



Gavin Newsom, Governor
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
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Notice of Meeting

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

November 18, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Preliminary Agenda Items

Consistent with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, the public and Board members will participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams or teleconference. Public comment will be accepted per the agenda. A recording will be posted after the meeting.

Item Number

1. Roll Call
2. Public Forum for Items not on the Agenda
3. Funding Status — Informational
4. Executive Director's Report

Fire Impacts to WCB projects

Informational item regarding the current state of the 2020 fire season, the impacts to current and past WCB projects, and the future of WCB fire impact tracking.

Strategic Plan Reporting

Informational item to report out on progress toward Strategic Plan objectives for the last year.

5. Recovery of Funds

Consent Items

6. Large Tree Mapping Across the Sierra Nevada Various Counties \$300,000

To consider the allocation for a grant to Blue Forest Finance, Inc. for a cooperative project with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Salo Sciences to identify the locations of large Sierra Nevada trees, quantify their functional value, determine the effects of treatments on their distribution, and assess their variability under climate change throughout the Sierra Nevada mountain range. [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.]

7. Bouvier Ranch Siskiyou County \$630,000

To consider the allocation for a grant to Siskiyou Land Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 1,596± acres of land for the protection of a mixed conifer working forest, including riparian corridors, salmonid streams, and habitat linkages, located 15 miles south of the city of Etna near the community of Callahan in Siskiyou County. [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.]

8. Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge Water Conveyance Assessment Siskiyou County \$206,000

To consider the allocation for a grant to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for a cooperative project with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to assess the feasibility of alternative water conveyance infrastructure needed to increase water efficiencies to benefit 25,837± acres of wetland habitat within the Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, in Siskiyou County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(c).]

9. State Route 36, Buck Mountain Mitigation, Expansion 1 Humboldt County \$0

To consider the acceptance of 114± acres of land by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to satisfy wetland mitigation needs associated with multiple transportation projects located along State Route 36 and U.S. 101 within the Lower Eel River watershed for the preservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat, located near Dinsmore in Humboldt County.

10. McKenzie and Mountain Meadows Creek Planning Lassen County \$398,000

To consider the allocation for a grant to Plumas Corporation for a cooperative project with Sierra Pacific Industries, Red River Forest LLC, Shasta Forests Timberlands LLC, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Bella Vista Foundation, W.M. Beaty & Associates, Point Blue Conservation Science, and Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District to complete project designs, permitting requirements, and environmental analysis resulting in shovel-ready plans to restore 1,140± acres of meadow habitat and 401± acres of adjacent Eastside pine/

Sierran mixed conifer forest in Lassen County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(f).]

**11. Concow Pyrodiversity Planning \$180,000
Butte County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Butte County Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with CAL FIRE and USFS to complete CEQA and NEPA analysis leading to a multi-year prescribed fire plan that will foster sustainable healthy brushland fire regimes, enhance brushland wildlife habitat, and promote biodiverse brushland food webs in Butte County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(f).]

**12. North Yuba Watershed Forest Restoration Planning \$310,000
Sierra and Yuba Counties**

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy for a cooperative project with CAL FIRE, California Department of Conservation, USFS, and South Yuba Citizens League to develop a landscape-scale forest restoration and climate resilience plan for the 275,000±-acre North Yuba watershed in Sierra and Yuba counties. [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.]

**13. Telegraph Ridge Conservation Easement \$498,000
Colusa County**

To consider an allocation for a grant to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to acquire a conservation easement over 2,416± acres of land for protection of critical winter range for deer, elk, and other regional wildlife and protection of oak woodlands and grasslands that sustain working landscapes near the town of Williams in Colusa County. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a).]

**14. Moody Ridge \$195,000
Placer County**

To consider the allocation of a grant to the Placer Land Trust to acquire in fee 41± acres to preserve mixed hardwood/conifer forests, wildlife corridors, habitat linkages, and to provide wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities near Gold Run in Placer County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(f).]

**15. Meadow Restoration Planning in the American and Pine Creek \$299,028
Watersheds
El Dorado and Lassen Counties**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Trout Unlimited for a cooperative project with CDFW and USFS to complete planning and design for the restoration of 160± acres of mountain meadow at three high-priority sites; Wilson Ranch and Calf Pasture meadows in El Dorado National Forest and Logan Springs Meadow in Lassen National Forest, in El Dorado and Lassen counties. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(f).]

- 16. Faith Valley Meadow Restoration** **\$351,240**
Alpine County
To consider the allocation for a grant to American Rivers for a cooperative project with CDFW, USFS, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Alpine Watershed Group to restore Faith Valley, benefiting 120± acres of meadow habitat in Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest approximately 18 miles from Markleeville in Alpine County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(f).]
- 17. San Joaquin River Parkway, Slenders Property** **\$995,000**
Madera County
To consider the acquisition of 35± acres of land by CDFW and a Transfer of Jurisdiction of the land by CDFW to SJRC for the protection of riparian habitat and to provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities within the San Joaquin River Parkway, located in the city of Fresno in Fresno County. [Proposition 84, Public Resources Code Section 75050(f).]
- 18. San Joaquin River Parkway, River West Public Access** **\$125,000**
Fresno County
To consider the acquisition of a public access easement over 8± acres of land by CDFW and a Transfer of Jurisdiction of the land by CDFW to SJRC for the protection of riparian habitat and provide future wildlife oriented, public-use opportunities within the San Joaquin River Parkway, located near the city of Fresno in Fresno County. [Proposition 40, Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(b)(5).]
- 19. Nicholson Ranch** **\$760,000**
San Luis Obispo County
To consider the allocation for a grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for a cooperative project with the Department of Conservation and the State Coastal Conservancy to acquire a conservation easement over 717± acres of land to protect and preserve native oak woodlands, deer, mountain lions and maintain wildlife corridors near Cayucos in San Luis Obispo County. [Habitat Conservation Fund, Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a).]
- 20. Morongo Basin Expansion 9** **\$539,750**
San Bernardino County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mojave Desert Land Trust to acquire fee title to 79± acres of land for the protection of desert habitat corridors near Joshua Tree National Park, located in Morongo Valley in San Bernardino County. [Proposition 12, Public Resources Code Section 5096.350(a)(3) and (a)(5).]
- 21. Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Floodplain Restoration Planning** **\$537,158**
Riverside County
To consider the allocation for a grant to Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District for a cooperative project with Santa Ana Watershed Association, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, and Hana Resources to develop ecosystem restoration designs and complete environmental review for

1,105± acres along the Santa Ana River in the Hidden Valley Wildlife Area, located approximately one mile south of the city of Jurupa Valley in Riverside County. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f).]

22. Denk Mountain, Expansion 1 \$75,250

San Diego County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM) and the acceptance of a USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to CNLM to acquire 6± acres of land for the protection of the coastal California gnatcatcher and other sensitive species and for compatible public uses, all as may be consistent with the implementation of the North County Multiple Species Conservation Program Plan, located near the community of San Marcos in San Diego County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80111(b).]

23. LeoMar Preserve \$718,900

San Diego County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Escondido Creek Conservancy (ECC) and the acceptance of a USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant, and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to ECC to acquire 79± acres of land for the protection and preservation of existing regional wildlife linkages including sensitive species such as the coastal California gnatcatcher located near San Marcos in San Diego County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80111(b).]

24. San Diego County HCP (2019) White \$453,200

San Diego County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy (SDRVC) and the acceptance of a USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to SDRVC, to acquire 103± acres of land for protection of threatened and endangered species, all as may be consistent with the implementation of the North County Multiple Species Conservation Program Plan located near the community of Del Dios in San Diego County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80111(b).]

Proposed Items

25. Scott River Headwaters, Wildcat \$2,500,000
Siskiyou County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Siskiyou Land Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 8,269± acres of land for the protection of mixed conifer working forest, including riparian corridors, fish and wildlife resources,

wetlands, and watersheds located near the community of Callahan in Siskiyou County. [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.]

**26. San Joaquin River Parkway, Sumner-Peck Ranch \$3,600,000
Fresno County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust to acquire 76± acres of land on behalf of SJRC for the protection of riparian habitat and provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities within the San Joaquin River Parkway, located near the city of Fresno in Fresno County. [Proposition 40, Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a).]

**27. Pilgrim Creek Ecological Reserve \$1,580,000
San Diego County**

To consider the acquisition of 61± acres of land by CDFW for the protection of threatened and endangered species within the San Diego County Multiple Species Conservation Program, in the city of Oceanside in San Diego County. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c).]

**28. Vanauken Creek Conservation Easement \$1,500,000
Humboldt County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Sanctuary Forest for a cooperative project with CDFW, the Weeden Foundation, and the Grace Us Foundation, to acquire a conservation easement over 1,320± acres of land for the protection of forestland and a salmon bearing stream, encompassing the Vanauken Creek watershed, located near the community of Whitethorn in Humboldt County. [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.]

**29. Wildlife Resilience Metrics for Sierra Nevada Forests \$334,800
Various Counties**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Blue Forest Finance, Inc. for a cooperative project with USFS to construct a dynamic food-web model for Sierra Nevada forests, evaluating current conditions and the effects of future climate change and management alternatives on wildlife community resilience at landscape and watershed scales in various counties within the Sierra Nevada mountain range. [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.]

**30. CDFW Vegetation Mapping, Sierra Nevada and Northeast \$1,097,905
Various Counties**

To consider the allocation for a grant to CDFW Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program for a cooperative project with the California Biodiversity Initiative and Bureau of Land Management for the development of high-resolution vegetation maps to inform the identification of high-value acquisition lands and restoration targets and the development of land management plans, focusing in

Northeastern California and the Southern Sierra Nevada foothills on privately- and publicly-owned lands. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80111(d).]

31. Ansel Adams Wilderness Restoration **\$836,337**
Madera and Mono Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to Earth Island Institute for a cooperative project with John Muir Trail Conservancy, USFS, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and private donors for restoration activities benefiting approximately 1,300± acres of eastern Sierra montane meadows, subalpine meadows, and connected riparian zones in Ansel Adams Wilderness, located in Inyo National Forest approximately 9 miles northwest of Mammoth Lakes in Mono and Madera counties. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(f).]

32. Chicago Valley **\$889,000**
Inyo County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy, to acquire 920± acres of land for the protection and preservation of Pacific Flyway migratory bird habitat, and to support the expansion of wildlife corridors and open space to improve connectivity and reduce barriers between habitat areas, located in an area known as Chicago Valley in Inyo County. [Proposition 68, Public Resources Code Section 80132(c).]

33. Ventura River Parkway **\$4,750,000**
Ventura County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Trust for Public Land for a cooperative project with the California Natural Resources Agency and the Ventura Land Trust to acquire in fee 29± acres of riparian and floodplain habitat along the Ventura River and to provide the potential for wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities located near Ventura in Ventura County. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a) and (b/c) (Proposition 1E).]

34. 2021 Board Meeting Dates

Board will be asked to approve WCB meetings dates for 2021.

Thursday, February 25, 2021
Thursday, May 27, 2021
Thursday, August 26, 2021
Thursday, November 18, 2021

Stream Flow Enhancement Program Board Meeting

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Adjourn

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department's EEO Officer at (916) 653-9089 or EEO@wildlife.ca.gov. Accommodation requests for facility and/or

meeting accessibility and Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Requests for Real-Time Captioners should be submitted at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the EEO Officer immediately.