



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

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Thursday, May 28, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

California 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, May 13, 2026, to be listed in the Final Agenda. Letters of support/opposition received after May 13, 2026, 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. Funding Status — Informational

Consent Items

6. Recovery of Funds

**7. Imperial Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration, Phase IV \$1,700,000
Imperial County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Waterfowl Association for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to complete water conveyance enhancements and restore 550 acres of managed wetlands at CDFW's Imperial Wildlife Area, located 2.5 miles west of Niland in Imperial County.

**8. San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 8 (Nelson) \$360,000
San Diego County**

To consider the acquisition of 114± acres of land by CDFW for the protection of chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat benefitting coastal California gnat catcher and Stephens' kangaroo rat, as an expansion to CDFW's San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area located near Oak Grove in San Diego County.

**9. San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion 9 (Molloy) \$174,000
San Diego County**

To consider the acquisition of 38± acres of land by CDFW for the protection of chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat benefitting coastal California gnat catcher and Stephens' kangaroo rat, as an expansion to CDFW's San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area located near Oak Grove in San Diego County.

**10. Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Utility Easement \$0
Riverside County**

To consider granting a utility easement and associated access easements over 10± acres of land from CDFW to the Southern California Edison Company for the purposes of constructing a new overhead transmission line through the Hidden Valley Wildlife Area, located near the city of Riverside in Riverside County.

**11. Harmon Canyon Preserve Restoration \$1,225,000
Ventura County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Ventura Land Trust for a cooperative project with private donors and SoCalGas to restore 45 acres of coastal sage scrub habitat and eradicate invasive salt cedar from upper Harmon Creek in Harmon Canyon Preserve located in the city of Ventura in Ventura County.

**12. Windy Springs Meadow Restoration \$427,729
Tulare County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Foundation for the Kern Valley Indian Community for a cooperative project with Sierra Meadows Partnership and a private landowner to restore 3.1 acres of meadow habitat, located on privately-owned land 36 miles northwest of Ridgecrest in Tulare County.

- 13. Salinas River Arundo Eradication, Phase VI** **\$1,824,000**
Monterey, San Luis Obispo Counties
To consider the allocation for a grant to the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County for a cooperative project with private landowners, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, CDFW, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner, and the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency to treat 42 acres of invasive Arundo and restore 21 acres of native habitat along the Salinas River between King City and Soledad on privately-owned land approximately 24 miles southeast of Salinas in Monterey County.
- 14. River West Fresno Eaton Trail Extension (Scope Change)** **\$0**
Fresno County
To consider changing the scope of grant to the City of Fresno for a project to plan and design an extension of the Lewis S. Eaton Trail and public access to River West. The San Joaquin River Conservancy (SJRC) filed an addendum for the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to expand the project footprint 320 feet underneath State Route 41 and connect River West to Woodward Park ("EIR Addendum 2"). They request to amend their grant agreement scope to include Amendment 2 with no additional cost to the project. This change will clarify the planned work at Woodward West, located on SJRC land within the city of Fresno in Fresno County.
- 15. South Tahoe Basin Wildlife Crossings** **\$4,900,000**
EI Dorado County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the Wildlife Crossing Fund to develop a number of alternatives to assess the best possible locations for wildlife crossing structures along two highways and a county road in EI Dorado County and develop the plans, designs, environmental review, and Caltrans documentation necessary to enhance wildlife connectivity and reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions within the network of roads and highways through important aquatic and terrestrial habitat in the South Basin of Lake Tahoe in EI Dorado County.
- 16. Emerson Side Channel and Riparian Restoration Project:** **\$1,725,000**
Planning
Tehama County
To consider the allocation for a grant to Tehama County Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with Trout Unlimited, California Open Lands, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to complete 90% designs, environmental compliance, permitting, and pre-implementation monitoring for an off-channel rearing habitat planning project for the benefit of Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon and other threatened salmonids, located on BLM owned property, five miles northwest of Cottonwood in Tehama County.
- 17. Indian Creek Streamflow Enhancement Planning** **\$940,889**
Mendocino County
To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy for a cooperative

project with Jackson Family Wines and a private landowner to complete a Collaborative Water Management Plan for the Indian Creek sub watershed, complete 100% designs for the "Maggy Hawk Planning Project," which includes planning for two water storage ponds, a rainwater catchment system, and preparation of a 1707 petition, and complete 65% designs for one additional flow enhancement project within the sub watershed, located on privately-owned land one mile southeast of Philo in Mendocino County.

**18. Chagdud Gonpa Restoration Design \$342,000
Trinity County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries for a cooperative agreement with a private foundation to complete design and permitting work for a future implementation project. This work will include developing 100% design plans, submitting permit applications, completing CEQA documents, and conducting hydrological, cultural, and biological surveys to prepare for an implementation project that will reconnect the Trinity River to its floodplain for the benefit of coho salmon, steelhead, and other native fish in the Trinity River approximately one mile west of Junction City in Trinity County.

Presentation Items

**19. Skyline North Phase II \$5,900,000
San Diego County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Endangered Habitats Conservancy to acquire 1,226± acres of land for the protection of habitat for critical species, including the Hermes copper butterfly and Quino checkerspot butterfly, located near the unincorporated community of Jamul in San Diego County.

**20. Laguna Coast Wilderness Park Restoration \$1,945,000
Orange County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Laguna Canyon Foundation for a cooperative project with Orange County Conservation Corps and Orange County Parks to restore and enhance 71 acres of wildlife habitat that will improve biodiversity, climate resiliency, habitat connectivity, and ecosystem health for protected wildlife species in Laguna Coast Wilderness Park located in the city of Laguna Woods in Orange County.

**21. Increasing Pollinator Habitat in Fresno County \$1,872,796
Fresno County**

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Sierra Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with Fresno County, Fresno State University, Sierra High School, California Native Plant Society, and private landowners to restore 100 acres of pollinator and riparian habitat and over 26,000 linear feet of hedgerows on five publicly- and privately-owned sites located throughout Fresno County.

- 22. River Vista Bridge Removal and River Restoration** **\$4,379,541**
Madera County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the San Joaquin River Conservancy to remove bridge remnants and restore in-stream habitat within the San Joaquin River for the benefit of salmonids, located in Friant in Madera County.
- 23. Park Ranch** **\$8,000,000**
Alpine County
To consider the allocation for a grant to Western Rivers Conservancy and Alpine County to acquire 1,688± acres of land for the protection of interconnected landscape in the Eastern Sierra, including wet meadows, springs, cottonwood and willow riparian, mixed conifer forest, and sage-steppe, and provide future wildlife-oriented, public-use opportunities, located adjacent to Markleeville in Alpine County.
- 24. Sunset Weir Fish Passage** **\$29,261,887**
Sutter County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Department of Water Resources for a cooperative project with the Sutter Extension Water District and CDFW to remove the Sunset Weir within the Feather River to restore unimpeded fish migration and upstream access. Sunset Weir is owned and operated by the Sutter Extension Water District and is located on the Feather River, two miles east of Live Oak in Sutter County.
- 25. Park Fire Restoration and Enhancement** **\$2,712,000**
Butte County
To consider the allocation for a grant to Chico State Enterprises for a project to restore oak woodlands within the Park Fire burn perimeter, located on Chico State University lands known as Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve, ten miles north of Chico in Butte County.
- 26. Colby Mountain Recreation Trails** **\$2,670,000**
Butte, Plumas, Tehama Counties
To consider the allocation for a grant to Butte County Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with Chico Velo to complete construction of a 36-mile trail network with trailhead amenities located in Lassen National Forest, 38 miles northeast of Chico in Butte and Tehama counties.
- 27. Salt Creek Floodplain Restoration Implementation** **\$2,959,000**
Trinity County
To consider the allocation for a grant to the Watershed Research and Training Center, in cooperation with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the private landowner, for an implementation project on Salt Creek, a tributary to the Klamath River, to fill incised channels to raise water surface elevations, install fish-passable rock structures, add large wood debris, and remove a berm to allow more expansive and consistent floodplain activation to benefit salmonids, located within

the community of Hayfork, approximately 50 miles west of Redding, in Trinity County.

28. Cannibal Island Restoration **\$4,000,000**
Humboldt County

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Trout, Inc., for a cooperative project with CDFW and the California State Coastal Conservancy, to restore 500 acres of tidal wetland habitat on CDFW's Cannibal Island Unit of the Eel River Wildlife Area, located three miles west of Loleta in Humboldt County.

29. Fieldbrook Valley Redwood Restoration **\$1,991,000**
Humboldt County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Pacific Forest Trust for a cooperative project with the Van Eck Forest Foundation to increase forest health by forest thinning, reforestation planting, and prescribed fire, located on privately-owned land five miles east of McKinleyville.

30. Wildlife Connectivity Fencing Modifications **\$2,907,000**
Modoc, Siskiyou Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mule Deer Foundation for a cooperative project with CDFW to improve big game habitat connectivity by removing 12 miles of woven-wire fencing and modifying 51 miles of existing 4- and 5 strand, barbed-wire fencing to a wildlife-friendly design in the Doublehead Ranger District located in Modoc and Siskiyou counties.

31. Project Monitoring Program Presentation

32. 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) 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.