



AGENDA ITEM NO.

C-2

# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: October 27, 2015

Date: October 20, 2015

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Ryan Sundberg

Subject: Letter Authorizing the Submittal of Planning Proposals to the North Coast Resource Partnership on Behalf of the County of Humboldt

### RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors: authorize the Chair to sign support letters authorizing submittal of planning proposals and direct the Clerk of the Board to send the fully executed letters to the project proponents.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

### DISCUSSION:

On September 17, 2015 a Request for Proposals (RFP) was circulated for the purpose of obtaining proposals from North Coast counties and Tribes (or their designees) to conduct planning activities that reflect local priorities and are in alignment with North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) goals and objectives. Four project proponents have submitted concepts for proposals. These concepts reflect County priorities and will result in models that are relevant and exportable to other areas throughout the north coast region. The designees must submit the authorizing letters from the County to the NCRP no later than October 30, 2015.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEW: \_\_\_\_\_

Auditor \_\_\_\_\_ County Counsel \_\_\_\_\_ Human Resources \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ITEM:

Consent

Departmental

Public Hearing

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

Upon motion of Supervisor Sundberg Seconded by Supervisor Bass

Ayes Sundberg, Lovelace, Fennell, Bahn, Bass

Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Abstain \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: October 27, 2015

By: Kathy Hayes

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Request for Proposals and Authorization Letters



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### LOCAL PLANNING INFORMATION FOR THE NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP

#### Project Summary

The North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) is an innovative, stakeholder-driven collaboration among local governments, Tribes, watershed groups, and other interested partners focused on integrated resource planning and local project implementation in California's North Coast region. The NCRP oversees the development and regular updates of various planning documents, including the North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (NCIRWMP) and other plans related to its mission. The NCRP planning framework supports regional planning while recognizing that "one size does not fit all" – relying upon and respecting local autonomy, jurisdictions, and planning processes.

The NCRP's planning efforts reflect local priorities and plans of local governments, Tribes, municipalities, and watershed groups in the Region, and NCRP staff regularly gathers and summarizes data from these local entities. There are significant opportunities to further develop the relationship between the NCRP and local planning, via outreach and education, development of model planning elements that can be voluntarily adopted by counties and municipalities, inclusion of NCRP input into local and regional policy development, and increased collaborative planning efforts between the NCRP and Tribes, local governments, and planning agencies. In addition to work accomplished by NCRP staff and technical committee members, this RFP seeks to more fully integrate the NCRP with local planning processes and to ensure that NCRP plans reflect local priorities.

West Coast Watershed (WCW), on behalf of the NCRP, is issuing this Request for Proposals (RFP) for the purpose of obtaining proposals from North Coast counties and Tribes (or their designees) to conduct planning activities that reflect local priorities and are in alignment with NCRP goals and objectives:

#### **GOAL 1: INTRAREGIONAL COOPERATION & ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**

- **Objective 1** - Respect local autonomy and local knowledge in Plan and project development and implementation

- **Objective 2** - Provide an ongoing framework for inclusive, efficient intraregional cooperation and effective, accountable NCIRWMP project implementation

#### **GOAL 2: ECONOMIC VITALITY**

- **Objective 3** - Ensure that economically disadvantaged communities are supported and that project implementation enhances the economic vitality of disadvantaged communities by improving built and natural infrastructure systems and promoting adequate housing
- **Objective 4** - Conserve and improve the economic benefits of North Coast Region working landscapes and natural areas

#### **GOAL 3: ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT**

- **Objective 5** - Conserve, enhance, and restore watersheds and aquatic ecosystems, including functions, habitats, and elements that support biological diversity
- **Objective 6** - Enhance salmonid populations by conserving, enhancing, and restoring required habitats and watershed processes

#### **GOAL 4: BENEFICIAL USES OF WATER**

- **Objective 7** - Ensure water supply reliability and quality for municipal, domestic, agricultural, cultural, and recreational uses while minimizing impacts to sensitive resources
- **Objective 8** - Improve drinking water quality and water related infrastructure to protect public health, with a focus on economically disadvantaged communities
- **Objective 9** - Protect groundwater resources from over-drafting and contamination

#### **GOAL 5: CLIMATE ADAPTATION & ENERGY INDEPENDENCE**

- **Objective 10** - Address climate change effects, impacts, vulnerabilities, and strategies for local and regional sectors to improve air and water quality and promote public health
- **Objective 11** - Promote local energy independence, water/ energy use efficiency, greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction, and jobs creation

#### **GOAL 6: PUBLIC SAFETY**

- **Objective 12** - Improve flood protection and reduce flood risk in support of public safety

## **Project Background**

The NCRP was awarded a grant from the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) to develop a regional plan focused on actions to enhance the economic, environmental and community vitality of the North Coast region. **Focus areas** include greenhouse gas emissions reduction, energy independence, watershed and community health and local model planning ordinances. Sub-contracts to counties and Tribes (or their designees) via this RFP are expected to be in the \$20,000 - \$50,000 range with multiple sub-contracts totaling up to \$250,000. These sub-contracts will include staff and/or consultant work to develop NCRP planning documents that reflect the goals and objectives of the SGC grant and provide local examples of effective strategies and approaches for one or multiple SGC focus areas.

WCW is tasked with executing the grant on behalf of the NCRP and requires local and regional planning assistance from counties and Tribes in the following areas (expected percentage of the \$250,000 in total sub-contracts is included in parentheses):

1. Renewable energy and climate change mitigation (40%)
2. Climate change adaptation (5%)
3. Forest ecology and watershed hydrology (up to 10%)
4. Groundwater analyses and planning (up to 10%)
5. Biomass energy (up to 10%)
6. Forest based carbon sequestration (up to 10%)
7. Local land use, transportation, energy, waste management planning and policies (10%)
8. Economic analysis and financing opportunities (up to 10%)
9. Agricultural analyses (up to 5%)

Planning work may be at the scale of the county or Tribal area and must directly support NCRP SGC planning objectives. **Additionally, the planning work must be relevant and exportable to other areas in the region and be presented in a way that clearly demonstrates its relevance to other areas of the Region and/or creates a model for others to follow.** All data and plans developed via sub-contracts will be made available to West Coast Watershed and the North Coast Resource Partnership for integration into NCRP planning documents. Successful applicants will be expected to work closely with WCW and other technical consultants to ensure that their work is integrated into the larger NCRP framework.

Other information relevant to this Request for Proposals includes, but is not limited to, the following key reports and information:

- Draft NCRP SGC Healthy Communities, Functional Ecosystems, Vibrant Economy Outline [http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app\\_folders/view/9088](http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/9088)

- Library folder for the Strategic Growth Council RFP: Analysis and Planning  
[http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app\\_folders/view/8817](http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/8817)
- [NCRP Water & Wastewater Service Provider Outreach & Support Program](#) and [Small Community Toolbox](#)
- NCRP webpage: North Coast Strategies for Energy Independence, Climate Adaptation & Emissions Reduction page:  
[http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app\\_pages/view/7955](http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_pages/view/7955)
- Library folder for all NCRP reports:  
[http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app\\_folders/view/8524](http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/app_folders/view/8524)

### **Project Location**

It is anticipated that much of the work within the scope of the proposed contract will be accomplished via computer, email, and phone. There may be limited travel requirements, which will consist mostly of in-person meetings with WCW to review work products; meetings may instead be conducted by phone, at the discretion of WCW staff. The explicit focus of the NCIWMP is the North Coast Region of California. The North Coast Region as defined by the NCIWMP is consistent with the hydrologic boundary delineated by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB "Region 1").

### **Scope of Work**

West Coast Watershed (WCW) is seeking the technical expertise of Qualified Entities representing North Coast counties, Tribes, or their approved designees to work in close coordination with WCW to utilize the best available data to enhance key sections of NCRP planning documents as required by the SGC Planning Grant. These sections may include, but not be limited to, local information for one or more counties or Tribes related to the following: climate change mitigation and energy independence; local policies that promote GHG emissions reduction/energy independence, climate adaptation and the viability of working lands and natural areas; local land use priorities; drought resiliency and sustainable groundwater strategies; water supply, quality and wastewater treatment priorities. Respondents to this RFP shall propose the specific type(s) of local data and/ or planning information they would provide to augment the NCRP Plan in the areas listed above.

### **Work Tasks and Deliverables**

Successful Proposers will be expected to work with WCW in the following manner. The Work Tasks and associated Deliverables related to this RFP and described below shall be produced

and vetted with WCW staff in a progressive, step-wise fashion. At a minimum, the Proposer shall present to WCW for review and approval the following, for each Work Task below: an initial outline, an annotated outline, a draft Deliverable, and a final Deliverable.

*Task 1* - [Proposer to develop brief description of each numbered Task]

*Deliverable #1:* Outline

*Deliverable #2:* Annotated Outline

*Deliverable #3:* Complete Draft

*Deliverable #4:* Final Draft

*Task 2* – [Proposer to develop brief description of each numbered Task]

*Deliverable #1:* [Proposer to add Deliverables as needed]

*Deliverable #2:*

*Task 3* – [Proposer to add Tasks as needed]

*Deliverable #1:* [Proposer to add Deliverables as needed]

*Deliverable #2:*

The Deliverables shall be provided to WCW in their original format (e.g. Microsoft Word and/or Excel, GIS shapefile, etc.); Portable Document Format (PDF) is not acceptable. Supporting documents or analysis will be provided by the Proposer if requested. WCW reserves the right to modify and edit the content provided by the Proposer for integration of Deliverables into NCRP planning documents. The Proposer shall not be responsible for integrating the materials they produce into NCRP planning documents.

### **Eligible Applicants**

Proposers eligible to apply for and potentially receive planning sub-contracts through this RFP include North Coast Tribes and counties (or their approved designees) that are signatories to the [NCRWMP MoMU](#). Entities may include North Coast Region counties (e.g. Planning, Building, Natural Resources, Environmental Health, and other county departments) and Tribes (e.g. Environmental Programs and Divisions). County or Tribal designees may include (but are not limited to) municipalities (e.g. City Public Works, Community Development, Planning, and others); local permit and resource management departments; local water agencies; and other local repositories of water, energy, natural resource and/or land planning information. It is the responsibility of the Proposer to demonstrate that they have authorization to submit a proposal on behalf of North Coast counties and Tribes by submitting a Letter of Support from the County or Tribe no later than **October 30, 2015**.

### **Selection Process and Contract Award**

Sub-contracts will be awarded after an evaluation and selection process that includes NCRP staff and an ad hoc committee appointed by the governing Policy Review Panel. Staff may consult the NCRP Technical Peer Review Committee as needed. The specific criteria used to determine eligibility of the proposals submitted for this RFP are listed below ("Evaluation Criteria"). WCW reserves the right to request that individual Proposer(s) team with others, and to select all or part of a proposed team to execute the Scope of Work herein. WCW also reserves the right – based on consultation with the ad hoc committee and Technical Peer Review Committee - to request that proposer make minor modifications to their proposal to more effectively meet NCRP planning needs.

### **Proposal Content**

This is an open and competitive process. All proposals shall, at a minimum, include the following elements:

- Cover letter
- Project approach which reflects and supports the overall goals of the NCRP, the objectives of the SGC grant, and outlines local planning work which benefits the local county or Tribe, and is also relevant to other areas within the north coast region
- Draft Work Plan: description of work tasks and deliverables
- Descriptions of the qualifications and experience of the person(s) responsible for major portions of the work, as well as a description of the experience of the project team working together, if applicable. All necessary and qualified staff will be provided to assure delivery of all components of the project as specified. If the execution of the work to be performed requires the hiring of sub-contractors please clearly state this in the proposal. Sub-contractors must be identified and the work they will perform defined.
- Description of the approach to project management, including communications and quality assurance
- Resumes for all project personnel
- Cost proposal, which shall include hourly charge rate for all project personnel and other direct costs
- Confirmation of required \$1,000,000 liability insurance coverage
- Signature line, with name and title of Proposer, address, telephone, and email
- Evidence that proposer is authorized to submit proposal via Letter of Support



## **Evaluation Criteria**

All proposals received by the deadline will be reviewed to ensure that each has met the requirements outlined in this RFP (below).

### ***General Evaluation Criteria***

- Suitability of the Proposal: The proposed solution meets the needs and criteria set forth in this RFP
- Expertise as evidenced by the proposal and references
- Proposer Experience: Proposer has successfully completed similar projects and has the qualifications necessary to undertake this project
- Value/ Pricing Structure and Price Levels: The price is commensurate with the value offered by the proposer
- Depth and Breadth of Staff: The Proposer has appropriate staff, or has identified sub-contractors, to perform the work in the time frame needed
- Proposal Presentation: The information is presented in a clear, logical manner and is well-organized
- Demonstrated commitment to multi-entity regional collaborative frameworks

### ***Specific Evaluation Criteria***

Proposals will be reviewed by NCRP staff and ad hoc committee and analyzed according to criteria below.

<b>CRITERION</b>	<b>WEIGHT</b>	<b>RANK<sup>1</sup></b>
Alignment with NCRP Goals and Objectives	2	1-5
Relevance of proposal to NCRP/SGC planning needs	2	1-5
Capacity to work with NCRP staff	1	1-5
Ability to meet Humboldt County and West Coast Watershed contract terms	yes/no	yes/no
Evidence of local innovations or value added data or information that align with and enhance NCRP Plans	2	1-5
Relevance of proposed planning to entire Region and NCRP	2	1-5
Specific and topical criteria and expertise requirements	2	1-5

<sup>1</sup> 1 = not responsive; 5 = very responsive

### **Proposal Submittal Schedule**

The deadlines for proposal submittal and WCW response are below:

- **September 17, 2015** – Issue Request for Proposals
- **October 1, 2015** – Written questions submitted to WCW at [kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com)
- **October 5, 2015** – Question responses posted to the NCRP website at <http://www.northcoastresourcepartnership.org/>
- **October 30, 2015** – Complete Proposals due including Letters of Support for County or Tribe designee
- On or about **November 13, 2015** – Notify and interview candidate proposers (if necessary)
- On or about **November 16, 2015** – Initiate contract negotiations
- **November 20, 2015** – All other Proposers will be notified

Proposals are due no later than **5:00pm PST on October 30, 2015** to:

[kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com)

Katherine Gledhill, West Coast Watershed

### **Term of Contract**

Sub-contracts developed in response to this RFP are expected to last approximately 3 – 6 months, although the actual length of contract will depend on the specifics of the proposal. The tentative work schedule is below:

- Work to begin: on or near **November 30, 2015**
- All Deliverables complete: **May 31, 2016**

### **Budget**

The NCRP has allocated up to \$250,000 to fund this RFP. The Proposer shall provide a cost proposal to accomplish the proposed Scope of Work for a not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000 - \$50,000. Budget should include line items for staff, consultants, materials, equipment and any matching funds. Matching funds are not a requirement but are encouraged where feasible. Proposals should be scalable in the event that the NCRP wishes to fund more proposals at a smaller amount for each.

**Right of Rejection**

WCW and the ad hoc committee appointed by the Policy Review Panel reserve the right to reject any and all proposals submitted.

**Costs to Propose**

WCW will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Proposer(s) in preparation of a proposal submitted in response to this RFP, or any other activities related to this RFP.

**No Obligation to Contract**

This RFP does not obligate WCW to contract for services specified herein. If, as determined by WCW, the successful proposer is unable to negotiate an acceptable contract, negotiations will terminate and WCW will negotiate with the proposer that submitted the next most advantageous proposal, or re-issue a new RFP.

**Acceptance of Proposal**

The contents of the proposal of the selected Proposer will become part of the contractual obligations if a contract ensues. WCW reserves the right to negotiate all terms of the contract that ensues from this RFP.



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7299

October 27, 2015

Katherine Gledhill  
West Coast Watershed  
PO Box 262  
Healdsburg, CA 95448

Subject: Letter of Support for the Resort Improvement District #1 North Coast Resource Partnership Request for Proposals

Dear Ms. Gledhill:

The County of Humboldt is pleased to designate the Resort Improvement District #1 (RID) as an approved designee to apply for a planning sub-grant from the North Coast Resource Partnership. We understand that your organization is administering a Request for Proposals on behalf of the North Coast Resource Partnership for support in developing a regional plan for enhancing the economic, environmental, and community vitality of the North Coast. If selected, the RID would contract directly with your organization.

The RID is seeking to apply for the NCRP grant in order to achieve several objectives outlined by the NCRP RFP. The RID already has an existing micro grid as a legacy from its former energy independence in the form of diesel generators installed when the RID was first created. The widespread availability of renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar, now makes it possible for the RID to once again become energy independent, energy secure, and a provider of cleaner energy if renewable energy can be comprehensively integrated into the RID micro grid.

The proposed project will evaluate renewable energy site locations (all RID owned) and the economic feasibility of incorporating it into the existing RID micro grid infrastructure. If exploited, renewable energy will provide energy security for all the RID utilities, (drinking water and waste water treatment), the entire Shelter Cove Community, and provide long term opportunities to reduce costs to the community for the provision of power. Because the RID is a rural, geographically isolated community, the ability to produce power organically will protect the community from the crises which can be created by natural disasters. Additionally, this project could serve as an exportable model for similar communities throughout Humboldt County and beyond.

The RID currently spends over \$500,000 per year in power purchase from commercial providers. Once implemented, a power generation system organic to the RID could turn this expenditure into future investments which remain in the county once the system cost is repaid. The implementation of renewable energy technology will create local, permanent jobs in this field, and the system installation will create several short-term jobs as the project is developed.

Additionally, if funded, the RID hopes to partner with other Humboldt County based agencies and organizations, not only for the feasibility study but also throughout the development of a renewable energy based micro grid.

The proposed project is consistent with achieving multiple North Coast Resource Partnership goals and objectives. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors appreciates your consideration of RID's proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Estelle Fennell".

Estelle Fennell, Chair  
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

EF:kh



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October 27, 2015

Katherine Gledhill  
West Coast Watershed  
PO Box 262  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
[kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com)

Subject: Letter of Support for the Redwood Coast Energy Authority  
North Coast Resource Partnership Request for Proposals

Dear Ms. Gledhill:

The County of Humboldt is pleased to designate the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) as an approved designee to apply for a planning sub-grant from the North Coast Resource Partnership. We understand that your organization is administering a Request for Proposals on behalf of the North Coast Resource Partnership for support in developing a regional plan for enhancing the economic, environmental, and community vitality of the North Coast. If selected, RCEA would contract directly with your organization.

The proposed project will evaluate renewable energy and micro-grid energy-security opportunities at critical facilities in Humboldt County such as water and wastewater infrastructure and emergency responder facilities. The project will build on past emergency-preparedness efforts and develop a process to identify, evaluate, and prioritize critical facilities that are a good fit for on-site generation, energy-storage, and load-management systems to support continuity of operations when the grid is down, as well as reap the environmental and cost-savings benefits of those systems during regular operation. This planning would also lay the foundation for future investment and/or the pursuit of relevant funding opportunities for these facilities. The evaluation process will be developed as a replicable and exportable model that can be used across the region, and this project will also demonstrate the application of this planning process at multiple pilot sites in Humboldt County.

RCEA works hard to develop and implement sustainable energy initiatives that reduce energy demand, increase energy efficiency, and advance the use of clean, efficient and renewable resources available in the region. The proposed project is consistent with that mission and will also further the goals of the North Coast Resource Partnership. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors appreciates your consideration of RCEA's proposal.

Sincerely,

Estelle Fennell, Chair  
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

EF:kh



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October 27, 2015

Katherine Gledhill  
West Coast Watershed  
PO Box 262  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
[kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com)

Subject:            Letter of Support for Humboldt County Resource Conservation District  
                         North Coast Resource Partnership Request for Proposals

Dear Ms. Gledhill:

The County of Humboldt is pleased to designate the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (Humboldt County RCD) as an approved designee to apply for a planning sub-grant from the North Coast Resource Partnership. We understand that your organization is administering a Request for Proposals on behalf of the North Coast Resource Partnership for support in developing a regional plan for enhancing the economic, environmental, and community vitality of the North Coast. If selected, the Humboldt County RCD would contract directly with your organization.

The Humboldt County RCD proposes to gather the necessary data and work with partners, consultants, and crop managers to produce an Irrigation Water and Fertigation Management Plan. Fertigation is defined as the injection of fertilizers, soil amendments, and other water-soluble products into an irrigation system. This planning document would provide technical support for crop managers and other producers to adopt management practices that increase irrigation water use efficiencies and improve fertigation practices. This planning document would be a valuable tool for supporting adaptation to climate variability and effective management of groundwater and surface water resources. We see opportunities to coordinate with the County's efforts to lead planning and management of the Eel River Valley groundwater basin in response to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

The Humboldt County RCD performs tremendous work on behalf of producers and rural communities in Humboldt County, and the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors appreciates your consideration of the Humboldt County RCD's proposal.

Sincerely,

Estelle Fennell, Chair  
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

EF:kh



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EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7299

October 27, 2015

Katherine Gledhill  
West Coast Watershed  
PO Box 262  
Healdsburg, CA 95448  
[kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com](mailto:kgledhill@westcoastwatershed.com)

Subject: Letter of Support for the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department  
North Coast Resource Partnership Request for Proposals

Dear Ms. Gledhill:

The County of Humboldt is pleased to designate the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department as an approved designee to apply for a planning sub-grant from the North Coast Resource Partnership. We understand that your organization is administering a Request for Proposals on behalf of the North Coast Resource Partnership for support in developing a regional plan for enhancing the economic, environmental, and community vitality of the North Coast. If selected, the Planning and Building Department would contract directly with your organization.

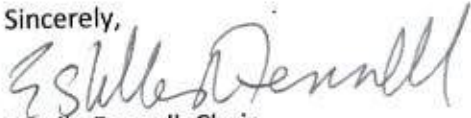
The Department proposes to work with land owners and managers, watershed groups, resource agencies, and water resources experts to build on local knowledge and develop a model planning process that can be used at the sub-watershed scale for realistic land use planning and the protection of watershed health. Significant demands have been placed on Humboldt County watersheds by the historic resource based economy and development patterns. Approximately 60 percent of homes outside cities in the County have on-site water and nearly all agricultural uses in the County rely on wells, surface diversions, and rainwater catchments. In addition, the intensity of marijuana cultivation has continued to increase, especially in recent years, which places ever larger demand on small watersheds. These land uses, in combination with drought conditions, have significantly impacted the stream ecology and salmonid habitat in some areas. Climate change has the potential to exacerbate these impacts even further in coming years. Many of these same concerns are faced by communities throughout the region.

The objective of this effort is to develop a practical watershed/hydrologic modeling process for small pilot watersheds, which can then be applied to any sub-watershed throughout the north coast region. The model would be designed for multiple purposes, including supporting regulatory compliance with marijuana cultivation, assisting landowner compliance with Statement of Water Diversion and Use requirements, cumulative impact analysis for planned development, and the protection of water quality, anadromous fish and aquatic invertebrates, recreation, and other beneficial uses.



The County is aiming to be proactive in developing a model process that will support land use planning and watershed health. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors appreciates your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Estelle Fennell".

Estelle Fennell, Chair  
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

EF:kh