



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

AGENDA

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

3:00 PM

40 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553
Construction Conference Room

ZOOM LINK

<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/83497196908>

| Dial: 888 278 0254 |
Access code: 198675

The public may attend the Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting in person and remotely via call-in or Zoom.

Persons who wish to address the Fish and Wildlife Committee during public comment or with respect to an item that is on the agenda may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those participating in person should offer comments when invited by the Committee Chair. Those participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by pushing *9 on their phones.

3:00 P.M. Convene Meeting.

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND STATEMENT OF CONFLICT

A member who has a conflict should, prior to consideration of the decision: (1) publicly identify in detail the financial interest that causes the conflict; (2) recuse himself/herself from discussing and voting on the matter; and (3) leave the room until after the decision has been made.

2. REVIEW and CONSIDER APPROVING the minutes for the September 17, 2025 [TMP-13354](#) meeting.

Attachments: [9-17-25 Draft Meeting Minutes](#)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Includes public comment on topics on the agenda and items not listed on the agenda. The FWC shall also accept public comment on agenda items at the time they are discussed.

4. UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Presented by Staff and FWC Members)
Includes discussion of implementation of actions authorized previously, correspondence received, and upcoming meetings of interest to the FWC.
5. CONSIDER the following Consent items: [TMP-13337](#)
 - a) REVIEW and ACCEPT the final report from Contra Costa Resource Conservation District for their 2024 "Ours to Conserve: Flora and Fauna in the Watershed Signage Program" project.
 - b) REVIEW and ACCEPT the final report from International Bird Rescue for their 2025 "Ethically and Effectively Resolving Human/Wildlife Interaction Issues in Contra Costa County Through Temporary Emergency Treatment and Care of Injured and Orphaned Wildlife" project.
 - c) REVIEW and ACCEPT the final report from Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour for their 2025 Bringing Back the Natives Events project.
 - d) REVIEW and APPROVE the request from Things that Creep to modify the usage of approved grant funds and for an extension of time to complete their 2025 "Pocket Guide to the 30 Native Reptile Species in the San Francisco Bay Area" project.

Attachments: [Contra Costa Resource Conservation District - Final Report](#)
[International Bird Rescue - Final Report](#)
[Bringing Back the Natives - Final Report](#)
[Things that Creep - Request for Modification and Extension of Time](#)
6. DISCUSS outcome of the September 25, 2025 Fall Forum and consider plans and potential speakers for next year.
7. DISCUSS the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.
8. REVIEW and consider APPROVING the draft 2025 Work Plan and Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors. [TMP-13355](#)

Attachments: [2025 Draft Work Plan and Annual Report](#)
9. DETERMINE the Fish and Wildlife Committee 2026 meeting schedule.

10. DETERMINE the agenda for the next meeting. The next regular meeting date is to be determined. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:
- 2027 grant application review
 - 2026 Fall Forum planning
 - Informational brochure on invasive species
 - Draft 2026 Work Plan and Annual Report
 - Delta Conveyance Project update
 - Field Trip
11. Adjourn

The Committee Chair may alter the order of agenda items at the meeting. Please contact Maureen Parkes at 925-655-2909 or maureen.parkes@dcd.cccounty.us (or Abigail Fateman at 925-655-2908 or abigail.fateman@dcd.cccounty.us) at the CCC Department of Conservation and Development if you have questions about the Fish & Wildlife Committee or desire materials related to this agenda. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed to a majority of the FWC members less than 96 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection at 30 Muir Road in Martinez during business hours. The FWC will provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities planning to participate in this meeting who contact staff at least 72 hours before the meeting.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: TMP-13354

Agenda Date: 10/15/2025

Agenda #: 2.

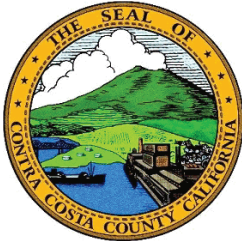
Fish and Wildlife Committee

Subject: REVIEW and CONSIDER APPROVING the minutes for the September 17, 2025 meeting.

Contact: Maureen Parkes (925) 655-2909

Recommendation:

REVIEW and CONSIDER APPROVING the minutes for the September 17, 2025 meeting.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

3:00 PM

40 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553
Construction Conference Room

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3:00 P.M. Convene Meeting.

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND STATEMENT OF CONFLICT

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Nicole Balbas, Courtney Coon, Tim Fares, Roni Gehlke, Susan Heckly, Brett Morris, Olivia Ortega, and Jamin Pursell attended the meeting. Kathleen Jennings and Danny Pellegrini provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting. Kathy Cutting (Cal State East Bay, Concord Center), Lisa Damerel (Contra Costa Resource Conservation District), Alex Domeyko (International Bird Rescue), Adèle Ho (Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee), Stephanie Hudon (Boise State University), Phil Kohlmetz (International Bird Rescue), Satako Mills (The Watershed Project), Jill Ray (Office of District 2 Supervisor), Hannah Rudd, Jeffrey Tibbets, Roger Wachtler (John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited) and Ben Weise (Contra Costa Resource Conservation District) attended the meeting. Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

2. REVIEW and CONSIDER APPROVING the minutes for the August 20, 2025 meeting.

[25-3895](#)

Attachments: [8-20-25 Draft Minutes](#)

The meeting minutes were approved as written. (Vote: 8-0) Balbas, Coon, Fares, Gehlke, Heckly, Morris, Ortega and Pursell; Absent: Jennings and Pellegrini

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Presented by Staff and FWC Members)
Includes discussion of implementation of actions authorized previously, correspondence received, and upcoming meetings of interest to the FWC.

Maureen Parkes provided the following updates to the Committee:

Kathleen Jennings and Danny Pellegrini provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting today.

Kathy Kramer, the creator of the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, will be receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2025 Sustainability Awards and Gala at the Pleasant Hill Community Center this evening.

Correspondence forwarded to Committee members:

- Email from Assemblywoman Lori D. Wilson, District 11, regarding redistricting.
- Emails from Supervisor Candace Andersen regarding the Sustainability Awards Gala September 17th, Contra Costa Resource Conservation District is recruiting for an open seat on their Board of Directors, East Bay Regional Park District free fishing day on August 30th, and the Contra Costa County Urban Limit Line renewal.
- Email from Supervisor Ken Carlson regarding the Contra Costa County Urban Limit Line renewal.
- Emails from Supervisor John Gioia regarding the Coastal Clean Up at Shimada Park.
- Emails from Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston regarding the Contra Costa County Urban Limit Line Renewal.
- Email from Olivia Ortega regarding the Pittsburg Marina Coastal Clean up Day.

Newsletters and Announcements forwarded to Committee members

- California Department of Water Resources - 4
- California Fish and Game Commission - 6
- Contra Costa Resource Conservation District - 3
- Golden Gate Bird Alliance - 2

- Kids for the Bay - 3
- Lindsay Wildlife Experience - 2
- River Otter Ecology Project -1
- Save Mount Diablo - 2
- Sustainability Exchange -1
- Sustainable Contra Costa -1
- Urban Tilth -2

5. DISCUSS the Fall Forum.

The Committee discussed the Fall Forum.

6. CONTINUE to CONSIDER the 20 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund applications submitted by August 1, 2025. CONSIDER making a recommendation to the Internal Operations Committee of the Board of Supervisors on this matter.

[25-3764](#)

Attachments:

[A - Boise State University Additional Information](#)

[F - Cal State EastBay, Concord Campus Additional Information](#)

[H - International Bird Rescue Additional Information](#)

[L - The Watershed Project/Mira Vista Additional Information](#)

[N - Mt. View Sanitary District Additional Information](#)

[O - The Watershed Project/Steelhead Trout Additional Information](#)

[P - John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited Additional Information](#)

[S - Sierra Club Delta Group Withdrawal Letter](#)

[T - Earth Team Additional Information](#)

Grant applicants in attendance contributed additional verbal information in response to the Committee's questions. The Committee completed their review of the grant applications. The FWC approved the following 20 recommendations on the 2026 grant applications and authorized staff to provide a report to the Internal Operations Committee on this matter.

A. Boise State University

Assessing the demography of a threatened Golden Eagle population in California
\$4,245 (full funding)

B. CA State Parks - Diablo Range District

Developing a Grazing Management Framework at Marsh Creek SP
\$0 (funding is not recommended)

C. Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

Tracking Western Pond Turtle Upland Traversal with GPS Loggers

\$19,196 (full funding)

D. Lindsay Wildlife Experience

Wildlife Intensive Care Unit

\$24,390 (full funding)

E. California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC)

Training a new workforce to improve riparian habitat in Contra Costa County

\$0 (funding is not recommended)

F. Cal State East Bay, Concord Center

Establishing Pollinator Habitat at Cal State East Bay, Concord Center

\$7,456.92 (full funding)

G. Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

Marsh Creek Steelhead Trout Spawning and Breeding Habitat Enhancement

\$0 (funding is not recommended)

H. International Bird Rescue

Ethically and Effectively Resolving Human/Wildlife Interaction Issues in Contra Costa County Through Temporary Emergency Treatment and Care of Injured and Orphaned Wildlife

\$20,719.92 (full funding)

I. John Muir Land Trust

Pacheco Marsh Outdoor Education

\$7,886.00 (partial funding is recommended and may not be used for a Stewardship Manager)

J. Save Mount Diablo

Tracking Kestrel Re-Population on Mount Diablo, Year 2

\$5,680.24 (full funding)

K. KIDS for the BAY

Watershed Action Program

\$5,680.24 (full funding)

L. Mira Vista Field Stewardship Committee & The Watershed Project

Mira Vista Field Restoration Project

\$11,960.00 (partial funding is recommended and may not be used for sign design)

M. Marine Science Institute

2026 Delta Discovery Voyage Program

\$0 (funding is not recommended)

N. Mt. View Sanitary District

Moorhen Marsh & the MVSD Wetlands Education Program

\$9,461 (partial funding is recommended and may only be used for the wetland student booklets, animal specimens and field trip supplies as outlined in the grant application)

O. The Watershed Project

Steelhead Trout Protection Research Project

\$12,205 (partial funding is recommended and may not be used for accounting services and liability insurance)

P. John Muir Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Upper Wildcat Creek Habitat and Fish Passage Barrier Study

\$5,755 (full funding)

Q. Wildcat Canyon Community School

Habitat Restoration and Ecological Education for Future Generations

\$5,250 (full funding)

R. Worth a Dam

The Water Guardians/Aqua Squad

\$895.00 (full funding)

S. Sierra Club Delta Group of the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter

Marsh Creek Stewards: Education, Engagement, and Habitat Action

\$0 (This application was withdrawn.)

T. Earth Team

Water Quality Monitoring in Contra Costa Watersheds

\$5,000 (full funding)

Vote: 8-0 (Balbas, Coon, Fares, Gehlke, Heckly, Morris, Ortega and Pursell; Absent: Jennings and Pellegrini)

7. DETERMINE the agenda for the next meeting. The next regular meeting date is October 15, 2025. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:

- Informational brochure on invasive species
- Draft 2025 Work Plan and Annual Report
- Delta Conveyance Project update
- Field Trip

Items to be included on the October 15th agenda: review and approval of the annual report to the Board of Supervisors, setting the 2026 meeting calendar, items to discuss the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund and the outcome of the Fall Forum.

8. ADJOURN



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: TMP-13337

Agenda Date: 10/15/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Subject: Consent Items

Contact: Maureen Parkes (925) 655-2909

Recommendations:

CONSIDER the following Consent items:

- a) REVIEW and ACCEPT the final report from Contra Costa Resource Conservation District for their 2024 "Ours to Conserve: Flora and Fauna in the Watershed Signage Program" project.
- b) REVIEW and ACCEPT the final report from International Bird Rescue for their 2025 "Ethically and Effectively Resolving Human/Wildlife Interaction Issues in Contra Costa County Through Temporary Emergency Treatment and Care of Injured and Orphaned Wildlife" project.
- c) REVIEW and ACCEPT the final report from Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour for their 2025 Bringing Back the Natives Events project.
- d) REVIEW and APPROVE the request from Things that Creep to modify the usage of approved grant funds and for an extension of time to complete their 2025 "Pocket Guide to the 30 Native Reptile Species in the San Francisco Bay Area" project.

Final Report to the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee

09/30/2025

Grant Project: “Ours to Conserve: Flora and Fauna in the Watershed” Signage Program

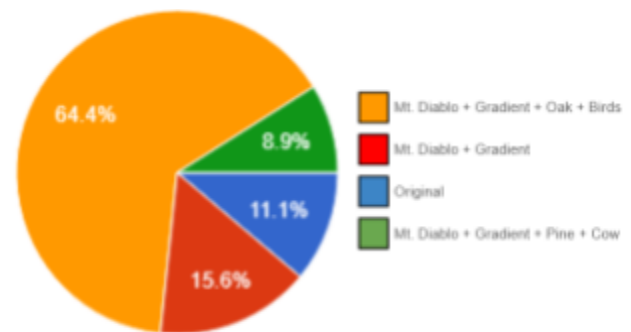
Award Amount: \$6,392.00

Amount being submitted for reimbursement from the Committee: **\$6,171.39**

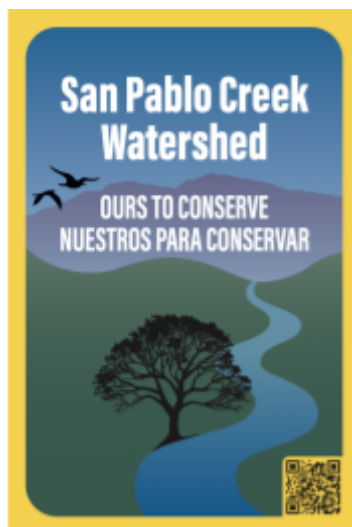
Summary:

The Contra Costa Resource Conservation District (CCRCD) began the project by locating the existing “Ours to Protect” watershed signs found throughout Contra Costa County (CCC). Data about location, sign condition, and access information were organized via ArcGIS Field Maps.

The next step was to create redesigns of the sign. The redesigns feature varying elements, but they all include the addition of Mount Diablo, a significant landmark in Contra Costa County, and showcase English and Spanish text, which will improve accessibility to a larger community than English-only signs. The redesigns, including



Survey results for new watershed design



Winning new sign design

the original design, were added to a survey to vote on, in addition to collect current sign locations and potential sign installation locations. The survey was presented in local grassroots creek group meetings, such as Friends of Alhambra Creek and Wildcat-San Pablo Creeks, emailed to members of the community, and advertised in our newsletter and tabling events. One design won the majority, receiving 64.4% of the votes, featuring Mt. Diablo, an oak tree, and birds. The new sign design was sent to Maureen Parkes for Fish and Wildlife Committee approval.

The QR code links to the CCRCD Watersheds webpage, where the public can find more information about their watersheds. We worked with our digital communications manager and our Watersheds Conservation Program team to add information regarding the new Watershed signs that are being installed throughout CCC and a map featuring the watersheds and creeks that can be viewed here:

<https://www.ccrd.org/watersheds>.

After receiving approval, we sent the winning design to GLT Sign Solutions to print. 73 signs were printed for 14 different watersheds, including both main watersheds and subwatersheds. We believed the \$1,140 allocated for signposts could be more effectively utilized, so instead of printing 50 signs, we reallocated a portion of the signpost funds to print more signs. This modification was approved by Fish and Wildlife staff member Maureen Parkes.

As we proceed with the sign installation, we observed that existing signs throughout the county are already securely attached to various sturdy structures, such as fences and metal poles, but depending on the geographic area, the signs were installed with several different methods. This aspect of the project added a new layer of difficulty, as some existing signs were not able to be removed without proper tools and permissions. Our team countered this by reaching out to several public works entities across Contra Costa County and requesting assistance with installation, which is still in progress. Attached here is the active spreadsheet that we used to track the signs to be installed with coordinate data on location, and which agency has ability to assist: [Watershed Signs to be Replaced/Installed](#). We've also reached out to several local community groups and organizations, and aim to have the remaining signs installed by the end of the year.





Done	Work Order	Watershed	Body of Water	Specific Location	Total for Watershed	Notes	Date of Installation	Type of Mounting Hardware	Where to Bill Staff Time	Which Watershed to Specify in Timesheet Notes	Agency helping w installation	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Alhambra Creek Watershed	Arroyo del Hambre Creek	37.973064, -122.127270	2			3/8in diameter drive rivets	5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Alhambra Creek Watershed	Alhambra Creek	38.013987, -122.133189				hawkins anti theft bolts	5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Carquinez Strait Watershed	Edwards Creek	38.055149, -122.221592	1		9/22/25	3/8in diameter drive rivets	5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.953777, -122.067261	11				5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed	City of pleasant hill	in progress
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.981665, -122.068931					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.975181, -122.066815					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek W Fork	37.956238, -122.089276					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Murderer's Creek	37.943830, -122.069779					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.971411, -122.066475		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.975186, -122.066352		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.943188, -122.065219		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek E Fork	37.933466, -122.066922		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Grayson Creek	37.954178, -122.067650		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Grayson Creek Watershed	Murderer's Creek	37.941172, -122.071871		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Las Trampas Creek Watershed	Las Trampas Creek	37.894662, -122.059212	3				5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Las Trampas Creek Watershed	Las Trampas Creek	37.893848, -122.061458					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Las Trampas Creek Watershed	Las Trampas Creek	37.887601, -122.078435		just stickers needing removal			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.923028, -121.712450	11				5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed	City of Brentwood	in progress
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.954311, -121.694364					5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.885070, -121.776060					5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.884184, -121.776348					5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.891435, -121.848189					5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.911097, -121.880372					5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.932635, -121.711089					5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.934536, -121.709092		accessible			5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.884393, -121.866598		accessible, sketchy parking			5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.903765, -121.715991		accessible			5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Marsh Creek Watershed	Marsh Creek	37.898033, -121.716343		accessible, side of highway			5135.4	Marsh Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Mt. Diablo Creek Watershed	Mt. Diablo Creek	37.959235, -121.966999	1				5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed	city of concord	in progress
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Pine Creek Watershed	Pine Creek	37.958263, -122.035700	3				5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Pine Creek Watershed	Galindo Creek	37.965582, -122.030533					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Pine Creek Watershed	Pine Creek	37.997193, -122.042298		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	38.004354, -122.288751	6				5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	37.985850, -122.279361					5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	37.985411, -122.279238					5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	37.979011, -122.263838					5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	37.979590, -122.264485					5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	38.002383, -122.288476		accessible			5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Pinole Creek Watershed	Pinole Creek	37.963258, -122.201291					5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Refugio Creek Watershed	Refugio Creek	37.998404, -122.249044			9/22/25		5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Rodeo Creek Watershed	Rodeo Creek	38.018723, -122.256721			9/22/25		5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Rodeo Creek Watershed	Rodeo Creek	38.018723, -122.256721			9/22/25		5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Rodeo Creek Watershed	Rodeo Creek	38.024696, -122.263080					5110.6B	No specification necessary		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Has Been Replaced	Rodeo Creek Watershed	Rodeo Creek	38.028436, -122.264605			8/1/25	3/8in diameter drive rivets	N/A	N/A		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.961929, -122.336543				Anti theft bolts	5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed	CC County Public Works	in progress
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.962915, -122.345223					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.963483, -122.348432		accessible			5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.964650, -122.351318		accessible			5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.964250, -122.317976		accessible			5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.953481, -122.272267				3/8in diameter drive rivets	5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.961334, -122.283318					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.963452, -122.287211					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	San Pablo Creek	37.966649, -122.309513					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	Lauterwasser Creek	37.889452, -122.194253					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	San Pablo Creek Watershed	Lauterwasser Creek	37.904186, -122.189609					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Walnut Creek Watershed	Walnut Creek	37.904099, -122.059497	3				5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Walnut Creek Watershed	San Ramon Creek	37.893332, -122.057175					5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Walnut Creek Watershed	Walnut Creek	37.903733, -122.059708		accessible			5135.4	Walnut Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Wildcat Creek Watershed	Wildcat Creek	37.959640, -122.343811	5	accessible, requires homeowner's permission?			5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Wildcat Creek Watershed	Wildcat Creek	37.953064, -122.338856				Anti theft bolts	5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Wildcat Creek Watershed	Wildcat Creek	37.951485, -122.330477					5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Wildcat Creek Watershed	Wildcat Creek	37.953043, -122.324627		accessible but is in the middle of a shrub which might make it tough			5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Replace	Wildcat Creek Watershed	Wildcat Creek	37.959804, -122.369140		accessible		Double sided bolts	5135.4	San Pablo/Wildcat Creek Watershed		

This table MUST be completed with your grant reimbursement request. Please submit as an Excel spreadsheet.

Tape receipts to paper and number each page in the upper right hand corner.

Contra Costa Resource Conservation

Grantee Name: District

"Ours to Conserve: Flora and Fauna in the

Name of Project: Watershed" Signage Program

Contact Name Phone and Email if there are questions about this: Joe Boyden, 510-205-1804, jboyden@ccrcd.org

Page number that receipt is on.	Description of service/item and amount allowable from grant award	Vendor	Date on Receipt/Invoice number	Description of service/item on receipt (highlight item(s) on receipt)	Total Amount of Receipt/Invoice	Total Amount of Receipt/Invoice for reimbursement from the Grant	
1	12"w x 18"h .080 aluminum sign panels, DP graphics with with vinyl text, 2 holes: \$5,023	GLT Sign Solutions	7/18/2025, 15965	Vinyled .080 Aluminum Signs w/ holes	\$6,067.92	\$6,067.92	\$95.08 unspent
2	Drive Rivets, 3/8" Bag of 100 / Aluminum / 1	Signal Corporation	9/12/2025, W2117	Drive Rivets, 3/8" Bag of 100 / Aluminur	\$103.47	\$103.47	\$ 125.53 unspent f
TOTAL						\$6,171.39	

Invoice



GLT Sign Solutions

411 Ferry St. #A
Martinez, CA 94553
ph. (925)229-5411
fax (925)370-0411
email: info@gltferry@gmail.com

Invoice:

15965

Description: **(x73) .080 Aluminum Signs w/ holes (x14 watershed titles)**

Customer: Eric Akeson

ph: (925) 360-6394

Contra Costa Resource Conservation Dist

Salesperson: Jose Ronquillo

email: eakeson@ccrcd.org

Product	Font	Qty	Sides	Height	Width	Unit Cost	Item Total
1 ALUM 080		73	1	18	12	\$73.82	\$5,388.86

Color: White

Description: Vinyled .080" Aluminum

Text:

2 Setup		1	1	1	1	\$140.00	\$140.00
---------	--	---	---	---	---	----------	----------

Color: White

Description:

Text: - Set Up x14 watershed titles

Payments Received (thank you)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Method</u>	<u>Tracking Number</u>
8/4/2025 3:47:59PM	\$3,439.05	Check	7004
8/11/2025 3:55:14PM	\$2,628.87	Check	7005
Total Payment	\$6,067.92		

Other Payments: _____
Form of Payment / Amount / Initials

Notes:

Ordered: 7/18/2025 3:43:16PM
PickedUp: 8/11/2025 3:55:20PM
Printed: 8/11/2025 3:55:43PM
Status: Closed

Line Item Total:	\$5,528.86
Subtotal:	\$5,528.86
Taxes:	\$539.06
Total:	\$6,067.92
Total Payments:	\$6,067.92
Balance Due:	\$0.00

ATTN: Eric Akeson
Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
5552 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521

Payment due upon completion of order.

Received/Accepted By: _____

/ /



Receipt / Tax Invoice W2117
Sep 12, 2025

SHIPPING ADDRESS

Joseph Boyden
4705 Upland Drive
El Sobrante CA 94803
United States
Tel. 5102051804

CUSTOMER


Joseph Boyden
2001 Clayton Road
Suite 200
Concord CA 94520
United States

PAYMENT METHOD

Visa (4574)
Due on (Due on fulfillment)

SHIPPING METHOD

UPS® Ground

ITEMS		PRICE	QTY	ITEM TOTAL
	Drive Rivets, 3/8"	\$85.00	1	\$85.00
	Bag of 100 / Aluminum / 1" SKU: HW-25-100			
Subtotal				\$85.00
Shipping				\$18.47
California State VAT % 0.0%				\$0.00
TOTAL (USD)				\$103.47
Total due				\$103.47

Thank you for shopping with us!

American Sign & Signal Corp.

205 W. Walnut St., Dickson, TN, 37055, United States
sales@amsignsig.com
www.americansignandsignal.com



Report for 2025 Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee Grant 9/25/25

Summary

International Bird Rescue was awarded a \$19,449.66 grant in 2025 from the Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee for "Ethically and Effectively Resolving Human/Wildlife Interaction Issues in Contra Costa County Through Temporary Emergency Treatment and Care of Injured and Orphaned Wildlife." The grant was used to further our mission to inspire people to act toward balance with the natural world by rescuing waterbirds in crisis, and to address known, ongoing, Human-Wildlife Conflicts (negative human-wildlife interactions). This work benefits people and communities by:

- Preventing and addressing cruelty to animals, by giving aquatic birds that have been harmed by human impact a second chance at a normal life
- Protecting environmental resources
- Providing immediate, practical, humane, ethical, and effective means for people to take action

To achieve the proposed goals and provide the proposed benefits, we:

- a) Addressed the persistent-and-now-permanent HPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza) crisis**
- b) Replaced obsolete and inoperable equipment and materials that have been fully depreciated and are necessary to rehabilitate injured and orphaned Contra Costa wildlife**

Invoice Details and all receipts are attached and ordered on the County-provided spreadsheet. We respectfully request prompt reimbursement of your \$19,449.66 grant at this time.

We request that the County accept, without any change in total funding, a modification to our budgeted expenses as described in the attached forms. Due to price changes, inflation, and local permitting requirements that occurred between our initial application request and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisor's approval, we were unable to secure the single building with the necessary equipment, at the initially-proposed price.

Additionally, the Solano County permitting process for the originally-proposed facility would have caused more than a 1-year delay and a four-figure cost increase. To not delay the project past your grant deadline of December 2025, we purchased a smaller building, but needed to purchase additional, necessary items that enabled the facility to be placed in service to serve Contra Costa patients. **We want to reassure the Committee that:**

1. **NO Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund monies were used for any personnel costs, as per the Committee's previously expressed concerns to multiple grant applicants,**
2. **All purchases were made after Board of Supervisors approval, and**
3. **All purchases support the same project, achieve the same overall goals, and provide the same overall benefits listed in the two points a) and b) above**

Our San Francisco Bay-Delta Wildlife Center in Fairfield, CA admits approximately 1,750 local aquatic birds annually. We are a "referral hospital:" the place of last resort, treating the most challenging cases that are beyond the capacity or skills of other regional wildlife centers and clinics, including our partners at Lindsay Wildlife Experience, and others.

Contra Costa County residents and local Animal Control officers typically bring us over 200 wild, injured birds annually, collected from dense urban areas, and from the local shores and waterways of San Pablo Bay, Alhambra Creek, and others. Our research shows that rehabilitated animals achieve successful, long-term outcomes, including (but not limited to) completing average life expectancies, producing and rearing offspring, and serving as nutrition for other animals. Each of these outcomes is an important component of a healthy, balanced ecosystem.

In our last, complete fiscal year (FY24: 10/1/23-9/30/24), we admitted 3,076 wild, native, aquatic birds for care, representing 86 unique species. The average length of care for all patients was 19.67 days.

In our last fiscal year, Contra Costa County intakes were up 22% compared to the prior year, as we confronted the twin crises of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI, aka “Bird Flu”), and the 2024 California Pelican Crisis. Patient data from our RaptorMed software (which we use to track medical information specific to each individual patient) shows the following FY24 results (10/1/23-9/30/24) for 268 Contra Costa patients:

127 – Egrets – Snowy, Great
68 – Ducks – Mallard, Ruddy
38 – Geese – Canada, Lesser Snow, Cackling
12 – Brown Pelican
10 – Herons – Green, Great Blue, Black-crowned Night
8 – Gulls – Western, Glaucous-winged, California
2 – Red-throated Loon
1 – each – Common Loon, Sora, Wilson’s Snipe

To date in our FY25 (10/1/24-6/30/25), we have we admitted 2,113 wild, native, aquatic birds for care (an increase from historical averages), representing 78 unique species. The average length of care for all these patients was 20 days.

In this same, current, 9-month reporting period for FY25, Contra Costa County intakes (248) are 143% of the FY24 comparable reporting period (173), even as we confronted the ongoing Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) crisis, and the 2025 California Pelican Crisis (the third such crisis in just four years). Patient data from our RaptorMed software shows the following FY25 year-to-date results for Contra Costa patients:

103 – Egrets – Snowy, Great
66 – Ducks – Mallard, Wood
47 – Geese – Canada
14 – Gulls – Western, Ring-billed, California
6 – Brown Pelican
5 – Herons – Green, Black-crowned Night
3 – Killdeer
2 – Grebe, Western
1 – each – Red-throated Loon, Sora

Unlike traditional veterinary clinics, our patients come to us with no funding, no insurance, and no one directly responsible for paying the bill. Birds injured by human impact require capable hands and large volumes of food and vitamins to be successfully rehabilitated and returned to the environment. We are able to meet the demand for our services only with philanthropic support from other concerned citizens, foundations, corporations, and municipal agencies who share our values.

We are able to efficiently and effectively rescue and rehabilitate so many wild birds because of our well-established response protocols, developed through years of direct, hands-on experience.

Each rescued bird is given an improved quality of life. Each released bird is an indicator of progress towards our goals of mitigating human impact on the environment and conserving biological diversity. Treated birds are banded so that they can be tracked by scientists, volunteers, and the Federal Bird Banding Lab. Data from the banding effort is analyzed by our veterinary care team as part of ongoing research, and the results shared at professional conferences.

Images of the now-operational Permanent HPAI (aka “Bird Flu”) Screening Facility, including waterproof wall paneling for sanitizing, sink and faucet for sanitation, shelving, mats for health and safety, and other equipment underwritten by Contra Costa County Grant Funds, including Speedy M-625 Pet Dryers (lower left) and Hayward PowerFlo 1.5 HP Above Ground Pool Pumps (lower right)



Contact:

International Bird Rescue
4369 Cordelia Rd.
Fairfield, CA 94534

Phil Kohlmetz, Grants Coordinator
E: grants@birdrescue.org
C: 707-704-0350 P: 707-207-0380 x100

This table MUST be completed with your grant reimbursement request. Please submit as an Excel spreadsheet.

Tape receipts to paper and number each page in the upper right hand corner.

Grantee Name: International Bird Rescue

Name of Project: Ethically and Effectively Resolving Human/Wildlife Interaction Issues in Contra Costa County Through Temporary Emergency Treatment and Care of Injured and Orphaned Wildlife

Contact Name Phone and Email if there are questions about this: Phil Kohlmetz, Grants Coordinator, 707-704-0350, grants@birdrescue.org

Page number that receipt is on	Description of service/item and amount allowable from grant award	Vendor	Date on Receipt/ Invoice number	Description of service/ item on receipt (highlight item(s) on receipt)	Total Amount of Receipt/ Invoice	Total Amount of Receipt/ Invoice for reimbursement from the Grant
1	Permanent HPAI screening facility	Tuff Shed	3/28/25	Tuff Shed	\$9,026.59	\$9,026.59
2	Speedy M-625 Pet dryers	SpeedyDryers	4/21/25	5 dryers	\$2,788.81	\$2,645.00
3, 4	Pool Filter Sand	Ace Hardware	4/21/25	Quickcrete pool filter sand	\$534.86	\$534.86
5, 6	Pool Pumps	Leslies	4/24/25	Pool pump x 2 and part required for operation	\$1,135.76	\$1,135.76
7	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Sink*	Webstaurant Store	5/23/25	Sink, for health and safety	\$340.83	\$340.83
8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Exam tables, fiberglass insulation, waterproof wall panelling, drywall*	Home Depot	7/9/25	Exam tables, fiberglass insulation, waterproof wall panelling, drywall, all that are able to be disinfected, and/or for habitat temperature control to support live animals during quarantine period	\$1,445.83	\$1,445.83
14	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Faucet*	Amazon	6/5/25	Faucet, for health and safety	\$61.15	\$61.15
15	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Flooring*	Home Depot	5/6/25	Vinyl flooring and concrete base that is able to be disinfected	\$665.59	\$665.59

16, 17	Permanent HPAI screening facility: HVAC mini split*	MiniSplits4Less	7/16/25	HVAC for habitat conditioning, necessary because of live animals in quarantine	\$1,281.03	\$1,200.00
18, 19, 20	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Nutrition Warmer*	Target	7/16/25	Crock pot, necessary for nutrition for live animals while they are in quarantine	\$130.04	\$130.04
21, 22	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Fluid Warmer*	Target	7/16/25	Sous vide, necessary for nutrition for live animals while they are in quarantine	\$98.61	\$98.61
23	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Medicine Refrigeration*	Home Depot	7/16/25	Mini Fridge necessary for medicine	\$270.93	\$270.93
24, 25	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Air filters*	Puroair	7/16/25	Air filter for health, safety, and habitat conditioning, necessary because of live animals in quarantine	\$547.29	\$547.29
26	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Antifatigue mats*	Home Depot	7/16/25	Mats for health and safety	\$324.91	\$324.91
27	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Foot baths*	American Floor Mat	7/16/25	Foot baths for health and safety	\$135.00	\$135.00
28	Permanent HPAI screening facility: Shelves*	Home Depot	7/16/25	Shelves for usability	\$429.17	\$429.17
29, 30	Permanent HPAI screening facility: storage tubs, table, lamps, garbage pail*	Home Depot	7/16/25	Storage tubs, table, lamps, garbage pail, for usability	\$497.65	\$458.10

* not listed on original application due to page-limit/space considerations, and sensitivity to the overall grant request amount, but part of the same Permanent HPAI Screening project, and purchased with funds that were saved by purchasing a lower-cost Tuff Shed

TOTAL \$19,449.66

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour

1718 Hillcrest Road
San Pablo CA 94806
(510) 236-9558

Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net
www.BringingBackTheNatives.net

2025 online and in-person Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour

Executive Summary

Overall

- 237,089 garden visits have been made since the Tour's inception in 2005.
- The Tour's YouTube channel has 4,724 subscribers, contains 168 videos on gardening with native plants, and had more than 85,000 views in the last year.

Online Garden Tour—April 5 and 6, 2025

- The two-day online Tour offered 10 hours of content on gardening with California native plants in the East Bay.

In-person Garden Tour—May 4 and 4, 2025

- 9,647 garden visits were made on the weekend of the 2025 Tour.
- 99% of those who filled out the in-person Tour evaluations rated the in-person Tour "Excellent" or "Good."
- 51 gardens were open on the week-end of in-person Tour.
- 63 hosts and 155 volunteers made this event possible.
- 37 garden talks and demonstrations were given during the in-person Tour.

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2025 Final Report

A nine-year study of water use, green waste generation, maintenance hours, and maintenance labor costs between a traditional garden and a California native plant garden was conducted by the City of Santa Monica between 2004 and 2013. ***The results of this study showed that the native garden used 83% less water; generated 56% less green waste, and required 68% less maintenance hours than the traditional garden.***

From the City of Santa Monica's garden/garden study

Why a Native Plant Garden Tour?

The spring 2025 Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour was held in order to showcase pesticide-free, water-conserving gardens that provide habitat for wildlife, reduce solid waste, and contain 70% or more native plants.

The tour enlists local residents to demonstrate by example that seasoned and novice gardeners can garden with good results without the use of synthetic chemicals, and with minimal supplemental water, while providing food, shelter, and nesting areas for wildlife. The gardens on this tour show that it is possible to implement sustainable garden practices and still have beautiful places for people to relax in and enjoy.

Why California natives? Once established in the garden setting, California native plants need little or no summer water, as they survive naturally with only fall-to-spring rainfall. California natives are hardy, and they don't require the use of pesticides and fertilizers, as many non-natives do. Native plants need less pruning than many non-natives, such as lawn or ivy, thus generating less green waste. As this article, "The Chickadees Guide to Gardening" demonstrates, native plants also provide the best habitat for birds, butterflies, beneficial insects, and other forms of wildlife.

A nine-year study of water use, green waste generation, maintenance hours, and maintenance labor costs between a traditional garden and a California native plant garden was conducted by the City of Santa Monica between 2004 and 2013.

The results of this study showed that compared to a traditional garden, the native garden:

- uses 83% less water
- generates 56% less green waste, and
- requires 68% less maintenance

Tour gardens contain minimal or no lawn. This is of particular value since the majority of the chemicals purchased by home owners support lawn care, and the majority of water used in home gardens is applied to lawns. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, homeowners use up to ten times more chemical pesticides per acre on their lawns than farmers use on crops. In addition, half of the water used by the average household is applied to the landscape—with most of that water being used to keep turf green.

2025 Online Garden Tour

This year, for the sixth time, the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour was held both online and in-person. Inspirational speaker Doug Tallamy was the keynote speaker for this year's online Tour.

The ten hour-long online Tour took place on Saturday and Sunday April 5 and 6, 2025. More than 300 viewers watched the Saturday program, and more than 200 watched the Sunday program. 98% of the people who submitted online Tour evaluations rated the Tour “Excellent” or “Very Good.”

The recording of the online Tour has been uploaded to the Tour's YouTube channel. The videos on this year's Tour will receive more exposure over time.

The Tour's YouTube channel has 4,724 subscribers, contains 168 videos on gardening with native plants, and had more than 85,000 views in the last year.

Comments taken from online Tour evaluations

- I love the online Tour! Thanks for organizing it!
- I love that the online garden tour is offered. It makes the information more accessible, and creates an amazing archive of knowledge that I turn to, and direct others to as well, again and again.
- Doug Tallamy's talk was excellent and inspirational.
- As always, so appreciative of your efforts to mount an online tour. I look forward to it every year.
- The Skyline Gardens talk was fascinating, and I am motivated to volunteer! It was so lovely to see how the landscape transformed, and to see how easy it is to do with a group of people.
- I loved that a presentation given by a renter who had converted her garden to natives was included among all the talks. Hearing a perspective from a renter is so refreshing.
- Even though I am not a renter, I loved this talk. And I thought her closing words about why she took time and \$\$ to fix up her landlord's backyard was so meaningful. It really touched a chord with me about why we should all be doing this.
- I used to go on the garden tours before COVID, but I think the Zoom presentations have really added a LOT--so much education and

inspiration. I am so grateful that you do this. It renews my interest every year!

In-person Garden Tour

This year was the 21st annual Tour. For the fourth year the in-person Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour was a two-day event, with Bayside gardens (Pinole to Hayward) open on Saturday, May 3, and Inland gardens (Martinez to Livermore, including Lafayette and Orinda) were open on Sunday, May 4.

9,647 garden visits were made on the week-end of the 2025 in-person Tour. See the end of this report for a list of the number of visitors counted at each garden.

237,089 garden visits have been made since the Tour's inception in 2005.

- 99% of those who filled out the in-person Tour evaluations rated the in-person Tour "Excellent" or "Good."
- 51 gardens were open on the week-end of in-person Tour.
- 63 hosts and 155 volunteers made this event possible.
- 37 garden talks and demonstrations were given during the in-person Tour.

The fifty-one gardens open on the in-person Tour were located in twenty-one cities and unincorporated areas in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The cities were: Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Castro Valley, Clayton, Concord, El Cerrito, Hayward, Lafayette, Livermore, Kensington, Martinez, Oakland, Orinda, Piedmont, Pinole, Richmond, San Leandro, San Ramon, San Pablo, and Walnut Creek.

The gardens ranged from large lots in the hills to small gardens in the flats, from mature landscapes to those that were newly-planted, and they contained everything from local native plants to the horticulturally available suite of natives from throughout California. Twenty-two of the gardens were designed and installed by owners, and the remainder (29) were designed and installed by professionals. All of the gardens were landscaped with at least 70% native plants.

155 volunteers and 63 hosts were stationed at gardens on the weekend of the tour, or helped with tour preparation and clean-up. The volunteers contributed more than 700 hours of time to the tour. The hosts put in countless hours preparing for the tour, and more than 500 hours on the day of the event.

Comments taken from in-person Tour registrant evaluations

- The Tour was amazing, wonderful, fantastic! Thank you!

- We really enjoyed the tours. Excellent information in the emails that were sent out, and we appreciated the tremendous amount of work done by the homeowners.
- Thank you to all the homeowners who graciously opened their gardens and homes to others. And, thank you to all the volunteers.
- Wonderful, informative, fun. Thanks for all the photos and coordination.
- Congratulations, Kathy, on another OUTSTANDING year! So well organized and the volunteers were so welcoming! Please thank them all for an incredible tour!
- Loved all the labels and friendliness of the hosts and volunteers! It was great to discuss gardening with and learn from other gardeners!
- Love the tour. Thank you for your hard work.
- Thank you for doing this; it was quite inspiring!
- Always inspirational. The Tour is very well-organized, with the beautiful map and the great selection of gardens.
- All the volunteers were knowledgeable and friendly!
- The tour is very well-organized and the gardens are absolutely beautiful! There is a really nice mix of wild, carefully planned, and professionally designed gardens.
- Your inland gardens map was very clear and it helped us make an efficient plan for getting to the gardens. The Tour website is terrific with the garden descriptions, plant lists, etc. These were very helpful in planning where to go based on our needs. You do an excellent job in organizing and executing this garden tour!
- The Tour is super well-organized. The pictures of the gardens on the website are helpful to figure out which gardens to visit. I like how the Tour encompassed a wide variety of styles.
- Your effort in planning, recruiting, coordinating, and communication shows. This is a wonderful event!
- Oh wow, life changing and met so many wonderful people! Thank you so much, Kathy!
- This is an educational, inspiring, and enjoyable tour. All volunteers and hosts were extremely knowledgeable, friendly, and approachable!
- This is such a great event! I look forward to it every year. Thank you so much for making it happen.
- I enjoyed it! People were helpful and I got some great ideas.
- Love the variety of gardens! Thank you for putting on a great tour year after year. :)
- The volunteers were very knowledgeable and what they didn't know, they found out for us. That "let's find the answer" attitude is priceless in volunteers.
- Super!!!!
- The online maps and instructions are excellent and extremely helpful. That's a lot of work and I appreciate it.

- This was a very well done, thoughtful, and wonderfully soul-filling endeavor. Thank you so much for all your work, and thanks so much to all the gardeners and helpers promoting native plants and supporting the natural environment.
- I love the tour, and look forward to it every year.
- Appreciation to the owners and everyone who helps get the gardens ready for the tour and the volunteers. This is a huge undertaking and it seems to go without a hitch--at least to attendees.
- Just a wonderful experience, for myself, and I'm sure all for who attend and participate.
- Really want to say thank you for everyone's hard work. It was a very enjoyable day.
- Each year this tour reinvigorates my love of gardening with natives, and I feel part of a community. My mom and I started a tradition of doing the tour together for her birthday. Thank you so much for putting this together!
- The tour is going from strength to strength - the signage, the website photo slideshows, the online and in person tours, and etc. It just keeps getting better and better.
- I am so impressed with the planning and organization that went into this tour! And every yard had absolutely beautiful plants.
- Many thanks to Kathy, the garden hosts, and the volunteers. Well done.
- It was lovely. The volunteers were a great touch--they were so knowledgeable.
- So much fun!
- The keystone signs are great! They for sure encourage us to use these species.
- This was an excellent tour Thank you to all the homeowners and volunteers!
- This tour gets better and better every year!!!
- It was so helpful to meet the landscape designers.
- You do a great job with this every year. It's always great when new gardens are added because everyone's story is different, and I enjoy learning more from others about their journey and gardening with natives.
- I was very inspired to bring natives into my garden.
- Thank you to all who put organize this wonderful tour, and special thanks to the people who share their gardens (and who obviously spend a great deal of time and effort preparing them for everyone to see!).
- Just amazing. I LOVE that we can see the list of plants the houses have in their gardens. The volunteers were helpful and friendly. I love the plant signs (different at each home) -- especially the keystone ones that have lots of information - they were helpful for taking photos to remember specific plants later. The Tour was just incredibly well organized and well run. And the online tour...AMAZING.

- The best compliment I can give is, "I'll be back next year". Thank you for the HUGE effort in putting on these events. Everyone who volunteered and contributed should be very proud of it.
- I'm looking forward to next year's tour!

Native Plant Extravaganzas

The Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour now also holds spring and fall Native Plant sales. Three Extravaganza's were held in the fall of 2024, and three more were held in the spring of 2025. Participating nurseries are East Bay Wilds, the Watershed Nursery, Oaktown, Annie's Annuals (now Curious Flora), Green Thumb Works, and Down by the Bay Native Plant Nursery.

Native Plant Resource Teams

A new program, the [Native Plant Resource Teams](#) (NPRT), has been started to help connect people who are interested in native plants. Teams have formed by geographic area (Berkeley/East Bay, West Contra Costa County, and the Tri-Valley area), as well as by interest area.

More than 600 people have joined the Teams: they're interested in creating pollinator pathways, sharing seeds and plants, encouraging their city officials to incorporate more native trees into the urban landscape, meeting with other native plant fans, and more.

This year Team members coordinated two conferences at which Doug Tallamy was the keynote speaker: more than 650 people attended these events. The Teams also coordinated numerous Choose Your Own Adventure outings to native plant nurseries, botanic gardens, restoration sites, and public native plant gardens, a picnic for native plant aficionados, and more.

Website

The Tour's website featured the gardens on this year's Tour under "[View the 2025 In-Person Gardens](#)." Each garden is described in detail, and its plant list is provided, as are numerous photographs of each garden.

The website also contains information and photographs of all of the gardens that have ever been on the tour, under "[Find a Garden](#)"; this section contains extensive garden descriptions, plant lists for each garden, and some garden-specific bird, butterfly, mammal, reptile, and amphibian lists. By typing in the name of a city, all of the gardens that have ever been on the Tour from that city will appear in the results box. The gardens can also be searched by 25 other factors, such as rain garden, professionally designed, small garden (600 sq. ft. or less), natives in a parking strip, slope, shady garden, great bird garden, and more.

Resource information on the website includes contact information for landscaper designers who specialize in creating native plant gardens ([“Find a Designer”](#)), lists of nurseries that carry native plants ([“Find a Nursery”](#)), a list of [Easy-to-Grow East Bay Natives](#), and a list of [keystone species](#)—local, hardy native plants that provide the best habitat for wildlife, according to Dr. Tallamy.

Tour Partnerships and Sponsors

The Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour has created partnerships with a variety of organizations that share common values—that chemical-free and water-conserving gardening preserves water quality and quantity, and creates wildlife habitat. The list of major sponsors and supporters of the 2025 Tour and the programs it runs include a flood control and water conservation district, one county clean water program, five water districts and water conservation agencies, four cities, three non-profits, and several businesses. The list of tour sponsors is provided below.

2025 Tour Sponsors

\$17,000

Contra Costa Clean Water Program

\$10,000

Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

\$5,500

Contra Costa Water District

\$5,000

California Native Plant Society, East Bay Chapter

\$2,000 to \$3,750

Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Commission
Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency
Brian and Jennifer Dirking
EcoPerformance Builders

\$750 to \$1,500

Alameda County Water District
Anne Chambers and Ed McAlpine
City of Antioch
City of El Cerrito

City of Pittsburg
City of Walnut Creek
Glen and Connie Schneider
Ann Sorenson
Quit Carbon
Zone 7 Water Agency

\$250 - \$500

Anonymous
Sally Cahill
California Institute for Biodiversity
Clytia and Joe Curley
Barbara Feyerabend
William Freeman and Tiffany Treece
Dorothy Gregor
Annis and Nick Kukulan
League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville
Livermore Municipal Water
Bill and Carrie McCormack
Claudia Miller
Elizabeth Nixon
The Yvonne and Melvin Rogow Memorial Fund
Glen and Connie Schneider
Kathleen Smith
Sorenson Vision
The Summer-Dry Project
Lisa Stahr

Host Gardeners

The gardens selected to take part in the tour are chemical-free and water-conserving landscapes that provide habitat for wildlife and contain 70% or more California native plants. Hosts were chosen because of their willingness to be on-site on the day of the tour to talk with visitors about their gardens, and their enthusiasm for, and commitment to, educating others about how to garden in environmentally sustainable ways.

Host gardener recruitment began in the spring of 2024 for the 2025 tour. Potential candidates completed an application, and applicants who met the criteria received a site visit.

Host's gardening experience ranged from native plant novices to professional landscape designers. All of the host gardeners were good ambassadors for natural gardening techniques.

Comments from Host evaluations

- The Tour certainly inspired us when we were getting started.
- I got great feedback from those on the tour and I think we are achieving all of our conservation goals with the tours.
- I think seeing a wide variety of native gardens in person and being able to interact directly with typically enthusiastic garden hosts is very persuasive. For most people the face-to-face interaction makes a huge difference.
- Registrants are inspired, especially by being able to see a variety of spaces.
- Our garden assistants were fantastic! The talks at our garden were well-attended: people really seemed to enjoy them and get a lot out of them. It was great to have our landscaper available all day to answer questions.
- We had 336 people visit our garden, but they were spread out through the day. It did not seem crowded.
- Everything was really well organized! The information for the volunteers was great, and the t-shirts helped visitors know who was who. Being provided with the bag of materials with everything we needed made a big difference, and now that we've made all those plant tags things will be a lot easier next year. The idea of notifying our neighbors with the letter your drafted prompted some of them to check out our garden — and let us meet them.
- Your extensive prep helps immensely, like printed plant signs, shirts, etc., very helpful.
- The keystone signs were very helpful: visitors were photographing those signs all day + going to the QR codes on the signs for more information.
- Kathy Kramer: You organized an event that I was proud to be a part of! You have created a real community and excitement around CA Native Plants. Hosts, volunteers, visitors and Contra Costa Water District staff all interacted very positively at my site. The visitors expressed so much gratitude to my husband and I for opening our home and sharing our landscape with them. We had 131 tracked visitors in total and I personally had 100+ conversations. It was so rewarding to share what I had learned during my California native plant journey: my visitors were busy taking notes and thanked me for everything.
- What a wonderful experience it was to be a host! I learned a lot, met some new neighbors, and had dozens of great conversations.
- It's such a positive vibe; everyone is so inspired to do what they can to improve biodiversity and foster health environments for wildlife. It's inspirational.
- Thank you for organizing the tour and allowing us to be a part of it! We also enjoyed visiting other gardens on the tour.
- The whole garden tour operation is just incredible. All those details are so well thought through and executed. When picking up the materials for

the hosts in my area I got help from several volunteers who knew exactly what I was picking up, and the bags were impeccably filled and labeled - incredible! I also saw tour announcements and articles in many places as a result of the promotional work - which I know is tons of footwork. There was excellent guidance on what was to be done when, from webpage updates to volunteer instructions. I am truly in awe of all that work and coordination.

- Many compliments to the organizer and her volunteers. People were very pleased.
- I love being a host on the tour, and I love seeing other gardens.
- The tour is always a joyful day.

Number of Garden Visits Made

	AM visits	PM visits	Total garden visits	Visits to electrified homes (allowed inside)
Bayside Gardens				
Alameda				
Jenny Michael and Craig Valentine	54	66	120	
Albany				
Scott Richerson	89	109	198	
Berkeley				
Nancy Beckman and Tom Bickley	122	234	356	
Sallie Bryan	138	159	297	
The Hillside Club	74	80	154	
Keith Johnson and Erin Diehm	136	205	341	
The Pollinator Pathway	63	101	164	
Dave Savidge and Jennifer Braun	87	52	139	
Carol Thornton	141	214	355	

Namita and Mayur	118	140	258	
Wayne Whitney	106	149	255	
Castro Valley				
Danny Galindo & Eugene Shabelyanau	107	93	200	
Susan and Bill Teefy	115	90	205	
El Cerrito				
Mat and Anita Byczkowski	108	155	263	
Pamela Fox	75	90	165	
Michael Graf	39	85	124	
Hayward				
Josh and David	41	43	84	
Kensington				
Janet Parks	106	104	210	210
Newark				
Yen Bui	55	26	81	
Oakland				
Lindsay Ferlin	98	91	189	
Hannah and Mike			194	
Jacob Klein	89	117	206	
Kathy Simon and Susan Lubeck	79	136	215	215
Tim Vendlinski	116	200	316	
Piedmont				
Jean Hansen	96	151	247	
Pinole				

Kim and Jeff Jerge			105	
Jen and Rolland Mathers	64	34	98	
Richmond				
Debbie Rheuark	30	25	55	
San Leandro				
Kathy and Peter Greenstein	106	33	139	
Stefanie Pruegel	119	101	220	220
Nora Trentacoste and Jay Slean			127	
San Pablo				
Melody Esquer Gil	31	26	57	
Inland Gardens				
Clayton				
Nancy Niemeyer	40	36	76	
Concord				
Gonzalo Mannucci and Joe Lapka	66	65	131	
Lafayette				
Glenn Phillips and David Nish	111	114	225	
Livermore				
Roger and Amy Aines	96	103	199	
Laura Cornett and Brad Buehler	45	54	99	
Maria and David Dawson	52	82	134	
Carol and Jeff Garberson	61	95	156	
Jennifer Hurley and Dan Gaff			170	
Martinez				

Calvin Craig	116	70	186	
John Muir National Historic Site	17	54	71	
Nancy Salsig	62	38	100	
Orinda				
Barbara and Phil Leitner	135	145	280	
Pat and Glenn Rudebusch	126	162	288	
Bob and Stephanie Sorenson	89	214	303	
Jim and Laurie Ulrick	134	179	313	
San Ramon				
Cyn Coulouthros	23	78	101	
Walnut Creek				
Trina and Jeff Horner	106	122	228	
Lainie Johnson	93	89	182	
June Watanabe	135	133	268	
Totals	4109	4942	9647	645

Appendix A

Doug Tallamy article: “The Chickadee’s Guide to Gardening”

OPINION: NY Times, March 11, 2015

The Chickadee’s Guide to Gardening By Douglas W. Tallamy

March 11, 2015

I GREW up thinking little of plants. I was interested in snakes and turtles, then insects and, eventually, birds. Now I like plants. But I still like the life they create even more.

Plants are as close to biological miracles as a scientist could dare admit. After all,

they allow us, and nearly every other species, to eat sunlight, by creating the nourishment that drives food webs on this planet. As if that weren't enough, plants also produce oxygen, build topsoil and hold it in place, prevent floods, sequester carbon dioxide, buffer extreme weather and clean our water. Considering all this, you might think we gardeners would value plants for what they do. Instead, we value them for what they look like.

When we design our home landscapes, too many of us choose beautiful plants from all over the world, without considering their ability to support life within our local ecosystems.

Last summer I did a simple experiment at home to measure just how different the plants we use for landscaping can be in supporting local animals. I compared a young white oak in my yard with one of the Bradford pears in my neighbor's yard. Both trees are the same size, but Bradford pears are ornamentals from Asia, while white oaks are native to eastern North America. I walked around each tree and counted the caterpillars on their leaves at head height. I found 410 caterpillars on the white oak (comprising 19 different species), and only one caterpillar (an inchworm) on the Bradford pear.

Was this a fluke? Hardly. The next day I repeated my survey on a different white oak and Bradford pear. This time I found 233 caterpillars on the white oak (comprising 15 species) and, again, only one on the Bradford pear.

Why such huge differences? It's simple: Plants don't want to be eaten, so they have loaded their tissues with nasty chemicals that would kill most insects if eaten. Insects do eat plants, though, and they achieve this by adapting to the chemical defenses of just one or two plant lineages. So some have evolved to eat oak trees without dying, while others have specialized in native cherries or ashes and so on.

But local insects have only just met Bradford pears, in an evolutionary sense, and have not had the time — millennia — required to adapt to their chemical defenses. And so Bradford pears stand virtually untouched in my neighbor's yard.

In the past, we thought this was a good thing. After all, Asian ornamentals were planted to look pretty, and we certainly didn't want insects eating them. We were happy with our perfect pears, burning bushes, Japanese barberries, porcelain berries, golden rain trees, crape myrtles, privets, bush honeysuckles and all the other foreign ornamentals.

But there are serious ecological consequences to such choices, and another exercise you can do at home makes them clear. This spring, if you live in North America, put up a chickadee nest box in your yard. If you are lucky, a pair of

chickadees will move in and raise a family. While they are feeding their young, watch what the chickadees bring to the nest: mostly caterpillars. Both parents take turns feeding the chicks, enabling them to bring a caterpillar to the nest once every three minutes. And they do this from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. for each of the 16 to 18 days it takes the chicks to fledge. That's a total of 350 to 570 caterpillars every day, depending on how many chicks they have. So, an incredible 6,000 to 9,000 caterpillars are required to make one clutch of chickadees.

And chickadees are tiny birds: just a third of an ounce. What if you wanted to support red-bellied woodpeckers in your yard, a bird that is about eight times heavier than a chickadee? How many caterpillars would that take?

What we plant in our landscapes determines what can live in our landscapes. Controlling what grows in our yards is like playing God. By favoring productive species, we can create life, and by using nonnative plants, we can prevent it.

An American yard dominated by Asian ornamentals does not produce nearly the quantity and diversity of insects needed for birds to reproduce. Some might argue that we should just let those birds breed "in nature." That worked in the past, but now there simply is not enough "nature" left. And it shows. Many bird species in North America have declined drastically in the past 40 years.

Fortunately, more and more gardeners are realizing that their yards offer one of the most empowering conservation options we have, and are sharing their properties with the nature around them.

By the way, you might assume that my oak was riddled with unsightly caterpillar holes, but not so. Since birds eat most of the caterpillars before they get very large, from 10 feet away the oak looked as perfect as a Bradford pear.

Douglas W. Tallamy, a professor of entomology and wildlife ecology at the University of Delaware, is the author of "Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife With Native Plants."

A version of this article appears in print on March 10, 2015, on Page A25 of the New York edition with the headline: The Chickadee's Guide to Gardening.

This table MUST be completed with your grant reimbursement request. Please submit as an Excel spreadsheet.
Tape receipts to paper and number each page in the upper right hand corner.

Grantee Nan Golden Gate Audubon and the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour

Name of Pro Bringing Back the Natives events

Contact Name Phone and Email if there are questions about this:

Glenn Phillips, GGBA 510-221-4102 or Kathy Kramer, Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour (510) 236-9558

Page number that receipt is on.	Description of service/item and amount allowable from grant award	Vendor	Date on Receipt/Invoice number	Description of service/item on receipt (highlight item(s) on receipt)	Total Amount of Receipt/Invoice	Total Amount of Receipt/Invoice for reimbursement from the Grant
1	Conference facility rental - \$2,000	Oakland Museum	Nov. 16, 2024	Oakland Museum rental. This invoice was paid by the Golden Gate Bird Alliance.	\$3,300.00	\$2,040.00
3	Zoom Webinar and file storage fees - \$350	Zoom	3/31/25	Allowed us to hold a webinar for 500 people	\$79.00	\$79.00
4	Webinar fee	Zoom	3/31/25	Allowed us to store the webinar online in Zoom's Cloud storage	\$26.87	\$26.87
5 and 6	Zoom Pro monthly fee + Cloud recording	Zoom	4/30/25	Allowed us to store the webinar online in Zoom's Cloud storage	\$25.99	\$25.99
7 and 8	Zoom Pro monthly fee + Cloud recording	Zoom	5/31/25	Allowed us to store the webinar online in Zoom's Cloud storage	\$25.99	\$25.99
9 and 10	Zoom Pro monthly fee + Cloud recording	Zoom	6/30/25	Allowed us to store the webinar online in Zoom's Cloud storage	\$26.99	\$26.99

11 and 12	T-shirts - \$1,195	LogoBoss/Trailblazer	4/21/25	T-shirts identify hosts and volunteers on the weekend of the Tour	\$746.90	\$649.99
13	T-shirts	LogoBoss	9/22/25	T-shirts identify hosts and volunteers on the weekend of the Tour	\$682.80	\$660.00
14	Metal legs for keystone species signs - - \$200	OuYi	2/11/25	Metal Garden Stakes	\$148.86	\$148.86
15	Metal legs for keystone species signs	RAOOKIF	7/23/25	Metal Garden Stakes	\$61.31	\$61.31
TOTAL						\$3,745.00



October 9, 2025

Dear Fish and Wildlife Committee,

I am writing to provide a formal update on our *Pocket Guide to Bay Area Reptiles* project, and to respectfully request an extension of time for its completion.

Project Overview

This project has been a collaborative effort involving more than 15 dedicated volunteers from across the Bay Area, including researchers, biologists, citizen scientists, wildlife educators, wildlife photographers, and a graphic designer. Our collective goal has been to create an accessible, visually engaging, and scientifically accurate field guide that highlights the 30 reptile species of the Bay Area.

Although the work has taken longer than anticipated, we are proud of the progress we've made. All aspects of the guide have been completed entirely through volunteer time, which extended our original timeline but ensured a high-quality and community-driven end product.

Printing Challenges and Timeline Adjustment

We originally planned to print 3,000 four-panel guides with our \$7,200 grant award. Unfortunately, the printing company that provided the original quote is no longer available. After extensive research, we have partnered with Waterford Press (<https://www.waterfordpress.com/>), a publisher that specializes in durable, nature-focused pocket guides.

Due to changes in vendor and guide format, our final product will be a six-panel, full-color guide — more comprehensive than originally scoped — with a print run of 2,000 copies at a total cost of \$8,470. We are currently securing the additional \$1,270 required through private donations.

Waterford Press's next available print run is scheduled for February 2026, with delivery expected later that spring. This places final distribution of the guides in Spring 2026, several months beyond our original project timeline.

Request for Extension

Given these developments, we respectfully request an extension of our project deadline to June 30, 2026, to allow for printing, shipping, and initial distribution.

We remain deeply committed to the success of this project and confident that the final guide will serve as a lasting educational resource for the Bay Area community. We appreciate your continued support and flexibility as we navigate these final stages.

Please let us know if any additional documentation is needed to process this request. We are happy to provide any materials required.

Thank you again for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,
Audra Barrios

Executive Director
Things That Creep
Audra@thingsthatcreep.org
(510) 776-0132



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: TMP-13355

Agenda Date: 10/15/2025

Agenda #: 8.

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Subject: 2025 Work Plan and Annual Report

Contact: Maureen Parkes (925) 655-2909

Recommendation:

REVIEW and consider APPROVING the draft 2025 Work Plan and Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors.

Advisory Body Name: Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee

Advisory Body Meeting Time: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 meetings per year, 3 – 5 pm

Location: Department of Conservation and Development Construction Conference Room, 40 Muir Road, Martinez, CA
An option to attend remotely via teleconference was provided for all in-person meetings.

Chair: Daniel Pellegrini

Staff: Maureen Parkes

Reporting Period: January 2025– December 2025

1. Activities and Accomplishments The Fish and Wildlife Committee met [] times to discuss matters related to fish and wildlife in Contra Costa County (CCC). The Committee administered a grant program that expends the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Funds (funds that are collected by the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife for code violations). Additional details on the Committee's activities are provided below.

Grant Program: The Committee reviewed [] proposals, interviewed applicants and selected [] of the proposals for full or partial funding totaling [] to recommend to the Board of Supervisors. Grant awards ranged from [] – []. The Committee reviewed progress and final reports from previous grant cycles and extended invitations to grantees to give presentations.

Outreach: 1) The Committee hosted the annual Fall Forum on September 25th at the Martinez Yacht Club and via teleconference for those who wished to join remotely. The Forum was open to the public and invitations encouraged people involved in fish and wildlife law enforcement issues in CCC to attend. Invited attendees included representatives of the U.S. House of Representatives, California Senate and State Assembly, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, Superior Court, Public Defender's Office, the East Bay Regional Park District Police, the Board of Supervisors and members of the public. Past participants have indicated that the Fall Forum has been helpful in raising awareness and fostering cooperation on fish and wildlife issues and law enforcement. Approximately [] people attended the event in 2025. 2) Distributed Wildlife in Your Backyard brochure.

Volunteer Activities: Several members volunteered in the community with other organizations that are interested in fish and wildlife issues. A sample of these volunteer activities include: Roni Gehlke – California Water Environment Association (CWEA) - State Division Chair of the Community Engagement and Outreach Committee, CWEA San Francisco Bay Section Communications Committee and CWEA State Division Education Committee; Susan Heckly - CCC Master Gardener, International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and the FWC representative on the CCC Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee; Danny Pellegrini - Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District Board of Trustees - Secretary, Sheriff's Posse of CCC (Barbeque Captain) and the Martinez Sportsmen's Club; and Jamin Pursell - Co-chair of the Richmond Shoreline Alliance, Sierra Club West Contra Costa Group Executive Committee, Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Commission, and Richmond Southeast Shoreline Area (RSAA) Community Advisory Group.

Committee members were regularly updated on activities related to fish and wildlife in CCC, which included [] presentations which are listed below:

- Presentation on Pacheco Marsh Restoration and Public Access Project (Linus Eukel, John Muir Land Trust)

2. Attendance/Representation The FWC is composed of ten members. Each County Supervisor appoints a member and the Internal Operations Committee appoints four At-large members and one At-large Alternate. The FWC met [] times at which a quorum was always present. The members were: Jamin Pursell (D-I), Susan Heckly (D-II), Brett Morris (D-IV), Daniel Pellegrini (D-V), Roni Gehlke (At-large), Kathleen Jennings (At-large), Nicole Balbas (At-large), Olivia Ortega (At-large), and Courtney Coon (At-large Alternate). The District III seat is currently vacant.

3. Training/Certification All members have viewed the required Brown Act & Better Government Ordinance, Ethics Training, and Implicit Bias videos. Certifications are on file for all the members.

4. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year

(a) FWC Operations:

- Develop and refine Work Plan (working document).
- Maintain FWC membership by advertising vacancies and forwarding applications to the Internal Operations Committee.
- Seek to coordinate with other Fish and Wildlife Committees on regional matters.
- Coordinate with the Contra Costa Watershed Forum.

- (b) Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors via the Internal Operations Committee for the appropriation of funds from the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund to support fish and wildlife projects in the community:**
- Conduct grant program to solicit proposals, evaluate their relative merits, and recommend funding for projects which will contribute most to the fish and wildlife resources of the County.
 - Develop and advertise FWC grant program by: 1) reviewing past Request for Proposals (RFP), funding applications; and 2) developing new RFP, funding application deadline, and funding priorities; and 3) posting to the County and Department of Conservation and Development websites and social media sites, distributing these materials to the media, the FWC and Contra Costa Watershed Forum mailing lists, and to anyone who requests them.
 - Work with agencies, organizations, and individuals to help them plan and develop projects suitable for support from the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.
 - Monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of the grant disbursement process.
 - Review funding applications received. Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors via the Internal Operations Committee for the awarding of grants.
 - Follow-up on projects that receive funding to assure that projects proceed as proposed. One way the FWC will do this is to extend invitations to prior Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Grant recipients to future meetings to give status reports, outcomes and presentations regarding their projects.
- (c) FWC priorities for 2025/2026:**
- Make recommendations to the Board to approve Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grant applications for projects that increase collaboration with law enforcement agencies, the court, and community cultural organizations on enforcement issues and increase education focusing on communities that may be unaware of local fish and game laws.
 - Provide public forum opportunities for open discussion on wildlife issues that affect CCC residents and impact natural resources in our County, increase outreach efforts and provide advisory updates to Board of Supervisors as needed.
 - Disseminate “Wildlife in Your Backyard” booklet and develop other projects for involvement of the FWC and the community in CCC.
 - Develop a resource document regarding invasive species.
 - Update website with information on invasive species and a list of awarded Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grants.
- (d) FWC projects (develop and prioritize a list of projects for potential FWC involvement; select projects for FWC involvement and provide appropriate support, including: initiation, planning, consultation, and/or funding):**
- Make recommendations to the Board on awarding Certificates of Appreciation for significant contributions to the fish and wildlife resources of the County.
 - Consider hosting a forum about wildlife.
- (e) Improve enforcement of fish and game laws and regulations; increase flow of money into the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund:**
- Help assure that, when appropriate, a portion of fines from violations of laws designed to protect fish and wildlife resources is deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund. Promote awareness of the harm caused by violation of fish and wildlife regulations and the value of enforcement.
 - Host a Fall Forum with law enforcement officials (CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Sheriff’s Dept., District Attorney’s Office, Superior Court, Public Defender’s Office, the East Bay Regional Park District Police) to discuss fish and wildlife issues and enforcement.
- (f) Monitor and advise the Board on projects that may affect fish and wildlife resources in the County:**
- Attend field trips to see major restoration projects and prior Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Grant recipients’ projects in the County.
 - Consider tours of East CCC Habitat Conservancy properties, Marsh Creek Fish Ladder, Walnut Creek Drop Structure, Dow Wetlands and Chelsea Wetlands at Pinole.
- (g) Develop policy recommendations (“white papers”) on fish and wildlife issues as requested by the Board of Supervisors. Topics could include:**
- Impacts of invasive species
 - Wildlife and human interaction / interface
 - Public education on reducing the impact of free-roaming cats on wildlife.
 - Delta Conveyance Project