

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

Minutes, Meeting of August 20, 1970

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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes, Meeting of August 20, 1970

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in the main floor auditorium of the Resources Building, 1416 Ninth Street, in Sacramento, California, on August 20, 1970. The meeting was called to order by Chairman C. Rans Pearman at 2:10 p.m.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: C. Rans Pearman
G. Ray Arnett

Chairman
Member

Raymond J. Nesbit
Alvin G. Rutsch
John Wentzel
Alma Koyasako
Bella Applebaum

Executive Officer
Assistant Executive Officer
Field Agent
Secretary
Accounting Technician

ABSENT: James S. Dwight
Senator Robert J. Lagomarsino
Senator Fred W. Marler
Senator Lewis F. Sherman
Assemblyman Frank P. Belotti
Assemblywoman Pauline L. Davis
Assemblyman Earle P. Crandall

Member, vice Mr. Orr
Joint Interim Committee
" " "
" " "
" " "
" " "
" " "

The Chairman announced that both the Assembly and Senate members of the Board were unexpectedly called into session this afternoon. The Wildlife Conservation Board does have a quorum and therefore the Board can and will proceed with the items under consideration.

OTHERS PRESENT:

T. A. Wright
E. K. Clarke
R. E. Morss
Robert Dietz
Richard W. Curry
Paul R. Morrisson
Wayne R. Brock

Dept. of Fish and Game
Office of the Solicitor, U.S.D.I.
Shasta Co. Recreation Commission
" " Dept. of Water Resources
Shasta Co. Dept. of Public Works
Stanislaus Co. Parks Dept.
Westside Fishing Association

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Harold Meserve	Fresno Co. Dept. of Parks & Rec.
W. R. Lake	Los Banos
Ted R. Foster	Santa Cruz City Parks & Rec. Dept.
Ed Twohig	Santa Cruz Co. Fish & Game
Mike Foster	Student
Jerry Hughes	Santa Cruz Co. Parks & Rec. Director
Ernest Wicklund, Jr.	Mayor, Santa Cruz
Donald A. Ward	Santa Cruz City Parks and Recreation
James H. Hammond	" " " " "
Dave Zeiner	Dept. of Fish and Game
John B. Cowan	Dept. of Fish and Game
Jere E. Reynolds	Butte Co. Bd. of Supervisors
John Atkinson	Sacramento
Thomas P. Kerry	Assembly Ways & Means Comm.
Louie B. Pruolo	Los Banos
Harry W. Stark	Westside Fishing Association
Henry A. Boney	San Diego Co. Bd. of Supervisors
Wm. Hronek	Lake Morena Chamber of Commerce
Robert L. Small	San Diego Co. Chief Deputy Adm. Officer
Bill Thomas	San Diego Co. Executive Assistant
Ralph Shaw	San Mateo Co. Director of Parks and Recreation
John Burkey	San Mateo Co. Dept. of Building Construction
Bud Porter	City of San Diego

2. Approval of Minutes

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 1970, MEETING.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Status of Funds

Mr. Nesbit, the Executive Officer, reported the funds available as of this meeting were as follows:

Unallocated balance at close of previous meeting	\$200,282.37
Interest on surplus money invested	+ 58,433.93
Reversion - Balance of operating costs 67/68	+ 10,679.68
Appropriation made available July 1, 1970	+750,000.00
Operating Costs FY 1970/71 - Estimated	<u>-120,000.00</u>
Available as of meeting date	\$899,395.98

(In the past, the WCB agenda included the complete summary of allocation by program. Hereafter, the agenda will only show the funds available for allocation as of the meeting date as shown above. The minutes will show this summary of allocation by program as of the close of the meeting.)

4. Recovery of Funds

Mr. Nesbit advised that the following seven projects have been completed and there is a balance of funds that can be recovered and returned to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and the project accounts can be closed. The eighth project listed can be canceled and the allocation recovered.

Mount Shasta Hatchery Improvement

Allocation	\$ 9,800.00
Expenditures	- 8,734.30
Balance for Recovery	\$ 1,065.70

Lagoon Creek Fishing Access

Allocation	\$ 58,040.00
Expenditures	-56,613.05
Balance for Recovery	\$ 1,426.95

Walker Canyon Wildlife Area

Allocation	\$ 8,500.00
Expenditures	-7,818.50
Balance for Recovery	\$ 681.50

Mouth of Mill Creek Fishing Access

Allocation	\$ 69,900.00
Expenditures	-69,071.65
Balance for Recovery	\$ 828.35

Woodbridge Fish Screen

Allocation	\$201,000.00
Expenditures	\$193,738.87
Fed. Anadromous Reimbursement	-99,500.00
Woodbridge I.D. Reimbursement	-45,447.16
WCB Expenditures	-48,791.71
Previously Recovered	-95,671.37
Balance for Recovery	\$56,536.92

Mad River Hatchery - Site Acquisition and Testing

Allocation	\$82,500.00
Expenditures	\$73,549.34
Fed. Anadromous Reimbursement	-36,774.67
WCB Expenditures	-36,774.67
Previously Recovered	-31,051.65
Balance for Recovery	\$14,673.68

(A PG&E refund was received subsequent to agenda publication, and Mr. Nesbit advised the Board of the new amount to be recovered as shown above.)

Spenceville Wildlife Area

This is the last of three projects that qualified for 100% reimbursement under the initial allotment of Land and Water Conservation Funds made available to the Board.

Allocated and Expended	\$142,370.00	
Reimbursement, For Recovery		\$142,370.00

Glenn-Colusa Fish Screen

The Board allocated \$60,000 on 7/25/68 for preliminary investigation and plans for this project. After the scope of the project was defined, the Department decided to fund it with participation from the Federal Anadromous Fish Program. The project should be canceled without prejudice, the allocation should be recovered, and the project account closed.

Allocation	\$60,000.00	
Amount for Recovery		\$60,000.00

Reimbursements from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program totaling \$196,313.10 have been received for the following projects. This amount should be recovered but the project accounts should remain open.

Anderson (Sacramento River) Fishing Access

Federal Land and Water Reimbursement Recovery \$36,750.00

Keswick Lake Fishing Access

Federal Land and Water Reimbursement Recovery \$37,063.10

Buena Vista Wildlife Area

Federal Land and Water Reimbursement Recovery \$122,500.00

Mr. Nesbit recommended that the total amount of \$473,896.20 be recovered and returned to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and the accounts of the completed or canceled projects as noted above be closed.

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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:

Mount Shasta Hatchery Improvement	\$1,065.70
Lagoon Creek Fishing Access	1,426.95
Walker Canyon Wildlife Area	681.50
Mouth of Mill Creek Fishing Access	828.35
Woodbridge Fish Screen	56,536.92
Mad River Hatchery, Site acquisition & testing	14,673.68
Spenceville Wildlife Area	142,370.00
Glenn-Colusa Fish Screen	60,000.00

ALSO, THAT THE REIMBURSEMENTS FROM THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM RECEIVED THUS FAR FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS BE RECOVERED AT THIS TIME:

Anderson (Sacramento River) Fishing Access	\$36,750.00
Keswick Lake Fishing Access	37,063.10
Buena Vista Wildlife Area	122,500.00

ALL OF THE SUMS TOTALING \$473,896.20 ARE TO BE RECOVERED AND RETURNED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Bridgeport Reservoir Fishing Access, Mono County
Change in Operation and Maintenance Responsibilities

Mr. Nesbit reported that the WCB had approved this project on July 17, 1964, and allocated \$69,500 for the development of a fishing and hunting access on the reservoir and on adjacent public land. At that time it was reported that the County of Mono would acquire the site from the Bureau of Land Management under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and lease the area on a long-term free basis to the State.

On July 20, 1968, the Board approved a change in location of the project after lengthy negotiations by the County for purchase of two key parcels of private land needed for the access road proved unsuccessful. The new location is on Bureau of Land Management land but the project still remains undeveloped because the County has been unable to obtain a lease of the area from the Bureau.

The Walker River Irrigation District manages the Bridgeport Reservoir and holds permanent easement rights. The District has objected to the Bureau leasing the project area to the County for fishing purposes. It is understood the project could proceed if the BLM lease were granted directly to the State instead of to the County.

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To simplify the administration of the project, it is proposed to change the responsible cooperating agency. The Bureau of Land Management has agreed to convey long-term free rights in the land to the State for the purposes of the project and to assume the obligations for operation and maintenance.

Facilities are to be constructed as previously approved by the Board within the funds already allocated. The intents and purposes of the original proposal would be completely fulfilled.

Mr. Nesbit recommended that the Board approve the change in the cooperating agency from the County of Mono to the Bureau of Land Management, and that staff and the Department of Fish and Game be authorized to proceed with the lease and development in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management substantially as previously authorized.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE CHANGE IN THE COOPERATING AGENCY FOR THE BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR FISHING ACCESS PROJECT, MONO COUNTY, AND THAT STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME BE AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT IN COOPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. E. K. Clarke, Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, announced that as far as the Department is concerned, the project agreements have been approved and the project construction will proceed without delay.

6. Balls Ferry Fishing Access, Shasta County \$37,000.00

On September 27, 1956, the Wildlife Conservation Board allocated \$23,000 for construction of the Balls Ferry boat launching ramp. It is located on the Sacramento River approximately midway between the communities of Anderson and Cottonwood.

Mr. Nesbit reported that the Balls Ferry Fishing Access Project was one of the first such projects undertaken by the Board when it inaugurated the fishing access program. The property was acquired by the County of Shasta adjacent to one of the most popular salmon and steelhead fishing spots on the Sacramento River. The Department of Fish and Game reports that 25 percent of the salmon and over 8 percent of the steelhead caught in the Sacramento River during the 1968-69 season were landed at Balls Ferry. A total of 23,735 angler days of use at the site during this period has been reported.

The facilities constructed initially consisted of a concrete ramp, graveled parking area and pit-type restrooms. The County has rebuilt and upgraded the toilet facilities to a permanent concrete block vault-type facility. Reconstruction of the County bridge nearby required modifications to the ramp and approach area and the County has recently completed this work. Additional toilet facilities, picnic tables and fireplaces have been constructed on the site by the County as fishing use increased.

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The heavy use makes it desirable to now expand and improve this important access project so as to provide for more efficient use of the area and to ensure the safety of the public while using the facilities. The work would consist of regrading and paving the existing parking area, constructing a footpath from the parking area to the ramp, constructing a floating boat dock and constructing a well and pump house. The County Department of Public Works has submitted a breakdown of the estimated cost as follows:

Expand and pave existing parking area	\$11,000
Floating dock	12,000
Well and pump house	5,000
Reconstruct fencing and paved walkways	4,000
Subtotal	<u>\$32,000</u>
Contingencies, 15% ±	5,000
Total Estimated Cost	<u>\$37,000</u>

The County has agreed to prepare final plans and specifications for the work, if approved by the Board, and would contract out and supervise the construction. The County has also, by resolution, agreed to maintain the expanded facilities when completed and to extend the existing lease for an additional 20 years as required by both the State and the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

Mr. Nesbit believed the improvements were desirable and would contribute a great deal to the capacity of this popular fishing access and make it more convenient and safe for public use. He recommended that \$37,000 be allocated for the improvements to this existing project, and that staff and the Department be authorized to proceed substantially as planned. It was his further recommendation that staff be authorized to make application for reimbursement of matching funds under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program. He advised the Board of the local support given this proposal and of the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association's communication strongly urging approval of the project.

In response to Mr. Arnett's question, Mr. Richard Curry, Shasta County Department of Public Works, responded that he believed the maintenance cost for the county would be decreased with the improvements proposed.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BALLS FERRY FISHING ACCESS PROJECT, SHASTA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$37,000 THEREFOR; 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 50% OF STATE COSTS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, Butte County \$404,000.00

Gray Lodge Wildlife Area in Butte County is one of the Department of Fish and Game's major wildlife management units. It provides feeding and resting areas for waterfowl, alleviates waterfowl depredations on adjacent crop lands, and provides public hunting under controlled conditions. This is also one of the WCB's most important wildlife projects. At the Department's request the Board expanded the original small refuge by purchasing 4,169 acres in 1953 and by providing development funds for the entire 6,710 acre area. To date the WCB has expended \$1,319,364 in land acquisition and development.

Recently, a key piece of habitat land became available. It is the 760 acre "Brady" property which is contiguous for one and three-quarters miles along the existing southern boundary. Water from the state area drains onto this property which would permit an economical water management plan.

The Department plans to develop the area for waterfowl by building more levees, ponds and marsh areas with its present staff and equipment. Funding for development, operation and maintenance is provided through the Federal Aid program. The Department estimates that 5,250 more man days of hunting annually can be made available with this added purchase.

The property has been appraised by state appraisers and the owners are willing to sell at its fair market value which has been appraised at \$400,000. This acquisition has qualified under the Federal Pittman-Robertson fund program for wildlife areas and the WCB will apply for a 75% reimbursement from these P-R funds which have been allotted to the Department.

Mr. Nesbit informed the Board that the appraisal report has been reviewed and approved. It was his recommendation that the property be purchased for the appraised price, that funds be allocated for that purpose, and that the project be submitted to the federal government for reimbursement of 75% of the cost under the Pittman-Robertson program.

Mr. Trevanan Wright of the Wildlife Management Branch testified that one of the primary reasons the Department desires to acquire the Brady parcel is to reduce the depredation problems in the area, particularly that experienced by the Butte County Rice Growers Association. Development plans for the area have taken into consideration the needs for alleviating depredation of agricultural crops, for providing feeding and resting areas for the birds and for providing unattached hunters with a place to hunt. In response to Mr. Pearman's question regarding the availability of water, he stated that the area has access to water through the canal and from wells.

Mr. Arnett advised that the Department can maintain the additional area without any additional operation and maintenance cost.

Mr. Jere E. Reynolds, representing the Butte County Board of Supervisors, advised that the County was not aware of the proposed purchase until a few days ago. The area does draw people and it is a fine thing for economic

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reasons. Their concern is that the fresh water areas of the Thermalito forebay and afterbay draw ducks which then feed upon crops on private lands nearby. The concentration of birds is now starting. The expansion of Gray Lodge, he felt, must also be followed with an adequate food supply. He expressed his alarm for the extensive damage that could be expected unless there is adequate funding for feed for the ducks.

Mr. Arnett questioned Mr. Reynolds as to who he is representing and Mr. Reynolds replied that he is representing the Butte County Board of Supervisors who were unable to attend the meeting. He stated the Supervisors are not opposed to the purchase of land, but that the rice growers are fearful of crop depredation. The Supervisors' request is that if the State purchases the property that there also be facilities to develop it for feeding of ducks.

Mr. John Cowan, Manager of Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, reported that the tule problem is being controlled. This year 1,000 acres of the cattails were plowed under. Holding birds, he said, would be a major objective of Gray Lodge because there is good water and drainage facilities. Purchase of the Brady tract fits in with the objectives of producing more crops and providing a more natural environment. He agreed that more could be done, provided additional funding were available.

Mr. Arnett stated the Department is aware of the problems and are sympathetic with the demands of the rice growers. The Department proposes to spend a good proportion of the funds available for alleviating the problems. He assured Mr. Reynolds that the Department will work diligently with the Department of Water Resources and others to resolve these problems.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LANDS FOR THE GRAY LODGE WILDLIFE AREA, BUTTE COUNTY; AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PURCHASE THE LANDS UNDER OPTION FOR WHICH PURPOSE THE SUM OF \$404,000 IS HEREBY ALLOCATED. THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR PITTMAN-ROBERTSON FUNDS.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Three Rocks Fishing Access, Fresno County

\$13,000.00

The Executive Officer reviewed the aqueduct access program which was approved by the Board at the February 21, 1968, meeting. He related that the Department of Water Resources had agreed at the time to furnish land and safety devices needed for the sites. It was also decided at that time that development would not take place in the area north of the Tehachapis until a fishery had become established. The Department of Fish and Game conducted net samplings in several locations and determined that striped bass of catchable size, plus catfish and other species were established in the aqueduct, principally in the area above and below O'Neill Forebay, Merced County.

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When the County of Merced requested that facilities be developed, the first fishing access was constructed in the Gustine area and dedicated in August, 1969.

Two more bridge platform sites were opened in Merced County on March 11, 1970. Just last month, the fourth access was opened at Niels Hansen Road, Stanislaus County.

The County of Fresno has requested the WCB to develop one or more sites and by resolution has agreed to operate and maintain such areas open and free to the public. Several locations have been inspected, and it has been mutually agreed between the County, Department of Water Resources, and WCB staff that a site centrally located in the County be the first developed. Some trespass fishing in this general area has revealed that potentially good fishing is now available. Channel catfish have reached the 7 - 8 pound size and good size striped bass have also been taken.

This reach of the aqueduct was built in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, so the Department of Water Resources will obtain their concurrence for the project.

Mr. Nesbit advised that subsequent to preparation of the agenda, access problems developed at the Highway 33 crossing of the aqueduct, at which location an aqueduct fishing access was proposed. The Division of Highways is planning to enlarge Highway 33 to expressway status within the next few years, which would preclude this area being used for an access site.

An excellent site, however, is available approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles down the aqueduct at the Clarkson Avenue road crossing. Mr. Nesbit suggested this site be developed in lieu of the Highway 33 location. Since the area is about 2 miles east of the community of Three Rocks, he proposed that the site be named Three Rocks Fishing Access.

The proposed development consists of approximately 800 feet of paved aqueduct berm or pathway, parking area, access road, and sanitary facilities. Safety devices would be supplied and installed by the Department of Water Resources in accordance with the agreement mentioned earlier.

The preliminary cost estimates developed by the Department of Water Resources and reviewed by staff are as follows:

Access Road	\$3,760.00
Berm Development	6,760.00
Parking Development	1,465.00
Sanitary Facilities	600.00
Signs and contingencies	415.00
Total estimated cost	\$13,000.00

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Mr. Nesbit reported that this is the fifth fishing access on the aqueduct, and there are a number in the early stages of planning. Senate Bill 1268, Coombs, which was recently passed, allows for the placing of a \$6 million bond program on the November ballot for recreational, fish and wildlife and habitat developments at features of the State Water Project, including the aqueduct along the valley and south of the Tehachapis. He observed that the fishing access construction on the aqueduct will continue at the present pace until passage of the bond. He recommended that the Three Rocks access be approved as a continuing part of the State Water Project aqueduct access program, and that \$13,000 be allocated for this development substantially as planned.

Mr. Harold Meserve, Parks and Recreation Director for Fresno County, requested approval of this project and asked that the staff be given instructions to proceed with this project as a high priority. He stated there are people fishing at this location already and that the Highway Patrol are citing them. They pay their fine and then go back to fish.

Mr. Harry Stark, President of Westside Fishing Club, acknowledged that there is non-permissive fishing in the aqueduct. He felt that the big problem is the selection of sites for fishing. The access sites, he said, should be developed near checks or turnouts, locating them below these check stations, preferably. It was his recommendation that the fishermen be given an opportunity to help select the site by discussing the various locations before choosing the site. He commented on the design of the several aqueduct access areas which have been constructed so far. In his opinion the berm or parallel fishing area such as Cottonwood was much better than the bridge platforms constructed earlier, as the platforms are difficult to fish from and are crowded. Mr. Stark stated their group hope to have 10,000 members and will become a force for the good of all the fishermen.

Mr. Nesbit assured Mr. Stark that the staff would be happy to receive recommendations for access site locations. He advised that presently biologists of the Department check on the fishery and provide staff with an evaluation of the fishery. The staff must also work with the Department of Water Resources and the Bureau of Reclamation in determining locations. The very important agency, the County, which will pick up operation and maintenance obligations for the next 20-25 years, must be provided an opportunity to recommend sites which would be more convenient from their standpoint. All of these recommendations are considered and a selection finally made. Mr. Nesbit further advised that the platforms from the bridge were constructed on an experimental basis and that this type of access facility will probably not be constructed in the future.

Mr. Paul Morrisson, Stanislaus County Park Director, suggested to Mr. Stark that a good place to discuss access locations would be at the Board of Supervisors meetings, since the County Supervisors must approve the project.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE THREE ROCKS FISHING ACCESS, FRESNO COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$13,000 FOR DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Lake Morena, San Diego County \$190,000.00

In response to a request by the delegation from San Diego, the Chairman ordered the Lake Morena project be considered at this time.

Lake Morena is one of the City of San Diego's oldest water supply reservoirs having been built in 1898. It is located 60 miles east of the City at 3,000' elevation and is reachable by two main highways.

The long standing problem at Lake Morena is that inflow varies considerably from year to year and water drawn from the lake during dry years leaves a minimum pool inadequate to maintain a suitable fishery or recreational lake. The water level has usually been drawn down to the outlet at the 800 acre feet level in order to provide the least amount of evaporative losses. This has resulted during the last 10 years in the lake surface being reduced to an average of 50 surface acres.

In recent years the City of San Diego has made studies and attempts to sustain a higher water level without seriously affecting their city water supply. They have agreed to join with the WCB and San Diego County to a three-way program for the development and maintenance of Lake Morena as a fishing and recreational lake. The objective of this program is to increase the minimum pool from 800 acre feet to 4,624 acre feet which produces a surface lake of 261 acres. The City will agree to draw water only when the level exceeds gauge height 98.5, i.e., 4,624 acre feet, and will transfer their reservoir lands to the County for operation and maintenance.

The County has agreed to accept from the City of San Diego a deed to the land. A part of this property will be transferred to the State in the form of a long term free lease to fulfill the State and Federal requirements on proprietary interest. The County has also agreed to design the project facilities, to operate and maintain the area, and to make the annual payment to the City for the increased evaporation loss due to the enlarged lake surface. This evaporation loss will be partly replaced by pumping from production wells for which a maximum amount of \$10,000 is provided as part of project costs. Any additional ground water development costs are to be met by the County and/or the City.

It is pointed out that the City has certain requirements regarding payment for water since the lake is a part of their water supply system and bond holders must be satisfied.

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The WCB would make the initial purchase of the difference in water amounts between the 800 acre foot level and the 4,624 recreational pool and would provide certain necessary basic facilities for the public.

The basic concept as outlined has been developed after a series of meetings between staff and City and County officials. This is a very complicated project, somewhat similar to the re-establishment of Lake Cuyamaca in San Diego County. It is possible to accomplish the objectives because of the complete cooperation of both City and County government. The various agreements, leases, facilities design, fee schedules, construction contracts, fishery plans, and other necessary documents have been agreed to in principle and can be worked out following project approval.

The County hired a firm of economic-recreational consultants to study Morena Reservoir as a county recreational unit. The report indicates the area will reach an attendance of 164,000 visitor days by 1980 if the recreational lake can be established. This report gives the project a favorable recommendation.

Department of Fish and Game reports that during the wet years between 1945-50 the fishing in Morena was outstanding. Growth of black bass and bluegills was as rapid as any in the State. Upon project approval, the Department will meet with the County and City to develop a fisheries management and stocking plan acceptable to all parties.

The WCB participation in this project would consist of the following items. The cost estimates are by County of San Diego with review by the City and WCB staff.

Purchase of minimum pool (\$41.25 x 3824 AF @ 50%)	\$79,000
Boat ramp and loading floats	12,000
Access road and parking	48,000
Restroom and portable units	18,500
Water and sewer service	8,000
Wells & Pumps (maximum by State)	10,000
Incinerator and waste disposal	4,000
Fencing - signs	2,500
Construction inspection	5,000
Title costs and miscellaneous	<u>3,000</u>
Total Estimated Cost	\$190,000

Mr. Nesbit recommended that the Board approve this project and allocate \$190,000 for the development substantially as planned. It was his further recommendation that implementation be subject to the successful execution of the necessary documents to comply with State requirements and that staff be authorized to apply for reimbursement of 50% of the State costs of the project under the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

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A telephone call and a letter from Assemblyman Stull indicated he strongly supported this proposal which would end the long-standing problem at Lake Morena caused by the fluctuating water level and the lack of adequate recreational facilities.

Supervisor Henry Boney of San Diego County stated that the Board of Supervisors would like to have WCB approval of this proposal so that they can make this lake available to all of Southern California. He pointed out there are 1.4 million people in San Diego County and 80,000 in Imperial County, and that there are very few recreational lakes in the area.

Mr. Bill Hronek, President of Lake Morena Chamber of Commerce was introduced. It was mentioned that a larger area than is indicated by the name is represented by the Lake Morena Chamber of Commerce. He declared there is a pressing need for something like this in San Diego County.

Mr. Pearman asked what would happen to the lake if there were a shortage of water as had happened a number of years ago -- would the lake be drawn down? Mr. Robert Small, Chief Deputy Administrative Officer for San Diego County, responded that this practice has been the problem. He believed that with proper management of the basin and through other water sources the lake level can be maintained for a fishery.

Mr. Pearman said that he was familiar with the area and questioned Mr. Small about the various San Diego reservoirs, the levels of which are being maintained for fishing purposes and asked particularly about Hodges reservoir, which, he observed, was dry a few years ago. Mr. Small advised that Hodges received a large run-off the past year and that it was presently nearly full.

Mr. Arnett commended the San Diego people for their wonderful cooperation, and he was certain that the WCB will get the utmost use of the money expended for this project.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE LAKE MORENA PROJECT, SAN DIEGO COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$190,000 FOR THE 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 50% OF COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Santa Cruz Pier, Santa Cruz County \$109,000.00

By way of introduction, Mr. Nesbit exhibited pictures taken August 1, 1970, showing hundreds engaged in fishing activities at the Santa Cruz Pier, where one of the early fishing pier projects of the Board was developed. The WCB joined with the City and converted a portion of their commercial pier to fishing use.

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The project was approved in September, 1960, and \$49,550 was allocated for the work. It was opened to the public a year later and immediately became a highly used fishing facility. By last year the use had pyramided to 200,000 user days annually.

The original conversion involved the terminal 230' section and provided 540 feet of rail space for fishing, as well as openings or "wells" in the pier where fishermen could use drop lines. These wells are now used extensively by children using crab nets.

Santa Cruz is a resort area and the pier is one of the City's most important attractions. The present rail space for fishermen is so limited that the City has proposed expansion of the fishing spaces which will add 983 feet of rail space for fishing and 98 parking spaces. The City has agreed to provide one-half the construction costs and will continue to operate and maintain the project free to the public.

The proposal is to attach a wide fishing platform along the southeast side of the pier and connect it to the present fishing area at the terminal end. Plans and cost estimates are complete, the costs being largely confined to the new pier construction itself since adequate restrooms and concessions are already available.

The following cost estimates have been prepared by the City and reviewed by WCB staff. Work is to be accomplished under a construction agreement with the City.

Construction materials	\$145,000.00
Equipment rental	5,000.00
Construction labor	55,000.00
Lighting, benches, fish cleaning tables	9,000.00
Contingencies and miscellaneous costs	4,000.00
Total Estimated Cost	\$218,000.00
WCB, 50%	\$109,000.00

An application has been made for Land and Water Conservation funds from the WCB allotment. If this project is qualified for these funds by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, there would be a 50% reimbursement to both the WCB and the City of Santa Cruz.

The WCB already has a lease on the pier property. This would be expanded to include the new fishing area and extended for an additional 18 years to comply with the 25-year lease term requirement of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the State. The operation and maintenance agreement would also be extended to coincide with the lease.

Mayor Ernest Wicklund of Santa Cruz indicated there is much interest in this expansion as attested to by the delegation in attendance at this meeting. He informed the Board that there was consideration some 15 years ago to tear down the municipal pier because of its decrepit state.

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The people objected and the city replaced the decking. With WCB participation 10 years ago the pier was rehabilitated for fishing use and has become quite an attraction. He noted that most of the visitors on the pier are from out of town -- people from all over the state and from out of state. It is an asset not only to the City of Santa Cruz, but also to the State of California.

Mr. Don Ward, Chairman, Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Commission, urged approval of this proposal. The original project which was started, he said, exactly ten years ago today has exceeded all expected useage. He confirmed that the pier is a most popular facility. He stated that the pictures were taken on a sunny day, but nearly as many could be seen using the pier on a rainy day.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE EXPANSION OF THE SANTA CRUZ FISHING PIER, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$109,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND, WHICH SUM IS TO BE MATCHED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ, TO PROVIDE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SAID EXPANSION AND APPURTENANT FACILITIES; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED. STAFF IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 50% OF ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM. THIS REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE DIVIDED EQUALLY BETWEEN THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AND THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Fox Grove Fishing Access, Stanislaus County \$73,500.00

Mr. Nesbit reported that on September 8, 1965, the Board allocated funds for the acquisition of the Fox Grove property, a 52 acre parcel of land with 6,000 feet frontage on the Tuolumne River. Acquisition proceeded slowly due to easement and estate problems, but it is now complete. This site is being planned as a fishing access site for both shore and boat fishing.

Very little public access presently exists to the Tuolumne River in this area, located within 15 miles of three major population centers, namely, Modesto, Turlock, and Oakdale. The Tuolumne is a rather large river at this point and supports a run of king salmon. This run, incidentally, showed a very considerable increase this past year. Moreover, water developments now taking place on the river are expected to result in more favorable flow releases for spawning salmon.

There is also fishing for catfish, largemouth bass and other warmwater species. The Department of Fish and Game in their fishing evaluation support the project and note lack of public access in this area.

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The County of Stanislaus has already entered into an agreement to operate and maintain the project for a 25-year period. Preliminary plans and a cost estimate have been prepared by the County Public Works Department and reviewed by staff.

The cost estimate is as follows:

Parking Area and Access Road	
Earthwork, grading and filling	\$8,200
Drainage	1,000
Aggregate Base	9,600
Paving, striping and fencing	17,000
Concrete Launching Ramp	9,900
Slope and bank protection	1,600
Restroom	8,000
Water Supply and Sewerage	6,000
Demolish concrete bunkers	5,000
Subtotal	\$66,300
Engineering, contingencies and signs	7,200
Total Estimated Cost	\$73,500

In accordance with previous Board instruction, this project was submitted and has been approved by the Federal Government for \$30,000 in development funds, reimburseable to the WCB from the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

It was Mr. Nesbit's recommendation that the project be approved, that \$73,500 be allocated for development of the area, and that staff and the Department be authorized to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Paul Morrisson, Director of Parks in Stanislaus County, advised that there are very few access areas on the Tuolumne River and added that this area gets high use from local people already.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE FOX GROVE FISHING ACCESS, STANISLAUS COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$73,500 FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT; AND AUTHORIZE THE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. San Mateo Fishing Pier, San Mateo County \$79,000.00

The County of San Mateo has proposed the conversion of the old San Mateo-Hayward highway bridge into a public fishing pier and has asked the Wildlife Conservation Board to participate. They have acquired the westerly segment of this bridge and have leased $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land adjacent to the pier from the Division of Highways for a parking area. The county has agreed to provide the parking facilities and the access road.

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The old bridge is of substantial reinforced concrete construction on concrete piling and has many years of useful life as a fishing pier. The portion of the bridge structure to be converted is over 4000 feet in length and 30 feet wide. A restroom, fish cleaning sinks, benches, and lights are proposed to be located on the pier. The parking lot to be constructed by the County will be paved, lighted and landscaped.

The Department of Fish and Game reports that a fishing pier in this area of San Francisco Bay is highly desirable. The eastern end of this pier extends to the edge of the deep water channel where many species of fish have been netted by the Department in a recent San Francisco Bay Study. The Department's investigation also revealed that this area of the Bay is essentially free of fish or wildlife losses due to pollution. Some of the species of fish commonly found here are striped bass, starry flounder, and jacksmelt, along with many other less common varieties.

Water depths are not great along most of the length of the pier. It is expected that the experience would be similar to the Berkeley Fishing Pier, which, while not extending into deep water, nevertheless provides thousands of angler days use each year. There is adequate public transportation nearby, and the pier would provide fishing recreation for many thousands of people in Foster City, San Mateo, San Bruno, and Belmont, as well as for several east bay communities.

The Board of Supervisors of the County has by resolution indicated their willingness to assume the maintenance and operation of the pier, if approved, and to grant a long-term free lease of the project area to the State in accordance with State and Federal requirements. In accordance with the established policy of the WCB, the pier will be open free of charge to the public. The County has also agreed to prepare final plans, to contract for the construction, and to provide engineering inspection of the work to satisfactory completion.

The County Department of Building Construction and General Services has submitted a cost estimate for the WCB portion of the project as follows:

Restroom	\$10,700
Railing repair and gate installation	10,000
Concrete benches and wind breaks	8,000
Fish cleaning sinks	600
Trash receptacles	500
Sewer line, sump and pump	18,200
Lighting	17,200
Water line	8,800
Subtotal	\$74,000
Contingencies, signs and miscellaneous	5,000

Total Estimated Cost \$79,000

Mr. Nesbit advised that staff has reviewed the plans and cost estimates and has inspected the pier structure with County personnel. It was his recommendation that the San Mateo Fishing Pier project be approved, that \$79,000 be allocated therefor, and that staff and the Department of Fish and Game be authorized to proceed with the project substantially as planned. It was his further recommendation that the Board authorize staff to make application for 50% reimbursement of both WCB and County costs of this project under the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

Mr. Ralph Shaw, Director of Parks, San Mateo County, thanked the staff and the Board for having approved the Gazos Creek Access project. It has so stimulated interest in the County that they have added $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres to this facility. He mentioned that the fishing pier would be a tremendous fishing access for the County, particularly for the children and older people. Temporary sanitary facilities have been put in, since there is trespass use presently. He urged approval of this project.

Mr. John Burkey, Department of Building Construction for San Mateo County, testified that this pier will be a very good facility with over 8,000 feet of rail space useable by fishermen.

In answer to Mr. Arnett's question regarding the qualification of this proposal as a Land and Water Conservation Fund project and the ultimate cost to the WCB should the proposal not qualify for such funding, Mr. Nesbit replied that he was confident that this project would qualify for 50% reimbursement under this program and that if the project did not qualify for such funding, the total WCB cost would be the \$79,000 requested for allocation.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE SAN MATEO FISHING PIER, SAN MATEO COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$79,000 FOR THE STATE'S SHARE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PIER AND APPURTENANT FACILITIES; 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 50% OF ALL QUALIFYING COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION UNDER THE FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM. THIS REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE SHARED PROPORTIONATELY WITH THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. Mojave Hatchery Deed

Mr. Nesbit reported that 8 years ago the Board instructed him to negotiate for purchase of the then leased Mojave Hatchery property. Negotiations were carried on for many years, but staff was unable to buy the land at fair market value and willing sale. About a year ago, the

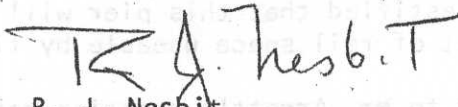
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Boise Cascade Corporation purchased more than a thousand acres in the vicinity, a portion of which was the hatchery property. Negotiations were carried on with Boise Cascade and the staff has been able to obtain from them without cost 17.67 acres of the hatchery lands. The only commitment that was necessary was that the Department permit the normal hatchery discharge waters to drain into a lake which Boise Cascade had constructed on their development.

The hatchery property is now owned by the State and, therefore, modernization and refurbishing of this hatchery would now be more feasible than when the hatchery property was secured by a lease only. Mr. Nesbit advised that this information was provided in response to the request to report back to the Board regarding this negotiation.

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 August 20, 1970, the amount allocated to projects from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, since the Board's inception in 1947, totaled \$24,644,443.81.*

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects	\$4,757,339.76
b. Fish Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	3,541,018.44
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$1,952,082.93
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	227,996.94
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	439,503.32
4. Marine Habitat	83,753.36
5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	837,681.89
c. Fishing Access Projects	8,479,365.15
1. Coastal Access	879,373.23
2. River, Stream and Bay Access	2,356,699.70
3. Lake, Reservoir & Salton Sea Access	2,154,226.11
4. Piers	3,089,066.11
d. Game Farm Projects	146,894.49
e. Game Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	6,962,732.08
1. Wildlife Areas	6,524,282.96
2. Miscellaneous Game Habitat Development	438,449.12
f. Hunting Access	473,096.81
g. Miscellaneous Projects	250,497.08
s. Special Project Allocations	33,500.00
Total Allocated to Projects	\$24,644,443.81

*Includes \$312,859.57 reimbursed under Federal Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1965-66 F.Y.; \$675,626.89 reimbursed under Land and Water Conservation Fund Program; and \$169,783.67 reimbursed under Anadromous Fish Act Program.

Operating Costs:

FY 47/48 thru 67/68 Actual	\$1,262,122.63
FY 68/69 Estimated	104,027.00
FY 69/70 Estimated	120,410.00
FY 70/71 Estimated	124,247.00
Total Actual and Estimated Operating Costs	\$1,610,806.63

SUMMARY:

Allocations for Projects	\$24,644,443.81
Expenses of Operation	1,610,806.63
Total Expended or Obligated	\$26,255,250.44
Total Funds Appropriated	\$23,250,000.00
Approp. made available 7/1/70	750,000.00
Int. on Surplus Money Inv. thru 69/70 FY.	1,324,692.80
Miscellaneous Revenue thru 69/70	235,832.89
Reimbursement from Accel. Pub.Wks.Program	312,859.57
Reimbursement from Land & Water Cons. Fund	675,626.89
Reimbursement from Anadromous Fish Act Prog.	169,783.67
Total Accountability	\$26,718,795.82
Total Expended or Obligated	26,255,250.44
Available thru 6/30/70	463,545.38