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

T

Minutes, Meeting of September 30, 1977

# CONTENTS

Item N	<u>o</u> .	Page No.
1. 2. 3.	Roll Call	1 - 2 2 2
	WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND PROJECTS	
4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12.	Recovery of Funds Liberty Ship Artificial Reef Rio Vista Riverbank Public Access, Solano County Samoa Public Access Improvements, Numboldt County Pardee Reservoir Public Access Improvements, Amador Co. Palo Verde Weir Public Access, Riverside County Mt. Whitney Hatchery Broodstock Facilities Elk Herd Fencing - Concord Naval Weapons Station Emeryville Fishing Pier, Alameda County 1974 RECREATION BOND ACT PROJECTS	2 - 4 $4 - 5$ $5 - 6$ $6 - 9 - ellen$ $9 - 11 - 12$ $13$ $13 - 14$ $14 - 15$
13.	Bighorn Sheep Range Land Acquisition Project Santa Rosa Mtns.WLA (Eisenhower Mtn.), Riverside Co.	15 - 17
14.	Reappropriation of 1974 Bond Act Funds	17 - 18
15.	1976 STATE, URBAN, AND COASTAL PARK BOND ACT	18 - 22
	Program Statement	23

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

Minutes, Meeting of September 30, 1977

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in Room 2117 of the State Capitol, Sacramento, California, on September 30, 1977. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Berger Benson at 1:30 p.m.

#### 1. Roll Call

PRESENT:	Ber	ger	Benson
to the bu	Ε.	C.	Fullerton

Senator John A. Nejedly

ABSENT: Sid McCausland Senator Dennis E. Carpenter Senator John F. Dunlap Assemblyman Dan Boatwright Assemblyman Barry Keene Assemblyman Tom Suitt

#### STAFF PRESENT:

Chester M. Hart Alvin G. Rutsch John Wentzel John Schmidt Jim Sarro Alma Koyasako Bella Applebaum

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Arthur D. Martinez Rose Takata David W. Nielsen George E. Alphin Pete Dangermond, Jr. Virgil Meibert W. E. Schafer W. J. Long Don F. Estey Julian Whelan-Falcey Sally Ewing Member, vice Roy Bell Joint Interim Committee

Joint Interim Committee

Chairman

81 11

Member

Executive Officer Assistant Executive Officer Field Agent Land Agent Land Agent Secretary Accountant

11

> Joe Sheehan Rena Rickles Joe Close

Dept. of Fish & Game City of Emeryville

13,600.00

-11,630.83

\$ 1,969.17

## 2. Approval of Minutes

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 21, 1977, MEETING BE APPROVED AS PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 3. Status of Wildlife Restoration Fund

The Executive Officer, Mr. Chester M. Hart, reported that this is an informational item, indicating that with the recovery of funds by the Board as noted in the next item, there will be sufficient monies to fund all of the items on the agenda.

Unallocated balance after 6/21/77 meeting				٠	\$551,736.99
Plus unexpended balance - Prior year	support				+ 36,600.96
Plus interest - Jan./June 1977					+ 96,981.53
Plus pari-mutuel revenue, July, 1977					+750,000.00
Less estimated 1977/78 staff support					-253,861.00

Unallocated balance at beginning of 9/30/77 meeting . . . \$1,181,458.48

#### WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND PROJECTS

#### 4. Recovery of Funds

Mr. Hart recommended that the amount of \$59,151.95 as shown below be recovered and returned to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and the accounts for the eight completed projects listed be closed.

## Gazos Creek Access

Allocation Expenditures Balance for Recovery

Channel Island Public Access

Allocation	\$47,000.00
Expenditures	-47,000.00
Balance for Recovery	\$ 0.00

## Dog Island Public Access

Allocation		\$78,500.00	
Expenditures	\$66,324.11	VIEDONIEANU 0	
Fed. LWCF Reim	nb. <u>-32,488.03</u>		
WCB Expenditur		-33,836.08	
Previously Rec	overed	-25,345.21	
Balance for Re	covery	\$19,318.71	
Petaluma River	Public Access		
Allocation		\$115,500.00	
Expenditures		-115,045.50	
Balance for Re	covery	\$ 454.50	
Lake Piru Publ	ic Access		
Allocation		\$107,815.00	
Expenditures	\$105,058.05	a was cheavely cover	
Fed. LWCF Reim	ib 51,127.42		
WCB Expenditur	es	- 53,930.63	
Balance for Re	covery	- <u>53,930.63</u> \$ 2,756.95	
Imperial Beach	Pier		
an for fishour	marking the local		
Allocation		\$20,000.00	
Expenditures		-18,650.87 \$ 1,349.13	
Balance for Re	covery	\$ 1,349.13	
Martinez Pier			
Allocation		\$65,000.00	
Expenditures	\$64,842.50	Full advict believed	
Fed. LWCF Reim	ib		
WCB Expenditur	es	-32,034.33	
Balance for Re	covery	\$32,965.67	
Pittsburg Pier	of beinkertos el ris		
Allocation		\$16,000,00	

Allocation	\$16,000.00
Expenditures	-15,662.18
Balance for Recovery	\$ 337.82

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD RECOVER FUNDS FROM THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS AND CLOSE THE PROJECT ACCOUNTS AS FOLLOWS:

Gazos Creek Public Access	\$1,969.17
Channel Island Public Access	0.00
Dog Island Public Access	19,318.71
Petaluma River Public Access	454.50
Lake Piru Public Access	2,756.95
Imperial Beach Pier	1,349.13
Martinez Pier	32,965.67
Pittsburg Pier	337.82

-3-

ALL OF THE SUMS TOTALING \$59,151.95 AS SHOWN ARE TO BE RECOVERED AND RETURNED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 5. Liberty Ship Artificial Reefs - Status Report

\$13,000.00

Mr. Hart advised that this item is a status report and a request for supplemental funding for proceeding with the project.

The pilot project for use of Liberty ships for artificial reefs was successfully completed on September 13, 1977, with the sinking of the U.S.S. Palawan in Santa Monica Bay. After the ship was anchored over the reef site in 130 feet of water about one mile off of Redondo Beach harbor, a Navy demolition team blew 12 holes in the bottom with shaped charges, resulting in the stripped hull sinking in about 40 minutes.

The sinking was heavily covered by the news media, including T.V. teams for both local and national news. It was also observed by a large number of people on private boats, and could be seen from shore.

The 420 foot long ship should provide an excellent reef due to the many compartments provided by bulkheads and other internal structures remaining within the hull. A buoy marking the location for fishermen will be maintained by Los Angeles County.

The bid for the other two ships as reported upon at the June 21, 1977, meeting turned out to be not acceptable, with the bidder unable to obtain the required insurance.

The bid results on September 21 produced a good bid for the USS Oahu which is scheduled to be sunk off Channel Islands Harbor in Ventura County. The bidder will pay to the State \$2,725 to sink this ship because of its high salvage value. This is a repair ship on a Liberty ship hull. That contract is being awarded at the present time.

However, the USS Cheleb, which is scheduled to be sunk off Huntington-Newport Beach areas in Orange County, resulted in a bid requiring the State to pay \$141,000. The high bid is due to the fact that the Cheleb is a standard Liberty ship with substantial cleaning and other costs and less salvage value.

With the net revenues estimated from receipt for sinking of the Palawan and the Oahu, there would be approximately \$135,000 in the WCB account for awarding a contract for the Chaleb and would therefore require an additional allocation of \$13,000 for completing this project as proposed.

However, after reviewing this bid it was the recommendation of staff and the Department that the Board allocate the additional \$13,000 to sink this ship, but at the same time authorize staff and the Department to re-evaluate the Liberty ship versus other material for construction of the reef and further authorize staff and the Department to proceed with

-4-

the more favorable alternative for a comparable reef. Mr. Hart mentioned that quarry rock or other satisfactory reef material might be obtained in this location to provide as good a reef for less money.

Senator John Nejedly who had joined the members during the presentation, suggested approval of staff recommendation.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD ALLOCATE AN ADDITIONAL \$13,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND, AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED WITH EITHER THE LIBERTY SHIP OR OTHER MATERIALS FOR REEF CONSTRUCTION BASED ON FURTHER EVALUATION OF COMPARATIVE BENEFITS VERSUS COSTS.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 6. Rio Vista Riverbank Public Access, Solano County

\$7,200.00

On July 29, 1971, the Board allocated funds for development of a bank fishing access on City of Rio Vista property and Division of Highways surplus land at the west end of the Highway 12 bridge.

A parking area, walkway along the riverbank, bank stabilization work, fencing, lights, and water were provided under the initial project. The City has landscaped the area and added day use facilities at the site.

Located in the heart of the bountiful fishing resources of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, this site is receiving increasing annual use. No restrooms were considered appropriate at the time the project was developed, but the City later added chemical toilets at their cost. Because of the increased use, the City has requested the WCB now provide permanent restroom facilities.

Electric, water, and sewer utilities have been installed adjacent to the site. The City has agreed to maintain this facility as a part of the project.

As lead agency, the City has determined the work will have no significant effect upon the environment, is exempt from CEQA requirements, and has filed the necessary Notice of Exemption with the County clerk.

Staff has reviewed the plans and cost estimate furnished by the City and finds them acceptable. As proposed, the funds to be allocated will provide the materials for a pre-fabricated restroom, foundation and utility connections. The City will complete the installation at their cost, and will handle all construction details, including project engineering and construction supervision.

The cost estimate is as follows:

Restroom	prefabricated	AND STATES OF STATES	\$5,900.00
Concrete	slab, plumbin	ig, electrical	1,300.00
		TOTAL	\$7,200.00

It was Mr. Hart's recommendation the Board approve the project, allocate \$7,200 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed with the project substantially as planned.

Senator Nejedly questioned Mr. George Alphin, City Administrator of Rio Vista, regarding the sewer connection for the restrooms. Mr. Alphin responded that the restrooms would be hooked up to a city sewer line located about 15 feet away and that the city would make that connection. Senator Nejedly then recommended approval of the proposal.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE RIO VISTA RIVERBANK PUBLIC ACCESS, SOLANO COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$7,200 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

#### PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Alphin commented that this project was originally brought before the Board in 1971 as proposed and designed by high school students. It was an attempt to show that when groups -- students, government agencies, etc. -- pull together toward a common goal, it can be accomplished. He expressed appreciation for continued cooperation by the State in providing improvements for all the users of the project.

Mr. Hart added for the information of the Board that the Department of Water Resources has contacted both the City and staff about building a small pier in this project area to serve both as a public fishing pier and a water quality monitoring station for the Department of Water Resources and indicated it appeared to have potential for a cooperative project. The staff will continue to work with the Department of Water Resources towards that end.

#### 7. Samoa Public Access Improvements, Humboldt County

\$72,500.00

The Samoa Public Access is situated on a 13 acre parcel on the Samoa peninsula across Humboldt Bay from the City of Eureka, Humboldt County. The site of a former U.S. Coast Guard lifeboat station, it was declared surplus, and in 1964 was acquired by the Board as a public fishing access site.

In 1965, the Board allocated \$42,000 for development of public use facilities on the site. An existing timber seaplane ramp was modified for boat launching use and the existing parking apron was resurfaced. Rock riprap was added to protect the bank slope against wave erosion, and basic sanitary facilities were added. The County maintains the area by agreement with the State.

This is the closest ramp to the mouth of Humboldt Bay and receives heavy use by fishermen during the salmon fishing season.

The converted seaplane ramp has served adequately for boat launching purposes, but in recent years has deteriorated rapidly. The County has made frequent repairs and has replaced many of the rotting deck timbers over the past twelve years. Last March the County had to close the ramp as it was no longer considered to be safe for public use.

As instructed by the Board at their April 28, 1976, meeting, staff has been working with the Department of Navigation and Ocean Development on a coordinated program to meet related boating and fishing access needs of the State. The County prepared a feasibility report for the reconstruction of the Samoa ramp and in cooperation with DNOD, developed preliminary plans and a cost estimate. DNOD has available \$100,000 in their current budget for the work.

The County has received the \$100,000 capital outlay grant from DNOD, but final estimates exceed the funds available by \$26,000. The County has requested WCB funds to cover the deficiency so the ramp can be reconstructed and again opened to public use.

Prior to the complete failure of the old seaplane ramp and the Board's decision to de-emphasize ramp projects, the County and WCB staff agreed upgrading of the entire access was needed, including improvements to the parking area and a permanent type restroom facility.

DNOD has agreed to budget funds in their 1979-80 fiscal year budget for the new restroom facility, estimated at \$30,000, in consideration of a WCB allocation to provide the additional funds needed for the ramp project. In addition, an allocation for the parking area improvements would be appropriate so this work could be completed as soon as possible after completion of the new ramp.

The County has currently budgeted funds for the engineering and construction supervision required for the ramp and parking area, and has agreed to include funds in their 1979-80 budget for the restroom engineering and construction supervision costs. In addition, the County has agreed at its cost to place asphalt dikes, stripe the parking area and install a 2 inch water supply line as improvements for the project.

In summary, the project improvements as proposed for this coordinated effort would be scheduled as follows to accomplish the goals of all these agencies:

 1977-78 - combine DNOD, WCB, and County funds to construct the ramp, as follows:

\$100,000
26,000
5,000
\$131,000

(2) In the spring of 1978, combine WCB and County funds to level and pave the parking area, as follows:

WCB	\$46,500	
County	7,000	
TOTAL	\$53,500	

(3) 1979-80 - combine DNOD and County funds to construct the restroom, as follows:

DNOD	\$30,000	
County	4,500	
TOTAL	\$34,500	

(4) The County will assume the following costs for improvements concurrently with the above scheduled work as required:

A.C. dikes	\$2,800
2" water supply line	3,000 6,000
Pavement marking	0,000
TOTAL	\$11,800

The County's feasibility report confirms the importance of the Samoa access in meeting the boating needs of this area. There are presently eight launching lanes or boat hoists available in the Humboldt Bay area, whereas studies indicate that 12 are needed for average weekend days. This demand is projected to 15 lanes required by 1980. This proposed ramp reconstruction is intended to restore the two-lane Samoa facility to help meet this demand. The County is also considering expanding the width of the WCB ramp at Fields Landing at their cost to accommodate the heavy use being experienced there.

Current recreational uses of Humboldt Bay include fishing, crabbing, clamming, waterfowl hunting, boating for pleasure, sightseeing, nature study and photography. Since most of these activities are boat related, an adequate number of boat launching sites must be maintained to give trailered boats access to the bay.

As lead agency, the County prepared an Initial Study and filed a Negative Declaration for the ramp construction which concluded that the proposed work would not create significant adverse impacts on the environment. A Negative Declaration for the parking area improvements was also filed by the County with a finding of no significant adverse impacts. Notices of Determination for these actions have been filed with the County clerk as required by CEQA.

The County has by resolution agreed to a 25 year extension of the maintenance and operation requirements which have been in effect by agreement with the County.

It was Mr. Hart's recommendation that the Board approve construction of the boat ramp, parking area, and restroom improvements at the Samoa Public Access on a coordinated basis with the Department of Navigation and Ocean Development and the County of Humboldt as proposed, and in consideration of the Negative Declaration prepared and filed therefor, allocate \$72,500 for the Board's share of the cost, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

WCB costs should qualify for 50% reimbursement under the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program and staff will submit an application for such funds for the project.

Mr. Hart noted that Mr. Dave Nielson, Recreation Supervisor for the County of Humboldt, was present and could respond to any further questions the Board might have.

In response to Senator Nejedly's question as to the Board's financial responsibility in the event of a cost overrun, Mr. Hart responded that he felt the estimates were adequate. DNOD, however, would be limited to the \$100,000 budgeted amount, and the Board could limit its financial obligation to the amount as set forth in the agenda and felt that the County could finish the job if there were an overrun. Mr. Nielson agreed that this would be suitable. With this agreement, Senator Nejedly recommended approval.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SAMOA PUBLIC ACCESS, HUMBOLDT COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$72,500 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THE COUNTY WOULD FUND THE OVERAGE IN THE EVENT OF A COST OVER-RUN.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 8. Pardee Reservoir Public Access Improvements, Amador County \$54,800.00

In 1957, the East Bay Municipal Utility District with support of the Associated Sportsmens Club and the California Wildlife Federation presented a proposal to the WCB for opening Pardee Reservoir, a domestic water facility of the District, to the public. This was a pioneering project for opening domestic water reservoirs to public fishing use in northern California. The Board approved and allocated funds for development on December 20, 1957. The project, consisting of launching ramp, sanitary facilities, roadways, water system, and fencing was completed and opened in 1958. Enhancing facilities such as picnicking, camping, etc., were provided by EBMUD. The District has operated the area since that time.

This area has become increasingly popular each year since its opening. For example, in 1961 there were 15,000 user days recorded -- in 1975 it had climbed to 136,000. The area is known to and used by people from the Central Valley and the Bay Area.

The District is now proposing improvements to the existing project. Because of low water conditions, it is considered the optimum time to extend the access roadway and launching ramp and to excavate a cove area to improve fish habitat. A fishing float is also planned for the cove area. It is also planned to construct a walkway across the spillway to provide angler access to the opposite shoreline. The District will also install groups of plastic "kelp" under the float to attract fish.

The Department of Fish and Game has evaluated the proposal and recommends the development be approved. The Department states that the "kelp clumps" should assist fishermen in catching trout in the spring and sunfish in the summer. By resolution, the District has agreed to continued operation of the area. The lease and O&M agreement would be extended for a 25 year period.

As lead agency, the District has determined the project would have no significant impact upon the environment, is exempt from CEQA regulations, and has filed a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk. It is anticipated this exemption notice will be processed prior to date of the meeting.

Cost estimates provided by the District and reviewed by staff are as follows:

Access road extension	\$3,300
Low level ramp	16,800
Fisheries habitat improvement	
Channel excavation	20,000
"Kelp" clumps	1,100
Spillway walkway	7,500
Fishing dock (50% of \$9,800)	4,900
Contingencies	1,200

#### TOTAL \$54,800

The project should qualify for matching Land and Water Conservation Fund monies, for which staff will apply.

Mr. Hart recommended the Board approve the Pardee Reservoir project improvements as proposed, allocate \$54,800 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for such purposes, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Art Martinez from EBMUD was questioned as to when the District proposed to commence construction, and he responded that the District would start work immediately upon signing of agreements with the WCB which would take approximately one month, with completion before next summer. Senator Nejedly stated that since cost estimates were predicated on immediate construction during absence of water to interfere with construction, it would

be his recommendation that the Board approve the allocation with District agreeing to start construction immediately. Mr. Hart pledged the expediting of contracts to the fullest extent so that work can begin immediately.

Mr. Fullerton questioned the location of the kelp clumps because of its possible disturbance by boats, and Mr. Martinez assured the Board that boats would be restricted from the lagoon area where the kelp clumps would be located.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PARDEE RESERVOIR PUBLIC ACCESS, AMADOR COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$54,800 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Senator Nejedly was called out of the meeting at this time.)

#### 9. Palo Verde Weir Public Access, Riverside County

\$64,300.00

This project has been proposed by the County of Riverside at the request of the Blythe Chamber of Commerce.

The proposed project is located about seven miles north of Blythe at one of the most popular fishing spots on the lower Colorado River. The weir or diversion dam of the Palo Verde Irrigation District acts as a barrier to fish movement upstream, in particular concentrating striped bass during the spring spawning period. Stripers are also caught here to some extent year long, as well as flathead and channel catfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, and bluegill.

Primarily because of safety and potential liability problems the Irrigation District excludes anglers from the California bank of the river near its facilities. It is the whitewater near the tailrace of the diversion dam that provides the best fishing area. Fishermen now must gain access from the Arizona side by traveling some distance, or fish farther down the river on the California side.

The Riverside County proposal is essentially to grade a short access road and a parking area adjacent to the Irrigation District facilities, construct a footbridge across the diversion canal and grade a pathway to the riverbank. Sanitary facilities would also be provided, and fencing as necessary for safety purposes.

The Department of Fish and Game supports the project, pointing out the desirability of the area for fishing, and noting that the development would undoubtedly provide substantial public benefits by improving access to these waters.

The land involved is owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and leased to the Palo Verde Irrigation District. Preliminary discussions with the District representatives have indicated their willingness to sublease the land needed for the development to the State through the County of Riverside.

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors has by resolution agreed to sublease the area to the State for a 25 year term and to operate and maintain the area for this period.

The following cost estimate for the project was submitted by the County and reviewed by staff:

Access road and parking area, grading	\$2,500
Footbridge, prefabricated, steel	36,000
Footbridge, installation and footings	12,000
Fencing, 450 ft., 6' chain link with 2 gates	5,000
Chemical toilets with wood screening	2,500
Pathway, grading	500
Subtotal	\$58,500
Engineering, 5%	2,900
Contingencies, 5%	2,900
Total Project Cost	\$64,300

Riverside County as the lead agency for CEQA requirements has determined that this proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A negative declaration was filed July 11, 1977, and approved.

It is expected the project will qualify for federal fund reimbursement under the Land and Water Conservation Fund program, and staff will make application for matching funds.

It was Mr. Hart's recommendation that the Board, with consideration of the negative declaration, approve this project, allocate \$64,300 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for development and related costs, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as proposed.

Mr. Pete Dangermond, Parks Director for Riverside County, commented that this has been a very popular spot and this proposal has been suggested for a number of years both by Fish and Game personnel and local fishermen. He estimated there would be from 25 - 30 fishermen there everyday, since this area and the lower Colorado River generally is looked upon as a very good fishing area and attracts numbers of fishermen and campers all summer.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION OF THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION, APPROVE THE PALO VERDE WEIR PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT, RIVERSIDE COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$64,300 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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#### Mt. Whitney Hatchery Broodstock Facilities

\$14,000.00

Mr. Hart advised that the Department of Fish and Game has requested Board consideration of this item on an emergency basis since additional funding is required to complete the modernization and expansion of the broodstock facilities at the Mt. Whitney Hatchery. This project is the last of a number of projects funded by the Board from the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Project in connection with the State Water Project. These funds were budgeted and committed some time ago, and this is the last project to be carried out. By provision of state law, the project was designed and bid out by the Office of the State Architect. Bids were opened September 27 with the low bid of \$337,777, which is about \$30,000 above the cost estimate. However, this is \$43,000 below the next low bid and is considered a good bid from a reputable firm. There is a recognized deficit of \$14,000 which needs to be funded before the contract can be awarded.

There are no bond act funds remaining to cover this deficit. The project has been reviewed by the Department and they do not feel the estimate can be reduced by deleting or reducing the items. The Department and staff recommend the Board allocate \$14,000 to enable the contract to be awarded. However, the allocation should be made on the condition that these funds are to be returned to the Wildlife Restoration Fund if any of these funds are not needed. The requested amount includes contingencies and other requirements, and it may be that none of the money or only a portion would be needed to complete the job.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD ALLOCATE \$14,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND TO PRO-VIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE MT. WHITNEY BROOD-STOCK FACILITIES PROJECT WITH THE STIPULATION THAT ANY FUNDS NOT REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 11. Elk Herd Fencing - Concord Naval Weapons Station

\$55,000.00

The Chairman noted that there was another emergency item suggested by the Department of Fish and Game, and requested Mr. Fullerton to present it for Board consideration.

Mr. Fullerton reported that six elk were planted at the Concord Naval Weapons Station and at the time it was believed the fence was secure enough to contain them. It has been found that the fencing is not -the elk are getting out and there have been a number of problems. There are plans to thin the herd in Inyo County and with the improved fencing at the Naval Weapons Station, the surplus elk can be transplanted there and increase the herd at the Station by 30 animals. The amount required would be \$55,000 and this would be for materials only since California Conservation Corps would do the construction. He believed this is a very worthwhile proposal and recommended approval of the item.

Mr. Hart believed the Board could approve this as an emergency item as the tule elk are considered rare animals and that the project would be exempt from CEQA requirements as an improvement of an existing project. The Board does have proprietary interest requirements for expenditure of State funds, but it would be probable that such requirements could be met.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVA-TION BOARD ALLOCATE \$55,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND TO PROVIDE FENCING AT THE CONCORD NAVAL WEAPONS STATION ON THE CONDITION THAT PROPRIETARY INTEREST REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF SUCH FUNDS ARE MET.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Senator Nejedly returned to the meeting at this time.)

#### 12. Emeryville Fishing Pier, Alameda County

\$80,000.00

Mr. Hart noted that representatives from the City of Emeryville were now in attendance and presented the Emeryville Fishing Pier proposal.

The City of Emeryville has proposed the construction of a fishing pier on the breakwater at the city marina on San Francisco Bay. The development would consist essentially of a platform constructed on the existing timber breakwater on the northerly side of the marina. The project site is at the end of Powell Street, as it extends westerly of the Eastshore Freeway, in the City of Emeryville, Alameda County.

The pier is an element of the City's approved plan for expansion of the marina. Other elements of the expansion include additional berths, parking areas, small restaurant and sport fishing center, landscaping, additional and improved public access to the area and a double lane boat launching ramp.

In anticipation of such a development, the City began discussions with WCB staff in 1972 after receiving initial BCDC authorization of the marina and breakwater. The solid timber breakwater ultimately developed is so constructed as to easily accommodate a timber platform from which people could fish on each side of the breakwater. Thus, it is possible to provide pier fishing opportunities for the public at a fraction of the cost of a completely independent pier structure.

The Department of Fish and Game evaluation of the fisheries potential of this proposal states that large seasonal populations of striped bass, perch and other fish are found along the near shore areas from Alameda to Albany, and a fishing pier in the Emeryville area could be expected to receive substantial angler use.

The City of Emeryville has by resolution agreed to provide a 25 year lease of the premises to the State and to maintain the facility as a public fishing pier by cooperative agreement for this period. The City has also agreed to provide one-half the cost of this development and would handle the engineering and construction supervision of the project.

The fishing pier is an element of the City's final EIR which was prepared for their application to amend the BCDC permit to include an additional 4.7 acres of fill on the Emeryville Marina Hook, including specified uses of the fill. The City has filed a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk pursuant to CEQA requirements.

The City has prepared preliminary plans for this proposed development. All wood construction is planned, with the walkway 8 feet wide, cantilevered about 30 inches over each side of the breakwater. It would extend some 880 feet along the present breakwater structure. Ancillary facilities such as lights, water, benches, waste containers, fish cleaning sinks, will be included as appropriate. Restroom facilities located on-shore are to be provided by the City and are not included in this project. About 20 parking spaces will be provided for pier users.

The City has estimated the cost at \$160,000 which would require an allocation of \$80,000 from the Board under the WCB policy of requiring matching funds for fishing pier projects. It is expected the project will qualify for federal fund reimbursement under the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

Mr. Hart recommended the Board, with consideration of the final EIR prepared and filed by the City of Emeryville, approve the project, allocate \$80,000 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff to commence with the project substantially as planned.

Emeryville City Council member Rena Rickels and Administrative Assistant Joe Close were introduced. Councilwoman Rickels stated that there has been a lot of public support and input in the design, and the community is very much behind the project. She indicated that in the future Joe Close would be coordinating this project on behalf of the City.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION OF THE PROJECT EIR, APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EMERYVILLE FISHING PIER, ALAMEDA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$80,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND ON A MATCHING FUND BASIS WITH THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED. STAFF IS AUTHORIZED TO SHARE WITH THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE ANY REIMBURSE-MENT RECEIVED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNDER THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 1974 RECREATION BOND ACT PROJECTS

 Bighorn Sheep Range Land Acquisition Project Santa Rosa Mountains Wildlife Area (Eisenhower Mtn.), Riverside Co. \$5,115.00

This proposal is to acquire approximately  $1,945 \pm acres$  (3 sections) in the Santa Rosa Mountains. Generally the location is southerly of the Lower Coachella Valley, southeast of Palm Springs in Riverside County. This

acquisition would be the third in a series in this general area to protect the rare peninsular bighorn sheep, with these parcels within or adjacent to their range. In addition, the properties provide habitat for many other species of birds and animals, as well as outdoor recreational opportunity.

Two sections are located on a mountainous spur projecting northeast from the Santa Rosa Mountains, between the communities of Palm Desert, Indian Wells and La Quinta. These sections totalling approximately 1,280 acres adjoin or are surrounded by approximately 2,160 acres of BLM lands so that 3,440 acres would be blocked up in public ownership by the purchase. This block also adjoins 3,660 acres owned by the University of California (Deep Canyon Research Center).

The third section is larger than normal, 665+ acres, and is located about five miles to the southeast, or about 1 mile southwest of Lake Cahuilla, the terminal reservoir for the All American irrigation canal. It is located in checkerboard BLM ownership, so that with the four surrounding BLM sections, a block of approximately 3,225 acres in public ownership would be formed.

The Department of Fish and Game will assume management responsibility for this property in the same mamner as with other Santa Rosa Mountain acquisitions, with cooperative agreements between the Department and BLM anticipated due in part to the intermingled land ownership pattern. Preliminary plans are that uses compatible with the continued well-being of the bighorn sheep will be permitted. Such potential uses may include nature observation, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and primitive camping.

These lands are owned by Southern Pacific Land Company, but Trust for Public Lands has secured options and has been cooperating with staff in the purchase.

The Board staff has secured an option from TPL to acquire this 1,945+ acres for \$120,000 which is one-half the appraised fair market value, and an average of \$62 per acre. It is planned that the 50% donation be used as the State's share of the acquisition costs in applying for matching Land and Water Conservation funds. To carry out this acquisition an advance of federal funds will be required, which is possible under federal procedures. A small allocation of State funds will be needed for initial costs related to the acquisition and to processing the federal application. Federal reimbursements received from previous acquisition as credited to the budget item for bighorn sheep range acquisition make approximately \$55,745 available for such purposes.

The proposed acquisition falls within Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions from CEQA requirements.

Staff recommended the Board approve this acquisition as proposed, allocate \$5,115 from 1974 Bond Act funds available for such purposes to cover preliminary acquisition and related costs, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned, on the basis that an advance of the Land and Water Conservation funds required for purchase will be obtained.

Two members from the Trust for Public Lands were present, as well as Pete Dangermond from Riverside County, who supported this proposal. Mr. Dangermond advised that the Board of Supervisors is very much in favor of the acquisition and has passed a resolution in support of it. He stated it was significant that this is the first time that SP lands have been acquired for less than fair market value through TPL and is a very interesting precedent. This is a good example of the leverage the staff has in being able to accomplish a lot for the \$5,000 requested, and urged approval of the proposed acquisition.

Senator Nejedly recommended approval.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF THE SANTA ROSA MOUNTAINS WILDLIFE AREA (EISENHOWER MOUNTAIN), RIVERSIDE COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$5,115 FOR PRELI-MINARY ACQUISITION AND RELATED COSTS FROM THE 1974 STATE BEACH, PARK, RECREATIONAL AND HISTORICAL FACILITIES BOND ACT FUNDS BUDGETED IN THE 1975-76 FISCAL YEAR FOR BIGHORN SHEEP RANGE LAND ACQUISITION PROJECTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED, INCLUDING OBTAINING AN ADVANCE OF FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUNDS & REQUIRED FOR PURCHASE.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## 14. Reappropriation of 1974 Bond Act Funds

The first four major projects listed below which were initially approved by the Board for use of 1974 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond monies were funded by appropriations for a three year period terminating at the end of the 1977-78 fiscal year. At present it appears there possibly will be funds remaining in each of these projects at the end of the fiscal year, or that there will be federal reimbursements to be credited to these budget items that may not be made until after the close of the fiscal year.

The major projects that the Board approved were:

\$500,000 - Bighorn Sheep Range Acquisition \$1,000,000 - Deer Winter Range Acquisition \$3,000,000 - Coastal Wetlands Acquisition \$1,500,000 - Interior Wetlands and Riparian Habitat Acquisition \$1,000,000 - Wild Trout, Salmon-Steelhead Habitat Acquisition \$1,000,000 - (AB 2133) - Coastal Wetlands Appropriation \$2,885,000 - (AB 2133) - Coastal Wetlands Appropriation \$75,000 - Project Planning \$40,000 - Project Planning (Proposed for 1978-79)

\$10,000,000 - Total

Mr. Hart gave a run-down of funds expended from the appropriations on approved projects and how the Board has utilized federal reimbursements to date totaling

\$992,000 on acquisition projects. There is an anticipated \$1,437,000 federal reimbursement still to be received so that there will be nearly \$2.5 million in federal funds which could be utilized in further acquisitions. He also noted that federal funds have been received for one-half the value of the donated lands which amounted to \$567,000. This is an example of how the Board is, in effect, recycling and making its funds go farther by this process.

In order to continue the availability of these funds to the WCB in accordance with the provision of the 1974 Bond Act, and to complete the program initiated for use of these funds, reappropriation will be needed.

Also, the planning funds of \$75,000 for use for all 1974 Bond Act projects are being depleted. There is a remaining unappropriated balance of \$40,000 of 1974 Bond Act funds which staff recommends be appropriated for continued planning purposes.

Staff recommended Board approval of budgeting the remaining \$40,000 for planning purposes, and reappropriation of the remaining balances and reimbursements for the individual projects as originally approved by WCB.

Senator Nejedly recommended approval.

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REAPPROPRIATION OF REMAINING BALANCES IN THE ITEMS ORIGINALLY APPROPRIATED IN THE 1975-76 BUDGET UNDER THE 1974 STATE BEACH, PARK, RECREATIONAL AND HISTORICAL FACILITIES BOND FUND AND APPROPRIATION OF PLANNING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 FOR THE 1978-79 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. 1976 STATE, URBAN, AND COASTAL PARK BOND ACT

The Nejedly-Hart State, Urban, and Coastal Park Bond Act of 1976 provides \$15,000,000 in supplemental funding for the WCB program, for land acquisition or development in accordance with the Board's long-standing statutory authority, the Wildlife Conservation Law of 1947. At least \$10,000,000 of this amount must be spent in coastal areas. The Act further provides that the funds are to be appropriated by the legislature through the budgetary process.

An amount of \$10,000,000 was provided for the WCB program in a similar manner by the State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1974. These funds have been appropriated for five major projects noted in Item 12.

At the outset it was recongized that the \$10,000,000 from the 1974 Bond Act would fall far short of funding all desirable, priority acquisitions for WCB within these five major projects.

With the addition of another land agent position to the WCB staff at the start of the 1977-78 fiscal year and the resulting acceleration in land acquisition processing, it is anticipated that the 1974 Bond Act funds will be substantially exhausted by the end of this fiscal year or early next year.

Staff and the Department of Fish and Game recommend that the 1976 Bond Act funds be utilized essentially to continue the major land acquisition projects initiated with 1974 Bond Act monies, with emphasis on coastal areas. It is highly desirable that these funds be appropriated to enable proceeding with such acquisition as rapidly as possible, before the purchasing power of these monies is significantly reduced by the continuing appreciation in land values.

The following procedures were utilized for the 1974 Bond Act program and are recommended by staff as the most feasible process for implementing major land acquisition projects in accordance with the provisions of the 1976 Bond Act, the WCB statutory authority, and the Board's long standing policy of direct acquisition on a willing sale basis:

- That the Board approve major projects as presented below for budgetary processing and appropriation of funds;
- That from such budgetary appropriations, the Board allocate funds for individual acquisitions that it approves within the scope of the overall project, following staff securing appraisals, options, and such other information as required for Board action;
- That the individual budget items for such WCB appropriations contain provisions that any reimbursements received from any federal grant programs be deposited to the credit of the item.

Staff recommended Board consideration and approval of the following projects for budget submission:

## Coastal Wetlands Acquisition Project, Phase II \$10,000,000

The coastal marshes and estuaries in California are some of the most productive and important areas in the state for many species of fish and wildlife, including a number of rare and endangered species.

Such wetland areas have been reduced by about 70 percent since the turn of the century, with only about 105,000 acres of tidal marshes and mud flats remaining. Only 8,500 acres of coastal marshes and mud flats remain in Southern California, an area where nearly 90 percent of the original wetland acreage has been lost to a variety of developments.

The WCB has been engaged in purchase of key areas of this type for many years. It now is pursuing an expanded acquisition program of this type with 1974 Bond Act funds which will cover only minimum needs of highest priority.

Coastal wetlands considered by the Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as important for public acquisition and preservation or restoration were identified in a cooperative report entitled "Acquisition Priorities for the Coastal Wetlands of California" published by these agencies in April, 1974, which in effect has been updated at intervals since that time. Some 65 areas were surveyed, of which 9 currently are considered in the highest priority group with possibly more than 20,000 acres desirable for acquisition. Threats to other marshes, or other desirability for purchase, may develop on other areas, so that the above figures are considered minimal by staff.

Although emphasis in this project is on habitat and resource preservation, it is becoming increasingly apparent that there also is need to provide opportunity for public use and enjoyment of these areas, for compatible uses possibly including bird watching and other nature study, fishing, clamming, hunting, etc. This usually entails purchase of adjoining uplands suitable for public use facilities, which typically are lands of considerably higher value and add appreciably to acquisition costs.

Staff and the Department of Fish and Game favorably recommend this project and the appropriation of \$10,000,000 for implementation.

#### Big Game Habitat Acquisition Project

\$2,400,000

Staff recommended a single project be established to meet needs of acquisition for bighorn sheep, deer and other similar large mammals. In some areas the ranges of these species overlap, and it is difficult to determine individual species priorities. This can best be done by the Board on the individual merits of proposals.

Bighorn sheep, deer, and other large mammals are generally less tolerant of development or human interference within key areas of their ranges than many smaller forms of wildlife. Special efforts are necessary to maintain viable populations of these large wild animals in the face of continuing development and expansion of human activities within California.

Some major needs of this type have been met by 1974 Bond Act projects, particularly for the rare peninsular bighorn sheep in the Santa Rosa Mountains, but insufficient funds remain for major purchases proposed by the Department.

Staff and the Department favorably recommend this project and the appropriation of \$2,400,000 for implementation.

#### Riparian Habitat and Interior Wetlands Acquisition Project, \$1,500,000 Phase II

Streamside riparian vegetation and freshwater marshes provide essential habitat for a wide variety and large numbers of fish and wildlife. Remaining areas of this type of habitat continue to be threatened and are disappearing at a rapid rate due to agricultural and urban expansion. Presently this is particularly true along the Sacramento River, where logging and clearing of virgin riparian forests has accelerated in recent years.

Increased emphasis is needed for preservation of key areas of this type in the Sacramento Valley, as well as other areas of the state.

Staff and the Department favorably recommend this project and appropriation of \$1,500,000 for implementation.

## Wild Trout, Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Acquisition Project, \$1,000,000 Phase 11

This project essentially would be an extension of the 1974 Bond Act project for acquiring and protecting important areas of salmonid fisheries habitat for wild trout, salmon and steelhead. The Department has identified a number of important waters of this type throughout central and northern California where potential development of private lands threatens degradation of high quality fisheries habitat and loss of public access.

The WCB staff is presently negotiating for or processing several acquisitions of this type to present for Board consideration in the near future. Here again it is evident that available funding from the 1974 Bond Act will probably be exhausted in the early stages of the project, and that additional funding will be needed.

Staff and the Department favorably recommend this project and appropriation of \$1,000,000 for implementation.

#### Planning

A sum of \$100,000 was appropriated from the 1976 Bond Act in the 1977-78 fiscal year budget for planning purposes by WCB, including cost of appraisals, title reports, surveys, or other planning for project purposes. Such appropriations are for a one year period, so there is need for reappropriation of the remaining balance for such uses during the 1978-79 fiscal year.

Staff recommends that this reappropriation be included as part of the 1976 Bond Act program approved and authorized by the Board for budgetary processing.

However, Department of Finance representatives have questioned whether this should be reappropriated or whether a portion of the total \$14,900,000 should be reduced by the amount of the planning funds, allowing the earlier appropriation of \$100,000 to revert. This has not been worked out with the Department of Finance to date. It was Mr. Hart's suggestion that it might be desirable to allow for this flexibility by reducing the Big Game Habitat appropriation by \$50,000 and making an appropriation of that amount for planning, if the matter is finally resolved in this manner with the Department of Finance.

Mr. Hart reviewed the processing of the Bond Act projects which requires that after the Board acts on the recommendations, the budget proposal goes to the Secretary for Resources who reviews and forwards it for inclusion in the Governor's budget and then to the legislature for appropriation.

After appropriation, staff will present specific acquisitions within the various projects for Board consideration, following obtaining appraisals and negotiations for willing sale from landowners.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY SENATOR NEJEDLY, AS A JOINT MOTION, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE FOR SUBMISSION IN THE 1978-79 BUDGET BILL UNDER THE 1976 STATE, URBAN, AND COASTAL PARK BOND ACT PROGRAM THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

Coastal Wetlands Acquisition Project, Phase II\$10,000,000Big Game Habitat Acquisition Project2,400,000Riparian Habitat and Interior Wetlands Acq. Project,<br/>Phase II1,500,000Wild Trout, Salmon & Steelhead Habitat Acq. Project,<br/>Phase II1,000,000Project Planning (Reappropriation)100,000

ALL ACQUISITIONS ARE TO BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE USUAL WCB ACQUI-SITION AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURES. FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVA-TION FUND REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE SOUGHT FOR ANY APPROPRIATE PROJECTS, AND ANY REIMBURSEMENT RECEIVED FROM THIS SOURCE OR OTHER FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM WILL BE DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT OF THE BUDGET ITEM. STAFF IS INSTRUCTED TO PROCEED WITH BUDGETARY PROCESSING OF THIS PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE PROVISIONS AND TO PREPARE ELE-MENTS OF THESE PROJECTS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION FOLLOWING BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Hart pointed out that the question of reappropriation of \$100,000 for planning funds may still be resolved in the budget discussions with Finance and the Resources Agency.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

m. Ha

Chester M. Hart Executive Officer

#### PROGRAM STATEMENT

At the close of the meeting on September 30, 1977, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947, totaled \$39,137,685.30. This total includes \$5,710,257.08 reimbursed by the Federal Government under the Accelerated Public Works Program completed in 1966, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, the Anadromous Fish Act Program, and the Pittman-Robertson Program.

The statement includes projects completed under the 1964 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act. Projects funded under the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, and the 1974 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act will be included in this statement after completion of these programs.

a.	Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects
b.	Fish Habitat Development and Improvement Projects 4,104,596.79
	1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement \$2,225,619.19
	2, Stream Clearance and Improvement 243,013.03
	3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams
	4. Marine Habitat
	5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects 837,681.89
с.	Fishing Access Projects
	1. Coastal and Bay Access 1,244,008.39
	2. River and Aqueduct Access
	3. Lake and Reservoir Access
	4. Piers
d.	Game Farm Projects
e.	Game Habitat Development and Improvement Projects 11,424,504.47
	1. Wildlife Areas
	2. Miscellaneous Game Habitat Development 555,449.12
f.	Hunting Access
g.	Miscellaneous Projects
5.	Special Project Allocations
3.	Total Allocated to Projects

#### STATUS OF FUNDS Wildlife Restoration Fund

Unallocated balance after 6/21/77 meeting	\$551,736.99
Plus unexpended balance - Prior year support	
Plus interest - Jan./June 1977	+ 96,981.53
Plus pari-mutuel revenue, July, 1977	+750,000.00
Less estimated 1977/78 staff support	-253,861.00
Unallocated balance at beginning of September 30, 1977	\$1,181,458.48
Plus recoveries	
Less allocations	-360,800.00
Unallocated balance after 9/30/77 meeting	\$879,810.43