

RECORD PACKET COPY

F7

April 24, 2003

To: Coastal Commissioners

From: Mike Reilly, Chair, California Coastal Commission
Dick Wayman, Communications Director, Coastal Conservancy**Significant Events at the April 24 Meeting of the Coastal Conservancy in Oakland**

The Conservancy approved the following:

North Coast

1. Disbursements of \$21,000 to the California Conservation Corps and \$14,000 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service toward restoration of coastal dune forest and salt marsh habitat at Lanphere Dunes in the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge.
2. A \$250,000 grant to the Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District for the preparation of design and engineering specifications for ranch resource enhancement in the Salmor Creek watershed, Sonoma County.
3. A \$90,000 grant to the Ocean Song Farm and Wilderness Center to conduct a coastal prairie stewardship study for southwest coastal Sonoma County.

Central Coast

4. A \$250,000 grant to the Nature Conservancy to assist in the acquisition of the 106-acre Williams property in the community of Cambria, San Luis Obispo County. The acquisition will help protect the southernmost native stand of Monterey pines and preserve scenic views from Highway 1.
5. A \$100,000 grant to the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District to prepare a feasibility report for development of a permit coordination program for Santa Cruz County.
6. An amendment to the January 25, 2001, authorization for disbursement of \$75,000 to the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center to authorize use of these funds for pre-construction planning and design of the proposed new visitors center.
7. A \$98,000 grant to the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County, including up to \$40,000 in National Marine Fisheries Service funds, to prepare a steelhead habitat enhancement plan for Arroyo Hondo Creek in Santa Barbara County.

**Coastal Conservancy Status Report to the Coastal Commission
April 2003**

Page 2

South Coast

8. A \$3,000,000 grant to the Nature Conservancy for property acquisitions that will add to the Santa Clara River Parkway in Ventura County. The funding will enable the purchase of an estimated 700 acres along three miles of the river channel.
9. A \$1,200,000 grant to the Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy for acquisition of the 45-acre Piccirelli property in Huntington Beach. The acquisition will become part of a 100-acre remnant of the wetlands and dunes that once covered this part of the coast.
10. A \$19,500 grant to the City of San Diego to augment funds previously authorized on December 6, 2001, for preparation of an environmental review document, permits, and final construction designs for extending the Famosa Slough culvert.
11. A \$150,000 grant to Trout Unlimited to conduct Phase II of the exotic species reduction program in the San Mateo Creek watershed in northern San Diego County. San Mateo Creek is the southernmost steelhead trout stream remaining in California.
12. A \$563,000 grant to the Southwest Wetlands Interpretative Association to augment funds authorized by the Conservancy on April 26, 2001, for pre-project planning for a second phase of the Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration Program.
13. The following actions to implement the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan, approved by the Conservancy on August 2, 2001:
 - a. A \$150,000 grant to the Santa Monica Bay Foundation to develop a Ballona Creek Watershed Best Management Practices (BMP) Planning and Implementation Strategy.
 - b. A \$68,281 grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Redondo Beach Bluffs Pilot Restoration Project.
 - c. A \$571,500 augmentation to the Conservancy's August 2, 2001, disbursement to California State Parks for the feasibility study for removal of Rindge Dam on Malibu Creek.
 - d. An amendment to the Conservancy's August 2, 2001, Ocean Discovery Center authorization to substitute Heal the Bay as the grantee and to disburse up to \$281,430 for the development of marine science and environmental education programs.
14. Grants to the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors: (1) \$35,000 to demonstrate and evaluate the use of alternative fuel for the summer 2003 Marina CoastLink Ferry Service at Marina Del Rey, and (2) \$20,000 for preparation of a feasibility study of alternatives and requirements for permanent ferry service.

Coastal Conservancy Status Report to the Coastal Commission
April 2003

Page 3

San Francisco Bay Area

15. A \$2,200,000 grant to the City of Sausalito for acquisition of the Dunphy Park expansion site. The acquisition will more than double the size of Dunphy Park and ensure public use of the last undeveloped privately owned waterfront parcel in the city.
16. A \$1,807,500 grant to the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District to acquire 198 acres and an additional 30 acres of timber harvest rights for addition to the Bear Creek Redwoods Regional Open Space Preserve in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties.
17. A \$474,385 grant to Friends of Recreation and Parks for wildlife habitat and trail improvements to San Francisco's Lake Merced.
18. Use of Conservancy funds by the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council for three projects to complete the Bay Area Ridge Trail: (1) construction of a staging area and trail improvements at Crockett Hills in Contra Costa County, allowing the opening of 4½ miles of the trail; (2) construction of a new 1,200-foot section of trail between East D and Hopper streets in the City of Petaluma, Sonoma County; and (3) construction of two staging areas and trail improvements to improve access to about 15 miles of the Ridge Trail at Almaden Quicksilver Park and Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve in Santa Clara County.
19. A \$60,000 grant to the California Native Plant Society—Willis Linn Jepson Chapter to construct the Forrest Deaner Nature Botanic Garden and associated trails and signs at Benicia State Recreation Area in the City of Benicia.
20. A \$20,000 grant to the Muir Heritage Land Trust, working with the Carquinez Strait Heritage Area Committee, to promote conservation planning and implementation in the region surrounding the Carquinez Strait in Contra Costa and Solano Counties.

General

21. Disbursement of up to \$290,000 for the production of Conservancy publications through June 2004, including *California Coast & Ocean* magazine, program publications, special public information and project-related documents, and including a grant to the Coastal Conservancy Association to provide assistance in that effort.

The Conservancy received reports on the status of two projects, Hamilton-Bel Marin Keys and Invasive *Spartina*.

The next Conservancy meeting is scheduled for June 4 in Oakland.

