

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

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NOTICE OF MEETING

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

June 4, 2013

2:00 PM

1/ State Capitol, Room 2040
Sacramento, California 95814

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM NO.

1. Roll Call
2. Funding Status — Informational
3. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 3—12)
- *4. Approval of Minutes — November 29, 2012; January 24 and March 11 of 2013
- *5. Recovery of Funds

* Proposed Consent Calendar

1/ These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities

- *6. Hughes Ranch Wetland Enhancement \$315,000.00
Butte County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Waterfowl Association for a cooperative project with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to enhance 369± acres of wetland habitat on privately owned property, located 2 miles southwest of the town of Honcut in Butte County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that 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]

- *7. Sardella Ranch Conservation Easement \$520,000.00
Tuolumne County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Rangeland Trust to assist with the acquisition of a conservation easement over 523± acres of land to preserve, protect and sustain the rangeland, grazing land, grassland, working landscapes, wildlife habitat and watersheds, located 7 miles southeast of the town of Sonora in Tuolumne County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the protection of grazing land pursuant to the California Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Act (Public Resources Code Section 10330, et seq.), [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(1)]

- *8. San Joaquin River Parkway, Sycamore Island, \$127,000.00
North Channel Crossing Construction, Augmentation II
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. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(b)(5)]

- *9. Yucca Loma Road, Yates Road and Green Tree Boulevard \$5,000.00
Transportation Project, Parkland Conversion
San Bernardino County

To consider the exchange of 7± acres owned by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for 7± acres to be acquired by the Town of Apple Valley (Town) and the County of San Bernardino (County) to allow the Town and County to widen Yates Road and build a bridge over the Mojave River which will connect the Town with the City of Victorville. The purposes of the project are consistent with the proposed funding source. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)]

- *10. Quiota Creek Fish Passage, Phase II \$150,000.00
Santa Barbara County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to replace a low-water Arizona crossing with an arched culvert at Refugio Road Crossing #1 of Quiota Creek in southern Santa Barbara 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 and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout 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)]

- *11. San Diego County MSCP/HCPLA 2009 (Kemerko) \$578,750.00
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 Endangered Habitats Conservancy (EHC), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the EHC to acquire 132± acres of land to protect core areas of habitat that will benefit threatened and endangered species, and secure key regional wildlife linkages located near the communities of Crest and Harbison Canyon in an unincorporated area of San Diego County. The purposes of this project are consistent with 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)]

- *12. Southern California Coastal Wetland Change Analysis \$70,000.00
Various Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Authority for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide an initial estimate of change in extent and composition of Southern California's coastal wetlands in Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which can be used for the development of scientific data, habitat mapping and other research information necessary to determine the priorities for restoration and acquisition statewide. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)]

13. Upper Shasta River Flow Enhancement Planning \$275,000.00
Siskiyou County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Montague Water Conservation District for water conservation and instream flow enhancement planning, feasibility studies and permitting related to water diversions below Dwinell Reservoir, located between the cities of Montague and Weed in Siskiyou 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 and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout 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)]

14. Ten Mile River (Perry-Smith Ranch) \$3,510,000.00
Mendocino County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy to acquire a working forest conservation easement over 872± acres of native forest lands located adjacent to, and along the Ten Mile River, north of Inglenook on the Mendocino Coast. 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)]

15. Davis Ranch Riparian and Hedgerow Restoration \$220,000.00
Colusa County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the National Audubon Society for a cooperative project with the Landowner, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Center for Land-based Learning to restore a 3± mile corridor of riparian habitat, located on privately-owned property adjacent to the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge approximately seven miles southeast of the City of Colusa in Colusa 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)]

16. Garden Bar Preserve \$1,452,000.00
Nevada County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Bear Yuba Land Trust to acquire 652± acres of land in Nevada County for the purposes of wildlife habitat protection including riparian, riverine and oak woodland habitat communities, located along the Bear River, approximately 10 miles northwest of the City of Auburn, in Nevada County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources which allow for the acquisition of habitat to protect wildlife corridors and linkages, significant natural habitat areas, protection of fully protected species, watersheds and flood protection corridors. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a), and Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)(Proposition 1E)]

17. Royal Gorge \$3,010,000.00
Placer and Nevada Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to Truckee Donner Land Trust for a cooperative project with Placer County, Northern Sierra Partnership, the Trust For Public Land and private donors to acquire two parcels totaling 2,520± acres for the purposes of protecting alpine forests and meadows, wildlife corridors, habitat linkages, and to provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, located approximately 10 miles west of the City of Truckee, in the Donner Summit area, within Nevada and Placer counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of 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(a)]

18. El Dorado Ranch \$3,000,000.00
El Dorado and Amador Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the American River Conservancy (ARC) for a cooperative project with the California Natural Resources Agency to acquire in fee 1,059± acres of land for the protection and preservation of riparian, woodland and native fisheries habitats, and to provide potential future wildlife oriented public use opportunities on land fronting the Cosumnes River, located approximately 15 miles south of the City of Placerville in El Dorado and Amador counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources, which allow for the acquisition and protection of riparian and oak woodland habitats, watershed areas, corridors linking separate habitat areas, prevention of habitat fragmentation and for the development of public access facilities for hunting, fishing and other wildlife compatible recreational activities. [Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Fund (Proposition 12), Public Resources Code Section 5096.350(a)(2) and [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

19. Sears Point Wetland Restoration \$5,000,000.00
Sonoma County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Sonoma Land Trust (Trust) for a cooperative project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Highway Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Department of Water Resources and State Coastal Conservancy to restore 955 acres of tidal marsh, located five miles east of the City of Novato on the Trust's Sears Point Property in Sonoma County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, protection and restoration of coastal wetlands, upland areas adjacent to coastal wetlands and coastal watershed lands within the San Francisco Bay Area. [Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Water Code Section 79572(c)]

20. Wilmar Ranch, Diablo Range Oak Woodland Conservation Easement Monterey County \$270,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Rangeland Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 2,114± acres of land for the protection and preservation of oak woodlands, oak savannahs, native plants and wildlife habitat, watersheds and agricultural open space in Monterey County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the preservation of native oak woodland habitat pursuant to the Oak Woodlands Conservation Act (Fish and Game Code Section 1360 et seq.). [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)]

21. Rancho Vierra Oak Woodland Conservation Easement Monterey County \$660,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to Big Sur Land Trust to assist with the acquisition of a conservation easement over 964± acres of land to preserve and protect native oak woodland, grassland, riparian and wildlife habitat, and sustain working landscapes, located 6 miles northeast of the City of Salinas in Monterey County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the preservation of oak woodlands pursuant to the Oak Woodlands Conservation Act of 2001 (Public Resources Code Section 10330, et seq.), [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. Bufford Ranch Conservation Easement Kern County \$570,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Rangeland Trust to assist with the acquisition of a conservation easement over 575± acres of land to preserve, protect and sustain the rangeland, grazing land, grassland, working landscapes, wildlife habitat, and watersheds located approximately 12 miles south of Lake Isabella in Kern County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the protection of grazing land pursuant to the California Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Act (Public Resources Code Section 10330 et seq.), [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(1)]

23. Arrastre Canyon \$260,000.00
Los Angeles County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), acceptance of settlement funds from the U.S. Department of the Interior Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund (aka ARCO funds), and a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant the ARCO funds and grant funds to TNC to acquire 286± acres of land to protect habitat for threatened and endangered species, and maintain habitat connectivity within the upper Santa Clara River floodplain and watershed in Arrastre Canyon, a tributary to the Santa Clara River located just south of community of Acton in Los Angeles County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources, which allow for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c) (Proposition 1E); Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Water Code Section 79572(a).

24. San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Eradication \$1,500,000.00
Various Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California State Coastal Conservancy for a project to eradicate approximately 20 acres of the invasive plant Spartina and enhance approximately 80 acres of tidal wetlands at various locations around San Francisco Bay in all nine Bay Area counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, protection and restoration of coastal wetlands, upland areas adjacent to coastal wetlands and coastal watershed lands within the San Francisco Bay Area. [Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Water Code Section 79572(c)]

25. Statewide Strategic Planning for Invasive Plants \$273,000.00
Statewide

To consider the allocation for a grant to California Invasive Plant Council for a cooperative project with the US Forest Service and the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative to enhance habitats and ecosystem function over the long term by identifying, scoping, and prioritizing invasive plant eradication projects that will have the greatest sustainable benefits to wildlife throughout the State. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which can be used for the development of scientific data, habitat mapping and other research information necessary to determine the priorities for restoration and acquisition statewide. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)]

26. Strategic Plan Update Informational

Staff will provide the Board an update of the ongoing process to complete a Strategic Plan including estimated timelines and expected deliverables over the course of the next year.