

*STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES*

Thursday, December 3, 2009

9:00 am

LOCATIONS:

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway
11th Floor Conference Room
Oakland, CA

City Hall, Room 234
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA

Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, 13th Floor
Sacramento, CA

37 Old Courthouse Square, Ste 200
Santa Rosa, CA

MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELECONFERENCE:

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chairman
Marisa Moret (Public Member)
Ann Notthoff (Public Member)
Bryan Cash, (Designated Representative, Natural Resources Agency)
Susan Hansch, (Designated Representative, Coastal Commission)
Karen Finn (Designated), Department of Finance

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELECONFERENCE:

Assemblymember William Monning

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Carmen Estrada-Polley, Executive Assistant
Pat Peterson, Deputy Attorney General
Glenn Alex, Legal Counsel
And other Coastal Conservancy Staff

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1. ROLL CALL

Ms. Moret, (San Francisco, Present), Ms. Finn (Sacramento, Present), Chair Bosco (Santa Rosa, Present) Mr. Cash (Sacramento, Present), Susan Hansch (Oakland, Present)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved and seconded. The October 29, 2009 Board minutes were approved without change on a roll call vote of 5-0: Ms. Moret- Yes, Ms. Finn- Yes, Mr. Cash- Yes, Ms. Hansch – Yes, Chair Bosco – yes.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

A. MATILJA DAM ECOSYSTEM

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby amends its authorization to the Ventura County Watershed Protection District for the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Program to include reimbursement of the non-federal share of the cost of engineering and design services provided by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and other costs associated with pre-construction implementation of the Program. This amended authorization remains subject to the conditions specified in the Conservancy’s June 5, 2008 authorization which apply to the revised project.”

Findings:

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

1. The amended project remains consistent with the purposes and criteria of Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Sections 31251-31270) regarding enhancement of coastal resources and with the resolutions, findings and discussion accompanying the Conservancy authorizations of October 27, 2005 and June 5, 2008 (attached in Exhibit 1).
2. The amended proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines adopted by the Conservancy.
3. The project area has been identified in the certified Local Coastal Program of the County of Ventura as requiring public action to resolve existing or potential resource protection problems.

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4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Matilija Dam Restoration Project, pursuant to its responsibilities under California Code of Regulations Sections 15090, 15162, and 15221 and finds that the proposed amended project is within the scope of the project approved by the Conservancy on October 27, 2005.”

B. CARPINTERIA CREEK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the augmentation of the previously authorized Carpinteria Creek Watershed Restoration: Bliss and Cate School Fish Passage Improvement project by redirecting up to two hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$220,000) from the previously authorized Arroyo Hondo Steelhead Passage Enhancement project.

Prior to commencement of construction and to disbursement of these Conservancy funds, the Land Trust shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:

1. A revised work program, project budget and timeline.
2. The names and qualifications of any contractors or subcontractors that the Land Trust intends to employ to construct the project.”

Findings:

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

1. The Carpinteria Creek project is consistent with Public Resources Code Section 31220 regarding watershed restoration.
2. The Carpinteria project remains consistent with the Conservancy’s June 16, 2005 and September 2008 resolutions, findings, and staff reports, attached as Exhibit 3, except as indicated in the current staff report.”

C. SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to disburse an amount not to exceed \$150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars) of the total Conservancy funds authorized on September 20, 2007 to the East Bay Regional Park District to construct an approximately one-mile segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail at the West County Wastewater District facility, between San Pablo Creek and Wildcat Creek, Contra Costa County, subject to the following conditions:

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1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, ABAG shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a final work program, schedule and budget, and a grant agreement between ABAG and the East Bay Regional Park District.
2. ABAG shall ensure installation of signs identifying the trail segments and acknowledging the Conservancy and displaying its logo in a manner approved by the Executive Officer.
3. In carrying out the project, ABAG shall ensure compliance by the East Bay Regional Park District with all project components, environmental commitments and mitigation measures that are identified as needed to reduce or avoid significant environment effects in the Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the East Bay Regional Park District on July 7, 2009 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and accompanying the project staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. ABAG shall provide, for review and approval of the Executive Officer, documentation that during the course of the project, the identified project components, environmental commitments and mitigation measures have been implemented by or on behalf of the East Bay Regional Park District.”

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program, Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, Sections 31160-31165.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines, last updated by the Conservancy on June 4, 2009.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project adopted by the East Bay Regional Park District on July 7, 2009 pursuant to CEQA and finds no substantial evidence that the project as proposed, and with the identified measures to avoid, reduce or mitigate the possible significant environmental effects, will have a significant effect on the environment.”

D. SEA OTTER RECOVERY

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to ninety four thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$94,250) to the Regents of the University of California, Santa Cruz Campus (UCSC), to undertake Phase II of a study to identify the impacts of coastal contaminants and anthropogenic stressors on southern sea otter recovery, subject to the condition that, prior to the disbursement of any funds, UCSC shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a work program, including scope of work, budget and schedule.”

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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 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Coastal and Marine Resource Protection.”

Staff noted that in Consent Item 3D, the lesser amount of \$94,250, included in the staff recommendation, rather than the greater amount shown in the agenda, is correct.

Moved and seconded, the consent items were approved by a vote of 5-0 on a roll call vote: Ms. Moret - Yes, Ms. Finn-Yes, Mr. Cash-Yes, Ms. Hansch- Yes, Chair Bosco- Yes.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- a. Adoption of schedule of Coastal Conservancy 2010 meetings. (attached to minutes) Mr. Cash and Ms. Finn suggested that the May meeting occur in Sacramento or by teleconference.

Moved and seconded. Adoption of the Conservancy 2010 meetings was approved by a roll call vote of 5-0: Ms. Moret – Yes, Ms. Finn – Yes, Mr. Cash – Yes, Ms. Hansch – Yes, Chair Bosco – Yes.

- b. The Ocean Protection Council met on Nov. 30 at the Scripps Institute in San Diego. They approved their 2010 meeting schedule. No action items were presented. Discussion took place about:

Assemblymember William Monning mentioned his sponsoring AB 1217 (2009) for Sustainable Seafood Labeling in California, along with Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Coastal Fishermen’s Association. This is a volunteer program. He hopes to continue working with the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) on this endeavor and thanked them for all their work.

Christine Blackburn, Program Manager with the OPC, will be joining the Obama Administration later this month. We wish her the best in her new endeavors.

Conservancy member Ann Notthoff joined the meeting.

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- c. Sea Otter Recovery: Tim Tinker, Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California , Santa Cruz, delivered a computer web presentation on preliminary findings regarding human impacts on sea otter mortality.

5. DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

Ms. Peterson noted that other conservancies in California are also struggling with state funding issues. No report was given.

6. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

8. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 10:20 a.m.



APPROVED DECEMBER 3, 2009

Memorandum

From: Sam Schuchat
To: Coastal Conservancy Board
RE: Meeting Schedule in 2010
Date: November 16, 2009

Here is a schedule of dates for board meetings in 2010. I would like you to adopt this schedule at your December 3, 2009 meeting.

In putting the schedule together, we have avoided the meetings of the Coastal Commission and the SF Bay Restoration Authority¹ and done our best to avoid the meetings of BCDC (held on the first and third Thursdays of the month). We have taken in to account the legislative schedule, and have strived to maintain at least 3 weeks between SCC and OPC² meetings. This meeting schedule also takes into account the major Christian, Jewish, and Muslim holidays. For your information, the California and the World Ocean conference will be held in San Francisco September 7-10 in 2010.

Thursday, February 4
Thursday, April 1
Thursday, May 27
Thursday, August 5
Thursday, October 21
Thursday, December 2

You will note that I have left the locations blank. I expect that the State's budget situation will remain unsettled, and it is unclear how much bond money this conservancy will be allocated in the future. Thus, we may or may not be able to meet around the state, and it is even conceivable that some of these meetings will be canceled. In that light, it seems premature to be picking locations for next year. For your information, here is where we have had meetings during the past four years.

¹ A new regional entity in the Bay Area that I Chair.

² The OPC will get a proposed schedule for adoption at its November meeting.

2006

Seal Beach
Sacramento
Ventura
Eureka
San Jose
Monterey

2007

SLO County
Orange County
Sacramento
Eureka
Monterey
Bay Area

2008

San Diego
Sacramento
Santa Barbara
Mendocino
Bay Area
Los Angeles
County

2009

Teleconference
Sacramento
Sacramento
Oakland
Sonoma
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