Harris & Associates

MEMORANDUM

To: Brian Frus
From: Shannon Bane and Wendy Young
RE: City of Salinas Creeks Enhancement Plan Outline
Date: November 6, 2019
CC:

Introduction

The City of Salinas (City) wishes to develop a comprehensive plan to enhance the creeks (and associated structures and wetlands) that fall within its jurisdiction: Santa Rita Creek, Gabilan Creek, Natividad Creek, Natividad Detention Basin and the stormwater outfall to the Salinas River. The City of Salinas Creeks Enhancement Plan (Plan) will provide a two-pronged approach to creek enhancement, which includes 1) a comprehensive permitting strategy to provide regulatory compliance for all maintenance activities within the creeks and associated wetlands, and 2) an enhancement plan that can be used to offset impacts via the programmatic permits by providing advance mitigation for improving the structure and function of the creeks for flood control, water quality and ecological health (**Figure 1**).

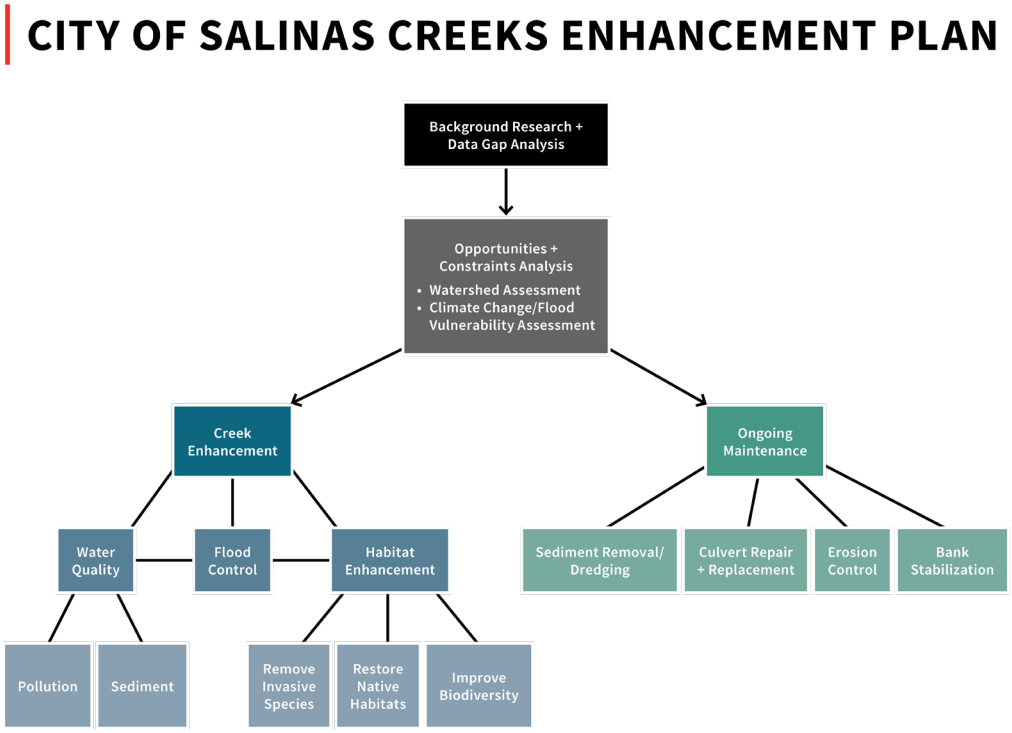

Figure 1. Schematic of the City of Salinas Creeks Enhancement Plan

This scope of work and cost estimate were developed using conservative assumptions, with the intent to provide the City with a comprehensive and realistic plan for this large-scale undertaking as a starting point. However, the scope can and most likely will be modified as the plan is developed and implemented, and to fit actual City and grant funding availability. In addition, the scope was prepared in phases so that the costs may be spread over several fiscal years or other funding timeline(s).

Program Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives for the Salinas Creeks Enhancement Plan are as follows.

Goal 1: Provide a comprehensive regulatory compliance package to cover Plan activities.

- Objective 1.1: Develop a comprehensive maintenance plan and framework
- Objective 1.2: Work with regulatory agencies to secure permits for ongoing maintenance activities
- Objective 1.3: Develop an advance mitigation plan that identifies ecological enhancement opportunities that will ensure cost effective and time-saving options for fulfilling permit requirements

Goal 2: Improve the structure and function of the Creeks within the City of Salinas

- Objective 2.1: Improve flood capacity of creeks, storm water outfall, and the Natividad detention basin wherever possible using ecological principles and bio-engineering (in conjunction with **Objective 3.1**)
- Objective 2.2: Improve water quality in the creeks and Natividad stormwater detention basin using engineering/design methods in collaboration with other City programs (e.g., NPDES community outreach, stormwater trash capture devices) (in conjunction with **Objective 3.3**)
- Objective 2.3: Improve the quality of aquatic and riparian habitat in creek corridors and wetlands via design and ecological restoration (e.g., invasive species removal, planting trees, installing in-stream woody material)
- Objective 2.4: Improve in-stream and near-stream infiltration/percolation of surface flows into the aquifer through design where possible (e.g., increasing creek roughness to keep water in the stream longer, widening stream benches where water tables are high, removal of impervious surfaces)

Goal 3: Improve the community benefits of the creeks and riparian corridors

- Objective 3.1: Increase public safety and climate resiliency by improving the flood capacity of creeks, storm water outfall, and the Natividad detention basin wherever possible using ecological principles and bio-engineering (in conjunction with **Objective 2.1**)
- Objective 3.2: Increase recreational opportunities in riparian corridors where feasible
- Objective 3.3: Improve water quality in the creeks using both engineering/design options and community outreach options (in conjunction with **Objective 2.2**)
- Objective 3.4: Maximize the City's progress towards meeting climate adaptation goals by increasing carbon sequestration potential in creeks and riparian areas (via restoration)
- Objective 3.5: Explore partnerships with farmers, ranchers, property owners, and local interest groups to improve water quality, improve habitat, and increase biodiversity

Plan Phasing/Implementation

The Salinas Creeks Enhancement Plan will be developed in phases in order to provide flexibility for scheduling and funding, provide discrete opportunities for grant writing, and to facilitate collaboration with the City. Harris proposes work in five (5) phases, as follows:

- Phase 1: Develop Detailed Plan Description
- Phase 2: Grant Research and Application (funding for the development of this Program)
- Phase 3: Prepare Technical Reports
- Phase 4: CEQA Compliance
- Phase 5: Regulatory Compliance/Permitting

Specific tasks associated with each phase are described below; costs for each phase and its tasks are provided in the attached cost estimate. Time needed for project management has been added into each task in the cost estimate (as opposed to being added as a separate phase or task).

Tasks are further broken down into subtasks based on both timing (e.g., information needed before grant applications are submitted) and funding (e.g., City funding or grant funding).

Phase 1: Detailed Plan Description

A detailed project description will be required for grant applications, compliance documents, and permit packages. All tasks within Phase 1, including background research and data gap analysis, plan description, and opportunities and constraints analysis contribute to the development of the detailed project description. This task will therefore be conducted prior to any grant activities and will be funded by the City.

A strong, detailed Plan Description is an invaluable asset for grant applications and is mandatory for preparing regulatory compliance packages. In **Phase 1**, Harris will work with the City of Salinas to develop a detailed Plan Description for the Creeks Enhancement Plan. The Plan Description will include an overview of the creeks and creek-related resources within City boundaries, as well as the existing maintenance activities and future/proposed goals, objectives, and activities to manage and enhance the creeks throughout the City's lands. In addition, Harris will include a description of the environmental setting that will identify existing resources (e.g., soils, hydrology, vegetation, wildlife), opportunities and constraints for implementing the City of Salinas Creeks Enhancement Plan, and descriptions of regulatory triggers (e.g., waters and wetlands of the U.S. and State) and special-status species and habitats.

Due to the longer time commitment needed to secure programmatic permits, any maintenance projects planned for 2019-2020 may be permitted separately in order to allow the City to proceed with their implementation. Harris will first request that the regulatory agencies permit these projects in conjunction with, but in advance of, the programmatic permits. If the agencies will not accommodate this request, Harris will immediately acquire project-specific permits for these projects. This scope of work reflects this separate permitting effort; however, these costs would be removed if the agencies consent to allowing the 2019-2020 maintenance work to proceed in advance of (and in conjunction with) the programmatic permit.

Task 1.1: Background Research and Data Gap Analysis

Harris will conduct research that will help develop the plan description and permit packages (e.g., impact analysis and the identification of avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures). Examples of research sources include: queries of state and federal databases for special status species and their habitats, including

critical habitat (e.g., CDFW's California Natural Diversity Database, USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation, CNPS's Rare Plant Inventory), flood maps, parcel maps, prime farmland maps, existing documents such as biological assessments and other technical documents, and the Cortese list for hazardous materials.

Any information that is necessary for the development and/or regulatory compliance of the Plan, but is not available in existing documents, will be included in a list of data gaps provided to the City. Harris will provide the assistance needed to complete technical studies required to fill the data gaps (see **Phase 3**, below). Alternately, Harris can help develop a scope of work to be used to develop a request for proposals (RFPs) and/or hire a subconsultant, as needed.

Task 1.1 Deliverables:

- List of data gaps to prepare the plan description and/or permit packages.
- Up to two (2) scopes of work for technical studies that the City can use to develop RFPs or to hire a subconsultant upon request (included in this scope and budget).

Task 1.1 Assumptions:

- Harris assumes that there will be little or no revisions to the list of data gaps.
- If any scope(s) of work is/are prepared for the City, there will be only one round of comment and revisions to those documents.

Task 1.2: Plan Description

Current and Proposed/Future Activities and Responsibilities of the City

Harris will research existing information and maintenance practices that the City currently undertakes within the creeks, wetlands, and Natividad detention basin, and will work with the City to determine future needs for creek maintenance and enhancement. This ensures that the Plan will be developed in compliance with existing guidance and regulatory documents, including the City of Salinas General Plan, City of Salinas Specific Plans (East, West, and Central Specific Plans, where applicable), maintenance programs, and will reflect the future needs and desires of the City and its staff.

In addition, influential existing partnerships, including those with Monterey One Water, Pure Water Monterey, Castroville Seawater Intrusion Program (CSIP), and others will be included in the Plan description for context and for use in subsequent tasks and phases (e.g., opportunities and constraints analysis, grant funding).

All of this information will be included in the development of a clear plan description and list of covered activities, and to determine the plan regulatory compliance strategy.

Relationship to Existing Plans for the Salinas River in Neighboring Jurisdictions

Harris will research and provide a summary of the existing plans and programs of neighboring jurisdictions to determine what enhancement activities and programs are already underway or completed within the Salinas Valley.

In certain cases, specific maintenance actions may qualify for coverage under existing permits for enhancement activities and programs already underway within the Salinas Valley. This includes programs for non-native invasive species removal (specifically the giant reed (*Arundo* spp.)) removal program being implemented by the Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Monterey County.

Because any creek or river is part of a larger interconnected system, consideration of efforts/plans that may influence the creeks within the City may affect the utility and/or feasibility of certain actions. Actions that will provide larger benefit or that are more cost effective may be chosen or prioritized over others during the development of the Plan.

Task 1.2 Deliverables:

- Harris will attend one (1) meeting with City of Salinas staff to discuss the City's current and future maintenance and Plan needs.
- Draft and Final Plan Description in electronic copy (both Word and pdf files) for City review.

Task 1.2 Assumptions:

- Harris assumes that there will be only one round of consolidated comments submitted on the draft Plan Description, and that revisions to the document will not require major changes to the document.

Task 1.3: Opportunities and Constrains Analysis

An opportunities and constraints analysis will be conducted to identify and prioritize creek maintenance and enhancement areas and actions.

First, the current and future maintenance and enhancement actions identified in the Plan description (see **Task 1.2**) are used to create a list of actions that the City would like to implement. These actions are then linked to specific locations within the City, including creek reaches, parks, open spaces, etc. using geographic information systems (GIS). A basic analysis of flood potential for the project area (including the Natividad stormwater basin) will then be implemented to identify priorities for maintenance projects to minimize flood risks. Additional spatial information collected during background information such as slope, aspect, vegetation, land use designations, and proximity to infrastructure and/or homes, and sensitive species are entered into GIS for context. A spatial analysis is conducted by comparing plan areas and activities against sensitive resources, goals and objectives, and other relevant information, and spatial opportunities and constraints are revealed.

Design-related opportunities and constraints will be identified and used to analyze the feasibility of the maintenance and enhancement actions identified in the Plan description. City and Harris engineers will help determine general design options for maintenance and restoration actions identified in the Plan description, including options for bioengineering, infrastructure modifications, and recreational options/access.

Opportunities to collaborate with existing programs and agencies (e.g., NPDES public education program, stormwater trash collection devices/program, RCD of Monterey County Arundo removal program, regional programmatic permits) will be assessed at this time; collaborations may provide support for Plan areas and activities. Opportunities and constraints related to funding sources will also be taken into consideration, and may include those available from FEMA, Caltrans, and other sources that require specialized compliance, permitting, and/or reporting (see **Phase 2**, below).

Areas/actions can be prioritized during the opportunities and constraints analysis, which will be determined in collaboration with the City. Priorities will be determined by 1) importance to the City's Plan goals and objectives, 2) ease of design and implementation, 3) largest environmental and social beneficial impact, 4) relationship to other areas/actions, and 5) ease of funding (see **Phase 2**, below).

Task 1.3 Deliverables:

- Harris will attend up to two (2) meetings with City of Salinas staff to discuss the assessment methodology for the opportunities and constraints analysis and to determine priorities for funding and implementation.

- Harris will write up a short memorandum (including a list and map of plan actions and areas) describing the results of the opportunities and constraints analysis, including a list of priorities to consider for plan funding and implementation. This memorandum will be appended to the Plan description developed in **Task 1.2**.

Task 1.3 Assumptions:

- Harris assumes that there will be only one round of consolidated comments submitted on the draft opportunities and constraints memorandum and map, and that revisions to the document will not require major changes to the document.

Task 1.4 Securing Permits for 2019-2020 Maintenance Projects

As discussed above, if the regulatory agencies require separate permits for maintenance projects planned for 2019-2020 (in advance of the issuance of the programmatic permit), Harris will secure permits for these projects. We anticipate working with the following agencies:

- Army Corps of Engineers (Clean Water Act Section 404),
- US Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries (Federal Endangered Species Act),
- State Historic Preservation Officer (National Historic Preservation Act and AB 52),
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife Service (California Endangered Species Act and California Fish and Game Code 1600 series),
- Regional Water Quality Control Board (Clean Water Act Section 401).

Compliance with these regulations would require technical reports, CEQA compliance, and the preparation of permit packages as described in **Phases 3, 4, and 5**, respectively. These tasks would be similar, but smaller in scope and scale to those described in the following sections. The costs for these tasks are included in the cost estimate in **Phase 1**.

Task 1.4 Deliverables: Deliverables will be the same as those for Phases 3, 4, and 5.

Task 1.4 Assumptions: Assumptions will be the same as those for Phases 3, 4, and 5 with the following additions.

- We assume that a Categorical Exemption will be sufficient for CEQA compliance for these maintenance projects. If an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is needed, the scope can be amended to provide this expanded service.

Phase 2: Grant Research and Application

Phase 2, Task 2.1 will be implemented concurrently with **Phase 1**. In **Task 2.1,** Harris will research appropriate grant opportunities in support of the preparation of the Plan and its required environmental compliance tasks. Because this work is required in advance of grant applications, it will be funded by the City.

In **Task 2.2**, the same attention will be given to funding the implementation of the Plan; however, this task should be undertaken after specific Plan actions and associated locations are identified and prioritized for implementation. This may be after permit packages are developed in **Phase 3**.

We anticipate that the result of grant writing completed in **Phase 2** will fund between 30-60% of the total costs of both the preparation and implementation of the Plan through grant awards.

Task 2.1 - Grant Packages for the Development of the Plan

A table of prospective grants, application requirements, timelines, funding limits, and predicted competition/win rates will be compiled and presented to City staff. Based on input from the City, Harris will develop a suite of grants to apply for to offset costs for the developing the Plan, obtaining environmental regulatory compliance, and implementing the Plan. Specifically, Harris will focus on developing links in Plan areas and actions to leverage funding options (e.g., recreation, restoration, flood control).

Harris will prepare up to four (4) grant packages for the suite of grants agreed upon by Harris and the City. Harris will write grant narratives, and work with the City to compile all required documentation needed to complete the grant packages for submission. Harris assumes 30 hours per grant application; more complex grant packages may need additional hours to prepare.

Task 2 .1 Deliverables:

- Harris will provide the City with an electronic copy of an Excel spreadsheet detailing prospective grants, application requirements, timelines, funding limits, and predicted competition/win rates. Harris will also present the findings of the grant research (including the grant table) to the City in a meeting, and will facilitate a discussion to focus the grant writing efforts by selecting a suite of grant opportunities for development of grant packages.

Task 2.1 Assumptions:

- Harris assumes that few or no edits or additional grant research will be required, and that one (1) meeting will be sufficient to narrow down the suite of grants for preparation and submission. This scope does not include any grant administration (e.g., monitoring, reporting), but can be amended to include these tasks.

Task 2.2 - Grant Packages for the Implementation of the Plan

Similar to **Task 2.1**, a table of prospective grants, application requirements, timelines, funding limits, and predicted competition/win rates will be compiled and presented to City staff for actions and locations that are ready for implementation. Based on input from the City, Harris will develop a suite of grants to apply for to offset costs for the implementation of specific elements of the Plan (actions and areas). Again, Harris will focus on developing links in Plan actions and areas to leverage funding options (e.g., recreation, restoration, flood control)

Harris will prepare up to four (4) grant packages for the suite of grants agreed upon by Harris and the City. Harris will write grant narratives, and work with the City to compile all required documentation needed to complete the grant packages for submission. Harris assumes 30 hours per grant application; more complex grant packages may need additional hours to prepare.

Task 2 .2 Deliverables:

- Harris will provide the City with an electronic copy of an Excel spreadsheet detailing prospective grants, application requirements, timelines, funding limits, and predicted competition/win rates. Harris will also present the findings of the grant research (including the grant table) to the City in a meeting, and will facilitate a discussion to focus the grant writing efforts by selecting a suite of grant opportunities for development of grant packages.

Task 2.2 Assumptions:

- Harris assumes that few or no edits or additional grant research will be required, and that one (1) meeting will be sufficient to narrow down the suite of grants for preparation and submission. This scope does not include any grant administration (e.g., monitoring, reporting), but can be amended to include these tasks.

Phase 3: Technical Reports

Harris will work with the City and agencies on a permitting strategy based on the outcome(s) of the opportunities and constraints analysis. The results of these discussions may result in variations to the approach to the technical reports outlined below.

A number of technical reports are needed to support the environmental regulatory compliance documents and permit packages. These studies can be conducted after the project description is developed, and may be funded by grant monies.

Because the structure of the programmatic permit will be developed in conjunction with the regulatory agencies, there may be different requirements and/or strategies for providing technical information for permitting purposes. Most often, programmatic permits cover general maintenance actions, with annual development of the proposed work schedule and project area locations for the upcoming year. If this Plan follows suit, biologists and cultural resources specialists may first undertake a broad analysis of the project area that identifies areas of sensitivity (e.g., sites with sensitive species and/or sites likely to have cultural significance). Then, during the permit period, projects identified for implementation each year would be identified and submitted to the agencies, with specific jurisdictional delineations and cultural reports prepared at that time. These specific reports would cover all proposed actions within the upcoming year's project area/s through descriptions of aquatic and cultural features that fall within them.

Regardless of the outcome of the permitting strategy discussions/approach, Harris anticipates the need for the preparation of a Jurisdictional Delineation of wetlands and waters of the U.S. and State, a Biological Assessment, and a Cultural Resources Technical Report. These reports are broken down into specific tasks, discussed individually below.

Task 3.1 – Jurisdictional Delineation of Wetlands and Waters of the U.S.

Waters and wetlands of the U.S. are protected via the Clean Water Act, and impacts from project implementation on these resources must be mitigated. A wetland delineation and subsequent verification by the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is used to determine the extent of waters and wetlands of the U.S. within a project area. Wetland delineations involve an investment of time and funding to complete, and have a lifespan of 3 years (with subsequent renewal possible). Our proposed recommendation is to prepare a broad-scale analysis of waters and wetlands of the US, with specific jurisdictional delineations when and where needed for project implementation. For the purposes of this scope we propose the following:

Harris team biologists would complete a reconnaissance-level survey of the Plan area to identify maintenance areas that are in or near potential wetlands and waters of the U.S., and conduct one wetland delineation annually (one wetland delineation is included in the attached cost estimate) that would describe all aquatic features and wetlands potentially affected by maintenance and repair actions anticipated to be performed under the programmatic permit the following year.

This formal jurisdictional wetland delineation of wetlands and "other waters" of the U.S. would be conducted using protocols outlined in the USACE Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the

Regional Supplements to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Mountains and Valleys and Arid West Region, Version 2.0 (Environmental Laboratory 2008). The USACE defines three criteria to delineate wetlands: (1) hydrophytic vegetation, (2) wetland hydrology, and (3) hydric soils. A draft of the delineation report would be submitted to the City for review, comment, and approval prior to submittal to the USACE for verification.

Note: If informal consultation with the USACE determines that the use of hydrologic modeling will be accepted in place of a jurisdictional delineation, Harris engineers would provide these calculations and all necessary documentation for the USACE. Harris would produce a revised scope and costs and discuss these two options with the City prior to proceeding with the determined methodology for determining USACE jurisdictional impacts.

Task 3.1 Deliverables:

- Draft and final general map and report identifying likely jurisdictional areas within the City's boundaries.
- Draft and final specific jurisdictional report (in both Word and pdf formats) for one small project area proposed for implementation in 2021.

Task 3.1 Assumptions:

- The City will provide one set of consolidated comments to Harris for the Draft general map and specific jurisdictional report. It is assumed that there will be one round of City review and revisions per document.
- Harris will attend one (1) meeting in the field to confirm the jurisdictional wetland delineation.

Task 3.2 – Biological Assessment

A Biological Assessment (BA), which characterizes the biological resources within the study area, will be used as the basis for CEQA analysis (see **Phase 4**, below) and will be submitted with regulatory compliance/permitting packages to USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries (and modified to submit to CDFW) (**Phase 5**, below).

To complete the BA, Harris biologists will gather information from the CNDDB, and USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries, and CDFW species lists, to determine which species would need to be addressed in the BA based on local occurrence and presence of habitat in or near the identified plan sites. The results of these queries and informal consultation with the USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries will determine the species to be included in the BA.

The BA would follow the guidelines provided by the USFWS and include a discussion of the proposed Plan, existing habitat conditions, documented occurrence of federally-listed species in the Plan vicinity, effects of the proposed Plan, potential for take, and minimization measures to reduce or avoid adverse impacts. A draft of the BA will be submitted to the City for review, comment, and approval prior to submittal to the USACE.

Additionally, our biologists would prepare a Biological Resources Appendix so the BA can be used for state consultation. BAs prepared for federal Section 7 consultation do not include information or analyses pertaining to non-federal biological resources, such as state-listed species or sensitive natural communities. To expedite the state permitting processes with CDFW and the RWQCB, Harris would prepare an appendix to the BA that addresses state-regulated biological resources. The appendix would include a list of special- status species and sensitive natural communities with potential to occur in the study area, and an analysis of potential impacts on these species and communities along with a description of any environmental measures that will be included in the Plan description to offset potential impacts. This appendix would be attached only to the copies of the BA

that are submitted to CDFW and the RWQCB (not to the BA that is submitted to the USACE, USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries) (see **Phase 5**, below).

Task 3.2 Deliverables:

- Draft and final BA and Appendix (in both Word and pdf formats).

Task 3.2 Assumptions:

- The City will provide one set of consolidated comments to Harris for the Draft BA and Appendix. It is assumed that there will be one round of City review and revisions.

Task 3.3 – Cultural Resources Technical Memorandum

As mentioned in **Task 3.1**, implementation of the Plan is likely to impact the bed and banks of wetlands and waters of the U.S., and therefore will fall under the jurisdiction of the USACE. If this is the case, the Plan will require compliance with the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 (see **Phase 5** for a discussion of the Regulatory Compliance needs of the Plan), which requires that the USACE comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 through consultation with the SHPO.

Similar to the approach for wetland delineations, a general records search and survey would be conducted for archaeological and historical resources, with annual specific site surveys and reports for projects and areas identified for implementation each year. The general report, in compliance with Section 106, would be submitted so that the USACE can consult with the SHPO regarding the Plan's potential to affect cultural and historical resources. The specific reports would accompany the yearly project list provided to the regulatory agencies, as required by the programmatic permit.

For the general cultural resources report the Harris Team will identify and map the Plan's area(s) of potential effects (APE), on which direct ground disturbance may occur. We will then assess whether any possible cultural and historic built resources are located directly adjacent to the areas of proposed ground disturbance. The background research will include conducting a cultural and historic resources records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), requesting information related to Native American resources from the Native American Heritage Commission, and any Native American contacts that are identified by the Commission, reviewing historical maps and documents, and conducting a desktop geoarchaeological review of local soil conditions for evidence of potential buried cultural resources. When possible, the results of these efforts will be used to help guide ground disturbing activities that may impact known cultural resources, or refine proposed work in areas that have been identified as sensitive for supporting cultural resources.

For annual projects identified for implementation during the time period that the permit is valid, a qualified archaeologist would need to perform an archaeological pedestrian survey within the potentially affected sensitive areas of the APE identified in the general report. The purpose of the pedestrian survey would be to identify previously undocumented archaeological and historic built resources visible on the ground surface.

Over the course of the pedestrian survey, the archaeologist would carefully inspect the ground surface to identify artifacts, features, and infrastructure, and assess the local geomorphic context. Pedestrian survey transects would be spaced at 10-meter intervals and would occur within areas where direct ground disturbance is proposed and where these areas would be accessed throughout implementation of the Plan. If resources are identified, the survey team would document them for future study. The archaeologist would also excavate up to three (3) 40 cm diameter by 60-100 cm deep shovel probes in areas of exposed ground to identify any buried cultural resources within the sensitive areas in the APE.

After completion of the pedestrian survey and shovel testing, the archaeologist would prepare a technical memorandum that summarizes the results of the record search, historic background research, and fieldwork, including complete cultural resources inventory forms if resources are identified. It would also provide a determination of potential effects on historic properties and technical recommendations for avoidance, minimization, or additional studies. The technical memorandum would include revised maps of the sensitive areas of the APE, resource locations (as needed), and prominent landscape features.

The general cultural resources report and one annual technical report that meets the requirements of the programmatic permit are included in the attached cost estimate.

Task 3.3 Deliverables:

- Draft and Final Cultural and Historical Resources Report (in electronic Word and pdf formats) to be included in the programmatic permit package. Draft and Final letter to SHPO in electronic format (sent to USACE)
- One Draft and Final Annual Cultural and Historical Resources Technical Memoranda in electronic format (in both Word and pdf formats). Draft and Final letter to SHPO in electronic format (sent to USACE).

Task 3.3 Assumptions:

- The City will provide one set of consolidated comments to Harris for the Draft Cultural and Historical Resources Report and one Annual Cultural and Historical Resources Technical Memoranda (one set of comments for each report). It is assumed that there will be one round of City review and revisions, and that changes to each of the documents will be minimal.

Phase 4: CEQA Compliance

In Phase 4, Harris will prepare a CEQA document that will provide environmental compliance for the Plan. The specific CEQA compliance document that is needed will depend on the plan that is developed. For instance, CEQA compliance for a maintenance plan may be categorically exempt, while the inclusion of a project that improves or increases capacity of existing infrastructure would require a initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND). The appropriate CEQA document also depends on the timing of a project's design and implementation. In advance of the development of the Plan, we have provided a scope for a IS/MND for reference. The costs would be significantly reduced if a categorical exemption is prepared. Either way, this task could be funded by grants.

An IS/MND would include the evaluation of the following 21 environmental topics, in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, Appendix G, and relevant regulations.

- Aesthetics and Visual Resources
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology, Water Supply and Water Quality

- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

This task includes preparing the Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt an MND and filing it with the Monterey County Clerk, and preparing the Notice of Completion (NOC) and filing it with the State Clearinghouse. The City is required to produce 15 hard copies which the Clearinghouse will distribute to relevant State agencies for review and comment. This scope assumes that the City will be responsible for additional distribution of the NOI and noticing requirements (e.g., newspaper, onsite posting) in accordance with CEQA requirements.

Following the 30-day public review period, Harris will review and respond to comments received on the IS/MND in memorandum format for City consideration and for the administrative record. If comments identify errors or other necessary changes to the IS, we will prepare a revised IS, along with the final MND.

CEQA does not require formal responses to comments, preparation of a final document with comments/responses, nor a public hearing during the 30-day review period for an IS/MND. Therefore, these items have not been included in the scope. However, CEQA does require that the City notify commenting agencies in writing of any public hearing to be held for the Plan at least 10 days in advance, and it is recommended the City provide responses to agency comments. The response memorandum we prepare can be used for this.

Additionally, we will prepare the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) in tabular format, and seek City input to determine appropriate monitoring/reporting responsibilities. The MMRP will include all mitigation that has been identified in the IS/MND, in additional to avoidance and minimization measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) included in the Plan description.

Finally, once the City has approved the MND and voted to approve the Plan, we will prepare the Notice of Determination (NOD) and submit it to the State Clearinghouse and County Clerk. The NOD must be filed within five working days of the City's approval on the Plan. The costs for the City Clerk and California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) MND filing fees are not included in this scope.

Phase 4 Deliverables:

- Draft and Final IS/MND in electronic format (both Word and pdf). Harris will also prepare the accompanying MMRP and NOD to file the Final IS/MND with the County Clerk and State Clearinghouse.

Phase 4 Assumptions:

- This scope assumes the preparation of the first administrative draft of the IS/MND for City review and comment in electronic format (both Word and pdf formats). This scope assumes that any revisions to the IS/MND would be minor and not require additional analysis. Once revisions

are incorporated, we will prepare the IS/MND for public review, including preparation of the NOI and NOC. We assume that the public document will be provided to the City electronically for printing and distribution. Our scope can be revised to include printing and distribution upon City request.

Phase 5: Regulatory Compliance/Permitting

After the filing of the CEQA document, Harris will begin the permitting process. As with Phase 4, Phase 5 can be funded by grants. Our permitting staff provides a streamlined and comprehensive approach to permitting, reducing the amount of time and resources needed to permit and mitigate for plan impacts, based on our strong relationships with regulatory agency staff. **Phase 5** includes initial consultation with the agencies, the preparation of permit packages, and additional agency coordination to finalize permit requirements. These activities are broken down into individual tasks, below. Because of the variation in agency personnel and permit options available, we have provided the most conservative scope(s) of work and costs for these tasks; actual requirements may result in changes to the permitting strategy during Plan implementation.

Task 5.1 – Initial Agency Consultation to Determine Permitting Strategy

Task 5.1 includes initial consultation with the USACE, USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries, RWQCB and CDFW to determine the level of effort and information that will be required in order to comply with the federal CWA, federal and state Endangered Species Acts, National Historic Preservation Act, Porter-Cologne Act, Fish and Game Code, and to obtain permits for the suite of actions proposed in the Plan.

Following initial consultation with the regulatory agencies, our team will meet with the City to present our findings and the required level of effort that will be needed to meet the consultation and regulatory permitting requirements from the environmental regulatory agencies for implementation the Plan.

Task 5.1 Deliverable:

- Memorandum describing the Plan permitting strategy. Harris will discuss the contents of the memorandum with the City prior to proceeding with **Tasks 5.2** and **5.3**.

Task 5.1 Assumptions:

- We assume no review or revision to the memorandum will be necessary, and that decisions regarding the permitting strategy can be summarized in an email after Harris meets with the City.

Task 5.2 Permit Packages

Any impacts to natural resources associated with Plan implementation (including impacts that occur within the 100-year flood elevation, to riparian habitats, to wetlands, and to other biological resources) require regulatory compliance and coordination with the CWA through the USACE, who is responsible for regulating waters of the U.S., and the RWQCB and CDFW, who regulate waters of the State through the CWA Section 401 and California Fish and Game Code, respectively. To comply with CWA requirements and issue the Section 404 permit, the USACE requires a wetland delineation (**Task 3.1**), biological resources assessment (**Task 3.2**), and coordination/documentation with other federal and state agencies, which accompany the USACE permit package. State agencies will utilize these same reports, and the CEQA document, for compliance with state water regulations.

Compliance with CWA Section 404 requires compliance with state water regulations via CWA Section 401 and the California RWQCB. The issuance of the 404 permit also requires compliance with the Endangered Species Act

(ESA) Section 7 through the USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries, and the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 through the State Historic Preservation Officer (documentation associated cultural resources is included in **Task 3.3**).

Task 5.1 includes initial consultation with the USACE, RWQCB, USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries, and CDFW to determine the level of effort and information that will be required in order to obtain permits for the actions identified in the Plan. The level of coordination and information required from each agency will be determined through these consultations and the jurisdictional delineation completed in **Task 3.1**, and the initial cultural resources surveys discussed under **Task 3.3.** It is during this task that any mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management requirements that are identified to offset impacts to resources from implementation of the Plan are developed.

USACE

This plan does not qualify for coverage under any existing General Permit, and would require a standard permit for the project. Thus, this task includes preparing a pre-construction notification (PCN) with a detailed description of the plan, a description of permanent and temporary impacts on waters of the U.S., and demonstrated compliance with the specific terms and conditions of a standard permit. The figures for this report will be prepared using plan design files and files from the Jurisdictional Delineation (**Task 3.3**) to graphically depict the type and extent of impacts in USACE jurisdiction.

The PCN package will also include a standard USACE permit application form, a copy of the wetland delineation report (prepared in **Task 3.1**), the BA (prepared in **Task 3.2**), and cultural resources technical report (prepared in **Task 3.3**). Implementation of the project will result in ecological benefits to offset unavoidable permanent impacts on waters of the U.S., so this scope includes the preparation of an advance mitigation plan (with restoration projects that can be used as compensatory mitigation) rather than the preparation of a conceptual mitigation plan. A draft of the application package will be submitted to the City for review, comment, and approval prior to submittal to the USACE.

A federal permit requires compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). For a standard permit, programmatic NEPA compliance that covers nationwide permits issued by the USACE applies, and does not require additional studies to be performed, outside of those requirements to obtain a 404 permit, for the plan.

USFWS and NOAA Fisheries

Consultation with the USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries would occur pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA. Our qualified biologists would prepare a BA (see **Task 3.2**), with a thorough review of federally-listed species and/or habitats present at or near the locations identified in the Plan, for submittal to the USACE. The USACE would use the BA as the basis for initiating Section 7 consultation with the USFWS regarding impacts on federally-protected species and their habitats.

Our team will prepare two draft consultation initiation letters, without signature blocks or letterhead, which the USACE can use to initiate consultations with USFWS. The City would be given the opportunity to review these draft letters before we email them as Word files directly to the USACE plan manager.

RWQCB

Our biologists would evaluate the Plan for potential impacts to wetlands and waters of the State, as regulated by the RWQCB. A Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) of the USACE by the RWQCB must be obtained for the 404 compliance to be valid. If the Plan impacts any waters or wetlands that are not regulated under the federal CWA, the RWQCB would issue Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) under the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Therefore, this task includes preparing an application for WQC/WDR, as

appropriate, for submittal to the RWQCB that would be based, in large part, on the information developed for the USACE permit application.

The application package would include a cover letter, description of existing conditions, discussion of impacts on waters of the State (including riparian habitat), description of avoidance and minimization measures, and a completed application form. The application package will also include demonstration of the plan's CEQA compliance (IS/MND prepared in **Phase 4**) and analysis of impacts to biological resources (BA with Appendix prepared in **Task 3.2**). A draft of the WQC/WDR application package would be submitted to the City for review, comment, and approval prior to submittal to the RWQCB. A permit processing/filing fee would be required from the City at the time of application submittal. The fee amount would be based on the extent of temporary and permanent fill in waters of the State.

CDFW

The CDFW would likely claim jurisdiction over any wetland habitat (including riparian vegetation) that may be impacted at the locations identified in the Plan. As such, this task includes preparing an application for a standard Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSAA) to address work activities in areas that CDFW regulates. The application would include a cover letter, standard notification form, evidence of CEQA compliance, and other necessary attachments (wetland delineation, figures, plans, BA with Appendix (prepared in **Task 3.2**) and a tree survey by a certified arborist if tree removal is necessary). A draft of the LSAA application package would be submitted to the City for review, comment, and approval prior to submittal to CDFW. An application filing/processing fee would be required from the City at the time of application submittal. The fee amount would be based on the cost of the proposed work in CDFW's jurisdiction.

Task 5.2 Deliverables:

- Permitting packages for USACE, USFWS and/or NOAA Fisheries, RWQCB, and CDFW.

Task 5.2 Assumptions:

- The City will provide one set of consolidated comments to Harris for each draft permitting package. It is assumed that there will be one round of City review and revisions for each permitting package. All permit fees will be paid for and provided directly from the City.
- This task does not include any site visits with agency personnel, although the scope may be amended to include these meetings, if requested by the City and/or agencies. All agency coordination in included in **Task 5.3.**

Task 5.3 – Additional Agency Coordination and Requirements

Once the permit applications and reports are submitted to the agencies (USACE, USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, RWQCB, SHPO, CDFW), there is typically additional coordination and information required to obtain the permits. The level of effort required varies widely from project to project depending on project features, location, resource sensitivity and likelihood of unknown resources that may be discovered through project implementation.

In addition, based on the level and type of impacts to resources from implementation of the Plan, mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management plans, if required, would be developed in conjunction with the regulatory agencies at this time. Harris will work with the agencies to develop any necessary plans to fulfill these additional requirements, and will add them as appendices to the permit packages.

For these reasons, **Task 5.3** has been identified in this scope of work. As we move forward with **Tasks 5.1-5.3**, we will gain a better understanding of agency requirements, provide the City with regular updates, and determine the level of effort needed to meet agency requirements to both obtain the permits and proceed with plan implementation. An estimate of additional design work and/or changes, meetings, and permit submittals is included based on previous permitting efforts, and is based on time and materials. Additional work beyond these hours will be considered an addition to the scope.

Task 5.3 Deliverables:

- Harris will provide regular email updates to the City.
- If required by the agencies, a mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management plan will be prepared and submitted to the City for review prior to submission to the regulatory agencies. It is assumed that there will be one round of City review and revisions for the mitigation, monitoring, and/or adaptive management plan, and that the City will provide one set of consolidated comments to Harris. This task does not include any site visits with agency personnel, although the scope may be amended to include these meetings, if requested by the City and/or agencies.

Task 5.3 Assumptions:

- It is assumed that agency coordination will not require major changes to the permit packages, other than the addition of a mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management plan.

Schedule for Environmental Compliance and Permitting

The following schedule is proposed for Phases 1-4 for the preparation of the Plan and accompanying environmental compliance.

Phase 1: Develop Plan Description (City Funded)

Harris can complete **Phase 1** in three to four weeks, depending on the availability of Harris and City staff for meetings, and the timeframe in which background documents are provided to Harris staff. Background research and meetings with the City of Salinas will be conducted first, followed by more detailed research and the preparation/writing of the Plan Description. After the submission of the first draft of the Plan Description, and receipt of one collated set of comments from the City, Harris can complete the revisions in one to two weeks, depending on the number of comments and level of effort required to revise the document.

Phase 2: Grant Research and Application (City Funded)

Phases 1 and 2 can be implemented concurrently; Phase 2: Grant Research, can begin as soon as the Plan Description is developed enough to support identification of appropriate grants. The table of appropriate grants, meeting with the City, and identification of the suite of grants for application will be developed first. However, a detailed Plan Description must be completed and approved by the City before the preparation of grant packages and applications for submission. Depending on the number of grants in the grant suite, and the delivery of supporting documentation from the City, the preparation of grant packages can be finished in a timeframe of four to six weeks. However, the completion of **Phase 2** will take up to two (2) years, based on the grant submission deadlines and award schedules.

Phase 3: Prepare Technical Reports (Grant Funded)

Although **Phase 3** may begin at any time, we anticipate that the City will want to proceed with the technical reports when grant funding becomes available. The Jurisdictional Delineation and Biological Assessment can be prepared concurrently, and will require at least one field visit by a Harris biologist. We anticipate that the field visits and report would be completed in two to three weeks. In addition, the Jurisdictional Delineation may also require a second field visit with USACE personnel for verification of the field results, which would be subject to agency personnel availability, and may take up to one month.

The cultural resources technical memorandum will take one to two weeks to prepare, but is subject to a thirty-day response time for the records request from the Northwest Information Center and Native American Heritage Commission, as well as the time needed for tribal consultation, if requested by local tribes. These requirements may extend the time to complete the cultural resources technical memorandum by two to three months.

Phase 4: CEQA Compliance (Grant Funded)

Phase 4 can be started as soon as the Plan Description (**Phase 1**) is developed enough to conduct impact analysis from implementation of the Plan, but cannot be completed until a final Plan Description is approved by the City. Alternatively, **Phase 4** can also be delayed until grant funding is available. Once the Plan Description is approved, the research and preparation of the CEQA document, likely an IS/MND, can be completed in a timeframe of five to six weeks. After the submission of the first draft of the CEQA document, and receipt of one collated set of comments from the City, Harris can complete the requested revisions in two to three weeks, depending on the number of comments and level of effort required to revise the document, and will have the CEQA document ready for the 30-day public review period.

After the Final IS/MND is prepared, Harris will prepare the MMRP and NOD; the City will then be able to file the document with the Monterey County Clerk and State Clearinghouse.

Phase 5: Regulatory Compliance/Permitting (Grant Funded)

Phase 5 should begin after the Plan Description is developed enough to discuss details with the regulatory agencies; at a minimum, informal discussions/consultation with the agencies should occur during the development of the Plan Description to ensure that any agency concerns are addressed at that time to guide the development of the Plan.

If cost constraints require that **Phase 5** begin upon grant funding (after **Phases 1 and 2** are complete), it is possible to discuss and submit a final Plan Description to the agencies prior to the finalization of the IS/MND. There may be some revisions to the Plan Description based on agency input, but because the goals of the Plan are to improve habitat, flood control, and groundwater recharge, we do not anticipate major revisions to the Plan.

Harris anticipates that **Phase 5** will take between six to nine months. The permit packages can be completed in three to four weeks, but the agency coordination can take some time, and is dependent on agency personnel availability, workload, and priorities (e.g., emergencies in other parts of the country or state can affect availability and priorities).

Costs for the City of Salinas Creeks Enhancement Program Development and Environmental Compliance/Permitting

As a reminder, this scope and cost estimate were developed using the most conservative assumptions. The intent was for Harris to provide a comprehensive and realistic plan for this large-scale undertaking as a starting point. However, the scope can and most likely will be modified as the plan is developed and implemented, and to fit actual City and grant funding availability. In addition, the scope was prepared in phases so that the costs may be spread over several fiscal years or other funding timeline(s).

A summary of the costs associated with each phase and total cost for the entire project is provided below. Please see the attached cost estimate for detailed costs for each of the phases and tasks discussed in this scope of work.

- Phase 1: Develop Detailed Plan Description - $133,460
- Phase 2: Grant Research and Application (funding for the development of this Program) - $90,800
- Phase 3: Prepare Technical Reports - $56,430
- Phase 4: CEQA Compliance - $64,260
- Phase 5: Regulatory Compliance/Permitting - $103,910

Total (including subconsultant markup of 10%) - $454,760

Please contact us with any questions, or for further clarification. We appreciate the opportunity to submit this scope of work to the City of Salinas, and look forward to working with you.

Harris & Associates

Salinas Creek Enhancement Plan Cost Estimate (11/6/19)

	HARRIS STAFF HOURS								SUBCONSULTANTS			
	Project Director Kate Giberson *$225.00*	Project Manager Shannon Bane *$185.00*	Permitting Specialist Wendy Young *$180.00*	Hydrologic Engineer Madeline Baker *$150.00*	Air/GHG/Noise Sharon Toland *$165.00*	GIS Specialist Randy Deodat *$130.00*	Publishing Gerrie Filipowicz *$110.00*	Graphics Joseph Ramot *$100.00*	EcoSystems West *Biological Resources*	Albion *Cultural Resources*	Weber Hayes *Hazardous Materials*	Fee
Phase 1. Detailed Plan Description (City Funded)												
Task 1.1 Background Research and Data Gap Analysis		32.0	24.0	8.0	8.0		2.0	2.0			$ 5,000.00	$ 18,180.00
Task 1.2 Plan Description	4.0	60.0	52.0	16.0	24.0	4.0	4.0	7.0				$ 29,380.00
Task 1.3 Opportunities and Constraints Analysis	2.0	32.0	32.0	8.0	8.0	24.0	4.0	4.0				$ 18,610.00
Task 1.4 Securing Permits for 2019-2020 Maintenance Projects	2.0	120.0	120.0	8.0	24.0	8.0	4.0	4.0	$8,000.00	$8,000.00		$67,290.00
Hours Subtotal	*8*	*244*	*228*	*40*	*64*	*36*	*14*	*17*				
Task 1 Subtotal	*$1,800.00*	*$45,140.00*	*$41,040.00*	*$6,000.00*	*$10,560.00*	*$4,680.00*	*$1,540.00*	*$1,700.00*	*$8,000.00*	*$8,000.00*	*$5,000.00*	***$133,460.00***
Phase 2. Grant Research and Application (City Funded)												
Task 2.1 Grant Packages for the Development of the Plan	4.0	120.0	100.0	4.0			30.0	4.0				$ 45,400.00
Task 2.2 Grant Packages for the Implementation of the Plan	4.0	120.0	100.0	4.0			30.0	4.0				$ 45,400.00
Hours Subtotal	*8*	*240*	*200*	*8*	*0*	*0*	*60*	*8*				
Task 2 Subtotal	*$1,800.00*	*$44,400.00*	*$36,000.00*	*$1,200.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$6,600.00*	*$800.00*				***$90,800.00***
Phase 3. Technical Reports (Grant Funded)												
Task 3.1 Jurisditional Delineation of Wetlands and Waters of the U.S.		12.0							$ 8,000.00			$ 10,220.00
Task 3.2 Biological Assessment		16.0							$ 20,000.00			$ 22,960.00
Task 3.3 Cultural Resources Technical Report		2.0	16.0							$ 20,000.00		$ 23,250.00
Hours Subtotal	*0*	*30*	*16*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*				
Task 3 Subtotal	*$0.00*	*$5,550.00*	*$2,880.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$ 28,000.00*	*$ 20,000.00*	*$ -*	***$56,430.00***
Phase 4. CEQA Compliance (Grant Funded)												
Task 4.1 CEQA Compliance	16.0	60.0	160.0	48.0	24.0	8.0	16.0	8.0	5000.0	1000.0		$ 64,260.00
Hours Subtotal	*16*	*60*	*160*	*48*	*24*	*8*	*16*	*8*				
Task 4 Subtotal	*$3,600.00*	*$11,100.00*	*$28,800.00*	*$7,200.00*	*$3,960.00*	*$1,040.00*	*$1,760.00*	*$800.00*	*$5,000.00*	*$1,000.00*	*$ -*	***$64,260.00***
Phase 5. Regulatory Compliance/Permitting (Grant Funded)												$ -
Task 5.1 Initial Agency Consultation to Determine Permitting Strategy		16.0	16.0	12.0								$ 7,640.00
Task 5.2 Permit Packages	2.0	52.0	52.0	40.0		8.0	24.0	12.0	$15,000.00	$5,000.00		$ 50,310.00
Task 5.3 Additional Agency Coordination and Requirements		120.0	132.0									$ 45,960.00
Hours Subtotal	*2*	*188*	*200*	*52*		*8*	*24*	*12*				
Task 5 Subtotal	*$450.00*	*$34,780.00*	*$36,000.00*	*$7,800.00*		*$1,040.00*	*$2,640.00*	*$1,200.00*	*$15,000.00*	*$5,000.00*	*$ -*	***$103,910.00***
												$ -
SUBTOTAL TASKS 1-5	$7,650.00	$140,970.00	$144,720.00	$22,200.00		$6,760.00	$12,540.00	$4,500.00	$33,000.00	$21,000.00	$5,000.00	***$448,860.00***
Subconsultant Markup (10%)									$3,300	$2,100	$500	$5,900
TOTAL												**$454,760.00**

11/6/2019