

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR JUNE 22-23, 2016

**22. DUCK STAMP (CONSENT)****Today's Item**Information Action 

Approve projects for Duck Stamp Deciated Account funds in Fiscal Year 2016-17.

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)****Background**

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 3702, FGC must approve any projects for State Duck Stamp Account expenditures; funds deposited in the account shall be used for projects or endowments to protect, preserve, restore, enhance, and develop migratory waterfowl breeding and wintering habitat, evaluate habitat projects, and conduct waterfowl resource assessments and other waterfowl related research.

DFW annually requests and reviews proposals for projects that meet the statutory goals of this dedicated account, which are reviewed by the Duck Stamp Advisory Committee and then submitted to FGC as a list of recommended projects. Exhibit 1 contains a summary of the proposed projects for consideration and approval for funding with State Duck Stamp Account funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17.

For FY 2016-17, spending authority for expenditures from this fund is \$1,608,000. A total of 19 projects are proposed, in addition to the mandatory allocation to Canada for the purposes of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 3704.

**Significant Public Comments (N/A)****Recommendation**

**FGC staff:** Support DFW's recommendation and approve under a motion to adopt the consent calendar.

**DFW:** Approve the projects identified in Exhibit 1 for funding from the Duck Stamp Dedicated Account in FY 2016-17.

**Exhibits**

1. [DFW memo and summary of recommended duck stamp projects, received May 31, 2016](#)

**Motion/Direction**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission adopts the consent calendar, items 19-25.

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## Memorandum

Date: May 25, 2016

To: Valerie Termini  
Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham  
Director



Subject: **Agenda Item for the June 22-23, 2016, Fish and Game Commission Meeting  
Duck Stamp Proposals for FY 2016-2017**

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code §3702-3705, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) submits the attached summary of proposed projects to the Fish and Game Commission (Commission) for consideration and approval for funding with Duck Stamp Dedicated Account funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17. These projects were reviewed by the Department and the Duck Stamp Advisory Committee.

As in past years, the Duck Stamp Dedicated Account carries a surplus balance. This surplus balance is the result of projects not completed due to permitting issues, contract development issues, or projects that were completed that came in under budget. It is estimated the Account's beginning balance will be \$1,491,716 on July 1, 2016, with estimated revenue of \$1,330,252 from the sale of duck stamps/validations during FY 2015-16. For FY 2016-17, spending authority for expenditures from this fund are \$1,608,000. The Department proposes to spend revenues to accomplish the goals established for the Duck Stamp Dedicated Account as authorized.

The Department reviewed 30 project proposals totaling nearly \$1.8 million dollars. The attached list of recommended projects includes ongoing projects (approved in past years) recommended for continued authorization. The proposals include one capital outlay project that was originally approved for FY 2014-15 but required Department of Finance approval. Contingency funding is also included to allow for emergencies (e.g. drought related) or project costs that differ slightly from the original estimates.

As always, the Department appreciates the Commission's consideration of our proposal and requests its approval for funding these projects.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Ms. Kari Lewis, Acting Chief, Wildlife Branch, at (916) 445-3789.

Attachment

Valerie Termini, Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission  
May 25, 2016  
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cc: Department of Fish and Wildlife

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FILE: D, DD-WFD

**Summary of Department Recommendations  
For Expenditure of FY 2016-17 California Duck Stamp Funding**

**Canada Habitat Project**

**Wetland and Upland Conservation – Alberta, Canada.....\$155,356**

Establish a conservation easement and/or restore wetlands associated with key breeding uplands in Alberta for pintail. Specific project parameters are still in development with the landowner. This project will also be matched by North America Wetland Conservation Act dollars.

**Capital Outlay Project - California**

**Gray Lodge Wildlife Area – Field 82 .....\$108,000**

Originally approved for 2014-15 FY. Enhance 95 upland and 19.5 wetland acres by building levees, swales and islands; planting vegetation; and installing water structures.

**Ongoing Projects - California**

**Duck Banding (pintail) – California Waterfowl Association .....\$35,000**

This is a cooperative project to maintain sufficient banded samples of pintail to assess harvest and survival rates.

**Duck Banding (mallard) .....\$23,000**

Mallard banding is used for the Western Mallard Model. The model is used to establish the duck hunting frameworks for most species in the Pacific Flyway.

**CA Visibility Correction Factors Portion of Breeding Population Survey.....\$45,000**

This project will continue the survey to estimate visibility correction factors for the waterfowl breeding population survey in California.

**Tule Greater White-fronted Goose Population Study .....\$7,000**

This project will continue ongoing population estimation, habitat use, and distribution of these special status geese by purchasing and marking birds with radio transmitters.

**Department of Fish and Wildlife – Internal Expenditures .....\$75,000**

This funding provides the match for the Pittman Robertson Act funding for the Waterfowl Program in the Wildlife Branch.

**Department of Fish and Wildlife – Duck Stamp Administration.....\$3,000**

The Department recommends these funds to complete the delivery of physical stamps to purchasers, as required under Fish and Game Code, and other administrative charges related to the Automated License Data System (ALDS).

**Department of Fish and Wildlife – Contingency Fund .....\$50,946**

The Department recommends this continuing funding to provide for small funding adjustments for authorized projects and to provide flexibility for emergencies (drought related or otherwise) as may occur.

**New Projects – California**

<b>Honey Lake Wildlife Area – Dakin Unit</b> .....	<b>\$158,061</b>
Maintain 475 wetland and 460 upland acres by rehabilitating a pump.	
<b>Butte Valley Wildlife Area – Water Delivery</b> .....	<b>\$130,046</b>
Maintain 230 acres of wetlands by replacing water structures and pipe.	
<b>Modoc National Wildlife Refuge – Matney Fields</b> .....	<b>\$162,329</b>
Maintain 243 wetland acres by installing a lift pump, pipe, water structures, refurbishment of levees, swales, and islands.	
<b>Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area – Howard Slough Field 209</b> .....	<b>\$101,130</b>
Maintain 85.5 wetland acres with swales, recontouring, herbicide, mowing and planting.	
<b>Gray Lodge Wildlife Area – Field 81</b> .....	<b>\$98,685</b>
Maintain 80 wetland and upland acres by re-contouring swales and replacing water control structures.	
<b>Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge – Tract 4 Cell 3</b> .....	<b>\$67,759</b>
Enhance 21 wetland and 11 upland acres with swales, seeding, herbicide and by replacing water control structures.	
<b>Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area - Ringstrom Bay</b> .....	<b>\$96,811</b>
Maintain 63 wetland acres by replacing pipes and canal gates.	
<b>Kern National Wildlife Refuge - Unit 2</b> .....	<b>\$57,809</b>
Maintain 525 wetland acres with swales, potholes, islands and invasive plant removal.	
<b>Imperial Wildlife Area - Field 513A</b> .....	<b>\$70,418</b>
Create 55 acres of green feed for geese by removing levees and leveling.	
<b>Food Availability for Wintering Waterfowl</b> .....	<b>\$51,891</b>
Update estimates of food availability in post-harvest rice and grain fields under current agricultural practices. This information will determine the Central Valley's ability to support wintering waterfowl populations and establish the habitat conservation objectives for wintering waterfowl.	
<b>Morro Bay Estuary Eelgrass Habitat Restoration</b> .....	<b>\$20,910</b>
Assess eelgrass transplant efforts and experimental restoration to inform future approaches for eelgrass recovery.	