

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

### Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)

**Applicant: KERN RIVER VALLEY HERITAGE FOUNDATION**

**Project Title: BOB POWERS GATEWAY PRESERVE STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Application Number: SNC 080109**

### PROJECT SCOPE

This project will develop a Strategic Plan to provide a road map and integrate the vision for the protection, development, management, and operation of the Bob Powers Gateway Preserve (Preserve). The Preserve is predominantly composed of an alkaline marsh/meadow wetland habitat, which is a rare wetland type in the Sierra Nevada. Since its acquisition in 2001, development of the Preserve has been relatively straight forward consisting of biological inventories, maintenance, fencing and adding native plants, with no general public access. The Strategic Plan will provide a framework that assures the integrity of the wetlands as the Preserve transitions to its role as a resource available to the public.

It will take into consideration the history of the Preserve, the present condition of the Preserve and contemplated improvements, such as the creation of a nature trail, wildlife garden and visitor/interpretive center. Future functions such as outreach and educational activities and these potential impacts on wetlands and other resources in the vicinity, will be included in the plan as well. The plan will deal with these elements via feasibility analysis by identifying the scope, timing, cost, priorities and resource availability. The deliverable of this project is to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan for the Preserve. The components of the Plan will include the following:

- (1) Vision/Mission Statement
- (2) Existing Site Conditions
- (3) Strategic Plan Elements:

Identification, Prioritization and Stewardship Strategy (including all site improvements made to date, as well as the plan elements needed to implement the mission/ vision statement)

i. Conceptual plans include a nature trail, wildlife garden, and the visitor/interpretive center. These proposed elements will involve educating the public about the ecosystem and water quality benefits that a health, functioning wetland such as an alkaline marsh provides.

ii. Implementation Strategy to carry-out each Element including identifying the permitting and infrastructure requirements needed for each Element,

iv. Stewardship Strategy that will identify the tasks necessary for the long-term stewardship of the Preserve, Included will be things such as the type and frequency of habitat surveys and a strategy for monitoring and evaluating those water resources, which impact the Preserve, and

v. Facility Management will delineate the volunteers and/or staff commitment required for implementing the Plan as well as other agencies

and organizations interested in the long-term success of the Preserve, and  
vi. Preserve Documentation to assure that documents and information pertaining to the Preserve are collected and retained.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Initiate development of the Preserve Strategic Plan	March 2009
Complete the vision and mission statements	June 2009
Six month progress report including quantification and reporting of performance measures	September 2009
Complete conceptual plans for nature trail & wildlife garden	November 2009
Complete conceptual plan for visitor and interpretive center	February 2010
One year (12 month) progress report including quantification and reporting of performance measures	March 2010
Complete stewardship strategy	May 2010
Complete the Preserve Strategic Plan	October 2010
Final Report	December 2010
<b>FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST</b>	<b>January 31, 2011</b>

### PROJECT COSTS

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL SNC FUNDING</b>
Contract professional planning firm to develop strategic plan	\$63,000
Engineering consultant	3,500
Document reproduction	1,000
Performance measure reporting	500
Administration	3,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$71,000</b>

### PROJECT SUPPORT LETTERS

- Audubon Society
- Bureau of Land Management
- California Department of Fish and Game
- Kern County Department of Parks and Recreation
- Kern River Valley Beautification Group
- Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Kern River Valley Revitalization Inc
- Mt. Mesa Corporation
- Senator Roy Ashburn
- Supervisor Jon McQuiston, 1<sup>st</sup> District Kern County

## **PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and three project-specific measures. Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified through further discussion with SNC staff.

- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments