

For Immediate Release: October 1, 2009 Contact: Laurie Heller (916) 651-7593

## ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2009/10 ANNOUNCED

Applications due by Monday, Nov. 16, 2009

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.**—Secretary for Natural Resources Mike Chrisman today announced that applications are currently being accepted for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) 2009/10 grant cycle.

The program offers grants to local, state, and federal governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations for projects to mitigate environmental impacts caused by new or modified state transportation facilities. Grants generally will be limited to \$350,000 per project. Grants are given in three categories:

- **Highway Landscape and Urban Forestry --** Projects designed to offset vehicular emissions of carbon dioxide through the planting of trees and other suitable plants.
- **Resource Lands --** Projects for the acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of watersheds, wildlife habitat, wetlands, forests, or other significant natural areas within or near the right of way for transportation improvements.
- **Roadside Recreation** -- Projects for the acquisition and/or development of roadside recreational opportunities.

Applications for the 2009/10 grant cycle must be received by the Natural Resources Agency no later than 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, 2009. The Natural Resources Agency will submit recommended projects to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for funding consideration in early 2010. It is anticipated that the CTC will give preliminary approval to projects to be funded in late spring 2010.

Two technical assistance workshops will be held to help applicants in preparing grant applications:

## Sacramento

Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Veteran's Building 1227 O Street 5th Floor, Room 518 Los Angeles Monday, Oct. 19, 2009, 1-3 p.m. California Department of Transportation 100 South Main Street 1st Floor, Room 1.040B

Please RSVP to reserve your space by e-mailing eemcoordinator@resources.ca.gov.



tive American Heritage Commission • San Diego River Conservancy • San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Comn San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy • San Joaquin River Conservancy

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy • Sierra Nevada Conservancy • State Lands Commission • Wildlife Conservation Board

## **EEMP Guidelines 2**

To access the **EEMP Guidelines and Application** and learn more about evaluation criteria and requirements, visit <u>http://www.resources.ca.gov/eem/</u>.

For more information about EEMP project administration, visit the Caltrans Web site at <u>http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/EEM/homepage.htm</u>.

Hardcopies of the application are also available from the Natural Resources Agency, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814, or by contacting the EEMP Coordinator at (916) 651-7593 or at <u>eemcoordinator@resources.ca.gov</u>.

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