

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

1807 13TH STREET, SUITE 103
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811
(916) 445-8448
FAX (916) 323-0280
www.wcb.ca.gov

NOTICE OF MEETING

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

August 28, 2014

10:00 AM

1/ State Capitol, Room 112
Sacramento, California 95814

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM NO.

1. Roll Call
2. Funding Status - Informational
3. Special Project Planning Account - Informational
4. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 5 – 14)
- *5. Approval of Minutes – May 22, 2014
- *6. Recovery of Funds

* Proposed Consent Calendar

1/ These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities; more information on page x.

- *7. Swiss Ranch Conservation Easement, Expansion 5, \$500,000.00
Calaveras County

To consider the acquisition of a 329± acre conservation easement by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for protection of oak woodland, conifer, mixed chaparral and important migratory deer habitat corridors connecting the upper and lower Sierra mountain and foothill areas for the Rail Road Flat deer herd, in Calaveras County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands, to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

- *8. Santa Cruz Long-toed Salamander (King), \$40,000.00
Santa Cruz County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and an Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program (EEMP) grant for a cooperative project with the Trust for Public Land to assist with the acquisition of 40+/- acres of land by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the protection of the Santa Cruz long toed salamander located southeast of the City of Aptos in Santa Cruz County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

- *9. San Joaquin River Parkway, Sycamore Island Pond \$73,000.00
Isolation, Planning and Design Augmentation,
Madera/Fresno County

To consider the allocation for an augmentation to and existing grant to the Department of Water Resources for a cooperative project with the San Joaquin River Conservancy (Conservancy) to complete preliminary and final design, prepare analyses and environmental review in compliance with CEQA, and prepare permit documents to allow for the enhancement of riparian habitat and the stabilization of ponds on the Conservancy's Sycamore Island property in Fresno and Madera Counties adjacent to the San Joaquin River. The purposes of this project are consistent with 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 Bond Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(b)(5)]

- *10. San Joaquin River Parkway, San Joaquin Hatchery Public Access and Trail Augmentation, Fresno County \$300,000.00

To consider the allocation for an augmentation to an existing grant to the California Department of Water Resources to improve public fishing access and enhance riparian habitat on the San Joaquin River and to improve recreational access to the Department of Fish and Wildlife's San Joaquin Hatchery within the San Joaquin River Parkway, located on the south bank of the San Joaquin River one quarter mile downstream of the Highway 206 bridge in Fresno County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for river parkway projects identified by the San Joaquin River Conservancy. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Section 75050(f)]

- *11. Amargosa Tecopa Hot Springs, Expansions 1 – 3, Inyo County \$29,550.00

To consider the acquisition of 4+/- acres and a conservation easement over 2+/- acres of land by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant for the protection of wetland and upland habitat areas supporting the State and federally-listed endangered Amargosa vole and the Amargosa niterwort, located in the community of Tecopa Hot Springs, in Inyo County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

- *12. Allensworth Ecological Reserve, Expansion 41-49, Tulare County \$0.00

To consider the acquisition of 12 separate parcels of land totaling 29+/- acres by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the protection of habitat supporting the San Joaquin kit fox and other rare species found within the Allensworth Ecological Reserve and to enhance habitat linkages and connectivity, located near the city of Earlimart in Tulare County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which is being provided by the California Department of Corrections Statewide Electric Fence Project mitigation fund assigned to CDFW.

- *13. Western Riverside MSHCP (2013) - North Peak El Toro, \$95,000.00
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority); and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) grant to the Authority to acquire in fee 47± acres of land in western Riverside County for the protection of habitat that supports threatened and endangered species; and to increase regional wildlife habitat corridors and linkages located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species; and which allows for the acquisition of habitat on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

- *14. Western Riverside MSHCP (2013) - Patterson, \$160,500.00
Riverside County

The proposal is to consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority); and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) grant to the Authority to acquire in fee 29± acres of land in western Riverside County for the protection of habitat that supports threatened and endangered species; and to increase regional wildlife habitat corridors and linkages located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species; and which allows for the acquisition of habitat on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

15. Sacramento River Boating Access, Red Bluff River Park, \$970,000.00
Tehama County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the City of Red Bluff (City) for a cooperative project with the Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways, to construct a boat launch facility compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act that includes a 2-lane boat ramp, improved parking, a new restroom, picnic areas and pedestrian paths. The proposed project is located on property owned by the City and the State Lands

Commission, in the City of Red Bluff in Tehama County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources, which allow for the development of public access facilities for hunting, fishing and other wildlife compatible recreational activities. [Wildlife Restoration Fund, Local Assistance and the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

16. Leininger and C&R Ranches Habitat Improvement, \$500,000.00
Tehama County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Tehama County Resource Conservation District, for a cooperative project with the landowners, the U. S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to improve water features and enhance wildlife habitat on two ranches in Tehama County: the Leininger Ranch and the C&R Ranch, located approximately ten miles east and 17 miles west of the City of Corning, respectively. 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)].

17. Truckee River Watershed Forest Enhancement, \$965,000.00
Sierra/Nevada County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the National Forest Foundation for a cooperative project with the U.S. Forest Service, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, and the Truckee River Watershed Council to protect and enhance habitat, restore forest stand ecology and reduce fuel loads in the federally-owned Tahoe National Forest, located generally ten miles north of the City of Truckee in Nevada and Sierra Counties. 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)]

18. American Basin Conservation Easement (High Ridge Ranch), Yuba County \$795,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Waterfowl Association to acquire a conservation easement over 226± acres of land for the protection of giant garter snake, Swainson's hawk, and black rails, and wetlands, located near the City of Marysville, in Yuba County. The purposes of this acquisition project are consistent with 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)], and for the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786 (d), Inlands Wetlands Conservation Program].

19. El Dorado Ranch Phase 1B El Dorado and Amador Counties \$4,810,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the American River Conservancy (ARC) for a cooperative project with the California Natural Resources Agency and the Department of Fish and Wildlife 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. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

20. Mark West Creek (McCullough II), Sonoma County \$2,510,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District to acquire in fee 275+/- acres of Salmonid/Steelhead habitat, located northeast of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County's Mayacamas Mountains, in Sonoma County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of habitat to promote the recovery of threatened and endangered species, to provide corridors linking separate habitat areas

to prevent habitat fragmentation, and to protect significant natural landscapes and ecosystems and other significant habitat areas. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

21. Martinelli Ranch Conservation Easement, \$1,510,000.00
Marin County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Marin Agricultural Land Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 238± acres of land for the protection of threatened and endangered species habitat and significant wildlife corridors, located west of Bolinas Lagoon in Marin County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of habitat to promote the recovery of threatened and endangered species, to provide corridors linking separate habitat areas to prevent habitat fragmentation, and to protect significant natural landscapes and ecosystems and other significant habitat areas. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

22. Alameda County Stock Pond Habitat Enhancement, \$200,000.00
Alameda County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Alameda County Resource Conservation District, for a cooperative project with the landowners, the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the State Coastal Conservancy to enhance wildlife habitat on existing stock ponds on private properties in Alameda 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)]

23. Cemex Santa Cruz Mountains Forest \$10,060,000.00
Conservation Easement,
Santa Cruz County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Save the Redwoods League for a cooperative project with the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, Peninsula Open Space Trust, Semprevirens Fund and the State Coastal Conservancy to acquire a forest conservation easement over 8,532± acres of working forest lands, forest reserve areas and habitat linkages, located near the town of Davenport in Santa Cruz County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which

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

24. San Joaquin River Parkway, Owl Hollow Improvements, \$860,340.00
Fresno County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. (Trust) for a cooperative project with the San Joaquin River Conservancy for the construction of public access, recreation, and education improvements at the Trust's Owl Hollow property, a six-acre site located along the San Joaquin River one and a half miles east of Highway 41, in Fresno County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for river parkway projects identified by the San Joaquin River Conservancy Board. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Section 75050(f)]

25. Salinas River Riparian Enhancement, \$1,110,000.00
Monterey County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Resource Conservation District of Monterey County for a cooperative project with the Monterey County Agriculture Department, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency and Central Coast Wetlands Group to conduct a watershed-based, invasive non-native plant control and riparian restoration project along the Salinas River between Soledad and the Monterey County line in Monterey 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)]

26. Cayucos Fishing Pier Replacement, \$750,000.00
San Luis Obispo County

To consider the allocation for a grant to San Luis Obispo County for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy and the Community Foundation of San Luis Obispo County to replace the Cayucos Fishing Pier,

located on property owned by the Department of Parks and Recreation and the State Lands Commission in the City of Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the development of public access facilities for hunting, fishing and other wildlife compatible recreational activities. [Wildlife Restoration Fund, Local Assistance]

27. Pismo Preserve, \$4,010,000.00
San Luis Obispo County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy and others to acquire in fee 879± acres of land to protect native grasslands, oak woodlands, coastal scrub and wildlife corridors, and to provide the potential for future wildlife oriented public use opportunities near Pismo Beach in San Luis Obispo County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to 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)]

28. Careaga Canyon Ranch Conservation Easement, \$1,383,000.00
Santa Barbara County

To consider the acceptance of a project under the Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act and the authorization to reimburse the General Fund for the amount of the tax credit claimed by the landowner. The Land Trust of Santa Barbara County will accept the donation of a conservation easement over 401+/- acres of land to protect wildlife corridors and habitat for the California tiger salamander near the city of Santa Maria in Santa Barbara County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Program and the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat 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)]

29. Gateway Ranch, \$1,660,000.00
Los Angeles County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Trust for Public Land for a cooperative project with the City of Santa Clarita to acquire fee title to 302 +/- acres of land for protection of upland coastal scrub, oak woodland,

coastal watersheds and important habitat linkages located near the intersection of Interstate 5 and Highway 14 between the San Gabriel Mountains and Santa Susana Mountains, south of the City in Los Angeles County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species and coastal upland and coastal watershed lands in southern California. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a), Section 2786 (a)(Proposition 50I) and and Section 2786(b/c) (Proposition 50 SoCal)]

30. CDFW Vegetation Classification and Mapping, Phase II, \$1,560,000.00
Statewide

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to support the existing Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program, which creates high-resolution, detailed vegetation maps that are used to identify high-value acquisition lands and restoration targets and for the development of land management plans. 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)]

31. Strategic Plan Action

To consider adopting the Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan. The Plan provides a high-level blueprint for WCB decision-making and establishes the primary framework for implementing the WCB vision over the next five years.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator Melissa Carlin at (916) 651-1214 or Melissa.Carlin@wildlife.ca.gov. Reasonable Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received by August 4, 2014. Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event, and requests for Real-Time Captioners at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met.

If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator immediately.