

---

## Memorandum

Date: May 15, 2020  
To: Board of Directors  
From: Kellyx Nelson  
Re: Recommendation to contract with Ecological Concerns, Inc. for integrated pest management for the control of two invasive plants on private properties

---

RCD staff recommends contracting with Ecological Concerns, Inc. for a three year contract to implement integrated pest management for the control of *Brachypodium sylvaticum* and *Carex pendula* to preserve riparian and forest habitat on private and public lands.

Work will take place on approximately 60 public and private properties in San Mateo County. The first year of the contract will be for an amount not to exceed \$47,021, funded by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. The amount of funding for the subsequent two years is not yet known.

This project will improve conditions in the Santa Cruz mountains for the benefit of riparian and forest habitat. The current limited range of the two target species provides the RCD an opportunity to prevent new invasions further into the bioregion and California.

A Request for Bids was distributed to five contractors on April 6, 2020. Two bid packages were received, both of which were complete and received by deadline. Based on the bid packages and information from references, RCD staff determined that both firms were qualified and capable. The bids were similar in terms of cost, the firms' capacity, and excellent references. To identify the bid and firm that would be the best fit for the project, the RCD looked at each firm's experience with the program target species.

After reviewing this information, RCD staff recommends Ecological Concerns, Inc. to complete this project based on the firm's deep experience with the area as well as the target species for treatment.