



February 11th, 2021

Subject: Funding for the 2021 Preservation Agreement Implementation (PAI) Grant Program

Dear Suisun Marsh Landowner,

The Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD) has administered the Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement PAI Cost Share Program since 2016. This agreement mitigates the adverse effects on the Marsh from the Central Valley Project, State Water Project, and a portion of the adverse effects of other upstream diversions. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) provide funding under this agreement for the PAI Program for activities needed to improve managed wetland facilities, operational efficiency, and water management capabilities.

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SRCD regrets to inform you that there will be *no funding for new PAI applications in 2021* under the PAI Cost Share Grant Program. Due to State budget constraints from COVID-19 pandemic, DWR has determined it will not be able to fund new 2021 PAI projects. Please see the enclosed DWR notification letter.

For those landowners that had a 2020 approved PAI project which was deferred to 2021 at DWR's request, DWR has budgeted funding to proceed with these specific outstanding projects. Please contact your Water Manager or John Takekawa to verify if you have an approved uncompleted 2020 project to obtain the required project agreements, permitting, and approval completed prior to initiating the project this year.

SRCD would like to assure the landowners that SRCD is actively working with DWR and USBR to budget adequate future funding resources to continue the PAI program in the 2022 work season.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at (707) 425-9302.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Chappell,
Executive Director

Enclosure: January 12th, 2021 DWR letter

Cc: SRCD Board of Directors
DWR, Mr. Dean Messer
USBR, Mr. Armin Halston

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
3500 INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691



January 12, 2021

Steve Chappell
Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD)
2544 Grizzly Island Road
Suisun City, CA, 94585-9539

Dear Mr. Chappell,

This letter is to provide you notification that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) would be limited in our ability to fund cost-share programs under the Preservation Agreement Implementation (PAI) Fund in calendar year 2021.

While DWR remains committed to partnering with SRCD in improving managed wetland facilities, operational efficiency, and water management capabilities in the Suisun Marsh, the State's budget constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic has limited DWR's ability to fund new programs in 2021. Hence, we request that SRCD, and the landowners it represents, limit construction activities to the deferred projects that had initially been planned for calendar year 2020, and this means SRCD would not solicit new PAI projects from landowners in 2021.

Based on SRCD's estimates (provided to DWR via email on 12/21/2020), the total projected DWR cost-share for the 2020 PAI projects that were deferred to the 2021 work season is approximately \$350,000. This amount will be included in DWR's 2021 budget, but funding for additional projects is not available in calendar year 2021.

DWR appreciates your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 376-9700 or Dean.Messer@water.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Dean F. Messer

Dean F. Messer, Chief
Division of Environmental Services

Cc:

Cliff Feldheim
Hoan Tang
Huu Pham