

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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Date: January 20, 2023

To: Commissioners and Interested Parties

From: Kate Huckelbridge, Executive Director
Sarah Christie, Legislative Director
Christiane Parry, Public Education Program Manager
Annie Kohut Frankel, Grants and Education Manager

Subject: **Proposed Competitive WHALE TAIL® Grants for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 from the Commission's Public Education Program.**
The Executive Director recommends that the Commission approve the following proposed competitive grants for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve 56 competitive grants totaling \$2,089,226 to the following organizations for projects engaging communities in the noted locations:

- Agua Caliente Tribe of Cupeno Indians, \$33,635 (Northern San Diego County reservations)
- Amigos de Bolsa Chica, \$20,000 (Huntington Beach and visitors)
- Big Lagoon Elementary, \$28,951 (Northern Humboldt and Southern Del Norte Counties)
- BIPOC Support Foundation, \$43,359 (Valencia Park in San Diego)
- Bird School Project, \$19,990 (Watsonville, Salinas)
- Bresee Foundation, \$38,642 (Central Los Angeles)
- California Institute of Environmental Studies, \$49,300 (Santa Paula)
- California Invasive Plant Council, \$41,613 (Oakland, East Bay)
- California State University Maritime Academy, \$13,333 (Vallejo)
- Children's Lifesaving Foundation, \$50,000 (South and East Los Angeles, Mar Vista, Palms, Culver City, Boyle Heights, Pacoima)
- Chualar Union Elementary School, \$49,998 (Chualar)
- City of Oxnard, \$49,989 (Oxnard)

- Climate Resilient Communities/Acterra, \$47,840 (North Fair Oaks, Belle Haven, East Palo Alto)
- Coastal Watershed Council, \$50,000 (Santa Cruz)
- DiverSeaFy, \$30,000 (Los Angeles County)
- Earth Team, \$20,000 (Antioch, Pinole, Richmond)
- El Modena High School, \$19,572 (City of Orange)
- Environmental Traveling Companions, \$50,000 (San Francisco Bay Area)
- Fernandeano Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, \$47,675 (San Fernando, Santa Clarita, Simi, and Antelope Valleys)
- Friends of Ballona Wetlands, \$30,754 (Los Angeles County)
- Friends of Sausal Creek, \$38,000 (Fruitvale District in Oakland)
- Friends of the Dunes, \$15,000 (Humboldt County)
- Golden Gate Audubon, \$49,800 (San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond)
- Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center, \$50,000 (Guadalupe, Santa Maria)
- Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful, \$20,000 (East San Jose)
- Literacy for Environmental Justice, \$49,872 (Bayview-Hunters Point in San Francisco)
- Marshmallow Minds, \$37,750 (Santa Clara County)
- Mattole Restoration Council, \$49,336 (Rural southern Humboldt County)
- Monterey Audubon Society, \$19,800 (Marina, Monterey, Pacific Grove)
- Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority, \$50,000 (Los Angeles and Ventura Counties)
- Naked Whale Research, \$17,425 (Greenville in Plumas County)
- Natural History Museum of Cal Poly Humboldt / Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation, \$49,787 (Humboldt County)
- Northcoast Environmental Center, \$16,624 (Arcata, Eureka, McKinleyville)
- Northern Chumash Tribal Council, \$45,238 (Central Coast inland to Bakersfield)
- Ocean Discovery Institute, \$50,000 (City Heights in San Diego)
- Outside the Lens, \$50,000 (City Heights and Barrio Logan in San Diego)
- Outward Bound Adventures, \$46,000 (Watts, Northwest Pasadena)
- Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, \$44,805 (South Monterey County)
- Paddle for Peace, \$19,600 (City Heights, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley, National City, South East San Diego)
- Queer Surf/Green Cities Fund, \$50,000 (Los Angeles and Ventura County)
- Reel Guppy Outdoors, \$20,000 (Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties)
- Resources for Indian Student Education, \$12,022 (Alturas-Fort Bidwell in Modoc County, Greenville in Plumas County)
- Riverside Community College District Foundation, \$50,000 (Moreno Valley)
- Sacramento Inspiring Connections Outdoors /Sierra Club Foundation, \$16,000 (Sacramento)
- Salinas Surf Club/Wahine Project, \$3,687 (East Salinas)
- San Diego Children and Nature, \$26,750 (Coastal south San Diego)
- San Joaquin County Office of Education, \$47,988 (San Joaquin County)

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- San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, \$48,598 (Madera and Fresno Counties)
- Sea League, \$45,740 (South Santa Barbara County)
- SLO Beaver Brigade/Ecologistics, \$41,480 (San Luis Obispo County)
- Stockton Unified Native American Indian Center, \$39,959 (Stockton)
- United Anglers of Casa Grande, \$50,000 (Sonoma County, Petaluma)
- Ventura Audubon Society, \$45,232 (Ventura County)
- Vista Community Clinic, \$50,000 (Vista and Oceanside)
- Wilderness Youth Project Incorporated, \$49,566 (Goleta, Santa Barbara, Carpinteria)
- Wildwoods/Community Partners, \$38,516 (Pico-Union, downtown Los Angeles)

I. MOTION AND RESOLUTION

Motion:

I move that the Commission **approve** the grant awards set forth in the staff recommendation. I further move that the Commission authorize the Executive Director or his designee to enter into grant agreements with the grantees for allocation of these funds, and to make any amendments thereto.

Staff Recommendation of Approval:

Staff recommends a **YES** vote on the foregoing motion. Passage of this motion will result in authorization of the Executive Director or his designee to enter into the appropriate agreements for disbursing the available funds. The motion passes only by affirmative vote of a majority of Commissioners present.

Resolution:

The Commission hereby approves the grant awards set forth in the staff recommendation. Further, the Commission hereby authorizes the Executive Director or his designee to enter into grant agreements with the grantees for allocation of these funds, and to make any amendments thereto.

II. INTRODUCTION

The Commission's WHALE TAIL® Grants support experiential education and stewardship of the California coast and its watersheds, with an emphasis on projects engaging communities that have historically had few such opportunities. Grant projects can engage youth or adults and can take place anywhere in California. Funding sources for the WHALE TAIL® Grants Program have historically been limited to WHALE TAIL® License Plate sales and renewal fees (into the California Beach and Coastal Enhancement Account) and voluntary contributions to the Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund on the State tax form.

The FY2021/2022 State budget allocated \$10 million of General Fund local assistance funding to the Commission for WHALE TAIL® Grants, which must be encumbered by the end of FY2025. Due to the time limit on the use of these funds, the staff recommendation is that the bulk of the funding for this competitive grant cycle be from this allocation, along with a smaller allocation from the Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund.

Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund

The Protect our Coast and Oceans "check box" on the California state tax return form was created pursuant to legislation authored in 2013 by Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi and renewed in 2017 by State Senator Josh Newman. Per Article 5.1

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(Sections 18745-18748) that was added to Chapter 3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code:

All money designated under the Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund space on a tax return ... shall be allocated as follows:

(a) To the Franchise Tax Board and the Controller for reimbursement of all costs incurred by the Franchise Tax Board and the Controller in connection with their duties under this article.

(b) (1) To the California Coastal Commission to support eligible programs awarded grants under the selection criteria established by the California Coastal Commission for the Whale Tail Grants Program, and for direct program-related expenses.

In January 2014, California taxpayers began making voluntary contributions to the Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund while completing their state tax returns. As of December 31, 2022, \$3,006,971 has been donated to the Protect our Coast and Oceans Fund.

Public Education Grantmaking Budget

The Commission's Public Education budget for FY2022/23 includes a total of \$2,512,226 for local assistance grants from three funds: \$2,259,521 from the General Fund allocation, \$124,000 from the California Beach and Coastal Enhancement Account, and \$128,705 from the Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund. At its September 2022 meeting, the Commission voted to allocate \$423,000 to six targeted grant projects, funded with \$239,000 from the General Fund allocation, \$124,000 from the California Beach and Coastal Enhancement Account, and \$60,000 from the Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund. The remaining funds (\$2,089,226) are allocated to the competitive grants program.

The Competitive Grants Program for FY2022/2023

The WHALE TAIL® Competitive Grants Program funds projects that relate to the coast and ocean and fall into one or more of the following five funding categories:

- Youth education programs
- General public or adult programs
- Climate change education and stewardship
- Shoreline cleanup and enhancement programs (such as Adopt-A-Beach®)

Staff began publicizing the grant opportunity in September 2022. The deadline for submittal of proposals was November 4, 2022.

Competitive Grants Applicant Pool

Staff received 149 eligible grant proposals requesting a combined total of \$5,367,670. See [appendix](#) for a list of the applicants and amounts requested. Staff is recommending

56 grants totaling \$2,089,226. With a maximum grant of \$50,000 and a small grants category of \$20,000 or less, 26.8% of this year's recommended grants are small grants.

Selection Criteria

Staff evaluated proposals using the follow criteria, approved by the Commission in 2021:

1. Educational Impact and/or Environmental Improvement (25 points):

Strong proposals will demonstrate educational impact featuring the marine or coastal environment and/or improvement of coastal or marine habitats through community involvement. Strong proposals may include multiple methods and pathways for achieving positive outcomes. Examples include experiential, hands-on learning and stewardship; positive nature experiences; longer and/or repeated experiences with opportunities for reflection; age-appropriate content and delivery; strategies for long-term positive impact (which might stem from educational outcomes, or aspects such as leadership development opportunities or family involvement); and/or strong evidence for ecological need and projected improvement.

2. Purpose and Audience (25 points): Projects will be assessed on the degree to which they are connected to a specific issue, interest, and/or need (educational, ecological, social, cultural, etc.). Proposals should explain the issue, interest, and/or need, and how it was identified for the project audience. Strong proposals will engage communities that have historically received fewer marine education and stewardship opportunities, such as communities with low incomes; Black communities; Indigenous communities; communities of color; speakers of languages other than English; people with disabilities; foster and transition age youth; LGBTQIA+ youth; and residents of rural and/or inland areas.

3. Project Concept (20 points): Strong proposals will demonstrate that the project is relevant for the identified community and will have a reasonable budget that is clearly connected to the project goals. Projects should be ecologically responsible. The degree to which a project could potentially be expanded or continued after the grant ends, build organizational capacity, build lasting collaborations, and/or create useful tools for others in the field will be considered, as will whether it uses new or creative approaches.

4. Proposal Content and Project Implementation (30 points): Proposals should demonstrate that the concept has been fully thought out and developed into a feasible project with clear, realistic goals and objectives; a plan for reaching the intended audience; a workable project design; a clear plan for implementation; and appropriate staffing. The proposal should explain how the organization and/or staff is particularly suited to work with the audience of this project. A plan for tracking and assessing the project's success should be included, as should detailed and accurate cost information. A strong proposal will demonstrate how the project objectives and goals will be successfully achieved. All requested elements of the application packet, as applicable, should be included in the proposal.

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMPETITIVE WHALE TAIL® GRANT AWARDS FOR FY2022/2023

The staff recommends that the Commission fund the 56 projects described below, totaling \$2,089,226, as follows:

Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund - \$68,705 to the following four organizations:

- California State University Maritime Academy \$13,333
- Sacramento Inspiring Connections Outdoors \$16,000
- Monterey Audubon Society \$19,800
- El Modena High School \$19,572

General Fund Allocation - \$2,020,521 to the remaining 52 organizations.

56 Project Recommendations:

1. Agua Caliente Tribe of Cupeno Indians, \$33,635

Project Title: 'ataaxum Pomwkaan - Returning to Our Homelands Project
Engaging Communities in: Northern San Diego County reservations
Project Timeline: March 2023 - January 2025

Native youth and their families will be engaged in reclaiming their homelands through habitat restoration projects in partnership with Buena Vista Audubon Society. Youth will take part in coursework on climate change and wetlands, including Indigenous culture and history, and four stewardship field trips.

2. Amigos de Bolsa Chica, \$20,000

Project Title: Reserve Watch

Engaging Communities in: Huntington Beach and visitors

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2024

A partnership of Amigos de Bolsa Chica, Bolsa Chica Land Trust, Bolsa Chica Conservancy, Sea & Sage Audubon, and California Department of Fish & Wildlife will recruit, train, and mobilize docents at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve during peak visitor times, seven days a week, to educate the public and protect wildlife. Handouts will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, and Chinese.

3. Big Lagoon Elementary, \$28,951

Project Title: Big Lagoon Coastal Camp

Engaging Communities in: Northern Humboldt and Southern Del Norte Counties

Project Timeline: March 2023 - July 2023

Indigenous youth will enjoy an immersive three-day coastal camp where they will use Yurok canoes, hike to Sue-meg State Park for interpretive presentations, and explore Yurok connection to the coast through learning indigenous skills, guided explorations of the beach, and camping at Big Lagoon.

4. BIPOC Support Foundation, \$43,359

Project Title: Explore Outdoors: From Your Neighborhood to the Coast

Engaging Communities in: Valencia Park in San Diego

Project Timeline: May 2023 - August 2024

A three-week summer program will engage BIPOC youth in earth and ocean sciences, climate change, sustainability, environmental justice, and the intersections of these topics with their city and local ecosystems. During the program, youth will enjoy six field trips, explore science careers, and learn about environmental programs at local colleges and universities.

5. Bird School Project, \$19,990

Project Title: Birding with Families on the Elkhorn Slough/Pajareando con Familias en el Humedal Elkhorn

Engaging Communities in: Watsonville and Salinas

Project Timeline: April 2023 - November 2024

Ten field trips to explore Elkhorn Slough on an electric catamaran, and four community birding events will take place in Watsonville and Salinas. Participants will learn about migratory coastal birds and the importance of Monterey Bay in the Pacific Flyway migration route during these bilingual programs.

6. Bresee Foundation, \$38,642

Project Title: A Whale of a Time at Bresee

Engaging Communities in: Central Los Angeles

Project Timeline: March 2023 - June 2024

Middle and high school youth, parents, and senior citizens will take part in educational activities about the ocean and ocean pollution, including sustainable seafood cooking classes, an ocean-themed book club, field trips to local aquariums and kayaking in the Channel Islands, as part of a summer day camp and school year programming.

7. California Institute of Environmental Studies, \$49,300

Project Title: Ecosystem restoration focused service-learning field trips to Channel Islands National Park for Santa Paula High School Students

Engaging Communities in: Santa Paula

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

Santa Paula High School students will visit Channel Islands National Park for service learning at active restoration sites. Eight day-long trips and two overnight trips will take place over the course of the grant.

8. California Invasive Plant Council, \$41,613

Project Title: Shoreline Invasive Plant Professional Development Program

Engaging Communities in: Oakland, East Bay

Project Timeline: March 2023 - December 2023

A partnership with Oakland Civicorps will provide one year of in-depth shoreline ecology education, hands-on restoration experience, and professional development training for early-career professionals in the conservation and restoration field.

9. California State University Maritime Academy, \$13,333

Project Title: Junior Ocean Explorer Program

Engaging Communities in: Vallejo

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2024

Vallejo fifth graders and their families will connect with Maritime Academy cadets through classroom lessons on estuary ecology, a campus visit, and a cruise on the Carquinez Strait to collect data and plankton samples.

10. Children's Lifesaving Foundation, \$50,000

Project Title: Coastal Eco-Mariners Surf Camp

Engaging Communities in: South and East Los Angeles, Mar Vista, Palms,

Culver City, Boyle Heights, Pacoima

Project Timeline: March 2023 - September 2023

A summer camp will engage youth in fun, eco-marine education activities, art projects, guided surf therapy, boogie-boarding, and swimming at Zuma and Leo Carillo Beaches.

11. Chualar Union Elementary School, \$49,998

Project Title: Chualar Coastal Conservation: It Starts with Us!

Engaging Communities in: Chualar

Project Timeline: June 2023 - March 2025

A part-time science teacher will lead ocean conservation lessons with students, host bilingual coastal conservation community events, and implement community cleanups in Chualar and on the coast. Fifth and seventh grade students will attend a three-day residential outdoor science class, including trips to Elkhorn Slough.

12. City of Oxnard, \$49,989

Project Title: City Corps Ormond Beach Enhancement, Education, and Cleanup Program

Engaging Communities in: Oxnard

Project Timeline: June 2023 - March 2025

Oxnard City Corps trainees will receive education about Ormond Beach habitat and perform habitat protection and conservation work; youth in after-school programs will engage in service learning on Ormond Beach; and local residents will participate in community service learning days, removing invasive plants and trash, and planting native seeds.

13. Climate Resilient Communities/Acterra, \$47,840

Project Title: Bay to Sea Youth Educational Program for Underrepresented Frontline Communities

Engaging Communities in: North Fair Oaks, Belle Haven, and East Palo Alto

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

As part of a six-month Youth Climate Collective, high school students and young adults will learn about sea level rise, flood zones, and pollution; participate in ten field trips to coastal, watershed, and wetland locations guided by professionals in

the field; take part in 12 environmental career workshops; participate in a career fair; and organize two beach cleanups for friends and family.

14. Coastal Watershed Council, \$50,000

Project Title: San Lorenzo River Environmental Stewardship Program

Engaging Communities in: Santa Cruz

Project Timeline: April 2023 - December 2023

People experiencing homelessness will be offered weekly environmental education, stewardship opportunities, and services. Training emphasizes plant and wildlife identification, basic stewardship principles related to habitat, and training on plant care and seasonal needs. Work includes removal of debris/litter and invasive species, planting of new native species, weeding, watering, and other site maintenance activities along the San Lorenzo River.

15. DiverSeaFy, \$30,000

Project Title: DiverSeaFying the Underwater World

Engaging Communities in: Los Angeles County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - November 2024

BIPOC teens will receive training to achieve PADI Open Water Scuba and PADI AWARE Ocean Conservation certifications. They will conduct three cleanup dives with DiverSeaFy alumni, and enjoy two days of diving at Catalina Island.

16. Earth Team, \$20,000

Project Title: Blue Oceans Internship

Engaging Communities in: Antioch, Pinole, Richmond

Project Timeline: May 2023 - June 2024

High school interns will work with members of their campus communities to develop awareness campaigns of land-based ocean pollution and elicit changes in stewardship behaviors through multiple communication and engagement efforts. They will conduct related environmental investigations off campus, including through several field days and kayaking expeditions.

17. El Modena High School, \$19,572

Project Title: Ecological Research Student Funding

Engaging Communities in: City of Orange

Project Timeline: April 2023 - June 2024

High school students will learn about local wetland plant communities, conduct habitat restoration, and participate in scientific research while completing a California Naturalist certification.

18. Environmental Traveling Companions, \$50,000

Project Title: ETC Youth LEAD

Engaging Communities in: SF Bay Area

Project Timeline: April 2023 - March 2024

Sliding-scale scholarships will fund teens to participate in watershed education and stewardship which includes five-day sea kayaking, five-day backpacking,

and three-day rafting, with an opportunity for a follow-up eight-month internship. Curricular materials will be updated with a focus on coastal and watershed climate change impacts.

19. Fernandño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, \$47,675

Project Title: Traveling Tataveaveat (TATAVIAM LAND): Áhëvëve mëmët (ON THE OCEAN SHORE)

Engaging Communities in: San Fernando, Santa Clarita, Simi, and Antelope Valleys

Project Timeline: April 2023 - April 2025

Native American youth will be introduced to traditional Fernandño Tataviam villages, cultural, and natural sites, and make contemporary connections to historical sites. Youth will gain leadership skills and knowledge of local conservation efforts through aquarium visits, camping, hiking, kayaking, and other outdoor recreation including a visit to Catalina Island.

20. Friends of Ballona Wetlands, \$30,754

Project Title: Title 1 Schools Explore Ballona! Project

Engaging Communities in: Los Angeles County

Project Timeline: June 2023 - August 2024

Elementary students will experience hands-on field trips to the Ballona Wetlands, with pre- and post-trip in-class lessons supporting teachers with grade-specific California science standards.

21. Friends of Sausal Creek, \$38,000

Project Title: From Headwaters to Ocean: Sausal Creek Watershed Connections

Engaging Communities in: Fruitvale District in Oakland

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

Through experiential classes, field trips, and restoration activities, Oakland youth will study the Sausal Creek Watershed, Oakland Estuary, and Pacific Ocean ecology; understand water quality and storm drain pollution links; identify creek and marine flora and fauna; and deepen their commitment to environmental stewardship. The wider community will engage in habitat restoration workdays and in walks with local community experts and artists.

22. Friends of the Dunes, \$15,000

Project Title: Summer Sand Adventures

Engaging Communities in: Humboldt County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - December 2023

Summer camp programming and camper scholarships will be supported to engage Humboldt youth in multi-day inquiry-based exploration of coastal dunes and wetlands.

23. Golden Gate Audubon, \$49,800

Project Title: Eco-Education

Engaging Communities in: San Francisco, Oakland, and Richmond

Project Timeline: June 2023 - May 2024

Four class sessions and three field trips will connect classrooms to local coastal ecosystems and human impacts to the environment as they travel from creek to marsh to ocean, with families included in the final ocean field trip.

24. Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center, \$50,000

Project Title: Explore the Coast Program

Engaging Communities in: Guadalupe and Santa Maria

Project Timeline: May 2023 - May 2024

Sixth graders will receive 12 in-class lessons and four coastal field trips to learn about ecosystem functions, science careers, and how human actions both positive and negative can impact the environment. Field trips will be to local estuaries, Santa Cruz Island, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

25. Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful, \$20,000

Project Title: Coyote Creek Environmental Education Project

Engaging Communities in: East San Jose

Project Timeline: April 2023 - July 2024

K-12 students will participate in experiential after-school programming in environmental topics including flood preparedness, urban runoff, watershed health, and trash decomposition.

26. Literacy for Environmental Justice, \$49,872

Project Title: Coast & Climate Eco-Adventures Program

Engaging Communities in: Bayview-Hunters Point in San Francisco

Project Timeline: April 2023 - August 2024

Middle and high school students will receive six hands-on field lessons and six in-class lessons on local coastal ecology, sea level rise, and coastal climate adaptation strategies, and enjoy San Francisco Bay kayaking and fishing outings.

27. Marshmallow Minds, \$37,750

Project Title: Safe Birds, Safe Waters

Engaging Communities in: Santa Clara County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

Elementary and middle school students will learn about coding and design thinking as part of a project on bird ecology, and will take a field trip to help restore San Francisco Bay shoreline habitat.

28. Mattole Restoration Council, \$49,336

Project Title: Lost Coast Climate Resilience and Community Education Program

Engaging Communities in: Rural southern Humboldt County

Project Timeline: April 2023 - April 2025

Mixed-grade classes will receive age-appropriate climate and stewardship lessons as part of 12 classroom presentations, six coastal field trips, and four after-school program days. The community will be welcomed to family friendly hikes, beach cleanups, stewardship workdays, and an innovative Climate

Change Emotions workshop. Scholarships will be offered to Indigenous and low-income Cal Poly students for the Mattole Field Institute Spring Field Course.

29. Monterey Audubon Society, \$19,800

Project Title: Black Oystercatcher Monitoring Project Latinx Internship

Engaging Communities in: Marina, Monterey, Pacific Grove

Project Timeline: March 2023 - September 2023

An undergraduate student from CSU Monterey Bay will take part in a mentored, paid internship to assist with Black Oystercatcher monitoring and public education.

30. Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority, \$50,000

Project Title: Beach Equity & Accessibility for Community Health Leadership Program

Engaging Communities in: Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

BIPOC community organization leaders will meet at the beach to discuss and explore barriers to equitable beach access and inform MRCA action toward solutions. Participating organizations will be supported to bring their own groups to the beach for a day, with amenities and activities provided for a fun, positive experience.

31. Naked Whale Research, \$17,425

Project Title: Crest to Coast

Engaging Communities in: Greenville, Plumas County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - May 2023

Greenville high school students will visit Mendocino County on a four-day trip to learn about marine science and marine mammal conservation and to participate in whale research. At home, they will produce videos comparing marine mammal recovery to that of a top mountain predator after a catastrophic fire event.

32. Natural History Museum of Cal Poly Humboldt / Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation, \$49,787

Project Title: Ocean and Climate Education and Exploration (OCEE)

Engaging Communities in: Humboldt County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - May 2024

The Museum will create and install two new exhibits relating to climate change science, expand on existing exhibits with additional climate information, and build a new marine science teaching box to be loaned to local teachers and used at outreach events.

33. Northcoast Environmental Center, \$16,624

Project Title: Bike Justice Humboldt

Engaging Communities in: Arcata, Eureka, McKinleyville

Project Timeline: March 2023 - March 2024

At least six bike tours along Humboldt Bay and the coast will engage students and other community members with a lens on environmental justice and increasing bicycle commuting, and provide education on basic bike maintenance, route finding, and civic engagement. At least four of the tours will be co-hosted with other local community groups and tailored to their specific interests.

34. Northern Chumash Tribal Council, \$45,238

Project Title: Curriculum Development with TEK and Scientific Research Ocean Monitoring

Engaging Communities in: Central Coast inland to Bakersfield

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

A certification course on the skills needed for monitoring the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary for adaptive management and mitigation of impacts of new energy sources, centered in traditional ecological knowledge and western scientific research, will be designed and piloted.

35. Ocean Discovery Institute, \$50,000

Project Title: Exploring the Kelp Forest and the Rocky Intertidal

Engaging Communities in: City Heights in San Diego

Project Timeline: March 2023 - March 2024

First and third grade classes in 11 schools will learn about the rocky seashore and kelp forests through a classroom lesson, a visit to the Ocean Discovery Institute's Living Lab, and a field trip to the coast, as they investigate human impacts and solutions and meet science role models.

36. Outside the Lens, \$50,000

Project Title: Cameras in the Outdoor Classroom

Engaging Communities in: City Heights and Barrio Logan in San Diego

Project Timeline: March 2023 - January 2025

Twelve third and fourth grade classes will engage in a 12-week environmentally-focused media arts integration program to understand how their local watershed connects to the ocean. They will share their learning through creating public service announcements and participating in in-person and virtual exhibitions of their work.

37. Outward Bound Adventures, \$46,000

Project Title: Coastal Conservation, Education, & Restoration Project for BIPOC Families

Engaging Communities in: Watts, Northwest Pasadena

Project Timeline: April 2023 - April 2025

Sixteen families will take part in "Teach Me To Camp" overnight camping adventures at Leo Carrillo State Beach. Activities will include exploring tide pools, family goal setting, and assisting in a restoration project at Topanga Lagoon.

38. Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, \$44,805

Project Title: Watershed to the Sea Experiential Education & Stewardship

Engaging Communities in: South Monterey County

Project Timeline: April 2023 - June 2024

Middle and high school classes will participate in educational programming on watersheds and sandy beaches, including classroom lessons, field trips, data collection and analysis, and conservation action projects. Teachers will receive professional development training.

39. Paddle for Peace, \$19,600

Project Title: Diversity in our Coastal Spaces

Engaging Communities in: City Heights, El Cajon, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley, National City and South East San Diego

Project Timeline: March 2023 - March 2024

Ten beach events will welcome BIPOC youth and families to learn outdoor skills like surfing and beach volleyball, create relationships with mentors, increase knowledge of ocean conservation, and enjoy community at the coast.

40. Queer Surf/Green Cities Fund, \$50,000

Project Title: Project ACCESS (Acknowledging Certain Costs Essential for Sustained Surfing)

Engaging Communities in: Los Angeles and Ventura County

Project Timeline: April 2023 - February 2023

Low income LGBTQ+ adults will have increased access to surfing through single day and overnight programming, while fostering sustained ocean belonging, connection, and relationships.

41. Reel Guppy Outdoors, \$20,000

Project Title: Oceans of Opportunity

Engaging Communities in: Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

Project Timeline: March 2023 - December 2024

Four cohorts of youth and their families will take part in ten experiential activities and field trips including sustainable fishing and rod building, beach cleanups, multi-media creation, port tours, and a boat trip to Santa Cruz Island.

42. Resources for Indian Student Education, \$12,022

Project Title: Native Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Engaging Communities in: Greenville in Plumas County, Alturas-Fort Bidwell in Modoc County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - September 2023

Native youth will experience the ocean for the first time on a five-day field trip to Mendocino County, including kayaking and hands-on stewardship at the Pda Hua village site near Point Arena.

43. Riverside Community College District Foundation, \$50,000

Project Title: "C" to Shining Sea

Engaging Communities in: Moreno Valley

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

As part of the TRIO Programs (e.g. Upward Bound, Talent Search, Student Support Services), middle school through college level students will learn about marine and coastal stewardship, engage in related service learning projects, learn about career pathways, and take field trips to the coast.

44. Sacramento Inspiring Connections Outdoors/Sierra Club Foundation, \$16,000

Project Title: Three Day Adventures at the Coast for Sacramento Youths

Engaging Communities in: Sacramento

Project Timeline: April 2023 - March 2025

Youth and young adults will experience the coast for the first time on three-day outings at a coastal hostel, while learning about and enjoying coastal habitats.

45. Salinas Surf Club/Wahine Project, \$3,687

Project Title: Salinas Youth Riding Waves with Whales

Engaging Communities in: East Salinas

Project Timeline: June 2023 - December 2023

Youth surf club members will learn about whales and the National Marine Sanctuary through hands-on activities and on a whale watch tour, and they will create personal fishing line recycling containers.

46. San Diego Children and Nature, \$26,750

Project Title: Promoting Coastal Health by Engaging Teachers in Watershed Exploration

Engaging Communities in: Coastal south San Diego

Project Timeline: March 2023 - June 2024

Formal educators will increase their environmental literacy and outdoor teaching techniques through a ten-month program where they will visit six local ecosystems and focus on science practices that inspire engaged learning, curiosity, and wonder.

47. San Joaquin County Office of Education, \$47,988

Project Title: Salmon Champions

Engaging Communities in: San Joaquin County

Project Timeline: April 2023 - March 2025

Elementary and middle school classes will learn about and raise salmon and release them at Mokelumne River Hatchery. Teachers and high school student leaders will participate in professional development activities, plan and lead educational programming at the salmon release event, and take part in a green career fair.

48. San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, \$48,598

Project Title: Voyagers: Investigating Sierras, Trails, and Seas

Engaging Communities in: Madera and Fresno Counties

Project Timeline: March 2023 - December 2024

High school youth will explore and learn about the San Joaquin River watershed, including connections between river and marine ecosystems, through two campouts, a week of summer day camp, a service learning project on invasive plants, and a capstone project presentation and exhibition.

49. Sea League, \$45,740

Project Title: The Sea League

Engaging Communities in: South Santa Barbara County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - August 2023

Elementary and middle school-aged, majority BIPOC youth will practice surfing, kayaking, and stand-up paddling in a three-month afterschool ocean sports program. They'll explore tide pools, perform beach cleanups, and join their families on kayaking and snorkeling trips in Channel Islands National Park.

50. SLO Beaver Brigade/Ecologicals, \$41,480

Project Title: Beaver Education in SLO County

Engaging Communities in: San Luis Obispo County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - March 2025

Twice-monthly experiential tours to beaver wetlands, including Spanish language and wheelchair accessible tours; monthly river and creek cleanups; new educational interpretive panels and a mural; and Spanish-translated educational materials will engage and educate the local community about the environmental and climate benefits of beavers and the connection of local waterways to the ocean.

51. Stockton Unified Native American Indian Center, \$39,959

Project Title: Fleming Summer Learning

Engaging Communities in: Stockton

Project Timeline: June 2023 - July 2023

Native American youth will take part in a four-week summer learning program about local waterways and their connection to the ocean with a focus on environmental justice and Native American communities, including weekly field trips in the Delta and on the coast and guest lectures from government, community organizations, and higher learning institutions.

52. United Anglers of Casa Grande, \$50,000

Project Title: Tissue Sampling: Permit Management of a Rescue and Rear Program for Native Steelhead Trout

Engaging Communities in: Sonoma County, Petaluma Watershed

Project Timeline: March 2023 - March 2025

High school students will collect juvenile trout stranded from drought conditions, perform measurements and take samples, relocate them to the Casa Grande High School hatchery, and release them when freshwater flows allow. Tissue samples will be sent to NOAA Fisheries for the first-ever genetic analysis of Petaluma Steelhead trout as part of this NOAA-permitted project.

53. Ventura Audubon Society, \$45,232

Project Title: Ventura County Shorebird Ambassadors

Engaging Communities in: Oxford, Port Hueneme, Ventura County

Project Timeline: March 2023 - December 2024

Two BIPOC college students will receive paid internships and career relevant mentorships as they assist in communication and education on dune ecology and habits. Beach Naturalist training workshops will educate community volunteers who will then protect shorebirds and educate beachgoers. Two community stewardship events and two bilingual nature walks will engage the local public. Volunteer Dog Rangers will be recruited to help dog owners understand how they can protect shorebirds.

54. Vista Community Clinic, \$50,000

Project Title: REACH Youth Coastal and Marine Education

Engaging Communities in: Vista and Oceanside

Project Timeline: April 2023 - October 2024

Middle and high school youth will take part in a yearlong afterschool program on coastal and marine conservation, with direct instruction, stewardship activities, fun and educational field trips, whale watching, fishing, and a two-night camping trip to Tijuana River Valley.

55. Wilderness Youth Project Incorporated, \$49,566

Project Title: Bridge to Nature

Engaging Communities in: Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Carpinteria

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

Elementary youth will experience in-school and afterschool nature-based mentoring programs, visiting local places including tide pools, beaches, and mesas, for activities including journaling, sensory awareness games, child-centered wandering, and focused nature inquiry.

56. Wildwoods/Community Partners, \$38,516

Project Title: City and the Sea

Engaging Communities in: Pico-Union and downtown Los Angeles

Project Timeline: March 2023 - April 2025

Environmental education and ocean stewardship experiences that focus on watersheds, water science, and the impact of urban actions on the coast will engage children and their families. Three cycles of this three-part program will include a local garden component, a community walk, and a coastal exploration field trip to Leo Carillo State Beach, with all materials in both Spanish and English.