

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

1416 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

445-8448



State of California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Wildlife Conservation Board

Minutes, Meeting of February 23, 1989

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State of California
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WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

Minutes, Meeting of February 23, 1989

Pursuant to the call of the Acting Chairman Robert Bryant, the Wildlife Conservation Board met in Room 2040 of the State Capitol, Sacramento, California, on February 23, 1989. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

1. Roll Call

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Robert A. Bryant, President	Acting Chairman
	Fish and Game Commission	
	Paul Jensen, Deputy Director	Member, vice Pete Bontadelli
	Department of Fish and Game	
	Dr. Andrea Tuttle,	
	Vice Senator Barry Keene	Joint Interim Committee
	Edna Maita,	
	Vice Assemblyman Jim Costa	" " "
	Rick Battson,	
	Vice Assemblyman Phillip Isenberg	" " "

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

<u>STAFF PRESENT:</u>	W. John Schmidt	Executive Officer
	Alvin G. Rutsch	Assist. Executive Officer
	Clyde S. Edon	Field Agent
	Jim Sarro	Chief Land Agent
	Howard Dick	Land Agent
	Frank Giordano	Land Agent
	Georgia Lipphardt	Land Agent
	Marylyn Gzyms	Staff Services Analyst
	Sylvia Gude	Staff Services Analyst
	Sandy Daniel	Executive Secretary
	Janice Beeding	Office Technician

<u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u>	Chris Chandler	Assemblyman
	Rick Dunne	Senator David Roberti
	Dale Whitmore	Dept. of Fish & Game
	Chuck Graves	Dept. of Fish & Game
	Deveraux George	Citizen
	Fred Morawcznski	Yuba Co. Administrator
	Nadine Ohliger	Citizen
	Bob Thomas	City Government
	John Merz	Sac. River Pres. Trust
	Charles Engstrom	Rod & Gun Club

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Marjie & David Owen
Allan Kane
John Donnelly
Jim Messersmith
Paul Hubbell
Richard Spotts
Bill Brown
Dan O'Connell
William Waite
Ed Hague
Marie Robertson
Thomas Mills
Lauralee Mercum

Citizens
Citizen
Dept. of Fish & Game
Dept. of Fish & Game
Dept. of Fish & Game
Defenders of Wildlife
U.S. Forest Service
Yuba Co. Assessor
Colusa Co. Supervisor
Citizen
Citizen
Trust for Public Land
Garnett News Service

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes of the November 15, 1988, meeting of the Wildlife Conservation Board was recommended.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 1988, MEETING OF THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Funding Status as of February 23, 1989 (Information Only)

(a) 1988/89 Wildlife Restoration Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget - Land Acquisitions	\$1,730,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-1,089,319.43
Unallocated Balance	\$ 640,680.57
 Governor's Budget - Minor Projects	 \$1,250,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	- 713,400.00
Unallocated Balance	\$ 536,600.00

(b) 1987/88 Wildlife Restoration Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget - Land Acquisitions - Eco Reserves..	\$1,000,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-805,000.00
Unallocated Balance	\$ 195,000.00
 Governor's Budget - Land Acquisitions	 \$ 417,000.00
Less previous Board allocations.....	-417,000.00
Unallocated Balance.....	\$ -0-

(c) 1986/87 Wildlife Restoration Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget - Land Acquisitions	\$1,000,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-1,000,000.00
Unallocated Balance	\$ -0-

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(d) 1988/89 Environmental License Plate Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget -	\$3,292,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	- 936,737.92
Unallocated Balance	\$2,355,262.08

(e) 1986/87 Environmental License Plate Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget/Chapter 1489	\$1,000,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-1,000,000.00
Unallocated Balance	\$ -0-

(f) 1988/89 Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget	\$3,434,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-1,425,773.81
Unallocated Balance	\$2,008,226.19

(g) 1987/88 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget	\$14,000,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-13,779,106.17
Unallocated Balance	\$ 220,893.83

(h) 1986/87 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget	\$12,165,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-12,150,308.50
Unallocated Balance	\$ 14,691.50

(i) 1985/86 Parklands Fund Capital Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget	\$ 5,000,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-4,667,187.91
Unallocated Balance	\$ 332,812.09

(j) 1988/89 Wildlife & Natural Areas Conservation Fund Capitol Outlay Budget

Governor's Budget	\$10,500,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	-0-
Unallocated Balance	\$10,500,000.00

(k) 1988/89 California Wildlife, Coastal & Park Land Conservation Fund

Direct appropriation to the Wildlife Conservation Board	\$81,300,000.00
Less previous Board allocations	- 9,500,000.00
Unallocated Balance	\$71,800,000.00

RECAP OF FUND BALANCES

<u>Wildlife Restoration Fund</u>	
Acquisition	\$ 835,680.57
Minor Development	\$ 536,600.00
Environmental License Plate Fund	\$ 2,355,262.08
1984 Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement	\$ 2,243,811.52
Parklands Fund of 1984	\$ 332,812.09
<u>California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land</u>	
Conservation Fund of 1988	\$71,800,000.00
Wildlife & Natural Areas Conservation Fund	\$10,500,000.00

4. Recovery of Funds

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Hope Valley, Alpine County project was added to the recovery totals listed below.

The following 23 projects previously authorized by the Board have balances of funds that can be recovered and returned to the various funds. It is recommended that the total amount of \$93,964.00 be recovered to the Wildlife Restoration Fund; \$705,201.03 be recovered to the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund; and \$2,219.80 be recovered to the Environmental License Plate Fund; and \$3,539.00 be recovered to the Parklands Fund of 1984; and \$1,352,465.00 be recovered to the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988; and the projects be closed.

CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988

Hope Valley, Alpine County

Allocation	\$4,000,000.00
Expended	-3,147,535.00
Fish & Game Mitigation	+ 500,000.00
Balance for Recovery	\$1,352,465.00

Total California Wildlife, Coastal & Park Land
Fund Recoveries \$1,352,465.00

WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND

Kerman Ecological Reserve Expansion #1, ^{Fresno} Kern County

Allocation	\$490,000.00
Expended	-486,116.50
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,883.50

Petaluma Marsh, Rush Creek, Marin County

Allocation	\$80,000.00
Expended	- 121.00
Balance for Recovery	\$79,879.00

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Tidelands Park Public Fishing Access, San Luis Obispo County

Allocation	\$ 8,900.00
Expended	- 8,900.00
Balance for Recovery	-0-

Wilson Valley WLA Expansion #2, Lake County

Allocation	\$ 48,000.00
Expended	-41,257.50
Balance for Recovery	\$ 6,742.50

Wilson Valley WLA Expansion #3, Lake County

Allocation	\$47,000.00
Expended	-43,541.00
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,459.00

Total Wildlife Restoration Fund Recoveries \$ 93,964.00

FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND

Beaver Creek, Siskiyou County

Allocation	\$25,000.00
Expended	-25,000.00
Balance for Recovery	-0-

Blackwood Creek, Placer County

Allocation	\$45,000.00
Expended	-19,340.69
Balance for Recovery	\$25,659.31

Dairy Mart Ponds, San Diego County

Allocation	\$430,000.00
Expended	-422,426.50
Balance for Recovery	\$ 7,573.50

Elk Creek, Siskiyou County

Allocation	\$13,000.00
Expended	-10,757.10
Balance for Recovery	\$ 2,242.90

French Creek, Siskiyou County

Allocation	\$3,600.00
Expended	-2,681.03
Balance for Recovery	\$ 918.97

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Grizzly Island WLA-Goodyear Slough Unit, Solano County

Allocation	\$405,000.00
Expended	-395,793.30
Balance for Recovery	\$ 9,206.70

Lake Earl WLA-Old Mill Pond Addition, Del Norte County

Allocation	\$55,000.00
Expended	-41,981.00
Balance for Recovery	\$13,019.00

Little French Creek, Trinity County

Allocation	\$2,300.00
Expended	-2,300.00
Balance for Recovery	-0-

Montague Pumps Fish Screen, Siskiyou County

Allocation	\$14,000.00
Expended	-10,863.00
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,137.00

Prairie Creek Barrier, Trinity County

Allocation	\$12,600.00
Expended	-12,497.45
Balance for Recovery	\$ 102.55

San Dieguito Lagoon/Scripps Bluff, San Diego County

Allocation	\$160,000.00
Expended	-0-
Balance for Recovery	\$160,000.00

San Jacinto WLA Expansion #4, Riverside County

Allocation	\$1,235,000.00
Expended	-1,224,461.60
Balance for Recovery	\$ 10,538.40

Swede Creek Passage, Trinity County

Allocation	\$2,200.00
Expended	-2,168.20
Balance for Recovery	\$ 31.80

Upper Butte Sink WLA, Butte County

Allocation	\$5,200,000.00
Expended	-5,112,079.40
Balance for Recovery	\$ 87,920.60

Woodbridge Ecological Reserve Expansion #1, San Joaquin County

Allocation	\$384,850.30
Expended	-0-
Balance for Recovery	\$384,850.30

Total Fish & Wildlife Hab. Enhancement Recoveries \$705,201.03

ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE FUND

Desert Tortoise Natural Area Expansion #2, Kern County

Allocation	\$40,000.00
Expended	-37,780.20
Balance for Recovery	\$ 2,219.80

Total Environmental License Plate Fund Recoveries \$2,219.80

PARKLANDS FUND OF 1984

Ash Creek WLA Public Access, Lassen County

Allocation	\$20,000.00
Expended	-16,461.00
Balance for Recovery	\$ 3,539.00

Total Parklands Fund Recoveries \$3,539.00

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD RECOVER FUNDS FROM THE PROJECTS LISTED ON PAGES 4-7 AND CLOSE THE PROJECT ACCOUNTS. RECOVERY TOTALS SHALL INCLUDE THE SUM OF \$93,964.00 BE RECOVERED TO THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; \$705,201.03 BE RECOVERED TO THE 1984 FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND; \$2,219.80 BE RECOVERED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE FUND; \$3,539.00 BE RECOVERED TO THE PARKLANDS FUND OF 1984; AND \$1,352,465.00 BE RECOVERED TO THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Hermosa Beach Fishing Pier, Los Angeles County \$30,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated that the City of Hermosa Beach had requested WCB funding to help repair the Hermosa Beach Pier which was damaged by a major storm last winter. The pier was constructed in 1963 with matching City and WCB funds under the Board's fishing pier program.

Mr. Al Rutsch described the project. The Hermosa Beach Pier has, over the years, provided ocean fishing opportunities to millions of residents and visitors in the greater Los Angeles area. The city reported the pier received 255,500 visitor days use in 1987. The repair work as proposed herein is considered essential to the continued safe public use of the pier

and if not done soon the best part of the pier for fishing may have to be closed.

Except for the extreme outer end which is fenced off for safety reasons, the pier has remained open to public use. This pier has, in fact, withstood some severe storms in recent years during which many southern California piers were partially destroyed or badly damaged.

The city has applied for and received approval for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds. WCB funds would be matched by the city and together will cover the portion of repair costs not reimbursed by FEMA. A storm damage report prepared by the city's consulting engineers estimated the total repair cost at \$150,000.

The scope of the work as recommended in the engineers report consists of realigning the last bent of the pier which was knocked out of position and repairing all seven concrete support piles in this bent, together with the repair of the concrete pile cap. This will restore the structural integrity and assure a continued long life for this pier.

The cost estimate provided by the city is summarized as follows:

Pier repair, including preliminary engr., design, construction & inspection.....	\$139,950
Contingency, 13 1/2%	18,606
Subtotal	\$158,556
FEMA reimbursement	- 99,556
Total Project (City/WCB)	\$ 59,000
WCB share, 50%	29,500
Administrative WCB costs	500
Total Allocation	\$30,000

The city has adopted a resolution supporting this proposal and agreeing to provide the matching funds as described above, and will continue its responsibilities for operation and maintenance of the pier for public fishing purposes pursuant to its cooperative agreement with the Department of Fish and Game. The city has also determined that this pier repair activity is exempt from CEQA and has filed a Notice of Exemption as required by law.

Staff recommended the Board approve the Hermosa Beach Fishing Pier repair on a matching fund basis as proposed; allocate \$30,000.00 therefor, including costs, from the Wildlife Restoration Fund; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE REPAIRS AT THE HERMOSA BEACH FISHING PIER, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, ON A MATCHING FUND BASIS WITH THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$30,000.00 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Port Hueneme Fishing Pier, Ventura County \$200,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated that the City of Port Hueneme had requested WCB funds to renovate the Port Hueneme Pier, a cooperative fishing pier project constructed with City and WCB matching funds in 1967.

Mr. Al Rutsch described the project. The pier, located on Willard Way near the city center, is the only such structure between Malibu and Ventura. It draws visitors from a large regional area and has always provided excellent fishing. The city reported it received 82,185 visitor days of use in 1987.

The original cooperative agreement between the City and Department has now expired, but the City has adopted a resolution affirming the City's willingness to renew its long term contractual commitment for the pier operation and maintenance, as well as to match any WCB allocation and provide unmatched funds for the balance of project costs.

The original project consisted of a 1,000 foot long extension to an old wooden pier which had sanded in as the beach gradually expanded. Basically, this proposal is to reconstruct the old pier approach section. The pier extension constructed in 1967 is still sound and will require only minor repair.

A pier inspection report prepared by City's consulting engineers in 1987 identified the "old" section as bents 1 through 27 and the "new" section as bents 34 to 96. Bents 28 to 33 comprise a transition between the old & new sections. The report recommends a solid fill to bent 15 as this is above the high tide line, with new pressure-treated wood construction from bent 15 to the "new" section.

The total cost estimate is based on \$21,000 per bent for the 27 bents in the original pier, or \$567,000. This includes the cost of making any minor repairs on the newer pier section. If approved, the city will bid out the repair work and administer the construction contract by agreement with the Department.

The City has determined that the proposed renovation and repair of the existing structure is exempt from CEQA and has filed a Notice of Exemption in accordance with the Act.

The reconstruction of the pier approach is essential for safe public access to the pier for fishing purposes or other recreation, as well as to allow maintenance vehicles to get on the pier for emergencies or repair work.

Upon evaluation of the past & continued benefits of the project, staff recommended that the Board approve the Port Hueneme Fishing Pier renovation and repair as proposed; allocate \$200,000.00 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from Assemblyman Jack O'Connell.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE RENOVATION AND REPAIR OF THE PORT HUENEME FISHING PIER, VENTURA COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$200,000.00 THEREFOR FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Simms Flat Fishing Access, Shasta County \$33,000.00

MR. SCHMIDT STATED THAT THIS ITEM HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN BECAUSE THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE HAD LOCATED HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS IN THE PROPOSED PATHWAY. THE ITEM MAY BE RE-PRESENTED AT A LATER DATE AFTER PROPER PROTECTION IS IDENTIFIED OR A NEW TRAIL ROUTE IS IDENTIFIED.

This was a proposal from the Shasta-Trinity National Forest for construction of a "barrier-free" fishing access trail on the upper Sacramento River. The project site is the Forest Service Simms Flat Campground, about 10 miles south of Dunsmuir. It is 1/4 mile east of I-5 and easily reached by a paved access road from the freeway.

8. Juanita Lake Fishing Access, Siskiyou County \$17,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated that this proposal, submitted by the Klamath National Forest, was to construct a fishing access trail at Juanita Lake, an existing WCB project near Butte Valley Wildlife Area in northern Siskiyou County.

Mr. Rutsch described the project. The 60 acre lake was developed in 1964 when the Board provided funds to construct two small dams to create the new lake, and in 1985 additional funds were allocated to riprap the dams to meet Department of Water Resources dam safety requirements. The Forest Service provides annual maintenance of the area under a Special Use Permit to Fish & Game and has developed a campground at the lake.

The Department supports this proposal, noting that improvements for handicapped fishing access is being encouraged throughout the state. The Department also recognizes that these improvements will be maintained by the Forest Service (Goosenest Ranger District) at no cost to the state.

The lake contains a variety of sport fish including bass and various species of trout. It is easily accessible over good roads and receives about 5700 visitor days of use annually. The lake shore is gentle but mostly soft or rocky and therefor inaccessible to the physically disabled.

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The present proposal is the first step in a Forest Service plan to put a paved, barrier-free trail around the entire lake, a distance of approximately 7140 feet. This initial phase calls for the construction of just 1912 feet of the trail, two fishing platforms extending into the lake and modification of one restroom for handicapped users. The cost of this work as submitted by the Forest Service, including Forest Service contributions, is as follows:

Restroom modification	\$ 5,000.00
Handicapped access trail	17,000.00
Fishing platforms	3,000.00
Subtotal	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
Contingency & WCB Costs	1,000.00
Total	<u>\$26,000.00</u>
Forest Service Contribution	<u>- 9,000.00</u>
Allocation	<u>\$17,000.00</u>

The Forest Service has filed a Notice of Categorical Exclusion upon a finding that this will be a minor activity requiring no environmental review. A Notice of Management Intent has also been submitted to confirm the Forest Service intent to enter into the necessary agreements with the Department as required by WCB.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the Juanita Lake Fishing Access improvements as proposed; allocate \$17,000.00 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association.

Mr. Bryant asked if there were plans to extend the trail all the way around the lake and Mr. Schmidt stated that there were plans but how far it might extend was not known at this time.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE IMPROVEMENTS AT JUANITA LAKE, SISKIYOU COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$17,000.00 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. Valencia Lagoon Ecological Reserve Expansion, Santa Cruz County \$8,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated this proposal was for the acquisition of a 0.25+ acre vacant lot located within the critical habitat area of the state and federally listed "endangered" Santa Cruz long-toed salamander. It is in the area where the Department initially began acquisition in 1973, using Environmental License Plate Funds. The property is located in the Aptos area southerly of Highway 1. Specifically, it is located on the south side of Loma Prieta Drive near the Rio Del Mar Blvd. off ramp, approximately 8 miles easterly of downtown Santa Cruz. The neighborhood of the subject property is in a transition from "summer cabin" type use to good quality single family residence, a change which could have a very severe impact on the continued survival of the salamander in this area.

In 1973, the Department utilized Environmental License Plate Funds to acquire the adjacent 2.5+ acre breeding pond which was, at the time, threatened with destruction by private development. That acquisition was the top priority in the very first year of appropriations of license plate funds for the purchase of rare and endangered species habitat. Over the years, the Department has used ELPF monies to purchase 14 additional parcels, all being potentially developable lots on the hillside above the pond, to assure preservation of the habitat used by this species on a year-round basis except for the breeding season. The salamanders live among the roots of trees and shrubs and are totally reliant on this type of habitat for their continued existence.

Mr. Jim Sarro described the parcel and the overall project. The subject property is the Department of Fish and Game's most recent proposal for inclusion in the reserve. The parcel could be classified as a difficult one to develop, primarily because of its location on a rather steep portion of the hillside. However, as lots in the surrounding vicinity are developed and the remaining vacant sites become more scarce, there is little doubt that the development of these remaining lots, though difficult, will become much more economically feasible.

The owner of the subject property has offered it to the state for inclusion of the preserve for the purchase price of \$6,600.00. Staff has requested Department of General Services' confirmation of the price as being well within fair market value, and this confirmation is expected to be received prior to the Board's meeting date. Prices of similarly situated lots in the critical habitat area, even without building permits have ranged between \$18,000 and \$32,000 in the last few years. In addition to the \$6,600 purchase price, staff estimates the closing and administrative expense to be about \$1,400.00. Mr. Schmidt stated that the Department of Fish and Game has highly recommended this acquisition, as well as others in the future.

Funding is available for this purchase in the Wildlife Restoration Fund, a portion of which was specifically designated for acquisition of Ecological Reserves. The acquisition is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes. The property would be included in and managed as part of the Department's existing ecological reserve.

Staff recommended that the Board approve this acquisition as proposed; allocate \$8,000.00 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund, as designated for Ecological Reserves, to cover the purchase price and costs; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife which was passed around to the Board members.

Mr. Jim Sarro added that confirmation had been received that the value was well in excess of \$12,000.00.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE VALENCIA LAGOON ECOLOGICAL RESERVE EXPANSION, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$8,000.00 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND, AS DESIGNATED FOR ECOLOGICAL RESERVES, TO COVER THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. Collins Lake WLA, Phase I, Yuba County \$730,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated that this proposal was for the acquisition of 720+ acres of land and to secure an option to purchase an additional 1595+ acres of land for the preservation of deer winter range and winter range for the federal and state listed endangered bald eagle.

Mr. Frank Giordano described the property and its location. The property is located in Yuba County approximately 20 miles northeast of the city of Marysville. It lies adjacent to Collins Lake, a man-made reservoir which lies between the 700-1900 foot elevation. The property seldom receives snow, making it attractive to large numbers of waterfowl which winter along the shore, and provide a dependable food source for the bald eagles from November through March. At present, hundreds of ducks, Canada geese and 2 to 5 bald eagles winter here and concentrate their activities to the eastern shore because of the intensive human activity on the western shore. Three bald eagles wintered here during the winter of 1987-88 and others have been observed for many years. There are also bass, bluegill, catfish and planted trout in Collins Lake which provide an additional important bald eagle food source.

Deer herd composition counts have been done on or adjacent to each of these properties. It is common to classify over 150 deer in a 2 hour evening count. It is estimated that the area winters approximately 900 deer. A portion of the area is on a west facing slope overlooking Collins Lake. The habitat can be described as a mixture of Interior Live Oak and Blue Oak Woodlands. Buckbrush (Ceanothus cuneatus) is the dominant shrub species and

is heavily browsed by deer. Redbud (Cercis occidentalis), coffeeberry (Rhamnus californica) and manzanita (Arctostaphylos) are also common shrub species making up an often dense shrub understory.

Other land in this proposal is a variable woodland often dominated by blue oak and scattered digger pine on the south slopes. North slopes usually contain a heavy growth of live oak, coffeeberry and toyon. Buckbrush is common and is heavily utilized by deer.

In addition, a portion of Dry Creek, a perennial stream maintained throughout the summer with water from Collins Lake, is located on the property. Dry Creek, the Brown's Valley Irrigation District (BVID) ditch and numerous springs and seeps provide excellent habitat for turkeys, quail, pigeons and other abundant game and nongame species. Because of the abundance of turkeys, this ranch has been used by the Department as a trapping site for its turkey relocation program. Great Blue Herons are often seen feeding along the creeks.

The riparian habitat of the lower area is watered by a BVID ditch. Approximately 70 acres of ground is irrigated by inexpensive, gravity flow water. Two springs also provide water for turkeys, quail and other wildlife.

Hunting and non-consumptive uses would be allowed as long as they did not interfere with the wintering bald eagles. Deer hunting would be the most popular activity. Since deer hunting, a potential use of this area, ends before the bald eagles arrive for the winter, there is not expected to be a conflict. Quail and turkey hunters hunting the uplands would not create a disturbance to the eagles. There is no waterfowl hunting as the shoreline is owned by BVID and hunting is not allowed on its property.

Currently there is a dirt road being used by the public to illegally trespass this property. That road would be closed and a parking lot established adjacent to Road 270. Restricting the area to foot traffic only will not only reduce disturbance to the bald eagles but will also reduce harassment of the deer and other wildlife by vehicles and improve the quality of hunting.

The present threat to the area is the development of 15 to 20 acre home sites. Much of the general area is already subdivided and plans are being made to subdivide further. If the development continues, it will most likely result in abandonment of the area by the bald eagle and greatly limit or eliminate the wintering area for deer.

The approved fair market value of the area proposed for acquisition is \$720,000. The option to purchase is for \$1,595,000, which is market value of the remaining area proposed for possible future Board approval. An additional \$10,000 is estimated to cover the costs of appraisal, escrow, closing and administrative charges of Phase I, bringing the total needed allocation to \$730,000. This project is exempt from CEQA as an acquisition of land for habitat preservation purposes.

Staff recommended that the Board approve this acquisition, together with an option to acquire the additional area, as proposed; allocate \$730,000.00 from the Wildlife Restoration Fund; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife.

Mr. Schmidt announced two gentlemen had requested the opportunity to speak. He then introduced Mr. Fred Morawcznski, County Administrator from the County of Yuba, as the first speaker.

Mr. Fred Morawcznski, County Administrator of Yuba County, stated that the Yuba County Board of Supervisors held a meeting on February 21, 1989, and action was taken at that meeting to formally oppose this acquisition. The main concern of the County was the possible loss of property tax revenues and if the property was actually acquired by the state it would also possibly preclude future development of the area, further reducing anticipated revenues. Department of Fish and Game staff had apprised the Board of Supervisors prior to their board meeting that there were provisions for an in lieu tax payment should this property be acquired by the State. The action taken by the Board of Supervisors to oppose the acquisition was due to a misunderstanding of the tax issue. They were under the assumption that no taxes would be paid by the State. After the County realized that in lieu taxes were to be paid, then it was a question of the taxes remaining at its current rate and never be increased. Mr. Morawcznski stated that the County will be following up with the legislature in regard to a need to look at the in lieu tax situation.

Mr. Bryant thanked Mr. Morawcznski and then asked Mr. Schmidt if the legislature was looking into this "in lieu tax" situation. Mr. Schmidt noted that he had heard that the legislature was looking into the situation but had not verified it. Mr. Rick Battson, vice Assemblyman Isenberg, asked if there was an estimate of how much money this acquisition would cost the county in lost taxes. Mr. Morawcznski expressed concern that, in essence, the entire property (the pending purchase and option lands) currently generates \$12,000 in annual tax revenues, and if it were acquired by the State under present law, the annual revenues would be frozen at that sum. If instead, the State paid fees in the same manner as the private sector, then based on the proposed purchase price, the annual revenues would be more like \$24,000. Then, incremental increases of 2% per year could also be applied, as is the case for privately-owned lands. Mr. Morawcznski pointed out that 2% is not significant in a single year, but his concern was the impact this would have 20 or 50 years down the road. He indicated he was aware that the resolution of the problem is not something within the authority of the Board.

Mr. Jensen stated that he believed there was legislation being considered that will address this in lieu tax problem. Following this meeting, if a decision was made to acquire this property, at the next meeting of the Fish and Game Commission, the property would be designated a wildlife area so that the current in lieu tax payments would be triggered and start at that date.

For clarification purposes, Ms. Edna Maita, vice Assemblyman Costa, asked when the State Department of Parks and Recreation purchases property for public benefit or public use purposes, are any sort of taxes paid by Parks on those properties? Mr. Jensen stated that he believed that the Department of Fish and Game was essentially the only state agency that makes in lieu tax payments to counties, including CalTrans, Parks and Recreation and Department of Water Resources. Mr. Schmidt stated that was his understanding also. Ms. Maita reiterated that no other state agency, according to your understanding, pays in lieu tax fees. Mr. Frank Giordano added that Department of General Services also makes in lieu tax payments on certain properties.

Mr. Schmidt announced the next speaker as Mr. Charles Engstrom, secretary-treasurer of the Twin Cities Rod and Gun Club, Yuba City. Mr. Engstrom urged the Board to buy this property. He stated the land is alot more valuable than just the taxes. Yuba County has a tremendous amount of recreational facilities and thinks if they do something about it, they would not be concerned about taxes. He thanked the Board and urged a 'yes' vote to acquire this property and much more.

Mr. Richard Spotts, California Representative for the Defenders of Wildlife, simply reiterated their support as indicated in their letter. He pointed out that this is an extremely important project for the protection of the endangered bald eagle, which is both state and federally listed, and also a key opportunity to protect deer winter range. Mr. Spotts added that many of California's deer herds have been in serious trouble because of ill-advised development within wintering range, as well as the migratory corridors in many regions of the state. Defenders of Wildlife also sympathizes with the County Board of Supervisors on the in lieu tax issue. Mr. Spotts stated the tax issue is something that the legislature will need to resolve. Mr. Bryant thanked Mr. Spotts.

Mr. Jensen commented that he agreed and that Mr. Spotts raised a good point. One of the primary problems we have in all the foothill counties, not just Yuba County, where we have migratory deer is the loss of deer winter range and in the process of trying to protect that, we appear before County Boards of Supervisors and comment on general plans and often find ourselves recommending changes or modifications to subdivisions to protect that winter deer range. He added that we have heard from some counties that it is not necessarily proper for the Department of Fish and Game to come in and oppose these. A more active program, in terms of the Department getting on and providing some positive protection has been suggested, and think maybe that's what we are proposing to do here.

Mr. Jensen made a motion to move with this acquisition and stated the Department can communicate with the Yuba County Board of Supervisors a little further and iron out their objections with regards to Phase II, as we are proposing to acquire an option on that property as well at a later date.

Mr. Bryant asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak.

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The next speaker was Marjle Owen, taxpayer and property owner in Yuba County. With government agencies currently owning approximately one-fourth of the county, she was worried about any further acquisitions and how that will affect her in the long term as a county taxpayer. She stated that this item needed to be tabled for the time being and the County be involved in a discussion of this acquisition for the future tax base that may be eroded. Ms. Owen opposed the acquisition.

Mr. Bryant stated that there will be a discussion on Phase II and maybe, as we've discussed, eventually there will be some tax relief through legislation, but this Board was given the charge to acquire wildlife habitat and this particular spot happens to be a prime deer winter habitat. Mr. Bryant stated he knows that area quite well and personally feels that it is very good wildlife habitat.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone else in the audience who wish to speak and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE COLLINS LAKE WLA, PHASE I, YUBA COUNTY, TOGETHER WITH AN OPTION TO ACQUIRE THE ADDITIONAL AREA, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$730,000.00 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. West Fork San Gabriel River Fishing Access, Los Angeles Co. \$52,000.00

Mr. Schmidt reported this item was to consider a U.S. Forest Service proposal to construct fishing access facilities for the physically handicapped along the West Fork San Gabriel River in the Angeles National Forest. Mr. Al Rutsch described the project. Located just north of Azusa, the West Fork represents a unique and valuable resource adjacent to the largest metropolitan area in California. It provides numerous recreational opportunities to the general public. Bicycling, hiking, camping, fishing, picnicking, water play and wildlife viewing are all popular activities.

A Forest Service road parallels the West Fork, providing vehicular access to Cogswell Reservoir for Department of Public Works, Department of Fish and Game and Forest Service personnel. This stretch of paved, relatively flat road parallels the river for about 6 1/2 miles as it winds through the scenic canyon from below Cogswell Dam to its confluence with the main San Gabriel River. Public access along this road is restricted to bicycles and pedestrians only, but wheelchairs would be permitted, of course, if the project is implemented. The road was designated as a national bicycle trail in 1981 and is used extensively for this purpose. A Forest Service campground is located near the upper end of this road.

The West Fork, with its many recreational opportunities, is presently not available for a large segment of the local population because of the barriers that exist there, both natural and man made. Statistics provided by the Easter Seals Foundation and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) show

that approximately 2500 physically handicapped individuals (those using wheelchairs without the aid of another person) live in the greater Los Angeles area. This project is designed to remove those barriers along the West Fork so as to open up these recreational opportunities to everyone.

As proposed, some minor modifications will have to be made to the gate at the lower end of the West Fork to allow wheelchairs to enter the area. The only other improvements needed would be the construction of a few ramps at selected spots along the river to allow wheelchair access to the rivers edge. Platforms with railings would be constructed at the end of each ramp. Two restrooms would also be modified to meet handicapped access standards and specially designed tables, BBQ grills, tent pads and paths will be put in at the campground as part of this project, although not with WCB funds.

The Forest Service has contacted agencies and organizations such as DAV, the Easter Seal Foundation, Pasadena Telco Rod & Gun Club, DAV charities of Greater Los Angeles and the County Fish and Game Commission. It has received indications of support from these groups in the form of volunteer labor or funding assistance. Nearly half of the total \$93,000 project cost will be covered by others.

The Department of Fish and Game enthusiastically supports this proposal. It will make quality trout fishing, including catch and release wild trout fishing available to many who have never had this opportunity.

The cost estimate by the Angeles National Forest is summarized as follows:

Access gate	\$ 1,000
Restroom (trail side)	20,000
Access ramps (4)	40,000
Restroom (campground)	20,000
Tables, grills, tent pads, paths	3,000
Signs	2,000
Engineering & misc.	8,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$94,000
USFS funds	-40,000
Other contributions	- 2,000
WCB Allocation	\$52,000

The Forest Service has filed a Notice of Categorical Exclusion upon a finding that this will be a minor activity requiring no environmental review. A Notice of Management Intent has also been submitted to confirm the Forest Service intent to enter into the necessary agreements with the Department as required by the Board.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the West Fork San Gabriel Fishing Access as proposed; allocate \$6,187.91 therefor from the Wildlife Restoration Fund and \$45,812.09 from the Parklands Fund of 1984 for a total allocation of \$52,000.00; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE WEST FORK SAN GABRIEL RIVER FISHING ACCESS, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE A TOTAL OF \$52,000.00; \$6,187.91 FROM THE WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUND AND \$45,812.09 FROM THE PARKLANDS FUND OF 1984; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Andrea Tuttle, vice Senator Keene, stated she was delighted to see that the Board is getting into the disabled access programs and Mr. Bryant agreed that it was a very good program. Mr. Schmidt stated it provides use for a lot of people and it really should be pointed out that this just doesn't provide for the handicapped but provides for everybody, but specifically we are doing something for the handicapped users.

12. Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve Exp. #1, San Luis Obispo Co. \$760,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated that this proposal was to purchase 2,834+ acres of land in southeastern San Luis Obispo County as part of an overall plan for the expansion of the Carrizo Plains Natural Heritage Reserve. The reserve is a joint effort between federal, state and county governments, landowners, oil companies and The Nature Conservancy, the latter of which is actually coordinating and carrying out the bulk of the acquisitions for this project. Eventually, the reserve could protect as much as 200,000 acres of critical wildlife habitat. At its 5/19/88 meeting, the Board approved the acquisition of 2800+ acres of land in this area. Together with BLM acquisitions and other DFG & TNC acquisitions this indicates that a total of 118,153 acres in this proposed reserve are now protected.

Mr. Howard Dick described the overall project and the proposed project. The Carrizo Plains, located about 150 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, is about midway between Santa Maria and Bakersfield in a valley separating the Coast and Temblor mountain ranges. They are a complex of alkali wetlands, saltbush scrub and annual grassland. The preserve will be designed to protect such threatened and endangered species as the San Joaquin kit fox, Blunt-nosed leopard lizard, giant kangaroo rat, peregrine falcon, bald eagle, antelope squirrel, short-nosed kangaroo rat and numerous rare plants, as well as providing a safe habitat for 11 other species of reptiles, 100 species of birds and 40 species of mammals. Pronghorn antelope and tule elk are being or will be reintroduced into this area.

The Carrizo Plains have also been a primary breeding grounds for the California condor until they were captured and put into captive breeding programs. If condors are reintroduced into the wild, the plains may again become a primary area for them.

This property has been optioned by The Nature Conservancy for the appraised value of \$750,000.00. Another \$10,000.00 would be required to cover closing costs and Department of General Service's review charges. Specifically, the property to be conveyed lies toward the northern end of the Plains and has been determined by the Department to contain outstanding habitats in its own

right. Even without the overall reserve proposal, this property would be considered of high wildlife value and of high priority for preservation.

It is proposed that the property would be managed for an interim basis by TNC through a cooperative agreement between the State, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the Conservancy, with eventual management to be as part of the Carrizo Plains Natural Heritage Reserve. Cost to the Department is expected to be minimal in any event. The purchase is exempt from CEQA under Section 15313 as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes.

Mr. Schmidt reported that this is very unique area because it contains a wide array of wildlife, including many threatened and endangered species, but also is a very unique area just for its protection because its one of the few remaining typical type habitats of what the valley use to look like still remaining. He also indicated that San Luis Obispo County fully supports this acquisition.

Staff therefore recommended that the Board approve the Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve Expansion #1 purchase as proposed; allocate a total of \$760,000.00; \$399,541.80 from the 1984 Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund, as designated for rare & endangered species, and \$360,458.20 from the Environmental License Plate Fund for the purchase price and related costs; and authorize staff and the Department to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife. Mr. Schmidt also noted that the proposal would be a joint management between the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Game and The Nature Conservancy. The Department is also using this area for transporting tule elk and antelope. Dr. Tuttle asked if all the species listed in the agenda are now presently found on the property. Staff reported yes they are all present.

Mr. Jensen mentioned that there was not a representative from the County of San Luis Obispo present and that this property will be designated as an ecological reserve and will not be subject to in lieu taxes. Mr. Schmidt reported that at the last Board meeting when we acquired the other parcel, a County Supervisor was present and spoke in favor of the acquisition. Mr. Jensen noted that it would be a safe observation to make that for tax purposes this parcel is probably not as valuable as the parcel that we are proposing to acquire next to Collins Lake. Mr. Schmidt stated that this parcel is marginal grazing land.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE CARRIZO PLAINS ECOLOGICAL RESERVE EXPANSION #1, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE A TOTAL OF \$760,000.00; \$399,541.80 FROM THE 1984 FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND, AS DESIGNATED FOR RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES, AND \$360,458.20 FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE FUND; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

13. Pickel Meadow Wildlife Area, Mono County

\$1,000,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated this proposal was for the acquisition of five separate parcels of land totaling 991.3+ acres located within or adjacent to the Toiyabe National Forest. Specifically, the subject parcels are located on the east side of the Sierra Nevada mountains in Mono County along Highways 108 and 395, near Sonora Junction.

Mr. Howard Dick described the proposal. Specifically, these five parcels include a portion of Pickel Meadow located south of Highway 108 (south of the U.S. Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center), the entirety of Millie and Mud Lakes, portions of the West Walker River, Silver and Wolf Creeks, and Little Walker River near its junction with the West Walker River.

The primary habitats on these parcels are aquatic including lakes, streams, rivers and springs, as well as the riparian habitat associated with such water areas. The area is also a prime deer migration corridor and provides excellent summer fawning areas. Secondary habitat is sagebrush/bitterbrush and Jeffrey Pine.

According to the Department of Fish and Game, fish species include brown, rainbow, and brook trout, as the predominant game species, while tui chub, dace, Paiute sculpin, and Lahontan redbreast as common nongame species. Aquatic invertebrate populations representing insects, mollusks, crustaceans, and annelids reside in all aquatic environments and are particularly abundant in Mud Lake and several springs adjacent to river habitats. Millie Lake provides habitat for a very productive kamloops rainbow trout fishery for fish found in sizes ranging up to three pounds or greater.

With regard to threatened or endangered species, bald eagle and wolverine sightings have been verified on and adjacent to the parcels. Silver and Wolf Creeks are both identified in the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery Plan as reintroduction sites for the federally listed threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout.

The area is currently threatened by overgrazing which is both depressing the fishery habitat as well as lessening the quality of the migration corridor, fawning habitat and waterfowl production areas. Potential development of this area for hydropower production, military operations, or military dependent facilities are highly likely, all of which could have a detrimental affect on this parcel's high fishery and wildlife values.

The primary adjacent landowner to these properties is the Toiyabe National Forest which will facilitate coordination of management goals and will also help round out the public property holdings. It is anticipated that a coordinated management agreement will be developed between Department of Fish and Game and the Toiyabe National Forest and that beneficial grazing will be allowed.

The parcels involved in this proposal have been optioned by The Trust for Public Land which has agreed to sell the subject parcels to the State at their approved appraised values totaling approximately \$990,000 for the 991.3+ acres. In addition, it is anticipated that \$10,000 will be needed to cover processing costs, including review and escrow fees. Because of this proposal's high fishery and deer range values it easily qualifies for funding under the general habitat section of the Wildlife & Natural Areas Conservation Fund (Prop. 70). The acquisition is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the Pickel Meadow Wildlife Area acquisition as proposed; allocate a total of \$1,000,000.00 from the Wildlife & Natural Areas portion of the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988 [Section 2720 (b)]; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife and had also received a phone call in opposition from Mr. Ed Miltenburg, Mono County. Mr. Miltenburg's opposition was basically the tax issue. Mr. Schmidt also noted that Mr. Chuck Graves from the Department of Fish and Game's Region 5 Office was present should there be any questions. Mr. Jensen asked Mr. Graves if it was his intention to recommend that this area be designated a wildlife area and the answer was yes.

Mr. Battson indicated that he had personal knowledge regarding the fishery values of this area, having fished it for many years, and indicated their support for its acquisition.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE PICKEL MEADOW WILDLIFE AREA, MONO COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$1,000,000.00 FROM THE WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AREAS PORTION OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988 [SECTION 2720 (b)]; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

14. McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve, San Diego County \$160,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated this proposal was for the acquisition of a conservation easement over approximately 120 acres of land for the preservation of critical plant habitat. The parcel is part of a proposed cooperative project involving the Department of Fish and Game, the County of San Diego and The Nature Conservancy. This proposal is for the purchase of land adjacent to The Nature Conservancy's 593 acre holdings on McGinty Mountain. It supports major concentrations of unique plant species. Habitat protection is necessary both to preserve globally endangered plant species and to enhance public access to the existing protected area. The site is a rocky mountaintop, ranging in elevation from 600 ft. to 2183 ft. located in southern San Diego County.

Mr. Frank Giordano described the project. McGinty Mountain is covered by a unique form of coastal sage scrub chaparral vegetation restricted to gabbro-derived soils. This habitat supports high concentrations of rare plant species found only in southern San Diego and northern Baja California. The mountain provides habitat for 7 plant species considered rare by The Natural Diversity Data Base.

This mountain contains critical habitat for three state-listed plant species. As such, it supports the largest known population of the state-endangered Dehesa beargrass (Nolina interrata) and large populations of the state-rare Gander's butterweed (Senecio ganderi) and state-endangered San Diego thorn mint (Acanthomintha ilicifolia).

Wildlife use is primarily by year-round residents of upland scrub and chaparral habitat. Migratory songbirds utilize the site in moderately large numbers. Raptor use could be considered moderate, nongame bird and small mammal use as high, reptile and amphibian use as low to moderate.

The Nature Conservancy has purchased a conservation easement over the subject and it is proposed that WCB, in turn, purchase this easement. While the easement does not provide for consumptive uses, non-consumptive use over this parcel and the adjacent TNC parcel could include hiking, birding, photography and educational uses. Access can be easily integrated into the Conservancy's proposed trail systems and interpretive facilities.

The area's passive recreational resources would be significantly enhanced if protected through the proposed acquisition. The Nature Conservancy would like to extend a trail system from its adjacent McGinty Mountain parcel to this key mountaintop parcel. Management objectives would be to manage this acreage as part of The Nature Conservancy's existing preserve and the Conservancy has expressed willingness to work cooperatively with the Department of Fish and Game to cover management costs.

The Conservancy has offered the easement to the state for the appraised value of \$150,000 as approved by the Department of General Services. An additional \$10,000 is the estimated need for escrow, closing and Department of General Services review costs.

Mr. Giordano stated that this parcel was an ecological reserve and a conservation easement, best of both worlds, because the owner was still obligated to pay taxes to the county.

The acquisition is exempt from CEQA as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the acquisition of the McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve as proposed, allocate \$160,000.00 from the Wildlife & Natural Areas portion of the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988 [Section 2720 (a)] for the purchase price and related costs; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT AT THE MC GINTY MOUNTAIN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$160,000.00 FROM THE WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AREAS PORTION OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988 [SECTION 2720 (a)] FOR THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Bryant introduced Assemblyman Chris Chandler in the audience and gave him the opportunity to speak. Mr. Chandler denied the opportunity.

ITEM #17 [UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER (SITE MILE 155 & 160+), COLUSA COUNTY] WAS CONSIDERED AT THIS TIME IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE ASSEMBLYMAN CHRIS CHANDLER'S SCHEDULE, BUT SHOWN IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER IN THESE MINUTES.

15. Blue Sky Ranch Wildlife Area, San Diego County

\$1,815,000.00

Mr. Schmidt reported this proposal was for the acquisition of up to 323 acres of a proposed 403+ acre public acquisition of an area known as "Blue Sky Ranch" a coastal riparian and upland area acquisition located in Warren Canyon, in the City of Poway, San Diego County. Mr. Howard Dick described the project and its location. The subject property is three miles east of I-15 and adjacent to Espola Road. Green Valley Truck Trail, a closed road, routes through the property.

The property consists of riparian, oak woodland and chaparral plant communities which provides habitat for a diversity of wildlife. Typical plant life includes: willows, California sycamore; mugwort, false indigo, coast live oak, currant, black and white sage, chamise, buckwheat, scrub oak and California sumac. Elevations on the property range from 650 feet to 1408 feet.

The unique balance of three plant communities supports a wide variety of wildlife including raptors, song birds, quail, deer, bobcats, raccoon, and numerous smaller mammals, legless lizards, California king snake, San Diego horned toad, rosy boa, and amphibians. Numerous song birds are also known to migrate into the area to nest. The presence of the state and federally listed endangered Least Bell's Vireo has not been substantiated, but the habitat configuration indicates the niche is available. There is a strong possibility of relocating nesting pairs of vireos to the site.

Blue Sky Ranch has two year around creeks. The water generated for the Blue Canyon Creek initiates from springs located at the east side of the property and the water source for Warren Canyon Creek comes from the seepage of Lake Poway Dam, located on the southern property boundary. Blue Sky Ranch lies between and links 2,000 acres of public open space owned and managed by the City of Poway.

The preservation of both the extensive oak woodland and riparian plant community, which provides valuable wildlife habitat on the site, is the primary goal of this acquisition proposal. The County's oak woodland and riparian communities are rapidly being eliminated by development. The oak woodland communities are generally considered as prime developable areas because of the pristine nature of trees and the topography is generally conducive to minimal grading needs for developable lots. Prime riparian communities in San Diego County as in other southern California counties, are rapidly being lost to development. With the potential loss of critical riparian habitat in San Diego, a great possibility exists that many more plants and animals endemic to San Diego County and to these plant communities will become threatened.

If acquired, use would likely be restricted to day use only. The property is easily reached from trails located on the adjoining Lake Poway Recreation Area property and off of Espola Road. Recreational uses would be primarily nonconsumptive - pedestrian, equestrian, bird watching and photography. Vehicular traffic would be limited to access to a few adjoining property owners.

The property is being purchased as a cooperative effort between the County of San Diego, City of Poway and the Heritage Foundation with The Trust for Public Land assisting by optioning the property. The appraised value of this 323 acres is \$2,099,500. This will amount to a donation of almost \$300,000. As of the date of the writing of this agenda the acquisition plan envisions WCB allocating \$1,800,000, the City of Poway and the Foundation to contribute up to \$299,500 and The Trust for Public Land donating \$20,000 for this 323 acre parcel, with all title going to Department of Fish and Game. The remaining 80 acres, of this 403 acre parcel, will be purchased by the County of San Diego for \$520,000.

The proposed acquisition is within Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions from CEQA as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes. In addition to the appraised value of \$1,800,000, it is estimated that \$15,000 will be needed to cover costs of appraisal, escrow, title insurance and State Department of General Services administrative expenses. This will bring the total required allocation to \$1,815,000.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the acquisition of the Blue Sky Ranch Wildlife Area as proposed; allocate \$1,815,000.00 from the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988, as designated for Southern California riparian habitat [Section 5907 (c)(3)], to cover the purchase price and estimated costs; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that letters of support had been received from Senator William Craven and the Defenders of Wildlife, both of which were passed around to the Board members. He also stated that Mr. Bob Thomas, City of Poway, was present should there be any questions.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE BLUE SKY RANCH WILDLIFE AREA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$1,815,000.00 FROM THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988, [SECTION 5907 (c)(3)] AS DESIGNATED FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RIPARIAN HABITAT TO COVER THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

16. Hope Valley Wildlife Area Expansion #1, Alpine County \$1,080,000.00

Mr. Schmidt reported this was a proposal to acquire a 506.63+ acre parcel in Hope Valley. The item also revises the Hope Valley acquisition plan authorized by the Board at its November 15, 1988, meeting at which time the Board allocated \$4,025,000 for the acquisition of 3,128+ acres. Since that meeting, escrow has closed on two parcels totaling 2,253.61 acres and costing \$3,147,535.00, exclusive of processing costs. Because of various problems, the U.S. Forest Service has now chosen to retain ownership of one of the two remaining parcels. The Department of Fish and Game has therefore recommended that we proceed with the acquisition of the entire 506.63+ acres of the fourth parcel instead of only the 285.71+ acre portion previously authorized.

Mr. Howard Dick explained the project. This parcel is located near the junction of Highway 88 (which bisects the parcel) and Blue Lakes Road and is ideally suited for eventual conversion to urban development due to the proximity to the Tahoe Basin where current building restrictions make development very difficult. Also, the excellent access to Hope Valley from Lake Tahoe and the San Joaquin Valley, via Highways 88 & 89, could mean almost certain destruction of this prime habitat from future development. Sites with similar characteristics are currently being developed in the Carson Valley, Nevada, and in the vicinity of Kingsbury Grade.

Topography consists of a grassland meadow complex on the level valley floor and Jeffrey pine forest on the surrounding slopes that includes small scattered meadows, riparian fingers along drainages and aspen thickets, all at elevations varying between 7,000 and 8,000 feet. Hope Valley is considered to be one of the most scenic valley in the Sierra Nevadas, an area which certainly deserves protection.

Major species represented on these properties include summer range for mule deer, small rodents, trout, raptors, grouse, mountain quail, and small birds associated with high mountain meadows.

The area also provides excellent deer summer range and fawning habitat during the late spring through fall months for mule deer in the Carson River deer herd. Nesting, foraging, shelter and denning sites are available for raptors and their various rodent prey species. Upland game species, such as blue grouse and mountain quail, use the riparian zones and Jeffrey pine forest areas that meet their habitat requirements. A wide variety of songbirds associated with high mountain meadows and adjacent forests, are present. Rainbow trout are found in the streams.

The primary adjacent landowner to these properties is the Toiyabe National Forest which will facilitate coordination of management goals and will also help round out the public property holdings.

The parcel involved in this proposal has been optioned by The Trust for Public Land and it is anticipated that it will be purchased directly from The Trust after their acquisition is completed. The Trust has agreed to sell to the State at the approved appraised value of \$1,065,000 for the

entire 506.63 acres. In addition, it is anticipated that \$15,000 will be needed to cover processing costs, including review and escrow fees. The acquisition is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes.

Mr. Schmidt noted that at the beginning of the meeting it was mentioned that funds were being recovered from the previous Hope Valley allocation which will be used to acquire this parcel. This would be in keeping with the mandates of Proposition 70 which mandates the Board to acquire habitat in Hope Valley.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the Hope Valley Wildlife Area Expansion as proposed; allocate \$1,080,000.00 from the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988, as designated for Hope Valley [Section 5907 (c)(13)]; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife.

Mr. Jensen asked if Alpine County had been heard from and Mr. Schmidt stated that Alpine County was in support of Proposition 70. Mr. Messersmith, DFG Regional Manager, stated that Alpine County has been in support of these acquisitions. Mr. Jensen stated that the county generally accepts in lieu fees as adequate compensation and Mr. Messersmith stated the county is interested in the tax issue but they recognize the value of this parcel for habitat.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE HOPE VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA EXPANSION #1, ALPINE COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$1,080,000.00 FROM THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988, AS DESIGNATED FOR HOPE VALLEY [SECTION 5907 (c)(13)]; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

17. Upper Sacramento River (Site Mile 155 & 160+), Colusa Co. \$230,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated this proposal was to consider the acquisition of 2 parcels of land totaling approximately 205 acres of riparian habitat located on the west bank of the Sacramento River, between Princeton and Colusa. Mr. Howard Dick described the property. Both parcels are east of Highway 45 and consist mainly of undeveloped river jungle with some river wash and gravel areas. One of the parcels contains a 12 acre walnut orchard which will be purchased subject to a 10 year remaining lease which will result in a savings to the State of \$64,800.00 in initial capital outlay. This savings will result since the walnut orchard appraised for \$6500/ac and the owner has agreed to sell the orchard for a discounted price of \$1100/ac if he can continue to lease at no cost for 10 years. This represents the appraised value, subject to this lease, and has been approved by the Department of General Services. After the lease expires, the orchard will be allowed to revert to riparian habitat.

The land proposed for acquisition is subject to flooding from the Sacramento River, yet it can be readily cleared and farmed. In fact, much of this type of habitat has already been cleared along the Sacramento River as evidenced by Department of Fish and Game studies which show that only about 1% of the Sacramento Valley riparian forests of the early 1800's remain today. Several hundred acres of these wildlife-rich forests are lost to agricultural uses and timber operations each year, and it appears that the most feasible method of preventing further loss of this habitat is through public acquisition.

According to the Department of Fish and Game, endangered or threatened species dependent on these riparian forests include the valley elderberry, longhorn beetle, bald eagle, American peregrine falcon, Swainson's hawk, yellow-billed cuckoo, and the California hibiscus. Bird species of special concern include the double-crested cormorant; sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, osprey, merlin, long-eared owl, willow flycatcher, purple martin, bank swallow, yellow warbler, and the yellow-breasted chat. Species found on the State's Fully Protected Lists include the black-shouldered kite and the ring-tailed cat.

Although the subject properties are currently unused, except for the orchard, the properties could be cleared and used for agricultural purposes, thereby destroying its valuable habitat. The properties may also have the potential for some gravel extraction which would not only destroy wildlife habitat, but could even have an adverse impact on fishery habitat.

State acquisition is seen as a sure way to protect this valuable resource. The owners have granted options to buy the subject parcels to The Nature Conservancy who will sell to the State at the approved fair market value of \$207,700.00, based on an estimated 205 acre acquisition area which could be adjusted after a survey has been completed. Adjustment may be necessary because of potential accretion to the site. Processing costs of the sales are estimated to be \$22,300 which includes the cost of 2 surveys, appraisals, escrow and Department of General Services charges. The acquisitions would certainly be consistent with the Department's long standing goal of protecting riparian habitat, not only along the Sacramento River, but in many other areas of the State.

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Staff recommended that the Board approve the acquisition of these Upper Sacramento River parcels, as proposed; allocate \$230,000.00 from the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Fund of 1988, as designated for the Sacramento River [Section 5907 (c)(8)]; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had been received from the Defenders of Wildlife and the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association. Mr. Schmidt stated that several people had expressed an interest in speaking. The first speaker was Assemblyman Chris Chandler.

Assemblyman Chandler commented that the people in Colusa County are generally supportive of wildlife and wildlife preservation but are faced with continuing to run the county government and providing basic services to the citizens. They are concerned with the amount of land that is going into public ownership and taken off the county's tax roles. Assemblyman Chandler stated he and Assemblyman Tom McClintock are working on Assembly Constitutional Amendment #1 on the state mandate issue which would help relieve this tax problem. They are looking towards an initiative in the year 1990. Assemblyman Chandler stated that the tax issue is such a problem, and of such magnitude for the people, that most of his constituents are opposed to any additional acquisition of public lands until the tax issue can be resolved.

Mr. Bryant thanked Assemblyman Chandler and Mr. Schmidt called the next speaker.

William Waite, Colusa County Supervisor representing the 4th District, read a letter from the Colusa County Farm Bureau. The letter (copy of letter not provided to the Board) read as follows: "Honorable Commission Members: Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express the views and concerns of Colusa County Farm Bureau relative to the possible purchase of some 200 acres of riparian woodlands located along the Sacramento River at the northern end of Colusa County. An unanticipated turn of events has made it necessary that I communicate to you by way of correspondence being read into the record by Colusa County Supervisor William R. Waite. But first allow me the opportunity to identify myself and Colusa County Farm Bureau. My name is Robert E. Herker. If your program is a willing seller proposal, it is difficult to oppose any deals that allow landowners the right to do with his or her property as he or she deems necessary. However, we believe we should have input into what impacts change from private ownership to public ownership will have on the surrounding communities, and of course, agriculture. As a matter of record, this Honorable Commission should be aware that the Farm Bureau opposes the transfer of private land into public ownership. In our view, the government already owns enough land. We do recognize that exceptions do apply and this may be one of them, although this is not yet proven so in our perception. If it can be shown that the government should assume an active role in managing these riparian areas, then we favor mid to long term leases, similar to those being designed by State Senator Jim Nielsen in Senate Bill, 1086. Under these arrangements, the county will not lose any tax base assuring local citizenry of ongoing public services such as fire and police protection. Unfortunately, the

Federal Government now owes Colusa County some \$350,000 in unpaid in lieu taxes on several Federal refuge projects. It is our understanding that your plan would not provide full payment of existing taxes which go to support many public services necessary to our safe and healthy rural lifestyles. These arrangements would sustain existing revenues to the county in the long term. These purchases would not, if our information is indeed correct. Whether a fee title or a lease deal is struck with landowners, it is our position that ongoing legal cultural practices by agricultural neighbors should not in any way be compromised. In today's farm economy, aerial and ground spraying for a variety of disease threats is a cultural and economic reality. Existing surrounding landowners water rights should not be encumbered by any way, shape or form. Public access is another area of concern. Hikers, bikers, and four wheelers do untold damage to private owned agricultural grounds, equipment and commodities. Theft is ever present where the public is given freedom to roam. In these very fragile riparian eco-systems, the public could foreseeable do irreplaceable harm to endangered wildlife this Commission seeks to protect. So far the private owners are doing a good job of protecting these areas without pay; they do it for the love of the environment. On a final note, please develop a strong management plan before you purchase or lease these properties. It makes no sense to buy a car if you can not afford to maintain it and insure it. The same is true of real estate. You should be able to control trespass and vandalism, as well as to afford fire and protection services. With sincere gratitude, Robert E. Herker, Executive Manager, Colusa County Farm Bureau."

Supervisor William Waite continued that a lot of the problem is a lack of communication and information and if local meetings had been held maybe the people would be less suspicious and feel more at ease. Mr. Waite was on the SB 1086 Committee.

Mr. Jensen commented that the Department of Fish and Game participated in the SB 1086 process, which set up the procedures whereby a planning process was put in place to protect riparian habitat along the Sacramento River and fisheries habitat. Mr. Jensen continued that this is precisely the way that the advisory committee and the report to the legislature indicated. We have valuable riparian habitat, and in this instance, a willing seller, and he agreed that the advisory group on the 1086 committee and, nor the report to the Senator suggested how to address the tax base issue.

Rick Battson, vice Assemblyman Isenberg, reiterated that Assemblyman Chandler referred to the fact that this parcel's in lieu fees are rather small to the overall budget. Mr. Battson asked how much money will the county lose on this 205 acres on a yearly basis and what was the vote in Colusa County on Proposition 70 which provided money for this type of acquisition? Mr. Waite responded that the county was a 'no' vote majority on Proposition 70.

Jim Messersmith, Department of Fish and Game Regional Manager, commented that there has not been as good a line of communication with the County as might have been and has agreed to go up there and help explain the program. Some concerns had been expressed regarding trespass and vandalism and Mr. Messersmith explained that after title is obtained on the property, the Department of Fish and Game is obligated to develop a land management plan

for it, in coordination with the people surrounding the area. He stated the normal contact would be with the County Fish and Game Commission but he will work directly with the Supervisors if requested to do so.

Mr. Jensen thanked Mr. Messersmith and Mr. Schmidt announced the next speaker. Don O'Connell, Colusa County Tax Assessor, stated Colusa County has 20,444 acres of Federal refuge who pay only 58% of the taxes owed, 20,000 acres in wildlife management boundaries and 6500 acres have been purchased of easements. Colusa County is strictly an ag based economy with no other kind of tax money being derived. Mr. O'Connell stated the State pays taxes on the existing base, which is very unfair, and not at the usual 1% rate. He stated that last year Senator McCorquodale carried a bill which would put the taxes the State pays on the same par as the rest of the citizens, but the bill did not pass. Mr. O'Connell also stated the area is also in a special tax district for fire protection where landowners pay 30 cents an acre and \$30 a house.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the taxes shown on Site 155 are \$110.00 a year and on Site 160 \$1206.00, but would have to be pro-rated because it includes about half of the property that is not being acquired.

Mr. O'Connell also spoke about fair market values. He alluded to the fact that some of the appraisals were too high but did not want to identify any specific one. He stated experiences in Colusa County where people sold land to the government and turned around and bought twice the land in the same county. Mr. O'Connell just wanted to advise the State to be careful not to artificially compete with the citizens. Mr. Schmidt stated the Wildlife Conservation Board's appraisals are done by private appraisers and are reviewed by staff, all of which are journeyman appraisers, but furthermore the appraisals are reviewed and approved by the Department of General Services. General Services does not always approve these appraisals. Mr. Schmidt stated the appraisals do go through a thorough review and he would be happy to go over them with Mr. O'Connell.

Mr. O'Connell then presented his personal view which was that he lives along the river and is very active in conservation and wants to save the wildlife. He believes the incentive program is the way to address this problem in this area. He believes the private sector in this area can and is doing a better job protecting the wildlife. He also stated that the public will ruin the wildlife.

The next speaker was Nadine Ohliger, landowner, farmer and citizen of Colusa County. Mrs. Ohliger lives on the Sacramento River and is opposed to this acquisition. Mrs. Ohliger's property is one of the designated sites as listed in the SB 1086 report. She feels that if the public is let into these lands along the Sacramento River, the public will ruin the wildlife and eventually it will be destroyed. Mrs. Ohliger has a definite care for the wildlife and wants to see it preserved. There was considerable discussion regarding the existing condition of the land and what happens down the road when the land is sold and the next buyer comes in and does not have the same caring for wildlife.

Mr. Spotts, Defenders of Wildlife, reiterated their support for this acquisition. He indicated that Prop. 70 has a provision which calls for

this type of acquisition along the Sacramento River. He stated that the SB 1086 report suggests many options that the landowner may choose. He suggested the local officials and other concerned landowners might urge the sellers to choose the easement approach as that will require that taxes will still be paid. He stated that he would hope that the legislature will address the in lieu tax question.

Mr. Bryant thanked Mr. Spotts. Mr. Schmidt stated that it is usually our attempt along the river properties to obtain an easement, but we are working with the willing seller and if they don't wish to sell an easement we have no alternative but to go to the fee to protect the land. In this case, the landowner did not want an easement.

Mr. Bryant asked if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was trying to acquire land along the Sacramento River and if they were receptive to the easement procedure. Mr. Schmidt stated he was not sure if the USFWS had actually started acquisitions, but they had made initial contacts. Mr. Spotts stated the USFWS is finishing their environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act and will be issuing the final environmental assessment shortly. Once that is done, they can initiate willing seller negotiations.

John Merz, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Sacramento River Preservation Trust, stated they are in support of the acquisition. He stated that it's important to realize that we are not talking about just a local resource, but one that has both statewide and national significance, as it was made clear by the voters of California via Proposition 70 they regard the Sacramento River resources as high priority relative to preservation of the wild values. He stated the basic intent of SB 1086 is for a continuous 100 mile corridor of riparian habitat along the Sacramento River from Colusa to Red Bluff.

There was discussion by the Board members clarifying what a conservation easement actually accomplishes. These easements are forever and specifies that the kind of land management that had been in place may continue or may define other appropriate uses. Taxes are still paid to counties on easements. Mr. Jensen stated that an easement is much more attractive from the Department's standpoint because they are relieved of the management responsibility and it is much more economical.

Mr. Jensen further stated that he didn't know how we were going to address the tax situation, but it is fairly apparent that the legislature is going to have to do that, but we can not abandon the program along the river.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER PARCELS, COLUSA COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$230,000.00 FROM THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE, COASTAL AND PARK LAND CONSERVATION FUND OF 1988, AS DESIGNATED FOR THE SACRAMENTO RIVER [SECTION 5907 (c)(8)]; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

18. Elk River Corners Wildlife Area, Humboldt County

\$230,000.00

Mr. Schmidt stated this proposal was for the acquisition of 87+ acres of private land located southeast of the intersection of State Highway 101 and Elk River, immediately south of the City of Eureka. Mr. Dick explained that the property is bounded on the west and most of the north by Elk River. Access to the property can be obtained via an easement from Elk River Road.

The estuary of Elk River is one of the main tributaries to Humboldt Bay which is an important segment of the coastal route of the Pacific Flyway. Many species of birds migrate through coastal Humboldt County and the seasonal wetlands provide habitat for both water-associated waterfowl and raptors. A variety of mammals including gray fox, coyote, mink, two species of weasels, skunk and otter are found in the immediate area. Part of the estuary and lower reaches of the Elk River provide habitat for coho and chinook salmon, starry flounder, English sole, herring, shiner, stickleback and sculpin.

Currently used for grazing and not available for public use, the subject property has potential to provide for many types of fish and wildlife-associated recreational and educational endeavors. Recreational activities for which the property could be managed include sport hunting, fishing and wildlife observation. Access for educational opportunities could be provided to nearby College of the Redwoods and Humboldt State University, as well as to local secondary and elementary schools. The opportunity for enhancement of the wetlands on this parcel is particularly good because of the water source provided by the Elk River. It is one of the few areas around Humboldt Bay where there is an adequate natural source of freshwater, other than rain, to use for wetland enhancement purposes.

Acquisition of this property will help fulfill the Department's objective of protecting the wetland environment around Humboldt Bay. The acquisition is exempt from CEQA under Class 13 of Categorical Exemptions as an acquisition of land for wildlife conservation purposes. Funding for the purchase is available from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund. The acquisition is on the Coastal Commission's priority list, a requirement in using these funds.

The property has an approved appraised fair market value of \$224,000.00. Costs of appraisal, escrow, title insurance and State Department of General Services administrative expenses are estimated to be about \$6,000, bringing the total required allocation to \$230,000.00. The owners have agreed to sell the property for its appraised value.

Staff recommended that the Board approve this acquisition as proposed, allocate \$230,000.00 from the 1984 Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund, as designated for coastal wetland acquisitions, to cover the purchase price and related costs; and authorize staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt noted that a letter of support had also been received on this item from the Defenders of Wildlife.

Dr. Andrea Tuttle, vice Senator Keene, stated that the senator is in support of this project but would also like to use this acquisition to raise a broader question. There is an issue which is occurring in Humboldt Bay which has to do with the problem of mitigating small wetland fills and the need for a mitigation bank. The problem that we have is with the numerous small owners around the bay who have small projects requiring minor wetland fill, particularly in seasonal wetlands. These are areas that are grazed; during the dry part of the year and are wet in the winter and therefore defined as wetlands and require mitigation under Fish and Game and Coastal Commission requirements as a condition for project approvals. The amount of fill for these projects is often very small, such as expanding a parking lot, that it is difficult for the individual owner to find another piece around the bay to mitigate. They often require engineering, breaching of dikes and heavy up front costs, much too high for the individuals to afford. There is currently a mitigation bank in Humboldt Bay for a different type of wetlands. The Barcut Marsh was put together by the Coastal Conservancy to provide the opportunity to mitigate for small pocket marshes in the southern Eureka area that are proposed for development. Dr. Tuttle stated that this piece of property may or may not be appropriate to be used as a mitigation bank but as WCB starts looking at other acquisition sites in the Bay region she wanted to bring it to the attention of the Board and the Department that this was a real need up there. The Harbor District is also looking for a mitigation site as they do dredging for developing the port. Humboldt Bay is one of those areas which has not been developed as much as the southern California areas and because so much of it is still in good habitat condition it is hard to find sites that you can improve as trade offs for some of these small fill projects.

Mr. Jensen replied that the Department was working with the two cities, Eureka and Arcata, and the County and the Port District, to put together a habitat conservation plan to do just what Dr. Tuttle suggested. Mr. Jensen stated that it is a convenient and possible way for the owners to mitigate.

Mr. Bryant asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to speak, and since there was no further discussion, the following action was taken.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF THE ELK RIVER CORNERS WILDLIFE AREA, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, AS PROPOSED; ALLOCATE \$230,000.00 FROM THE 1984 FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FUND, AS DESIGNATED FOR COASTAL WETLAND ACQUISITIONS, TO COVER THE PURCHASE PRICE AND RELATED COSTS; AND AUTHORIZE STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME TO PROCEED SUBSTANTIALLY AS PLANNED.

MOTION CARRIED.

19. Salmon, Steelhead & Resident Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects \$605,900.00

Mr. Schmidt reported that this is a proposal for the Board to allocate funds for the enhancement and rehabilitation of salmon, steelhead and resident fish spawning and rearing habitat on four waterways in California. Projects in this proposal include those located on coastal, as well as interior, waterways.

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, 114,000 by 1978, to 54,000 by 1984. 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. There has been a dramatic increase in the numbers of artificially produced fish returning to the Klamath system since 1985. Returns of naturally produced salmon are still very low, however, due to the widespread loss of habitat.

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. Some streams have usable spawning and rearing habitat that is blocked by a rock or log barrier. Modification of these barriers can open miles of good habitat that currently can not be reached by anadromous fish. 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 fish species. 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 fill 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. Stream habitat modifications are also necessary to protect, enhance and restore populations of threatened or endangered species of fish.

The following stream restoration projects have been reviewed and recommended as highly desirable projects by the Department of Fish and Game. The project sponsors have completed and filed the appropriate documents as required by CEQA. All of the projects listed in this item are intended to correct or enhance situations identified above.

Mr. Schmidt noted that Clyde Edon was present should there be any special concerns or questions. Mr. Schmidt also noted that past Board policy, these restoration projects are presented as a single agenda item. The 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund included funds for restoration of water for fishery enhancement and all of these projects meet the mandates of this program.

Staff recommended that the Board consider these four salmon, steelhead and resident fish projects as one item, allocate \$605,900.00 from the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Fund (Stream Restoration and Enhancement), and authorize the staff and the Department of Fish and Game to proceed substantially as planned.

Mr. Schmidt stated that new cost estimates had been received for the San Felipe Creek project, which was item #d in the agenda, and the original estimate of \$65,000 was increased to \$80,000. However, the Bureau of Land Management had agreed to put in \$4,800 towards this and the Department of Fish and Game, through the Nongame Species Program, had agreed to put in \$10,200; so our allocation requesting today would stay the same, \$605,900. He also noted that a letter of support had been received from the Shasta-Cascade Wonderland Association basically because of items 19 (a) & (b).

There was discussion between Mr. Paul Jensen and Mr. Paul Hubbell, DFG-Inland Fisheries, on the intent of the Trinity River item. The intent of the item is to meet the Department's obligation with the Bureau of Reclamation for the Trinity Restoration Act which will remove sediment from the Trinity River below Grass Valley Creek.

Site specific information for each of the 4 habitat enhancement projects is briefly provided below:

- a. Trinity River Basin Salmon & Steelhead Habitat
Restoration, Trinity & Humboldt Counties \$500,000.00

The Department of Fish and Game is requesting funds to enter into a cooperative program with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for restoration of salmon and steelhead habitat in the Trinity River basin.

Soon after operation of the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project began, serious changes in the Trinity River below the project began to be seen. Natural spawning, holding, and food producing areas historically used by salmon and steelhead downstream of Lewiston Dam became progressively covered with granitic sand, and the river channel became choked with willows, cattails, and alders. Annual runs of salmon and steelhead returning to Trinity River Hatchery declined by as much as 90 percent.

In March, 1982, the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Task Force adopted an 11-point Trinity River Basin Management Program. This program, among other things, established goals for restoring and maintaining the naturally produced salmon and steelhead resources of the Trinity River basin at levels which occurred prior to construction of the Trinity River Project.

In October, 1984, Congress passed, and the President signed, Public Law 98-541, commonly referred to as the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, which embodies the 11 items established in the 1982 program document, and authorizes the expenditure, over a 10-year period, of \$57 million for the execution of the 11 points. The act also required that costs of the program be shared on an 85 percent Federal/15 percent non-Federal basis. The State of California has agreed to provide the 15 percent non-Federal share of the program's cost.

The act assigned responsibility for program implementation to the U.S. Department of Interior, and called for creation of a 14-agency Task Force to assist in carrying out the restoration program. Shortly after its establishment, the Task Force directed its working group, the Technical Coordinating Committee, to develop a detailed 3-year action plan. It is the intent of the Department of Fish and Game, under this proposal, to have the Bureau of Reclamation apply all of these funds toward the completion of maximum amounts of selected portions of the habitat restoration work identified in the 3-year action plan. The funds proposed for allocation herein will apply towards the States 15% share of the total program cost. Selected activities which are all deemed appropriate for Proposition 19 funding include but are not limited to the following list.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Main stem Trinity River Spawning/Rearing Riffle Restoration		

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- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| A. Rip various areas | Trinity River between
Lewiston Dam & Grass
Valley Creek | Rip & flush
embedded D.G.
from streambed. |
| B. Riffle Restoration | Trinity River between
Lewiston Dam & Grass
Valley Creek | Replace spawning
gravel. Add
boulder habitat. |
| 2. Main stem Trinity River
Pool Restoration & Gravel
Stockpiling | | |
| A. Dredge holding pools | Trinity River between
Lewiston Dam & Grass
Valley Creek | Dredge holding
pools to create
pool habitat.
Stockpile usable
recovered
spawning gravel. |
| B. Screen & stockpile
spawning gravel | Trinity River between
Lewiston Dam & Grass
Valley Creek | Recover local
spawning gravels
to be used at
spawning habitat
sites. |
| 3. North Fork Trinity River
Basin Salmon & Steelhead
Habitat Improvement | North Fork Trinity
River; East Fork of
North Fork Trinity
River, & tributaries | Habitat evalua-
tion, design &
construct needed
habitat structures. |
| 4. Canyon Creek Basin Salmon
& Steelhead Habitat
Improvement | Canyon Creek Drainage | Habitat evalua-
tion, design &
construct needed
habitat structures. |
| 5. Horse Linto Creek Basin
Salmon & Steelhead Habitat
Improvement | Horse Linto Creek
Drainage | Habitat evalua-
tion, design &
construct needed
habitat structures. |
| 6. Browns Creek Basin Salmon &
Steelhead Habitat Improvement | Browns Creek Drainage | Habitat evalua-
tion, design &
construct needed
habitat structures. |
| 7. Willow Creek Basin Salmon &
Steelhead Habitat Improvement | Willow Creek Drainage | Habitat evalua-
tion, design &
construct needed
habitat structures. |
| 8. Mill Creek Spawning Habitat
Improvements | Mill Creek Drainage | Design & con-
struction of
spawning habitat
improvements. |

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|
| 9. | Supply Creek/Tish Tang Creek
Spawning Habitat Improvements | Supply Creek Drainage;
Tish Tang Creek
Drainage | Design & construction of
spawning habitat
improvements. |
| 10. | Indian Creek Sediment
Control | Indian Creek | Design & construction of a
pool in lower
Indian Creek to
trap decomposed
granitic sands. |

All work will be accomplished by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and/or subcontractors working under the direction of Bureau of Reclamation personnel. The overall Trinity River restoration project is covered under an Environmental Impact Statement. However, the Bureau will complete and file the appropriate site specific environmental documents required by CEQA prior to implementation of individual project activities. The Bureau will also obtain and keep on file on behalf of the Bureau and the State of California, a Right of Entry Permit from all landowners for project construction and follow-up monitoring and evaluation. In addition, the Bureau will maintain and provide the Department of Fish and Game with appropriate construction and cost records of individual project activities. The Department of Fish and Game will appoint a project administrator to coordinate with the Bureau and review all planned project activities prior to and upon completion of construction. Payment or transfer of funds for this project between the Department of Fish and Game and Bureau will be pursuant to the terms of the Trinity River Basin M.O.A., which is currently being finalized.

b. Willow Creek Barrier (Goose Lake Trout), Modoc County \$10,000.00

Willow Creek is an important spawning tributary for trout migrating out of Goose Lake. In the 1950's Willow Creek was channelized and erosion control structures were added as the stream began to degrade. One of these structures is now creating a barrier to upstream migration.

The objective of this project is to provide fish passage for upstream migrant Goose Lake Trout past this problem structure. The project will consist of placing approximately 500 cubic yards of 2' to 4' quarry rock in the scour pool below the structure to allow the trout access to the fish ladder.

Work is proposed to be done during late summer when the entire flow of Willow Creek is diverted for irrigation purposes so no water quality problems will occur. A few small willows will be removed from the stream bank so equipment can place the rocks in appropriate locations, but can be easily re-established upon project completion.

The project will be administered and closely supervised by Department of Fish and Game Region 1 fish habitat personnel.

c. Moore's Gulch, Santa Cruz County

\$30,900.00

This is a cooperative project between the Department of Fish and Game and Santa Cruz County to re-establish a run of steelhead trout in Moore's Gulch, a tributary to Soquel Creek.

The proposal actually includes a series of small projects along Moore's Gulch to maximize fisheries production. At one location baffles are proposed to be installed in an existing corrugated metal pipe culvert in an effort to decrease water velocity thereby allowing upstream fish passage. The metal ramp type baffles will be fabricated locally and installed by a California Youth Authority crew used by the County of Santa Cruz for stream restoration work. These crews will also be used to carry out the other portions of this proposal.

At another location, a corrugated metal pipe culvert currently spills water onto a concrete apron before it flows into a downstream pool. It is proposed that a half round section of pipe will be attached to the culvert to extend it past the apron to the pool allowing fish the opportunity to access the upper reaches of the stream. Baffling is also proposed for this culvert to slow the water velocity.

The third work site is at an unused concrete dam which is a barrier to fish migration during a majority of stream flows. It is proposed that this dam will be broken up, using jackhammers, with the concrete rubble resulting from the demolition being carried to the nearby road and hauled to the County landfill.

Pool habitat, critical to the survival of juvenile salmonids, is a limiting factor in Santa Cruz County streams and Moore's Gulch is no exception. A fourth part of this proposal is to install a minimum of nine instream log weir structures along the length of Moore's Gulch to create additional habitat.

The project will be administered and maintained by the County with close coordination with Department of Fish and Game personnel.

d. San Felipe Creek, Imperial County

\$65,000.00

This is a proposed cooperative project between the Department of Fish and Game and the Bureau of Land Management, El Centro Resource Area.

The purpose of the proposal is to protect critical habitat for the endangered Desert Pupfish. Approximately 11 miles of San Felipe Creek and adjoining parts of Carrizo Wash and Fish Creek Wash have been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as critical habitat for this fish. The species' only other designated critical habitat is 0.5 acres of aquatic habitat in Quitobaquito Spring in Arizona.

Until 1987, the San Felipe Creek population of Desert Pupfish was relatively secure from significant competition by tilapia (Tilapia mozambique), an exotic fish species which is a serious source of reproductive interference to pupfish. Although tilapia had been present

in the Salton Sea since at least 1979 and have entered San Felipe Creek from the Sea, continuous water flow was absent between critical habitat and the mouth of the creek. This dry portion of the creek prevented upstream tilapia movement. A continuous water connection occurred only during periodic flash floods, a time when strong downstream flood flows also prevented upstream tilapia movement. However, stream flow between critical habitat and the Salton Sea became continuous beginning in 1985, probably due to high rainfall in the watershed above San Felipe Creek and to earthquakes increasing the flow of natural springs in the stream allowing the tilapia to begin to move upstream into critical habitat.

To alleviate the upstream tilapia movement, a fish barrier will be installed across San Felipe Creek in T12S, R11E, Section 18, SBM, approximately 0.6 miles west of the Highway 86 bridge. The barrier would create a 3' high "jump" which tilapia would not be able to negotiate, precluding upstream movement. The proposed barrier will consist of an interconnected series of rock-filled, filter fabric lined wooden cribs. The barrier has been designed so that it will withstand stream flows even during floods.

The project will be administered and maintained by the BLM with close coordination with the Department of Fish and Game Region 5 personnel.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JENSEN THAT THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVE THE ENHANCEMENT AND REHABILITATION ON FOUR WATERWAYS; ALLOCATE A TOTAL OF \$605,900.00 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.

- A. TRINITY RIVER BASIN SALMON & STEELHEAD
HABITAT RESTORATION, TRINITY & HUMBOLDT COS. . \$500,000.00
- B. WILLOW CREEK BARRIER (GOOSE LAKE TROUT),
MODOC COUNTY \$ 10,000.00
- C. MOORES GULCH, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY \$ 30,900.00
- D. SAN FELIPE CREEK, IMPERIAL COUNTY \$ 65,000.00

MOTION CARRIED.

20. Other Business

- a. Mr. Schmidt introduced two new staff members, Sylvia Gude, Staff Services Analyst and Georgia Lipphardt, Land Agent.
- b. Resolution Honoring Albert C. Taucher

Mr. Schmidt submitted the following resolution for enactment by the Board and the resolution was read by Mr. Bryant.

WHEREAS, Mr. Albert C. Taucher's two consecutive terms as Chairman of the California Wildlife Conservation Board and President of the Fish & Game Commission expired on January 15, 1989; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Taucher, with his genuine interest in the program of the Wildlife Conservation Board, together with his love for the outdoors, wildlife conservation, fishing and hunting, has served the Board and the cause of wildlife conservation in California exceedingly well; and

WHEREAS, "Al" Taucher's sound judgment, wise counsel and good humor have greatly helped the Board and staff in carrying out its duties and responsibilities and have gained him the respect of those who have worked with him; Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Joint Legislative Interim Committee and the Board staff convey our sincere appreciation to Mr. Taucher for his dedicated efforts and valuable contributions to the work of the Board, and be it further

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

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

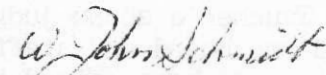
MOTION CARRIED.

- c. Mr. Schmidt stated the next item was the landowner notification process. Mr. Bontadelli requested this item be put off to another meeting because Assemblyman Waters, who originally requested this information, was not present today.
- d. Mr. Schmidt stated this item was informational only. At the November 15, 1988, WCB meeting, the Board authorized \$843,000 for construction of internal pipelines at the San Jacinto WLA. The proposal at that time was to have the first 3 phases done by contract all the way through to the installation stage, and second 3 phases would be purchase of materials only, with the Department of Fish and Game staff, over a period of the next several years, completing the installation. However, bids were put out in segments and the lowest bid received was \$654,828 to not only complete the first 3 phases entirely but to also complete the last 3 phases. With an addition of 5% to cover Eastern Municipal Water District's administrative costs, the total amount necessary for this work is \$687,569.00. This represents a savings to the Board of \$155,000 just in materials and installation and that is not even including the savings to the Department of Fish and Game over the next several years in installation, as well as equipment rental, labor costs, inflation, etc. Plus the project can be done at this time, so staff decided to move forward and complete this contract with an estimated savings to the State of California of approximately \$1/4 M.

Minutes of Meeting, Wildlife Conservation Board
February 23, 1989

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. by Mr. Bryant.

Respectfully submitted,



W. John Schmidt
Executive Officer

PROGRAM STATEMENT

At the close of the meeting on February 23, 1989, the amount allocated to projects since the Wildlife Conservation Board's inception in 1947 totaled \$209,105,443.58. 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 State Beach, Park, Recreational and Historical Facilities Bond Act of 1974, the General Fund, the Energy Resources Fund, the Environmental License Plate Fund, the State, Urban and Coastal Park Bond Act of 1976, the 1984 Parklands Bond Act, the 1984 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Bond Act, the California Wildlife Coastal and Park Land Conservation Act of 1988 and the Wildlife Restoration Fund.

a.	Fish Hatchery and Stocking Projects	\$16,066,599.15
b.	Fish Habitat Development	10,287,579.28
	1. Reservoir Construction or Improvement .	\$3,065,821.39
	2. Stream Clearance and Improvement	4,541,096.50
	3. Stream Flow Maintenance Dams	498,492.86
	4. Marine Habitat	646,619.07
	5. Fish Screens, Ladders and Weir Projects	1,535,549.46
c.	Fishing Access Projects	32,396,802.58
	1. Coastal and Bay	\$2,956,336.25
	2. River and Aqueduct Access	6,833,818.95
	3. Lake and Reservoir Access	6,187,560.43
	4. Piers	16,419,086.95
d.	Game Farm Projects	146,894.49
e.	Wildlife Habitat Acq., Development & Improvement Projects ..	143,121,075.59
	1. Wildlife Areas (General)	\$112,356,403.15
	2. Miscellaneous Wildlife Habitat Dev. ...	3,329,454.27
	3. Wildlife Areas/EcoReserves, (Rare & Endangered)	27,435,218.17
f.	Hunting Access	533,868.57
g.	Miscellaneous Projects	5,758,012.87
h.	Special Project Allocations	311,995.42
i.	Miscellaneous Public Access Projects	482,615.63
	Total Allocated to Projects	\$209,105,443.58