

*STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
February 2, 2017*

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Sara Ramirez Giroux (Public Member)
Ann Notthoff (Public Member)
Bryan Cash (Designated, Natural Resources)
Dayna Bochco (Coastal Commission Chair)
Karen Finn (Designated, Department of Finance)

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT:

No oversight members attended.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Jeannette MacMillan, Staff Counsel

LOCATION:

Dept. of Transportation, District 07
Conference Room 01.037
100 South Main St
Los Angeles, CA

1. ROLL CALL

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Sara Ramirez Giroux (Public Member)
Ann Notthoff (Public Member)
Bryan Cash (Designated, Natural Resources)
Dayna Bochco (Coastal Commission Chair)
Karen Finn (Designated, Department of Finance)

- 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the Conservancy's December 1, 2016 public meeting.
Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

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3. CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Bosco asked the board if any consent items needed to be removed. The consent calendar was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

A. CORTE MADERA MARSH RESTORATION

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed five hundred twenty-four thousand one hundred seventeen dollars (\$524,117) to Marin Audubon Society (MAS) to restore a 6.2-acre site adjoining the Corte Madera Marsh Ecological Reserve in Marin County. This authorization is subject to the condition that prior to the disbursement of Conservancy funds, MAS shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) a final work program, schedule and budget; copies of all necessary permits; evidence of landowner agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to construct and maintain the project; a plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding; and names of project contractors.”

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.
4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Corte Madera Ecological Reserve Expansion (IS/MND) adopted by the Town of Corte Madera on January 17, 2017 and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 5. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project as mitigated avoids, reduces or mitigates the possible significant environmental effects and that there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment as defined by the CEQA Guidelines, 14 Cal. Code Regs Section 15382.”

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B. BAY AREA AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS PROGRAM

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160-31165 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to \$35,000 (thirty-five thousand dollars) to Sustainable Agricultural Education (SAGE) to complete a study that analyzes the direct and indirect economic contributions of the Bay Area agriculture and food sector to regional prosperity and resilience, subject to the condition that prior to the disbursement of any Conservancy funds SAGE shall submit for the review and written approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer a detailed work program, budget and schedule as well as the names and qualifications of any contractors and subcontractors that it intends to employ.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 Conservancy’s mandate to address the resource and recreation goals of the San Francisco Bay Area.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. SAGE is a nonprofit corporation recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

C. SANTA CLARA RIVER PARKWAY A.C. GROWERS ACQUISTION

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31251-270 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby augments its October 21, 2010 authorization, attached as Exhibit 2 to the accompanying staff recommendation, to include as a priority

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property the 50.17-acre property commonly known as the “A.C. Growers” property (Ventura County Parcel Nos. 046-0-230-270 and 046-0-230-300) to implement the Santa Clara River Parkway project, as shown in Exhibit 2 to the accompanying staff recommendation, subject to the conditions in the October 21, 2010 authorization and the following additional conditions:

1. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) shall permanently dedicate the property for flood protection, wildlife habitat, wetland restoration, open space protection, public access and limited agricultural uses through an irrevocable offer to dedicate the property or other instrument approved by the Conservancy’s Executive Officer.
2. 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 is to be approved by the Conservancy’s Executive Officer.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that the proposed authorization remains consistent with the findings made by the Conservancy in its October 21, 2010 authorization; with the current Conservancy’s 2013 Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives; with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines; with the Coastal Act; and with the Conservancy’s Enabling Legislation, Public Resources Code Sections 31251-270 (resource enhancement).”

D. SONOMA COUNTY LAWNS TO HABITAT PROJECT

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31251-31270 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to eighty-one thousand six hundred and ninety dollars (\$81,690.00) to Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB) to implement demonstration projects that will convert up to 20,000 square feet of irrigated lawn in disadvantaged communities to habitat gardens to reduce water usage and improve habitat for endangered salmonids in Sonoma County. This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to disbursement of funds, CCNB shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:

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- 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 CCNB shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer:
- a. Evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained
 - b. Landowner agreements allowing for installation and maintenance of the project for a reasonable period of time.

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 Coastal Resource Enhancement Projects.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Conservation Corps North Bay 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.”

E. SAN FERNANDO GREEN STREETS

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Heather Repenning, LA Board of Public Works; Carol Armstrong, office of LA Mayor Eric Garcetti & Deputy Mayor Barbara Romero; Cindy Montanez, Tree People.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31111 and 31220 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to one hundred eleven thousand seven hundred seventy-one dollars (\$111,771) to TreePeople (“the grantee”) to plan and prepare designs, environmental analyses, and permit applications for an urban green infrastructure project in the City of San Fernando. Prior to the disbursement of funds,

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the Grantee 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:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 funding feasibility studies and plans (Section 31111) and Chapter 5.5 regarding reducing contamination of waters within the coastal zone (Section 31220).
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. TreePeople 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. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Joan Cardellino, South Coast Program Manager, provided an update on the Los Angeles Urban Greening Conference held at South Gate on January 2016. The Los Angeles Urban Greening Conference was a success. The Conservancy's fourth grant round for Proposition 1 focused exclusively on projects in Los Angeles County dealing with urban greening.
- B. Esther Feldman, President of Community Conservation Solutions, presented on her organization's metrics-driven Green Solutions tool which shows where to implement nature-based stormwater projects to best reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create local water sustainability. The Green Solutions tool is an innovative approach to meeting water supply, water quality, climate change, habitat and community needs, and can be replicated anywhere in California.
- C. Amy Hutzal, Deputy Executive Officer, gave the fourth annual progress report on the implementation of the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan. In December of 2012, the Coastal Conservancy adopted a Strategic Plan that identified specific goals and objectives to help the Conservancy prioritize its work. In June of 2015, the Conservancy adopted an update to the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan to include priorities for Proposition 1 funding, refine the climate change objectives based on experience with the Climate Ready grant rounds, add objectives related to the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program, and revise objectives

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related to the provision of low-cost visitor accommodation along the coast. This progress report highlighted accomplishments under each of the goals of the Strategic Plan. Numerous objectives were exceeded, several others are on track for completion and a few have limited progress. Prop 1 grant rounds over the past year have helped the Conservancy accomplish objectives related to coastal watersheds and resources, water quality and sustainability, and climate resilience, and will continue to aid in meeting these objectives in 2017. In 2016, the Conservancy ran four Prop 1 requests for proposals; to date, 30 projects using nearly \$13 million in Prop 1 funds have been authorized by the Conservancy. The Climate Ready and Explore the Coast grant rounds have aided the Conservancy in achieving or surpassing objectives to address climate change and provide educational/interpretive programs. The passage of Measure AA in the San Francisco Bay Area will aid the Conservancy in planning and implementing landscape-scale restoration of wetland and subtidal habitat in the Bay, and planning and implementation of Bay Trail segments adjacent to restoration projects.

- D. Matt Gerhart, San Francisco Bay Area Program Manager, gave an update on the Conservancy's involvement in the Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (RCIS) for Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

SOUTH COAST

5. LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS: CONCEPTUAL RESTORATION PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Deborah Ruddock of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31111 and 31220 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (“LCWA”) for technical studies for and environmental review of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Conceptual Restoration Plan subject to the condition that, prior to the disbursement of funds, the LCWA shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer a work plan (including a schedule and detailed budget) and the names and qualifications of any contractors employed for this purpose.”

Finding:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

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

1. The proposed project is consistent with the Conservancy’s current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Sections 31111 regarding studies and 31220 (Chapter 5.5 of Division 21) of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resource protection.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

6. NELSON SLOAN QUARRY RESTORATION PLAN & ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Sam Jenniches of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31111 and 31220 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for project management costs in preparing a restoration plan and environmental review for the Nelson Sloan Quarry Reclamation Project in the Tijuana River Valley region of San Diego County. Prior to disbursement of Conservancy funds, the California Department of Parks and Recreation shall submit for the review and written approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer:

1. A detailed work program, including budget and schedule;
2. Evidence that any additional funds necessary to complete the project are secured.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 and 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding funding feasibility studies and integrated coastal and marine resources protection, respectively.

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

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

7. MARSHES ON THE MARGINS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Evyan Sloane of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31111 and 31251-31270 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby approves disbursement of up to \$239,470 of funds received from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to conduct a sea-level rise analysis update to the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project 2001 *Regional Strategy* as follows:

- 1) An amount of up to thirty-nine thousand two hundred and ninety-two dollars (\$39,292) to the University of California Davis;
- 2) An amount of up to sixty-two thousand one hundred and eighty-seven dollars (\$62,187) to the U.S. Geological Survey;
- 3) An amount of up to one thousand four hundred and thirty-one dollars (\$1,431) to the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project;
- 4) An amount of up to four thousand six hundred and fifty-seven dollars (\$4,657) to Point Blue;
- 5) An amount of up to ninety-seven thousand nine hundred and forty-five dollars (\$97,945) to the Aquatic Science Center;
- 6) An amount of up to eleven thousand four hundred and sixty-seven dollars (\$11,467) to the Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association; and
- 7) An amount of up to twenty-two thousand five hundred and ten dollars (\$22,510) to the University of Southern California Sea Grant.

Prior to the disbursement of any funds to a grantee, the grantee 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:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

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“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.
3. The USC Sea Grant, Point Blue and the Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association are nonprofit organizations 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.

8. WILLOWBROOK PARKWAY

Kara Kemmler of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31400 *et seq.* of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes an amount not to exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) for construction of the Willowbrook Parkway along Compton Creek, as described in the accompanying staff recommendation, subject to the following conditions:

Prior to the disbursement of any funds, LACC shall submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:

1. A work program including a project schedule, budget, and final construction plans;
2. All contractors to be employed for the project;
3. Evidence that that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained;
4. A signage plan for the project acknowledging Conservancy funding; and
5. An agreement with the landowner, the County of Los Angeles, to protect the public interest in all improvements constructed under this grant and assure public access.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public accessways.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The LACC is a nonprofit corporation recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, with purposes consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

9. SANTA MARGARITA RIVER FISH PASSAGE DESIGN

Greg Gauthier of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31251 through 31270 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to four hundred forty two thousand dollars (\$442,000) to Trout Unlimited for preparation of designs and environmental review for two fish passage and habitat improvement projects on the Santa Margarita River in San Diego County, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, Trout Unlimited shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer, a final work program, schedule, budget, and the names and qualifications of any contractors.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 resources protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

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3. Trout Unlimited 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.

10. ROMONA GARDENS NATURAL PARK

Sam Jenniches of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31113 and 31220 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to five hundred ten thousand dollars (\$510,000) to Community Conservation Solutions (“the grantee”) to plan and design a multiple benefit green infrastructure park at the Ramona Gardens Housing Development in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of the city of Los Angeles, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, the grantee 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 retained for project work, and documentation that all funds needed to complete the project have been secured.
2. The grantee shall ensure that the plan and design of project access facilities is consistent with all applicable federal or state laws governing access for persons with disabilities.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 addressing impacts of climate change (Section 31113) and Chapter 5.5 regarding reducing contamination of waters within the coastal zone (Section 31220).
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

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3. Community Conservation Solutions is a nonprofit corporation recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

11. SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL: GILMAN TO BUCHANAN STREETS

Avra Heller of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160-31165 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes: a) the Executive Officer to disburse \$750,000 (seven hundred fifty thousand dollars) of funds pursuant to the previously authorized Priority Conservation Areas Grant Program, and b) the Association of Bay Area Governments to disburse \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) of previously granted Bay Trail Block Grant # 5 funds, for a total of \$850,000 (eight hundred fifty thousand dollars) to the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) to construct an 0.8-mile segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail (Bay Trail) between Gilman and Buchanan Streets in the City of Albany, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to disbursement of any funds, the EBRPD shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a work program, including a budget and schedule, a sign plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding, and the names of any contractors hired to complete the project.
2. Prior to initiating construction of the project, the EBRPD shall provide written evidence to the Executive Officer of the Conservancy that all funding and permits and approvals necessary under applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations to complete the project have been obtained.

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 the purposes and objectives of Chapter 4.5 (Sections 31160-31165) of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public access improvements to and around the San Francisco Bay.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the *Final Environmental Impact Report Albany Beach Restoration and Public Access Project* (FEIR) certified by the EBRDP on November 20, 2012 and the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report Albany Beach Restoration and Public Access Project* (FSEIR), certified by EBRPD on June 2, 2015, both of which are attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 2, and which identify potentially significant effects of the project on biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, and hydrology and water quality. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project, as modified by incorporation of the mitigation measures identified in the FEIR and FSEIR, avoids, reduces or mitigates all of the possible significant environmental effects of the project, and that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

12. SAN FRANCISQUITO CREEK FLOOD PROTECTION AND ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

Brenda Buxton of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160–31165 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of a California Department of Water Resources 2015 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant, received by the Conservancy under an subgrant agreement with the Association of Bay Area Governments, in the amount of up to \$5,093,351 (five million ninety-three thousand three hundred fifty-one dollars) to the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority (SFCJPA) to undertake a project for the construction of flood protection, habitat enhancement, and public access improvements in San Francisquito Creek between Highway 101 and San Francisco Bay.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of any Conservancy funds, SFCJPA shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer:

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- a. A work program for the project, including schedule and budget, and the names of any contractors it intends to use to complete the project.
 - b. Documentation that all required regulatory permits and approvals for the project have been obtained.
 - c. Documentation that all other outside funds required to complete the project have been secured and are available.
2. In carrying out the project, SFCJPA shall comply with all applicable mitigation and monitoring measures that are identified in the *Final San Francisquito Creek Flood Reduction, Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation Project San Francisco Bay to Highway 101 Environmental Impact Report* (EIR) that was certified with findings by SFCJPA on October 18, 2012 or in any regulatory permit or approval for the project.
 3. To the extent required, the grantee shall ensure that project public access facilities are consistent with all applicable federal or state laws governing access for persons with disabilities.”

Finding:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 Conservancy’s mandate to address the resource and recreational goals of the San Francisco Bay area.
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 San Francisquito Creek Flood Reduction, Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation Project San Francisco Bay to Highway 101 Environmental Impact Report* (EIR), attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 5, that was certified with findings by SFCJPA on October 18, 2012 in order to comply with its responsibilities as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
4. The EIR identifies “potentially significant” effects from project implementation in the areas of Air Quality, Traffic, Noise, Cultural Resources, Biological Resources, Green House Gases, and Hazardous Substances. With regards to these impacts, the Conservancy finds that the project, as modified by the incorporation of the mitigation measures identified in the EIR, avoids, reduces, or mitigates all possible significant environmental effects of the project except for the impacts identified in finding 5 below.
5. The EIR determined that the project may result in “significant and unavoidable” impacts in the areas of Air Quality (temporary violation of air quality standards and exposure to

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sensitive receptors during construction), Recreation (impacts to Palo Alto golf course), and Cumulative Impacts to Air Quality (temporary increase in emissions during construction in an air basin currently at nonattainment for air quality standards). Specific environmental (habitat enhancement), economic and social (reduction of flood risk and damage to persons and property), recreational and other benefits of the project described in the accompanying staff recommendation and detailed in the EIR outweigh and render acceptable these unavoidable adverse environmental effects because the project will result in the long-term benefits of improving flood protection for 1,300 properties as well as improve wetland habitats that otherwise would be threatened by loss of critical habitat as well as improve access to spawning and rearing habitat for the threatened steelhead trout.

6. There are no feasible mitigation measures which would further avoid or reduce the potential impacts associated with the project. Alternatives to the project analyzed in the EIR are infeasible in that they do not achieve the project objectives of improved flood conveyance and habitat enhancement and will result in the same or greater environmental impacts.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

13. SONOMA CREEK WATERSHED STREAM RESTORATION AT THE SONOMA DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Avra Heller of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Condition 1(e) of the proposed Resolution was revised by Conservancy members at the meeting.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160–31165 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed two hundred seventy-five thousand two hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$275,257) to the Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) to conduct riparian restoration and anadromous fish habitat improvement work on the Sonoma Developmental Center’s (SDC) property in Eldridge, Sonoma County. This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. The project shall not commence and no Conservancy funds shall be disbursed for the project until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has reviewed and approved in writing:
 - a. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
 - b. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be employed in carrying out the project.

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- c. A signage plan that acknowledges Conservancy funding.
- d. Documentation that SEC has obtained all permits and approvals required for the project under federal, state, and local law.
- e. A signed agreement, that shall be returned to the Conservancy for review and approval, among the Conservancy, SEC, and SDC providing SEC with permission to plan, install, monitor and maintain the project and to supervise limited access for volunteer workdays and educational visits. This agreement shall allow for maintenance of the project beyond the scheduled closure of the SDC facility in 2018.”

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. SEC 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.

14. NAPA RIVER OAKVILLE TO OAK KNOLL RESTORATION PROJECT: SITE 13

Jessica Davenport of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31160-31165 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the County of Napa to restore Site 13 (the “project”) of the Oakville to Oak Knoll Project located along the Napa River, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. No Conservancy funds shall be disbursed for the project until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has reviewed and approved in writing:
 - a. A final work plan, including a budget and schedule.

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- b. The name and qualifications of any contractors that the County of Napa intends to retain to carry out the project.
 - c. A signage plan that acknowledges Conservancy funding.
 - d. A written agreement between the County of Napa and the landowners allowing the project to be implemented, maintained, and monitored.
2. The County of Napa shall provide evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.
 3. The County of Napa shall ensure implementation of all mitigation measures for the project described in the Napa River Restoration: Oakville to Oak Knoll Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 31160-31165, 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 Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the *Napa River Restoration: Oakville to Oak Knoll Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)* (SCH # 2014012057) adopted by the County of Napa on April 16, 2015 (attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 5). The Conservancy finds that the Oakville to Oak Knoll Project as mitigated avoids, reduces, or mitigates the possible significant environmental effects to a level of insignificance and there is no substantial evidence that the Oakville to Oak Knoll Project, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

15. IRON TRIANGLE URBAN GREENING PROJECT

Lisa Ames of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following Resolution pursuant to Sections 31160-31165 of the Public Resources Code:

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“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the City of Richmond (City) to implement an urban greening project in the City’s Iron Triangle neighborhood (the project), subject to the following conditions:

1. The project shall not commence and no Conservancy funds shall be disbursed for the project until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has reviewed and approved in writing:
 - a. A project work program, budget, and schedule.
 - b. A sign plan that acknowledges funding from the Conservancy.
 - c. Documentation that the City has obtained all permits and approvals required for the project under federal, state, and local law.
 - d. Documentation that the City of Richmond has entered into a formal agreement with the Trust for Public Lands (TPL) for the management of this project.”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

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

1. The proposed project 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. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the *Richmond Greenway Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration* adopted by the City of Richmond in May 2004 and the *Addendum Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration Richmond Unity Park* adopted by the City of Richmond on April 4, 2013 (collectively “MND”) and has concluded that there is no substantial evidence that the components of the proposed project addressed in the MND, as mitigated, will have a significant effect on the environment.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

NORTH COAST

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16. EEL RIVER ESTUARY AND CENTERVILLE SLOUGH ENHANCEMENT PROJECT: IMPLEMENTATION

Michael Bowen of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Darren Mierau, California Trout, and Dan York, The Wildlands Conservancy.

Speaking in opposition to the Staff Recommendation: Jay Russ and Lane Russ.

Condition 6 of the Resolution was added at the meeting.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31251 – 31270 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby certifies the *Final Environmental Impact Report, Eel River Estuary and Centerville Slough Enhancement Project, January 2017* (Final EIR), approves the version of the Eel River Estuary and Centerville Slough Enhancement Project identified as Alternative 4 in the Final EIR (“the Project”) at Centerville Slough, near Ferndale (Exhibit 1), and adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) (Final EIR and MMRP are attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibits 4 and 5, respectively). The Conservancy further authorizes the disbursement of up to \$950,000.00 (nine hundred fifty thousand dollars) of U.S Fish and Wildlife Service grant funds to The Wildlands Conservancy (TWC) to implement the Project subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, TWC shall have obtained sufficient matching funds to satisfy the obligations of the federal grant agreement.
2. Prior to the disbursement of funds, TWC shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer: 1) a work program including schedule and budget, and the names of any contractors it intends to use to complete the improvements, 2) a sign plan, and 3) evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.
3. Prior to commencing the Project, TWC shall enter into and record an agreement pursuant to Public Resources Code 31116(c) sufficient to protect the public interest in the improvements.
4. In carrying out the Project, TWC shall comply with all applicable mitigation and monitoring measures identified in the Final EIR and comply with all measures that are required by any permit or approval.
5. TWC shall comply with all applicable terms and conditions imposed by any federal or state grant.

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6. Within 30 days of board action, the State Coastal Conservancy shall host a meeting with all property owners party to the drainage easement, and their attorneys. The purpose of this meeting shall be to develop a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that: a) recognizes the hydrologic interconnectedness of the area; b) recognizes the mutual benefit of continuing to co-manage the area for agricultural production and natural resource enhancement; c) acknowledges the benefit the project can provide to achieve mutual benefit; d) identifies potential modifications to the drainage easement that accommodate the construction of new infrastructure within the project area, and; e) identifies constructive ways to pool risk and responsibility for maintenance, repair and enhancement of this unique project area. No funds shall be released until SCC staff returns to the board to report on the outcome of the required meeting(s).”

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following findings:

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

1. The authorization is consistent with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
2. The 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 EIR pursuant to its responsibilities as the lead agency for the Project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA under the direction and supervision of the Conservancy and reflects the Conservancy’s independent judgment and analysis.
4. The Final EIR identifies varying degrees of impacts from the implementation of the Project in several resource categories. With regard to these impacts, as modified by incorporation of the mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR, or through design elements intended to minimize or avoid harmful impacts, the Project was changed to avoid, reduce or mitigate the possible significant environmental effects of the Project as described further in the accompanying staff recommendation.
5. The Wildlands 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 unanimously.

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STATEWIDE

17. EXPLORE THE COAST GRANTS PROGRAM – 2017

Luis Morales of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31119, 31160-31165, 31251-31270 and 31400-31410 of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to one million, one hundred forty-two thousand, four hundred seventy-nine dollars (\$1,142,479) to the following nonprofit organizations and public agencies for 39 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):

- 5 Gyres Institute: Seventeen thousand nine hundred thirty-two dollars (\$17,932) for one-day research expeditions for diverse groups of high school students aboard a boat off the coast of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.
- Amah Mutsun Land Trust: Six thousand one hundred and two dollars (\$6,102) for approximately nine 1-2 minute audio segments for the Explore the Coast web app about the natural and cultural history of Amah Mutsun coastal territory, Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties.
- Amah Mutsun Land Trust: Forty-nine thousand nine hundred and forty dollars (\$49,940) for a summer camp program for Native American youth, ages 12-17, on the San Mateo/Santa Cruz coast, San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties.
- Bay Area Outreach & Recreation Program: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for a two-year program that creates a new series of accessible outdoor coastal trips on sections of the California Coastal and San Francisco Bay Trails, Alameda County.
- California State Parks Foundation: Twenty-six thousand and sixty-five dollars (\$26,065) for bus transportation, educational camping and one-day field trips to Marin County State Parks for diverse and primarily low-income Bay Area youth, Marin County.
- Central Coast Aquarium: Seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) for a citizen science program for low-income underserved students from Title 1 schools, San Luis Obispo County.
- Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria: Eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) for an educational program for local underserved youth, grades K-12, about California’s coastal habitats and its fish and wildlife populations, Humboldt County.

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- City of Arcata, Recreation Division: Twenty-three thousand nine hundred and fifty-four dollars (\$23,954) for Humboldt Bay and Arcata Marsh educational programs and cruises, Humboldt County.
- City Surf Project: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for a surfing and coastal stewardship program, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties.
- Community Nature Connection: Forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty dollars (\$43,330) for bus transportation and educational content for underserved communities, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.
- Community Science Workshop Network, Inc.: Forty-nine thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$49,750) for bus transportation and educational content for underserved students, Monterey, San Luis Obispo Counties.
- Earth Island Institute: Forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for an environmental education program for underserved students, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.
- Earth Team: Twelve thousand six hundred and seventy dollars (\$12,670) for educational hikes incorporating citizen science, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties.
- Environmental Traveling Companions: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for recreation and environmental education for disabled and disadvantaged youth, Marin County.
- Explore Ecology: Twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000) for bus transportation and coastal education for underserved students, Santa Barbara County.
- Friends of the Dunes: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for bus transportation, Latino outreach and barrier-free access at the Humboldt Coastal Dunes Center, Humboldt County.
- Humboldt Redwoods Interpretive Association: Thirteen thousand one hundred and sixty-two dollars (\$13,162) for ecological field trips for underserved students, Mendocino County.
- Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County: Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for bus transportation and docent-led hikes for low income communities, San Luis Obispo County.
- Los Angeles Audubon: Forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty dollars (\$43,330) for bus transportation and coastal education field trips for underserved students, Los Angeles County.
- Los Angeles Maritime Institute: Forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty dollars (\$43,330) for a bilingual coastal awareness campaign and Tall Ship excursion, Los Angeles County.
- Los Cerritos Wetland Land Trust: Fifteen thousand six hundred and fifty dollars (\$15,650) for bus transportation and environmental education for underserved students, Los Angeles County.

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- Marina Del Rey Anglers: Thirty-four thousand dollars (\$34,800) for a multi-dimensional coastal education, fishing, access and stewardship program, Los Angeles County.
- Mendocino Land Trust: Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) for the development of content for the online Coastal Trail Guide, Mendocino County.
- Monterey Bay Center for Environmental Literacy: Forty-nine thousand one hundred and eighty-nine dollars (\$49,189) for the development of content for the Conservancy’s “Explore the Coast” web app and coastal education for underserved students, Santa Cruz County.
- Ocean Discovery Institute: Forty-three thousand two hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$43,285) for bus transportation, environmental education and citizen science for underserved elementary school students, San Diego County.
- O’Neill Sea Odyssey: Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for bus transportation and environmental education for underserved and disabled elementary school students, Santa Cruz County.
- PADRE Foundation: Twelve thousand seven hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$12,725) for boat transportation, barrier-free access and marine science education for children and adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes, Orange County.
- Pie Ranch: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for a coast and agriculture youth education program, San Mateo County.
- Rosie the Riveter Trust: Twenty-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$25,500) for bus transportation and a San Francisco Bay-focused environmental education program, Contra Costa County.
- Santa Barbara Channel Keeper: Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for boat transportation and marine science education for low-income students, Santa Barbara County.
- Sierra Club Foundation: Eleven thousand seven hundred and forty-five dollars (\$11,745) for bus transportation and environmental education for low-income students, Los Angeles County.
- Solano Land Trust: Twenty-eight thousand four hundred and twenty dollars (\$28,420) for bus transportation and environmental education for underserved students, Solano County.
- Sonoma County Regional Parks: Forty-four thousand dollars (\$44,000) for bus transportation and a coastal environmental education program for underserved students, Sonoma County.
- Sonoma Land Trust: Forty-seven thousand dollars (\$47,000) for bus transportation, bilingual curriculum development and a bay-oriented environmental education program for elementary school students, Sonoma County.
- Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods: Forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) for mobile education content, interpretive content for the Conservancy’s “Explore the Coast” web

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app, transportation funding and coastal education for underserved students, Sonoma County.

- Trinidad Coastal Land Trust: Thirty-one thousand dollars (\$31,000) for docent-led hikes for kindergarten to university age students as well as the general public, Humboldt County.
- Ventura Audubon Society: Thirteen thousand dollars (\$13,000) for a coastal environmental education and stewardship program, Ventura County.
- Wahine Project: Eleven thousand six hundred dollars (\$11,600) for a surfing and stewardship program for underserved girls, Monterey County.
- WILDCOAST: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for a Marine Protected Area education and stewardship program, San Diego County.

The authorization is subject to the following condition:

Prior to the disbursement of funds, 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."

Findings:

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following 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 (Sections 31000 *et seq*) 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 proposed authorization is consistent with Section 31400.1 of the Public Resources Code, which authorizes the Conservancy to grant funds to local agencies if the projects are determined to serve more than local public needs. The City of Arcata's "Explore the Coast – Humboldt Bay" project and Sonoma County Regional Parks' "Youth Exploring the Sonoma Coast (Yes-Coast)" project will both bring youth from inland and/or

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underserved communities outside of the coastal zone to coastal locations for educational and coastal programs, thus serving more than a local need.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

18. CLOSED SESSION

Meeting closed at 1:25 P.M for a closed session.

During closed session, the Conservancy received legal advice regarding *Rubino v. CCC et al.* (Mendocino Land Trust, RPI), Mendocino County Superior Court, Case No. SCUK-CVPT-2016-67612-2, and authorized the Attorney General’s Office to intervene in the litigation on its behalf.

Meeting re-opened to public at 1:39 P.M.

19. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Conservancy member comments.

20. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:41 P.M.