

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION

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FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION 2009 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 Redevelopment Conference Room, RDA 510 at 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz.

Commission Structure

As of December 31, 2009, the Commission was made up of Chairperson Rogers Johnson, representing the 2nd District; Vice Chair Zachariah Schwarzbach, representing the 5th District and other Commissioners including Chris Berry and Lois Robin, 1st District; Sandra Baron, 2nd District; Jodi Frediani and Bud McCrary 3rd District; Russel Maridon and Frank Estrada 4th District; and Kevin Collins 5th District.

Commission Staff

Kristen Kittleson, Resource Planner with Environmental Health Services, is the administrative staff to the Commission. Donna Bradford, Resource Planner with Environmental Health Services, assists with the public funding program.

Annual Goals and Accomplishments – 2009

The Fish and Game Advisory Commission funded numerous local fishery and wildlife projects. Allocations using \$10,560 in regular fine monies were awarded to 6 projects: O'Neill Sea Odyssey for two watershed models; Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project for equipment and supplies; Valley Women's Club for "Everyday Impacts on the Watershed" brochure; Native Animal Rescue for animal food; Friends of the Swallows at Cabrillo College for Return of the Swallows Celebration; Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County for updating the Groundcover Guide.

The Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County completed the third of three fish passage projects that received funding in 2006. The RCD completed a project at the County's bridge crossing

of Lompico Creek at Carrol Avenue. The project removed a portion of an old concrete weir that was impeding downstream smolt migration during low flows.

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 mountain lion research, NOAA research on steelhead growth rates, Save Our Shores programs, Summit and Lockheed fires, CalTIP and invasive aquatic species.

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. In 2009, the Commission heard public comments on the trout stocking of Loch Lomond and local stream restoration efforts.

Future Goals

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 2009

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
		X.								
Ritchey	Ex		P							
Murphy	Ex		P							
Berry						P	P	P	P	P
Robin				P	P	P	Ex	P	P	P
Johnson	P		P	P	P	P	P	Ex	P	P
Baron	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Frediani	Ex		Ex	P	P	P	P	P	P	Ex
McCrary	P		P	P	P	Ab	Ab	P	Ab	Ab
Estrada	P		P	P	P	P	Ex	P	Ex	P
Maridon	P		P	Ex	P	P	P	Ex	P	P
Collins	P		P	P	Ex	P	P	P	P	P
Schwarzbach	P		P	P	P	P	P	Ab	P	P

P = Present Ex= Excused Abs = Absent --- = Not on Commission

X = Meeting Cancelled due to Salmonid Restoration Federation conference in Santa Cruz.