



# STAFF REPORT

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**Meeting Type:** Board of Directors  
**Title:** Wildlife Conservation Board Grant Resolution  
**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:** Approve a grant resolution for the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to support the submittal of a grant application for the Lagunitas Creek Enhancement Project Phase 2 and authorize the General Manager to execute a resulting grant agreement and subsequent amendments, if applicable

**SUMMARY:** On May 27, 2025, the District submitted a pre-application to the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB). On July 10, 2025, WCB invited the District to submit a full application for funding that would support the implementation of the Lagunitas Creek Coho Habitat Enhancement Project, Phase 2. Staff is recommending the approval of an authorizing grant resolution to support the District's submission of a full grant application to the WCB.

**DISCUSSION:** Over the past five years, the District and its consultant, Environmental Science Associates (ESA), have been working collaboratively with the Lagunitas Technical Advisory Committee and State and Federal agencies to develop an extensive set of habitat enhancement plans for Lagunitas Creek from Peters Dam through Samuel P. Taylor Park. The planning effort for phases 1A and 1B was funded with grants from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The implementation of phases 1A and 1B are being funded with grants totaling \$6,649,898 from CDFW, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), and the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR). In parallel with the implementation of Phase 1, the District and ESA have advanced design work for five Phase 2 sites with grant funding from CDFW in the amount of \$599,689.



Staff is now working to secure grant funding to implement Phase 2, which is estimated to cost approximately \$6,212,000. Staff submitted a pre-application to the WCB on May 27, 2025. Staff have also met with WCB and have received positive feedback, along with an invitation to submit a full application. Staff is requesting that the Board of Directors consider approving the required grant resolution for the WCB grant proposal and authorize the General Manager to sign grant agreements and other documents necessary for acceptance and amendments of the grant awards on behalf of the District.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:** Staff has reviewed the Lagunitas Creek Restoration Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has found that the Project is Statutorily Exempt pursuant to Section 21080.56 of the California Public Resources Code, known as the Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP). The Project qualifies for exemption pursuant to Section 21080.56 inasmuch as project is a restoration project for fish and wildlife meeting the conditions of SERP as stated in Section 21080.56.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Not applicable.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Lagunitas Creek Phase 2 Grant Resolution

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