



# STAFF REPORT

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**Meeting Type:** Board of Directors  
**Title:** Professional Services Agreement for Mt. Tamalpais Bat Monitoring (Miscellaneous Agreement No. 6454)  
**From:** Shaun Horne, Director of Watershed Resources  
**Through:** Ben Horenstein, General Manager  
**Meeting Date:** August 19, 2025

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**TYPE OF ITEM:**        X        Action                    Information

**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the General Manager to execute Professional Services Agreement MA-6454 with Stillwater Sciences in the amount of \$269,000, with a 10% contingency for a total not to exceed \$295,900, for Mt. Tamalpais Bat Monitoring work related to the E-Bike Pilot

**SUMMARY:** In early 2025, the District solicited proposals from six local firms in accordance with contracting procedures, and selected Stillwater Sciences for their regional experience and ability to meet tight timelines. The initial contract expired on June 30, 2025; this new agreement will continue bat monitoring required under the E-Bike Pilot and build on baseline data collected during the initial phase.

**DISCUSSION:** At the September 3, 2024 Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved the Trail Sharing Pilot Program and E-Bike Class I Trial. On October 1, 2024, the California Native Plant Society, the Marin Audubon Society and the Marin Conservation League filed a lawsuit against the District alleging that it failed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in its adoption of these programs and obtained a temporary restraining order to stop the District's implementation of the Trail Sharing Pilot and E-Bike Class I Trial.

The District entered into a Final Settlement Agreement (dated April 30, 2025), which, among other mandates, describes a bat study that "aligns with the broader One Tam monitoring efforts but with a focus on periodic monitoring and data collection pre-project and during the term of the e-bike pilot."

In alignment with the District's contracting procedures, the District requested proposals from six locally qualified firms for the bat monitoring work. District staff reviewed the two proposals received and selected Stillwater Sciences as the most qualified firm due to their staff expertise, regional experience, and capacity to implement the project within the compressed timelines required.

Prior to the E-Bike Pilot launch on July 1, 2025, staff worked with Stillwater Sciences under Miscellaneous Agreement No. 6432, which provided funding for the initial 'Mt. Tamalpais Bat

Monitoring' effort to collect existing GIS data, to select (8) acoustic monitoring stations on the watershed, met with Stakeholders to review site selections, followed by the full deployment of all (8) monitors and retrieval of the first round of baseline data.

Miscellaneous Agreement No. 6432 ended on July 1, 2025. A scope and budget was provided to establish a second Professional Services Agreement to build off of and complete the required two-year monitoring efforts as described in the E-bike Pilot Settlement Agreement.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:** Not Applicable.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The total cost to complete the Mt. Tamalpais Bat Monitoring Project is estimated at a not to exceed amount of \$295,900, inclusive of contingencies. Funding for this project is included in the Capital Improvement Budget (FY 2025) within the Roads and Trails Improvement Fund.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Watershed	 Shaun Horne Watershed Resources Director	 Ben Horenstein General Manager