

Memorandum

Date: January 15, 2021
To: Board of Directors
From: Kellyx Nelson
Re: Recommendation to contract with Storesund Consulting for the Butano Creek Streamflow Improvement Project

RCD staff recommends contracting with Storesund Consulting for \$200,000 to develop complete designs for four water storage reservoirs and associated water distribution systems in the Butano Watershed.

This work, once implemented, will allow agricultural water users to dramatically reduce or eliminate stream pumping rates during low flow periods, ensure water security for farming operations, and protect stream flows for salmonids by addressing low streamflow in Butano Creek. Overall project benefits are estimated to be 60 AF of storage with up to 1.46 cfs (cubic feet per second) reduction in withdrawals during the dry season.

The RCD sent a Request for Proposals (RFP) to nine qualified firms on November 19, 2020. Three firms attended a pre-proposal site visit on December 8, 2020 and one firm (Storesund Consulting) submitted a proposal. This proposal was reviewed by a seven-member review committee, including three RCD staff members, two members from the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), one member from the Peninsula Open Space Trust and one member from Trout Unlimited.

RCD staff recommends Storesund Consulting because:

- Storesund Consulting is the unanimous recommendation of the review committee.
- Storesund Consulting was the only applicant, their proposal was complete and submitted on time, and their proposed cost is within budget for the project.
- Storesund Consulting has successfully completed multiple projects for the RCD since 2016. These include designing two irrigation efficiency upgrade projects, four agricultural storage water storage projects, as well as multiple domestic water supply improvement projects.
- RCD staff checked Storesund Consulting's references and received positive feedback.

Project Locations Map: Butano Streamflow Improvement Project



Gianni Property: Location Option #1





Current Giannini Pond, west of Butano Creek (2 photos above). All water present is the result of rainfall; no water is currently drawn from or added to this pond. It may be leaking based on water loss being greater than expected evaporation. There is a significant amount of organic debris.

Giannini Property: Location Option #2



(Above) Approximately 26 acres of this 30-acre field are actively farmed. The area above remains wet too late into the season for the farmer's crops; it could be an alternate site for a pond if the previous pond site is not feasible. The right side of the photo shows Cloverdale Road.

POST Property: Backfield



The Backfield "pond" is shown above. The entirety of the "pond" is infilled with tules.

POST Property: Back 40



(Above) The far edge of the Back 40 lot. This is a potential location for a new pond site. (Below) The Back 40 field/potential pond site, looking the other direction.



Richeson Property- Aerial View



Two project site locations are on either side of the road leading into Fifth Crow Farm's operation. Another location is on the field to the north of the creek crossing the property.