

APPENDIX G: FUNDING SOURCES

This section provides a brief description of some of the funding sources available for restoration projects:

A. Federal

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP): Reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill), WHIP is a voluntary program that provides technical support and up to 75 percent cost-share assistance to people who want to develop and improve fish and wildlife habitat primarily on private land. The program provides tools for habitat protection and places an emphasis on establishing conservation practices that benefit habitat of threatened and endangered species. Through WHIP, the NRCS has developed partnerships between Federal and State agencies, Tribal and local governments, conservation districts and private organizations concerned with wildlife habitat development. More information is available on the NRCS website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/>.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP): EQIP is a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers also reauthorized in the Farm Bill, to promote agricultural production and environmental quality. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants to install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agricultural land. More information is available on the NRCS website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/>.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP): This program offers technical and financial support to eligible landowners to address wetland, wildlife habitat, soil, water and related natural resource concerns on their property in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. To achieve the NRCS goal of the greatest wetland functions, values, and optimum wildlife habitat on every acre in the program, landowners have the ability to establish long-term conservation and wildlife protection. The WRP was also reauthorized in the Farm Bill; more information is available on the NRCS website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp/>.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Five-Star Restoration Challenge Grant Program: This program funds wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects emphasizing diverse partnerships, strong community stewardship, education and outreach. The objective of the Five-Star Restoration Program is to engage five or more partners in each project whose contributions of financial, technical or staff support is matched by the Five-Star program.

Visit the NOAA website for more information:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/nfwf.html#5star.

NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program River Grants. NOAA partners with nonprofit organizations such as American Rivers or the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to provide financial and technical assistance for dam removal and fish passage projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic and California. A project must successfully restore anadromous fish habitat, integrate ecological, social, economic and engineering considerations, minimize negative impacts to river system, involve the community in decision making, and contain the potential for public outreach and education.

More information is available through the American Rivers website:

<http://www.amrivers.org/americanriversnoaacommunitybasedrestorationprogramrivergrants.html>.

U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

Private Stewardship Grants Program: This program provides grants and other assistance to individuals and groups involved in local, private and voluntary conservation efforts that benefit federally listed, proposed or candidate species or other at-risk species. A ten percent match of cash or through in-kind contribution is required. Private landowners are eligible, and in Fiscal Year 2004, more than \$7 million was awarded. For more information see: http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship/index.html.

B. State

State Coastal Conservancy/Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP)

WRP Small Grants Program: Funded by the Earth Island Institute and administered by Environment Now, the Small Grants Program provides funding for community-based restoration projects in coastal wetlands and watersheds in Southern California. This program furthers the goals of the WRP Regional Strategy: to build local capacity to plan and implement wetland restoration projects, to promote community involvement in wetlands restoration activities, and to foster education about wetlands ecosystems. For more information, visit the WRP website: <http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/scwrp/>.

State Coastal Conservancy (SCC):

The California Coastal Conservancy funds coastal watershed property acquisitions and watershed assessment, planning and restoration projects. Technical assistance is also available and proposals are accepted throughout the year. For more information, visit the SCC website: <http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov>

California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP): The focus of the FRGP is to restore anadromous salmonid habitat to ensure the survival and protection of salmonids in the coastal areas of California. Through this program, the DFG solicits and funds projects that are consistent with the goals of salmon and steelhead trout conservation and restoration. Any private or public entity with this interest may apply, including but not limited to public agencies, non-profit organizations, private enterprises and Indian tribes. More information is available through the DFG website:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/nafwb/fishgrant.html>.

Adaptive watershed improvement: Grants up to \$50,000 are available for critical projects benefiting endangered salmonids. Projects include invasive plant removal such as *Arundo donax*, which will help to improve quality of habitat and fish barrier modification design and construction.

State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB)

Watershed Protection Program: Proposition 13: Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Bond Act (2000 Water Bond) provides grant funding for water protection projects, including activities that reduce flooding, protect riparian and wetlands habitat, restore habitat, monitor water quality, prevent soil erosion or sedimentation, and reduce nonpoint source pollution. More information can be found from the SWRCB website at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/watershed.html>.

Clean Beaches Initiative Grant Program: Proposition 13 and Proposition 40: The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (2002 Resources Bond) provides grant funding to address beach water quality warnings and closures at California public beaches caused by bacterial contamination. Grants help local agencies, non-profit organizations, and public agencies implement projects that protect and restore California's coastal water quality. More information is available online at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/cwphome/beaches/>.

Coastal Watershed and Wetland Protection: Proposition 50: Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects provides grant funding for the purpose of protecting coastal watersheds, including, but not limited to, acquisition, protection, and restoration of land and water resources and associated planning, permitting and administrative costs.

The full text of Proposition 50 can be found online at:

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/docs/propositions/prop-50-text.pdf>.

State Coastal Commission

Whale Tail Grants Program: Through the California Coastal Commission, the Whale Tail Grants program distributes funds from the sale of the Whale Tail License Plates to support programs that teach children and the public to value and improve the health of the state's marine and coastal resources. Non-profit organizations and local government

agencies are eligible for this program. More information is available through the Coastal Commission website: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/plate/plgrant.html>.

Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Urban Streams Restoration Program: The Urban Streams program provides grants for local projects that have flood management or erosion control as a primary objective. These projects must maintain or enhance the environmental characteristics of a stream or restore a stream to more natural conditions. The projects should also promote awareness and stewardship through community involvement in the planning process, implementation, monitoring and maintenance of the stream. Visit the DWR website for more information: <http://www.watershedrestoration.water.ca.gov/urbanstreams/>.

California State Parks

Habitat Conservation Fund Program: Through this program, local units of government are eligible to receive funding for acquisition or restoration projects to protect habitat for rare, threatened or endangered species, wildlife corridors, wetlands, aquatic habitat for spawning and rearing of anadromous salmonids and trout, and riparian habitat. Programs should provide for the interpretation of the State's park and wildlife resources, and should bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas. More information is available through the California State Parks website: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?Page_id=21361.

Proposition 40: The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (2002 Resources Bond): This bond provides funds for local assistance grants, including a sum for land, air, and water conservation programs. The purpose of the proposition is to protect rivers, lakes and streams to improve water quality and ensure clean drinking water, to protect beaches and coastal areas threatened by pollution; to improve air quality; to preserve open space and farmland threatened by unplanned development; to protect wildlife habitat; to restore historical and cultural resources; to repair and improve the safety of state and neighborhood parks.

The full text of Proposition 40 can be found online at:
<http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/prop40.pdf>.

C. Local

County of Santa Barbara

Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF): The County established CREF in 1987 to mitigate significant impacts of offshore oil and gas development to coastal aesthetics, coastal recreation, coastal tourism and environmentally sensitive coastal resources. Mitigation funds are used for acquisition of coastal properties, conservation easements, developing and improving coastal parks or coastal facilities, planning and research for coastal properties, and education projects.

More information on CREF is available through the County of Santa Barbara website:
<http://www.countyofsb.org/energy/CREF/CREF.asp>.

Wendy P. McCaw Foundation:

This local foundation seeks to improve ecosystem function and wildlife habitat through involvement of the local community. By improving the quality of water in the creeks and oceans and restoring native plant populations, it is hoped that these efforts will help to ensure the viability of wildlife and/or restore endangered populations like the Steelhead trout. The local community should provide the impetus necessary to achieve these goals.