

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES, MEETING OF OCTOBER 14, 1950

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Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in Room 115 of the State Building, Los Angeles, on October 14, 1950. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hastain at 10:55 A.M.

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

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

Ralph W. Scott	Deputy Attorney General
L. F. Chappell	Bureau of Patrol
Kramer Adams	Public Information Officer
Joseph Wallace	Southern Council of Conservation Clubs

1. Approval of Minutes

It was regularly moved and seconded that the reading of the minutes of the Wildlife Conservation Board meeting of July 12, 1950, be dispensed with and said minutes approved as written. Passed unanimously.

2. Report on CALIFORNIA'S FISH AND GAME PROGRAM

The consultant submitted a report regarding requests for the printed report, and it was informally agreed to defer further action until the next meeting.

3. Status of Funds as of July 12, 1950

The Board was informed that the amount allocated to specific projects up to the close of the meeting of July 12, 1950 (without taking into account reserves for various projects but deducting the savings on the Delta Waterfowl Project) aggregated \$8,339,826, made up as follows:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (18)	\$2,613,800
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (6).	164,500
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (14).	450,000
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (14).	387,500
e. State Game Farm Projects (4)	106,000
f. Other Upland Game Projects (4)	443,150
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (9).	4,109,876
h. General Projects (4)	65,000

Total (73 projects). \$8,339,826

The above figure takes into account the withdrawal of the \$44,000 remaining in the Owens Valley Pheasant and Quail Development Areas, Project No. 521.

In addition to the specific allocations above, reserves have been established and operating costs incurred as follows: Bixby Slough Public Fishing Area - \$100,000; Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program - \$20,000; Delta Waterfowl Management Area Access Bridge - \$67,500; and actual and estimated operating expenses from 1947 to the end of the 1949-1950 fiscal year (June 30, 1950) - \$90,250; or a grand total of \$8,617,576, leaving an unobligated balance as of the date of the July 12 meeting of approximately \$382,424, which under the Board's agreement was reserved pending development of a plan of approach to solving the Colorado River recreational needs and for operating funds.

4. Formal Withdrawal of Delta Waterfowl Management Area Savings. . .-\$340,000(g)

The consultant stated that, while the Board was informed at the July meeting that the \$340,000 saved on the purchase of land for the Delta Waterfowl Project (Grizzly Island) had been returned to the unobligated balances in the Wildlife Restoration Fund through routine budgetary procedure, the Accounting Office has requested that formal action be recorded on the minutes to indicate that the Board has officially withdrawn this balance.

It was, therefore, recommended that the Board by formal resolution reduce the allocation of June 3, 1949 for the Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 550, from \$1,148,000 to \$808,000, and the sum of \$340,000 be ordered added to the unallocated balances in the Board's funds.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the sum of \$1,148,000 allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund on June 3, 1949 (to acquire lands, equipment and facilities) for the Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 550 (Key Unit No. 6) be reduced to \$808,000, and the sum of \$340,000, saved in the purchase of land for said project, be and is hereby withdrawn and restored to the Wildlife Restoration Fund. Passed unanimously.

The Board's attention was called to the fact that a small additional balance may later become available for refund.

5. Definite Allocation for Delta Waterfowl Project Access Bridge. . . \$67,500 (g)

The consultant reported that at the July 12 meeting the Board by formal motion tentatively allocated \$67,500 to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the construction of an access bridge to the Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 550, conditional upon satisfactory arrangements with the County of Solano to match the above sum on a 50-50 basis, the total estimated cost not to exceed \$135,000, representatives of the Fish and Game Commission and the Board being directed to secure engineering data, to negotiate with the County of Solano, and to submit a report for final action at a later date.

The consultant informed the Board that the Department of Finance and the Accounting Office recommend that this allocation be made a positive one, subject to the conditions above indicated, and recommended that such action be taken.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the sum of \$67,500 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the construction of an access bridge to the Delta Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 550, conditional upon satisfactory arrangements with the County of Solano to match the above sum on a 50-50 basis, the total cost not to exceed \$135,000, representatives of the Fish and Game Commission and the Board being directed to secure engineering data, to negotiate with the County of Solano, and to submit a report for the Board's approval and such additional action as may be found necessary. Passed unanimously.

The members of the Board requested that this matter be followed up diligently with the County of Solano and others concerned in an effort to secure information upon which such additional action as may be found necessary can be taken at a meeting in the near future.

6. Status of Coachella Valley Public Fishing Areas - Project No. 74, Riverside County

The consultant pointed out that, as the members of the Board and Committee were previously advised by correspondence, the necessary actions have been taken by the several agencies concerned to assure the construction of four of the original five units involved in the above project, although there still seems to be some difference of opinion concerning the desirability of certain cancellation clauses required under the standard practices of the Department of Finance.

He further called attention to the fact that, at the request of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, the matter is being held in abeyance pending the outcome of an election regarding a proposed recreational district, which it is hoped will become a reality in the near future.

He expressed the belief that the necessary details can be completed to the satisfaction of all concerned, and recommended that the allocation of \$32,500 be permitted to stand.

The members of the Board expressed the hope that this matter might be cleared up finally in the near future, in order that any uncertainty concerning the project may be eliminated; also, that the possibility of eliminating cancellation clauses in the agreement between the State and the Board of Supervisors should be explored.

7. Amended Plans for Housing at Mojave River Hatchery - Project No. 39

The consultant advised that, in accordance with revised estimates and recommendations of the Division of Architecture, the Accounting Office has requested approvals from the Board and the Fish and Game Commission to change the allocation for housing at the Mojave River Hatchery, which contemplated the construction of 4 dwellings with garages and other appurtenances at an estimated cost of \$40,000, to 2 concrete block dwellings (each 916 sq. ft.), 1 double car garage, walks and driveways, estimated cost \$27,500, plus the cost of providing mechanical and electrical services of suitable capacity for said houses and 2 additional dwellings in the future, estimated cost \$8,500, or a total of \$36,000.

The consultant further reported that this approval will not affect the total allocation of Board funds to this project aggregating \$221,700, and that according to his information the remaining funds available will later permit the Fish and Game Commission to complete the entire project as contemplated when the Board increased the allocation to the above total on January 26, 1950.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the Board approve the request of the Accounting Office to change the allocation for housing facilities at the Mojave River Hatchery, Project No. 39, from 4 dwellings with garages and other appurtenances to 2 dwellings with garages and other necessary appurtenances, and additional facilities and services for said houses and two more dwellings in the future, as outlined in the recommendation of the Division of Architecture, total estimated cost \$36,000, without changing the total allocation from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for this hatchery. Passed unanimously.

8. Colorado River Recreational Development

The consultant and Mr. C. R. Knight, Field Agent, submitted a brief verbal report concerning the status of the proposed recreational development along the Colorado River. Attention was called to the fact that Mr. Clifford H. Willson, Chairman of the Colorado River-Great Basin Field Committee of the U. S. Department of the Interior, is planning to call a conference at Boulder City on November 1 and 2 to agree upon a general approach to the entire problem, at which time it is proposed to set up a small governing or general committee, and a second group composed of technically trained personnel to undertake the survey and planning job, with budgetary requirements, etc.

The Board was advised that the tentative plan is to have the field work completed by December 31, 1951, the formal report and plan to be submitted to all concerned by June 30, 1952, with the specific understanding that the

entire program will concern itself only with the development of recreational possibilities and avoid becoming involved in matters pertaining to water rights, etc.

The Board agreed that it would be wise to have a goodly number of those concerned with the general problem present for the first meeting so that they may be fully informed as to the plan of approach. It was further agreed that Messrs. Hastain and Macaulay of the Board; staff representatives, Gordon, Knight, and Curtis; Senators Hulse, and Williams; and Assemblymen Erwin, Butters, and Hinckley should be invited to be present. The staff was instructed to inform Mr. Willson accordingly.

The Board had been further informed that indications are that California's share toward an estimated total cost for the study of \$270,000 would not exceed \$30,000. By unanimous consent it was agreed that the entire balance remaining unallocated at the close of this meeting, except monies needed for operating funds, shall be reserved pending further decision concerning the Colorado River requirements.

9. Savings on Daguerre Point Fish Ladders- Project No. 3, Butte Co. .-\$35,360 (d)

The Board was advised that the State Architect, under date of September 18, 1950, reported that a balance of \$35,360 remains in the allocation for the Daguerre Point Fishways, Work Order No. 2333SC, Chapter 700-1949. The Board had allocated \$100,000 for this project under date of August 25, 1949. It was, therefore, recommended that the Board by formal action reduce the allocation for this project to \$64,640, and direct that the balance of \$35,360 be returned to the unallocated funds of the Board.

It was regularly moved and seconded that the sum of \$100,000 allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund on August 25, 1949 for the Daguerre Point Fish Ladders, Project No. 3, be reduced to \$64,640, the amount required to construct said project, and the balance of \$35,360 be and is hereby withdrawn and restored to the Wildlife Restoration Fund. Passed unanimously.

10. Increase in Allocation for Black Rock Rearing Ponds- Project No. 36, Inyo County \$100 (a)

The consultant stated that under date of March 19, 1949 the Board provided an allocation of \$30,000 for the Black Rock Rearing Ponds which are operated in conjunction with the Mt. Whitney Hatchery. The State Architect recommends that this allocation be increased by \$100.

It was regularly moved and seconded that an additional \$100 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Black Rock Rearing Ponds, Project No. 36, increasing the total amount allocated for this project to \$30,100. Passed unanimously.

11. Increase in Allocation for Fish Springs Rearing Ponds -
Project No. 37, Inyo County. \$220,000 (a)

The consultant reported that at the July 12 meeting the Board was advised that the Division of Architecture had presented a preliminary estimate to the Fish and Game Commission indicating that a total of \$370,000 would be required to complete this project, as against the Board's allocation of \$180,000. (\$135,000 March 19, 1949 and \$45,000 January 26, 1950.) At that time it was felt that further action should be deferred until contracts were let for the ponds and other installations directly applicable thereto.

Mr. Gordon advised that the bid on the ponds including engineering and other expenses totals \$140,000. In view of the increased costs, the Division of Architecture and others concerned recommended that an additional allocation of \$220,000 be made to provide for the construction of necessary meat and refrigeration buildings, garage and shop, 6 houses with domestic water supply, electrical systems, etc. He further advised that while all of the remaining essential construction for a complete installation at Fish Springs can probably be done for less than this sum, it was recommended that the allocation be increased to \$400,000.

It was regularly moved and seconded that an additional \$220,000 be allocated to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the Fish Springs Rearing Ponds, Project No. 37, increasing the total amount allocated for this project to \$400,000; 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. Passed unanimously.

12. Unobligated Balances and Status of Allocations as of October 14, 1950

With the foregoing actions the total unobligated balance, including operating funds, is approximately \$197,684, to be held intact pending further decision concerning the needs along the Colorado River. However, the Board directed that by the time of the next meeting a composite list of allocations to date and the status of the projects be prepared for the Board's information.

The total current allocations to various projects after the foregoing actions were as follows:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (18)	\$2,833,900
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (6).	164,500
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (14).	450,000
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (4)	352,140
e. State Game Farm Projects (4)	106,000
f. Other Upland Game Projects (4)	443,150
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (9).	4,177,376
h. General Projects (4)	65,000
Total (73 projects)	\$8,592,066

In addition to the allocations listed above, the following reserves have been established, totaling \$317,684: Bixby Slough Public Fishing Area - \$100,000; Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program - \$20,000; and Colorado River Recreational Development and Operating Funds - \$197,684.

13. Owens Valley Pheasant and Quail Development Areas

As a matter of information, the Board's attention was called to numerous requests from organizations and individuals in the Owens Valley region that the Board reconsider its action of July 12, 1950 withdrawing the remaining \$44,000 set up for the Owens Valley Pheasant and Quail Development Areas.

However, as no further assurances of cooperation have been received from the authorities of the City of Los Angeles, it was informally agreed that no further action be taken at this time.

14. Resolutions of Sportsmen's Organizations Regarding Wildlife Board

Resolutions received from the Sportsmen's Council of Central California and the State Council of the Associated Sportsmen, endorsing the Board's work and recommending that the Legislature appropriate sufficient additional funds to complete the essential projects throughout the state, were brought to the attention of the Board.

After the close of the meeting a comparable resolution adopted by the Southern Council of Conservation Clubs was received.

These actions indicate that the organized sportsmen throughout the state are unanimously in favor of additional appropriations for the work of the Board.

15. Fish Stranded Along Friant-Kern Canal

Assemblyman Erwin called the Board's attention to the situation at Friant where according to his observations large numbers of fish are being trapped at overflow areas along the new Friant-Kern Canal. He stated that at one point he and other members of the Legislature estimated at least 600,000 bluegills were stranded.

Mr. Erwin recommended that the Division of Fish and Game follow the matter up closely, and take such steps as may be necessary to rescue all stranded fish.

The members of the Board agreed that this is a matter which can be handled by the Division of Fish and Game without Board participation.

16. Buena Vista Waterfowl Refuge - Project No. 510

Assemblyman Erwin reported that he has recently received numerous requests that Buena Vista Lagoon, located between Oceanside and Carlsbad, be set aside as a waterfowl refuge and feeding ground; that the owners of the property have expressed a willingness to donate the land in order that this lagoon may be perpetuated for the use of the waterfowl as well as other birdlife in that region. He requested that the matter be further studied.

The Board directed the consultant and his staff to make further study of this project and to submit a report at an early date, including estimates of cost, etc.

17. Cedar Creek Stream Improvement Headquarters - Project No. 29, Mendocino Co.

The Board's attention was directed to a recent communication from the Bureau of Fish Conservation to the Executive Officer of the Division of Fish and Game indicating that, since the estimates of the Division of Architecture for a complete project at the mouth of Cedar Creek as originally proposed amounted to \$462,000 as against the \$125,000 allocated to this project, it might be wise to consider the possibility of a new approach to the coastal streams problems -- essentially stream improvement, clearance, and fish rescue work.

The Board requested that a further study be made and a report submitted at the next meeting.

18. Grizzly Creek Dam and Snake Lake Dam

At the request of Assemblyman Lester Davis, the consultant called the Board's attention to two projects in Plumas County, both of which are very important to that region: Grizzly Creek Dam, Project No. 7 (estimated cost \$56,500) and Snake Lake Dam, Unit No. 7 of Project No. 50, Plumas National Forest Flow Maintenance and Improvement Program, located 4 miles northwest of Quincy (estimated cost \$5,000). The Board was informed that both of these projects are desirable and that the funds should be made available at the first opportunity.

19. Date for Next Meeting

It was informally agreed that the next meeting of the Board be held upon the call of the Chair, but it was tentatively set for 2:00 P.M., November 9, in San Francisco, provided the members of the Joint Interim Committee could meet with the Board at that time.

There being no further business the
meeting adjourned at 12:25 P.M.