Approved Meeting Minutes of the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee on July 15, 2015

1) **Introductions.** Martha Berthelsen, Clark Dawson, Roni Gehlke, Susan Heckly, Derek Jansen, Kathleen Jennings, Daniel Pellegrini and Jeff Skinner attended the meeting. Brett Morris and Scott Stephan provided advance notice that they would be absent. Lisa Chow and (Office of Supervisor District IV) and Jill Ray (Office of Supervisor District II) attended the meeting. Maureen Parkes (CCC Department of Conservation and Development) attended as staff.

2) **Review/Approve minutes from the June 17, 2015 meeting.** The meeting minutes were approved as written.

   **Vote:** 5-0  
   **AYES:** Berthelsen, Dawson, Gehlke, Heckly, Pellegrini  
   **NOES:** None  
   **ABSENT:** Jansen, Morris and Stephan  
   **ABSTAIN:** Jennings and Skinner

3) **Public comment.** There were no public comments.

4) **Updates and announcements from staff and FWC members.** Includes discussion on implementation of actions authorized previously, on correspondence received, and on upcoming meetings of interest to the FWC.

   Maureen Parkes informed the Committee that:
   - Brett Morris and Scott Stephan provided advance notice that they would not be able to attend the meeting today.
   - Maureen Toms was promoted to Deputy Director in the Department of Conservation and Development and oversees the Policy Planning Division.

5) **Review and accept the final report from Greens at Work for the grant awarded to Berkeley Partners for Parks for the Point Isabel/Hoffman Marsh Habitat Restoration (Richmond, CA) project.** The Committee reviewed and accepted the final report.

   **Vote:** 8-0  
   **AYES:** Berthelsen, Dawson, Gehlke, Jennings, Heckly, Jansen, Pellegrini and Skinner  
   **NOES:** None  
   **ABSENT:** Morris and Stephan  
   **ABSTAIN:** None

6) **Review the letter from Mt. Diablo Audubon Society regarding the “We Love Cats! and Birds, too!” brochure; and consider approving a plan regarding the retrieval of the remaining brochures.** The Committee reviewed the letter from the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society. Maureen Parkes informed the Committee that the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society had delivered approximately 1,500 brochures to the Department of Conservation and Development (DCD). The Committee approved a plan to retrieve the remaining brochures that were distributed to County Departments and to recycle all of the brochures that are returned to DCD.

   **Vote:** 8-0  
   **AYES:** Berthelsen, Dawson, Gehlke, Jennings, Heckly, Jansen, Pellegrini and Skinner  
   **NOES:** None  
   **ABSENT:** Morris and Stephan  
   **ABSTAIN:** None
7) **Discuss the 2015 Fall Forum and consider plans and potential speakers.** The Committee finalized plans to have Nicole Kozicki, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Warden speak at the Fall Forum. She’ll provide an overview of what the CDFW wardens do and how their job generates money for the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund.

8) **Review and consider approving the draft Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2016 grant cycle.** The Committee reviewed the draft RFP and requested that staff check into modifying the instructions to include a statement that the FWC wishes to be acknowledged for their financial support of the project.

9) **Continue to discuss the Wildlife in Your Backyard brochure.** Roni Gehlke provided a draft Wildlife in Your Backyard brochure. The FWC members reviewed the draft brochure and offered helpful suggestions. Roni will incorporate the suggestions and return with an updated draft brochure for the Committee’s review at the August meeting. Maureen Parkes will look into reproduction costs.

10) **Discuss potential field trip to Big Break Visitor Center in Oakley.** The Committee discussed the logistics of the field trip. Roni Gehlke said that there is a shaded picnic area for lunch and informed the Committee that Mike Moran, Supervising Naturalist, East Bay Regional Park District will give a tour of the shoreline.

11) **Discuss potential speakers for upcoming meetings.** The Committee discussed potential speakers and decided that they would like to invite speakers that could inform them about the effects of the drought on wildlife.

12) **Continue to discuss and consider action on the Internal Operations Committee (IOC) comments and requests at their December 1, 2014 meeting listed below:**

   - **Suggest three top priorities for the upcoming Board of Supervisors Discussion Item.**
   - **The IOC expressed a need for multilingual signage and better collaboration with law enforcement agencies, the court, and community cultural organizations on enforcement issues and education surrounding fish and wildlife practices of people of different cultures that may be in violation of local fish and game laws.**

Maureen Parkes informed the FWC that it is no longer necessary to prepare a Board of Supervisors Discussion item. The Supervisors are comfortable with the FWC accomplishing their requests by including their three top priorities in their annual report; and adding a new paragraph in the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) stating that the FWC wishes to fund projects that increase collaboration with law enforcement agencies, the court, and community cultural organizations on enforcement issues and education surrounding fish and wildlife practices of people of different cultures that may be unaware of local fish and game laws; and encourages projects that provide multilingual signage and educational materials.

13) **Determine the agenda for the next meeting.** The next regular meeting date is August 19, 2015. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings include:

   - Draft Annual Report
   - Draft Fall Forum agenda
   - Consider developing recommendations and/or a white paper on rodenticide use in the County
   - Presentation on problem weeds