

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MINUTES, MEETING OF JUNE 29, 1954

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
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MINUTES, MEETING OF JUNE 29, 1954

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in the Auditorium of the Moccasin Clubhouse, Moccasin, California, on June 29, 1954. The meeting was called to order by Chairman William J. Silva at 2:55 p.m.

1. Roll Call

<u>PRESENT:</u>	William J. Silva	Chairman
	Seth Gordon	Member of the Board
	Senator Ed. C. Johnson	Joint Interim Committee
	Assemblyman Frank P. Belotti	Joint Interim Committee
	Everett E. Horn	Wildlife Projects Coordinator
<u>ABSENT:</u>	John M. Peirce	Member of the Board
	Senator Charles Brown	Joint Interim Committee
	Senator Ben Hulse	Joint Interim Committee
	Assemblyman Thomas M. Erwin	Joint Interim Committee
	Assemblyman Lloyd W. Lowrey	Joint Interim Committee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chester A. Woodhull	Dept. of Fish and Game
Wm. J. Harp	Fish & Game Commission
Robert D. Calkins	Dept. of Fish and Game
L. H. Cloyd	" " " " "
Harry Anderson	" " " " "
Phil Roedel	" " " " "
R. C. Lewis	" " " " "
Earl Leitritz	" " " " "
W. T. Shannon	" " " " "
R. F. Classic	" " " " "
Owen Mello	" " " " "
R. E. Nickerson	" " " " "
M. O. Talbott	" " " " "
F. F. Johnston	" " " " "
V. N. Dona	" " " " "
A. J. Weaver	" " " " "
Mrs. Frank P. Belotti	Eureka
Senator Stephen Teale	Westpoint (26th Dist.)
Assemblyman Francis Lindsay	Loomis (6th Dist.)
L. T. Hope	Tuolumne County Fish & Game Inc.
Fred Leighton	" " " " "
James H. King	" " " " "
Archie Sterenor	" " " " "
Arthur C. Wender	" " " " "
Douglas Mirk	" " " " "
Vernon L. Rue	" " " " "
L. E. Jameson	" " " " "
Si Becht	" " " " "
Lynn Brabazon	" " " " "

Alfred J. Speckens
 Daniel C. Schmidt
 O. H. Sheldon
 Joe Domecq
 E. E. Owen
 R. S. McKimens
 Geo. Kovacs
 Jack Molinari
 C. L. Borren
 B. E. Wenger
 Harry Wilbur
 Mrs. Harry Wilbur
 Sharon Wilbur
 R. L. Wallace
 Judge Wesley Osborne
 Charles D. Hof
 Clarence A. Kerr
 Vernon Baird

Turlock Sportsman's Club
 " " "
 " " "
 " " "
 " " "
 Calaveras Sportsman's Club
 " " "
 " " "
 Marysville
 Big Oak Flat
 "California Sportsman" Magazine
 " " "
 " " "
 City & County of San Francisco
 Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce
 Tuolumne County Road Comm.
 Tuolumne County Supervisor Dist. #5
 Nat'l Forest Recreation Ass'n

The Chairman introduced State Senator Stephen Teale of the 26th District and Assemblyman Francis C. Lindsay of the 6th District who were warmly greeted by everyone present.

2. Approval of the Minutes

It was requested by Mr. Horn that the minutes of the March 24, 1954, meeting of the Wildlife Conservation Board as published and distributed be corrected as follows:

On page 5, fourth paragraph, last line, the word "plans" changed to read "plants"; page 8, last line of the last paragraph, changed to read "...reserving enough from the San Luis Island account to meet any attorney's fees that may be awarded Robinson & Germino" by adding the underlined words; and page 9, third paragraph, the word "site" changed to "sites".

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 24, 1954, BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Status of Funds

Mr. Horn reported to the Board that a sum of \$10,487,373 had been allocated to 79 specific projects as of March 24, 1954. Following is a breakdown of the various projects and the amounts allocated:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (17)	\$4,399,681
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (11)	279,335
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (18)	474,981
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (13)	382,690
e. State Game Farms (4)	105,644

f. Other Upland Game Projects (4)	\$ 440,909
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (8)	4,335,642
h. General Projects (4)	<u>68,491</u>

Total \$10,487,373

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

1. Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program, \$15,000;
2. Colorado River Recreational Development, \$50,000;
3. Salton Sea Fisheries Project, \$46,000.

The present unallocated balance in the Wildlife Restoration Fund is about \$1,169,500.

Mr. Gordon was informed by Mr. Horn that the number of Waterfowl Management Projects was now eight and that this figure includes the few minor projects making the total allocation \$4,335,642.

4. Dallas-Warner Warmwater Fish Project (Project No. 110) \$8,000.00

Mr. Horn advised the Board that this project was previously presented to them at their June 11, 1953, meeting for preliminary consideration.

Type of Project: Construction of a low sub-dam in the reservoir basin immediately above the outlet gate to retain a small lake of approximately 430 surface acres during periods when the Modesto Irrigation District performs outlet gate maintenance. Such an impoundment would retain adequate water to support the game fish population of the reservoir during the period of repair. Chemical treatment to remove rough fish could also be done when the reservoir was drawn to a minimum level. The reservoir would subsequently be replanted to game and proper forage species.

Location: Modesto or Dallas-Warner Reservoir is located about 30 miles east of Modesto on the northerly bank of the Tuolumne River. The town of Waterford is about five miles below the reservoir. Geographically it is in an area of sufficient population to justify the expenditure and where additional warmwater fishing is highly desirable.

Cost Estimates: The Engineering Branch of the Department of Fish and Game has made a study and cost estimate of this project in collaboration with the engineers of the Modesto Irrigation District. The estimates are as follows:

Concrete 45 cu. yds. @ \$100	\$4,500.00
Rock fill 40 cu. yds. @ \$2.50	100.00
Drop boards and misc. appurtenances	450.00
Access road, special anchorage, misc.	<u>500.00</u>
	\$5,550.00

Plus 10% overhead
 10% contingency
 20% isolation
 Total 40%

2,220.00

Total \$7,770.00

Mr. Horn recommended that this project be given favorable consideration and that \$8,000 be allocated from the unallocated balance of the Wildlife Restoration Fund for construction.

Mr. Silva mentioned that although this project had been discussed for some time, no action was taken on it. People who were interested in the project wanted to discuss it with the engineers of the Modesto Irrigation District before attempting to develop it. The Irrigation District has indicated the project will be given favorable action.

Mr. Gordon asked if the Department of Fish and Game was assured that the kind of agreement with the Modesto Irrigation District will be approved by the Department of Finance so that the Department could go ahead with the project. Mr. Horn replied that he could see no reason to expect objection from the Department of Finance, inasmuch as the type of lease to be used had been reviewed by them.

Mr. Silva indicated that this project does not in any way conflict with the resolution passed by the Fish and Game Commission as it does not entail the cost of additional administration and management.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE ENDORSE THE DALLAS-WARNER RESERVOIR PROJECT AND RECOMMEND TO THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD THAT THE SUM OF \$8,000 BE ALLOCATED FROM THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A LOW SUB-DAM IN THE DALLAS-WARNER RESERVOIR.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE SUM OF \$8,000 BE ALLOCATED FROM THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A LOW SUB-DAM IN THE DALLAS-WARNER RESERVOIR.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chairman explained to the people present at the meeting the procedure followed by the Wildlife Board in appropriating monies from the Wildlife Restoration Fund. He stated that there are three Senators and three Assemblymen who form the Joint Legislative Interim Advisory Committee. This Committee advises and recommends to the Board members what action should be taken. The three voting members of the Board who are Mr. Peirce, Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Silva, then take such action as they see fit, based on the advice and recommendation of the Joint Interim Committee. For this reason, the double motion is made and voted upon.

5. San Joaquin Hatchery - Five Additional Houses (Project No. 19)

Mr. Horn reported that at the May 9, 1952, meeting, the Wildlife Board allocated an additional \$488,000 bringing the total fund for the San Joaquin Hatchery to \$748,000, thus meeting the estimated cost of construction presented by the Division of Architecture. This allocation specified funds for six residence houses. The original plans called for 10 houses, but the Division of Architecture advised that allocated funds would only construct five houses.

A very careful survey has been made of available housing facilities at Friant, Clovis, and Fresno. Nothing is available for rental in Friant. At Clovis, some 14 miles from the San Joaquin Hatchery, a few rentals are available, costing from \$50 per month for small unfurnished apartments, and upward for better accommodations. In Fresno, prices are considerably higher and being 20 miles from the hatchery, would require daily travel of 40 miles. The cost of travel would have to be borne by the worker.

The San Joaquin Hatchery will also be a center and headquarters for all warmwater fish work, including rescue in the San Joaquin Valley. Three large warmwater ponds are included in the construction. Personnel for this warmwater fish work will operate from the San Joaquin Hatchery. The plans for the operation of this hatchery calls for a complement of ten workers.

In the interest of economy of operation and of maintaining satisfied workers within the pay scale established for such positions, it is highly desirable to have adequate housing at the hatchery.

It is estimated the cost of five additional houses would be about \$60,000. The Division of Architecture has advised the Engineering Section of the Department of Fish and Game that sufficient unused funds remain in the present allocation to cover the cost of these proposed additional houses. Therefore, Mr. Horn stated, the only Board action required is authorization for the construction of these five additional houses and recommended that these additional houses be included in the original construction program.

Assemblyman Belotti remarked that the estimated cost of each house would be \$12,000. Mr. Horn stated that this was the best figure that could be secured for three-bedroom houses. Mr. Shannon stated in answer to Mr. Gordon's question that four of the houses would be three-bedroom homes--two out of the first five and two out of the second five.

Assemblyman Belotti then inquired what percentage of the total cost would be spent for architectural fee. Mr. Anderson stated that this was difficult to answer since the cost varies, but thought it would be as high as eight to ten percent.

Mr. Silva remarked that he felt the Department has had to pay too much for architectural fees and other preliminary work in past experiences.

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Mr. Gordon believed that if these houses could be made a part of the bid that is to be let in the near future, a better price could be secured than by issuing a separate bid for these five additional houses at a later date.

Mr. Silva again mentioned the fact that the appropriation of money to add houses or any other facilities to these hatcheries does not in any way conflict with the resolution passed by the Fish and Game Commission.

Mr. Gordon stated that when the Wildlife Board undertook the fish hatchery program, living quarters were poor and did not attract and hold capable employees. It was agreed back in 1949 that fish hatchery jobs should be made just as attractive as comparable work in private industry. He pointed out that the City of San Francisco built adequate houses for their employees at Moccasin. He further stated that the Department is now able to attract and hold more competent people at hatcheries where adequate housing has been provided.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT AUTHORIZATION BE GIVEN FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF UNUSED FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE SAN JOAQUIN HATCHERY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE ADDITIONAL HOUSES.

MOTION DIED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT \$60,000 BE AUTHORIZED FROM THE UNUSED FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE SAN JOAQUIN HATCHERY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE ADDITIONAL HOUSES.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Imperial Valley Waterfowl Management Area (Project No. 536)

Mr. Horn reported that at the March 31, 1953, and April 16, 1953, meetings of the Wildlife Board, approval was given and funds allocated for the acquisition and development of lands and equipment for the Imperial Valley Waterfowl Management Area. At the April 16 meeting, a Mr. Jack Massion appeared before the Board requesting that his property on the north end of the proposed area be included in the acquisition. The request for funds did not include this property.

The Division of Public Works included this property in their appraisals and filed the necessary condemnation with the understanding that if the other properties could be acquired at prices that would leave sufficient balance to purchase the Massion property, such action would be requested. After due deliberation, Mr. Massion has agreed to accept the appraised price for his land.

The Board allocated funds based upon the owner's asking price. Presently, two other parcels have been purchased at a price sufficiently below the owner's asking price to provide more than sufficient funds to purchase the Massion property and two adjacent small parcels.

The Coordinator recommended that the Board authorize the Public Works Board to proceed with the acquisition of the Massion and two other small adjacent properties.

The acquisition of these properties would make for a better operating unit for the Department. Surveys by the Soil Conservation Service show this unit contains some of the best land in the proposed purchase area.

Mr. Gordon stated that because of the price Mr. Massion and these other two small owners have agreed upon, it would expedite the purchase of the balance of the area, and would save money for the Department in the end to buy these lands.

Mr. Silva inquired as to the number of owners left in this project that have not as yet agreed to sell. Mr. Horn stated that a definite answer could not be given. The San Diego Branch of the Department of Highways is handling the purchase and there is usually a two weeks interval between reaching an agreement with the sellers and notification to the Public Works Board of the transaction. However, a large block owned by Chaffin, 160 acres owned by Welch, and 320 acres owned by the Southern Pacific Land Company have not been settled.

Mr. Silva remarked that there does not seem to be any other alternative but proceed to buy the property so that the Department can make the project a complete unit. He wanted to know how much of the Massion plot is within the area that may be flooded by continued raise of the Salton Sea. Mr. Horn replied that all of the Massion property is above the minus 220 contour.

Mr. Gordon thought if we did not buy this tract and left it out of the acquisition it could be developed by private individuals for duck club purposes. Mr. Horn agreed that it would probably sell for that purpose. He further stated that this is the last land to the north receiving irrigation district water, and the inclusion of this property would give us a complete block for development of a waterfowl management area with no farm land to the north.

Mr. Silva reported that on his trip south to look over the area, he talked with Senator Hulse who seemed to think it would be advisable to purchase the property mentioned.

Senator Johnson remarked that there have been rumors that lands purchased by the State have since been flooded. Mr. Horn said that the State has not as yet lost any purchased lands by flooding.

Mr. Silva remarked that some of this information came from people in the north who heard that some of the Federal lands acquired for waterfowl purposes had been flooded. The reason he was more or less opposed to the acquisition was that he feared some portion of the area would be flooded and asked if it were possible that 800 acres of the total project would be flooded.

Mr. Horn advised that an estimated 800 to 900 acres of the proposed purchase would be flooded if and when the Salton Sea reached the minus 220 feet contour. The best advice from all engineers who have studied this

matter states stabilization of the Sea can be expected at this level.

There is a belt of land lying between the present Salton Sea shore line and the proposed purchase area that is owned by the Imperial Irrigation District. This is presently leased by the District to the Fish and Wildlife Service. That Service has signified a willingness to exchange this leased land for a block now leased from the District by the California Department of Fish and Game. This District leased land would be the first to be flooded.

Granting that 800 acres of the proposed purchase would be flooded, it would not occur for about 16 years. At the reported purchase price, those flooded lands could be written off at an annual rental figure of \$3.00 per acre.

Mr. Gordon suggested that even the portion which may be flooded in the future might be dyked off for fresh water and shooting areas.

Mr. Horn stated that the present plans for development called for ponding of those lands closest to the Sea and not developing them for agricultural use since it is necessary to have pond and marsh land for waterfowl purposes. The 1600 acres that could be leased from the Irrigation District and the other lands that would eventually be flooded could be used for that purpose. The Irrigation District has signified willingness for the Department to use such drain water as reached these lands.

Senator Johnson was informed that the purchase price of the Massion property is stated to be \$28,000.

Mr. Silva requested Mr. Horn to state briefly the three-fold purposes of a waterfowl management area and the reason the Department is carrying out its responsibility by purchasing lands with the knowledge that part of it might eventually be flooded. Mr. Horn stated the purpose is threefold: first, to provide land suitable for maintaining the waterfowl frequenting that portion of California; second, to provide protection of agricultural crops against depredation by waterfowl; and third, to provide and perpetuate public shooting for the folks of that section of the State.

The Coordinator stated in answer to Senator Johnson's query that there is menace to agricultural products by widgeon during the period from Thanksgiving to the latter part of March. The birds are broken up into small flocks during the hunting season and there are no concentrations of widgeon, and no excessive damage on any one field, while hunting is in progress.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT AUTHORIZATION BE GIVEN THE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD TO PROCEED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF THE MASSION AND TWO OTHER SMALL ADJACENT PROPERTIES.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD BE AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF THE MASSION AND TWO OTHER SMALL ADJACENT PROPERTIES FOR THE COMPLETE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IMPERIAL VALLEY WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Moccasin Creek Hatchery (Project No. 17)

Mr. Horn reported that at the June 6, 1951, meeting of the Wildlife Board an additional \$442,400 was allocated for this project, bringing the total allocation to \$692,400, meeting the preliminary estimates received from the Division of Architecture. This action by the Board specifically called for 24 earth-filled ponds.

After a long period of negotiations with the City of San Francisco, a satisfactory agreement was made for sufficient water to operate 36 ponds. The water control structures were constructed to carry this quantity, but because of Architecture's estimates that only 24 ponds could be constructed with the funds available, plans were made accordingly.

a. Authorization to Construct 12 Additional Ponds

There now remains an unexpended balance of approximately \$120,000 out of the total allocation for Moccasin Creek Hatchery. This is more than sufficient to construct 12 additional ponds and two additional residence buildings necessary to house the additional staff that would be required.

A request had been made of the Coordinator to present this matter to the Board for authorization to construct 12 additional ponds and two residence buildings from the unexpended balance already allotted to this project.

As presently estimated, the 24 existing ponds would produce 300,000 fingerlings and 400,000 catchable trout annually. The 12 additional ponds under discussion would produce an additional 288,000 catchable trout, making the total annual production from this hatchery 300,000 fingerlings and 688,000 catchables.

b. Fences Around Residences

The Department has requested authority for construction of fences around the residence buildings as a protection and safeguard for the children of the families employed by and living at the hatchery. Two children have drowned at two of the other hatcheries. The recommended fencing would prevent such occurrences at Moccasin Creek Hatchery. These fences would enclose only the back yard of the houses, and are so designed to require a minimum of material. The estimated cost is \$1,626. Mr. Horn again recommended that such fencing be approved, and stated that sufficient funds are available from the previous allocation for this construction.

Mr. Gordon informed the assemblage that no children have been lost at WCB sponsored hatcheries and that the accidents referred to occurred in the old hatcheries.

c. Moccasin Creek Hatchery Topsoil

In the construction of Moccasin Creek Hatchery, topsoil from the housing area was removed and used in pond construction. The remaining subsoils are not suited for growing lawns, so desirable for maintaining adequate living conditions for the employees' families. Topsoil to a depth of four inches is desired for approximately 3,700 square feet, or about 460 yards.

Mr. Horn recommended that this item also be approved, and advised that sufficient funds are available from previous allocations.

d. Moccasin Creek Planting Trucks Required

With the completion and operation of Moccasin Creek Hatchery, additional planting equipment will be required by April 1, 1955. No provision has been made for planting trucks. Whether this equipment is to be supplied from Wildlife Board allocations or as a budgetary item from Fish and Game Funds should be determined at this time. If this is to be a budgetary item, it will need to be as a deficiency request, since provisions were not made in the 1954-55 budget. The Department of Fish and Game has estimated need for the following equipment at the prices stated:

1 - 1500 gallon tanker complete unit.	\$10,000
2 - 500 gallon tanks mounted on two 1½ ton trucks at \$5,000 each.	10,000
1 - 150 gallon tank and truck (¾ ton).	1,900
2 - ¾ ton pick-ups at \$1,500 each.	<u>3,000</u>
Total cost of equipment	\$24,900

Mr. Horn stated that these tankers, if approved, can be paid for out of previous allocations for the Moccasin Creek Hatchery. He also informed the Board that Mr. Washburn of the Department of Finance thought there was very little likelihood the Department of Fish and Game could get these items as a deficiency item in the budget.

It was pointed out that these trucks and tanks are in the same category as the food preparation machine and other equipment and are essential to the end product of a fish hatchery, that is, fish in the stream where anglers can catch them.

Mr. Gordon explained that a savings of \$120,000 has been effected because the water supply system cost materially less than originally estimated. He further stated that the headgate and water facilities which have been installed will provide sufficient water for an additional series of ponds up to a capacity of 48 ponds.

Mr. Horn then read the following letter from Mr. George Difani, President of the Associated Sportsmen of California dated June 22, 1954:

"The Associated Sportsmen of California have taken action to request that the Wildlife Conservation Board not expand the catchable trout program any further at this time, until more information is gained in reference to the cost of the planting policy, financing of the present program and any other instances that are pertinent to the over-all catchable trout program as being developed."

Mr. Difani further authorized Mr. Horn to state that because the ponds and the houses were part of the original Moccasin Creek plan and program and since the plan was curtailed because of the appearance that sufficient funds would not be available, the Associated Sportsmen of California would make no objection to the additional twelve ponds and the two houses and the other items that have been set forth.

Assemblyman Belotti requested Mr. Horn to specify which trucks could be used between the Moccasin Creek Hatchery and the San Joaquin Hatchery. Mr. Horn replied that just the 1500 gallon one would be used between them.

Assemblyman Belotti stated there will be approximately \$72,000 left of the money allocated to the Moccasin Creek Hatchery when these items were purchased and wished to know what would happen to the balance. Mr. Horn informed him that it has been the practice of the Board to restore unexpended money to the unallocated balance of the Wildlife Restoration Fund after all bills are paid and the account closed.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT THE UNUSED FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE MOCCASIN CREEK HATCHERY BE USED TO MAKE THE REQUESTED ADDITIONS AS OUTLINED BY THE COORDINATOR.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE UNUSED FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE MOCCASIN CREEK HATCHERY BE USED TO MAKE THE REQUESTED ADDITIONS AS OUTLINED BY THE COORDINATOR.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Silva stated that this again does not conflict with the resolution passed by the Fish and Game Commission as it does not require additional administrative and maintenance costs.

8. Development Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area (Project No. 548)

Mr. Horn stated the agenda for the March 24, 1954 meeting contained an item for the further development of the Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area. It was requested this item be held over to the next Board meeting, and is, therefore, presented now. The Board on April 16, 1953, allocated \$100,000 for further development of the original Gray Lodge Refuge and certain portions of the purchased expansion. Because acquisition had not been completed, only \$100,000 was requested, and an additional request would be made at a future date.

The detailed estimates were furnished to all members of the Board and the advisory committee. It was noted on the cover sheet of this material that the recommendations do not represent complete requirements for the overall area development. However, the Department of Fish and Game advised that as far as can be foreseen, this would be the last request for Wildlife Restoration Funds for the development of this area. Such additional work as may be needed will be paid for out of Pittman-Robertson monies.

An inspection of the work done with the \$100,000 previously allocated by the Board indicates an excellent piece of work has been done. Members of the California Farm Bureau Federation, Committee on Wildlife and Public Lands, recently inspected the area and expressed approval and gratification for the type of development that has been done. The detailed plan of development calls for an additional \$262,554, and will permit bringing the entire area up to a high degree of development. It was recommended by the Coordinator that the sum of \$262,554 be allocated from the unallocated balance of the Wildlife Restoration Fund for this purpose.

The supply of water for the newly acquired area would have to be secured from wells. The Department of Fish and Game cannot enter into any agreement with the Biggs-West Gridley Irrigation District which previously furnished water for these lands as the Irrigation District requires that one-half of the cost of the annual water bill be paid in advance. The Department of Finance cannot make payments before the water is delivered. Water is not available from the Irrigation District for maintaining pond levels during duck season because delivery is stopped shortly after October 1, hence this estimate includes a number of wells to provide water for crop production and to maintain the ponds during the fall and winter.

Senator Johnson was informed by Mr. Cloyd that the pump operating cost would be about \$25,000 per year. Mr. Cloyd further stated that the development work is being done by contract and that the cost of operation of the area would be broken up between support money and Pittman-Robertson funds.

Mr. Gordon stated that a recent ruling by the Fish and Wildlife Service recognizes the production of annual crops on a waterfowl management area as a legitimate Pittman-Robertson expenditure.

Mr. Silva asked if this was an additional allocation, and Mr. Horn replied that it was.

Senator Johnson and Mr. Silva stated they would not approve this item until they had a better understanding of the proposal.

Mr. Silva stated he realized the necessity to complete the project for best operation during the approaching waterfowl season, however, since one Board member and four legislative advisors were absent, he requested that action be deferred.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Silva called the meeting to order stating that it has been decided and recommended the Board defer action on this item for the development of Lower Butte Creek Waterfowl Management Area until a further study can be made.

Mr. Silva instructed Mr. Horn to make arrangements for various interested people to meet on the area, make a complete study, and report their findings and opinions to the Board.

9. Buena Vista Lagoon Waterfowl Management Area (Project No. 510)

Mr. Horn reported that this rather controversial project is still posing a number of questions. At the March 26, 1952, and October 13, 1953, meetings of the Wildlife Conservation Board, \$5,000 was earmarked to clean out and test the old Holmes oil well. However, when the Department of Fish and Game endeavored to proceed in accordance with the wishes of the Board as expressed at their above-mentioned meetings, the present owner of this well, Mr. Fennel, reversed all his previous statements that this well would be made available. The conditions that he imposed could not be accepted. This came as a very distinct surprise to the people of the Buena Vista Lagoon area who, like ourselves, proceeded with the assumption that the well could be used as the available source of water.

Following that action, Mr. P. C. Roth, President of the Buena Vista Lagoon Association of Oceanside, in a letter dated May 14, 1954, stated that the City of Carlsbad is going to construct a new sewage disposal plant and that this plant would handle a maximum of 500,000 gallons of water per day with additional space within the site to double the capacity as and when it is required. Mr. Roth estimates that this treatment plant would provide from 200,000 to 500,000 gallons of sufficiently sterile sewage effluent per day to the Buena Vista Lagoon to replace evaporated losses.

Mr. Robert T. Bean, Associate Engineering Geologist of the Division of Water Resources, made a study of the Lagoon and submitted a report dated June 5, 1953. In his conclusions he states: "The yearly loss from a body of water the size of Buena Vista Lagoon by evaporation alone, using a conservative figure of four acre-feet per acre, would amount to about 800 acre-feet per year." Mr. Wallace Dry, engineer for the Department of Fish and Game, in a letter dated December 15, 1953, figuring evaporation and seepage, also estimated that 800 acre-feet of water per year would be required to maintain the desired level of the Lagoon. This would be the equivalent of 96,000 cubic feet per day or 718,000 gallons per day. Mr. Roth's estimate of sewage effluent would be from 200,000 to 500,000 gallons per day. Even the maximum is below the required 718,000 gallons per day arrived at independently by two competent engineers.

It is our understanding that this plant has not yet been built and is in the planning stages. Proponents of the project now request that since a supply of water is assured, the Department proceed with the acquisition of the lands within the Lagoon.

Two questions are posed: (1) Is it the wish of the Board to proceed with this project with the type and amount of water that is indicated in Mr. Roth's letter? (2) If the answer to the above question is yes, should acquisition of the lands be made now or deferred until there is definite assurance the plant will be built and will operate at the capacities reported?

Mr. Horn recommended the latter procedure be adopted.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT ACQUISITION OF THE LANDS BE DEFERRED UNTIL THERE IS DEFINITE ASSURANCE THE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT WILL BE BUILT AND WILL OPERATE AT CAPACITIES NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE BUENA VISTA LAGOON WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Gordon stated that in view of the information laid before the Board and the recommendation of the legislative group, there was only one thing to do--defer action.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE BOARD DEFER ACTION ON THE ACQUISITION OF LANDS IN THE BUENA VISTA LAGOON WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA UNTIL THERE IS DEFINITE ASSURANCE THAT THE SUGGESTED SOURCE OF WATER IS AVAILABLE TO OPERATE AT THE CAPACITIES REQUIRED, AND UNLESS POSITIVE ASSURANCE IS RECEIVED THAT A CERTAIN QUANTITY OF PURE WATER NECESSARY FOR A PROJECT OF THAT KIND IS AVAILABLE, THE PROJECT WOULD LATER BE DROPPED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Silva recalled that there had been a definite commitment made by proponents of this project at a previous Board meeting to the effect that if the Holmes well was tested and did not produce sufficient water, the project would be dropped. Mr. Horn also commented that the Board had carried out the agreed obligation so far as was possible.

NOTE: Minutes of the Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting, October 13, 1953, page 16, fifth paragraph, states: "Assemblyman Ralph R. Cloyed spoke in behalf of the project. He stated that all they are asking is that the well be tested for water."

Page 17, first paragraph: "Senator Hatfield asked who would make the test, and if the \$3,000 is allocated and the test is made and the report indicated that the well did not produce an adequate amount of water, would the proponents of the project be satisfied?

"Assemblyman Cloyed replied that they would be satisfied with the results."

Mr. Horn then read a telegram received from G. W. Philpott, President of the Sportsmen's Council of Central California which stated:

"We oppose any Wildlife Board expenditure on Buena Vista Lagoon Project as being of no value to fish, game, or sportsmen and detrimental to wildlife management."

Mr. Horn commented that \$75,620 had been allocated for this project and the expenses incurred so far for the exploratory work have been to open up and sound the old Holmes oil well. It was found that the well was filled with mud to the 80 foot level.

Mr. Silva pondered the idea of withdrawing money allocated to the Buena Vista Lagoon Waterfowl Management Area, restoring it to the unallocated funds and cancelling the project.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE LEGISLATIVE GROUP TO RECOMMEND DEFERRING ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR THE PROJECT BE RESCINDED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD TO DEFER ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR THE PROJECT BE RESCINDED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT THE ENTIRE BUENA VISTA LAGOON WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA PROJECT BE DROPPED AND THE UNEXPENDED FUNDS RESTORED TO THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Gordon stated that in view of the recommendations of the legislative group and due to the Board's inability to develop a sufficient supply of water for the waterfowl area, he would suggest cancellation of the project.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE BUENA VISTA LAGOON WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA PROJECT BE DROPPED AND THE UNEXPENDED FUNDS RESTORED TO THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Funds for Recovery

Mr. Horn reported that balances from projects either completed or to be abolished were as follows:

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Total Allocation</u>	<u>Total Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance for Recovery</u>
44-6	Merced Fish Screens and Ladders	\$10,000	\$ 2,496.00	\$ 7,504.00
	Feasible portions of project completed.			
51	Sequoia National Forest Flow Maint. Program	39,000	13,574.63	26,325.37
	Board cancelled this project 4-16-53 in order to recover unexpended balance.			
92	Biscar Reservoir Level Maintenance			2,111.22
	Survey and study show project not feasible.			
1008	Airplane Hangar			14.16
	Project completed.			
				<hr/>
			Total	\$35,954.75

It was recommended by Mr. Horn that this sum be recovered and restored to the unallocated balance of the Wildlife Restoration Fund inasmuch as all bills have now been paid and accounts closed on these projects.

Mr. Gordon referred to Project No. 51, Sequoia National Forest Flow Maintenance Program, and inquired why the Board had cancelled the project but did not recover the funds allocated. Mr. Horn replied the accounts had not been closed at that time. The Forest Service who was doing the work presented a revised estimate which the Board thought was not feasible and, therefore, cancelled the project.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE SUM OF \$35,954.75 BE RESTORED TO THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE UNUSED BALANCES FROM THE VARIOUS PROJECTS TALLING \$35,954.75 BE RECOVERED AND RESTORED TO THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Other Business

a. Darrah Springs - Domestic Water Supply (Project No. 23) \$15,000

Mr. Horn reported that the State Department of Public Health made a survey of the domestic water supply at the Darrah Springs Hatchery and found 64 coli-form bacteria per milliliter of water. One per milliliter of water is considered standard. A telephone call was received before the meeting from Mr. Paul of the Department of Fish and Game who had contacted the California Department of Public Health officials in regard to this situation. The Public Health Service recommended strongly that both a filter and a chlorination plant be installed to supply adequately pure water for the 40 people living at the hatchery. Mr. Dry of the Department of Fish and Game has designed a suitable water treatment system which has been approved by the State Department of Public Health and which would do the job adequately. The Public Health Department expressed the feeling that anything less would not suffice. The cost of the water treatment system would be \$14,825.

Mr. Horn further reported that the County Health Department did not have jurisdiction over the water supply in Darrah Springs and that no survey was made of the water at the time of constructing the hatchery. He felt the Department of Fish and Game should take necessary steps to safeguard the health of its employees.

Senator Johnson asked if this condition was due to the work of the hatchery. Mr. Horn answered that it was not due to hatchery work and that this condition has been prevalent for 20 years or more and is due in part to the hog ranches located upstream from the hatchery.

Mr. Silva was informed by Mr. Horn that if the Board were to approve the project, the money would have to be allocated from the unallocated balance of the Wildlife Restoration Fund.

Warden Johnston commented that he was familiar with the area. He stated hogs run wild the year around, a condition which has existed for 40 or 50 years, and naturally the drainage reaches the streams and pollutes water.

Senator Johnson felt that this condition was something that should have been investigated before the Board appropriated money for the hatchery, but since it is for the safeguard of employees' health, he would approve the project.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THE ALLOCATION OF \$15,000 FOR A FILTER AND CHLORINATION PLANT FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY OF THE DARRAH SPRINGS HATCHERY.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE APPROPRIATION OF \$15,000 FOR A FILTER AND CHLORINATION PLANT FOR TREATMENT OF THE DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY OF THE DARRAH SPRINGS HATCHERY.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Board Personnel

Mr. Horn reported that Mr. Woodhull who had been loaned to the Board would return to the Department on July 1. His help will be available when necessary, but it will not be full time. There is a budgetary provision for a certain number of employees, and Mr. Horn requested that a replacement for Mr. Woodhull be made from present budgeted funds on a full-time basis.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT THE COORDINATOR'S REQUEST TO FILL THE BUDGETED POSITION BE GRANTED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE BOARD GRANT THE COORDINATOR'S REQUEST TO FILL THE BUDGETED POSITION ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Horn stated that at the last Board meeting he had requested authority to hire an engineer and a helper for warmwater fish project surveys. Two men have been loaned by the Department of Architecture, but it was felt the survey work would be speeded up and the cost of the surveys reduced by having two rodmen work along with the engineer. This additional rodman would also be hired for the three months' duration authorized previously.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT THE COORDINATOR'S REQUEST TO HIRE ANOTHER RODMAN TO WORK WITH THE ENGINEER BE GRANTED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE BOARD AUTHORIZE THE COORDINATOR TO HIRE ANOTHER RODMAN TO WORK WITH THE ENGINEER ON THE WARMWATER FISH SURVEYS FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Glenn County or Mendocino Forest Stream Flow Maintenance Program (Proj. 12)

Mr. Horn reported that a request has been made to take \$15,000 reserved for the Mendocino Flow Maintenance Program for flow maintenance use at other points in Glenn County. The Coordinator along with Assemblyman Lowrey, sportsmen of Glenn County, and Forest Service and Fish and Game employees went to Plaskett Meadows to look over sites for proposed stream flow maintenance dams. Estimates made by the Forest Service and reviewed

by the Department of Fish and Game did not arrive in time to be placed on the agenda. In the interim, some of the sportsmen and the Planning Commission of Glenn County requested that \$100,000 from the unallocated balance of the Wildlife Restoration Fund be set up as a reserve for stream flow maintenance work in Glenn County. A telegram dated June 28, 1954, was received from the Associated Sportsmen of California which reads:

"ASC endorses and recommends approval of check dam program in Mendocino National Forests. Please call this to attention of Senator Lowrey."

Senator Johnson announced that Assemblyman Lowrey was not able to be present at this meeting and had asked him to defer any action regarding Plaskett Meadows until the next meeting. Mr. Silva declared that the Board will defer action on this item.

Mr. Horn related that in response to the request for funds he had stated past action of the Board has been to allocate specific amounts for projects predicated upon complete surveys and cost estimates rather than asking for a blanket amount of money to be held in reserve.

Assemblyman Belotti suggested that since there does not seem to be firm engineering studies and cost estimates, no action should be taken until they are completed. Mr. Gordon concurred that the Board should appropriate money for a given project only after engineering studies were made rather than set up a blanket reserve.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY SENATOR JOHNSON, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD THAT ALLOCATION OF MONEY FOR STREAM FLOW IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PROJECTS BE BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STUDIES MADE PREVIOUSLY.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GORDON, SECONDED BY MR. SILVA, THAT THE BOARD ALLOCATE MONEY FOR STREAM FLOW IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PROJECTS ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN SPECIFICALLY STUDIED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. Mr. Horn advised the Board that at the March 24, 1954, meeting, the Board allocated \$15,000 for title search, appraisal cost, and water survey for the San Joaquin Waterfowl Management Area. He stated that an Attorney General's opinion was requested regarding procedure of acquisition of lands. The Attorney General ruled that the Department or the Commission could proceed with the acquisition of lands independently of the Public Works Board, that the Public Works Board could proceed with acquisition of lands by condemnation proceedings, but the Department must acquire lands through willing or negotiated sales, and that the two methods could not be combined. The \$15,000 was set up for the purpose of acquiring

options, title search, and seeking water resources, and the Department now has the bulk of the land involved under option. Mr. Horn requested instructions from the Board, whether the Department should proceed with the title search, water surveys, and appraisals inasmuch as time is running on the options. He stated that all were willing sales and the owners have stated they would negotiate in the event appraisals set a price below the asking price.

Mr. Silva instructed Mr. Horn to proceed with the options, get the appraisals, and complete the job up to the point of giving it to the Board. He felt that this method was working out smoothly and satisfactorily and that a great deal of time and money has been saved by using this method rather than the machinery of the Public Works Board.

Mr. Si Becht, Secretary of the Tuolumne County Fish and Game Inc., thanked the Board for the action they had taken for the Moccasin Creek Hatchery.

Mr. George Kovacs of the Calaveras County Sportsmans Club commended the Board for their action in initiating the Moccasin Creek Hatchery.

The Chairman, Mr. Silva, requested Mr. Horn to acknowledge the good wishes and thanks of the Tuolumne and Calaveras County sportsmen's clubs.

Mr. Gordon stated a vote of thanks should go to the Tuolumne County Fish and Game Inc. for taking charge of the program and entertainment to follow, and especially to Mr. Vernon Rue who is in charge of the dedication of the hatchery.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Status of allocations and unobligated balance as of June 29, 1954, Board action.

With the foregoing actions, the total allocations to various classifications of projects are as follows:

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects (17)	\$4,414,681
b. Warmwater and Other Fish Projects (12).	287,335
c. Flow Maintenance and Stream Improvement Projects (17)	446,544
d. Screen and Ladder Projects (13)	375,186
e. State Game Farms (4)	105,644
f. Other Upland Game Projects (4)	440,909
g. Waterfowl Management Projects (7)	4,335,642
h. General Projects (4)	<u>68,477</u>
	\$10,474,418

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

1. Mendocino National Forest Stream Improvement and Flow Maintenance Program, \$15,000;
2. Colorado River Recreational Development, \$50,000;
3. Salton Sea Fisheries Project, \$46,000.

The present unallocated balance in the Wildlife Restoration Fund is about \$1,182,455.