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Coastal Environmental Justice Solicitation Webinar

OPC Proposition 1 Grant Program

Maria Rodriguez & Holly Wyer

March 29, 2021

Webinar Logistics

- **This webinar is being recorded.**
 - › Webinar slides and recording will be available on OPC's Prop 1 webpage.
- Questions will be answered at the end of the webinar presentation.
- During Q&A, please use the chat box to type in questions or use the “**Raise Hand**” function to be unmuted and avoid talking over others.
- Please reserve very specific questions for email: **OPC_Prop1Grants@resources.ca.gov**.
- **Let's get started!**

Webinar Contents

- Overview: OPC + Proposition 1
- OPC Prop 1 Funding Priorities
- Funding Overview
- Solicitation Schedule
- Applicant and Project Eligibility
- Application Process
 - Pre-proposal Consultations, Virtual Office hours, Letter of Intent (LOI) Overview, Evaluation & Scoring.
- Next Steps
- Consulting with the Conservation Corps (Andrea Gabriel, Bond Program Analyst & Corps Consultation Liaison)
- Q&A

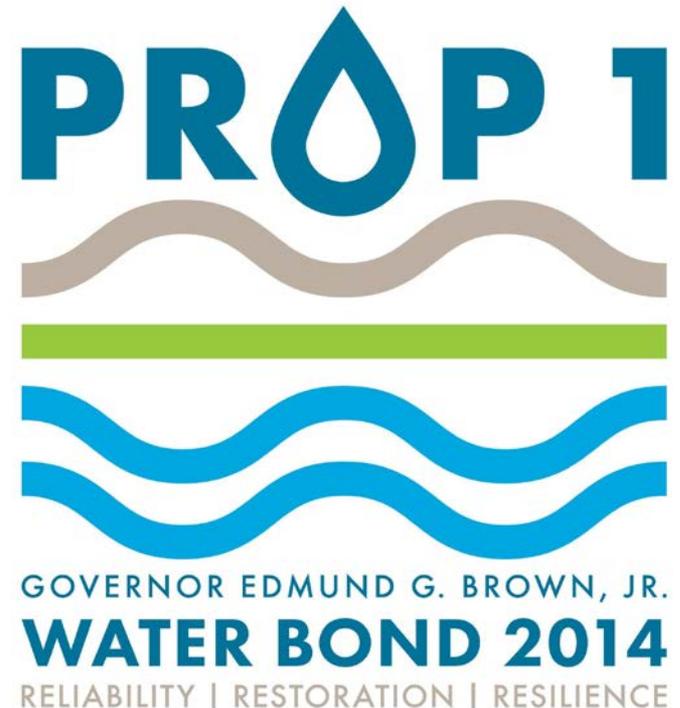


Overview: What is the OPC?

- The mission of OPC is to ensure that California maintains healthy, resilient, and productive ocean and coastal ecosystems for the benefit of current and future generations.
- OPC is at the intersection of science, policy, and management
- Today's focus is on OPC's funding work – Proposition 1 grants

Overview: What is Prop 1?

- Prop 1: Passed by the voters in November 2014, focuses on improving water supply, water quality and flood protection.
- OPC's funds in Chapter 6 are to be used for:
 - **Multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects** in accordance with statewide priorities.



Prop 1 Funding Priorities: Communities

Coastal projects benefiting Communities entitled to environmental justice (Communities)

Communities: Disadvantaged and Severely disadvantaged communities (DACs and SDACs), CA Native Tribes and Tribal Governments, and communities that score above 80% on CalEnviroScreen results.

*Prop 1 projects must support **multi-benefit ecosystem** and **watershed protection and restoration projects** with a component that **improves water quality**.

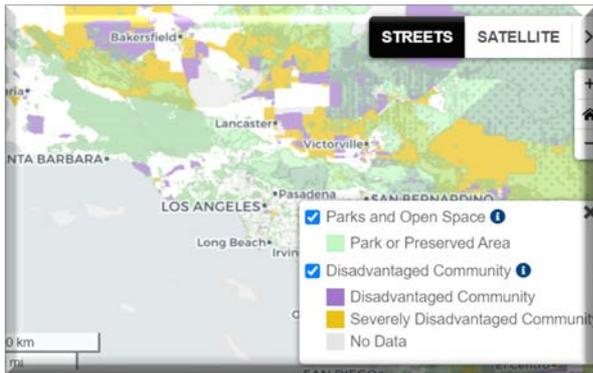
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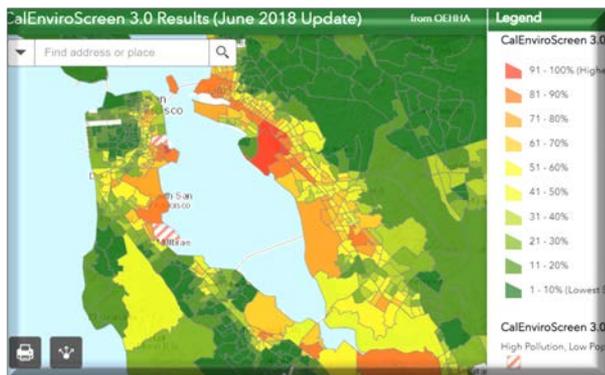
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Prop 1 Funding Priorities: Communities

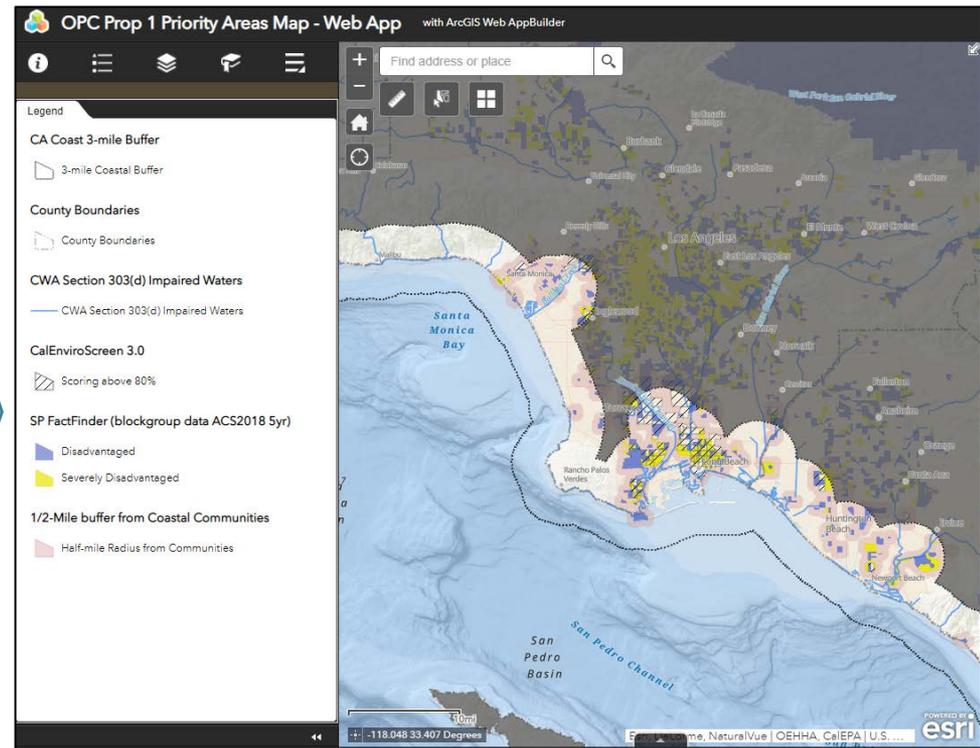
[California State Parks Community FactFinder](#)



[CalEnviroScreen](#)



[OPC Prop 1 Priority Areas](#)



Prop 1 Funding Priorities: Project Types

Priority Project Types for coastal projects benefitting Communities

Restoration and habitat enhancement projects

- Restoration projects that address habitat loss and environmental degradation.
- Community-led projects that reduce pollutant run-off, restore urban waters, streams, and beaches and address water quality in a Critical Coastal Area (CCA).
- Multi-benefit projects that improve access, coastal ecology, and local water resilience. Multi-benefits may include carbon sequestration.



Prop 1 Funding Priorities: Project Types

Priority Project Types examples

Restoration and habitat enhancement projects

- A project that restores degraded coastal wetlands and improves water quality adjacent to a Community and provides a new trail system to improve coastal access for Community members.
- A project that regains access to a Tribe's ancestral lands on the coast and uses Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) to enhance coastal habitat and water resilience.
- A project that utilizes local workforce labor and Community expertise to implement green infrastructure or low impact development to reduce pollutant run-off in a Clean Water Act Section 303(d) listed impaired waterway in a CCA.



Prop 1 Funding Priorities: Project Types

Priority Project Types (cont.)

Adaptation to Sea-Level Rise, Flooding, and Shoreline Erosion

- Projects that promote risk reduction and resiliency of the built and natural environment in the face of sea-level rise, including innovative design elements and approaches such as living shorelines and nature-based infrastructure.
- Projects that address needs of communities at risk of exposure to toxic or hazardous sites due to sea-level rise and flooding.
- Projects that improve ecosystem health and resiliency to impacts of climate change.
- Projects that develop green infrastructure solutions in coastal environments to address water quality problems.



Prop 1 Funding Priorities: Project Types

Priority Project Types examples

Adaptation to Sea-Level Rise, Flooding, and Shoreline Erosion

- A project that engages Community stakeholders to analyze and design a coastal roadway realignment through the lens of equity and climate adaptation, incorporating nature-based solutions and identifying areas for enhanced coastal access and recreation.
- A project that will design and construct structural best management practices on public land at or adjacent to vulnerable sites with toxics in order to reduce the risk of Community flooding due to sea-level rise.



Funding overview

Funding Information

Maximum Funding Available:	\$7.5 million
Minimum Award Amount:	\$100,000 (we <u>strongly</u> encourage budgets over \$250,000)
Maximum Award Amount:	\$5 million
Maximum Project Length:	3 years, must be complete by December 2024
Letter of Intent Due:	April 23, 2021

Opportunities for advanced payments*

Qualified grantees may receive up to 25% of the grant award at a time to initiate the project in a timely manner.

Solicitation Schedule

Activity	Time Period
Grant Proposal Solicitation Released	March 15, 2021
Informational Webinar	March 29, 2021 at 2:00pm
Office Hours (open Q&A session)	April 14, 2021 at 2:00pm
Letter of Intent Due	April 23, 2021
Proposal Review and Evaluation	April 26 - May 18, 2021
Select Proposals invited to Submit Full Proposal	May 19, 2021
Full Proposal Due	June 30, 2021
Application Review and Evaluation	July 1- Aug 20, 2021
Select proposals invited for interview or site visit*	Aug 23- Sept 24, 2021
Staff recommend selected projects to OPC for approval	December 7, 2021
Approved project finalize workplans and grant agreements	Winter/Spring 2022

Who is eligible to receive funds?

- Eligible applicants for Prop 1 funding:
 - Public agencies
 - › Note: Federal agencies are not public agencies
 - Public or private universities
 - Any private, nonprofit organizations, including CBOs
 - › Note: Must be 501(c)(3) of the IRS
 - Federally recognized Indian Tribes and Tribes listed on the NAHC's California Tribal Consultation List
 - Public utilities and mutual water companies

Which projects are eligible to receive funds?

- ✓ Multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects with a component that improves water quality
- ✓ Must meet one of the purposes of Prop 1, Chapter 6 §79732(a)
- ✓ Must be consistent with General Obligation Bond Law, Government Code §16727 -- Planning, Design, Engineering, Property Acquisition, or Restoration implementation/construction
- ✓ Must be completed by December 2024
- ✓ Must deliver sustainable outcomes in the long term (around 30 years)

Additional Project Characteristics

- ✓ In articulating multi-benefits, projects should be clear in how it would provide benefits in at least one of the OPC's Prop 1 Funding Priorities.
- ✓ How a project helps fulfill the goals and objectives of the [OPC's Strategic Plan](#).
- ✓ Projects should include resilience to climate change and incorporate best available science.

How do I apply?

1. Carefully review the OPC Prop 1 Grant Guidelines and the Grant Proposal Solicitation.
2. Download the Letter of Intent (LOI) template and complete per instructions.
3. Submit a completed LOI package to **OPC_Prop1grants@resources.ca.gov** with the subject “Prop 1 Application – [Your Organization]” by **April 23, 2021**.

To access application materials, visit our Prop 1 webpage: <https://www.opc.ca.gov/prop1/>

Opportunities to ask questions

OPC staff will provide applicants with technical assistance resources and opportunities to ask questions through:

- Virtual Office hours on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 2:00pm-3:30pm. (Registration link will be made available a week prior on April 7)
- Contact us on the Prop 1 email:
OPC_Prop1Grants@resources.ca.gov

Web Resources are also available on our webpage that provide guidance for Developing Partnerships and Engagement with Communities.



Letter of Intent Review

LOI Template Overview:

- Cover Page (p.1)
 - Eligibility questions (p.2-3)
 - Letter of Intent (starts at p.4)
 - › Description of Proposed Project, Benefits to Communities, Community Engagement and Partnerships, and Collaboration, Preliminary Budget, and Project Schedule
- The LOI should be no more than 5-pages total (starting at p.4 in the template)
 - Attachments: a map of the project location using the mapping tool provided on the OPC Prop 1 webpage (required). Could also include project site maps and photos.
 - We will not accept any other attachments during the LOI phase.

Letter of Intent Review

OPC Staff will check:

1. Completeness screening
2. Eligibility screening
3. Scoring



Evaluation and Scoring Criteria

3.5 Evaluation Criteria and Scoring for Proposals

SCORING CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS	
	Points
Alignment with Prop 1 and OPC Priority Project Types	20
Project Demonstrates Significant Benefits to Communities Entitled to Environmental Justice	25
Project Proposal Scope, Readiness, and Applicant Capacity	20
Measuring Effectiveness and Operations and Maintenance	15
Partnerships and Collaboration	10
Leveraging of Funding Sources	10
Total possible points	100



Next Steps

- April 14: Virtual Office Hours
- April 23: Deadline to submit LOI package
- April 26-May 18: OPC LOI review
- May 19: Invitations to submit Full Proposal

Full Proposal Phase (due June 30)

- Additional documents and forms will be provided for selected applicants.
- Detailed project scope of work, schedule, and budget, including Community Engagement Plan
- Consultation with the California Conservation Corps and Local Certified Community Conservation Corps.



Consulting with the Conservation Corps



Proposition 1 Statute

Division 26.7 of the Water Code, Chapter 6, Section 79734 states that services of the CA Conservation Corps (CCC) or certified community conservation corps (represented by the CA Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC)) shall be used whenever feasible.

Benefits of Using the Corps

Utilizing the Corps is included in the legislation to increase the public benefit of projects by creating workforce development opportunities for young adult Corpsmembers, many of whom live and work in disadvantaged communities.

- *The Corps provide comprehensive job training, career development, and educational opportunities to young adults.*
- *Natural resource projects serve as pathways for young adults to enter specialized fields, including firefighting, forestry, energy conservation, and other environmental fields.*
- *Corpsmembers often work on projects in their own community, strengthening their connection to the direct benefits of the project.*



CCC Corpsmember Spotlight



Before joining the CCC, Harley was a full-time community college student and part-time receptionist. She was on track to finish her degree but her focus was strained by issues at home. She joined the CCC for a fresh start and a break from college.

“The Corps taught me to get out of my comfort zone with people and power tools. This supportive environment instilled self-confidence in me to work through my emotions. The more engrained I became in my work at the CCC, the more I was able to focus on positive things in my life and know that I could overcome. Being a Crew Leader taught me to maintain my composure when a conflict arises. I learned to work efficiently and with integrity. I have enhanced my critical thinking, management, and leadership skills.”

Harley plans to take the CA state exam and apply to be a Conservationist I, a permanent CCC staff position directly responsible for supervising a crew. She also aims to finish her bachelor’s degree in Forest Ecology with a minor in Philosophy of Ethics and one day work as a Fish and Wildlife Technician for the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Harley Tijerina

Crew Leader, Siskiyou Satellite Center in Yreka, CA

Recipient of the CorpsNetwork’s 2020 Corpsmember of the Year award

LCC Corpsmember Spotlight



Before joining CCLB, Ryan had a turbulent adolescence, spending time in unstructured foster care. He became involved in criminal activity, which led him to a stint in prison. After being released, Ryan found it difficult to find a consistent job with a felony on his record. “I just wanted to make an honest living, stay out of trouble, and feel like I was going somewhere,” said Ryan.

“I’ve learned that although I was motivated to work and succeed, I needed support beyond what I could just do myself. Now I love helping other youth make the right decisions and succeed.”

Ryan’s participation in CCLB and Grid Alternatives’ “Basic Solar Installation Program” provided him with the experience needed to become an apprentice electrician, installing Tesla Powerwall batteries and Tesla EV Chargers. In addition to his work responsibilities, Ryan is pursuing an AA degree in Electrical Construction Technology at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. He plans to complete school and become a licensed electrician.



Ryan Shelton

Former Corpsmember,
Conservation Corps of Long
Beach (CCLB)

Recipient of the CorpsNetwork’s
2020 Corpsmember of the Year
award

Working with the Conservation Corps



The Corps provide supervised work crews of young adults trained and equipped to work safely on a wide variety of projects.

Examples of work Corpsmembers can perform*

- Creation, restoration, and rehabilitation of trails
- Fire fuel load reduction & forest thinning
- Installation of erosion control measures
- Watershed, riparian zone, and habitat restoration
- Removal of invasive plant species
- Landscaping and irrigation installation

Examples of projects that Corpsmembers cannot work on*

- Projects that involve only planning or acquisitions with no hand labor
- Projects that require the operation of heavy equipment

Corps may have different capabilities. If you're unsure whether Corpsmembers can work on your project, you should complete and submit a consultation request to ensure compliance.

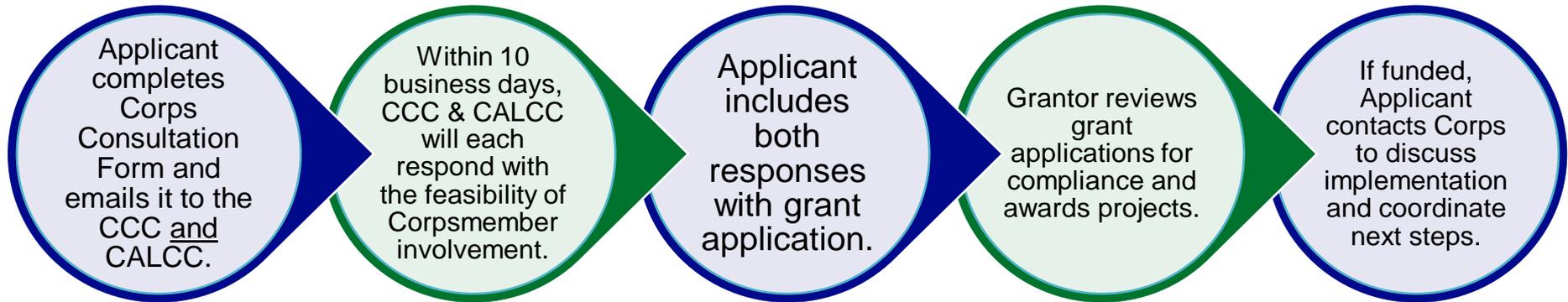
*Please note that this list is not exhaustive



Corps Consultation Process



Applicants are encouraged to reach out to the CCC and CALCC early in the process while developing project proposals to determine how the Corps can be included and ensure a compliant review process.



**Note: The Corps are exempt from prevailing wages (California Labor Code section 1720.4(c)).
The Corps do not need to be included in a bidding process.**

Contacts:

CA Conservation Corps: Prop1@ccc.ca.gov

CA Association of Local Conservation Corps: Inquiry@Prop1CommunityCorps.org

Q&A

- During Q&A, please use the chat box to type in questions or use the “**Raise Hand**” function to be unmuted and avoid talking over others.
- We will get to as many questions as we can!
- Please reserve very specific questions for email:
OPC_Prop1Grants@resources.ca.gov.





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Thank you!

Please email questions and LOIs to:
OPC_Prop1grants@resources.ca.gov

[LOI Deadline: April 23, 2021](#)