

CA B-WET FY 19: Monterey Bay Watershed

Grant Recipient	Project Description	Funded Amount
Exploring New Horizons (Student MWEE)	<p>“A study of watershed health and biodiversity for Salinas Students”- The scope of this project is to provide over 250 students from four Title I Salinas schools with a multiphase, 10-month exploration to learn how local watersheds connect to, and impact, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Working with partners and current educational pedagogy focused on watershed science; our aim is to provide these students the opportunity to understand how our climate and other human actions impact our natural world and its basic systems. Utilizing climate literacy principles and ecosystem resiliency curriculum our aim is to increase students’ knowledge and hands-on opportunity to determine the health and resiliency of the local watershed. Following multiple field experiences, the student experience will culminate in a school stewardship project to share lessons and plan ways to improve the health of the watershed, and our oceans.</p>	\$33,656
Watsonville Wetlands Watch (Student MWEE)	<p>“Building Capacity in Environmental Literacy in the Pájaro Valley”- Watsonville Wetlands Watch (WWW) will collaborate with Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (ESNERR), Save Our Shores (SOS), and the Pájaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) to build capacity in environmental literacy in the Pájaro Valley. This collaboration will work primarily with Latino children from low-income families in the Pájaro Valley enabling them to become knowledgeable about watershed ecology so that they grow to become part of an informed community practicing stewardship behaviors towards protecting their watersheds. The Pájaro River and Elkhorn Slough watersheds contain 3,000 acres of freshwater and saltwater wetlands that filter the water that drains into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS).</p>	\$60,000
Santa Cruz County Office of Education (Student and Teacher MWEE)	<p>“Relevant Action and Learning for Science (REAL Science)”- REAL Science will incorporate all elements of a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE). REAL Science will increase the scientific and environmental literacy of teachers and students by integrating classroom curriculum with outdoor science and stewardship activities. This will be achieved by providing high quality professional learning opportunities to prepare teacher leaders throughout Santa Cruz County school districts to implement MWEEs with students and share resulting programs with teacher teams at all school sites in the county.</p>	\$100,000

<p>Save the Whales (Student MWEE)</p>	<p>“From Soledad to the Ocean: Teaching Coastal Stewardship to South County Title 1 School Children”- The proposed program focuses on culturally diverse, low income, and underserved children in southern Monterey County. South County itself is “underserved,” in that South County children typically have far fewer opportunities for extracurricular programs than do children in other parts of the county, due to their geographic remoteness. The proposed project is intended as a pilot project to provide extracurricular programs for the “harder-to-reach” children in the rural communities of South County, beginning with one school in Soledad and expanding in Years 2 and 3 to the communities of Gonzales and King City.</p>	<p>\$53,102</p>
<p>Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project, Inc. (Teacher MWEE)</p>	<p>“STEP to the Sea”- The project will provide a two-day field training to 13 teachers Year 1, 18 teachers Year 2, and 24 teachers Year 3, plus 32 hours of field and classroom mentoring and resources year-round for each, reaching a total of 55 teachers and more than 5,435 students. In STEP to the Sea, the two estuary-themed classroom lessons in STEP will be supplemented by two field study lessons from the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, “Estuary Food Pyramid” and “Survival in an Estuary” adapted for salmonids. At least three field experiences are planned with students and teachers: water sampling with physical and chemical testing, benthic macroinvertebrate surveys to assess stream health, and field studies at an estuary. A fourth outing will be a community service activity, participating in Coastal Cleanup Day or teacher’s choice.</p>	<p>\$56,333</p>
<p>Coastal Watershed Council (Student MWEE)</p>	<p>“Watershed Rangers”- This project is driven by rigorous academic standards that meet Next Generation Science Standards, the Watershed Rangers program reaches students within the Santa Cruz City Schools District who need the greatest support in understanding complex environmental issues and their own role in preserving and protecting local natural resources. Two Coastal Watershed Council (CWC) educators, in ongoing partnership with two non-formal educators from Bay View Elementary and Gault Elementary, will plan and implement programs, lead program development and evaluate the success of this evidence-based, learner-centered program.</p>	<p>\$37,104</p>