

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
 DF-46 (REV 10/20)

Fiscal Year 2022-23	Business Unit	Department Various	Priority No.
Budget Request Name Various		Program Various	Subprogram

Budget Request Description
 Funding for Nature-Based Solutions

Budget Request Summary

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and its partners request the allocation of the \$768 million General Fund Nature-Based Solutions set aside in 2022-23 and 2023-24 to support implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies, and execute on the Governor's nature-based solution agenda as called for in Executive Order N-82-20 consistent with Chapter 258, Statutes of 2021 (Senate Bill 155). Specific allocations include:

- \$378 million to build on the 2021 Budget Act investments in programs that fund statewide nature-based solution implementation.
- \$228 million to support regional implementation of nature-based solutions.
- \$100 million to partner with California Native American tribes and invest in shared nature-based solution implementation priorities.
- \$52 million to expand educational and economic opportunities for California's youth climate leaders through local and tribal conservation corps programs.
- \$10 million to support for additional strategic investments that deliver on specified goals across multiple departments.

Requires Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed	
Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.</i>	Department CIO	Date

For IT requests, specify the project number, the most recent project approval document (FSR, SPR, S1BA, S2AA, S3SD, S4PRA), and the approval date.

Project No. Project Approval Document:

Approval Date:

If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal? Yes No
Attach comments of affected department, signed, and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By	Date	Reviewed By	Date
Department Director	Date	Agency Secretary	Date

Department of Finance Use Only

Analysis of Problem

Additional Review: Capital Outlay ITCU FSCU OSAE Dept. of Technology

PPBA Krystal Acierto	Date submitted to the Legislature 4/22/2022
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Budget Request Summary

Consistent with the intent of Chapter 258, Statutes of 2021 (Senate Bill 155), CNRA and its partners request one-time General Fund of \$768 million over two years to support implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies, and execute on the Governor’s nature-based solution agenda as called for in Executive Order N-82-20. Specific investments are detailed in the following chart and summarized below:

Nature-Based Solutions Set-Aside (\$ in millions)

Investment Category	Department	Program	2022-23	2023-24	Total
Nature-Based Solutions Programs	Wildlife Conservation Board	Forest Conservation Program			
		Oak Woodlands Conservation Program			
		California Desert Conservation Program			
		Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Program	\$200	45	\$245
		California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program			
	Natural and Working Lands Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program				
	Department of Fish & Wildlife Delta Conservancy	Nature-Based Solutions Wetlands Restoration Program	\$54	\$0	\$54
Department of Conservation	Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program	\$36	\$0	\$36	
Department of Food & Agriculture	Healthy Soils Program	\$0	\$20	\$20	
CALFIRE	Wildland Grazing (Wildfire Prevention Grant Program)	\$0	\$10	\$10	
Supporting Regional Action	State Conservancies*	Support for Nature-Based Solutions	\$5	\$5	\$10
	Department of Fish & Wildlife	Wildlife Corridors	\$60	\$60	\$120
		Natural Community Conservation Program Planning and Land Acquisition	\$50	\$0	\$50
	Department of Conservation	Climate Smart Land Management Program	\$36	\$0	\$36
	Wildlife Conservation Board	Resource Conservation Investments Strategies	\$14	\$6	\$20
Expanding Educational and Economic Opportunities for Youth Climate Leaders	Conservation Corps	Local and Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps	\$2	\$3	\$5
			\$35	\$17	\$52
Partnering with California Native American Tribes	Natural Resources Agency	Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program	\$100	\$0	\$100
Additional Strategic Investments	CalRecycle	Compost Permitting Pilot Program	\$0.5	\$7	\$7.5
	Natural Resources Agency	Nature-Based Solutions Partnerships and Improvements	\$0.25	\$1.75	\$2.0

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	Natural Resources Agency	CA Nature Support	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.5
Total			\$593	\$175	\$768

*State Conservancies Breakout	2022-23	2023-24	Total
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy	\$11.1	\$11.1	\$22.2
Sierra Nevada Conservancy	\$11.1	\$11.1	\$22.2
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	\$11.1	\$11.1	\$22.2
San Diego River Conservancy	\$11.1	\$11.1	\$22.2
Sacramento San Joaquin Delta Conservancy	\$5.25	\$5.25	\$10.5
Tahoe Conservancy	\$5.25	\$5.25	\$10.5
Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy	\$2.5	\$2.5	\$5
San Joaquin River Conservancy	\$1.3	\$1.3	\$2.6
Baldwin Hills Conservancy	\$1.3	\$1.3	\$2.6
Total	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$120

- **Building on the 2021 Budget Act investments in programs that support implementation of nature-based solutions**, this request includes:
 - \$245 million for the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to support planning, acquisition, and restoration projects on natural and working lands that deliver on California's climate change and biodiversity goals.
 - \$90 million for California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)/Delta Conservancy to accelerate restoration and enhancement of California's inland wetlands. Sixty percent of these funds (\$54 million) will be administered by CDFW. Forty percent of these funds (\$36 million) will be administered by the Delta Conservancy to create up to 32,000 acres of rice cultivation and managed wetlands on highly organic soils.
 - \$20 million for the Department of Conservation (DOC) to support continued investments in regional partnerships to repurpose agricultural land to reduce reliance on groundwater while providing community health, economic wellbeing, water supply, habitat, renewable energy, and climate benefits. Following receipt of \$50 million in funding from the 2021-22 Budget Act, the program received 14 applications totaling \$111 million in requested funds.
 - \$10 million for the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to incentivize the implementation of conservation management that improves soil health, sequesters carbon, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
 - \$10 million for CALFIRE to provide additional funding for hazardous fuel reduction projects in and near fire threatened communities. Grazing is an important and proven activity type in the mitigation of hazardous fuel reduction and community wildfire preparedness. This additional funding would allow CAL FIRE to expand grazing fuel reduction opportunities throughout California, and increase the total number of acres treated.
- **To support regional implementation of nature-based solutions**, State Conservancies request \$120 million; DOC requests \$20 million; CDFW requests \$86 million; and WCB requests \$5 million one-time General Fund. Resource requests include:

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- \$120 million for state conservancies to be allocated in a manner consistent with the funding provided in the 2021-22 Budget Act. State Conservancies are uniquely positioned to work with local partners to identify opportunity acquisitions and priority projects that advance implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies.
- \$20 million for DOC to support land managers in implementing climate smart land management across every region in California through a consolidated capacity and technical assistance program, and pilot partnerships to support planning in 1-3 regions with significant potential to contribute to California's climate goals through management of natural and working lands.
- \$86 million for CDFW to be invested in the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Program, to enhance NCCP and Habitat Conservation Planning (HCP) planning, implementation, land acquisition, monitoring, and adaptive management efforts. CDFW funding will also support efforts to allow fish and wildlife the freedom to roam in California by accelerating fish and wildlife corridor projects. Up to \$10 million will be available for the Liberty Canyon Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing Project.
- \$5 million for WCB to support public agencies to develop regional conservation planning documents that identify regional conservation priorities and actions that will help vulnerable species by protecting, restoring, creating, and reconnecting their habitats.
- **To partner with California Native American tribes** and invest in shared nature-based solution implementation priorities, CNRA requests \$100 million one-time General Fund. The resource request includes funding to establish the Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program to develop and fund tribal nature-based solution priorities. This program will be supported by a new Tribal Natural Resources Council, which will serve as the advisory board for CNRA tribal funding and policy decisions.
- **To expand educational and economic opportunities for California's youth climate leaders**, the California Conservation Corps (CCC) requests \$52 million one-time General Fund. The CCC will develop and implement a long-term workforce development strategy where the California Conservation Corps will provide support and collaborate with all 14 Local Conservation Corps and four soon-to-be-developed Tribal Corps crews. The CCC's Nature-Based Solutions programs will provide quality on-the-job training experiences as Corpsmembers work on nature-based solutions projects that deliver on California's climate goals. Corpsmembers will also receive additional training that will include but not be limited to CalNaturalist and other environmental education classes provided by Community Colleges, UC Extension, and non-profit organizations. All Corpsmembers that participate and work on these nature-based solution projects and trainings will receive job and career development support and guidance.
- **To support additional strategic investments that deliver on specified goals across multiple departments, this request includes**, \$7.5 million for CalRecycle to develop a compost permitting pilot program to support nature-based climate solutions and local community efforts to generate more organically derived compost; and \$2.5 million for CNRA in partnership with various agencies to advance several near-term priorities for state action to drive implementation of the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, such as support for efforts to expand the state's nature-based solutions portfolio; exploring opportunities to unlock greater investment in the natural and working lands sector; and funds to engage partners. The resource request includes funding for numerous strategic initiatives to advance the state's nature-based solutions agenda.

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A. Background/History

In Fall 2021, the Administration released drafts of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies for public comment. These plans outline California's approach to conserving 30% of our lands and coastal waters by 2030, and accelerating climate action on our lands. The drafts were informed by extensive public input and consultations with numerous California Native American tribes.

The 2021 Budget Act included \$768 million over two fiscal years (2022-23 and 2023-24) to support programs and activities that advance multi-benefit and nature-based solutions. The Administration is proposing these funds support implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies. Based on public input to inform the drafts, the Administration identified five areas of focus in the Governor's proposed 2022-23 budget that:

- Scale support for forest, desert, and oak woodland conservation; wetland and riparian restoration; and rangeland, grazing land and grassland protection through projects that expand equitable access to nature, protect biodiversity, and deliver climate benefits on the state's natural and working lands.
- Catalyze regional action through expanded technical assistance and capacity building.
- Increase workforce development and training opportunities through the California Conservation Corps, local conservation corps, tribal conservation corps, and expanded environmental literacy.
- Partner with California Native American tribes to implement shared nature-based solutions.
- Support additional strategic investments to drive implementation of the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and Pathways to 30x30 document.

The suite of programs and activities proposed for funding in this request align these funding streams, are responsive to priorities for state action identified through public engagement, and advance eligible activities outlined in SB-155. To meet the need for urgent implementation, many elements of this proposal will be delivered through existing programs as noted below.

Resource History - WCB Programs

- The existing *Forest Conservation Program* was established in 2006 and has received \$180 million from Proposition 84 and \$60 million from Proposition 68. The amount of funding currently available is \$26 million, however all but \$2.8 million of this has already been identified to fund specific projects pending approval by the Board.
- The existing *Natural and Working Lands Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program* was established in 2017 and has received \$20 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds. The amount of funding currently available is \$5.5 million, however all but \$1.05 million of this has already been identified to fund specific projects pending approval by the Board.
- The existing *California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program* was established in 1991 and receives \$3 million annually from the Habitat Conservation Fund. The amount of funding currently available is \$12.3 million, however all of this has already been identified to fund specific projects pending approval by the Board. The Program has also used other various bonds to fund projects.

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- The existing *Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Program* was established in 2002 and has received \$19.2 million from Proposition 40 and \$15 million from Proposition 84 which has all been distributed to projects. There currently is no funding available.
- The existing *Oak Woodlands Conservation Program* was established in 2001 and has received \$5 million from Proposition 12, \$4.8 million from Proposition 40 and \$15 million from Proposition 84 which has all been distributed to projects. There currently is no funding available.
- *Resource Conservation Investments Strategies* projects received funds in 2018 and currently has approximately \$1.5 million in funds remaining. The original one-time baseline funding of \$5 million was provided under the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68).

Resource History – CDFW and Delta Conservancy Nature-Based Solutions Wetland Restoration Program

- The Wetland Restoration Grant Program will utilize expanded guidelines for CDFW's existing Wetlands Restoration for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program, which was established in 2014 to administer grant funding for the restoration or enhancement of wetlands to reduce GHG emissions and deliver important environmental benefits. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds have previously been allocated to CDFW to support this program on an ad hoc basis. Through three grant solicitations, CDFW awarded \$36.9 million to 22 projects for the restoration or enhancement of wetlands throughout the state (mountain meadows, coastal tidal, inland seasonal, and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta wetlands).

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Project Funding

FY 2014-15	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	Total
\$21,318,473	\$4,226,557	\$11,360,199	\$36,905,229

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Resource History

(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	PY – 4	PY – 3	PY – 2	PY-1	PY	CY
Authorized Expenditures	\$59	\$0	\$64	\$80	\$0	\$0
Actual Expenditures	\$58	\$0	\$64	\$80	\$0	\$0
Revenues	0	0	0	0	0	0
Authorized Positions	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.30	0.30	0.35
Filled Positions	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.30	0.30	0.35
Vacancies	0	0	0	0	0	0

(The numbers above are associated with programs implemented by the Delta Conservancy that are similar to the Wetlands Program we are proposing.)

- The existing *Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Local Assistance Grant (LAG) Program* currently receives an annual appropriation around \$500,000 from the General Fund (in FY 20-21 the appropriation was \$576,000). Since its establishment in 1996, the NCCP LAG program

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has funded 232 projects. The NCCP LAG program funding is used to assist local public and non-profit entities in implementing NCCPs throughout California. The NCCP program also serves as California's administrator for the Nontraditional Section 6 grant through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESFCF). The Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition Nontraditional grant program was established in 1997, and the HCP Planning Assistance Nontraditional grand program was established in 2001. As administer, CDFW is both the applicant and grantee for this program. The Land Acquisition awards for California have averaged \$16,576,971, and the Planning Assistance awards for California have averaged \$2,500,902. Since 2002, a total of 168 Non-traditional Section 6 projects have been funded.

Resource History – CDFW Wildlife Corridors

- CDFW has not received specific funding for wildlife corridors projects. CDFW received a \$6 million grant from WCB in FY 21-22 to provide immediate drought relief, which did include funding for fish passage projects.

Resource History – CDFA

- The existing Healthy Soils Program has received \$125 million in funding between 2016 and 2021.

Resource History – CALFIRE

- CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention Grants Program provides funding for fire prevention projects and activities in and near fire threatened communities that focus on increasing the protection of people, structures, and communities. The program is funded annually from the California Climate Investments Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and/or General Fund. In 2020-21, 105 grants were awarded for nearly \$138 million with an additional \$120 million available in 2021-22. Four of these grants were awarded for goat grazing for hazardous fuel reduction. Goat grazing is an important and proven activity type in mitigation of hazardous fuel reduction and community wildfire preparedness. This additional funding would allow CAL FIRE to award additional grants, expand grazing fuel reduction opportunities throughout California, and increase the total number of acres treated.

Resource History – CCC

- The existing elements of this program were established in 1976. The mission of the CCC is to provide job training, work experience and service opportunities for young adults as they in turn participate in environmental, conservation and community enhancements. The 2021-22 total CCC budget is \$155,957,000; approximately 55 percent comes from the State's General Fund (baseline) while approximately 45 percent comes from the Collins/Dugan or Reimbursement funds (ad hoc basis). The Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps is a new element of this program and has not been previously established under the CCC.

Proposed Programs and Activities with No Resource History

- California Desert Conservation Program
- Technical Assistance to Catalyze Regional Climate Smart Land Management Programs
- Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program
- Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps
- CA Nature Support
- Compost Permitting Pilot Program
- Nature-Based Solutions Partnerships and Improvements

Workload History

Workload History - WCB Programs

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<u>Program</u>	<u>Projects funded</u>	<u>Acreage acquired or restored</u>	<u>Amount funded</u>
California Forest Conservation Program (since 2006)	80	251,999	\$184 million
Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (since 2017)	27	301,804	\$14.5 million
California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program (since 1991)	195	43,138	\$75.8 million
The Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grasslands Protection Program (since 2002)	27	70,385	\$35.7 million
Oak Woodlands Conservation Program (since 2001)	28	42,239	\$23.8 million
Resource Conservation Investments Strategies (since 2018)	5	n/a	\$3.1 million

- WCB approves 20 – 30 projects at each of its four quarterly Board meetings across all programs. In 2021, over 17,000 acres of habitat was restored or enhanced and over 30,000 acres of wildlife habitat was protected through fee acquisition or conservation easements. Projects are developed through annual solicitations or continuous application processes. Given many of the programs above are either low in funds or out of funds, additional staff will be needed to develop and implement projects for these programs. The staff that had worked on the programs currently out of funds are working on programs funded with more recent bonds such as Prop 1 and Prop 68.

Workload History – CDFW and Delta Conservancy Programs

- Nature-Based Solutions Wetland Restoration Program*

CDFW has administered this program through GGRF funds allocated in 2014, 2017 and 2018, and awarded \$36.9 million to 22 projects projected to restore or enhance 7,477 acres of wetlands and reduce 999,756 MTCO_{2e}.

CDFW Workload History	2014	2017	2019	Total
Grants Awarded	12	3	7	22
Acres Restored	2,520	3,175	1,782	7,477
MT CO _{2e} Sequestered	570,667	225,545	203,544	999,756
Disadvantaged Communities	2	2	4	8

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Delta Conservancy Workload History	PY - 4	PY - 3	PY - 2	PY-1	PY	CY
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion – development and maintenance of partnerships with agencies, academic institutions, and private/philanthropic funders	X	X	X	X	X	X
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion – development of a voluntary market protocol through the American Carbon Registry	X	X				
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion – first ever third-party certification of wetland credits, 1,700 acre on DWR land			X			
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion - Technical support for ongoing development of pilot projects	X	X	X	X	X	X
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion – Approved General Grant Guidelines for future projects						X

- *Natural Community Conservation Planning Program - The CDFW Local Assistant Grant Program* has funded 37 projects for a total of \$2,880,000 in the last five years. The Nontraditional Section 6 grants have funded 33 projects for a total of \$101,756,754 in the last five years.

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Workload History – CDFA Healthy Soils Program

Workload Measure	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Solicitations	1	1	1	1
Applications Received	150	252	653	-
Applications through Administrative Review	150	238	411	-
Applications through Technical Review	150	238	411	-
Applications Awarded	100	202	344	-
Pre-project Consultations Completed	100	202	344	-
Grant Agreements Executed	100	202	344	-
Projects Monitored for Outcomes	100	202	344	646

Workload History – CCC

- Local Conservation Corps have a deep history in delivering environmental, economic, and equity outcomes through nature-based solution projects. Examples of work in this sector to date include natural habitat restoration, tree planting and community greening, development and construction of parks, healthy forests, forest recovery, reforestation, coastal habitat rehabilitation, trail maintenance and construction, watershed stewardship and restoration, restoration and rehabilitation of wetlands, flood plains, stream, rivers, and creeks, healthy soils and composting, and weed management.

Proposed Programs and Activities with No Workload History

- California Desert Conservation Program
- Technical Assistance to Catalyze Regional Climate Smart Land Management
- Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program
- Tribal Conservation Corps
- Compost Permitting Pilot Program
- CA Nature Support
- CNRA RAPTR Expansion
- Nature-Based Solutions Partnerships and Improvements

State Level Consideration

This request is needed to support implementation of Executive Order N-82-20 and the Administration's Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and Pathways to 30x30 Strategy.

Programs and projects funded through this request will advance the key objectives of advancing implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies, and execute on the Governor's nature-based solution agenda as called for in Executive Order N-82-20.

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Allocation of this funding is consistent with the Budget Act of 2021-2022.

B. Justification

New Workload - WCB

WCB is requesting \$245 million to fund existing programs that build on the 2021-22 budget's investments in nature-based solution implementation, and support regional action in this sector. Programs were selected to fill funding gaps in the existing budget, and respond to input from the public. None of the programs listed below receive baseline funding and these resources continue supporting program benefits.

- The *Forest Conservation Program* will fund planning, acquisition, and restoration projects throughout California's forests in support of the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and Pathways to 30x30.
- The *Natural and Working Lands Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program* will fund projects that build climate resilience of California's natural and working lands through planning, acquisition and restoration projects. All projects must contribute to at least one relevant state strategy (2021 California's Climate Adaptation Strategy (2021); 2022 Scoping Plan; 2022 NWL Climate Smart Strategy; 2022 Pathways to 30x30) and support the WCB's Strategic Plan and mission.
- The *California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program* will support coordinated conservation efforts that protect and restore California's riparian ecosystems through planning, acquisition and restoration projects, consistent with the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and/or Pathways to 30x30.
- The *Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Program* will fund projects that prevent the conversion of rangeland, grazing land, and grassland to nonagricultural uses; protect the long-term sustainability of livestock grazing; and support continued wildlife, water quality, watershed and open-space benefits from livestock grazing. Projects will be consistent with the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and/or Pathways to 30x30.
- The *Oak Woodlands Conservation Program* will fund projects that protect and restore oak woodlands through implementation of restoration projects, conservation easements, cost-share and long-term agreements, technical assistance and public education and outreach. The Program provides incentives designed to foster the conservation of oak woodlands in a manner that promotes local priorities while sustaining the economic viability of farming and ranching operations.
- The *California Desert Conservation Program* will fund projects that acquire, preserve, restore, and enhance desert habitat within the California deserts region, in alignment with the goals set forth in AB 1183 (Ramos, 2021).
- The *Resource Conservation Investments Strategies* funding supports public agencies to develop regional conservation planning documents using the best available science. These documents identify regional conservation priorities and actions that will help vulnerable species by protecting, restoring, creating, and reconnecting their habitats.
- WCB has staff currently supporting active programs that include natural and working lands (forest, climate adaptation and riparian) as well as administrative staff that support grant implementation across those programs. WCB has re-directed staff from older bond funds and other funds to implement the climate infrastructure work, including funding provided in last year's climate and

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water packages. These staff are currently working at capacity with implementation of existing projects and will be limited in their ability to take on the programs that are currently unfunded or new (climate adaptation, grasslands, and oaks with no current funding and desert program as new). To support implementation of this funding, WCB requests the following 7 positions:

Positions	Function
Supervising Land Agent	Oversee staff working on numerous programs including Climate Adaptation and Resilience, Oak Woodlands, Rangeland, Grazing land, and Grasslands, and Desert Programs
Associate Land Agent	Support numerous programs including Climate Adaptation and Resilience, Oak Woodlands, Rangeland, Grazing land, and Grasslands, and Desert Programs
Environmental Scientist	Support the Desert Program
Environmental Scientist	Support the Oak and Riparian programs
Information Officer I (Specialist)	Support all WCB Programs
Associate Governmental Program Analyst	Support all WCB Programs
Attorney 1	Provide Legal Support to all WCB Programs

New Workload – CDFW and Delta Conservancy

- *CDFW and the Delta Conservancy are requesting \$90 million for the Nature-Based Solutions Wetland Restoration Program.* Funds will support restoration or enhancement of non-coastal wetlands and watershed ecosystems, consistent with the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and/or Pathways to 30x30. Forty percent of these funds (\$36 million) will be administered by the Delta Conservancy to support wetland restoration in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta through rice- or tule-growing projects that deliver multiple benefits, such as reversing subsidence, reducing dust and erosion, reducing and sequestering greenhouse gases, and advancing economic opportunity through climate smart land management.
- Less than 10 percent of California's original wetlands remain today. There is tremendous opportunity to restore or enhance large areas of wetlands that do not currently provide the full potential of carbon storage or other benefits due to historical land use. Wetland restoration or enhancement as planned in this proposal will contribute to the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies, and the Governor's nature-based solution agenda as called for in Executive Order N-82-20 by implementing restoration or enhancement projects designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; supporting investments to the environment and future-proofing California's economy from climate change impacts; while supporting a better understanding of strategies to reduce climate change impacts and risks. Wetlands protect and improve water quality through filtration and pollution reduction; enhanced water storage through the replenishment of groundwater aquifers; and enhanced biodiversity by providing essential habitat for many species of fish and wildlife, some of which are endangered or threatened; and will create a larger and efficient storehouse for atmospheric carbon.
- CDFW's existing Wetlands Restoration Program is suited to administer grant funding under this model, continuing the work established under its GGRF supported program. Existing grant program staff will update grant program guidelines, develop a proposal solicitation notice, conduct stakeholder outreach, review proposals, and develop and manage grant agreements funded through this program. CDFW's existing scientific monitoring and assessment program will support monitoring, data management, and reporting out on the successes of the program.

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- This proposal includes \$36 million to the Delta Conservancy to support focused wetland restoration efforts in a region that can deliver statewide benefits related to carbon neutrality, water resilience, and just transition. In the central and western Delta, there are more than 200,000 acres of deeply subsided peat soils (currently 20 to 30 feet below sea level). This subsidence represents a significant threat of losing the western Delta to an inland sea that could cause a long-term interruption in water exports from the Delta (27 million people and 3 million acres of agriculture depend on the Delta for all or part of their water supply). Delta subsidence is caused by oxidation of carbon in peat soils and results in approximately 2,000,000 metric tons of CO₂ emitted to the atmosphere every year. This is equivalent to 500,000 vehicles. Re-wetting the land through rice cultivation or development of managed wetlands stops subsidence, begins to restore elevations, stops CO₂ emissions, increases habitat value and biodiversity, strengthens local flood protection and public safety, and increases overall resilience and economic viability of the region. An initial investment targeting 32,000 acres of the most deeply subsidence on the most and threatened areas will realize the above-mentioned benefits and result in 320,000 tons of avoided CO₂ emissions per year in perpetuity.
 - Wetlands in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta can provide quantifiable GHG benefits and co-benefits, including subsidence reversal, sea-level rise and inland flooding adaptation, improved water quality, and improved conditions for native species.
 - Mountain meadow restoration projects represent a key opportunity for quantifiable GHG benefits combined with improved groundwater storage, reduced and delayed peak flows, increased late season flow, improved water quality, reduced susceptibility to catastrophic wildfire, improved climate refugia, and improved habitat for native species.
- Funds invested in Delta wetland restoration supports implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies, and advances the Governor's nature-based solutions agenda as outlined in Executive Order N-82-20. Wetland restoration projects have the potential to stop ongoing land subsidence and avoid related carbon emissions of approximately 320,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year; reduce risk of interruption of water exports from the Delta; and reduce local flood risk to the regions' most climate vulnerable communities. These projects will also improve habitat value and biodiversity, increase opportunities for public access and recreation, and improve the region's economic viability, and build regional resilience to the impacts of climate change. Of the \$36 million, the Delta Conservancy requests authorization for support of up to five percent for administration and support of up to ten percent for technical assistance and monitoring.
- *CDFW is requesting \$36 million for the Natural Community Conservation Planning Program.*
 - CDFW's NCCP program is an unprecedented effort by the State of California, and numerous private and public partners, that takes a broad-based ecosystem approach to planning for the protection and perpetuation of biological diversity. NCCPs identify and provide for the regional protection of plants, animals, and their habitats, while allowing compatible and appropriate economic activity. Working with landowners, environmental organizations, and other interested parties, a local agency oversees the numerous activities that compose the development of an NCCP. CDFW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provide the necessary support, direction, and guidance to NCCP participants. There are currently 17 approved NCCPs (includes 6 subarea plans) and more than nine NCCPs in various stages of planning (includes two subarea plans), which together cover more than 8 million acres and will provide conservation for nearly 400 special status species and a wide diversity of natural community types throughout California.

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- To support NCCPs, CDFW administers the Local Assistance Grants (LAG) program. It supports public agencies to implement NCCPs developed through a stakeholder-driven process that supports smart regional planning and balances development (roads, housing, commercial) with permanent protection of California's at-risk species and natural communities.
- CDFW is also the state administrator for the federal U.S Fish and Wildlife Service ESA Nontraditional Section 6 Grant Programs that supports the planning of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP) and land acquisition of vital habitat for threatened and endangered fish, wildlife, and plant species. CDFW will use funding in this proposal to increase support for the development and implementation of NCCPs and HCPs through activities such as NCCP/HCP development, management actions, biological monitoring and studies, land acquisitions, additional mapping, targeted studies for adaptive management, and restoration and enhancement.
- *CDFW is requesting \$50 million for Wildlife Corridors*
 - California has invested millions of dollars in fish and wildlife connectivity planning and implementation projects. This proposal will allow CDFW to prioritize projects that support existing efforts by both WCB and Caltrans. The reality is that connectivity projects can be expensive but provide the connectivity that is needed to help species adapt to climate change and human development. The Liberty Canyon Wallis Annenberg Crossing is projected to cost \$92 million (\$58M State Funds and \$34M Private), and will receive \$10 million from this allocation. Collaborating and delivering successful wildlife and transportation projects requires ensuring agencies have the financial ability to forge these outcomes. This proposal also provides CDFW an ability to match funding and leverage transportation agency dollars, federal dollars, and private development collaboration to do more projects faster.

New Workload –CalEPA

- *The Compost Permitting Pilot Program* proposed by CalRecycle will invest \$7.5 million to support nature-based climate solutions and local community efforts to generate more organically derived compost.
 - Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016 (Senate Bill (SB) 1383) established short-lived climate pollutant reduction mandates, including reducing the disposal of organic waste 50 percent below 2014 levels by 2020 and 75 percent by 2025. Organic waste, like food scraps and yard waste, account for more than half of the waste that is landfilled in California each year, and reducing methane emitted from organic waste has an immediate impact on the climate crisis. Composting is one of the primary ways to reduce the amount of organic waste that is landfilled.
 - Using compost helps California adapt to climate change by diverting organic materials away from landfills, thus reducing emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Methane is a precursor for ground-level ozone and other air pollutants, and reducing methane emissions from landfills can greatly reduce the negative health impacts associated with these air pollutants. Compost creates healthy soils by returning nutrients to the soil, building soil organic matter, sequestering carbon, and reducing runoff and erosion. Compost also protects and improves water quality by absorbing contaminants and capturing sediment.
 - CalRecycle estimates that the state needs approximately 10 million tons of additional permitted composting capacity by 2025 to meet the 75 percent reduction goal. A 2019 CalRecycle contractor's report titled, *SB 1383 Infrastructure and Market Analysis*, cites air and water quality permitting as potential barriers to compost facility development and expansion in some areas of the state.

Analysis of Problem

- The Compost Permitting Pilot Program will result in tools and resources that will help local government entities and facility proponents to identify appropriate locations for small to medium sized compost facilities and outline potential pathways to support the permitting and development of these facilities. CalRecycle requests the following:
 - \$500,000 for an initial contract to identify challenges and barriers to permitting and to develop tools, including a composting programmatic environmental impact report if warranted, and other best management practices (BMPs) for siting and permitting small to medium compost facilities (FY22/23).
 - \$7 million for approximately 20 grants to local governments and project proponents to perform research, feasibility studies, environmental impact reports, and other studies to support siting and permitting of compost facilities (FY23/24).

New Workload - DOC

- The funds requested in this proposal will expand state support for California's land managers seeking to implement nature-based climate solutions through technical assistance, capacity building, and training. This new program will deliver on the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, and be implemented through expert organizations representing large geographic regions and/or practitioner networks with demonstrated experience in implementing the goals and practices identified in the Strategy. Of the amount requested, up to 10 percent of these funds will be used by DOC, in partnership with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, to launch 1-3 pilot regional partnerships that identify opportunities for nature-based climate solution implementation. The pilot will focus on regions with significant potential in the natural and working lands sector to contribute to California's climate goals, and significant planning capacity needs. Funds may also support OPR's development of guidance on integration of nature-based climate solutions into relevant local and regional planning processes. The additional \$20 million is needed for sustained investments to support local and regional multi-benefit land repurposing efforts that provide nature-based solutions to groundwater sustainability. The DOC will provide long-term flexible support for regionally led development and implementation of land repurposing strategies.

New Workload – CALFIRE

- CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention Grants Program provides funding for fire prevention projects and activities in and near fire threatened communities that focus on increasing the protection of people, structures, and communities. Funded activities include hazardous fuel reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These grants are available to federal, State, and local agencies, Native American tribes, resource conservation districts, special districts, and non-profit groups like Fire Safe Councils.
- Goat grazing is an approved activity under the hazardous fuel reduction project type. Grazing is an economically effective alternative to machine and human brush-removal. Goat crews are estimated to cost an average of \$500 while human crews can cost upwards of \$28,000 per treated acre. Approximately 350 of them can denude an acre a day, consuming low branches and foliage, stripping bark from French and Scotch broom and other shrubs, eating grass down to putting-green height. Goats are agile climbers, able to scurry up steep hillsides and scale narrow canyons that are beyond the reach of machines and humans. As an added benefit, goat grazing doesn't rely on toxic herbicides, petroleum products or chemicals like many fire suppressants. Goat grazing is less risky than herbicides, gas-powered mowers, or controlled burns that can damage the surrounding ecosystem, spark blazes, and create additional greenhouse gas

Analysis of Problem

emissions. Goat grazing is a natural method that reduces the use of traditional pesticides or gasoline-based trimming equipment while also allowing for community engagement. This initiative also helps the ecosystem to recover by removing invasive and non-native plants. CAL FIRE requests \$5 million in 2022-23 and \$5 million in 2023-24 to help with this effort of hazardous fuel reduction.

New Workload - CCC

- The Local and Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps will accelerate implementation of nature-based solution projects across California. Funds will support an average of one crew at each of the 14 local conservation corps and a minimum of four new tribal crews. It is responsive to concerted calls for increased workforce development opportunities in this sector that connect frontline youth with access to jobs and career pathways that we know are critical to achieving our climate goals and future-proofing California's economy. Funds would support training, support services, and implementation of nature-based solution projects, such as community greenspace expansion; natural and working land restoration; regional and community-level fuel load reduction; urban tree canopy installation and maintenance; post-wildfire restoration; and compost application and food waste management.
- The CCC has long partnered with several California Native American tribes throughout the state. Tribal Corps in the form of a typical corps model, however, does not exist today. The CCC and Local Corps will work with California Native American tribes to develop Tribal Corps programs that will focus on the workforce development of 16–25-year-old youth, identified by Tribal Council leaders, who seek to pursue workforce development and trainings focused on Nature-Based Solutions. The State Corps will develop Nature-Based Solution service projects with California Native American tribes that would engage or help to develop the interests of Tribal youth. The goal in developing Tribal Corps is to collaborate with and learn from the culture and history of Ancestral Lands and Tribal Councils and pass those lessons on to California's Tribal youth, the future stewards of California Ancestral Lands.

New Workload – CNRA

- The *Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program* would meet many of Governor Newsom's priorities including the apology to California Native American tribes and call for truth and healing for the many historical wrongs including the dispossession of lands and attempted destruction of tribal communities. In furtherance of these priorities, Governor Newsom established the Truth and Healing Council under Executive Order N-15-19, issued the Statement of Administrative Policy on Native American Ancestral Lands directing state agencies to identify opportunities to increase access, co-management, and return of ancestral lands, and explicitly stated in the Nature-Based Solutions Executive Order N-82-20 that the partnership and collaboration with tribes is required to address the biodiversity crisis and accelerate nature-based solutions.
 - CNRA has heard consistently from the over 70 different California Native American tribes that tribes have specific needs due to their sovereign status as tribal governments to partner in the statewide effort to conserving 30% of California lands and coastal waters by 2030 and accelerating climate actions. Many tribes face a wide variety of barriers including, but not limited to, limited time and staff capacity, technical assistance applying for grants and implementing grant requirements, and access to funds to support planning and project development. A program dedicated to tribal Nature-Based Solutions will allow for a tailored approach to meet the policy priorities set forth by the Newsom Administration, directly fund tribal priorities, increase technical assistance available to help reduce barriers to accessing funds and implementing projects, and establish a formal collaborative process that will increase transparency and trust necessary to strengthening the partnerships between tribes and California in the spirit of truth and healing.

Analysis of Problem

- The Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program will fund nature-based solution priorities and may be utilized as the hub for relevant tribal specific programs. The following include some examples of the nature-based solution priorities that may be funded through this Program; (a) developing a climate and biodiversity tribal monitoring program(s), (b) supporting pathways for California Native Americans to research, develop, and implement traditional knowledges and educate and share with the next generation of tribal traditional practitioners, (c) workforce development, (d) capacity building and technical support to accelerate nature-based solutions and conservation programs, (e) support and explore incentives for tribal participation in conservation programs, (f) increased co-management and access opportunities, and land returns that will deliver climate and biodiversity benefits for California. Under this program, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to the development and adoption of program guidelines and selection criteria adopted pursuant to this division.
- In coordination with the Tribal Advisor to the Governor, the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency will establish the Tribal Natural Resources Council to support the Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program and serve as the advisory board for funding and policy decisions.
- *Funding for Nature-Based Solutions Partnerships and Improvements* will be utilized to advance the state's climate smart land management agenda through support for a range of collaborative efforts as outlined in the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy. Funds will be administered by CNRA in partnership with various agencies, and support consultant services to support development of expert recommendations, convenings, and analysis related to, for example: increased understanding of the funding gap to implement needed nature-based climate solutions; opportunities for procurement, incentives, and market mechanisms such as crop insurance to accelerate climate smart land management; greening California's schoolyards; exploring state efficiency improvements; tracking implementation; integrating nature-based solutions into California's built infrastructure investments; and land access and tenure.
- *Funding for CA Nature Support* will support the statewide online geographic information system CNRA developed to track progress toward conserving 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030 and to identify opportunities to conserve lands that meet the 30x30 objectives of protecting biodiversity, increasing access to nature, and addressing climate change. Accurate maps are central to stakeholder communication, engagement and statewide progress tracking. Funds will support 1) development of a toolkit to support local agencies and state departments in the systematic review and update of land protection status to ensure that 30x30 has the strongest possible basis in data; 2) technical support and ongoing platform hosting; 3) integration of new data and development of decision support tools; and 4) data processing, data integration, mapping and related tasks.

C. Outcomes and Accountability

Analysis of Problem

Projected Outcomes – WCB Programs

WCB Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Finalize guidelines and continuous online application process	Initiated	Complete					
Applications received, reviewed and selected		100	100	100	100		
Projects approved and grants implemented		50	50	50	50		
Track acreage protected, restored		X	X	X	X		
Identify numbers of public access improvements		X	X	X	X		
Measure carbon sequestered, where appropriate		X	X	X	X		
Monitor projects		X	X	X	X		

Projected Outcomes – Nature Based Solutions Wetland Restoration Program

CDFW Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Update Wetlands Restoration Grant Program Guidelines	Initiate	Complete					
Develop draft grant Proposal Solicitation Notice and conduct public meetings		1		1			
Release final Proposal Solicitation Notice		1		1			
Award grants and execute grant agreements			15	15			
Manage grant agreements			15	30	30	15	

CDFW Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Disadvantage Community Projects	0	3		3			
Access for All Projects	0	9		9			
Biodiversity	0	Multiple		Multiple			
Acres Restored	0	5,150		5,150			
Metric Tons CO _{2e}	0	695,000		695,000			

Analysis of Problem

Delta Conservancy Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion, revise program guidelines	X						
Delta rice and managed wetland conversion grant solicitations		X	X	X			
Additional acres of Delta land converted to rice or managed wetland	500	1,000	5,000	6,000	7,500	12,000	
Additional reduction in CO2 emissions resulting from conversion to Delta rice/managed wetlands (10 metric tons/acre/yr)	5,000 tons CO2/Yr	15,000 tons CO2/Yr	65,000 tons CO2/Yr	125,000 tons CO2/Yr	200,000 tons CO2/Yr	320,000 tons CO2/Yr	
Increased biodiversity resulting from conversion to aquatic systems for Delta rice and managed wetlands	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Increase resilience to climate change, flood risk reduction and improved public safety from Delta rice and managed wetlands	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Increased access and recreational opportunities in Delta managed wetlands (bird watching, hiking and hunting)			X	X	X	X	X
Improved economic viability on deeply subsided islands through Delta rice cultivation and increased recreation opportunities on managed wetlands			X	X	X	X	X
Benefits to DAC/SDAC communities through reduced flood risk and improved regional economic viability from Delta rice and managed wetlands			X	X	X	X	X

Analysis of Problem

Projected Outcomes – Healthy Soils Program

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Solicitations			1				
Applications Received			250				
Grants Awarded			200				
Technical Assistance provided			1 provider				
Grant Agreements Executed			200				
Invoices			400 invoices	400 invoices	200 invoices		
MTCO _{2e} Reduction			35,000	35,000	35,000		

Projected Outcomes – DOC Climate Smart Land Management

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Develop Technical Assistance Grant Guidelines and Make Available on Website	--	1	--	1	--	--	--
Technical Assistance Grant Applications Reviewed and Awarded	--	20	5	5	--	--	--
Technical Assistance Grants Implemented and Monitored	--	--	20	25	30	30	20
Develop Regional Pilot Application Guidelines and Make Available on Website	--	1	--	--	--	--	--
Regional Pilot Applications Reviewed and Awarded	--	1-3	--	--	--	--	--
Regional Pilots Implemented and Monitored	--	--	1-3	1-3	--	--	--
Development of actionable planning guidance	--	1					
Deployment of actionable planning guidance			1				

Analysis of Problem

Projected Outcomes - Natural Community Conservation Program Planning and Local Assistance Grant Program

CDFW Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Develop draft NCCP/HCP grant Proposal Solicitation Notice and conduct public meetings	1	1	1				
Award NCCP/HCP grants and execute grant agreements	15	20	15				
Execute NCCP/HCP grant amendments	4	6	6	6	6		
Manage NCCP/HCP grant agreements		20	35	35	20	15	

Projected Outcomes – Wildlife Corridors

CDFW Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Funding to support fish and wildlife connectivity projects	\$6M	\$20M	\$20M	\$10M			
Develop draft wildlife corridors grant Proposal Solicitation Notice and conduct public meetings		1	1	1			
Award wildlife corridors grants and execute grant agreements		10	10	5			
Manage wildlife corridors grant agreements		10	20	25	25	15	5

Projected Outcomes - Resource Conservation Investments Strategies

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Applications received, reviewed, and selected	1	2	2	2	2		
Projects approved and grants implemented	1	2	2	2	2		

Projected Outcomes – CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention Grants Program

Analysis of Problem

Workload Measure	BY	BY +1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
2022-23 Grant Awards	Open Solicitation Award Grants Establish Agreements Environmental Compliance	Grant Project Work	Grant Project Work	End Grant Term	
2023-24 Grant Awards		Open Solicitation Award Grants Establish Agreements Environmental Compliance	Grant Project Work	Grant Project Work	End Grant Term

Projected Outcomes – Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Tribal Natural Resources Council	Continue consultations with California Native American tribes	Develop the Council charter and internal processes Select Council members and start meeting	Quarterly Council and Sub-Committee meetings	Quarterly Council and Sub-Committee meetings	Quarterly Council and Sub-Committee meetings	Quarterly Council and Sub-Committee meetings	Quarterly Council and Sub-Committee meetings
Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program	Continue consultations with California Native American tribes	Develop Tribal Nature-Based Solutions grant and funding program	Solicit grant projects and fund 20-30 projects	Implement projects, solicit new grant projects, and fund 20-30 projects	Provide technical assistance and administer grants and contracts	Provide technical assistance and administer grants and contracts	Provide technical assistance and administer grants and contracts

Projected Outcomes – Local and Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
Number of Corpsmembers participating in NBS projects		54	192	204	78	60	
Number of hours Corpsmembers worked on NBS projects		53,000	188,000	200,000	76,000	50,000	
Percentage of Corpsmembers that entered job/career NBS/Climate related fields		20%	30%	30%	30%	30%	
Number of NBS projects corps completed		14	48	51	19	9	
Develop technical assistance		X	X	X	X	X	

Analysis of Problem

Projected Outcomes - CalRecycle Compost Pilot Program

Workload Measure	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Contract for initial study to identify challenges and barriers to permitting	Develop Scope of Work	Execute Contract and begin work	Contractor's Report				
Compost Permitting Pilot Grant Program		Develop criteria	Award and execute grants	Grant work	Grant work	End grant term	
Develop tools and resources for jurisdictions based on contractor's report				Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
Incorporate findings from grant program into tools and resources						Ongoing	Ongoing
Provide ongoing siting and permitting support to local governments and their partners		Conduct outreach, develop web content, and perform site visits	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing

Projected Outcomes – CNRA Additional Strategic Investments

Analysis of Problem

Workload Measure	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4	BY+5
CA Nature - Stakeholder toolkit		1	1				
CA Nature - Completed decision support tools		3	2	1			
CA Nature - Decision support tool upgrades		3	1	2			

D. Analysis of All Feasible Alternatives

Alternative 1: Approve funding requested by agencies to implement the recommended near-term priorities for implementation of the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies. This would provide the resources needed to demonstrate our commitment to urgent action in this sector; deliver on top priorities for state action identified thus far by key stakeholders; and advance economic opportunity in California.

Alternative 2: Fund implementation of alternative efforts identified in the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies. This would provide the resources needed to demonstrate our commitment to urgent action in this sector. It would not, however, deliver on top priorities for state action identified by key stakeholders. This alternative may not advance economic opportunity, depending on alternative programs/projects funded.

Alternative 3: Do not approve specific funding recommendations for use of \$768 million set-aside in the 2021-22 budget to advance multibenefit and nature-based solutions.

E. Implementation Plan

Timeline and major deliverables to implement the programs proposed in this package:

Programs to implement nature-based solutions

WCB

BY 2022-23:

- Online continuous application available at WCB website.
- Pre-applications evaluated and full applications requested
- Projects reviewed and selected
- Projects approved at quarterly Board meetings
- Grants implemented and monitored
- Results summarized and reported

BY 2023-24:

- Online continuous application available at WCB website.
- Pre-applications evaluated and full applications requested
- Projects reviewed and selected
- Projects approved at quarterly Board meetings
- Grants implemented and monitored
- Results summarized and reported

BY 2024-25:

- Online continuous application available at WCB website.
- Pre-applications evaluated and full applications requested
- Projects reviewed and selected
- Projects approved at quarterly Board meetings
- Grants implemented and monitored
- Results summarized and reported

BY 2025-26:

- Grants implemented and monitored
- Results summarized and reported

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CDFW

BY 2022-23:

Update Wetlands Restoration Grants (WRG) Program and Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Program Guidelines; and develop guidelines for the Wildlife Corridors program; develop draft grant Proposal Solicitation Notice; conduct public meetings on solicitation; accept and evaluate application, and award grants.

BY 2023-24:

The WRG, NCCP, and Wildlife Corridors would execute and manage Year 1 grant agreements; update Proposal Solicitation Notices (Year 2), accept and evaluate applications, and award grants.

BY 2024-25:

The WRG, NCCP, and Wildlife Corridors would execute Year 2 grant agreements and manage grant agreements.

BY 2025-26:

Manage and closeout grant agreements for the WRG, NCCP, and Wildlife Corridors programs.

Delta Conservancy

BY 2022-23:

Initiate first solicitation. Investments stop subsidence and reduces risk of failure of the Delta levees and resulting potential interruption of water exports from the Delta. Investments reduce greenhouse gas emissions and flood risk for Delta agriculture and DAC/SDAC communities. Investments also support biodiversity and improve economic viability though improved ag value and increased opportunities for public access and recreations. Overall improvement in Delta resilience.

BY 2023-24:

Initiate second solicitation and execute grant agreements for first solicitation. Provide some opportunities for tribal access and co-management of managed wetlands on public lands. Investments stop subsidence and reduce risk of failure of the Delta levees and resulting potential interruption of water exports from the Delta. Investments continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and flood risk for Delta agriculture and DAC/SDAC communities. Investments continue to support increased biodiversity and improved economic viability though improved ag value and increased opportunities for public access and recreations. Overall improvement in Delta resilience

BY 2024-25:

Initiate third solicitation and execute grant agreements for first two solicitations. Provide some opportunities for tribal access and co-management of managed wetlands on public lands. Investments continue to stop subsidence and reduce risk of failure of the Delta levees and resulting potential interruption of water exports from the Delta. Investments continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and flood risk for Delta agriculture and DAC/SDAC communities. Investments continue to support increased biodiversity and improve economic viability though improved ag value and increased opportunities for public access and recreations. Overall improvement in Delta resilience.

BY 2025-26:

Execute grant agreements for third solicitation. Provide some opportunities for tribal access and co-management of managed wetlands on public lands. Investments continue to stop subsidence and reduce risk of failure of the Delta levees and resulting potential interruption of water exports from the Delta. Investments continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and flood risk for Delta agriculture and DAC/SDAC communities. Investments continue to support increased biodiversity and improve economic viability though improved ag value and increased opportunities for public access and recreations. Overall improvement in Delta resilience.

Analysis of Problem

CDFA - Healthy Soils Program

BY 2023-24:

- Solicitation requesting for applications.
- Grant application workshop for applicants.
- Technical Review of projects.
- Announce awards and establish contracts.

BY 2024-25 and ongoing:

Monitor projects to ensure ongoing compliance and project completeness.

CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention Grants Program

BY 2022-23:

- The Wildfire Prevention Grants Program will begin implementation of the new funding in 2022-23 including issuing a grant solicitation notice, conduct public meetings on solicitation, accept and evaluate applications, and award grants. Grantees will begin environmental compliance work and potentially begin project work.

BY 2023-24:

- The Wildfire Prevention Grants Program will continue work with grantees to manage and execute 2022-23 grant agreements; will begin implementation of the new funding in 2023-24 including issuing a grant solicitation notice, conduct public meetings on solicitation, accept and evaluate applications, and award grants. Grantees will begin environmental compliance work and potentially begin project work.

BY 2024-25:

- The Wildfire Prevention Grants Program will continue working with grantees to manage and execute 2022-23 and 2023-24 grant agreements.

BY 2025-26:

- The Wildfire Prevention Grants Program will closeout grant agreements from 2022-23, and continue managing and execute the 2023-24 grant agreements.

BY 2026-27:

- The Wildfire Prevention Grants Program will closeout grant agreements from 2023-24.

Support for Regions

WCB - RCIS Program

BY 2022-23:

- Online continuous application available at WCB website.
- Pre-applications evaluated and full applications requested
- Projects reviewed and selected
- Projects approved at quarterly Board meetings
- Grants implemented and monitored

BY 2023-24:

- Online continuous application available at WCB website.
- Pre-applications evaluated and full applications requested
- Projects reviewed and selected
- Projects approved at quarterly Board meetings
- Grants implemented and monitored

Analysis of Problem

BY 2024-25:

- Online continuous application available at WCB website.
- Pre-applications evaluated and full applications requested
- Projects reviewed and selected
- Projects approved at quarterly Board meetings
- Grants implemented and monitored

BY 2025-26:

- Grants implemented and monitored
- Results summarized and reported

DOC – Climate Smart Lands Program

The program will take 6-9 months to award grants once funding is appropriated and staff resources are in place. This will include outreach, public comment period, and the grant solicitation period. Following this, the program will manage grants towards deliverables of the grant agreements.

BY 2022-23:

- Develop technical assistance grant guidelines and make available on website.
- Technical assistance grant applications reviewed and awarded.
- Develop regional pilot application guidelines and make available on website.
- Regional pilot applications reviewed and awarded.
- Actionable nature-based solutions planning guidance developed.

BY 2023-24:

- Technical assistance grant applications reviewed and awarded.
- Technical assistance grants implemented and monitored.
- Regional pilots implemented and monitored.
- Deployment of nature-based solutions planning guidance.

BY 2024-25:

- Develop technical assistance grant guidelines and make available on website (in the case of remaining resources).
- Technical assistance grants implemented and monitored.
- Regional pilots implemented and monitored.

BY 2025-26:

- Technical assistance grants implemented and monitored.

CDFW

BY 2022-23:

- The NCCP LAG Program would begin implementation of the new funding in FY 22-23 including issuing a grant Proposal Solicitation Notice; conduct public meetings on solicitation; accept and evaluate applications, and award grants.

BY 2023-24:

- The NCCP LAG Program would execute and manage Year 1 grant agreements; update Proposal Solicitation Notices (Year 2), accept and evaluate applications, and award grants.

BY 2024-25:

- The NCCP LAG Program would execute Year 2 grant agreements and manage grant agreements.

Analysis of Problem

BY 2025-26:

- Manage and closeout grant agreements for the NCCP LAG Program.

Tribal Nature-Based Solution Program

BY 2022-23:

Tribal Natural Resources Council - Establish the Tribal Natural Resources Council, seek applicants to serve as council members, develop the council charter, review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program goals, priorities, and initiatives, and host first meeting, and perform other necessary tasks.

Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program – Conduct government-to-government consultation meetings with interested tribes, develop draft grant guidelines and contract RFQ, develop Program goals and initiatives, and host grant and contract technical assistance workshops.

BY 2023-24:

Tribal Natural Resources Council – Finalize the Council charter; review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program grant guidelines; review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program RFQ; review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program goals, priorities, and initiatives; and meet quarterly as a full Council and as sub-committees; review CNRA draft policies; and perform other necessary tasks.

Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program – Finalize grant guidelines and contract RFQ, review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program grant applications and contract RFQ, award funds, coordinate with other grant programs to share information and leverage funds, provide technical assistance, and other tasks as needed.

BY 2024-25:

Tribal Natural Resources Council– Quarterly meeting with the Council and subcommittees as needed, review CNRA draft policies, review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program grant applications and contract RFQ responses, and perform other necessary tasks.

Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program –Review, award, and administer Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program grant and contract programs, coordinate with other grant programs to share information and leverage funds, provide technical assistance, and other tasks as needed.

BY 2025-26:

Tribal Natural Resources Council– Quarterly meeting with the Council and subcommittees as needed, review CNRA draft policies, review Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program grant applications and contract RFQ responses, and perform other necessary tasks.

Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program –Review and administer Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program grant and contract programs, coordinate with other grant programs to share information and leverage funds, provide technical assistance, and other tasks as needed.

Local and Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps

BY 2022-23: Build capacity and infrastructure and have in place 16 Local Corps and one Tribal Corps crews or 54 Corpsmembers working on Nature-Based solution projects.

BY 2023-24: 14 Local Conservation Corps crews, and four Tribal Corps crews or 192 Corpsmembers will be in place and delivering Nature-Based solution projects.

BY 2024-25: 14 Local Conservation Corps crews, and four Tribal Corps crews or 204 Corpsmembers will continue to work on Nature-Based solution projects.

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BY 2025-26: Six Local Conservation Corps crews and one Tribal Corps crew or 78 Corpsmembers will continue to work on Nature-Based solutions projects. Also, increase or decrease corpsmembers based on spend down rate of Nature Based project work.

BY 2026-27: Four Local Conservation Corps crews, and one Tribal Corps crew or 60 Corpsmembers will continue to work on Nature-Based solutions projects. Also, increase or decrease Local Corps and/or Tribal Corps crews or work based on the spend down rate of Nature-Based project work.

Additional Strategic Investments

CalRecycle – Compost Permitting Pilot Program

BY 2022-23: Develop Scope of Work (SOW) and execute contract for initial study to identify challenges and barriers to permitting, including preparation of a programmatic environmental impact report if warranted. Develop criteria for the Compost Permitting Pilot Grant Program. Conduct outreach, develop web content, and perform site visits to provide siting and permitting support to local governments and their partners.

BY 2023-24: Incorporate contractor's report into resources and tools to provide siting and permitting support to local governments and their partners. Award and execute grant agreements.

BY 2024-25: Develop tools and resources for jurisdictions and their partners based on contractor's report. Oversee grants.

BY 2025-26: Continue evaluating best management practices (BMPs) guidance for siting and permitting small to medium compost facilities. Provide ongoing siting and permitting support to local governments and their partners. Oversee grants.

BY 2026-27: Close-out grants. Develop best management practices (BMPs) guidance for siting and permitting small to medium compost facilities. Provide ongoing siting and permitting support to local governments and their partners.

CNRA and Partners - Nature-Based Solutions Partnerships and Improvements

BY 2022-23: Develop and release consultant RFP, and work with partner agencies to refine approach to convenings, expert recommendations, and analysis. Conduct stakeholder outreach.

BY 2023-24: Develop and release consultant RFP, and work with partner agencies to implement approach to convenings, expert recommendations, and analysis. Continue to review deliverables and conduct stakeholder outreach Review deliverables.

BY 2024-25: Work with partner agencies to implement approach to convenings, expert recommendations, and analysis. Continue to review deliverables and conduct stakeholder outreach Review deliverables.

BY 2025-26: Finalize convenings, expert recommendations, and analysis.

CNRA - CA Nature Support

BY 2022-23:

- Contract with Esri to for ongoing platform hosting (\$60,000 in recurring annual costs) and two years of technical support and feature enhancements, including integration of new data and development of decision support tools (\$90,000 per year).

Analysis of Problem

- Supplement existing contract with the GreenInfo Network to add additional tasks including the development of a toolkit to support local agencies and state departments in the systematic review and update of land protection status (\$100,000).

BY 2023-24:

- Supplement existing contract with the GreenInfo Network increased ongoing protected areas data processing, mapping, and integration (\$100,000).

F. Supplemental Information

See Fiscal Detail Sheets for position requests.

G. Recommendation

Approve Alternative 1 to approve funding requested by agencies to urgently implement the 30x30 Pathways and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategies.