



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
(831) 454-3154 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

## FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

### Roles of the Commission

The Fish and Game Advisory Commission (Commission) advises the Board of Supervisors on issues relating to fish and wildlife, and also recommends projects for funding with the county's portion of Fish and Game fine monies and judgments.

### Meeting Dates, Time and Location

The Commission meets the first Thursday of every month, except January and July, at 7:00 pm in the Planning Department's Ocean View Conference Room, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz.

### Commission Structure

As of December 31, 2008, the Commission was made up of Chairperson James Ritchey, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> District; Vice Chair Rogers Johnson, representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> District and other Commissioners including Dennis Murphy, 1<sup>st</sup> District; Philip Christ 2<sup>nd</sup> District; Jodi Frediani and Bud McCrary 3<sup>rd</sup> District; Russel Maridon and Frank Estrada 4<sup>th</sup> District; Zachariah Schwarzbach and Kevin Collins 5<sup>th</sup> District.

### Commission Staff

Kristen Kittleson, Resource Planner with Environmental Health Services, is the administrative staff to the Commission.

### Annual Goals and Accomplishments – 2007

The Fish and Game Advisory Commission funded numerous local fishery and wildlife projects. Allocations using regular fine monies were awarded to 13 projects: O'Neill Sea Odyssey for a video compatible microscope; Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project for equipment and supplies; NOAA Fisheries for a population and growth study in Soquel Creek Watershed; Valley Women's Club for Non-Point Source Pollution brochure; Exploring New Horizons Outdoor School for water quality kits; CalTIP program for education and outreach; Native Animal Rescue for animal food; Linda Cover, an art teacher, for a watershed art project for buses; Open Space Alliance and Harkins Slough Foundation for Citizens Water Quality Monitoring Program; Salmonid Restoration Federation for their 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference that will be held in Santa Cruz in March 2009; Environmental Health Services for an erosion control brochure and a New Zealand Mudsnaill Outreach Program and Pacific

Hunters Association for an Airgun Range as part of their hunter education programs. In addition, the Commission allocated funding to the District Attorney's office for a consultant to research environmental violations. The Commission re-allocated funding to the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County for a fish passage project at the Four Rock Cascade on the San Lorenzo River and equipment for the Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project to improve conditions for coho salmon egg incubation.

In November, Chair Ritchey, Commissioner Frediani and staff Kristen Kittleson accompanied O'Neill Sea Odyssey's ocean educational program for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

The Commission continued to follow issues related to the status of steelhead, coho salmon and chinook salmon. Other agenda items included a wide range of topics including a water quality investigation for Waddell Creek, the Santa Cruz Fires, and Invasive Aquatic Species. The Commission held a special meeting in August at Chair Ritchey's residence in honor of the late Commissioner Gary Lease.

#### Additional Activities

The Commission provides a forum for members of the public to voice concerns or issues on fish and game related issues. This type of activity is well suited to the Commission as many members of the public find it difficult to communicate their concerns to the appropriate agencies.

#### Future Goals

The Commission plans to pursue the establishment of a special fishing season for chinook salmon in the Santa Cruz Harbor for Fall 2009. The Commission will continue to fund grant projects that benefit local fish and wildlife species and their habitat. The Commission will continue to provide a forum for public input regarding fish and game issues, and will continue to support California Department of Fish and Game enforcement. The Commission will continue to review proposed legislation for listed species, with particular emphasis on recovery of these species.

#### Fish and Game Commission Attendance 2008

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar X	Apr.	May	Jun.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Ritchey	P	P		P	P	P	P	Ex	P	P	P
Murphy	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Johnson	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	Ex	P	Ex
Christ	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Frediani	P	P		P	P	P	Ex	P	P	P	P
McCrary	Ab	P		P	P	P	P	Ex	Ex	P	Ab
Estrada	Ex	P		P	Ex	P	P	P	Ex	Ex	P
Maridon	Ex	P		P	Ex	P	P	Abs	P	P	P
Collins	P	P		P	Ex	P	P	P	P	P	P
Schwarzbach	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	P	P	P

P = Present    Ex= Excused    Abs = Absent    --- = Not on Commission  
 X = Meeting Cancelled due to special meeting in January.