



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Planning &  
Development  
Department No.: 053  
For Agenda Of: 3/27/07  
Placement: Set Hearing on 4/3/07  
Estimated Tme: 1.5 hours on 4/3/07  
Continued Item:  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department John Baker, 568-2085  
Director:  
Contact Info: Douglas K. Anthony, 568-2046  
**SUBJECT: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) 2007-2009 Recommended Awards**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** Select\_Other

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors set a hearing for April 3, 2007 to consider staff's recommendations for 2007-2009 Coastal Resource Enhancement Funds (CREF) awards in conjunction with the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and proposed FY 07-08 budget. Staff's recommended grants are summarized in Attachment A and detailed with conditions in Attachment B.

**Summary Text:**

The amount of money available during the 2007-2009 Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) cycle is identified in Table 1, below. It reflects the Board of Supervisors' direction from February 20, 2007, that at least 65% of the CREF fees in 2007 be designated for acquisitions and the remaining 35% for both general allocation and acquisition.

**Table 1: Available Monies (2007-2009)**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Acquisition</b>	\$1,017,034	\$382,200	\$382,200
<b>General Allocation</b>	\$ 405,305	\$205,800	\$205,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,422,339</b>	<b>\$588,000</b>	<b>\$588,000</b>

Along with the annual fees, the 2007 cycle also includes additional monies that were either deferred from the 2006 cycle or reimbursed by previous grantees.<sup>1</sup> The amount of money available in 2008 and 2009 represents an estimate, until the County concludes its 2008-2012 fee assessment. Staff carried the 65%/35% split between the two subfunds into the 2008 and 2009 estimates; however, the Board of Supervisors stated it would determine the percentage amounts for cycles beyond 2007 at a later date.

In the 2007-2009 CREF cycle, the County received 17 proposals, seeking \$3 million. Attachment A lists the proposals, along with staff's recommendations for 2007 CREF awards and awards for the Board to consider funding in 2008 and 2009. Attachment B includes proposal details and staff's evaluation of all proposals.

**Background:** The County established CREF as a condition of permits for offshore oil and gas development and transportation projects; mitigation is provided through CREF for impacts to coastal resources.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The facilities at Rincon County Park would be improved with more picnic areas, walkways, plantings and a bioswale. A new 5-mile multi-use trail would be constructed in the foothills of Carpinteria. The undeveloped property at the Walter Capps Park would be improved with benches, turf play area, a native plant restoration area, a memorial to the late Walter Capps, and public restrooms. Arundo would be removed from Lookout County Park.

The Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund is funded by mitigation fees paid by developers of offshore oil and gas reserves. Fees to fund grants are received each February. CREF is included in the Energy Division Cost Center on page D-304 in the Planning & Development Department's section of the County's FY06/07 Budget (see "Source of Funds Summary – Offshore Oil and Gas Mitigation" and "Use of Prior Fund Balances" for revenue, and "Use of Funds Summary – Mitigation Programs.") Staff costs to administer the fund are offset by interest accrued to the Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund.

**Special Instructions:**

Clerk of the Board will place the CREF hearing on the April 3, 2007, Board agenda to follow immediately after the County's Capital Improvement Plan.

**Attachments:**

CREF Criteria and Evaluations on CREF proposals

**Authored by:**

Kathy McNeal Pfeifer

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<sup>1</sup> 2007 Acquisition monies (\$1,017,034) include \$629,634 (which is acquisition monies deferred from last year) and \$387,400 (which is 65% of \$596,000, the amount of 2007 CREF fees). 2007 General Allocation monies (\$405,305) include \$196,705 (which is \$190,000 the Dunes Center relinquished since it could not commence the project within two years of its award date and \$6,705 refunded from two projects when they completed their projects) and \$208,600 (which is 35% of \$596,000, the amount of 2007 CREF fees).

**Attachment A**

**Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund  
(CREF)**

Summary of Staff's Recommendations  
for 2007-2009 CREF Awards

**Table 2: Staff Recommendations for 2007-2009 CREF Awards  
(Shaded rows are proposals associated with the Capital Improvement Plan)<sup>2</sup>**

No.	Proposal Title	Dist.	Applicant	Amount Applicant Requests			Amount Leveraged (or to be) S = secured P = pending	Recommendations 2007 Awards		Recommendations Consider Funding in 2008 <sup>3,4</sup>		Recommendations Consider Funding in 2009	
				2007	2008	2009		General Allocation	Acquisition	General Allocation	Acquisition	General Allocation	Acquisition
1	Rincon Park, Phase II	1 <sup>st</sup>	Parks Department	\$92,000			\$40,000 (S) \$11,000 (P)	\$92,000					
2	Franklin Trail in Carpinteria	1 <sup>st</sup>	Parks Department	\$24,000			\$380,864 (P) \$27,936 (S)	\$24,000					
3	Walter Capps Park in Isla Vista <sup>5</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parks Department	\$84,000	\$268,400	\$84,000	\$163,000 (S)	\$54,305		\$130,800		\$84,000	
4	Water Rescue Boat	All	Fire Department	\$228,100			\$0						
5	Ocean Beach Monitoring & Education	1 <sup>st</sup>	City of Carpinteria	\$19,350			\$7,200 (S)						
6	Lookout Park Arundo Removal	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ag. Commissioners Office	\$40,000			\$57,420 (S)	\$40,000					
7	Native Seed & Plant Facility	1 <sup>st</sup>	Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	\$74,300			\$30,000 (S) \$126,000 (P)						
8	Channelkeeper Patrol Boat	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup>	Channelkeeper	\$50,000			\$190,000 (P)						
9	Sea Center Generator	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sea Center	\$85,000			\$0					\$46,800	
10	Surf Exhibit	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Maritime Museum	\$50,000			\$170,000 (S) \$205,000 (P)						
11	Ellwood Access Improvements	3 <sup>rd</sup>	City of Goleta	\$50,000			\$40,000 (S)						
12	Doty Property Acquisition	3 <sup>rd</sup>	City of Goleta	\$350,000			\$75,000 (S)		\$350,000				
13 & 14	Gaviota Terminal or Gaviota Village Acquisition <sup>6</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Trust for Public Lands	\$500,000 \$500,000			\$2,500,000 (P) for each		\$667,034		\$332,966		
15	Tide & Seek Exhibit	5 <sup>th</sup>	Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum	\$45,000			\$0	\$45,000					
16	Belly of the Whale	5 <sup>th</sup>	Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum		\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0			\$75,000		\$75,000	
17	Seabird Care Compound	All	Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network	\$150,000			\$34,000 (S) \$139,000 (P)	\$150,000					
	<b>Total Recommended</b>							<b>\$405,305</b>	<b>\$1,017,034</b>	<b>\$205,800</b>	<b>\$332,966</b>	<b>\$205,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Total Available</b>							<b>\$405,305</b>	<b>\$1,017,034</b>	<b>\$205,800</b>	<b>\$382,200</b>	<b>\$205,800</b>	<b>\$382,200</b>
	<b>Balance</b>							<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$49,234</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$382,200</b>

<sup>2</sup> The first four proposals in the table are associated with the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP); the CIP includes County capital improvement projects that have a total cost of \$100,000 or more.

<sup>3</sup> For 2008 and 2009, actual awards cannot be granted at this time; however, staff recommends the Board consider these awards for funding in those years.

<sup>4</sup> The Parks Department recently completed a mean high-tide survey and will be seeking CREF funds for the Santa Claus Lane Beach Access project in the year 2008 and beyond. The funds potentially needed for this project are in the millions, and the Department would be seeking both general and acquisitional CREF funds, along with other funding sources.

<sup>5</sup> The Parks Department's Walter Capps Park request in 2008 is more than the amount of money staff estimates will be available for the general allocation portion of that cycle.

<sup>6</sup> Staff recommends the Board dedicate \$1 million toward one or both of these acquisitions and retain flexibility in how the \$1 million is allocated at this time.

**Attachment B**

**Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund  
(CREF)**

Evaluation Process  
&  
Evaluations on CREF Proposals

## Evaluation Process

The Energy Division annually solicits and evaluates proposals for CREF awards, then submits recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for consideration in a duly noticed public hearing.

Staff follows two steps to evaluate the proposals: (1) determine the extent to which each proposal meets the eight Board-approved CREF criteria, and (2) determine the competitive advantage of each proposal over other proposals.

The following criteria guide CREF recommendations:

Criterion 1. *Enhancement projects must be located in the coastal area or have a coastal relationship, and must be consistent with the County's Local Coastal Program and Comprehensive Plan or other applicable local coastal/general plans. Enhancement projects should be located within geographical proximity to oil and gas onshore/offshore development activities while still providing for the broadest public benefit.*

Criterion 2. *Projects should compensate for coastal impacts due to oil and gas development, specifically for sensitive environmental resources, aesthetics, tourism, and negative effects on coastal recreation in the County.*

Criterion 3. *Projects should provide a level of broad public benefit.*

Criterion 4. *The intent of the CREF program is to fund coastal acquisition and capital improvement projects; therefore, projects which offer coastal acquisition and capital improvements will receive higher priority than those projects which do not.*

Criterion 5. *Projects should utilize matching funds and/or in-kind services to the maximum extent possible.*

Criterion 6. *Projects should be self-supporting or should require minimum on-going County operations/maintenance costs once the project is completed and implemented.*

Criterion 7. *Projects to be funded should lack other viable funding mechanisms to complete the project.*

Criterion 8. *The feasibility of implementing and completing the project shall be considered. Projects with a high probability of success should be given preference.*

Along with these criteria, staff weighs the following factors in determining its recommendations for CREF funding:

- (a) the Fund Deferral Program of the CREF Guidelines that allocates at least half of each year's contributions to fund coastal acquisitions;
- (b) the time-critical importance of the proposal compared to other competing proposals;
- (c) the relative ranking which the applicant gives a particular proposal, if submitting more than one proposal;

- (d) future investments, beyond on-going operations and maintenance that may be required by the County if the proposal is implemented;
- (e) performance on previous CREF grants;
- (f) timing of the CREF request in relation to the anticipated commencement of the project (i.e., the CREF request may be premature); and
- (g) the extent to which a proposal compliments or conflicts with other similar ongoing projects in the community (particularly projects funded with CREF grants).

**PROJECT # 1**  
**RINCON COUNTY PARK DAY USE IMPROVEMENTS**  
**PHASE II**

*1<sup>st</sup> District*  
*Santa Barbara County Parks Department*  
*Requests \$92,000*  
*Total Phase II Project Costs: \$183,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant seeks funds to complete improvements to Rincon County Park's day use area. The remaining tasks are considered Phase II of the park's improvements:

- installing six family picnic sites;
- installing two individual seating areas;
- installing additional walkways from parking lot to picnic areas and restrooms;
- installing a bioswale for run-off from the parking lot;
- removing non-native invasive plants along beach access stairs and ramp;
- planting various plants, shrubs and trees; and
- installing an irrigation system.

**Staff Recommendation:** Grant full request, \$92,000, in 2007, contingent on the applicant securing \$40,000 from the South Coast East Quimby and Development Trust Fund.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant ranks this proposal first out of the three proposals submitted.

**Background:** In the 2006 CREF cycle, the applicant sought \$132,000 for this Phase II project. The Board of Supervisors awarded \$40,000 from the 2006 cycle and deferred consideration of the remaining \$92,000 grant request to the 2007 or 2008 cycle. The applicant hopes to begin work on Phase II in early spring of 2007 with the \$40,000.

Three CREF grants from the 2001, 2002, and 2003 cycles, totaling \$73,257, went towards engineering, landscape, and irrigation designs, a Phase I archaeological report, permits for the park improvements, and Phase I improvements of this project. Phase I improvements included: walkways from restrooms to stairs and ramp, a 75-person group picnic area, and a new lawn area and irrigation system. The applicant completed the Phase I improvements in May of 2005.

In addition, the Parks Department received a CREF grant in the 1997 cycle to construct and expand the concrete ramp at Rincon Park, which serves as one of the two accesses to Rincon Beach. The department extended the ramp in 2000.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** Rincon Beach Park is located on the bluffs, overlooking the ocean. It is a popular beach access for surfers and beach-goers.



- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal would enhance coastal recreation and tourism by adding more amenities to be used at this beach park. In addition, the bioswale would enhance the water quality at the mouth of the Rincon Creek and the ocean.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** This proposal would enhance the experience for some of the approximately 400,000 people who visit the beach park annually. The improvements would offer amenities that the park doesn't have already, including individual viewing areas, family picnic areas, and more landscaping.
- (+) **Criterion #4.** This project is a capital improvement, which along with coastal acquisitions is one of the highest priorities of CREF.
- (+/-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant seeks \$40,000 from the South Coast East Quimby and Development Trust Fund. The applicant offers \$11,000 as in-kind project management and inspection services. For Phase II, the applicant seeks 72% of the total budget from CREF.

In its 2003 proposal, the applicant stated that it would seek monies for Phase II from future CREF cycles and from Prop 12 and 40 grant programs. However, in the 2006 cycle, the applicant explained that this proposal was not a priority for Prop 12 and 40.

In the 2006 cycle, the applicant stated that it could seek up to \$30,000 from the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Small Grants Program for the bioswale portion of the project. In this cycle, the applicant states that applying for this funding would require a significant amount of community/volunteer partnerships which would require staff resources not available for this type of effort.

- (+/-) **Criterion #6.** Maintenance responsibilities and costs will increase a little once the project is completed.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the applicant can successfully complete the proposal since the applicant has: (a) completed construction plans and specifications for the proposal; (b) secured the necessary Coastal Development permits; and (c) successfully completed Phase I.

**Other Considerations:** The applicant states that the proposal is identified within the County's Five Year Capital Improvement Program, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in fiscal year 2006-2007. This document does not rank proposals.

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**PROJECT # 2**  
**FRANKLIN TRAIL CONSTRUCTION**

*1<sup>st</sup> District*  
*Santa Barbara County Parks Department*  
*Requests \$24,000*  
*Total Project Costs: Approximately \$432,800*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests monies to construct an approximate 5-mile multi-use trail (hiking, biking, and equestrian use), beginning on Foothill Road in Carpinteria (near the high school) heading up near the ridge of the local mountains. Trail construction would include: erosion controls, trail retaining structures, fencing, gates, signs, information kiosks, and parking area.

**Staff Recommendation:** Grant full request of \$24,000 in 2007, contingent on the applicant securing a \$380,864 grant from the State of California Recreational Trails Program.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant ranks this proposal second of three submitted.

**Background:** The applicant states there use to be a trail, linking the Los Padres National Forest with the beach area; however the use of it was loss a few decades ago with the intensification of agriculture and change in land ownership.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+/-) **Criterion #1.** The trail begins approximately 1.5 miles away from the coastline and heads up to the crest of the local mountains in Carpinteria. The only coastal nexus of the proposal is the ocean views from the proposed trail; therefore, we consider the proposal to be partially coastal related.
- (+/-) **Criterion #2.** Since the proposal has a partial coastal nexus (see *Criterion #1*), the proposal would partially enhance coastal recreation by providing a trail that offers sweeping views of the coastline and the Channel Islands.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** This proposal would provide a broad public benefit for hikers and horseback riders in this area. Not many trails within this area climb up to the ridge.
- (+/-) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is a capital improvement with a partial coastal nexus (see *Criterion #1*); therefore, this proposal partially satisfies the higher priorities of CREF, which are coastal acquisitions and coastal capital improvements.
- (+) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant has applied for a \$380,864 grant from the State of California Recreational Trails Program. The Recreational Trails grant request equates to 88% of the total project budget. The grant program requires a 12% match. The applicant is seeking half of the match (or 6% of the total project budget) from CREF. The other half of the match is secured already and is coming from in-kind services, valued at \$27,936. These in-kind services are project management from the applicant and trail design and development from various trail groups.

- (+/-) **Criterion #6.** Trail maintenance would increase the County’s ongoing maintenance costs, although the County would likely rely on volunteer efforts, such as trail groups, to help with the maintenance.
- (+/-) **Criterion #8.** The applicant has prepared an Initial Study, which identifies any potential environmental impacts of the trail construction. The applicant said that all impacts would probably not be significant and could be mitigated. An Archaeological Phase I study has been prepared and some resources will need to be protected. Staff believes the applicant can successfully complete the trail; however, it may take some time since the applicant still has a number of outstanding CREF projects.

**Other Considerations:** The applicant has been talking to the Forest Service about linking the proposed 5-mile trail to a proposed future 2-mile trail that would reach the crest of the mountains. The Forest Service has agreed to reestablish these 2 miles; however, no formal agreement with the Forest Service is in place nor is funding secured. In addition, before opening this 2-mile section, the Forest Service would require a commitment from another agency or organization to commit to maintaining the trail to federal standards.

When asked about the potential conflict between public use and nearby agricultural lands, the applicant stated that it has had preliminary discussions with the nearby agricultural owners. A couple of the existing trail easement grants that it holds are specific as to the need for fencing and gates to separate the public and agricultural lands.

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**PROJECT # 3**  
**WALTER CAPPS PARK DEVELOPMENT**

*3<sup>rd</sup> District*

*Santa Barbara County Parks Department*

*Requests \$84,000 in 2007, \$268,400 in 2008, and \$84,000 in 2009*

*Total Project Costs: \$600,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests three-years (see above) of funding to develop a two-acre open space park in Isla Vista. The park would be developed with walks, benches, turf play area, a native plant restoration area, and a memorial to the late Walter Capps. In addition, public restrooms with outdoor shower heads would be provided at the park (see *Background* section regarding another CREF grant).

**Staff Recommendation:** Grant full request, \$84,000, in 2007. Consider funding a portion of its request, \$130,800, in 2008 and the full request, \$84,000 in 2009.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant ranks this proposal third of three submitted.

**Background:** In March of 2006, the County finalized the purchase of 5 parcels along the Isla Vista bluff top. The purchase was aided by three CREF grants from the 2001, 2003, and 2005 cycles, totaling \$766,009.

In the 2003 CREF cycle, the Board of Supervisors awarded the applicant \$30,000 towards constructing a public restroom facility, with outdoor shower heads, along Del Playa in Isla Vista. Workshops have been conducted to solicit input from area residents and interested parties to choose a site for the facility. A feasibility study has been prepared that looked at compatibility issues, space, adequate utilities, and cost estimates at all publicly owned properties along Del Playa. After many years, this subject proposal site was settled on.

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- (+) ***Criterion #1.*** The proposal enhances coastal bluff top property.
- (+) ***Criterion #2.*** The proposal enhances coastal recreation by providing for passive recreational opportunities. For some, development of the park aesthetically enhances five vacant parcels.
- (+) ***Criterion #3.*** The proposal provides a broad level of public benefit, mostly for the residents of Isla Vista and the students and faculty at UCSB.
- (+) ***Criterion #4.*** This proposal is considered capital improvements, which satisfies the higher priority of CREF.
- (+/-) ***Criteria #5 and #7.*** The project's total budget is \$600,000. The applicant seeks 73% of the total budget from CREF over three years: \$84,000 in 2007, \$268,400 in 2008, and \$84,000 in 2009. The applicant has secured the approximate \$163,000 from the surplus of the County's sale of a couple other Isla Vista properties.

- (-) **Criterion #6.** There would be ongoing operational or maintenance costs associated with maintenance of the future park; the applicant budgeted \$50,000 annually towards the park maintenance.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the applicant can successfully complete the project. The County recently bought the land, and the County has wanted to provide bathrooms along Del Playa Road for many years. However, the Board would need to commit to all three years of funding from CREF for this proposal to be realized since the applicant anticipates 73% of the total budget from CREF.

**Other Considerations:** Park's Department's request in 2008 for the Walter Capps Park is more than the funds available for general-type proposals in that year.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> The amount of general allocation money available in 2008 is speculative at this time. (The County assesses CREF fees every five years; the 2008-2012 fee assessment will occur in summer of 2007.)

**PROJECT # 4**  
**WATER RESCUE PROGRAM**

*County-Wide (except 5<sup>th</sup> District)*  
*Santa Barbara County Fire Department*  
*Requests \$228,100*  
*Total Project Costs: \$228,100*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests monies towards its offshore rescue and response program:

- a rescue boat, specifically a Zodiac Hurricane RIB (\$175,000 CREF request);
- three night vision goggles (\$9,000 CREF request)
- 6 person training for four days in Maryland (includes air fare, classes, lodging, meals, and car rentals) and coverage of personnel for those four days (\$39,500 CREF request);
- three helmets (\$3,000 CREF request); and
- 2 person acceptance test trip for 3 days in Vancouver, Canada (includes air fare, car rental, and food).

This would enable the applicant to coordinate a countywide emergency and non-emergency (patrol, enforcement) offshore response combining multiple agencies (i.e., Santa Barbara County Sheriff Department, Santa Barbara City Fire Department, and State Lifeguards) into one uniform group.

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny request. The proposal is not included in the Capital Improvement Plan. In addition, the applicant has not secured a long-term funding source for the significant annual operational costs.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submits only this proposal.

**Background:** The Santa Barbara County Fire Department's water rescue program was initiated in 1992. Currently, the program includes a response vehicle, additional equipment, loan of two jet skis and three inflatable boats. The applicant states that it can minimally respond to small inshore emergencies due to lack of adequate carrying capacity and equipment. The applicant explained further that it cannot accommodate any rescues involving more than six people. The applicant explained that the Coast Guard is not available in Santa Barbara all the time and has obligations between Mexico and Oregon. The Harbor Patrol is limited with rescuing a large number of people.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposal has a coastal nexus in that it would expand the rescue capability for those in need out at sea.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal could enhance a coastal recreation experience that had turned into a disaster by increasing the chances of successfully rescuing those in need.

- (+) **Criterion #3.** The proposal would benefit people who have had an accident in the ocean (down plane, boat, and kayak). Most of the rescues are in the waters off the south coast; however, the applicant did say that it helps rescues off of Jalama Beach and Guadalupe Dunes.
- (-) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is an equipment purchase and does not satisfy the higher priority of CREF, which is coastal acquisition and capital improvements associated with a coastal use.
- (-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant requests 100% of the budget from CREF. The applicant did state that it could approach the Fire Alliance, a fund-raising group for the City and County of Santa Barbara Fire Departments, for funding.
- (-) **Criterion #6.** The applicant has initiated talks with the Santa Barbara Airport to provide the necessary ongoing operational costs associated with the boat, which are estimated at approximately \$100,000 annually. The applicant, a County agency, would provide for housing the equipment, vehicle maintenance, and program management; this would increase ongoing County costs.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** The proposal is for equipment purchases so it could be completed successfully once the money is raised. The applicant explained that there is a need for this type of boat in the event of a larger person rescue effort. The boat would be safer for the rescuers also. However, long-term success of this program relies on the need for the applicant to secure a continual funding source for the annual operating costs, approximately \$100,000.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 5**  
**OCEAN BEACH MONITORING & EDUCATION**

*1<sup>st</sup> District*  
*City of Carpinteria*  
*Requests \$19,350*  
*Total Project Costs: \$27,650*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant proposes to purchase two internet camera systems, two monocular biological digital microscopes, and two 32-inch monitors. The cameras would be placed atop the Ash Avenue lifeguard tower on the Carpinteria City Beach and atop the bathrooms on the Carpinteria Bluffs. The cameras would offer panoramic and still photographs of the adjacent coastal beaches and land. The camera systems include a device that measures and reports air temperature, wind velocity and direction, and the rainfall and humidity amounts. The internet camera systems would hook up to NOAA's (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Rincon Near-shore Buoy that monitors ocean temperature and wave height. All this information would be accessible through the applicant's municipal website.

The two microscopes and two monitors would be used to view microscopic life in water samples taken from the ocean, salt marsh, and local creeks. The equipment would be primarily housed at the Carpinteria Boat House, which is adjacent to Ash Avenue life guard station and the Carpinteria Marsh. The items would be portable to be deployed for special events.

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny request; other proposals submitted appear to have a greater benefit to the community.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submitted only one proposal.

**Background:** The three locations for the internet camera systems to be installed and microscopes to be housed are all past CREF projects.

- Five CREF grants, totaling \$346,500, between the years 1990 and 2003, have gone towards purchasing and restoring the Carpinteria Salt Marsh (which would be viewed from one of the cameras).
  - Six CREF grants, totaling \$542,629, between the years 1991 and 2004, have gone towards purchasing and improving the Carpinteria Bluffs (one of the cameras would be installed on top of the Bluff restrooms).
  - One CREF grant for \$60,000 in 1997 went towards constructing the Carpinteria Boat House (where the microscopes would be housed).
  - One CREF grant for \$20,000 in 2005 went towards constructing the lifeguard station (where the other camera would be installed).
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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposal is coastal related in that the subject of the proposal involves coastal weather and ocean water information.



- (+/-) **Criterion #2.** The cameras would be accessed mostly by local residents and tourist wanting to recreate near the coast. To some extent, this may enhance coastal recreation and coastal tourism. The microscopes would be used to enhance the knowledge of environmentally sensitive coastal resources.
- (+/-) **Criterion #3.** The proposed cameras may benefit local residents and tourist wanting to recreate near the coast (kayakers, walkers, surfers, snorklers, fishers, etc.). The microscopes may benefit students and teachers at local and regional schools.
- (-) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is considered equipment purchases. This is not considered one of the higher priorities of CREF, which are coastal capital improvements and coastal acquisitions.
- (+/-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant offers \$7,200 as matching funds from its general fund to pay for video system and phone line installations and project manager costs. The CREF request equates to 70% of the total project; the applicant offers 30%.
- (+) **Criterion #6.** The applicant states that to keep the proposed project available to the public would come from the City's Tideland Trust Funds, which is dedicated to providing beach and coastal related services for all Californians.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** When building the two locations for the cameras (lifeguard station and restrooms), the applicant had pre-wired underground telephone and electrical lines to the locations. The applicant states the equipment that will be purchased will be durable. The applicant has been a successful CREF grantee in the past. Staff believes the proposed project can be completed successfully.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 6**  
**LOOKOUT PARK ARUNDO REMOVAL PROJECT**

*1<sup>st</sup> District*

*Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office*

*Requests \$40,000*

*Total Project Costs: \$97,420*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant proposes to use CREF monies removing 1.7 acres of Arundo donax, also known as giant reed or simply Arundo, from Lookout Park County Park. Arundo is an invasive, non-native weed. The applicant proposes to stump cut mature stands of Arundo, apply an herbicide, and replant areas with native plants and erosion control material. Treatment of the regrowth of Arundo in subsequent years (5 years plus) would involve foliar spraying of the herbicide.

With in-kind monies, the applicant also proposes to survey and map the extent of Arundo at selected beaches along Santa Barbara County to determine future needs. The survey would begin at Rincon Beach County Park and end up at Guadalupe Dunes County Park. The applicant states that this is part of a larger arundo mapping and control project for Santa Barbara County.

**Staff Recommendation:** Grant full request in the 2007 cycle.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submits only this proposal.

**Background:** Arundo, an invasive non-native noxious weed, invades riparian channels, especially in disturbed areas. It is very competitive, difficult to control, and does not provide high quality food or nesting habitat for native animals.

In the 2006 CREF cycle, the applicant submitted this proposal and the Board of Supervisors deferred consideration of it for the 2007 or 2008 cycles.

The applicant received a \$21,888 CREF grant in the 2003 cycle to remove pampas grass along a natural seep area along Elings Park's access road and the riparian habitat along Arroyo Burro Creek.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** Staff considers the proposal to possess a coastal relationship since it is removing Arundo on the beach at Lookout Park. In addition, the applicant will be surveying and mapping the extent of arundo all along the coast of Santa Barbara and determining the future removal needs.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal enhances an environmentally sensitive coastal resource, the beach ecosystem. Arundo displaces native vegetation and associated wildlife because of the massive stands it forms. Removal of arundo enhances biodiversity and habitat quality.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The proposal benefits the ecosystem at Lookout Park. In addition, the proposal will be benefiting all beach ecosystems along the county's coast since the applicant is taking the first step (mapping) towards removing arundo in Santa Barbara County.

- (+) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is a capital improvement because it is a restoration project and is, therefore, considered a high priority of CREF.
- (+) **Criteria #5 and#7.** The applicant is seeking 41% of the project's funding from CREF and offers the remaining 59% as in-kind services. The applicant offers in-kind services, valued at \$57,420, from itself and various volunteers for project management, tools, erosion control planning, and surveying/mapping Arundo.
- (-) **Criterion #6.** The applicant is requesting that CREF pay for the second and third years of Arundo maintenance at Lookout Park (\$4,800) and the applicant (a County agency) would be responsible for maintenance from then on.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the initial project can be completed successfully. Since the proposal involves a very competitive species, the applicant will need to do much follow up work to eradicate the species.

**Other Considerations:** The applicant successfully implemented its pampas grass removal project, funded by a 2003 CREF grant. The applicant proves to be a good CREF applicant, sending in detailed invoices and alerting staff of any project scope or budget changes.

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**PROJECT # 7**  
**NATIVE SEED & PLANT PROPAGATION FACILITIES**

*1<sup>st</sup> District*  
*Santa Barbara Botanic Garden*  
*Requests \$74,300*  
*Total Project Costs: \$8,144,300*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant proposes to create an ecological restoration center on 88 acres in Carpinteria. The purpose of the center would be to propagate endemic native plants for the subject site and restoration projects in the Central Coast region. The applicant states the site would be open to groups for education and research purposes (e.g., workshops, demonstration projects) on an invitation basis only.

Specifically, the applicant would:

- remodel a current building onsite to house a seed cleaning and storage facility (\$23,300 CREF request);
- purchase a utility vehicle (\$15,000 CREF request); and
- restore some of the site into a propagation and growing area for plants and restoration plots for experimental and demonstration purposes, which involves removing invasive plants, constructing a shade cloth structure, and installing weed matting, irrigation, and fencing (\$36,000 CREF request).

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny request; other proposals submitted appear to have a stronger coastal nexus and a greater benefit to the community.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submitted only this proposal.

**Background:** The applicant was gifted 88 acres of land in Carpinteria.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+/-) **Criterion #1.** Staff considers the proposal to have a partial coastal nexus. The seed propagation that would occur onsite would involve both coastal and non-coastal native plant species.
- (+/-) **Criterion #2.** Growing native plants for the subject site and future local restoration projects would partially enhance environmentally sensitive coastal habitats (see *Criterion #1*).
- (+/-) **Criterion #3.** The site would be open to groups for education and research purposes (e.g., workshops, demonstration projects) on an invitation basis only. The applicant estimated approximately 1,000 people a year. Although a public benefit, staff does not consider this a *broad* public benefit. However, the seed propagating facility would benefit the restoration efforts at the subject site and benefiting any future restoration project that it will serve.

- (+/-) **Criterion #4.** Most of the project is a capital improvement; however, it is considered a partial coastal-nexus (see *Criterion #1*). Therefore, it partially qualifies as a high priority for CREF. Fifteen thousand of the CREF request, or 20% of the request, is for a utility vehicle that would be used for hauling plants, propagation material, and weeds. Once the restoration efforts are completed, this vehicle would be used for on-going operations and maintenance tasks (see *Criterion #6*).
- (+) **Criteria#5 and#7.** The applicant is seeking \$126,000 from various individual donors and funding foundations. The applicant has secured \$20,000 for mapping of invasive weeds onsite. The applicant states that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will use the subject site as a test site for biological eradication and control of invasive Cape Ivy, estimated at \$10,000. The applicant received the site, valued at \$8 million as a gift.
- (+/-) **Criterion #6.** The applicant requests that CREF purchase a vehicle that would be used for ongoing operations & maintenance of the property; CREF does not pay for these types of costs. The applicant would oversee other operations and maintenance of the subject site. Funding would come from fundraising donations and grants; this is not a secured source of funding. However, the applicant has successfully operated the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for over 80 years.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** The applicant has successfully operated the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for 80 years. It has received an 88-acre site for this project. Staff believes the project can be completed successfully.

**Other Considerations:** In the past, the CREF program has awarded a couple grants to Growing Solutions, Inc., which also grows native plants for restoration projects. In talking with some people in this profession, it appears that the demand is there and will continue to be so in the future for local native plants for restoration projects.

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**PROJECT # 8**  
**CHANNEL WATCH PATROL BOAT**

*1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Districts*  
*Santa Barbara Channel Keeper*  
*Requests \$50,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$240,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant is requesting CREF monies to help replace its boat. The boat enables the applicant to patrol the channel for pollution, collect water samples, and conduct marine habitat monitoring and restoration. A newer and larger boat would allow the applicant to continue doing all these tasks more safely and comfortably, increase its frequency of collecting water samples, and add additional on-the-water programs. Additional programs include making regular patrols of high-risk pollution facilities and taking students and other community members out on the water for interpretative tours and other educational purposes.

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny request due to competitiveness of the cycle.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submitted only this proposal.

**Background:** Currently, the applicant has a 30-year old boat that is 26-feet long. The boat is experiencing numerous mechanical and structural difficulties. The applicant has marine habitat restoration projects in Carpinteria, Goleta, and the Channel Islands. In addition, the applicant picks up and records trash debris and collects plankton samples for the State of California's toxic algal bloom monitoring program.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The coastal relationship with the proposal is that monitoring of ocean pollution and certain marine restoration projects would continue and expand.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal would enhance environmentally sensitive coastal resources by continuing to monitor ocean pollution and restore certain marine environments (e.g., eelgrass at the Channel Island).
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The proposal would benefit policy makers and ocean environmental advocates with the continued and expanded water samplings. It is uncertain if the water sampling and data collected by the applicant affect policy makers to make policy decisions that enhance the ocean water quality.
- (-) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is an equipment purchase, which is not considered a higher priority of CREF (coastal capital improvements or coastal land acquisitions).
- (+) **Criteria#5 and #7.** The applicant seeks 21% of the boat and associated costs (slip and transfer fee). It seeks the remaining 79% from the Wendy P. McCaw Foundation, the Hutton Foundation, and the

Norcross Foundation. In addition, the applicant has launched a special fund-raising campaign for the proposed boat.

- (+) **Criterion #6.** The applicant states that it will use some of its funds from the Carpinteria Reef kelp monitoring program to fund the higher costs associated with a new and larger boat. In addition, it received monitoring money (including boat operation monies) from British Petroleum for five years to monitor kelp recruitment at the newly installed artificial reef at Bird Island off of Ellwood. The applicant hopes to secure multi-year funding for two other monitoring programs (eelgrass and water quality in the Sanctuary) and would use some of the funds from those programs to operate, maintain, and insure the new boat. The applicant feels very confident about securing these multi-year monitoring programs due to the State's recent allocation of several million dollars for a variety of ocean protection initiatives, the coming of the Marine Life Protection Act initiative to Southern California, and the preparation of a Channel Islands Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Plan (similar to that in place at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary).
  
- (+) **Criterion #8.** The applicant has been doing boat patrols for over 6 years. The applicant states that its findings from monitoring water quality are reported to several agencies (Regional Water Quality Control Board, County of Santa Barbara, City of Ventura, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, National Park Service, Coast Guard, Army Corps of Engineers, State Lands Commission, State Health Department) and are used as the basis for cleaning up the sources. The applicant cited a number of specific examples, including its discovery of nitrates that originated from some greenhouses in Carpinteria and entered the local creeks and Carpinteria Salt Marsh. The Regional Water Quality Control Board verified the applicant's water quality data and required greenhouses to account for all wastewater they produce.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 9**  
**EMERGENCY GENERATOR & ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT**

*2<sup>nd</sup> District*  
*Ty Warner Sea Center/Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History*  
*Requests \$85,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$85,145*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests the following improvements:

- a generator;
- associated intake line material;
- new head tanks;
- new air system parts;
- new higher capacity chillers; and
- administrative costs.

The applicant has operated the new Sea Center on the Wharf for approximately two years. The applicant states it has a constant electrical outage occurring once every two months. When this occurs, it triggers a stressful situation (see *Other Considerations*) to keep the animals safe and protected.

**Staff Recommendation:** Consider granting \$46,800 in the 2009 cycle.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submitted only this proposal.

**Background:** The Sea Center, located on Stearns Wharf in Santa Barbara, is a visitor center for local marine education. The applicant has received five past CREF grants that involved the Sea Center:

- \$115,000 in 1989 to fabricate and install an outdoor exhibit featuring a touch tank with live marine organisms;
- \$23,523 in 1995 for the touch tank's shade canopy;
- \$25,000 in 2001 to purchase a van and provide the public with a mobile science marine laboratory while the Sea Center was closed for renovation and beyond that time;
- \$50,000 in 2003 to improve the wharf pier to support the expansion of the Sea Center; and
- \$13,000 in 2003 for a shark exhibit.

In addition, the applicant has received two CREF grants to help with its Los Marineros Marine Education program: (a) \$20,000 in 1992; and (b) \$11,723 in 1995.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (+/-) means partially satisfies; and (-) means it does not satisfy the criterion.]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposal has a strong coastal relationship. Protecting the health and lives of the sea animals, helps the Center with their mission to help visitors understand the uniqueness and beauty of the marine, coastal, and island environments of our region.



- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal would enhance coastal recreation, tourism, and environmentally sensitive coastal resources by protecting the animals' environment during electrical outages. Keeping the animals healthy and alive helps the Center with its mission, regarding teaching about marine species and their environment.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** In the past year, the Sea Center has served over 140,000 visitors, both local residents and tourists. The Sea Center helps K-12 schools with science curriculum and hands-on research activities.
- (+/-) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is considered both capital improvements and equipment purchases, which partially satisfies the higher priority of CREF.
- (-) **Criteria#5 and#7.** The applicant is seeking the entire budget for the electrical outage protection upgrades from CREF.
- (+) **Criterion #6.** There would be no ongoing County operations or maintenance involved with this proposal. The applicant states that the proposal would decrease its costs associated with dealing with an emergency crisis mode (see *Other Considerations*).
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the project can be completed successfully. The applicant has operated the new Sea Center for approximately two years and knows what is needed to reduce the emergency crisis mode during an electrical outage. In addition, the applicant has successfully renovated the Sea Center in the past and successfully operated the Sea Center for a number of years.

**Other Considerations:** In the CREF application, the applicant described in detail the problems associated with an electrical outage at the center. The marine animals in the exhibits need a continuous supply of fresh water and oxygen to survive. If an outage occurs during business hours, the staff evacuates the building of all visitors, offering them a refund or a free pass for a future return. One staff employee will call all off-duty staff to report to the center. From the emergency crash kit, staff adds air to each exhibit tank, replacing batteries every 1-2 hours. Then the staff begins a bucket brigade, lowering one bucket into the water below the wharf and then passing it to each person down the line until fresh water has reached each tank. There are 25 tanks, ranging in size from 10-1,500 gallons. Air and fresh water eliminates the build up of waste and the potential for the temperature of the water to increase.

An outage also affects the computer controlled pump system, sending a false "empty" signal to the computer, which in turn causes it to send more water from the storage tanks to the main tanks. The tanks overflow, dumping excess water into the ocean. Previously chilled water is lost and the pumps are at risk if the system ran dry.

**PROJECT # 10**  
**SURFING EXHIBIT**

*2<sup>nd</sup> District*  
*Santa Barbara Maritime Museum*  
*Requests \$50,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$335,391*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests monies for a surfing exhibit in the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum at the harbor. The exhibit will feature the history of surfing, development of the sport over the years, and its relationship to Santa Barbara's recreation, industry, and lifestyle. The exhibit will fill a 30-foot space in the museum. It'll consist of a 15-foot wave tube, carved from foam. Spaces will be cut out in the wave tube's wall with five monitors showing surf films and oral histories. Other items to be purchased will be a graphics server, three pedestals, artifacts, surfboards, photographs, and exhibit case covers.

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny request due to competitiveness of the cycle.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant has submitted only one proposal.

**Background:** The Board of Supervisors awarded a 1996 CREF grant for \$30,000 to the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum for construction of specific maritime exhibit cases, a 1998 grant for \$15,172 towards construction of an auditorium in the museum, and a 1999 CREF grant for \$8,850 towards the museum's library. The Museum is in its seventh year of operation.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposal possesses a strong coastal relationship by educating the general public about surfing, a sport that is dependent on the ocean.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal would enhance coastal tourism and coastal recreation. Many recreating at the beach in Santa Barbara do so at the Santa Barbara Harbor. The exhibit could enhance the Museum experience for some.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The applicant estimates an annual attendance of 25,000 people, including 8,000 children. The museum visitors' profile is 35% youth and 65% adults. One quarter of these visitors are from Santa Barbara County and three-quarters from outside the County.
- (+) **Criterion #4.** As a capital improvement, the proposal satisfies the higher priority of CREF.
- (+) **Criteria#5 and#7.** Towards the proposal's budget, the applicant has secured \$105,000 from the Wood Family Foundation and MSST Foundation and has \$65,000 pledged from the City's Redevelopment Agency. The applicant has sought an additional \$55,000 from three sources and will be soliciting over \$150,000 from various foundations, individuals, and corporations. The applicant seeks only 15% of the proposal's budget from CREF.

- (+) **Criterion #6.** There would be no ongoing County operations or maintenance involved with this proposal. The applicant estimates that the exhibit would cost approximately \$750 a year to maintain. In March of 2006, the applicant successfully completed its Eliminate the Loan campaign. So all money raised from this point forward will go towards ongoing operations and maintenance.
  
  - (+) **Criterion #8.** The Museum's overall fund-raising activities have been aggressive and successful. In March of 2006, it successfully completed the Eliminate the Loan Campaign (raising over \$600,000 in a 9 month period). The Museum is entering its 7<sup>th</sup> year of operation. It has successfully completed 3 previous CREF grants. Staff considers the proposal can be completed successfully.
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**PROJECT # 11**  
**SANTA BARBARA SHORES PARK & SPERLING PRESERVE**  
**(ELLWOOD MESA) ACCESS POINT IMPROVEMENTS**

*3<sup>rd</sup> District*  
*City of Goleta*  
*Requests \$50,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$90,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests funds to make improvements to five access points to the Sperling Preserve: Santa Barbara Shores Access, Anchor Drive Access, Newport/Palos Verdes Drive Access, Pebble Beach Drive/Hollister Avenue Access, and Coronado Drive Access. Improvements to each of the five access points include:

- pedestrian gates (prohibiting motorized off-road vehicles);
- signs (location map, trail rules, and guidance on resource protection); and
- mutt-mitt stations and trash cans.

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny request due to competitiveness of cycle and priority of the applicant's proposals.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant ranks this proposal second out of the two it submitted.

**Background:** In February of 2005, the City of Goleta acquired the 137-acre Sperling Preserve from the Trust for Public Lands. The Sperling Preserve and the adjacent Santa Barbara Shores are known as the Ellwood Mesa Open Space area. An Open Space and Habitat Management Plan was drafted and identifies the importance of maintaining 21 access points to the Ellwood Mesa to disperse the concentration of users.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The coastal nexus for the proposed improvements at the existing five access points would help the public understand how it can protect the natural resources along the bluff top. The gates would prohibit motorized vehicles from damaging coastal wetlands, native grasslands, and Monarch butterfly roosts. The mutt-mitt stations and trash cans provide ease for dog owners to clean up after their pets and not degrade the local creek and ocean water quality.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The project aims to enhance coastal recreation, coastal tourism, environmentally sensitive coastal resources, and coastal aesthetics by protecting resources onsite (see *Criterion #1*). If users follow the rules and guidance provided by the signs, mutt-mitt stations, trash cans, and gates, the Sperling Preserve would be enhanced.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** Historically, many people walk, jog, bike, horseback-ride, bird-watch, and use the site for beach access. The proposed improvements to the access points would benefit those using the site by allowing the user to know the rules and advisories for using this site.

- (+) **Criterion #4.** The proposed improvements are capital improvements, therefore, satisfying the higher priority of CREF.
- (+/-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant seeks 56% of the total budget from CREF. The applicant offers \$20,000 towards material costs and \$20,000 as in-kind services towards permitting and installing the improvements.
- (+) **Criterion #6.** There would be no ongoing County operational costs. The City would maintain the improvements to the site.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the applicant can successfully complete the project. The improvements are straight-forward items with easy installation.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 12**  
**DOTY PARCEL ACQUISITION AT ELLWOOD MESA**

*3<sup>rd</sup> District*  
*City of Goleta*  
*Requests \$350,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$425,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests monies to purchase the Doty property, a one-acre property, located northeast of the Ellwood Mesa area. There are no structures onsite and there is not a driveway to this property. Currently, paths traverse the property, leading in all directions.

**Staff Recommendation:** Recommend full request, \$350,000, in the 2007 cycle.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant ranks this proposal first of two submitted.

**Background:** In February of 2005, the City of Goleta acquired the 137-acre Sperling Preserve from the Trust for Public Lands. The Sperling Preserve and the adjacent Santa Barbara Shores are known as the Ellwood Mesa Open Space area. The subject property was not included in the preserve. The Coastal Commission recently approved the University of California, Santa Barbara's request to build 172 units to the northeast of the Doty property.

The appraisal, dated August 2006, states "The proposed Goleta General Plan proposes to zone the subject for open space." In addition, the appraisal states for the highest and best use of the property "...Much of its area appears to be in low-lying creek habitat and sensitive environmental areas. It has many constraints standing in the way of private use. In my opinion, the only current possible use is for speculative purchase in the hope that enough non-sensitive area can be found to contain a single family residence."

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposed property has a coastal nexus. It is a part of the Ellwood Mesa area and has environmentally sensitive resources onsite. However, staff is uncertain of how strong the coastal nexus is. It is in the northeast corner of the preserve, close to residential development and future residential development. The appraisal stated that the property is very constrained with much of it in a low lying creek habitat and thought it might have the potential for one single family residence.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** Purchase of the proposed property would enhance coastal recreation and environmentally sensitive coastal resources. Regarding enhancement of coastal recreation, there are numerous trails onsite, many leading to the coast. If the applicant purchased the property, the trails would remain. Regarding enhancement of environmentally sensitive coastal resources, the contiguous habitat with the Ellwood Mesa would not be broken up further.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The project would benefit present and future users of this site. Historically, many people walk, jog, bike, horseback-ride, bird-watch, and use the site for beach access.

- (+) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is a coastal acquisition, which satisfies the higher priority of CREF.
- (-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant seeks 82% of the total budget costs from CREF. The applicant offers the remaining 18% for purchasing the land (\$50,000) and in-kind for appraisal costs, legal fees, closing costs, and staff time (\$25,000).
- (+) **Criterion #6.** The applicant has an annual budget of \$275,000 for the maintenance of the Ellwood Mesa Open Space area. The applicant states that the one-acre property would not increase this budget significantly.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Once funded, staff believes the project can be completed successfully. The applicant already owns and maintains 137 acres adjacent to the property.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 13**  
**ACQUISITION OF GAVIOTA TERMINAL PROJECT**

*3<sup>rd</sup> District*  
*Trust for Public Land*  
*Requests \$500,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$3 million*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests monies to help purchase 42.44 acres of coastal blufftop property along the Gaviota Coast, more commonly known as the Gaviota Terminal property. The site is surrounded on the east and west by the Gaviota State Park, on the south by the Pacific Ocean, and the north by Highway 101 and Point Arguello oil and gas facility. The property is bisected by the railroad, leaving approximately 10 acres on the ocean side and 32 acres in between the railroad and Highway 101. The applicant states the purchase would connect two existing sections of Gaviota State Park. The site contains a half mile of coastline.

**Staff Recommendation:** Recommend \$667,034 in the 2007 cycle and \$332,966 in the 2008 cycle. The entire \$1 million could be used for this proposal or the Gaviota Village proposal (see Project #14).

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** For the 2007 CREF cycle, the applicant ranks this proposal second of the two submitted. For the 2008 cycle, the applicant ranks this proposal first of the two submitted.

**Background:** The applicant is currently negotiating the terms of an option to purchase the property. Currently the site contains emptied oil tanks, pipelines, wells, fencing, and gates. The Gaviota Terminal Company, current owner of the property, has submitted an application into Planning & Development to remove all structures onsite.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The subject property is a coastal blufftop terrace, offering sweeping views of the Santa Barbara Channel. The property is home to many environmentally sensitive coastal-related species (e.g., native grasslands and coastal scrub). The subject property would offer beach access. The project is consistent with the Local Coastal Program.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** This proposal would enhance coastal recreation and coastal tourism. The site is currently inaccessible since it is privately owned. Purchase of the site would make 42 acres of coastal blufftop property available. It would open up public access. The site contains many biological resources.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The acquired property would benefit present and future generations. The applicant would open the property's scenic and recreational amenities to the public.
- (+) **Criterion #4.** The project is a coastal acquisition, thereby satisfying the higher priority of CREF.



- (+) **Criterion #5 and Criterion #7.** The applicant seeks 17% of the total budget from CREF. The applicant is seeking the remaining 83% from various public sources (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Federal Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, State Department of Parks, State Coastal Conservancy, and CalTrans and State Resources Agency’s Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program) and private sources. The applicant offers in-kind services for its fund-raising efforts.
  
- (+/-) **Criterion #6.** The applicant has not identified the long-term managing entity for the property. The applicant states it has had preliminary discussions with the State Department of Parks and Recreation.
  
- (+/-) **Criterion #8.** In the past 34 years, the applicant has completed more than 3,300 land conservation projects in 48 states. The applicant led the successful campaigns for Ellwood Mesa, El Capitan Beach, and the Douglas Family Preserve (Wilcox Property). In this case, it remains uncertain if the landowner is a willing seller. The applicant has been in discussion with the owner for a year.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 14**  
**ACQUISITION OF THE GAVIOTA VILLAGE PROPERTY**

*3<sup>rd</sup> District*  
*Trust for Public Land*  
*Requests \$500,000*  
*Total Project Costs: \$3-4 million*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests monies to purchase 43.37 acres, more commonly known as the Gaviota Village Property, located on the western end on the Gaviota coast. The property is made up of two parcels, one which is zoned Commercial Highway. The property is boarded by Highway 101 on the south, Gaviota State Park open space on the west, and to the east and north agricultural lands. Canada del Barro runs through the property.

**Staff Recommendation:** Recommend \$667,034 in the 2007 cycle and \$332,966 in the 2008 cycle. The entire \$1 million could be used for this proposal or the Gaviota Terminal proposal (see Project #13).

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant ranks this proposal first of two submitted in the 2007 cycle; however, for the 2008 cycle, it ranks this proposal second of the two.

**Background:** The property has historically been used as a restaurant, service station, and grocery store, which were located in the south central portion of the property. The service station and associated tanks have been removed. Two unimproved roads, leading to the abandoned developed area also exist.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The subject property is a coastal blufftop terrace, offering sweeping views of the Santa Barbara Channel. The property is home to many environmentally sensitive coastal-related species (e.g., native grasslands and coastal scrub). The subject property would offer public access to the site with sweeping ocean views. The project is consistent with the Local Coastal Program.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** This proposal preserves open space along the coast and offers the public a picnicking spot with sweeping ocean views. The applicant states it may be a potential trail head for a future trail into the Gaviota State Park. The proposal would enhance coastal aesthetics, recreation, tourism, and environmentally sensitive resources.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The acquired property would benefit present and future generations. The applicant would open the property's scenic and limited recreational amenities to the public.
- (+) **Criterion #4.** The project is a coastal acquisition, thereby satisfying the higher priority of CREF.
- (+) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant seeks 13-17% of the total budget from CREF. The applicant is seeking the remaining 83-87% from various public sources (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Federal Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, State Department of Parks, State Coastal Conservancy, and CalTrans and State Resources Agency's Environmental

Enhancement and Mitigation Program) and private sources. The applicant offers in-kind services for its fund-raising efforts.

- (+/-) **Criterion #6.** The applicant has not identified the long-term managing entity for the property. The applicant states it has had preliminary discussions with the State Department of Parks and Recreation and County of Santa Barbara.
  
- (+/-) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the applicant can successfully complete the purchase of the property. In the past 34 years, the applicant has completed more than 3,300 land conservation projects in 48 states. The applicant led the successful campaigns for Ellwood Mesa, El Capitan Beach, and the Douglas Family Preserve (Wilcox Property). The owner of the site is a willing seller; however, the applicant has not entered into escrow yet.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 15**  
**TIDE & SEEK**

*5<sup>th</sup> District*

*The Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum*

*Requests \$45,000*

*Total Project Costs: \$45,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant seeks monies to install a tide pool habitat exhibit. The exhibit would consist of a 20-foot mural with the various tide zones. Next to the mural would be five stations, one for each tidal zone (splash, high tide, mid-tide, low tide, and ocean). The zone levels will step down as if the tide is going out. Each zone would have fabricated and interactive habitats, plants, and animals that are characteristic of that zone.

**Staff Recommendation:** Grant full request in 2007.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submits only this proposal for the 2007 cycle. The applicant ranks this second of two submitted in the years 2008 and 2009.

**Background:** The Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum is a children museum that recently moved its location within Santa Maria and held its grand opening in January of 2005. The applicant has received six past CREF grants:

- \$24,500 in the 1994 CREF cycle to install the Tide Pool Touch Tank, the Kelp Forest Tunnel, and the Sea It! Research Vessel exhibits;
  - \$13,444 in the 1997 cycle to develop marine science curriculum and conduct workshops for teachers and children;
  - \$20,000 in the 2002 cycle and \$79,000 in the 2005 cycle to install an Ocean Supermarket exhibit that teaches adults and children about the marine food chain and the variety of everyday food that comes from the ocean;
  - \$115,000 in the 2004 cycle to install a Marine Exhibit; and
  - \$47,750 in the 2006 CREF cycle to install a Dock Side Fish Station exhibit, a coastal birding mural, a Birding Activity center, and improvements to the shark tank.
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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposed project is coastal related by function, educating children and adults about the tide pool environment.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal enhances recreation and environmentally sensitive coastal resources by teaching children about the tide pool environment, and in so doing, heightens the sensitivity of the habitat.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The applicant states that this proposal focuses on pre-school through second grade-age children. Over 25,000-40,000 people visit the museum annually. Specifically, the museum

attracts children (underprivileged, special educated and at-risk), parents, grandparents, and counselors.

- (+) **Criterion #4.** The project is a capital improvement, which satisfies the higher priority use of CREF.
- (+/-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The tide pool exhibit is a portion of a larger environmental exhibit. The applicant seeks 100% of the tide pool's budget from CREF. Towards other exhibits within the larger environmental exhibit, the applicant has secured \$15,000 from First 5 of Santa Barbara County, and \$28,000 from the Wood-Claeysens Foundation is pending.
- (+) **Criterion #6.** The proposal would not require any additional ongoing County operational or maintenance costs. The applicant states the museum has an annual budget for maintenance and repair.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the proposal can be completed successfully. The applicant has received six CREF grants in the past, completing four successfully and currently working on completing the remaining two. The applicant opened the museum at its new location in January of 2005.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 16**  
**BELLY OF THE WHALE**

*5<sup>th</sup> District*

*The Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum  
Requests \$75,000 in 2008 and Requests \$75,000 in 2009  
Total Project Costs: \$150,000*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant seeks future funding (in 2008 and 2009) for a whale exhibit at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum. The whale would be a baleen whale and would be big enough for visitors to walk inside. The exhibit would be part play structure (e.g., sliding down the soft tongue) and part learning center, focusing on the size of these sea creatures, their navigational abilities, and their food and digestion. The outside of the whale would be anatomically correct (eye markings, tail fluke, etc).

**Staff Recommendation:** Consider granting full requests, \$75,000, in both 2008 and 2009

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant does not seek this proposal for the 2007 cycle. The applicant ranks this proposal first of two submitted for the years 2008 and 2009.

**Background:** The Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum is a children museum that recently moved its location within Santa Maria and held its grand opening in January of 2005. The applicant has received six past CREF grants:

- \$24,500 in the 1994 CREF cycle to install the Tide Pool Touch Tank, the Kelp Forest Tunnel, and the Sea It! Research Vessel exhibits;
  - \$13,444 in the 1997 cycle to develop marine science curriculum and conduct workshops for teachers and children;
  - \$20,000 in the 2002 cycle and \$79,000 in the 2005 cycle to install an Ocean Supermarket exhibit that teaches adults and children about the marine food chain and the variety of everyday food that comes from the ocean;
  - \$115,000 in the 2004 cycle to install a Marine Exhibit; and
  - \$47,750 in the 2006 CREF cycle to install a Dock Side Fish Station exhibit, a coastal birding mural, a Birding Activity center, and improvements to the shark tank.
- 

**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposed project is coastal related by function, educating children and adults about whales.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** The proposal enhances recreation and environmentally sensitive coastal resources by teaching children about whales and in so doing, heightens the sensitivity of this specie.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** The applicant states that this proposal will benefit over 25,000-40,000 people who visit the museum annually. Specifically, the museum attracts children (underprivileged, special educated and at-risk), parents, grandparents, and counselors.

- (+) **Criterion #4.** The project is a capital improvement, which satisfies the higher priority use of CREF.
- (-) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant seeks 100% of the proposal's budget from CREF.
- (+) **Criterion #6.** The proposal would not require any additional ongoing County operational or maintenance costs. The applicant states the museum has an annual budget for maintenance and repair.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff believes the proposal can be completed successfully. The applicant has received six CREF grants in the past, completing four successfully and currently working on completing the remaining two. The applicant opened the museum at its new location in January of 2005.

**Other Considerations:** None.

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**PROJECT # 17**  
**WILDLIFE CARE CENTER**  
**SEABIRD CARE COMPOUND**

*County-Wide*

*Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network*

*Requests \$150,000*

*Total Project Costs: \$550,000 (\$3 million for entire Wildlife Care Center)*

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**Summary of Proposal:** The applicant requests funds to help construct a seabird care compound as part of the comprehensive wildlife care center (see *Background* section below) that the applicant is developing on 1.5 acres of land in the Goleta foothills. The seabird care compound will consist of the following facilities:

- a 20' x 100' x 20' pelican aviary;
- a 10' x 30' x 4' shallow pool aviary, with fencing, nets, and hooded top;
- four warm water rehabilitation ponds in a stepped series;
- an 8' x 12' storage area
- a 12' x 4' soft water recovery pool for oiled birds after washing;
- a water filtration and softening system;
- water heating system; and
- a permanent, enclosed seabird-washing station, with a storage tank for oiled wastewater.

Of the \$150,000 request, the applicant would like \$30,000 to go towards the above facilities and \$120,000 to go towards installing a sewer line.

Costs for the seabird care compound include a percentage of the entire wildlife care center's costs for contractor fees, construction permits, project engineering and drawings, perimeter fencing, site preparation and concrete slabs, and water filtration, softening, and heating systems.

**Staff Recommendation:** Grant full request, \$150,000, in 2007.

**Applicant's Priority Ranking:** The applicant submitted only one proposal.

**Background:** The applicant rescues and rehabilitates injured wildlife, and the applicant states it successfully rehabilitates 60% of the animals. The applicant recently purchased a 1.5-acre parcel and plans to construct a wildlife care center. The center will have an administrative office, an intake area, a main clinic, a quarantine area for sick animals, mammal care facilities, covered outdoor enclosures for large and small animals being rehabilitated, a songbird compound, a seabird compound, hawk and eagle aviaries, and a sanctuary for unreleaseable wildlife.

In past CREF cycles, the applicant has received:

- a \$1,580 grant in the 2000 cycle to purchase an above ground pool, a baby scale to weigh birds, an ultraviolet light, a freezer, and an aviary;
- a \$1,037 grant in the 2004 cycle to purchase a net to discourage visiting birds to the existing sea bird facility;
- a \$31,800 grant in the 2005 cycle towards the proposed seabird compound; and



- a \$120,000 grant in the 2006 cycle towards the proposed seabird compound.

In addition, the Board of Supervisors informally agreed to consider awarding the applicant another \$30,000 towards the Seabird Compound in the 2007 and 2008 CREF cycles.

Also, the applicant relinquished a \$25,000 grant from the 1998 CREF cycle towards a wildlife care center since it could not commence the project within the allotted two years.

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**Satisfaction of CREF Criteria:**

*[(+) means the proposal satisfies the criterion; (-) means doesn't satisfy; (+/-) means partially satisfies]*

- (+) **Criterion #1.** The proposal contains a strong coastal nexus by constructing a long-term care facility for rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing injured or oiled seabirds.
- (+) **Criterion #2.** This proposal would enhance environmentally sensitive coastal resources, specifically various seabird species.
- (+) **Criterion #3.** This proposal will benefit injured and oiled sea birds. In addition, the sight of an injured or oiled bird affects most people; knowing the birds were being cared for would have a broad public benefit.
- (+) **Criterion #4.** The proposal is considered a capital improvement, which satisfies the higher priority of CREF.
- (+) **Criteria #5 and #7.** The applicant states that the entire budget for the wildlife care center is \$3 million (this includes the \$1.5 million used to purchase the 1.5-acre property). The applicant has secured \$2.1 towards that budget. The applicant seeks monies from CREF for the only coastal nexus portion of the proposed Center – the Seabird Compound.

The applicant seeks approximately 55% of the seabird compound budget from CREF (including the 2005 and 2006 awards and this year's request). The seabird care compound portion of the wildlife care center is \$550,000. Towards this \$550,000, the applicant has secured \$261,000 from various sources: the 2005 and 2006 CREF grant cycles, the 2005 Santa Barbara Foundation cycle, Dos Cuadras Offshore Resources, a Channel Cat fundraiser and individual donations. The applicant has received \$25,000 as in-kind services for architectural and engineering fees, and Venoco has pledged \$9,000. Aside from this year's CREF request, the applicant is seeking \$15,000 from the 2006 Santa Barbara Foundation, \$40,000 from Outhwaite, \$50,000 from an easement sale, and \$34,000 from next year's Channel Cat event.

- (+) **Criterion #6.** There would be no ongoing County operations or maintenance involved with this proposal. The applicant has been successfully operating a few smaller facilities for over 15 years. The applicant states that its operating and maintenance budget would come from its annual fund-raising program.
- (+) **Criterion #8.** Staff expects the applicant to complete the proposal successfully. There is a huge need and a lot of support for the facility. The applicant has secured 70% of its entire budget for the wildlife care facility. It purchased a 1.5 acre property for the facility and met with neighbors

surrounding the property. In August of this year, it receive land use permits from Planning & Development and hopes to apply for grading permits by January of 2007. The applicant has successfully been rescuing and rehabilitating birds for over 17 years. It has successfully completed two small CREF grants. However, the applicant still needs to raise approximately \$1 million more.

***Other Considerations:*** The applicant states that its first priority for fund-raising is to raise the money to prepare the site and to install the seabird compound. The neighbors on either side of the current seabird facility (located in the backyard of a residential home) have been frustrated with the odors caused by “visiting” birds to the pond. The applicant has worked with the neighbors and the International Bird Rescue and Research Center to design a netting enclosure to completely cover the current pond, thereby eliminating access for visiting birds. However, the applicant would like to move the seabird facility to the new site as soon as possible to appease the neighbors of the current site.

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