

*STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2018*

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
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MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT:

No oversight members attended.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Amy Roach, Chief Counsel

LOCATION:

County of San Diego
Board of Supervisors North Chamber Room 310
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

1. ROLL CALL

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

- 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the Conservancy's January 18, 2018 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. PEDRO POINT HEADLANDS

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed forty one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$41,800) to the Pacifica Land Trust (“PLT”) for community-based habitat restoration and trail enhancement at the Pedro Point Headlands in Pacifica, San Mateo County, subject to the condition that, prior to the disbursement of funds, PLT shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy all of the following:

1. A work program, including tasks, schedule and budget
2. All contractors to be employed for the project.
3. Evidence that a landowner access agreement from the City of Pacifica has been secured.
4. A plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding of the project.”

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 (Sections 31160-31165) and Chapter 9 (Sections 31400-31410) of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program and the establishment of a system of public accessways to and along the California Coast.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Pacifica 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.”

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B. MAPLE CANYON

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby approves the disbursement of an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to San Diego Canyonlands to prepare plans to address sediment management, streambed stabilization, and native habitat restoration in Maple Canyon, an urban canyon owned by the City of San Diego. Prior to the disbursement of funds, San Diego Canyonlands shall submit for 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 tasks.”

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 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.
3. The San Diego Canyonlands 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.”

C. RESTORE COHO SALMON HABITAT IN SAN GERONIMO CREEK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed one hundred ninety-nine thousand three hundred eighty-five dollars (\$199,385) to the Marin County Resource Conservation District (“MRCD”) to restore coho habitat in San Geronimo Creek at the McGuinn-Newman property (Exhibit 1).

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, MRCD shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy’s Executive Officer:
 - a. A work program, including names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained, and the schedule and budget, for the project.

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- b. A plan for acknowledging Conservancy funding.
 - c. A written agreement between the MRCD and the landowners allowing the project to be implemented, maintained, and monitored, and protecting the public interest in the project.
 - d. Any other agreements determined necessary for the project by the Conservancy's Executive Officer.
2. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining a sign or signs on or adjacent to the project area, the design and placement of which has been reviewed and approved by the Executive Officer, or by some other alternative form of acknowledgement, appropriate to the project and approved by the Executive Officer.
 3. MRCD shall monitor and ensure compliance with any permit or approval for the project and with the provisions of the *Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan for San Geronimo Creek: Restoring Coho Habitat Project*, attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 2."

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.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the *Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Marin Coastal Watersheds Permit Coordination Program*, adopted by the MRCD on November 10, 2010, and the associated public comments, attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 2, and finds that no additional CEQA documentation is required and that the project, as mitigated, will avoid, reduce or mitigate the possible significant environmental effects of the project to a level of insignificance, and that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant adverse effect on the environment."

D. SAN GERONIMO VALLEY GOLF COURSE

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Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to \$150,000 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars) to the County of Marin (“the County”) to prepare a conceptual restoration and reuse plan for the 157-acre San Geronimo Valley Golf Course property, Marin County (“the property”). This authorization is subject to the following condition:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds, the County shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer:
 - a. A work plan, schedule and budget, and the names and qualifications of any contractor(s) to be used in the development of the plan.
 - b. Documentation that the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and the County have entered into an agreement that allows the County to access the property as needed to prepare the restoration and re-use plan and that provides for the sale of the property by TPL to the County.
2. The conceptual restoration and reuse plan shall include descriptions of natural communities and resources on the property, an explanation of how indicators of ecosystem health will be monitored and evaluated, a public access component, and a concept-level assessment and recommendation for restoration of the property for the benefit of riparian and other resources and reuse of the property.”

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapters 4.5 and 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program and Integrated Coastal and Marine Resources Protection, respectively.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.”

E. ELKHORN SLOUGH FOUNDATION

Resolution:

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“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an additional five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation (“ESF”) to augment the December 3, 2015 authorization for funding of restoration of tidal wetlands and connected uplands in Elkhorn Slough. Prior to disbursement of the additional funds, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a revised work program, schedule and budget, and the names and qualifications of any additional contractors to be employed in carrying out the project.”

Findings:

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

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

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Mary Small, Deputy Executive Officer, presented an update on overall implementation of the Conservancy’s Proposition 1 grant program.
- B. Mary Small, Deputy Executive Officer and Becky Smyth, West Coast Director/Regional Division Chief at NOAA Coastal Services Center, presented results of NOAA’s evaluation of the Coastal Conservancy conducted as part of the Coastal Zone Management Act section 312 program evaluation for California.
- C. Matt Gerhart, San Francisco Bay Regional Manager, described the Priority Conservation Area Grant Program.

SOUTH COAST

5. CENTRAL-JEFFERSON HIGH GREEN ALLEY PROJECT

Kara Kemmler of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

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Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Melissa Guerrero, Project Manager at The Trust for Public Land.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to one million one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$1,180,000) to the Trust for Public Land (“the grantee”) for implementation of the Central-Jefferson High Green Alley Project in 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. a work program, including budget and schedule;
 - b. names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained for project work;
 - c. a signage plan for the project acknowledging Conservancy funding, and
 - d. a written agreement between the Trust for Public Land and the landowner allowing the project to be implemented, maintained, and monitored, and protecting the public interest in the project.
2. Prior to commencement of construction, the grantee shall submit final construction plans and evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.”

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 regarding improving and protecting coastal and marine water quality and habitats (Section 31220).
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Trust for Public Land is a nonprofit organization existing under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

6. LOMA ALTA SLOUGH

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Megan Cooper of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Justin Gamble, Environmental Specialist for the City of Oceanside.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) to the City of Oceanside (City) for preparation of planning, design, studies, permitting, and other documentation required for environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act for restoration of the Loma Alta Slough in San Diego County. This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. No Conservancy funds shall be disbursed until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has reviewed and approved in writing a work program, budget, schedule, and the names of any contractors to be employed in carrying out the work.
2. To the extent appropriate, the City shall ensure that the design of project accessway improvements are consistent with the Conservancy’s ‘Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development’ and with all applicable federal or state laws governing barrier-free access for persons with disabilities.

Findings:

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

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

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

NORTH COAST

7. RIPS REDWOODS PROPERTY - THIS ITEM WAS POSTPONED

8. CLOSED SESSION

There were no closed sessions.

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9. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

Bryan Cash and Mary Small spoke briefly on the Governor's Budget which includes \$1.6 million dollars of baseline funding for operation of the Conservancy from the Environmental License Plate Fund.

Ann Notthoff spoke briefly on the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, CA on September 2018.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Greg Cox, San Diego County Board of Supervisor, gave a few comments and welcomed the Conservancy to the City of San Diego.

Ray Ashley, Executive Director and Curator of Ships for the San Diego Maritime Museum, gave a presentation on the history of San Salvador – the replica flagship of Juan Rodriguez Carballo.

Angela Kemsley, California Marine Protected Areas Watch Coordinator, gave a quick presentation, thanking the Conservancy for its support on WILD COAST.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 A. M