

STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
December 01, 2022

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)
Donne Brownsey (Coastal Commission)

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator John Laird, District 17

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amy Hutzel, Executive Officer
Amy Roach, General Counsel

LOCATION:

Pacific Grove City Hall
300 Forest Avenue,
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

MEETING START TIME: 08:58 A.M.

1. ROLL CALL

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chair
Ann Notthoff (Public Member), Vice Chair
Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš (Public Member)
Bryan Cash (Designated, Department of Natural Resources)
Donne Brownsey (Coastal Commission)
Gayle Miller (Designated, Department of Finance)
Joseph Alioto Jr. (Public Member) joined at 09:52 A.M.

- 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the Conservancy's September 22, 2022 public meeting.
[NOTE: Conservancy voted to approve minutes, but due to posting error discovered after

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December 1, 2022 meeting, September minutes were rescheduled for approval at February 2, 2023 meeting.]

3. CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Bosco asked the board if any member requested any consent item be removed. Hearing no such request, the following consent items were moved for approval, seconded, and approved unanimously by Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Bosco (none opposed)

A. MAD RIVER SIOUGH

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed two hundred twenty-six thousand, three hundred dollars (\$226,300), including \$157,173 to be reimbursed by a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, to the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (“the grantee”) to prepare designs and permit applications for the restoration of tidal wetlands in Wadulh Lagoon on the Mad River Slough on Humboldt Bay 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 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.

B. SOUTHERN SEA OTTER RECOVERY

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed two hundred seventy-two thousand five hundred forty dollars (\$272,540) to implement three projects to assist in the recovery of the southern sea otter, specifically as follows, to:

- Defenders of Wildlife: fifty-six thousand dollars (\$56,000) to conduct a conceptual planning process for the reintroduction of sea otters into northern California.

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- Sea Otter Savvy: seventy-five thousand two hundred dollars (\$75,200) to conduct an educational outreach and community engagement program on responsible viewing of wild sea otters to reduce sea otter disturbance.
- University of California at Santa Cruz: one hundred forty-one thousand three hundred forty dollars (\$141,340) to carry out research on sea otter social structure and stressors to inform sea otter reintroduction planning.

Prior to commencement of each 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 all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.

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 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.
3. Defenders of Wildlife and Sea Otter Savvy are nonprofit organizations organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

C. BAY RESTORATION REGULATORY INTEGRATION TEAM

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes augmentation of a grant to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (“the grantee”), previously authorized by the Conservancy on September 6, 2018, by an amount not to exceed four hundred eighty-two thousand four hundred twenty-three dollars (\$482,423) to operate the Bay Restoration Regulatory Integration Team through September 2024, subject to the same conditions as the set forth in the Conservancy’s authorization of September 6, 2018.

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 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.

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

D. SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000) to Sustainable Conservation (“the grantee”) to augment the Conservancy’s previously authorized grant of \$598,000 for advancing the adoption of programmatic permits, to expand the project to include increased outreach to facilitate the use of statewide programmatic permits for aquatic habitat restoration and water quality improvement projects. In addition, to the extent appropriate, the County of Santa Cruz shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy’s “Coastal Access Project Standards.”

Findings:

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

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

E. BEACH EROSION AUTHORITY

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (“the grantee”) to prepare a study of governance and financing options for integrating regional sediment management into sea level rise adaptation planning in California.

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.

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 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.
6. 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.

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 the Climate Ready Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Mary Small, Deputy Executive Officer, presented the Conservancy's Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 for approval.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Bosco. Voting against: none.

CENTRAL COAST

5. ANDREW MOLERA STATE PARK GROUP CAMPGROUND DESIGN

Erin Gravley of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to the Ventana Wildlife Society ("the grantee") to prepare plans, environmental review documents, and permit applications to construct a group campground and support facilities for outdoor programming within Andrew Molera State Park in 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:

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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 10 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding Lower-Cost Coastal Accommodations.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.
3. The Ventana Wildlife Society is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Bosco; voting against: none.

6. COASTAL TRAIL IMPROVEMENT IN GARRAPATA STATE PARK IN BIG SUR

Tim Duff of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in Favor: Senator Laird

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (“the grantee”) to improve the California Coastal Trail by renovating several trailheads and trails, installing new signage and drainage/erosion protection improvements, and removing informal trails, 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.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.

In addition, to the extent appropriate, the grantee shall incorporate the guidelines of the Conservancy’s ‘Coastal Access Project Standards’.

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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.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Garrapata State Park Coastal Habitat Restoration and Trail Improvements Project adopted by the California Department of Parks and Recreation on August 24, 2012 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 5. 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. Motion was approved

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Bosco; voting against: none.

[Member Alioto joined after Agenda Item 6.]

7. WILDFIRE RESILIENCE GRANTS 2022-2023 AUGMENTATION

Rachel Couch of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking In Favor: Christina McGinnis and Victoria Cooper

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed eight hundred and twenty-four thousand nine hundred dollars (\$824,900) to the Cachuma Resource Conservation District and to the Santa Barbara Fire Safe Council to develop and implement activities to increase wildfire resilience of California's natural lands and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, as specified below:

Cachuma Resource Conservation District: Four hundred fifty-four thousand nine hundred dollars (\$454,900) to develop approximately 10 demonstration priority wildfire fuels reduction and habitat enhancement projects to reduce risk or severity of wildfire in the wildland urban interface in the City of Goleta and unincorporated Santa Barbara County.

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Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council (SBCFSC): Three hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$370,000) to carry out SBCFSC’s mission and implement programs recommended in the Santa Barbara County Regional Wildfire Mitigation Program and Regional Priority Plan. Prior to commencement of each 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. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Any other 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 Chapter 3 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the Climate Ready Program.
2. The proposed projects are consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.
3. The proposed grantees are nonprofit organizations organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

8. ELKHORN SLOUGH BIOMASS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Tom Gandesbery of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in Favor: David Dunskin

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed four hundred eighty-three thousand six hundred dollars (\$483,600) to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation (“the grantee”) to use a mobile kiln to sequester carbon by converting non-native invasive tree logs to charcoal.

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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.
4. Evidence that all permits and approvals required to implement the project have been obtained.
5. Any other applicable agreements deemed 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 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 Elkhorn Slough Foundation 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 "Proposed Smoke Management Program Final Environmental Impact Report" attached as Exhibit 3 of the accompanying staff recommendation, which was adopted by the Monterey Bay Air Resources District on May 15, 2002 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Conservancy finds that the project may result in a "significant and unavoidable" impact to Air Quality, but environmental and other benefits of the proposed project as described in the accompanying staff recommendation outweigh or render acceptable this unavoidable adverse environmental impact.
5. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, the Conservancy adopts the Findings of Significant Effects and Statement of Overriding Considerations set forth in this staff report. (See section titled CEQA Compliance).

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: None

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SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

9. REGIONALLY ADVANCING LIVING SHORELINES IN SANFRANCISCO BAY PROJECT

Marilyn Latta of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy (the “Conservancy”) hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) to the San Francisco Estuary Institute, Marin and Golden Gate Audubon Societies, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, San Francisco State University, and additional contractors and grantees (the “Grantees”) for part of the Regionally Advancing Living Shorelines Project in San Francisco Bay (the “project”), including monitoring of existing living shoreline projects, development of regional design and constructability guidance, preparation of permit applications, and preparation of preliminary site designs at ten locations in the Central Bay in San Francisco, Alameda, Contra Costa, and Marin counties.

Prior to commencement of any project component, the Grantee for that project component 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 component.
3. A plan for acknowledgement of Conservancy funding.

Findings: Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the 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 Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.

Move and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

10. OAKLAND ESTUARY PARK RENOVATION PROJECT

Marilyn Latta of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking In Favor: Christine Reed

Resolution:

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The State Coastal Conservancy (the "Conservancy") hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the City of Oakland ("the grantee") to conduct technical feasibility studies and prepare designs for nature-based shoreline enhancement and resilience features ("the project") to be incorporated into the plans for the Oakland Estuary Park Renovation Project on the Oakland Estuary.

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 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.

Move and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

11. NOVATO BAYLANDS

Sara Haugen of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in Favor: Leia Giambastiani

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy (the "Conservancy") hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed two million one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$2,150,000) to Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Inc. ("Point Blue") to steward approximately 177 acres of restored wetlands through engaging the local community to maintain and enhance the wetlands and to implement minor property improvements by repairing and maintaining public access amenities in the Novato Baylands in Marin County (the "project").

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 the Conservancy.
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.

The grantee shall comply with all relevant mitigation measures identified in Bel Marin Keys Wetland Restoration Phase 1 Project Addendum to the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report Environmental Impact Statement for the Bel Marin Keys Unit V Expansion of Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project and the Hamilton Wetland Restoration Plan – Volume II: Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement.

Findings:

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

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
3. Point Blue is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501©(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

12. SONOMA MOUNTAIN VERNAL POOLS ACQUISITION

Virgilio Cuasay of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in Favor: John McCaull

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed seven hundred eighty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$787,500) to Sonoma Land Trust (the “grantee”) to acquire the 174-acre “Sonoma Mountain Vernal Pools” property at Glen Ellen, Sonoma County (Sonoma County’s Assessor’s Parcel No. 055-040-013-000 and 055-030-029-000), depicted in Exhibit 2 to the accompanying staff recommendation for protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and scenic resources, including wildlife corridors and habitat, wetland and water resources, and landscape resilience related to climate change; open space; public access and recreational use compatible with the protection, restoration, and

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enhancement of natural and scenic resources; and tribal and indigenous cultural use compatible with the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and scenic resources. This authorization is 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, deed and 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 property, as established in an appraisal approved by the Executive Officer.
3. The property acquired under this authorization shall be managed, operated, and used for the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and scenic resources, including wildlife corridors and habitat, wetland and water resources, and landscape resilience related to climate change; open space; public access and recreational use compatible with the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and scenic resources; and tribal and indigenous cultural use compatible with the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and scenic resources. The property shall be permanently dedicated to those purposes by an appropriate instrument approved by the Executive Officer.
4. The grantee shall submit any master plan for the property to the Conservancy for review for consistency with the acquisition purposes.
5. 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.

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 addressing the impacts and potential impacts of climate change on resources within the Conservancy's jurisdiction.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.

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3. The Sonoma Land Trust is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

13. PETALUMA RIVER PARK PLANNING PROJECT

Virgilio Cuasay of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in Favor: Seair Lorentz

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed one million three hundred ninety-five thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,395,800) to the Petaluma River Park Foundation (“the grantee”) for community engagement, park plan development, specific project designs, and environmental review associated with development of Petaluma River Park in Petaluma, 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. Names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained in carrying out the project.

In addition, to the extent appropriate, the grantee shall incorporate into the project the guidelines of the Conservancy’s ‘Coastal Access Project Standards’.

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 San Francisco Bay Area Program.
2. The proposed Project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.
3. The Petaluma River Park Foundation is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

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NORTH COAST

14. HUMBOLT COUNTY WADULH UNIT

Su Corbaley of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) to Friends of the Dunes to enable the US Fish and Wildlife Service to restore 80 acres of dune habitat to increase sea-level rise resiliency on US Fish and Wildlife Service's Wadulh Unit on the north spit of Humboldt Bay 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 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 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.
3. Friends of the Dunes is a nonprofit organization organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
4. Consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act, the Conservancy has considered the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Restoration of the Northern Dune Additions to Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge project, attached as Exhibit 5 to the accompanying staff recommendation, as well as comments received. The Conservancy finds that the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact comply with the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines; and, based on the whole record, that there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have a significant effect on the environment. The Conservancy adopts the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program attached as Exhibit 7 to the accompanying staff

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recommendation.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

SOUTH COAST

15. THE COMMUNITY WETLAND RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAM

Kellan Warner of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes three grants of an amount not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in total to three nonprofit organizations for community-based natural resource restoration and enhancement projects in Los Angeles and San Diego counties. The three grantees and projects are as follows:

- Outward Bound Adventures: Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to provide a hands-on paid conservation workforce training project to engage 25 underemployed adults from low-income communities in restoring four acres of riparian/coastal stream corridor in Malibu Creek State Park.
- WILDCOAST: One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to enhance habitat over a sixty acre project area of the Batiquitos Lagoon wetland and include youth volunteers from San Diego County Indigenous and park poor communities to participate in restoration events.
- Nature Collective: Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to provide historically marginalized volunteers with opportunities to participate in community-based efforts to restore four acres of coastal dune and tidal marsh habitats in Cardiff-by-the-Sea in San Diego County.

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 and Proposition 68 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 recommendation and attached exhibits, the State Coastal

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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.
3. The proposed nonprofit organizations are organized under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
4. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the Carlsbad Hydrologic Unit Invasive Non-Native Plant Control and Revegetation Program Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) adopted by San Diego County on May 31, 2012 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 2. The Conservancy finds that the proposed San Elijo Lagoon and Dune Habitat Restoration project to be conducted by Nature Collective and the Batiquitos Lagoon Wetland Restoration project to be conducted by WILD COAST fall within the MND and as designed and mitigated avoid, reduce, or mitigate 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 projects may have a significant effect on the environment, as defined in 14 Cal. Code Regulations Section 15382.

Moved and seconded. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

16. SANTA MARGARITA RIVER FISH BARRIER REMOVAL PROJECT

Megan Cooper of the State Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Resolution:

The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes a grant of an amount not to exceed five hundred and thirty thousand dollars (\$530,000) to California Trout Inc. (“the grantee”) to implement the Santa Margarita River Bridge Replacement and Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project, consisting of removing a box culvert river crossing and replacing it with a bridge that allows fish passage at Sandia Creek Drive in 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.

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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.

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.

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 5.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding coastal and marine resources protection.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the current Conservancy Project Selection Criteria.
3. California Trout, Inc. 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 Sandia Creek Drive Bridge Replacement/Fish Passage Project Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the County of San Diego on February 11, 2022 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. Motion was approved.

Voting in favor: Notthoff, Brownsey, Cash, Miller, Gutiérrez-Graudiņš, Alioto, Bosco; voting against: none

17. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

18. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

Ann Notthoff made a comment.

19. CLOSED SESSION

The Conservancy did not hold a closed session.

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20. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 P.M.