

STAFF SUMMARY FOR JUNE 21-22, 2017

- D3. [DFW news release: *California and Oregon Governors Request Salmon Disaster Assistance*, dated May 25, 2017](#)

Motion/Direction (N/A)



CDFW STAFF, ENFORCEMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY

California Wildlife Officers Recognized for Special Service Acts, with Medal of Valor Awards

MAY 23, 2017 | KMACINTY

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) officers Chad Edwards and Michael Dilts received awards today at the 2017 Governor's State Employee Medal of Valor Ceremony in Sacramento. These annual awards recognize state employees for heroic acts of bravery. Wardens Edwards and Dilts each received the "Special Service Award" (Silver Medal): *"For an act of heroism by a State employee extending above and beyond the normal call of duty or service performed at personal risk to his or her safety to save human life or State property."*

Warden Chad Edwards (Siskiyou County)

In September 2014, an arsonist ignited a brush fire on the outskirts of the town of Weed. The fire spread into town where it burned more than 150 homes and numerous commercial structures in a matter of hours. Warden Edwards heard the radio traffic regarding the fire and immediately responded to the area. He evacuated homes by transporting people in his patrol truck and flagged down other evacuees



with empty seats in their cars, and coordinated for them to shuttle people out. Working through the chaos of the actively burning areas and aerial retardant dump, Warden Edwards made trip after trip into the burning neighborhoods to rescue stranded families, senior citizens and pets. He was ultimately an integral part of the investigation that brought the arsonist to justice. Warden Edwards acted with bravery and heroism extending above and beyond the normal call of duty to save human life. Amazingly, no lives were lost in this fire, due in part to the actions of Warden Edwards.



**Warden Michael Dilts
(Patrol Vessel Coho, Los Angeles County)**

In July 2016, Warden Dilts was patrolling in the Seal Beach area near the San Gabriel River when he was flagged down by two pedestrians who told him that a vehicle was in the river and the female driver still inside. In the front seat of the partially submerged van, Warden Dilts found a woman who was making no attempt to escape. He immediately

radioed for additional officer assistance, removed and secured his heavy duty belt and entered the water. Warden Dilts swam to the sinking van, extricated the driver and, relying upon lifeguard skills from past employment, pulled her back to shore. Thanks to the quick actions and dedication of Warden Dilts, the driver was rescued and the fully submerged van was recovered from the river.

“Year after year I find myself awestruck and proud of the outstanding service and brave acts of our fine wildlife officers,” said CDFW Chief of Law Enforcement David Bess. “The daily duties of our peace officers, like all others, comes with a known and certain inherent risk of danger, yet without hesitation they accept these risks and responsibilities. These awards recognize our officers who, through their selfless acts, exuded confidence in their training and preparedness to take their public service responsibilities to a level of heroism.”

###

Media Contacts:

Capt. Patrick Foy (mailto:patrick.foy@wildlife.ca.gov), CDFW Law Enforcement, (916) 651-6692

Joe DeAnda (mailto:joe.deanda@calhr.ca.gov), CalHR, (916) 322-6944

◀ **LAW ENFORCEMENT** ◀ **MEDAL OF VALOR** ◀ **WILDLIFE OFFICERS**

CDFW News

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, GRANTS, HABITAT CONSERVATION

CDFW Seeking Grant Proposals to Restore Habitat Impacted by Cannabis Cultivation

JUNE 5, 2017 | KMACINTY

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW (<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/>)) is now accepting proposals for habitat restoration projects within the California watersheds most impacted by unregulated cannabis cultivation.

Contingent on the Budget Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2018, a total of \$1.5 million in Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration funds will be made available through CDFW's Cannabis Restoration Grant Program. The program will focus on the North Coast watersheds extending from Sonoma County to the Oregon state line, as they have been most heavily impacted by cannabis cultivation.

"Existing damage to our watersheds due to unregulated cannabis cultivation is at crisis levels in terms of threats to habitat for aquatic and wildlife species," said CDFW Director Charlton H. Bonham. "While many grow sites have been abandoned or shuttered, the infrastructure and ongoing damage remains. We are poised to initiate this critical and missing step in the process of decommissioning unwanted grow sites."

California's fish and wildlife are severely impacted by unregulated cannabis cultivation practices including unlawful water diversions for irrigation, conversion of lands, and prohibited herbicides, rodenticides and other environmental contaminants. The most impacted areas require immediate action. Assembly Bill 243 (Wood, Medical Marijuana) provides direction to CDFW to restore watersheds impacted by cannabis cultivation.

"Our beautiful, pristine North Coast forests have become havens for these rogue grow sites," said Assemblymember Jim Wood, who represents five of the county areas eligible for these grants. "These sites have been ravaged by lethal chemicals, often-banned rodenticides which are used to keep animals away, but remain in the ground and eventually run off into rivers and streams, destroying everything in their path, including endangered fish species such as coho salmon. I am grateful that the Governor and CDFW are making these funds available for this much-needed cleanup."

The FY 2017-2018 Proposal Solicitation Notice, application instructions and other information about the Restoration Grant Program are available at wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Cannabis-Restoration-Grant (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Cannabis-Restoration-Grant>).

Proposals must be submitted online at <https://soar.resources.ca.gov/> (<https://soar.resources.ca.gov/>). The deadline to apply is Friday, June 30, 2017 at 4 p.m.

###

Media Contacts:

Matt Wells (<mailto:matt.wells@wildlife.ca.gov>), CDFW Watershed Restoration Grants Branch, (916) 445-1285

Kirsten Macintyre (<mailto:kirsten.macintyre@wildlife.ca.gov>), CDFW Communications, (916) 322-8988

◀ [CANNABIS](#) ◀ [ENVIRONMENT](#) ◀ [GRANTS](#) ◀ [HABITAT RESTORATION](#) ◀ [MARIJUANA](#)

CDFW News

DELTA, ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, FISHERIES, GRANTS, HABITAT CONSERVATION, PUBLIC LANDS

CDFW Now Accepting Proposals for Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs

MAY 26, 2017 | KMACINTY

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW (<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/>)) is now accepting proposals for ecosystem restoration and protection projects that fulfill the objectives of Proposition 1.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2018, \$31 million in Proposition 1 funds will be made available through CDFW's two Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs. The Watershed Restoration Grant Program will fund up to \$24 million in projects of statewide importance outside of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, while the Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program will fund up to \$7 million in projects that specifically benefit the Delta.

"We're encouraged by the quality and scope of projects funded through Proposition 1 to date, and we look forward to another opportunity to fund new solutions to the greatest challenges facing California's ecosystems," said CDFW Director Charlton H. Bonham. "This latest grant cycle expands our focus to more watersheds in critical need, in line with the objectives of Proposition 1 and a suite of strategic plans."

The FY 2017-2018 Proposal Solicitation Notice, application instructions and other information about the Restoration Grant Programs are available at www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/watersheds/restoration-grants (<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/watersheds/restoration-grants>).

Proposals must be submitted online at <https://soar.resources.ca.gov/> (<https://soar.resources.ca.gov/>). The deadline to apply is Friday, July 14, 2017 at 4 p.m.

Approved projects will contribute to the objectives of California Water Action Plan and State Wildlife Action Plan, the Delta Plan, California EcoRestore and the fulfillment of CDFW's mission.

Approved by California voters in November 2014, Proposition 1 provides funds to implement the three broad objectives of the California Water Action Plan: establishing more reliable water supplies, restoring important species and habitat and creating a more resilient, sustainably managed water resources system (water supply, water quality, flood protection and environment) that can better withstand inevitable and unforeseen pressures in the coming decades.

###

Media Contacts:

Matt Wells (<mailto:matt.wells@wildlife.ca.gov>), CDFW Watershed Restoration Grants Branch, (916) 445-1285

Kirsten Macintyre (<mailto:kirsten.macintyre@wildlife.ca.gov?subject=>), CDFW Communications, (916) 804-1714

◀ GRANT FUNDING ◀ GRANTS ◀ PROPOSITION 1

CDFW News

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, REGULATIONS, SALMON

California and Oregon Governors Request Salmon Disaster Assistance

MAY 25, 2017 | AHUGHAN

California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. and Oregon Governor Kate Brown sent a letter today to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross requesting declaration of a catastrophic regional fishery disaster and commercial fishery failure for salmon in their states. The declaration begins the process for requesting federal aid to assist commercial salmon anglers and salmon-dependent business who continue to suffer from declining salmon populations.

Last month, the Pacific Fishery Management Council's projections for salmon in these states were dire. In the 2017 season, many miles of coastline will be closed to commercial salmon fishing and allowable catch will be greatly reduced, compounding the already significantly lower economic returns seen in 2016.

For more information about declared West Coast disasters, please see The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration list here: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/disaster/determinations/wcro.html (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/disaster/determinations/wcro.html>)

READ FULL REQUEST LETTER (<http://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=145114>)

Oregon Governor Kate Brown's news release (<http://www.oregon.gov/newsroom/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?newsid=2076>)

Media Contacts:

Jordan Traverso (<mailto:jordan.traverso@wildlife.ca.gov>), CDFW Communications, (916) 654-9937