

PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Please complete a unique Project Information Form for each project in the application. There are no character limits on specific questions but the Project Information Form as a whole may not exceed 10 pages.

1. Project Name: Southern Humboldt Fire Suppression Water Supply
2. Local Project Sponsor (if different than grantee): Mattole Restoration Council
3. Please provide the latitude and longitude of the project site. For linear projects or those covering a large area, report the coordinates for a central point. If this information is confidential, it must be clearly labeled "confidential." You can find the latitude and longitude easily using google maps. You can find instructions at the following link:
<https://support.google.com/maps/answer/18539?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop>.

Latitude: 40.245206237669585

Longitude: -124.12461338596924

4. Please briefly describe the proposed project.

The Mattole Restoration Council proposes to purchase and install rainwater catchment storage tanks for local volunteer fire departments in the Mattole and Eel watersheds. Petrolia, Honeydew, Telegraph Ridge, Whale Gulch, Briceland and Whitethorn Fire Departments all serve as initial attack on many rural fires before CalFire can respond. We are seeking funding to purchase rain catchment tanks and appropriate hose and hydrant fittings for these fire departments and to plan the most strategic locations for placement using our existing Fire Atlas for first responders.

Successful 'initial attack' of a wildfire is based on getting water onto the fire as rapidly as possible simply because small fires are easier to suppress than large fires. As a result, many local agencies rely on the 'Type 6' Engine, which is a large pick-up truck chassis carrying only 300-400 gallons of water. To compensate for the relatively short discharge times, agencies are eager to site smaller tanks in strategic places throughout their response areas to reduce 'turn-around times' when shuttling water to a fire. Selecting these strategic locations is based on an ongoing data gathering project using the Mattole Fire Atlas, a digital and paper atlas showing roads, locked gates, structures, and water sources. Local fire departments will work with the Mattole Restoration Council GIS Tech and Fire and Fuels Coordinator to determine where, beyond landowners' existing stored pond and tank water, additional dedicated fire water would best be sited and update the Fire Atlas once those tanks are in place.

Established in 1983, the Mattole Restoration Council's primary mission is to understand, restore and conserve the ecosystems of the Mattole River watershed, with attention to threatened coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead. We are a non-profit, 501c3 that works with hundreds of private landowners, resource management agencies, and other local conservation and education organizations.

5. Does this project respond to an existing emergency to humans and/or wildlife? If so, please describe the emergency and how this project is addressing it.

This project responds to a fire season emergency for humans and wildlife. Residents of the rural area served by the 6 fire companies listed above all manage their own water systems. There is no municipal water or fire hydrants on the Lost Coast. We rely on stored water and on our ability to draft water from ponds, creeks, and rivers. The ongoing drought across our local fire companies' area of responsibility has significantly reduced our options in that many creeks and certain drafting spots on the Mattole River do not offer drafting flows during the extreme part of the fire season. As a result, increasing importance is being placed on the thoughtful placement of small (1,000 - 5,000 gallon) water tanks placed throughout the watershed. Adding strategic storage will improve initial attack response time and reduce the likelihood of a small fire growing into a megafire.

The project focus area includes volunteer fire departments that serve the Mattole and Eel watersheds. The NCRP data map (located at <https://northcoastresourcepartnership.org/data/>) demonstrates that this entire area is "Economically Distressed". Furthermore, the area is almost entirely comprised of Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) including Petrolia, Honeydew, Telegraph Ridge, and Whitethorn, and significant portions comprised of "Severely Disadvantaged Communities" (SDAC).

6. Each project must meet one of the following purposes as it relates to drought. Please select the appropriate purpose for your project.
- Address immediate impacts on human health and safety, including providing or improving availability of food, water, or shelter.
 - Address immediate impacts on fish and wildlife resources.
 - Provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.
7. Each project must enhance regional drought resilience and align with the goals and objectives of the relevant approved Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. You can find the relevant IRWM Region by using the map at the following link:
<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/>

The IRWM Plans can be found at the following link: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Plan-Review-Process>. If you have any questions about the IRWM region the contact list can be found at the following link: <https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs>. Applicants are encouraged to contact and coordinate with the applicable RWMG for the IRWM region in which the project is located

Please identify the IRWM objective your project addresses.

GOAL 1: INTRAREGIONAL COOPERATION & ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

-Objective 1 - Respect local autonomy and local knowledge in Plan and project development and implementation

-Objective 2 - Provide an ongoing framework for inclusive, efficient intraregional cooperation and effective, accountable NCRP project implementation

GOAL 2: ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Objective 4 - Ensure that economically disadvantaged communities are supported and that project implementation enhances the economic vitality of disadvantaged communities by improving built and natural infrastructure systems and promoting adequate housing
- Objective 5 - Conserve and improve the economic benefits of North Coast Region working landscapes and natural areas

GOAL 3: ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT

- Objective 6 – Conserve, enhance, and restore watersheds and aquatic ecosystems, including functions, habitats, and elements that support biological diversity
- Objective 7 - Enhance salmonid populations by conserving, enhancing, and restoring required habitats and watershed processes

GOAL 4: BENEFICIAL USES OF WATER

- Objective 8 - Ensure water supply reliability and quality for municipal, domestic, agricultural, Tribal, and recreational uses while minimizing impacts to sensitive resources
- Objective 9 - Improve drinking water quality and water related infrastructure to protect public health, with a focus on economically disadvantaged communities
- Objective 10 - Protect groundwater resources from over-drafting and contamination

GOAL 5: CLIMATE ADAPTATION & ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

- Objective 11 - Address climate change effects, impacts, vulnerabilities, including droughts, fires, floods, and sea level rise. Develop adaptation strategies for local and regional sectors to improve air and water quality and promote public health
- Objective 12 - Promote local energy independence, water/ energy use efficiency, GHG emission reduction, and jobs creation

GOAL 6: PUBLIC SAFETY

- Objective 13 - Improve flood protection, forest and community resiliency to reduce the public safety impacts associated with floods and wildfires

8. Describe the Primary Benefit of the project.

Quantified benefit: 151,000

Units (Drop down):Other If other please enter:Gallons

Benefit Type: Improve operational efficiency If other please enter:

9. Describe the Secondary Benefit of the project:

Quantified benefit: 151000

Units (Drop down):Other If other please enter:Gallons

Benefit Type: Water Supply If other please enter:

10. Please briefly describe how the project will achieve the claimed benefits.

Provide 32 tanks and 151,000 gallons of stored rainwater to support fire suppression for the rural outlying communities served by Petrolia, Honeydew, Telegraph Ridge, Whitethorn, Briceland and Whale Gulch Fire Departments. The project will support a reliable water supply for first responders. Improved water supply and efficiency improves initial attack timing which reduces the chances of small fires growing into mega fires that can destroy homes, lives, and the salmonid habitat the MRC and our partners (Mattole Salmon Group, Sanctuary Forests, BLM, State Parks, USFWS, CDFW, NCRP, DWR, etc) have worked so hard

to improve. Stored water will save 151,000 gallons of fire water that would have otherwise been diverted from streams.

11. Briefly describe how the community/area benefiting from this project is being impacted by the current drought.

CalFIRE considers most of the Mattole watershed to be at a very high risk of wildfire. The 2021 drought reduced Mattole River flow to an all time low and caused many reliable wells and springs to dry up. This impacted available water for fire suppression efforts because local fire departments rely on ponds, creeks, tanks and the Mattole River for water to fight fires. Many creeks and certain drafting spots on the Mattole River do not offer drafting flows during the extreme part of the fire season. In addition, many residents used water set aside for fire protection to meet household needs.

12. How will this project alleviate the impacts described in your answer to Question 11?

Increased rainwater catchment and water storage will provide reliable water sources for local fire departments and reduce water diversions.

13. Please complete the following budget table for the project. (Identify funding sources in Question 15)

	BUDGET CATEGORY	Grant Amount	All Other Cost	Total Cost
(a)	Project Administration	31,445	5,500	36,945
(b)	Land Purchase / Easement	0	0	0
(c)	Planning / Design / Engineering / Environmental Documentation	39,000	9,000	48,000
(d)	Construction / Implementation	275,348	24,000	299,348
	TOTAL COSTS	345,793	38,500	384,293

14. Please describe why state funding is needed for this project. If state funding is not secured, what will happen to the project?

The fire departments are run by volunteers who dedicate an incredible amount of time to keeping our communities safe. Over the past 5 years fire incidents have increased making this time commitment even more intense. As volunteers are busier and busier fighting fires they have less time to fundraise. In addition, the pandemic has limited usual fundraising events and created budget stress. For example, the Honeydew Fire Company receives almost 100% of its annual funding from the large "Roll on the Mattole Festival" which has been cancelled two years in a row. Without state funding fire departments cannot afford to purchase tanks in the near future. If tanks are not secured soon there will not be time to fill them before next fire season which will reduce initial attack capacity and response.

15. Will the applicant provide cost share (encouraged but not required) and/or will this project require any additional funding from sources other than this solicitation? If so, please describe the funding source and indicate if the funding has been secured. If the funding has not been secured, please describe the plan to secure the necessary funding.

If NCRP/DWR funding is secured we will have all resources needed to implement the project. We have committed in kind labor from all 6 fire departments to help install and maintain the tanks once secured. We also have a small amount of funding remaining from Bella Vista Foundation and USDA to update the Mattole Fire Atlas.

16. Is land acquisition or landowner permission required for this project? If so, please briefly describe the status of the acquisition or agreement with the landowner. If the acquisition is not complete or permission not secured at the time of application, please describe the plan to complete it.

Tanks placed on private property will require landowner permission and an MOU. Strategic tank site locations are known for half of the tanks and we will sign landowner agreements once additional sites are identified using the Fire Atlas.

17. Has planning and design for this project been completed? If not, please describe the status of planning and design.

We are at 50% design. Tank location sites have been determined for Telegraph Ridge, Briceland and Whale Gulch fire departments. We will continue to work with Honeydew and Petrolia to determine the most appropriate sites for their water storage.

18. Are the CEQA (and NEPA if applicable) and permitting processes for this project complete? If not, please briefly describe the permits and CEQA (or NEPA) documents to be completed and projected schedule for completion.

None required.

19. Please briefly describe the necessary construction/implementation for this project.

Implementation: Deliver tanks to each fire department, prepare site with grading and gravel, install tanks at appropriate sites, fill tanks with rainwater or spring water depending on timing, add CalFire approved outputs.

20. Please complete the schedule below for the project. Projects must be complete by March 31, 2026, to allow time for final invoice processing and retention payment before the State funds expire on June 30, 2026. Project administration should end at least three months after construction.

	Categories	Start Date	End Date
(a)	Project Administration	11/1/2021	12/31/2023
(b)	Land Purchase / Easement		
(c)	Planning/ Design / Engineering / Environmental Documentation	11/1/2021	11/1/2023
(d)	Construction/ Implementation	1/15/2022	5/15/2023

