# AGENDA FOR RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608 BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING 8:00 A.M. MAY 1, 2019 NEUMILLER & BEARDSLEE 3121 WEST MARCH LANE, SUITE 100 STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

#### Call to Order.

Roll Call.

#### Agenda Items.

- 1. <u>Public Comment</u>. Under Government Code Section 54954.3, members of the public may address the Board on any issue in the District's jurisdiction. The public may address any item on the agenda as it is taken up.
- 2. <u>Time Limit for Public Comment</u>. Adopt Resolution 2019-04 Adopting Time Limit for Public Comment.
- 3. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the regular meeting of April 7, 2019.
- 4. Financial Report. Review, discuss, and accept financial report.
  - (a) 2019-2020 Budget Proposal Review and possible action
- 5. Engineer's Report. Request for directions and approvals.
  - (a) Consider new permits requests from homeowners.
  - (b) Retaining Wall Repair
    - In Shape Club
       6545 Embarcadero Drive
       Stockton, CA 95212
  - (c) Discussion and Direction regarding the Sediment Removal Project
  - (d) Discussion and Possible Action regarding endorsement of design for Lower San Joaquin River California Flood Risk Reduction Project and provide direction to
  - (e) Discussion and Possible Action to approve position opposing AB 273 and provide direction to staff
- 6. Levee Superintendent Report. Request for directions and approvals.
- 7. Report by Trustees on meetings attended and up coming meetings. Request for direction.
- 8. Report and possible action on Progress of Tasks Assigned at Previous Board Meetings.
- 9. Discussion and direction on Short-Term and Long-Range Goals.
- 10. District Calendar. Discussion and direction.

This agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132) and the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code §54954.2). Persons requesting a disability related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Jean Knight at 209/948-8200 during regular business hours, at least forty-eight hours prior to the time of the meeting.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Trustees after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the office of the District Secretary at Neumiller & Beardslee, 3121 West March Lane, Suite 100, Stockton, California during normal business hours.

- 11. <u>Bylaws</u>. Discussion and Direction regarding amending District Bylaws Article IV to adopt Rosenberg's Rules of Order and update address.
- 12. Correspondence.
- 13. Approval of Bills.
- 14. Staff Reports.
  - (a) Attorney. The Agenda for this meeting was posted on the window outside the meeting room at 3121 West March Lane, Stockton, California, at least seventy-two (72) hours preceding the meeting.
- 15. Adjournment.

This agenda shall be made available upon request in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132) and the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code §54954.2). Persons requesting a disability related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Jean Knight at 209/948-8200 during regular business hours, at least forty-eight hours prior to the time of the meeting.

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#### AGENDA PACKET RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1608 May 1, 2019

ITEM	COMMENTARY
1.	Self-explanatory.
2.	Please see attached.
3.	Please see attached.
4.a.	Please see attached.
5.a.	Please see attached.
6.	Self-explanatory.
7.	Self-explanatory.
8.	Self-explanatory.
9.	Please see attached.
10.	Please see attached.
11.	Please see attached.
12.	Self-explanatory.
13.	Self-explanatory.
14.	Self-explanatory.

# ITEM 2

#### **RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608**

#### **RESOLUTION 2019-04**

### RESOLUTION ADOPTING TIME LIMIT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

WHEREAS, the Brown Act requires that every agenda for regular meetings provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act requires every notice for a special meeting to provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting before or during consideration of that item; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act allows the legislative body of a local agency to adopt reasonable regulations to limit the total amount of time allocated for public comments on particular issues and for each individual speaker; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees ("Board") of Reclamation District 1608 ("District"), desires to adopt reasonable regulations to limit the total amount of time allocated for public comments on particular issues and for each individual speaker.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That all public comments shall be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes for general public comments on items within the District's subject matter jurisdiction and 3 minutes before or during the Board's consideration of each agenda item, subject to the sole discretion of the Board President to allow additional time for a comment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District 1608, at a meeting thereof, held on May 1, 2019, by the following vote:

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District No. 1608 at a meeting thereof held on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2019, by the following vote, TO WIT:

AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSTENTION:	
ABSENT:	

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608 A Political Subdivision of the State of California

	By:
ATTEST:	MICHAEL PANZER, President
JEAN KNIGHT, Secretary	
CEF	RTIFICATION
the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of	nation District No. 1608, do hereby certify that f a resolution of Reclamation District No. 1608 of the Board of Trustees thereof held on the 1 <sup>st</sup>
Dated:, 2019.	
JEAN KNIGHT, Secretary Reclamation District No. 1608	

# ITEM 3

#### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FOR RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1608 HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District 1608 was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President Michael Panzer on April 3, 2019, at the law offices of Neumiller & Beardslee, 3121 W. March Lane, Stockton, California.

#### TRUSTEES PRESENT WERE:

MICHAEL PANZER BRETT THOLBORN DAN MacDONNELL

#### OTHERS PRESENT WERE:

DANIEL SCHROEDER
ANDY PINASCO
CHRIS NEUDECK
JEAN L. KNIGHT
JOE BRYSON
JUDITH BUETHE
DOMINICK GUILLI (Left at 8:56 a.m.)
BOB BENTZ
ELVIA TRUJILLO
CHRIS ELIAS, Executive Director, SJAFCA, arrived later in meeting.

- 1. **Public Comment.** Dominick Guilli had public comments regarding several items including asking he if could review the District's bills before they were paid. Attorney Schroeder said that a public records request had to be made. Mr. Guilli handed some paperwork to the Board president and counsel. He also had comments about the San Joaquin River Feasibility Study and SJAFCA. Also, a bit later in the meeting, Chris Elias asked if he could speak and upon approval, gave a brief rundown of items that SJAFCA is involved with at the present.
- 2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the regular meeting of March 6, 2019. After review:

It was moved, seconded (B. Tholborn D. MacDonnell) and unanimously carried by the Trustees of Reclamation District 1608 that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 6, 2019 be approved as read.

3. Financial Report. Review, discuss, and accept financial report. Secretary Jean Knight presented the Financial Report and noted that the District is through 75% of its fiscal year. After review, Trustee Tholborn asked about the outlawed warrants. The response was that these were warrants that were issued but never cashed. After approximately 8 months, the County considered them outlawed and the checks cannot be cashed. In fact, they were checks written to various public agencies for permit fees for the Sediment

Removal Project. Due to delays on the project, the checks had not yet been submitted by KSN. On page 2 of the report, there were questions about why the assessment monies were so much higher than anticipated. This is a relatively fixed cost and should be close to the budgeted amount. Ms. Knight said she had contacted the County Auditor's the prior month when she noticed the amount was considerably higher than the budget. She e-mailed with a gentlemen at the office who said the amount was similar to that of last year. Trustees asked that the secretary go back to the County and check within the last 5 years to see if it truly is what has been received.

It was moved, seconded (B. Tholborn D. MacDonnell) and unanimously carried by the Trustees of Reclamation District 1608 that the Financial Report, as presented be approved.

- 4. Engineer's Report. Request for directions and approvals.
  - (a) Consider new permits requests from homeowners.

3761 Hatchers Circle Mr. Darin Brazil Index No. 99 Lot 1990 APN 098-020-68

The Engineer's report states: Review plan review approval of Darin Brazil's residence and the City of Stockton's Building Department issue relative to proximity of improvements to property line. The engineer's report included paperwork relative to previous correspondence with the Brazil's in October of 2018. At this time, it was determined that there are several issues. One is compliance with the District's Levee Encroachment Standards and the other is what the City of Stockton requires. It was decided that Mr. Neudeck will call Mr. Brazil and tell him his request complies with the District Standards but that he needs to call the City of Stockton to see what their requirements are on property line setbacks.

- (b) Discussion and Direction regarding the Sediment Removal Project
  - 1. Adopt Resolution No. 2019-02 Designating District Engineer as Authorized Representative to sign and Submit Sediment Removal Project Permit Applications for, and on behalf of, District. Attorney Schroeder presented this item and discussion followed. After review,

It was moved, seconded (B. Tholborn D. MacDonnell) and unanimously carried by the Trustees of Reclamation District 1608 that Resolution No. 2019-02 Designating District Engineer as Authorized Representative to sign and Submit Sediment Removal Project Permit Applications for, and on behalf of, District

#### From Engineer's Report.

#### 1. Plan Review

A. Review Status of Annual Levee Inspection of the District's Levee system and consideration of on-going O&M by individual lot owners along the levee.

Chris Neudeck was pleased to say that this year, the inspections went from a C+ to a B+ as far as responses and status. He noted that in previous years, Siegfried did a great job, but HDR didn't follow up as much so now with the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of inspections under their belt, the engineers are now getting a good grasp on the inspections. Included with the report was Exhibit A, a summary spreadsheet of the vegetation violations.

- B. See above for information on Brazil.
- 2. FEMA Mapping Status: Chris Neudeck stated that he believes the District is in compliance. Exhibit C in the engineer's report states that the latest request from FEMA required KSN to digitize (recreate in CAD) line work from the subdivision maps and merge current accurate ground survey data, gathered for the lakes with historic survey data collected in the 1970's. Since this was a difficult task and took quite a bit of time, KSN was granted an extension. It was reported that the data was to be submitted by the date of this meeting. He noted that Calaveras and Mosher Slough are still not in compliance. SJAFCA, FEMA and Chris Neudeck will be arranging a meeting. They need clarity and need to meet with the Region 9 folks.
- 3. Sediment Removal At this time, Mr. Neudeck stated he was not anticipating bidding the project. There are troubling considerations of submitting permits for the project. See Exhibit D., 2<sup>nd</sup> page. Dredging companies will not bid if the District does not have the permit. Why are we where we are? Comes down to 1 issue. Ultimate disposal area and access to the disposal area. We had delays from the land owner, then Kevin Huber at Grupe so there was close to 60-90 days of delay. The District has to have the full package to move forward. If we get the permits in, in August, KSN will bid the project. If we get in September, the District will not be able to bid the project. Everyone is 6-9 months behind. So, if the District gets the full package and it goes through in September and October, the work will be for next year. They still need to fine tune the agreement with the Port of Stockton. The dredging, itself, only takes one and half weeks.
- 5. Temporary Entry/Encroachment Permits. Adopt Resolution 2019-03 Delegating Authority to Approve Temporary Entry/Encroachment Permits. Attorney Schroeder reported that passing this resolution will help avoid delays in giving the engineer authority to approve temporary entry/encroachment permits. This could be on such matters as PG&E or other vendor encroachments needed to be done quickly. After discussion,

It was moved, seconded (B. Tholborn D. MacDonnell) and unanimously carried by the Trustees of Reclamation District 1608

that Resolution 2019-03 Delegating Authority to Approve Temporary Entry/Encroachment Permits be approved.

- 6. Levee Superintendent Report. Request for directions and approvals. Joe Byson gave his superintendent's report. Regarding painting on item 3, it makes an attractive nuisance and by painting, it keeps people out more or may stop them. On Item 6., Mr. Bryson said he gets a lot of calls regarding the Nutria but when he goes out to the areas where the callers reported seeing something, nothing is there. There was an article in the Record and seems to make people more aware and he ends up with more phone calls. On item 11., he also reported, as well as work on the gates and fences that there were seven tents in this back area on the south side. On item 15., on the permit, the fellow who is spraying doesn't know anything about notifying the schools. Evidently it's the County Ag Commissioner who requests this be done. More follow up needs to happen. With respect to the gates on the southwest levee, the engineers need to do a separate inspection and Mr. Neudeck said they would be working on this during the upcoming month.
- 7. Newsletter. Request for Direction. Judith Buethe was present and distributed a draft of the newsletter for review. Trustees and staff went through the items and those proposed will be made to the copy distributed today. After she updates the draft and puts into what could be the final, she will forward to Attorney Schroeder and Engineer Neudeck who will forward it to the trustees. If satisfactory, they will advise Ms. Buethe and she will proceed with sending out the newsletter. Therefore,

It was moved, seconded (B. Tholborn D. MacDonnell) and unanimously carried by the Trustees of Reclamation District 1608 that upon approval of the changes and edits made by Ms. Buethe from input at today's meeting, the newsletter will be finalized and mailed.

- 8. Report by Trustees on meetings attended and up coming meetings. Trustee MacDonnell reported he had attended the California Central Valley Flood Control Association's Flood Forum on March 20th. Trustee MacDonnell and Chris Neudeck summarized some of the discussions at the meeting and mentioned the abundance of fees and how the fees are going up in cost. They mentioned how a fire tax would easily pass but not a flood tax and it was thought it is important that the District start calling attention to the constituents of the District that the District's assessments hearings (Proposition 218) will be coming before we know it 5 years out. More discussion on this occurred later in the meeting but the bottom line is that everything is costing more money.
- 9. Report and possible action on Progress of Tasks Assigned at Previous Board Meetings. Nothing other than has been reported at this meeting.
- 10. **Discussion and direction on Short-Term and Long-Range Goals**. A new Long Term Goal needs to be to start thinking of the assessment election that will be coming up in 2025. The District needs assessment monies to continuing functioning as a District.

Property tax revenue, which is does get automatically, is not enough to fund the District's needs. The Goal can be called Renewal of District Assessments.

**District Calendar**. <u>Discussion and direction</u>. Attorney Schroeder reported that the Trustees will be presented with a draft budget at the May meeting.

- 11. Correspondence. None
- 12. **Approval of Bills**. The Bills to be Paid List for April, 2019 was presented and reviewed and,

Upon motion duly made, seconded (B. Tholborn/D. MacDonnell) and unanimously carried by the Trustees of Reclamation District 1608, the Bills to be Paid List for April, 2019 as presented, was approved.

#### 13. Staff Reports.

- (a) Attorney. The Agenda for this meeting was posted on the window outside the meeting room at 3121 West March Lane, Stockton, California, at least seventy-two (72) hours preceding the meeting.
- 14. **Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean L Kriight
District Secretary

### ITEM 4.a.

### RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1608 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

	2018-2019	2019-2020
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE EXPENSES		
LEVEE SUPERINTENDENT	\$70,500.00	\$70,500.00
PART TIME EMPLOYEES	23,000.00	23,000.00
PAYROLL TAXES AND EXPENSES	14,000.00	14,000.00
FENCES & GATES	50,000.00	50,000.00
LOCKS & SIGNS	1,500.00	1,500.00
WEED AND RODENT CONTROL & CLEANUP	14,000.00	14,000.00
LEVEE REPAIR FUND (General Operations & Maintenance)	50,000.00	50,000.00
LEVEE REPAIR FUND (Levee Capital Improvement Projects) SPECIAL PROJECTS (Sediment Removal Project)	175,000.00	100,000.00
PUMP SYSTEM MAINTENANCE	1,000.00	1,000.00
WIRELESS SERVICES (Cell and Mobile Computer)	1,800.00	1,800.00
EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	1,000.00	1,000.00
GARBAGE SERVICE	3,000.00	3,000.00
DISTRICT VEHICLE (Fuel, Maintenance & Repairs)	2,400.00	2,400.00
, ,	\$407,200.00	\$332,200.00
GENERAL EXPENSES		
TRUSTEE FEES	\$8,460.00	\$8,460.00
	10,000.00	·
SECRETARY FEES	1,000.00	10,000.00
OFFICE EXPENSES (includes storage facility)	•	1,000.00
GENERAL LEGAL	55,000.00	55,000.00
AUDIT	4,000.00	4,000.00
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COSTS	7,250.00	7,250.00
PROPERTY & LIABILITY INSURANCE	8,900.00	8,900.00
WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE	8,000.00	8,000.00
ELECTION COSTS	0.00	0.00
NEWSLETTER & PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS	12,000.00 \$114,610.00	12,000.00 \$114,610.00
	ψ114,010.00	<b>\$111,010.00</b>
ENGINEERING EXPENSES		
GENERAL ENGINEERING	\$16,500.00	\$22,000.00
PLAN REVIEW ENGINEERING	25,000.00	40,000.00
ADMINISTRATION OF DELTA LEVEE SUBVENTIONS PROGRAM	25,000.00	25,000.00
PERIODIC LEVEE PROPERTY INSPECTIONS AND SURVEYS	25,000.00	25,000.00
ROUTINE LEVEE MAINTENANCE CONSULTATION	7,500.00	10,000.00
ENGINEERING, MGMNT & INSPECTION OF CAPITAL IMP. PROJECTS	35,000.00	35,000.00
DWR 5 YEAR PLAN	50,000.00	50,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES (e.g. travel)	0.00	0.00
ASSESSMENT ENGINEERING	2,100.00	2,100.00
SEDIMENT REMOVAL PROJECT	270,000.00	200,000.00
OLD INICIA NEW YORK	\$456,100	\$409,100
WARDANT INTERFOT EVRENCE		
WARRANT INTEREST EXPENSE	o	^
WARRANT INTEREST EXPENSE		0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$977,910.00	\$855,910.00
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### RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1608 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

INCOME			
PROPERTY TAXES		\$208,120.00	\$208,120.00
INTEREST INCOME		15,000.00	15,000.00
ASSESSMENTS SUBVENTION REIMBURSEMENT OTHER REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (5 Year Plan)		298,000.00 200,000.00 50,000.00	298,000.00 200,000.00 50,000.00
	TOTAL INCOME	\$771,120.00	\$771,120.00
	NET INCOME	(\$206,790.00)	(\$84,790.00)
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# ITEM 5.e.

#### AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 5, 2019

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-2019-20 REGULAR SESSION

#### ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 273

#### **Introduced by Assembly Member Gonzalez**

January 24, 2019

An act to amend Sections 3003.1, 3039, 4004, 4005, 4007, 4008, 4009.5, 4150, and 12002 of, to add Section 4001 to, and to repeal Article 2 (commencing with Section 4030) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 4 of, the Fish and Game Code, relating to trapping.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 273, as amended, Gonzalez. Fur-bearing and nongame mammals: recreational and commercial fur trapping: prohibition.

Existing law, except as specified, requires every person, other than a fur dealer, who traps fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals, designated by the Fish and Game Commission, or who sells raw furs of those mammals, to have a trapping license from the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Certain persons taking mammals injurious to growing crops or other property are exempted from the trapping license requirement, except those persons providing trapping services for profit are required to obtain a trapping license from the department. Existing law, except as expressly provided, makes any violation of the Fish and Game Code, or any rule, regulation, or order made or adopted under that code, a misdemeanor.

This bill would prohibit the trapping of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur and would prohibit the sale of the raw fur of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal otherwise lawfully taken pursuant to the Fish and Game Code or regulations adopted pursuant to that code. Because a AB 273 — 2 —

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violation of these provisions would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would also make other conforming changes.

Existing law requires a person engaging in, carrying on, or conducting wholly or in part the business of buying, selling, trading or dealing in raw furs of fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals to procure a fur dealer license from the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Existing law requires a person who is employed by a licensed fur dealer to act on behalf of the fur dealer to procure a fur agent license from the department.

This bill would eliminate fur dealer and fur agent licenses.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the Wildlife Protection Act of 2019.
- 3 SEC. 2. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the 4 following:
- 5 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature in adopting this act to ensure that native species of California mammals are not commercially exploited for their fur.
  - (2) Historically, fur trapping played a significant role in the extirpation of wolves and wolverines and the severe declines in sea otters, fishers, marten, beaver, and other fur-bearing species in California. Because individual trappers concentrate their operations in limited geographical areas, they can locally deplete populations of the species they target, impairing the ecological functioning of the area and diminishing opportunities for wildlife watching in these areas.
- 16 (3) Under existing law, both fur trappers and pest-control 17 operators are required to procure a trapping license to lawfully 18 trap certain fur-bearing and nongame mammals. Holders of a fur

-3— AB 273

dealer license may also lawfully trap certain fur-bearing and nongame mammals.

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- (4) Under existing law, the raw furs of certain fur-bearing and nongame mammals may be sold by the holder of a trapping license or fur dealer license.
- (5) Under existing law, the raw furs of any fur-bearing and nongame mammal taken by a pest-control operation or otherwise for depredation purposes pursuant to Sections 4152 and 4180 of the Fish and Game Code may not be sold.
- (6) Nothing in this act is intended to alter existing law related to the hunting of fur-bearing and nongame mammals or to provisions of the Fish and Game Code related to the taking of fur-bearing and nongame mammals found injuring crops or property pursuant to Sections 4152 and 4180 of the Fish and Game Code.
- (7) Subdivision (c) of Section 4006 of the Fish and Game Code requires that the cost of a trapping license must be adjusted by the Fish and Game Commission to fully recover the administrative and implementation costs of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and commission related to the licenses.
- (8) In 2017, a total of 133 trapping licenses were sold in California for purposes of recreation and commerce in fur. A total of four fur dealer licenses were also sold. The total revenue received by the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the sale of these trapping licenses was \$15,544 and for the sale of the fur dealer licenses was \$709.
- (9) In 2017, a total of 68 trappers reported killing a total of 1,568 animals in California. Among the 10 species reported killed were grey fox, coyote, beaver, badger, and mink. Of the 1568 1,568 animals killed, 1,241 were reported sold, generating an estimated total of \$4,531 for the trappers, or an average of \$67 per successful trapper and just \$34 per trapping license sold. Based on average pelt prices, the total income generated by all the pelts trappers reported sold is likely less than \$9,000.
- (10) Given the The revenue generated by the sale of trapping licenses would only cover a fraction of the costs of even a single warden. Proper management and enforcement of a fur trapping program would cost far more than the revenue generated by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, resulting in a de facto subsidy of commercial fur trapping. Similarly, the minimal revenue

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generated by the sale of the furs of the animals killed by trappers is dwarfed by the millions of dollars that nonconsumptive wildlife watching generates in California's economy.

- (11) Prohibiting fur trapping would eliminate the needless taxpayer subsidized killing of California's native species for the international fur trade, while better protecting the role these species place in our ecosystems and economy.
- (b) In light of these findings and declarations, it is the intent of the Legislature to prohibit commercial and recreational trapping of all fur-bearing and nongame mammals in California.
- SEC. 3. Section 3003.1 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:
  - 3003.1. (a) Notwithstanding Section 1001, 1002, 4002, 4004, 4007, 4008, 4009.5, 4152, 4180, or 4181:
  - (1) It is unlawful for any person to trap for the purposes of recreation or commerce in fur any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal with any body-gripping trap. A body-gripping trap is one that grips the mammal's body or body part, including, but not limited to, steel-jawed leghold traps, padded-jaw leghold traps, conibear traps, and snares. Cage and box traps, nets, suitcase-type live beaver traps, and common rat and mouse traps shall not be considered body-gripping traps.
  - (2) It is unlawful for any person to buy, sell, barter, or otherwise exchange for profit, or to offer to buy, sell, barter, or otherwise exchange for profit, the raw fur, as defined by Section 4005, of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal that was trapped in this state, with a body-gripping trap as described in paragraph (1).
  - (3) It is unlawful for any person, including an employee of the federal, state, county, or municipal government, to use or authorize the use of any steel-jawed leghold trap, padded or otherwise, to capture any game mammal, fur-bearing mammal, or nongame mammal, or protected mammal, or any dog or cat. The prohibition in this subdivision does not apply to federal, state, county, or municipal government employees or their duly authorized agents in the extraordinary case where the otherwise prohibited padded-jaw leghold trap is the only method available to protect human health or safety.

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-5- AB 273

(4) For purposes of this section, fur-bearing mammals, game mammals, nongame mammals, and protected mammals are those mammals so defined by statute on January 1, 1997.

- (b) Nothing in this section authorizes any person to trap for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal by any other means.
- SEC. 4. Section 3039 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:
- 3039. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, Section 3087, Section 4303, another provision of this code, or a regulation adopted pursuant to this code, it is unlawful to sell or purchase a bird or mammal found in the wild in California.
- (b) Shed antlers, or antlers taken from domestically reared animals that have been manufactured into products or handicraft items, or that have been cut into blocks or units that are to be handcrafted or manufactured into those articles may be purchased or sold at any time. However, complete antlers, whole heads with antlers, antlers that are mounted for display, or antlers in velvet may not be sold or purchased at any time, except as authorized by Section 3087.
- (c) Notwithstanding Section 3504, inedible parts of domestically raised game birds may be sold or purchased at any time.
- (d) A person who illegally takes a bird or mammal for profit or for personal gain by engaging in an activity authorized by this section is subject to civil liability pursuant to Section 2582.
- SEC. 5. Section 4001 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to read:
- 4001. Notwithstanding any other provision of this code or regulations adopted pursuant to this code, it is unlawful for any person to trap any fur-bearing mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur. The raw fur of a fur-bearing mammal otherwise lawfully taken pursuant to this code or regulations adopted pursuant to this code may not be sold.
- SEC. 6. Section 4004 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:
  - 4004. It is unlawful to do any of the following:
- 37 (a) Use a steel-jawed leghold trap, or use any trap with 38 saw-toothed or spiked jaws.
- 39 (b) Set or maintain traps that do not bear a number or other 40 identifying mark registered to the department or, in the case of a

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federal, state, county, or city agency, bear the name of that agency. except that traps set pursuant to Section 4152 or 4180 shall bear an identifying mark in a manner specified by the department. No registration fee shall be charged pursuant to this subdivision.

- (c) Fail to visit and remove all animals from traps at least once daily. If the trapping is done pursuant to Section 4152 or 4180, the inspection and removal shall be done by the person who sets the trap or the owner of the land where the trap is set or an agent of either.
- (d) Use a conibear trap that is larger than 6 inches by 6 inches, unless partially or wholly submerged in water. Unless prohibited by the department as a permit condition, a lawfully set conibear trap that is 10 inches by 10 inches or less may be set pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 465.5 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.
- (e) When any conibear trap is set on publicly owned land or land expressly open to public use, fail to post signs at every entrance and exit to the property indicating the presence of conibear traps and at least four additional signs posted within a radius of 50 feet of the trap, one in each cardinal direction, with lettering that is a minimum of three inches high stating: "Danger! Traps Set For Wildlife. Keep Out." Signs shall be maintained and checked daily.
- (f) Kill any trapped mammal in accordance with this section by intentional drowning, injection with any chemical not sold for the purpose of euthanizing animals, or thoracic compression, commonly known as chest crushing. This subdivision shall not be construed to prohibit the use of lawfully set conibear traps set partially or wholly submerged in water for beaver or muskrat or the use of lawfully set colony traps set in water for muskrat.
- 31 SEC. 7. Section 4005 of the Fish and Game Code is amended 32 to read:
- 33 4005. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, every 34 person who traps fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals, 35 designated by the commission, shall procure a trapping license. 36 Raw fur of fur-bearing and nongame mammals may not be sold. For purposes of this article, "raw fur" means any fur, pelt, or skin 37
- that has not been tanned or cured, except that salt-cured or 38
- 39 sun-cured pelts are raw furs.

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(b) The department shall develop standards that are necessary to ensure the competence and proficiency of applicants for a trapping license. A person shall not be issued a license until the person has passed a test of their knowledge and skill in this field.

- (c) Persons trapping mammals in accordance with Section 4152 or 4180 are not required to procure a trapping license except when providing trapping services for profit.
- (d) No raw furs taken by persons providing trapping services for profit may be sold.
- (e) The license requirement imposed by this section does not apply to any of the following:
- (1) Officers or employees of federal, county, or city agencies or the department, when acting in their official capacities, or officers or employees of the Department of Food and Agriculture when acting pursuant to the Food and Agricultural Code pertaining to pests or pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 6021) of Chapter 9 of Part 1 of Division 4 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- (2) Structural pest control operators licensed pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 8500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, when trapping rats, mice, voles, moles, or gophers.
- (3) Persons and businesses licensed or certified by the Department of Pesticide Regulation pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11701) and Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 12201) of Division 6 of, and Chapter 3.6, (commencing with Section 14151) of Division 7 of, the Food and Agricultural Code, when trapping rats, mice, voles, moles, or gophers.
- (f) Except for species that are listed pursuant to Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 2050) of Division 3 or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 4700), nothing in this code or regulations adopted pursuant thereto shall prevent or prohibit a person from trapping any of the following animals:
- 35 (1) Gophers.
- 36 (2) House mice.
- 37 (3) Moles.
- 38 (4) Rats.

39 (5) Voles.

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SEC. 8. Section 4007 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

4007. A trapping license authorizes the person to whom it is issued to take fur-bearing mammals and nongame mammals for a term of one year from July 1st, or if issued after the beginning of the term, for the remainder of the term.

SEC. 9. Section 4008 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

4008. No trapping license shall be issued to any applicant within one year following the expiration of any trapping license previously issued to such applicant unless the applicant has submitted to the department a sworn statement showing the number of each kind of fur-bearing mammals and nongame mammals taken under the previous license.

SEC. 10. Section 4009.5 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

4009.5. The commission may adopt regulations as it determines to be necessary to regulate the taking of fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals taken under a trapping license.

SEC. 11. Article 2 (commencing with Section 4030) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 4 of the Fish and Game Code is repealed.

SEC. 12. Section 4150 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

- 4150. (a) A mammal occurring naturally in California that is not a game mammal, fully protected mammal, or fur-bearing mammal is a nongame mammal. A nongame mammal may not be taken or possessed except as provided in this code or in accordance with regulations adopted by the commission.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code or regulations adopted pursuant to this code, it is unlawful for any person to trap any nongame mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur. The raw fur of a nongame mammal otherwise lawfully taken pursuant to this code or regulations adopted pursuant to this code shall not be sold. For purposes of this subdivision, "raw fur" has the same meaning as defined in Section 4005.
- 36 SEC. 13. Section 12002 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:
- 38 12002. (a) Unless otherwise provided, the punishment for a 39 violation of this code that is a misdemeanor is a fine of not more 40 than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), imprisonment in a county jail

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1 for not more than six months, or by both that fine and 2 imprisonment.

- (b) The punishment for a violation of any of the following provisions is a fine of not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), imprisonment in a county jail for not more than one year, or both the fine and imprisonment:
- (1) Section 1059.
- 8 (2) Subdivision (b) of Section 4004.
- 9 (3) Section 4600.

- 10 (4) Paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 5650.
- 11 (5) A first violation of Section 8670.
- 12 (6) Section 10500.
  - 13 (7) Unless a greater punishment is otherwise provided, a violation subject to subdivision (a) of Section 12003.1.
    - (c) Except as specified in Sections 12001 and 12010, the punishment for violation of Section 3503, 3503.5, 3513, or 3800 is a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.
    - (d) (1) A license, tag, stamp, reservation, permit, or other entitlement or privilege issued pursuant to this code to a defendant who fails to appear at a court hearing for a violation of this code, or who fails to pay a fine imposed pursuant to this code, shall be immediately suspended or revoked. The license, tag, stamp, reservation, permit, or other entitlement or privilege shall not be reinstated or renewed, and no other license, tag, stamp, reservation, permit, or other entitlement or privilege shall be issued to that person pursuant to this code, until the court proceeding is completed or the fine is paid.
  - 30 (2) This subdivision does not apply to any violation of Section 31 1052, 1059, 1170, 5650, 5653.9, 6454, 6650, or 6653.5.
    - SEC. 14. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within

- 1 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California
- 2 Constitution.

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#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits the trapping of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal for recreation or commerce, and prohibits the sale of the raw fur of any lawfully taken fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal.

#### **Major Provisions**

This bill makes it unlawful to trap any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal, as defined, for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur. This bill also prohibits the purchasing or sale of raw fur, as well as products or handicraft items made from fur-bearing mammals and nongame mammals. This bill removes the authorization for the sale of raw fur provided by a trapping license, and eliminates fur dealer and fur agent licenses.

#### **COMMENTS:**

Fur Trapping in California. Currently, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) requires and issues recreational and pest control trapping licenses for people who trap fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals.

Licensed recreational trappers are allowed to trap and sell the raw fur of nongame mammals and the following fur-bearing mammals: mink, gray fox, raccoon, beaver, badger and muskrat. Each licensed recreational trapper is required to annually report on the number of each species taken and any fur dealers to whom the furs were sold. In the past three years, the DFW has sold less than 200 recreational trapping licenses annually, with less than 2,000 animals reported as harvested each year. Pest control trappers are also licensed by the DFW but are not required to annually report their take.

The following individuals and activities are not required to be licensed by the DFW: specified local, state and federal government employees; structural pest control officers; those licensed by the Department of Pesticide Regulation or the Department of Food and Agriculture; and the activity of trapping invasive species or limiting or controlling property injury from specified species.

Anyone in the business of buying, selling, trading or dealing in the raw fur of fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals is required to hold a fur dealer or fur agent license issued by the DFW. Fur dealers are also required to report the number of furs of each species taken and purchased in California and the average price paid per fur for each species. The total revenue derived from trapping in California is unknown.

This bill eliminates the recreational trapping license and the fur dealer or fur agent licenses.

#### According to the Author:

Even though trapping has historically played a large part in California's economy, it also significantly decimated the populations of certain native species such as otters and wolverines. Today this outdated vestige of the Wild West can still negatively impact California's biodiversity

when concentrated in a geographical location, but it is not a large economic engine. Data reported to the DFW show very little income per successful trapper, with the last fiscal year average being \$156 of revenue per successful trapper.

#### **Arguments in Support:**

Those in support argue that the existing trapping permit program does not bring significant revenue into the DFW. In addition, trapping for fur may result in localized elimination of wildlife populations, and results in the inhumane treatment of wildlife.

#### Arguments in Opposition:

Those in opposition argue that this bill would remove recreational fur trappers as a cost-effective tool to help farmers and ranchers control wildlife threatening their agricultural products. In addition, this bill undermines the authority of the Fish and Game Commission. The opposition maintains that trapping is well-regulated, and that trapping seasons, zones, methods and bag limits are based on science, and designed to conserve the resource while helping to maintain populations in balance with their ecosystem.

#### **FISCAL COMMENTS:**

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee:

- 1) One-time costs of between \$25,000 and \$30,000 for the DFW to review the California Code of Regulations to determine if there is any need for changes, and if so, promulgate new, or update existing, regulations (special fund).
- 2) Annual revenue losses to the DFW of approximately \$16,300 from no longer selling recreational trapping licenses and fur dealer and agent licenses (special fund).
- 3) Unknown, likely minor, increased enforcement costs to the DFW (special fund).

#### **VOTES:**

#### ASM WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE: 9-3-2

YES: Eduardo Garcia, Chu, Friedman, Cristina Garcia, Gloria, Kalra, Levine, Blanca Rubio,

Wood

NO: Gallagher, Choi, Dahle

ABS, ABST OR NV: Bigelow, Salas

#### **ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 12-3-3**

YES: Gonzalez, Bonta, Calderon, Carrillo, Chau, Eggman, Gabriel, McCarty, Maienschein,

Petrie-Norris, Quirk, Robert Rivas NO: Bigelow, Brough, Obernolte

ABS, ABST OR NV: Bloom, Diep, Fong

#### **UPDATED:**

VERSION: March 5, 2019

CONSULTANT: Keith Cialino / W., P., & W. / (916) 319-2096 FN: 0000193

Date of Hearing: March 12, 2019

#### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE Eduardo Garcia, Chair AB 273 (Gonzalez) – As Amended March 5, 2019

**SUBJECT**: Fur-bearing and nongame mammals: recreational and commercial fur trapping: prohibition

**SUMMARY**: Prohibits the trapping of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur. Prohibits the sale of the raw fur of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal otherwise lawfully taken pursuant to the Fish and Game Code (FGC) or regulations adopted pursuant to the FGC. Specifically, **this bill**:

- 1. Makes it unlawful to trap any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal, as defined, for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur.
- 2. Prohibits the purchasing or sale of raw fur, as well as products or handicraft items made from fur-bearing mammals and nongame mammals.
- 3. Recasts the authorization provided by a trapping license to only apply to the taking of furbearing mammals and nongame mammals, and removes the authorization of the sale of raw fur.
- 4. Makes other technical and conforming changes.
- 5. Makes findings and declaration relating to fur trapping.

#### **EXISTING LAW:**

- 1. Authorizes a person issued a trapping license to take, as prescribed, during the open season, fur-bearing mammals and nongame mammals and to sell the raw fur of any such animal. (FGC §4007)
- 2. Allows the purchase or sale at any time of products or handicraft items made from furbearing mammals and nongame mammals lawfully taken under the authority of a trapping license. (FGC §3039)
- 3. Specifies that certain types of traps are illegal to use, requires that the traps must be visited daily, and prohibits certain methods of killing a trapped animal (FGC §3003.1; §4004).
- 4. Exempts from the trapping license requirements:
  - a. Officers or employees of federal, county, or city agencies or the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), when acting in their official capacities, or officers or employees of the Department of Food and Agriculture when acting pursuant to the Food and Agricultural Code pertaining to pests or pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 6021) of Chapter 9 of Part 1 of Division 4 of the Food and Agricultural Code. (FGC §4005)

- b. Structural pest control operators licensed pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 8500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, when trapping rats, mice, voles, moles, or gophers. (FGC §4005)
- c. Persons and businesses licensed or certified by the Department of Pesticide Regulation pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11701) and Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 12201) of Division 6 of, and Chapter 3.6, (commencing with Section 14151) of Division 7 of, the Food and Agricultural Code, when trapping rats, mice, voles, moles, or gophers. (FGC §4005)
- d. The trapping of gophers, house mice, moles, rats, and voles, unless species are listed under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) or the fully protected mammal provisions. (FGC §4005)
- e. The trapping of nongame mammals and black-tailed jackrabbits, muskrats, subspecies of red fox that are not the native Sierra Nevada red fox (*Vulpes vulpes necator*), and red fox squirrels that are found to be injuring growing crops or other property by the owner or tenant of the premises or employees and agents in immediate possession of written permission from the owner or tenant thereof. Raw furs taken under this exemption may not be sold. (FGC §4152)
- f. The trapping of fur-bearing mammals that are injuring property. Raw furs taken under this exemption may not be sold. (FGC §4180)
- 5. States that no raw furs taken by persons providing trapping services for profit may be sold. (FGC §4005)
- 6. Requires every person engaging in, carrying on, or conducting wholly or in part the business of buying, selling, trading or dealing in raw furs of fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals to procure a fur dealer or fur agent license. (FGC §4030; §4032)
- 7. Makes it unlawful for any fur dealer to purchase the raw fur of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal from any person who does not hold a valid trapping license, fur dealer license, or fur agent license. (FGC §4036)
- 8. Requires a licensed fur dealer to maintain a true and legible record, as described, of any transfer of raw furs, and that the record of sale, exchange, barter, or gift shall be available for inspection at any time by the DFW. (FGC §4037-4038)
- 9. Defines fur-bearing mammals as: pine marten, fisher, mink, river otter, gray fox, red fox, kit fox, raccoon, beaver, badger, and muskrat. (FGC §4000)
- 10. Prohibits the taking of fisher, marten, river otter, desert kit fox and red fox at any time, and prohibits the trapping of bobcat. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, §460, §478)
- 11. Defines nongame mammal as a mammal occurring naturally in California that is not a game mammal, fully protected mammal, or fur-bearing mammal. (FGC §4150)

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown

**COMMENTS:** 

#### **Author's Statement:**

Not only does the cruel fur trapping trade decimate our increasingly vulnerable wildlife populations, running this program doesn't even make fiscal policy sense. Taxpayers are subsidizing this unnecessary commercial activity because the cost of managing this program isn't even covered by the revenue from trapping license fees, evidenced by the fact that the revenue from license fees cannot even support one staff member or warden.

Even though trapping has historically played a large part in California's economy, it also significantly decimated the populations of certain native species such as otters and wolverines. Today this outdated vestige of the Wild West can still negatively impact California's biodiversity when concentrated in a geographical location, but is not a large economic engine. Data reported to the Department of Fish and Wildlife show very little income per successful trapper, with the last fiscal year average being \$156 of revenue per successful trapper.

**Background:** *Purposes of Trapping.* Fur trapping can be utilized for several purposes, including:

- Controlling invasive species;
- The harvest of fur to be used in the international fur trade;
- Disease management to protect human and animal health;
- Protection of crops, domesticated animals, and property from destruction by wildlife;
- Public safety:
- Protecting, monitoring, and managing endangered species; and
- The reintroduction of species into their original habitats.

Historical Trapping Industry in California. Prior to European settlement, California had a varied and bountiful supply of wild game, including large numbers of the most valuable furbearers in the world. Starting in 1778, American, English and Russian fur hunters were drawn to Spanish (and then Mexican) California during the California Fur Rush. California entered the global trade market for the first time due to the early fur trade. Prior to 1825, the fur resources of the northern and central California coast included southern sea otter and fur seals. Trapping also occurred in the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento – San Joaquin River Delta to harvest beaver, river otter, marten, fisher, mink, gray fox, weasel, and harbor seal.

Trapping Regulations. The DFW issues two types of trapping licenses: recreational and pest control. These licenses are required for persons who trap fur bearing mammals or nongame mammals, as designated by the FGC and the California Fish and Game Commission. This bill bans the trapping of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal for purposes of recreation or commerce in fur. Currently, licensed recreational trappers are allowed to take, during the open season, fur-bearing mammals and nongame mammals and to sell the raw fur of any such animal. Existing law authorizes the Fish and Game Commission to regulate the business of buying, selling, trading, or dealing in raw furs, or parts thereof, of all fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals under a fur dealer or fur trader license. Through regulations adopted by the Fish and Game Commission, the taking of fisher, marten, river otter, desert kit fox and red fox are prohibited at any time, and the trapping of bobcat is prohibited. As a result, the following fur-

bearing mammals are currently allowed to be trapped: mink, gray fox, raccoon, beaver, badger, and muskrat.

Pest control trappers are not required to report their annual take. The exemptions to the current fur trapping licensing requirements (e.g. for specific pest and invasive species control) would not be affected by this bill.

Trapping in California Today. The DFW has been gathering information on the number of furbearing mammals harvested, their value, and the number of licenses sold in California since 1919. Since the 1952-53 season, each licensed recreational trapper has been required to report their annual take of fur-bearing or nongame mammals for profit. The required report must include the number of each species of fur-bearing or nongame mammal taken for commercial or recreational purposes, the number of each species sold, the county of take for each species, and the dealers to whom the furs were sold. If the annual report is not received by July 1 following the most recent trapping year, or if it is not completely filled out, the trapper's license is suspended. Fur dealers are also required to report the number of furs of each species taken in California that they bought and the average price paid per fur for each species.

Over the years, the take and monetary return to trappers for furs has varied greatly. In the 1927-28 season, 5,243 licenses were sold. During the Great Depression and World War II, fur revenues and trapping license sales decreased dramatically. This decline continued until about 1970, when fur value and take began to increase again. Over the 1970s, the number of licensed trappers increased from less than 500 to more than 3,900, and the fur value increased from about \$50,000 to almost \$2,400,000. During the 1980s, the number of trapping licenses sold decreased from 3,021 to 834, and the take decreased from 131,491 to 21,046 animals. License sales decreased sharply over the 1998, 1999, and 2000 seasons, likely due to the passage of Proposition 4 on November 3, 1998, which eliminated the use of any body-gripping traps for commercial purposes.

Recent data from these reports are presented in the table below. The data indicate that the majority of furs from animals trapped in California are sold out of state. As a result, any estimates of trapper revenue presented in the summaries of the DFW's Licensed Fur Trappers' and Dealers' Reports are incomplete, as they are calculated based only on the average prices paid by fur buyers in state. The total revenue of trappers in California is likely higher.

Year	Trapping Licenses Sold	Number of Animals Harvested	Number of Animals Sold	Fur Dealer Licenses Sold	Number of Sales in CA	Value of Sales in CA	Value of Sales Outside CA
2010- 2011	152	8557*	6764*	Not reported	0	0	Unknown
2011- 2012	200	10806*	9354*	Not reported	Unknown	0	Unknown
2012- 2013	216	9573*	9336*	Not reported	0	0	Unknown
2013- 2014	267	9015*	7690*	Not reported	86	\$33,540	Unknown
2014- 2015	253	6883*	4428*	Not reported	127	\$19,385	Unknown
2015- 2016	193	1829	1242	Not reported	0	0	Unknown
2016- 2017	120	498	140	Not reported	0	0	Unknown
2017- 2018	133	1568	1241	Not reported	0	0	Unknown

<sup>\*</sup> Data includes trapping and sales of bobcats – On August 5, 2015, the Fish and Game Commission voted to ban bobcat trapping in California. This action made it unlawful to trap any bobcat, or attempt to do so, or to sell or export any bobcat or part of any bobcat taken in California.

#### Prior and Related Legislation:

AB 44 (Friedman, 2019) bans the sale, offering for sale, displaying for sale, trading, giving, donating, or otherwise distributing a fur product in the state, with exemptions for used fur products and fur products used for religious purposes. This bill also bans the manufacture of fur products in the state. The bill is currently in the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

AB 1213 (Bloom), Chapter 748, Statutes of 2013, establishes regulations relating to bobcat trapping, and directs the Fish and Game Commission to expand no-trapping protections by regulation as warranted, which resulted in a statewide ban on recreational and commercial bobcat trapping in 2015. Bobcat hunting is allowed, but hunters must purchase a bobcat tag from the DFW.

Proposition 4, approved by the voters in November 1998, places restrictions on the use of traps and poisons to capture and kill specified mammals for various purposes. The proposition prohibits trapping with specified traps, and commerce in raw fur, of fur-bearing or nongame mammals.

SB 1148 (Pavley), Chapter 565, Statutes of 2012, requires the Fish and Game Commission to adjust the base fees of various licenses, including trapping licenses, to ensure that the revenue generated from licenses covers the administrative and implementation costs of the licensed program.

**Arguments in Support:** Those in support argue that the existing trapping permit program does not bring significant revenue into the DFW. In addition, trapping for fur may result in localized extirpation of wildlife populations, and results in the inhumane treatment of wildlife.

**Arguments in Opposition:** Those in opposition argue that this bill would remove fur trappers as a tool to help farmers and ranchers control wildlife threatening their agricultural products. Many agricultural producers currently allow licensed trappers access to their lands to trap wildlife as a tool to address wildlife damage. This arrangement eliminates the need for farmers and ranchers to hire individuals to control wildlife causing damage.

#### **REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

#### **Support**

**Action for Animals** 

Advancing Law for Animals

Animal Defenders International

Animal Legal Defense Fund

Animal Protection and Rescue League

Animal Welfare Institute

Bark Avenue Foundation

Battle Creek Alliance

Bear League

Born Free USA

California Council for Wildlife Rehabilitators

Center for Biological Diversity

Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife

City of Laguna Beach

City of West Hollywood

**Defend Animals Coalition** 

Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue

Elephant Guardians of Los Angeles

Endangered Habitats League

**Environmental Protection Information Center** 

**Humane Decisions** 

Humane Society of the United States, The

Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association

**JaneUnChained** 

Klamath Forest Alliance

Living with Wolves

Natural Resources Defense Council

Nsefu Wildlife Conservation Foundation

**PawPAC** 

Peace 4 Animals

Poison Free Malibu
Predator Defense
Project Coyote
Raptors are the Solution
San Diego County Democratic Party
Sierra Club California
Social Compassion in Legislation
START Rescue
Wild Neighbors Database Project, The
WildCare
WildEarth Guardians
Wildlife Care of Southern California
Wildlife Emergency Services
Wyoming Wildlife Advocates
Individuals (103)

#### **Opposition**

California Farm Bureau Federation

Analysis Prepared by: Keith Cialino / W., P., & W. / (916) 319-2096

Date of Hearing: April 10, 2019

#### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Lorena Gonzalez, Chair

AB 273 (Gonzalez) - As Amended March 5, 2019

Policy Committee: Water, Parks and Wildlife Vote: 9-3

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: Yes Reimbursable: No

#### **SUMMARY**:

This bill prohibits the trapping of any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal for recreation or commerce and prohibits the sale of the raw fur that is lawfully taken from any fur-bearing mammal or nongame mammal pursuant to existing law or regulation. This bill also eliminates the sales licenses for fur dealers and agents issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW).

#### FISCAL EFFECT:

- 1) One-time costs of between \$25,000 and \$30,000 for DFW to review the California Code of Regulations, Title 14 to determine if there is any need for changes, and if so, promulgate new or update existing regulations (special fund).
- 2) Annual DFW revenue losses of approximately \$16,300 from no longer selling recreational trapping licenses and fur dealer and agent licenses (special fund).
- 3) Unknown, likely minor increased DFW enforcement costs (special fund).

#### **COMMENTS:**

1) **Background.** Currently, DFW requires and issues recreational and pest control trapping licenses for people who trap fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals designated by the Fish and Game Commission.

Licensed recreational trappers are allowed to trap and sell the raw fur of mink, grayfox, raccoon, beaver, badger and muskrat during open season. Each licensed recreational trapper is required to annually report on the number of each species taken (killed) by county and any fur dealers to whom the furs were sold. Pest control trappers are also licensed by DFW but are not required to annual report their take.

Specified local, state and federal government employees, structural pest control officers, and those licensed by the Department of Pesticide regulation or Department of Food and Agriculture, and the activity of trapping invasive species or to avoid property injury are individuals and activities not required to be licensed by DFW.

Anyone in the business of buying, selling, trading or dealing in the raw fur of fur-bearing mammals or nongame mammals is required to hold a fur dealer or fur agent license issued by DFW. Fur dealers are also required to report the number of furs of each species taken and purchased in California and the average price paid per fur for each species.

This bill eliminates the recreational license and the fur dealer or fur agent licenses but leaves all other provisions of statute intact.

2) **Purpose.** According to the author,

Even though trapping has historically played a large part in California's economy, it also significantly decimated the populations of certain native species such as otters and wolverines. Today this outdated vestige of the Wild West can still negatively impact California's biodiversity when concentrated in a geographical location; but is not a large economic engine. Data reported to the Department of Fish and Wildlife show very little income per successful trapper, with the last fiscal year average being \$156 of revenue per successful trapper.

3) What are Fur-bearing Mammals and Non-game mammals? Fur-bearing mammals are defined in code as the pine marten and fisher (both in the weasel family), river otter, gray fox, red fox, kit fox, raccoon, beaver, badger and muskrat.

Non-game mammals are mammals occurring naturally in California that are not hunted as game, fully protected or fur bearing.

Generally, the trapping of some fur-bearing mammals and non-game mammals is allowed without license, but selling of the raw fur is prohibited.

4) Related Legislation. AB 44 (Friedman) bans the sale, trade, donation and distribution of fur products in the state, with specified exemptions. This bill passed the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee and is currently pending in this Committee.

Analysis Prepared by: Jennifer Galehouse / APPR. / (916) 319-2081

# ITEM 9

## SHORT TERM GOALS January 9, 2019

- 1. Sediment Removal Project.
- 2. Participate in County TAC and stakeholder groups. Status: Ongoing.
- 3. Work on slumping areas. In progress.
- 4. Monitor SJAFCA meetings re Calaveras and Fourteen Mile Slough uncertified levees.
- 5. Vegetation encroachments
- 6. Annual Levee Inspection.
- 7. Raising Elevation of South West Levee.

## **LONG TERM GOALS**

- 1. CVFP Plan
- 2. Lower San Joaquin River Flood Risk Reduction Project
- 3. Renewal of District Assessment

# **ITEM 10**

## **RD 1608: MASTER CALENDAR**

#### **JANUARY**

- Annual Review of Trustee Compensation
- Update Levee Property DVD

## **FEBRUARY**

• Send out Form 700s, remind Trustees of April 1 filing date

## **MARCH**

- Yearly Employee Evaluations
- Submit Verification Request Form (VRF) for the Annual Levee Maintenance Project to the California Department of Fish & Game.
- Submit payment to the California Department of Fish & Game for prior year Levee Maintenance Project(s).
- Spring Newsletter

#### APRIL

- April 1: Form 700s due
- Letter to Property owners on levee regarding levee standards and permit requirements
- Notify School District of Vegetation Control

## **MAY**

- Draft Budget
- Annual Department of Fish & Wildlife Maintenance Agreement Renewal.
- Tour of Levee System

## **JUNE**

- June 15: Provide notice/make available to the public, documentation/materials regarding determination of Appropriations (15 days prior to meeting at which Appropriations will be adopted) (Government Code §7910).
- Approve Audit Contract for expiring fiscal year
- Adopt the Final Budget

## **JULY**

• Adopt Resolution for setting Appropriations and submit to County Assessor's Office.

### **AUGUST**

- August 1: Deadline to certify assessments for tax-roll and deliver to County (duration of current assessment: FY 2025).
- Send handbills for collection of assessments for public entity-owned properties

- In election years, opening of period for secretary to receive petitions for nomination of Trustees (75 days from date of election.) (Cal. Wat. Code §50731.5)
- Submit End of the Year Financial Report.

## **SEPTEMBER**

- In election years, last legal deadline to post notice that petitions for nomination of Trustees may be received (7 days prior to close of closure.) (Cal. Wat. Code §50731.5).
- In election years, closing of acceptance of petitions for nomination of Trustees (54 days from date of election.) (Cal. Wat. Code §50731.5).

### **OCTOBER**

- Publish Notice of Election, odd numbered years (once per week, 4 times, commencing at least 1 month prior to election.)
- Fall Newsletter.
- Update District Information Sheet.
- Review District Emergency Supplies
- Emergency Plan Review in 2018 (every three years thereafter)

### **NOVEMBER**

• Election: to be held first Tuesday after first Monday of each odd-numbered year.

### **DECEMBER**

- Review Emergency Plan.
- New Trustee(s) take office, outgoing Trustee(s) term(s) end on first Friday of each odd-numbered year.
- Provide updated version of electronic copies of properties within District

## **Term of Current Board Members:**

Name	Term Commenced	Term Ends	
Dan MacDonnell	2017	First Friday of Dec 2021	
Brett Tholborn	2015	First Friday of Dec 2019	
Michael Panzer	2015	First Friday of Dec 2019	

Assessment Expires 6/30/2025

Emergency Operation Plan Review – September 2019

**Reclamation District Meetings** 

First Wednesday of each month, at 8:00 A.M. at the offices of:
 Neumiller & Beardslee
 3121 W. March Lane, Suite 100
 Stockton, California 95219

# **ITEM 11**

## **AMENDED**

## **BYLAWS OF**

## **RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608**

REVISED: Februa

February 7, 1997 June 5, 2013

## ARTICLE I Offices

Section 1.01. The District has no permanent office. The main address of the District is:

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608 Post Office Box 4857 Stockton, California 95204-4857

The place of the meeting of the District shall be as set forth in Article IV below.

# ARTICLE II Trustees

Section 2.01.

- A. As used in these Bylaws, the word "Board" means the Board of Trustees of the District.
- B. "Trustees", as used in these Bylaws in relation to any power or duty requiring collective action, means the Board of Trustees of the District.
- Section 2.02. The District shall have a Board of Trustees consisting of three (3) members, which shall constitute the governing body of the District, and which shall exercise general supervision and complete control over the construction, maintenance, and operation of the reclamation works, and generally over the affairs of the District.
- Section 2.03. Trustees shall be elected for a term of four (4) years and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. The terms of the Trustees shall be staggered so that no more than two Trustees shall have terms that expire in any one District election year.
- Section 2.04. Elections shall be conducted in accordance with California Water Code, Division 15, parts 3 and 4, as they presently are or may hereafter be amended. Persons elected to the office of Trustee shall take the Oath of Office at the regular meeting next held after the election, and shall take office effective as of the day of that meeting.
- Section 2.05. Vacancies on the Board due to reasons other than expiration of a term of office shall be filled in accordance with California Government Code §1780, as it now is or may hereafter be amended.

Section 2.06. The terms of the incumbent members of the Board expire on the following dates:

Name
Drew Meyers
Brett Tholborn

Term Ends

First Friday of 1

First Friday of December 2013 First Friday of December 2015 Section 2.07. The Trustees shall receive such compensation for services actually and necessarily performed as the Board determines to be just and reasonable, and in accordance with California Water Code §20200, as it is now, or may hereafter be amended.

# ARTICLE III Officers

Section 3.01. The officers of the District shall be a President of the Board of Trustees and a Secretary.

Section 3.02. The President of the Board of Trustees shall be that member of the Board elected by the Board as President. The duties of the President shall be to preside over all regular and special meetings of the Board, and to perform such other duties from time to time as may be required of him or her by the Board. In the absence of the President, the Trustee present with the longest period of service shall preside.

Section 3.03. The Secretary shall be any person, whether a trustee or not, who is elected by the Board as Secretary. The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep the minutes of all meetings, attest all documents (other than bonds) requiring the signature of the President, keep accounts of all expenditures on behalf of the District, have custody of the District's seal, and perform such other duties as may be required by law, these Bylaws, or by the Board.

Section 3.04. No compensation shall be received by the President, other than the compensation provided in accordance with Section 2.07 of the Bylaws. The Secretary shall receive such compensation for services actually and necessarily performed as the Board determines to be just and reasonable, and shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of his or her duties.

Section 3.05. The President and the Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Board.

## ARTICLE IV Meetings

Section 4.01. The District shall hold a regular meeting at 8:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month except when the first Wednesday of each month shall fall on a holiday, the regular meeting shall be held at 8:00 a.m. on the next succeeding business day which is not a holiday. The District may additionally hold a second regular meeting, in each calendar month, when necessary, the time and date of such meeting to be established at the first meeting of each month. The meeting shall be held at the offices of Neumiller & Beardslee, 509 W. Weber Avenue, 5th Floor, Stockton, California, or at any other place designated by resolution of the Board.

Section 4.02. No notice need be provided of regular meetings except to persons who shall request such notice. In cases where notice has been requested, the Secretary shall give mailed notice at least one week prior to the date of the regular meeting. Any such request for notice shall be valid for one year from the date made, and shall provide an address to which notice is to be mailed. The Board may establish a reasonable annual charge for sending such notice based on the estimated cost of providing such service.

Section 4.03. The District may hold special meetings at any time and place. Such special meetings may be called at any time by the President, or by a majority of the Board, by delivering personally or by mail written notice to each Trustee, at least 24 hours prior to the time of such meeting as specified in the notice. Such notice shall also be mailed to any person requesting notice of meetings as set forth in Section 4.02 if the meeting is called at least one week prior to the time the meeting is held. Such notice must be delivered personally or by mail, to each local newspaper of general circulation, radio or television station which requests such notice in writing. The call and notice of such special meeting shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. No other business shall be considered at such meetings. Such written notice may be dispensed with as to any trustee who at, or prior to the time of the meeting, files a written waiver of notice with the Secretary. Such waiver may be given by telegram. Such written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it commences.

Section 4.04. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Except as otherwise specifically provided in these Bylaws, every act or decision done or made by a majority of the trustees present at a meeting at which a quorum is present is the act of the Board.

Section 4.05. Any regular, special, adjourned regular or adjourned special meeting may be adjourned to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum may so adjourn from time to time. If all trustees are absent from any meeting, the Secretary may declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place and shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be given in the same manner as for a special meeting. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the meeting, which was adjourned, was held, within 24 hours after the time of adjournment. When a regular or adjourned regular meeting is adjourned as provided in this section, the resulting adjourned meeting is a regular meeting for all purposes. When the order of adjournment of any meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings.

Section 4.06. All meetings of the District shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the District, except that executive sessions may be held as provided by law, and the public may be excluded from meetings which are willfully interrupted so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting impossible, as provided by law.

Section 4.07. Agendas for any meeting shall be posted as required in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code §54950 and following. As soon after the posting of the agenda and before the meeting, the Secretary shall mail or deliver, or shall cause the mailing

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or delivery of, an agenda for the forthcoming meeting to each trustee. Said agenda shall be prepared by the Secretary and shall be accompanied with as much explanatory material relating to the items on the agenda as is reasonably possible.

Section 4.08. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all proceedings of the Board. Minutes of each regular, adjourned regular, special or adjourned special meeting shall be considered for approval at the Board meetings.

Section 4.09. The order of business at each meeting of the Board, unless suspended or varied on order of the President, or by a majority vote of the Board, shall be as follows:

- a) Call to Order
- b) Roll Call
- c) Public Comment
- d) Approval of Minutes
- e) Public Hearings (if any)
- f) Enforcement Actions
- g) Scheduled Agenda Items
- h) Staff Reports (not covered above)
- i) Agenda Planning for Next Meeting
- j) Adjournment

Section 4.10. The procedure for the conduct of Board business, unless varied on order of the President, or by majority vote of the Board, shall be as follows:

- a) Each agenda items shall be taken up in order by the President.
- b) The President shall call upon such person or persons as may be appropriate to present the matter to the Board.
- c) The matter shall then be discussed by the Trustees and such other persons as may be called upon the President.
- d) After discussion by the Trustees and such other persons as may be called upon by the President, and prior to any vote on a motion connected with the matter, if there be such motion, the President shall call for public comment from members of the public who are present. Public comments shall be limited to the matter before the Board. The President may limit the duration of or refuse to permit public comment if such public comment is repetitive, disorderly, or otherwise not in furtherance of a reasonably expeditious review of the matter under discussion.
- e) At the conclusion of public comment or any matter the President shall announce that the time for public comment of the matter is closed.

f) The matter shall then be further discussed by the Trustees, and such other persons as may be called upon by the President, and a vote shall be taken, after such discussion, on any motion made concerning the matter.

Section 4.11. Roberts Rules of Order Revised are hereby adopted by the Board in all uses not otherwise provided for in these Bylaws and not otherwise provided for by applicable law.

## ARTICLE V Records

Section 5.01. All records of the District and of the proceedings of the Board shall be kept by the Secretary, at a location designated by the Secretary, except that the originals of resolutions, deeds of grant or easement to or from the District, or of agreements or contracts entered into by the District may be kept by the attorney for the District, provided that copies thereof are placed in the records kept by the Secretary. The records shall be available for inspection in accordance with the provisions of California Government Code, Division 7, Chapter 3.5, as they now are or may hereafter be amended.

## ARTICLE VI Seal

Section 6.01. The district shall have a seal which shall contain the name and number of the District, which is: RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608; and the name of SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, being the County in which the District is situated.

# ARTICLE VII Amendment of Bylaws

Section 7.01. These Bylaws may be amended in the manner set forth in the provisions of California Water Code, Division 15, Part 2, Chapter 2, as they now are or may hereafter be amended.

# ARTICLE VIII Construction of Bylaws

Section 8.01. Unless otherwise stated in these Bylaws or unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions contained in Division 15 of the California Water Code shall govern the construction of these Bylaws. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the masculine gender includes the feminine and neuter, the singular number includes the plural and the plural number includes the singular.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF these Bylaws have been duly adopted this day of June, 2013.

Dr. Michael R. Panzer

President, Board of Trustees, Reclamation District No. 1608

ATTEST:

:::

JEAN KNIGHT, Secretary Reclamation District No. 1608

State of Cumorma	,		
County of SAN JOA(QUIN	)		
On <u>6 June 2013</u> Public, personally appeared <u>Michi</u>	, before me. Cher	ykne L MARCUS	, a Notary
Public, personally appeared Michigan	FEL R. PANZE	who pro	ved to me on the
basis of satisfactory evidence to be t			

Public, personally appeared Michael R. PANZER, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

CHERYLENE L. MARCUS

COMM. # 1860189 NOTARY PUBLIC-CALIFORNIA

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY Commission Expires August 6, 2013

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

We have the seal of the seal o

State of California

## RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608 RESOLUTION NO. 2013-03

## RESOLUTION AMENDING THE DISTRICT BY-LAWS TO CHANGE THE DATE OF MEETING

WHEREAS, Article IV of the Reclamation District 1608 ("District") Bylaws provide that the regular meeting of the District shall be held on the first Friday of each month at 8:00;

WHEREAS, the District desires to change the regular meeting date to the first Wednesday of each month starting at 8 a.m.;

WHEREAS, the District desires to amend its Bylaws to reflect the change in the regular meeting date to the first Wednesday of each month starting at 8 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, the District has properly posted notice and held a public hearing regarding the amendment of the Bylaws as required by California Water Code Section 50370 et seq.;

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Amended Bylaws of Reclamation District No. 1608 attached hereto and incorporated hereby by reference, are adopted as the Bylaws of the District in accordance with California Water Code Section 50370, et seq., superseding those previous amended Bylaws adopted on February 7, 1997.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Reclamation District No. 1608, at a regular meeting thereof, held on June 5, 2013, by the following vote:

AYES: 3

NOES: C

ABSENT: O

ABSTENTION: O

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1608 a political subdivision of the State of California

MICHAEL R. PANZER, President

A1/451.