



EXHIBIT 4-A

April 29, 2013

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
P. O. Box 85
Monterey CA 93942

Re: Proposal for Technical Assistance with Carmel River IFIM Application

Dear Larry,

At your request, Normandeau Associates has prepared the following proposal to assist the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (District) in developing a Scope of Work to apply the Instream Flow Incremental Methodology to address water rights issues in the Carmel River. The District is applying to the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for a change petition to an existing water right permit for a Carmel River flow diversion. The SWRCB permit incorporates instream flow requirements that must be met prior to diverting Carmel River flow. These requirements are a modified set of the instream flow requirements developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in 2002. The NMFS, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the District, and California American Water (the local water purveyor) are all interested in updating these instream flow requirements in order to best manage steelhead populations in the Carmel River.

The IFIM is a decision support system very much like Structured Decision Making (e.g. <http://www.structureddecisionmaking.org/Overview.htm>) with the additional inclusion of more technical tools and methods. IFIM is designed to assist interest groups and stakeholders with identifying issues, data gaps, and needed studies, direct implementation of these studies, and guide interpretation and negotiations over river management, including instream flow requirements. The five basic phases of IFIM (<http://www.fort.usgs.gov/products/software/ifim/5phases.asp>) are:

- Problem Identification
- Study Planning
- Study Implementation
- Alternatives Analysis
- Problem Resolution

MPWMD has specified the following areas of interest for an application of the IFIM to Carmel River water and fisheries management issues:

- Whether a 1-D or 2-D hydraulic model is appropriate
- Resolution of cross-section and profile data for a hydraulic model
- Appropriate reaches to model
- Appropriate seasons and reaches for habitat suitability curves

890 L Street, Arcata, CA 95521
Tel. (707) 822-8478 www.normandeau.com



- Assessment of existing data sets and any perceived gaps
- Stakeholder outreach, including to regulatory agencies and interest groups
- Appropriate level of peer review

Normandeau proposes to conduct two field visits and have two office visits with District staff to familiarize us with the river and to assess the quality and appropriateness of existing data. In consultation with the District, Normandeau would then prepare initial recommendations for a scope and approach strategy for the IFIM implementation. The District would coordinate a subsequent stakeholder workshop to present the approach to regulatory agencies and interested groups such as the Carmel River Steelhead Association, Trout Unlimited, the California Sport Fishing Alliance, and others who can be expected to participate. Normandeau would also attend the workshop to help address any comments or concerns raised by participants. Results of the workshop would be incorporated by the District and Normandeau into a draft Request for Proposals to conduct the IFIM, with a starting target date in the fall of 2013.

Implementing this proposed scope would require three trips (two field/office visits, one stakeholder meeting) to Monterey of three days each (two half-days of travel, two of work) and up to 10 days of office time for preparation, initial recommendations, drafting the RFP, and ongoing consultation). The nineteen estimated days of labor would come to \$36,480 (19x8x\$240/hr), plus approximately \$4,050 for expenses (airfare, rental car, lodging, meals, misc.), or a total not-to-exceed \$40,530 on a time and materials basis. I would expect to perform all necessary work on behalf of Normandeau, unless additional staff time for data analysis and review would be more cost-effective.

I hope this brief proposal meets your requirements for selecting a consultant to assist with the IFIM on the Carmel River. Please let me know if you have any comments or questions. I will look forward to the possibility of working with you and the District.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Payne
Senior Associate II