

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 410, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 454-2580 FAX: (831) 454-2131 TDD: (831) 454-2123 ALVIN JAMES, DIRECTOR

December 18,2001

AGENDA DATE: January 8,2002

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

APPROVE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION

Members of the Board,

As a result of their December 6, 2001 meeting (Attachment 1), the Fish and Game Advisory Commission recommends an allocation of \$900 to print and post fishing compliance signs throughout the County. These signs (see Attachment 2) would be posted on local streams to alert anglers to comply with California Department of Fish and Game regulations.

The Commission has considered this project for over a year. Last year, late changes to fishing regulations delayed action on this project. This year, the Commission decided to use general wording so that the signs would be valuable despite any future changes to the fishing regulations. Signs will be printed on corrugated plastic and should last several years, especially if posted high on trees. As has been done several times in the past, individual commissioners will coordinate with local Boy Scout Troops or others to post the signs near local streams. Signs will be posted only with property owner permission.

With the listing of steelhead under the federal Endangered Species Act, and the listing of coho salmon under the federal and state Endangered Species Act, it is especially important that anglers comply with current fishing regulations to protect local salmonid runs. Funds are available for this purpose and it represents no new net ccunty cost.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Approve the allocation of \$900 to print fishing compliance signs and purchase incidental materials to secure the signs to trees, and request the Auditor-Controller to disburse the funds.

Sincerely,

RECOMMENDED:

Sure belegue for ALVIN D. JAMES

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO

Planning Director County Administrative Officer

KLS/F & G fish sign Brd Ltr Dec 2001

A:tachments:

- 1) Draft Minutes from **the** December 6,2001 meeting
- 2) Fishing Regulations Sign DRAFT



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 400, SANTA ČRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 454-3154 FAX: (831) 454-2131 TDD: (831) 454-2123

Fish and Game Advisory Commission **DRAFT**MINUTES

Santa Cmz County Governmental Center Planning Department Oceanview Conference Room Santa Cruz, CA 95060

December 6,2001

- 1. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 7:04
- 2. ROLL CALL. Present: Commissioners Ritchey, Murphy, Peterson, Smith, Frediani,

McCrary, Estrada, and Castro. Excused: Commissioner Lease

Absent: none

- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The minutes of November 2001 were approved.
- 4. GUEST INTRODUCTIONS. Dennis Baldwin, California Dept of Fish and Game; Larry Wolf, Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project.
- 5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS. None
- 6. OLD BUSINESS
- **A.**) State Fish and Game Commission votes on Fishing; regulations Dec. 7^{th.} Staff reported it is too late get a letter or comments to the State Commission before their meeting on Dec 7th. However, Larry Wolf reported that the Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project (MBSTP) were active in submitting comments to the State Commission. MBSTP is opposed to a new regulation that will prohibit keeping one hatchery fish on the San Lorenzo River, which has been allowed in the past. Larry Wolf commented that the MBSTP is currently at its lowest production levels ever; if they could get approval, the hatchery could produce extra fish for anglers and predators.
- B.) <u>Signs for fishing regulations</u>. Commissioner McCrary brought a new draft of the proposed fishing signs. The signs would be printed in black and white. Commissioner McCrary obtained an estimate to print the signs for \$1.35 each on corrugated plastic or \$675 for 500. Signs would come with punched holes for posting with either plastic nails, wire or nylon string.

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to approve \$900 to purchase signs and posting materials. 0357 Commisioner Castro seconded the motion. All aye.

Commissioners McCrary, Castro, Murphy and Larry Wolf will be work as a subcommittee on the logistics of posting the fishing signs.

- C.) <u>Joint meeting with neighboring counties</u>. The meeting is planned for January. Staff will send Commissioner Peterson copies of the Final FishNet 4C Implementation Plan. Mendocino will not be included since they are active in the Northern 5-county group.
- D,) <u>Update on Stream Enhancement Fund</u>. Staff reported that she made a site visit to the Valencia Creek fish ladder location with Maya Conrad, Coastal Watershed Council; Jennifer Nelson, CDFG fishery biologist; Jeff Hagar, Fishery Biologist, and John Dvorsky, Swanson Hydrology. (Maya Conrad will be at our February meeting to present information about the Aptos Creek Watershed Assessment). It was agreed that in context of the watershed enhancement, replacing the fish ladder at Soquel Drive is an important project. Funding has been allocated to Natural Resources Employment Program to contract with Swanson Hydrology to prepare a construction design. Once the design and cost estimates are complete, the Commission can consider funding all of the project, a portion of the project, or funding a match contribution to a CDFG SB271 grant.

Staff has a meeting to discuss the Bonny Doon Road project with Public Works staff in the next few days.

E.) Discuss sending letter in support of increased pay and benefits for CDFG wardens. Dennis Baldwin presented information about the pay inequity between wardens and CHP. The wardens just signed a 2-year contract as part of a larger union. CDFG supervisors and managers have filed a suit and there is a good chance they will achieve parity with CHP, but that does not include the wardens. In addition, there is a shortage of wardens coming out of CDFG's training program, and many more could retire in the next several years.

Commissioner Ritchey made a motion to write and send a letter to CDFG personnel department and state legislators to support warden parity with CHP. Commissioner Frediani seconded the motion. All aye. It was agreed that Commissioner Ritchey will draft and send the letter.

7, NEW BUSINESS

- A.) <u>Discuss annual report. future goals and recommendations</u>. Staff will be preparing the annual report in the next month. The Commission reviewed future goals and decided to add: (1) follow FishNet 4C Implementation Plan and (2) to make recommendations for the Stream Enhancement Fund.
- B.) Budget for 2001-02. Staff distributed a letter prepared by Nancy McCollum, fiscal officer for the Planning Department, that explains the budget for the Fish and Game Commission. The Commission has been budgeted \$15,000 to spend this year, with an estimated \$5,500 in fine revenues. There was a discussion about fine revenues and what proportion goes to the Fish and Game Commission. Dennis Baldwin told the Commission that he met with the District Attorney's office last week; there is a lot of interest in educating new staff about the Fish and Game code. In addditon, Mr. Baldwin was asked to make a presentation to a group of judges in January.

Staff proposed several options for spending the \$15,000, such as combining it with the Stream Enhancement Fund, grant projects, or other special projects such as Montery Bay Salmon and Trout Project, and CDFG. There was an interest in funding CalTIP. Staff felt that the public grants program is great, but it was a lot of staff and Commission effort for the \$5,000 that was allocated last year. Staff recommended either spending the majority of the \$15,000 on the public grants program or not doing it this year. Commissioner Peterson made a motion not to have the public grants program this year; Commissioner Ritchey seconded the motion. Commissioners Peterson, Ritchey, Smith and Castro voted aye; Commissioners Murphy and McCrary were opposed; Commissioners Frediani and Estrada abstained. The motion did not pass. It was agreed to discuss the public grants program at the February meeting.

8. <u>ADDITIONS/PRESENTATION BY COMMISSIONERS</u>.

9. STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS. Staff distributed an article from Fisheries magazine: Uncertainty and Precautionary Management of Marine Fisheres: Can the Old Methods fit the New Mandates. Another article about the Marine Life Protection Areas had been included in the agenda packets. Commissioner Frediani attended a meeting about the proposed Marine Life Protection Areas. At the meeting, information was presented about how fishing often improves adjacent to protected areas. At the meeting, different stakeholders expressed concerns and interests about the Sanctuary Plan Update. There was a discussion about how the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary may enforce the protected areas since they do not have enforcement staff of their own.

Larry Wolf, MBSTP, reported that the hatchery just completed clipping fins on 46,000 fish. He also reported on the captive broodstock program for coho salmon, which is a joint project with NMFS. Twenty-three adult coho salmon are coming soon from the Monterey Bay Aquarium to the hatchery. In the future, the new NMFS lab will have facilities for this captive broodstock program.

There was a discussion about how NMFS may need to review the listing of steelhead and coho salmon in California now that a lawsuit in Oregon resulted in a determination that there is no genetic difference between a wild and hatchery population of fish. If hatchery fish are included in population estimates, there may not be reason to list the fish in many streams.

California has signed on to the Wildlife Compact, effective January 2002, that will now include 13 states.

9. ADJOURNMENT at 9:10pm

NOTE: Next meeting is February 7,2002 Submitted by K. Schroeder kls/Fish and Game Commission/Minutes/MIN fg DEC 01

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