Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
1807 13th Street, Suite 103
Sacramento, California 95811-7137
www.wcb.ca.gov
(916) 445-8448
Fax (916) 323-0280

OCT 21 2014

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
B-4 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing
Los Angeles County
Project ID: 2014152

The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB), in addition to other responsibilities, carries out a program that includes the enhancement or restoration of fish and wildlife habitat.

At this time and in response to a request from the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains, the WCB proposes to consider restoring habitat connectivity between important prime mountain lion habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains and source habitat in the Simi Mountains and the Los padres National Forest on public privately-owned land in Los Angeles County. This proposal is presently scheduled for the November 20, 2014, Board meeting. A copy of the preliminary agenda is enclosed for your review. A full agenda will follow within two weeks. You may view all agendas and minutes, and/or subscribe to receive them via email on our website at www.wcb.ca.gov.

If you have any questions about this proposal or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (916) 445-0137.

Sincerely,

John P. Donnelly
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Fran Pavley
Member of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Richard Bloom
Member of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2179
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ed Pert, Regional Manager
CDFW – South Coast Region (5)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor
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NOTICE OF MEETING

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

November 20, 2014
10:00 AM
1/ State Capitol, Room 112
Sacramento, California 95814

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

ITEM NO.

1. Roll Call
2. Funding Status - Informational
3. Special Project Planning Account - Informational
4. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 5 - 13)

*5. Approval of Minutes – August 28, 2014

*6. Recovery of Funds

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

*7. Little Shasta Valley Conservation Easement, Fogg Gulch, Siskiyou County — $53,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to acquire a conservation easement over 645± acres of land for protection of important winter range habitat for elk, working landscapes, grasslands and supporting other large mammals, including deer and mountain lion, located east of the city of Yreka and the town of Montague in Siskiyou County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

*8. C & R Ranch Habitat Enhancement, Tehama County — $260,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Tehama County Resource Conservation District for a cooperative project with the landowner, the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore native habitat and improve fencing and water features on the C & R Ranch, located 17 miles west of the city of Corning in Tehama County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for projects to assist farmers in integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration and wildlife protection. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(4)]

*9 Excelsior Ranches, Yuba County — $25,000.00

To consider the allocation of a grant to the Bear Yuba Land Trust (BYLT) for a cooperative project with the Natural Resources Agency to acquire fee title to 20± acres of land for the protection of native oak woodlands, deer, and mountain lion habitat and riparian resources located in the community of Smartsville in Yuba County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands, to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

*10. San Joaquin River Parkway, $147,000.00
Lewis S. Eaton Trail River West CEQA, Augmentation III,
Fresno County

To consider the allocation for an augmentation of a previously approved grant to the San Joaquin River Conservancy (Conservancy) to plan, implement environmental review, and facilitate public participation for a proposed extension of the Lewis S. Eaton Trail from its current terminus near the City of Fresno's Woodward Park through the Conservancy's River West property located immediately west of State Route 41 in Fresno County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of lands located within the boundaries of the San Joaquin River Conservancy. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Section 5096.650(b)(5)]

*11. Allensworth Ecological Reserve, Expansion 50-56 $0.00
Tulare County

To consider the acquisition of 8 separate parcels of land totaling 12± acres by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the protection of habitat supporting the San Joaquin kit fox and other rare species found within the Allensworth Ecological Reserve and to enhance habitat linkages and connectivity, located near the city of Earlimart in Tulare County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which is being provided by the California Department of Corrections Statewide Electric Fence Project mitigation fund assigned to CDFW.

*12. Western Riverside Multi-Species $60,800.00
Habitat Conservation Plan (2012) - Monte Cristo,
Riverside County

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant (Section 6 Grant) and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority); and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) grant to the Authority to acquire 21± acres of land for the protection of habitat that supports threatened and endangered species and to increase regional wildlife habitat corridors and linkages located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, near the community of Murrieta. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species and on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund

(Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

*13. Western Riverside Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (2012) - Oldar, Riverside County — $95,000.00

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant (Section 6 Grant) and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority); and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) grant to the Authority to acquire 157± acres of land for the protection of habitat that supports threatened and endangered species and to increase regional wildlife habitat corridors and linkages located within the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, near the community of Temecula. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species and on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

14. Blue Creek, Humboldt/Del Norte County — $5,035,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to Western Rivers Conservancy for a cooperative project with the State Coastal Conservancy, Wyss Foundation, the Yurok Tribe, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the New Market Tax Credit Program to acquire 6,479± acres of land for the protection of a mixed conifer forest property, including riparian corridors, salmonid streams, coastal watershed and habitat linkages located near the town of Klamath, and traversing both Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources, which allow for forest conservation and protection projects in order to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands; and also allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(a) and Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c)]

15. Eel River Wildlife Area, Salt River Unit Wetland Restoration, Phase II, Humboldt County — $450,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for a cooperative project with the State Water Quality Control Board, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Caltrans to restore and enhance salt marsh, riparian forest and tidal sloughs on approximately 356 acres of former tidal area on 2.5 miles of the Salt River channel, located three miles northwest of Ferndale and one mile from the mouth of the Eel River in Humboldt County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources which allows for the acquisition, development, restoration and protection of wetlands and adjacent lands outside the Sacramento – San Joaquin Valley and the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass outside the Central Valley. [Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Fund (Proposition 12), Section 5096.350(a)(1)(B) and Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(d),Wetlands Outside the Central Valley (Proposition 1E)]

16. Mt. Shasta Headwaters Forest, Hancock (Town Block), Siskiyou/Shasta County — $9,090,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Pacific Forest Trust for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Department of Transportation to acquire a forest conservation easement over 12,644± acres of land for protection of working forest lands, forest reserve areas, watersheds, fisheries and habitat linkages, covering a significant portion of the upper watershed of the McCloud River, located near the town of McCloud and transversing both Siskiyou and Shasta Counties. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for forest conservation and protection of projects in order to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Fish and Game Code Section 75055(a)]

17. Barry Point Fire Forest Restoration, Modoc County — $2,500,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Pacific Forest Trust for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the landowner to restore forest habitat within the privately-owned Collins Timber Company's 32,686-acre Lakeview Tract, located just west of Goose Lake, approximately 30 miles north of the city of Alturas in Modoc County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for forest conservation and restoration projects in order to promote the ecological integrity and economic stability of California's diverse native forests through forest conservation, preservation and restoration of productive managed forest lands, forest reserve areas, redwood forests and other forest types, including the conservation of water resources and natural habitats for native fish, wildlife and plants found on these lands. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(a)]

18. Little Truckee River Fish Habitat Restoration, Nevada County — $190,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the National Forest Foundation for a cooperative project with the U.S. Forest Service and Trout Unlimited to enhance fish habitat in the Little Truckee River on the Tahoe National Forest, located generally ten miles north of the city of Truckee in Nevada County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f)]

19. Yolo County Water Intake and Fish Screen, Yolo County — $2,000,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to Reclamation District 2035 (RD 2035) for a cooperative project with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Water Resources, and the Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency to construct a new screened water intake for RD 2035, the largest remaining unscreened intake on the Sacramento River north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, located five miles east of Woodland on privately-owned land on the west bank of the Sacramento River levee, approximately one-half mile north of Interstate 5, in Yolo County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration and protection of habitat to promote the recovery of

threatened and endangered species, to provide corridors linking separate habitat areas to prevent habitat fragmentation, and to protect significant natural landscapes and ecosystems and other significant habitat areas. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

20. San Joaquin River Parkway, Ball Ranch (Quarry Site), Fresno County — $4,030,000.00

To consider the acquisition of 121± acres of land by the San Joaquin River Conservancy (SJRC) for the protection of riparian and oak woodland habitat and for future wildlife oriented public use opportunities, within the San Joaquin River Parkway located along the west side of Friant Road in Fresno County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for protection of San Joaquin River Parkway lands and projects as identified by the San Joaquin River Conservancy. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75050(f)]

21. Metcalf Meadow, San Bernardino County — $570,000.00

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust (sub grantee), and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust to acquire 14± acres of land to promote recovery of rare and endangered plant and wildlife species, located within the city of Big Bear, in San Bernardino County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened and fully protected species. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786 (b/c)]

22. Big Tujunga Canyon Restoration, Los Angeles County — $1,245,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the National Forest Foundation for a cooperative project with the U.S. Forest Service, Alcoa, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, Oakwood School, and Los Angeles Conservation Corp to restore and enhance riparian and chapparal habitats within the Big Tujunga Canyon in the Angeles National Forest, located immediately east of the city of Los Angeles in Los Angeles County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding sources which allows for the

acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout; the acquisition, protection and restoration of coastal watersheds and adjacent lands in Los Angeles, Ventura or Santa Barbara Counties. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786 (e/f) and Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Section 79572(b)]

23. Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing, Los Angeles County — $650,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains for a cooperative project with Caltrans, Los Angeles County, a private landowner, and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to enhance an existing undercrossing to allow wildlife to cross Highway 101, located approximately nine miles east of Thousand Oaks in Los Angeles County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the development, rehabilitation, restoration, acquisition and protection of habitat that accomplishes one or more of the following objectives: promotes recovery of threatened and endangered species, provides habitat corridors, linking several habitat areas to protect fragmentation or protects significant natural landscapes and ecosystems. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(b).]

24. Newport Valley Habitat Restoration, Orange County — $381,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Tides Center-Marine Education Project, for a cooperative project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Coastal Commission and the city of Newport Beach to restore ±15 acres of habitat at Newport Valley approximately 1.5 miles northeast of Newport Beach Harbor in Orange County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, protection and restoration of coastal wetlands identified in the Southern California Coastal Wetlands Inventory, located within the coastal zone, other wetlands connected and proximate to such coastal wetlands and upland areas adjacent and proximate to such coastal wetlands. [Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Water Code Section 79572(a)]

25. Salton Sea Wetland Restoration Species Conservation Habitat Project, Imperial County — $3,306,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Imperial Irrigation District for a cooperative project with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Water Resources to construct 640± acres of shallow saline water habitat identified as part of the Salton Sea Species Conservation Habitat Project, located at the mouth of the New River approximately ten miles west of Calipatria in Imperial County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for acquisition, grants or other activities that directly restore the Salton Sea and its transboundary watersheds. [Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002 (Proposition 50), Water Code Section 79565, Fish and Game Code Section 2932.2]

26. 2014 Wildlife Conservation Board Meeting Schedule — Informational

The Board will consider and possibly adopt its 2015 meeting schedule.

February 26, 2015
May 21, 2015
August 20, 2015
November 19, 2015

27. Strategic Plan Update — Informational

The Wildlife Conservation Board Strategic Plan provides a high-level blueprint for WCB decision-making and establishes the primary framework for implementing the WCB vision over the next five years. The Plan was adopted during the August 28, 2014 Board Meeting.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator Melissa Carlin at (916) 651-1214 or Melissa.Carlin@wildlife.ca.gov. Reasonable Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received by November 3, 2014. Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event, and requests for Real-Time Captioners at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but is no longer needed, please contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator immediately.