

Wildlife Conservation Board

Celebrating 60 Years of Success

1947 - 2007



Wildlife Conservation Board

Celebrating 60 Years of Success

1947 - 2007

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State of California

Secretary Mike Chrisman, Resources Agency

Acting Director John McCamman, Department of Fish and Game

Contents

Message from the executive director.....	3
Introduction	5
In the beginning: Building the framework – 1947 through 1957	9
Connecting people and the outdoors – 1958 through 1967.....	15
Public demands environmental protection – 1968 through 1977	19
The word is out and there’s money – 1978 through 1987	25
The era of partnerships and innovations – 1988 through 1997	29
Strategic planning and working landscapes – 1998 through 2007	35
Projects by region	45
Awards and Accomplishments	66

Wildlife Conservation Board Members

Richard Rogers, President Fish and Game Commission

Michael C. Genest, Director, Department of Finance

John McCamman, Acting Director, Department of Fish and Game

Legislative Advisors

Senator Darrell Steinberg

Senator Patricia Wiggins

Senator Abel Maldonado

Assembly Member Jared Huffman

Assembly Member Lois Wolk

Assembly Member (vacant)

a message from the executive director



*John P. Donnelly
Executive Director*

As I reflect upon the accomplishments of the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) over the last 60 years, I am reminded of something that Teddy Roosevelt once said: “There is nothing more practical than the preservation of beauty.” The beauty and richness of California’s natural resources is awe-inspiring and has served as a powerful force for thousands to preserve and protect for generations to come. One only has to listen to the thunderous roar of millions of snow geese, tundra swans and migrating ducks working their way down from the frozen Alaskan waters to the warm winter wetlands in the Central Valley or the Roosevelt Elk calling through the fog and mist of the majestic forests along the California coast to cherish the natural wonders of this great state.

The founders of the WCB certainly understood this calling. Their early wisdom and foresight established the foundation upon which millions of acres have been preserved forever. While the foundation is strong and has withstood decades of challenges, we still have a duty and responsibility to

pass along to future generations unspoiled wilderness, open space, clean waters, wildlife habitat and working landscapes that support environments for economic growth and sustainability.

Following in the steps that have guided the WCB for 60 years, we will continue to emphasize partnerships, community and communication in our quest to meet the challenges facing the diverse needs of our fish and wildlife species. I am confident that with public/private partnerships, good science, intelligence and passion we will continue to preserve and protect that which is so vital to our well being.

To all the great staff—past and present—of the WCB, our partners, friends and supporters, I thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John P. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned over a background of a rocky, mountainous landscape.



This is a look back over the past 60 years of the Wildlife Conservation Board. On July 10, 1947 while the nation and the world were recovering from the tragedy of World War II, history played out in the halls of the California State Capitol. The Honorable Earl Warren, Governor of the State of California, signed into law Senate Bill 723 (Chapter 1325, Statutes of 1947). This landmark legislation created the Wildlife Conservation Act of 1947 which declared, *“The preservation, protection and restoration of wildlife within the State of California is an inseparable part of providing adequate recreation for our people in the interest of public welfare; and it is further declared to be the policy of the State to acquire and restore to the highest possible level and maintain in a state of high productivity, those areas that can be most successfully used to sustain wildlife and which will provide adequate and suitable recreation.”*

California is an extraordinary State. Encompassing more than 100 million acres, it is unlike any other state in the nation. California is home to the largest number of plant and animal species, many of which only occur here, and the highest number of endemic species. California leads the nation in the number of rare species; over 2,214 endemic plants, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and freshwater fish species depend upon the land and waters of this great state.

In 1947 it was recognized that a great challenge was before us. How to integrate the needs of 9.8 million people and the needs of a diverse population of plants, fish and wildlife? Moreover, how to connect the people to the environment necessary to enrich their lives and expose millions of people to the wonders of California’s unique forests, waterways, mountains, deserts, rich valleys and coastal waterways?

The answer came from a handful of visionary thinkers and government leaders with the creation of the Wildlife Conservation Act of 1947 which has served as a foundation for the protection of California’s diverse and rich fish, plant and wildlife resources.

This profound legislation created, within what was then the Department of Natural Resources, the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB). The WCB is a non-regulatory body whose ultimate purpose is to acquire and restore land and water for California's fish and wildlife and, where appropriate, provide suitable recreational facilities and opportunities for all the people of California.

To this day, the original purpose and mandate of the WCB has withstood the test of time and remains today as initially defined: the *“Board shall investigate, study and determine what areas within the State are most essential and suitable for wildlife production and preservation, and that will provide suitable recreation; and*

shall ascertain and determine what land within the State are suitable for game propagation, game refuges, bird refuges, waterfowl refuges, game farms, fish hatcheries, game management areas, and what streams and lakes are suitable for, or can be made suitable for, fishing, hunting and shooting. The Board shall also ascertain what lands are suitable for providing cover for the propagation and rearing in a wild state of waterfowl, shore birds, upland birds and the possibilities of acquiring easements on such lands to provide such cover.”

In 1947 there was a clear understanding that, absent sufficient funds to carry out the mandates of the Wildlife Conservation Act, the state's multitude of natural resources would continue to

decline. Accordingly, companion legislation was enacted that created the Wildlife Restoration Fund. The provisions of Assembly Bill 772 (Chapter 1327, Statutes of 1947) amended the Business and Professions Code and required, for three consecutive years, an annual \$3 million transfer from the Fair and Exposition Fund to the Wildlife Restoration Fund. In total, \$9 million was transferred from taxes received from pari-mutual horseracing. Later amendments to the Business and Professions Code reduced this funding to an annual appropriation of \$750,000 from the pari-mutual horseracing funds.

Sixty years have passed since the creation of the WCB. The operating authority has expanded, and legislative mandates have



Lassen Foothills Ecological Reserve, Shasta County.

increased the Board's scope of responsibility. California's population has increased to over 37.8 million people, and the challenges facing the protection of fish and wildlife continues as the needs of an increasing population place relentless demands upon our natural resources. While problems today are more complex, the insightful and far reaching nature of the enabling legislation, coupled with the premise of cooperation and building partnerships has allowed the WCB to demonstrate the strength and vision of its founding fathers.

Winston S. Churchill once said, "However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results." We have looked at the results over the last 60 years and found the legislative framework provided the WCB with essential tools to protect natural resources and adapt with time its operating principles necessary to implement new and innovative approaches to the business of protecting our important fish and wildlife resources. With the successes of the Board, the Legislature and the voters of California have repeatedly vested their trust and faith in the WCB and sup-

ported its mission to protect the State's natural resources.

The success of the WCB reflects a shared vision. Collaboration and the dedication of countless local, state and federal entities, non-profit organizations and private landowners have once again demonstrated that working together, challenges can be overcome and the natural resources of this great state can be preserved and cherished for generations to come.

To all of our many public and private partners, we thank you!

South Bonnyview Fishing Access, Shasta County



Los Banos Wildlife Area, Merced County



Los Banos Wildlife Area, Interpretive Marsh, Merced County



Point Arena Fishing Pier, Mendocino County



“Establishing the WCB in 1947 was a new and revolutionary approach to meeting wildlife conservation needs. Having gone to work for the WCB in 1959 as an assistant to the third Administrator of the WCB, I have witnessed the growth and maturity with which the WCB has continued to approach the challenges of meeting wildlife conservation needs. The original Senators and advisors had the combination of political acumen and pragmatism to devise a new organization and their near genius has been proven by the program and the test of time over a period of 60 years that is still going strong.” It is with great pride and honor that I can say I was with the Wildlife Conservation Board from the beginning.”

***- Chet Hart, the second Executive Director
of the Wildlife Conservation Board (1973 to 1982)***



In the Beginning: Building the Framework— 1947 through 1957

To ensure a coordinated and balanced approach toward the preservation of plant, fish and wildlife habitat, the enabling legislation specified the voting membership of the Board to include the President of the Fish and Game Commission, the Director of the Department of Finance, and the Executive Officer of the Commission, (now the Director of the Department of Fish and Game). The Board was also comprised of legislative advisors, three from the Senate and three from the Assembly, to serve in an advisory capacity.

As with any new organization, a great deal of time and deliberation was spent developing an operational structure that would allow for an extensive evaluation of proposed projects that was responsive to the public need. In

the spirit of public participation, when practical, Board meetings were held in the vicinity of major projects to be considered.

Initially, the Board referred all projects for preliminary investigation to Board members, the Division of Fish and Game, Legislative Advisory Committee members, the Attorney General, (if necessary) and the general public including newspapers, organized sporting groups and interested individuals. Based upon the preliminary review, a secondary action was taken by the Board and projects approved in principle were referred to the Division of Fish and Game for the preparation of working plans, and cost estimates. If all was approved, final action was taken when the Division of Fish and Game submitted to the Board,

in 1947 ...

California's population reaches 9.8 million.

1947 Prices

Average Income:	\$2,854.00
New Car:	1,290.00
New House:	6,650.00
Loaf of Bread:	.13
Gallon of Gas:	.15
Gallon of Milk:	.78
Annual Fishing License:	2.00
Annual Hunting License:	2.00
Minimum Wage:	None

National News: Gen. Charles Yeager
Breaks the Sonic Barrier In X-1
Rocket Plane

Opposite page: Finnon Lake Restoration, El Dorado County. Top: Member of the California Board of Fish Commissioners.

an estimate of “annual support costs” and a letter of understanding from the Division of Architecture.

The Board then approved the project. Funds were allocated when a Letter of Understanding and approval was obtained from the Division of Architecture or the Division of Water Resources, clearance was obtained from the Public Works Board, and a budget was provided to the Department of Finance for approval.

Operating within this extensive, multi-stage process, the Board staff consisted of only five professionals, a Coordinator, an Assistant Coordinator, a Field Agent and two clerical support staff. With a skeletal staff of professionals, it was acknowledged the project approval process would

be slow in action. The operating procedure was designed to serve as a guide and not to be strictly followed. Depending on the particulars, the process was altered to fit the existing situation. While sometimes cumbersome, it was believed that *“this is necessary to give thorough consideration to each project, its priority as compared to other projects and reduce, to a minimum, the complaints that the ideas of sportsmen and the general public were not considered.”*

The first meeting was held on November 12, 1947. The Board convened the meeting at 2:45 p.m. and conditional approval was provided on 65 projects totaling \$1.4 million. Having no further business to consider, the Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

As WCB started to mature into a recognized and formable organization, the internal operating approval process was modified. Still operating under the direction of a Coordinator, the Board Members and legislative advisors were convinced that they were *“... busy State officials who didn’t need to waste their time on details.”* As such, acting on recommendations from the Division of Fish and Game, WCB staff became responsible for reviewing and analyzing, in detail, proposed projects. The multi-phased review process was streamlined into one that required only one presentation to the Board. If the Board approved a project, staff was authorized to proceed.

Snake Lake, Plumas National Forest, Plumas County.



Moccasin Creek Trout Hatchery, Tuolumne County.



Another unique aspect of the WCB concerns the manner in which operating funds were provided. Unlike other state entities, the Board was provided an exemption from annual budgetary line item appropriations. In part because of the Legislative Interim Advisory Committee structure, it was believed that legislative advisors provided sufficient oversight to the Board and thus, it was not necessary for the entire State Legislature to review and approve, on an annual basis, every project brought before the Board. This unique authority allowed staff and the Board to respond quickly to unique opportunities and avoid long delays and uncertainty associated with the annual budgetary process and legislative approvals. The authority resulted in the protection of unique and

important acquisitions that may not have occurred had the WCB been required to obtain approval through the annual budget process.

Another insightful and far reaching policy adopted during the Board's formative years concerned the use of eminent domain proceedings.

As early as 1947, it was recognized that the use of eminent domain proceedings to acquire land was a sensitive and delicate issue. In fact, early operating procedures dictated that, *"No action shall be taken authorizing the acquisition of lands, water, or water rights by the State Public Works Board by eminent domain proceedings unless such acquisition has been approved by the Board."*

Around 1955, the statutes were once again amended and any local, state or federal entity was authorized to operate and maintain a WCB project. No longer limited to the Division of Fish and Game, expansion of the operation and maintenance requirement opened the gates for projects designed to provide fishing, hunting and other public access programs, especially public fishing piers.

The first 10 years of the Board's existence was an incredible period of time for the people of California. Armed with its unique budgetary authority, money to spend and passionate constituents from the hunting and fishing community, close to \$14.3 million was expended on projects spanning the entire state. Over 31,009 acres were protected



Morro Bay Boat Launch, San Luis Obispo County.



Deer Creek Fish Restoration, Tehama County.

and/or restored, with a major emphasis on public access facilities.

Early acquisitions included the Darrah Springs Fish Hatchery in Shasta County where 83 acres were purchased for approximately \$231,000. The Gray Lodge Wildlife Area was started with the purchase of 3,734 acres for a cost of \$311,000. The Suisun Marsh-Grizzly Island Wildlife Area was initiated with the purchase of 8,600 acres, and the Mendota Wildlife Area was started. Farther south, 33 acres at Avocado Lake were purchased, and the Imperial Wildlife Area became a reality for many upland

game hunters. Land was acquired for 31 projects, 15 of which were for public access facilities, and the remaining projects for fishery and wildlife habitat.

On the development side, over 150 projects were funded, the majority of which focused on restoration or enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat to improve hunting and fishing opportunities. Unique public access facilities were constructed at 34 various lakes, streams and rivers throughout the state. The construction, maintenance and stocking of fish hatcheries dominated the early years.

Fish ladders, maintenance dams, rearing ponds, fish screens and the removal of fish barriers were common practices funded by the WCB. Even an occasional fish planting tanker and fish counting weir were funded. The Montezuma Slough Bridge was constructed to provide automobile access to the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area, and Finnon Lake Public Fishing Area, the Berkeley Fishing Pier and Salton Sea fishery projects all benefited during the early years dedicated to providing quality access to the state's fish and wildlife resources.

A former colleague once remarked, "Those were the days." California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) processes and guidelines did not exist. The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) was still 20 or so years away. "Hazmat" was not yet a part of our vocabulary and, with the exception of the hunters and anglers, the board was a little known entity—some say the best kept secret in town. While small in stature, the Board was big on responding to the public need for access to hunting and fishing opportunities.



Fishing in Auburn, circa 1955, Placer County.

Program Statement

Status of allocations and funds available through June 30, 1958, as of the Nov. 15, 1957 board action. The amount allocated to specific projects up to the close of the meeting on Nov. 15, 1957, is \$13,473,217.79.

A. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects		\$4,322,599.96
B. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects		1,611,399.96
1. Warmwater Projects	\$1,269,814.96	
2. Other Fish Projects	341,585.00	
C. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects		700,215.28
D. Screen and Ladder Projects		291,740.52
E. State Game Farms		105,644.49
F. Other Upland Game Projects		416,530.84
G. Waterfowl Management Projects		5,419,212.53
H. General Projects		<u>605,874.21</u>
Total Allocated to Specific Projects		\$13,473,217.79

Special Project Allocations:

Project Evaluation, Property Acquisition and Engineering		<u>\$25,000.00</u>
--	--	--------------------

Total Allocated		\$13,498,217.79
-----------------	--	-----------------

In addition to the specific allocations above, the following reserves have been established:

1. Colorado River Recreational Development		\$34,500.00
2. Lake Tahoe Access Development		<u>30,000.00</u>
Total Reserves Established		\$64,500.00

Operating Costs: FY 47/48 through 56/57 Actual	\$402,574.36	
FY 57/58.	<u>71,817.00</u>	

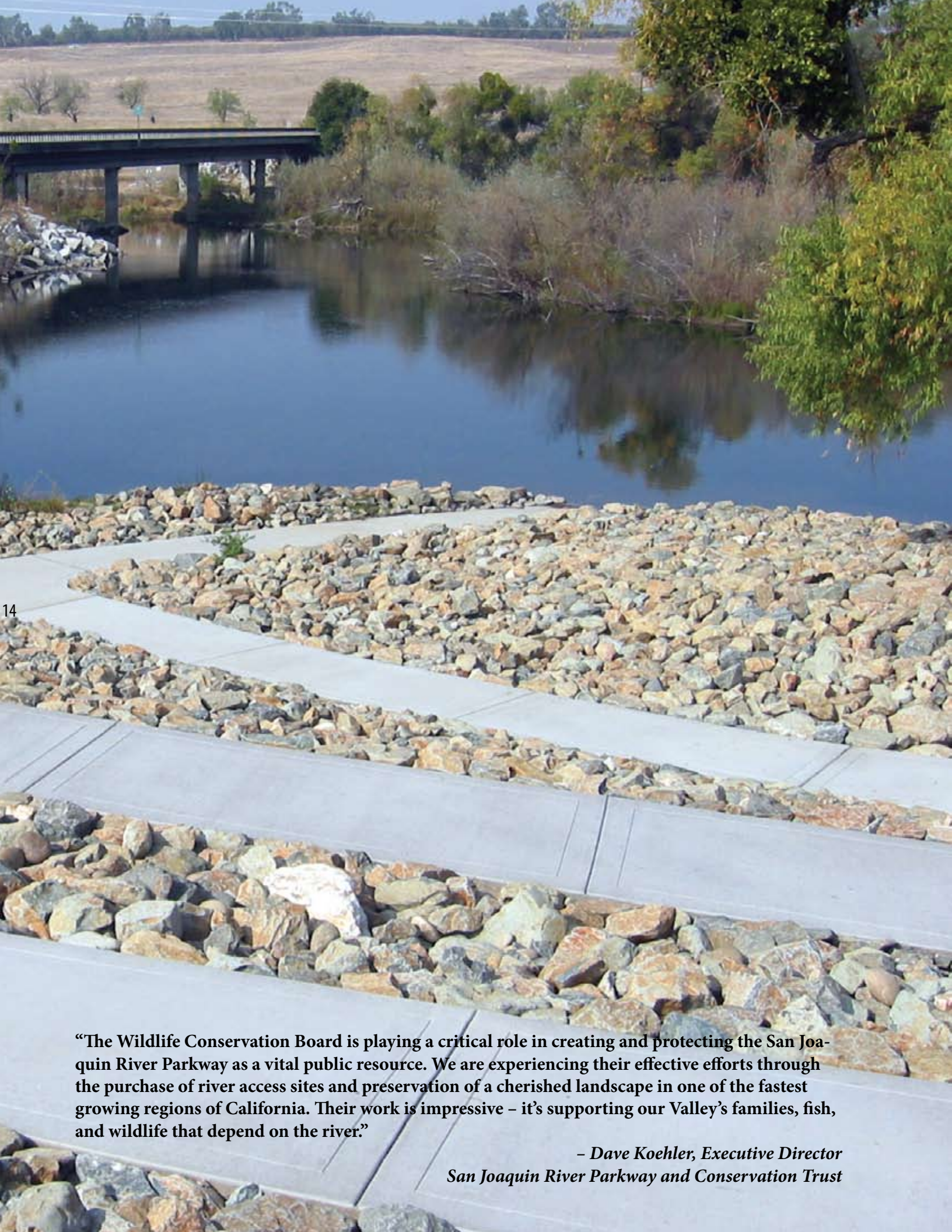
Total - Actual and Estimated Operating Costs		\$474,391.36
--	--	--------------

Recapitulation:

Allocations for Projects	\$13,473,217.79
Special Project Allocation	25,000.00
Reserves Established	64,500.00
Expenses of Operation	<u>474,391.36</u>
Total Expended or Obligated	\$14,037,109.15

Total Funds Appropriated	\$13,500,000.00
Appropriation available through 57/58 FY	750,000.00
Interest on Surplus Money Investment Thru 56/57 FY	233,533.11
Miscellaneous Revenue through 56/57 FY	<u>25,856.09</u>
Total Available	\$14,509,389.20
Total Expended or Obligated	<u>14,037,109.15</u>

Available through June 30, 1958	\$472,280.05
---------------------------------	--------------



“The Wildlife Conservation Board is playing a critical role in creating and protecting the San Joaquin River Parkway as a vital public resource. We are experiencing their effective efforts through the purchase of river access sites and preservation of a cherished landscape in one of the fastest growing regions of California. Their work is impressive – it’s supporting our Valley’s families, fish, and wildlife that depend on the river.”

***– Dave Koehler, Executive Director
San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust***

Connecting People and the Outdoors — 1958 through 1967



During the late 1950s and throughout the 1960s, the WCB continued to emphasize projects designed to connect the people and the great outdoors. Hunting and fishing continued as popular recreational activities and the people needed access to rivers, lakes, streams and waterways throughout the state. This was clearly the decade for public access and fishing opportunities.

To augment the annual \$750,000 the WCB received from horseracing revenues, the first bond act benefiting the WCB was passed by the voters. The State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1964 was enacted and the WCB received \$5 million.

The decade saw close to \$14.6 million allocated by the WCB and 218 projects were funded. Of

the funded projects, 34 acquisitions resulted in 6,257 acres of protected wildlife and fishery habitat. On the development side, 184 projects were funded and approximately \$12 million was allocated for public access facilities and to restoring fish and wildlife habitat.

The Fillmore Fish Hatchery was acquired in Ventura County. The Mojave River Wildlife Area was acquired and 801 acres were purchased for \$780,000 in San Bernardino County. In Yuba County, 1,178 acres were acquired for \$56,000 creating the Spenceville Wildlife Area. The Mendota Waterfowl Management Area was expanded by 650 acres for a cost of \$74,750. Coastal access projects were funded in Mendocino County and 640 acres were acquired for the Tehama Wildlife Area for \$140,000.

in 1957 ...

California's population reaches 14.2 million.

1958 Prices

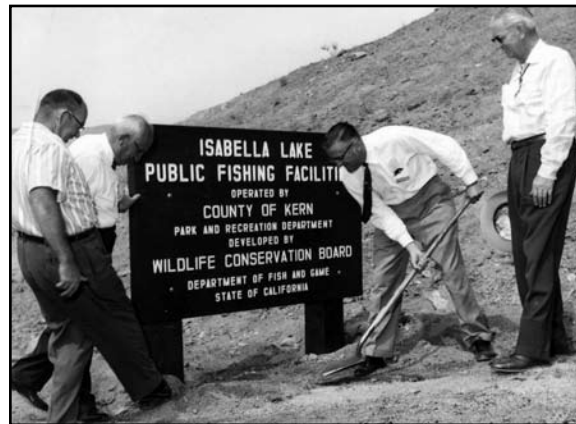
Average Income:	\$4,650.00
New Car:	2,155.00
New House:	11,975.00
Loaf of Bread:	.19
Gallon of Gas:	.24
Gallon of Milk:	1.01
Annual Fishing License:	3.00
Annual Hunting License:	3.00
Minimum Wage:	1.00
National News: Elvis Presley Inducted in Army	

Opposite page: San Joaquin River Parkway, Friant Cove Boat Launch, Fresno County. Top: Crescent City Citizens Pier, Del Norte County.

In 1959, the WCB approved the expenditure of \$9,885 for the Crescent City Citizens Pier in Del Norte County. In Colusa County, \$8,000 was allocated to provide fishing access to the Letts Valley Public Fishing Area, and in Solano County, \$64,000 was provided for the Vallejo Fishing Access. A whopping \$400,000 was expended on the Venice Fishing Pier in 1961 and, in 1963, \$300,000 was provided for the Hermosa Beach Fishing Pier—both in Los Angeles County. To the north, \$34,000 was provided for the Paradise Beach Fishing Pier in Marin County. In Sacramento County, the WCB approved the expenditure of \$165,000 for public access to Discovery Park. Approximately \$33,000 was approved to improve fishing opportunities on Lake Almanor in Plumas County, and \$41,250 was allocated for the Vacaville Game Park in Solano County.

In 1964, a barge carrying 2,000 tons of reef rock capsized in 40 feet of water off Silver Strand State Beach in San Diego County.

The Board spent \$340.36 to install a buoy to mark the spot for anglers. While the dollar allocation was small, millions have enjoyed this unique fishing opportunity.



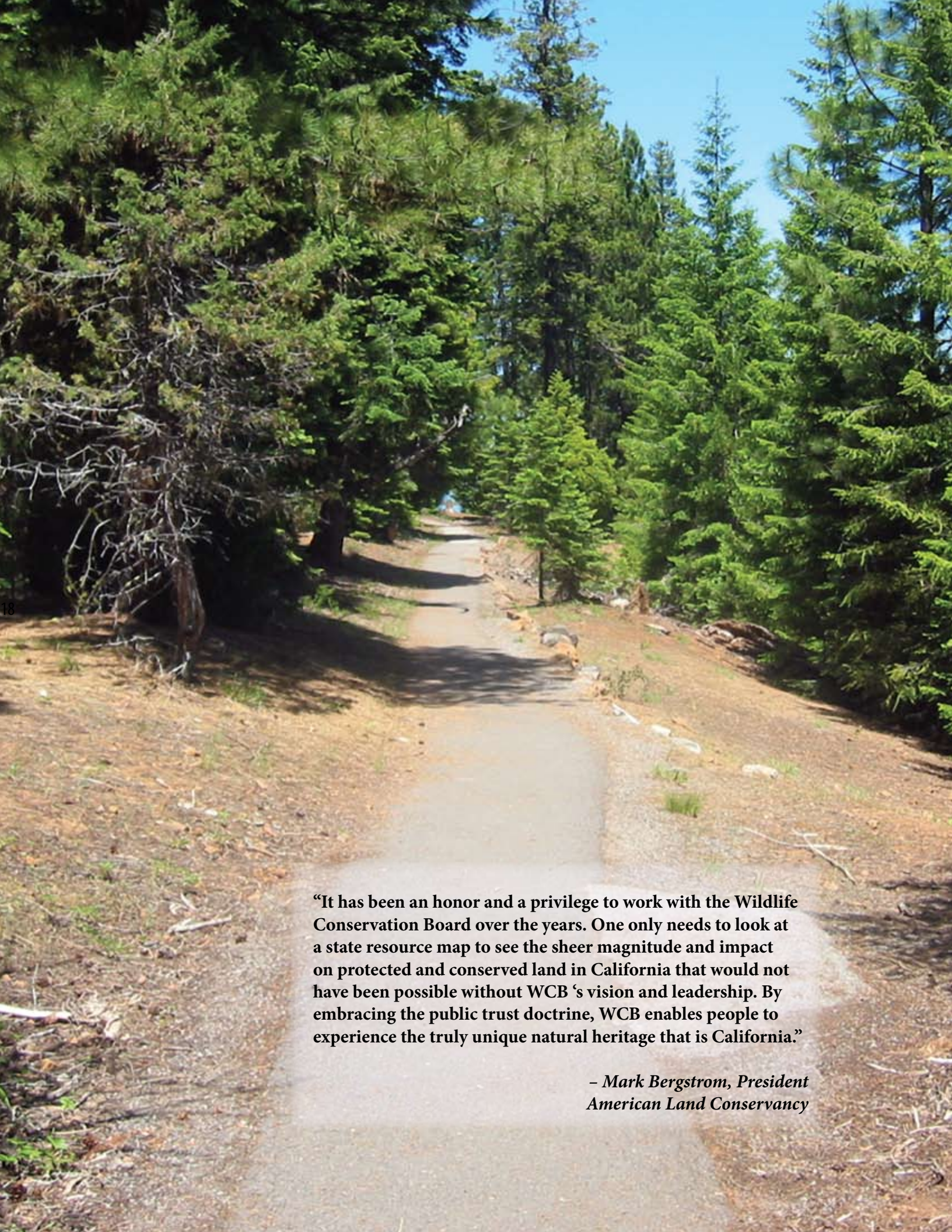
From top: Discovery Park boat ramp, Sacramento County; Isabella Lake fishing facility, Kern County; Chico Landing boat ramp, Butte County; Hermosa Beach Fishing Pier, Los Angeles County.



Program Statement

The amount allocated to specific projects from the Wildlife Restoration Fund as of the close of the meeting on Sept. 26, 1967.

A. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects		\$4,653,741.88
B. Fish Habitat Development and Improvement Projects		3,099,373.28
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$1,646,336.36	
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	229,081.94	
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	439,503.32	
4. Marine Habitat	83,753.36	
5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	700,698.30	
C. Angling Access Projects		6,818,183.78
1. Coastal Access	866,484.43	
2. River, Stream and Bay Access	1,915,303.78	
3. Lake, Reservoir & Salton Sea Access	1,965,167.65	
4. Fishing Piers	2,071,227.92	
D. Game Farm Projects		146,894.49
E. Game Habitat Development and Improvement Projects		6,023,543.58
1. Waterfowl Areas	5,515,665.48	
2. Other Wildlife management Areas	69,428.98	
3. Miscellaneous Game Habitat Development	438,449.12	
F. Hunting Access		473,711.72
G. Miscellaneous Projects		238,297.08
H. Special Project Allocations		<u>33,500.00</u>
Total Allocated to Projects		\$21,487,245.81
<u>Operating Costs:</u>		
FY 47/48 thru 64/65 Actual	\$1,003,637.78	
FY 65/66 Estimated	95,881.00	
FY 66/67 Estimated	100,217.00	
FY 67/68 Estimated	100,217.00	
Total Actual and Estimated Operating Costs		\$1,299,952.78
<u>Recapitulation:</u>		
Allocations for Projects	\$21,487,245.81	
Expenses of Operation	<u>1,299,952.78</u>	
Total Expended or Obligated	\$22,787,198.59	
Total Funds Appropriated	\$21,000,000.00	
Appropriation made available 7/1/67	750,000.00	
Interest on Surplus Money Inv. thru 6/30/67	988,310.58	
Miscellaneous Revenue thru 66/67 FY	159,912.76	
Miscellaneous Revenue 67/68 FY	138.89	
Reimbursement from Accelerated Pub. Works Program	<u>312,859.57</u>	
Total Available	\$23,211,221.80	
Total Expended or Obligated	<u>22,787,198.59</u>	
Available thru 6/30/68	\$424,023.21	



“It has been an honor and a privilege to work with the Wildlife Conservation Board over the years. One only needs to look at a state resource map to see the sheer magnitude and impact on protected and conserved land in California that would not have been possible without WCB ‘s vision and leadership. By embracing the public trust doctrine, WCB enables people to experience the truly unique natural heritage that is California.”

***- Mark Bergstrom, President
American Land Conservancy***



Public Demands Environmental Protection — 1968 through 1977

The 1960s and 1970s were definitely times of change, recovery and growth. In 1969, the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) was enacted and established the national policy for environmental protection, conservation and accountability. In 1970, California enacted the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and established a system of checks and balances for land use, development and management decisions. The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970.

With the environmental movement in full swing, California enacted the Endangered Species Act. New environmental protection programs were created, emphasis was placed on protecting habitat for endangered species and the Ecological Reserve

System was established in 1968. Authorized by the California Legislature, the Ecological Reserve System is designed to conserve areas for the protection of rare plants, animals, and unique habitat types. The system of reserves protects California's unique biological diversity and important species populations—some found nowhere else in the world—and provides areas for critical education and scientific research.

There were new ecological and environmental emphases guiding WCB acquisition, restoration and enhancement efforts. This was clearly the decade of change. While public access projects were still a high priority, the public began to re-evaluate and shift its thinking about wildlife conservation and protection. To date the trend had been to emphasize

in 1967 ...

California's population reaches 19.5 million.

1968 Prices

Average Income:	\$7,305.00
New Car:	2,724.00
New House:	14,425.00
Loaf of Bread:	.22
Gallon of Gas:	.33
Gallon of Milk:	1.15
Annual Fishing License:	3.00
Annual Hunting Licenses:	3.00
Minimum Wage:	1.40
National News – The U.S. Population Reaches 200 Million	

*Opposite page: Juanita Lake, Siskiyou County.
Top: Santa Margarita Elementary School outdoor
education class, San Luis Obispo County.*

hunting and fishing opportunities. The new focus was on the need for “non-consumptive” use of resources.

To support the demand for new environmental protection efforts, the people of California voted into law three unique bond measures that provided the WCB with \$31 million for the acquisition and restoration efforts.

While the Board continued to receive its annual \$750,000 from the horseracing revenues, in 1972, the WCB began to receive legislative augmentations between \$300,000 and \$600,000 from “special” funds, most notably the Environmental License Plate Fund.

With the increased funding and additional mandates expand-

ing on non-consumptive uses of natural resources, it became apparent that the WCB needed additional real estate expertise that was knowledgeable of the Board’s unique acquisition role, i.e., buying land to protect fish and wildlife resources. Up until this time, acquisitions were handled by the Executive Officer (later to be called the Executive Director), the Department of Fish and



*Above: Fine Gold Creek, Madera County.
Left: Larkin Valley, Santa Cruz County.
Opposite page: Crescent City “B” Street Pier,
Del Norte County.*

Game Business Services Officer or by the Department of General Service's Property Acquisition Division.

The small board, which consisted of an Executive Director, an Assistant Executive Director, a secretary, one Field Agent, an accountant/bookkeeper, and a clerk/typist grew by one with the addition of a Senior Land Agent.

Staffed to go, the Board was phenomenal in its ability to coordinate and implement projects with the Department of Fish and Game, as well as with local, state and federal governmental entities. In total, the Board al-

located a little over \$19 million to fund 173 projects. While more sensitive to environmental and ecological concerns, the 1960s continued to emphasize fishing access with the development of inland and coastal public fishing access projects. Fisheries were improved with the construction of hatcheries. Restoration projects improved habitat conditions for warm water lake fisheries and improved almost 430 miles of streams.

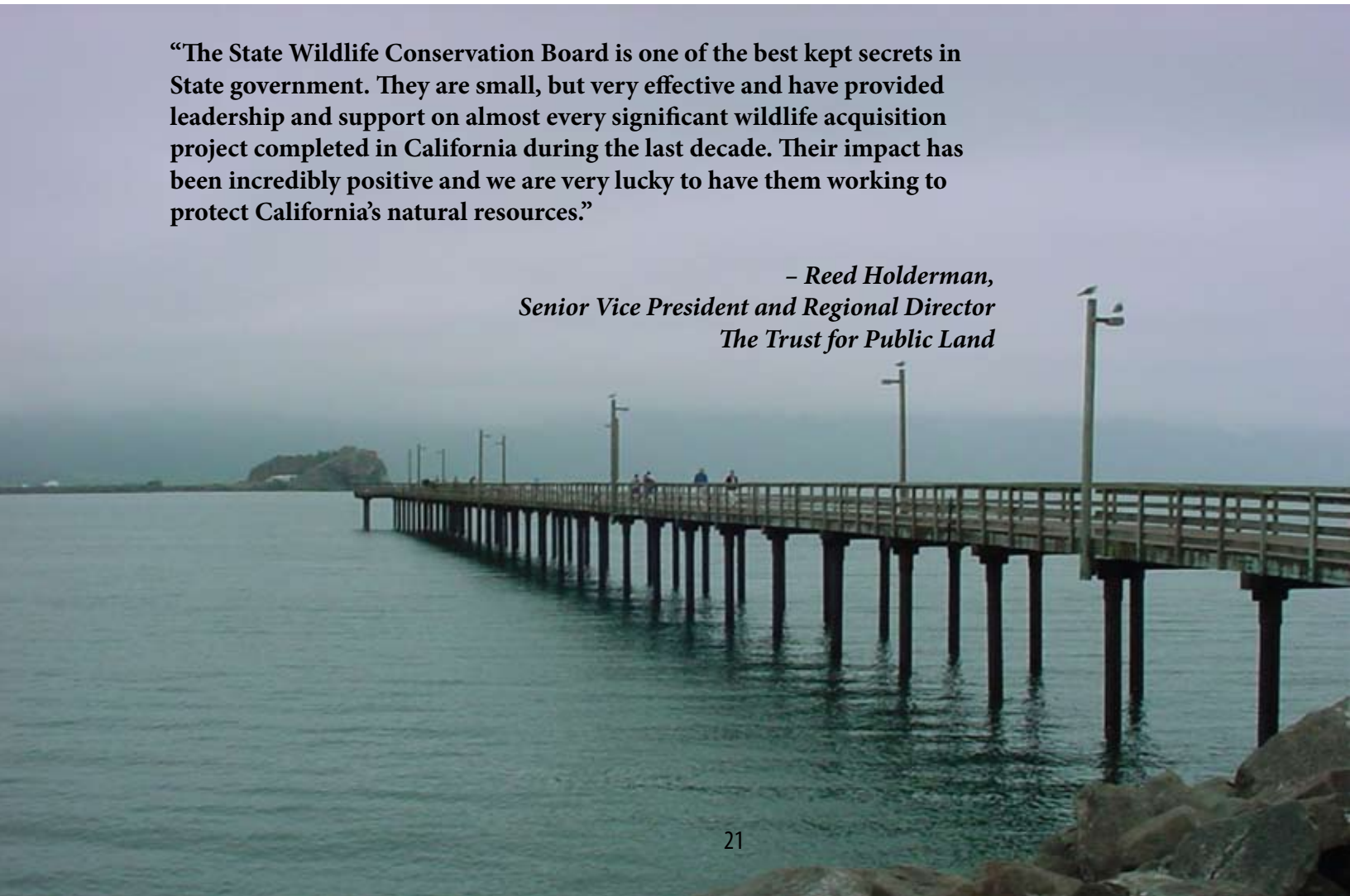
In Siskiyou County, 5,017 acres were purchased for \$505,000, and critical wildlife habitat was protected on the Horseshoe Ranch Wildlife Area. Projects were

designed to preserve habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species. Acquisitions were made to protect deer winter range, habitat for bighorn sheep, and coastal lagoons and marshlands. Most notable was in an area often thought of as wasteland and desert; the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto mountains above Palm Springs and Palm Desert.

Fishing piers were popular. Operated and maintained by local authorities, a huge opportunity existed to connect people with the outdoors. The WCB provided funds for the following fishing piers throughout the state: Alison Beach Fishing Pier in Orange

“The State Wildlife Conservation Board is one of the best kept secrets in State government. They are small, but very effective and have provided leadership and support on almost every significant wildlife acquisition project completed in California during the last decade. Their impact has been incredibly positive and we are very lucky to have them working to protect California’s natural resources.”

***– Reed Holderman,
Senior Vice President and Regional Director
The Trust for Public Land***



County, Cabrillo (San Pedro) Fishing Pier in Los Angeles County, Martinez Fishing Pier in Contra Costa County, San Simeon Fishing Pier in San Luis Obispo County, reconstruction of the Imperial Beach Fishing

Pier in San Diego County, San Mateo Fishing Pier in San Mateo County, Santa Cruz Fishing Pier in Santa Cruz County, Berkeley Fishing Pier in Alameda County, Pacifica Fishing Pier in San Mateo County, Vallejo Fishing

Pier in Solano County, access to the Channel Islands Harbor in Ventura County, Pittsburg Fishing Pier in Contra Costa County, Point Pinole Fishing Pier in Contra Costa County, and Emeryville Fishing Pier in Alameda County.



Clockwise from left: young girl fishing, circa 1973; Luffenholtz Creek Hiking Trail, Humboldt County; Juanita Lake, Siskiyou County; Bend Bridge Access, Tehama County.



Program Statement

At the close of the meeting on December 20, 1977, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947 totaled \$39,212,385.30. This total includes \$5,710,257.08 reimbursed by the Federal Government under the Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1966, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, the Anadromous Fish Act Program, and the Pittman-Robertson Program.

The statement includes projects completed under the 1964 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act. Projects funded under the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, and the 1974 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act will be included in this statement after completion of these programs.

A. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects		\$10,286,304.24
B. Fish Habitat Development and Improvement Projects		4,104,596.79
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$2,225,619.19	
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	243,013.03	
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	439,503.32	
4. Marine Habitat	358,779.36	
5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	837,681.89	
C. Fishing Access Projects		12,316,976.19
1. Coastal and Bay Access	1,244,008.39	
2. River and Aqueduct Access	3,557,476.81	
3. Lake and Reservoir Access	2,873,596.30	
4. Fishing Piers	4,641,894.69	
D. Game Farm Projects		146,894.49
E. Wildlife Habitat Development and Improvement Projects		11,425,254.47
1. Wildlife Areas	10,869,805.35	
2. Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Development	555,449.12	
F. Hunting Access		472,436.81
G. Miscellaneous Projects		401,422.31
H. Special Project Allocations		<u>58,500.00</u>
Total Allocated to Projects		\$39,212,385.30

STATUS OF FUNDS

Wildlife Restoration Fund

Unallocated balance after 9/30/77 meeting	\$879,810.43
Plus miscellaneous revenue	45,000.00
Less adjustment - 1977/78 staff support	17,982.00
Less allocations	<u>74,700.00</u>
Unallocated balance after 12/20/77 meeting	\$832,128.43

“California is blessed with some of the most glorious landscapes in the world, an extraordinary diversity of wildlife and habitats. And we’re equally blessed with a state agency, the Wildlife Conservation Board that does such an outstanding job of spearheading efforts to protect these treasures. As California grows from 36 to 50 million people in the coming years, the California Wildlife Conservation Board’s job of protecting California’s natural environment will become even more vital.”

*- Glenn Olson, Vice President & Executive Director
California Audubon*



The Word is Out and There's Money — 1978 through 1987

With renewed spirit and dedication, and with money for projects, California's conservation and preservation efforts really started to take off. The message was clear; the people of California valued open space, and the preservation of breathtaking scenery and habitat for the thousands of birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and amphibians was important. To support this dedication and commitment, the people of California passed two more bond initiatives that provided the WCB with an additional \$10 million. Each new bond initiative was in addition to the annual \$750,000 the Board received from the horseracing revenues. As long as the horses kept running, the WCB received its share of the winnings.

With the prior emphasis on public access and restoration efforts

to enhance recreational opportunities, this decade saw a new focus on the protection of habitat and the expansion of ecological reserves. The Board hit the \$100 million mark and allocated funds for 444 projects. To accommodate the increased workload, the Board hired two additional Land Agents and one additional Field Agent, for a total of ten professionals responsible for carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Board.

Evenly split between acquisition and restoration projects, the Board's efforts focused on providing habitat for wetland and riparian dependent species, oak woodlands, desert and high plains fauna. Unique areas were acquired for specific species: the salamanders found deep down in talus slopes, and the peninsular bighorn sheep that rely on food

In 1977 ...

California's population reaches 22 million.

1978 Prices

Average Income:	\$15,070.00
New Car:	4,785.00
New House:	49,319.00
Loaf of Bread:	.36
Gallon of Gas:	.65
Gallon of Milk:	1.67
Minimum Wage:	2.30
Annual Fishing License:	4.00
Annual Hunting License:	10.00

National News – The 799-Mile-Long
Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline Opens

Opposite page: Sacramento Vernal Pools, Sacramento County. Top: Belmont Veteran's Memorial Pier, Los Angeles County.

and water found in deep desert canyons and along lower elevation alluvial fans.

Vernal pools were acquired for the hundreds of plant species and tiny shrimp dependent upon these unique, short lived puddles of water.

Another significant occurrence during this decade was the beginning of the conservation easement era. WCB approved and funded 16 conservation easement projects, protecting in perpetuity 15,150 acres of deer winter and summer range, and wetlands. Conservation easement docu-



Above: Wetlands, Los Banos Wildlife Area, Merced County. Below: Hallelujah Junction, Sierra County.

ments were much less sophisticated than they are today, but they still represented a valuable

tool that the WCB used to expand its ability to effectively carry out its mandates.



“My association with the Board for 25 years, first as a land agent, followed by my last 18 years as the Executive Director, can only be considered as a high point in my life. Three things really stood out to make my time with the Board such a great experience.

First, the staffing at WCB was second to none in state government, where people always maintained a “can do” attitude toward the completion of any project, while also showing the ability and desire to work with those necessary to accomplish the tasks at hand. Secondly, the composition of the Board, and its enabling legislation, provided WCB with the ability to accomplish things in

an expeditious manner. There was always an interest in balancing what was best for the wildlife resources, while maintaining a desire to do what was best for the overall interests of the people of the State of California. Lastly, one can never talk of the accomplishments of WCB without mentioning the many non-profit and local governmental entities with whom we did so much work over the years. These partners, both large and small, and too numerous to mention without missing some were, and still are, critical to the ability of WCB to carry out its mission.”

*– John Schmidt, former Executive Director
Wildlife Conservation Board (1982 to 2000)*

Program Statement

At the close of the meeting on November 20, 1987, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947 totaled \$173,586,371.63. This total includes funds reimbursed by the Federal Government under the Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1966, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, the Anadromous Fish Act Program, the Pittman-Robertson Program, and the Estuarine Sanctuary Program.

The statement includes projects completed under the 1964 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act, the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, the 1974 Bond Act, the General Fund, the Energy Resources Fund, the Environmental License Plate Fund, the 1976 Bond Act, the 1984 Parklands Bond Act and the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Bond Act.

A. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects	\$15,988,599.15	
B. Fish Habitat Development	8,437,498.72	
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$2,990,821.39	
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	2,754,015.94	
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	498,492.86	
4. Marine Habitat	646,619.07	
5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	1,547,549.46	
C. Fishing Access Projects		29,951,865.23
1. Coastal and Bay	2,931,786.25	
2. River and Aqueduct Access	6,480,677.75	
3. Lake and Reservoir Access	6,010,060.43	
4. Fishing Piers	14,529,340.80	
D. Game Farm Projects		146,894.49
E. Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Development and Improvement		111,760,512.02
1. Wildlife Areas (General)	86,014,866.56	
2. Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Development	2,871,954.27	
3. Wildlife Areas/Ecological Reserves (Rare & Endangered)	22,873,691.19	
F. Hunting Access		546,069.66
G. Miscellaneous Projects		5,758,012.87
H. Special Project Allocations		314,303.86
I. Miscellaneous Public Access Projects		<u>682,615.63</u>
Total Allocated to Projects		\$173,586,371.63



“Working with the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) since the early 90’s has been an honor for the California Waterfowl Association and I believe their partnership projects are invaluable legacies for the people of California. The Central Valley is a critical component of the Pacific Flyway and WCB has demonstrated outstanding leadership by supporting innovative projects to address the challenges of providing life requisites for millions of wintering ducks, geese, swans and hundreds of other wetland dependent species from Red Bluff to Bakersfield. WCB staff’s dedication and commitment to developing public/private partnerships, demonstrates their strength and leadership and is exemplary for other states throughout the country especially for states who must strive to conserve and manage quality wetland habitats in the face of unrelenting urban expansion.”

*– Dr. Robert McLandress, President
California Waterfowl Association*



The Era of Partnerships and Innovations — 1988 through 1997

In 1988, the horses continued to run, \$750,000 was annually appropriated, Environmental License Plate funding continued, and the WCB started to receive funding from the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Surtax Fund. Once again, the voters passed two more bond initiatives totaling \$131.3 million!

With a reputation for “getting the job done” and putting projects on the ground from the highest peaks in northern California to the most southern and remote areas bordering Mexico, the WCB was known as the place to go for environmental preservation and conservation. Now staffed with 14 professionals, the WCB was becoming one of the most effective and respected land acquisition and restoration entities in the State of California. The WCB surpassed all expectations and

awarded almost \$216 million to put 689 projects on the ground.

This decade also marked the increased utilization of conservation easements and partnerships with non-profit land trusts and private landowners. While conservation easements were first purchased in 1978, their popularity as a tool was minimal. Prior to the early 1990s, it was a long-standing belief that if habitat were to be protected, it should be owned in fee by the state or federal government.

In 1990, the voters once again spoke to the need to protect, enhance and restore wildlife habitat and fisheries vital to maintaining the quality of life in California. An innovative financing tool was passed by the voters: The California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. The Act created the Habitat

In 1987 ...

California’s population reaches 32.3 million.

1988 Prices

Average Income:	\$24,375.00
New Car:	10,370.00
New House:	92,024.00
Loaf of Bread:	1.09
Gallon of Gas:	.89
Gallon of Milk:	2.25
Minimum Wage:	3.35
Annual Fishing License:	18.50
Annual Hunting License:	18.75

National News – Clean Water Act
Passed to Deal with Pollution of
Estuaries & Rainwater

Opposite page: Vic Fazio Yolo Wildlife Area, Yolo County. Top: San Clemente Pier, Orange County.

Conservation Fund and required \$30 million to be transferred (from other fund sources) into the Fund until July 1, 2020. The WCB is designated to receive \$21 million annually. Further, the Act required the acquisition of native oak woodlands necessary to protect deer and mountain lions; habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened, or fully protected species; the acquisition, restoration and enhancement of wetlands; aquatic habitat for spawning and rearing of anadromous salmonids; and trout resources and riparian habitat.

Along with the significant increase in funding came another monumental change. Legislation was enacted that provided the WCB with the authority to award grants to local governmental entities, special districts, and nonprofit organizations for the protection, restoration and enhancement of land and water necessary for the preservation of fish and wildlife resources. In addition, the Board was authorized to sell, exchange and lease property; accept donations from a variety of public and private entities; accept the gift or dedication

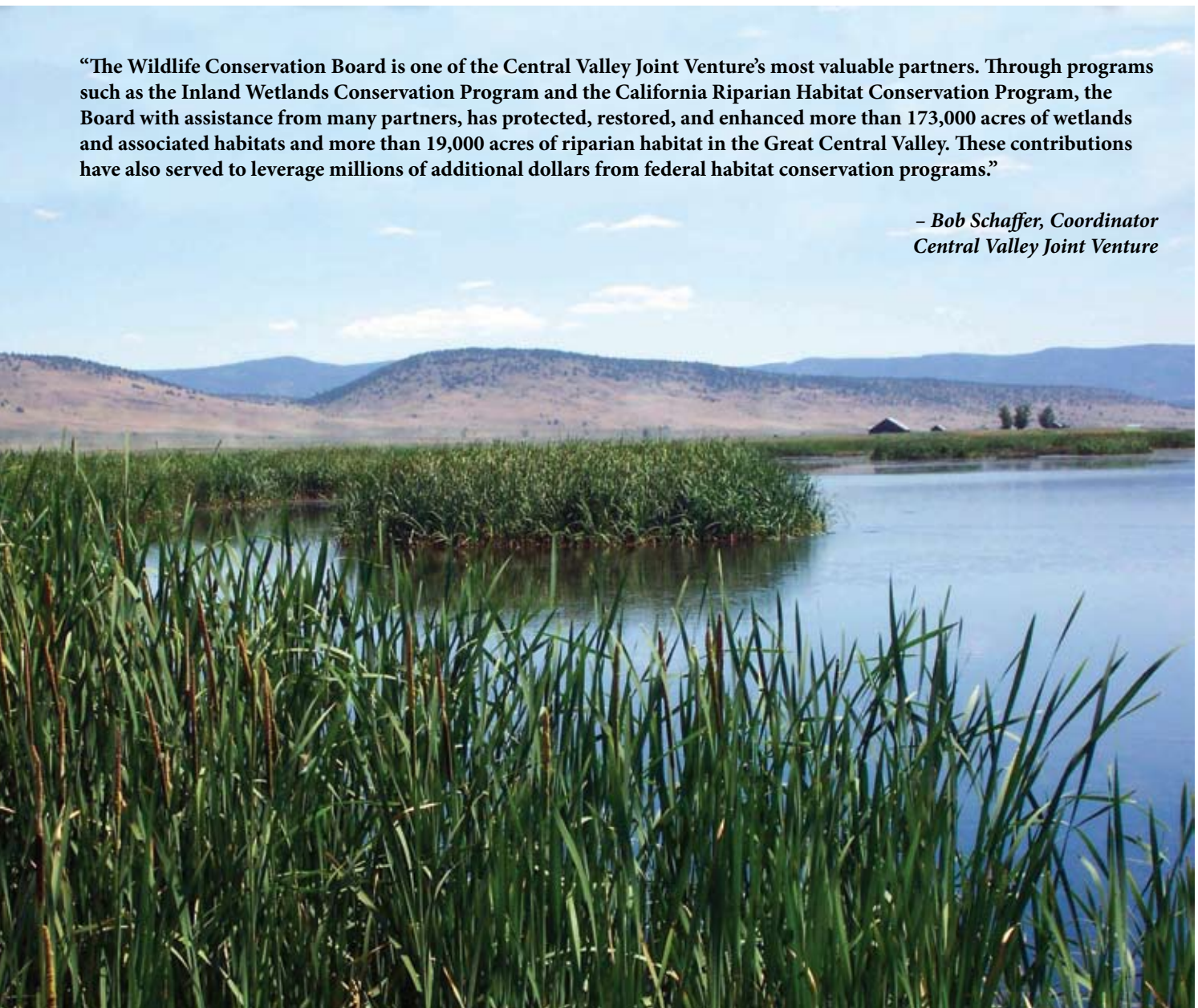
of land; and purchase conservation easements, leases, development rights or other interests in land. This new authority opened the door for partnerships and innovative ways to meet the challenge of protecting the state's natural resources.

Moreover, this new authority allowed the Board to work more effectively with a critical segment of California; the private landowner. Developing partnerships and leveraging fiscal and technical resources with the public and private sectors afforded the WCB

Ash Creek Wildlife Area, Lassen County.

“The Wildlife Conservation Board is one of the Central Valley Joint Venture’s most valuable partners. Through programs such as the Inland Wetlands Conservation Program and the California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program, the Board with assistance from many partners, has protected, restored, and enhanced more than 173,000 acres of wetlands and associated habitats and more than 19,000 acres of riparian habitat in the Great Central Valley. These contributions have also served to leverage millions of additional dollars from federal habitat conservation programs.”

**– Bob Schaffer, Coordinator
Central Valley Joint Venture**



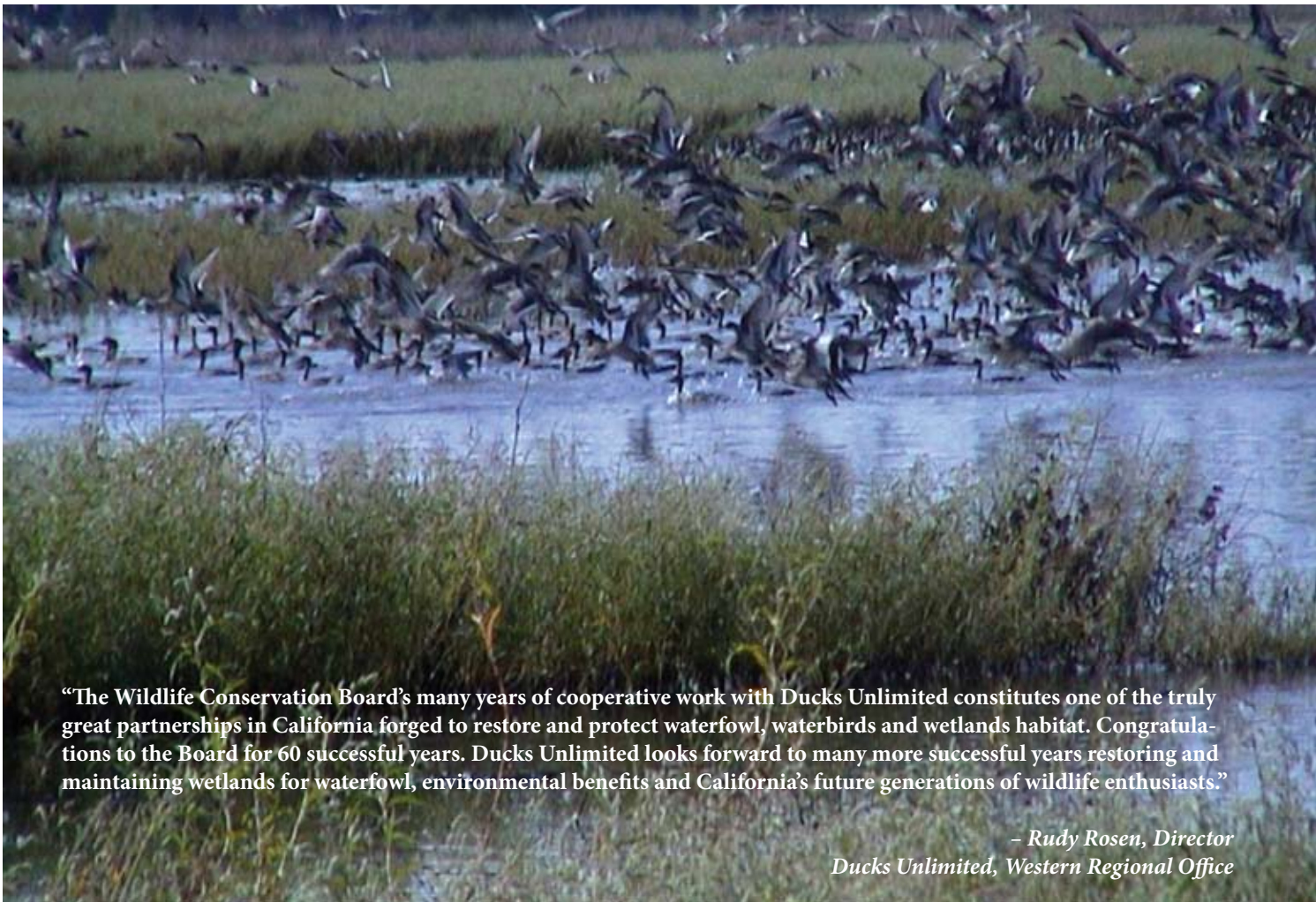
the opportunity to participate in efforts that later grew and expanded into a force of its own.

Early acquisitions in the Coachella Valley exemplify the effectiveness of the Board's new authority and the power of public/private partnerships. Blow-sand habitat was purchased for the Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard. Many considered this land worthless and a waste of state resources, but not the WCB. Before long, local, state, federal and private organizations and landowners formed a group that became known as "Club Lizard" whose goal was to focus development elsewhere and preserve the habitat. What started as a single acquisition

has evolved into the permanent protection of over 30,000 acres and the ultimate creation of the State Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy.

Legislative confidence in the WCB was again expressed when two new programs were authorized in the early 1990s, the Inland Wetlands Conservation Program and the California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program. Both programs are based on a proven model, that by forming joint ventures with public and private entities, conservation organizations and private landowners, one of the best ways to accomplish mutual goals and objectives is achieved.

The mission of the Inland Wetlands Conservation Program is to work collaboratively through diverse partnerships to protect, restore and enhance wetlands and associated habitats for waterfowl, shorebirds, water birds and riparian songbirds. Working with the Central Valley Joint Venture, the program has clearly demonstrated the power and effectiveness of partnerships. Since its inception, the program has restored and enhanced more than 140,000 acres of wetlands in the Great Central Valley. Working with private landowners, over 10,000 acres have been protected with conservation easements and an additional 23,000 acres of wetlands have been protected in fee.



“The Wildlife Conservation Board’s many years of cooperative work with Ducks Unlimited constitutes one of the truly great partnerships in California forged to restore and protect waterfowl, waterbirds and wetlands habitat. Congratulations to the Board for 60 successful years. Ducks Unlimited looks forward to many more successful years restoring and maintaining wetlands for waterfowl, environmental benefits and California’s future generations of wildlife enthusiasts.”

*– Rudy Rosen, Director
Ducks Unlimited, Western Regional Office*

Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area, Butte County.

The California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program was created in 1991 with a mission to develop a coordinated conservation effort aimed at protecting and restoring the state's riparian ecosystems. Recognizing that the responsibility for protecting and restoring riparian habitat must be shared by all entities whose activities impact riparian habitat, the program is a cooperative effort involving local, state, and federal government entities as well as private landowners. Flexibility, communication and coordination are key to ensure that all available approaches and solutions are explored. Since the program's inception, over 25,000 acres of riparian habitat along the state's creeks, streams, lakes and other bodies of water have been restored and enhanced and thousands more have been protected in perpetuity.

This decade could be known as one of cooperation, coordination and forming public/private partnerships. In 1991, the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) effort was implemented by the Department

of Fish and Game. This unprecedented effort on the part of the State and numerous public and private partners aims to protect biological diversity by taking an incentive driven and broad based planning approach toward species protection.

The primary objective is to conserve natural communities at the ecosystem level while accommodating compatible land uses. The program seeks to anticipate and prevent the controversies caused

by species listing and by focusing on the long-term stability of wildlife and plant communities.

The WCB serves as one of the major acquisition entities responsible for acquiring the interest in prioritized lands that are compatible with the goals and objectives of the NCCP. Since the program started, the WCB has implemented 66 projects resulting in over 48,000 acres of protected land at a cost close to \$150 million.



Clockwise from top: Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve, Orange County; Battle Creek restoration, Shasta County; Fairmont Park fishing access, Riverside County.

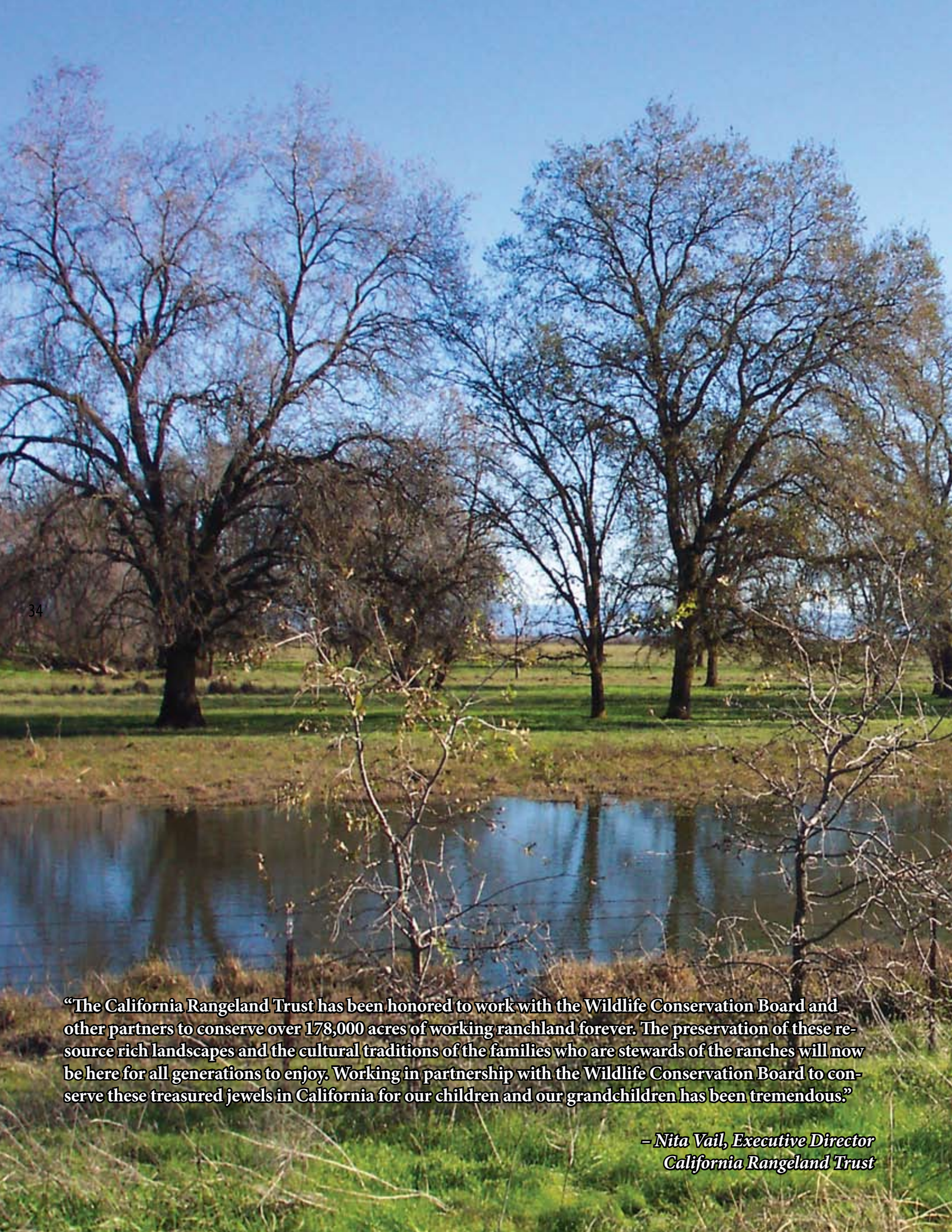


Program Statement

At the close of the meeting on November 13, 1997, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947 totaled \$391,928,891.62. This total includes funds reimbursed by the Federal Government under the Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1966, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, the Anadromous Fish Act Program, the Pittman-Robertson Program, and the Estuarine Sanctuary Program.

The statement includes projects completed under the 1964 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act, the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, the State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1974, the General Fund, the Energy Resources Fund, the Environmental License Plate Fund, the State, Urban and Coastal Park Bond Act of 1976, the 1984 Parklands Bond Act, the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Bond Act, the California Wildlife Coastal and Park Land Conservation Act of 1988, Cigarette and Tobacco Products Sur-tax Fund of 1988, California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990 and the Wildlife Restoration Fund.

A. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects		\$16,006,219.06
B. Fish Habitat Preservation, Development and Improvement		20,882,152.93
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$3,063,613.05	
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	14,700,451.69	
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	547,719.86	
4. Marine Habitat	646,619.07	
5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	1,923,749.26	
C. Fishing Access Projects		36,692,711.39
1. Coastal and Bay	2,994,288.92	
2. River and Aqueduct Access	8,967,957.52	
3. Lake and Reservoir Access	6,850,624.69	
4. Piers	17,879,840.26	
D. Game Farm Projects		146,894.49
E. Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Development and Improvement		305,974,223.47
1. Wildlife Areas (General)	176,833,536.29	
2. Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Development	4,671,341.76	
3. Wildlife Areas/Ecological Reserves, (Threatened, Endangered or Unique Habitat)	117,499,140.49	
4. Land Conservation Area	7,705.00	
5. Inland Wetlands Program Grants & Easements	3,255,574.50	
6. Riparian Habitat Program Grants & Easements	2,074,025.43	
7. Other Wildlife Habitat Grants	1,632,900.00	
F. Hunting Access Projects		484,898.57
G. Miscellaneous Projects (including leases)		10,228,879.29
H. Special Project Allocations		616,464.79
I. Miscellaneous Public Access Projects		862,615.63
1. State Owned	757,615.63	
2. Grants	105,000.00	
J. Sales and/or Exchanges		<u>33,832.00</u>
Total Allocated to Projects		\$391,928,891.62



“The California Rangeland Trust has been honored to work with the Wildlife Conservation Board and other partners to conserve over 178,000 acres of working rangeland forever. The preservation of these resource rich landscapes and the cultural traditions of the families who are stewards of the ranches will now be here for all generations to enjoy. Working in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Board to conserve these treasured jewels in California for our children and our grandchildren has been tremendous.”

***– Nita Vail, Executive Director
California Rangeland Trust***



Strategic Planning and Working Landscapes — 1998 through 2007

What started out as a small organization with seven full time professionals has grown and matured into a respected and admired organization of 25 professional staff dedicated to the protection, restoration, and enhancement of open space, working landscapes, agricultural land, and fish and wildlife habitat. While staffing has grown, funding has increased astronomically since 1947 and millions of acres have been protected and/or restored. These accomplishments could not have occurred absent the incredible relationships between the WCB, private landowners, the land trust community, local, state and federal governmental entities.

No single entity or organization could accomplish what

has occurred over the last 60 years acting on its own. The business of protecting and conserving California's natural resources is a complex endeavor; however, a common theme emerges when individuals, planners and elected officials convene to discuss land use policies and growth. Innovation and partnerships are critical.

Through dedication, passion and conviction, the WCB has continued to work and realize the dream of thousands of people across the State committed to preserving quality habitat, working landscapes, open space, agricultural lands and fish and wildlife habitat. To date, 2,607 projects have been implemented with close to \$2 billion allocated from the Board.

In 2007 ...

California's population reaches 37.8 million.

	1998 Prices	2007 Prices
Average Income:	\$37,005.00	\$47,493.00
New Car:	16,950.00	25,000.00
New House:	124,100.00	586,000.00
Loaf of Bread:	1.17	3.00
Gallon of Gas:	1.22	3.50
Gallon of Milk:	2.55	4.00
Minimum Wage:	5.15	7.50
Annual Fishing License:	25.75	37.00
Annual Hunting License:	26.25	37.30
National News — U.S. Spacecraft Begins Exploration of Mars		

*Opposite page: Llano Seco, Butte County.
Top: Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve, Orange County.*

This most certainly is the decade of innovation and partnerships. Capitalizing on the opportunities and benefits that arise from integrating divergent interests and forming public/private partnerships, unique and innovative approaches to the protection and conservation of California's farm and ranch lands, natural resources and local economies have emerged. Prior decades had focused on protecting and restoring important ecosystems and habitat beneficial to the thousands of fish and wildlife species located throughout the State. This could be summarized as the decade that recognized the importance of the working landscape. The legislature and the people of California recognized the importance of working landscapes and provided

the WCB with the authority to establish new programs focused on the integration of working landscapes and wildlife friendly land use practices.

Once again the voters of California stood behind their commitment to preserve open space, farmlands, ranchlands and diverse wildlife habitat. Starting in 2000, the Safe Neighborhood, Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act allocated \$265.5 million to the WCB. In 2002, two separate bond acts allocated over \$1.2 billion to the WCB. In 2006, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act allocated \$440 million to the WCB. In addition, the 2006

Bond Act authorized the WCB to implement the Forest Conservation Program and integrate the protection of resources values with sustainable forest practices.

The legislature demonstrated its commitment and dedication to the conservation and preservation of farmlands, ranchlands and wildlife habitat by authorizing three new programs for the WCB to implement. Specifically, the Board was authorized to implement the (1) Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Program, (2) the Oak Woodlands Conservation Program, and (3) the Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Program.

Through the Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Program

*Right: Seabiscuit's Barn, Ridgewood Ranch.
Below: Ridgewood Ranch, Mendocino County.
Opposite page: Garcia River, Mendocino County.*



an innovative tool was implemented to protect and conserve open space, agricultural lands, water, wildlife habitat, archaeological resources, and state and local parks. Through the tax credit program, the State of California rewards landowner stewardship practices that preserve natural resources and provides an opportunity for private landowners to reduce their state tax liability.

In exchange for a qualified donation, a landowner is able to receive a tax credit valued at 55 percent of the appraised fair market value of the donation. Since the program's inception in 2000, over 7,000 acres of parks, open space, agricultural land, and lands with archeological

resources have been donated and protected in perpetuity. If the State were to purchase these lands in fee or easement, it would have cost close to \$60 million. However, by donating the property and awarding tax credits, the priority lands only cost \$33.2 million.

The Board implemented another innovative program focusing on forming partnerships with private landowners, the Oak Woodlands Conservation Program. The purpose of the program is to support and encourage long-term stewardship of oak woodlands, provide incentives to farming and ranching operations to protect oak woodlands, encourage local land use planning to preserve oak woodlands, and provide public

education and outreach on the importance of oak woodlands.

To participate in the Program, local county or city jurisdictions must adopt an Oak Woodland Conservation Plan. To date, 14 counties have adopted such plans and the Board has awarded grants totaling close to \$6.6 million to protect 20,092 acres of oak woodlands throughout the state. In addition, grant funds have been awarded for public education and outreach efforts emphasizing the importance of protecting oak woodlands and integrating the conservation of oaks into productive farming and ranching operations.



Following the success of the Oak Woodlands Conservation Program, another exciting program was authorized that required the protection of rangelands. The purpose of the Rangeland, Grazing Land and Grassland Protection Program is to (1) support and encourage long-term private stewardship of rangeland, grazing land and grasslands and prevent the conversion of these lands to nonagricultural uses, (2) protect the long-term sustainability and economic viability of livestock grazing, and (3) ensure continued wildlife, water quality, watershed and open-space benefits that occur from livestock grazing. Working with numerous representatives and constituents of the ranching, environmental

and conservation community, the WCB has awarded approximately \$17.4 million for conservation easements to protect 36,000 acres of rangeland, grasslands and grazing land consistent with the provisions of the program.

The Forest Conservation Program is the latest addition to WCB's cadre of programs designed to integrate fish and wildlife protection efforts with working landscapes. Authorized in the 2006 Bond Act, the purpose of the program is to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests for all their public benefits. This occurs 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 habitat for native fish and wildlife and plants found on these lands.

Since the early 1990s, the WCB has successfully worked with members of the farming and ranching community and recognizes and appreciates the tremendous contributions the agricultural community brings to the conservation of fish and wildlife resources. Building trust and forming partnerships, the WCB is proud of the relationships established with a segment of California's population that could be considered one of the original stewards of our natural resources, the California rancher and farmer.

A large number of wildlife species are dependent on agricultural lands for habitat. This multi-billion industry that provides food and fiber to the na-



*Opposite page: Pleasant Valley Conservation Area, Solano County.
Top: Humboldt Bay Wildlife Area, Humboldt County.
Right: Sunny Brae, Humboldt County.*



tion and the world also provides food, water, nesting and breeding habitat to thousands of wildlife species throughout the State. Most agricultural producers place a high value on wildlife and have integrated the needs of wildlife into the management of their agricultural operations.

The voters of California acknowledged the important role of the farming and ranching community by allocating \$5 million

to the WCB to assist farmers in integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration and wildlife protection efforts. With this program still in its infancy, the Board has yet to approve any projects; however, based on the success of early efforts, there are great expectations the program will allow collaboration with divergent partners and interest groups, resulting in winning opportunities and quality habitat for thousands of wildlife species.

This decade has witnessed some of the largest strategic acquisition and restoration projects in the history of the WCB with the allocation of \$1.5 billion to fund 902 projects statewide. The Lassen foothills have long been recognized as critical areas for streams and waterways flowing out of the northern Sierra Nevada Mountains and into the Sacramento River benefiting anadromous fish species and migration corridors for a host of other wildlife spe-



“Congratulations to the dedicated members and highly professional staff of the Wildlife Conservation Board for 60 years of protecting the natural capital and diversity of California. You have been focused and persistent in meeting your mission on behalf of the Department of Fish and Game. Members and friends of the California Oak Foundation particularly thank you for your oak conservation efforts in recent years. Conserving oak woodlands is a wise investment toward achieving clean air, safe drinking water, and sustainable wildlife habitat in this fast-growing state.”

***– Janet Cobb, President
California Oak Foundation***

cies. Supporting this tremendous area, the WCB allocated close to \$4.3 million for the purchase of conservation easements over 36,761 acres of oak woodlands and rangelands. Another example of strategic planning and partnerships is found in the Sierra Valley in Plumas and Sierra counties. To protect the prime deer migration corridor and the working landscapes from the threat of development, the WCB assisted in securing conservation easements on about 22,772 acres for \$3.6 million.

In Lassen County, the WCB allocated \$620,000 to renovate the Eagle Lake Fishing Access project. By adding angling access and extending the boat ramp, this is now a world class trout fishery.

Another strategic effort took place in Yolo County, adding 13,014 acres to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area at a cost of approximately \$17.6 million. Located in the Pacific Flyway, the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area is critical to thousands of migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and hundreds of

other wetland dependent species that make this their home. Important to the residents of Yolo and western Sacramento counties, the area also provides flood protection during high water events by spreading the flood waters out across thousands of wetlands and slowing the flows that ultimately reach the Delta.

The Carrizo Plain Ecological Reserve in San Luis Obispo County has long been recognized for its panoramic vistas supporting tule elk, rare and endangered



*Above: Bixby Ranch, Santa Cruz County.
Left: Eagle Ridge, Calaveras County.*

plants, deer, antelope and the San Joaquin kit fox. Through the efforts of the WCB, the Carrizo Plain Ecological Reserve grew by 30,309 acres at a cost of \$12.7 million. Another project located in San Luis Obispo County involved the WCB working with state and private partners, to complete the largest conservation easement in history. By safeguarding nearly 82,000 acres of open space on the Hearst Ranch, rangelands and coastal watershed

habitat for threatened and endangered species will be protected for generations to come.

In southern California, the WCB assisted in resolving years of conflict and uncertainty by providing \$340 million to acquire three critical wildlife habitat areas in Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties. These areas are locally known as Ballona Wetlands, Bolsa Chica and Ahman-son Ranch. Farther east, riparian

habitat restoration efforts on the Lower Owens River resulted in the re-watering of the Owens River. For the first time in ages, this portion of the river benefited from the availability of water.

The foundation that was built in 1947, coupled with the unique budgetary and expenditure authority, has provided the WCB with critical tools necessary to respond to the increasing challenges facing the most biological diverse state in the nation. Forming partnerships with close to 3,000 federal, state, local and private organizations and individuals has been one of the cornerstones of the WCB success story.

Through collaboration, cooperation and commitment, close to 1.5 million acres of fish and wildlife habitat, open space and working landscapes have been protected or restored. Hiking trails, boat ramps, public fishing piers or floats, roads for public access to ponds, lakes, rivers and streams, wildlife viewing facilities and boat launch facilities have



*Top: Santa Margarita Elementary School Outdoor Education Class, San Luis Obispo County.
Right: Buena Vista Ecological Reserve, San Diego County.*



been provided to encourage and support the public's need for and enjoyment of wildlife oriented recreation.

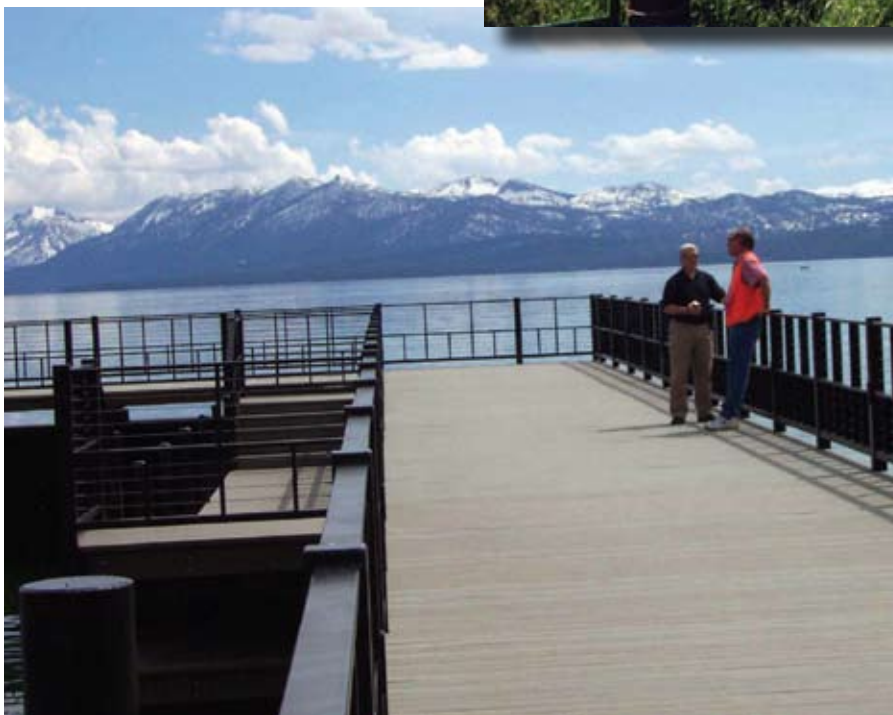
The Department of Fish and Game now manages almost 1.1 million acres of wildlife habitat, including more than 700,000 acres designated as wildlife areas and nearly 175,000 acres designated as ecological reserves. All of the 110 wildlife areas and 123 ecological reserves scattered throughout the state were acquired by the WCB. In addition, close to 373,000 acres are protected in perpetuity with conservation easements completed by the WCB. The easements allow the private landowner to continue working the land while integrating wildlife habitat needs with economic and sustainable land use practices.

Over the 60 year period, the Board has allocated over \$2 billion and leveraged these funds to attract other public and private resources that total close to \$3.5 billion!

Who would have guessed that on July 10, 1947, the Honorable Earl Warren, Governor of the State of California, would sign into law, legislation that would establish the foundation for one of the state's premier organizations responsible for the conserva-

tion, protection and restoration of California's rich and diverse natural resources and ecosystems.

The success of the WCB can be easily summarized into a simple formula: partnerships, as well as strategic planning and cooperation, are a formula for success that has benefited the WCB and the people of California for 60 years.



*Top: Scott River restoration, Siskiyou County.
Left: Lake Tahoe viewing area, Placer County.*

Program Summary

As of November 15, 2007 the amount allocated to projects since 1947 totaled \$2,004,800,569.65. This total includes funds reimbursed by the Federal Government under the Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1966, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, the Anadromous Fish Act Program, the Sport Fish Restoration Act Program, the Pittman-Robertson Program, and the Estuarine Sanctuary Program.

The statement includes projects completed under the 1964 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act, the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, the State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1974, the General Fund, the Energy Resources Fund, the Environmental License Plate Fund, the State, Urban and Coastal Park Bond Act of 1976, the 1984 Parklands Fund, the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Bond Act, the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Act of 1988, Cigarette and Tobacco Products Surtax Fund of 1988, California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990, the Safe, Clean, Reliable Water Supply Act of 1996, the Natural Resources Infrastructure Fund, the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, Forest Resources Improvement Fund, the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond, Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Fund, California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund, Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006, and the Wildlife Restoration Fund. In addition to projects completed with the above funding sources, this statement includes tax credits awarded under the Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000. The tax credits are not reflected in the total amount allocated to projects.

A. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects		\$16,006,219.06
B. Fish Habitat Preservation, Development & Improvement		40,243,222.41
Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$ 5,605,699.00	
Stream Clearance and Improvement	29,995,078.19	
Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	542,719.86	
Marine Habitat	646,619.07	
Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	3,453,106.29	
C. Fishing Access Projects		52,006,649.26
Coastal and Bay	\$ 4,612,013.11	
River and Aqueduct Access	16,738,441.93	
Lake and Reservoir Access	9,703,429.18	
Piers	20,952,765.04	
D. Game Farm Projects		146,894.49
E. Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Development and Improvement		1,836,845,526.74
Wildlife Areas (General)	\$382,255,203.06	
Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Development	16,007,817.32	
Wildlife Areas/Ecological Reserves, (Threatened, Endangered or Unique Habitat)	663,212,833.57	
Land Conservation Area	10,051,715.18	
Inland Wetlands Grants & Easements	21,920,497.94	
Riparian Habitat Grants & Easements	57,697,160.49	
Other Wildlife Habitat Grants	685,700,299.18	
F. Hunting Access Projects		484,898.57
G. Miscellaneous Projects (including leases)		19,074,423.12
H. Special Project Allocations		1,277,118.13
I. Miscellaneous Public Access Projects		38,182,474.80
State Owned	\$1,643,230.19	
Grants	36,539,244.61	
J. Sales and/or exchanges		533,143.07
K. Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act (tax credits awarded)		(48,241,234.00)
Statutory plans	(0.00)	
Corridors, wetlands, wildlife habitat, streams and riparian habitat	(6,234,658.00)	
Agricultural lands	(13,775,640.07)	
Water and water rights	(0.00)	
State and local parks, open space and archaeological resources	(28,230,935.93)	
Total Allocated to Projects		\$2,004,800,569.65



“The Nature Conservancy salutes the Wildlife Conservation Board for 60 years of conservation action in California. Their foresight and thoughtful approach has protected millions of acres of spectacular landscapes, helped foster clean air and water for all Californians, and greatly enhanced our quality of life.”

***– Mike Sweeney, Executive Director, California Program
The Nature Conservancy***

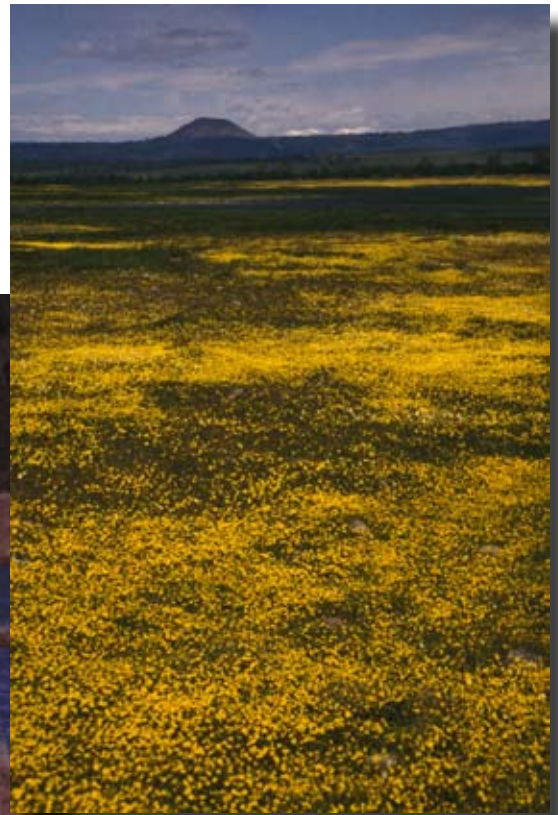


Acquisition, Restoration & Public Access Projects by Region

“To single out a few projects is difficult to do as my pride in the Board’s accomplishments runs deep and wide. The signature of success often came through comments from others. It was a biologist who told me the salmon now return on a restored coastal stream, and a restoration contractor who told me white pelicans immediately started feeding in newly restored salt ponds in north San Francisco Bay. The Board had the lead on several high profile and sometimes controversial projects as well as projects that while less controversial, were just as important to the people and wildlife dependent upon these areas. But the common theme that runs through all of these accomplishments are that the public does want open space for wildlife and places for people to be outdoors. Good science, good strategies, and partnerships get the job done, maximize resources and support and produce results.”

– Al Wright, Former Executive Director
Wildlife Conservation Board (2000 to 2006)

Northern Region: Ecological Reserves Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



Top and Right: Dales Lake Ecological Reserve, Tehama County.

Northern Region: Wildlife Areas Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: Horseshoe Ranch Wildlife Area, Siskiyou County.
Left: Trout Lake at Shasta Valley Wildlife Area, Shasta County.*

Northern Region (\$ in thousands)

County	No. Projects	No. Acres	Amount Allocated
Del Norte	96	31,422	35,709
Humboldt	131	37,040	285,257
Lassen	50	30,998	11,740
Mendocino	98	52,299	35,625
Modoc	24	19,564	10,569
Shasta	80	13,281	23,709
Siskiyou	99	60,198	19,283
Tehama	46	40,427	8,998
Trinity	32	254	1,719
Total:	656	285,483	\$432,609



Sandhill crane.

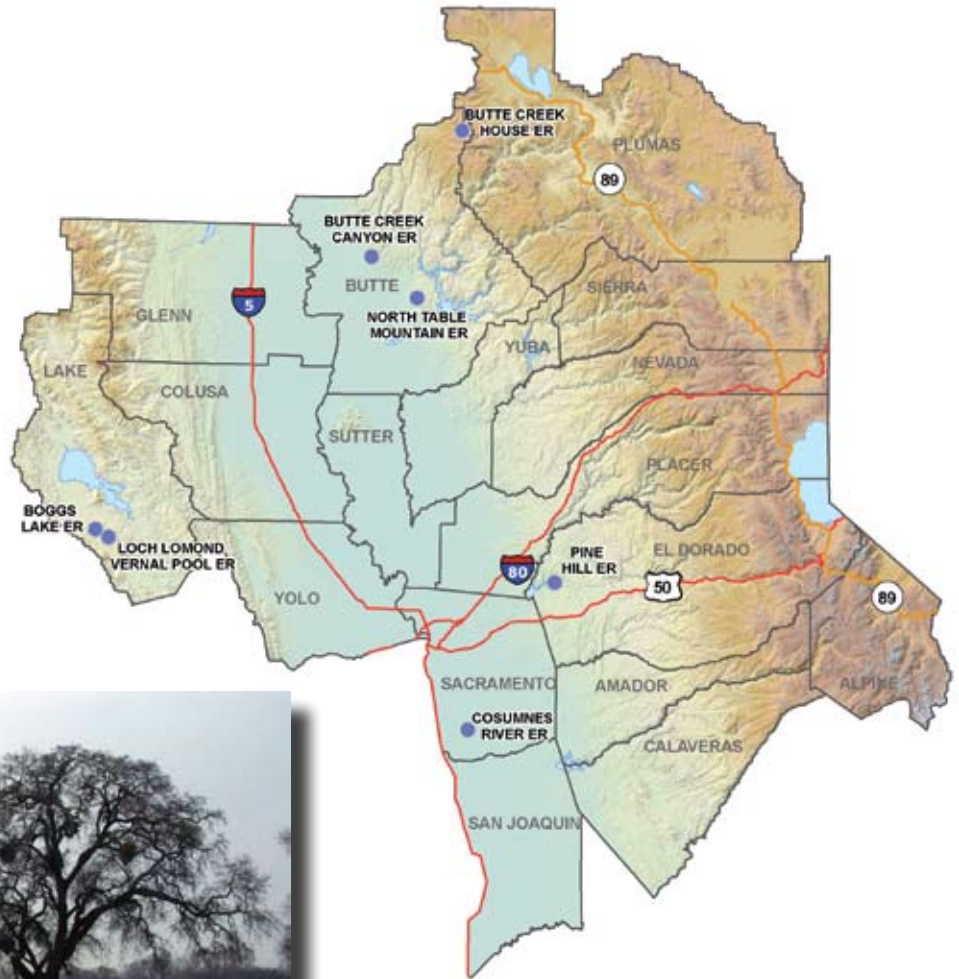


California black bear.



Bank swallows.

North Central Region: Ecological Reserves Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: Cosumnes River Ecological Reserve, Sacramento County.
Right: North Table Mountain Ecological Reserve, Butte County.*

North Central Region: Wildlife Areas Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: Heenan Lake Wildlife Area, Alpine County.
Left: Antelope Valley Wildlife Area, Sierra County.*

North Central Region (\$ in thousands)

County	No. Projects	No. Acres	Amount Allocated
Alpine	23	6,732	14,138
Amador	8	214	689
Butte	103	74,471	43,069
Calaveras	13	14,691	4,089
Colusa	32	22,963	6,473
El Dorado	37	5,112	13,264
Glenn	47	31,264	30,112
Lake	19	4,140	2,802
Nevada	15	6,041	8,286
Placer	30	1,255	3,522
Plumas	37	25,261	7,662
Sacramento	61	22,267	23,473
San Joaquin	28	7,246	5,311
Sierra	24	27,229	10,858
Sutter	21	4,333	4,870
Yolo	22	17,997	19,382
Yuba	36	146,141	8,848
Total:	556	417,357	\$206,848



Mule deer.

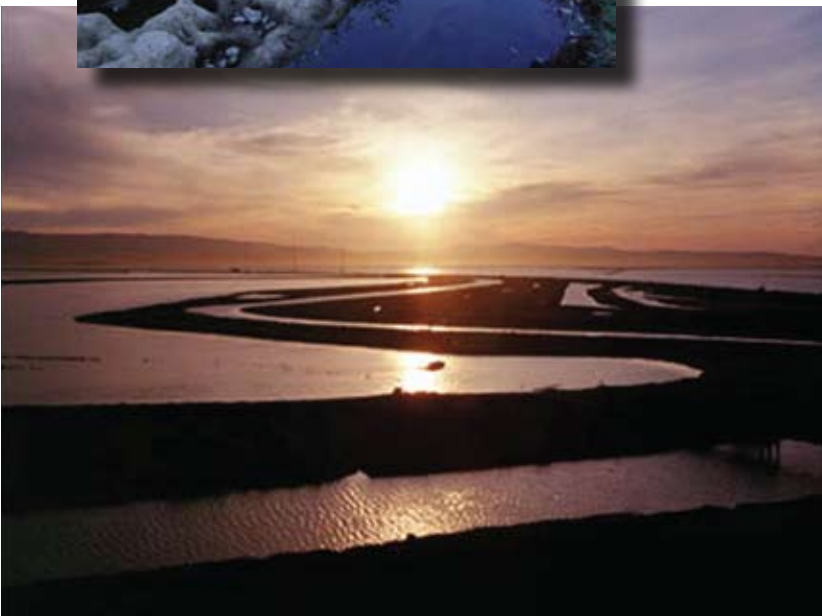


Mallards.



Badger.

Bay Delta Region: Ecological Reserves Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: Napa River Ecological Reserve, Napa County.
Left: Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, Alameda County.*

Bay Delta Region: Wildlife Areas Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area,
Napa County.
Right: Vic Fazio Yolo Wildlife Area, Yolo County.*



Bay Delta Region (\$ in thousands)

County	No. Projects	No. Acres	Amount Allocated
Alameda	20	8,379	10,486
Contra Costa	35	5,407	7,363
Marin	46	5,511	12,509
Napa	27	47,416	101,607
Sacramento	61	22,267	23,473
San Mateo	35	7,149	21,434
Santa Clara	8	3,739	7,383
Santa Cruz	49	3,978	15,561
San Francisco	2	--	700
San Joaquin	28	7,246	5,311
Solano	87	73,133	19,115
Sonoma	62	26,552	29,404
Yolo	22	17,997	19,382
Total:	482	228,774	\$273,728



Red-tailed hawk.

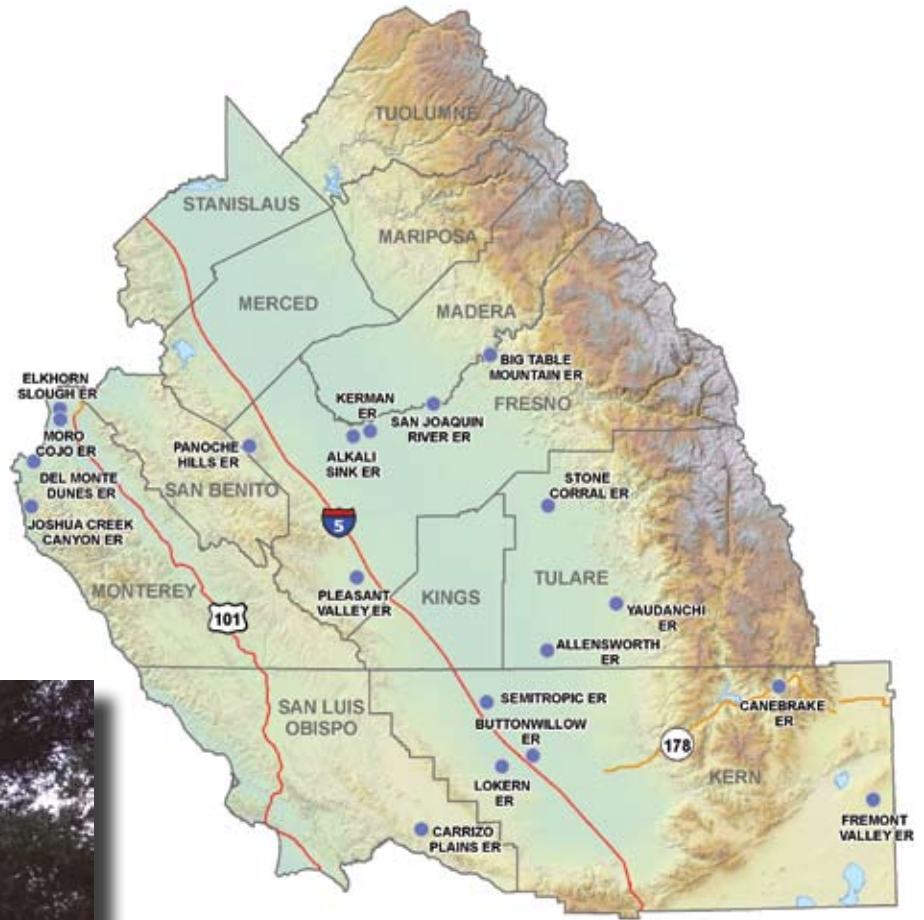


San Francisco garter snake.



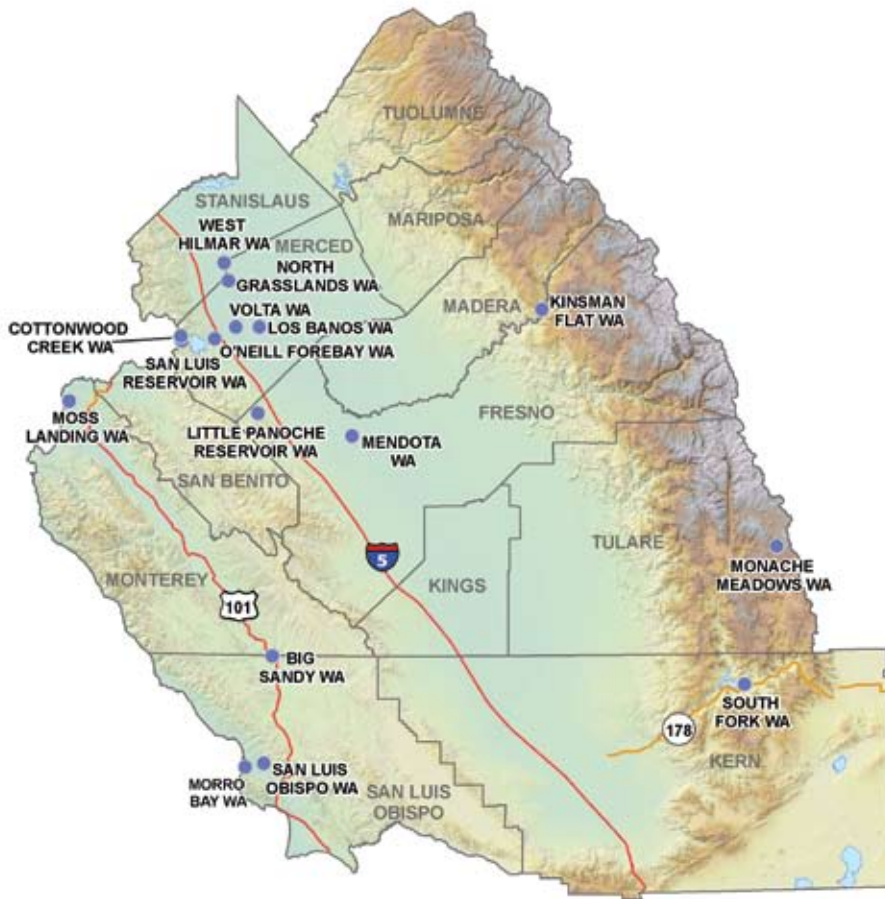
Bobcat.

Central Region: Ecological Reserves Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



Top: Canebrake Ecological Reserve, Kern County.
Right: Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve,
Chimineas Unit, San Luis Obispo County.

Central Region: Wildlife Areas Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



Top: Moss Landing Wildlife Area, Monterey County.
Left: Volta Wildlife Area, Merced County.

Central Region (\$ in thousands)

County	No. Projects	No. Acres	Amount Allocated
Fresno	92	22,714	43,524
Kern	59	26,285	15,476
Kings	3	--	31
Madera	45	5,831	21,672
Mariposa	4	49,538	270,418
Merced	75	58,651	46,854
Monterey	67	55,969	49,272
San Luis Obispo	42	122,943	81,712
Stanislaus	18	1,923	2,334
Tulare	46	8,266	7,288
Tuolumne	13	589	1,560
Total:	464	352,709	\$540,141



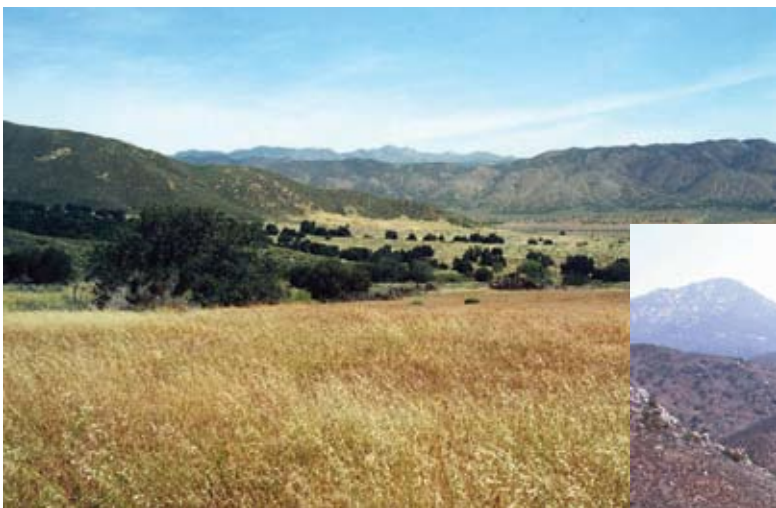
Clockwise from top: Short-eared owl, red-legged frog, San Joaquin kit fox.

South Coast Region: Ecological Reserves Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve, Orange County.
Left: Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve, Orange County.*

South Coast Region: Wildlife Areas Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



*Top: San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area, San Diego County.
Right: Hollenbeck Canyon Wildlife Area, San Diego County.*

South Coast Region (\$ in thousands)

County	No. Projects	No. Acres	Amount Allocated
Los Angeles	65	7,198	224,496
Orange	30	8,607	118,358
San Diego	134	62,847	180,596
Santa Barbara	25	52,742	16,114
Ventura	27	359	12,008
Total:	281	131,753	\$551,572



*Left: Snowy plover.
Right: island fox.
Below: western pond turtle.*



Inland Deserts Region: Ecological Reserves Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



From top: By Day Creek Ecological Reserve, Mono County; bighorn sheep ram at Peninsular Ranges Ecological Reserve, Riverside County; By Day Creek Ecological Reserve, Mono County.

Inland Deserts Region: Wildlife Areas Acquired by the Wildlife Conservation Board



Top and right: San Jacinto Wildlife Area, Riverside County.

Inland Deserts Region (\$ in thousands)

County	No. Projects	No. Acres	Amount Allocated
Imperial	26	2,242	26,114
Inyo	28	5,162	4,156
Mono	33	13,592	12,025
Riverside	111	73,889	136,742
San Bernardino	39	5,375	8,746
Total:	237	100,260	\$187,783



Clockwise from top: desert slender salamander, desert bighorn sheep, desert tortoise.



Marine Region

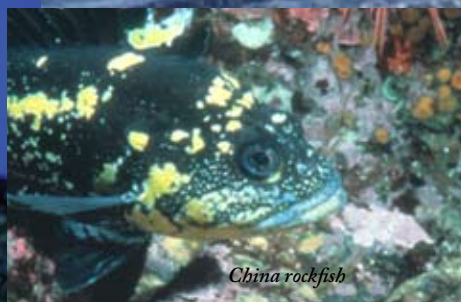
The Marine Region serves the entire California coastline from border to border and three nautical miles out to sea. Projects funded in the Marine Region are covered in Region 1, Region 3, Region 4 and Region 5. In addition, the WCB allocated approximately \$47 million to fund 38 projects in counties that overlapped one another.



turkey fish



Pacific seahorse



China rockfish



southern sea otter



black-and-yellow rockfish



copper rockfish



brown pelican



red abalone

Awards and Accomplishments



Wildlife Conservation Board meeting May 25, 2006. Front Row: Peter Perrine, Ajit Bindra, Linda Drake, Debra Townsend, Nancy Templeton, John Donnelly, Victoria Marmolejo, Dave Means. Second Row: Bob Clark, William Gallop, Al Wright, Scott Clemons, Gary Cantrell, Chlondez Waters, Bonnie Turner, Randy Nelson, Roxanne Woodward, Ginger Wiseman, Anthony Chappelle, Marilyn Cundiff, Terri Muzik, Mary Morgan. Third Row: Fred Klass, L. Ryan Brodrick, Michael Flores.

1. Commendation, Board of Port Commissioners, City of Oakland, Franklin D. Roosevelt Pier. September 1983
2. Monterey County Board of Supervisors Resolution, Leadership in completing major acquisitions in California's 1st Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. November 1987
3. Senate Rules Committee, Commending WCB for 40 years of protecting natural resources and providing public access. November 1987
4. Appreciation Award, Six Rivers National Forest, protecting salmon and steelhead habitat. February 1990
5. Certificate of Appreciation, Metropolitan Water District in recognition of outstanding contribution toward the Santa Rosa Springs portion of the Santa Rosa Plateau. June 1991
6. Certificate of Appreciation, Suisun Resource Conservation District, Inland Wetlands Conservation Program, Wetland Protection and Restoration in the Suisun Marsh. 1992
7. Award Honoring Innovative Water Conservation, Wildlife Conservation Board & Metropolitan Water District, California Water Policy Conference. 1992
8. Recognition Award, West Fork Handicap Fishing Access Project, Angeles National Forest. May 1992
9. Deck Spike Award, Restoration and Preservation of Ventura Pier, City of Buenaventura. October 1993
10. Certificate of Achievement, Riparian Habitat Joint Venture Flagship Project. May 1996
11. Certificate of Appreciation, Klamath National Forest, Orr Lake Property. April 1997
12. Certificate of Appreciation, in partnership with Mendocino National Forest, establishing riparian and oak woodlands at Lake Red Bluff Recreation area. October 1997
13. Proclamation by Governor Pete Wilson, protection and restoration of critical fish and wildlife habitat. August 1997
14. U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau Land Management commemorating 50 years of preserving California's special places. August 1997
15. Resolution Senate Rules Committee, Commending WCB for 50 years of protecting natural resources. June 1997
16. Appreciation Award, Nevada Irrigation District, Barrier Free Fishing Access. June 1998
17. Outstanding Project Award, for construction of Scott's Flats Lake Boat Access Area. States Organization for Boating Access Green Bay, Wisconsin. September 1998
18. Recognition of Valuable Partnerships, Natural Resources Conservation Service for contribution to Wetland Reserve Program in California. May 1999
19. National Wildlife Refuge System Appreciation Award, Acquisition of the North San Miguel Ranch and expansion of the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge.
20. Honor Award, Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Design and Environmental Awards Program, Vic Fazio Yolo Wildlife Area. 2000
21. Coastal America A Partnership for Action, 2000 Partnership Award, Los Osos Coastal Dunes.
22. Outstanding Leadership Award, Preserving the Morro Bay Dunes and creating the Los Osos Greenbelt. Trust for Public Land and Morro Estuary Greenbelt Alliance. March 2001
23. Boater Access Program Excellence Award, States Organization for Boating Access, Kalispell, Montana. September 2001
24. California State Assembly, Certificate of Recognition, Vic Fazio Yolo Wildlife Area. May 2002
25. Certificate of Appreciation, Recognition and contribution to land conservation honored by the Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. December 2005
26. Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy 2005 Conservation Award for support and creation of Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve.
27. Recognition of Valuable Support, Wildlife Habitat and restoration at the James K. Herbert Wetland Prairie Preserve, Tulare County. March 2006
28. National Great Blue Heron Award, Significant contributions to waterfowl and wetlands conservation, North American Waterfowl Management Plan. 2005
29. Wildlife Management Institute's President's Award. 2006

Awards and Accomplishments



From left to right: Fritz Reid, Director of Conservation Planning, Ducks Unlimited; Steve Thompson, Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Ryan Brodrick, Former Director, Department of Fish and Game; Michael Chrisman, Secretary, Resources Agency; Al Wright, Former Executive Director, Wildlife Conservation Board; Michael Flores, Former President, Fish and Game Commission; Fred Klass, Chief Operating Officer, Department of Finance.



Wildlife Management Institute's Presidents Award, 2006; National Great Blue Heron Award for Significant Contributions to Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation, North American Waterfowl Management Plan 2005.

Wildlife Conservation Board Members

Richard Rogers, President Fish and Game Commission
Michael C. Genest, Director, Department of Finance
John McCamman, Acting Director, Department of Fish and Game

Legislative Advisors

Senator Darrell Steinberg
Senator Patricia Wiggins
Senator Abel Maldonado
Assembly Member Jared Huffman
Assembly Member Lois Wolk
Assembly Member (vacant)

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Lorna Bernard, Department of Fish and Game, for her assistance in the design and layout of the 60th Year Report. We would also like to acknowledge staff from the Wildlife Conservation Board and the Department of Fish and Game for all of the photos contained in this report.



WCB
State Of California
Wildlife Conservation Board

