



**San Diego County
Fish & Wildlife Advisory Commission**

9325 Hazard Way, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123-1217

(858) 694-2472
Fax (858) 467-9697
www.sdfwac.org

FWAC MINUTES
For July 13, 2023 Meeting

Commissioner	Present	Absent	Late	District	Supervisor
Mark Kukuchek	x			1	Vargas
Janeen Reed	x			1	Vargas
Ed Stovin	x			2	Anderson
Andy Paluczak		x		2	Anderson
Tashi MacMillen		x		3	Lawson-Remer
Wayne Kotow	Virtual			3	Lawson-Remer
Maggie Reinbold	x			4	Vacant
				4	Vacant
Jim Conrad	x			5	Desmond
Steve Turigliatto	x			5	Desmond

Call to Order

A. Introductions – The Commissioners introduced themselves.

The following guests were in attendance: Austin Shepard-AWM, Victor Cruz-AWM, Justin Aquino-AWM, Phil Kohlmetz-International Bird Rescue, Susie Murphy-San Diego Mountain Biking Association

B. Approval of Minutes –

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2023 meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Conrad and Seconded by Commissioner Turigliatto. Passed with 6 Ayes.

A. Public Comment - on any subject matter within Commission jurisdiction, but not on the agenda (No discussion or action may be taken by the Commission.)

No public comment

B. Chairperson's Report

None

C. Administrative Items

1. Purchase order and quote for nametags and nameplates will be created(a list of Commissioners without nametags/nameplates was compiled)
2. Grant funds/budget update -spreadsheet funding for past years was passed out to each Commissioner

D. Old Business

There are seven Grant applications for FY 23-24 round 1. As the Grant applications requested total funding of \$36,308 there was some discussion among the Commissioners regarding funding and the limits imposed by the current grant award budget. The Total budgeted grant funding for FY 23-24 including AWM staff reimbursement is \$25,000 which allows Approximately \$22,000 for grant awards for both round 1 and 2. The Grant Fund account does have a total of \$75,000 and a budget transfer request could be made if grant funding above the budgeted amount is determined to be prudent by the Commission. The Commissioners determined that a total of \$22,000 would be awarded for Round 1 grants and that additional funds would be requested from the budget to fund round 2 grants in December .AWM staff will make arrangements to request a budget transfer in advance of the round 2 grant awards.

A motion was made to have AWM staff request a budget transfer of \$18,000 to fund round 2 grants. Motion made by Commissioner Kukuchek and Seconded by Commissioner Reed. Passed with 6 Ayes.

E. New Business

Susie Murphy from the San Diego Mountain Biking Association made a presentation regarding her grant request and answered questions.

1. Grant Applications for Round 1 of Fiscal Year 2023-24

There was a lengthy discussion among the commissioners on how to fund each grant given the fact that there were larger grant funds requested that grant funds were available for award. The grants requested were awarded funds based on the following motions:

A motion was made to Fund grants 4, 5 and 6 to the full amount requested. Motion made by Commissioner Kukuchek and Seconded by Commissioner Reed. Passed with 6 Ayes.

A motion was made to fund grant 7 to the full amount requested. Motion made by Commissioner Turigliatto and Seconded by Commissioner Reinbold. Passed with 6 Ayes.

A motion was made to fund grants 1,2, and 3 in equal amounts of \$3,392. This will bring the total grant awards for round 1 to \$22,000. Motion made by Commissioner Reinbold and Seconded by Commissioner Stovin. Passed with 6 Ayes.

FWAC Grants FY 23-24 Round 1					
Grant App #	Project Name	Organization	Funded Amount	Project Start Date	Grant Amount Awarded

23/24-1	Volunteer Cleanup of Lillian Hill Preserve	San Diego River Park Foundation	<p>Our nonprofit recently completed acquisition of an 80 acre property. This property provides incredible opportunity for improvement of upland habitat for wildlife. Sadly, the property several tons of trash, abandoned trailers, cans and other waste which needs to be removed so that these areas can be restored. This project proposed to hold a series of volunteer cleanups to remove significant amounts of debris. At least 200 volunteers will be engaged to remove several tons of debris. In addition, volunteers will repair a gate and fencing to reduce illegal access and dumpint on the property.</p> <p>Volunteers will learn about the upland habitat being restored and Sheep Camp Creek riparian habitat which was conserved as part of this property acquisition. Volunteers will also learn about ongoing opportunities to participate in wildlife conservation efforts at Lillian Hill Preserve. The cleanup of the property to make it safe and inviting are essential steps for restoring upland habitat that has been damaged as well starting wildlife conservation programs.</p>	9/1/2023	\$3,392
23/24-2	Mataguay Waterway Improvement Phase 1	Boy Scouts of America	<p>The Mataguay Waterway Improvement will be a multiphase project to repair and protect the inland waterways such as Matagual Creek that run through Mataguay Scout Reservation. The repairs will help prevent erosion and help support local wildlife including one endangered species. Phase I of the project will focus on repairing four small sections of the water way.</p> <p>Section 1 Remove silt from an inlet to Parker Lake. Section 2 Debris will be removed from the inlet and rocks put in place to stop erosion Section 3 Removal of silt from a dam upstream of the inlet Section 4 Removal of silt from upstream pond taking it from a depth of 1ft to 15 feet The silt will be transported away from the lake and inlets to prevent perpetuating the filling of our waterways. These four sections of repair will complete phase I of the overall project to restore and improve the waterways which support a wide array of wildlife.</p>	9/30/2023	\$3,392

23/24-3	Otay Valley Regional Park Boardwalk Project	San Diego Mountain Biking Association	<p>This project involves the construction of a wooden boardwalk on a section of trail in the Otay River Valley between Beyer Way and the 805 freeway. The elevated boardwalk will protect the adjacent habitat by providing a designated alignment for trail users. The proposed wooden boardwalk will have a total length of 300 feet and it will be 4 feet wide suitable for hikers and cyclists. Equestrians are not permitted on this section of trail. High quality materials and building techniques will stand up to seasonal flooding.</p> <p>The OVRP Boardwalk Project success would be seen in the habitat protected in the area by keeping trail users on the designated path. This project's success can also be measured by the City of San Diego staff time saved in trying to mitigate damage in this area. The project would benefit trail users who visit the Otay Valley from the surrounding communities of South San Diego, Palm City, Otay Mesa, Ocean View Hills, and Chula Vista as well as visitors from outside the immediate area. Estimated trail usage extrapolated from Strava Metro shows an average of 450 people on foot and bike used this trail segment monthly in 2022.</p>	9/8/2023	\$3,392
23/24-4	Kiwanis of Escondido Childrens Fishing Experience	Kiwanis Club of Escondido	<p>Twice each year Lake Dixon of Escondido hosts a 2 day Trout Derby (season opener, season ending). At each derby event the Kiwanis Club of Escondido - Hidden Valley Kiwanis constructs two (2) 20ft x 10ft x 6ft deep netted ponds and stocks them with 300 lbs of trout (approximately 1-2 lbs each) at a cost of \$6.50 per pound (\$1950) per event. With the assistance of the Sr. Anglers of Escondido, we invite all children under the age of 8 to participate in what we refer to as the "Children's Fishing Experience" The Sr. Anglers of Escondido provide all the fishing gear (or they may use their own) and the expertise. The Kiwanis Club of Escondido - Hidden Valley provides the construction materials, nets and fish in support of the effort. Kiwanis has been hosting this activity for approximately 25 years. At the conclusion of the 2021-2022 Trout season we served approximately 191 children. Typically this event serves from 200 - 300 children over each season.</p>	11/1/2023	\$3,900

23/24-5	CA Hunter Education Hall Program	CA Hunter Education Program	<p>In order to teach Hunter Education classes in Ramona, I have to rent a space, in this case the Ramona Town Hall. The cost to rent the hall is \$30/hr for a ten-hour class conducted over two days. The \$300 fee is passed on to the students on an equal bases since there are no funds provided by the state to rent space. 10 students = \$30/each, 20 students = \$15, etc...</p> <p>I would like to schedule six classes over the next 12 months and I am seeking grant funding so this mandatory critical first-time hunting class is free to my students. If funding is not available for the year, I would be able to cut the grant number down to three classes for the next six months or \$900 to rent the hall. \$1800 would be ideal.</p> <p>The twon Hall is a nice venue which can hold 25 students max due to our teacher to student ratio of 1 to 25. The halll has a flat screen TV I use for audiovisual content. the restrooms are right there and there are numerous eating establishments for lunch.</p>	7/1/2023	\$1,800
23/24-6	San Dieg Junior Pheasant Hunt	San Dieg Junior Pheasant Hunt	<p>The goal of this project is to instruct approximately 60 youth in safe, moral, ethical hunting and conservation practices. This all day event includes hands on archery shooting, hands on trap shooting, and a hunt in a bird field with trained instructors and dog handlers, instruction on bird cleaning. The youth attend seminars let by US Fish and Wildlife on conservation efforts, listen to talks on the daily life of a wild turkey and watch a demonstration on bird retrieving by trained bird dogs. The funds requested will be used to purchase new archery equipment, specifically bows, arrows, two 3D targets and gloves and finger tabs</p>	2/4/2024	\$860

23/24-7	Resolving San Diego County Human-Wildlife Conflicts	International Bird Rescue	<p>We respectfully request first-time financial support for San Diego County's share of necessary costs of food, medicine, and medical supplies for ~120 native, wild, aquatic birds rescued from San Diego County and transferred to us for care and rehabilitation. Our Southern California Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation program serves both people and wildlife in the Counties of San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Riverside, and San Bernardino by providing an immediate, ethical, effective, and humane solution to the problem of wildlife harmed by human impacts, including (but not limited to) cruelty, illegal shootings, habitat disruption, starvation, impact injuries, pollution, fishing (hooks, nets, and lines), and climate change-induced hazards such as algae bloom toxicity. Unlike traditional veterinary clinics, we provide services to the public at no cost, and operate as a "referral hospital" for wild, native wildlife. We address the most challenging cases that are beyond the skills or capacity others. Since 2019, Fish and Wildlife Commissions in the Counties of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Monterey, and Santa Cruz have provided modest financial support of between \$2,500 and \$16,000 to help sustain our ability to be an effective, efficient, regional resource, as well as to maintain peak readiness to respond to Statewide environmental emergencies</p>	7/1/2023	\$5,264
Total					\$22,000

F. Commissioner's Corner

Another friendly reminder for all commissioners to continue contacting their community members and colleagues to encourage grant applications.

Commissioner Reinhold requested that an agenda item be added to the next meeting for discussion by the Commissioners of possible grant award scoring and prioritization for each of the elements of the permissible grant funding categories.

Commissioner Conrad requested that an agenda item be added to the next meeting for discussion by the Commissioners of future projects or issues that the FWAC might want to undertake.

G. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:59 a.m.

Note: Commission agendas, including any revisions, are posted on the front door of the Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures, 9325 Hazard Way, Suite 100, San Diego, California, 92123-1217

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

San Diego County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures
 Phone: (858) 614-7726; E-mail: Victor.Cruz@SDCounty.ca.gov
 Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission Web Page: www.sdfwac.org

The next meeting is August 10, 2023, at 11:30 am.