

March 24, 2009

Board of Directors  
Marin County Open Space District  
3501 Civic Center Drive  
San Rafael, California 94903

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A TIDE GAUGE AT BOLINAS LAGOON, AND FOR DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING**

Dear Board Members:

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Authorize the President to execute agreement with the United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, in the amount of \$25,000.

**SUMMARY:** Approval of the attached agreement would enable the installation and maintenance of a tide gauge, also known as a water level station, at Bolinas Lagoon, and the collection and processing of data from the gauge. The Open Space District and the National Ocean Service (NOS) have a common interest in the collection and dissemination of reliable and accurate water level information at Bolinas Lagoon for ecosystem management and wetland restoration, climate change, and weather and water information.

NOS collected water levels and computed tidal datums at Bolinas Lagoon in 1979, but significant change to the lagoon's hydrologic system has occurred since then, due to such factors as sediment accumulation, increased development, ongoing tectonic movement, and ongoing groundwater overdraft and its accompanying land subsidence. There is a need to update tidal datums based on accurate water level observations and tie them into geodetic elevations in the National Spatial Reference System.

The agreement would be in effect for five years, terminating on October 31, 2013. However, the \$25,000 cost would cover only the installation and one year of maintenance and data collection from the date that the gauge is declared operational by NOS. Staff anticipates that the system will be operational by late March 2009.

The Seadrift Association has already given permission for the gauge to be mounted on the bulkhead near the Seadrift Tennis Club at no cost.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No impact for the first year of the agreement. The Seadrift Association donated \$25,000 to the Open Space District in March 2008 to offset the cost of installation and the first year of maintenance and data collection. Future costs to the District, if any, would be negotiated with NOS and addressed in amendments to the agreement.

<b>REVIEWED BY:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Auditor Controller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Miska  
Deputy Director

attachment  
RM:kbl

cc: Matt Bronson  
James Raives  
Kiren Niederberger, Seadrift Association  
Rob Robinson, Seadrift Association  
Scott Tye, Bolinas Lagoon Technical Advisory Committee  
Bill Carmen  
Maria Brown  
Parks and Open Space Commission  
Press