

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

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**NOTICE OF MEETING
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD**

May 21, 2015
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
1/ Natural Resources Agency Auditorium
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM NO.

1. Roll Call
2. Funding Status - Informational
3. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 4 - 16)
- *4. Approval of Minutes – November 20, 2014, February 25, 2015 and March 12, 2015
- *5. Recovery of Funds

* Proposed Consent Calendar

1/ These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities; more information on page ix.

- *6. Fund Shifts, Various Projects \$468,639.00
Sonoma and Colusa Counties

To consider fund shifts for previously approved projects funded through the Wildlife Conservation Board's Ecosystem Restoration on Agricultural Lands Program. The projects are located in Sonoma and Colusa Counties and provide for wildlife habitats that co-exist with ongoing agricultural operations. The proposed fund shifts are necessary to meet existing grant obligations and will use funding authorized for the same purpose from a subsequent enactment year appropriation. The purposes of the projects are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for projects to assist farmers in integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration and wildlife protection. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(4)]

- *7. Smithneck Creek Wildlife Area Land Exchange \$5,000.00
Sierra County

To consider the exchange of 4± acres and an easement interest in property owned by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for 8± acres owned by Sierra County (County) to allow the County to complete the Sierra Brooks Water Project, located near the town of Loyalton in Sierra County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition and protection of deer, oak woodland and mountain lion habitat. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

- *8. Independence Lake Fisheries Restoration \$132,000.00
Nevada and Sierra Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Trout Unlimited, and Bella Vista Foundation to restore Lahontan cutthroat trout populations at TNC's Independence Lake, located 15 miles north of the City of Truckee in Nevada and Sierra Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f)]

- *9. Placer County OEST Ranch Oak Woodlands Conservation Easement Placer County \$182,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Placer Land Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 36± acres of land located west of Highway 49, north of the City of Auburn in Placer County for the protection of native oak woodland habitat and for the protection and preservation of sensitive biological resources. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the protection of native oak woodland habitat. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(2)]

- *10. Carson River Enhancement Alpine County \$360,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to American Rivers, Inc., for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), US Forest Service (USFS), Wildlife Conservation Society, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Alpine Watershed Group for ecological restoration of the West Fork Carson River in CDFW's Hope Valley Wildlife Area and the USFS's Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, located 12 miles south of South Lake Tahoe in Alpine County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Section 2786(e/f) (Proposition 1E)]

- *11. Maxwell Conservation Easement Transfer Fresno County \$0.00

To consider the acceptance of a conservation easement over 15± acres of land, held for mitigation purposes by the Sierra Foothill Conservancy, to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the continued protection of habitat and to prevent any use of the Property that will significantly impair or interfere with the conservation values of the Property, located in the city of Auberry, in Fresno County.

- *12. Allensworth Ecological Reserve, Expansion 58 Tulare County \$0.00

To consider the acquisition of three separate parcels of land totaling 4± acres of land on behalf of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the protection of habitat supporting the San Joaquin kit fox and other

species found within the area of the CDFW Allensworth Ecological Reserve and to enhance habitat linkages and connectivity, located near the city of Earlimart in Tulare County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which is being provided by the California Department of Corrections Statewide Electric Fence Project mitigation fund assigned to CDFW.

- *13. Santiago Creek Riparian Restoration \$162,000.00
Kern County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Wildlands Conservancy for a cooperative project with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to eradicate tamarisk from Santiago Creek on Wind Wolves Preserve, located 25 miles southwest of the city of Bakersfield in Kern County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f) (Proposition 1E)]

- *14. Coal Oil Point Reserve Improvements \$505,000.00
Santa Barbara County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Regents of the University of California for a cooperative project with University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) for renovations and upgrades, located at UCSB'S Coal Oil Point Reserve in the city of Goleta in Santa Barbara County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for grants to the University of California for the Natural Reserve System for the construction and development of facilities that will be used for research and training to improve the management of natural lands and the preservation of California's wildlife resources. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)(3)]

- *15. Western Riverside MSHCP (2013) – Kaelin \$880,675.00
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority), as well as to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the Authority, to acquire 25± acres of land in western Riverside County located within the area of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. The purposes of this

project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species; and which allows for the acquisition of habitat on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

- *16. Western Riverside MSHCP (2014) – Lloyd \$118,750.00
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority), as well as to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) grant to the Authority, to acquire 162± acres of land in western Riverside County located within the area of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species; and which allows for the acquisition of habitat on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

17. North Coast Non-native Invasive Weed Eradication \$450,000.00
Del Norte and Humboldt Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Redwood Community Action Agency for a cooperative project with Humboldt and Del Norte County Agriculture Departments, California Department of Transportation, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Yurok Tribe to eradicate nonnative knotweeds and other invasive species at more than 100 locations in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands outside the Central Valley. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(d), Wetlands Outside the Central Valley]

18. Butte Creek Meadows Working Forest \$1,679,500.00
Siskiyou County

To consider the allocation for a grant to Pacific Forest Trust to acquire a conservation easement over 3,587± acres of land for the protection of a mixed conifer working forest habitat linkages located near the community of Montague in Siskiyou County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for

forest conservation and protection projects to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(a)]

19. Spenceville Wildlife Area, Conservation Easement \$2,135,000.00
(Robinson Ranch)
Nevada County

To consider the acquisition of a conservation easement over 1,447± acres of land by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for a cooperative project with The Trust for Public Land, for the protection of native oak woodlands habitat near Penn Valley in Nevada County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources that: allows for the acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands and to protect deer and mountain lions [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)] and; allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat that protects habitat corridors, significant natural landscapes and ecosystems that include oak woodlands [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)].

20. Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area, Expansion 14 \$2,630,000.00
Yuba County

To consider the acquisition in fee of 732± acres of land by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the protection of blue oak woodland, riparian habitat along South Honcut Creek, winter range for the Mooretown deer herd, and to provide future wildlife oriented public use opportunities as an expansion to the CDFW's Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area located near Browns Valley, in Yuba County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands, necessary to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

21. Long Gulch Ranch \$876,000.00
Tuolumne County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Mother Lode Land Trust to acquire in fee 576± acres of land for the protection of habitat that supports

threatened and endangered species, and to provide habitat linkages and corridors between existing protected lands that support native species and to offer potential future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, located approximately six miles northeast of the community of Groveland, in Tuolumne County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

22. Grasslands and Mendota Wildlife Areas Enhancement \$853,000.00
Merced and Fresno Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Waterfowl Association for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to conduct a legal survey and to provide fencing, earthwork, and water supply infrastructure, which will enhance 70± acres and provide water more efficiently to 5500± acres of habitat on four wildlife areas managed by the CDFW, in Merced and Fresno Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands in the Central Valley. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(d), Inland Wetlands Conservation Program]

23. Santa Cruz Integrated Watershed Restoration, \$465,000.00
Phase II
Santa Cruz County

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, California Conservation Corps, State Coastal Conservancy, State Water Resources Control Board, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and a private landowner to restore riparian habitat in areas critical to special status amphibian and fish species, located on two coastal watersheds in Santa Cruz County. The purposes of this project is consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f) (Proposition 1E)]

24. San Joaquin River Parkway \$4,500,000.00
Sycamore Island Pond Isolation Construction Project
Fresno and Madera Counties

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Department of Water Resources for a cooperative project with the San Joaquin River Conservancy (Conservancy) to improve an access road and a berm to isolate a gravel pit from the San Joaquin River and to restore riparian and floodplain habitat on Conservancy property, located two miles downstream of State Route 41 in Fresno and Madera Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of land and water resources located within the boundaries of the San Joaquin River Conservancy. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(b)(5)].

25. Metcalf Bay – 2014 RLA Grant \$731,200.00
San Bernardino County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust (SBMLT), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the SBMLT, to acquire in fee 17± acres of land to promote recovery of rare and endangered plant and wildlife species, located within the City of Big Bear in San Bernardino County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened and fully protected species [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

26. Santa Cruz Island Argentine Ant Elimination \$568,000.00
Santa Barbara County

To consider the allocation for a grant to The Nature Conservancy, for a cooperative project with the National Park Service to eliminate Argentine ants from Santa Cruz Island, located approximately 20 miles west of Ventura Harbor in Santa Barbara County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the development, rehabilitation, restoration, acquisition and protection of habitat that accomplishes one or more of the following objectives: promotes recovery of threatened and endangered species, protects habitat corridors, protects significant natural landscapes and ecosystems, or implements the recommendations of the California Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006

(Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b)]

27. San Diego County Water Authority (Rancho Cielo) \$1,520,000.00
San Diego County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Habitat Conservation Plan Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to TECC to assist with the acquisition of 251± acres of land in western San Diego County to protect key regional wildlife linkages, to increase regional wildlife habitat corridors, and preserve core areas of habitat that support threatened and endangered species within the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP). The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species; and which allows for the acquisition of habitat on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Section 2786(b/c)].

28. California Streamflow Enhancement Program Informational/Action

Proposition 1 (Water Bond), approved by California voters on November 4, 2014, authorizes \$200,000,000 to the WCB (Water Code, Section 79733, subject to appropriation by the Legislature) for projects that result in enhanced stream flows. Final program guidelines and a draft of the project solicitation package will be discussed.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator Melissa Carlin at (916) 651-1214 or Melissa.Carlin@wildlife.ca.gov. Reasonable Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received by February 12, 2015. Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event, and requests for Real-Time Captioners at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator immediately.