



February 18, 2020

Subject: Changes to the 2020 Preservation Agreement Implementation (PAI) Fund Cost Share Grant Programs

Dear Suisun Marsh Landowner,

The Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD) is pleased to announce the release of the 2020 Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement (SMPA) Preservation Agreement Implementation (PAI) Fund Cost Share Grant Programs.

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2020 PAI Program Updates (please read carefully!):

1. To apply, a **simpler new unified fillable form must be submitted** through your Water Manager (see email attachment, the SRCD website, your Water Manager, or email jtakekawa@suisunrcd.org)
2. Applications will be accepted only twice a year: deadline for submittal is **March 31, 2020** or **July 15, 2020**. Project technical reviews will be completed from 1-15 April or 16-31 July.
3. Approved 2019 projects will be considered in 2020, but new applications will be required for any projects from 2018 or before.
4. Water Managers will conduct post-project inspections within 2 weeks of landowner notification of project completion.
5. Landowners must **submit a single detailed cost summary along with all invoices or receipts marked paid by November 1, 2020.**
6. Completed reimbursement packages will be forwarded to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) once a month.
7. **Only after SRCD has received the funds from DWR will cost-share payment be sent to landowners with a target of December-January.**

The Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement (SMPA) is a contractual Agreement between SRCD, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to ensure that DWR and USBR maintain a dependable water supply of adequate quantity and quality within the Suisun Marsh to mitigate the adverse effects on the Suisun Marsh from the Federal Central Valley Project, State Water Project, and a portion of the adverse effects of other upstream diversions. The SMPA was originally signed in 1987, which established Suisun Marsh salinity standards and built the initial facilities (Montezuma Salinity Control Structure and the Roaring River Distribution System) under the 1984 Plan of Protection for the Suisun Marsh. In 2005, the SMPA was revised which allowed the establishment of the SRCD Water Manager and Portable Pump Programs. With the completion of the 2013 Suisun Marsh Habitat Management, Preservation, and Restoration Plan EIR/EIS, the SMPA was amended in 2015 to provide funding and required environmental permitting authority to implement the PAI Fund Cost Share Programs.

The **three PAI Cost Share Programs** provide funding for activities needed to improve managed wetland facilities, operational efficiency, and water management capabilities. Each Cost Share Program determines which type of improvements may apply to be eligible for participation.

- **Drainage Efficiency Improvement 50/50 Cost Share.** This Program provides funds for infrastructure improvements necessary to improve leaching and drainage efficiency of individual clubs. Also, the 50/50 cost share also may be available to help offset the electrical and fuel costs to perform effective spring leach cycles.
- **Drainage Infrastructure Improvement 75/25 Cost Share.** This Cost Share Program provides funds for infrastructure improvements necessary for the property to meet the 30-day flood and drain cycle objective for managed wetlands. Funds for this Program may not be used for maintenance of water control structures or for fish screens.
- **Joint-Use Facility Improvement 75/25 Cost Share.** Joint use facilities are water control improvements used between two or more properties. Funds from this Program may not be used for maintenance of joint use facilities structures or fish screens.

The 2020 PAI Cost Share Program Guidelines and Unified Application Form includes: Program eligibility, Program definitions, grant review procedures, regulatory permitting compliance requirements and 2015 SMPA required contractual obligations. Any eligible project must comply with all Program requirements for Suisun Marsh landowner participation. This unified application can be downloaded at the SRCD website: <https://suisunrcd.org/programs/#preservationagreement>.

The SRCD Water Managers will assist landowners in application preparation of eligible proposed projects and help determine to which Cost Share Program may apply. Contact your Water Manager at (707) 426-2431 or the SRCD main office at (707) 425-9302. If you have submitted an approved 2019 PAI Project that was not completed, it will be moved to a 2020 grant agreement and must be included on the 2020 USACE work application and contain a 2020 revised budget for review. A new application will be required for any approved projects from 2018 or before.

The submittal of a project proposal does not assure project funding; each proposed project requires formal technical and agency review. Also, please note that reimbursement occurs after the project is completed, inspected, and approved. The landowner must submit a cost summary with all invoices, paid receipts, and project verification (including before, during, and after construction photos). Reimbursement checks will be distributed when SRCD is paid by the granting agency, typically by December or January.

Please submit your completed application packages with the required signatures by email to jtakekawa@suisunrcd.org or mail to the office address (see sidebar).

Sincerely yours,



Steven Chappell,
Executive Director

Enclosure: PAI 2020 Application Guidelines and Unified Application

Cc: SRCD Board of Directors
DWR, Mr. Cliff Feldheim
USBR, Mr. Armin Halston