Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting
May 25, 2017, 10:00am
State Capitol, Room 112
Sacramento, California 95814
View of Rainbow Ridge easement area from Old Stage Road
#6. Rainbow Ridge

Mixed Conifer Forest post 2010 storm damage timber harvest
#6. Rainbow Ridge

Typical mixed conifer forest east/northeast aspect. Forest condition post 1939 wildlife and several harvest operations.
#6. Rainbow Ridge

Deciduous trees and conifer near spring storage tank and overflow
#6. Rainbow Ridge

View from Rainbow Ridge

Photo courtesy of Mike Happ, Dawn Patrol Images
#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement

Debris Jam 1a, right side of river, four meter rod for scale.
#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement

Debri Jam 1a, left river side, four meter rod for scale
#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement

Debri Jam 1b, river left side, looking upstream, four meter rod for scale.
#7. Russian Gulch East Branch Fish Passage Improvement

Debri Jam 3, looking upstream, four meter rod for scale
#8. San Joaquin River Parkway, Jensen River Ranch Jenco Farms Property Habitat Enhancement

- **Existing conditions at Jenco Farms:**
  - Looking north, a view of the former 20-acre pasture to receive habitat enhancement.
  - Edge of the riparian area between the San Joaquin River and the former pasture.
An example of the no-till method for planting trees and shrubs on an adjacent habitat enhancement site at Jensen River Ranch.
A previous project at Jensen River Ranch exemplifies the tree and shrub growth after approximately 4-5 years.
Looking south at the northern part of the property

#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector
Looking south at the access easement from North American Cut Off Road
#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector

Looking east from the property
Looking west from the property
#9. Simi Valley – 118 Freeway Wildlife Connector

Looking north from the property
#10. North Shore Ranch – Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Area

Northeast boundary
Southeast boundary
Canal at the western boundary

#10. North Shore Ranch – Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel and Delta Area
#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design
#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design
#12. Eel River Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit, Planning and Design

Alternative 1, full tidal restoration
Alternative 2, full tidal restoration with breaches to Mcnulty Slough
The current public access road to the Ocean Ranch Unit of the Eel River Wildlife Area. The design of improvements to this access road and other public access features would be a part of this upcoming project phase.
The northeast corner of the tidal restoration area – Area A. This area currently has muted tidal influence and full tidal restoration will be designed in this phase of the project.
The tidal restoration of Area B will be fully designed and planned through this project phase.
#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches

Picture showing the West, Middle, and Eastern Mailliard Ranches – WCB is proposing Conservation Easements on the West and Middle Ranches
Map showing potential development threats. The area in blue are parcels that have been subdivided into parcels less than 160-acre in size. The red dots indicate areas where the northern spotted owl have been spotted.
Miles of forest and old growth redwood found on both Middle and West Ranch – this picture taken on the border between the Middle and East Ranches.
#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches

Beautiful streams found on both Ranches – this picture captured on the Middle Ranch
Another fish-bearing stream that flows in the Garcia River watershed. This picture also taken on the Middle Ranch.
#13 & 14 Mailliard West and Middle Ranches

Overlooking the Middle ranch from the south

Photo courtesy of Save the Redwoods League
Overlook from the top of the West Ranch overlooking the entire Mailliard Ranch from the south
#15. Carpenter Valley

A healthy stream and meadow: The North Fork Prosser Creek meanders through Carpenter Valley

Photo courtesy of Sam Okamoto Photography
#15. Carpenter Valley

Summer wildflowers in Carpenter Valley

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Carmel Photography
Carpenter Valley from above: Lower meadow is the 600 acres to be acquired by WCB funds. Castle Peak towers above the valley.

Photo courtesy of Tom Lippert Photography
Summer wildflowers in Carpenter Valley

Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Carmel Photography
#15. Carpenter Valley

North Fork Prosser Creek
#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange

View looking to the north east and west of Mendoza Duck Club
#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange

View looking to the west of Mendoza Duck Club
#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange

View looking to the north and east of Bent Barrel Duck Club
View looking to the north east of Bent Barrel Duck Club with a view of the WCB funded Grizzly Ranch in background
#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange

View looking to the east of Garibaldi property
#16. Garibaldi Land Exchange

View looking to the west and south of the Garibaldi property
#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project

A broad crested weir (BCW) being built. BCW’s will be installed to increase the accuracy of measuring how much water 3 state wildlife areas are receiving.

Photo courtesy of US Bureau of Reclamation
#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project

A functioning broad crested weir
A section of the main delivery ditch bank on the Gadwall Unit will be built up to allow the wildlife area staff to build up head pressure to push water into adjacent units. Currently, water almost floods over the existing ditch bank (left side of picture) when building up head pressure.
Ditch bank refurbishing on Gadwall Unit will be done with dirt generated from swale excavation in nearby units. The unit pictured will have swales excavated from inlet to outlet.
#17. Grasslands Water Improvement Efficiency Project

The current drainage structure at Buttonwillow Lakes Dam on Los Banos Wildlife Area. We will rebuild the dam to allow for a dropdown gate to be installed.
The Buttonwillow Lakes Dam on Los Banos Wildlife Area where the new dropdown gate is to be installed. The new structure will allow 50 CFS to be released and will help meet specific time windows when water needs to be released.
#18. Los Angeles River – Taylor Yard
G2

This item has been removed for consideration at this time
This item has been removed for consideration at this time
#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational

Public Access
Competitive Grant Program
Targeted Populations:
- Youth/Next generation
- Disadvantaged communities
- Urban residents

Barriers to accessing wildlife-oriented recreation
- Affordable transportation
- Lack of mentors/leaders
- Insufficient infrastructure/access points
### Technical Review Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 Solicitation Priorities</td>
<td>The application is responsive to this 2017 solicitation priorities. Maximum points will be reachable to those projects that demonstrate how barriers to accessing wildlife-oriented recreation are or will be addressed in a way that provides the strongest correlation to the proposed project, and clearly provides enhanced access to nature and wildlife-oriented activities for the three target populations (youth/next generation, disadvantaged communities, and urban-focused communities). Examples include demonstrating a free or discounted transportation option for the target population to the site, or working with educational programs to provide target populations free or discounted use of the facility for the project purpose.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
#20. Wildlife Conservation Board
Strategic Plan - Informational

## Technical Review Criteria

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose, Need, and Project Description</td>
<td>The proposal includes a detailed project purpose and need, description, primary objectives, and project location. Proposal must demonstrate the proposed project is supported by an existing wildlife-oriented public access or demonstrated need in the area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADA</td>
<td>The project provides ADA accessibility to an existing project that does not currently have ADA access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Readiness</td>
<td>The project has demonstrated project readiness; environmental compliance, permitting, planning, engineering design or other necessary preparations are sufficient for prompt project implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope, Schedule, Budget</td>
<td>The extent to which the proposed scope, schedule, and budget are complete, appropriate to the work proposed, cost effective, and sufficiently detailed to use as a work plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational

## Technical Review Criteria

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<tr>
<td>Durability of Investment</td>
<td>Proposal identifies durability of investment. Design accounts for a long-term project life, with minimal repairs, maintenance and upkeep required. Necessary considerations like climate change, maintenance needs, and remoteness were taken into account.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leverages Funds</td>
<td>The extent to which the proposal leverages other funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Team Qualifications</td>
<td>The proposal clearly demonstrates that the applicant and their project team has the qualifications, experience, and capacity to perform the proposed tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and Collaboration</td>
<td>The extent to which the project has demonstrated a broad-based public and institutional support. Projects will be reviewed and must be supported by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Criteria</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Wildlife-Oriented Uses</td>
<td>Extent to which project design considers accommodation of multiple wildlife-oriented public access uses in a single project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feasibility</td>
<td>The extent to which the proposed project is technically feasible and the project description is sufficiently detailed to serve as a statement of work for a grant agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours of Operation</td>
<td>The proposal includes clear hours of operation for improvements that will be open to the public during normal operation hours. In most cases this will be daylight hours, sunrise to sunset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compatibility with Plans and Policies</td>
<td>The extent to which the proposed project identified compatibility and consistency with existing relevant local, State, Federal, or regional plans or policies and the WCB Strategic Plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff recommends releasing the Public Access Program Guidelines and Solicitation
Comprehensive Program Review Recommendations

- Retain all existing WCB Programs
- Program overlap:
  - Non-specific Programs (Land Acquisition, HERP, Tax Credit)
  - Specific Programs (IWCP, CRHCP, ERAL)
- Continue to work with other State funding programs
- Increase flexibility of Rangeland and ERAL Programs
Measurable Goals for Acquisition Projects

Why only Acquisitions?

- Can be initiated now: All goals are identified in LAE/CAPP proposal form
- Simpler: restoration monitoring requires problem/solution evaluation
- Critical need: decisions on acquisitions, which are protected in perpetuity, must come first
Support Broad Ecological and Human Concepts

- Larger acreages
- Climate change
- State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)
- Working lands
- Compatible public access
Projects must support one or more of the following:

- Biodiversity
- Resilience to climate change
- Support of priorities in SWAP
- Protection of working landscapes
- Protection of water dependent habitats
- Provide for compatible public access
Wildlife Conservation Board Projects
USDA Ecoregions
California

#20. Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan - Informational
# Classification Example: SW Desert Vegetation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hierarchy – Natural Vegetation</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upper</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1 – Formation Class</td>
<td>Xeromorphic Scrub and Herb Vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 – Formation Subclass</td>
<td>Warm Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 - Formation</td>
<td>Warm Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Middle</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4 – Division</td>
<td>North American Warm Semi-Desert Scrub and Grassland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5 – Macrogroup</td>
<td>Mojavean–Sonoran Desert Scrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6 – Group</td>
<td>Lower Bajada and Fan Mojavean–Sonoran desert scrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lower</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 7 – Alliance</td>
<td>Creosote-Burrobushest (Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 8 – Association</td>
<td>Creosote-Burrobushest-Desert Senna (Larrea tridentata–Ambrosia dumosa–Senna armata )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COOL AND WARM SEMI-DESERT VEGETATION (EXAMPLE OF UPPER LEVELS OF CLASSIFICATION)
NVC HIERARCHY MID-LEVEL (DIVISION, MACROGROUP)

L3. Cool Semi-Desert
  L4. North American Cool Semi-Desert
  L5. Mojave-Sonoran Semi-Desert MGs
  L5. Chihuahuan Semi-Desert MGs
  Etc.

L4. North American Warm Semi-Desert
Macrogroups

**Barren/Lightly Vegetated**
- California Foothill and Coastal Rock Outcrop Vegetation
- Northwest Coast Cliff and Outcrop
- Sparsely Vegetated Desert Dune

**Wetland/Riparian**
- American Southwest Riparian Forest and Woodland
- Brackish (estuarine) submerged aquatic vegetation
- Freshwater Marsh
- Mountain Riparian Scrub and Wet Meadow
- North Coastal and Montane Riparian Forest and Woodland
- Salt Marsh
- Wet Mountain Meadow

**Grassland/Scrub**
- Alpine Vegetation
- Big Sagebrush Scrub
- California Grassland and Flowerfields
- Chaparral
- Coastal Dune and Bluff Scrub
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Desert Wash Woodland and Scrub
- Great Basin Dwarf Sagebrush Scrub
- Great Basin Upland Scrub
- Mojave and Sonoran Desert Scrub
- Montane Chaparral
- North Coast Deciduous Scrub and Terrace Prairie
- Shadscale-Saltbush Scrub
- Western Upland Grasslands

**Forest/Woodland**
- California Foothill and Valley Forests and Woodlands
- Great Basin Pinyon-Juniper Woodland
- North Coastal Mixed Evergreen and Montane Conifer Forests
- Pacific Northwest Conifer Forests
- Pacific Northwest Subalpine Forest
- Subalpine Aspen Forests and Pine Woodlands

*Sources: Calfire (2015), CDFW, USGS*
TWO MACROGROUPS OF MOJAVE AND SONORAN DESERTS; EQUIVALENT TO WILDLIFE HABITAT

- Warm Semi-Desert Wash Woodland/Scrub
  - WHR equivalent: Desert Wash

- Mojavean–Sonoran Desert Scrub
  - WHR equivalent: Desert Scrub
Locally telescoped, but regionally broad vegetation categories occur in canyons of the Santa Lucia Mtns. of the Central Coast. The outlined areas are representative of 3 different macrogroups which are represented by 3 different alliances. They have their ecological and evolutionary origins in different parts of North America, but are regularly juxtaposed locally in central California.
Measureable Goal 1, Biodiversity

50% of all projects accomplish one or more of following:

- Protect 3 or more macrogroups
- Directly benefit Species of Greatest Conservation Need
- Contain at least one rare vegetation habitat at Alliance level
Measurable Goal 2, Climate Change Resiliency and Connectivity

50% of projects protect one or more of the following:

- Connect habitat totalling 25,000 acres or more
- Protect area of 10,000 acres or more
- Directly benefit species vulnerable to climate change
- Protect habitats highly vulnerable to climate change
- Protect climate change refugia
- Protect land facets that support biodiversity
Measurable Goal 3, 75% of projects protect priority macrogroups identified in SWAP

Measurable Goal 4, 25% of projects protect working landscapes

Measurable Goal 5, 50% of projects contain water dependent habitats
Measurable Goal 6, Provide compatible public access

Public access broadly defined, includes anything from regular guided tours to full access

- 50% of projects provide public access
- 25% of all projects provide public access that will benefit disadvantaged communities
Overarching Criteria:

Every project must satisfy at least one of above goals

Ecological values are identified in LAE/CAPP proposal form and can be ranked

Projects that provide multiple benefits rank higher

Proposed goals easily monitored over time
#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18

GRANT FUNDING

- Enhance stream flows

- Water Action Plan:
  - Reliability
  - Restoration
  - Resilience
SOLICITATION PRIORITY

- Funds granted by WCB under SFEP will be focused on enhancing flow in streams that provide one or more of the following:
  - Support for anadromous fish;
  - Support for special status, threatened, endangered or at risk species;
  - Provide resilience to climate change
#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18

FY 17/18 Funds Available

Scoping and Scientific Research
$5,000,000

Implementation and Acquisition
$73,938,695
#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18

- **Planning and Scientific Studies**
  - revised to support scoping or research leading to future stream flow enhancement opportunities.

- **Renamed Scoping and Scientific Studies.**
  - $5,000,000 reserved for funding proposals under this category.
Implementation project category

- expanded to include planning, design and CEQA for specified future implementation projects.

- Implementation divided into two categories.
  - Category 1 will fund planning, permitting and design necessary to get to, and complete, construction.
  - Category 2 will fund construction.
Acquisition projects

- may combine Acquisition and Planning, or Acquisition and Implementation

***the proposed project should have a completed CEQA analysis
General Modifications

- Defined limiting factor
  - Flow conditions that limit the growth, abundance, or distribution of a target organism or a population of organisms in a stream.

- Refined the stream flow enhancement scoring criteria
#21. Proposition 1 SFEP Solicitation: Changes for FY17/18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverable</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draft Proposal Solicitation Notice (Solicitation) released for public review</td>
<td>May 12, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revisions of Solicitation based on public comments and input</td>
<td>May 12-May 22, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCB seeks approval of Solicitation to be released on July 1, 2017</td>
<td>May 22, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCB staff available for proposal consultation</td>
<td>March 19- June 30, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Workshop</td>
<td>June 12, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2017/18 Solicitation open period begins</td>
<td>July 1, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017/18 Solicitation period closed</td>
<td>August 31, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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