

State of California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes, Meeting of January 9, 1969

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State of California
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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes, Meeting of January 9, 1969

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in the first floor auditorium of the Employment Building, 722 Capitol Mall, in Sacramento, California, on January 9, 1969. The meeting was called to order by Chairman William P. Elser at 1:40 p.m.

1. Roll Call

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Wm. P. Elser	Chairman
	W. T. Shannon	Member
	Senator Robert J. Lagomarsino	Joint Interim Committee
	Senator Fred W. Marler, Jr.	" " "
	Assemblywoman Pauline L. Davis	" " "
	Assemblyman Frank P. Belotti	" " "
	Raymond J. Nesbit	Executive Officer
	Alvin G. Rutsch	Assistant Executive Officer
	John Wentzel	Field Agent
	Aima Koyasako	Secretary
	Bella Applebaum	Accounting Technician
<u>ABSENT:</u>	James S. Dwight	Member
	Senator Lewis F. Sherman	Joint Interim Committee

OTHERS PRESENT:

A. F. Withee	Mayor, Anderson
John Sharrah	Anderson
R. L. Shearer	Mayor pro tem, Anderson
J. M. Ekwall	Chairman, Anderson Recreation Comm.
Karen Ericson	High School Representative, Rec. Commission
Yvonne Fillmore	Anderson
Sally Lenser	Anderson
Joe Speer	Councilman, Anderson
Herb Brown	Councilman, Anderson
Wm. F. Candrian	Anderson Recreation Council
Merritt Nelson	Redding Recreation Department
Merlin McGinnis	County Recreation Comm., Shasta Co.
Arnold S. Rummelsburg	Secretary, Shasta Co. Rec. Comm.
John Swetka	PG&E Co.
Norman A. Wagoner	Supervisor, Shasta County
Walter C. Vaughn	Shasta Co. Recreation Comm.
Robert Macklin	Dept. of Fish and Game
Alex Calhoun	" " "
C. A. McCullough	Dept. of Water Resources
George Reiner	" " "

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OTHERS PRESENT: (Continued)

Donna Anderson	Wildlife Conservation Board
David E. Pelgen	Department of Water Resources
Ernest F. Banker	Supervisor, Mendocino County
Joseph Scaramella	Supervisor, Mendocino County
Terry Smith	Assemblyman Crown's Office, Ways and Means Comm.
Les Edgerton	Fish and Game Commission
Jerry Harrell	Dept. of Fish and Game
Dave Zeiner	" " "
Ben Glading	" " "
John Stull	Assemblyman, 80th District
David Rorick, Jr.	Nature Conservancy, Buena Vista Lagoon Project Chairman
F. S. Foote, Jr.	Nature Conservancy, Field Rep.
Keith R. Artz	Nature Conservancy, Field Rep.
Richard Donaldson	Dept. of Finance
Aubrey Johnston	Sacramento
August J. Avila	Supervisor, Mendocino County
George D. Difani	California Wildlife Federation
Trev Wright	Dept. of Fish and Game

2. Approval of Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. SHANNON, SECONDED BY SENATOR MARLER,
AS A JOINT MOTION, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 20 AND 25, 1968, MEETING.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Status of Funds

As of the close of the meeting on July 25, 1968, the amount allocated to
projects from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, since the Board's inception in
1947, aggregated \$22,545,783.88.*

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects	\$4,709,541.88
b. Fish Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	3,349,811.73
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$1,762,082.93
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	229,081.94
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	439,503.32
4. Marine Habitat	83,753.36
5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	835,390.18
c. Fishing Access Projects	7,428,113.40
1. Coastal Access	866,484.43
2. River, Stream and Bay Access	2,030,702.69
3. Lake, Reservoir & Salton Sea Access	1,994,698.36
4. Piers	2,536,227.92
d. Game Farm Projects	146,894.49

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Status of Funds (continued)

e. Game Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	6,165,913.58
1. Wildlife Areas	5,727,464.46
2. Miscellaneous Game Habitat Development	438,449.12
f. Hunting Access	473,711.72
g. Miscellaneous Projects	238,297.08
s. Special Project Allocations	33,500.00
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Total Allocated to Projects	\$22,545,783.88

*Includes \$312,859.57 reimbursed under Federal Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1965-66 F.Y.; \$134,955.02 reimbursed under Land and Water Conservation Fund Program; and \$33,509.00 reimbursed under Anadromous Fish Act Program.

Operating Costs:

FY 47/48 thru 65/66 Actual	\$1,084,441.68
FY 66/67 Estimated	100,217.00
FY 67/68 Estimated	101,294.00
FY 68/69 Estimated	104,027.00
Total Actual and Estimated Operating Costs	\$1,389,979.68

RECAPITULATION:

Allocations for Projects	\$22,545,783.88
Expenses of Operation	1,389,979.68
Total Expended or Obligated	\$23,935,763.56
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Total Funds Appropriated	\$21,750,000.00
Approp. made available 7/1/68	750,000.00
Int. on Surplus Money Inv. Thru 6/30/68	1,083,328.70
Miscellaneous Revenue thru 67/68 FY	199,158.92
Miscellaneous Revenue 68/69 FY	321.00
Reimbursement from Accelerated Pub. Works Prog.	312,859.57
Reimbursement from Land and Water Cons. Fund	134,955.02
Reimbursement from Anadromous Fish Act Program	33,509.00
Total Accountability	\$24,264,132.21
Total Expended or Obligated	- 23,935,763.56
Available thru 6/30/69	\$328,368.65

Mr. Nesbit, the Executive Officer, advised that subsequent to preparation of the agenda, a partial reimbursement in the amount of \$180,027.65 was received from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program for the American River Access Project. This, along with other recovery of funds proposed for this meeting, will total \$223,857.55 and will make \$552,226.20 available as of the beginning of the meeting.

4. Recovery of Funds

Mr. Nesbit recommended the recovery of funds in the amount of \$223,857.55 representing balances remaining in completed projects or federal reimbursements to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and closure of the project accounts as indicated.

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Bishop Creek Test Hatchery (Owens Valley Hatchery)

Allocation	\$10,000.00
Expenditures	2,159.99
Balance for recovery	\$ 7,840.01

Moccasin Creek Hatchery Expansion

Allocation	\$45,000.00
Expenditures	44,990.23
Balance for recovery	\$ 9.77

South Fork Eel River Tributaries Stream Clearance

Allocation	\$18,100.00
Expenditures	17,508.69
Balance for recovery	\$ 591.31

Navarro River Stream Clearance

Allocation	\$35,000.00
Expenditures	18,025.20
Balance for recovery	\$16,974.80

Gazos Creek Access

Allocation	\$36,600.00
Expenditures	36,309.61
Balance for recovery	\$ 290.39

Heeser Drive Access

Allocation	\$49,200.00
Expenditures	49,200.00
Balance for recovery	\$ 0.00

West Valley Reservoir Fishing Access

Allocation	\$35,700.00
Expenditures	\$34,565.15
*Reimbursement	16,988.77
WCB expenditures	17,576.38
Balance for recovery	\$18,123.62

*This is the authorized reimbursement to the WCB under the Federal Land and Water Conservation Act Program.

American River Access (Project account to remain open)

Allocation	\$185,000.00
Unexpended Balance	4,972.35
Partial LWCF Reimbursement,	
Amount to be recovered	\$180,027.65

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IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD CLOSE THE ACCOUNTS OF THE PROJECTS AND RECOVER THE REIMBURSEMENTS AND UNEXPENDED BALANCES AS REQUESTED. ALSO, THAT THE \$180,027.65 REIMBURSEMENT RECEIVED THUS FAR FOR THE AMERICAN RIVER FISHING ACCESS PROJECT BE RECOVERED AT THIS TIME. ALL OF THE SUMS TOTALING \$223,857.55 ARE TO BE RESTORED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD CLOSE THE ACCOUNTS OF THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS AND RECOVER THE REIMBURSEMENTS AND UNEXPENDED BALANCES AS FOLLOWS:

Bishop Creek Test Hatchery (Owens Valley Hatchery)	\$7,840.01
Moccasin Creek Hatchery Expansion	9.77
South Fork Eel River Tributaries Stream Clearance	591.31
Navarro River Stream Clearance	16,974.80
Gazos Creek Access	290.39
Heeser Drive Access	0.00
West Valley Reservoir Fishing Access	18,123.62

ALSO, THAT THE \$180,027.65 REIMBURSEMENT RECEIVED THUS FAR FOR THE AMERICAN RIVER FISHING ACCESS PROJECT BE RECOVERED AT THIS TIME. ALL OF THE SUMS TOTALING \$223,857.55 ARE TO BE RESTORED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Report of Accomplishments During 1968

As requested by the Chairman and as it is customary to keep Board members informed as to the progress of various projects, the Executive Officer presented the following as his report of accomplishments for 1968.

The Wildlife Conservation Board - 1968

Twenty-four Wildlife Conservation Board projects were completed during calendar year 1968 and were opened to serve the sportsmen of the State. Of these, fifteen are being operated and maintained by either counties or cities and nine are Department of Fish and Game facilities. At year's end there were a total of 225 projects complete and in operation throughout the state. Some of the 1968 projects highlighted are summarized.

Lake Cuyamaca, a new 110 acre lake in San Diego County, was created in the old lake basin and although open only since last May has proven to be a very popular and productive new fishing lake. The rebuilt Phoenix Dam in

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Marin County is now impounding water and fishermen will enjoy this fine fishing water with the opening of trout season.

At year's end the San Simeon fishing pier, a joint venture with the County of San Luis Obispo, was completed and open to public use. Located near the entrance to Hearst Castle, it is expected to be used by thousands daily, especially during the summer season.

One of the South's outstanding projects was assured with the WCB purchase of the 800 acre Mojave River Wildlife Area near Victorville. This cooperative project will be developed and operated by San Bernardino County. Described as a "veritable oasis", it includes 2 miles of river frontage in an area which is unusual both for its surface water and ground water supply. The site already has one 50 acre lake and 12 smaller lakes or ponds used by a wide variety of wildlife, as well as for fishing. A trout hatchery site is also a possibility due to good quality water in abundance.

The new million dollar American River Trout Hatchery was completed by WCB and added to the Department's hatchery system. This adjoins the existing Nimbus Salmon-Steelhead Hatchery. The new plant is now producing trout for streams and lakes in 21 counties in Central California.

The Port Hueneme Pier in Ventura County was dedicated on October 12, 1968, and has already received widespread use. Fishing has been good, an unexpected bonus being the salmon caught during the first few weeks the pier was open. This three-way project was financed by the Wildlife Conservation Board, the City of Port Hueneme and Ventura County.

In addition to the projects completed during 1968, there were twenty-two projects authorized and funded by the Board which are in some stage of design or construction.

Each year the WCB staff summarizes the visitor days of use from information provided by the operators of all projects. A preliminary tabulation indicates a total user day figure of 9 million visitors, up from 8.5 million last year.

The federal land and water conservation fund program was participated in again this year with 3 of the 24 completed projects qualifying for a 50% reimbursement.

Many of the 22 projects presently being designed or under construction are expected to be completed during 1969. Construction should start on two large projects, the Mad River and the Imperial hatcheries, but they will not be completed until 1970. Completion of the Aliso Beach Pier is also planned for 1970.

A major project for 1969 will be the mid-summer completion of the Cabrillo Beach fishing pier at San Pedro. This will be another intensively used pier located in a highly urban area. Placed inside the Los Angeles harbor, it is expected to receive over $\frac{1}{2}$ million users annually. The City of Los Angeles and the WCB will each furnish one-half the funding. The project has qualified for federal land and water conservation funds so one-half the total pier cost will be returned to the WCB and the City.

Assemblywoman Davis asked if the problem of pollution in the area of the San Pedro Pier had been studied. Mr. Nesbit advised that such problem had been studied by the County of Los Angeles, and it was their report that there are no permanent pollution problems. Occasionally some oil spills are experienced, but the fishery in the harbor has been evaluated and found that it has not been affected by pollution. It was pointed out by Mr. Nesbit that in any area of intensive use there is a potential for temporary type pollution. Assemblywoman Davis advised that she is in possession of a report relative to this problem and requested that it be reviewed by staff.

The Chairman, Mr. Elser, asked about the follow-up procedures of the staff to see that cooperative projects are being properly operated and maintained by cities and counties. Mr. Nesbit informed him that there are no follow-up procedures, since the small staff precludes such inspections, but that the staff attempts to include them in their itinerary during field trips throughout the state. He felt the best follow-up of poorly maintained projects is the public who note the responsible maintaining agency and write letters of complaints to them.

Mr. Elser mentioned that it had been called to his attention that some piers have turned into a hippie-type hangout and their presence was affecting the number and type of people who could fish there. It was his feeling that such activity should be called to the attention of the responsible agency so that it may be more properly policed. Mr. Nesbit acknowledged that this type of thing was occurring, but that these people are not in violation of any ordinance and the local jurisdiction has no control in prohibiting their congregation. Mr. Elser noted that any dereliction of O&M responsibilities on the part of local agencies would be cause for the WCB to critically review any request by the cities or counties for a new project in their area or for additional funding for an established project.

6. Progress Reports on Some Major Projects

a. Aliso Beach Fishing Pier, Orange County - A progress report

At the July 20, 1968, meeting the staff recommended funds be allocated for a feasibility study and preparation of plans for this project, and the Board subsequently allocated \$25,000, to be matched by an equal amount from the County of Orange.

At the time of authorization of the project and allocation of funds, the project was designated as the South Laguna Fishing Pier. The County has requested that the pier be officially designated as the Aliso Beach Fishing Pier so as to better identify it with its location at the mouth of Aliso Creek.

Pursuant to the Board's authorization and allocation of funds for design, the staff, together with county officials, has selected an engineering firm and has entered into an agreement with the County for the completion of the plans. The design will be done by the reputable Ferver-Dorland and Associates of San Diego who did such an outstanding job on the WCB Ocean Beach Fishing Pier in San Diego County.

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As a result of recent federal approval of the WCB application for participating Land and Water Conservation Funds on the San Pedro Fishing Pier, the first pier to be so approved, staff is encouraged to apply for federal funds on this project also. Accordingly, it was recommended by Mr. Nesbit that staff be authorized to make application for 50 percent matching fund reimbursement under the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program for the cost of design and construction of this project. It was further recommended that references previously made to the South Laguna Fishing Pier be changed to reflect the name suggested by the County, "Aliso Beach Fishing Pier".

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY SENATOR LAGOMARSINO, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE CHANGE OF NAME FROM SOUTH LAGUNA FISHING PIER TO ALISO BEACH FISHING PIER, ORANGE COUNTY; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM, WHICH REIMBURSEMENT, WHEN RECEIVED, WILL BE DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AND THE COUNTY OF ORANGE.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE CHANGE OF NAME FROM SOUTH LAGUNA FISHING PIER TO ALISO BEACH FISHING PIER, ORANGE COUNTY; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM, WHICH REIMBURSEMENT, WHEN RECEIVED, WILL BE DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AND THE COUNTY OF ORANGE.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.b. San Pedro Pier - A progress report

Early in 1968, the pier design was completed and bids were opened in July, 1968. At the last meeting, shortly after the bid opening, the Board allocated the State's share of the pier cost. The City of Los Angeles followed with a similar allocation, and construction has been started by the Guy F. Atkinson Company, the low bidder. The U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation has approved the project as qualifying for Land and Water Conservation Fund reimbursement for one-half the cost of both pier design and construction.

It is expected that the San Pedro fishing pier will be another important fishing project for Southern California upon its completion in the fall of 1969.

Mr. Nesbit assured the Board that staff will follow-up on the pollution question in L.A. harbor and will report back at another meeting. Assemblywoman Davis stated that although regional water quality control boards set up standards, they are varying standards. Under existing statutes, if the general public is unhappy with standards set by a

regional board, we can request modification thereof and ask for higher standards.

6.c. Mad River Salmon-Steelhead Hatchery, Humboldt Co. - A progress report

Final plans for this salmon-steelhead hatchery which was approved by the Board on September 8, 1965, as a Bond Act project are nearing completion, and the Office of Architecture and Construction is expected to advertise for bids early in the spring of 1969.

As a condition precedent to the approval of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for matching federal Anadromous Fish Act funds, a thorough well water supply survey, including continuous test pumping of wells, had to be conducted. This survey has now been completed by the Department of Water Resources, and it confirms the adequacy of the well field as a source of water for the hatchery.

It is expected that the necessary federal approvals will be received in time to permit the Office of Architecture and Construction to proceed as scheduled. Completion of construction remains on schedule for the fall of 1970.

Assemblywoman Davis stated she is very much in favor of this hatchery on the Mad River, but asked if this would in any way preclude consideration of a hatchery on the Smith River. Mr. Nesbit advised that the Department of Fish and Game spent two years locating the best possible site as replacement for the Cedar Creek Hatchery and the Mad River site was selected. He did not feel its location would preclude another hatchery on the Smith River or another suitable location if it were needed. Mr. Bob Macklin, Supervisor of Hatcheries, advised that no plans for a hatchery on the Smith River are being considered at the present time.

Assemblywoman Davis pointed out the need for development of tributary streams, particularly where there are water structures contemplated. This, she pointed out, would not be in competition with the hatchery program, but an augmentation or improvement of natural habitat, particularly below the proposed Dos Rios Dam. Mr. Shannon advised that there are studies in progress as to how to preserve the fishery below Dos Rios Dam and also how to enhance it.

In answer to Assemblyman Belotti's request for a progress report on the Cedar Creek access, Mr. Nesbit advised that there is no legal access at the present time. It would require purchase of private lands to provide such public access, but the owner is not willing to sell. The Department still owns the former hatchery property site. However, since the 1964-65 flood, when much of the gravel was moved out and silt deposited, there has not been much demand for public access.

Assemblyman Belotti suggested that the Board staff study the possibility of using the site as an operational base, possibly for fish rescue work. The Chairman so requested and ordered that a detailed report be provided at the next meeting as to what can be accomplished there.

6.d. Alameda Fishing Pier - Proposed - A progress report

At the August 25, 1966, meeting, the Board instructed staff to work with the City of Alameda toward the development of a fishing pier. Following this action, staff has made a number of contacts with city officials and has viewed pier sites. The best site appears to be at the old Maritime Service Officers School adjoining the Memorial Park State Beach.

To satisfy the WCB requirement for a proprietary interest in the site it will be necessary for the City to obtain possession of the land necessary to provide access and parking. At a meeting recently with city officials, Mayor McCall assigned City Attorney Fred Cunningham the responsibility of obtaining the necessary land interest. This apparently will involve the negotiation of a new lease for a small part of the subject property which is owned by the State Park System but is operated by the East Bay Regional Park District. When the City of Alameda obtains the right to construct and operate a fishing pier at this site, it is expected that a City-WCB cooperative project will be submitted to the Board for design funds.

A pier in the heavily populated Alameda area would receive very high numbers of visitor days. Fishing in this area is improving, and it is expected that a pier at this location would attract as many as 300,000 persons annually. Staff is hopeful that the City will be successful in their land negotiations. This pier is also expected to qualify as a Land and Water Conservation Fund project.

6.e. State Water Project Fishing Access - A progress report

At the February 21, 1968, meeting, the Board included the State Water Project Aqueduct for consideration as part of the Board's statewide access program. Subsequently, Senator Cologne's S.B. 261 was enacted into law on June 28, 1968. This measure provides for WCB development of fishing access sites on the aqueduct in accordance with Board procedures. It also requires the Department of Water Resources to install necessary safety devices and to provide the necessary lands upon which to develop access sites.

The Department of Water Resources has agreed to allow the use of some of the existing service roads where compatible with overall operations.

Since it was decided that projects would be developed in areas where a fishery was established, the Department of Fish and Game conducted net samplings in various locations of the aqueduct. Populations of legal size striped bass, plus catfish and other species, have been found primarily in the portion of the aqueduct downstream from O'Neill Forebay to Dos Amigos Pumping Plant in Merced County. Areas sampled in Fresno County below Dos Amigos had sizeable populations of stripers and other fish, but the stripers were of sub-legal size. These are expected to reach legal size in about a year.

A new idea for fishing access to the California Aqueduct appears to have considerable merit. This would consist of fishing platforms or decks cantilevered out from road bridges crossing the aqueduct. Use of over-shoots or wasteways which cross the aqueduct are also being contemplated as fishing platforms.

Department of Fish and Game biologists state that under bridges are natural resting and feeding places for striped bass and other fish. Two of these sites have been tentatively selected in Merced County, south of O'Neill Forebay. Preliminary plans are now being developed for the platforms. In addition, one site has been selected in northern Merced County for a bank fishing access. Parking will be provided at both bridge sites and the bank fishing area on project land, adjacent to aqueduct service roads.

Staff has been working with Merced County personnel and has recently received a resolution from the Merced County Board of Supervisors, which expresses support for fishing access to the aqueduct and agrees to maintain such sites open and free to the public.

Mr. Nesbit anticipated that one or more proposed projects will be designed and ready to submit to the Board at an early meeting. He also anticipated that application could be made for matching funds under the federal land and water conservation fund program to help finance these projects.

Assemblywoman Davis commented that these projects are legally the responsibility of the Department of Water Resources and that she did not wish to see this pattern continue, since this could absorb both pari-mutuel and land and water conservation funds. She stated that as far as WCB funding for recreational facilities at State Water Projects was concerned, the provision of fishing access on the aqueduct would be the only funding she would approve.

6.f. Imperial Valley Warmwater Hatchery, Imperial County - A progress report

At the last meeting of the Board this project was approved for inclusion in the 1969-70 Budget Bill under the State Beach, Park, Recreational, and Historical Facilities Bond Act program and \$46,000 was allocated from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for preparation of working drawings and specifications by the Office of Architecture and Construction.

The working drawings and specifications have been substantially completed for the estimated \$1,100,000 hatchery. Staff, together with the Department of Fish and Game fisheries personnel, has reviewed the plans, and on the authorization given by the Board has included the necessary Bond Act funds for construction in the budget.

With the approval of this item in the 1969-70 budget, the contract for construction is expected to be let by the Office of Architecture and Construction during the fall of 1969. Hatchery completion would then be expected by the fall of 1970.

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The Department of Fish and Game reports that the test hatchery during its third year of operation continues to show excellent growth of spring spawned channel catfish. The largest have been averaging 3.5 to the pound. The fish should easily attain planting size of 2 per pound by next spring. There have been no disease problems which could not be readily solved. Water temperatures have remained well within the tolerance limits.

In order to cover the cost of this hatchery construction, it will be necessary to use the balance of the Bond funds, as well as all uncommitted balances remaining in the various Bond project accounts. Since unused funds do not ordinarily revert for several years, it was recommended by Mr. Nesbit that the Board authorize staff to request reversion of all uncommitted balances to fund the Imperial Valley Warmwater Hatchery in the 1969-70 budget.

Assemblywoman Davis cautioned that if the three year period of availability has not expired and if the intent of the Board is to revert these funds for use for the Imperial Valley Warmwater Hatchery, we must see that proper language is employed to protect these funds.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR LAGOMARSINO, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AUTHORIZE STAFF TO REQUEST RECOVERY OF UNCOMMITTED BALANCES IN THE VARIOUS BOND FUND PROJECT ACCOUNTS, MAKING SUCH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE IMPERIAL VALLEY WARMWATER HATCHERY CONSTRUCTION IN THE 1969-70 BUDGET REQUEST.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AUTHORIZE STAFF TO REQUEST RECOVERY OF UNCOMMITTED BALANCES IN THE VARIOUS BOND FUND PROJECT ACCOUNTS, MAKING SUCH FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE IMPERIAL VALLEY WARMWATER HATCHERY CONSTRUCTION IN THE 1969-70 BUDGET REQUEST.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Anderson (Sacramento River) Fishing Access, Shasta County \$99,000.00

Two years ago the Board approved the Sacramento River fishing access project at Anderson, Shasta County, and allocated \$135,000 to acquire the land and provide basic facilities. One hundred thirty acres of land with 1½ miles of river frontage was purchased by the Wildlife Conservation Board. The project was dedicated on June 18, 1967, and has been a very successful one. Much credit goes to the efficient operation by the City of Anderson which is also acquiring more adjoining land away from the river for park purposes. Salmon and steelhead fishing is good in this part of the river and the gravel operation holes have been converted into bass ponds. During the first year of operation there were 25,000 user days.

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An opportunity has developed to extend the project by the purchase of more river frontage for fishing access. The fair market value has been determined by appraisal at \$85,000 for approximately 100 acres of land. The owners have signed an option agreeing to sale of the property to the State at the appraised value. This land is in two parcels of nearly equal size. Parcel No. 1 would extend the river and slough frontage by 3,000 feet. Parcel No. 2 is a portion of an island in the river with over one mile of frontage. If purchased, this extended river frontage would have widespread use by fishermen. A pedestrian bridge would be built to provide island access. Other development would consist of improving the roadway, some fencing, and site improvement on the island.

The City of Anderson has agreed to include this additional frontage in the existing project and to operate and maintain it after it has been acquired.

Costs are as follows:

Exercising of existing option	\$85,000
Title and appraisal cost and contingency	4,000
Development, site preparation, service road, signs, fences & foot bridge	<u>10,000</u>
TOTAL	\$99,000

Mr. Nesbit recommended this acquisition and development to be added to the existing Anderson (Sacramento River) Fishing Access and that \$99,000 be allocated for this purpose. It was his further recommendation that staff be authorized to make application for 50% matching fund reimbursement under the federal land and water conservation fund program. He further noted that the City of Anderson has undertaken a most ambitious project, committing themselves to purchase of additional property on an incremental basis to form this recreational area.

The tremendous local interest in this project was demonstrated by the large delegation from the City of Anderson. The group was asked to stand and be recognized and special note was made by Mayor Withee of the presence of Karen Ericson, a high school representative on the Recreation Commission and an outstanding student.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, SECONDED BY SENATOR MARLER, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE EXPANSION OF THE ANDERSON (SACRAMENTO RIVER) FISHING ACCESS, SHASTA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$99,000 FOR ACQUISITION OF LANDS UNDER OPTION AND FOR DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED. THE STAFF IS FURTHER AUTHORIZED

TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE EXPANSION OF THE ANDERSON (SACRAMENTO RIVER) FISHING ACCESS, SHASTA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$99,000 FOR ACQUISITION OF LANDS UNDER OPTION AND FOR DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED. THE STAFF IS FURTHER AUTHORIZED TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Lake Britton Access, Shasta County \$51,000.00

The County of Shasta has proposed the development of a fishing access on Lake Britton. This attractive P.G.&E. reservoir is on the upper Pit River, 65 miles northeast of Redding, contains 1,270 surface acres, and seldom fluctuates over five feet.

The only launching facilities are provided by McArthur-Burney Falls State Park near the dam. Major recreational use of the lake is presently in that area. The proposed access site is on the upper end of the reservoir, near the Highway 89 lake crossing. In recent years, P.G.&E. has constructed additional camping and recreational facilities on the north shore, which could be served handily by the fishing access site. The upper end of the reservoir is utilized more by fishermen than by other boaters.

The Department of Fish and Game in their fisheries evaluation supports the project and indicates recreational use of this water is growing steadily. The Department points out that Lake Britton is open to fishing, including trout, the entire year. Black bass, catfish, and trout are the species most commonly caught. As part of its general recreation program, P.G.&E. is stocking 8,800 lbs. of 3/4 to one pound trout in the lake annually. It is anticipated that these large trout will compete favorably with rough fish and provide a trophy trout fishery.

The County will administer the construction contract, provide the State a long term lease of the project area and, by resolution, has agreed to operate and maintain the project open and free to the public. In addition the County and P.G.&E. will jointly reconstruct and improve over 1/4 mile of access road from Highway 89 to the project area.

The County has prepared a plan and cost estimate for the project which have been reviewed by WCB staff.

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Cost estimates are as follows:

Access Road	\$ 6,500.00
Parking Area	14,000.00
Launching Ramp and Boat Dock	15,000.00
Well and Pump	2,200.00
Drainage Facilities	2,500.00
Sanitary Facilities	3,100.00
Subtotal	<u>\$43,300.00</u>
Contingencies	<u>7,700.00</u>
TOTAL	\$51,000.00

It was Mr. Nesbit's recommendation the project be approved, that \$51,000 be allocated therefor, and that staff and the Department be authorized to proceed with the project substantially as planned, including application for federal matching funds under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program. He noted the endorsements received from the Fall River Valley Chamber of Commerce, Burney Chamber of Commerce, Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association, and the County of Shasta.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR MARLER, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE LAKE BRITTON FISHING ACCESS, SHASTA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$51,000 FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED. THE STAFF IS FURTHER AUTHORIZED TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE LAKE BRITTON FISHING ACCESS, SHASTA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$51,000 FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED. THE STAFF IS FURTHER AUTHORIZED TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Elser was not aware of any projects which did not qualify for land and water conservation funds and asked what would happen should any project be disqualified. Mr. Nesbit advised that there has been only one, the Lagoon Creek project located in the National Redwood Park in Del Norte County, which did not qualify for land and water conservation funding because of federal regulations which prohibit use of federal matching funds on lands maintained by a federal agency. This project, and any others not qualifying for land and water conservation funds, will be completely funded by the Board. Mr. Nesbit was quite certain that the Lake Britton project would qualify under this program.

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Assemblywoman Davis asked that Supervisor Norman Wagoner be recognized. The following people were also introduced: Merlin McGuinnis, Chairman, County Recreation Commission; Walter Vaughn, County Recreation Commission and Burney Chamber of Commerce; Merrit Nelson, Recreation Director, City of Redding; John Swetka, Manager, Land Department, PG&E, Shasta Division; and Arnold Rummelsburg, Secretary, County Recreation Commission.

Fishing Easements: A proposed new program

Mr. Nesbit related that the fishing public in California has long enjoyed free access to most of our streams. We now find an increasing number of miles of streams being closed to public use because groups, clubs, or individuals have acquired the access rights. In this way the public is excluded from enjoying a public owned resource -- the fishery. In trout streams stocked by the State, the Department can simply stop stocking fish and thereby reduce the stream's attractiveness. A real problem is developing in the salmon-steelhead streams where the fishery is a State-owned resource, but because of the migratory nature of salmon and steelhead, it is not so controllable.

With the stream improvement programs, such as the removal of logging debris and the stocking program resulting from salmon-steelhead hatcheries, it seems doubly important that the public be afforded access.

The WCB has long had a land acquisition program and has purchased in fee 27.2 miles of stream frontage. In addition, many key parcels have been and are being purchased to provide access to navigable streams. This fee purchase does not always appear to be necessary, especially where little or no development is planned. Easement purchases could supplement the present access program.

On several occasions staff has attempted to obtain fishing easements along streams. The present State requirements, however, are not conducive to such a program. There are many problems to be overcome and some State procedures to be changed, if an easement program is to be successful. Mr. Nesbit believed, however, that this problem of loss of access to streams is so important that a serious attempt should be made to change the procedures and to permit the acquisition of some fishing rights along streams.

Several states have successfully acquired fishing easements from riparian owners so as to assure legal public access to the prime fishing waters of the state. The State of Washington last year sent inquiries to all 50 states and received replies from 41. They found that at that time 15 states did have programs of acquiring stream bank easements for fishing and nine states were contemplating initiating such programs. With only one exception, the states engaging in a program of acquiring stream bank rights mentioned that they recognized the problems and limitations of using the time-honored appraisal approach in determining values. In their experience it has been difficult to determine full market value of stream-side properties because there is little market on most of the small streams on which easements are acquired. They soon recognized that the only market for such easements was the one they themselves created.

It was suggested that to set up a successful program of acquiring fishing easements or fishing rights in California, it would be well to profit from the experience of these other states. It must be recognized that the existing procedures for land acquisition with which we are familiar are not workable. It was recommended that direct negotiations by a person experienced in both land and fisheries values be carried on with the landowner. Then by administrative decision, a range of values at which successful negotiations could be carried out would be determined. The WCB acceptance of easements at this value would be determined by their public value.

Mr. Nesbit believed that a pilot project of acquisition should be taken on by the WCB staff. Realizing that experienced knowledge will have to be developed at the outset, it was nevertheless stressed that the overall potential public benefit is so great that new and workable methods should be tried.

The following criteria was suggested to be followed as a guide in this pilot project:

- (1) Staff negotiator will by direct negotiations determine a range of values, at any given reach of a stream, at which successful negotiations can be carried out. This method will substitute for the formal appraisal procedure for fee acquisition.
- (2) If, in the judgment of the staff, the benefit to the State and the public justifies the asking price for the easement or easements, a recommendation to the WCB will be made.
- (3) It is worthwhile to note that many projects compete for WCB approval and funding and that each project, including fishing easements, must meet the Board criteria of the greatest value for the limited money available. If the WCB determines the asking price is justified and the benefit to the public is sufficient, the Board will approve and allocate the necessary funds to purchase said easements.
- (4) Following allocation of funds, the necessary documents for the easement or fishing rights purchase would be executed and processed through the Department of General Services for review and recordation, but the WCB would have final approval. The documents would generally consist of a permanent easement or right of way agreement and a preliminary title report.

Mr. Nesbit suggested a pilot project be undertaken so that staff may report the findings and make recommendations and suggestions. By using the criteria outlined, that is, elimination of fee appraisals and attempting to make the best purchase of stream frontage easements, he felt certain satisfactory procedures could be developed. The Board would then be asked whether or not in its judgment the project and/or program would be worthwhile.

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In answer to Senator Marler's question regarding actual procedures, Mr. Nesbit responded that the staff would go out to talk with owners of stream frontage, secure options for easements, and have the Board then review them to see if the price was appropriate.

Senator Lagomarsino believed that the open space conservation law, on the ballot as Proposition 3, provided a tax break for scenic and open space lands. Although fishing easements were not specifically mentioned, he felt it should have been included, and if legislation is needed to include fishing easement, such legislation should be initiated.

Mr. Nesbit requested Mr. John Wentzel, the field agent, to show the magnitude of the program which was illustrated on a map. The number of miles which could be considered for easement acquisition totaled 740 miles. It was indicated that this program could be applicable to trout streams as well.

Many of the Board members expressed the belief that this program should have been undertaken at the time the State waters were enhanced by State Water Projects or when streams were cleared.

Question was raised as to whether this development of access on a fishing stream would come under the scope of the scenic waterways act, and Senator Marler responded that there was a difference. Scenic easements, he elaborated, is merely looking at it -- the type of easement we are discussing takes the form of actual physical possession or use.

Mr. Shannon asked if the Department of General Services representative felt the easement acquisition could be undertaken legally. Mr. Nesbit reported that it was Assistant Director Arthur Collins who suggested this pilot project be initiated to see if the procedure will work. The Board has sufficient legal authority to proceed. Mr. Nesbit expressed the belief the program would justify the hiring of someone, at least for a year or two, to go out and help with the negotiations. He did not feel a full-time permanent employee was called for, but someone who could act as a consultant, since the small staff of the Board would not be able to handle these added responsibilities.

Assemblyman Belotti mentioned the stream clearance program did not provide for public access and that the pilot project might be started on those streams. Mr. Nesbit advised Assemblywoman Davis that water rights, particularly riparian water rights of the owners, would not be affected, since the easement to be secured would be for a certain number of feet back from the water and only for fishing use. No development is anticipated other than signs and in some cases fencing.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR MARLER, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, AS A JOINT MOTION, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD GO ON RECORD AS FAVORING THE FISHING EASEMENT PROGRAM, AND THE STAFF IS AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH A PILOT PROJECT, NEGOTIATING FOR STREAMSIDE EASEMENTS, THE OPTIONS FOR WHICH ARE TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD FOR ITS REVIEW AND FINAL APPROVAL.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Resolutions

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR MARLER, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, THAT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION HONORING CHAIRMAN WILLIAM P. ELSE BE ADOPTED AND MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

WHEREAS, Mr. William P. Elser will retire as President of the Fish and Game Commission and as Chairman of the Wildlife Conservation Board on January 15, 1969; and

WHEREAS, he has served as Chairman of the Wildlife Conservation Board more times than any other person in its 21 year history; and

WHEREAS, there have been approved and built 55 projects throughout the State during his chairmanship in 1960, 1962, 1966, and 1968; and

WHEREAS, there has been exhibited his genuine personal interest in the work of the Board, indicated by his wise counsel, guidance, and fine assistance provided staff; and

WHEREAS, his labors in behalf of the WCB program has not gone unnoticed by the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Interim Committee, or staff; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Interim Committee, and Board staff convey to Bill Elser our sincere thanks and appreciation for his excellent work as Chairman and that we let him know his fine leadership will be sorely missed; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express our best personal wishes for his happy retirement enjoying some of the fruits of his labors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be made a part of the official minutes of this Board and that a copy of this resolution be furnished Mr. Elser.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, THAT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION HONORING WALTER T. SHANNON BE ADOPTED AND MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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WHEREAS, Mr. Walter T. Shannon will retire from State service after 32 years, the past nine years of which have been as Director of the Department of Fish and Game and a member of the Wildlife Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, realizing the importance to California of the objectives of the Wildlife Conservation Board, he has promoted the upgrading of California's hatchery system, habitat improvement and preservation of essential fish and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, he has carried out his responsibilities admirably in providing judicious evaluations of the fish and wildlife and recreational values of each of the proposals submitted to Board staff, and special note is hereby made of the fact that he has not missed a single meeting of the Board since becoming a member thereof; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Interim Committee, and the Board staff convey to Walt Shannon our high regard for his past work, leadership and abilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express our very best wishes and hopes for a happy and fruitful retirement, along with our request that he continue his leadership in the cause of conservation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be made a part of the official minutes of this Board and that a copy of this resolution be furnished Mr. Shannon.

(Senator Marler left the meeting at this time.)

11. Lake Mendocino Fishing Access, Mendocino County
Change in operation and maintenance responsibilities

The Lake Mendocino project was approved by the Wildlife Conservation Board on February 2, 1960, and \$105,000 was allocated for the development which consists of an access road, parking area, boat launching ramp and restrooms.

By agreement dated September 6, 1960, the County conveyed the necessary proprietary interest to the State as authorized by virtue of the County's license from the U.S. Corps of Engineers to operate the area for recreational purposes. This agreement also provided for County operation and maintenance of the project.

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At the time of entering into the agreement, it appeared that the County would control the recreational development around Lake Mendocino and would play a large role in the control and supervision of these facilities. Since that time, however, control of all of the recreational area, with the exception of the WCB project, has been assumed by the Corps of Engineers. Because of this change in position of the County and the Corps, the control and supervision of the WCB project by the County is no longer practical nor desirable. It is proposed that the State and County mutually rescind the agreement and that a new agreement be entered into with the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

The Corps has expressed its interest in honoring the terms of the County agreement, if such agreement is rescinded by the County and the State and reassigned to the Corps of Engineers. A copy of a letter from Colonel Frank C. Boerger, District Engineers (CE) dated December 13, 1968, to the County of Mendocino which expresses the Corps' interest has been received.

Mr. Nesbit recommended that the Board approve the rescission by the State of its agreement with the County for the Lake Mendocino project, contingent upon staff being able to negotiate an acceptable contract with the Corps of Engineers which would carry out the objectives and purposes of the project. The staff wants to make certain that it be kept open and free to the public and is maintained without cost to the State.

Assemblyman Belotti, noting that four members of the Board of Supervisors from the County were present and after hearing the report of the executive officer, asked if this meets with the county's approval. Supervisor Scaramella requested that the motion indicate a "cancellation" of the operation and maintenance agreement rather than a "rescission". Assemblywoman Davis requested that the Supervisors at their next meeting act upon a resolution to the effect that the County desires a cancellation of the agreement. She was assured that it will be forthcoming.

IT WAS MOVED BY ASSEMBLYMAN BELOTTI, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DAVIS, THAT THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE CANCELLATION BY THE STATE OF ITS AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE LAKE MENDOCINO FISHING ACCESS PROJECT, CONTINGENT UPON STAFF'S NEGOTIATION OF A CONTRACT WITH THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS WHICH WOULD CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES OF THE PROJECT.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE CANCELLATION BY THE STATE OF ITS AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF MENDOCINO FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE LAKE MENDOCINO FISHING ACCESS PROJECT, CONTINGENT UPON STAFF'S NEGOTIATION OF A CONTRACT WITH THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS WHICH WOULD CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES OF THE PROJECT.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Assemblyman Belotti left the meeting at this time.)

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12. Buena Vista Lagoon Wildlife Area, San Diego County

The Buena Vista Lagoon lies along the northern boundary of the City of Carlsbad - west is the ocean and on the north and east side is the City of Oceanside. The lagoon is bisected by the ATSF Railroad, old Highway 101 (Hill Street) and Interstate 5, all running north and south. The lagoon has approximately 190 surface acres of fresh water and ranges in depths up to 6 feet. The existing lagoon is a remnant of a much larger one which has gradually been filled for commercial development. The purpose of this proposed purchase is to preserve in perpetuity the remaining lagoon as a wildlife and ecological area.

Wildlife Conservation Board staff personnel studied the lagoon prior to 1950 and reported "concentration of ducks from 60,000 to 70,000". The report went on to state that the lagoon is a very important migratory watering and resting area. The report was never presented to the Board since it did not meet the criteria at that time regarding providing hunting and reducing crop depredation.

The property is currently under option to a commercial developer who proposes a filling and dredging operation. If his proposal is not acceptable to the cities of Oceanside and Carlsbad, it is possible it could be purchased at fair market value for presentation as a wildlife and ecological area.

The fair market value of the 65 acres proposed for WCB purchase has been estimated at \$250,000.

Nature Conservancy, a private wildlife organization, owns a major part of the lagoon and will work with the Department in its preservation and management, if the proposed purchase is consummated.

Mr. Nesbit reported that we cannot purchase the land at this time nor do we have firm fund requirement information because we do not have an option. If the plans of the developers are denied by the planning commissions, the Board staff would like to pick up the option at fair market value and the authority to go ahead with its purchase.

Assemblywoman Davis, before leaving for another meeting, advised Assemblyman Stull that the project is not completely foreign to her, and that if he has a proposal for the lagoon area that is going to be of benefit for wildlife conservation, she would go on record as endorsing it.

Assemblyman Stull congratulated Mr. Shannon and Mr. Elser for their fine services to the State. Mr. Stull, working with the Department of Fish and Game, was able to have passed enabling legislation for the establishment of ecological reserves throughout the State, the idea being to save such areas as Buena Vista Lagoon and the Carpinteria Marsh in their natural state. He has since discussed with the Board staff this preservation, and

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he reported the lagoon is in immediate danger of being lost. He introduced Mr. David Rorick of Nature Conservancy.

Mr. Rorick stated the lagoon was originally set aside by the County as a sanctuary in 1939. The area under discussion was being planned for a marina by a development company. Palomar Savings and Loan foreclosed when that company went broke. Copies of a master plan for parks and recreation around the lagoon was submitted to staff to illustrate that the acquisition of this parcel would be an ideal adjunct to the proposed facilities. He pledged community support for this acquisition which would see considerable use from people, including students from surrounding areas.

Mr. Elser asked what other use would be proposed for the area other than a refuge, and Mr. Rorick explained that we would be limited to use of it as an ecological preserve as at Pt. Lobos. It would be used as a study area rather than an active use area. Although it does provide some fishing, it would not be used for boating or other recreational use.

Mr. Glading, Chief of the Wildlife Management Branch, elaborated that the Department believes the preservation of this freshwater area for waterfowl is essential. The Department has for consideration of the Fish & Game Comm. tomorrow a set of proposed rules and regulations for ecological preserves. Mr. Shannon also believed that one point which cannot be overemphasized is that birds and animals require habitat to live or they would pass out of existence. One of the most critical habitats are the estuaries on the coast, due to filling in the bays.

Assemblyman Stull recommended that the WCB authorize staff to attempt to secure an option or set aside approximately \$250,000 so that it would show the people of that area the Board is acting on good faith. Mr. Nesbit agreed that this would be very helpful in his negotiations for the land. It would show the owners there are others beside the optionee interested in the property and that there are funds earmarked or reserved for possible acquisition. He stated that the action need not be an actual allocation of funds, but the setting up of a reserve for this acquisition. An appraisal will still need to be secured to determine fair market value. It was also pointed out by Mr. Nesbit that this acquisition may qualify for federal matching funds under the land and water conservation program.

IT WAS MOVED BY SENATOR LAGOMARSINO, SECONDED BY MR. SHANNON, AS A JOINT MOTION, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE BUENA VISTA LAGOON WILDLIFE AREA, AND SET UP IN RESERVE THE SUM OF \$250,000 OUT OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING PROPERTY AT BUENA VISTA LAGOON FOR A WILDLIFE AND ECOLOGICAL AREA.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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13. Other Business

a. Glenn-Colusa Fish Screen

Mr. Nesbit advised that there would be no need to take up this item, since the fish screen will be funded by the Department of Fish and Game.

b. Mojave River Hatchery Land Acquisition

At the August 10, 1962, meeting of the Board, staff was instructed to attempt to negotiate for purchase hatchery properties presently leased by the State. Mr. Nesbit reported that there is a very good chance to purchase the Mojave River Hatchery property from the owners, the U.S. Land Company.

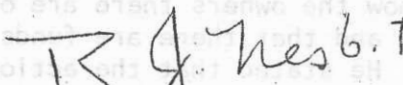
c. Election of Chairman

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PREVIOUS PRACTICE OF THE BOARD, MR. JAMES Y. CAMP BE ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


R. J. Nesbit
Executive Officer

Status of Funds

As of the close of the meeting on January 9, 1969, the amount allocated to projects from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, since the Board's inception in 1947, aggregated \$22,668,942.75.*

a.	Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects	\$4,701,692.10
b.	Fish Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	3,332,245.62
1.	Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$1,762,082.93
2.	Stream Clearance and Improvement	211,515.83
3.	Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	439,503.32
4.	Marine Habitat	83,753.36
5.	Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	835,390.18
c.	Fishing Access Projects	7,576,688.16
1.	Coastal Access	866,194.04
2.	River, Stream and Bay Access	2,129,702.69
3.	Lake, Reservoir & Silt Sea Access	2,044,563.51
4.	Piers	2,536,227.92
d.	Game Farm Projects	146,894.49
e.	Game Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	6,165,913.58
1.	Wildlife Areas	5,727,464.46
2.	Miscellaneous Game Habitat Development	438,449.12
f.	Hunting Access	473,711.72
g.	Miscellaneous Projects	238,297.08
s.	Special Project Allocations	33,500.00
	Total Allocated to Projects	\$22,668,942.75

*Includes \$312,859.57 reimbursed under Federal Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1965-66 F.Y.; \$331,971.44 reimbursed under Land and Water Conservation Fund Program; and \$33,509.00 reimbursed under Anadromous Fish Act Program.

Operating Costs:

FY 47/48 thru 65/66 Actual	\$1,084,441.68
FY 66/67 Estimated	100,217.00
FY 67/68 Estimated	101,294.00
FY 68/69 Estimated	104,027.00
Total Actual and Estimated Operating Costs	\$1,389,979.68

RECAPITULATION:

Allocations for Projects	\$22,668,942.75
Expenses of Operation	1,389,979.68
Total Expended or Obligated	\$24,058,922.43

Total Funds Appropriated	\$21,750,000.00
Approp. made available 7/1/68	750,000.00
Int. on Surplus Money Inv. thru 6/30/68	1,083,328.70
Miscellaneous Revenue thru 67/68 FY	199,158.92
Miscellaneous Revenue 68/69 FY	621.00
Reimbursement from Accelerated Pub.Wks Program	312,859.57
Reimbursement from Land & Water Cons. Fund	331,971.44
Reimbursement from Anadromous Fish Act Program	33,509.00
Total Accountability	\$24,461,448.63
Total Expended or Obligated	- 24,058,922.43
Available thru 6/30/69	\$402,526.20 1/

1/ \$250,000 of this amount is reserved for Buena Vista Lagoon.