



**PROTECT OUR COAST  
AND OCEANS FUND**  
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

## **Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund Grants Fiscal Year 2019/2020**

### **Big Sur Land Trust**

Big Sur Land Trust's free Youth Outdoor Programs serves youth with little access to coastal recreation spaces in the Salinas Valley and surrounding communities. This \$12,000 grant will fund day camp programs at Marks Ranch in Salinas and program expansion to two pilot camps at Martin Dunes near the mouth of the Salinas River. The connection between inland communities and the coast will be highlighted through the movement of wildlife through a wildlife corridor and the flow of water through the Salinas River Watershed. Time at Martin Dunes will culminate in a stewardship project relating to the specific content of the day, such as a cleanup, invasive plant removal, or trail sign creation. These field trips take place mostly on the weekend and The Land Trust offers follow-up events that engage campers and their families.

### **Brown Girl Surf/Social Good Fund**

Brown Girl Surf offers programs that provide opportunities to build an emotional connection to the ocean in communities underrepresented at the coast. In order to make marine science and environmental conservation culturally accessible to participants, Brown Girl Surf will use this \$25,416 grant to integrate their Environmental Education Program with their Rising Leaders program. This project will cultivate a pipeline of environmental ambassadors, from summer camp participants to junior youth leaders, to mentors and role models who take ownership of the program. The grant will support community conservation programs during Earth Day and Creek to Bay Day, educating the public and engaging in stewardship activities; and three four-day sessions of youth summer camp that include hands-on science, stewardship, and surfing.

### **CSU Chico Ecological Reserves/Chico Enterprises**

This \$24,254 grant will enhance and expand field trip opportunities for Butte County elementary students impacted by the Camp Fire. The programming will make the connection between the Butte Creek Ecological Preserve and the coast and ocean environment as part of its watershed, specifically as spawning grounds for the endangered Chinook Salmon. This project will align existing curriculum with California's Next Generation Science Standards and create new curriculum that incorporates indigenous management practices that have allowed humans to live with and benefit from fire in the ecosystem. The grant will also fund two teacher workshops focusing on the impacts of climate change on watershed ecosystems as well as opportunities for

students and the general public to participate in restoration and stewardship projects in the Preserve.

### **Camp Phoenix**

This \$37,500 grant will fund a three-week summer sleepaway camp near San Gregorio for middle school students from low income communities, which include trips to Pescadero State Beach and Monterey Bay Aquarium; as well as three beach excursions during the school year. As part of this grant, the camp will incorporate new curriculum on coastal processes. Camp Phoenix programming is exploratory, culturally relevant, outdoor environmental learning that empowers youth to develop leadership and community agency.

### **Friends of the Dunes**

A \$16,000 grant will fund the Kids' Adopt-A-Beach Assembly Program and Beach Cleanup in Humboldt County. The assembly program will educate students at underserved and inland elementary schools about dune ecosystems and the harmful effects of ocean pollution, followed by a beach cleanup and invasive plant removal event for 1,000 students.

### **Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center**

This \$30,000 grant will support all fifth grade students at rural Guadalupe's Kermit McKenzie Intermediate School with six months of in-class and field trip activities culminating in two projects focused on coastal restoration and community education on water quality. Students will observe how ecosystems function, explore watershed characteristics, understand how human actions can affect the environment, and promote pollution prevention in the community. The program is designed to inspire interest in higher education in the fields of science and conservation. Students will make presentations to the City Council and create a watershed fact sheet to be included in water bills which will reach 7,000 residents. Parents are invited to join the field trips, which will include Monterey Bay Aquarium, Morro Bay, Santa Cruz Island, and Guadalupe Beach.

### **Heal the Bay**

A \$30,000 grant supports Heal the Bay's role as the coordinator for both the Adopt-A-Beach Program and Coastal Cleanup Day for Los Angeles County. As the coordinator of the Adopt-A-Beach program, the organization arranges cleanups for hundreds of groups of volunteers provides them with supplies. Heal the Bay also hosts monthly zero-waste public cleanup events; maintains an interactive database where cleanup volunteers enter data on their trash collected and the public can run reports and view and graph the data. Heal the Bay also offers educational programming which includes presentations to all cleanup volunteers about urban runoff, the watershed system, marine debris, and pollution prevention; bus transportation to bring students from underserved schools to the beach (to clean up, enjoy the seashore, and take an educational tour of a nearby wastewater treatment plant); having students analyze data about the trash collected; and downloadable lesson plans for teachers.

### **Learning Equipment Supply Service**

This \$12,000 grant will purchase environmental science laboratory equipment which will then be available on loan to teachers. Learning Equipment Supply Service will facilitate five teacher workshops connecting aquatic microbiology, climate, urban runoff and its connection to marine ecology at three k-8 schools, which will include a field trip to collect plankton at a local park. Participants will observe five different urban runoff mitigation technologies, and then will design and build a model residential structure to capture runoff for reuse. Teachers will use the lab equipment in their classrooms, presenting lessons which will be designed as part of this grant.

### **Napa County Resource Conservation District**

A \$25,574 grant supports this program for high school students and teachers to focus on historic decline and current recovery of salmon and trout in the Napa River through field trips demonstrating science, service, and careers, along with in-class presentations that extend field trip concepts into the classroom. In addition, RCD staff will meet with participating teachers throughout the project. Napa RCD will facilitate student exploration of the connections between the Napa River Watershed, San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

### **Ocean Discovery Institute**

A \$25,000 grant helps Ocean Discovery Institute to engage 900 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and 35 teachers from the highest poverty and most diverse community in San Diego, in robust science education focused on protecting coastal wetlands. Through experiences in the classroom, at a coastal wetland, and at the Institute's Living Lab, students will observe ecological connections, investigate human impacts, and take action for the coast. One of the project's goals is for students to come away with a belief that science is something they can do and a scientist is someone they can be.

### **Orange County Coastkeeper**

An \$18,000 grant fund the Kids' Adopt-A-Beach Assembly Program and Beach Cleanup in Orange County. The assembly program will educate students at underserved and inland elementary schools about their watersheds and the harmful effects of ocean pollution, and will host a beach cleanup event for 1,000 students.

### **Reef Check Foundation**

With a \$11,750 grant, Reef Check will train members of Outward Bound Adventures' Diverse Outdoor Leaders Institute in SCUBA, marine biology, ocean conservation, and protocols for monitoring kelp and rocky reef ecosystems. These newly trained and certified 18-28 year-old citizen scientists will assist Reef Check in leading low-income middle and high school students from their own communities in on-the-ocean education programming. The young adult leaders will lead students in scientific activities including plankton tows, water quality measurements, and surface observations of oceanography and marine life.

### **Smith River Alliance**

This \$11,975 grant will continue and expand Coastal Cleanup Day in rural Del Norte County, organize an additional cleanup on the lower river in collaboration with Tolowa Dee-Ni' Nation, and create a collaborative waste prevention and cleanup campaign for two annual community celebrations. Smith River Alliance will support teacher-led cleanups on the Friday before Coastal Cleanup Day and organize a boat cleanup in areas inaccessible to people on foot.

### **Trinidad Coastal Land Trust**

This \$11,957 will provide inspiring coastal and marine education and stewardship programs and field outings for youth and adults, with hands-on activities designed to support a coastal conservation ethic. The project will support school programs for Hoopa Elementary and McKinleyville Middle School students; public walks, events, and stewardship days; summer field trips for the Boys and Girls Club to Humboldt State University Marine Lab and the intertidal zone; and volunteer trainings for new California Coastal National Monument Ambassadors who help lead walks, stewardship, and outreach activities. The school component includes developing field experiences based on the Ocean Literacy Principles, classroom presentations, and field trips that will incorporate habitat exploration and stewardship activities. At least nine, free public walks will highlight coastal and marine habitats and the community connection to them.

### **Youth Outside**

This \$25,000 grant will fund Youth Outside to offer trainings for Whale Tail Grant recipients focusing on social and environmental justice to help the organizations build and increase cultural competency in their programming and program evaluation.

**TOTAL AWARDED: \$324,676**