

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

Minutes, Meeting of February 15, 1983

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State of California
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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes, Meeting of February 15, 1983

Pursuant to the call of the Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in Room 319, State Capitol, Sacramento, California, on February 15, 1983. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Norman B. Livermore, Jr.

1. Roll Call

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Norman B. Livermore, Jr.	Chairman
	E. C. Fullerton	Member
	Del Pierce	Member, vice, Michael Franchetti
	Assemblyman Norman S. Waters	Joint Interim Committee
	Greg deGierre	Vice, Senator Barry Keene, Joint Interim Committee

<u>ABSENT:</u>	Senator Robert Presley	Joint Interim Committee
	Senator David Roberti	" " "

STAFF PRESENT:

W. John Schmidt	Executive Officer
Alvin G. Rutsch	Assistant Executive Officer
John Wentzel	Field Agent
James V. Sarro	Land Agent
Howard Dick	Land Agent
Marylyn Gzyms	Accountant
Beth Manwaring	Stenographer
Alma Koyasako	Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sheila Schoettger	City of Redondo Beach
Douglas A. West	United Water Conservation District
Lucille D. Coffman	Palm Springs
Shirley L. Vile	Salton Community Services District
Ken Aasen	Department of Fish and Game
Brian Hunter	Department of Fish and Game
Jeff Arthur	Senator Presley's office

2. Approval of Minutes

W. John Schmidt, Executive Officer, recommended approval of the minutes of the November 29, 1982, meeting, which have been published and circulated.

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IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 29, 1982, MEETING OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD BE APPROVED AS PUBLISHED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Funding Status

The Executive Officer provided the following information relative to the various funds available to the Wildlife Conservation Board.

a. Wildlife Restoration Fund

Unallocated balance at beginning of 11/29/82 meeting . .	\$5,048,963.53
Less allocations at 11/29/82 meeting	-376,650.00
Less Board's telephonic authorization for Heenan Lake	-526,619.00
Plus Federal LWCF Reimbursement	+152,361.89
Unallocated balance at beginning of 2/15/83 meeting . .	\$4,298,055.89

b. Energy and Resources Fund

Unallocated balance at beginning of 2/15/83 meeting . . -0-

c. 1976 State, Urban and Coastal Park Fund

(1) Coastal Wetlands

Unallocated balance at beginning of 2/15/83 meeting \$2,479,907.76

(2) Interior Wetlands & Riparian Habitat

Unallocated balance at beginning of 2/15/83 meeting . . 62,833.83

(3) Development

Unallocated balance at beginning of 2/15/83 meeting . 931,000.00

Mr. Schmidt pointed out that in the Wildlife Restoration Fund there is a negative \$526,619 figure shown. Authorization was received to use Wildlife Restoration Fund as there was no money in the Energy and Resources Fund at the time we were in a position to pay for the Heenan Lake acquisition. A request for this amount has been made from the Energy and Resources Fund to reimburse the WRF. He also advised that the deadline for committing 1976 Bond Act funds is June 30, 1983, and although reappropriation of these funds has been put into the 1983/84 budget there is no guarantee that it will be passed.

4. Recovery of Funds

The following projects have balances of funds that can be recovered and returned to the Wildlife Restoration Fund or the 1976 State Urban and

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Coastal Park Bond Act Fund. It was recommended by Mr. Schmidt that the total amount of \$217,502.76 be recovered to the Wildlife Restoration Fund and \$198,284.93 (\$139,749.36 Coastal Wetlands and \$58,535.57 Interior Wetland and Riparian Habitat) be recovered to the 1976 Bond Fund and the project accounts be closed.

Navarro River and Beach Public Access

Allocation	\$ 7,000.00
Expenditures	-3,165.67
Balance for Recovery	<u>3,834.33</u>

Black Rock Rearing Ponds Pipeline

Allocation	320,000.00
Expenditures	-319,267.54
Balance for Recovery	<u>732.46</u>

Lake Cuyamaca Public Fishing Area

Allocation	58,100.00
Expenditures	-57,934.19
Balance for Recovery	<u>165.81</u>

Kinsman Flat Deer Winter Range

Allocation	142,000.00
Expenditures	-140,158.54
Balance for Recovery	<u>1,841.46</u>

Spenceville Wildlife Area

Allocation	24,500.00
Expenditures	-20,480.89
Balance for Recovery	<u>4,019.11</u>

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area

Allocation	72,600.00
Expenditures	-33,873.53
Balance for Recovery	<u>38,726.47</u>

Peytonia Slough Ecological Reserve Expansion

Allocation	750.00
Expenditures	-0-
Balance for Recovery	<u>750.00</u>

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Lagoon Valley

Allocation	\$490,500.00
Expenditures	-281,709.40
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-208,424.61
Balance for Recovery	\$ 365.99

Samoa Public Access

Allocation	\$ 72,500.00
Expenditures	-40,623.57
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-31,775.13
Balance for Recovery	\$ 101.30

Peck Road Lake

Allocation	\$293,500.00
Expenditures	-140,650.08
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-150,761.28
Balance for Recovery	\$ 2,088.64

Trinity River Public Access - Douglas City

Allocation	\$ 44,000.00
Expenditures	-43,847.63
Balance for Recovery	\$ 152.37

Trinity River Public Access - Indian Creek Expansion

Allocation	\$160,000.00
Expenditures	-152,145.40
Balance for Recovery	\$ 7,854.60

Paradise Beach Fishing Pier

Allocation	\$183,800.00
Expenditures	-73,752.52
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-94,805.35
Balance for Recovery	\$ 15,242.13

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Embarcadero Park Fishing Pier

Allocation	\$201,000.00
Expenditures	-98,311.39
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-97,983.61
Balance for Recovery	\$ 4,705.00

Napa River Wildlife Area

Allocation	\$62,500.00
Expenditures	- 8,878.67
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	- 8,622.72
Balance for Recovery	\$44,998.61

Hill Slough Internal Development, Phase 1

Allocation	\$90,000.00
Expenditures	-86,628.66
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,371.34

Los Banos Wildlife Area

Allocation	\$78,275.00
Expenditures	-76,245.33
Balance for Recovery	\$ 2,029.67

Antelope Valley

Allocation	\$427,752.47
Expenditure	-207,475.31
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-202,349.24
Balance for Recovery	\$ 17,927.92

Salt Spring Valley Wildlife Area

Allocation	\$ 1,000.00
Expenditures	- 915.40
Balance for Recovery	\$ 84.60

Curry Mountain Public Access

Allocation	\$76,600.00
Expenditures	-73,632.85
Balance for Recovery	\$ 2,967.15

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Soquel Cove Artificial Reef

Allocation	\$125,125.00
Expenditures	-120,946.84
Balance for Recovery	\$ 4,178.16

Meiss Lake Wildlife Area, Phase I

Allocation	\$2,080,000.00
Expenditures	-489,142.91
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-1,590,604.12
Balance for Recovery	\$ 252.97

South Fork Kern River Fish Barrier

Allocation	\$93,500.00
Expenditures	66,090.43
Balance for Recovery	\$27,409.57

White House Pool Public Access

Allocation	\$11,600.00
Expenditures	- -0-
Balance for Recovery	\$11,600.00

Bend Bridge Public Access

Allocation	\$18,000.00
Expenditures	-16,042.24
Balance for Recovery	\$ 1,957.76

Kern River Fish Planting Base

Allocation	\$ 4,000.00
Expenditures	-0-
Balance for Recovery	\$ 4,000.00

Rio Vista Fishing Pier

Allocation	\$99,300.00
Expenditures	-16,071.26
Fed. LWCF Reimbursement	-75,483.40
Balance for Recovery	\$ 7,745.34

Knownothing Creek Dam Fishway

Allocation	\$ 8,400.00
Expenditures	-0-
Balance for Recovery	\$ 8,400.00

TOTAL WRF RECOVERIES . . \$217,502.76

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1976 Bond Fund

Coastal Wetlands

San Dieguito Lagoon

Allocation	\$765,000.00
Expenditures	-681,943.95
Balance for Recovery	\$ 83,056.05

Petaluma Marsh

Allocation	\$ 2,200.00
Expenditures	- 1,661.18
Balance for Recovery	\$ 538.82

Goleta Slough

Allocation	\$224,535.00
Expenditures	-224,083.60
Balance for Recovery	\$ 451.40

Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary

Allocation	\$28,443.00
Expenditures	-26,682.63
Balance for Recovery	\$ 1,760.37

Allocation	\$59,000.00
Expenditures	-53,115.37
Balance for Recovery	\$ 5,884.63

Allocation	\$56,000.00
Expenditures	-53,116.65
Balance for Recovery	\$ 2,883.35

Allocation	\$805,100.00
Expenditure	-804,009.11
Balance for Recovery	\$ 1,090.89

Lake Earl and Talawa, Phase 2

Allocation	\$650,395.00
Expenditures	-645,700.74
Balance for Recovery	\$ 4,694.26

Lake Earl and Talawa, Phase 2 Expansion

Allocation	\$360,000.00
Expenditures	-340,716.80
Balance for Recovery	\$ 19,283.20

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Batiquitos Lagoon

Allocation	\$14,750.00
Expenditures	-0-
Balance for Recovery	\$14,750.00

Noyo River Access - Expansion

Allocation	\$103,000.00
Expenditures	-101,941.12
Balance for Recovery	\$ 1,058.88

Suisun Marsh, Hill Slough/Joice Island

Allocation	\$605,000.00
Expenditures	-601,508.20
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,491.80

Watsonville Slough Wildlife Area

Allocation	\$390,000.00
Expenditures	-389,199.32
Balance for Recovery	\$ 800.68

Suisun Marsh - Grizzly Island Expansion

Allocation	\$356,765.00
Expenditures	-356,759.97
Balance for Recovery	\$ 5.03

1976 BOND FUND RECOVERIES (Coastal Wetlands). . . \$139,749.36

Interior Wetland and Riparian Habitat

Camp Cady Wildlife Area

Allocation	\$995,300.00
Expenditures	-983,000.00
Balance for Recovery	\$ 12,300.00

Putah Creek Expansion

Allocation	\$101,000.00
Expenditures	-97,785.56
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,214.44

Salinas River

Allocation	\$43,000.00
Expenditures	-0-
Balance for Recovery	\$43,000.00

Waukell Creek

Allocation	\$ 4,525.00
Expenditures	- 4,503.87
Balance for Recovery	\$ 21.13

1976 BOND FUND RECOVERIES (Interior Wetland
and Riparian Habitat) \$58,535.57

TOTAL 1976 BOND FUND RECOVERIES \$198,284.93

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIERCE, SECONDED BY MR. FULLERTON, THAT
THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD RECOVER FUNDS FROM THE FOLLOW-
ING PROJECTS AND CLOSE THE PROJECT ACCOUNTS AS FOLLOWS:

Navarro River and Beach Public Access	\$3,834.33
Black Rock Rearing Ponds Pipeline	732.46
Lake Cuyamaca Public Fishing Area	165.81
Kinsman Flat Deer Winter Range	1,841.46
Spenceville Wildlife Area	4,019.11
Grizzly Island Wildlife Area	38,726.47
Peytonia Slough Ecological Reserve Expansion	750.00
Lagoon Valley	365.99
Samoa Public Access	101.30
Peck Road Lake	2,088.64
Trinity River Public Access - Douglas City	152.37
Trinity River Public Access - Indian Creek Exp.	7,854.60
Paradise Beach Fishing Pier	15,242.13
Embarcadero Park Fishing Pier	4,705.00
Napa River Wildlife Area	44,998.61
Hill Slough Internal Development, Phase 1	3,371.34
Los Banos Wildlife Area	2,029.67
Antelope Valley	17,927.92
Salt Spring Valley Wildlife Area	84.60
Curry Mountain Public Access	2,967.15
Soquel Cove Artificial Reef	4,178.16
Meiss Lake Wildlife Area, Phase 1	252.97
South Fork Kern River Fish Barrier	27,409.57
White House Pool Public Access	11,600.00
Bend Bridge Public Access	1,957.76
Kern River Fish Planting Base	4,000.00
Rio Vista Fishing Pier	7,745.34
Knownothing Creek Dam Fishway	8,400.00

Total WRF . . \$217,502.76

San Dieguito Lagoon	\$83,056.05
Petaluma Marsh	538.82
Goleta Slough	451.40
Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary	1,760.37

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Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary	5,884.63
" " " "	2,883.35
" " " "	1,090.89
Lake Earl and Talawa, Phase 2	4,694.26
Lake Earl and Talawa, Phase 2 Expansion	19,283.20
Batiquitos Lagoon	14,750.00
Noyo River Access - Expansion	1,058.88
Suisun Marsh, Hill Slough/Joice Island	3,491.80
Watsonville Slough Wildlife Area	800.68
Suisun Marsh - Grizzly Island Expansion	5.03
Camp Cady Wildlife Area	12,300.00
Putah Creek Expansion	3,214.44
Salinas River	43,000.00
Waukell Creek	21.13
Total 1976 Bond Fund	\$198,284.93

THE SUM OF \$217,502.76 IS TO BE RETURNED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND AND \$198,284.93 IS TO BE RETURNED TO THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE 1976 BOND FUND (\$139,749.36 TO COASTAL WETLANDS AND \$58,535.57 TO INTERIOR WETLANDS).

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Lake Piru Public Access, Ventura County \$177,000.00

Lake Piru is located in eastern Ventura County, approximately a one hour drive from the greater Los Angeles area. It is operated by the United Water Conservation District for flood control purposes and to replenish ground water in the Santa Clara River basin for agricultural, industrial and domestic uses. The lake has 1,200 surface acres at full capacity and 566 acres at the minimum pool level.

The Wildlife Conservation Board made the first major improvement for fishing access at the lake in 1968 with the construction of a 5-lane concrete boat launching ramp and parking area. This provided boating access in the middle range of the reservoir's operating levels, which can vary as much as about 80 feet. About ten years ago, two additional ramps and parking areas for the extreme upper and lower stages of water surface elevation were developed with WCB funds, and in 1980 the Board allocated funds for a fish cleaning facility and a boarding float.

Because of the steep and irregular topography surrounding the lake, the upper, mid-range and lower ramps had to be situated in different places where the elevations and terrain were suitable. The ramp could not merely be extended. This fact also necessitates separate parking facilities for each ramp. The float is moved from one ramp to the other as the different ramps are put into use during the cycles of fluctuations in lake levels.

The District has requested funds to make further needed improvements to preserve and complement the existing facilities. A description of the proposed improvements, of which only the first two are being proposed for WCB funding, was provided by Al Rutsch, Assistant Executive Officer.

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1. Slope protection at upper level boat ramp - During periods of high lake levels, soil erodes from the cut slopes adjacent to the ramp and deposits on the outside lanes of the ramp, reducing the capacity of this 5-lane ramp to three effective lanes. Excavation to flatten the slope and riprap to prevent the soil erosion is required.
2. Permanent restroom facility - This would replace the inadequate and unattractive portable chemical toilets with a permanent flush-type restroom. It would be located to conveniently serve all of the launching areas. A septic tank and leach field system would be provided if feasible. If not, a pump-out tank would be used.
3. Paving of existing dirt parking areas - Minor grading and paving of existing parking areas adjacent to the lower and mid-level ramps to accommodate approximately 140 cars and boat trailers.
4. Grading and terracing of area adjacent to upper level ramp for unsurfaced overflow parking.
5. Utilities - Lighting for existing and proposed parking areas for safety during early morning or late evening operations.
6. Curbing and drainage improvements - Curbing is needed for proper drainage control and erosion protection around the mid-range ramp and parking area.

Because of the rather high cost of all the proposed improvements, estimated at \$472,000, it is planned to undertake the work jointly with the Department of Boating and Waterways. In accordance with the coordination procedures established for joint projects, a three-way agreement between the two State agencies and the District for operation and maintenance of the area would replace the present cooperative agreement. Both the new operating agreement and the Department's lease of the premises would provide, or be amended to provide, a full 25-year term. The Department of Boating and Waterways has budgeted funds to participate in this project.

Of three major lakes in the area, including Castaic and Pyramid, Lake Piru is the only one offering overnight moorings and camping. Because of the temperate climate, the lake is open and receives heavy use year-round. The major activity is fishing, but water skiing, pleasure boating, swimming, picnicking and camping opportunities are also present. There is no charge for launching, but an auto entrance fee is collected by the District to pay for operational costs. Public use is reported by the District to be about 350,000 visitor-days a year.

Lake Piru enjoys a reputation of being one of the best bass fishing lakes in Southern California. The northern large-mouth bass tops the list of numerous warmwater game fish caught regularly. Other species are black crappie, redear sunfish, bluegill and channel catfish. The Department also plants rainbow and German brown trout in the lake on a regular basis.

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The District, as lead agency for this project, has determined that the proposed activity is exempt from CEQA under Class 1, Class 3 and Class 4 of the State Guidelines and has filed a Notice of Exemption pursuant to the provisions of the act. The District has also adopted a resolution in support of the request for State funding of the proposed work.

Staff has reviewed the cost estimate as submitted by the District. The total cost of the project features proposed to be funded by the Board are estimated at \$177,000, more particularly detailed as follows:

Upper ramp slope protection	\$70,000
Public restroom facility	80,000
Contingencies, 10%	15,000
Engineering and administration, 8%	<u>12,000</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST (WCB)	\$177,000

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Wildlife Conservation Board approve the Lake Piru Public Access Improvement as proposed, allocate \$177,000 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

He indicated that Mr. Doug West representing the United Water Conservation District was present to answer any questions the Board might have.

It was brought out that a new 25 year lease will be entered into with the District and that the Directors of the Water District have already adopted a resolution to that effect.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE LAKE PIRU PUBLIC ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS, VENTURA COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$177,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Redondo Beach Pier Fishing Promenade, Los Angeles County \$220,000.00

The City of Redondo Beach has submitted a proposal to construct a fishing "promenade", which is essentially a fishing structure extending between the ends of the existing Municipal Pier and the Monstad Pier.

The proposed structure would be 218 feet long and 24 feet wide. The promenade would serve to provide more direct access to the Monstad Pier which is reputedly one of the most outstanding halibut fishing spots on the Southern California coast. The entire length of the promenade will provide an additional 436 feet of fishing space in this area where a deep ocean trough attracts the prized halibut, as well as other species, such as yellow-tail, which congregate around the pier.

Mr. Rutsch described in detail the fishing promenade proposal, the plans for which were displayed at the meeting.

The project will be carried out on a matching fund basis with the City. A resolution of the city council attests to the City's willingness to provide the matching funds, as well as to lease the premises to the State for 25 years and to assume the maintenance and operation costs for the term of the lease in accordance with Board's statutory requirements.

Concurrent with the construction of the fishing promenade project, the City plans to reconstruct the deteriorated west end of the existing Monstad Pier and to construct new public restrooms, a bait and tackle shop, and snack bar. The cost of the Monstad Pier improvements, to which the fishing public will be the prime beneficiary, is estimated at \$100,000. This cost will be borne entirely by the City. It is expected that private lessees will finance the bait shop and snack bar, both of which will be located on the Monstad Pier.

The Department of Fish and Game has favorably recommended this project in an evaluation of the proposal made in October, 1982. If the project is approved as proposed, the City will be able to complete plans and contract out the project next fall when the construction impact to sports fishing would be minimal.

The City's cost estimate for the combined matching fund promenade project is \$440,000, including 10 percent for engineering and contract administration.

Construction would be with pressure treated wood piles, caps, stringers, deck and railing. Benches, lights, trash containers, and a fish cleaning sink will be included. A unique feature of the design would permit fishing on a lower deck on each side of the promenade and running the full length of the structure. This would give fishermen exclusive access to the full length of railing on each side of the promenade.

The City has filed a Negative Declaration for the project in compliance with CEQA, finding that there would be no adverse environmental impacts from the proposed activity.

It was staff's recommendation the Wildlife Conservation Board, in consideration of the Negative Declaration, approve the Redondo Beach Pier Fishing Promenade project as proposed, allocate \$220,000 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund on a matching fund basis with the City of Redondo Beach, and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed with the project substantially as planned.

Sheila Schoettger, Harbor Manager for the City of Redondo Beach, was introduced. She stated, in response to questions about the extent of damage the pier might have encountered during the recent high waters, that the pier fared well because bracing across the piling held during both storms. Mr. Schmidt called attention to the fact that the City has provided fine maintenance of its project, and that this was the reason it was not damaged during the storms.

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Chairman Livermore introduced Greg deGierre, representing Senator Barry Keene, who had just arrived at the meeting.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION, APPROVE THE REDONDO BEACH PIER FISHING PROMENADE PROJECT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$220,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND ON A MATCHING FUND BASIS WITH THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Noyo River Egg Collecting Station Reconstruction, Mendocino Co. \$200,000.00

Mr. Schmidt advised that on June 8, 1961, the Board approved construction of a silver salmon egg taking facility on the South Fork of the Noyo River, about 10 miles upstream from Fort Bragg. The completed facilities which were constructed underground to facilitate the egg taking operation without raising water levels were opened in December, 1962. Since then, this station has been the principal source of silver salmon eggs for stocking the Northern California's coastal streams that have runs of silvers. The average annual egg take is about 1,000,000, ranging up to a high of nearly 2,500,000. Eggs from this seasonally operated station are hatched at fully operational DFG hatcheries in Northern California and stocked as yearlings to supplement naturally produced salmon. Without this station DFG would be unable to meet their commitment for the coastal rivers and streams.

The station is located within the Jackson State Forest. The Department of Forestry is renewing the DFG use permit, allowing the facility to remain at its present site.

Mr. John Wentzel, Field Agent, provided additional information using plans proposed for the reconstruction and with photographs of the present facility which indicated the extent of the deterioration from dry rot.

The original facilities were primarily of redwood construction and included two underground fish ladders, an underground egg taking station, and a concrete fish barrier. The barrier, of course, diverts fish into the egg collecting area via the ladder. Since the barrier permanently blocks fish migration, the second ladder is necessary to allow fish to pass through the egg collecting area and back into the river at times when egg taking is not in progress.

Over the years, most of the redwood has deteriorated from dry rot to the point where the facilities have now become hazardous. The Department of Fish and Game is therefore proposing total reconstruction of this underground facility using reinforced concrete to allow for longer life.

The proposed project will include demolition and removal of the existing timber fish ladders and fish holding and spawning building. Plans developed by the Department Engineering Section provide for the replacement of the old

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facilities with the construction of new, reinforced concrete fish ladders and fish holding and spawning building with its appurtenant facilities, including handling tables, dosing tanks, hoists and baskets. Modification of the left fish barrier abutment is also proposed.

The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Class 2, replacement or reconstruction of existing structures with new structures of the same size and purpose. The necessary categorical exemption has been filed.

The DFG Engineering Section who will administer the contract for this project has prepared preliminary plans and a cost estimate which have been reviewed by staff. The cost is as follows:

Structure removal, site clearance	\$15,000
Construct egg station and ladders	112,800
Modify left barrier abutment	37,500
Miscellaneous (plumbing, electrical, screens, hoist, tanks, pipe, etc.)	<u>34,700</u>

TOTAL COST . \$200,000

It was Mr. Schmidt's recommendation that the Board approve the project, allocate \$200,000 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed with the project substantially as planned.

Brian Hunter and Ken Aasen from the regional office of the Department who were present responded to questions regarding alternatives for reconstruction of this facility as presently planned. It was their contention that keeping it underground would make the operation more secure from poachers and that there was not success when fish were transferred to the Warm Springs Hatchery facility.

Mr. Pierce questioned the advisability of not redoing the right abutment at this time, as it may require reconstruction in a year or two, and it was pointed out that this portion was not underground and was therefore not affected with the dry rot problems of the other portions. Mr. Schmidt stated, however, that this option has been left open, should funds remain from this allocation to permit the pouring of concrete for that portion, even though it is not included in the plans at this time in an attempt to keep down costs.

Mr. Livermore and Mr. deGierre indicated interest in seeing the facility, and Ken Aasen suggested that the facility be inspected when it becomes operational this fall when the runs of fish begin.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIERCE, SECONDED BY MR. FULLERTON, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE NOYO RIVER EGG COLLECTING STATION RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, MENDOCINO COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$200,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. West Shores Public Access (Salton Sea), Imperial County

\$36,000.00

This proposal by the Salton Community Services District is for WCB participation in a project to improve shore fishing and boating access on the west side of the Salton Sea. The site is at the West Shores Launch Ramp Facility near Salton City.

The District plans to construct a breakwater and dredge the ramp access channel to alleviate siltation in the launching ramp access area. The Department of Boating and Waterways approved an \$80,000 grant request by the District and has budgeted the necessary funds for this purpose in the 1983/84 fiscal year budget.

Mr. Rutsch reported that the breakwater extension will begin at the end of an existing 480 foot long jetty and angle outward an additional 1,050 feet. Normally the breakwater would have a top width of ten feet and have a rocky, irregular top surface.

However, it is felt that a very desirable and much needed improvement to shore fishing access can be accomplished with some minor additions to the existing and the planned breakwater extension. With WCB participation as proposed, the extension could be constructed five feet wider, to a 15 foot top width, then capped with a gravel surface. The existing jetty, now about 10 feet wide, would also be widened to 15 feet, and capped with gravel. This would provide ample room for fishing in the deep water along both sides of the full 1,530 foot breakwater, as well as make the surface safe for walking or sitting. The cost of this extra work on the planned breakwater is estimated by the District as follows:

Enlarge existing jetty by 5', to 15' width, 480 l.f.	\$4,300
Extra 5' width of new breakwater, 1,050 l.f.	28,000
Gravel cap surfacing, 1,530 ft. long, 15 ft. wide . .	<u>3,400</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$36,000

By participating in the breakwater project as proposed, an important fishing access facility can be provided at a relatively modest cost. The "fishing jetty" concept also has other advantages over a separate fishing pier or other structure. The dredged channel permits fishing access into deeper water, a fishery benefit that would not be available elsewhere. On-shore facilities, such as the access road, parking area, restrooms, and a fish cleaning sink are already available. In addition, the site offers a swimming beach, picnic area, and a small store. Finally, the jetty could continue to be useful as a fishing access if the sea level changes significantly in future years by simply adding fill or pushing the fill out farther as necessary.

The Department of Fish and Game has evaluated and recommends this proposal, noting that it would greatly improve shore fishing access in an area where such access is very limited. The fish species caught are mostly the tilapia and corvina, which attract anglers from all over Southern California. Croaker and sargo are also caught at times. The fishing productivity is greatest during the summer, but the recreation season and good fishing is year-round.

Knowledgeable sources contacted by the District and staff generally agree that the Salton Sea levels can be expected to remain fairly stable, rising somewhat in winter months and lowering in the summer when evaporation rates are highest.

The District has by resolution indicated their willingness to meet the Board's normal requirements for lease of the project lands to the DFG and the assumption of maintenance responsibilities. It is planned to enter into a three-way agreement with the District and the Department of Boating and Waterways for the project operation and maintenance as normally done on such joint projects. The District would administer the construction contract to carry out the work.

As lead agency, the District has determined that the proposed activity is exempt from CEQA under Class 4 of the State Guidelines and has filed a Notice of Exemption as required.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the WCB approve the West Shores Public Access as proposed, allocate \$36,000 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Fullerton wondered about the possibility that the facility may become inoperable because of the fluctuations in the sea level, and Mrs. Shirley Vile of the Salton City Community Services District, the cooperating agency for this project, assured the Board members that the Imperial Irrigation District has indicated they will keep the level stabilized in Salton Sea. Mr. Rutsch stated there would be some seasonal fluctuation in the sea level, but added that the jetty can be extended or raised if there are significant changes in the level.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE WEST SHORES PUBLIC ACCESS (SALTON SEA), IMPERIAL COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$36,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Noyo River Public Access, Mendocino County

\$91,000.00

Mr. Schmidt reported that this proposal is to place rock erosion protection on the riverbank at the Noyo River Public Access. This is a previous WCB acquisition and development project in the Noyo Harbor area near Fort Bragg. Existing facilities consist of a boat launching ramp, floats and a paved parking area. The project is situated on the south side of the river just upstream from the harbor, about one mile from the ocean. It is operated and maintained by the Noyo Harbor District.

The project got its start in 1969 when the Board acquired a 1.73 acre parcel of land which had been used as a dredging spoil area during construction of the harbor. Some harbor district lands are also leased for the project.

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However, the limited parking area is often inadequate, particularly during fishing season weekends, and efforts were continued to acquire additional land for this purpose. In 1981, the Board authorized the purchase of 1.39 acres adjacent to the first parcel acquired, and the Department of Boating and Waterways has budgeted funds for the parking area expansion on this property next year.

The Noyo Harbor District will continue to operate and maintain the project as they have, but a new agreement to include the Department of Boating and Waterways has budgeted funds for the parking area expansion on this property next year.

The Noyo Harbor District will continue to operate and maintain the project as they have, but a new agreement to include the Department of Boating and Waterways in a three-way contractual arrangement will be drawn up. This will include extending the term for local operation and maintenance responsibilities to 25 years, as well as extending the term for lease of harbor district lands for a similar term.

Mr. Rutsch advised that the Department of Fish and Game engineers have prepared preliminary plans and a cost estimate of the rock slope protection. The length of the river bank to be sloped and riprapped is 638 feet, extending from the boat ramp to the upper limits of the property. The cost estimate as submitted by the engineers is as follows:

Earthwork - slope excavation and shaping	\$9,900
Quarry waste subfill	9,500
Rock slope protection (riprap)	67,200
Contingencies, 5%	<u>4,400</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$91,000

While the cost of this work is high because of the distance required for obtaining suitable rock riprap, this method of stabilizing the riverbank is considered to be less expensive than other options studied, such as a pile supported timber bulkhead. This work is believed to be of a high priority nature so as to prevent possible loss of the WCB improvements already located at this site. If approved, the work would be done this summer by bid contract administered by the Department Engineering Section.

This work is determined to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Class 1 of the State Guidelines, and a Notice of Exemption has been filed with the Resources Agency as provided in the Act.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve the rock slope protection for the Noyo River Public Access as proposed, allocate \$91,000 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. deGierre commented that this is exactly the kind of project that shows why the WCB needs the fiscal flexibility that it has enjoyed in the past -- so that it can address these kinds of problems and provide creative solutions -- and expressed the hope that the Board can continue to do things

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in this fashion. Mr. Rutsch agreed and stated that the erosion problem has developed over the years and the problem had been recognized; however, we could not go in to correct the problem until after acquisition of the adjacent parcel was completed. This is the first season the Board can go in to correct the problem and would like to have it accomplished as soon as possible.

In response to Mr. Pierce's question, the difference in the contingency amounts of 10% and 5% that is set out for the Lake Piru project and this project was explained by Mr. Rutsch. Mr. Schmidt pointed out that the contingency factor is generally calculated at 10% and that any of this amount not required for completion of the project is then recovered.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIERCE, SECONDED BY MR. FULLERTON, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE NOYO RIVER PUBLIC ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, MENDOCINO COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$91,000 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Butte Valley Wildlife Area, Habitat Development, Siskiyou County \$17,000.00

At the December 12, 1980, and June 25, 1981, meetings, the Board approved the phased acquisition of the 13,200+ acre Butte Valley (Meiss Lake) Wildlife Area. This area is located in Butte Valley along Highway 97, about 14 miles south of the Oregon border.

The property has extremely high waterfowl and other wildlife values due to its existing waterfowl habitat and its location in the heart of the Pacific Flyway. During the fall migration, up to 60,000 ducks and 30,000 geese are estimated to use the lake and surrounding lowlands. An average of 260 pairs of ducks and 1,800 Canada geese nest on the property annually. With certain habitat improvements, these numbers can be increased several-fold. Use by other wildlife species will also be increased.

On August 5, 1982, the Board allocated funds for road improvement and construction of three small parking areas. This was done primarily to allow an initial, but limited, public hunting program. The Department of Fish and Game area manager has reported very good hunting results during the recent season.

The Department is now requesting funds to begin habitat improvements on the area. These funds would be used to purchase 55 gallon drums and other material necessary to construct goose nesting platforms and also to purchase plants, shrubs and miscellaneous grass seed for initial development of wildlife habitat.

Mr. Wentzel showed on a map the area on which the nesting platforms would be placed and advised that studies made indicate there is better nesting success and less predation, as well as desertion by the birds, as compared to the ground nest.

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The steel drums when cut in half lengthwise will form the basic part of the nesting platform. The nests, which will be mounted on 4' pipe legs, will be lined with straw and placed in water of sufficient depth to eliminate predation upon the nesting geese. It is expected that these platforms will greatly enhance the survival rate of the geese in this area, leading to greater populations in future years. The nests will require little maintenance and have a long life expectancy.

The habitat plantings will provide roosting and nesting cover for upland birds while some of the shrubs and trees will produce a windbreak effect for waterfowl along the lake's shoreline.

The California Conservation Corps has a camp in nearby Montague, and along with Department personnel, would provide all labor and equipment necessary to complete the improvements proposed at this time. With this ready source of labor at no cost to the Department, a unique opportunity for a low cost development project is presented.

Following is the estimated cost of required materials:

<u>400 nesting platforms</u>	\$8,000
(200 - 55 gal. drums, 1" galvanized pipe, angle iron, and misc. material)	
 <u>Habitat Planting</u>	 9,000
(10,000 plants, shrubs, trees & 1,000 lbs. misc. grass seed)	
 TOTAL	 \$17,000

The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Class 4(d), minor alteration in land on wildlife areas which result in wildlife habitat improvement.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve the habitat development at Butte Valley, allocate \$17,000 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

He further advised that letters of support have come from Senator Ray Johnson and the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association. Excellent hunting was provided on the area this year and with the habitat plantings and the nesting platforms completed, there would be more potential for increased production and public use.

Mr. Pierce was advised that the annual maintenance would be carried out by Fish and Game personnel assigned to the area and would consist of clean-up, setting upright any platforms knocked over in extreme weather conditions replacing hay, etc.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE HABITAT DEVELOPMENT AT BUTTE VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA, SISKIYOU COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$17,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, Monterey County

At its meeting on April 16, 1979, the Board authorized entering into the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary project on the basis that matching funds would be obtained from the Federal Office of Coastal Zone Management. The project, as planned, called for the acquisition of approximately 1,510 acres along the easterly and southerly edges of Elkhorn Slough, and for appropriate development including marsh restoration, public access projects, education, interpretive, and administrative facilities.

To date approximately 1,227 acres have been acquired. Some minor development projects have also been completed. Project costs were estimated to amount to \$4,521,270. Approximately \$3,384,863 have been spent to date by the Board, 50% of which is to be reimbursed to the State by OCZM.

Recognizing the need to ensure that funding obligations are met for this project, the Board, at its August 5, 1982, meeting, set aside a \$1,000,000 reserve for continued acquisitions and development within the boundaries of this sanctuary.

There are two major sanctuary development proposals on this agenda, as well as one acquisition project. The reserved funds are from the 1976 Bond Act funds available for Coastal Wetland Acquisition and Development and must be encumbered by June 30, 1983. Therefore, it is imperative that projects in this category be acted upon at the earliest opportunity. Project details follow.

11. Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, Monterey County
Visitor and Service Facilities

(\$655,650.00)

The first Department proposal presented for Board consideration at this time by Mr. Schmidt was for the major construction project enumerated in the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary Management Plan as prepared by the Department of Fish and Game. As with earlier sanctuary proposals, 50% of the costs would qualify for reimbursement by the federal government's Office of Coastal Zone Management. One of the conditions of the sanctuary grant is OCZM approval of the management plan, and it is currently under their review.

Because of the size of this project, final design, contract award and final construction supervision must be carried out by the Office of the State Architect. The Department of Fish and Game engineering staff is presently putting this proposal in a form acceptable to OSA which will enable them to begin engineering as soon as funds are allocated by the Board. Prior to authorizing final construction of the project, WCB staff and the Department of Fish and Game will have the opportunity to review and approve the final plans.

The major costs involved in this proposed development would be for public access and use facilities. However, items 4-6 below would be needed as support facilities for the day-to-day operation of the sanctuary.

The following breakdown and cost estimates of the proposed items was further explained by Mr. Wentzel who indicated a basic function of the estuarine sanctuary is educational opportunities and the plan was developed with this in mind.

1. Public Vehicular Access and Parking Areas \$135,650

The present entry road into the area from Elkhorn Road is felt to be unsafe for public use due to its location on a curve. A new road at another location is therefore proposed. This 3,000 foot paved road will provide access to an 11,000 square foot parking area (capable of accommodating 30 cars and buses) located within the public use area. It will also contain a paved overlook area to facilitate easy observation of this area by visitors, including handicapped visitors. This item also provides for proper drainage, culverts, access road, fencing, entry gate and signing.

2. Sanctuary Visitor Facility and Interpretive Building \$300,000

It is proposed that a general purpose building be constructed containing approximately 2300 square feet that will accommodate up to 200 people. The building will have necessary storage area, employee and visitor rest-rooms, and built-in exhibit areas. As one purpose of the sanctuary program is to provide educational opportunities, a facility of this type is felt to be necessary to house visitors and provide the opportunity for an organized program. It is felt that any educational program carried out at the sanctuary will be largely handled by volunteers from local colleges, as well as private, natural resource conservation organizations. Exhibits will also be provided for self-interpretive purposes.

3. Outside Interpretive Area \$25,000

It is proposed that the existing pole barn overlooking the slough be upgraded with the addition of a rustic patio and built-in signs and displays. It will be the staging area for visitors and students touring the sanctuary. The trail systems to the slough/marsh area will start from this facility. Visitors, including handicapped, will have a panoramic view of the total Elkhorn Slough system. Upgrading of this existing structure will be considerably less expensive than new construction of a replacement facility.

4. Sanctuary Center Residence \$75,000

This residence is intended to house a new employee and would take the place of a residence originally considered for remodeling but was found to be beyond economical repair. Because of its lack of foundation, extreme dry rot and overall poor state of repair, DFG Engineering recommended that State money would be much better spent in constructing a 1400 square foot modular home with detached two-car garage of 600 square feet.

5. Remodeling of Existing Shop/Garage/Dairy Building \$100,000

It is proposed that the existing dairy building be remodeled into a shop/garage for the Sanctuary and have a facility for clean-up of personnel after coming out of the marsh. It would also provide an enclosed area, as working on equipment and material is necessary for the proper operation of this area. A Butler type building will also be considered during the design stage as an alternate for possible savings to the State.

6. Equipment/Corporation Yard

\$20,000

This will be a fenced area to provide proper security from the public use facilities. It is proposed that it be graveled and oil sealed and contain a vehicle washing pad, necessary to keep vehicles clean to avoid rusting in this salty environment. It is intended that this area be used for storage of all Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary vehicles and materials.

This project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Classes 1, 2, and 7, consisting of repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public structures or topographical features and replacement of existing structures.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board approve the proposed Elkhorn Slough facilities development, allocate \$655,650 from the 1976 Bond Act funds available for this purpose, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Fullerton asked Mr. Brian Hunter, Regional Manager, if this was the last proposal for development at Elkhorn Slough. Mr. Hunter indicated it was the last for public use facility development at Elkhorn Slough. He then went on to explain the history of, and federal requirements for, areas designated as estuarine sanctuaries, which call for letting the public in for educational and research purposes. This development and construction project will provide for the intent of the acquisition, which is public access, and for which there has been much pressure.

Mr. deGierre commented that the Legislature has had a great deal of interest in preserving Elkhorn Slough, as early as 1976, and it has been listed as one of the highest priority coastal wetland acquisition projects. Assemblyman Sam Farr, it was noted by Mr. Schmidt, has written a letter giving his "unmitigated support" for this proposal.

The provision for housing for a second employee on the area was questioned by Mr. Pierce, and Mr. Hunter explained that this provides for security in an area which is open at all time and allows personnel to work on call whenever needed.

(Assemblyman Waters came in at this time.)

Mr. Livermore asked if zoning would protect this area from development so that acquisition of this magnitude would not be required. Mr. Hunter had indicated development would not be permitted under the Coastal Act, but Mr. Schmidt advised that it would not preclude private owners from diking or doing other water oriented development.

Mr. Fullerton said he would make the motion to approve this project. However, he believed that the advisory committee for the federal government has been pushing for more and more public use facility, when the estuarine sanctuary program was for the purpose of protecting these areas from development. There is more emphasis now in developing this area into a park-type operation, and therefore precipitated his question as to whether or not this were the last of this type of development.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE VISITOR AND SERVICE FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ELKHORN SLOUGH ESTUARINE SANCTUARY, MONTEREY COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$655,650 FROM THE 1976 BOND ACT FUNDS RESERVED FOR THIS PURPOSE; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, Marsh Restoration
Monterey County

The second major development project proposed by the Department of Fish and Game is for the restoration of a saltwater marsh. Much of the area proposed for restoration has been diked in past years to create pasture land. However, due to lack of maintenance, some of these levees have deteriorated causing saltwater intrusion into the reclaimed pasture.

The restoration project proposed at this time involves a 60 acre portion of diked and abandoned pasture. It is located westerly, within view and easy walking distance of the outside interpretive area proposed in agenda item Number 11. It is intended that this marsh be constructed with control structure allowing for water level management to optimize opportunities for scientific study and public

Mr. Wentzel, using a map displayed at the meeting, detailed the items proposed. Dikes will be constructed with the use of scrapers and bulldozers, utilizing material already within the area. They will be planted with various grasses for stabilization. The marsh itself will be gently sloped by scraping and fill as necessary. Tidal flows will be restored by excavation and construction of a retaining wall at the railway channel, the main entrance to the marsh system.

The proposed marsh will be divided into essentially two main duplicate basins allowing one to be varied by manipulation, while the other will remain unchanged and will therefore serve as a "control" for experimental purposes.

Structures crossing the two inlet channels will be constructed to accommodate a dam system that can restrict or completely block water flows. Screens can be fitted in the channels to control fish movement in the basins.

Several small islands will also be created and vegetated with plants other than the surrounding pickleweed and will, no doubt, host various bird species when completed. Over-marsh walkways, the inlet crossings, trails and a small pier structure will be developed for public viewing as well as educational and research use of the marsh, some of the proposed uses for the area.

Two smaller fresh water wetlands will also be developed directly adjacent to the main saltwater marsh. Fresh water drainage will feed these wetlands and will subsequently flow into the saltwater marsh, but no reverse flow will occur. This will allow the opportunity to study the direct relationship between fresh and saltwater marsh environments.

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Mr. Schmidt explained that an overlook will be constructed in a grove of oak trees at the upper end of the marsh. This will afford secondary public viewing of the entire restored wetland, much of Elkhorn Slough and the adjacent Parson's Slough. A large display map will be located at the viewing area and will show the general layout of the marsh complex. Additional interpretive displays will be located within the complex along designated pathways. This unique area will provide many people, including school groups, with the opportunity to enjoy the area for its educational values as well as for general enjoyment of its varied wildlife.

The project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Class 4(d), minor alterations in land which result in improvement of wildlife habitat.

The following preliminary plan and cost estimate have been provided by the Department and reviewed by staff:

1. Marsh restoration, including equipment and labor, and vegetation	\$175,000
2. Material for walkways, water structures, pier overlook and signs	<u>40,000</u>
TOTAL	\$215,000

It is anticipated that this work will be supervised by Department personnel with most of the work being performed by outside contracts. California Conservation Corps personnel will also be available to assist in this restoration project. The project also qualifies for 50% reimbursement of all cost from the Office of Coastal Zone Management.

It was staff recommendation that the Board approve the proposed Elkhorn Slough Marsh Restoration, allocate \$215,000 from the 1976 Bond Act funds budgeted for this purpose, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

Assemblyman Waters called attention to the fact that two CCC programs have been eliminated and suspected others may also be eliminated, and advised against depending on their crews for accomplishing this work.

Chairman Livermore summarized that this proposal is to restore something that once was. Mr. Schmidt agreed; but pointed out that the deterioration of the dikes, although restoring the marsh, was not being accomplished in a controlled fashion as would be desired by the advisory committee.

To respond to Mr. Fullerton's concerns regarding operation and maintenance Mr. Hunter gave a brief summary of the management program as developed by the community advisory committee (Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary Advisory Committee) in response to OCZM's requirement to develop such a plan by August-September, 1983. OCZM has pushed for research and education, and the management plan, which is now in draft form, responds to this requirement, for the federal government is half-owner of the project. However, Fish and Game has declined responsibility for handling tours -- only occasionally, by appointment only. Fish and Game would be required to see to the maintenance of the levees, facilities, and gravel walkways.

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Since the estuarine sanctuary would benefit the educational community, the possibility of this source of funding was explored, as was citizens groups working with the Coastal Conservancy and other agencies.

In view of the grave concerns expressed by the various Board members, Mr. deGierre suggested the matter be put over for a month, allowing an opportunity for alerting both Assemblyman Farr and Senator Mello who have expressed an interest in this project that there are these problems.

Mr. Pierce asked to be provided a copy of the draft master plan for management of the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, and Mr. Hunter offered also to provide a copy of the FEIS developed for the acquisition portion of this project.

The time constraints for encumbering these funds by June 30, 1983, were reported by Mr. Schmidt, who stated he had been advised that the matter must be approved before March 23.

Mr. Fullerton made a motion to table the item until the Board has been provided further information and the Region has an opportunity to explore some other avenues of financing the operation and maintenance responsibilities. Mr. Pierce wished to include Item 11 in this motion, and Assemblyman Waters recommended this amendment.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT ACTION ON THE ELKHORN SLOUGH ESTUARINE SANCTUARY PROPOSALS FOR VISITOR AND SERVICE FACILITIES AND MARSH RESTORATION BE POSTPONED FOR ONE MONTH.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.	<u>Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, Monterey County</u> (Parcel 11 Acquisition)	<u>\$40,000.00</u>
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This proposal is to acquire one privately owned parcel located within the boundaries of the planned 1,510 acre Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary. This is the ninth acquisition proposal to be considered by the Board at this sanctuary. All of the previous proposals, containing a total of 1,227.46+ acres, were subsequently acquired by Board staff.

The property proposed for purchase at this time is located approximately two miles easterly of the community of Moss Landing. More specifically, this 16+ acre parcel is located near the southerly boundary of the sanctuary, about 1/4 mile northerly of Dolan Road, a county maintained roadway. It adjoins the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks to the north and parcels currently under acquisition negotiations to the east and west.

For the most part, this parcel is comprised of marshland and adjacent sloping hillside, containing riparian growth, but also includes several small upland plateaus which are also being proposed for acquisition. It extends from an approximate low elevation of sea level to a high of nearly 25 feet above sea level. As such, it includes a portion of one of the many "fingers" of Elkhorn Slough.

This property is valuable as part of the overall Elkhorn Slough ecosystem and the estuarine sanctuary project. The slough and its adjoining tidal flats and salt marshes support many wildlife species. Over 90 species of water-associated birds have been observed and identified in the area. The waters of the slough also provide an important nursery and feeding area for many sport and commercial fishes, in addition to supporting a rich fauna of bottom and mud-dwelling organisms.

Management of the parcels by the Department of Fish and Game is planned as part of the estuarine sanctuary, which is primarily for scientific and educational purposes, and for general public access.

Being within the planned sanctuary, this acquisition will qualify for federal participation from the Office of Coastal Zone Management.

The Office of Coastal Zone Management and the Department of Fish and Game have prepared and processed a Final Environmental Impact Statement for the acquisition and management of the estuarine sanctuary, which has previously been provided to the Board and meets CEQA requirements.

The property owners have agreed to sell this land to the State at its approved fair market value. However, a survey of the property is still required to determine its exact acreage. Final settlement would be adjusted by multiplying the exact acreage, as determined by the survey, times \$2,000/acre, the value established by the appraisal. In addition to the \$32,000 proposed for this acquisition, an additional \$8000 is required for the survey, appraisal costs, processing costs and escrow fees.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board, with consideration of the FEIS for the Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, approve the purchase of this parcel as proposed, allocate \$40,000 for the purchase and related costs from the 1976 Bond Act funds available for these purposes, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION OF THE FEIS FOR THE ELKHORN SLOUGH ESTUARINE SANCTUARY, MONTEREY COUNTY, APPROVE ACQUISITION OF PARCEL 11, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$40,000 FOR THE PURCHASE AND RELATED COSTS FROM THE 1976 BOND ACT FUNDS RESERVED FOR THIS PURPOSE; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. Bend Ferry Road Wildlife Area, Tehama County

\$71,000.00

This proposal is to consider the acquisition of 48+ acres of land located approximately 10 miles northeast of Red Bluff in an area known as the Bend District of Tehama County. The property has frontage on Bend Ferry Road and includes a 15 - 20 acre reservoir fed by a diversion from Paynes Creek. Much of the remaining acreage is wetland created by seepage and/or overflow from the reservoir which has created marshland type vegetation.

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Mr. Howard Dick, land agent, pointed out on a map displayed at the meeting the area to be acquired. The parcel is completely surrounded by a 1,700 acre block of Bureau of Land of Management land. The Bureau of Land Management has indicated a willingness to manage the proposed acquisition along with their property under a cooperative agreement with the Department of Fish and Game.

The greatest value of this property is habitat for waterfowl and other water and marsh associated species. Large numbers of ducks, geese and swans winter in the area. Some shore birds and waterfowl, primarily mallards, nest within the boundaries of this parcel. Great blue herons, common egrets, and sandhill cranes have also been observed using the area. Mammalian species such as muskrat, raccoon, opossum, and many small rodents are common. Coyote, bobcat, rabbits, blacktailed deer, valley quail, doves, and a few pheasants utilize the periphery of the reservoir.

The property owners have agreed to sell this property to the State for the approved appraised fair market value of \$67,000 which is the value of the fee title to the property excluding mineral rights and the shares of the reservoir water stock they own in the reservoir. The BLM has sufficient shares of water stock to properly maintain the marsh habitat according to the Department of Fish and Game.

The proposed acquisition falls within Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions from CEQA requirements. Class 13 consists of the acquisition of lands for fish and wildlife conservation purposes, including preservation of fish and wildlife habitat, establishing ecological reserves under Fish and Game Code Section 1580, and preserving access to public lands and waters where the purpose of the acquisition is to preserve the land in its natural condition.

In addition to the appraised value of the property, appraisal fees, escrow charges, and processing fees of about \$4,000 would be needed to accomplish this acquisition, bringing the total allocation necessary to \$71,000.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve the purchase of this property as proposed, allocate \$71,000 for the purchase and related costs from the 1976 Bond Act funds available for interior wetlands acquisition, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

He also advised that two letters in support of this proposal have been received from Senator Ray Johnson and the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association.

Assemblyman Waters recommended approval of this acquisition.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIERCE, SECONDED BY MR. FULLERTON, THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AS PROPOSED FOR THE BEND FERRY ROAD WILDLIFE AREA, TEHAMA COUNTY; ALLOCATE \$71,000 FROM THE 1976 BOND ACT FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ACQUISITION AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. Resolutions

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, AS A JOINT MOTION, THAT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS HONORING SUSANNE MORGAN AND FORMER ASSEMBLYMAN BOSCO BE ADOPTED.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Resolution Honoring Susanne Morgan

WHEREAS, Susanne Morgan has resigned as Deputy Director of Finance and therefore concluded over two years of dedicated and faithful service as a member of the Wildlife Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, her knowledge in fiscal matters, governmental operations and administrative procedures significantly helped the Board to advance the cause of wildlife conservation to the benefit of the people of California; and

WHEREAS, by her consistent good humor, pleasant manner, and sound judgment she endeared herself to many, and earned for herself the love, esteem and respect of the Board and its staff; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Legislative Advisory Committee, and the Board staff convey to Susanne Morgan our sincere appreciation for her noteworthy contributions to the Wildlife Conservation Board and extend to her our very best wishes for the future, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a part of the official minutes of this Board and that a copy of this resolution be furnished to Ms. Morgan.

Resolution Honoring Assemblyman Douglas H. Bosco

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Douglas H. Bosco has retired from the State Assembly to assume his new duties as a representative in the Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Bosco served as a member of the Joint Legislative Advisory Committee of the Wildlife Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, his interest and support of the Board during his term greatly helped to advance the cause of wildlife conservation in California; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Legislative Advisory Committee and the Board staff convey to Congressman Bosco our sincere appreciation for his contribution to this program, and our wishes for a long and successful career in his new area of public service; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be made a part of the official minutes of this Board and that a copy of this resolution be furnished to Congressman Bosco.

16. Wildlife Restoration Fund

In another matter under "Other Business", Mr. Schmidt related that at the November 29, 1982, meeting, the Board asked him to see what could be done relative to raising revenues and to see what could be done to increase them. He reported that in 1955 the Board was receiving \$750,000 annually on a continuous appropriation for Board activities. Since this time the \$750,000 has not been increased at all. However, construction costs have increased 450% and land costs have increased 800%. What we have actually found out is that to maintain the same program we were carrying in 1955, we would need \$5,437,000 or a 625% increase. An interesting point is that since 1955, when the continuous appropriations started, horseracing revenues to the State was about \$22,877,000; today they are \$127,626,000. WCB started off with 3% of the funds, and we are now getting .5% of the funds.

A letter was sent to the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board and advisory committee with this data in the form of a chart showing both the income as well as the outgo of the Board. The Executive Officer also set forth several recommendations that could be taken by the Board, one of which is that the Board use their own discretion in what to do with future funding as to whether to ask for an increase or even attempt to try to get an increase at this time.

The second problem that was addressed in that letter was the matter of continuous funding. Since 1947 when the Board was established, it has been funded by continuous appropriations from horseracing revenues. As of June 30 of this year, we will lose that continuous funding and with that the flexibility of the Board to operate as has been pointed out by Mr. deGierre -- to be able to work with other agencies and to be unique in the type of project we are able to put together for the best interest of the State. We have been able to operate more cost efficiently than other agencies because we have had this type of funding. One of the things that was mentioned in the letter was that we would like to get the Board's concurrence or acknowledgment that the staff go after getting an exception to the "Sunset Provision".

Mr. Livermore complimented the executive officer on the presentation and the charts which were prepared, which clearly illustrated the point. It was the consensus of the Board that the continuous funding has enabled the Board to utilize funds more efficiently. It was Assemblyman Water's recommendation that we pursue retention of continuous funding vigorously for otherwise it is going to hamstring the program. However, he did not want any part of changing the formula or asking for new monies at this time, because there is no money out there.

Mr. Schmidt stated that in addition to getting the continuous funding reinstated there was included a request for recommendation from the Board with regard to the requirement in the trailer bill of the budget which will require the Public Works Board to approve all WCB acquisitions, which is a bureaucratic process that is unnecessary and a duplication of effort.

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Mr. Pierce requested that these instructions to staff be separated, and the following motions were made.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN WATERS, AS A JOINT MOTION, THAT THE BOARD STAFF PURSUE CONTINUOUS FUNDING FOR THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD BY GETTING AN EXCEPTION IN THE BUDGET LANGUAGE IN SECTION 30.04, ITEM 3640.

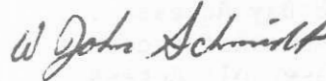
MOTION PASSED; MR. PIERCE ABSTAINING.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. FULLERTON, SECONDED BY MR. PIERCE, THAT THE BOARD STAFF BE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK REMOVAL OF LANGUAGE IN THE BUDGET TRAILER BILL REQUIRING THE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD TO APPROVE PROJECTS OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Livermore at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



W. John Schmidt
Executive Officer

PROGRAM STATEMENT

At the close of the meeting on February 15, 1983, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947, totaled \$52,884,192.31. This total includes funds 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 and 1976 Bond Acts will be included in this statement after completion of these programs.

a. Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects	\$10,793,030.47
b. Fish Habitat Development	4,996,337.42
1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement	\$2,817,112.39
2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	404,082.62
3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	439,503.32
4. Marine Habitat	497,957.20
5. Fish Screens, Ladders & Weir Projects	837,681.89
c. Fishing Access Projects	16,600,128.06
1. Coastal and Bay Access	1,654,578.74
2. River and Aqueduct Access	4,176,374.26
3. Lake and Reservoir Access	3,844,666.50
4. Piers	6,924,508.56
d. Game Farm Projects	146,894.49
e. Wildlife Habitat Development and Improvement Projects	19,082,764.30
1. Wildlife Areas	18,292,470.00
2. Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Dev.	790,294.30
f. Hunting Access	546,069.66
g. Miscellaneous Projects	635,467.91
s. Special Project Allocations	83,500.00
Total Allocated to Projects	\$52,884,192.31

STATUS OF FUNDS WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND

Unallocated balance at beginning of 2/15/83 meeting	\$ 4,298,055.89
Plus recoveries	+ 217,502.76
Less allocations	- 741,000.00
Unallocated balance at end of 2/15/83 meeting	\$ 3,774,558.65