



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

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

May 25, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Natural Resources Building, First Floor Auditorium
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Preliminary Agenda Items

The public and Board members will participate in the meeting in person or via Zoom. 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.** Project Closeout Presentation - Perazzo Meadow

Consent Items

5. Recovery of Funds

**6. Rock Creek Ranch Infrastructure Implementation \$865,000
Del Norte County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Smith River Alliance to improve visitor facilities and water reliability at Rock Creek Ranch, 18 miles east of Crescent City in Del Norte County. [Proposition 40.]

**7. Cabin Meadow and Rock Fence Creeks Watershed Planning \$1,215,000
Siskiyou County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Scott River Watershed Council for a cooperative project with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and multiple private sector organizations to conduct restoration planning across two high value mountain meadow stream and catchment systems in Siskiyou County to improve stream flow, water storage, ecological function, climate change resilience/adaptation, and public use. [General Fund, Water Supply for Environmental Flows Provision.]

**8. State Route 97 Wildlife Migratory Corridor Planning Augmentation \$560,000
Siskiyou County**

To consider the allocation for an augmentation to a grant to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for a cooperative project with the California Deer Association, USFS, Ore-Cal Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, and Western Transportation Institute to complete the planning process and support the development of construction-level design plans that will be used for the construction of a wildlife overcrossing to enhance connectivity across State Route 97 in Siskiyou County. [General Fund, Drought Package Provision.]

**9. Table Bluff Ecological Reserve, Coastal Prairie Restoration \$2,421,000
Humboldt County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mattole Restoration Council for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and USFWS to restore coastal prairie habitat at the Table Bluff Ecological Reserve located 4.5 miles southeast of the city of Loleta in Humboldt County. [General Fund, Nature-Based Solutions Grant Program - SDAC Provision.]

**10. Tepona Point Public Access Improvements \$370,000
Humboldt County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Trinidad Coastal Land Trust for a project to complete public access and safety improvements for Tepona Point, located approximately 2.3 miles from Trinidad in Humboldt County. [Proposition 40.]

- 11. Alliance Redwoods Water Conservation - Augmentation** **\$178,000**
Sonoma County
To consider the allocation for a grant augmentation to the North Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council for a cooperative project with CDFW that will implement water conservation measures, change water sources, and change points of water diversion at the Alliance Redwoods Conference Grounds to enhance stream flow in Dutch Bill Creek and its tributaries for the benefit of endangered and threatened fish species in the Russian River in Sonoma County. [General Fund, Water Supply for Environmental Flows Provision.]
- 12. Green Valley Creek Rural Water Conservation Project, Phase II** **\$51,219**
Augmentation
Sonoma County
To consider the allocation for a grant augmentation to the North Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council for a cooperative project with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and multiple private landowners to obtain permits, construct four rainwater catchment systems, and conduct stream flow monitoring, located adjacent to the Green Valley Creek, a tributary to the lower Russian River in Sonoma County. [General Fund, Water Supply for Environmental Flows Provision.]
- 13. Bates Ranch** **\$2,000,000**
Santa Clara County
To consider the allocation for a grant to Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency (SCVHA), the acceptance of a USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Acquisition grant, and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to SCVHA, for a cooperative project with the Peninsula Open Space Trust and the Moore Foundation to acquire 735± acres of land for the protection of threatened and endangered species habitat, to provide a critical wildlife corridor from Mount Madonna County Park to Uvas Reservoir, and provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities within the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, located near the city of Gilroy in Santa Clara County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]
- 14. Great Valley Grasslands River Park Planning** **\$1,586,000**
Merced County
To consider the allocation for a grant to American Rivers for a cooperative project with the California Department of Parks and Recreation to complete 65 percent designs, CEQA, and permitting for restoration and public access improvements, located on the Great Valley Grasslands State Park, three miles south of the city of Stevenson in Merced County. [Proposition 40 and Proposition 68.]
- 15. Winged Restoration on California's Central Coast** **\$276,000**
Monterey, San Luis Obispo Counties
To consider the allocation for a grant to American Bird Conservancy for a cooperative project with Santa Lucia Conservancy, Big Sur Land Trust, Land

Conservancy of San Luis Obispo, USFWS, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, that will restore and enhance habitat for the western monarch butterfly and other declining pollinators in key rangeland habitats in the central coast of California in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties. [General Fund, Monarch Butterflies and Other Pollinators Provision.]

16. Tricolored Blackbird Wetland Habitat Enhancement \$640,000
Augmentation
Kern County

To consider the augmentation of a grant to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for a cooperative project with James and Leonard Lawrence to enhance 220 acres of privately owned wetland habitat, commonly known as the Lawrence Duck Club, located in Kern County. [Habitat Conservation Fund.]

17. Devil's Canyon \$1,600,000
Los Angeles County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire in fee 120± acres of land for the protection of southern mixed riparian forest habitat, which includes Coastal California gnatcatcher, mule deer, and mountain lion, and to provide wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities located south of the city of Chatsworth in Los Angeles County. [Habitat Conservation Fund.]

18. Aliso Creek Habitat Restoration and Enhancement \$213,000
Augmentation
Orange County

To consider the allocation for an augmentation to a grant to the Laguna Canyon Foundation for a cooperative project with the Warne Family Charitable Foundation, Orange County Parks and Recreation Department, and the City of Aliso Viejo to restore approximately 21± acres of riparian and coastal sage scrub habitat that will increase breeding and nesting habitat for the least Bell's vireo and southwestern pond turtle in Orange County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]

19. Aliso Estuary Restoration Planning \$1,833,000
Orange County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Laguna Ocean Foundation for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy to develop plans and permits necessary to support a functional and resilient wetland ecosystem by restoring the hydrology and seasonal dynamics of the intermittently open estuary where Aliso Creek enters the Pacific Ocean in Orange County. [General Fund, Nature-Based Solutions Grant Program Provision; Proposition 50.]

20. White Tate **\$642,200**
San Diego County

To consider the acceptance of a USFWS Habitat Conservation Plan Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Escondido Creek Conservancy, and to consider a grant to the Escondido Creek Conservancy, to acquire in fee 48± acres of land for the protection of Coastal California gnatcatcher and Coastal sage scrub habitats, wildlife corridors, to provide connectivity with adjacent conserved properties, and to provide wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities located near the city of San Marcos in San Diego County. [Habitat Conservation Fund.]

Presentation Items

21. California Monarch Recovery Project, Phase II **\$3,100,530**
Various Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Xerces Society for a cooperative project with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Resource Conservation Districts, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to administer a block grant to address the decline of monarch butterflies and other imperiled pollinators by creating high quality habitat across California, targeting both monarch overwintering sites and the monarch priority restoration zones, as well as improving connectivity across the landscape in various counties. [General Fund, Monarch Butterflies and Other Pollinators Provision.]

22. Butte Valley Wildlife Area Wetland Enhancement, Phase II **\$2,832,000**
Siskiyou County

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Waterfowl Association for a cooperative project with CDFW to enhance wetland habitat at the Butte Valley Wildlife Area, located five miles west of Macdoel in Siskiyou County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]

23. Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement **\$0**
Siskiyou County

To consider WCB entering into a Property Transfer Agreement on behalf of CDFW for future acceptance of 7,027± acres of land from Klamath River Renewal Corporation after dam removal and restoration as a no-cost acquisition for the protection of fisheries, water and to provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities, located near the town of Hornbrook in Siskiyou County.

24. Public Access for a Renewed Klamath River **\$3,500,000**
Siskiyou County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Klamath River Renewal Corporation for a cooperative project with the Resources Legacy Fund, Catena Foundation, and American Whitewater to improve public access and recreational opportunities

along the Klamath River in Siskiyou County, following the decommissioning of the four Klamath River dams. [Proposition 68.]

**25. Rancho Breisgau Riparian Habitat Restoration \$5,433,000
Shasta County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to River Partners for a cooperative project with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to restore approximately 130 acres of riparian habitat on publicly owned land known as BLM's Rancho Breisgau property located seven miles east of Cottonwood in Shasta County. [General Fund, Water Supply for Environmental Flows Provision.]

**26. Oroville Wildlife Area, Thermalito Recreation Improvements \$4,415,000
Butte County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency for a cooperative project with USFWS, Department of Water Resources, and CDFW, to improve and expand outdoor recreational amenities located on publicly owned land known as the Thermalito Afterbay Outlet of the Oroville Wildlife Area, approximately seven miles southwest of Oroville in Butte County. [Proposition 68.]

**27. Upper Rose Bar Restoration Construction \$4,081,000
Yuba County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the South Yuba River Citizen's League for a cooperative project with the Yuba Water Agency to increase spawning habitat, create backwater habitat, and reduce bank erosion on the Yuba River one mile north of Smartsville in Yuba County. [General Fund, Water Supply for Environmental Flows Provision.]

**28. Sonoma Creek Baylands Planning \$3,400,000
Sonoma County**

To consider the allocation of a grant to Ducks Unlimited for a cooperative project with USFWS, Sonoma Land Trust, Sonoma County Sanitation District, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and State Coastal Conservancy to develop shovel-ready plans and environmental compliance documentation for up to 6,000 acres of the Sonoma Creek Baylands portion of the San Pablo Baylands in Sonoma County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources – Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]

**29. Bently Junction Ranch \$4,220,000
Mono County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Wildlands Conservancy to acquire 2,333± acres of land for the protection of wildlife habitat preservation, restoration and management, wildlife-oriented education and research, habitat connectivity, and to provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities, located near Bridgeport in Mono County. [General Fund, Water Supply for Environmental Flows Provision.]

30. Rana Creek Ranch \$24,000,000
Monterey County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Wildlands Conservancy for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy to acquire 11,691± acres of land for the protection of upland and lowland habitats consisting of chaparral, oak woodlands, and rolling grasslands along with seasonal creeks that provide riparian corridors that support numerous wildlife including the threatened and endangered California red-legged frog and the California tiger salamander, wildlife-oriented education and research, and for compatible public or private uses, located in Carmel Valley in Monterey County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]

31. Fay Creek Ranch \$3,336,929
Kern County

To consider the allocation for two grants to Western Rivers Conservancy (WRC) for a cooperative project with Sierra Nevada Conservancy to acquire 2,285± acres of land for the protection of threatened and endangered species, wildlife corridors, habitat linkages, watersheds, and to provide wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities near the community of Weldon in Kern County. At close of escrow, WRC will direct the seller to convey the southwestern 1,039± acres to the Kern River Valley Heritage Foundation and the northeastern 1,246± acres to the Tübatulabal Tribe's nonprofit organization for long-term stewardship. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]

32. Mojave Desert Land Trust Seed Bank Expansion \$3,192,000
San Bernardino County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mojave Desert Land Trust (MDLT) for a seed bank expansion project to collect, process, and store seed; conduct research and develop protocols; create an inventory of California desert seed; and develop and implement outreach and education materials on MDLT-owned lands in Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. [General Fund, Nature-Based Solutions Grant Program Provision.]

33. Ellwood Marine Terminal Restoration \$5,404,000
Santa Barbara County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the University of California Santa Barbara for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy to restore woodland, grassland, vernal pool, and coastal sage scrub habitats at the remediated Ellwood Marine Terminal on Ellwood Mesa in Santa Barbara County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision.]

34. Bombay Beach Wetland Enhancement \$6,834,000
Imperial County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Audubon for a cooperative project with the Imperial Irrigation District and the United States Bureau of Reclamation to stabilize, protect, and enhance 112 acres of existing wetland habitat, expand 442 acres of wetland habitat, and expand the natural recruitment of vegetation on publicly-

owned land 1.5 miles east of the community of Bombay Beach in Imperial County. [General Fund, Nature-Based Solutions Grant Program - SDAC Provision; Proposition 50.]

**35. Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase III \$7,178,000
Imperial County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Waterfowl Association for a cooperative project with CDFW to enhance wetland and upland habitat, located on CDFW's Imperial Wildlife Area, 2.5 miles west of the town of Niland in Imperial County. [General Fund, Fish & Wildlife Resources - Climate Change Impacts on Wildlife Provision; Habitat Conservation Fund.]

36. Executive Director's Report

37. Executive Session (Not Open to the Public)

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 accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the EEO Officer immediately.