

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

Minutes, Meeting of March 3, 1987

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 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes, Meeting of March 3, 1987

Pursuant to the call of the Acting Chairman, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in Room 4203 of the State Capitol, Sacramento, California, on March 3, 1987. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Jack Parnell.

1. Roll Call

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Albert C. Taucher, President, Fish and Game Commission	Acting Chairman
	Jack Parnell, Director, Department of Fish and Game	Member
	Chon Gutierrez, Dep. Director Department of Finance	Member

Assemblyman Norman S. Waters	Joint Interim Committee
Rick Battson,	" " "
vice Assemblyman Phil Isenberg	" " "
Jim Rote,	" " "
vice Senator Barry Keene	

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

STAFF PRESENT:

W. John Schmidt	Executive Officer
Alvin G. Rutsch	Assistant Executive Officer
Clyde S. Edon	Field Agent
Jim Sarro	Chief Land Agent
Howard Dick	Land Agent
Frank Giordano	Land Agent
Marylyn Gzys	Accountant
Sandy Daniel	Secretary
Alma Koyasako	Executive Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Borrecco	U.S. Forest Service
Bob Motroni	U.S. Forest Service
Jonathan Dohm	Santa Barbara County
Ed Smith	Dept. of Fish & Game
Jim Davis	Monterey County
A. E. Naylor	Dept. of Fish & Game
Sheila Massey	Calif. Cattlemen's Assn.

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Jim Messersmith	Dept. of Fish and Game
Preston Johns	" " "
Amity Hyde	" " "
Thomas Ratcliff	U.S. Forest Service
Gary W. Potts	U.S. Forest Service
Kirk Marckwald	Western Power Associates

2. Election of Chairman

It was noted by Mr. Parnell that the usual practice of the Wildlife Conservation Board in naming a chairman has been to elect the President of the Fish and Game Commission to serve in that capacity.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT MR. AL TAUCHER, PRESIDENT OF THE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION, BE NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes of the November 12, 1986, meeting of the Wildlife Conservation Board was recommended by W. John Schmidt, Executive Officer.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PARNELL THAT THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 1986, MEETING OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Funding Status as of March 3, 1987

Mr. Schmidt indicated this item is for information only and required no action.

(a) 1986/87 Wildlife Restoration Fund Capital Outlay Budget (Funds Available)

Governor's Budget - Land Acquisitions .....	\$1,000,000.00
Governor's Budget - Minor Development Projects .....	750,000.00
Less previous Board allocations .....	-596,700.00
Unallocated balance .....	<u>\$153,300.00</u>

(b) 1985/86 Wildlife Restoration Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget/Budget Revision - Land Acquisitions	\$2,113,100.76
Less previous Board allocations .....	<u>1,513,146.58</u>
Unallocated balance.....	<u>\$599,954.18</u>

(c) 1984/85 Wildlife Restoration Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget - Land Acquisitions .....	\$1,394,000.00
Less previous Board allocations .....	<u>-1,394,000.00</u>
Unallocated balance .....	<u>-0-</u>

(d)	<u>1986/87 Environmental License Plate Fund Capital Outlay Budget</u>	
	Governor's Budget/Chapter 1489 .....	\$1,000,000.00
(e)	<u>1985/86 Environmental License Plate Fund Capital Outlay Budget</u>	
	Governor's Budget .....	\$3,000,000.00
	Less previous Board allocations.....	-2,815,033.21
	Unallocated balance .....	\$184,966.79
(f)	<u>1984/85 Environmental License Plate Fund Capital Outlay Budget</u>	
	Governor's Budget .....	\$3,000,000.00
	Less previous Board allocations.....	-3,000,000.00
	Unallocated balance .....	-0-
(g)	<u>1986/87 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Cap. Outlay Budget</u>	
	Governor's Budget .....	\$12,165,000.00
	Less previous Board allocations .....	-6,602,219.12
	Unallocated balance .....	\$5,562,780.88
(h)	<u>1985/86 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Capital Outlay Budget</u>	
	Governor's Budget .....	\$9,000,000.00
	Less previous Board allocations .....	-5,744,310.14
	Unallocated balance .....	\$3,255,689.86
(i)	<u>1984/85 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Capital Outlay Budget</u>	
	Governor's Budget .....	\$12,000,000.00
	Less previous Board allocations .....	-10,020,829.35
	Unallocated balance .....	\$1,979,170.65
(j)	<u>1985/86 Parklands Fund of 1984</u>	
	Governor's Budget .....	\$5,000,000.00
	Less previous Board allocations .....	-1,416,100.00
	Unallocated balance .....	\$3,583,900.00

5. Recovery of Funds

Mr. Schmidt advised that the following 14 projects previously authorized by the Board have balances of funds that can be recovered and returned to the various funds. He recommended that the total amount of \$279,004.47 be recovered to the Wildlife Restoration Fund, \$29,069.99 be recovered to the Environmental License Plate Fund, and \$54,522.64 be recovered to the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund and the projects be closed.

WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND

San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego County

Allocation	\$202,560.00
Expended	-58,688.22
Balance for Recovery	\$143,871.78

Malibu Pier, Los Angeles County

Allocation	\$635,000.00
Expended	-596,243.04
Balance for Recovery	\$38,756.96

Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, Monterey County

Allocation	\$65,095.00
Expended	-65,095.00
Balance for Recovery	-0-

Huntington Beach Reef, Orange County

Allocation	\$30,000.00
Expended	-26,900.00
Balance for Recovery	\$3,100.00

Mouth of Mad River Public Access, Humboldt County

Allocation	\$49,200.00
Expended	-43,950.72
Balance for Recovery	\$5,249.28

Butte Creek Wildlife Area, Butte County

Allocation	\$384,000.00
Expended	-295,973.55
Balance for Recovery	\$88,026.45

Total Wildlife Restoration Fund Recoveries ..... \$279,004.47

ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE FUND

Baldwin Lake Ecological Reserve, San Bernardino County

Allocation	\$432,000.00
Expended	<u>-428,854.40</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$3,145.60

Magnesia Canyon Ecological Reserve Exp. #1, Riverside County

Allocation	\$435,000.00
Expended	<u>-430,536.00</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$4,464.00

Sacramento River Riparian Habitat (Wilson Landing), Glenn Co.

Allocation	\$260,500.00
Expended	<u>-252,890.23</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$7,609.77

Special Project Planning Account

Allocation	\$50,000.00
Expended	<u>-40,633.37</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$9,366.63

Sycamore Canyon Ecological Reserve, Riverside County

Allocation	\$307,000.00
Expended	<u>-302,516.01</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$4,483.99

Total Environmental License Plate Fund Recoveries ..... \$29,069.99

FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

Lake Earl Wildlife Area-Log Pond Addition, Del Norte County

Allocation	\$250,000.00
Expended	<u>-230,392.91</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$19,607.09

Ocean Ranch Coastal Wetlands, Humboldt County

Allocation	\$2,047,500.00
Expended	<u>-2,019,501.90</u>
Balance for Recovery	\$27,998.10

San Jacinto Wildlife Area Expansion #1, Riverside County

Allocation	\$754,000.00
Expended	-747,082.55
Balance for Recovery	<u>\$6,917.45</u>

Total Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Recoveries      \$54,522.64

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD RECOVER FUNDS FROM THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS AND CLOSE THE PROJECT ACCOUNTS AS FOLLOWS:

San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego County .....	\$143,871.78
Malibu Pier, Los Angeles County .....	38,756.96
Elkhorn Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, Monterey Co.	-0-
Huntington Beach Reef, Orange County .....	3,100.00
Mouth of Mad River Public Access, Humboldt Co.	5,249.28
Butte Creek Wildlife Area, Butte County .....	<u>88,026.45</u>

Total WRF Recoveries ..... \$279,004.47

Baldwin Lake Ecological Reserve, S. Bdo. Co. ...	\$3,145.60
Magnesia Canyon EcoReserve Exp. #1, Riverside Co.	4,464.00
Sacramento River Riparian Habitat (Wilson Landing), Glenn County .....	7,609.77
Special Project Planning Account .....	9,366.63
Sycamore Canyon EcoReserve, Riverside Co. ....	4,483.99

Total ELPF Recoveries ..... \$29,069.99

Lake Earl WIA-Log Pond Addn., Del Norte Co. ...	\$19,607.09
Ocean Ranch Coastal Wetlands, Humboldt Co. ....	27,998.10
San Jacinto WLS Exp. #1, Riverside Co. ....	6,917.45

Total F&W Habitat Enhancement Fund Recoveries ..... \$54,522.64

THE SUM OF \$279,004.47 IS TO BE RECOVERED TO THE UNALLOCATED BALANCE OF THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; \$29,069.99 IS TO BE RECOVERED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE FUND; AND \$54,522.64 IS TO BE RECOVERED TO THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Healdsburg Public Fishing Access, Sonoma County      \$1,500.00

This proposal is to consider the acquisition of a 5-acre parcel along the Russian River at Healdsburg, Sonoma County, for public fishing access. The location of the parcel was pointed out on a map by Jim Sarro, Chief Land Agent.

The property was offered to the Department of Fish and Game as a donation late in 1986 as part of a condominium development on adjacent lands of the same owner. The Department strongly favors additional public access on the Russian River and its investigation has indicated the site is well used during the spring and summer by catfish anglers and in the winter by steelhead anglers. Although in its present state access is difficult, it is also used as a launching site for drift boats. The site is well-covered with vegetation and riparian trees and its banks are considered stable.

Problems related to the site are primarily due to the fact that it is not publicly-owned or managed and, hence, suffers from littering and even dumping of old car bodies. To some degree, this should be improved with the development of the adjacent condominium site. Staff would contemplate a future Board action will be recommended for WCB development of improved trails to the river and possible improved access for drift boats. The developer is constructing a small parking lot on the site in conjunction with his adjacent development.

The site is adjacent to a Sonoma County Regional Parks property, and it is hoped that a development/management plan will eventually be arranged with the County. Interim management would be by the Department.

To accommodate the landowner's desire to accomplish the donation in 1986, the gift was accepted by The Nature Conservancy, acting as a "holding company" until the Board had the opportunity to consider the project.

The only costs to be incurred in this transaction would be payment of \$300 to reimburse the expenses incurred by The Nature Conservancy, plus present escrow and closing expenses and the transaction review charges of the Department of General Services. In all, staff estimates the entire needed allocation to be \$1,500.

Funding for this acquisition is available from the Wildlife Restoration Fund and the project is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions which includes acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes and to provide access to public lands and waters.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board approve this acquisition, allocate \$1,500 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund for the costs of completing this acquisition and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF PROPERTY FOR THE HEALDSBURG PUBLIC FISHING ACCESS, SONOMA COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$1,500 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND FOR ACQUISITION COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Assemblyman Norm Waters who had come in to the meeting during the discussion on this item was introduced by Mr. Schmidt.

7. Bass Hill Wildlife Area Expansion #4, Lassen County \$39,000.00

Mr. Schmidt advised that at previous meetings, the Board approved the acquisition of a total of 3,500+ acres of private land in Lassen County for protection of the Bass Hill Deer Winter Range, and more importantly protect prime deer migration corridor from development. These lands were subsequently acquired and turned over to the Department of Fish and Game for management. This proposal is to expand this deer winter range area through the acquisition of an additional 11.6+ acres of private land. This acquisition has been very highly recommended by the Department of Fish and Game.

Mr. Frank Giordano, Land Agent, indicated that Bass Hill is located approximately 5 miles southeast of Susanville near State Highway 395, at the westerly end of a small, low elevation range (around 4,500 feet maximum) about 8 miles long and 2 miles wide at the widest point. The locale is on the edge of Honey Lake Valley, with adjacent lands either farmed, utilized as both dry and irrigated pastures for livestock grazing, or in the process of being developed for residential use. The general area is also seeing a significant amount of land splitting and development mostly for residential purposes. Indications are that the present growth trend will continue which will further interfere with deer migration and use, as well as destroy more of the remaining range. This range generally is critical winter habitat for deer that spend the remainder of the year at higher elevations on primarily U.S. National Forest lands to the west.

Mr. Schmidt continued that the parcel proposed for purchase is heavily vegetated with bitterbrush, which provides excellent winter food and cover for deer. The existing Bass Hill Wildlife Area borders two sides of the triangular shaped parcel while the third side borders Highway 395 with access thereto. With highway frontage, this property could provide needed access to the west side of the Bass Hill Wildlife Area. This parcel is the only inholding in the area, and the acquisition of this potential homesite will eliminate the possibility of any development on the highway side of the State's present ownership, which could certainly have a detrimental effect on deer migration.

It is planned that the overall property will be managed by the DFG on a cooperative basis with BIM in the same manner as the original purchases.

The proposed acquisition is within Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions from CEQA requirements. The owners have indicated an interest in a possible sale of this property to the State for the appraised value of \$34,000. An additional \$5,000 is required for appraisal, survey, processing and closing costs.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve the purchase of this 11.6+ acres as proposed, allocate \$39,000 for the purchase and related costs from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned. As there was no further discussion or input from the audience, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR THE BASS HILL WILDLIFE AREA EXPANSION #4, LASSEN COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$39,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Trinity River Public Access (Lewiston Site), Trinity Co. \$7,635.00

Mr. Schmidt reported that the Trinity County Board of Supervisors has submitted a resolution requesting funds for the construction of a restroom at an existing WCB fishing access site on the Trinity River in the town of Lewiston.

The proposed facility will be located near the center of a 40-acre otherwise undeveloped parcel which was acquired by WCB in 1975 for fishing access and habitat protection. The parcel lies on both sides of the river and includes about 1.7 miles of shoreline. The location of this proposed site was indicated on a map by Mr. Al Rutsch, Assistant Executive Officer.

The Trinity River has historically been an important salmon-steelhead migration route and as such attracts anglers from throughout the State. This site is particularly popular because it is located in town and accessible by paved county roads. Also, the riverbanks along most of this stretch are gentle and largely unobstructed.

Because of increasing use, sanitary conditions may create a public nuisance and force closure of the area unless a restroom is provided. Both the County Health Officer and the Lewiston Community Plan Advisory Committee recommend the proposed installation. The Department of Fish and Game also supports the proposal.

The County has, by cooperative agreement with the Department, maintained the area since it was acquired, and the new County resolution indicates its willingness to also maintain the restroom if the project is approved.

The cost of a waterless 12' x 8' restroom facility installed at the site, as estimated by the County Planning Department, is \$7,635. It would be a double unit, pre-fabricated, and designed to meet State and local sanitary codes as well as State handicapped access requirements. Parking and access roads to the site already exist.

The proposed activity is considered to be exempt from CEQA under Section 15303, Class 3 of the State Guidelines - Small Structures. A Notice of Exemption has been filed as required.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board approve the restroom facility at the Old Lewiston Bridge Fishing Access, Trinity River, as proposed, allocate \$7,635

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therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned. He reported that Spike Naylor from the regional office was present to discuss this proposal.

As there was no further discussion or comments from the audience, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF RESTROOM FACILITIES AT THE TRINITY RIVER PUBLIC ACCESS (LEWISTON SITE), TRINITY COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$7,635 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Lake San Antonio Fishing Access, Monterey County \$165,500.00

It was reported by Mr. Schmidt that the Monterey County Parks Department is proposing to construct a small boat launching facility on the south shore of Lake San Antonio to improve fishing access and has requested WCB funding for the project.

Mr. Clyde Edon, Field Agent, indicated that Lake San Antonio is located in the southernmost section of the Salinas Valley on the San Antonio River. The San Antonio River is a tributary of the Salinas River which flows north to the Pacific Ocean at Monterey Bay. Paso Robles is the nearest town and is 22 miles south of the lake. Highways 1, 101 and 46 are the major routes bringing recreation seekers to this area.

Lake San Antonio is 14 miles in length and has 55 miles of shoreline. The lake volume is 350,000 acre feet and the maximum depth is nearly 200 feet. The large 5,700 acre surface area at high pool, and the 63 degree average yearly water temperature make the lake desirable for recreation throughout the year. The lake is part of the Lake Nacimiento-San Antonio Lake Regional Recreation Area which is administered by Monterey County.

It was further reported by Mr. Schmidt that the existing boating facilities on Lake San Antonio consist of boat berthing and rentals, fuel dock and two launching ramps with paved parking at the south shore. At the north shore there is boat berthing and rentals and one launching ramp with paved parking. Additionally, there are 574 campsites, 200 trailer hookups, restroom facilities, a restaurant, snack bar and two general stores located at the lake. In 1981 the Board approved funds for a fishing access road on the south side of the lake.

The park sees an annual attendance of 456,000 visitor days which includes visitor use every month of the year. The users come from every socio-economic group from all over the State. The dominant use comes from the counties of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara. Most of the park visitors have come to the lake for water oriented recreation activities with fishing being the most active participant.

The location for the proposed project is a beehive of activity for small boaters. Since Lake San Antonio is a large lake with most of the 5,000+ acres in an open body, the small boaters take refuge in one of several large coves in the lake. The problem is the major ramps are very heavily used by larger boats used for skiing, speed boating and fishing. These boats are designed for easy loading and unloading from trailers and have all the equipment built into the boat. Small fishing boats, such as carried on a car top, must be unloaded, placed in the water and equipped with motor, gas can, oars, fishing equipment, etc. A more protected, less congested site is needed to accommodate this type of boating use and eliminate the conflicts with larger trailered boats. In addition, small boats using this facility and the Harris Cove area for fishing will not be subjected to the hazard of heavy waves from large boats or wind action on the open lake. The cove itself is 1 1/2 miles long but is narrow and is not susceptible to the hazards of the open water. Park visitors often suggest that something more be done for the small boat owners at the lake.

The County of Monterey Parks Department at Lake San Antonio in cooperation with the Wildlife Conservation Board has an opportunity to develop a unique access for owners of small boats in the cove itself. This launch ramp and service area will provide boaters and their families with a fully serviceable area, where they can spend the day in a cove that is protected from the main body of the lake by speed zone buoys (5 mph).

The Monterey County Parks Department along with the Department of Fish and Game, the Fish and Game Fine Committee, California Conservation Corps and YCC have worked in this area to improve the fishery through habitat improvement, trail development and general clean-up of the area. It currently is undeveloped, except for a rough graded road and a gravelled parking area.

This proposal is to improve the access to this area by grading and paving the existing access road to the parking area (twenty cars), constructing a self-contained restroom, constructing a concrete ramp to launch small boats and to extend water and electric service to the site. The ramp will provide access to the water's edge throughout the normal operating levels. (No low water ramp is contemplated, as use will be minimal during periods of drought.)

The cost estimate for the proposed improvements is as follows:

Rough grade road and ramp	\$12,000.00
Finish grade and AC paving	62,000.00
Restroom (pre-fab)	52,000.00
Water and electric service	10,000.00
Subtotal, construction	\$136,000.00
A&E, 7%	9,000.00
Contingencies, 15%	20,500.00

Total Project Cost ..... \$165,500.00

The County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution in support of this proposal on December 16, 1986. The Department of Fish and Game has reviewed this proposal and supports this action.

This proposal qualifies for funding under the Parklands Fund of 1984, which provides funds for wildlife-oriented public use projects. It also qualifies for a 75 percent reimbursement of costs under the Federal D-J program (Wallop-Breaux Act) and staff plans to make application for such funds if the allocation is approved. Any Federal participation will be in the form of a reimbursement to the Board. A Categorical Exemption under Section 15311 - Class 11 of the State Guidelines has been filed in accordance with CEQA.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board approve the Lake San Antonio Fishing Access Project as proposed, allocate \$165,500 therefor from the Parklands Fund of 1984, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned. He further noted that Mr. Jim Davis from the Monterey County Parks Department was present should there be any questions from the Board.

In response to Mr. Gutierrez's question about the source of the federal reimbursement and the procedure for securing reimbursement, Mr. Edon advised that this is from the Federal Dingell-Johnson program. He explained that 10% of these monies is specifically earmarked for public boating facilities. Mr. Schmidt then elaborated that the Board is requested to allocate the full amount of the project cost and authorize the staff to make an application for D-J participation. Since this is a reimbursement program, if the application is approved, the staff will request reimbursement for qualifying costs (up to 75%) upon completion of the project. This reimbursement, when received, will then be recovered to the Wildlife Restoration Fund.

Mr. Taucher stated that he was familiar with the fishing in this lake and recommended approval of this project.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PARNELL THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE DEVELOPMENTS AT THE LAKE SAN ANTONIO FISHING ACCESS PROJECT, MONTEREY COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$165,500 THEREFOR FROM THE PARKLANDS FUND OF 1984; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. Cachuma Lake Fishing Access, Santa Barbara County \$23,650.00

Mr. Schmidt advised that the County of Santa Barbara has proposed a project to enhance shoreline fishing at Cachuma Lake by installing two fishing floats in the Iroquois Flats area of the lake.

A tremendous attraction for area visitors as well as the local population, Cachuma Lake, the largest man-made fresh water lake in Southern California, is located just 132 miles north of Los Angeles. More specifically, it is

located in the Santa Ynez Valley and can be reached by travelling just 24 miles northwesterly on Highway 154 from Santa Barbara.

Mr. Rutsch noted that with over 300 acres of developed parkland and 42 miles of shoreline, Cachuma Lake offers a tremendous variety of experiences. With its acreage and over 3,000 surface acres of water, Cachuma offers: 3 boat launching facilities; private boat docks; rental boats; complete bait and tackle shop; snack bar; general store; sailing; 500 campsites; 30 full hookup sites; horseback riding concession; hiking trails; swimming pools; 9 group camping areas; and trailer and boat storage area. Since Cachuma's water is for domestic drinking purposes, swimming is prohibited.

Since the completion of this lake in 1958, habitat provided by the lake's 205,000 acre feet of water is now home to over 52 species of water dependent birds. Moreover, Cachuma is abundant with trout, black bass, crappie, catfish and red-ear sunfish. It is estimated that over 1,000,000 visitors use this recreational area annually. Of this, more than 370,000 are fishermen, at least 270,00 of which are shoreline fishermen.

Although shoreline fishing access to desirable fishing locations has been enhanced generally throughout the park over the past five years, it is felt, by both fishermen and county parks personnel, that floats provide a very desirable shoreline fishing improvement. They provide users the opportunity to reach deeper waters without going to the expense of owning or renting a boat. Such floats have been installed in several locations around the lake and have been heavily, and successfully, used since their installation.

The Iroquois Flats area of Cachuma, which is somewhat removed geographically from the main development area, is also used as the overflow camping area. As such it receives very heavy use in this highly desirable recreational area. With no developed fishing access in this area, the two proposed fishing floats will certainly add to the overall camping and fishing experience for many.

Mr. Schmidt advised that it is proposed that two separate floats be installed, each being 6 feet wide and 40 feet long, with protective hand-rails. They will be joined to the shore with a 6' x 8' gangway and held in position by cables to concrete anchors. The cost estimate provided by Santa Barbara County and reviewed by staff is as follows:

4 - 6'x20' Float Sections	\$14,600.00
(2 sections/piers @ \$3,650 ea.)	
2 - 6'x8' Gangways @ \$1700 ea.	3,400.00
Delivery to jobsite	2,500.00
Installation & Misc. Hardware	1,000.00
Subtotal	\$21,500.00
Contingencies - 10%	2,150.00
Total Project Cost .....	<u>\$23,650.00</u>

The Department of Fish and Game supports this proposal and has agreed to work with the County in proper site location for the floats. The project is exempt from CEQA under Class 3, Section 15303, new construction of a small structure, and the County has filed the necessary categorical exemption.

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution in support of this project, agreeing to construct appropriate trails to the floats and provide operation and maintenance of the completed project.

The project qualifies for funding under the Parklands Fund of 1984 as a development project to increase wildlife-oriented public use.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve the Cachuma Lake Fishing Access development as proposed, allocate \$23,650 from the Parklands Fund of 1984 as designated for wildlife-oriented public use projects, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned. He noted that Mr. Jonathan Dohm from Santa Barbara County was present to respond to questions from the Board.

Dr. Jim Rote asked about the availability of an access road to the floats, and Mr. Schmidt responded that the County of Santa Barbara has agreed to construct access trails to the float with their own funds.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE DEVELOPMENTS AT CACHUMA LAKE FISHING ACCESS PROJECT, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$23,650 THEREFOR FROM THE PARKLANDS FUND OF 1984 AS DESIGNATED FOR WILDLIFE-ORIENTED PUBLIC USE PROJECTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Twin Peaks Ecological Reserve, San Bernardino County \$1,000.00

This proposal is for the acceptance of a conservation easement over 242 acres of land in San Bernardino County, about 2 miles southwest of Lake Arrowhead and 7 miles north of the City of San Bernardino. This area was pointed out on a map by Mr. Sarro. The acquisition of this easement is an important part of an innovative and ambitious series of transactions being arranged by the Trust for Public Land (TPL).

Mr. Schmidt reviewed that the TPL purchased a number of acres of outstanding habitat at a prime location, the intersection of Highways 88 and 89, in Hope Valley, Alpine County. The plan now is for TPL to exchange that key area to the U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in Toiyabe National Forest. The exchange will place the subject Twin Peaks property into the ownership of TPL, which plans to deed a conservation easement on the property to the State whereby development would be allowed only in narrowly defined areas near existing roads through the property. The remainder, about 80% of the parcel, would then be undevelopable. TPL would then sell the property, subject to the State's easement, and thereby recover its investment in the Hope Valley property. The transaction actually accomplishes the purpose of placing both the Hope Valley and Twin Peaks properties under public jurisdiction at virtually no cost beyond the administrative expenses of the respective agencies.

The Department has long been interested and active in protection of the Hope Valley habitats. This project will assist in those efforts.

With regard to the Twin Peaks property, the Department indicates that it is in and adjacent to habitat of the State-listed threatened southern rubber boa. The acceptance of this conservation easement would enable the Department to assure preservation of this habitat without actually owning or being responsible for maintenance of the property. The Department also contemplates a request to the Fish and Game Commission that the property be designated an ecological reserve.

The costs of closing and Department of General Services review are estimated to be \$1,000, and funding is available from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund for these purposes. The acquisition is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Exemptions as an acquisition of an interest in land for wildlife conservation purposes.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board approve this acquisition, allocate \$1,000 from the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund as designated for rare and endangered species to cover the noted costs, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as outlined above.

Mr. Taucher asked for comments from the audience, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATION OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR THE TWIN PEAKS ECOLOGICAL RESERVE, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$1,000 FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND AS DESIGNATED FOR RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES TO COVER ACQUISITION COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

12. Oasis Spring Ecological Reserve, Riverside County \$23,000.00

Mr. Schmidt advised that this proposal is for the purchase of 160+ acres in Riverside County located approximately 25 miles south of Indio, California, on the east side of Highway 111 near the north shore of the Salton Sea. The primary purpose of the purchase is to protect unique desert riparian habitat, critical to the endangered desert pupfish. Mr. Giordano was asked to explain the location of the project and how it relates to a federal parcel that the Department of Fish and Game is in the process of acquiring.

The property is desert in nature and although flat is accessible only by four-wheel drive vehicle or by foot. The subject parcel lies adjacent to a 320 acre BIM ownership which is to be transferred to the State in the near future. The Department of Fish and Game has recommended the purchase of this parcel and at least one other parcel which is currently being reviewed by WCB staff.

Oasis Spring, which is located on the land to be transferred by BLM, discharges a perennial, surface flow which extends into the subject property. This habitat attracts and sustains a wide variety of wildlife, including migratory and resident birdlife and upland game. The springs contain breeding and nesting habitat for birds and habitat for amphibians, reptiles, desert pupfish, and a variety of desert mammals.

Currently the property is threatened by commercial developments, four wheel recreational use and vandalism. If acquired, the Department of Fish and Game proposes to secure the area surrounding the spring and manage it as an ecological reserve for protection and perpetuation of desert flora and fauna and the endangered desert pupfish and clapper rail. Therefore intensive management is not anticipated. Recreational values would be for non-consumptive uses only, and would include opportunities for hiking, nature study trails, photography and educational uses. Purchase is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes.

The owner has agreed to sell the 160+ acres for its approved fair market value of \$18,400. Additional costs which include the appraisal, title and escrow costs, and Department of General Services charges, are estimated to be \$4,600.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve this purchase as proposed, allocate \$23,000 from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund (as designated for rare and endangered species habitat) to cover the purchase price and related costs, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Taucher asked if the area would be leased out as a duck club after it was acquired, and Mr. Schmidt responded that this area would be under the management of the Department of Fish and Game, and that the regional office would be responsible for making these determinations. Mr. Gutierrez asked about the operation and management costs associated with this acquisition, and Mr. Schmidt responded that it would consist mainly of fencing off the threatened area and that management responsibilities would be absorbed by the personnel assigned to that area.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PARNELL THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR THE OASIS SPRING ECOLOGICAL RESERVE, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$23,000 FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND, AS DESIGNATED FOR RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Butte Valley Wildlife Area Main Levee, Siskiyou County \$333,000.00

The Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited, Inc., is proposing to reconstruct and enhance the main levee system at the Butte Valley Wildlife Area in Siskiyou County.

At its 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 location, general description, and purpose of the project was explained by Mr. Edon.

The nearest community is Macdoel, located on State Highway 97, five miles to the east of the area headquarters. The major physical feature of the area is Meiss Lake which has no natural outlet and serves as a sump for run-off from the surrounding mountains and return flows from adjacent agricultural lands. Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Basin, major staging areas for waterfowl on the Pacific Flyway, lie approximately 40 miles to the east.

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. In addition, both Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and WCB have funded development of nesting islands, nesting boxes, levee construction and installation of water control devices to enhance the waterfowl habitat.

The main levee running north and south across Meiss Lake plays a major role as part of the flood control system which drains Butte Valley. The only method of discharge from the Butte Valley Basin is by pumping northerly through Sam's Neck and into Rock Creek, which drains into the Klamath River. Construction of the discharge pumps and canal through Sam's Neck was accomplished by the U.S. Corps of Engineers in 1965. These facilities have effectively kept the Meiss Ranch and adjacent properties from flooding.

Reconstructing the levee which was not part of the Corps project will protect the levees and islands already constructed for wildlife management purposes; prevent flooding of Department lands; provide a means to control and manage run-off water to manage existing habitat; permit continued share-crop farming to produce needed wildlife feed; permit expansion of managed waterfowl habitat on both State and adjoining Federal land; and provide a source of usable water for wildlife management on the State lands.

This is a proposed cooperative project between the Department of Fish and Game and Ducks Unlimited, Inc. The work is to be completed under a site specific agreement as authorized by the May 16, 1985 M.O.U., between the California DFG and Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

The cost of this restoration project will be shared by using \$275,000 of State Duck Stamp funds, which was authorized for this purpose by the State Fish and Game Commission in December, 1986. The engineering drawings and cost estimate were funded and prepared by Ducks Unlimited, Inc. Construction cost is estimated at \$529,900, an additional \$52,999 for contingencies and \$25,000 for construction inspection brings the total project estimate to \$607,989. Proposed funding sources are as listed below:

1984 Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund (WCB)	\$333,000
State Duck Stamp Funds	275,000
Total Funding	<u>\$608,000</u>

The project construction will be administered by DU, Inc. through an agreement with DFG. A Categorical Exemption under Section 15301(i) of the State Guidelines has been filed in accordance with CEQA.

Mr. Schmidt noted that Spike Naylor, Regional Manager, was present to respond to questions the Board might have and advised that the Shasta Cascade Wonderland Association in Redding has indicated support for this project. He recommended the Board approve the Butte Valley Levee Project as proposed, allocate \$333,000 therefor from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund as designated for interior wetlands, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

The Board members were informed that with the reconstruction of the levee system as proposed, there would be no known additional work of this type needed to protect this part of the wildlife area.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BUTTE VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA MAIN LEVEE, SISKIYOU COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$333,000 FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND, AS DESIGNATED FOR INTERIOR WETLANDS, FOR THIS PURPOSE; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. Salmon, Steelhead and Trout Habitat Enhancement Project \$742,000.00

It was proposed that the Board allocate funds for the enhancement and rehabilitation of salmon, steelhead and resident trout spawning and rearing habitat on twenty-five waterways in California. Projects in this proposal include those located on coastal, as well as interior, waterways.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the anadromous fishery resource in California has suffered a severe decline over the past thirty years. For example, records

indicate that the king salmon population in the Klamath River has declined from a historic level of 500,000 to 180,000 by 1963, 72,000 by 1978, to 46,000 by 1983. One of the major causes for this decline is degradation of natural habitat due to stream and watershed disturbances from logging, road construction, mining and other activities associated with modern development.

In addition, the 1964 flood, which produced record high flows in many waterways in Northern California, caused serious damage or completely destroyed miles of productive salmon and steelhead habitat. In addition to thousands of cubic yards of debris and sediment being deposited in the lower gradient sections of the streams, miles of flood riffles were also created by the high flood waters.

Flood riffles are broad, shallow stream sections commonly referred to as "bowling alleys" which are composed primarily of 6 to 8 inch cobbles or boulders. These areas lack pools and provide little if any spawning or rearing habitat for salmon and steelhead. Flood waters also caused the loss of bank stability and associated streamside shade canopy which is needed to maintain cooler summer water temperatures required for survival of juvenile salmon and steelhead. Since anadromous fish spend the juvenile portion of their life cycle in their natal stream, the need for adequate rearing habitat is a significant factor relative to the overall status of a population.

Habitat enhancement and restoration is also needed on many interior streams that support populations of resident trout. Over the years grazing and timber harvest practices, coupled with damage from high storm flows, has caused serious impacts to many of California's smaller interior streams resulting in an overall degrading of habitat.

Many of the problems associated with the larger coastal streams are also common to the smaller interior waterways. Long stretches of some interior streams also lack the proper pool-riffle ratio and require log-rock weir structures and boulder clusters to re-create the proper habitat elements. Unstable stream banks are common and create conditions that reduce stream habitat values.

Stream banks lacking cover generate increased sedimentation which smothers spawning gravel and fills pools needed for rearing habitat. The lack of stream bank riparian growth also results in higher water temperatures, less hiding cover and a reduced food source. Some segments of streams that are heavily fished lack adequate hiding and holding cover which reduces angler success and lessens the fishing experience.

The following stream restoration projects have been recommended by the Department of Fish and Game. They are exempt from CEQA under Section 15301 Class 1 (i), maintaining fish habitat and stream flows to protect fish. A Notice of Exemption for each project has been filed and posted with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research in accordance with CEQA. All of the projects listed in this item are intended to correct or enhance situations identified above.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board consider these twenty-five salmon, steelhead trout and resident trout habitat enhancement projects as one item, allocate \$742,000 therefor from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund (Stream restoration and enhancement), and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Site specific information for each of the 25 habitat enhancement projects is provided below:

- a. Hurdygurdy Creek, Del Norte County \$24,000.00

This is a proposed cooperative project between the Six Rivers National Forest and the Department of Fish and Game. Hurdygurdy Creek is a tributary to the South Fork of the Smith River. The objective is to improve spawning and rearing habitat by placement of boulder groups in mid-channel and log and boulder bank wing deflectors in various locations to increase spawning and rearing habitat for chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

- b. Beaver Creek, Siskiyou County \$25,000.00

Beaver Creek, a tributary to the Klamath River, provides habitat for both king salmon and steelhead. Recently, the run of king salmon has increased primarily because a California Department of Fish and Game rearing pond was located in the stream for several years. Several projects have already been completed in the stream to increase spawning and rearing habitat. This project will continue to enhance the stream by providing additional spawning areas for anadromous fish.

The Klamath National Forest in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Game is proposing to construct four to six rock spawning weirs in the stream, by placing large boulders (approximately 3-foot diameter) in a V-shaped configuration to create each weir. Spawning gravel used by adult king salmon will be placed behind the weirs. Pools created by water action below the weirs will provide juvenile salmonid rearing habitat.

- c. Elk Creek, Siskiyou County \$13,000.00

This is a proposed cooperative project between the Klamath National Forest and the Department of Fish and Game.

Elk Creek is a tributary to the Klamath River that has historically produced significant runs of both chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Chinook salmon runs in Elk Creek have declined to a level of near extinction over the last several decades. The California Department of Fish and Game has implemented a rearing pond program to enhance run sizes in Elk Creek. The first returns from this program occurred in the fall of 1986.

The project area is a 300 foot stretch of the creek below the rearing pond that has little diversity and consists of rock rubble (6 inches to 1 foot) imbedded in the stream channel. This imbedded condition prevents smaller sized material from being deposited during high winter flows.

The objective of this project is to provide increased spawning habitat for returning chinook salmon, by placing rock clusters or groups in a meandering pattern to break up stream velocities and to reduce overall stream gradient. This allows smaller sized materials to accumulate around the rock structures. Another benefit of the project is the formation of plunge pools below the rock structures which provide increased rearing habitat for 1+ year steelhead.

d. Grider Creek, Siskiyou County \$17,500.00

Grider Creek, a tributary to the Klamath River, contains fine habitat for both king salmon and steelhead. In 1987 the California Department of Fish and Game will establish a king salmon rearing pond near the mouth of the stream. Juvenile salmon reared and released from the pond should substantially increase the adult salmon run in the stream within a few years. To provide for the anticipated need for additional spawning gravel, the Klamath National Forest in cooperation with DFG is proposing to complete the following habitat improvements on Grider Creek.

Four to seven rock spawning weirs will be installed by placing large boulders in a V-shaped configuration to create each weir with spawning gravel placed behind the weirs for use by spawning adult king salmon. Pools created by water action below each weir will provide juvenile salmonid rearing habitat.

e. French Creek, Siskiyou County \$3,600.00

This is a cooperative project between the Klamath National Forest and the Department of Fish and Game. The purpose of this project is to build a small sediment dam on French Creek to study and measure the volume of sand and sediment being transported and observe the effects of reduced sediment on downstream spawning areas. Should the results of this project be successful, it is anticipated that similar sediment dams will be constructed in the future on this and other streams.

f. Shasta River Diversion Engineering, Siskiyou County \$12,000.00

The Department of Fish and Game is requesting funds to complete the engineering survey and design, and to produce the contract plans and specifications for the modification or replacement of a log crib diversion dam in the Shasta River. The structure, known as the Fiock's diversion dam, is an old log crib structure that was built in the 1890's. Department of Fish and Game fish habitat crews have documented significant losses of adult salmon at this dam for many years. As the fish attempt to negotiate the dam, many fall back and become trapped in the rock cribs and die. The owner has complied with the requirements of the Fish and Game Code to provide fish passage by having a fish ladder incorporated into the diversion structure. The problem occurs in the early fall when flashboards required for diversion of irrigation water are still in place. At that time there is not enough flow through the ladder to act as the main attractor to salmon and therefore they attempt to jump the diversion structure, resulting in the loss of adults. The Department proposal is to determine how this structure can be modified to eliminate this loss.

A second concern is that the diversion at the dam is unscreened and, being the lowermost irrigation diversion on the Shasta River, takes a substantial number of downstream migrant salmon and steelhead. As this is a previously existing irrigation diversion, less than 250 cfs, the operator is not required to provide fish screening.

DFG estimates that, of the 4,500 salmon that annually return to the Shasta River, 400 pairs spawn above this structure. Those 400 fish produce an estimated 320,000 emergent young per year that must negotiate past this unscreened diversion. In addition, it is estimated that an additional 48,000 fish annually could be added to the downstream migration by eliminating the current loss of adult fish lost in the log cribs of the dam.

The DFG feels that a complete fish passage facility is needed which would provide safe upstream passage for adults as well as proper screening for downstream migrant juveniles. The Department would like to complete this project before the 1987 fall salmon run. Cost estimates and other engineering information generated from this design phase will be used to determine what type of structure modification is most appropriate to eliminate fish loss.

g. Bluff Creek, Humboldt County \$122,000.00

This is a cooperative project between the Six Rivers National Forest and Department of Fish and Game. Bluff Creek is a significant tributary to the Klamath River. The objective of the project is to improve spawning and rearing habitat for chinook and silver salmon and steelhead trout by placement of boulder clusters, weirs and deflectors on 3+ miles of stream habitat. It is anticipated that this action will result in a substantial increase in both adult salmon and steelhead.

h. Camp Creek, Humboldt County \$33,000.00

This is a cooperative project between the Six Rivers National Forest and Department of Fish and Game. Camp Creek is a tributary to the middle fork of the Klamath River. The objective of the project is to improve spawning and rearing habitat for chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout by placement of weirs, deflectors and boulder structures on 2+ miles of stream habitat. It is anticipated that this action will result in a substantial increase in both adult salmon and steelhead.

i. Redwood and Salmon Creeks, Humboldt County \$82,000.00

The Department of Fish and Game proposes to treat five major land slides and several smaller failing banks along Redwood and Salmon Creeks. Generally, these projects involve placement of large boulders for bank stabilization to prevent sediments and fines from entering the creek and destroying spawning gravels. Both creeks are tributaries to the south fork of the Eel River.

j. Red Cap Creek, Humboldt County \$120,000.00

A Six Rivers National Forest and Department of Fish and Game project is proposed to increase chinook salmon, coho salmon and steelhead trout populations in Red Cap Creek, a tributary to the Klamath River near the Hoopa Indian Reservation. Ten to twelve instream weirs, deflectors and/or boulder structures will be constructed over the next three year period to improve and create spawning and rearing habitat. Boulder clusters will also be placed to improve and create rearing habitat for increased juvenile survival.

k. Sprowl Creek, Humboldt County \$79,000.00

The Department of Fish and Game proposes to install seven log gravel structures, create a jump pool for access to a 6' culvert as well as provide bank stabilization by completing miscellaneous bank armoring, cribbing, and vegetation work on approximately 1.5 miles of this tributary to the south fork of the Eel River. The work is intended to improve access and spawning habitat for both chinook, coho, and steelhead populations.

l. Rush Creek, Trinity County \$25,500.00

This is a cooperative project between the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and the Department of Fish and Game. Rush Creek is a medium sized, perennial stream tributary to the Trinity River that supports runs of steelhead trout, coho salmon and chinook salmon. Rush Creek is typical of many north state anadromous streams in that rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids is limited.

The objective of this project is to improve rearing habitat for juvenile steelhead and juvenile coho salmon, as well as to develop spawning habitat for salmonids in general. This will occur through the development of pool habitat and cover, and the collection and retention of suitable spawning gravels. The project area is located about 5 miles above the confluence with the Trinity River. Habitat improvement will take place through the use of instream structures. Up to 31 structures are planned. These include log weirs, log deflectors, boulder groups, "K" dams and log cover structures.

m. Butt Creek, Plumas County \$10,300.00

Butt Creek is a tributary to Butt Valley Reservoir. Headwaters within the project area have been impacted by grazing and timber harvest practices creating unstable banks. This has resulted in increased sedimentation to the stream and a loss of riparian vegetation and trout cover. The objectives of the project are to remove debris dams currently impacting streambank stability and serving as barriers to trout movement; reestablish riparian growth to enhance streambank stability, increase stream shading, and provide additional trout cover; and place log weirs and wing deflectors where appropriate to minimize bank erosion and provide trout cover.

To do this the Department proposes to remove two debris dams currently inhibiting fish passage and accelerating bank erosion; plant willow slips along two miles of streambank to increase bank stability and reestablish riparian vegetation; install approximately 20 log weirs and wing deflectors to minimize bank erosion, provide cover for trout and aid in the reestablishment of riparian vegetation; and construct one-half mile of electric fence to protect improvements and unstable banks.

n. Big Grizzly Creek, Plumas County \$18,000.00

Big Grizzly Creek is a heavily used spawning tributary for Lake Davis. Surveys in 1982 and 1983 indicate limited recruitment to the lake fishery from the spawning effort. A demonstration exclosure was built on Big Grizzly Creek in 1982. Gabion rock structures were installed in a portion of the exclosure in 1983 and significant improvement in water quality has been documented since.

The objective of the project is to improve spawning and rearing habitat for rainbow and brown trout by construction of loose rock structures in the creek. The stream has been downcut and presently has little suitable instream structure. Construction of the loose rock structures will check erosion, improve pool/riffle ratio and provide instream cover.

It is proposed that the Forest Service and contractor personnel will install seven or eight loose rock structures in the stream channel where head cutting and erosion has not been treated within the exclosure. Structures will average 30 cubic yards and will be lined with erosion filter cloth. Keyways will be tied into secure stream banks. Rocks will be obtained in local sources and installed by backhoe/front end loader. Forest Service personnel will supervise any contractor operation to insure proper stream bank and water quality protection.

Forest Service and Fish and Game personnel will monitor fish populations by electrofishing to compare with documented conditions in 1982.

o. Domingo and Willow Creeks, Plumas County \$11,000.00

Domingo and Willow Creeks are tributaries to the North Fork of the Feather River prior to its entry into Lake Almanor. Both streams have been adversely impacted by cattle grazing and road construction, activities which have contributed to unstable stream banks and the loss of riparian vegetation. Stream surveys indicate a poor pool to riffle ratio within the project area and general downward trend in habitat quality. These streams are in the immediate vicinity (1-2 miles) of three Forest Service campgrounds and two summer homesite developments and, thus, are heavily fished.

The Lassen National Forest in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Game is proposing to remove debris dams on Domingo and Willow Creeks, install four log weirs on Willow Creek and ten on Domingo Creek to improve pool/riffle ratio, increase trout cover, and improve quality of spawning gravels.

They will also plant willow slips to increase bank stability and stream shading along 3/4 mile of Domingo Creek and one mile of Willow Creek and install one mile of electric fence to exclude cattle from Willow Creek.

- p. Soldier Meadows Creek, Plumas County \$10,500.00

Soldier Meadows Creek is a tributary to Butt Creek and Butt Valley Reservoir. Livestock use along Soldier Meadows Creek has damaged stream banks and contributed to the loss of riparian vegetation. Stream surveys show poor pool/riffle ratios. This stream is heavily fished and readily accessible. Fish spawning in this stream contribute to the fishery in Butt Valley reservoir.

The Lassen National Forest in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Game is proposing to add to, and improve, electric fencing to exclude cattle from stream banks (one mile); plant willow slips along stream banks to increase stabilization, minimize erosion, and reestablish riparian vegetation and stream shading (3 - 5 acres); install approximately 20 log weirs to improve pool/riffle ratio, quality of spawning gravels, and trout cover.

- q. Camp Creek, El Dorado County \$5,600.00

A Department of Fish and Game and El Dorado National Forest project. This stretch of stream lies between the diversion of Camp Creek to Sly Park Reservoir and the mouth of Camp Creek at the confluence with the north fork of the Consumnes River. The work to be performed is intended to provide spawning and pool habitat for adult fish and would be accomplished by the placement of log weirs and boulder clusters in strategic places along the stream.

- r. Gerle Creek, El Dorado County \$3,900.00

This is a proposed cooperative project between DFG and El Dorado National Forest on Gerle Creek, a tributary to the south fork of the Rubicon River. The work to be performed on the stream consists of modification of a barrier to facilitate upstream spawning, and the placement of logs and boulders to increase spawning and rearing habitat for trout species, primarily the brown trout.

- s. Jones Fork Silver Creek, El Dorado County \$3,400.00

Another proposed cooperative project between DFG and El Dorado National Forest is on Jones Fork, a tributary to Silver Creek and a major spawning tributary to Union Valley Reservoir. The work proposed to be performed will consist of the placement of log weirs at various locations to create and enhance spawning opportunities. Primary fish species to be benefited are brown trout and kokanee salmon.

- t. Meeks Creek, El Dorado County \$6,000.00

This is a proposed El Dorado National Forest and DFG project intended to improve fish passage in Meeks Creek above, below, and through the old

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culvert under Hwy. 89 at Meeks Bay. This will help open up two miles of stream habitat for spawning lake-run rainbow and brown trout from Lake Tahoe. The project will involve installation of a gabion check dam downstream and a gabion wing deflector upstream to raise the level of a downstream pool and increase the depth of flows in the culvert. In addition, baffle-type structures will be installed in the culvert.

u. South Fork Silver Creek, El Dorado County \$4,200.00

This proposed cooperative project between DFG and El Dorado National Forest is on the South Fork of Silver Creek, tributary to Silver Creek which in turn is a tributary to the South Fork of the American River. It lies between Junction and Ice House reservoirs. The work to be performed is the placement of log weirs and boulder clusters to improve spawning habitat for rainbow and brown trout.

v. Little Truckee River, Nevada County \$56,500.00

This project is a proposed DFG and Tahoe National Forest cooperative effort. This area of concern is on the Little Truckee River beginning just below Stampede Reservoir and extending downstream for 1+ mile. The work will consist of placement of boulder clusters in the stream and the planting of willows along the bank. This will both scour pool areas and provide overhead cover and improve habitat for both resident fish and migratory fish from Boca Reservoir.

w. Pass Creek, Nevada County \$5,000.00

This is a proposed DFG and Tahoe National Forest project which will consist of removing a fish barrier on Pass Creek. The creek, which feeds Jackson Meadows Reservoir, presently has a barrier located just upstream from the reservoir. By removing this obstruction, spawning access to 10 miles of this stream will be made available to rainbow, brook and brown trout.

x. Blackwood Creek, Placer County \$45,000.00

This is a proposed U.S. Forest and DFG project on Blackwood Creek which is located on Lake Tahoe's west shore. The area of concern is 2+ miles upstream from the lake and will consist of restoring .5 mile of stream channel damaged by past gravel mining and improve another .5 mile of migratory rainbow trout spawning and rearing habitat. In addition, improvement of the current fish ladder is a part of the project.

y. Middle Fork Stanislaus River, Tuolumne County \$6,000.00

This is a cooperative project between the Stanislaus National Forest and the Department of Fish and Game. The middle fork of the Stanislaus River near Deadman Campground is one of the most heavily fished segments of river in that region. The river lacks natural cover needed to provide resting, hiding and feeding areas for rainbow trout. The objective of this project is to create improved habitat conditions that will also improve fishing success and enhance the public fishing experience by placing approximately 20 large boulder clusters at appropriate locations throughout this stretch of river.

It was the consensus of the Board members that the 25 projects listed should be considered as a consent calendar item, and the following action was then taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE 25 SALMON, STEELHEAD AND TROUT HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS LISTED; ALLOCATE A TOTAL OF \$742,000 THEREFOR FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND, AS DESIGNATED FOR STREAM RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

a.	Hurdygurdy Creek, Del Norte County	\$24,000.00
b.	Beaver Creek, Siskiyou County	25,000.00
c.	Elk Creek, Siskiyou County	13,000.00
d.	Grider Creek, Siskiyou County	17,500.00
e.	French Creek, Siskiyou County	3,600.00
f.	Shasta River Diversion Engineering, Siskiyou Co.	12,000.00
g.	Bluff Creek, Humboldt County	122,000.00
h.	Camp Creek, Humboldt County	33,000.00
i.	Redwood and Salmon Creeks, Humboldt County	82,000.00
j.	Red Cap Creek, Humboldt County	120,000.00
k.	Sprowl Creek, Humboldt County	79,000.00
l.	Rush Creek, Trinity County	25,500.00
m.	Butt Creek, Plumas County	10,300.00
n.	Big Grizzly Creek, Plumas County	18,000.00
o.	Domingo and Willow Creeks, Plumas County	11,000.00
p.	Soldier Meadows Creek, Plumas County	10,500.00
q.	Camp Creek, El Dorado County	5,600.00
r.	Gerle Creek, El Dorado County	3,900.00
s.	Jones Fork Silver Creek, El Dorado County	3,400.00
t.	Meeks Creek, El Dorado County	6,000.00
u.	South Fork Silver Creek, El Dorado County	4,200.00
v.	Little Truckee River, Nevada County	56,500.00
w.	Pass Creek, Nevada County	5,000.00
x.	Blackwood Creek, Placer County	45,000.00
y.	Middle Fork Stanislaus River, Tuolumne County	6,000.00

MOTION CARRIED.

15. Upper Butte Sink Wildlife Area, Butte County \$2,350,000.00

This proposal is to purchase a conservation easement over 2,300+ acres of land lying within Butte Sink for the preservation of interior wetlands for waterfowl habitat and other game and non-game species. Also to be considered is an option to purchase the underlying fee title to the acreage and the lease back of 620+ acres to the grantor to continue farming rice.

Mr. Giordano described the project and the property, known as "Schohr Ranch", which is located 13+ miles west of the town of Gridley, California, and 3+ miles north of DFG's Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. It has direct access

on the north from Princeton Road and on the south from Gridley Road, both paved county roads. The property contains 5+ miles of Butte Creek frontage and contains a large portion of Little Butte Creek, which only exists on the total Schohr Ranch (8,000+ acres total). The property contains no improvements but does have electrical service available.

The property has several biological attributes which make it desirable for fish and waterfowl and threatened and endangered species management. As mentioned, the property contains two creeks, Butte and Little Butte. It also contains several slough areas, large stands of native California oaks, cottonwoods, willows, berry vines, etc., comprising a rather large riparian area. Presently, the property contains about 25% natural wetlands, 50%+ in farmland left fallow which is in the process of returning to a natural wild state, while the remaining 25% is farmed.

Of the many wildlife values of the property, this portion of Butte Creek supports a good warmwater fishery and is a passageway for king salmon enroute to upstream spawning. The property is an excellent waterfowl winter ground and supports some waterfowl breeding. A variety of game and nongame species are supported by the property and it provides exceptional habitat for pheasant. Fox, deer, coyote, beaver, river otter, and racoon have all been observed on the property.

Mr. Schmidt continued that the property provides a wintering area for several hundred of the threatened sandhill crane. At least one breeding territory for the threatened Swainson's hawk is on the property and the threatened giant garter snake is expected to use the freshwater marsh as this species is known to occur in the Butte Basin. Riparian habitat along Butte Creek provides a migration corridor for the threatened yellow-billed cuckoo which breeds north of the property and the endangered bald eagle, peregrine falcon and Aleutian Canada goose have been observed on the property and use it in winter months. California hibiscus, listed as threatened by the Native Plant Society, occurs along Butte Creek within the area proposed for acquisition.

The Department can use and develop, in addition to the existing 25% wetland area, an additional 25% to 40% of seasonal wetland area by using Butte Creek water and water from what is termed the "100 ditch", to flood existing fallow area and harvested rice fields. Water availability is not a problem on this property. This would create an even larger waterfowl breeding and wintering area than currently exists.

If the remaining underlying fee title can be purchased in the future, it may be possible to incorporate consumptive uses such as fishing and high quality hunting. Non-consumptive uses could include boating, nature study and outdoor education. Should this be desirable, public access would pose no problem and parking areas and even a small boat launch could be constructed.

The property has been appraised for \$1,600 per acre (fee title) with the conservation easement valued at 75% of fee (\$1,200) per acre for farmable acreage and 25% (\$400) per acre for the existing wetland areas. If the State can exercise its option, the purchase price of the underlying fee would be the balance of the \$1,600 per acre value as applied to the two classifications. The owners have agreed to this condition.

This acquisition would be exempt from CEQA as an acquisition for wildlife habitat preservation and the property would be managed by the Department of Fish and Game. Funding is available for this acquisition from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve this purchase as proposed, allocate \$2,350,000 from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund, (\$2,000,000 from funds designated for interior wetlands and \$350,000 from funds designated for rare and endangered), and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned. He further noted that a letter of support has been received from the National Audubon Society for this item and the Los Banos Wildlife Area Expansion.

Mr. Gutierrez noted that this is by far the largest acquisition on the calendar, but noted its value as a wildlife area. He recommended that we continue to discuss the possibility of acquiring the additional values as it becomes available. Mr. Parnell asked about the cost to acquire the underlying fee title, and Mr. Schmidt advised that this would be about \$1.35 million.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR THE UPPER BUTTE SINK WILDLIFE AREA, BUTTE COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$2,350,000 FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND (\$2,000,000 FROM FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR INTERIOR WETLANDS AND \$350,000 FROM FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT), FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

16. Los Banos Wildlife Area Exp. #1 (Salt Slough), Merced Co.      \$1,725,000.00

This proposal is for the acquisition of a parcel of privately owned land in Merced County adjacent to the Los Banos Wildlife Area's north boundary. The Department of Fish and Game has recommended acquisition of a total of 2,258 acres from this ownership. However, because of funding limitations, this proposal is to acquire 1,329 acres of this ownership at this time. It is anticipated that a second phase of this proposal, containing 929 acres, will be presented to the Board at a future date as funding becomes available.

The Los Banos Wildlife Area is located in Merced County approximately five miles northeast of Los Banos. Mr. Howard Dick, Land Agent, described the area and indicated the different phases of this acquisition. The property involved in this proposal is bounded on the south by the wildlife area, on the west by Mud Slough, and on the north by Salt Slough, a tributary to the San Joaquin River. Access to the area is provided by Wolfsen Road which joins Highway 165 (Merced Springs Road) near the westerly boundary of the subject.

Key habitat types found within the proposed acquisition include riparian, seasonal wetlands, and improved and native pasture. Riparian habitat within the ranch is found along the courses of Salt Slough and Mud Slough, which flows out of the Los Banos Wildlife Area. These two sloughs provide the major source of water for the entire area. Salt Slough also acts as a major buffer to intensive agricultural activities. Vegetation along the course of these sloughs include round stem tule, willows and cottonwoods. Wildlife use and diversity within Salt and Mud Sloughs is excellent. Species of specific importance include the State-listed threatened Swainson's hawk and great horned owls, which actively nest in the area. Other avian species of importance occurring there include loggerhead shrike, willow flycatcher and yellowthroat, all sensitive species dependent upon this habitat type.

Seasonal wetlands, the second habitat type found on the area, accounts for 20% of the property as it is currently managed. This area is utilized for hunting and cattle grazing, which has provided historical vegetation control. Principal plant species found in this habitat type include swamp timothy, spikerush, jointgrass, tule and cattail. Wet areas are dispersed throughout this habitat, separated by native grassland. The major wildlife use of the wetlands is by migratory fowl, both game and non-game species. Principal waterfowl species include geese, mallards, green-winged teal and American widgeon. Non-game species include shorebirds, white-faced ibis and greater and lesser sandhill cranes. (Greater are State-listed as threatened.) Cranes and geese use the wetlands as roost sites. Some nesting by ducks and pheasants occurs during the summer, however, predation has limited the success of this use.

Improved and native pasture are the largest vegetative communities on the ranch. The vegetation consists of a mix of introduced and native grasses and forbs, as well as stands of alkali sacaton, a bunch grass native to the valley. Both grassland types have had a long history of intensive grazing which has helped maintain the short grazed character of the area.

Wildlife specifically benefiting from the grassland community include: Pacific white-fronted geese, Ross and snow geese, cackling Canada geese and Aleutian Canada geese, the latter of which is Federally-listed as endangered. Sandhill cranes also utilize this habitat heavily during the winter months. Both geese and cranes forage in the upland grassland and use the adjacent seasonal marsh as roosting sites.

The grassland community is also known to be important to the endangered San Joaquin kit fox. At least one active den is known to exist on the nearby San Luis National Wildlife Refuge.

Migratory wildlife use of the area generally occurs from mid-August through late March each year and includes use by ducks, geese and shorebirds. Populations peak at approximately 15,000 ducks and 10,000 to 15,000 geese. This property is considered a very important grazing area for geese. Sandhill crane use exceeds 1500 birds while over 200 white-faced ibis also use this area annually. The improved and native pasture area provides for ground-nesting birds -- primarily duck and pheasant. The riparian area also provides for nesting and roosting raptors.

A key consideration for this acquisition is the quality and quantity of water available in Salt Slough for management purposes. Existing rights to divert water from Salt Slough will be transferred with the property proportionate to the area acquired. The Department of Fish and Game intends to manage the area primarily as seasonal wetlands. Permanent ponds would not exceed 50 acres. In reality, nearly the entire acquisition area could be restored to wetlands. However, a management plan will probably see a portion of the higher ground maintained as goose pasture and most of the lower areas irrigated in the spring to produce duck food, left dry during the summer, and flooded in the fall for waterfowl use. Management would encourage native marsh species through water control.

Public use programs could be similar to existing activities already allowed on State wildlife areas. Hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, sightseeing and nature study are all available. It is believed that public hunting values for ducks, geese and pheasants will be exceptionally good, and the concentrations of waterfowl, sandhill crane and other non-game wildlife will attract large numbers of bird watchers during the winter and spring. The fact that the area is contiguous with the Los Banos Wildlife Area will facilitate wildlife and public use management. The existing staff at the wildlife area should be able to maintain hunting and non-hunting public use programs on the area without additional manpower.

The proposed acquisition is within Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions from CEQA requirements. Class 13 consists of the acquisition of lands for fish and wildlife conservation purposes, including 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.

The owners have agreed to sell the land to the State at the appraised fair market value of \$1,709,600. An additional \$15,400 is estimated to be needed for related acquisition costs such as appraisals, title insurance, surveys and related processing costs which bring the total allocation necessary to an estimated \$1,725,000.

Acquisition of this area will also secure an option to the State to acquire the remaining 929 acres of this ownership which as noted earlier has been proposed by DFG. The appraised value of the second phase is \$1,453,300 and the option would need to be exercised no later than October, 1987. Staff will plan to present this second phase of the acquisition for Board consideration at a future meeting as funding becomes available.

Mr. Schmidt recommended that the Board approve the acquisition of Phase 1 of this project, allocate \$1,725,000 from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund (\$1,622,500 from funds designated for interior wetlands and \$102,500 from funds designated for rare and endangered species habitat), and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned. He noted that the National Audubon Society has written a letter in support of this proposal and that Mr. Ed Smith from the regional office was present to respond to questions from the Board.

The question of whether this area, because of its proximity to Kesterson Reservoir, would have a selenium problem was brought up, and Mr. Ed Smith responded that Salt Slough is free of this contaminant. He elaborated that the drain waters into the area from the San Joaquin River is selenium-free. The Chairman asked for further discussion or input from the audience, and as there was none, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR PHASE 1 OF THE LOS BANOS WILDLIFE AREA EXPANSION #1 (SALT SLOUGH), MERCED COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$1,725,000 FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND (\$1,622,500 FROM FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR INTERIOR WETLANDS AND \$102,500 FROM FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT), FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

17. Wilson Valley Wildlife Area, Expansion #1, Lake County \$405,000.00

This proposal is for the acquisition of 500+ acres adjoining the Wilson Valley Wildlife Area, which is situated about 7 miles east of Clear Lake.

In the 1970's the Department recommended WCB acquisition of this valley property, which is generally surrounded by U.S. Bureau of Land Management properties and is traversed by Cache Creek. The recommended acquisition originally consisted of 2,400+ acres of critical habitat for resident tule elk and wintering and feeding areas for bald and golden eagles. The key habitat types within this ownership are the grassland glades associated with large valley oaks and the riparian vegetation along the Creek. Because of the property's importance to tule elk and to the State and federally-listed endangered bald eagles, its protection has been considered to be of statewide and even national significance.

In 1985 the Board approved the purchase of 840 acres. That transaction, combined with BIM trades of other lands, resulted in placing nearly the entire 2,400 acres in contiguous public ownership and protection. The BIM and the Department have entered into management agreements for this area providing for controlled public access and recreational use, managed with the primary purpose of the endangered species habitat preservation in mind.

Mr. Sarro provided the Board members a review of these previous acquisitions, indicating the various purchases on a map that was displayed at the meeting.

The particular property under consideration in the present proposal consists of four parcels in one 500-acre block lying westerly and adjacent to the WCB's earlier acquisition. It contains about three-fourths of a mile of frontage on both sides of the North Fork of Cache Creek and more than a full mile of frontage on State Highway 20. About half of the property is grassland glade habitat with large valley oaks. The remainder is uplands

with oak grasslands and chapparal slopes. As with the previously acquired property, the habitat is used by resident tule elk and is a key wintering and feeding area for golden and bald eagles. In addition, the highway frontage affords excellent access to the existing wildlife area for the Department and BIM as well as for such public uses as may be found to be desirable and compatible with the wildlife use of the area. The glades in the vicinity of the Creek could be improved with planting of initial herbaceous vegetation to further benefit wildlife.

The primary threat to this habitat has been continuing interest of developers for geothermal and other mining operations, particularly gravel operations. Any such developments would, of course, negatively impact the integrity of the adjacent wildlife area and greatly reduce the wildlife uses of the subject property. The Department has placed a high priority on this acquisition as well as two other remaining inholdings in the wildlife area which consist of 200+ acres. Staff has been asked to investigate those sites as future funding may permit.

The subject property has been appraised for \$440,000 and has been offered to the State for the total purchase price of \$400,000 (\$40,000 donation). Because of the potential for multiple-uses of this property, staff suggests split funding, utilizing both the Wildlife Restoration Fund and the Environmental License Plate Fund. Closing and Department of General Services review costs are estimated to be \$5,000.

The project is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions and, as indicated, management would be under the DFG's overall management program for the area in cooperation with the U.S. BLM.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the Board approve this acquisition, allocate \$200,000 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund and \$205,000 from the Environmental License Plate Fund to cover the purchase price and costs, and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Parnell noted that there was a private ownership in the area. Since the tule elk could be a problem in the future for the owner of the inholding, he expressed a desire for staff to have discussion proceed with the owner in an effort to acquire that parcel. Mr. Sarro stated that there is a recommendation from Department staff to proceed with negotiations for this parcel.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. GUTIERREZ THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR THE WILSON VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA EXPANSION #1, LAKE COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$200,000 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND AND \$205,000 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE FUND TO COVER THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

18. Other Business

a. Resolution honoring Brian Kahn

Mr. Schmidt submitted the following resolution for enactment by the Board:

WHEREAS, Mr. Brian Kahn's term as Chairman of the Wildlife Conservation Board and President of the Fish and Game Commission expired on January 15, 1987; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kahn, as an attorney, writer and a truly concerned conservationist filled a unique need and position on the Board in his capacity as Chairman and as an interested and concerned citizen; and

WHEREAS, It is the desire of the Board to gratefully acknowledge his contributions to the work of the Board; Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Interim Committee, and the Board staff express our appreciation to Mr. Kahn for his leadership, guidance, and interest in the work of the Board during his term as Chairman; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we convey to him our desires to see him continue in his leadership, counsel and support for wildlife resources conservation; and be it further

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

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PARNELL THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED BY THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD AND THAT A SUITABLE COPY BE PROVIDED MR. KAHN.

MOTION CARRIED.

b. Bond Sales

Mr. Schmidt advised that there is a problem in the sale of bonds at this time. As of this meeting, the Board will not have any more 1984 bond monies to spend, even though we still have some funding in the current budget. There is a question as to when the bonds will be sold or whether they will be sold, and he wished to alert the Board members of this problem. He wanted to get concurrence of the Board that staff should continue to work on the projects, have Board meetings, and any projects from that funding source would be approved contingent upon funds being made available. There was no objection to this procedure.

Mr. Gutierrez, for the benefit of Assemblyman Waters who was present, advised that there were two bills by Assemblyman Roos that would attempt to restructure the California statutes relative to bond sales. Presently, the

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State of California cannot sell the bonds and deposit it in the traditional sense. The Treasurer's office is working with the Department of Finance and others to try to find a way to restructure California operations to conform with federal standards. Until that happens, there is serious doubt that we have the mechanical ability to sell bonds and deposit the proceeds from those bonds. One of the options was to use General Fund monies until such time as the bonds are sold; however, this ties up General Fund cash. There are a number of questions that have surfaced in the past two months which spoke to the issue that there is need to restructure our process for bond sales. The only two vehicles to accomplish these objectives are AB 350 and AB 55 by Assemblyman Roos. Mr. Gutierrez wanted Assemblyman Waters to be aware of these bills.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectively submitted,



W. John Schmidt  
Executive Officer

PROGRAM STATEMENT

At the close of the meeting on March 3, 1987, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947 totaled \$125,799,432.15. 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, the Pittman-Robertson Program, and the Estuarine Sanctuary Program.

The statement includes projects completed under the 1964 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act, the 1970 Recreation and Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Bond Fund, the Bagley Conservation Fund, the 1974 Bond Act, the General Fund, and the Energy Resources Fund. Projects funded under the 1976 Bond Act will be included in this statement after completion of this program.

a.	Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects .....	\$16,038,501.65
b.	Fish Habitat Development .....	7,288,580.68
	1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement .	\$2,990,821.39
	2. Stream Clearance and Improvement .....	1,793,087.44
	3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams .....	500,503.32
	4. Marine Habitat .....	646,619.07
	5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	1,357,549.46
c.	Fishing Access Projects .....	26,749,828.64
	1. Coastal and Bay .....	\$2,493,360.61
	2. River and Aqueduct Access .....	6,032,205.69
	3. Lake and Reservoir Access .....	5,412,971.54
	4. Piers .....	12,811,290.80
d.	Game Farm Projects .....	146,894.49
e.	Wildlife Habitat Acq., Development & Improvement Projects ..	68,957,702.40
	1. Wildlife Areas (General) .....	54,837,446.43
	2. Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Dev. ...	1,395,503.09
	3. Wildlife Areas/EcoReserves, (Rare & Endangered) .....	12,724,752.88
f.	Hunting Access .....	546,069.66
g.	Miscellaneous Projects .....	5,757,550.77
h.	Special Project Allocations .....	314,303.86
i.	Miscellaneous Public Access Projects .....	-
	Total Allocated to Projects .....	\$125,799,432.15