



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## FISH AND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION

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

### AGENDA

June 7, 2018

7:00 PM

**Board of Supervisors Chambers, Fifth Floor, 701 Ocean Street**

PLEASE NOTE: Outside doors will be open 6:45-7:30 and then locked for security.

Please arrive during this time.

Staff can be contacted at 831-277-7404, but may not be available to answer the call during the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS
  
5. BUSINESS MATTERS
  - A. Discuss and consider sending letter in support of low-flow fishing closures (20 minutes)
  - B. Presentation on Riparian Conservation Strategy and Report on Riparian Planting Grant (30 minutes)
  - C. Discuss and consider sending letter to Board in support of Scott Creek Highway 1 Bridge Replacement and Lagoon Restoration (15 minutes)
  - D. Elect officers for 2018-19 (10 minutes)
  - E. Strategic Vision letter (5 minutes)
  - F. Update on Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance (5 minutes)
    - i) <http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/CannabisLicensingOffice.aspx>
  - G. Update on Scotts Creek Life Cycle Monitoring Station funding status (5 minutes)
  
6. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS (15 minutes)
7. STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)
8. CORRESPONDENCE
  - A. Notice of proposed regulatory action relative to Rockport Rocks Special Closure
  - B. Notice of proposed regulatory action relative to Sage Grouse
  
9. ADJOURNMENT

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs, or activities. The Planning Department Conference Room is located in an accessible facility. If you are a person with a disability and require special assistance in order to participate in the meeting, please contact Kristen Kittleson at (831)454-3154 or TDD number (454-2123) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format. As a courtesy to those affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.



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Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission

### MINUTES

Santa Cruz County Governmental Center  
Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 510  
Santa Cruz, California

May 3, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM
2. ROLL CALL.

Present: Commissioners Berry, Robin, Johnson, Baron, Lee, Cooley,  
Parmenter  
Excused: Frediani, Wise, Freeman  
Absent: none

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. Commissioner Cooley made a motion to approve the March minutes; Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. All aye, the motion passed.
4. PRESENTATIONS.
  - A. Jon Jankovitz gave a presentation about establishing low flow fishing closures for Santa Cruz streams. The Department of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) wants to develop local support for any proposed regulations before proposing them to the Fish and Game Commission. Jon has already started collecting data at several critical riffles for the San Lorenzo River. The Commission will consider the issue again in June and invite members of the fishing community.
  - B. Ben Harris, Executive Director, Monterey Bay Salmon and Trout Project (MBSTP). Ben is the new executive director and gave an update on MBSTP's four programs: (1) coho recovery, (2) steelhead supplementation in Scott and San Lorenzo (3) the Salmon and Trout Education Program (STEP) and (4) Chinook net pen program. Coho Recovery program is going well. MBSTP hope to complete the Fishery Genetic Management and Propagation plan soon that is needed for both the steelhead and STEP programs. Chinook smolts will be held for less than a day to reduce the return of chinook salmon adults to the harbor, Arana Gulch and the San Lorenzo River. STEP teacher training will be Sept. 18-21, 2018.
5. BUSINESS MATTERS
  - A. Discuss and consider letter in support of the Scotts Creek Life Cycle Monitoring Station. Commissioner Baron made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of funding for the Scott Creek Life Cycle Monitoring Station, with corrections as discussed;

- Commissioner Robin seconded the motion. All aye, the motion passed. Chris and Kristen will work to get the letter signed and delivered on Monday.
- B. Update on Strategic Vision and letter sent to Board re: prioritize riparian protection. The final letter was attached to the agenda.
  - C. County of Santa Cruz Strategic Vision. Commissioner Cooley made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors recommending water resources as a Focus Detail under Environment; Commissioner Parmenter seconded the motion. All aye; the motion passed.
  - D. Update on Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors voted to approve the first reading of the Cannabis Cultivation, Manufacturing and Distribution Ordinance on April 24, 2018. The Board will consider the second reading on May 8.
6. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS. Commissioner Lee is participating in the Climate Change Ride; staff will send out link.
  7. PUBLIC COMMENT. David Kossack submitted comments about addressing anthropogenic causes of wildfires, and some wells, and verbally suggested that Environmental Health oversee watershed and hazardous materials aspects of cannabis cultivation. Kristen responded that hazardous materials will be handled by EH, but that the Resource Planners in the Cannabis Licensing Office will oversee watershed issues (water, erosion, etc) through the Best Management and Operations Procedures (BMOP).
  8. STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS. Jordon Plotsky completed the Mountain Lion video. Staff will send out the link.
  9. ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 PM.

NOTE: The next meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2018

Submitted by K. Kittleson; Water Resources/Fish and Wildlife/2018 FWAC Meetings



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[www.sccoh.com](http://www.sccoh.com)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

May 7, 2018

County of Santa Cruz  
Board of Supervisors  
701 Ocean Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: Vision Santa Cruz


Dear Honorable Supervisors,

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the County's strategic planning process. On March 26, 2018, we wrote a letter recommending that riparian conservation is identified as a priority for the County. In this letter, we recommend that water resources be given a higher emphasis and priority as a Focus Area Detail under the Environment Focus Area. Most of the goals in the Vision Santa Cruz are not possible without a reliable and safe source of drinking water for the community. In addition, many of our valued natural resources, including steelhead and coho salmon, riparian corridors and listed amphibian species, depend on water resources.

In order to accommodate water resources as its own Focus Detail Area, we suggest that Climate Change and Renewable Energy are combined under one focus area detail since these two areas are so inter-related. The 4 Focus Area Details under Environment would be Water Resources, Natural Resources, Open Space and Energy and Climate Change.

We encourage the Board to pass on this recommendation to the Strategic Plan steering committee.

Sincerely,



Chris Berry, Chair  
Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
701 Ocean Street, Room 312  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

May 7, 2018

County of Santa Cruz  
Board of Supervisors  
701 Ocean Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: Funding for Scott Creek Life Cycle Monitoring Station

Dear Honorable Supervisors,

The County of Santa Cruz Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission (Commission) recently learned of a significant funding shortfall for the Scott Creek Life Cycle Monitoring Station (Scott Creek LCMS). This monitoring program studies coho salmon and steelhead on Scott Creek, on the north coast of Santa Cruz County and is run by the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Science Center, located here in Santa Cruz. The monitoring program includes a weir where adult salmonids are trapped and tagged, smolt down migration traps, multiple PIT tag readers, snorkel surveys, and summer electrofishing surveys. The program also supports the coho salmon conservation hatchery and coho salmon recovery. We are concerned that this shortfall will have major ripple effects to ongoing salmonid conservation and recovery efforts in both Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties. The Scott Creek LCMS not only supports coho salmon research and recovery, but also contributes greatly to our understanding of regional steelhead populations and recovery priorities.

We consider the Scott Creek Life Cycle Monitoring Station a critical regional monitoring program. Other local monitoring efforts calibrate results against the Scott LCMS. The Scott LCMS also serves the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) larger goals of developing a network of monitoring stations throughout the state.

The Santa Cruz community would like to see this monitoring program receive consistent and secure funding so that the goals of the Coastal Monitoring Program can serve our regional coho salmon and steelhead recovery actions. We encourage CDFW to develop an alternative funding mechanism for long term programs that are difficult to fund through the Fisheries Restoration

Grants Program. We understand that CDFW is considering setting aside specific funding for monitoring efforts and we support the implementation of this idea.

We recommend that the Board of Supervisors write a letter to California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Director, Charlton Bonham, and cc: Senator Bill Monning and Assemblyman Mark Stone, expressing the importance of this monitoring program to coho salmon recovery and steelhead conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains area and encouraging CDFW to identify specific funding monitoring efforts.

Sincerely,



Chris Berry, Chair  
Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission  
701 Ocean Street, Room 312  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060