



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Planning and
Development
Department No.: 053
For Agenda Of: November 5, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5 Vote Required

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Lisa Plowman, 805.568.2086
Director(s)
Contact Info: Andrew Rasura, 805.568.2031
SUBJECT: Fish and Wildlife Commission Grant Awards

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Approve and authorize the Director of Planning and Development to award grants to the Fish Reef Project, Channel Island Films, and Chimineas Ranch Foundation. (Attachment 1);
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 0009643 to increase appropriations by \$127,676.00 in the Planning and Development Fish and Wildlife Fund for services and supplies funded by the release of restricted fund balance (4/5 Vote Required) (Attachment 2); and
- c) Determine that the award of Fish and Wildlife Commission Grant funds is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Sections 15378(b)(4), 15333, and 15301(i) of the State Guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (Attachment 3).

Summary Text:

The County Fish and Wildlife Commission reviewed the attached grant requests at their November 16, 2023 and January 25, 2024 meetings, and recommends that the Board approve funding for the “Santa Barbara Kelp Restoration Reef – Goleta Study Site,” “Southern Elk Pond Restoration,” and “West of the West 2: Tales of California’s Channel Islands” projects, with the total requested amount being \$127,676.00. This expenditure is fully funded by Fish and Wildlife fine revenues. Appropriations of \$18,000.00 for Fish and Wildlife Grants are included in the FY 2024-25 budget, and Planning and Development is requesting a budget revision to increase appropriations by \$127,676.00 to fulfill the full grant awards.

These grants are permissible expenditures pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 13103. County Resolution 75-207 authorizes the Fish and Wildlife Commission to advise your Board on fish and wildlife

matters and make recommendations to your Board on proposals from individuals and organizations for the expenditures of fish and wildlife fine revenues.

Background:

The County Fish and Wildlife Commission, established by Resolution 75-207 and amended by Resolution 16-12, is comprised of nine members: five appointed by the Board of Supervisors, three considered qualified in fish and game matters and nominated by specific organizations, and one commercial fisher. State law limits how revenues from Fish and Wildlife fines may be expended. Under State law, funds can be expended only for specific purposes, including, but not limited to, temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife and improvement of fish and wildlife habitat.

In their November 16, 2023 and January 25, 2024 meetings, the Fish and Wildlife Commission discussed the merits of these proposals. The grants for consideration have satisfied statutory requirements. Below is a summary of the proposed grants; full grant application material is provided in Attachment 1.

Project	Amount Requested	Recommended Amount	Project Description
Fish Reef Project	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	Deployment of 16 seas caves in Goleta bay of 40 feet in depth. Supplemental grant request. The project is supported with additional funding of \$100,000 from donors and \$50,000 from a Coastal Resource Mitigation Fund grant.
Southern Elk Pond Restoration	\$87,676.00	\$87,676.00	Repairs to an existing elk pond and development of a new emergency wildlife water source.
West of the West 2: Tales of California Channel Islands	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	Production of a film that demonstrates the various elemental impacts on the abalone fishery through kelp planting and the creation of coastal abalone farms. The project is supported with additional funding, including \$25,000 from the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum and \$5,000 from the sale of DVDs and royalties.

The County Fish and Wildlife Commission recommends that the Board approves funding the grant requests found in Attachment 1. The total requested amount is \$127,676, and the Fish and Wildlife Commission recommends approval of a total of \$127,676, to be fully funded by restricted Fish and Wildlife fine revenues. These grants provide funding for a variety of community based educational programs that focus on fish and wildlife and other expenditures authorized by Fish and Game Code Section 13103.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes **Fiscal Analysis:**

	Current FY Cost:	Annualized On-going Cost:	Total One-Time Project Cost
General Fund			
State			\$ 127,676.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 127,676.00

Fish and Wildlife fine revenues are maintained in the Fish and Wildlife Special Revenue Fund, #0041. Annual revenues to the fund range from \$5,000.00 to \$8,000.00, and the Fund currently has a balance of approximately \$798,145.00. Appropriations of \$18,000 for previously awarded Fish and Wildlife grants are currently included in the FY 2024-25 Adjusted Budget, the attached budget revision request increases appropriations by \$127,676.00 to fully fund the recommended grant award which amount is available in Fund 0041 restricted fund balance. Administrative support costs, including the preparation of this report, are offset by funding from the Fish and Wildlife Fund. If awarded a Fish and Wildlife project grant, no future funding commitment is required for maintenance or operational costs related to these projects.

Staffing Impacts:

No additional staffing is needed to implement and manage these Agreements.

Attachments:

1. Grant Application Forms
2. Budget Revision Request 0009643
3. CEQA Notices of Exemption

Authored by:

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