

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

#### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

1807 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 103 Sacramento, California 95811-7137 www.wcb.ca.gov (916) 445-8448 Fax (916) 323-0280

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2013 AUG | 4 P 2:41

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors 1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 6700 Modesto, California 95354

AUG 1 3 2013

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Dos Rios Riparian Restoration Project Stanislaus County Project ID 2013075

The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB), in addition to other responsibilities, carries out a program that includes the enhancement or restoration of fish and wildlife habitat.

At this time and in response to a request from the River Partners, the WCB proposes to consider the allocation for a grant for riparian restoration work located at the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers, in Stanislaus County. This proposal is presently scheduled for the September 4, 2013, Board meeting. A copy of the preliminary agenda is enclosed for your review. A full agenda will follow within two weeks. You may view all agendas and minutes, and/or subscribe to receive them via email, on our website at <a href="https://www.wcb.ca.gov">www.wcb.ca.gov</a>.

If you have any questions about this proposal or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (916) 445-0137.

Sincerely,

John P. Donnelly Executive Director

### **Enclosure**

CC:

The Honorable Anthony Cannella Member of the Senate State Capitol, Room 3048 Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Adam Gray Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 6012 Sacramento, California 95814

Neil Mangi, Regional Manager CDFW, Northern Region

The Honorable Anthony Cannella Montague Water Conservation District Member of the Senate Post Office Box 247

Montague, California 96064



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### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors | 14 P 2:41 Modesto, California 95354

AUG 1 3 2013

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

San Joaquin River, Hidden Valley Ranch Stanislaus County Project ID: 2013096

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), through the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB), is involved in a land acquisition program that is focused on the long-range protection and enhancement of habitat for fish and wildlife. Possible sites for acquisition are identified by the CDFW in response to public interest, legislative mandate and departmental goals.

This letter is to advise you that the WCB will consider the allocation of a grant for a cooperative project with the River Partners, Reclamation District No. 2092 and the Department of Water Resources to assist in the fee acquisition of 466± acres of land for the preservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat, located in Stanislaus County and identified as Assessor's Parcel No. 017-066-003. This proposal is scheduled for the September 4, 2013, Board meeting. A copy of the preliminary agenda is enclosed for your review. A full agenda will follow within two weeks. You may view all agendas and minutes, and/or subscribe to receive them via email, on our website at <a href="https://www.wcb.ca.gov">www.wcb.ca.gov</a>.

We would also like to inform you that the property involved in this project is encumbered by a Land Conservation Contract under the Williamson Act. The WCB's proposed grant is to assist in the acquisition of the property for the purposes of providing ecosystem and habitat protection and allows for continuation of agricultural practices. At this time it is the intent of the partners to continue growing crops on the property; therefore, the agricultural intent of the Land Conservation Contract will still apply.

If you have any questions about this proposal or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (916) 445-0137.

Sincerely.

が P. Donnelly Executive Director

**Enclosure** 

CC:

The Honorable Anthony Cannella Member of the Senate State Capitol, Room 3048 Sacramento, California 95814 John Carlon, Executive Director River Partners, Chico Office 580 Vallombrosa Avenue

Jeffrey R. Single, Regional Manager CDFW, Central Region

Chico, California 95926

The Honorable Adam Gray Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 6012 Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Kristin Olsen Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 2111 Sacramento, California 95814

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR MUND G. BROWN JR., Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

#### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD

1807 13<sup>™</sup> STREET, SUITE 103 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811 (916) 445-8448 FAX (916) 323-0280 www.wcb.ca.gov 2013 AUG 14 P 2:41

# NOTICE OF MEETING

## **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD**

September 4, 2013 1:00 PM 1/ State Capitol, Room 2040 Sacramento, California 95814

### PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS

#### ITEM NO.

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Funding Status Informational
- 3. Special Project Planning Account Informational
- 4. Proposed Consent Calendar (Items 4—11)
- \*5. Approval of Minutes June 4, 2013
- \*6. Recovery of Funds

<sup>\*</sup> Proposed Consent Calendar

<sup>1/</sup> These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities; more information on page vii

'7. Leininger and C&R Ranches Habitat Improvement, CEQA and Design Tehama County \$60,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Tehama County Resource Conservation District, for a cooperative project with the landowners and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to initiate planning, design, and environmental review on two ranches in Tehama County: the Leininger Ranch and the C&R Ranch, located approximately 10 miles east and 17 miles west of the City of Corning, respectively. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for projects to assist farmers in integrating agricultural activities with ecosystem restoration and wildlife protection. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(d)(4)]

\*8. CDFW Land Management Plan Knoxville Wildlife Area Napa County

\$172,500.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the California Wildlife Foundation for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to complete and deliver a land management plan for the CDFW's Knoxville Wildlife Area located north of Lake Berryessa in Napa County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the preparation of land management plans for properties acquired in fee by the Wildlife Conservation Board. [California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), Public Resources Code Section 5096.650(a)]

\*9. Puma Canyon, Expansions 3 and 4 San Bernardino County

\$558,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the Transition Habitat Conservancy for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response to acquire two separate properties totaling 137± acres, to conserve lower montane chaparral and woodland habitat for the benefit of deer, mountain lion and other wildlife species, located in Puma Canyon on the lower northern slopes of the San Bernardino Mountains, near the community of Pinon Hills in San Bernardino County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

\*10 Burcham and Wheeler Flat, Expansion 1 (Winter) Mono County \$225,000.00

To consider the fee title acquisition of 75± acres of land as an expansion to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Burcham and Wheeler Flat for the protection of eastern sierra mountain sagebrush scrub areas that provide important habitat for mule deer and the greater sage grouse, located 15 miles northwest of Bridgeport, near the intersection of U.S. 395 and S.R. 108, commonly referred to as Sonora Junction in unincorporated Mono County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat to protect deer and mountain lions. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(a)]

\*11. Western Riverside County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) (2012) - Nelson Riverside County \$81,000.00

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Habitat Conservation Planning Land Acquisition grant (Section 6 Grant) and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (Authority); and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the Authority to acquire in fee 119± acres of land for protection and recovery of threatened and endangered species and expand regional wildlife habitat corridors and linkages located within the Western Riverside County MSHCP, north of the City of Wildomar, in southwestern Riverside County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition and protection of habitat that implements or assists in the establishment of Natural Community Conservation Plans. [Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006 (Proposition 84), Public Resources Code Section 75055(c)]

### Gray Lodge Wetland Enhancement and Pump Restoration Butte County

\$1,038,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to Ducks Unlimited for a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enhance 560± acres of wetland habitat and install a pump that will help supply water to all of CDFW's 9,168-acre Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, located approximately six miles west of the City of Gridley in Butte County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding sources, which allow for the acquisition, enhancement or restoration of wetlands to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass in the Central Valley [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(d) (Proposition 1E), Inland Wetlands Conservation Program]; and for the acquisition, preservation, restoration or establishment of wetland habitat in the Central Valley. [Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Fund (Proposition 12), Public Resources Code Section 5096.350(a)(1)(A)]

# 13. Dos Rios Riparian Restoration Stanislaus County

\$1,392,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the River Partners for a cooperative project with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Department of Water Resources and others to restore 599± acres of riparian habitat, located at the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers in Stanislaus County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f) (Proposition 1E)]

# 14. San Joaquin River, Hidden Valley Ranch Stanislaus County

\$3,010,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant for a cooperative project with the River Partners, Department of Water Resources and the Packard Foundation, to acquire in fee 466± acres of valley floodplain and riverine habitat for protection of threatened and endangered species located approximately 10 miles west of the City of Modesto, just south of the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers, in Stanislaus County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species, to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass and allow continued agricultural use. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(b/c) (Proposition1E)]

# 15. Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, Expansion 3 Riverside County

\$420,000.00

To consider the fee title acquisition of 36± acres of land for the protection of riparian and riverine habitat and a wildlife corridor supporting several threatened and endangered species as an expansion of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Palo Verde Ecological Reserve, located along the Colorado River near the City of Blythe in eastern Riverside County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the proposed funding source that allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect unique species, natural communities and rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species and enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Section 2786(b/c) (Proposition 1E)]

# 16. San Diego River (Palmer) San Diego County

\$676,000.00

To consider the acceptance of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Land Acquisition grant and the approval to subgrant these federal funds to the Endangered Habitats League, and to consider a Wildlife Conservation Board grant to the Endangered Habitats League to acquire in fee 9± acres of land for the protection of watershed function, wildlife linkages and habitat that will support the continued recovery of the State and federally threatened and endangered species located near the community of Alpine, in central San Diego County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened or fully protected species, to acquire habitat on which unique species or natural communities naturally exist, and to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786 (b/c)]

# 17. San Dieguito River Riparian Habitat Restoration San Diego County

\$1,005,000.00

To consider the allocation for a grant to the River Partners for a cooperative project with the City of San Diego to restore 100± acres of riparian and oak woodland habitat on the City of San Diego property located just upstream of Lake Hodges, near Escondido in San Diego County. The purposes of this project are consistent with the authorized uses of the proposed funding source, which allows for the acquisition, restoration or enhancement of riparian habitat and aquatic habitat for salmonids and trout to protect or enhance a flood protection corridor or bypass. [Habitat Conservation Fund (Proposition 117), Fish and Game Code Section 2786(e/f) (Proposition 1E)]

### 18. Strategic Plan Update

Informational

#### PERSONS WITH DISABILITES

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact the Department's Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator Tina Johnson at (916) 651-1214 or <a href="mailto:Tina.Johnson@wildlife.ca.gov">Tina.Johnson@wildlife.ca.gov</a>. Reasonable Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received by August 19, 2013. Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event, and requests for Real-Time Captioners at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met.

If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but due to circumstances is no longer needed, please contact the Reasonable Accommodation Coordinator immediately.