



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

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 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.

Note: Public comments on Agenda Items and Items Not on the Agenda will be limited to 2 (two) minutes. Letters of support/opposition must be received by WCB by close of business on Wednesday, February 11, 2025, to be listed in the Final Agenda. Letters of support or opposition received after February 11, 2025, will be provided to the Board to inform decision-making.

Item Number

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Executive Director's Report
4. Board Member Updates and Reports
5. Discussion and Election of Board Chair
6. Funding Status — Informational
7. Project Updates

Consent Items

8. Recovery of Funds

**9. Ross (CDFW 30x30 Fund) \$0
San Diego County**

To consider the allocation of a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) NCCP 30x30 grant to the Escondido Creek Conservancy to acquire 10± acres of land for the protection of federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher and other sensitive species, located near the city of Encinitas in San Diego County.

**10. Silo Hills (CDFW 30x30 Fund) \$0
Riverside County**

To consider the allocation of a CDFW NCCP 30x30 grant to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority to acquire 74± acres of land for the protection of San Jacinto Valley crowscale, smooth tarplant, and loggerhead shrike, and an intact alkali vernal pool complex, located in the city of Hemet in Riverside County.

**11. South LA County Habitat Connectivity Masterplan Augmentation \$787,000
Los Angeles County**

To consider the allocation for an augmentation to a grant to the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains for a cooperative project with the Wildlife Conservation Network, County of Los Angeles, and City of Los Angeles to complete high-resolution landscape connectivity models and maps for habitats within the urban and urban-wildland interface, engage stakeholders in urban nature conservation, and develop a physical masterplan for projects that will enhance wildlife corridors in southern Los Angeles County.

**12. SJRP, River West Fresno Restoration \$172,000
Fresno County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the City of Fresno for a cooperative project with San Joaquin River Conservancy to decommission existing roads and restore five acres of upland habitat, located on privately- and San Joaquin River Conservancy-owned land within the City of Fresno in Fresno County.

**13. Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor Study \$200,000
Sonoma County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Sonoma Land Trust for a cooperative project with California State Parks, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Department of General Services, Sonoma Ecology Center, and Audubon Canyon Ranch to conduct a study to develop recommendations for the conservation and enhancement of the Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor, Sonoma Creek, and other public trust resources located within the State of California's former Sonoma Developmental Center property five miles northwest of Sonoma in Sonoma County.

- 14. Mourier West (CDFW 30x30 Fund) \$0**
Placer County
To consider the allocation of a CDFW NCCP 30x30 grant to Placer Conservation Authority, for a cooperative project with Placer County to acquire in fee 265± acres of land for the protection of vernal pool and wetland habitat for threatened and endangered species including various species of vernal pool shrimp, western pond turtle, western spadefoot, California black rail, and dwarf downingia, located near Roseville in Placer County.
- 15. Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area, Expansion 19 (Anderson) \$200,000**
Yuba County
To consider the acquisition of 22± acres of land by CDFW for the protection of blue oak-foothill pine forest, annual grasslands, and mixed chaparral habitats for numerous species including golden eagle, black-tailed deer, and mountain lion, and provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities, as an expansion of the Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area located near the community of Loma Rica in Yuba County.
- 16. Deer Creek Spring-run Chinook Habitat Assessment \$998,000**
Tehama County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County for a cooperative project with the U.S. Forest Service to assess spring-run Chinook spawning habitat and advance up to three gravel augmentation pilot projects located near Chester in Tehama County.
- 17. Anderson River Park Transfer \$0**
Shasta County
To consider the transfer in fee of 212± acres of land owned by CDFW to the City of Anderson to own, operate, and maintain the property in perpetuity for purposes of public access and habitat conservation in Shasta County.

Presentation Items

- 18. Otay Mesa Habitat Restoration, Phase III \$1,492,000**
San Diego County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the Chapparal Lands Conservancy for a project to improve the hydrologic and ecologic function of vernal pool habitat and surrounding coastal sage scrub on the City of San Diego's Clayton preserve property in western Otay Mesa, a suburban and industrial community near the international border with Mexico.
- 19. State Route 91 B Canyon Wildlife Crossing \$10,666,000**
Riverside County
To consider the allocation for a grant to Caltrans to upgrade the existing box culvert under State Route 91, whose functionality as a wildlife corridor has been constrained due to a bend in the culvert, by replacing the south end inlet with a new structure segment that will straighten the culvert and restore the line of sight

necessary for wildlife usage, thus reconnecting a linkage to protected lands between the Chino Hills and the Santa Ana Mountains near the Riverside-Orange County border in Riverside County.

20. San Jacinto Wildlife Area Enhancement \$5,777,000
Riverside County

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Waterfowl Association for a cooperative project with CDFW to complete wetland enhancements on CDFW's San Jacinto Wildlife Area, located four miles north of the city of Nuevo in Riverside County.

21. I-5 Sierra Madre-Castaic Wildlife Crossing Planning \$4,921,000
Los Angeles County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a planning project that will conduct feasibility and constraints analyses for at least four wildlife crossing locations and to identify at least one priority wildlife crossing that will have Caltrans documentation, environmental review, and 65% designs developed to improve wildlife connectivity. The planning area is a 26-mile stretch of Interstate 5 that runs from State Route 138 south to the northern border of Santa Clarita and bisects protected lands in the Sierra Madre and Castaic ranges in Los Angeles County.

22. Richmond Ranch \$4,000,000
Santa Clara County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency to acquire 1,218± acres of land for the protection of California annual grassland, coast live oak forest and woodland, rare serpentine bunchgrass grassland, mixed oak woodland forest, and provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities, located adjacent to the city of San Jose in Santa Clara County.

23. Eden Landing, Phase II \$5,350,000
Alameda County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for a cooperative project with the California State Coastal Conservancy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and CDFW to restore approximately 1,300 acres of tidal marsh habitat, and 800 acres of enhanced aquatic managed pond habitat, located on CDFW's Congressman Pete Stark Ecological Reserve at Eden Landing. The project site lies within the city of Hayward, and adjacent to the west side of Union City in Alameda County.

24. Rough Creek Native Fish Restoration \$1,604,000
Mono County

To consider the allocation for a grant to CDFW to remove non-native trout from 24 miles of the Rough Creek watershed, a tributary of the Walker River in Mono County, and introduce a complex native fish assemblage by installing a fish barrier at the confluence of Rough Creek and the Walker River, conducting up to three

years of electrofishing the entire Rough Creek watershed to remove non-native trout, and then reintroducing the native fish assemblage.

**25. Ginochio Schwendel \$728,000
Contra Costa County**

To consider the allocation of a grant to Save Mount Diablo to acquire 98± acres of land for the protection of oak woodland habitat for the benefit of listed species, such as the Alameda whipsnake and California red-legged frog, located near Clayton in Contra Costa County.

26. Public Forum for Items not on the Agenda

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) 902-9097 or EEO@wildlife.ca.gov. Please make any such requests at the earliest possible time to help ensure that accommodations can be in place at the time of the meeting. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the EEO Officer immediately.