

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

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NOTICE OF MEETING

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

February 23, 2012
10:00 AM
1/ State Capitol, Room 112
Sacramento, California 95814

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM NO.

1. Roll Call
2. Funding Status – Informational
3. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 4 – 13)
- *4. Approval of Minutes – July 26, 2011 and December 8, 2011
- *5. Recovery of Funds

* Proposed Consent Calendar

1/ These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities

- *6. Arcata Community Forest Expansion \$650,000.00
(Schmidbauer)
Humboldt County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the City of Arcata for a cooperative project with the Trust for Public Land to acquire fee title in 22± acres of land for the expansion of the City of Arcata's Community Forest, a mixed conifer managed working forest, located adjacent and east of the City of Arcata, in Humboldt County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for forest conservation and protection projects in order to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(a)]

- *7. Swiss Ranch Conservation Easement, \$555,000.00
Expansion 4
Calaveras County

To consider the acquisition of a conservation easement for the Department of Fish and Game over 468± acres of land for protection of critical habitat for the migratory Rail Road Flat deer herd, located in the Sierra foothills west of Summit Level Road and north of Swiss Ranch Road in the Mountain Ranch area of Calaveras County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands, to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

- *8. North Grasslands Wildlife Area Habitat Restoration \$327,000.00
Merced County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Ducks Unlimited, Inc., for a project to restore approximately 140 acres of wetland, associated upland, and riparian habitat on Department of Fish and Game owned land commonly known as North Grasslands Wildlife Area, Gadwall Unit, located 2 miles east of the City of Los Banos; and to provide dependable water supplies to 1,200± acres of wetland habitat by reinforcing security measures at the pump station at North Grasslands Wildlife Area, China Island Unit, located 3 miles east of the town of Newman, in Merced County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized

uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass in the Central Valley. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(d)(Proposition 1E), Inland Wetlands Conservation Program]

- *9. Pajaro Valley Riparian Restoration \$263,000.00
Santa Cruz County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Watsonville Wetlands Watch for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Game, the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, the City of Watsonville and the Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District to restore 6± acres of riparian habitat located along Struve Slough, West Struve Slough and Hanson Slough in Santa Cruz County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f)(Proposition 1E)]

- *10. San Joaquin River Parkway, \$200,000.00
Lewis S. Eaton Trail River West CEQA, EIR Augmentation
Fresno County

To consider the allocation for an amendment to an existing grant to the San Joaquin River Conservancy (Conservancy) for a cooperative project with the City of Fresno to implement environmental review and facilitate public participation for a proposal to extend the Lewis S. Eaton Trail from its terminus in the City of Fresno's Woodward Park through the Conservancy's River West property located immediately west of State Highway 41 in Fresno County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of lands located within the boundaries of the San Joaquin River Conservancy. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(b)(5)]

- *11. DFG Land Management Plans, Central Coast Region, \$259,000.00
Phase II, EIR Augmentation
San Luis Obispo County

To consider the allocation for an amendment to an existing grant to the California Wildlife Foundation to develop an environmental impact report for the Land Management Plan for the Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve located in San Luis Obispo County. The proposed funding source allows for the preparation of

management plans for DFG lands acquired by WCB. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(5)]

- *12. Santa Rosa Mountains, \$145,000.00
Expansions 14 and 15
Riverside County

To consider the acquisition of 30± acres of land by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) for a cooperative project with Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the protection of Peninsular bighorn sheep habitat and to provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, as an expansion to the DFG's Santa Rosa Wildlife Area located south of the City of La Quinta in Riverside County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which provides matching funds for the acquisition, restoration or protection of habitat or habitat corridors that promote the recovery of threatened, endangered, or fully protected species. [Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Fund (Proposition 12), Public Resources Code Section 5096.350(a)(5)]

- *13. Upper Mission Creek / Big Morongo Canyon \$20,000.00
Conservation Area, Expansions 1—4
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy to acquire in fee 235± acres of land for the protection of core habitat, linkages, fluvial and aeolian sand transport corridor, alluvial fan habitat, and mountainous habitat important for the Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard, Peninsular bighorn sheep, and other species addressed in the Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, located north of the City of Palm Springs in Riverside County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat that implements or assists in the establishment of Natural Community Conservation Plans. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(c)]

14. Ash Creek Wildlife Area Habitat Restoration \$1,056,000.00
Lassen and Modoc Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Pit River Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), the Department of Conservation, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to restore 1,500± acres of wetland and riparian habitats, protect 1,085 intact habitats from increased headcutting, and integrate the water delivery system to continue to meet downstream water rights and provide management of seasonal wetlands on DFG's Ash Creek Wildlife Area, located in Lassen and Modoc Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding sources that allow for the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands outside the Central Valley and riparian habitat, within a floodplain or flood corridor. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(d) OW and Section 2786(e/f)(Proposition 1E)]

15. Miller Forest \$1,228,750.00
Humboldt County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Northcoast Regional Land Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 1,622± acres of managed forest lands, including the most southern viable population of Port Orford cedar, located within the Willow Creek watershed, just north of State Route 299, approximately 30 miles east of the City of Arcata, in Humboldt County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for forest conservation and protection projects in order to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(a)]

16. Noyo River Redwood Conservation Property \$4,010,000.00
Mendocino County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mendocino Land Trust for a cooperative project with Save-the-Redwoods League to acquire 428± acres of land for the protection of redwood and Douglas fir forests, including some stands of old growth trees and significant riparian areas adjacent to the Noyo River, located within the Noyo River watershed, westerly of the City of Willits. The

purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for forest conservation and protection projects in order to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(a)]

17. Salmon Falls Reserve, \$2,370,000.00
Expansion 2
El Dorado County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the American River Conservancy for a cooperative project with the California Natural Resources Agency to acquire 605± acres of oak woodlands and grasslands for the purposes of habitat protection and to provide public recreational opportunities, located along the north shore of Folsom Lake, near the confluence of the south fork of the American River approximately 10 miles northeast of the City of Folsom. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of habitat to promote the recovery of threatened and endangered species, to provide corridors linking separate habitat areas to prevent habitat fragmentation, and to protect significant natural landscapes and ecosystems and other significant habitat areas. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(1)]

18. Dos Rios Ranch \$5,509,000.00
Stanislaus County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the River Partners for a cooperative project with California Natural Resources Agency, Department of Water Resources, U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Francisco Public Utility Commission, and Tuolumne River Preservation Trust to acquire 1,603± acres of valley floodplain and riparian habitat for protection of threatened and endangered species, and to provide future wildlife oriented public use and recreational opportunities. The property is located 20 minutes west of Modesto, south of Paradise Road and west of Shiloh Road at the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species within a floodplain or flood corridor. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)(Proposition 1E)]

19. Appraisal Review and Disclosure
Statewide

Informational/Action

To consider a new Wildlife Conservation Board (Board) policy governing the review and disclosure of appraisal information and to require an independent, third party review of appraisals for acquisition projects comprised of 5,000 or more acres or for which the Board proposes to allocate five million dollars (\$5,000,000) or more of State funds.