2023 Marine and Estuarine Research Grant Opportunities at Tomales Bay

Applications due March 2, 2023

Each year, approximately 100 independent research projects are conducted within the boundaries of Point Reyes National Seashore , Tomales Bay and its watershed. While these areas provide a natural laboratory for ecological and other scientific research, many of these projects also provide key information for the conservation and informed management of natural and cultural resources. We are pleased to offer two grant competitions this year to encourage partnerships with the research community, and support National Park Service (NPS) and Tomales Bay Foundation (TBF) information needs:

The Tomales Bay Foundation Science Fund will provide two grants, each up to a $5,000, for investigations that address or advance one of the Watershed Foundation's top 5 science priorities which are (1) Understanding recreational and tourist use patterns in Tomales Bay and its watershed, (2) Sea level rise mitigation, planning and management, (3) Understanding fishery habitat and use in Tomales Bay, and (4) Land-use and aquatic/terrestrial ecology, (5) Water Quality Analyses.

Proposals will be rated on the following factors:

- The proposal is sound and feasible in terms of time frame, access to natural areas, resources, and personnel.
- The proposal advances scientific knowledge of the region. Priority will go to proposals that address one of the 5 priority research areas listed above.
- The project deliverables are clearly articulated and appropriate in scope.
- The applicant is well qualified to undertake the proposed research. Students with senior projects, graduate

students, post-doctoral researchers, faculty, and other professional scientists are eligible to apply.
- The proposal is clearly written and complete.
- The budget appropriately maps onto project objectives and tasks.
- The proposed research addresses conservation or management needs.
- Educational opportunities for students and the public.
- Researcher will be required to present their findings at an appropriate local meeting or conference.

Prior to submitting a proposal, researchers may inquire with foundation@tomalesbaywatershed.org (415 629 9697) about research needs, logistics, permitting, subject matter and contacts that the Tomales Bay Foundation may already be familiar with.

APPLICATION INTRUCTIONS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 2, 2023 **PLANNED ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS**: March 23, 2023

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A completed proposal and all supporting materials (and questions) should be emailed to foundation@tomalesbaywatershed.org. A single PDF of all documents is preferred, but not required. Questions? You can call Tom Gaman, TBF Chair, at 415 629 9697.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The application should have 4 sections: (1) Applicant information, (2) Project Description, (3) Budget, and (4) Curriculum Vitae. If possible, the overall package should not exceed 7 pages. Students should include a short note from your advisor supporting the project. The note may be submitted by email to foundation@tomalesbaywatershed.org or attached to the application as an additional page.

1. **APPLICANT INFORMATION (ONE PAGE)**
   Project Title:
   Present position or degree being sought:
   Institution:
   Mailing address:
   Telephone number:
   E-Mail address:
   Research advisor (if applicable):
   Who letter of support will be submitted by (if applicable):

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (<u>THREE</u> PAGE LIMIT)

The project description should have the following sections:

A. Title.

B. Introduction.

Briefly state the problem/questions to be studied, and current status of knowledge.

C. Research Description.

Briefly describe the research, include hypotheses and general experimental design. Address sample sizes and statistical approaches when necessary.

D. Description of field methods and study site(s). Include a general timeline of the project.

E. Describe the significance of the proposed work and benefits to park and local management and, if applicable, to the TBF Science Priorities.

F. Anticipated scientific and popular publications.

G. Describe potential educational opportunities for local students (i.e., talk to a local school, field trip). We can help plan this or suggest opportunities. H. Collecting/research or other permits:

Include a statement as to their status. NPS Research Permits can be applied for at: irma.nps.gov/rprs/ (It is not required to apply for a permit prior to submitting this grant application). Projects in Tomales Bay may require permits from the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the State of California. H. Literature Cited (may be short or compact format).

3. PROJECT BUDGET (<u>ONE</u> PAGE LIMIT). ***To reduce paperwork complexities for these small grants, we strongly prefer to grant funds directly to the awardee rather than the institution.***

Place the Project Budget on a separate page in table format. It can be simple but should include the following:

A. Total projected costs of the entire research project broken down into salaries/stipends, supplies & equipment, travel, and other. The budget should specify potential and secured sources of additional funding (or in-kind match) and costs requested from this grant source.

i. If travel by personal automobile is required, an allowance of up to $0.585 per mile may be used.

ii. The following budget items <u>ARE GENERALLY NOT</u> supported: overhead/indirect costs greater than 5% (we prefer these small grants be paid directly to awardees rather than institutions), conference or meeting costs in excess of 5% of budget.

B. Brief budget justification for any expenses that are not obvious. (< 250 words).

4. CURRICULUM VITAE (<u>TWO</u> PAGE LIMIT)

APPENDIX: Past Grants Awarded

TOMALES BAY FOUNDATION GRANTS: 2019 - 2022

- **Long-term monitoring of Tomales Bay eelgrass to identify responses to oyster aquaculture** ○ UC Santa Cruz

- **Using eDNA and aerial (drone) imagery to characterize coastal fish communities in response to health and extent of eelgrass, *Zostera marina*, beds.**
  ○ UC Davis

- **Processes and Future Change in the Beaches of Tomales Bay** ○ UC Davis - Bodega Marine Laboratory

- **The Impacts of Climate Change on Biological Invasions in Estuarine Ecosystems** ○ UC Davis - Bodega Marine Laboratory

- **Assessing juvenile Dungeness crab habitat use to inform vulnerability to global change** ○ UC Santa Cruz