and create a more sustainable water infrastructure and supply to better serve our growing population.

Concurrently with these efforts to conserve and manage its water supply, the State is tackling the unprecedented set of challenges posed by climate change. The task is large but not insurmountable; with the passage of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) and subsequent policy and program implementation, the State is well on its way toward meeting its 2020 greenhouse gas reductions targets. Executive Order B-30-15 (April 2015) established an interim target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, in order to help pave the way for longer term mid-century goals. New legislation, SB 32 (Pavley), proposes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. In order to meet these ambitious and necessary targets, the State must continue to act in the near term to make strategic investments in energy, transportation, and natural resources that will help meet our climate and water priorities.

**The Conservancy’s Guidelines and project scoring criteria are designed to singularly fund projects that help achieve the state’s foremost goals of conserving water and reaching our**

**greenhouse gas reduction targets.** The natural resources sector presents tremendous opportunities to fulfill both mandates, because investment in open space and urban greening can yield both water quality and quantity benefits while mitigating climate change and achieving co-benefits such as job creation, investment in disadvantaged communities, and improving public health and recreation opportunities. Capturing these efficiencies allows the Conservancy to leverage Proposition 1 funding to its fullest extent. As the Air Resources Board’s [First Update to the Scoping Plan](#) (“Scoping Plan”) emphasizes, climate change “can also be a great unifier. It gives us the opportunity to focus on doing more with less; to work across programmatic, policy and political boundaries; and to figure out ways to achieve various goals more quickly and more effectively” (ES5).

Both the Scoping Plan and the Water Action Plan recognize the importance of protecting and restoring important natural lands and ecosystems. **The project categories outlined in these Guidelines address the specific types of projects that mitigate the water and climate change challenges faced by the state**, such as “preventing the conversion of [natural lands] through publicly and privately funded land acquisitions” (Scoping Plan, 70), and “activities to protect and restore the resiliency of our ecosystems will help support fish and wildlife populations, improve water quality, and restore natural system functions” (Water Action Plan, 9). Both Plans and Proposition 1 emphasize the importance of “reducing vegetative fuels that could feed wildfires,” due to the fact that large, intense fires have direct negative impacts on both water quality and carbon emissions (Scoping Plan, 70). Finally, natural land conservation and restoration “must play an increasingly important role in California’s efforts to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change.. [and] must also play a key role to help achieve California’s long-term climate objectives” (Scoping Plan, ES8).

In addition to climate change mitigation and water conservation, the Governor’s Executive Order B-30-15 specifically addresses the need for climate adaptation. It directs state agencies to prioritize “actions that both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions,” adopt “flexible and adaptive approaches ...to prepare for uncertain climate impacts,” “protect the state’s most vulnerable populations,” and prioritize “natural infrastructure solutions.” It directs the California Natural Resources Agency to update and implement the State’s Climate Adaptation Plan, [Safeguarding California](#), which highlights many of the cross-sectoral opportunities and benefits of reducing climate risks through natural resource protection.

Investment in natural resource preservation in the near term will accomplish many of the goals discussed in *Safeguarding California*. Protected open spaces contribute to the emergency management readiness of the state by acting as buffers for storm, flood, and fire impacts to developed communities. *Safeguarding California* also emphasizes the need to support “climate research and data tools to inform policy and risk reduction activities,” and “prioritize climate risk communication, education, and outreach” (Safeguarding California, 3). Natural spaces become long-term venues for on-going research, data collection, and monitoring of current and future climate conditions, while protecting precious biodiversity and public amenities. The Plan prioritizes “projects that produce multiple benefits”: urban green spaces

decrease electricity consumption by reducing the heat island effect, sequester carbon, conserve water, and encourage non-motorized transportation (3). Finally, parks and open spaces improve public health and boost the resilience of communities by providing respite from urban environments, enhancing air and water quality, and promoting low-cost recreation for communities of all socio-economic levels.

**Immediate implementation of these projects is necessary in order to reach our near- and long-term water conservation, carbon reduction, and climate adaptation targets.** The Scoping Plan explains the benefits of near-term activities to helping the state reach its long term objectives:

Timing is critical for actions in this sector. Activities to enhance carbon storage on natural and working lands, such as reforestation or restoration, will require time to fully realize carbon benefits. For example, planting trees today will maximize their sequestration capacity in 20 to 50 years. In addition, trees in urban environments, or “urban forests,” provide significant shading and other cooling benefits. As the trees mature they reduce urban temperatures and energy needs. *Near-term investments in activities such as planting trees will help us reach our 2020 limit, but will also play a greater role in reaching our mid-term and longer-term 2050 targets especially if action is taken in the near-term.* (71-72) (emphasis added).

The Scoping Plan also identifies critical deficiencies in funding for these activities, which “is far below historic levels and in some cases does not exist,” yet “action within the next ten years is critical so long-term benefits can be fully realized in the 2050 time frame. *Funding sources must be identified, particularly where funds from existing sources can be leveraged effectively*” (74) (emphasis added). This mandate, along with other policies identified in the Water Action Plan, Safeguarding California, and other Plans require that the Conservancy fund projects which synergistically address water and climate change, while addressing the needs of California’s most vulnerable populations and natural resources.

#### 1.1. *Purpose.*

These guidelines advise grant applicants with respect to the requirements and expectations of Proposition 1 funds granted by the Conservancy. For administrative and procedural guidance, grant applicants should review the Conservancy’s Grant Administration Manual.

#### 1.2. *Definitions.*

For purposes of these Guidelines, the following definitions shall apply:

*Community access:* means engagement programs, technical assistance, or facilities that maximize safe and equitable physical admittance, especially for

low-income communities, to natural or cultural resources, community education, or recreational amenities (Senate Bill 5, California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018).

*Feasible:* Possible to do easily or conveniently.

*Multi-Benefit:* a project that includes public benefits in addition to water quality and water conservation, including but not limited to habitat creation and enhancement, environmental education and interpretation, passive recreation, air quality enhancements, carbon sequestration, and new public access.

*Potential:* Capable of becoming real, and plausible given regulatory, financial and physical conditions.

*Promote:* To give publicity to so as to increase public awareness.

*Watershed Health:* A condition achieved when a watershed's ecological systems are properly functioning, and the watershed is resilient to, and recovers rapidly from, risks such as wildfire, climate change impacts, and loss of biological integrity.

## Section 2. Grantee and Project Eligibility Requirements

### 2.0. *Eligible Grantees*

Applicants eligible to apply for Proposition 1 grant funding from the Conservancy include public agencies such as districts, joint powers authorities, cities, and counties, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Indian tribes, and state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List.

### 2.1. *Eligible Project Types*

The Guidelines identify the following general project types that may be eligible for funding. Each application must be within a single project category. An entity may apply for multiple projects from multiple project categories. All eligible project types must meet the eligibility requirements in order to be considered for funding. Applicants are encouraged to work with Conservancy staff if a project does not fall within one of these categories, to determine if it may be otherwise eligible.

- Acquisition Projects: Fee purchase of land or easements to protect watersheds (e.g. Puerco Canyon, watershed of Santa Monica Bay; Marsh Park on the Los Angeles River).

- Water Conservation, Treatment and Improvement Projects: Projects such as Pacoima Wash Natural Park project, etc . . . designed to capture, infiltrate and/or treat street runoff in addition to other multi-benefit components.
- Project Planning and Design: Projects that assess feasibility of an acquisition or improvement project via land use and technical analyses, property ownerships, engineering, concept plans, (e.g. Caballero Creek/Los Angeles River Confluence Project).
- Restoration Projects: Removal of invasive species and restoration of native habitat.
- All Other Improvement Projects: Multi-benefit projects such as Vista Hermosa Natural Park in downtown Los Angeles; Washington Elementary in Compton Creek, and any new innovative projects.
- Vegetation Management: Projects to reduce hazard fuels to reduce wildfire risks and protect watersheds and promote watershed health.

## 2.2. *Eligible Costs*

Proposition 1 grant funding may only be expended on eligible costs, pursuant to statute. Eligible costs are those which further the Purposes of Proposition 1, described in Section 2.4 below.

## 2.3. *General Eligibility Requirements.*

All eligible projects for Proposition 1 grant funding must:

- Meet the required application and project selection criteria detailed in the subsequent sections;
- Meet at least one of the purposes of Proposition 1 as stated in Water Code Section 79732(a);
- Meet at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan as described below;
- Meet the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with AB 32;
- Comply with the General Obligation Bond Law, commencing with Government Code Section 16720;
- Must be consistent with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the Water Code) and the State's five-year infrastructure plan prepared pursuant to Government Code Section 13100; and
- Must provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations in effect at the time the funds from this division are made available for the project.

Projects submitted for funding pursuant to Water Code Section 79735(a) for urban creek enhancement shall be subject to additional requirements described in Section 2.8 below.

Water Code Section 79734 states that services of the California Conservation Corps (CCC), or a local conservation corps certified by CCC, shall be used whenever feasible when implementing restoration and ecosystem protection projects. Applicants must demonstrate that feasibility of the use of CCC or a local corps has been determined, and may consider the timeliness of corps availability in that determination. Applicants are encouraged to use the procedure outlined to consult with the CCC at the [CCC website](#).

#### 2.4. *Proposition 1 Purposes*

Chapter 6 of Proposition 1, entitled “Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters, and Watersheds,” allocates \$1.495 billion for competitive grants for multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities. Pursuant to Water Code Section 79731(h), \$30 million of the funds available in Chapter 6 of Proposition 1 is allocated to the Conservancy for multi-benefit water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and restoration projects. Pursuant to Water Code Section 79735(a), up to \$100 million may be allocated to the Conservancy or the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, or a combination of both, for projects to protect and enhance an urban creek as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 7048.

Funds expended pursuant to Proposition 1 must fulfill one or more of the purposes as set forth in Water Code Section 79732(a):

- 1) Protect and increase the economic benefits arising from healthy watersheds, fishery resources, and instream flow.
- 2) Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on California’s communities and ecosystems.
- 3) Restore river parkways throughout the state, including, but not limited to, projects pursuant to the California River Parkways Act of 2004 (Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5750) of Division 5 of the Public Resources Code), in the Urban streams Restoration Program established pursuant to Section 7048, and urban river greenways.
- 4) Protect and restore aquatic, wetland, and migratory bird ecosystems, including fish and wildlife corridors and the acquisition of water rights for instream flow.
- 5) Fulfill the obligations of the State of California in complying with the terms of multiparty settlement agreements related to water resources.
- 6) Remove barriers to fish passage.
- 7) Collaborate with federal agencies in the protection of fish native to California and wetlands in the central valley of California.
- 8) Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health.

- 9) Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, stormwater resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction.
- 10) Protect and restore coastal watersheds, including, but not limited to, bays, marine estuaries, and nearshore ecosystems.
- 11) Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management.
- 12) Assist in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health, instream flows, fish passage, coastal or inland wetland restoration, or other means, such as natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan implementation.
- 13) Assist in water-related agricultural sustainability projects.

## *2.5. California Water Action Plan Objectives*

To be eligible for Proposition 1 funding, eligible projects must also further one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan. Applicants are required to provide a brief description of how the project furthers the goals articulated in the plan and meets one of the three following objectives:

- 1) More reliable water supplies;
- 2) Restoration of important species and habitat; and
- 3) More resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure.

## *2.6. Climate Change Mitigation*

### *a. General*

Projects that conserve water and produce verifiable and quantifiable greenhouse gas reductions not only help achieve the state's foremost goals, but will deliver tangible co-benefits to the communities in which the projects are built. Pursuant to Section 1.0 of these Guidelines, and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's Climate Change Policy, the Executive Director and his designees are required to consider climate change when evaluating projects in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the impacts of climate change on the state's natural resources. Therefore, all project applicants are required to demonstrate that their project yields measurable greenhouse gas reductions.

The principal goal of this Section is to ensure that the Conservancy funds the development and implementation of projects that lead to significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in a manner consistent with the State Planning Priorities, AB 32, and other state and local Plans. It is meant to support strategic investment in natural resources projects that help cities address sprawl, incentivize urban infill, and create livable, walkable, healthy communities.

#### b. Projects

A non-exhaustive list of projects that demonstrate a quantifiable impact on greenhouse gas emissions can be found below. Projects should present innovative activities that reduce GHG emissions, and that are capable of replication in other project sites. Project applicants are encouraged to bring additional project ideas to Conservancy staff.

- Strategic acquisitions to avoid conversion of open space and limit sprawl, reducing the impacts of development and vehicle miles travelled;
- Urban park or greenway projects with a water focus that are co-located with other public amenities to promote infill development by providing open space and public recreation;
- Multiple benefit projects that incorporate green infrastructure or water recycling and filtration techniques to produce verifiable water and energy savings;
- Projects that protect, enhance, or restore water resources including wetlands and urban riparian areas;
- Projects that enhance above and below ground carbon storage through planting trees and other vegetation;\*
- Projects that mitigate heat island effect and improve air quality through tree planting in urban areas dominated by hardscape;\*
- As an incidental part of a larger water-focused project, project components that demonstrate a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills, or installing renewable energy technology at a project site.

**\* In order to receive funding for projects that involve tree or vegetation planting, applicants must demonstrate that the project uses renewable or non-potable sources of water, such as reclaimed water, captured stormwater, or other method where feasible and have a responsibility to explore all options.** Applicants may include the cost of implementing such technologies or techniques in their grant applications. This requirement applies to all projects receiving funding pursuant to these Guidelines.

## 2.7. Other Considerations

### a) Disadvantaged Community Investment and Co-Benefits

People who live in disadvantaged communities face health disparities due to poor air quality, exposure to harmful pollution, and lack of public amenities and services. The Conservancy is committed to immediate investment in such areas to mitigate the disproportionate negative impacts felt in low-income and highly polluted areas. Applicants are encouraged to submit projects that are located in or adjacent to a disadvantaged community as defined by [CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool](#) and should describe how the proposed project will benefit a disadvantaged community.

Applicants are also encouraged to describe non-climate related co-benefits, such as job creation, youth employment and job training, recreation, public health benefits, or programs that engage local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation, particularly as it relates to long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.

### b) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Quantification

Applicants must be able to demonstrate greenhouse gas emission reductions that are real, permanent, quantifiable, verifiable, and enforceable. Quantification of greenhouse gas reductions must be done according to the best economic and scientific information available at the time of estimation. Applicants have the burden of measuring and demonstrating emissions reductions, however the Conservancy may assist applicants in selecting tools or methodologies for evaluating carbon benefits. In reviewing a project's climate change impact, the Conservancy shall rely on the Air Resources Board or other qualified professional as described in Section 4.2.(a).

Applicants should calculate the greenhouse gas benefits of projects over a 40 year timeframe. This is based on the nature of investment in natural resources, which requires time to fully realize carbon benefits. As explained in the Scoping Plan, "planting trees today will maximize their sequestration capacity in 20 to 50 years" (71).

### c) Ongoing Monitoring

If selected, Grantees may be required to re-evaluate or update quantification metrics as the project reaches various milestones and/or as additional information or technology becomes available. If, during this process, a project is not successful in meeting its greenhouse gas reduction targets, the Conservancy reserves the right to work with Grantees to modify the project, if such modifications are within the scope of the Grant Agreement. If the Grantee is unable or unwilling to make such modifications in a time period established by the Conservancy, the Conservancy may withdraw funding. If necessary project modifications do not fall within the scope of the grant, the Conservancy will reevaluate the project type and methodology to ensure that future similar projects will be successful.

2.8. *Additional Requirements for Section 79735(a) Urban Creek Projects.*

a. Disadvantaged Communities

Pursuant to Water Code section 79735(c), “at least 25 percent of the funds available pursuant to this section shall be allocated for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.” The Conservancy is strongly committed to serving populations that are disproportionately affected by harmful pollution and lack access to public amenities and green space. Therefore the Conservancy has determined that **50 percent of all funds granted pursuant to Section 79735(a) must directly target disadvantaged communities. Specifically, projects must be located in or immediately adjacent to census tracts defined as no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the [CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool](#).**

b. Protect and Enhance an Urban Creek

Proposition 1 requires that projects funded from Water Code Section 79735(a) will protect or enhance and urban creek as defined in Section 7048(e). Eligible costs shall be determined pursuant to the appropriation language of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2017:

3810-101-6083—For local assistance, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, payable from the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014 .....49,000,000

Schedule:

(1) 2945-Local Assistance Grants ..... 49,000,000

Provisions:

1. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy may encumber or expend funds appropriated in this item for the purposes set forth in subdivision (a) of Section 79735 of the Water Code. These funds are available for support, capital outlay, or local assistance.
2. Notwithstanding Sections 79703 and 79704 of the Water Code, funds provided by this item are available for administration, project identification, implementation, monitoring, planning, development, and protection, as defined by Section 75005 of the Public Resources Code, as well as technical assistance and community access, including outreach and transportation.
3. Notwithstanding subdivision (d) of Section 79708 of the Water Code, prior to soliciting projects pursuant to this item, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy shall verify that the guidelines are consistent with all applicable statutes for Urban Creek and tributary protection.
4. Of the funds appropriated in Schedule (1), \$6,500,000 shall be expended for planning and implementation of projects approved jointly by both the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

5. First priority for funds expended shall be in disadvantaged communities, as identified pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code.
6. The funds appropriated in Schedule (1) shall be spent for the Los Angeles River and shall not be spent on any tributaries of the river.

c. Consistency with Common Ground Plan

Proposition 1 requires that projects funded from Water Code Section 79735(a) be allocated pursuant to Section 79508, which states that watershed protection activities in the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River watersheds shall be consistent with the [San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan](#) (“Common Ground Plan”) as adopted by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Accordingly, eligible projects must be compliant with one or more of the following guiding principles of Common Ground:

Land: Grow a Greener Southern California

- Create, Expand, and Improve Public Open Space Throughout the Region
- Improve Access to Open Space and Recreation for All Communities
- Improve Habitat Quality, Quantity, and Connectivity
- Connect Open Space with a Network of Trails
- Promote Stewardship of the Landscape
- Encourage Sustainable Growth to Balance Environmental, Social, and Economic Benefits

Water: Enhance Waters and Waterways

- Maintain and Improve Flood Protection
- Establish Riverfront Greenways to Cleanse Water, Hold Floodwaters and Extend Open Space
- Improve Quality of Surface Water and Groundwater
- Improve Flood Safety Through Restoration of River and Creek Ecosystems
- Optimize Water Resources to Reduce Dependence on Imported Water

Planning: Plan Together to Make it Happen

- Coordinate Watershed Planning Across Jurisdictions and Boundaries
- Encourage Multi-Objective Planning and Projects
- Use Science as a Basis for Planning
- Involve the Public Through Education and Outreach Programs
- Utilize the Plan in an On-Going Management Process

### Section 3. Grant Cycle

#### *3.0. Grant Cycle.*

The Conservancy operates on a 3-month (quarterly) grant cycle. Final due dates for each round are February 28<sup>th</sup>, May 31<sup>st</sup>, August 31<sup>st</sup>, and November 30<sup>th</sup>. Grants will be recommended to the Board by the end of each quarter. The Conservancy accepts grant applications at any time within the grant cycle, but may not award grant funds for an application unless the Conservancy has been appropriated with sufficient unencumbered grant funds for the application in question. The Conservancy does not anticipate funding for a particular fiscal year and will proceed with consideration of grant applications only after the Governor has signed the budget for the fiscal year in question. The Legislature appropriates funds from bond acts on an annual basis; a legislative appropriation for projects is generally valid for a five-year period.

Due to the delay in appropriation of funds from Section 79735(a), the Conservancy shall receive and consider applications for those funds at any time through December 31, 2017. As of 2018, the quarterly grant cycle will continue for Section 79735(a) applications.

### Section 4. Grant Application and Project Selection Process

#### *4.0. Submission of Application.*

As the initial, formal step in the Conservancy grant application process, the applicant shall submit an original and one copy of a fully completed grant application form to:

Rorie Skei  
Chief Deputy Executive Director  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road  
Malibu, California 90265

In lieu of hard copies, applications may be submitted via electronic mail in PDF format addressed to [skei@smmc.ca.gov](mailto:skei@smmc.ca.gov), provided that a fully executed original is mailed or delivered to the above address.

All applicants must have a contact e-mail address that is regularly monitored. Primary communication regarding the status of an application will be via electronic mail. If an applicant does not have any access to email or is unable to use email due to a disability, the applicant should notify the Conservancy in order to develop an alternative communication protocol.

#### 4.1. *Contents of Application.*

The grant application must include the following:

- 1) A detailed scope of work, including a list of specific tasks, a detailed budget, and a timeline for project implementation (including a completion date for each task);
- 2) Any preliminary project plans as required;
- 3) A detailed description of the need and urgency for the grant;
- 4) A detailed description of how the project will provide multi-benefit ecosystem, water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and public benefits;
- 5) A detailed description of how the project achieves one or more of the purposes of Proposition 1 as stated in Water Code Section 79732(a);
- 6) A detailed description of how the project promotes and implements one or more of the objectives of the California Water Action Plan as stated in Section 1.3 of this guideline;
- 7) A detailed description of how the project helps meet the State's greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, including a quantification of the metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> or CO<sub>2</sub>e removed or avoided, and an explanation of the methodology used to quantify this figure;
- 8) A detailed description of how the project promote and implements other relevant regional and state plans and policies;
- 9) Indicate whether the project will have matching funds from private, local, or federal sources, and if so, to what extent;
- 10) Indicate whether the project will benefit a disadvantaged community;
- 11) Indicate whether the project will use the services of local or state conservation corps;
- 12) A detailed description of any new or innovative technology or practices that will be applied to the project; and
- 13) A detailed method for monitoring and reporting on the progress and effectiveness of the project during and after project implementation.

Additional requirements for Section 79735(a) funding:

- A description of how scope of work will protect or enhance and urban creek as defined in Section 7048(e);
- A description of how project is consistent with the Common Ground Plan.

#### 4.2. *Scoring.*

For those grant applications that are deemed complete after the initial review, legal review, policy review, and review of all application materials, the grant applications will then be evaluated and scored by professionals in the fields relevant to the proposed projects. For scoring criterion eligible for funding pursuant to Section 79735(a) appropriations, scoring shall be commensurate to those for the purposes of Section 79732(a). Additional reviewers may be required if there is a large discrepancy in the individual scores of the proposed project. The final score of each grant application will be the average of the individual scores given by each reviewer to the grant application.

Projects will be prioritized for funding consideration based on the percent of points achieved within the designated category. A minimum of 70 percent must be achieved to be considered. Once this 70 percent threshold is achieved, extra criteria will be considered to determine the applicant's final score. Special consideration shall be given to projects that will provide the greatest benefit to disadvantaged communities and/or leverage the largest amount in matching funds. Recommendations to the Board will be made based on the final percentage score and the extent to which the project will provide multiple benefits pursuant to the goals of Chapter 6 of Proposition 1. All project recommendations are subject to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Act, Public Resources Code Section 33207.5(e)(2). Grants will be awarded based on available funding for the particular grant cycle and fiscal year as described in Section 3.0 of this guideline.

##### a. Application Review

Scoring shall be performed by professionals in the fields relevant to the proposed projects. All reviewers will be required to document that they do not have a conflict of interest in reviewing any grant applications. Pursuant to Public Resources Code 33211(b), external consultants will be used as reviewers to the extent possible as allowed by statute. These external consultants may include federal, state, or local agencies, academics, and/or private sector consultants. The Conservancy has determined that the following disciplines, which may or may not require professional certification, are not currently represented by staff: Engineer, Architect, Landscape Architect, Geologist, Geophysicist, Land Surveyor, Real Estate Appraiser, Hydrologist, Construction Manager, Hazardous Materials Specialist, Energy Professionals and Energy Researchers or other professionals that are capable of advising on greenhouse gas monitoring, Environmental and Social Justice, Community Development, and Community Engagement experts. Pursuant to Public Resources Code 33211(b), the Conservancy may not contract out for disciplines or functions that may be carried out by staff.

National Park Service staff shall be consulted to review scoring for projects affecting specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.

California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff shall be consulted to review projects that claim a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, in order to evaluate the methodology used to quantify those benefits, unless applicant uses CARB protocol previously established for Urban Forest Projects. If, within 10 days of a request, CARB staff do not indicate that they are capable of completing project evaluation within 30 days of a request, the Conservancy may utilize appropriately qualified professionals from the private sector.

Section 5. Scoring Criteria

**Land Acquisition Projects**

| <b>Land Acquisition Projects</b>  | <b>Points</b> |
|---|---------------|
| Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).  | 5             |
| Project achieves eight or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).   | 5             |
| The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.   | 5             |
| The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5             |
| The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5             |
| The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.  | 5             |
| The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation. | 5             |
| The project uses renewable or non-potable water sources of water, such as reclaimed water, captured stormwater, or other method   | 5             |
| The project is located in or adjacent to communities defined no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.  | 5             |
| The project has demonstrated capability of collecting and treating runoff from off-site sources.  | 5             |
| Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.  | 5             |
| Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.   | 5             |
| The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.   | 4             |
| Completion of the project would assist a government agency in fulfilling a water resources protection, watershed ecosystem restoration or multi-benefit river parkway plan.   | 4             |
| Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.  | 4             |

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| The project includes or restores an aquatic, wetland, riparian or migratory bird ecosystem in an otherwise natural resource-deficient urban area.  | 4 |
| Project adds new trail or recreational resources not available within a 0.5 mile radius.   | 3 |
| The project implements a major component of an existing relevant plan related to a major recreational public use facility or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.   | 3 |
| The project provides a high quality access point for nearby open space, parkland, regional multi-modal trails, or water-based recreation.  | 3 |
| The project adds a significant link to a major regional multi-modal trail or river parkway.  | 3 |
| The project upgrades an existing regional trail or river parkway to protect its continued use and enjoyment by the public  | 3 |
| The site directly abuts and increases the size and ecosystem function of a protected habitat area for aquatic, wetland, or migratory bird ecosystems including fish and wildlife corridors and habitat connectivity.   | 4 |
| The site contains substantial potential for restoration of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters ecosystems.   | 4 |
| The project site has the potential for improvements that would significantly reduce the amount of untreated runoff entering urban rivers, waterways, or coastal watersheds.  | 4 |
| The project site has the potential for improvements that would improve or support regeneration of important native vegetative cover on slopes near a stream or river, which if substantially disturbed may contribute to flood, erosion, creek sedimentation, or reduced groundwater recharge. | 4 |
| The site has the potential for substantial restoration, protection or enhancements of riparian or wetland habitat (>0.2 acres).  | 4 |
| The site has the potential for a small scale (0.01 to 0.19 acres) riparian or wetland restoration project.   | 4 |
| The project significantly enhances the potential for fish or wildlife movement in an identified corridor chokepoint for an aquatic, wetland, or migratory bird ecosystem.  | 2 |
| The project adds a link to a local trail system.   | 2 |
| Project creates a new public access point to existing parks and water resources that would otherwise be inaccessible.  | 3 |
| The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.   | 2 |
| The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a watershed resource.  | 2 |

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| The site has the potential to create a new venue for education and/or interpretation activities that promote water conservation and stewardship.   | 1          |
| The site contains important fresh water habitat and/or a perennial natural water source.   | 1          |
| The project results in new public access to a watershed resource with high interpretive and/or educational value.  | 1          |
| Project will benefit specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.   | 3          |
| Project will prevent the conversion of natural lands to land uses with little ecological benefit.  | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL PROJECT POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>137</b> |
| <b>MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION<br/>(70% OF PROJECT POINTS)</b>   | <b>96</b>  |
| <b><u>EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS</u></b>   |            |
|  |            |
| <b><u>QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS</u></b>   |            |
| The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.   | 3          |
| The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.   | 3          |
| The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces and other forms of water capture and storage. | 3          |
| The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.   | 3          |
| The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems.   | 2          |
| The acquisition provides an opportunity to develop or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.   | 2          |
| The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.  | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE VALUE POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>18</b>  |
|  |            |
| <b><u>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</u></b>  |            |

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| Completion of the project would assist in fulfilling a Federal water resources protection or watershed ecosystem restoration plan. | 5          |
| The site is subject to imminent threat of development that would preclude future implementation value.                             | 3          |
| Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.  | 5          |
| Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.  | 5          |
| The site is available under extraordinary bargain or opportunity sale conditions.  | 5          |
| Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.   | 5          |
| Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.  | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>33</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>   | <b>188</b> |

## Water Conservation, Treatment and Improvement Projects

| Water Conservation, Treatment and Improvement Projects  | Points |
|---|--------|
| Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).  | 5      |
| Project achieves eight or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).   | 5      |
| The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.   | 5      |
| The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.  | 5      |
| The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation. | 5      |
| The project uses renewable or non-potable water sources of water, such as reclaimed water, captured stormwater, or other method.  | 5      |
| The project is located in or adjacent to communities defined no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.  | 5      |
| The project has demonstrated capability of collecting and treating runoff from off-site sources.  | 5      |
| Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.  | 5      |
| Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.  | 5      |
| Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.   | 5      |
| The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.   | 4      |
| Completion of the project would assist a government agency in fulfilling a water resources protection, watershed ecosystem restoration or multi-benefit river parkway plan.   | 4      |

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| Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.   | 4 |
| Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.  | 4 |
| Project implements Best Management Practices (BMP) to treat stormwater.  | 4 |
| The project substantially improves a park site by eliminating or significantly remediating water resource contamination or pollution, such as that from urban runoff or onsite conditions.   | 4 |
| The project includes or restores an aquatic, wetland, riparian or migratory bird ecosystem in an otherwise natural resource-deficient urban area.  | 4 |
| Project adds new trail or recreational resources not available within a 0.5 mile radius.   | 3 |
| The project implements a major component of an existing relevant plan related to a major recreational public use facility or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.   | 3 |
| The project provides a high quality access point for nearby open space, parkland, regional multi-modal trails, or water-based recreation.  | 3 |
| The project substantially restores a site by reestablishment of native species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.   | 4 |
| The project upgrades an existing regional trail or river parkway to protect its continued use and enjoyment by the public.   | 3 |
| The site directly abuts and increases the size and ecosystem function of a protected habitat area for aquatic, wetland, or migratory bird ecosystems including fish and wildlife corridors and habitat connectivity.   | 4 |
| The site contains substantial potential for restoration of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters ecosystems.   | 3 |
| The project includes improvements that would significantly reduce the amount of untreated runoff entering urban rivers, waterways, or coastal watersheds.  | 3 |
| The project includes improvements that would improve or support regeneration of important native vegetative cover on slopes near a stream or river, which if substantially disturbed may contribute to flood, erosion, creek sedimentation, or reduced groundwater recharge. | 3 |
| The project implements public safety practices by reducing wildfire risk.  | 3 |
| The project includes substantial restoration, protection or enhancements of riparian or wetland habitat (>0.2 acres).  | 3 |
| The project includes a small scale (0.01 to 0.19 acres) riparian or wetland restoration project.   | 3 |
| Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.  | 3 |

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|--|------------|
| The project significantly enhances the potential for fish or wildlife movement in an identified corridor chokepoint for an aquatic, wetland, or migratory bird ecosystem.  | 2          |
| The project adds a link to a local trail system  | 2          |
| The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.   | 2          |
| The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a watershed resource.  | 2          |
| The site contains important fresh water habitat and/or a perennial natural water source.   | 1          |
| Project will benefit specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.   | 3          |
| Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.   | 3          |
| <b>TOTAL PROJECT POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>149</b> |
| <b>MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION<br/>(70% OF PROJECT POINTS)</b>   | <b>105</b> |
| <b><i>EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS</i></b>   |            |
| <b><u>QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS</u></b>   |            |
| The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.   | 3          |
| The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.   | 3          |
| The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces and other forms of water capture and storage. | 3          |
| The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.   | 3          |
| The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems.   | 2          |
| The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.   | 2          |
| The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.  | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE VALUE POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>18</b>  |

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|--|------------|
| <b><u>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</u></b>  |            |
| Completion of the project would assist in fulfilling a Federal water resources protection or watershed ecosystem restoration plan. | 5          |
| Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.  | 5          |
| Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.  | 5          |
| Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.   | 5          |
| Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.  | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>25</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>   | <b>192</b> |

## Restoration Projects

| Restoration Projects  | Points |
|---|--------|
| Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).  | 5      |
| Project achieves eight or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).   | 5      |
| The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.   | 5      |
| The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.  | 5      |
| The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation. | 5      |
| The project is located in or adjacent to communities defined no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.  | 5      |
| Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.  | 5      |
| Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.  | 5      |
| Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.   | 5      |
| The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.   | 4      |
| Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.  | 4      |
| Applicant has identified funding for proper maintenance throughout the expected life of the improvements.   | 4      |
| Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.   | 4      |
| The project substantially improves a park site by eliminating or significantly remediating water resource contamination or pollution, such as that from urban runoff or onsite conditions.  | 4      |
| The project includes or restores an aquatic, wetland, riparian or migratory bird ecosystem in an otherwise natural resource-deficient urban area.   | 4      |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Project adds new trail or recreational resources not available within a 0.5 mile radius.   | 3          |
| The project substantially restores a site by reestablishment of native species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.   | 4          |
| The project upgrades an existing regional trail or river parkway to protect its continued use and enjoyment by the public.   | 3          |
| The site directly abuts and increases the size and ecosystem function of a protected habitat area for aquatic, wetland, or migratory bird ecosystems including fish and wildlife corridors and habitat connectivity.   | 4          |
| The site contains substantial potential for restoration of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters ecosystems.   | 3          |
| The project includes improvements that would improve or support regeneration of important native vegetative cover on slopes near a stream or river, which if substantially disturbed may contribute to flood, erosion, creek sedimentation, or reduced groundwater recharge. | 3          |
| The project implements fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health  | 3          |
| The project substantially restores a site by removal of exotic species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.   | 3          |
| The project includes substantial restoration, protection or enhancements of riparian or wetland habitat (>0.2 acres).  | 3          |
| The project includes a small scale (0.01 to 0.19 acres) riparian or wetland restoration project.   | 3          |
| The project significantly enhances the potential for fish or wildlife movement in an identified corridor chokepoint for an aquatic, wetland, or migratory bird ecosystem.  | 2          |
| The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.   | 2          |
| The site contains important fresh water habitat and/or a perennial natural water source.   | 1          |
| Project will benefit specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.   | 3          |
| Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.   | 3          |
| <b>TOTAL PROJECT POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>122</b> |
| <b>MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION<br/>(70% OF PROJECT POINTS)</b>   | <b>86</b>  |
| <b><i>EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS</i></b>   |            |
|  |            |

| <u>QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS</u>  |            |
|--|------------|
| The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.   | 3          |
| The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.   | 3          |
| The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces and other forms of water capture and storage. | 3          |
| The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.   | 3          |
| The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems.   | 2          |
| The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.   | 2          |
| The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.  | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE VALUE POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>18</b>  |
| <u>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</u>   |            |
| Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.  | 5          |
| Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.  | 5          |
| Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.   | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>   | <b>155</b> |

## All Other Improvement Projects

| All Other Improvement Projects  | Points |
|---|--------|
| Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).  | 5      |
| Project achieves eight or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).   | 5      |
| The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.   | 5      |
| The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.  | 5      |
| The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation. | 5      |
| The project is located in or adjacent to communities defined no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.  | 5      |
| Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.  | 5      |
| Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.  | 5      |
| Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.   | 5      |
| The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.   | 4      |
| Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.  | 4      |
| Applicant has identified funding for proper maintenance throughout the expected life of the improvements.   | 4      |
| Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.   | 4      |
| Project adds new trail or recreational resources not available within a 0.5 mile radius.  | 3      |
| The project substantially restores a site by reestablishment of native species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.  | 4      |

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|--|-----------|
| The project upgrades an existing regional trail or river parkway to protect its continued use and enjoyment by the public.   | 3         |
| Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.  | 3         |
| The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.   | 2         |
| The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a watershed resource.  | 2         |
| The project creates a new venue for education and/or interpretation activities that promote water conservation and stewardship, or enhances an existing venue.   | 1         |
| The project results in new public access to a watershed resource with high interpretive and/or educational value, or enhances existing access.   | 1         |
| Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.   | 4         |
| <b>TOTAL PROJECT POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>94</b> |
| <b>MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION<br/>(70% OF PROJECT POINTS)</b>   | <b>66</b> |
| <b><i>EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS</i></b>   |           |
|  |           |
| <b><u>QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS</u></b>   |           |
| The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.   | 3         |
| The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.   | 3         |
| The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces and other forms of water capture and storage. | 3         |
| The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.   | 3         |
| The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems.   | 2         |
| The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.   | 2         |
| The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.  | 2         |
| <b>TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE VALUE POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>18</b> |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <u>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</u>  |            |
| Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.           | 5          |
| Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs. | 5          |
| Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.                                | 5          |
| Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.   | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA POINTS AVAILABLE</b>                                 | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>  | <b>132</b> |

## Vegetation Management

| Vegetation Management   | Points |
|---|--------|
| Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).  | 5      |
| Project achieves eight or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).   | 5      |
| The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.   | 5      |
| The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5      |
| The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.  | 5      |
| The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation. | 5      |
| The project is located in or adjacent to communities defined no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.  | 5      |
| Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.  | 5      |
| Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.  | 5      |
| Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.   | 5      |
| The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.   | 4      |
| Completion of the project would assist a government agency in fulfilling a water resources protection, watershed ecosystem restoration or multi-benefit river parkway plan.   | 4      |
| Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.  | 4      |
| Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.   | 4      |

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|--|------------|
| The project substantially restores a site by reestablishment of native species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.   | 4          |
| The project upgrades an existing regional trail or river parkway to protect its continued use and enjoyment by the public.   | 3          |
| The project includes improvements that would significantly reduce the amount of untreated runoff entering urban rivers, waterways, or coastal watersheds.  | 3          |
| The project includes improvements that would improve or support regeneration of important native vegetative cover on slopes near a stream or river, which if substantially disturbed may contribute to flood, erosion, creek sedimentation, or reduced groundwater recharge.   | 3          |
| The project implements public safety practices by reducing wildfire risk.  | 3          |
| The project implements fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health  | 3          |
| The project substantially restores a site by removal of exotic species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.   | 3          |
| Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.  | 3          |
| The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.   | 2          |
| Project will benefit specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.   | 3          |
| Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.   | 3          |
| <b>TOTAL PROJECT POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>104</b> |
| <b>MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION<br/>(70% OF PROJECT POINTS)</b>   | <b>73</b>  |
| <b><u>EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS</u></b>   |            |
| <b><u>QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS</u></b>   |            |
| The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.   | 3          |
| The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.   | 3          |
| The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces and other forms of water capture and storage. | 3          |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.   | 3          |
| The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems. | 2          |
| The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.   | 2          |
| The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.  | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE VALUE POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>18</b>  |
|  |            |
| <b><u>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</u></b>  |            |
| Completion of the project would assist in fulfilling a Federal water resources protection or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.   | 5          |
| Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.  | 5          |
| Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.  | 5          |
| Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.   | 5          |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>   | <b>142</b> |

## **Project Planning and Design**

| <b>Project Planning and Design</b>  | <b>Points</b> |
|---|---------------|
| Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).  | 5             |
| Project achieves eight or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).   | 5             |
| The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.   | 5             |
| The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5             |
| The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.   | 5             |
| The project results in more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.  | 5             |
| The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation. | 5             |
| Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.  | 5             |
| Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.  | 5             |
| Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.   | 5             |
| The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.   | 4             |
| Completion of the project would assist a government agency in fulfilling a water resources protection, watershed ecosystem restoration or multi-benefit river parkway plan.   | 4             |
| The project provides a plan or feasibility study that enhances cooperative watershed health protection and restoration important to two or more organizations.  | 4             |
| Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.  | 4             |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| The project implements a major component of an existing relevant plan related to a major recreational public use facility or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.        | 3         |
| The project provides a high quality access point for nearby open space, parkland, regional multi-modal trails, or water-based recreation.                                 | 3         |
| Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.   | 3         |
| The project includes interpretive programming or personal interpretation, and a plan to reach community audiences with meaningful information about a watershed resource. | 2         |
| The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.                            | 2         |
| The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a watershed resource.                               | 2         |
| The project creates a new venue for education and/or interpretation activities that promote water conservation and stewardship, or enhances an existing venue.            | 1         |
| The project results in new public access to a watershed resource with high interpretive and/or educational value, or enhances existing access.                            | 1         |
| Project will benefit specially protected species pursuant to the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990.  | 3         |
| <b>TOTAL PROJECT POINTS AVAILABLE</b>   | <b>86</b> |
| <b>MINIMUM POINTS REQUIRED FOR CONSIDERATION<br/>(70% OF PROJECT POINTS)</b>  | <b>61</b> |
| <b><i>EXTRA CONSIDERATION POINTS</i></b>  |           |
|   |           |
| <b><u>QUANTIFIABLE CARBON REDUCTION POINTS</u></b>  |           |
| The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.                      | 2         |
| The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.                       | 2         |
| <b>TOTAL CLIMATE CHANGE VALUE POINTS AVAILABLE</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
|   |           |
| <b><u>ADDITIONAL CRITERIA</u></b>   |           |
| Completion of the project would assist in fulfilling a Federal water resources protection or watershed ecosystem restoration plan.  | 5         |
| Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.   | 5         |
| Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.   | 5         |
| Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.  | 5         |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels. | 5          |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL CRITERIA POINTS AVAILABLE                                      | 25         |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>  | <b>115</b> |