

Zero-Based Budget Report - Program Detail

Department of Conservation (3480) Budget Year 2012-2013 Staff and Resource Needs

Program Area		WATERSHED COORDINATION PROGRAM
(Total Positions & Resources)		4.0 Positions - \$1,712,000
Legal Authority		Water Code Division 26.5, section 79550(f)
Program Justification	The Watershed Program is required under the CALFED ROD. The Watershed Program was established as an aid to achieving the overarching goal of the California Bay-Delta Program, to restore ecological health and improve water management by working with the community at the watershed level. The goals of the Watershed Program are to provide financial and technical assistance for watershed activities that help achieve the mission and objectives of CALFED, and to promote collaboration and integration among community-based watershed efforts.	
Position Classification (number)	Funding (\$1000)	Itemized Justification
Program Manager II (1)		The Watershed Program (formerly named the CALFED Watershed program) provides technical and financial assistance to local community-based programs to expand and enhance local capability for those communities to carry out comprehensive natural resource management programs using a watershed approach. This program continues to provide natural resource benefits in watersheds that contribute flow to the Bay Delta as well as watersheds receiving water from the Bay Delta system. These benefits include: improved ecosystems; restored streams and riparian areas; use of improved practices for agricultural, grazing and forest stewardship; and improved water quality. The Program Manager II manages implementation of the Watershed Program, coordinates ongoing activities of several state and federal agencies working to implement the Watershed element of the CALFED Program, and directs specific implementation actions carried out by the Department as a part of the Watershed Program. The incumbent's responsibilities also include working with the State Watershed Advisory Committee.
Staff Environmental Scientist (1)		The Watershed Program (formerly named the CALFED Watershed program) provides technical and financial assistance to local community-based programs to expand and enhance local capability for those communities to carry out comprehensive natural resource management programs using a watershed approach. This program continues to provide natural resource benefits in watersheds that contribute flow to the Bay Delta as well as watersheds receiving water from the Bay Delta system. These benefits include: improved ecosystems; restored streams and riparian areas; use of improved practices for agricultural, grazing and forest stewardship; and improved water quality. The Staff Environmental Scientists (SES) develops and implements actions to support the Watershed Program. This includes working with agencies, departments and stakeholders on design, development and technical and scientific components for a variety of Program priorities, including all aspects of grant solicitations to implement the Watershed Program. The SES manages multiple funded grants projects that are selected for awards to assure they are technically sound, within budget and schedule, properly coordinated, and achieves the goals, objectives, and criteria of the Watershed Program. The SES also provides technical expertise and staff support to the Watershed Public Advisory Committee.
Associate Governmental Program Analyst (2)		The two Associate Governmental Program Analyst are the grant managers for the Watershed Program's Watershed Coordinator Grant Program, which manages nearly 50 watershed coordinator grants to local agencies and non-profits dedicated to improving the natural resource conditions locally and coordinating such efforts with various local entities. Watershed coordinator grants encourage watershed planning and restoration efforts at the local level. Performance data shows that recipients of the watershed coordinator grants have worked to bring together environmental groups, agricultural landowners, and local governments in projects that benefit water quality, stream restoration, and fire safety.
	1,043	Existing Watershed Program efforts include: providing financial and technical assistance to local governments and organizations including watershed coordinator grants and project implementation activities of State Waterboard. Specific work will include: evaluating the current health and condition of selected key watersheds, including spatial mapping of these conditions; and tracking of program performance and progress using adopted Watershed Program performance measures; continued support of the work of the Watershed Advisory Committee; post-implementation evaluation of success and effectiveness of program-implemented projects 2000-2006; establishing datasets for baseline conditions of key reference watersheds; refining methods to evaluate the overall health and condition of watersheds in California.
	420	Program support to continue administration for the Watershed Coordinator Grants