

STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
May 27, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair  
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair  
Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš (Public Member)  
Joseph Alioto Jr. (Public Member)  
Bryan Cash (Designated, Department of Natural Resources)  
Gayle Miller (Designated, Department of Finance)  
Linda Locklin (Designated, Coastal Commission)

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer  
Amy Roach, Chief Counsel

**LOCATION:**

Teleconference

**MEETING START TIME:** 10:03 A.M.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair  
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair  
Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš (Public Member)  
Joseph Alioto Jr. (Public Member)  
Bryan Cash (Designated, Department of Natural Resources)  
Gayle Miller (Designated, Department of Finance)  
Linda Locklin (Designated, Coastal Commission)

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the Conservancy’s March 25, 2021 public meeting. Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**3. CONSENT ITEMS**

Chair Bosco asked the board if any consent items needed to be removed. Item D – “Topanga Lagoon Restoration Project” was removed from the consent calendar. The consent calendar was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

**A. GARRAPATA STATE PARK**

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Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (“the grantee”) to prepare plans, environmental review documents, and permit applications for two new restrooms in Garrapata State Park in Big Sur, Monterey County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding and Proposition 1 as the source of that funding.
4. In addition, to the extent appropriate, the grantee shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy’s “Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development.

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 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public access.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.

**B. INTEGRATED WATERSHED RESTORATION PROGRAM**

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million one hundred twenty-three thousand dollars (\$1,123,000) to the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (“the grantee”) for the Integrated Watershed Restoration Program to conduct planning and prepare designs and permit applications for 23 priority watershed restoration projects in San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties.

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Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained 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 is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrate coastal and marine resources protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

**C. TOPANGA LOGOON RESTORATION PROJECT**

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) to the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (“the grantee”) to augment the Conservancy grant of \$460,000, authorized on March 14, 2019, for planning for the Topanga Lagoon Restoration Project at Topanga State Park and Beach in Los Angeles County.

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, as augmented, is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

**E. SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY INVASIVE SPARTINA PROJECT**

Resolution:

State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to nine hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000), to be reimbursed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

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National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program, to the California Invasive Plant Council (“the grantee”) for the planning, management, treatment, monitoring, restoration, and permit compliance activities of the San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project.

Prior to disbursement of these funds, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.

In carrying out any treatment or enhancement 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 recommendation 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 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 California Invasive Plant Council is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
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

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involve any new effects or new mitigation measures beyond those identified in the EIS/R.

**F. ORMOND BEACH RESTORATION AND PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN**

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to one million three hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) through one or more contracts for the preparation of environmental compliance documents and related technical studies for the draft Ormond Beach Restoration and Public Access Plan for the Ormond Beach area in the City of Oxnard, Ventura County.

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.

**G. CITY OF CHULA VISTA**

Resolution:

State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes its Executive Officer and the City of Chula Vista ("City") to remove use restrictions on 1.86 acres of the Conservancy-funded, City-owned Faivre Street property in the lower Otay River Valley in exchange for the City's acquisition and restriction of a property of equal size and equal or greater value, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the acquisition of the exchange property, the City shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer):
  - a. All relevant acquisition documents for acquisition of the exchange property, including, without limitation, the appraisal proving the property is of greater or equal value to the Faivre Street property, purchase and sale agreement, deed, escrow instructions, environmental or hazardous materials assessment, and title report; and
  - b. A baseline conditions report.

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2. The property acquired under this authorization shall be managed and operated for the purpose of habitat protection and restoration, open space protection and public access. The property shall be permanently restricted to those purposes by an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.
3. The restrictions on the Faivre Street property shall not be removed until the exchange property is acquired and restricted to the purposes of habitat protection and restoration, open space protection and public access.

Findings:

As described further in the accompanying staff recommendation 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 (Sections 31251-31270) regarding the enhancement of coastal resources.
2. The proposed authorization will fulfill the original purposes of the acquisition of the Faivre Street property while facilitating a project that has multiple benefits for the public.

**Public Hearing on Removed Consent Calendar Item D. MALIBU COASTAL ACCESS PUBLIC**

**WORKS PLAN**

Kara Kemmler of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Mario Sandoval, with Mountains Recreation and Conservancy Authority (MRCA).

Speaking in opposition of the Staff Recommendation: Larry Rosenthal

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the augmentation of previous authorizations to disburse an additional amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to Environmental Science Associates (ESA) for environmental review and a grant of up to fifty five thousand dollars (\$55,000) to Community Nature Connection for community engagement related to the Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan for seventeen sites in the City of Malibu.

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Findings:

Based on the accompanying staff recommendation 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 access.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Community Nature Connection is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT PART I**

**A.** Sam Schuchat of the Coastal Conservancy presented a resolution to appoint Interim Executive Officer:

- a. The State Coastal Conservancy appoints Mary Small, Chief Deputy Executive Officer, to be Interim Executive Officer of the State Coastal Conservancy commencing on June 26, 2021, to carry out all the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Officer position and to act in accordance with all Conservancy delegations of authority to the Executive Officer. This appointment will end on the date the permanent Executive Officer commences work.
- b. The Conservancy appoints Amy Hutzel, Deputy Executive Officer, to be Interim Executive Officer for the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority commencing on June 26, 2021 to carry out all duties of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Executive Officer as provided in the Restated and Amended Joint Powers Agreement of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, State Coastal Conservancy and Association of Bay Area Governments, dated December 15, 2017. This appointment will end on the date the permanent Executive Officer of the Conservancy appoints a permanent Executive Officer of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**SOUTH COAST**

**5. BALLONA WETLANDS**

Mary Small of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

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There were numerous public comments speaking in support and opposition of the Staff Recommendation

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to one million six hundred ninety two thousand three hundred and sixty dollars (\$1,692,360) to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for design and permitting for the restoration of the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.

The State Coastal Conservancy further authorizes an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to Prevention Institute for community engagement in planning the restoration of the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve in Los Angeles County

Prior to commencement of the community engagement project, Prevention Institute shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained 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 is consistent with Chapter 9 of Division 21 of Public Resources Code, regarding a system of public accessways; and with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the enhancement of natural resources.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Prevention Institute is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) adopted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on December 30, 2020 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 2.



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5. The Conservancy has reviewed CDFW's CEQA Findings, attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 3, and the Conservancy hereby determines and concludes all of the following:
  - a. CDFW has identified, disclosed, and adopted the mitigation measures recommended in the EIR by means of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, which mitigation measures are not within the Conservancy's jurisdiction;
  - b. The Conservancy has reviewed and considered the EIR together with the related CEQA Findings and determines that the information and analyses contained in the EIR, together with the related CEQA Findings, are adequate for the Conservancy's use as a decision-making body in a responsible agency role;
  - c. The Conservancy finds that changes have been incorporated into the proposed project which avoid and/or substantially lessen the significant environmental effects identified in the EIR.
6. As a responsible agency under CEQA, the Conservancy hereby adopts CDFW's CEQA Findings for the Ballona Wetland Restoration Project as the Conservancy's own findings under CEQA to support the Conservancy's authorization of funding for the project

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**THE CONSERVANCY BOARD TOOK A SHORT BREAK AT 12:45PM. MEETING REOPENED TO THE PUBLIC AT 1:15PM. QUORUM WAS PRESENT.**

**6. SANTA ANA RIVER TRAIL KNOWN AS THE RINCO TO PRADO SPILLWAY**

Rodrigo Garcia of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) to Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District ("the grantee") to prepare plans, designs, and environmental documentation for the 3.4-mile segment of the Santa Ana River Trail known as the Rincon to Prado Spillway segment in the County of Riverside.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.

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3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program and funding for recreational opportunities and trails.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**7. SMUGGLER'S GULCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Sam Jenniches of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

There were numerous public comments speaking in support and opposition of the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to the County of San Diego ("the grantee") to implement the Tijuana River Valley – Smuggler's Gulch Improvements Project in Tijuana River Valley Regional Park in the County of San Diego.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. A written agreement with the City of San Diego sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the portion of the project located on property owned by the City of San Diego.

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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 and 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding funding a project identified by the Tijuana River Valley Needs and Opportunities Assessment and integrated coastal and marine resources protection, respectively.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Regional General Permit (RGP) 53 Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) adopted on May 28, 1998, by the County Board of Supervisors and the Addendum to the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration April 2021 for the Regional General Permit 53 Project adopted by the County Board of Supervisors on April 23, 2021 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project as designed and mitigated 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.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA**

**8. BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL**

Virgilio Cuasay of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), including \$74,000 in funds from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, to the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (“the grantee”) to realign and improve the existing trail network at Twin Peaks in San Francisco County, which is part of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, in order to control erosion, increase public safety, restore native plants, and provide interpretive and directional signs (Exhibit 1).

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Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.

Findings:

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

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

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**9. PHASE 2 SOUTH BAY SALT POND (SBSP) RESTORATION PROJECT**

Laura Cholodenko of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of funds as follows:

An amount not to exceed seven million six hundred and five thousand dollars (\$7,605,000) to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. to construct, model, and monitor South Bay Salt Pond (SBSP) Restoration Project Phase 2 restoration actions at Eden Landing in Alameda County.

An amount not to exceed seven hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$720,000) of in-lieu fee funds awarded to the Conservancy from the California Department of Transportation to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for construction of the public access trail proposed as part of the SBSP Restoration Project Phase 2 project at Ravenswood in San Mateo County

An amount not to exceed three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) to the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to conduct studies

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and prepare designs and a 408 permit application for alterations to flood control facilities at Eden Landing in Alameda County.

An amount not to exceed four hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$460,000) to the Aquatic Science Center for a lead scientist, the SBSP Restoration Project website, and applied studies to support implementation of the SBSP Restoration Project in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.

An amount not to exceed three hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$385,000) for executive project management of the SBSP Restoration Project in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.

An amount not to exceed eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) to the California Wildlife Foundation for monitoring and applied studies that facilitate ongoing adaptive management of the SBSP Restoration Project in Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.

Prior to commencement of the project, Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) shall submit for the review and approval of the Conservancy's Executive Officer: 1) a detailed work program, schedule, and budget, 2) names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project, 3) a plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding, and 4) evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.

Prior to commencement of the project, DU shall enter into and record an agreement pursuant to Public Resources Code 31116(d) sufficient to protect the public interest in the improvements.

In carrying out the project, DU shall comply with all applicable mitigation and monitoring measures that are identified in the relevant CEQA documents or that are required by any permit or approval.

Prior to commencement of the project, each other grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.

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 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the Conservancy's mandate to address the resources 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. Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and the California Wildlife Foundation are nonprofit organizations organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously

**10. THE SHORELINE PROJECT**

Brenda Buxton of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Richard Santos and Rechelle Blank of the Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the execution of an amendment to a Project Partnership Agreement, previously authorized on March 22, 2018 (Exhibit 2), with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Santa Clara Valley Water District for construction of the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the Conservancy's mandate to address the resources and recreational goals of San Francisco Bay Area.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

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**NORTH COAST**

**11. ELK MEADOWS CABIN REACH OF LOWER PRAIRIE CREEK**

Su Corbaley of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two hundred sixty-nine thousand, three hundred eighteen dollars (\$269,318) to the Yurok Tribe (“the grantee”) for planning and to prepare designs and permit applications for instream salmonid habitat enhancement features in the Elk Meadows Cabin reach of lower Prairie Creek north of Orick in Humboldt County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.

Findings:

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

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

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**12. NEW TRAILS EXTENDING THE COASTAL TRAIL ON THE SHADY DELL PROPERTY**

Lisa of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Anthony Castanos from Save the Redwoods League

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed four hundred thirteen thousand dollars (\$413,000) to Save the Redwoods League (“the grantee”)

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to construct approximately 4.5 miles of new public access trails on the Shady Dell property near the Usal Beach area of the southern Lost Coast in Mendocino County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. In addition, to the extent appropriate, Save the Redwoods League shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy's "Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development".

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 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public access.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Save the Redwoods League is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
4. The Conservancy has independently considered the "Negative Declaration for the Shady Dell Trail Construction Project" adopted by Mendocino County on October 22, 2020 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and attached as Exhibit 3 to the accompanying staff recommendation, and finds 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.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.



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**FITCH MOUNTAIN PARK AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVE**

Lisa Ames of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed five hundred five thousand dollars (\$505,000) to the City of Healdsburg (“the grantee”) for their Fire Department to conduct wildfire fuel management, create defensible space, and update the management plan for Fitch Mountain Park and Open Space Preserve in Healdsburg, Sonoma County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
3. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project 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 3 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the Climate Ready 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 Fitch Mountain Park and Open Space Preserve Management Plan Final Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the City of Healdsburg on November 20, 2017 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project as designed and mitigated 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.

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Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**13. LONE PINE RANCH PROPERTY**

Julia Elkin of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Frazier Haney of The Wildlands Conservancy

Resolution:

The State Coastal hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to The Wildlands Conservancy ("the grantee") to acquire approximately 7,480 acres of the Lone Pine Ranch Property at the confluence of the Eel River mainstem and North Fork Eel River in Trinity and Mendocino Counties (Trinity and Mendocino County Assessor Parcels as listed in Exhibit 2 of the accompanying Staff Recommendation) for the purposes of preserving and restoring fish and wildlife habitat and providing public access and recreation, open space, and natural resource protection subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of funds for the acquisition, the grantee shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer):
  - a. All relevant acquisition documents including, without limitation, the appraisal, purchase and sale agreement, deed, escrow instructions, environmental or hazardous materials assessment, and title report;
  - b. A baseline conditions report; and
  - c. Evidence that sufficient funds are available to complete the acquisition.
2. The grantee shall pay no more than fair market value for the property, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
3. The property acquired under this authorization shall be managed and operated for the purposes of preserving and restoring fish and wildlife habitat, providing public access and recreation, and open space and natural resource protection. The property shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes by an appropriate 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 publicly-viewable area, the design and location of which are to be approved by the 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 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 Wildlands Conservancy is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**14. HUMBOLDT BAY TRAIL SOUTH**

Peter Jarausch of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Hank Seemann, County of Humboldt

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant not to exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to the County of Humboldt (“the grantee”) to prepare final designs and permits and construct the Humboldt Bay Trail South, a new approximately 4.25 mile stretch of the California Coastal Trail between the cities of Arcata and Eureka in Humboldt County.

Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee shall submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

1. A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into landowner agreement(s) sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, monitor and maintain the project and protect the public interest in the improvements.

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6. In addition, to the extent appropriate, the County of Humboldt shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy's 'Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development'.

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 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding as system of public accessways.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Humboldt Bay Trail South Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the California Transportation Commission on October 17, 2018 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that the proposed project as designed and mitigated 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.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

## **15. PACIFIC SHORES**

Karyn Gear of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Patty McCleary of Smith River Alliance

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of up to nine hundred forty thousand dollars (\$940,000.00) to the Smith River Alliance, Inc. ("the grantee") to acquire one or more of the parcels within and adjacent to the Pacific Shores subdivision in Del Norte County as identified on Exhibit 3 to the attached staff recommendation, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to commencement of the project, the grantee will submit for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (Executive Officer) the following:

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- a. All relevant acquisition documents for the acquisitions including, without limitation, appraisal, purchase and sale agreement, deed, escrow instructions, environmental or hazardous materials assessment, and title report;
  - b. A baseline conditions report; and
  - c. Evidence that sufficient funds are available to complete the acquisition.
2. The grantee shall pay no more than fair market value for each parcel, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
  3. Each parcel acquired under this authorization shall be managed and operated for natural resource protection; habitat preservation, restoration and enhancement cultural resource preservation and public access that is compatible with those purposes. The property shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes by an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.
  4. Conservancy funding shall be acknowledged by erecting and maintaining a sign on at least one of the acquired parcels or in a nearby publicly-viewable area, the design and location of which are to be approved by the Executive Officer.
  5. The grantee shall acquire only those parcels for which there is a willing seller.

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. The Smith River Alliance, Inc. is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

**16. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT PART I**

- B. Hilary Hill, Peter Jaraus, and Emily Lopez, Conservancy Project Managers, presented the California Coastal Trail Data and Mapping Viewer.
- C. Deborah Ruddock, Legislative Analyst, presented the Legislative report.

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D. Julia Elkin, Conservancy Project Manager, presented the Conservancy's Inclusive Coastal Storytelling Grant Program.

**17. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments on non-agenda items

**18. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS**

Conservancy Board Members Gayle Miller, Bryan Cash, and Ann Notthoff made a few comments

**19. CLOSED SESSION**

The Conservancy did not hold a closed session.

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 P.M.