



MEMORANDUM

TO: California Ocean Protection Council
FROM: Amy Vierra, Deputy Director; Nick Sadrpour, Sea Grant Fellow
DATE: February 3, 2016
RE: Update on Proposition 1 Grant Program

Proposition 1 Grant Program: Round 1

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) was approved by voters in November 2014 (California Water Code (CWC) Division 26.7). Funding from Proposition 1 is intended to fund projects that meet the goals of the Water Action Plan to provide more reliable water supplies, restore important species and habitat, and develop a more resilient and sustainably managed water system (water supply, water quality, flood protection, and environment) that can better withstand inevitable and unforeseen pressures in the coming decades.

Proposition 1 Chapter 6: "Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters, and Watersheds", allocates \$30 million to the OPC for a competitive grant program for multibenefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities, CWC §79730 and §79731(d).

At the September 22, 2015 OPC meeting, the Council approved the Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines. Subsequently, the first round of solicitation for the grant program was opened from October 30 to December 1, 2015. As stated in the adopted Grant Guidelines, the grant solicitation is a two-step process where applicants submit a letter of intent and those who pass the adopted screening criteria and reach a threshold number of points during the scoring process are then asked to submit a full proposal.

Available Funding

In the FY15-16 budget, the OPC was appropriated \$9.3 for local assistance grants. We anticipate holding 2-3 solicitation processes (or rounds) to disburse the funds from the FY15-16 appropriation.

We anticipate that the legislature will appropriate an additional \$9.3 in FY17-18 and an additional \$9.3 in FY 19-20.

Letters of Intent Received

Thirty-eight (38) completed letters of intent (LOI) were submitted for the first round of solicitation. The total ask of these applications was \$33,031,055. The range of requests were from \$225,657 to \$3,300,000 with the median ask of \$703,475. Nearly half of the projects submitted were located in Southern California while the remainder was more evenly spread between Northern and Central California (Figure 1.A). As well, the majority of applicants were some form of public agency (Table 1).

Revised 1/28

The types of projects that applied for Prop 1 funding from the OPC were quite diverse, but two categories contain the bulk of the projects: restoration and stormwater management with 15 and 11 projects in each of these two categories, respectively (see Figure 2). Table 2 shows a further division of the received projects by type. Twenty (20) LOIs stated that their projects would benefit disadvantaged communities as defined by CWC § 79505.5(a).

Next Steps for Round 1

Of the 38 projects that applied, 19 were invited to submit full proposals (see Appendix A below). As seen in Figure 1.B, nearly half of the proposals are located in Southern California while the remainder were evenly split between Central and Northern California. These projects are still mostly restoration and stormwater management projects as further illustrated in Figure 3 and Table 3. Of the 19 projects invited to submit a full proposal, 13 are projects that benefit disadvantaged communities and 15 benefit an MPA or the MPA network.

Full proposals must be postmarked or hand-delivered to the OPC office by **February 26, 2016**. At that point, each full proposal will undergo review and screening by an external review committee. The committee will consist of professionals with relative expertise in the topic area of the proposals we have received. We anticipate that the review committee will meet in mid-March. OPC staff will then begin to schedule site visits for high scoring proposals. Site visits are an important way that the review committee and OPC staff can verify that the project location is as described in the proposal. The review committee and staff will also meet with administrative officers of the responsible entities to ensure that they have the requisite administrative and fiscal infrastructure to successfully implement the project.

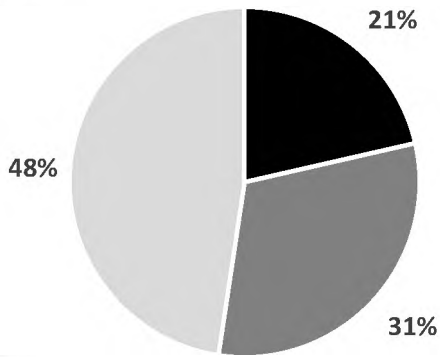
Once proposals are scored and the projects are vetted, staff will prepare materials for the Council to consider distribution of funding at the June Council meeting (exact date TBD).

It is worth noting that the total request for funds for the 19 projects invited to submit full proposals will far exceed OPC's available funds—to the tune of \$10-15 million. As mentioned above, the current available funds stems from an appropriation in the FY15-16 budget (\$9.3 million). OPC staff's preference is to disburse the current available funds via 2-3 grant rounds. As Proposition 1 is a new source of funding, the community of possible applicants is quickly learning how to their projects can better achieve the goals of the California Water Action Plan.

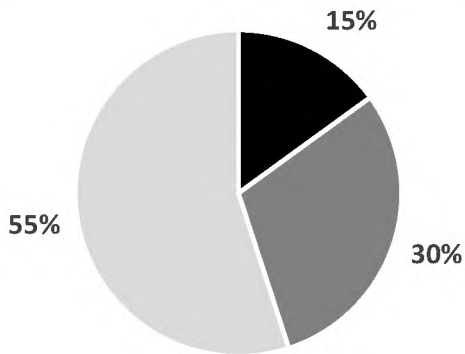
Interagency Coordination

During the development of the OPC's Grant Guidelines, we received several comments about the need and importance of interagency coordination. OPC organized a meeting in mid-October with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), State Coastal Conservancy (SCC), Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Tahoe Conservancy, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, California Natural Resource Agency, and Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to discuss ways to coordinate with the ultimate goal of ensuring that the distribution of Proposition 1 funds lead to the more effective projects. At this meeting, the group determined that it was more efficient to conduct interagency coordination at a smaller scale. As a result, OPC staff has met individually with DFW and SCC. Through these meetings we determined that there are 2-3 applicants that applied to OPC and DFW or SCC, respectively (typically for different components of a larger project). OPC staff will continue to coordinate with other state agencies to help ensure that the state is being as effective as possible in the distribution of funds and implementation of these projects.

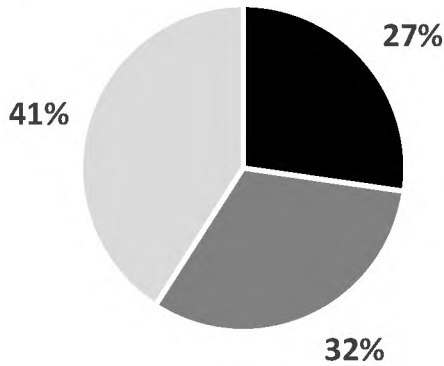
Figure 1. Geographic range of
A. All LOIs Submitted



B. Projects Asked to Submit a Full Proposal



C. Projects Not Asked to Submit a Full Proposal

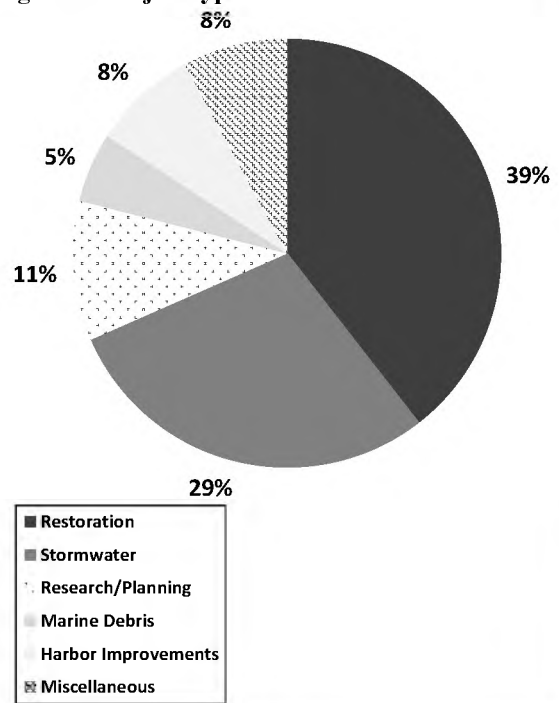


- Northern (Oregon border to Point Arena)
- Central (Point Arena to Point Conception)
- Southern (Point Conception to Mexico border)

Table 1. Breakdown of all applicants

Applicants	
Public Agencies	24
Non Profit Organizations	12
Tribal Governments	2
Public Agencies	
State	8
Universities	5
Cities	4
Counties	3
Special Districts (Harbor, Conservation, Authorities, etc.)	4

Figure 2. Project types of all submitted LOIs



- Restoration
- Stormwater
- Research/Planning
- Marine Debris
- Harbor Improvements
- Miscellaneous

Table 2. Breakdown of project types

Restoration		15
	Shore	6
	Wetland	5
	Creek	4
Stormwater		11
	Greening	4
	Retrofit	4
	Parking lot	3
Research/Planning		4
Harbor Improvements		3
Miscellaneous		3
Marine Debris		2
Total		38

Note: Greening-bioswales, urban gardens, or other natural systems.
 Retrofit-reconstruction of hard structure with built pollution control.
 Parking lot- pollution control specifically designed for parking lots.

Figure 3. Project types of projects asked to submit full proposals.

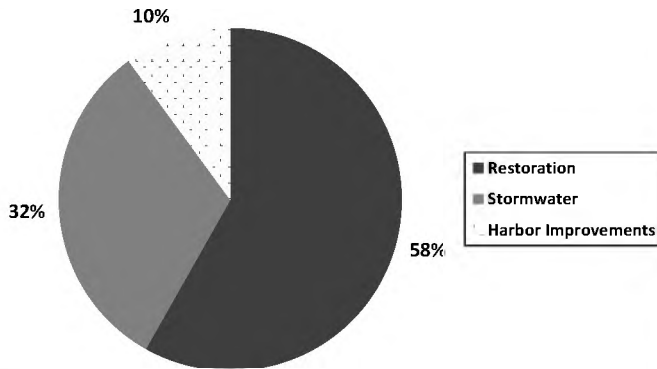


Table 3. Breakdown of project types asked to submit full proposals.

Restoration		11
	Shore	3
	Wetland	4
	Creek	4
Stormwater		6
	Greening	3
	Retrofit	2
	Parking lot	1
Harbor Improvements		2
Total		19

Appendix A: List of projects invited to submit a full proposal (Round 1)

Project Title	Applicant Name	Project Location	Senate District	Assembly District	Amount Requested
Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Removal	BEACON	Santa Barbara County	19	37	\$ 539,000
Strawberry Creek Riparian Restoration Coho Habitat Enhancement	California Conservation Corps	Humboldt County, Orick	2	2	\$ 479,482
Big Canyon Watershed Restoration and Coastal Adaptation	City of Newport Beach	Newport Bay	37	74	\$ 750,000
Trinidad Citywide LID Planning and Construction Project	City of Trinidad	City of Trinidad, Humboldt County	2	2	\$ 779,000
Integrated Restoration in San Francisco Bay: Maximizing Ecological Function and Shoreline Protection through a Multi-habitat Living Shorelines Approach	Coastal Conservancy, State	Contra Costa County and Marin County	9, 2	15, 10	\$ 500,000
Cardiff Beach Living Shorelines	Coastal Conservancy, State	San Diego County	36	76	\$ 2,841,020
Completing Core Objectives of the Moro Coho Enhancement Plan	Coastal Conservation and Research, Inc	Monterey County	17	29	\$ 1,206,650
State Parks Coastal Water Quality and Habitat Improvement Projects	Department of Parks and Recreation, California	Pt. Lobos and Crystal Cove State Parks	15		\$ 3,300,000
Gates Canyon Park - Multi Benefit Regional EWMP Project	Department of Public Works, County of Los Angeles	Calabasas, Los Angeles County	27	45	\$ 1,500,000
Back to the future, restoring seagrass and coastal ecosystem functions to historical conditions	Elkhorn Slough Foundation	Moss Landing, Monterey County	17	29	\$ 460,000
Shelter Cove Fish Cleaning Station Remediation	Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation	Shelter Cove, Humboldt County	2	2	\$ 225,657
Connecting a Tributary in the Salt River Coastal Watershed	Humboldt County Resource Conservation District	Humboldt County	2	2	\$ 372,000
Implementing Non-point Source Pollution Prevention Projects at Harbors and Marinas in Key Locations throughout the State	Marine Sanctuary Foundation, California	Throughout California coastline			\$ 1,571,000
Drakes Estero Restoration	National Park Foundation	Marin County	2	10	\$ 1,290,250
Upper Newport Bay Living Shorelines Project	Orange County Coastkeeper	City of Newport Beach, Orange County	37	74	\$ 250,000
North Campus Open Space Coastal Wetlands Restoration	Santa Barbara, The Regents of the University of California	Santa Barbara County	19	24	\$ 1,000,000
Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation Low Impact Development and Stormwater Outfall Improvement Project	Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation (Smith River Rancheria)	Del Norte County	2	2	\$ 794,200
Central-Jefferson High Green Alley Stormwater Capture Project	Trust for Public Land, The	Los Angeles County	30, 33	59	\$ 645,000
The Green Ravine: Enhancing ecosystem health for coastal lands and protected waterways	Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, and Big Fisherman's Cove, Catalina Island	Los Angeles County	26	70	\$ 759,950

Total \$ 19,263,209