

CA B-WET FY16: Monterey Bay Watershed

GRANT RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDED AMOUNT
Ventana Wildlife Society (Student)	<p>“MBNMS Watershed Transect Program” – This project will consist of 24 weekly outdoor classes throughout the school year for four different groups, culminating in a six-day overnight camping transect. Program curriculum focuses on the Salinas Valley and the central coast as a primary watershed of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The camping transect component will pull together all aspects of the weekly classes to provide students with the ultimate watershed field experience. Our main partner for this project is Monterey County Office of Education's Alternative Education Program, with the support of the Monterey County Probation Department. A total of 192 youth will be served at an average cost of \$690 per participant. Each class and transect will include one teacher, and either one therapist, probation officer or teacher aid. There will be four teachers that we work specifically with throughout the year.</p>	\$45,000
Save the Whales (Student)	<p>“From Salinas to the Ocean: Teaching Stewardship in the Upper Watersheds to Protect the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary” – Save The Whales is proposing to partner with Return of the Natives Restoration Education Project at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) and 16 school teachers at three Title 1 elementary schools in the City of Salinas (Henry F. Kammann, Natividad, and Monterey Park) to conduct an educational program for 480 - 544 children in grades 5 and 6. Eighty (80) parents will also be invited to participate in the outdoor learning activities. The program will focus on culturally diverse, low income, and underserved children.</p>	\$56,135
One Cool Earth (OCE) (Student and PD)	<p>“Paso Robles Watershed Project”- This school term program provides a three-part watershed education program targeting at-risk youth, including those in the San Luis County Probation gang prevention program and two schools from within the Paso Robles Unified School District. Students from Flamson will be recruited as mentors for students at Georgia Brown Elementary, the GBES students are not included as part of the total number of students in the program. Teachers will receive training to enable leading MWEs in outdoor labs. Teachers and students come from different schools, the schools teachers come from have new outdoor learning labs which will be christened with this project. Classwork and field work will focus on watershed issues of urban and agricultural water use & runoff, non-point source pollution and climate change. NOAA MERITO curricula will be used to offer culturally and linguistically appropriate activities related to watershed education. Classroom activities include hatching and raising steelhead trout, use of a groundwater model, watershed model and native plants and understanding household water use. The middle school will largely focus on plastics and marine debris with a tie to the schools recycling and composting program.</p>	\$60,000
Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (Students and PD)	<p>“Connecting Students to Their Local Watershed: A Watershed Education Program for Students and Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers”- In partnership with Pacific Grove Museum the Park District would like to develop and pilot environmental education programs for classes geared toward grades K-8 to be delivered on park properties. Included will be tested lessons paired with best practices in watershed education and student based citizen science programs that will allow students to contribute data to their local resource agencies to inform resource management.</p>	\$49,961

<p>Watsonville Wetlands Watch (Student)</p>	<p>“Wetlands Stewards”- The Wetlands Stewards afterschool program develops young leaders and learners in watershed ecology as a strategy toward restoring and keeping the wetlands clean, healthy, and productive. The overall work is aligned with the NOAA Educational Plan. Includes use of an interactive watershed model and "Wetland in a Box" for use with inquiry based activities, and NOAA's Where Rivers Meet the Sea to discover what an estuary is and beneficial impacts. Students will visit West Struve Slough with a goal of becoming comfortable in nature, begin birding with an expert from the Santa Cruz Bird Club, a wetland scavenger hunt documenting discoveries and a visit from the Pajaro Valley Ohlone Indian Council for cultural stories, song and dance and learn about medicinal and cultural uses of wetland plants. Elementary students will compare water quality data collected from West Struve and graph to look for changes in estuarine waters. They will also use an interactive game to role-play parts of the food web as producer, consumer, decomposer. Students will become Bug Spy's to learn more about aquatic invertebrates and their roles in the food web and as indicators of water quality.</p>	<p>\$32,963</p>
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