

Mendocino County Fish & Game Project Proposal Summary Sheet

(This must be the first page of the submitted proposal)

1. Contractor: Mendocino Land Trust (MLT)
2. Type of Contractor: A 501(c)(3) nonprofit, land conservation organization
3. Taxpayer/Organizational ID/EID Number: ██████████
4. Street Mailing Address: PO Box 2058
5. City, State, Zip Code: Fort Bragg, CA 95437
6. Contact Person: Sean O'Rourke
7. Telephone Number: (707) 962-0470
8. Email address: sean@mendocinolandtrust.org
9. Website address(es): https://www.mendocinolandtrust.org/
10. Project Title: Mendocino Countywide Residential Bear Resistant Garbage Can Distribution Program
11. Fish and Game Code Section 13103 Category: Section 13103(h) and (m)
12. Amount Requested (\$): \$20,000.00
13. Objectives: The objective of the program is to support areas of the County where black bears and other species have been food-conditioned to residential garbage cans. The grant would provide residents with a 50 percent cost share to purchase a bear resistant 96-gallon trash can (BRC) for individual use. It is estimated that an individual BRC would cost \$250. MLT would work with the County, CDFW, and the local haulers to advertise the program with distribution of the BRCs managed by the local haulers to residents on a first come, first serve basis. Priority distribution will be given to high conflict areas including the Brooktrails area and areas north of Fort Bragg.  
Benefits of the project include the securing of garbage cans which will prevent bears from accessing garbage cans and helping to reduce CDFW resources on dealing with food-conditioned bears which may include trapping, relocating, and destroying food-conditioned bears. Securing garbage is critically important to the safety of residents and their pets, especially those living in the rural areas where bear habitat meets residential development. It is estimated that if 60 percent of a neighborhood has BRCs then the bears would leave that area alone. As noted in the 2016 USDA report on Innovative Solutions to Human-Wildlife Conflicts, "One of the more long-term and sustainable strategies for reducing human-bear conflicts in urban and suburban areas is the elimination of human-related food sources, such as trash, bird feeders, and petfood." This program would help provide a long-term solution to human-wildlife conflicts pursuant to F&G Section 13103(h) that supports predator control actions for the benefit of fish or wildlife and Section 13103(m) which allows for other expenditures for the purpose of protecting, conserving, propagating, and preserving fish and wildlife.  
Pending the success of the initial program, the program may be expanded with the intent to seek additional funding.
14. Specie(s) Benefited: Species benefited include black bears, raccoons, foxes, possums, skunks, and other species.
15. Work Schedule: Starting in early 2023, MLT will coordinate with the County, CDFW, and local haulers to promote the program. Interested residents will contact their hauler to order a BRC, hauler will deliver the BRC, and MLT will reimburse the hauler for 50 percent of the cost of the BRC. Program to be completed in 2023.

16. Site Location (include reference to nearest city, town, and/or prominent landmark: Countywide with priority to high conflict areas.

17. Site Location – GPS Coordinates: N/A

18. We would also like to be considered for funding from the Ft. Bragg-based Salmon Restoration Association <http://www.salmonrestoration.com/> (for salmon habitat enhancement/restoration, salmon conservation, or salmon education projects). \_\_\_\_\_ YES     No.

*Please also fill out the following, if applicable:*

19. Stream: Program could protect streams countywide from trash entering waterways.

20. Tributary to: N/A

21. Major Drainage System: N/A

**The deadline for receiving proposals is 5:00pm, October 15, 2022.**

**Proposals must be submitted by email** as a PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .TXT, or ZIP file to the Commission at: [mendofishgamecommission@gmail.com](mailto:mendofishgamecommission@gmail.com). **Applicants must also mail or hand-deliver eight double-sided copies** to the Commission c/o County Planning & Building Services.

Grant applicants are encouraged to attend the Tuesday, November 8, 2022 meeting of the Commission at the County Farm Advisor's Conference Room, 890 N Bush Street, Ukiah, CA beginning 6:00 pm, to make a brief (5 minute) presentation regarding their proposal.

Applicants without personal computers or internet access to the Commission website can request assistance from County branch libraries in Ukiah, Ft. Bragg, Willits, Coast Community (Pt. Arena), and Round Valley (Covelo) to download and print the application materials. *Note: County library personnel can also assist with scanning and emailing completed proposals.*

For additional information, please call Fish and Game Commission at (707) 234-6094, or email the Commission at [mendofishgamecommission@gmail.com](mailto:mendofishgamecommission@gmail.com).

## Mendocino Countywide Residential Bear Resistant Garbage Can Distribution Program - Proposed Budget

<b>Total Budget Requested</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>MLT Administrative Costs of 10%</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Total Funds for Residential BRCs</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>

Note: One BRC is estimated to cost \$250. The program would cost share 50% of the BRC with the resident paying half the cost or \$125 for a BRC. The resident would purchase the BRC through their local hauler and MLT would pay the hauler \$125 per BRC. This split would provide 144 BRCs to residents. The split and costs may be subject to modification based on the BRC cost and interest in the program.

## Mendocino Countywide Residential Bear Resistant Garbage Can Distribution Program - Letters of Support

Good morning Sean

I am writing to offer the Department's support of the Countywide Bear Resistant Trash Can Distribution Program. Securing attractants like garbage will have a positive impact on Mendocino County residents and bears by reducing human-wildlife conflict in areas where bears have been food-conditioned to residential garbage cans. Specifically, areas like Brooktrails and Inglenook have increasingly experienced issues with bears getting into garbage cans, and the Department believes residents in these neighborhoods will benefit from this program, as will the local bears.

Thank you for your work in getting this program off the ground, if you have any questions or if I can offer assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

**Andria Townsend**

Environmental Scientist, Wildlife Program  
Mendocino County  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
660 S. Main Street, Suite A, Willits, CA 95490  
(707) 738-3099

Hi Sean,

I understand the Mendocino Land Trust will be applying for a grant up to \$20,000 for the purchase of "bear carts" in the rural areas of Mendocino County. Solid Wastes of Willits, Inc. supports the grant and looks for assistance in providing carts to SWOW's customers due to the increase in bear activity in our service areas. We currently have purchased "bear carts" from Rehrig Pacific and provided them to our customers in Brooktrails Township CSD and other areas. Unfortunately due to the continual need we have found it quite expensive to continue to purchase carts to help handle the problem. Any support from the grant program will be appreciated.

Gerald W. Ward (Jerry)  
Solid Wastes of Willits, Inc.  
PO Box 1425  
Willits, CA 95490  
(707)489-2061  
[swow@solid1.net](mailto:swow@solid1.net)





# BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
24860 BIRCH STREET  
WILLITS, CA 95490  
Phone: 707-459-2494  
Fax: 707-459-0358  
btcsd@btcsd.org

October 7, 2022

Mendocino Land Trust  
215 South Main Street  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Re: Fish and Game Commission Grant – Bear Cans

Dear Mr. Kramer:

In coordination with Supervisor Haschak, staff has learned of your intent to file a grant application with the County Fish and Game Commission to acquire bear cans in areas of unincorporated Mendocino County, including Brooktrails. Review of the grant application language indicates that under *Fish and Game Code Section 13103(h): Predator control actions for the benefit of fish and wildlife*, acquisition of bear cans would qualify for a grant award.

In order to reduce impacts to waterways and bear species behavior from garbage can strikes, the Township **supports** your application to acquire bear cans for eligible solid waste customers in the Brooktrails subdivision of Mendocino County. Bear cans also help prevent ancillary garbage impacts to waterways and wildlife from other animals like raccoons, cats and birds.

If helpful, our staff is willing to work with you to identify residences or neighborhoods that have experienced bear strikes. We can also offer another outreach option to educate and provide solid waste security to customer accounts and our forested environment. Please feel free to contact me if our staff can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Tamara Alaniz  
General Manager