

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

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NOTICE OF MEETING

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

August 30, 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. Special Project Planning Account — Informational
4. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 4—15)
- *5. Approval of Minutes — May 31, 2012
- *6. Recovery of Funds

* Proposed Consent Calendar

1/ These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities

- *7. Lower Yuba River – Excelsior – Phase II \$549,600.00
(Black Swan Ranch)
Nevada County

To consider the acquisition in fee of 108± acres of land by the Department of Fish and Game for the protection of riparian, riverine, forest meadow and blue oak woodland areas that serve as critical winter range for the Mooretown deer herd and provide habitat for threatened and endangered species, and to expand public access and fishing opportunities in the Lower Yuba River watershed and surrounding foothill areas, located north of Highway 20, near the community of Smartville in Nevada County. 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)]

- *8. San Joaquin Multi-Species Conservation Plan (2008) \$393,755.00
Thomas North
Contra Costa County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy (ECCCHC), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to ECCCHC for a cooperative project with the East Bay Regional Park District to acquire 135± acres of land for the protection and preservation of existing regional wildlife linkages, including grassland and oak woodland savannah habitat areas within the East Contra Costa County Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan, located in the Diablo Mountain Range between the town of Clayton and the City of Pittsburg, in unincorporated Contra Costa County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat for areas in and around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta that assist 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)(SB8)]

- *9. Blue Oak Ranch Reserve CEQA and Planning \$1,073,000.00
Santa Clara County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Regents of the University of California to complete design, planning, and California Environmental Quality Act documents for facility improvements at the Blue Oak Ranch Reserve located approximately 9 miles east of the City of San Jose in Santa Clara County. The proposed funding source for this project provides for grants to the University of California for the Natural Reserve System for the construction and development of facilities that will be used for research and training to improve the management of natural lands and the preservation of California's wildlife resources. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055 (b)(3)]

- *10. San Joaquin River Parkway, Sycamore Island, \$94,000.00
North Channel Crossing Construction, Augmentation
Madera County

To consider the allocation for an augmentation to a previously approved grant to the Department of Water Resources to construct a steel arch culvert crossing at the North Channel of Sycamore Island, located in the San Joaquin River Parkway in Madera County two miles downstream of the State Highway 41 bridge. 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 land and water resources located within the boundaries of the San Joaquin River Conservancy. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 75050(f)]

- *11. Allensworth Ecological Reserve, Salo Expansion \$17,500.00
Tulare County

To consider the acquisition in fee title interest in 10± acres of land by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) representing an in-holding and expansion to the DFG's Allensworth Ecological Reserve (Reserve) for the purposes of threatened and endangered habitat protection, located in southern Tulare County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the restoration or acquisition of habitat for threatened and endangered species or for the purpose of promoting recovery of those species. [Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Fund (Proposition 12), Public Resources Code Section 5096.350(a)(3)]

- *12. Millard Canyon \$480,200.00
Los Angeles County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy (AFC) to acquire 13± acres in Millard Canyon for the protection of oak woodland, riparian woodland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral habitat and open space watershed areas to be assembled with other protected lands and linked to the Angeles National Forest in the San Gabriel Mountains, located just north of the City of Altadena in Los Angeles 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 and the preservation or enhancement of wildlife values to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)(Proposition 1E)]

- *13. Santa Rosa Mountains (Desert Ranch II) \$5,000.00
Expansion 17
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission to acquire 763± acres of land for the protection of core habitat linkages, fluvial and aeolian sand transport corridors and alluvial fan 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, a Natural Community Conservation Plan, and the Department of Fish and Game Conceptual Area Protection Plan, located southeast 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 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. Jacumba Peak (Change of Scope) \$0.00
San Diego County

To consider a change of scope for a subgrant of an approved U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant to the Anza-Borrego Foundation to acquire 1,081± acres of land, as part of a cooperative project with The Nature Conservancy and the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation for protection of threatened and endangered species, located just north of the community of Jacumba in southeastern San Diego County.

- *15. San Diego River (2009 RLA) (Walker) \$94,000.00
San Diego County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the City of Santee, and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the City of Santee for a cooperative project with State Coastal Conservancy and San Diego River Conservancy to acquire in fee 107± acres of land for the protection of habitat that will support the continued recovery of state and federally listed species, located along the San Diego River in the City of Santee in San Diego County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat for threatened and endangered species. [Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Fund (Proposition 12), Public Resources Code Section 5096.350(a)(5)]

16. Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area, Expansion 13 \$2,740,000.00
Yuba County

To consider the acquisition in fee of 679± acres of land by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) for a cooperative project with the Trust for Public Land for the protection of blue oak woodland, three miles of riparian habitat along South Honcut Creek, winter range for the Mooretown deer herd, and to provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities as an expansion to the DFG's Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area in the Sierra foothills, in northeastern Yuba County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands, necessary to protect deer and mountain lions within a floodplain or flood corridor. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)(Proposition 1E)]

17. Yuba Highlands Conservation Easement – Phase II \$1,104,000.00
Yuba County

To consider the acquisition of a conservation easement over 1,620± acres of land by the Department of Fish Game (DFG) for a cooperative project with the U.S. Department of Defense and the Trust for Public Land for protection of oak woodland and grassland habitats and habitat linkages between DFG’s Spenceville Wildlife Area and Beale Air Force Base, located east of Marysville, in Yuba 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)]

18. Conaway Ranch Conservation Easement \$7,835,000.00
Yolo County

To consider the acquisition of four agricultural conservation easements totaling 6,224± acres of land by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) for the protection of threatened and endangered species habitat, wetland and riparian habitat areas, including tri-color black bird, giant garter snake and Swainson’s hawk species habitat areas, located east of the cities of Davis and Woodland, and west of the Sacramento River in Yolo County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species within a flood corridor or bypass, and recovery of threatened and endangered species. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)(Proposition 1E); and Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650]

19. Clos du Bois Vineyard Habitat Restoration \$500,000.00
Sonoma County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Center for Social and Environmental Stewardship for a cooperative project with Clos du Bois Vineyard to restore and enhance wildlife and pollinator habitat and provide landowner workshops on sustainable and wildlife-friendly farming practices on privately owned land along the Russian River, located approximately 22 miles north of the City of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for projects to assist farmers in integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration and wildlife protection. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(4)]

20. Campstool Ranch \$2,761,055.00
Calaveras County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Pacific Forest Trust for a cooperative project with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to acquire a conservation easement over 2,175± acres of mixed conifer forest, oak woodlands and wildlife habitat corridors, located near the town of Railroad Flat in Calaveras 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)]

21. Oak Woodlands Conservation Easement (Barboni) \$610,000.00
Marin County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Marin Agricultural Land Trust for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy to acquire a conservation easement over 447± acres of land for the protection of native oak woodland habitat, and for protection of other sensitive biological resources, located eight miles southwest of Petaluma in the northern area of rural Marin County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the protection of native oak woodland habitat. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(2)]

22. Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, Informational
Wetland Restoration Construction
Alameda County

To provide the Board with an update on the funding status and grant language for a wetland restoration and public access development project, conditionally approved by the Board on May 31, 2012, located on the Department of Fish and Game's Eden Landing Ecological Reserve.

23. Lower Kern River Panorama Vista Preserve \$900,000.00
Riparian Restoration
Kern County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Kern River Corridor Endowment and Holding Company, Inc., for a cooperative project with the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore 159± acres of riparian and associated saltbush scrub habitat for the benefit of listed species, and to provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, located near the City of Bakersfield in Kern 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)]

24. Ocean Meadows \$910,000.00
Santa Barbara County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Trust for Public Land (TPL), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to TPL for a cooperative project with Santa Barbara County Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caltrans, Goleta Valley Land Trust, State Coastal Conservancy, and Natural Resources Agency to acquire in fee 63± acres of coastal wetland and watershed habitat for protection of threatened and endangered species, and to enhance a critical connection between the upper and lower reaches of Devereux Slough and provide opportunities for future wildlife oriented public use, located in Goleta Valley in Santa Barbara County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species and coastal wetlands, upland areas adjacent to coastal wetlands and coastal watershed lands in southern California. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)(Proposition 50 SoCal)]

25. Santa Clara River Watershed (Teyton) \$1,010,000.00
Ventura County

This proposal is to consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy for a cooperative project with Department of Water Resources to acquire fee title of 34± acres of land for the protection of riparian and floodplain habitat and protection of habitat for threatened and endangered species, located just south of the City of Ventura, in Ventura County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species and coastal wetlands, upland areas adjacent to coastal wetlands and coastal watershed lands in southern California. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)(Proposition 50 SoCal)]

26. Indio Trails \$1,010,000.00
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission (CVCC), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to CVCC, for a cooperative project with the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy to acquire in fee 495± acres of land for the protection of core habitat within the Coachella Valley Natural Community Conservation Plan area, located adjacent to California State Park Indio Hills Palms property within the City of Indio 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)]

27. Carlsbad/Northwest San Diego County \$4,629,750.00
MHCP HCPLA/NCCP 2009 (Cielo del Norte)
San Diego County

To consider the acceptance of two U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grants and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to The Conservation Fund (TCF), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to TCF for a cooperative project with the County of San Diego, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Fish and Game to acquire in fee 240± acres of land for the protection of core California gnatcatcher habitat within the Northwest San Diego County Multiple Habitat Conservation Program, located southeast of the City of Escondido between Interstate 5 and Interstate 15 in San Diego 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)]

28. San Diego County MSCP (2010) \$1,165,000.00
(Sycuan Tribal – Sloan Canyon)
San Diego County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Kumeyaay-Diegueño Land Conservancy and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the Kumeyaay-Diegueño Land Conservancy to acquire in fee 609± acres of land for the protection of core areas of coastal sage habitat, secure key regional wildlife linkages and support the existing Multiple Species Conservation Plan, a Natural Communities Conservation Plan, located in southwest San Diego County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that 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 Bond Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(c)]

29. Mill Creek Forest Restoration
Del Norte County

Special Presentation

The Smith River Alliance (SRA) and many project partners have been working to restore the Mill Creek Unit of the Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park, acquired with funding provided by the Wildlife Conservation Board and others in 2002. SRA will make a special presentation outlining accomplishments over the last eight years.

30. Strategic Planning

Informational

To provide the Board with an update and to receive direction advancing the planning process.