

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 19-20, 2026

From: TANISHA TAYLOR, Executive Director

Reference Number: 4.17, Action

Prepared By: Naveen Habib
Associate Deputy Director

Published Date: March 6, 2026

Subject: Approval of the California Natural Resources Agency's
2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program, Resolution G-26-36

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the 2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program, which includes eight projects totaling \$6,507,706 as provided in Attachment B, with the following stipulations:

- The Commission expects allocated funds to be expended in a timely manner.
- For land acquisition projects, when appropriate, funding recipients are encouraged to evaluate the feasibility of acquiring easements, rather than fee title, to reduce project costs.
- The Commission recommends that the California Natural Resources Agency conduct on-site inspections and audits consistent with program requirements.

Issue:

For the 2025 grant cycle, the California Natural Resources Agency evaluated 35 applications using the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program procedures and criteria. As a result:

- Eight projects totaling \$6,507,706 are recommended for funding.
 - 38 percent of available funds are recommended for three projects in Northern California, totaling \$2,497,806.
 - 62 percent of available funds are recommended for five projects in Southern California, totaling \$4,008,900.
- Twenty-seven projects are not recommended due to ineligibility or lack of competitiveness. Common issues included failure to submit required documentation, insufficient environmental mitigation benefits, limited linkage to a related transportation facility, or inadequate demonstration of mitigation benefits.

The 2025 grant cycle funds consist of \$1,700,000 remaining from the Budget Act of 2025 and \$4,808,217 in previously appropriated funds from prior Budget Acts. The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program experienced project cost savings from prior cycles. Those previously appropriated and unexpended funds are proposed for deallocation pursuant to Item 4.11 on this agenda and, if approved by the Commission, will be available for the 2025 Program.

As the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency, the California Natural Resources Agency determined that seven projects are categorically exempt from CEQA and filed Notices of Exemption for each project. One project received a Secretarial Suspension Authorization pursuant to the Governor's March 1, 2025, Emergency Proclamation, authorizing the project to proceed subject to compliance with the Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan. Five of the recommended projects advance California's 30x30 goal to conserve 30 percent of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030.

Recommended Project Highlights:

Saddle Peak Springs Acquisition (\$1,500,000) - Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority, in partnership with The Trust for Public Land, will acquire a 54-acre property in the Santa Monica Mountains adjacent to Malibu Creek State Park. The acquisition will permanently protect spring-fed ponds, coastal chaparral habitat, and key wildlife corridors along the Backbone Trail. The project provides enhanced mitigation for impacts associated with the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Widening Project and supports long-term habitat connectivity in the region.

Lillian Street Elementary: Alameda Corridor Mitigation Project (\$750,000) - TreePeople will implement a school greening project at Lillian Street Elementary in Los Angeles, removing 30,000 square feet of asphalt, planting 60 shade trees and native vegetation, and constructing outdoor learning and play spaces. The project provides enhanced mitigation for environmental impacts associated with the Alameda Corridor rail project, including air quality and noise impacts affecting surrounding residences and schools.

Ohlone Cultural Gardens Restoration & Mitigation Project (\$498,806) - Mak-warép Ohlone Land Conservancy, Inc., in partnership with UC Berkeley and the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District, will establish four Ohlone cultural garden plots totaling 3.5 acres at UC Berkeley's Russell Research Station. The project advances Indigenous-led restoration and fuels reduction practices while providing enhanced mitigation for the Caldecott Tunnel Fourth Bore Project on State Route 24.

Commission staff reviewed this request and determined that the recommended projects align with the Commission's 2025–2027 Strategic Plan by advancing a healthy environment for all through investments that protect wildlife, improve air quality, and enhance climate resilience in transportation corridors. The projects also prioritize safety by mitigating transportation-related impacts and reflect strong partnerships that deliver measurable environmental and community benefits.

Background:

The Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program was established by the state Legislature in 1989 to fund environmental enhancement and mitigation projects directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying new or existing transportation facilities.

Pursuant to Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56, seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) is appropriated annually to the program from the State Highway Account. The Commission awards annual grants to fund projects as recommended by the California Natural Resources Agency.

The California Natural Resources Agency establishes program guidelines, determines eligibility, evaluates applications, and recommends projects for Commission approval. Eligible applicants include local, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit entities. Eligible projects must fit at least one of the following three categories:

1. **Urban Forestry** - projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide.
2. **Resource Lands** - projects for acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within the right-of-way acquired for proposed transportation improvements.
3. **Mitigation Projects Beyond the Scope of the Lead Agency** - projects to mitigate the impact of proposed transportation facilities or to enhance the environment, where the ability to effectuate the mitigation or enhancement measures is beyond the scope of the lead agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement.

Pursuant to Streets and Highways Code Sections 187 and 188, the California Natural Resources Agency targets 40 percent of total funding to projects in northern counties and 60 percent to projects in southern counties, subject to variation based on project applications.

[Executive Order N-82-20](#) established California's [30x30](#) goal to conserve 30 percent of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030.

On March 1, 2025, the Governor [proclaimed a state of emergency](#) due to catastrophic wildfire risk, authorizing the temporary suspension of specified statutory requirements to expedite critical fuels reduction projects. The California Natural Resources Agency Secretary may issue a Secretarial Suspension Authorization pursuant to this proclamation to authorize projects to proceed subject to compliance with the Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan.

At its January 2026 meeting, the Commission approved a total of \$18,835,000 in partial programming for the 2025 grant cycle and advanced partial programming for the 2026 through 2028 grant cycles to support Phase 2 of the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing project in Los Angeles County.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution G-26-36
- Attachment B: California Natural Resources Agency's Proposed
- 2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendation

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
APPROVAL OF THE 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION
PROGRAM**

RESOLUTION G-26-36

- 1.1 **WHEREAS**, Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 establishes the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program to fund environmental enhancement and mitigation projects directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying new or existing transportation facilities; and
- 1.2 **WHEREAS**, the California Natural Resources Agency evaluates proposals submitted for this program and provides a list of proposals recommended for funding to the California Transportation Commission (Commission); and
- 1.3 **WHEREAS**, the Commission awards grants to fund proposals as recommended by the California Natural Resources Agency; and
- 1.4 **WHEREAS**, the California Natural Resources Agency prepared a list of Projects Recommended for Funding (Attachment B) totaling \$6,507,706 for eight projects; and
- 1.5 **WHEREAS**, the 2025 grant cycle funds consist of \$1,700,000 remaining from the Budget Act of 2025 and \$4,808,217 in previously appropriated funds from prior Budget Acts. The Program experienced project cost savings from prior cycles and those previously appropriated and unexpended funds will be deallocated by the Commission pursuant to Item 4.11 on this agenda, making those funds available for the 2025 Program; and
- 1.6 **WHEREAS**, as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency, the California Natural Resources Agency determined that seven projects are categorically exempt from CEQA and filed Notices of Exemption for each project; and
- 1.7 **WHEREAS**, one project received a Secretarial Suspension Authorization pursuant to the Governor's March 1, 2025, Emergency Proclamation, authorizing the project to proceed subject to compliance with the Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan; and
- 1.8 **WHEREAS**, five of the recommended projects advance California's 30x30 goal to conserve 30 percent of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030.
- 2.1 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Commission adopts the 2024 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program Guidelines, and

- 2.2 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Commission approves the 2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program, as indicated in Attachment B; and
- 2.3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Commission expects allocated funds to be expended in a timely manner; and
- 2.4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that for projects which include land acquisition, the Commission encourages funding recipients to evaluate the feasibility of acquiring easements, rather than fee title, to reduce project costs when appropriate; and
- 2.5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Commission recommends that the California Natural Resources Agency conduct on-site inspections and audits consistent with program requirements.



GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
WADE CROWFOOT, Secretary for Natural Resources

February 17, 2026

Tanisha Taylor
Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Taylor:

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) appreciates your continued partnership and support for implementing the 2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program. As provided in Section 164.56 of the Streets and Highways Code, CNRA has evaluated the 2025 grant proposals and provided the attached recommendations. Projects on the Recommended for Funding List meet the statutory requirements and contribute to the mitigation of the environmental effects of transportation facilities.

CNRA recommends that the projects on the Recommended for Funding List be authorized to receive immediate funding. These recommendations were determined by a multi-disciplinary evaluation team. The list includes eight projects with a total value of \$6,507,706 that includes the following: \$757,464 from the 12/13 Grant Cycle (FY 13/14); \$214,279 from the 13/14 Grant Cycle (FY 13/14); \$545,155 from the 14/15 Grant Cycle (FY 15/16); \$806,865 from the 15/16 Grant Cycle (FY 16/17); \$1,106,200 from the 2020 Grant Cycle (FY 20/21); \$1,378,250 from the 2023 Grant Cycle (FY 23/24); and \$1,700,000 from the 2025 Grant Cycle (FY 25/26). (See attached Available Funding Summary for additional details regarding appropriations). These funding recommendations are in addition to CNRA's previous recommendation to allocate \$5,000,000 from the 2025 Grant Cycle to the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing Project – Stage 2A, which was approved by the California Transportation Commission Board in January 2026.

If you have any questions about the recommended projects or the process used to evaluate them, please contact Jen Metes, Program Manager, at (916) 524-3555 or by email at jennifer.metes@resources.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wade Crowfoot".

Wade Crowfoot
Secretary for Natural Resources

Enclosures

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ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION GRANT

2025 GRANT CYCLE

RECOMMENDATION

Approve grants for eight projects totaling \$6,507,706.

BACKGROUND

Under Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56(a), the California Transportation Commission (Commission) is charged with the responsibility of funding an annual Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program administered by the California Natural Resources Agency (Agency) at the funding level provided in the State Budget.

The EEM Program awards grants to environmental enhancement and mitigation projects that are directly or indirectly related to the environmental impact of modifying existing transportation facilities or the design, construction, or expansion of new transportation facilities.

California Streets and Highways Code Section 164.56 (as amended in 2013, SB 99) provides for grants to be awarded in three categories:

- Urban Forestry: Projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide.
- Resource Lands: Acquisition or enhancement of resource lands to mitigate the loss of, or the detriment to, resource lands lying within the right-of-way acquired for proposed transportation improvements.
- Mitigation Projects Beyond the Scope of the Lead Agency: Projects to mitigate the impact of proposed transportation facilities or to enhance the environment, where the ability to effectuate the mitigation or enhancement measures is beyond the scope of the lead agency responsible for assessing the environmental impact of the proposed transportation improvement.

Agency is responsible for developing and adopting guidelines (procedures and criteria) and determining eligibility, evaluating proposals, recommending projects for funding, and managing grants post awards. Agency's procedures and criteria contain a scoring mechanism to evaluate projects by assigning point scores to each project. Projects making the initial cut are then visited for further vetting. In accordance with the provisions of Section 187 and 188 of the Streets and Highways Code, Agency attempts to allocate 40% of the total amount recommended to projects in northern counties and 60% to projects in southern counties. The percentages vary slightly each year depending on the pool of applications and competitiveness. This year, 62% of the funding is recommended for projects in southern counties and 38% in northern counties.

AVAILABLE FUNDING 2025

A total of \$6,508,216.69 is available to award from the following sources (see Available Funding Summary attachment):

- \$757,464.71 from multiple projects in the 12/13 Grant Cycle that were terminated or completed with leftover funds
- \$214,279.80 from a completed project in the 13/14 Grant Cycle with leftover funds
- \$545,155.61 from multiple projects in the 14/15 Grant Cycle that were terminated or completed with leftover funds
- \$806,865.77 from multiple projects in the 15/16 Grant Cycle that were terminated or completed with leftover funds
- \$1,106,200.80 from multiple projects in the 2020 Grant Cycle that were terminated or completed with leftover funds
- \$1,378,250.00 from a terminated project in the 2023 Grant Cycle
- \$1,700,000.00 from the remaining 2025 Grant Cycle*

*\$5,000,000 of 2025 funds previously awarded to Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing – Stage 2A in January 2026.

CEQA

Notices of Exemption were filed for seven of the eight projects recommended for funding. One project obtained a Secretarial Suspension Authorization for CEQA through the Governor's March 1, 2025 Emergency Proclamation to streamline fuels reduction projects.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

- TreePeople will complete a school greening project at Lillian Street Elementary in Los Angeles to remove 30,000 square feet of asphalt, plant 60 shade trees and 539 native plants, and add two outdoor learning gardens and a grass play area. The project provides enhanced mitigation for the Alameda Corridor Project, a 20-mile-long, high-capacity rail expressway connecting the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to transcontinental rail yards near downtown Los Angeles. The rail project introduced numerous adverse environmental impacts to the community including reduced air quality, increased noise pollution, and land use impacts near residences and schools.
- Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA), in partnership with The Trust for Public Land, will acquire in-fee a 54-acre property located in the Santa Monica Mountains, adjacent to Malibu Creek State Park. The project will permanently protect the property from development and preserve rare, spring-fed ponds, wildlife corridors, coastal chaparral habitat, and dramatic coast and mountain views. The property lies along the popular 67-mile Backbone Trail and MRCA intends to open the site to the public as a vista point and rest stop for hikers. The project provides enhanced mitigation for the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Widening

Project, of which a substantial portion traverses through the Santa Monica Mountains. The highway widening project adversely impacted native vegetation, wildlife corridors, and water quality in the area.

- Mak-warép Ohlone Land Conservancy, Inc. will partner with UC Berkeley and Contra Costa Resource Conservation District to establish four Ohlone cultural garden plots totaling 3.5 acres at UC Berkeley's Russell Research Station located in the East Bay coastal hills of the San Francisco Bay Area. The project is tribally led and will serve as a model for Indigenous-led restoration and fire-resilient landscape management practices. The project provides enhanced mitigation for the Caldecott Tunnel Fourth Bore Project on State Route 24 between Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The tunnel project adversely impacted native vegetation and wildlife habitat.

2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendations

Applicant	Project	County	Requested	Recommended	Cumulative	Project Description	30x30
SOUTHERN PROJECTS							
Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority	Saddle Peak Springs Acquisition	Los Angeles	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project to acquire the 54.4-acre Saddle Peak Springs property. The acquisition will protect a property with dramatic coastal and mountain views, rare spring-fed ponds, high biodiversity, adjacent trail connections and wildlife connectivity.	Yes
Koreatown Youth & Community Center	Expo Line Canopy Revival Initiative	Los Angeles	\$ 595,000.00	\$ 595,000.00	\$ 2,095,000.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project to enhance environmental quality and community resilience in neighborhoods adjacent to the LA Metro Expo Line by planting 300 new street trees, including 30 new tree wells and the removal of concrete.	No
TreePeople	Lillian Street Elementary: Alameda Corridor Mitigation Project	Los Angeles	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 2,845,000.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project at Lillian Street Elementary School to remove 30,000 square feet of asphalt, plant 60 trees and 539 native plants, and add two outdoor learning gardens and a grass play area.	No
Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County	McMillan Ranch Conservation Easements	San Luis Obispo	\$ 1,003,900.00	\$ 1,003,900.00	\$ 3,848,900.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project to permanently protect 1,645 acres of intact grassland, oak woodland, and riparian habitat through the acquisition of two contiguous conservation easements in eastern San Luis Obispo County.	Yes
County of Santa Barbara Public Works	Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Habitat Enhancement Project	Santa Barbara	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 4,008,900.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project to restore five acres of dune habitat at Rancho Guadalupe Dunes County Park. Includes removal of invasive species such as iceplant, planting native species, and installation of sand fencing to protect native dune vegetation to enhance biodiversity and the dune ecosystem.	Yes
5 SOUTHERN PROJECTS (62% OF TOTAL FUNDING)			\$ 4,008,900.00	\$ 4,008,900.00			
NORTHERN PROJECTS							
Northcoast Regional Land Trust	Black Dog Woodlands	Humboldt	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 5,508,900.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project to acquire a 554-acre conservation easement to permanently protect intact headwater springs, riparian areas, wetlands, and upland forests in the Mad River watershed.	Yes

2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendations

Applicant	Project	County	Requested	Recommended	Cumulative	Project Description	30x30
mak-warép Ohlone Land Conservancy, Inc.	Ohlone Cultural Gardens Restoration & Mitigation Project	Contra Costa	\$ 498,806.00	\$ 498,806.00	\$ 6,007,706.00	Recommend Full Funding. Project to establish four Ohlone cultural garden plots at UC Berkeley's Russell Research Station, reconnect the Chochenyo Ohlone community to ancestral lands, and revitalize traditional stewardship practices. Site restoration includes invasive species removal and reintroduction of culturally significant native plants across three acres, half-acre of riparian restoration, six bilingual interpretive signs, and an outdoor gathering space to teach Traditional Ecological Knowledge and wildfire literacy.	Yes
City of Berkeley	Trees Make Life Better	Alameda	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 6,507,706.00	Recommend Partial Funding. Project to plant 1,000 trees throughout West Berkeley, Aquatic Park, and Berkeley Waterfront. Project will include new tree wells and removal of concrete where necessary. Staff and resident volunteers will provide two years of establishment water.	No
3 NORTHERN PROJECTS (38% OF TOTAL FUNDING)			\$ 2,748,806.00	\$ 2,498,806.00			
8 PROJECTS - TOTAL RECOMMENDED				\$ 6,507,706.00			

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING - SITE VISIT							
Aroyos & Foothills Conservancy	Sycamore Canyon West Acquisition Project	Los Angeles	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to acquire up to four parcels of riparian oak woodland and wetland habitats in order to protect the watershed and preserve an existing wildlife corridor in the San Rafael Hills of Northern Los Angeles County.	N/A
Pacific Forest Trust	Adanac Ranch Conservation Project	Mendocino	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to purchase a 13,045-acre conservation easement to protect habitat including montane riparian areas, salmon spawning streams, rare mature Douglas-fir forest stands, extensive oak savannah and 52 miles of streams including 1.2 miles of river frontage on the Eel River.	N/A
NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING - NO SITE VISIT							
Amigos de Los Rios	San Gabriel River Emerald Necklace Greenway Phase 3	Los Angeles	\$ 745,904.32	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to complete habitat restoration along a 5 mile segment of the San Gabriel River Greenway in South El Monte, CA, including invasive plant removal and management, soil and habitat restoration and tree canopy expansion, planting 250 drought-tolerant, native trees and 1200 shrubs, install three rain gardens, interpretive signage and seating along trail, provide youth internships and volunteer stewardship events.	N/A

2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendations

Applicant	Project	County	Requested	Recommended	Cumulative	Project Description	30x30
City of San Jose	Penitencia Urban Forestry Mitigation Project	Santa Clara	\$ 463,827.41	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to plant approximately 309 trees and install a native garden in Penitencia Creek Park in the City of San Jose.	N/A
Western Rivers Conservancy	South Fork Gualala River Acquisition	Sonoma	\$ 1,400,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to acquire the 298-acre South Fork Gualala in Sonoma County and transfer ownership to Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, reducing sediment load and water temperatures in the watershed. Acquisition will prevent conversion of the land for non-forest uses and allow the tribe to manage the land with Traditional Ecological Knowledge.	N/A
Monterey-Salinas Transit District	Monterey Bay Coastal Habitat Project	Monterey	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to restore 50 acres of dunes at Ford Ord Dunes State Park in Monterey County. Project will remove non-native and invasive plant species and restore native habitats of the Smith's blue butterfly, Monterey spine flower, and coastal dune scrub.	N/A
Northcoast Regional Land Trust	Elk Ridge Conservation Easement	Humboldt	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to purchase a conservation easement to permanently protect 291 acres of mixed conifer forests, oak woodlands and stream habitats as mitigation for the Confusion Hill Highway Realignment Project. Project protects land from development and promotes habitat integrity, sustainable grazing and timber practices, and indigenous stewardship.	N/A
Sierra County Land Trust	Pello Property Acquisition for Addition to the Nevada City Hirschman's Pond Open Space	Nevada	\$ 479,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to acquire the 2.2 acre Pello parcel for public open space, directly adjacent to the 35-acre Nevada City Hirschman's Pond Open Space.	N/A
American River Conservancy	Fulton - Middle Fork Cosumnes River Conservation Easement	El Dorado	\$ 810,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to purchase a 330-acre conservation easement comprised of approximately 0.6 miles of the Middle Fork Cosumnes River and two miles of Spanish Creek with the goal of projecting in perpetuity. The habitat and natural resource values of the property will maintain a protective buffer from agricultural pressures while serving as an anchor for compounding watershed and habitat protection with potential connections to BLM-protected lands both up and downriver.	N/A

2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendations

Applicant	Project	County	Requested	Recommended	Cumulative	Project Description	30x30
Cosumnes Community Services District	Cosumnes Community Services District Urban Forestry Initiative	Sacramento	\$ 188,290.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to plant 490 trees throughout 16 Parks in Elk Grove. Project aims to plant 490 15-gallon non-invasive trees to support local soil and biodiversity and mitigate emissions cause by commuters in the City of Elk Grove.	N/A
City of Anaheim	La Palma Park - Sustainable Green Lot	Orange	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to transform a 4-acre parcel into a green public parking lot by planting 65 native trees and over 2,500 shrubs and installing mulch, bioswales, and a sustainable irrigation system. Will also include the installation of lighting, fencing, and gate.	N/A
Independence Civic Club	Independence Memorial Park	Inyo	\$ 172,300.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to create a green and shaded garden on a vacant dry lot. The park will be located at the corner of US395 and Market Street in the center of Independence, CA.	N/A
Oswit Land Trust	Harvest Hills	San Diego	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to acquire 1,098.6 acres of land adjacent to the city of Escondido to preserve wildlife corridors and to protect coastal sage scrub, coastal sage chapparal, federal wetlands, and oak riparian woodland while providing habitat for sensitive plant and animal species.	N/A
Oswit Land Trust	Desert Dunes	Riverside	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Not Recommended. Project to acquire 177 acres in Palm Springs that encompass a biodiverse dune system with dry wash woodland habitats and saltbrush scrub that house sensitive species habitat. This first phase will help acquire this property that will provide public access and create a local nature preserve.	N/A
NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING - INELIGIBLE							
Alameda County Resource Conservation District	Old Dublin Rd. Wildlife Barrier Removal & Habitat Improvement	Alameda	\$ 346,793.43	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to enhance wildlife connectivity and restore native functions by relocating an existing fence along I-580 in Castro Valley, replacing invasive plants with natives, and mitigating erosion of steep slopes adjacent to the highway.	N/A
Bear Yuba Land Trust	Cedar Ridge Preserve State Parks Expansion Project	Nevada	\$ 1,180,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to acquire 137 acres adjacent to the 853-acre Empire Mine State Historic Park to protect oak woodland, conifer forest and riparian habitat to mitigate for the Route 174 Safety Improvement Project. The acquisition would prevent residential development and provide connections to nearly 10 miles of public trails.	N/A

2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendations

Applicant	Project	County	Requested	Recommended	Cumulative	Project Description	30x30
Big Sur Land Trust	Ferrini Ranch Acquisition Project	Monterey	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to protect 412 acres of oak woodland, habitats for special status wildlife, and access to safe wildlife passage through the acquisition of the 866-acre Ferrini Ranch in Monterey County.	N/A
City of Alameda	Green Detention Basin - Alameda Site #3	Alameda	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to construct a green basin with native and drought tolerant plants to capture trash and improve water quality and stormwater best practices.	N/A
City of Angels	Angels Creek Trail - Greenhorn Creek Connection Project	Calaveras	\$ 72,525.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to acquire two acres of land to connect Angels Creek to the Greenhorn Creek Community, mitigating the affects of roadway improvements and providing public access to nature and opportunities for residents and visitors to move around town using active transportation.	N/A
City of Carson	The City of Carson's EEM Community Resiliency & Option Up Pilot Project	Los Angeles	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to expand and upgrade recreational/aesthetic amenities such as walking trails, native/drought tolerant landscaping, bioswales, subterranean infiltration basins, community garden, as well as educational signage within 7.6-acre Dominguez Park.	N/A
City of Chino Hills	Morningside Park Urban Forestry Enhancement Project	San Bernadino	\$ 419,815.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to remove 360 dead and dying trees, plant 203 native trees, remove 3,500 sq. ft. of turfgrass, and replant native shrubs and grass. Biomass and obstructions will be removed from storm channel/creek.	N/A
City of El Cerrito	Interstate 80 & San Pablo Avenue Corridor Urban Forestry Project	Contra Costa	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to plant approximately 300 street trees and shrubs with irrigation along sidewalks and medians adjacent to Interstate 80 and San Pablo Avenue (State Route 123).	N/A
City of La Verne	B Street Urban Forest Restoration & Native Landscape Replanting Project	Los Angeles	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to restore tree canopy and native vegetation along a half-mile corridor in the City of La Vern through planting approximately 130 native, drought-tolerant trees with complementary shrubs and groundcover across 25,100 square feet of landscaped area including a bioswale and drip irrigation system.	N/A

2025 Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Recommendations

Applicant	Project	County	Requested	Recommended	Cumulative	Project Description	30x30
City of Menifee	Menifee Hills & Salt Creek Trail Connection Project	Riverside	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to acquire easements to improve the privately-owned undeveloped pathway which bisects the 16-mile Salt Creek Regional Trail. Easements will close the gap in trail access, address safety concerns, and provide connectivity to Menifee Hills, a 398-acre natural open space.	N/A
City of Merced	General Vang Pao Park Mitigation	Merced	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to transform an undeveloped, 8.91-acre park space that doubles as a flood basin into a culturally-themed park honoring the Hmong people and General Vang Pao, who have deep cultural roots in the Merced region. Park will include a playground and green space featuring trees, shrubs, and a bioswale to mitigate heat, filter stormwater, and reduce carbon pollution produced by the North Merced Transit Hub and traffic in the surrounding area.	N/A
City of Santa Cruz	Rail Trail Segment 8 & 9 Mitigation	Santa Cruz	\$ 750,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to develop 1.41 acres of new wetland with improved seepage and extend oak woodland habitat in Arana Gulch Open Space Park.	N/A
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	Restoring Resource Lands for the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	Riverside	\$ 746,635.93	\$ -	\$ -	Ineligible. Project to beautify approximately 118 acres at the perimeter of tribal lands impacted by Caltrans projects through removal of invasive, non-native plants, and mobilization for restoration of impacted areas.	N/A
35 PROPOSALS SUBMITTED - TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED			\$ 29,532,797.09				