



For Immediate Release

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Bear River receives \$558,562.50 Proposition 84 Grant Award for Reclaimed Water Project on Bear River Rancheria

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The Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria received a Proposition 84 Grant award in the amount of \$558, 562.50 for a reclaimed water project on the Bear River Rancheria.

The funds will be utilized to reclaim wastewater from the upgraded wastewater treatment plant currently under construction on the Rancheria lands in Tish Non Village to water wetlands and supply fire suppression system reservoirs on Tribal lands.

The project will also include an interpretive trail with informational and educational signage explaining the process in use for visitors interested in learning about the water conservation efforts of the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria.

“It is a great project. It reflects and reinforces tribal values of environmental stewardship. Everyone in the State is concerned about the drought and even in relatively wet Humboldt County we must be conscious of the competing uses for water and overall water scarcity in the State of California,” said Matthew Mattson, Executive Director of Tribal Operations.

“You can no longer just turn on the faucet or spigot and not be concerned about where the water is coming from or if there is enough anymore,” added Edwin Smith, Tribal Council Member and Director of the Bear River Environment and Natural Resources Department.

Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Prop 84), was approved by California voters in the general election on November 7, 2006. Prop 84 provided funds to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) \$82 million for matching grants to local public agencies for the reduction and prevention of stormwater (SW) contamination of rivers, lakes, and streams (Public Resources Code [PRC] § 75050[m])

The Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria is comprised of approximately five-hundred and eighty (580) members. The Tribe owns and operates the Bear River Casino Hotel, one of the largest employers in Humboldt County, employing over four hundred (400) people.