

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION OF )  
 PROJECTS RECOMMENDED BY THE ) Resolution No. 2018-0661  
 COUNTY FISH AND WILDLIFE )  
 COMMISSION )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR VANDER POEL, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ENNIS, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD AUGUST 14, 2018, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SUPERVISORS CROCKER, VANDER POEL, SHUKLIAN, WORTHLEY, AND ENNIS  
 NOES: NONE  
 ABSTAIN: NONE  
 ABSENT: NONE



ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
 CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: Mary Rorello  
 Deputy Clerk

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That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopted the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife Commission
2. Authorized the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk
3. Approved \$5,000 for projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife Commission, as identified in Attachment A for Fiscal Year 2018/2019, and authorizes the Agricultural Commissioner to approve disbursement of funds for these projects upon adoption of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program (Fund 011) budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019.

Ag Commissioner/Sealer

HAR  
 08/14/2018



**Agricultural  
Commissioner/Sealer  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
AGENDA ITEM**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One

PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY  
District Four

MIKE ENNIS  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** August 14, 2018

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
County Counsel Sign-Off	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Tom Tucker    PHONE: 684-3350

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife Commission

**REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife Commission
2. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk
3. Approve \$5,000 for projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife Commission, as identified in Attachment A for Fiscal Year 2018/2019, and authorize the Agricultural Commissioner to approve disbursement of funds for these projects upon adoption of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program (Fund 011) budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019.

**SUMMARY:**

The Agricultural Commissioner assists the Fish and Wildlife Commission with budget requests. The Tulare County Board of Supervisors reviews the recommended projects prior to the start of the fiscal year for which they are recommended. This review of recommended projects prior to the adoption of the Fiscal 2018/2019 final budget will afford the Board of Supervisors an opportunity to evaluate and approve or disapprove the projects the Fish and Wildlife Commission has submitted. Early approval will allow for the continuation of ongoing projects without interruption.

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife  
**DATE:** Commission  
August 14, 2018

As specified in the Fish and Game Code Section 13103, Fish and Wildlife Project funds may be expended solely for projects related to the protection, conservation, propagation, and preservation of fish and wildlife. Such projects may include: Temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife; breeding, raising, or purchasing fish or wildlife to be released onto public areas; Improvement of fish and wildlife habitat; Predator control actions for the benefit of fish and wildlife. Funds for these projects (\$5,000) will be included in the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program budget request for Fiscal Year 2018/2019.

The projects are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines sections 15307 and 15308 because the proposed activities are intended to protect natural resources and the environment, and Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed activities in question may have a significant impact on the environment. Attachment A describes the proposed activities which include youth education, wildlife rehabilitation, and the rearing of wildlife.

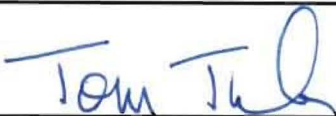
**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The source of revenue is the Fish and Wildlife Fund (011), which is derived from Fish and Wildlife fines and forfeitures imposed by the court system. No Net County Cost.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life Initiative to promote public health and welfare educational opportunities, natural resource management and continued improvement of environmental quality. This request to approve projects recommended by our local Fish and Wildlife Commission will ensure timely continuance of a long-standing program of providing greater recreational and cultural opportunities by promoting protection, conservation, propagation, and preservation of fish and wildlife.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**



Tom Tucker  
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

cc: County Administrative Office

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of projects recommended by the County Fish and Wildlife  
**DATE:** Commission  
August 14, 2018

Attachment(s)

Attachment A – Exhibit of Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Fish and Wildlife Projects

Attachment B – Notice of Exemption, California Environmental Quality Act

Attachment C – Secretaries Minutes of Meeting

## Attachment A

### Tulare County Fish and Wildlife Commission Approved Projects FY 2018/2019

Applicant: (listed in order received)	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Awarded</u>
1. <u>River Ridge Institute</u> – Gary Adest This allocation goes toward the direct overhead costs of this Trout in the Classroom project. Last year these classes exposed 450 Tulare County elementary students to watersheds and the conservation of river and land habitats of the Tule River. P.O. Box 879, Springville, CA 93265 Balch Park Road, Springville, CA 93265, 559-539-0207	\$500	\$500
2. <u>Kaweah Flyfishers</u> – George Pilling This allocation will offset the costs of this Trout in the Classroom project. The Kaweah Flyfishers partner with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to expose students to activities where they take on the role of stewards of local watersheds in Tulare county. 1535 S. Grant St., Visalia, CA 93278, 559-901-6676	\$3,500	\$1,500
3. <u>Sequoia Riverlands Trust</u> – Bud Darwin This allocation will go towards program and transportation costs of this Trout in the Classroom program. The object of the project is to recruit and train local high school students so they can facilitate the program of teaching K-8 students. 427 S. Garden St., Visalia, CA 93277, 559-738-0211	\$5,000	\$0
4. <u>Critter Creek Wildlife Station</u> – Louise Culver This allocation will go towards the purchase of large and medium rats to feed large raptors kept at Critter Creek permanently. 36710 Sand Creek Rd., Squaw Valley, CA 93675, 559-338-2415	\$1,500	\$1,500
5. <u>SCICON Raptor Center</u> – Clemmie Gill School of Science... This allocation will go towards expenses for the upkeep of the SCICON Raptor Center as well as foodstuff and medications. Raptor shows will educate students and the public about the critical importance of these birds and their protection within the ecosystem. P.O. Box 339, Springville, CA 93265, 559-539-4006, 45400 Blue Ridge Drive, Springville, CA 93265	\$1,000	\$1,000
6. <u>Wild Ones Wildlife Rehabilitation</u> – Tracy Delperdang This allocation will go towards expenses that include caging materials, foodstuffs, medications, veterinary care, and training costs to care for and rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife, including mammals, reptiles, and birds as well as educational outreach. 45400 Blue Ridge Drive, Springville, CA 93265, 559-284-2798	\$500	\$500

# Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk  
Room 105, Courthouse  
221 South Mooney Boulevard  
Visalia, California 93291

<i>Date filed by Tulare County Clerk</i>

**Lead Agency:** Tulare County Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Blvd.  
Visalia, Ca 93277 (559) 624-7000  
Attn: [hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us](mailto:hguerra@co.tulare.ca.us)

**Applicant(s):** County of Tulare Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer  
4437 S. Laspina St.  
Tulare, CA 93274 (559) 684-3397

**Project Title:** Fish and Wildlife Projects FY 2018-2019

**Project Location - Specific:** Various locations within Tulare County, CA

**Project Location- Section, Township, Range:** N/A

**Project Location - City:** N/A

**Project Location - County:** Tulare

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The Tulare County Board of Supervisors (on August 14, 2018) approved a disbursement by the Tulare County Fish and Wildlife Commission which will be included in the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program budget request for Fiscal Year 2018/2019. The funding will include various projects consistent with Fish and Game Code Section 13103, Fish and Game Project. Section 13103 stipulates that may be expended solely for projects related to the protection, conservation, propagation, and preservation of fish and wildlife such as temporary emergency treatment and care of injured or orphaned wildlife; breeding, raising, or purchasing fish or wildlife to be released onto public areas; improvement of fish and wildlife habitat; predator control actions for the benefit of fish or wildlife. As such, the funds will result in a public benefit by providing the services noted above.

**Exempt Status:** (check one)


- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- General Rule: CEQA guidelines 15061 (b)(3)
- Categorical Exemption Section 15307 Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources
- Statutory Exemptions:

**Reasons why project is exempt:** This action is consistent with CEQA Guidelines (California Administrative Code, Title 14, Division 6) Section 15307 where the proposed activities are actions by a regulatory agency to protect natural resources and Section 15061 (b)(3) that there is no possibility that the proposed grant activity may have a significant effect on the environment. Thus, Sections 15061 (b)(3) Section 15307 are applicable and appropriate for this project.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** County of Tulare, Resource Management Agency

**Project Representative:** Tom Tucker, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Telephone: 559-623-0691

Signature:  Date: 7/30/18 Title: Chief Environmental Planner  
Hector Guerra

Signature:  Date: 7/30/18 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke, PE RMA Director

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A

# **Tulare County Fish and Wildlife Commission**

3:00 p.m. – May 21, 2018  
Exeter City Hall, Exeter, CA

## **Minutes**

### **Commission Members:**

Present: Richard Jones, District 1; Jeff Nelson, District 2; Donna Luallen, District 3; Rex Clark, District 4; Jim Crew, District 5

### **Quorum Present? Yes**

### **Others Present:**

Christopher Greer, representing Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner  
Lieutenant Doug Barnhart, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Law  
Enforcement Division  
Gary Adest, River Ridge Institute  
Louise Culver/Dan Culver, Critter Creek Wildlife Station  
Tracy Delperdang, SCICON Raptor Center and Wild Ones Wildlife  
Rehabilitation

### **Proceedings:**

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Richard Jones.

Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from May 31, 2017, and seconded. Motion passed.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### **Public Comment:**

None.

### **New Business:**

1. **Lieutenant Doug Barnhart, California Department of Fish and Wildlife –** Lt. Barnhart advised the Commission the DFW workforce is down by 4 positions for the Tulare/Kings and part of Western Fresno Counties. One officer has been out for an extended medical leave of 14 months but has returned in the last 3 weeks. One

officer was promoted to Tulare County Supervisor. Two other officers transferred out of the unit. Duties cover monitoring oil spills and marijuana permitting, as well as monitoring contamination of ground water with growing practices, even with the new laws. A new marijuana permit unit has just been created which pulled away some area officers. DFW presented 227 cases in 2016, 112 cases in 2017. There are some important cases pending that may generate funds as the legal process plays out. Tulare County is high in the priority list as this year's Academy trains new recruits for California's DFW; recruits will be available for hire at the end of December 2018. Revenue for 2017-2018 was \$6,979.05.

2. **Christopher Greer, representing Tom Tucker, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Tulare County** – Mr. Greer reported there is \$6,979.05 in the fund to date. There is an additional \$767.81 from Friends of Tulare County, specifically allotted to DFW. A total of \$7,746.86 is available for disbursement. Mr. Greer reviewed the applications under consideration at today's meeting and noted that Mr. Tucker wanted to advise everyone there was possibility of another \$500-1500 to be added before the end of this cycle. The Commission will make recommendations for the use of those funds, which Mr. Tucker will take before the Board of Supervisors for approval.

The terms of the current Tulare County Fish and Wildlife Commission members will be completed September 4, 2018. Mr. Greer provided Application/Information Forms to be completed and submitted to Tom Tucker.

3. **Requests for Project Funding (See Attachment A to the Agenda) –**

**Gary Adest, River Ridge Ranch/River Ridge Institute, Trout in the Classroom** – River Ridge Institute requested allocation of \$1,000 toward direct overhead costs of a Trout in the Classroom project, which Mr. Adest voluntarily reduced to \$500 in light of this year's shortfall.

**Application only/Kaweah Fly Fishers/Trout in the Classroom** - The Kaweah Fly Fishers requested \$3,500 to help fund costs associated with training students to take on the role of stewards of local watersheds.

**Application only/Sequoia Riverlands Trust** – SRT requested \$5,000 to train local high school students to teach in Trout in the Classroom.

**Louise Culver/Dan Culver, Critter Creek Wildlife Station** – Mr. and Ms. Culver requested \$1,500 for purchase of food for large raptors at the center.

**Tracy Delperdang, SCICON** – Tracy Delperdang requested \$1,000 to assist in upkeep of the Raptor Center as well as medical and supportive feeding supplies.



**Tracy Delperdang, Wild Ones Wildlife Rehabilitation** - Ms. Delperdang requested \$500 for veterinary supplies and outreach education. The funds can also help in obtaining permits, which Ms. Delperdang notes can be costly.

**DISCUSSION OF THE COMMISSION:**

The Commission agreed to hold funds over until next year as a safeguard against low revenues in 2018. FTC monies will be reserved to build a more substantial fund for the future. Rich Jones called for any questions; no questions were offered from the Commission members or the public in attendance. With the knowledge that three of the applicants use the funds for Trout in the Classroom, the Commission felt it would be appropriate to continue supporting the applicants from previous years with the limited funds available this year. The invitation to apply again next year remains open to SRT.

Jeff Nelson moved to approve the following distributions as presented by Richard Jones, seconded by Jim Crew and approved unanimously:

		<b>Funds Available, DFW</b>	<b>\$6,979.05</b>
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Proposal Amount</b>	<b>Amount to be Distributed</b>	
River Ridge Institute	500.00	500.00	
Kaweah Fly Fishers	3,500.00	1,500.00	
SRT	5,000.00	0.00	
Critter Creek	1,500.00	1,500.00	
SCICON	1,000.00	1,000.00	
WOWR	500.00	500.00	
<b>Total disbursed 2017</b>		<b>\$5,000.00</b>	
		<b>Carried forward to</b>	
		<b>2019</b>	<b>\$1,979.05</b>
<b>Funds available through Friends of Tulare County</b>		<b>\$767.81</b>	

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Luallen  
 Commission Member  
 District 3