

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chairman
Bryan Cash (Designated, Natural Resources)
Steve Kinsey, Coastal Commission Chair
Karen Finn (Designated, Department of Finance)

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT:

No oversight members attended.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Amy Roach, Chief Counsel

LOCATION:

Exploratorium, Bay Observatory
Upper Level
San Francisco, CA

1. ROLL CALL

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chairman
Steve Kinsey, Coastal Commission Chair
Karen Finn, Designated, Department of Finance)
Bryan Cash (Designated, Natural Resources)

Carol Bach, representing the Port of San Francisco, welcomed the Conservancy and thanked them for all the support the Conservancy has provided for public access and habitat restoration projects on the Port's waterfront property.

Susan Schwartzberg, Director, the Bay Observatory, Exploratorium, also welcomed the Conservancy and thanked them for all their support for the projects at the Exploratorium.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the January 28, 2016 public meeting. Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

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3. CONSENT ITEMS

A. GUALALA RIVER PRODUCTIVE LANDS

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to the Gualala River Watershed Council (GRWC) to develop a natural resource enhancement program for properties within the Gualala River Watershed subject to the condition that prior to the disbursement of funds, GRWC shall submit for the written approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer a work program, including schedule and budget, and the names of any contractors it intends to retain 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 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.
3. The Gualala River Watershed Council 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.”

B. UPPER SPRING BRANCH CREEK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred eighty five thousand, nine hundred eighty nine dollars (\$185,989) to the Solano Land Trust (“SLT”) to enhance and monitor seasonal wetland, riparian, and upland habitat at a 9 acre site along Upper Spring Branch Creek, Rush Ranch, Solano County, and to create an endowment for ongoing maintenance and monitoring of the project site, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, SLT shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy the following:
 - a. final work program, schedule and budget, and the names of any contractors it intends to use to complete the project; and
 - b. A financial investment plan for the endowment demonstrating that use of the endowment funds will be limited to maintenance and monitoring of the project site.

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2. SLT shall submit an annual financial report detailing fund income and expenses and the investment portfolio; and
3. SLT shall not spend principal from the endowment fund without the written approval of 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, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Solano Land Trust 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.
4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Rush Ranch Habitat Restoration, Facility Improvements, and Site Utilization Project Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by Solano County on January 21, 2016 (IS/MND), attached as Exhibit 5 to the accompanying staff recommendation. The Conservancy finds, that the component of the proposed project addressed in the ISMND will not have a significant effect on the environment as defined by the CEQA Guidelines, 14 Cal. Code Regs §15382.”

C. UPPER DEVEREUX SLOUGH

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby modifies its April 18, 2013 authorization for disbursement of \$869,300 to The Regents of the University of California for the preparation of design, engineering, environmental and permit application documents and surveys for restoration of the Upper Devereux Slough, as follows:

1. Revises the scope of planning activities to allow for the preparation of additional documentation, including final design and engineering, needed for environmental review and permit application, and to allow for reasonable and appropriate interim maintenance of the project site during the planning phase, as necessary and consistent with the future restoration of the site and with the funding provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service grant to the Conservancy for the project.
2. Augments the amount of funds for the project, by authorizing the disbursement of up to an additional six hundred and fifty thousand (\$650,000), including up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in mitigation funds provided to the Conservancy by the City of Santa Barbara, for the additional environmental review and permit application documentation. Prior to the disbursement of these augmented funds, UCSB shall submit

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for review and approval of the Conservancy's Executive Officer: a revised work program, budget, schedule and the names and qualifications of any contractors to be employed for these tasks."

This authorization otherwise remains subject to the same conditions imposed by the Conservancy's April 18, 2013 authorization.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed project remains consistent with the purposes and objectives set forth in Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Section 31251-31270) regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
2. The proposed project remains consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines."

Moved and seconded. Consent items approved unanimously

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Executive officer introduced Hilary Walecka and Heather Dennis, the new Sea Grant Fellows currently working at the Conservancy.

A. Former Conservancy Sea Grant Fellow, Jocelyn Christie Enevoldsen reported on her planned hike of the California Coastal Trail starting May 1. During this hike Ms. Enevoldsen and her hiking partner will be blogging about her journey and hosting events along the way with local organizations. The Conservancy will be using this hike to help publicize and celebrate its 40th anniversary on social media by highlighting the Coastal Trail and Conservancy projects along the coast.

B. The March legislative report was distributed to the board and is attached to these minutes.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

5. INVASIVE SPARTINA PROJECT

Marilyn Latta of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Anne Morkill, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to \$4,100,000, of which \$3,000,000 will be reimbursed by a grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, for planning, management, treatment, monitoring, and restoration activities to implement the San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project from 2016-2019, allocated as follows:

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1. Approximately \$3,350,000 (three million three hundred fifty thousand dollars) for Conservancy contracts for planning, management, pre-implementation work and monitoring for treatment and eradication projects and for revegetation projects.
2. Approximately \$300,000 (three hundred thousand dollars) for ongoing invasive and hybrid *Spartina* treatment and eradication projects through 2019 (or in subsequent years). These funds will be used to augment an existing grant to the California Wildlife Foundation.
3. Approximately \$450,000 (four hundred fifty thousand dollars) for ongoing native revegetation projects through 2019 (or in subsequent years). These funds may be used to augment an existing grant to the California Wildlife Foundation or for a grant to a public entity or to 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 California Public Resources Code.

Any grant of funds for treatment and eradication or revegetation shall be subject to the following conditions:

- a. Prior to implementing any treatment and eradication or revegetation project and prior to disbursement of any funds to the grantee, the grantee shall submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer: a final plan detailing the site-specific work for 2016 and subsequent years, based on the outcome and extent of the prior year's treatment or revegetation results, and including a list of identified mitigation measures; an annual work program for treatment or revegetation, including a schedule and budget; and evidence that the grantee has obtained all necessary permits and approvals for the project.
- b. In carrying out any treatment or revegetation project, the grantee shall comply with all applicable mitigation and monitoring measures that are set forth in the approved site-specific plans, that are required by any permit, the applicable U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion or any other approval for the project, and that are identified in the "Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project: *Spartina* Control Program" (EIS/R), adopted by the Conservancy on September 25, 2003".

Findings:

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

1. Disbursement of additional funds for the Invasive *Spartina* Project treatment and eradication projects, and planning and management, remains consistent with Public Resources Code Sections 31160-31165.
2. The proposed authorization remains consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines last updated by the Conservancy on October 2, 2014.
3. The proposed authorization is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

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4. No new environmental documentation is required for the activities under the proposed authorization, since the activities are within the scope of the EIS/R, and, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15162), do not involve any new effects or new mitigation measures beyond those identified in the EIS/R.

5. The California Wildlife Foundation 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 California Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

6. SF BAY CREOSOTE PILING REMOVAL

Marilyn Latta of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby: authorizes the disbursement of up to \$1,373,000 (one million three hundred seventy three thousand dollars) of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant funds to non-profit Ducks Unlimited to implement a multi-objective creosote piling removal and Pacific herring habitat restoration pilot project at Red Rocks Warehouse and El Campo Marina in San Francisco Bay; adopts the “Mitigated Negative Declaration for the San Francisco Bay Creosote Removal and Pacific Herring Habitat Restoration Project”(MND), attached as Exhibit 3 to the accompanying staff recommendation; and adopts the “Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the San Francisco Bay Creosote Removal and Pacific Herring Habitat Restoration Project”, attached as Exhibit 4 to the accompanying staff recommendation.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of any funds, Ducks Unlimited shall submit for the review and written approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer:
 - a. A work program, budget, schedule, and the names of any contractors to be employed in carrying out the work.
 - b. Evidence that all required permits and approvals have been obtained for the proposed project.
2. In carrying out the proposed project, Ducks Unlimited shall comply with all applicable mitigation and monitoring measures that are required by any permit or approval and that are identified in the MND adopted by the Conservancy.

Findings:

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

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1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the resource goals of the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Ducks Unlimited 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.
4. The Conservancy has considered the “Mitigated Negative Declaration for the San Francisco Bay Creosote Removal and Pacific Herring Habitat Restoration Project” (MND), attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 3, and any comments received, and finds that, on the basis of the whole record, the proposed project avoids, reduces or mitigates any possible significant environmental effect of the pilot project and there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15382. The MND represents the Conservancy's independent judgment and analysis.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

CENTRAL COAST

7. SAND HILLS FARM ACQUISITION

Janet Diehl of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Mark Silverstein, Elkhorn Slough Foundation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to one million five hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$1,580,000) to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation (“ESF”) for the purpose of acquiring the Sand Hills Farm Property in the Elkhorn Slough watershed (Monterey County Assessor Parcel Numbers 129-211-038 and 129-213-004), consisting of approximately 107 acres. This authorization is subject to the following condition:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, ESF shall submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (“the Executive Officer”) all relevant documents, including, without limitation, the appraisal, purchase agreement, escrow instructions, environmental assessment and title report.
2. ESF shall pay no more than fair market value for the property, as approved by the Conservancy, based on an appraisal of the property.
3. ESF shall permanently dedicate the property for wildlife habitat, environmental restoration, open space protection, agricultural preservation and possible public access

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through an irrevocable offer to dedicate the property or other instrument approved by the Executive Officer.

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 project is consistent with the purposes and objectives set forth in Chapter 6 of Division 21 the Public Resources Code (Section 31251-31270) regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Elkhorn Slough Foundation 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 unanimously.

NORTH COAST

8. SALT RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT – PHASE 2A(UPPER)

Michael Bowen of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to six hundred forty nine thousand dollars (\$649,000) to the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (“RCD”) to implement Phase 2A (Upper) 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, landowner access agreements and approvals have been obtained.
 - d. A signing plan for the project acknowledging Conservancy funding and acknowledging Proposition 1 to the extent practicable.

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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."

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

9. ELK RIVER ESTUARY ENHANCEMENT PLANNING

Joel Gerwein of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) to the City of Eureka (City) to plan and prepare permit applications for the restoration and enhancement of coastal wetlands at and adjacent to the Elk River Estuary on Humboldt Bay.

This authorization is subject to the following condition:

1. Prior to disbursement of any funds for the Project, the City shall submit a work plan, schedule, budget, and the names of any contractors or subcontractors to be retained for implementation of the project for the review and approval of the Executive Officer."

Findings:

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

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1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resources protection projects.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The project is consistent with the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

STATEWIDE

10. EXPLORE THE COAST

Laura Cholodenko of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to one million, seven hundred ninety-five thousand, nine hundred sixty dollars (\$1,795,960) to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for the following 57 projects that facilitate and enhance the public’s opportunities to explore the coast of California and the San Francisco Bay shoreline, (presented in alphabetical order):

- Access Northern California: Twenty-one thousand six hundred and fifty dollars (\$21,650) for the development of web-based information about coastal recreation opportunities and 3 organized hikes for people with disabilities, San Mateo County and Statewide multiple coastal counties.
- Association of Bay Area Governments: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to develop content for the San Francisco Bay Trail web application at 4 new trail locations, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano counties.
- Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for outdoor trips and collection and dissemination of access information that helps people with physical disabilities visit coastal areas, Alameda County.
- Buena Vista Audubon Society: Five thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500) for bus transportation of 1,500 students from low-income areas in Oceanside to Buena Vista Lagoon, San Diego County.
- California Wildlife Foundation: Seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) to develop and provide coastal-related climate change education in select San Diego County schools through science-based activities, art, and field trips that include bus transportation, San Diego County.
- Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria: Nine thousand nine hundred seventy-five dollars (\$9,975) to develop and implement a sustainable fishing educational program for local underserved youth at Seascape Pier in Trinidad, Humboldt County.

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- Children’s Maritime Foundation: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for the implementation of the Long Beach Watershed and Marine Science Program, Los Angeles County.
- City of Watsonville Public Works Conservation Academy: Twenty-seven thousand nine hundred eighty-six dollars (\$27,986) to bring approximately 3,500 Watsonville students and 500 adult family members to the coast on buses for stewardship activities, Santa Cruz County.
- Coastwalk: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for a California Coastal Trail multi-media outreach campaign and content/data collection initiative, multiple coastal counties.
- Earth Island Institute: Forty-two thousand dollars (\$42,000) for bus transportation and environmental education programming for urban, underserved youth at Bay Area creek, bay, and ocean sites, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.
- Earth Team: Twelve thousand six hundred and seventy dollars (\$12,670) for a 2-day coastal experience including bus transportation for 120 students from 8 low income high schools, San Francisco County.
- Environmental Action Committee of West Marin: Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for scholarships to the Point Reyes Birding and Nature Festival, Marin County.
- Environmental Justice Coalition for Water: Twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$27,000) for sponsorship of the “North Richmond Shoreline Festival” and to provide bus transportation to the event for local, underserved communities, Contra Costa County.
- Environmental Traveling Companions: Forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for sea kayaking scholarships for disabled people and environmental education training for volunteer kayak guides, Marin County.
- Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve: Two thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars (\$2,775) for bus transportation of disadvantaged Paso Robles high school students to visit the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve, Cambria, San Luis Obispo County.
- Friends of Sausal Creek: Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) for an outdoor, environmental education program for Oakland youth residents of lower Sausal Creek watershed, Alameda County.
- Friends of the Dunes: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for bus transportation and Tolowa Coast stewardship activities for underserved youth and families, Del Norte County.
- Golden Gate Audubon: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to implement a San Francisco Bay Area wetlands, creeks, and ocean habitats environmental education program including bus transportation for urban, underserved youth, Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Francisco Counties.
- Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to implement Project WISE (Watersheds Inspiring Student Education), a coastal and watershed environmental science program for San Francisco public high school youth and teachers in the Presidio of San Francisco, San Francisco County.
- Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center: Forty-seven thousand five hundred and sixty-six dollars (\$47,566) for an environmental education pilot program of outreach and field trips including bus transportation for Guadalupe fifth grade students, Santa Barbara County.

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- Hayward Area Recreation and Park District: Twenty seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) to create an educational web application and content and to provide shoreline environmental education, Alameda County.
- Heal the Bay: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for transportation to 2 coastal education events and support of event programming, Los Angeles County.
- Living Coast Discovery Center: Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for transportation to 2 free public education events at the Living Coast Discovery Center and support of event programming, San Diego County.
- Malibu Foundation for Environmental Education: Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for buses to transport youth to Kids Ocean Day Adopt-A-Beach Clean-Up, Los Angeles County.
- Marin Link: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to provide shoreline educational, recreational, and stewardship experiences for underserved residents of Marin City and San Rafael, Marin County.
- Marine Science Institute: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to provide underserved students with hands-on educational experiences at San Francisco Bay and coastal sites and for bus transportation to the sites, San Mateo County.
- Maritime Museum Association of San Diego: Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to develop a docent and volunteer recruitment and training outreach plan for each port city hosting the ship *San Salvador*, Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Francisco, Solano, Alameda, and Sacramento Counties.
- Morro Bay National Estuary Program: Thirteen thousand five hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$13,598) to develop interpretive content about Morro Bay for the Explore the Coast Web Application, San Luis Obispo County.
- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for overnight coastal camping trips, including bus and van transportation, targeting underserved Los Angeles youth, Los Angeles County.
- National Marine Sanctuary Foundation: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to implement a bilingual Earth and ocean sciences education program at the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and for transportation to the coastal study sites, Ventura County.
- National Park Service: Forty-six thousand six hundred and thirty-five dollars (\$46,635) for backpacking trips and van rental to take local underserved youth into Redwood National and State Parks, Del Norte County.
- Northcoast Environmental Center: Twenty-one thousand dollars (\$21,000) for its Humboldt Bay Explorations program, Humboldt County.
- Noyo Center for Marine Science: Twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) to produce up to 5 videos of the Mendocino Coast for the Explore the Coast web application, Mendocino County.
- O'Neill Sea Odyssey: Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for bus transportation of underserved students to and from a marine education project at Santa Cruz Harbor; Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Benito and Monterey Counties.
- Ocean Awareness Project: Twenty-two thousand three hundred eighty dollars (\$22,380) to plan and provide chartered bus trips during the summer from central Richmond to

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Point Molate Beach Park to promote shoreline access and a coastal experience, Contra Costa County.

- Ocean Discovery Institute: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for fourth–sixth grade students to participate in ocean science education, field trips including bus transportation, and stewardship projects, San Diego County.
- Ocean Institute: Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to produce a bilingual multi-media marketing campaign to advertise free public transportation and free event admission for up to 1,500 low-income individuals to the Tall Ship Festival, Orange County.
- Ocean Riders of Marin: Eight thousand two hundred sixty dollars (\$8,260) to include disadvantaged Marin and San Francisco County residents in the environmental education program at the former Golden Gate Dairy in Muir Beach and to provide van transportation to the program site, Marin and San Francisco Counties.
- Orange County Coastkeeper: Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to expand an educational program to include a new marine debris education component for elementary school kids and to provide bus transportation for coastal clean-up events, Orange County.
- Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for coastal environmental education and bus transportation for over 3,600 elementary school students to visit the White Point Education Center and Preserve, Los Angeles County.
- Point Reyes National Seashore Association: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to implement 2 years of coastal outreach, environmental science and natural history education and provide bus transportation for San Francisco Bay Area youth, including underserved and underrepresented students to visit the Point Reyes National Seashore, Marin County.
- Redwood Community Action Agency: Thirty-nine thousand nine hundred and seventy-one dollars (\$39,971) for the creation of multi-media interpretive content for ten coastal trail points, Humboldt County.
- Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for teacher training, educational materials and bus transportation for 20 fourth–sixth grade student field trips to coastal locations, Santa Barbara County.
- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains: Forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for a hands-on marine ecology field program including bus transportation and to create content for the Explore the Coast web application, Los Angeles County.
- San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy: Forty-nine thousand, nine hundred fifty dollars (\$49,950) to provide bus transportation for low-income, inland students to visit San Elijo Lagoon, and to develop content for the Explore the Coast web application, San Diego County.
- San Francisco Bay Wildlife Society: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for bus transportation, interns, and public outreach to increase the number of low-income students and members of the general public who visit the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Alameda and Santa Clara Counties.
- Save our Shores: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for student bus transportation, environmental education and stewardship activities at sites along the Santa Cruz shoreline and Elkhorn Slough, Santa Cruz County.

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- Save the Redwoods League: Seventeen thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$17,150) to educate Oakland elementary school students about their local watershed through field trips including bus transportation, classroom study, and hands-on experiences, Alameda County.
- Sierra Club Foundation: Fifteen thousand four hundred dollars (\$15,400) to organize and conduct 30 field trips for low income school students, parents, and teachers to visit sites along Santa Monica Bay and to provide bus transportation to the sites, Los Angeles County.
- The Bay Foundation: Forty-seven thousand dollars (\$47,000) to provide adults and youth with historical and environmental education and opportunities to restore the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Dunes, Los Angeles County.
- The Ocean Foundation: Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for 3 years of marine science education programs for underserved youth of coastal communities, San Diego County.
- The Watershed Project: Thirty-two thousand dollars (\$32,000) to develop and provide native oyster and bay ecology education programs for high school students including hands-on science activities at 3 shoreline sites and for bus transportation to visit the field sites, Contra Costa County.
- Ventana Wildlife Society: Thirty-two thousand four hundred and twenty-two dollars (\$32,422) for 8 five-day long Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary coastal ecology day camps with one overnight camp day each week including van transportation for low-income youth, Monterey County.
- Vida Verde Nature Education: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for low-income urban youth to participate in a 3-day, overnight San Mateo County coast environmental education program, San Mateo County.
- West Contra Costa Unified School District: Six thousand eight hundred sixty-five dollars (\$6,865) for 3 Elkhorn Slough kayaking excursions for students in the Lovonya DeJean Middle School's ESCAPE Club, Richmond, Contra Costa County.
- Wildcoast: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to provide marine-based learning and stewardship opportunities and transportation to coastal sites for underserved high school students, San Diego County.
- YMCA of San Francisco: Forty-nine thousand seven hundred and seven dollars (\$49,707) for a 3-day outdoor education trip for underserved youth to the Marin headlands, Marin County.

The authorization is subject to the following condition:

1. 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 project contractors, a plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding, and any other applicable agreements determined necessary for the project by the Conservancy's Executive Officer.

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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 3, 4.5, 7, and 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding undertaking educational projects for K-12 students relating to the coastal resources (Ch.3); the resource and recreational goals in the San Francisco Bay Area (Ch. 4.5); urban waterfront restoration (Ch. 7); and the establishment of a system of public accessways to and along the California coast (Ch. 9).
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The proposed nonprofit organization grantees are nonprofit organizations existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.
4. The Conservancy, as a responsible agency, has independently reviewed and considered the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the *Lake Earl Wildlife Area Coastal Dune Restoration Plan*, adopted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on August 24, 2011 (MND) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), attached to the accompanying staff report as Exhibit 4, and finds that: (a) the portion of the Friends of the Dunes project involving removal of invasive European beachgrass and dune restoration has been appropriately analyzed in the MND; (b) the project as mitigated will avoid or reduce potential environmental effects to a level of insignificance; and (c) the project will not have a significant effect on the environment as defined by CEQA Guidelines, 14 Cal. Code Regs. §15382.”

Board suggested they be informed of the progress of these projects as they move forward. Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

11. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

12. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENT

There were no Conservancy comments.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON –AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am