

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
June 25, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chairman
Ann Notthoff (Public Member)
Steve Kinsey, Coastal Commission Chair
Julie Alvis (Designated, Natural Resources)
Sara Ramirez Giroux (Public Member)
Peter Sadowski (Public Member)

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT:

No oversight members attended

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Glenn Alex, Legal Counsel

LOCATION:

California Environmental Protection Agency
Coastal Hearing Room, 2nd Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA

1. ROLL CALL

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chairman
Ann Notthoff (Public Member)
Julie Alvis (Designated, Natural Resources)
Sara Ramirez Giroux (Public Member)
Peter Sadowski (Public Member)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE CONSERVANCY'S Marcy 26, 2015 PUBLIC MEETING

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 5-0.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

A. SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM PHASE 2B

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (“RCD”) to implement Phase 2B of the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, the RCD shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:
 - a. A work program, including final design plans and specifications, schedule and budget for construction.
 - b. All contractors to be employed for the project.
 - c. Evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.
 - d. A signing plan for the project acknowledging Conservancy funding.
2. In carrying out the project, the RCD shall comply with all applicable conditions and mitigation and monitoring measures for the project that are identified in the *Final Environmental Impact Report: Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project, Appendix F*, and any conditions, mitigation or other measures required by any permit or approval for the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the enhancement of coastal resources.
3. The Conservancy independently reviewed the *Final Environmental Impact Report: Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project*, certified by the RCD on February 24, 2011, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, public comment to the FEIR, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. At its May 19, 2011 meeting, the Conservancy found that the project as designed avoids, reduces or mitigates the potentially significant environmental effects to a less-than-significant level, and that there is no substantial evidence based on the record as a whole that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382. The project remains consistent with the May 19, 2011 authorization.”

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B. SYDNEY GULCH FISH PASSAGE

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to the Northwest California Resource Conservation and Development Council (“Council”) for the implementation of the Sidney Gulch-Bally Loop fish passage improvement and water quality improvement project, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, the Council shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:
 - a. A work program including a schedule and budget for the project.
 - b. All contractors to be retained for the project.
 - c. Documentation that all funding required for the project has been secured.
2. Prior to the commencement of construction of the project:
 - a. The Council shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer documentation that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.
 - b. The Council shall record an agreement between the Council, the owner of the project site and the Conservancy pursuant to §31116 (c) sufficient to protect the public interest in the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding resource enhancement.
3. The Northwest California Resource Conservation & Development Council is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

C. SANTA BARBARA CONSERVATION BLUEPRINT

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County to prepare a Santa

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Barbara County Conservation Blueprint, as discussed in the attached staff recommendation, subject to the condition that no funds shall be disbursed until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has approved in writing a detailed work program, schedule, budget, and the names of any contractors the grantee intends to employ.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed project is consistent with Section 31111 of the Public Resources Code regarding preparation of plans and feasibility studies.
3. The Land Trust for Santa Barbara County is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

D. SAN CLEMENTE DAM REMOVAL

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the Executive Officer to disburse an additional two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2.2 million) of Conservancy funds to California-American Water Company for the San Clemente Dam Removal Project (Project) and to increase the net contribution of State of California funds to the Project to \$30 million.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The Project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization remains consistent with the Conservancy’s May 19, 2011, findings regarding the Project’s consistency with the Conservancy’s enabling legislation (Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code), local watershed management and State Water Quality Control Plans, and CEQA compliance.
3. The Project remains of both regional and statewide significance.
4. A grant to a public agency or nonprofit organization would not be able to accomplish the Project.”

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E. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LIAISON

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$190,000) to provide consulting services to assist with State Coastal Conservancy projects that receive federal funding and provide other consulting services. Assistance with the projects will include advocacy during federal appropriations and authorization processes and coordination with federal project partners.”

findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with Public Resources Code Sections 31103 and 31104, regarding the Conservancy’s ability to apply for and accept federal grants and receive other financial support from public sources and carry out the purposes of Division 21. Projects supported by funding received as a result of this authorization are or would be consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapters 4.5, 5.5, and 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the protection and enhancement of natural resources in San Francisco Bay Area, marine, and coastal environments.”

F. GRAPE CREEK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes up to two hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$215,000) to the Sonoma Resource Conservation District (Sonoma RCD) to construct an off-channel irrigation pond to halt water diversion from Grape Creek and improve critical in-stream habitat for coho salmon.

The authorization is subject to the following condition:

Prior to the disbursement of funds, the grantee shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer, a final work program, schedule, budget, names of any contractors, a plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding, evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained, and an agreement with the landowner sufficient to accomplish the purposes of the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resource protection.

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2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Grape Creek Streamflow Enhancement and Off-Channel Irrigation Pond Project adopted by the Sonoma Resource Conservation District May 27, 2015 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4, and finds no substantial evidence that the project as mitigated will have a significant effect on the environment.”

G. WILDCAT AND SAN PABLO CREEKS

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to \$145,000 (one hundred forty-five thousand dollars) to Urban Tilth for preparation of plans and environmental review for restoring creek habitat and water quality on Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks between Interstate 80 and San Pablo Bay wetlands in the City of San Pablo and the community of North Richmond in Contra Costa County. This authorization is subject to the condition that, prior to the disbursement of funds, Urban Tilth shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:

1. A work program including a schedule and budget for the project.
2. The names and qualifications of all contractors to be retained for the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
- 2, The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
- 3, Urban Tilth is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

H. WORKER’S COMPENSATION COVERAGE

Resolution:

“The Coastal Conservancy hereby approves the extension of the worker's compensation program benefits to State Coastal Conservancy volunteers and authorizes the Executive Officer to take actions necessary to implement this authorization.”

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I. JPA WITH SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the Executive Officer to enter into a joint powers agreement with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for purposes of protecting certain property within the Eel River watershed as shown in Exhibit 1 to the accompanying staff recommendation.”

J. IWRP PHASE 4

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy authorizes disbursement of up to one million one C hundred thousand dollars (\$1,100,000) to the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz ounty (RCDSCC) to design and prepare permit applications for 25 to 30 critical watershed restoration projects as part of the Integrated Watershed Restoration Program, subject to the condition that prior to the disbursement of funds, the RCDSCC shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer a work plan, schedule and budget, and the names and qualifications of any subcontractors.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resources protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 5-0.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

A. ADOPTION OF PROPOSITION 1 GRANT GUIDELINES

Mary Small of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines

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Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby adopts the Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 1, pursuant to Water Code Section 79706(a).”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff recommendation and its attached exhibits, the Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines are consistent with Conservancy’s statutory responsibilities under Division 21 of the California Public Resources Code.
2. The Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines are consistent with Division 26.7 of the California Water Code.”

B. ADOPTION OF STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Mary Small of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Conservancy Strategic Plan Update.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby adopts the Strategic Plan Update attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 1.”

Moved and seconded. Both Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines and the Strategic Plan Update were approved by a vote of 5-0.

C. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Executive Officer gave the June Legislative report (attached to these minutes)

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Board member Kinsey arrived during presentation.

5. BEL MARIN KEYS UNIT V

Jeff Melby of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

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Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) for final design, engineering, permitting, and other work associated with planning for restoration of the Bel Marin Keys Unit V component of the Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

6. CORTE MADERA MARSH

Betsy Wilson of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Barbara Salzman, Marin Audubon Society.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) to Marin Audubon Society (MAS) to acquire a 5.2-acre property adjoined to the north, east, and south by the Corte Madera Marsh Ecological Reserve in Marin County (Marin County Assessor’s Parcel Numbers 023-040-06, -10, and -11). This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of Conservancy funds, MAS shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) all relevant documents, including, without limitation, the appraisal, purchase agreement, escrow instructions, environmental assessment, and title report.
2. Prior to the disbursement of Conservancy funds, MAS shall submit evidence that it has obtained sufficient rights to access the site for purposes of the acquisition.
3. MAS shall permanently dedicate the property for the purposes of habitat restoration and preservation, while enabling compatible public access, by recording an irrevocable offer to dedicate the property or other instrument approved by the Executive Officer.

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4. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining a sign on the property or in a nearby public staging area, the design and location of which must be approved by the Executive Officer.
5. MAS shall pay no more than fair market value for the property, as approved by the Conservancy, based on an appraisal of the property.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Sections 31160 *et seq.*), regarding San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Marin Audubon Society is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

7. SKY RANCH PROPERTY

Laura Cholodenko of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) to acquire fee title to the 16-acre property known as Sky Ranch (Assessor Parcel Numbers 002-181-21, 007-071-01, and 007-064-43) (“property”), as shown in Exhibit 2 to the accompanying staff recommendation. This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to disbursement of any funds for acquisition of the property, MCOSD shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) all relevant acquisition documents, including the appraisal, agreement of purchase and sale, escrow instructions, deeds, and documents of title.
2. MCOSD shall not pay more than fair market value for the property acquired pursuant to this authorization, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
3. MCOSD shall permanently dedicate the property for the purposes of protecting open space, preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat and water quality, and providing compatible public use, through an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.

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4. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining a sign on the property or in a nearby public staging area, the design and location of which to be approved by the Executive Officer.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Sections 31160 *et seq.*), regarding the Conservancy’s mandate to address the resource and recreational goals of the San Francisco Bay Area.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines adopted by the Conservancy Board on October 2, 2014.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

SOUTH COAST

8. SANTA CLARA RIVER

Chris Kroll of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Lily Verdone, The Nature Conservancy.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), a nonprofit organization, for the restoration of 238-acres of the “Hanson” property to implement the Santa Clara River Parkway project, subject to the following condition: Prior to the disbursement of any Conservancy funds, TNC shall submit for review and approval by the Conservancy’s Executive Officer:

- a. a detailed work program, including a budget and schedule;
- b. the names of any contractors to be employed on the project;
- c. a sign plan to acknowledge Conservancy funding for the project; and
- d. evidence that all permits and approvals for this project have been issued.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

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3. The Nature Conservancy is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

9. REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR SCWRP

Megan Cooper of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Aquatic Science Center (ASC) for technical assistance needed to update the 2001 Regional Strategy for the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project. Prior to the disbursement of funds, ASC shall submit for the review and written approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer a work program, including budget and schedule, and any contractors to be employed for these work program tasks.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 3 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the funding of feasibility studies and plans, and with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding resource enhancement.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

NORTH COAST

10. ESTERO RANCH PROPERTY – ITEM POSTPONED

11. RICHARDSON-KASHIA PROPERTY

Lisa Ames of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Brendan Moriarty, The Trust for Public Land; Martina Morgan, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand (\$500,000) to the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to acquire real property commonly known as the Richardson-Kashia property, Sonoma County Assessor

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Parcel Numbers 122-290-001 and 122-290-002 (“the property”) as shown on Exhibit 1 to the accompanying staff recommendation, in coastal Sonoma County.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to disbursement of any Conservancy funds, TPL shall:
 - a. Submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (“Executive Officer”) all relevant acquisition documents, including without limitation, appraisals, environmental assessments, title reports, purchase agreements, escrow instructions and documents of title.
 - b. Obtain all other funds necessary to complete the acquisition.
2. TPL shall pay no more than fair market value for the property, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer or the Department of General Services.
3. TPL shall permanently dedicate the property in a manner acceptable to the Executive Officer for the purpose of protecting habitat and open space, providing public access and other uses consistent with the conservation easement to be placed on the property. TPL may transfer the property to Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts Point Rancheria if the Tribe has entered into an agreement with the Conservancy sufficient to protect the public interest in the property, including: a) a waiver of sovereign immunity with respect to protection of such interests and b) restrictions on the use of the property consistent with Public Resources Code section 31116(b).
4. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining a sign on the property that has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Officer.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 8 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding reservation of significant coastal resource areas. The property will be used for purposes consistent with section 31351 of the Public Resources Code.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Trust for Public Land is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and its purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0

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12. GALLEGHER RANCH

Member Kinsey recused himself from this presentation and vote because he is on the MALT board

Su Corbaley of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Jeff Stump, Marin Agricultural Land Trust

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$475,000) to the Marin Agricultural Land Trust for the acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement over the 330-acre Gallagher Ranch property (Marin County Assessor’s Parcel No. 119-050-17), subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of any Conservancy funds for acquisition, the Marin Agricultural Land Trust shall:
 - a. Submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (the “Executive Officer”), all relevant acquisition documents, including, without limitation, appraisals, purchase agreements, conservation easements, escrow instructions and documents of title;
 - b. Submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer a Baseline Conditions Report certified by the grantor and a Monitoring and Reporting Plan; and
 - c. Provide written evidence to the Executive Officer that all other funds necessary to the acquisition have been obtained.
2. The purchase price of the conservation easement shall not exceed fair market value, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy.
3. The easement interest acquired under this authorization shall be managed and operated in a manner consistent with the purposes of agricultural conservation, open space preservation and natural resource protection. The property interests acquired under this authorization shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 31116(b).
4. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining on the property a sign, the design and placement of which has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Officer.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the preservation of agricultural lands.

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2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Marin Agricultural Land Trust is a nonprofit organization existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes, which include the preservation of land for agricultural and open space uses, are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 5-0.

13. ORICK MILL SITE

Su Corbaley of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Save-the-Redwoods League to prepare habitat enhancement and public access conceptual designs for the Orick Mill Site Restoration Project at the former Orick Mill Site in Humboldt County, subject to the following conditions: Prior to the disbursement of funds, the Save-the-Redwoods League shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a work program including a schedule and budget, and the names and qualifications of all contractors to be retained for the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapters 6 and 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding resource enhancement and public coastal access, respectively.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Save-the-Redwoods League is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

CENTRAL COAST

14. MONTEREY BAY SANCTUARY SCENIC TRAIL

Trish Chapman of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Cory Coletti, Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission.

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Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) towards design, permitting documentation and environmental analysis for Segments 5 and 7 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the commencement of work and the disbursement of funds, the RTC shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a detailed work program, schedule and budget, and the names and qualifications of any contractors to be employed in carrying out the project.
2. To the extent appropriate, the RTC shall ensure that the design is consistent with the Conservancy’s ‘Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development’ and all applicable federal and state statutes, regulations and guidelines for governing access for persons with disabilities.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public access.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The proposed project will assist in the development of a segment of public use trail that will serve more than local needs”.

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

15. ARROYO BURRO WATERSHED

Rachel Couch of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Alex Size, The Trust for Public Land.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the Trust for Public Land (“TPL”) to acquire Santa Barbara County Parcel Nos. 047-010-64 and 047-061-26, consisting of approximately 14.7 acres, for the purpose of preserving fish and wildlife habitat and open space, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of Conservancy funds, TPL shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer (“the Executive Officer”):

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- a. All title and acquisition documents including, but not limited to, the appraisal, purchase and sale agreement, escrow instructions, environmental and hazardous materials assessment, and title documents.
 - b. Evidence that sufficient funds are available to complete the acquisition.
2. TPL shall pay no more than fair market value for any property acquired pursuant to this authorization, as established by an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
 3. All property interests acquired with these funds shall be permanently protected for public access, open space and habitat conservation in a manner acceptable to the Executive Officer and consistent with Public Resources Code Section 31116(b).
 4. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining a sign on the property, the design and location of which has been approved by the Executive Officer.
 5. TPL shall not convey any portion of or interest in the property acquired in whole or in part with funds provided under this authorization, without the Executive Officer's approval."

Findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
3. The Trust for Public Land is a nonprofit organization existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and whose purposes are consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation (Division 21 of the Public Resources Code)."

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

16. CARMEL RIVER LAGOON

Trish Chapman of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to three hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$360,000) of Carmel River Settlement funds to the Carmel River Steelhead Association (CRSA) to install approximately seven large woody debris and boulder complexes in the Carmel River Lagoon in order to enhance steelhead rearing habitat, subject to the condition that prior to the disbursement of funds, CRSA shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy the following:

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A work program including a schedule and budget for the project;

1. The names and qualifications of all contractors to be employed for the project;
2. Evidence that CRSA has sufficient rights to access the project site for purposes of undertaking and maintaining the project , and that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained; and
3. A signing plan for the project acknowledging Conservancy funding.

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding resource enhancement.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. CRSA is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

STATEWIDE

17. CLIMATE READY PROJECTS

Brenna Rudd of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to one million nine hundred seventy-four thousand, five hundred seventy-nine dollars (\$1,974,579) to 11 nonprofit organizations and public agencies for projects that sequester greenhouse gases or address the effects of climate change on resources along the coast and within the San Francisco Bay Area, specifically as follows, to the:

- Friends of the Dunes: Two hundred forty-nine thousand, two hundred forty-six dollars (\$249,246) to conduct a coastal dune vulnerability and adaptation assessment along 32 miles of coastline in Humboldt County, to establish demonstration sites to test adaptation strategies, and to develop an empirical model of dune response to sea level rise.
- Marin County Open Space District: One hundred sixty-five thousand dollars (\$165,000) to develop a conceptual design for restoration of 25-35 acres of wetlands at the north end of Bolinas Lagoon to address impacts of future sea level rise and large storm events.
- Marin Resource Conservation District: Three hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$325,000) for planning to expand farm management practices that reduce greenhouse

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gas emissions and promote long-term carbon sequestration through existing regional conservation programs in Napa, Sonoma, Marin, and Mendocino counties.

- Marin County Community Development Agency: Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to develop a county-wide, multi-jurisdictional sea level rise vulnerability assessment. This project will conduct exposure and sensitivity assessments for all of Marin County's Bay shoreline, mapping areas that are expected to experience temporary flooding as well as permanent inundation in the future. This project will engage elected officials, management staff, and the public in the process of developing action plans.
- Napa County Resource Conservation District: Ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) to plant 5,000 oak trees seeds from five dominant species in the Napa River watershed over three years and to engage approximately 1,500 6th grade students in Napa County by conducting classroom education, facilitating planting events, and developing a map-based, internet-accessible tool for tracking oak tree survival and growth.
- Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy: One hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$135,000) to conduct a climate change and sea level rise vulnerability analysis at Crissy Field. This project will inventory adaptation strategies and engage the community in extensive planning activities to assess what adaptation measures are appropriate to protect and enhance the site's culture, natural, and recreational resources.
- San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory: One hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to restore twelve acres of marsh-upland transitional areas within the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project with a diverse mixture of native plants.
- Coastal Conservation and Research, Inc.: Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to develop restoration design and CEQA review of a project to remove invasive species and plant native species on 15-20 acres of dunes at Salinas River State Park.
- The Nature Conservancy: Two hundred seventy-six thousand dollars (\$276,000) to plan, design, and facilitate permitting of management strategies that reduce flood risk, recharge groundwater, improve riparian habitat, and increase the resilience of agricultural operations along the Salinas River.
- The Bay Foundation: Sixty eight thousand, eight hundred thirty-three dollars (\$68,833) to conduct a hydrodynamics study in a restored kelp forest that will quantify the effects of the forests on wave energy and current flow before and after restoration of 60 acres of kelp forest on rocky reef habitat.
- Orange County Coastkeeper: Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to plan and implement an innovative Living Shoreline project that will restore and monitor oysters and eelgrass.

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The authorization is subject to the following condition:

Prior to the disbursement of funds to each grantee, each grantee shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy's Executive Officer a final work program, schedule, budget, names of any contractors, a plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding, evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained, and any other applicable agreements determined necessary for the project by the Conservancy's Executive Officer."

Findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, sections 31100 *et seq.*, regarding project planning and climate change (Chapter 3), resource and recreational goals in the San Francisco Bay Area (Chapter 4.5), and integrated coastal and marine resource protection (Chapter 5.5).
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The nonprofit organization grantees proposed under this authorization exist under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code, and their corporate purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.
4. Consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Conservancy has reviewed the June 2015 Environmental Assessment entitled Environmental Assessment, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Sea-Level Rise Adaptation Demonstration Project, and the accompanying Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4a, adopted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service on June 10, 2015, and finds that, as mitigated, the project will not have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382."

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 6-0.

18. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

19. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

Member Kinsey commented on a 2005 RCD of \$263,000 Riparian Water Rights, Pine Gulch and the Bolinas Ground breaking June 23.

20. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 11:46 am.