



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 24, 2024**  
**3800 CORNUCOPIA WAY, ROOM H&I, STANISLAUS BUILDING**  
**MODESTO, CA 95358-9494**  
 (Agendas can be found online at <http://www.stancounty.com/parks/fish-wildlife-committee.shtm>)

<p><b>COUNTY FISH &amp; WILDLIFE MEMBERS PRESENT:</b></p> <p>Tom Sexton, D1                  Kern Hunewill, D5                  Philip McKay, D5                  Michael Hart, D4                  Brian Mallard, D2                  Tim Fitzgerald, D3                  Jim Atherstone, D3</p>	<p><b>STATE FISH &amp; WILDLIFE REPRESENTATIVE(S):</b></p> <p>Mark Abraham CDFW                  Chinnu Xiong CDFW                  Bernard Aguilar CDFW</p>	<p><b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:</b></p>
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<p><b>EXCUSED/ABSENT:</b></p> <p>Ed Ayers, D2                  Vernon Gladney, D1                  Ken Meidl, D4</p>	<p><b>GUESTS PRESENT:</b></p> <p>Buck Condit, D-1, Board of Supervisors</p>
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<b>1. CALL TO ORDER &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b>	
Phil McKay called the meeting to order, and introductions were made of all those in attendance.	<i>All</i>
<b>2. WILDLIFE REPORT</b>	
Topics covered: D-6 deer count, Bear count, and Conflict animal issues and permitting. Beavers have recently been listed as a special animal in respect to conflict permitting. Approval to take offending beavers has to be approved by Sacramento HQ personnel. Elk crossings are being investigated along Highway 152 to minimize vehicle and elk conflicts. CWD issues were also discussed.	<p><b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b></p> <p><i>Mark Abraham</i> <i>Chinnu Xiong</i></p>
<b>3. FISHERIES REPORT</b>	
Salmon counts have begun on the Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Merced Rivers. Approximately 30 million dollars has been allocated for Tuolumne River habitat restoration projects. Most of the funding was by TID. The Tuolumne River Trust has scheduled a float in November 2024.	<p><b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b></p> <p><i>Bernard Aguilar</i></p>
<b>4. ENFORCEMENT REPORT</b>	
No Enforcement Report. Lt. Justin Gaioran was not available to attend.	<p><b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b></p> <p><i>Phil McKay</i></p>

<b>5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
Tom Sexton made the motion to accept July 25, 2024, minutes. Tim Fitzgerald seconded. The motion was unanimously carried.	<i>Phil McKay</i>
<b>6. TREASURER REPORT</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
Only \$29.00 was received during the last quarter. Current budget balance is approximately 59K.	<i>Kern Hunewill</i>
<b>7. CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW REPORT</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
The only correspondence received during the last quarter dealt with wildlife rehabilitation facility regulations. There does not appear to be any impact to Stanislaus County.	<i>Jim Atherstone</i>
<b>8. WOOD DUCK PROJECT REPORT</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
The wood duck project is waiting for the boy scouts to respond with their proposal to build 20 more boxes and for MJC to advise if they are interested in monitoring the boxes. No money has been spent on materials for the new boxes at this time.	<i>Phil McKay</i>
<b>9. VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
Mike has made contact with MJC. At this time Dr. Martin has not replied.	<i>Michael Hart</i>
<b>10. WOODWARD RESERVOIR FISH HABITAT PROJECT</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
Waiting for SSJID to provide a topography map to indicate high water marks in irrigation season and low water marks in the winter which is September through March. This would indicate the depth to place the habitat around the reservoir. Once elevation and possible placement are determined, a meeting with SSJID, Stanislaus County, and the water treatment plant manager, and other partners to determine exact placement. SSJID is requesting nonorganic, as opposed to organic material to prevent organic material from clogging the screen/filter at the water treatment plant.	<i>Jim Atherstone</i>
<b>11. KNIGHTS FERRY KID FISHING DAY</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
Tom Sexton and Vernon Gladney met with the Army Corps of Engineers Ranger about the possibility of putting on a Kid Fishing Day in the Spring of 2025. The Army Corps seemed interested in the event. They will check on the availability of the fishing poles and other equipment.	<i>Tom Sexton</i>
<b>12. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD FOR 2024</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
The committee discussed an Environmental Award for 2024. The process of vetting potential groups will be started at the January 2025 meeting.  Tom Sexton made a motion to present an award for 2024 to an environmental group. Brain Mallard seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.	<i>Phil McKay</i>
<b>13. STANISLAUS COUNTY PHOTO CONTEST</b>	<b>ACTIONS &amp; REPORTER</b>
The committee discussed the possibility of putting on a wildlife photo contest. The committee decided to move forward with the project. Phil will follow up with the Parks Department and Buck Condit to work out the details.	<i>Phil McKay</i>

**14. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

None noted

*Phil McKay*

**15. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING**

**ACTIONS & REPORTER**

There being no further business, Tom Sexton motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jim Atherstone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Fish and Wildlife Committee will be held on:

*Phil McKay*

**Next Meeting: January 23, 2025, at 4 PM  
Rooms H&I, Stanislaus Building  
3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, CA 95358**

Prepared by: Phil McKay, Chair

Agendas can also be found online at subject to staff's ability to post prior to the meeting. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the main office of the Department of Parks and Recreation, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite D, Modesto, CA 95358



**STANISLAUS COUNTY**  
PARKS & RECREATION

*Tera Chumley, Director  
Phil McKay, Chair*