

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES, MEETING OF MAY 18, 1950

C O N T E N T S

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1. Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting of April 4, 1950.	1
2. Commission Approval of Butte Sink Waterfowl Management Area.	2
3. Crystal Lake Hatchery, Record Corrected Regarding Total Allocation for	2
4. Report on CALIFORNIA'S FISH AND GAME PROGRAM	2
5. Status of Funds as of March 31, 1950	3
6. Sutter-Butte Fishway, Additional Allocation for.	3
7. Waterfowl Areas, Discussion re Relative Importance of.	4-5
8. Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area, Consideration Deferred. .	5-6
9. Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Supplemental Funds for Shooting Blinds	6-8
10. Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area, Alternate Tract and Additional Allocation Approved	8-9
11. Ramer Lake Public Fishing Area, Allocation for	9-10
12. San Antonio Creek Public Fishing Area, Allocation for.	10-11
13. Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program, Allocation for.	12-13
14. Navarro River Jetty, Referred to Fish and Game Commission.	13
15. Transfer of Funds from Willow Creek Hatchery to Darrah Springs Hatchery	14
16. Mt. Shasta Hatchery, Additional Allocation for	15-16
17. Delta Fish and Game Operations Base, Allocation for.	16-17
18. Coastal Angling Access Areas, Progress of Survey re.	17
19. Colorado River Area Development, Allocation for.	17-20
20. Date for Next Board Meeting.	20

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES, MEETING OF MAY 18, 1950

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in Room 115 of the State Building, Los Angeles, on May 18, 1950. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hastain at 10:15 A.M.

PRESENT: Harvey E. Hastain	Chairman
James S. Dean	Member
E. L. Macaulay	Member
Senator Ralph E. Swing	Joint Interim Committee
Senator George J. Hatfield	" " "
Senator Ben Hulse	" " "
Assemblyman Thomas M. Erwin	" " "
Assemblyman Lloyd W. Lowrey	" " "
Assemblyman Lester T. Davis	" " "
Seth Gordon	Consultant
Everett E. Horn	Special Consultant
C. R. Knight, Jr.	Field Agent

The following persons were present and participated in the deliberations as required.

D. H. Blood	Deputy Director-Comptroller
Wm. J. Silva	Fish and Game Commission
Ralph W. Scott	Deputy Attorney General
Alan C. Taft	Bureau of Fish Conservation
Earl Leitritz	" " " "
Willis Evans	" " " "
Ben Glading	Bureau of Game Conservation
R. E. Curtis	" " " "
Richard S. Croker	Bureau of Marine Fisheries
R. E. Reedy	Administrative Assistant, Division of Fish and Game
Kramer Adams	Public Information Officer
Claus Hulen	Gridley
Ernest E. Hatch	Gridley
Virg Nover	Southern Council of Conservation Clubs

Numerous representatives of the press, sportsmen's groups, and others, were also in attendance.

1. Approval of Minutes

It was regularly moved and seconded that the reading of the minutes of the Wildlife Conservation Board meeting of April 4, 1950, be dispensed with and said minutes approved as written. Passed unanimously.

2. Commission Approval of Butte Sink Waterfowl Management Area

The consultant informed the Board that the Fish and Game Commission at its meeting of April 14, 1950 concurred in the selection of the Butte Sink Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 507, as the alternate for the Upper Butte area, as agreed upon by the Board at its meeting of April 4. The Public Works Board has been requested to proceed with the purchase. The Board was advised that since the Butte Sink project had been approved some of the landowners had raised the price of their land, but were still willing to negotiate.

Assemblyman Lowrey asked whether the Commission would pay in-lieu taxes on the complete acreage of waterfowl management areas or on only that portion used for public shooting. Mr. Macaulay replied that the matter was under study by the Attorney General's staff and agreed to send Mr. Lowrey a copy of the opinion rendered.

3. Record Corrected Regarding Total Allocation for Crystal Lake Hatchery

The Board was informed that when additional funds were appropriated for the Crystal Lake Hatchery on August 25, 1949, through a misunderstanding, the additional allocation at that time was listed as \$241,500, or a total of \$381,500 supplied by the Board for this project. The intention was to allocate a grand total of only \$241,500 of Board funds for the entire project. The consultant advised that a proper notation had been attached to the recorded minutes of the meeting in question, and that the Board's attention was called thereto as a matter of record. Later tabulations of allocations were corrected accordingly.

4. Report on CALIFORNIA'S FISH AND GAME PROGRAM

The consultant stated that instead of 20,000 copies of the above report being printed, as planned at the previous meeting, the Assembly ordered only 5,000 copies, making a total of 15,000. The Division of Fish and Game has ordered 3,000 copies to take up the available supply of colored inserts and will have considerable numbers of certain chapters reprinted as separates for wider distribution.

Mr. Gordon advised that the reports were going rapidly and apparently the demand would considerably exceed the 18,000 copies printed. He believed it would be possible to determine the overall demand within another month, at which time the Board might wish to consider having additional copies printed.

Senator Swing suggested that Mr. Knight, the Board's field agent, and others who travel carry a supply of the reports with them for distribution to interested persons. He stated that everybody who reads the report will be aware of the value of the projects.

Assemblyman Erwin was of the opinion that it was a mistake on the part of the Assembly to order only 5,000 copies because the report is very much in demand. He said that assemblymen with several counties in their districts desired additional copies, and that newspapers also wished copies.

5. Status of Funds

The Board was informed that the amount allocated to specific projects up to March 31, 1950 was \$8,233,201, made up as follows:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (19)	\$2,543,800
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (4).	94,500
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (13).	445,000
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (14).	382,500
e. State Game Farm Projects (4)	106,000
f. Other Upland Game Projects (5)	487,150
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (9).	4,136,251
h. General Projects (3)	<u>38,000</u>

TOTAL (71 projects). \$8,233,201

The addition of the estimated operating and other expenses to the above brings the total amount obligated to date to \$8,315,700. This leaves a balance of \$684,300 unobligated.

From the above balance must be deducted the tentative allocation of \$100,000 reserved for the Bixby Slough Public Fishing Area Project, Los Angeles County.

The consultant advised that steps had been taken, through routine budgetary procedure, to return the \$340,000 savings on the purchase of land for the Delta Waterfowl Management Area (Grizzly Island) to the unobligated balances which would bring this amount to \$924,300.

6. Additional Allocation for Sutter-Butte Fishway - Project No. 45:

Butte County, on the Feather River \$5,000

The Board was advised that according to information received from the Division of Architecture \$55,000 may be required to construct the Sutter-Butte Fishway for which the Board allocated \$50,000 at its meeting of August 25, 1949.

It was moved by Senator Hulse, seconded by Assemblyman Erwin, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that an additional \$5,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Sutter-Butte Fishway, Project No. 45.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that an additional \$5,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Sutter-Butte Fishway, Project No. 45, increasing the total allocation for this project to \$55,000 in accordance with the estimated cost of construction furnished by the Division of Architecture.

7. Discussion re Relative Importance of Waterfowl Areas

A general discussion concerning the relative importance of the several waterfowl areas originally agreed upon by the Board was next taken up. Senator Swing inquired concerning the progress being made on the Tupman Area, stating he feared the funds might be exhausted with duck projects in the north only being completed. He felt that additional funds would be necessary to complete the statewide conservation program originally planned and to help maintain projects financed with Wildlife Board monies, and stated that, in his opinion, it would be desirable to have the Tupman project completed to assure additional support for further appropriations.

The consultant replied that the customary investigations are now underway by the Public Works Board, and that the Tupman Area was actually farther along than others which, in his opinion, were of greater importance in the statewide waterfowl management program.

In reply to Senator Hatfield's question, Mr. Gordon stated he considered the Lower Butte Waterfowl Area (Gray Lodge) the most essential from the standpoint of preventing rice damage; next, the Lower San Joaquin (Los Banos), from the standpoint of waterfowl management needs; third, the Madera Area, because it is located in a section where a considerable acreage of rice has been developed and crop depredations are a serious problem; and fourth, the Tupman Area. He further stated that it is quite doubtful whether the Tupman Area will materially increase the migration of waterfowl to the extreme southern part of the state, and that its primary advantage will be to provide some waterfowl shooting in the Tupman region.

Mr. Horn was next asked to express his views concerning the relative value of the several areas and stated that each would serve a useful purpose in its own way. He rated the Los Banos expansion highly because it will serve one of the few remaining natural areas in the state and would also help to alleviate crop depredations. Next, he placed the proposed Madera Area, because of the serious crop depredations in that region, and stated that from that standpoint the Madera project would probably be more important than Los Banos. He considered the Tupman project important in the overall picture because of the critical shortage of waterfowl areas, even though there are no depredations in that vicinity.

Mr. Horn concurred in Senator Hatfield's conclusion that the completion of the Central Valleys Project by the Reclamation Service would drastically decrease waterfowl lands in the San Joaquin Valley, and added that the contemplated drainage system in the Colusa Trough would remove another considerable segment of waterfowl lands.

Mr. Glading's views were next sought, and he rated the several waterfowl management areas in the following order: First, Los Banos; second, Gray Lodge (Lower Butte); third, Madera; fourth, the Butte Sink region; and fifth, Tupman.

In reply to questions from Senators Hatfield and Swing, Mr. Glading stated that he now estimates there might not be quite enough money available to maintain all the waterfowl areas as approved because of changes in the income from Federal-Aid and various other factors; that approximately \$50,000 additional would probably be needed. He explained the chief source of maintenance funds

for the new waterfowl management areas will be the Pittman-Robertson Fund, and the Federal officials responsible for approving such allocations do not consider the Tupman Area as meeting the requirements of the program jointly agreed upon by the California Fish and Game Commission and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, therefore, ineligible to receive Pittman-Robertson funds.

The Board then resumed consideration of the agenda report and disposed of various matters as below indicated.

8. Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area (Gray Lodge Expansion)

Mr. Gordon reported that this project had been given further study since the last meeting when the possibility of land exchanges was discussed in an effort to consolidate the proposed expanded acreage. Recent advice was to the effect that some of the owners of lands who would be partly surrounded by the proposed addition to the Gray Lodge Refuge would rather have the State proceed on that basis than to sell or exchange their lands. He further stated that there has been an expansion in the acreage planted to rice by the owners of lands adjacent to the refuge; also that the Fish and Game Commission had made it possible for a very desirable irrigation ditch to be run through the refuge for the benefit of neighboring landowners. In the consultant's opinion, these facts indicated that the State's waterfowl project was not an "undesirable neighbor," as certain persons had stated repeatedly.

It was therefore recommended that an additional allocation of \$73,625 be approved for the Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 548, to permit the purchase of 3,734 acres which had been offered as willing sales. This, together with the \$446,000 previously set up for land purchase and the \$91,036 provided for equipment and buildings, would increase the total allocation for this project to \$610,661.

In reply to Assemblyman Lowrey's question, Mr. Horn advised that the Yolo Bypass lands had been studied in the present survey and also by the Fish and Wildlife Service over the last ten years. He stated that while the State did have flowage rights in the Yolo Bypass the lands were more costly and less desirable for waterfowl than the recommended lands farther north.

Mr. Lowrey then asserted that the Board would run into a lot of trouble if they expanded Gray Lodge Refuge; that 30,000 acres of pheasant land now open to the public would be closed to hunting.

Assemblyman Davis suggested that habitat improvement work in the northern counties such as Sierra, Plumas, and Siskiyou, might hold the birds in that region until driven out by the cold weather, thereby avoiding damage in the rice country. In his opinion, the birds causing the greatest damage were an early flight of local birds, not those coming from the extreme northern resting grounds.

Mr. Glading advised that there were a very small percentage of banded birds among the ducks, mostly sprigs, which migrate to the Sacramento Valley in early August. This would indicate that they come from Alaska.

Mr. Ernest E. Hatch, of Gridley, stated he represented farmers owning over 33,000 acres of land in the vicinity of the Gray Lodge Refuge who were opposed to its expansion. These landowners believed the proposed project was an

attempt to establish a disjointed refuge of noncontiguous parcels. Their good will and hunting privileges on their lands would be lost if the Lower Butte project was consummated.

It was moved by Senator Swing, seconded by Senator Hatfield, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that, in view of the fact that it was a disputed item, consideration of an additional allocation of funds for the Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 548, be continued to the next regular meeting of the Board.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield;
Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None
Passed unanimously.

The members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, by motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, concurred in the above action.

Mr. Claus Hulen, of Gridley, representing the landowners who have offered their holdings to the Board as willing sales for the Lower Butte project, stated they wished to reserve the right to withdraw their property from the market if the appraisals did not meet their asking price. They had heard rumors that once their properties were subjected to appraisal the State might use condemnation proceedings to their disadvantage.

The consultant and members of the Board assured Mr. Hulen that the Board had agreed to acquire lands necessary for projects by negotiating willing sales. If there should be a difference between the asking price and the impartial appraisals made by representatives of the Public Works Board, it was believed that such differences could be negotiated to the satisfaction of all concerned. If not, the landowners had the privilege of withdrawing their offer; the Board would be unwilling to proceed further.

9. Supplemental Funds for Delta Waterfowl Management Area
(Grizzly Island) \$18,000

The consultant informed the Board that access to Grizzly Island has been by two public ferries, operated by Solano County. Recent information indicates that the county plans to discontinue the Montezuma Slough ferry at Collinsville; however, it is hoped that this action may be deferred until other access can be provided.

Even though both ferries are continued in service, the time required to transfer the maximum number of hunters which can be accommodated on the project would be excessive.

It was therefore recommended that \$135,000 be allocated for a bridge, approximately 200' long by 14' wide, over Montezuma Slough, at a point to be determined, with a center pivot, hand-operated span, 15' above tidewater for clearance of small craft. This amount represents the preliminary estimate by the Division of Highways.

Assemblyman Lowrey questioned the necessity of the Board's allocating money to build an access bridge to this area. It was his belief that hunters could get to the area without it.

Assemblyman Davis expressed the opinion that the Division of Highways should be responsible for building the bridge.

Senators Hulse and Hatfield, however, felt that the bridge was a proper item in connection with the development and full use of the project.

Mr. Glading pointed out that it would be practically impossible to operate the project without the bridge; that with only one ferry in operation it would take approximately 11 hours to transfer the maximum number of shooters to the island.

After some further discussion of the recommendations, Assemblyman Lowrey moved that the suggested allocation of \$135,000 for the bridge be disapproved. The motion was properly seconded and adopted.

During the discussion which followed this action, Senator Hatfield stated he would later move for reconsideration of this item.

It was then moved by Senator Hulse, seconded by Assemblyman Davis, that the members of the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that prior to the next meeting the members of the Committee and the Board make an inspection of the Delta Waterfowl Management Area to determine the necessity for the construction of an access bridge thereto, as recommended by the Board's technical staff, and that consideration of the allocation of \$135,000 for said bridge be deferred until the next meeting.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

The members of the Wildlife Board, by motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, concurred in the above recommendation.

Mr. Gordon informed the Board that most of the development work on the Delta project will be accomplished with Federal-Aid monies. Such funds, however, cannot be used for the construction of shooting blinds. It was therefore recommended that \$18,000 be provided for the construction of 200 double blinds to accommodate hunters this fall.

It was moved by Senator Hatfield, seconded by Assemblyman Erwin, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that an additional \$18,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the construction of shooting blinds on the Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 550.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen
Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that an additional \$18,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the purpose of constructing shooting blinds for the Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 550.

10. Alternate Tract Approved for Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area - Project No. 506 (Los Banos expansion) \$187,000

The Board at its meeting of March 19, 1949 allocated \$512,400 for this project to expand the existing Los Banos Refuge. \$414,800 of this amount was for land acquisition and \$97,600 for equipment, buildings, etc. Opposition by landowners of the area developed and a search was made for alternate lands.

The consultant reported that a desirable alternate had been located on San Luis Island, involving a tract of 6,678 acres offered for willing sale. The tract, somewhat larger than originally planned, extends the full width of the island, from the San Joaquin River Channel to Salt Slough. Soil surveys show it to be largely alkali free, and of poor to fair agricultural quality according to the Storie rating.

Of this tract, 941 acres lie within a water service district where deliveries average about 4 feet per acre annually. The remaining 5,737 acres are outside any water service. However, the owner was granted a permit by the Division of Water Resources to divert continuously from Salt Slough 71.7 c.f.s. The authorized diversion, fully exploited, would provide 52,341 acre feet or 7.8 feet per acre annually for the entire tract, more than necessary for efficient operation of the area for waterfowl.

The owner is installing pumps and a head-ditch canal to divert and distribute the water to all parts of the tract. The pump pits, foundations, and discharge basins are installed. They are of concrete and steel construction and appear to be well made and adequate. It is estimated that the annual cost of pumping should not exceed \$20,800 and may be considerably less.

A group of buildings consisting of a small dwelling, barns, sheds, and corrals is on the place and used as operating headquarters by a tenant cattle operation. In addition, the owner has recently constructed a large machinery storage and shop building and a dwelling, separate from the above.

This tract exceeds the original proposal by approximately 2,100 acres, is better land, and has an assured satisfactory water supply.

It was therefore recommended, since the owner declined to quote a price on this property, that the original allocation for the Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area be increased in the amount of \$187,000. This would increase the grand total for this project to \$699,400.

It was moved by Senator Hulse, seconded by Assemblyman Davis, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the \$512,400 heretofore allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund to acquire lands, equipment and facilities for the originally designated location for the Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 506, and the authority to purchase the necessary land granted to the Public Works Board, be transferred to the alternate site selected for said project on San Luis Island, and that an additional \$187,000 be allotted to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for this project.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that the sum of \$512,400 previously allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund to acquire lands, equipment and facilities for the originally designated location for the Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 506, and the authorization given the Public Works Board to acquire the necessary land, be transferred to the alternate site selected for said project on San Luis Island; and that an additional \$187,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for this project, increasing the grand total allocated for the Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area to \$699,400.

11. Ramer Lake Public Fishing Area - Project No. 72: Imperial County . . . \$50,000

The consultant informed the Board that this project as originally proposed included both Finney and Ramer Lakes. Engineering and other studies, however, indicated that development of Finney Lake for a warmwater fishing project was not feasible.

Ramer Lake, which is already owned by the Division of Fish and Game, can be developed by the construction of a proper dike and deepening to provide a suitable lake of about 275 acres on the north side of the Alamo River, running from 3' to 8' in depth (some portions slightly deeper). According to information available, water can be obtained from three laterals to maintain the lake at a satisfactory level and in proper condition for the production of largemouth blackbass, bluegills, bream, etc.

This lake now supports some fishing, and fish apparently reproduce successfully there. It will be necessary to treat the lake chemically

to dispose of the rough fish and kill the tules. It may also be necessary to do some disking to eliminate tules which should thereafter be controllable if a proper depth of water is maintained.

The waterfowl depredations committee in Imperial Valley has been contacted and its members have no objection to the proposed development, with the understanding that large concentrations of waterfowl may at times have to be dispersed.

Mr. Gordon advised that an estimated expenditure of \$182 or less per acre to supply additional angling for warmwater species was not unreasonable in view of the scarcity of such waters in that area. On the assumption that assurance can be obtained that sufficient water of suitable quality will be available to maintain this lake, it was recommended that \$50,000 be allocated for this project.

It was moved by Senator Hulse, seconded by Assemblyman Davis, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that \$50,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Ramer Lake Public Fishing Area, Project No. 72.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that \$50,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Ramer Lake Public Fishing Area, Project No. 72, conditional upon assurance being obtained that sufficient water of suitable quality to maintain said lake will be available; and that the Fish and Game Commission is hereby authorized to proceed with the negotiation of any agreements required, the construction of such facilities as may be suitable therefor, and the purchase of such equipment as may be essential to put this project into operation.

12. San Antonio Creek Public Fishing Area - Project No. 86:
Santa Barbara County \$20,000

The Board was advised that originally a waterfowl project had been proposed for development on San Antonio Creek in the Camp Cooke Military Reservation, but suitable arrangements to use part of the reservation for this purpose seemed to be uncertain.

In the meantime, local sportsmen and representatives of the Division of Fish and Game and the Wildlife Board jointly explored the possibilities of developing a warmwater fishing project on this creek, which would also benefit waterfowl. The local military officials have expressed their willingness to cooperate, subject to approval of Washington authorities.

The project proposes the creation of a lake by construction of a dam at a suitable site in the San Antonio Creek Canyon. While the flow in the creek, according to available information, is believed to be adequate during the average season to maintain a fishing lake with a maximum of about 600 acres as suggested, during extremely dry periods sufficient water may not be available to maintain a good project. However, past records indicate that sufficient flow is available to justify the undertaking.

Mr. Gordon observed that it would be very advantageous if a considerable acreage on this portion of Camp Cooke could be leased to the Division of Fish and Game for fishing and hunting purposes, provided the Division would be required to expend only limited sums for administration.

He advised that it is understood that a license granted to the Division of Fish and Game for the use of any portion of Camp Cooke would be subject to immediate cancellation in case it became necessary due to a war emergency.

It was therefore recommended that, subject to assurance of sufficient water, satisfactory arrangements with the military authorities for the use of the site and such additional land as may be desirable, and solution of construction problems such as possible seepage losses, etc., ~~\$50,000~~ be allocated for this project. According to engineering estimates this will construct the dam, including a 25' spillway and apron.

It was moved by Assemblyman Davis, seconded by Assemblyman Lowrey, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that \$20,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the San Antonio Creek Public Fishing Area, Project No. 86, conditional upon satisfactory arrangements being worked out with the military authorities, etc.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hatfield, and Hulse;
Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that \$20,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the San Antonio Creek Public Fishing Area, Project No. 86, conditional upon assurance of sufficient water availability, satisfactory arrangements with the military authorities for the use of the site and such additional land as may be desirable, and solution of possible construction difficulties; and that the Fish and Game Commission is hereby authorized to proceed with the negotiation of any leases or other easements involved, the construction of such facilities as may be suitable therefor, and the purchase of such equipment as may be essential to put this project into operation.

13. Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program - Project No. 12: Thomes Creek, Tehama County, Grindstone Creek, Glenn County, Big Stony Creek and tributaries, and Little Stony Creek, in Colusa and Glenn Counties \$5,000
(\$25,000)

The consultant reported that the Board has so far set aside \$445,000 to initiate 13 flow maintenance and stream improvement projects, but no allocations have been made for any streams on the west side of the Central Valley (east slope of the Coast Range). Most of these streams provide some trout fishing at the headwaters, but after the spring runoff the flow is unreliable in practically all of them. Below 2500' elevations the summer water temperatures run very high, and the streams are unsuitable for the year-long maintenance of trout populations.

Severe floods during the winter of 1937-38 destroyed much of the streamside cover, in some cases washed away the soil. This cover, composed chiefly of willows and alders, ordinarily re-establishes itself in a comparatively few years. Apparently this has not occurred on the Mendocino Forest streams.

Efforts to improve such streams will be slow and costly, but if streamside shade can be restored several additional miles of trout waters can be added to a number of them.

It was therefore recommended that the above sum be allocated for experimental work, particularly on Thomes, Grindstone, Big Stony and its tributaries, and Little Stony, which will be done under cooperative arrangement between the Division of Fish and Game and the U.S. Forest Service during the coming fall and winter months.

It was further recommended that \$20,000 additional be earmarked and reserved, subject to specific approval by the Board at a later date, for use if after the end of the first growing season the results from experimental plantings hold promise of accomplishing the desired objectives.

It was moved by Assemblyman Davis, seconded by Assemblyman Lowrey, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that \$5,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program, Project No. 12, for experimental work, and that an additional \$20,000 be reserved for this project, subject to specific approval at a later date, if the results from the experimental work are promising.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield;
Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that \$5,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program, Project No. 12, for experimental work, and that an additional \$20,000 be reserved for this project, subject to specific approval by the Board at a later date, if after the first growing season the results from the experimental plantings are promising.

14. Navarro River Jetty - Project No. 85: Mendocino County

The Board was informed that there are numerous coastal streams where special efforts should be made to develop devices which will keep the streams open to anadromous fishes. So far apparently no suitable engineering device, other than jetties, has been developed.

The consultant advised that the Navarro River provides an excellent opportunity for experimental construction, because an effort should be made to keep the mouth of that river open the year around to permit the unrestricted ingress and egress of salmon and steelhead runs. The mouth of the river is now closed from about the first of September to January of the following year, preventing early runs of salmon and steelhead from ascending to their spawning grounds.

While the project as submitted proposed only a jetty, it was felt that an enclosed flume, extending from the lagoon to the ocean, would accomplish the desired objective and require very small future maintenance expenditures.

Mr. Gordon reported that while the sum of \$10,000 had originally been suggested to provide for a complete engineering study, including the development of cost estimates, engineers who had viewed the site estimated the project could be completed at a cost of approximately \$25,000. Approval of the latter amount was, therefore, recommended.

Senator Hatfield stated he would be in favor of this item if it were included in the regular budget request of the Division of Fish and Game, but did not believe it was a proper charge against the Wildlife Restoration Fund. Senator Hulse concurred. Thereupon the members of the Joint Interim Committee made the following recommendation:

It was moved by Senator Hulse, seconded by Assemblyman Lowrey, that the Joint Interim Committee of the Wildlife Conservation Board recommend that the Fish and Game Commission request funds, through the usual channels, in its annual budget for the construction of a jetty at the mouth of the Navarro River, or an enclosed flume from the lagoon to the ocean.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

The members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, by motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, concurred in the above action.

15. Transfer of Funds from Willow Creek Hatchery to Darrah Springs Hatchery - Project No. 23: Shasta County \$120,000

The consultant reported that the experimental test at the proposed Willow Creek Hatchery site, Lassen County (Project No. 68, for which the Board allocated \$120,000 on March 19, 1949) indicated that the water available was not suitable for fish cultural purposes due to high alkalinity, temperature factors, etc. It was, therefore, recommended that the Board transfer these funds to the Darrah Springs Hatchery, Project No. 23, for which \$231,000 was allocated on the same date, and cancel the Willow Creek project.

The Board was advised that the Darrah Springs site, east of Red Bluff, was an ideal one for expansion beyond what was originally authorized, and, since the Division of Architecture has indicated the amount set up for that project is inadequate, the transfer of funds above indicated would provide a total of \$351,000 for this project.

It was pointed out that the overall planned production of catchable trout should not be adversely affected by this transfer.

It was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Assemblyman Davis, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the \$120,000 previously allocated to the Fish and Game Commission by the Board on March 19, 1949 for the Willow Creek Hatchery be transferred to the Darrah Springs Hatchery, Project No. 23, for which \$231,000 was allocated on the same date; and that the Willow Creek Hatchery, Project No. 68, be canceled.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield; Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that, in view of the unsuitable water supply at the proposed Willow Creek Hatchery site and the inadequacy of the funds originally provided for the Darrah Springs Hatchery, the \$120,000 allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund on March 19, 1949 for the Willow Creek Hatchery be transferred to the Darrah Springs Hatchery, Project No. 23, for which \$231,000 was allocated on the same date, increasing the total amount allocated for the Darrah Springs Hatchery to \$351,000; that the Fish and Game Commission is hereby authorized to proceed with the negotiation of any additional leases or other easements involved, the construction of such facilities as may be suitable therefor, and the purchase of such equipment as may be essential to put this project into operation; and that the Willow Creek Hatchery, Project No. 68, be canceled.

16. Additional Allocation for Mt. Shasta Hatchery - Project No. 21:
Siskiyou County, relocation of hatchery building "E" \$70,000

The consultant stated that the allocation for reconstructing the Mt. Shasta Hatchery, including new refrigeration and food preparation building, 16 new rearing ponds and accessory facilities is \$170,000. (\$205,000 was originally allocated on March 19, 1949 and reduced to \$170,000 on August 25, 1949.) The Division of Architecture has advised that this amount is insufficient to cover the work contemplated.

In the meantime, it has also been decided that a rapidly deteriorating hatchery building, located at the extreme lower end of the grounds, which the Division of Fish and Game proposed to use for several more years, should be razed and relocated on the upper end of the hatchery grounds, in order that maximum use may be made of the available water for the proposed rearing ponds. This will also provide space for the development of additional rearing ponds later if that should be found desirable.

The Board was advised that the entire reconstruction job can be done more economically if undertaken at the same time. It was recommended, therefore, that the allocation for the Mt. Shasta Hatchery be increased in the amount of \$70,000, making the grand total \$240,000.

Senators Hatfield and Hulse expressed the belief that this matter was more properly a budgetary outlay problem for the Division of Fish and Game.

The consultant advised that since the Board had provided funds for the general reconstruction and rehabilitation of this hatchery it was believed the additional building was eligible for an appropriation from the Wildlife Restoration Fund as a part of that program.

Assemblyman Erwin stated that his committee had thoroughly investigated the necessity for the rehabilitation of the Mt. Shasta plant. They deemed it essential because the present hatchery was inefficient; the production did not justify the cost of operation.

In reply to Assemblyman Lowrey's question, Mr. Leitritz stated that \$70,000 was the Division of Architecture's estimate of the cost of the additional building.

It was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Assemblyman Davis, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that an additional \$70,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Mt. Shasta Hatchery, Project No. 21.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield;
Assemblymen Erwin and Davis

NOES: Assemblyman Lowrey

Motion carried.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that an additional \$70,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the relocation of building "E" of the Mt. Shasta Hatchery, Project No. 21, increasing the total amount allocated for this project to \$240,000; that the Fish and Game Commission is hereby authorized to proceed with the construction of such facilities as may be suitable therefor, and the purchase of such equipment as may be essential to put this project into operation.

17. Delta Fish and Game Operations Base - Project No. 1010: Contra Costa County, on the south shore of New York Slough in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, between the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch. . \$27,000

The Board was informed that a centrally located field operations base would increase the efficiency of the joint functions of the Bureaus of Marine Fisheries, Fish Conservation, and Patrol in the Bay Region. Establishment of an operational base in the Pittsburg-Antioch region, where most of the sport and commercial fisheries activities in that portion of the Bay are centered, would enable the Division of Fish and Game to: (a) establish a permanent berth for the research vessel the "Striper" and provide the Bureau of Patrol with a temporary berth for patrol vessels; (b) make available a much needed field office and laboratory; (c) furnish storage for confiscated nets and equipment, now stored at the Joyce Island Waterfowl Refuge under very unsatisfactory conditions; (d) furnish net rack and other facilities for proper maintenance of nets.

The consultant advised the project would involve the purchase of a site about 150' x 60' and the construction of one 20' x 40' building, a 40' x 40' net rack, and berthing facilities.

It was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Assemblyman Davis, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that \$27,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Delta Fish and Game Operations Base, Project No. 1010.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield;
Assemblymen Erwin and Davis

NOES: Assemblyman Lowrey

Motion carried.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that \$27,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Delta Fish and Game Operations Base, Project No. 1010; that the State Public Works Board is hereby authorized to acquire any property needed, and the Fish and Game Commission is authorized to proceed with the negotiation of any leases

or other easements involved, the construction of such facilities as may be suitable therefor, and the purchase of such equipment as may be essential to put this project into operation.

18. Coastal Angling Access Areas

The consultant reported that the field survey work on this proposed program is progressing satisfactorily and a report will later be submitted with recommendations. He stated that an amazing amount of public support has developed for this undertaking. County planning boards, boards of supervisors, sportsmen's groups, and others have offered their cooperation. The State Council of the Associated Sportsmen of California formally endorsed the plan at its February 19, 1950 meeting, and urged the Board to give it every possible consideration.

In response to a question from Senator Hulse, the consultant advised that it was planned to acquire sufficient access roads to give rights-of-way to some of the best coastal fishing spots and to provide parking facilities, and that perhaps something in the same category should be considered at a number of points along the Colorado River. Senator Hulse stated the Colorado River was what he was thinking of, and expressed the belief that paved access roads would not be necessary -- that trails would serve the purpose.

In reply to Assemblyman Lowrey's question, Mr. Gordon stated that indications were that many of the lands to be acquired would be willing sales, but that it might be necessary to acquire some by condemnation, as is found necessary by the Division of Beaches and Parks. He informed the Board that representatives of Beaches and Parks have offered their cooperation in areas where they are acquiring lands nearby, and have expressed willingness to assist the Public Works Board in acquisition.

19. Colorado River Area

An informal discussion was held regarding the necessity for additional funds to complete a statewide wildlife conservation and recreational program, for which purpose the Board was created and the Wildlife Restoration Fund set up.

Commissioner Silva was heard with regard to the suggestion he had submitted to the members of the Board and the Joint Interim Committee that some portion of the Wildlife Restoration Fund be set aside as a reserve to insure completion of essential projects already started. He cited the need for additional funds which had arisen on the Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area (Los Banos), in order to obtain an alternate site with a more suitable water supply, and stated that the same thing might apply to other areas. It was his suggestion that \$500,000 be reserved for contingencies so that all of the projects approved by the Board could be completed. He expressed the belief that the entire program instituted by the Board was essential and should be carried out to do the most good for the sportsmen in general. Mr. Silva stated that the only other way to obtain funds to complete approved projects would be through transfer of funds from projects which did not qualify after experiments had been completed (such as the Willow Creek Hatchery).

Senator Hulse concurred in the opinion expressed by Senator Swing that additional funds would be necessary to complete a statewide long-range program and asserted he would work to that end. He contended the Colorado River would some day be of great importance in the overall picture in the state and its recreational opportunities should be preserved for the public with free access thereto. Also, that additional warmwater fishing projects in southern California would soon be submitted.

In reply to Chairman Hastain's question, Senator Hulse expressed the belief that the unobligated balance, over and above two items held in abeyance temporarily, remaining in the fund (\$313,675), with the addition of the savings from various projects diverted to it, would be an adequate reserve for contingencies. He believed the savings would probably amount to several hundred thousand dollars. In his opinion, the Board had reached the maximum commitment until the results of more of the pending acquisitions had been determined.

Senator Swing stated there was not enough money available at present to provide for what was needed in the south. He claimed that the Colorado River presents an unusual problem because it is not only interstate but Federal. The lands are controlled either by the Metropolitan Water District or the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs south to Calexico. The Colorado offers the greatest possibilities from a fishing standpoint; also, some from the standpoint of waterfowl. He reported that when attempts were made to start a park project along this river his committee encountered trouble with the Indians. It was his suggestion that the monies presently unobligated be reserved for undeveloped projects south of the Tehachapis.

Senator Hatfield concurred with this suggestion, but pointed out that there were also things in the north which required attention, such as the Klamath River. He expressed his desire to see the program successfully completed.

Assemblyman Davis stated it had been his policy to vote for a complete overall fish and game program throughout the state. He agreed with Senator Hulse that the Colorado River should be given consideration, as he believed it would be an important winter playground. He was of the opinion that the overall program should be completed, in so far as possible, with the funds presently available.

Chairman Hastain asked the consultant whether it would be possible to make a preliminary investigation of the Colorado River situation and submit a report at the next Board meeting. Mr. Gordon replied that because of the many problems involved it would be possible in a month's time to present only the results of a preliminary survey.

It was moved by Assemblyman Lowrey, seconded by Assemblyman Erwin, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the consultant be requested to make an investigation of the Colorado River area and prepare a preliminary

report, together with suggestions for possible improvements, for submission at the next Board meeting.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield;
Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

The members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, by motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted, concurred in the above action.

It was moved by Senator Hulse, seconded by Assemblyman Erwin, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the unallocated surplus remaining in the Wildlife Restoration Fund at the end of the present meeting*, with the exception of the necessary administrative expenses, be set aside for use in the development of the Colorado River area, unless such development is determined to be unfeasible or unwise.

AYES: Senators Swing, Hulse, and Hatfield;
Assemblymen Erwin, Lowrey, and Davis

NOES: None

Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that the unallocated surplus remaining in the Wildlife Restoration Fund at the end of the present meeting*, with the exception of the necessary administrative expenses, be set aside for use in the development of the Colorado River area, unless such development is determined to be unfeasible or unwise.

* NOTE: The allocations made to specific projects at this meeting totaled \$402,000, with items aggregating \$208,625 (Lower Butte - \$73,625, and bridge for the Delta Waterfowl Area - \$135,000) held over for consideration at the next meeting, leaving an unreserved working balance of \$313,675 at the time the above action with reference to the Colorado River was taken.

Mr. Nover informed the Board that Arizona and California sportsmen had been seeking a satisfactory way to handle the Colorado River problem. It was their intent at the next session of the Legislature to request approval of a two-dollar stamp for fishing on the Colorado River, the proceeds of which were to be used for the development and maintenance of projects on the river. It would still be necessary for sportsmen wishing to fish the Colorado to have the regular angling license. The two-dollar stamp would, however, serve in lieu of the non-resident angling license now required, and would enable anglers holding such stamps to fish either side of the river.

Chairman Hastain remarked that the State of Arizona is very much interested in such a fund. He anticipated, however, that because that State was not so densely populated it might wish to place the tax proceeds in the general fund. Mr. Nover assured Mr. Hastain that Arizona had overcome the opposition to earmarking the funds for use on the Colorado River.

20. Date for Next Meeting

It was informally agreed that the next meeting of the Board be held upon the call of the Chair.

There being no further business, the
meeting adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

* * * * *

NOTE: For the information of the members of the Board and the Joint Interim Committee, the following Wildlife Conservation Board projects which were approved by the Board at this meeting were accepted by the Fish and Game Commission at its meeting the following day, May 19, 1950:

Delta Waterfowl Management Area (Grizzly Island), Project No. 550 . .	\$18,000
Lower San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area (Los Banos), No. 506. . .	187,000
Ramer Lake Public Fishing Area, Project No. 72.	50,000
San Antonio Creek Public Fishing Area, Project No. 86	20,000
Mendocino National Forest Stream Impr. & Flow Maint., Project No. 12. .	5,000
Darrah Springs Hatchery, Project No. 23	120,000
Mount Shasta Hatchery, Project No. 21	70,000
Delta Fish and Game Operations Base, Project No. 1010	27,000

* * * * *