

**San Diego Association of Governments
Ramona Grasslands and Boulder Oaks Preserves
Bullfrog Eradication Project
County of San Diego Dept. of Parks & Recreation
Quarterly Progress Report
Reporting Period: October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024
Submission Date: January 2025
SANDAG Contract Number: S1125505**

Quarterly Status Report Overview

PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE OR ALTER THE FORMATTING OF THIS DOCUMENT!

SANDAG has developed a standardized grant monitoring and tracking program for the Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Land Management Grant Program. The purpose is to collect information on individual projects and the grant program as a whole for reporting to the Regional Habitat Conservation Taskforce, SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees, and the SANDAG Board of Directors. SANDAG monitors grantees through invoices, progress reports, performance measures, and designated photograph points. These standardized reporting templates and instructions for submittal are included below.

EMP Land Management Grants

Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report

Work Performed this Period:

1. Task 1- Bullfrog Eradication Program

Work during Quarter 2 occurred on October 11, 2024 (Ramona Grasslands) and October 14, 2024 (Boulder Oaks). These visits constituted survey number 3 for each property.

Ramona Grasslands

The biologists visited Ramona Grasslands on October 11, 2024. A total of 22 bullfrogs (14 adults; 8 juveniles) were eradicated this quarter for a total of 48 bullfrogs eradicated from the Ramona Grasslands property throughout the grant period. The biologists drove around Ponds 1 and 2 with a spotlight to identify eyeshine from bullfrogs.

Bullfrogs in close range were gigged or captured in a net. Bullfrogs farther out were eradicated with a .22 air gun with non-lead pellets. At Pond 3 and Santa Maria Creek, the biologists waded into the water and used gigging tools and nets, collecting any bullfrogs observed. No bullfrogs were captured in Pond 3. Bullfrogs were brought to the shore and humanely euthanized prior to stomach content analysis.

Boulder Oaks

The biologists visited Boulder Oaks on October 14, 2024. A total of 62 bullfrogs (24 adults; 38 juveniles) were eradicated from Pond 1 during this quarter for a total of 132 bullfrogs eradicated from the Boulder Oaks property throughout the grant period. Dense reeds continued to restrict access to Pond 2. Therefore, the biologists focused efforts at Pond 2 along the shoreline. No bullfrogs were captured at Pond 2 as none were seen from the shoreline. Ponds 3 and 4 were not surveyed as they did not contain water. The captured bullfrogs were brought to the shoreline, humanely euthanized and their stomach contents analyzed.

This task is approximately 17% complete.

2. Task 2 – Silt Fence Exclusion Program

Approximately 900 linear feet of silt fence was installed along the western fence line at Pond 2 on December 23 and 24, 2024. The purpose of the exclusionary fencing is to block access to Santa Maria Creek west of Pond 2. The purpose of exclusionary fencing along the western fence lines of Ponds 1 and 2 is to direct bullfrogs in a drying Pond 1 to move to Pond 2, where they can be captured and not into Santa Maria Creek.

EMP Land Management Grants

Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report

This task is approximately 36% complete.

3. Task 3 - Monitoring and Evaluation

After capture and euthanasia, the stomach contents of individuals captured at Ramona grasslands were analyzed. Stomach contents consisted of crayfish and insect larvae. Stomach contents of individuals captured at Boulder Oaks included juvenile bullfrogs, insect larvae and a garter snake. No native species were observed during this quarters' surveys.

This task is approximately 17% complete.

4. Task 4 - Reporting

The Year 1, Quarter 2 Progress Report (Progress Report) prepared by Helix Environmental Planning is provided as an attachment to this report.

This task is approximately 14% complete.

5. Task 5 - Project Management

During the reporting period, DPR staff time was used to manage the consultant task order, review consultant progress reports (Tasks 1 & 2), process consultant invoices, and coordinate with Ramona Municipal Water District (RMWD) regarding installation of additional exclusionary fencing within RMWD's property at Pond 2 (Task 2). Consultant time was used to coordinate with DPR field staff regarding eradication survey visits (Task 1), coordinate with RMWD regarding installation of exclusionary fencing at Pond 2 (Task 2) and internal coordination between the construction team (Task 2) and the biological team (Task 1).

This task is approximately 25% complete.

Work Anticipated Next Period

Work was paused after the October surveys due to decreasing bullfrog activity. Surveys will resume in February 2025 at both Ramona Grasslands and Boulder Oaks.

Issues to Note

Access restrictions due to dense reeds around Pond 2 at Boulder Oaks continues to be an issue. DPR staff and consultant are discussing options for increased access at Pond 2 for future surveys.

Photographs & Figures

Photographs and figures are invaluable! Please include photos in the Quarterly Progress Reports and any figures (if applicable). Both photos and figures may be included throughout the document under corresponding tasks or at the end following

EMP Land Management Grants

Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report

the Issues to Note section. Photographs taken at the same place or photographic points (photo-points) can assist SANDAG staff in tracking the project's progress over time.

It is required that **Photographs include:**

- A before and after comparison sequence from the start to the completion of the project for photo points.
- A brief description of the corresponding tasks, date, and activity in the photograph.
- **A copy of each photograph included in the report submitted in a .jpeg or .png file format.**



Picture 1: Stomach contents observed in bullfrog captured at Ramona Grasslands (Task 1; October 2024).

EMP Land Management Grants
Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report



Picture 2: Exclusionary fence installed along fence line at Pond 2 at Ramona Grasslands (Task 1; December 2024).

EMP Land Management Grants
Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report



Picture 3: Exclusionary fence installed along fence line at Pond 2 at Ramona Grasslands (Task 1; December 2024).

EMP Land Management Grants
Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report



Picture 4: Bullfrogs captured during survey at Boulder Oaks (Task 2; October 2024).

EMP Land Management Grants

Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report



Figure 1: Exclusionary fencing along fence line at Ramona Grasslands Pond 2 (Task 2; December 2024).

SDMMP Project Page

To receive reimbursement for work conducted within the quarter, submission of Quarterly Progress, Annual, and Final Reports must be added to your project's Project Page on the SDMMP website. Add any necessary photographs to the photo carousel and fill out the photograph information. *Please contact Sarah McCutcheon (smccutcheon@usgs.gov) or Emily Perkins (eperkins@usgs.gov) if you are having trouble accessing or editing your project page.*

Project Performance Measures Instructions

SANDAG will utilize the SANDAG Performance Measures to document compliance with the Project. Grantee's performance will be measured against the Performance Measures (Exhibit D) during the term of the project. More details on Performance Measures and Grant Recovery Plans are outlined in the Grant Agreements.

To access the **Project Performance Measures Excel Spreadsheet:**

- Simply double-click on the Excel icon located under the *Project Performance Measures* section.
 - An excel sheet will open, please fill out and then click save.

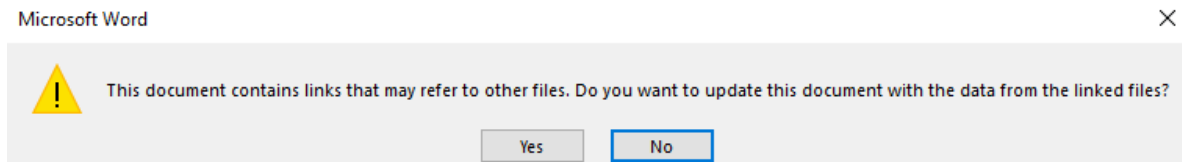
EMP Land Management Grants

Year 1; Quarter 2 Progress Report

- Once the Excel spreadsheet is saved, please exit Excel and the spreadsheet will automatically update the icon in the Quarterly Progress Report Word document.

When opening the document with the **Project Performance Measures Excel Spreadsheet:**

- When you first open the Quarterly Progress Report Template, a warning message will open (image of the warning message below)
 - Click Yes to update the links in the document.



Performance Measures

Please include the Project's Performance Measures for each Quarterly Invoice and Progress Report in order to receive reimbursement.