

**CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR THE NINTH CYCLE OF THE  
TransNet ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM  
LAND MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM  
THREAT REDUCTION STEWARDSHIP GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

Grant Application Form and required supplementary materials (hereafter referred to as “proposal”) cannot exceed eight pages.

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| Applicant Name <sup>1</sup> :                  | <u>City of Chula Vista</u>   |
| Address:                                       | <u>276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista , CA 91910</u>   |
| Phone and Email Address:                       | <u>(619) 476-2329 / cgoddard@chulavistaca.gov</u>  |
| Name of Property:                              | <u>Central City Preserve Management Area (PMA)</u>   |
| General Location:                              | <u>Rice Canyon (PMA 1) (MSP MU3)</u>   |
| Jurisdiction:                                  | <u>City of Chula Vista</u>   |
| Total Acres:                                   | <u>1,350 acres (Central City PMA)</u>  |
| Estimated Acres Requiring Management:          | <u>Maintenance of 2,225’ of existing fence; installation of 3,000’ of new fence; 2 acres of weed control</u> |
| Owner(s) of Property <sup>2</sup> :            | <u>City of Chula Vista</u>   |
| Land manager(s) of property (include name[s]): | <u>City of Chula Vista</u>   |

**Brief Project Summary that includes your primary goal and objectives (200-word maximum)**

The goal of this project is to reduce threats to sensitive plant species, specifically Otay tarplant (Management Strategic Plan [MSP] Category SS {requires species-specific management actions}), San Diego thornmint (MSP Category SO {significant occurrence(s) at risk of loss from Management Strategic Plan Area [MSPA]}) and Orcutt’s bird beak (MSP Category SL {species whose persistence in the MSPA is at high risk of loss without immediate management action above and beyond that of daily maintenance activities) within Rice Canyon by maintaining and installing new fencing (wire and t-post) and signage to direct trail users on authorized trails only. There is approximately 2,225’ of existing fencing and an additional 3,000’ of fencing is proposed to be installed along with signage to keep people off unauthorized trails.

In addition to fencing and signage, this project will treat and remove stinknet, an invasive weed found along both sides of the sewer access road in Rice Canyon (~ 3,600 linear feet). This aligns with the San Diego Management and Monitoring Program’s (SDMMP) goals to eradicate small isolated occurrences that pose a threat to nearby sensitive resources and prevent it from spreading to new areas.

**Quantify Expected Results (add bullets as necessary)**

- Decrease illegal trespassing
- Remove invasive weed - stinknet
- Remove threats to Otay tarplant, San Diego thornmint and Orcutt’s bird beak populations

**Brief Description of dedicated staff and/or consultants that would work on Project (200-word maximum)**

Chula Vista MSCP staff will administer the overall implementation of the project in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in SANDAG’s standard contract. A qualified biological consultant, familiar with the Chula Vista MSCP Subarea Plan, Central City Preserve Area Specific Management Directives (ASMDs), and the SDMMP MSP will

<sup>1</sup>While collaboration is encouraged in the development of the grant proposal, the proposal must identify one organization as the lead entity that will enter into an Agreement with SANDAG.

<sup>2</sup>If the applicant is not the landowner, please submit a letter or right-of-entry permit from the land owner granting permission to perform the land management duties as outlined in the proposal. Failure to provide the letter or right-of-entry permit will lead to disqualification of the proposal. **Attached letter or right-of-entry permit (if applicable) does not count toward eight-page maximum.**

be retained by the City to perform the restoration and enhancement activities described in Exhibit A of this proposal. To be considered for this project, prospective biological consultants shall demonstrate to City MSCP staff under the direct oversight of the City's Development Services Director that they possess the necessary biological technical services to successfully implement the City's Rice Canyon access control and stinknet eradication program Exhibit A of this grant proposal.

### Funding Needs Summary

Please indicate how much funding is being requested from SANDAG.

| Budget Item                       | Requested Funding Amount | Description  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Personnel Expenses Staff          | \$0                      | Includes staff time for non-administrative work on the project |
| Personnel Administrative Expenses | \$0                      | Includes all staff time to administer the contract             |
| Consultant Expenses               | \$32,000                 | Includes all costs for consultant services                     |
| Other Direct Expenses             | \$4,500                  | Includes all equipment, supplies, mileage, etc.                |
| Indirect Costs <sup>3</sup>       | \$0                      | All indirect charges (e.g., overhead) on the project, if any.  |
| <b>Totals</b>                     | <b>\$36,500</b>          |  |

\*if applicable

### PROJECT PROPOSAL

The proposal will include (A) the purpose of the project, (B) the scope of work by tasks, (C) the proposed budget by task, and (D) a schedule for each task. Applicants must clearly identify their proposed tasks in the scope of work, funding requested for each task (please identify staff hours and cost separately from consultant costs), start and end dates of the tasks, and deliverables.

#### A. Project Purpose

1. Please describe how the proposed project addresses a high-priority Management Strategic Plan (MSP) species and their habitats. Refer to the MSP for Conserved Lands in Western San Diego County.

The City is proposing to implement an 18-month program focused on addressing threats to sensitive plant species found within Rice Canyon – illegal trespassing and weed eradication. Loss and degradation of existing clay lens habitat within Rice Canyon has occurred due to an increase of invasive plant species, unauthorized recreational use, historical cattle grazing, and drought. By controlling access through the maintenance of existing fencing (~2,225 ft) and installation of new fencing (~3,000 ft) and signage and by treating and removing the non-native invasive stinknet, known populations of Otay tarplant (Management Strategic Plan [MSP] Category SS {requires species-specific management actions}), San Diego thornmint (MSP Category SO {significant occurrence(s) at risk of loss from Management Strategic Plan Area [MSPA]}) and Orcutt's bird beak (MSP Category SL {species whose persistence in the MSPA is at

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<sup>3</sup>Indirect Costs are only allowable if: (1) applicant has an indirect cost allocation plan audit approved by a qualified independent auditor or (2) the applicant's proposed method for allocating indirect costs is submitted with the proposal in accordance with [OMB guidelines](#) and approved by SANDAG. Indirect costs will not be reimbursed until one of the two conditions above are satisfied and indirect cost allocation plans must be renewed annually. The indirect cost methodology included with the application does not count toward eight-page maximum

high risk of loss without immediate management action above and beyond that of daily maintenance activities) will have an opportunity to passively restore its population.

Activities included in this grant proposal that will benefit sensitive species and vegetation communities include access control, removal and treatment of stinknet, monitoring for stinknet after initial removal, evaluation of fencing and signage, making contact by the biological consultant with trail users during the 18-month period. Additionally, to address unauthorized trail use, City staff will hold a public outreach event at the Rice Canyon trailhead/staging area during the grant period to inform residents and trail users of the importance of staying on formal trails.

2. The proposed project will address an urgent need and includes actions that will reduce or manage an identified threat.

IMG monitoring in 2017 identified the presence of several invasive species within the project area. Compounding the threats associated with invasive species, past disturbance of the area (i.e., unauthorized recreational use and historical grazing) have also reduced the diversity of native plants. This project will include actions to treat and remove stinknet and control public recreational access. The project will include public outreach – City staff will hold a public outreach event prior to installing additional fencing at the Rice Canyon staging area to inform residents and trail users of the importance of staying on formal trails. Additionally, throughout the grant period, as the biological consultant is on the site to treat stinknet and/or monitor fencing and signage needs, they will make contact with trail users to educate and answer questions regarding the preserve and its sensitive resources.

3. Success criteria have been identified and will be monitored and reported.

Monitoring activities that will be performed over the 18-month program include: repeat photographs from established photo point locations to monitor eradication of the known stinknet population and effectiveness of the fencing and signage

4. Success of the proposed project is likely with clear, measurable, proven results that will promote conservation.

The proposed project promotes conservation by managing threats to known sensitive plants within the preserve. Directing trail users to authorized trails and making contact with them throughout the grant period will help educate residents and trail users of the biological resources found within the preserve. Treating and removing the invasive stinknet at this stage will help ensure that it is eradicated or at least controlled to prevent its spread into other areas of the preserve.

Maintenance and monitoring of the stinknet occurrences and fencing and signage will occur during the 18-month maintenance and monitoring period following initial treatment and removal of the weed and maintenance and installation of fencing and signage.

5. Any activities necessary to maintain the proposed project after the 18-month grant period have been identified and funding for those activities has been secured. Please explain what source of funding (if any) has been used to fund this activity in the past and what kind of funding is available to support this work in the future (if needed).

Following the 18-month short-term program, long-term management of the site will be the responsibility of the City of Chula Vista. An Open Space Inspector is assigned to Rice Canyon. The goal is to eradicate stinknet within the 18-month grant period. The Open Space Inspector will continue to monitor for occurrences and will be able to treat and hand weed if new occurrences are found. The Open Space Inspector will also continue to monitor and evaluate access control needs.

| Task No. | Task Name                                 | Task Description  | Quantifiable Results/Deliverables   |
|----------|---|---|---|
| 1        | Project Biologist Field Assessment        | Prior to implementation, the project biologist shall conduct a field assessment with the City Open Space Inspector to confirm maintenance needs for existing fencing, review areas for new fencing, confirm location of stinknet, establish photo points, and take pre-implementation photos. | The results of the pre-implementation photo monitoring will be used as a visual baseline to compare to the site conditions at the end of the grant cycle.   |
| 2        | Fencing                                   | Consultant shall mend and maintain existing fencing as identified during the field assessment; install additional fencing and signage   | Fence repairs will be noted and photographed; total length of new fencing will be provided. A figure identifying fencing and signage locations will be provided.  |
| 3        | Initial Treatment and Removal of Stinknet | Consultant will treat and then hand weed stinknet found along the sewer access road. Herbicide application will be completed through ATV sprayer, back sprayer and/or truck sprayer.  | Removal of the invasive weed will reduce the threat of its spread to other areas of the preserve and reduce competition for resources with Otay tarplant, San Diego thornmint and Orcutt's bird beak.   |
| 4        | Follow-up Maintenance                     | Newly germinated stinknet will be controlled using herbicide or removed by hand prior to seed set.  | Removal of the invasive weed will reduce the threat of its spread to other areas of the preserve and reduce competition for resources with Otay tarplant, San Diego thornmint and Orcutt's bird beak.   |
| 5        | Photo Monitoring                          | Photos will be taken quarterly from the established photo points to provide a visual record of changes of the stinknet population and fencing status  | Photo monitoring will be used to compare site conditions throughout the 18-month grant period.  |
| 6        | Quarterly reports                         | Quarterly progress reports will be prepared and submitted to SANDAG to document access control, public outreach and weed control activities.  | Three quarterly progress reports will be submitted that provide a status update for each task performed. The quarterly reports will cover the following periods: January 1 to March 31; April 1 to June 30; July 1 to September 30; October 1 to December 31. The reports will be submitted to SANDAG within three weeks after each period. |
| 7        | Final report                              | The Final Report will summarize access control, public outreach and weed control activities. (Final Report will also serve as the fourth quarterly progress report). The report will include future management recommendations.   | The Final Report will include representative photos of the work performed.  |
| 8        | Misc. Consultant Expenses                 | This task will include miscellaneous consultant expenses associated with T-post, wire, signs, sign posts, mounting hardware, herbicide, and a ATV/truck mounted skid sprayer rental for applying herbicide.   | This task budget will allow for the fencing and signage materials, herbicide and equipment for controlling stinknet.  |
| "n"      | Administrative                            | City of Chula Vista Administration tasks will include a variety of coordination and administration tasks to be completed by the City of Chula Vista throughout the duration of the project.   | Matching funds will be used to: Execute biological contract; Oversee the biological contractor; Hold a public outreach events at a Rice Canyon trailhead/staging area Review and submit quarterly reports; Contract administration/ invoice review; and Participate in local community group meetings.                                      |

6. To be eligible for funding, the proposed project must be on lands conserved for native habitat within the MSP area. Where is the project located? (*Attach a map*)

The proposed project is located within MU<sub>3</sub> (see Figure 1).

## B. Scope of Work by Task

Please break down the proposal into discrete tasks and include a task name, description of each task, quantifiable expected results, and discrete deliverables for each task. *Note: make sure to list tasks for quarterly reporting on the status of the grant project and a final report on the outcome of the grant project. You may add or subtract rows as needed.*

### Exhibit A – Proposed Project Scope of Work

## C. Budget by Task

Please include a specific budget for each task described in the Scope of Work (Section B above). *This funding category is intended to fund short-term threat reduction projects in need of one-time funding necessary to fill existing funding gaps for specific tasks and will not cover on-going annual costs within applicant's organization.*

### Exhibit B – Proposed Project Budget

| Task No. | Task Name                                 | Grant Request |
|----------|---|---------------|
| 1        | Project Biologist Field Assessment        | \$2,000       |
| 2        | Fencing                                   | \$10,500      |
| 3        | Initial Treatment and Removal of Stinknet | \$4,000       |
| 4        | Follow-up Maintenance                     | \$7,000       |
| 5        | Photo Monitoring                          | \$3,000       |
| 6        | Quarterly reports                         | \$3,000       |
| 7        | Final report                              | \$2,500       |
| 8        | Misc. Consultant Expenses                 | \$4,500       |
|          | <b>Subtotal</b>                           | \$36,500      |
| "n"      | City Administrative Costs                 | \$3,750*      |
|          | <b>Indirect Cost ( _ %)</b>               | \$0           |
|          | <b>TOTAL</b>                              | \$40,250      |

\*City administrative costs will be provided by the City as in-kind matching funds.

## D. Project Schedule

Please include start and end dates relative to the anticipated Notice to Proceed (NTP) (Fall 2018) for each task described in the Scope of Work (Section B above). Please list tasks for quarterly reporting on the status of the grant project and a final report on the outcome of the grant project. You may add or subtract rows as needed. *All tasks must be completed within 18 months of the NTP.*

### Exhibit C – Proposed Project Schedule (Assumes Fall 2018 Notice to Proceed [NTP])

| Task No. | Task Name  | Proposed Start Date | Months Needed to Complete Task | Task End Date |
|----------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 1        | Field Assessment (Pre-implementation Monitoring) | 09/01/2018          | 3 Months                       | 12/1/2018     |
| 2        | Fencing  | 09/01/2018          | 3 Months                       | 12/1/2018     |
| 3        | Initial Stinknet Treatment and Removal           | 09/01/2018          | 4 Months                       | 01/30/2019    |
| 4        | Follow-up Maintenance                            | 12/01/2018          | 14 Months                      | 02/1/2020     |

|     |                                    |            |           |            |
|-----|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 5   | Photo Monitoring                   | 12/01/2018 | 14 Months | 02/1/2020  |
| 6   | Quarterly reports                  | 09/01/2018 | 18 Months | 02/1/2020  |
| 7   | Final report                       | 12/01/2018 | 2 Months  | 02/1/2020  |
| 8   | Misc. Consultant Expenses          | 09/01/2018 | 18 Months | 02/1/2020  |
| "n" | City of Chula Vista Administrative | 09/01/2018 | 18 Months | 08/30/2020 |

Please explain why and how much additional time would be needed in the event of any delays due to NTP being provided beyond Fall 2018 and/or unexpected weather conditions such as drought that could occur during the proposed project implementation.

Delays in the NTP may require adjustments to the project schedule. Additional time equivalent to the delay in NTP would be requested so that the proposed maintenance and monitoring may take place. Unexpected weather conditions such as drought are not anticipated to require additional time to implement the proposed project.

#### NOTICE REGARDING PREVAILING WAGES

SANDAG's Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Land Management Grant Program projects are funded with *TransNet* revenues consistent with the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance adopted by the voters in November 2004 (SANDAG Ordinance 04-01). Although SANDAG Ordinance 04-01 does not require payment of prevailing wages, California law may require that public works projects pay prevailing wages for workers.

Applicant acknowledges that SANDAG has strongly encouraged Applicant to seek legal counsel regarding whether the Proposed Project will require applicant to pay prevailing wages and agrees that SANDAG will have no liability for conducting this analysis. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Applicant acknowledges that if awarded an EMP Land Management Grant, the grant agreement between SANDAG and the grantee requires grantee's compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances applicable to the Agreement. ☒ Yes ☐ No

#### REQUIRED STATEMENTS FROM APPLICANT

- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant has read and understands the Sample Grant Agreement (Agreement) and Invoice Template (Attachment 4).
- ☒ Yes ☐ No If the SANDAG Board of Directors approves the proposed project proposal, the proposed applicant agrees to sign and return the Agreement to SANDAG, without exceptions or amendments, within 45 days of receipt.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant agrees to comply with SANDAG's Board Policy No. 035, Competitive Grant Program Procedures, which outlines "Use-it-or-lose-it" project milestone and completion deadlines. Board Policy No. 035 is included in the Agreement, and also is on SANDAG's website at the following link: [sandag.org/organization/about/pubs/policy\\_035.pdf](http://sandag.org/organization/about/pubs/policy_035.pdf)
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant understands that 10 percent of all invoices will be retained until the completion of the proposed project.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant understands that all invoices must be accompanied by written, documented support of the charges for requested reimbursement of grant funds and payment will not be made by SANDAG until all documents are satisfactorily submitted.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant understands that invoices and reports must be submitted on a quarterly basis within three weeks after the period covering January 1 to March 31; within three weeks after the period covering April 1 to June 30; within three weeks after the period covering July 1 to September 30; and within three weeks after the period covering October 1 to December 31.

- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant understands that the EMP quarterly report template (to be sent to the grantee after NTP is issued) must be used to document quarterly progress and that invoices with errors will be returned to the grantee for correction prior to being processed by SANDAG staff.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant understands that the final invoice must be accompanied by written, documented support of the charges for requested reimbursement of grant funds; a final report (prepared in accordance with the final report template to be sent to grantee after NTP is issued); and all outstanding deliverables in order to receive final payment and have retained funds released.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant understands that to be considered eligible for funding, a resolution complying with the requirements of Board Policy No. 035, Section 4.1, must be submitted to SANDAG at least *two weeks* prior to the recommendation by the Regional Planning Committee of the list of prioritized project proposals. SANDAG will provide applicants with advance notice of the Regional Planning Committee's anticipated meeting date.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No The applicant agrees to submit all project data/information to SANDAG in a format compatible with the regional management database.

**I have the authorization to submit this proposal (Grant Application Form and required supplementary materials) on behalf of my organization.**

Cheryl Goddard, Senior Planner

**Applicant Name/Title** (print or type)

*Cheryl Goddard*

**Applicant Signature**

01/11/18

**Date**



# Rice Canyon Grant Proposal

2225 feet of existing fence  
3000 feet of new fence  
2 acres of weed control

- Proposed Fence
- Existing Fence
- Dicranostegia orcuttiana
- Acanthomintha ilicifolia
- Deinandra conjugens

Dicranostegia orcuttiana

Oncosiphon piluliferum