

## Memorandum

Date: November 17, 2022  
To: Board of Directors  
From: Kellyx Nelson  
Re: Recommendation to contract with Stillwater Sciences for Pescadero Estuary Restoration Project: Designs for the North Marsh and North Pond Complex

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RCD staff recommends the board of directors approve contracting with Stillwater Sciences for the Pescadero Estuary Restoration Project: Designs for the North Marsh and North Pond Complex for an initial amount not to exceed \$50,000 for a first phase with the potential for additional \$250,000 for future phases to complete designs and provide implementation support.

This project was identified via the Integrated Watershed Restoration Program Technical Advisory Committee and Pescadero Technical Roundtable. It will develop designs and associated technical studies to address known water quality and habitat impacts resulting from historic land use and relic infrastructure in the Pescadero lagoon that stem from an area called the North Marsh and North Pond Complex (NMNPC). The NMNPC (upper half of Figure 1) is the main remaining high priority area within the marsh in need of significant ecological restoration.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was sent to three firms on August 4, 2022 and is available on the RCD's website. Stillwater Sciences was the only firm to submit a proposal. It was deemed complete, was submitted by the deadline, and met the budget and schedule requirements. The firm met all criteria required in the RFP including: experience in ecological restoration design in bar-built estuary systems along California's Central Coast, preferably direct experience in the Pescadero estuary; staff experience in estuarine ecology, coastal geomorphology and/or engineering, civil and hydraulic engineering, fisheries biology, and experience with tidewater goby, California red-legged frog, and other special status species likely to be encountered and affected by the proposed project; significant experience working with and modeling in Deltares' Delft 3D environment; and staff availability to finalize a work program and complete contracting documents with the RCD within 3 weeks of selection and ramp up staffing to complete 30% design work by the end of January 2023. The firm provided good references and has completed similar projects successfully throughout the

Bay Area. The team has unique expertise because it includes the scientist who developed the model that will be used in the proposed work.



**Figure 1.** Aerial view of the Pescadero Marsh with the upper half north of Pescadero Creek called the North Marsh and North Pond Complex.