

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES, MEETING OF JUNE 27, 1952

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
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Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met at the Fish Springs Hatchery, Inyo County, on June 27, 1952. The meeting, which preceded dedication ceremonies for this recently completed hatchery, was called to order by Chairman Denny at 4:45 P.M.

PRESENT:	Paul Denny	Chairman
	James S. Dean	Member
	Seth Gordon	Member
	Senator Charles Brown	Joint Interim Committee
	Assemblyman Thomas M. Erwin	" " "
	Everett E. Horn	Wildlife Projects Coordinator

ABSENT:	Senator George J. Hatfield	Joint Interim Committee
	Senator Ben Hulse	" " "
	Assemblyman Lloyd W. Lowrey	" " "

Others Present:

Hon. Clyde A. Watson	Member of the Senate
Hon. Francis C. Lindsay	Member of the Assembly
Nate Milnor	Former Member of Fish and Game Commission
T. H. Mugford	Department of Finance
Russell Munro	Department of Public Works
Ralphia Hunter	Division of Architecture
Walter T. Shannon	Department of Fish and Game
Harry R. Anderson	" " " " "
Earl Leitritz	Bureau of Fish Conservation
Bill Talbott	" " " "
L. A. Talbott	" " " "
Scott Soule	" " " "
Wm. O. White	" " " "
Wm. M. Richardson	" " " "
David L. Ward	" " " "
Jim Loundagin	Bureau of Patrol
Art Hensley	Bureau of Game Conservation
Ray Knight	" " " "
Al Reese	Department of Fish and Game
Leo Singer	" " " "
Kramer Adams	Public Information Office
George D. Difani	Senate Interim Committee on Fish and Game
Robert Beckus	Assembly " " " " "
Todd Watkins	Inyo-Mono Coordinating Council
Douglass W. Dyer	" " " "
Alex Kerr	Southern Council of Conservation Clubs

Also present were members of the Inyo and Mono County Boards of Supervisors, representatives of the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, local civic officials, and others.

1. Approval of Minutes

It was regularly moved and seconded that the reading of the minutes of the Wildlife Conservation Board meetings of March 26, 1952 and May 9, 1952 be dispensed with and said minutes approved as written. Passed unanimously.

2. Status of Funds as of May 9, 1952

The Board was informed that the amount allocated to specific projects up to the close of the meeting of May 9, 1952 aggregated \$9,564,419, made up as follows:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (16)	\$4,121,280
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (9).	168,500
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (16).	400,252
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (13).	407,838
e. State Game Farm Projects (4)	106,000
f. Other Upland Game Projects (4)	443,117
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (11)	3,807,304
h. General Projects (4)	110,128
Total (77 projects).	\$9,564,419

In addition to the specific allocations above, the following reserves have been established: (1) Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program - \$15,000 and (2) Colorado River Recreational Development - \$50,000.

The unobligated balance available for expenditure is \$190,220.

3. Recovery of Unused Balances from Completed or Canceled Projects

Mr. Horn stated that at its meeting of June 6, 1951 the Board took action to recover unused balances in allocations for completed and canceled projects in order to assist in making up sufficient funds to meet the Division of Architecture's cost estimate for the Moccasins Creek Hatchery. In some instances where a few bills were outstanding a round sum was recovered and a small balance left in the project account to cover the unpaid bills. On other projects recovery of unused balances was postponed until such time as the outstanding obligations had been paid.

The coordinator reported that unused balances are now available for recovery from the following project allocations in the amounts listed. It was recommended that the Board take action to recover these funds so that the accounts may be closed.

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects

- (1) Black Rock Rearing Ponds - Project No. 36; Inyo County, near Independence. Board allocated \$30,100. Project completed.

Balance available to be recovered \$123.85

- (2) Experimental Pond Construction - Project No. 66; statewide. Board allocated \$20,000. Project completed; \$6,000 recovered 6/6/51.

Additional balance available to be recovered \$2,121.89

- (3) Kern River Hatchery - Project No. 33; Kern County, 6 miles north of Kernville. Board allocated \$51,600. Project completed; \$3,000 recovered 6/6/51.

Additional balance available to be recovered \$1,011.36

c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects

- (1) Crystal Lake Level Maintenance - Project No. 73; Los Angeles County, Angeles National Forest, Upper San Gabriel Canyon. Board allocated \$20,000. Project completed; \$7,000 recovered 6/6/51.

Additional balance available to be recovered \$299.00

d. Fish Screen and Ladder Projects

- (1) Burnt Ranch Falls Fish Ladder - Project No. 44-2; Trinity County, on main Trinity River. Board allocated \$8,000. Project completed; \$3,451.75 recovered 6/6/51.

Additional balance available for recovery \$221.90

- (2) Sawyer's Bar Auxiliary Dam - Project No. 63; Siskiyou Co., on North Fork of Salmon River. Board allocated \$3,500. Instead of constructing the auxiliary dam originally proposed, improvements were made to the existing ladder which permit fish to ascend. Project completed.

Balance available for recovery \$3,126.99

e. State Game Farm Projects

- (1) Brawley Game Farm - Project No. 519-10; Imperial County. Board allocated \$28,000. Project completed.

Balance available for recovery \$318.50

- (2) Chico Game Farm - Project No. 519-7; Butte County. Board allocated \$33,000. Project completed.

Balance available for recovery \$22.95

- (3) Marysville Game Farm - Project No. 519-8; Yuba County. Board allocated \$26,000. Project completed.

Balance available for recovery \$72.02

f. Other Upland Game Projects

- (1) Owens Valley Pheasant and Quail Development Areas - Project No. 521; Inyo County, between Bishop and Owens Lake. Board allocated \$51,150. Project canceled and \$44,000 recovered 7/12/50.

Additional balance available for recovery. \$2,039.96

g. Waterfowl Projects

- (1) Honey Lake Waterfowl Management Area - Project No. 523; Lassen County. Board allocated \$22,125. Project completed.

Balance available for recovery \$662.21

- (2) Madeline Plains Waterfowl Management Area - Project No. 522; Lassen County. Board allocated \$32,500. Project completed; \$1,300 recovered 6/6/51.

Additional balance available for recovery. \$331.90

h. General Projects

- (1) Central Laboratory and Statistical Building - Project No. 1001; Alameda County. Board allocated \$5,000 for the preparation of preliminary plans. Because no further action was contemplated in the foreseeable future the Board withdrew balance of \$4,872.62 from the Division of Architecture, without prejudice to the project, 6/6/51.

Additional balance available for recovery. \$88.23

TOTAL, SUMS TO BE RECOVERED, ITEM 3. \$10,440.76

In accordance with the advice of Messrs. Dean and Gordon, it was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Senator Brown, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the several sums specified above, aggregating \$10,440.76, be recovered and restored to the unallocated monies in the Wildlife Restoration Fund. Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that unused balances of allocations previously made to the Fish and Game Commission from the Wildlife Restoration

Fund are hereby recovered from the following projects in the amounts specified below:

Black Rock Rearing Ponds, Project No. 36	\$ 123.85
Experimental Pond Construction, Project No. 66 . . .	2,121.89
Kern River Hatchery, Project No. 33.	1,011.36
Crystal Lake Level Maintenance, Project No. 73 . . .	299.00
Burnt Ranch Falls Fish Ladder, Project No. 44-2. . .	221.90
Sawyer's Bar Auxiliary Dam, Project No. 63	3,126.99
Brawley Game Farm, Project No. 519-10.	318.50
Chico Game Farm, Project No. 519-7	22.95
Marysville Game Farm, Project No. 519-8.	72.02
Owens Valley Pheasant and Quail Development Areas, Project No. 521.	2,039.96
Honey Lake Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 523	662.21
Madeline Plains Waterfowl Management Area Project No. 522	331.90
Central Laboratory and Statistical Building, Project No. 1001.	88.23

and that the total, amounting to \$10,440.76,
is hereby restored to the Wildlife Restoration Fund.

4. Black Rock Rearing Ponds Survey Ordered

In connection with Item 3a(1), Black Rock Rearing Ponds, Senator Brown and Assemblyman Erwin expressed their belief that further improvements could be made at this site, and questioned the recovery of the unused balance in this project allocation. It was their feeling that the ponds could be enlarged and production increased by one third at a very nominal cost. Senator Brown requested that the funds be held until a survey could be made to determine what could be done to increase the output.

Mr. Dean advised that proper accounting procedure required recovery of these funds because they were the remainder of an authorized project allocation. If a survey proved the feasibility of further improvements to increase production, additional funds could be allocated.

Senator Brown and Assemblyman Erwin then withdrew their opposition to the recovery of the unused balance of the Black Rock allocation.

Chairman Denny instructed Mr. Horn to investigate the possibilities of making further improvements to increase production of the Black Rock Rearing Ponds and to submit a report to the Board within 60 days, together with the estimated cost of such improvements as may be found feasible.

5. Cancellation of San Diego River Development Program - Project No. 57; San Diego County

The coordinator stated that at its meeting of August 25, 1949 the Board allocated \$35,000 to initiate this project. It proposed development of warmwater fishing ponds in former sand and gravel pits along the San Diego River bed.

Engineers of the San Diego County Department of Public Works made test borings of the area. They reported a static water level of 17 feet and an underlying material of fine river sand. The porous nature of the underlying soil would make it impossible to maintain a lake with the surface above the static water level. Therefore, in order to maintain the desired 6-foot water depth, it would be necessary to excavate to an average depth of 23 feet. The cost of such excavation and disposition of material would be prohibitive, according to the engineers.

They further advised that the static water level throughout this area has been dropping steadily over a period of years. And there is no assurance that this trend will be reversed at any time in the immediate future.

Because of the porous soil, excessive cost, and uncertain water supply the engineers considered the project impractical.

It was recommended that the project be canceled and the entire amount recovered \$35,000 (b)

It was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Senator Brown, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the \$35,000 allocated to the San Diego River Development Program, Project No. 57, be withdrawn and restored to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and that said project be canceled. Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that the \$35,000 previously allocated to the Fish and Game Commission for the San Diego River Development Program, Project No. 57, be and is hereby withdrawn and restored to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and said project canceled.

6. Additional Allocations to Cover Overexpenditures

The Board was informed that while checking Accounting Office records for additional balances available for recovery it was discovered that the Wildlife Board allocations for two completed projects had been overspent as indicated below.

- (1) Central Headquarters for Stream Improvement - Project No. 42;
Sacramento County, at Central Valleys Hatchery, Elk Grove.
Board allocated \$10,000. Project completed.

Allocation overspent in the amount of. \$114.05 (d)

- (2) Porterville Game Farm - Project No. 519-9; Tulare County.
Board allocated \$19,000. Project completed.

Allocation overspent in the amount of. \$57.96 (e)

It was recommended that the Board allocate additional funds to these projects in the amounts indicated so that the accounts could be cleared and closed.

In accordance with the advice of Messrs. Dean and Gordon, it was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Senator Brown, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that additional funds be allocated to cover overexpenditures of \$114.05 on the Central Headquarters for Stream Improvement, Project No. 42, and \$57.96 on the Porterville Game Farm, Project No. 519-9. Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that additional funds, totaling \$172.01, be allocated to the Department of Fish and Game from the Wildlife Restoration Fund to cover overexpenditures of \$114.05 on the Central Headquarters for Stream Improvement, Project No. 42, and \$57.96 on the Porterville Game Farm, Project No. 519-9, so that these project accounts may be cleared and closed.

7. Grizzly Creek Dam - Project No. 7; Plumas County, approximately 5 miles north of Portola \$5,000 (c)

The Board was informed that this project proposes construction of a dam to create a sizable and readily accessible trout lake in a part of the State needing this type of fishing. It would also assist in stream flow maintenance of Grizzly Creek.

Mr. Horn stated that an unusual opportunity has arisen in connection with this project. The 3904th U. S. Air Force Command recently established a training center at Reno, Nevada. The Commanding Officer has offered to construct the proposed Grizzly Creek Dam at no cost to the State, other than for material and engineering, and is anxious to start the project as part of their training program.

The dam site is on government land. The lands to be flooded are owned separately by the U. S. Forest Service and the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. The Forest Service will enter into a lease agreement with the Department of Fish and Game for both the dam site and the flooding easement. The P.G.&E. has been requested to lease such of their lands as would be flooded to the Forest Service, and that agency, in turn, would make them available to the State.

A meeting of the Air Force, Forest Service, Department of Fish and Game, and the P.G.&E. was held in San Francisco, May 26, to explore this problem. P.G.&E. is considering the matter of giving the required lease. The Forest Service has gone ahead with the necessary engineering work.

Before any earth moving could be done by the Air Force, it would be necessary to install an outlet pipe and other structures, and do any required foundation preparations. This would be a responsibility of the Department of Fish and Game. The assistance of the Forest Service would be available on the engineering phases.

Since the work offered by the Air Force would cost about \$75,000 if financed by the Board, it was suggested that the Board place itself in position to take advantage of the offer without delay, should a satisfactory lease be acquired.

It was therefore recommended that the Wildlife Board allocate the sum of \$5,000 to the Grizzly Creek Dam project for purchase of necessary material and for preliminary work. Actual expenditures for material would not be made until the P.G.&E. lease was consummated and the Air Force was prepared to undertake the work.

It was pointed out that a further allocation might be required to complete the spillway, etc., based upon future engineering estimates.

Mr. Gordon advised that when the project was first submitted in 1948 its construction would have cost about \$60,000, and if the work were contracted out at today's high prices it might cost \$100,000 or more. He said the dam would improve 15 - 18 miles of the Middle Fork of the Feather River.

In accordance with the advice of Messrs. Dean and Gordon, it was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Senator Brown, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that \$5,000 be allocated for the Grizzly Creek Dam, Project No. 7. 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 Department of Fish and Game from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the purchase of necessary material and for preliminary work for the Grizzly Creek Dam, Project No. 7; and that the Department of Fish and Game is hereby authorized to proceed with the negotiation of the necessary agreements and other arrangements for construction of said project, it being understood that expenditures for purchase of material will be delayed until the required lease is consummated and arrangements to assure construction completed.

8. Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area - Project No. 548; Butte County

The coordinator reported the discovery of gas on lands to the west of this proposed purchase has raised many questions with regard to the sale of these lands to the State.

It was agreed at a staff meeting that the Department of Fish and Game is primarily interested in the surface rights to the lands for waterfowl management purposes.

Later, Mr. Vincent, Chief of Public Works and Acquisition, advised it might be possible to buy the lands with a provision that oil, gas, and mineral

rights would revert to the State after 1960 on those lands where the lessors of such rights had not developed gas or oil by that time.

It was suggested that the Public Works Board be authorized to conduct the purchase in the manner which best serves the interest of the State.

Mr. Dean reported that since Mr. Vincent had advised the Board of the possibility of a purchase provision reverting oil, gas, and mineral rights to the State after 1960, some doubt had arisen that such an arrangement could be made.

Mr. Gordon recommended that the decision as to the manner of purchase be left in the hands of the Public Works Board. Mr. Dean concurred, stating he was convinced the State should not pay for any oil rights.

In accordance with the advice of Messrs. Dean and Gordon, it was moved by Assemblyman Erwin, seconded by Senator Brown, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that the Public Works Board proceed to purchase the lands required for the Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 548, in the manner which best serves the interest of the State. Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that the Public Works Board is hereby authorized to proceed with the purchase of lands for the Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area, Project No. 548, in the manner originally outlined, without any further suggestions from the Board.

9. South Humboldt Bay Public Recreational Area - Project No. 1006; Humboldt Co.

The Board was advised at the March 26, 1952 meeting of Mr. H. C. Vincent's report of the unwillingness of the owners of the South Spit of Humboldt Bay to sell their holdings. The coordinator was instructed to study the matter further.

Mr. Horn reported the results of his investigations as follows:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, the County Planning Commission and numerous civic organizations favor State acquisition and development of this property for recreational use. Everyone is in favor of the project except the owners of the property involved.

Mr. A. S. Murphy, of the Pacific Lumber Company, principal owner of the spit, advised his company and the other landowners involved do not wish to sell their interests.

The Texas Company is preparing to drill for oil on their holdings on the South Spit. Condemnation of such property, until the drilling is finished, would be a highly controversial matter, with price any man's guess.

In view of Mr. Vincent's feeling of firm owner opposition to the sale or condemnation of the property, and Mr. Murphy's assurance of such firm opposition, there is but little to be gained by pushing the project in its present form.

Instead, the following program or project is submitted for consideration as an alternate to the original South Spit acquisition.

Mr. Murphy states that, while the Pacific Lumber Company and the other owners of the South Spit of Humboldt Bay will not sell, they will give the State a lease with access right of way to all of this spit without cost.

They would reserve one small parcel on the Bay side of the spit for hunting by the owners during the open season for waterfowl shooting. They would expect the State to so manage the area that this reserved area would be respected by the public.

There is some probability of expanding this project to include land south of Table Bluff.

The State Land Commission has a parcel of land in T 3N, R 2W, HB&M, that it desires to sell. This embraces the southern portion of what is known locally as the North Eel River Sand Spit.

The Division of Beaches and Parks would like to acquire this property, but have very graciously given the Department of Fish and Game first bid for it. The Land Commission is reported to have received an offer of purchase from private individuals, with a \$400 deposit. An appraisal of the land is to be made in July, according to the Land Commission.

The Humboldt County Planning Commission's master plan for development of recreational facilities of the County, recommends that the Department of Fish and Game acquire this piece of State land.

Ownership of the North Eel River Sand Spit is divided. The State of California owns the southern portion, while Mr. A. S. Murphy and sons own the northern part, extending to Table Bluff. Access to the State property would be easiest through the Murphy property.

While Mr. Murphy does not want to sell this property, there is a slight possibility he might enter into a no cost lease agreement with the State, granting use of the spit and access right of way to the State owned property to the south. This matter is not settled and will require further negotiations.

Mr. Murphy would stipulate one reservation in such a lease, retaining a strip from the ocean to his duck pond to be held free of shooting during the waterfowl hunting season, and requiring management of the entire parcel by the Department of Fish and Game to prevent vandalism and trespass on the restricted portion of the ranch.

Whether or not an agreement can be reached with Mr. Murphy, the parcel of State land could well be acquired. Access could be worked out later if necessary. Further discussion will be had with the Murphy's on the ground during early July.

It was recommended that the Board authorize the use of any balance of the \$8,000 allocated to Project No. 1006, South Humboldt Bay Public Recreational Area, for acquisition of the State lands on the North Eel River Sand Spit.

It was further recommended that negotiations be consummated with the owners of the South Spit to secure a long-term lease of this area.

Mr. Dean expressed the belief that it would be best to work out an agreement with Mr. Murphy to provide access to the State owned lands on the North Eel Sand Spit before seeking to purchase those lands. He stated that he would request the Lands Commission to delay sale of their holdings until it could be determined whether an access agreement could be negotiated.

Chairman Denny instructed the coordinator to continue his negotiations with Mr. Murphy and report the results to the Board.

10. Allocation for Engineering Surveys for Elizabeth Lake Canyon Creek Public Fishing Area - Project No. 91; Los Angeles County, T 6N, R 16W, Sec. 1 or 11, SBEM, in the Angeles National Forest, on Elizabeth Lake Canyon Creek, about 15 miles north of San Fernando. . \$1,000 (b)

The Board was informed that this project proposes construction of a rock fill dam to create a public fishing lake, possibly trout, but more likely for warmwater fishes. Size of the lake would be from 10 to 17 acres, depending upon which of two possible sites is chosen.

The number of fishing waters available in the Angeles National Forest area is extremely limited. All recreational facilities in this area are extensively utilized by the adjacent metropolitan population. Creation of a small fishing lake within an hour's drive of downtown Los Angeles would be very desirable.

It was recommended that \$1,000 be allocated to provide funds for preliminary engineering surveys by the Division of Water Resources, and preparation of plans and cost estimates. If the survey proves the feasibility of this project a recommended construction project will later be submitted to the Board.

It was moved by Senator Brown, seconded by Assemblyman Erwin, that the Joint Interim Committee recommend to the Board that \$1,000 be allocated for engineering surveys and the preparation of plans and cost estimates for the Elizabeth Lake Canyon Creek Public Fishing Area, Project No. 91. Passed unanimously.

Thereupon, by motion regularly made, seconded and unanimously adopted by the members of the Board, it was agreed that \$1,000 be allocated to the Department of Fish and Game from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for engineering surveys and the preparation of plans and cost estimates for the Elizabeth Lake Canyon Creek Public Fishing Area, Project No. 91; and that the Department of Fish and Game is hereby authorized to make the necessary arrangements for said surveys.

11. Butte Sink Waterfowl Management Area - Project No. 507; Colusa County

Under date of April 24, 1952, Mr. Roger C. Wilbur, President of Butte Creek Farms, wrote the Wildlife Conservation Board as follows:

"In regard to the possible sale of the 3000 acres of land belonging to Butte Creek Farms in Colusa County, bordering on the west bank of Butte Creek, a meeting of the corporation directors was held on April 8, 1952, and the following resolution was passed unanimously:

" 'It is hereby resolved that none of our land in Colusa County shall be sold.' "

It was recommended that the funds allocated to this project and selection of a substitute area be held up until acquisition of the Lower San Joaquin, Lower Butte Creek, Madera, and other waterfowl management areas is completed or negotiations are well along.

The coordinator stated this would eliminate the possibility of withdrawal of any selected substitute from the market while negotiations were continuing for the other areas.

It was informally agreed that no Board action was required, and that the funds previously allocated for this project would be held in status quo until such time as the Board was ready to approve a substitute area.

12. Cow Mountain Deer Range - Project No. 552; Lake and Mendocino Counties

It was recalled that the Board at its meeting of June 3, 1949 moved to indefinitely postpone action on the Cow Mountain Deer Range Project because of the opposition presented at the meeting.

The project proposed acquisition of 50,000 acres of public domain lands in Lake and Mendocino Counties for a public hunting area, as well as sufficient privately owned lands to provide access thereto.

The 50,000 acre area had been turned over to the counties for recreational purposes, but they had done nothing with it. At the time of the June, 1949 Board meeting they opposed the proposal to build access roads into this area.

The Boards of Supervisors of the two counties later withdrew their opposition to the proposal, and requested assistance from the Department of Fish and Game in planning the best possible management program for these lands, especially from the standpoint of hunting.

Under a recent agreement between the supervisors and the Department of Fish and Game the counties are constructing two access roads into the area. The Department of Fish and Game will develop the hunting area, burn brush where there is too much, and develop water for the deer where it is needed. The Department will also manage the shooting.

Wildlife Conservation Board funds will not be required for any phase of this program, and the objectives of the original project will be fulfilled.

The above was reported as a matter of record to indicate the final disposition made of this project.

Mr. Horn added that the access roads would not be completed in time for the 1952 deer season, and that it would be several months before the Department of Fish and Game development work gets underway.

Mr. Gordon noted that the above method of handling the project saved more than \$50,000 of the Board's funds.

13. Grasslands Water Bill Hearing

The coordinator informed the Board that early in June he had traveled to Washington, D. C., to appear before a Congressional subcommittee hearing on a bill to provide water for the grasslands.

He reported that in its original form, H.R. 7177, the bill provided a means for the Bureau of Reclamation to supply water to State and Federal waterfowl areas in the San Joaquin Valley. It did not provide water for privately owned waterfowl lands of that section.

The bill was amended by the committee and reintroduced as H.R. 8144. In its amended form reference to reauthorization of the Central Valley Project and recognition of fish and game as a beneficial use of water was stricken out.

H.R. 8144 provides: " . . . That the Secretary of the Interior may construct, operate, and maintain, as a part of the Central Valley project, such works as may be necessary or desirable for the development of a water supply by means of wells and the recovery of drainage, and to furnish water available from such works, and from other Central Valley project sources, for fish and wildlife management purposes, including those in the Lower San Joaquin Valley substantially in accordance with the recommendations set forth in the report of the United States Department of the Interior entitled 'Waterfowl Conservation in the Lower San Joaquin Valley, Its Relation to the Grasslands and the Central Valley Project,' dated October 1950 and such works should be developed in cooperation with the State of California." (Excerpt from Sec. 1.)

"Sec. 5. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to supply between September 15 and June 1 of each year fifty thousand acre-feet of water, as and when available, to the grasslands area of the San Joaquin Valley from the Central Valley project for fish and wildlife purposes at a price not to exceed \$1.50 per acre-foot."

Mr. Horn stated that so far as he knew the amended bill had not yet gone to committee.*

Mr. Gordon added that unless the legislation in question is adopted by Congress the original plans for waterfowl management jointly agreed upon by the California Fish and Game Commission and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service could not be consummated. He also pointed out that the amended bill authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to provide water at a Class 2 price to private duck clubs, which overcomes some of the opposition to development of public areas, and which will encourage private clubs to develop their holdings.

*Since the Board meeting the coordinator has been advised that H.R. 8144 failed to pass the House.

14. Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program - Project No. 12; Colusa and Glenn Counties

The coordinator informed the Board that Dr. Needham, of the University of California at Berkeley, had submitted a request for continuation of this program for another three years, together with an estimate of additional funds required. The University is supervising the experimental planting work and other stream improvement studies on several streams in the forest under an agreement with the Department of Fish and Game.

To date the Board has allocated \$10,000 for this program, and has reserved \$15,000 to continue the work.

Mr. Gordon stated that, since this project was in Assemblyman Lowrey's district, he would like him to be present when the matter was discussed further so that the Board could have the benefit of Mr. Lowrey's advice.

Chairman Denny ordered that this matter be put over to the next meeting.

15. American River Hatchery Request Submitted

Mr. Horn informed the Board that the Sacramento-Sierra Sportsmens Council and the Placer Sportsmen, Inc., had authorized Mr. George Difani, Consultant to the Senate Interim Committee on Fish and Game, to present their request for construction of a fish hatchery on the American River in Placer County, below Folsom Dam.

The Board was advised that Mr. Leitritz, Chief of the Bureau of Fish Conservation, and his staff have been studying this matter for some time, and that it will be necessary to secure additional data before the suitability of the water for a hatchery can be determined.

Mr. Difani stated the organizations he represented wish the Board to consider allocation of funds for a survey to determine the feasibility of construction of a fish hatchery below Folsom Dam. He requested the Board to accept the project, assign it a number, and allocate \$1,000 for the survey. He stated that land values in this region are increasing, and urged that selection and acquisition of a hatchery site be expedited.

Senator Brown remarked the Interim Committee was very much in favor of a hatchery at this site.

Assemblyman Lindsay stated it was essential to immediately advise the Army Engineers of the interest of the Board and the Department of Fish and Game in construction of a hatchery below the dam, so that provision could be made for outlet pipes in the dam to supply water for the hatchery.

Mr. Gordon advised that staff members of the Department of Fish and Game had consulted with the Army Engineers while the original studies for Folsom Dam were in progress. As a result of these conferences the engineers agreed to make provision in their plans so that water for a hatchery could be taken from any one of several levels.

He added that he and Mr. Leitritz had gone over the ground the other day with an engineer. They found it a difficult site to evaluate because of the

mountains of earth being moved around. Mr. Gordon said the matter of leaving sufficient earth below the dam for a hatchery site would be followed up with the engineers. He pointed out that in March, 1949 the Board agreed this was one of the areas where a hatchery was needed.

Senator Brown and Assemblyman Erwin recommended that the coordinator make a survey and report his findings to the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Dean suggested that the staff should have more time to study the matter.

Mr. Gordon recommended that the project be assigned a number and that the staff of the Board and the Department of Fish and Game proceed with the studies already underway and advise the Board of their findings as soon as possible. It was so ordered.

Mr. Gordon advised there would be no assurance that a hatchery at that site could be justified until the dam is built and tests in actual operation are made.

It was agreed that the matter of allocating funds for the American River Hatchery project be held over to the next Board meeting.

16. Employment of Consulting Engineer Authorized

Mr. Horn reported that in the course of the work on a good many projects it was felt that there was a need for the assistance of a consulting engineer. He asked the Board to consider the advisability of employing an engineer on a part-time basis to make preliminary examinations of suggested projects. It was his belief that both time and money could be saved by having preliminary engineering studies made before projects were turned over to the Division of Water Resources for more comprehensive engineering work, since many infeasible projects could be weeded out.

In reply to Mr. Dean's question, Mr. Horn advised that the salary for a consulting engineer could be paid out of the funds budgeted for operating expenses.

Assemblyman Erwin voiced his approval of Mr. Horn's suggestion, stating it had been necessary to abandon many projects for which the Board had allocated funds just because the services of a capable engineer had not been available in making recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Gordon noted that the great majority of the projects had been submitted to the Board in general terms, without the benefit of engineering studies.

By motion regularly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted it was agreed that the employment of a consulting engineer on a part-time basis to make preliminary examinations of suggested projects is hereby authorized.

17. Unobligated Balances and Status of Allocations as of June 27, 1952

With the foregoing actions the total unobligated balance in the Wildlife Restoration Fund is approximately \$229,489.

The total current allocations to various classifications of projects are as follows:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (16)	\$4,118,023
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (9).	134,500
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (17).	404,953
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (13).	404,603
e. State Game Farm Projects (4)	105,644
f. Other Upland Game Projects (4)	441,077
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (11)	3,806,310
h. General Projects (4)	<u>110,040</u>
Total (78 projects).	\$9,525,150

In addition to the specific allocations above, the following reserves have been established: (1) Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program - \$15,000, and (2) Colorado River Recreational Development - \$50,000.

Effective July 1, 1952, an additional \$1,000,000 will be appropriated to the Wildlife Restoration Fund (Ch. 1401, Stats. 1951), increasing the total accountability to \$11,000,000. Operating expenses 47/48 F.Y. - 50/51 F.Y. totaled \$129,152. Operating expenses budgeted for the 51/52 F.Y. total \$51,209, and for the 52/53 F.Y., \$49,552.

The unobligated balance available for expenditure as of July 1, 1952 will be \$1,179,937.

18. Resolutions Regarding Honorable Lester T. Davis

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the members of the Board and the Joint Interim Committee.

WHEREAS, The Honorable Lester T. Davis passed away on May 23, 1952, at Portola, in the County of Plumas; and

WHEREAS, This fine sportsman during his service in the State Legislature introduced and was responsible for the passage of many wildlife conservation measures for the benefit of wildlife and the citizens of the State; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Davis, as a member of the Joint Interim Committee serving with the Wildlife Conservation Board, gave untiringly of his time and ability to further the objectives of the Wildlife Conservation Act to expand and develop the fish and wildlife program of the State, and his presence and counsel are sorely missed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That when the Wildlife Conservation Board adjourns this day it do so out of respect to the memory of Honorable Lester T. Davis; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be made a part of the permanent record of the proceedings of this body, and a copy thereof be sent to Mrs. Lester T. Davis.

Assemblyman Erwin delivered a eulogy, stating that the late Lester T. Davis beyond doubt was one of the finest conservationists in the State of California, and that much of the legislation that deals with conservation will be a tribute to his memory. He observed that with the passing of Assemblyman Davis the people of his district and of the whole State have lost a truly fine public servant.

19. 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 5:45 P.M. out of respect to the memory of Honorable Lester T. Davis.