

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

C. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

- i. Authorization to Enter into a Sole-source Contract Renewal with United States Department of Agriculture - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: Wildlife Services to Conduct Predator Damage Management to Protect Federal and State-listed Species, District-wide, and Authorization to Accept and Appropriate Predator Management Funding from the Port of Oakland (Rasmussen/Graul/Auker)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize renewal of a sole-source contract for a two-year period between the East Bay Regional Park District and United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS): Wildlife Services to conduct predator damage management of overabundant predators, including California gull and feral red fox, District-wide, and to accept and appropriate funding from the Port of Oakland (Port) to fund overabundant predator management at Hayward Regional Shoreline.

REVENUE/COST

The Port of Oakland will contribute \$78,750 to partially fund the cost of the predator management services as well as administrative costs of the Park District over two years. The Port funds will be budgeted into a new project account. The remaining funds for the USDA AHPIS-Wildlife Services Contract are available in the Stewardship General Fund Account as shown below:

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Port of Oakland Funds	\$78,750
Stewardship Funds 101-7430-000-6191	<u>\$59,630</u>
AVAILABLE BALANCE	\$ 138,380

USE OF FUNDS

USDA AHPIS-WILDLIFE SERVICES 2-year contract	\$ 134,630
Staff Time	<u>\$3,750</u>
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS	\$ 138,380

BACKGROUND

Overabundant predators, including California gull and feral red fox, have serious, documented impacts on federal and state-listed threatened and endangered species such as California least tern, California clapper rail, Western snowy plover, and salt marsh harvest mouse, on District lands. Protection of threatened and endangered species is a District priority and a condition of federal and state regulatory permit requirements. Since 2005, the District has had a Cooperative Service Agreement with USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services to conduct predator damage management to protect listed species. As a federal agency, Wildlife Services can use both non-lethal and lethal methods to control overabundant predators and feral animals that are not available to District Staff. For example, USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services can employ extensive hazing methods to dissuade California gulls from approaching the least tern colony at Hayward Regional Shoreline. USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services will conduct on-going overabundant predator damage management and control at other shoreline and non-shoreline parks as needed. USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Services will assist District staff in protecting wildlife resources into the future, until local and regional overabundant predator and feral animal management control measures succeed on a larger scale. The District and USDA-APHIS: Wildlife Service negotiated a renewal rate of \$67,315 per year, which will apply in 2020 and 2021.

The Port of Oakland is required under a Biological Opinion from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as mitigation to fund predator management for the protection of threatened and endangered species. The Port will accomplish this through agreement with the District to fund overabundant predator management at Hayward Regional Shoreline.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives are recommended.