



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Fish and Wildlife Committee

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Wednesday, October 15, 2025

3:00 PM

40 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553  
Construction Conference Room

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#### ZOOM LINK

<https://cccounty-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.

Nicole Balbas, Courtney Coon, Tim Fares, Susan Heckly, Kathleen Jennings, Brett Morris, Danny Pellegrini and Jamin Pursell attended the meeting. Roni Gehlke provided advance notice that she would not be able to attend the meeting. Olivia Ortega was absent. Pam Arifian (Napa County, Conservation Division), Phil Kohlmetz (International Bird Rescue), Satoko Mills (The Watershed Project) and Jeffry Tibbetts attended the meeting. Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

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

[TMP-13354](#)

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

The minutes were approved with a correction to reflect \$8,400 as the amount recommended for funding the KIDS for the BAY grant request. (Vote: 8-0)  
Balbas, Coon, Fares, Heckly, Jennings, Morris, Pellegrini and Pursell; Absent: Gehlke and Ortega

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.

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:

- Roni Gehlke provided advance notice that she would not be able to attend the meeting today.
- Pamela Arifian, one of the staff representatives for the Napa County Wildlife Conservation Commission, will be attending the meeting today to join the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund discussion.
- A new intern will be developing a webpage for the Fish and Wildlife Committee to display grant awards.
- The Court reports displaying fine data should be available early 2026.

Correspondence forwarded to Committee members:

- Email from Assemblywoman Lori D. Wilson, District 11, recognizing Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Week.
- Emails from Supervisor Candace Andersen regarding California Coastal Clean Up Day.
- Emails from Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston regarding a Walk & Talk at the Bay Point Regional Shoreline with East Bay Regional Park District naturalists, Contra Costa Urban Limit Line public review now open, and Contra Costa Shoreline Leadership Academy.
- Emails from Supervisor Diane Burgis regarding Trashure Hunting on Coastal Clean Up Day hosted by The Watershed Project, Autumn Open House Weekend at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, information regarding Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District, and Contra Costa Shoreline Leadership Academy.
- Emails from Olivia Ortega regarding the Pittsburg Marina Coastal Clean-up Day.

- Email from Heidi Perryman regarding beaver reintroduction.
- Email from Kathy Kramer thanking the Committee for the invitation to the Fall Forum.

Newsletters and Announcements forwarded to Committee members

- Greenbelt Alliance - 2
- California Fish and Game Commission - 6
- Kids for the Bay - 4
- Save Mount Diablo - 3
- California Department of Water Resources - 4
- Contra Costa County Sustainability Team - 1
- Golden Gate Bird Alliance - 1

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 Tim](#)

The Committee reviewed and accepted Items 5a, 5b and 5c; and reviewed and approved Item 5d. (Vote: 8-0) Balbas, Coon, Fares, Jennings, Heckly, Morris, Pellegrini and Pursell; Absent: Gehlke and Ortega

6. DISCUSS outcome of the September 25, 2025 Fall Forum and consider plans and potential speakers for next year.

The Committee discussed the outcome of Fall Forum, highlighting the engaging speaker,

attendance, venue, and food prepared by Danny Pellegrini and his crew. Approximately 120 people attended. The Committee discussed outreach and participation and tentatively identified September 24, 2026 as the date for the 2026 Fall Forum.

7. DISCUSS the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.

The Committee discussed the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund. Staff provided historical information on annual revenues from fines. Committee member Tim Fares presented spreadsheets summarizing recent fund distributions. Pam Arifian from the Napa County Conservation Department joined the discussion and shared details about their Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund grant program.

The Committee continued the discussion to the March 18, 2026 meeting and requested that staff contact representatives involved in the enforcement of Fish and Game laws to attend a future meeting to discuss related matters.

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](#)

The Committee reviewed the draft 2025 Work Plan and Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors. Staff explained that a previous version had been provided and will update the correct version to incorporate the Committee's revisions.

9. DETERMINE the Fish and Wildlife Committee 2026 meeting schedule.

The 2026 FWC meetings will be held on March 18, May 20, August 19, September 16, September 24 (Fall Forum) and November 18.

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