

STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair
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:

Mary Small, Interim Executive Officer
Amy Roach, General Counsel

LOCATION:

Teleconference

MEETING START TIME: 10:03 A.M.

1. ROLL CALL

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair
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 May 27, 2021 public meeting. Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the Conservancy's June 07, 2021 public meeting. Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were numerous public comments regarding the Ballona Wetlands.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Bosco asked the board if any member requested any consent item be removed.

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Hearing no such request, the following consent items were moved for approval, seconded, and approved unanimously:

A. ELKHORN SLOUGH TIDAL MARSH RESTORATION PROJECT

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed nine hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$980,000) of funds awarded to the Conservancy by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under its National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program to augment a Conservancy grant authorized on December 19, 2019 to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation to construct Phase 2 of the Elkhorn Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project in Elkhorn Slough, Monterey County subject to the conditions of the December 19, 2019 authorization.

Findings:

Based on the accompanying staff recommendation 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. Elkhorn Slough is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

B. BODEGA BAY

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby 1) authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed thirty-four thousand dollars (\$34,000) to Sonoma County Regional Parks (“the grantee”) to prepare surveys and Phase 1 environmental site assessments of nine Conservancy-owned parcels in and near Bodega Bay, Sonoma County; 2) approves the transfer to County of Sonoma of fee title to the eight undeveloped parcels located on Smith Ranch Road in Bodega Bay (Sonoma County Assessor Parcel Numbers 100-110-012, 100-120-002, 100-120-003, 100-120-006, 100-120-008, 100-120-011, 100-120-020, 100-120-021) and one parcel located on Gleason Beach at Scotty Creek (Sonoma County Assessor Parcel Number 101-120-054); and 3) approves the implementation/disposition plans for the property transfer as shown in Exhibit 2 to the accompanying staff recommendation.

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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.

The property transferred under this authorization shall be managed and operated for purposes of natural resource protection, open space, public recreational use, and protection of cultural resources including ongoing tribal access for cultural practice purposes. The property shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes by an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed 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. The project serves greater than local public needs.

C. PILLAR POINT HARBOR

Resolution:

The State Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two hundred twelve thousand eight hundred and twelve dollars (\$212,812) to San Mateo County Harbor District (“the grantee”) to construct new public restrooms, realign a small segment of the California Coastal Trail, reconfigure the parking lot and install other visitor-serving amenities at Pillar Point Harbor adjacent to Surfer’s Beach in San Mateo 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.

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2. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy and Coastal Commission funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. 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 System of Public Accessway.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

D. NORTH COAST REGION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to the County of Santa Cruz ("the grantee") to develop a facilities and management plan for public access and natural resource protection for the north coast region of Santa Cruz 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. To the extent appropriate, the grantee shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy's 'Standards and Recommendations for Accessway Location and Development'.

Findings:

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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 System of Public Accessway.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

E. ENHANCE AND RESTORE 4.6 ACRES OF RIPARIAN UPLAND HABITAT

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to San Diego Botanic Garden (“the grantee”) to enhance and restore approximately 4.6 acres of riparian upland habitat at Ocean Knoll Canyon in the City of Encinitas, San Diego 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. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Coastal Resource Enhancement.

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2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The San Diego Botanic Garden 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 Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Carlsbad Hydrologic Unit Invasive Non-native Plant Control and Revegetation Program adopted by the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation on August 26, 2010, 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.

F. ENHANCE NATIVE RIPARIAN HABITAT ON THE SANTA CLARA RIVER

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two hundred sixteen thousand six hundred thirty-six dollars (\$216,636) to the Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara ("the grantee") to conduct invasive plant removal to enhance five acres of native riparian habitat on the Santa Clara River, at the Lloyd-Butler property, in Ventura 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 to complete the project.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding and Proposition 1 as the source of that funding.
4. Evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.
5. Prior to commencing the project, the grantee shall enter into and record an agreement pursuant to Public Resources Code 31116(d) sufficient to protect the public interest in the improvements funded by this project.

Findings:

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Based on the accompanying staff recommendation 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.

G. SANTA ANA RIVER MOUTH

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed thirty-five thousand seven hundred eighty dollars (\$35,780) to the Orange County Coastkeeper (“the grantee”) to conduct monitoring and outreach to protect endangered species and associated habitat located at the Santa Ana River Mouth in the cities of Newport Beach and Huntington Beach.

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 and Coastal Commission funding.
4. Evidence that all permits and approval required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain 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 coastal resource enhancement.

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2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Orange County Coastkeeper is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

H. PUBLIC ACCESS AT PRINCESS STREET

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one hundred eighty-eight thousand six hundred and eighty dollars (\$180,680) to the Environmental Center of San Diego ("the grantee") to prepare environmental assessments, permit applications, and draft engineering designs for the Princess Street Coastal Access Trail in the neighborhood of La Jolla.

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 retained to implement the project.
3. Evidence that all permits and approval required to implement the project have been obtained.
4. 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 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 a system of public accessways.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Environmental Center of San Diego is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

I. NORTH BEACH OF THE CRYSTAL COVE

Resolution:

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The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000), to augment the Conservancy grant of four million nine hundred thousand (\$4,900,000), previously authorized to the Crystal Cove Conservancy (“the grantee”) to restore 17 historic cottages on North Beach of the Crystal Cove Historic District for the purpose of increasing lower-cost coastal accommodations in California. This authorization remains subject to the same conditions contained in the Conservancy’s February 6, 2020 authorization.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed project remains consistent with the Conservancy’s findings under its February 6, 2020 authorization.

J. CACHAGUA CREEK

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an additional one hundred and sixty five thousand dollars (\$165,000) to Trout Unlimited (“the grantee”) to augment the grant authorized by the Conservancy on May 24, 2018, for a total of up to three hundred and ninety five thousand dollars (\$395,000) for the removal of a concrete road creek crossing and installation of a culvert designed to allow fish migration on Cachagua Creek, a tributary to the Carmel River, subject to the conditions of the Mary 24, 2018 authorization (Exhibit 2).

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization remains consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Integrated Marine and Coastal Resources.
2. The proposed project remains consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Trout Unlimited is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

K. TRIBAL ENTITIES AT MULTIPLES SITES IN ORANGE COUNTY

Resolution:

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The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to the Sierra Health Foundation (“the grantee”) to work with tribal entities to conduct planning to further tribal access, tribal participation in land management and land acquisition by tribal entities at multiple sites in Orange 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 3, Section 31119 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding educational projects and programs relating to the preservation, protection, enhancement, maintenance, and enjoyment of coastal resources, and Chapter 4.6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code regarding the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Sierra Health Foundation is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

6. EXECUTIVE OFFICER HIRING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Executive Officer hiring subcommittee members Ann Notthoff and Bryan Cash gave a progress report on the search for a new Executive Officer.

7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Deborah Ruddock, Legislative Analyst, presented the Legislative report.
- B. Julian Nesbitt, Civic Spark Fellow of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation of the adoption of updated project selection criteria.

Resolution:

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The State Coastal Conservancy hereby adopts the Project Selection Criteria attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 1, which replaces the Conservancy's previous Project Selection Criteria in their entirety.

Findings:

The State Coastal Conservancy finds that the Project Selection Criteria attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 1:

1. Are consistent with and will support the Conservancy's implementation of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.
2. Will help the Conservancy implement its Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Guidelines.
3. Will help the Conservancy implement climate change adaptation.
4. Will allow Conservancy staff to conduct an initial screening of projects against eligibility criteria.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

- C. Amy Hutzal, Deputy Executive Officer, presented draft updated Coastal Access Standards.
- D. Erica Johnson, Project Manager, updated on Coastal Stories Grant Program.
- E. Mary Small, Interim Executive Officer, updated on the proposed Endless Summer License Plate.
- F. Brenda Buxton, Deputy Bay Program Manager, updated on the 2019 Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.
- G. Mary Small, Interim Executive Officer, presented the 2022 State Coastal Conservancy Meeting Schedule. Staff changed the proposed first meeting of the year from January 27, 2022 to February 03, 2022. The meeting schedule as revised was moved and seconded. The 2022 State Coastal Conservancy Meeting Schedule was approved unanimously.

CENTRAL COAST

8. DAVY BROWN CREEK

Rachel Couch of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

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Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Mauricio Gomez of the South Coast Habitat Restoration.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed seven hundred fifty-five thousand eight hundred twenty dollars (\$755,820) to Earth Island Institute (“the grantee”) to remove two fish barriers, replace them with bridges, and restore habitat on Davy Brown Creek in Santa Barbara 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. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project.

Findings:

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

1. The authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resource protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The Earth Island 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 Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 2019 Fisheries Habitat Restoration Project in Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Monterey, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma Counties adopted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on November 18, 2019,

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pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 3. 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 Title 14 of the California Code Regulations Section 15382.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

9. CONSERVATION EASEMENTS ON THE 7,681-ACRE ATTIYEH RANCH

Tim Duff of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed eight hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$825,000) to the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (LCSLO) to acquire three conservation easements on the 7,681-acre Attiyeh Ranch in San Luis Obispo County, 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 for the acquisition including, without limitation, the appraisal, purchase and sale agreement, conservation easement, 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 conservation easement, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
3. The easements acquired under this authorization shall be managed and operated for purposes of habitat protection, preservation of agriculture and open space, and protection of water supply and water quality. The property shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes by an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.
4. Conservancy and Prop. 1 funding shall be acknowledged in a plan to be approved by the Executive Officer.

Findings:

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Based on the accompanying staff recommendation 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.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

SOUTH COAST

10. MONROVIA HIGH SCHOOL WATERSHED DISCOVERY PROJECT

Kara Kemmler of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed three hundred thirty thousand and forty dollars (\$330,040) to Amigos de los Rios (“the grantee”) to implement the Monrovia High School Watershed Discovery Project in Monrovia, Los Angeles 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. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements sufficient to enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the project.

Findings:

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

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1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding integrated coastal and marine resource protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Amigos de los Rios is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

11. CALLEGUAS CREEK WATERSHED IN-LIEU FEE PROGRAM

Chris Kroll of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes termination of the Calleguas Creek Watershed In-Lieu Fee Program and disbursement of all funds remaining in the Calleguas Creek Watershed In-Lieu Fee Program account, totaling two million four hundred fifty three thousand seven hundred seventy three dollars (\$ 2,453,773) to the Santa Paula Creek Mitigation Bank for the purchase of 58.11 jurisdictional wetlands and riparian buffer preservation credits.

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

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

12. LECHUZA BEACH

Emely Lopez of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

There were numerous public comments supporting and opposing the project.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed four hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$495,000) to the Mountains Recreation and

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Conservation Authority to prepare final engineering designs and construction specifications, and prepare and submit permit applications, to update and repair existing public beach access amenities.

Before 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. Evidence that the grantee has entered into agreements that will enable the grantee to implement, operate, and maintain the improvements to be designed by this project.
4. In addition, to the extent appropriate, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority 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 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 Final Negative Declaration for the Lechuza Beach Public Access Improvements Project adopted by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority on April 26, 2019, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record, 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.

13. SANTA ANA RIVER TRAIL

Greg Gauthier of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

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Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million three hundred forty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,342,500) to the Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District (“the grantee”) to construct a segment of the Santa Ana River Trail as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Prado Dam Alcoa Dike construction project in the City of Corona, Riverside 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is obligated to construct the project and that the grantee will have authority to operate and maintain 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 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.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project: Alcoa Embankment – Phase II Supplemental Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Report Addendum prepared by the US Army Corp of Engineers on May 2021 and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4. The Conservancy finds that the project has potentially significant effects in the areas of biological resources, water quality, and noise but that all these effects will be avoided or mitigated. There is no substantial evidence 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.

14. OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT FOR COASTAL RESILIENCY PLANNING FOR STATE PARK

Joel Gerwein of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed three hundred ten thousand dollars (\$310,000) to Coastal Quest (“the grantee”) to conduct stakeholder outreach and engagement to inform the coastal resiliency planning for state parks on the San Diego County coast.

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:

- A detailed work program, schedule, and budget.
- 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 3 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding project planning and climate change.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Coastal Quest is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

STATEWIDE

15. EXPLORE THE CALIFORNIA COAST

Fanny Yang and Virgilio Cuasay of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

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The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million, seven hundred twenty-one thousand eighty-eight dollars (\$1,721,088) to 41 nonprofit organizations, 1 tribe, and 3 public entities for 45 projects that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore the California coast. The projects described in the accompanying staff report may be modified to protect the health of participants during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic so long as the modified projects continue to promote the goal of facilitating and enhancing the public's opportunities to explore the California coast. The 45 grantees are as follows (presented in alphabetical order):

- Amah Mutsun Land Trust: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to bring 50 Amah Mutsun Tribal Band members to the Santa Cruz coast to learn about their ancestry and traditional lifeways, learn about coastal resources from elders and experts, and explore a wide variety of coastal environments with their families and broader community.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire: Twenty-four thousand four hundred dollars (\$24,400) to bring approximately 65 inland, low-income youth and their mentors to four ocean experience events along the South Coast.
- City Surf Project: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide surfing programs that will serve approximately 125 vulnerable and foster youth in San Francisco throughout the school year, in partnership with four local high schools and five Community Based Organizations.
- Community Nature Connection: Forty-nine thousand eight hundred dollars (\$49,800) to implement the Transit to Trails Coastal Access Program which will provide naturalist-guided coastal trips to approximately 1,000 participants from underserved communities in Los Angeles.
- Crystal Cove Conservancy: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide opportunities for Indigenous youth from Riverside and East Los Angeles and their families to take part in on-the-water cruises to help monitor the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area, participate in a summer surf and beach camp, and take part in intergenerational cultural events.
- Discovery Cube Orange County (Discovery Cube): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide approximately 530 students with a field trip to Newport Bay, where they will observe marine life during a boat trip, collect water quality data that they will later use in the classroom, and collect microplastics data on the beach for a citizen science project.
- Earth Discovery Institute: Forty-one thousand four hundred dollars (\$41,400) to bring approximately 360 students and their parents from Southeast San Diego

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County to the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge for environmental education and recreational activities.

- East Bay Regional Park District: Thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to provide adaptive boating experiences for approximately 100 participants from Alameda and Contra Costa Counties who face physical access barriers to on the water recreation at various sites along the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta shoreline.
- Environmental Traveling Companions: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide access to approximately 375 Bay Area participants to the northern California coast for under-resourced youth and people with disabilities, through kayaking adventures in the San Francisco Bay or Tomales Bay.
- Friends of the Dunes: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to provide enjoyable coastal experiences exploring Humboldt Bay's beautiful and diverse coastal environments for approximately 1,000 Humboldt County participants from underserved communities.
- GirlVentures: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to introduce up to 100 youth, primarily girls and gender non-conforming youth, from underserved and marginalized communities to various Bay Area coastal areas for recreational and skill-building activities.
- Greater Farallones Association: Sixteen thousand nine hundred dollars (\$16,900) to deliver coastal field trips to approximately 175 science students from Title 1 high schools in the Point Arena Schools District where they will participate in a community science program focused on intertidal monitoring.
- Groundwork San Diego – Chollas Creek: Forty-one thousand two hundred thirteen dollars (\$41,213) to provide four school-day field trips and two week-long camps to visit various coastal locations in San Diego to approximately 180 5th grade students, high school/university student mentors, and family members from underserved communities of Southeastern San Diego.
- John F. Kennedy High School: Forty-two thousand two hundred dollars (\$42,200) to provide approximately 250 students from John F. Kennedy High School with the opportunity to engage in recreation and educational opportunities along the coast and in coastal education centers at Santa Monica Beach, Long Beach, and Point Dume.
- Jug Handle Creek Farm & Nature Center: Nineteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$19,500) to bring approximately 450 tribal elders, parents, youth, and children from the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians,

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the Pinoleville Pomo Nation, and other indigenous tribes of Mendocino and Lake Counties to retreats at the Mendocino coast.

- LifeSail Inc.: Twenty-seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$27,200) to provide day sails in Santa Monica Bay for approximately 112 foster youth from marginalized neighborhoods and short-term residential treatment centers in South, Central, and West Los Angeles, and the Antelope Valley.
- LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired: Thirty-five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$35,800) to provide completely accessible coastal recreational activities for approximately 30 blind high school students and young adults from the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Literacy for Environmental Justice: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide up to 550 low-income residents of Bayview-Hunters Point and surrounding communities with kayaking adventures, overnight camping, habitat restoration environmental education and workforce development opportunities along the San Francisco Bay shoreline.
- Little Manila Rising: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide up to 78 low-income youth from South Stockton and surrounding communities with a weekend retreat on the Marin Coast to learn about their connections to the land and the coast and develop stronger relationships with nature.
- Living Coast Discovery Center: Thirty-six thousand four hundred dollars (\$36,400) to offer hands-on environmental engagement opportunities at locations along the San Diego coast for up to 84 youth residents from Housing on Merit, a nonprofit that creates bridges to permanent affordable housing for vulnerable populations.
- Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust: Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to take approximately 720 third and fourth grade students from Title 1 schools in the Long Beach Unified School District and Santa Ana Unified School District on a field trip to Los Cerritos Wetlands for a hands-on learning environmental education experience.
- Los Indios de San Gabriel dba San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide approximately 45 Kizh Nation tribal youth and adult members with a cultural and environmental stewardship day camp and weeklong overnight camp at culturally significant locations along the southern California coast.
- MarinLink (fiscal sponsor for BlindSail SF Bay): Twenty-two thousand four hundred dollars (\$22,400) to provide seven 5-hour sailing lessons for approximately 90-125 blind participants.
- MeWater Foundation: Twenty-three thousand nine hundred dollars (\$23,900) to provide 30 surf and ocean education camps at multiple Bay Area beaches for

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approximately 600 youth from low-income and trauma-impacted communities primarily from the City of San Francisco.

- Nature for All: Forty-nine thousand nine hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$49,958) to provide a total of 12 wellness-focused coastal trips, which include transportation, meals, interpretation from bilingual naturalists, and family-friendly activities, for approximately 150 participants from disadvantaged communities in and around Los Angeles.
- NatureTrack Foundation Inc.: Thirty-three thousand two hundred dollars (\$33,200) to provide over 200 wheelchair users and others who are mobility impaired with an accessible beach or coastal trail experience along the Santa Barbara Coast.
- North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California: Twenty-five thousand four hundred seventy-seven dollars (\$25,477) to provide four trips to the Central Coast, serving a total of 60 tribal participants consisting of tribal elders and youth from low-income, disadvantaged communities.
- Ocean Discovery Institute: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to take more than 4,000 elementary school students from the City Heights community in San Diego on field trips to see tide pools, wetlands, and kelp forests along San Diego's coast and to the Living Coast Discovery center for interactive environmental education activities.
- Outdoor Outreach: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide approximately 450 low-income youth in Southeastern San Diego, City Heights, and El Cajon the opportunity to enjoy the coast through activities including kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, surfing, fishing, hiking, biking, and tide-pooling at select locations along the San Diego coast.
- Outward Bound Adventures: Thirty-eight thousand dollars (\$38,000) to provide Bishop Paiute Tribal Youth with a 5-day, 4-night experiential outdoor marine biology program along California's Central Coast.
- Play Marin: Forty-three thousand five hundred dollars (\$43,500) to provide approximately 80 youth and their families from Marin City with beach adventures including surfing, kayaking, picnicking, and an education retreat to coastal locations along the Marin coast.
- Reef Check Foundation: Twenty-nine thousand nine hundred dollars (\$29,900) to provide experiential on-and-under-the-ocean stewardship training and marine science educational opportunities to young members of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians.
- Refugee Enrichment and Development Association, Inc.: Forty thousand six hundred dollars (\$40,600) to offer four retreats to approximately 108 low-income refugees

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from Sacramento who experience geographic, economic, and social stressors to explore the coast in Point Reyes National Seashore.

- Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains: Forty-one thousand six hundred dollars (\$41,600) to provide approximately 800 students and their families from Black, brown, and Indigenous communities in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties with a science-based outdoor education experience followed by an afternoon at Malibu Lagoon State Beach.
- Santa Cruz Hub for Sustainable Living (fiscal sponsor for the California Field School): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide four seven-day overnight bicycle camping trips for approximately 60 high school students from the Fruitvale neighborhood in Oakland.
- Shared Adventures: Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to serve up to 300 people with disabilities and their family and/or caretakers from Sacramento/Bay Area, the Central Coast, and the Central Valley for a day of kayaking, snorkeling, out-rigger rides, beach wheelchair rides, marine education, and other activities at Cowell's Beach in Santa Cruz.
- Social Good Fund (fiscal sponsor for Brown Girl Surf): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide surfing and ocean education experiences along the San Mateo Coast for approximately 140 people, primarily girls and women-identifying, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people, primarily from Alameda and other Bay Area Counties.
- The Latino Equity Advocacy & Policy Institute (LEAP): Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to provide weekend coastal camping trips for approximately 476 participants from Huron, a disadvantaged community in the Central Valley, to hike sections of the California Coastal Trail, explore boardwalks, observe marine mammals, and visit the southern portion of Big Sur.
- The Ocean Foundation: Thirty-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$36,500) to provide approximately 80 coastal field trips and ocean education programs for up to 2,500 fourth through seventh grade students and 75 teachers in the industrial-urban community of National City.
- United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Inc.: Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to host six shoreline day camps, at Doran Beach and Stinson Beach, for 120 children and adults with developmental disabilities from Sonoma, Napa, and Solano Counties.
- Ventana Wilderness Alliance: Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to provide two three-day coastal watershed backpacking trips along the Central Coast for approximately 24 low income youth from Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, and Watsonville area.

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- Ventana Wildlife Society: Forty thousand eight hundred forty dollars (\$40,800) to facilitate the “Ocean Prescriptions” program, which involves afternoon, day-long, and overnight coastal trips for up to 215 participants from the Salinas Valley.
- Waterside Workshops: Thirty-five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$35,800) to provide approximately 50 low-income East Bay youth outdoor recreational experiences in their own community and trips to coastal and bayfront sites in San Mateo, Marin, and Sonoma Counties.
- Western Los Angeles County Council, Boy Scouts of America: Thirty-four thousand six hundred dollars (\$34,600) to provide a 3-day ocean camp experience on Catalina Island for at least 150 youth from low-income and underserved Latinx communities of the East San Fernando Valley.
- Wilderness Youth Project: Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to take up to 534 students from low-income and underserved communities in Santa Barbara on three field trips to various locations along the Santa Barbara coastline to explore and learn about ocean and coastal ecology, forge relationships with experienced staff of mentors, and develop a lasting connection with their natural surroundings.

Prior to commencement of the project, each 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. Any other applicable agreements determined necessary for the project by the Conservancy’s Executive Officer.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapters 3, 4.5 and 9 of Division 21 (Sections 31000 et seq.) of the Public Resources Code, regarding undertaking educational projects relating to coastal resources (Ch. 3), the resource and recreational goals in the San Francisco Bay Area (Chapter 4.5), and the establishment of a system of public accessways to and along the California coast (Chapter 9).

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2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. The proposed nonprofit organizations are organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Approved unanimously.

16. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Conservancy member comments.

17. CLOSED SESSION

The Conservancy did not hold a closed session.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 01:23 P.M.