

4. Approve \$2,000 for projects upon adoption of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program (Fund 011) budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024. Authorize the approved funding allocations as follows: Critter Creek Wildlife Station, \$1,500; SCICON Raptor Center, \$250; Wild Ones Wildlife Rehabilitation, \$250. Find that the projects described in this agenda item and the attachments hereto are exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines as actions taken by regulatory agencies for protection of natural resources pursuant to Class 7, 14 CCR § 15307. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer or designee, to file the Notice of Exemption with the Clerk-Recorder and the State Office of Planning and Research.



Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: July 30, 2024 - REVISED

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	N/A

CONTACT PERSON: Christopher Greer PHONE: 5596843371

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

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve \$2,000 for projects upon adoption of the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program (Fund 011) budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024.
2. Authorize the approved funding allocations as follows: Critter Creek Wildlife Station, \$1,500; SCICON Raptor Center, \$250; Wild Ones Wildlife Rehabilitation, \$250.
3. Find that the projects described in this agenda item and the attachments hereto are exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines as actions taken by regulatory agencies for protection of natural resources pursuant to Class 7, 14 CCR § 15307.
4. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer or designee, to file the Notice of Exemption with the Clerk-Recorder and the State Office of Planning and Research.

SUMMARY:

The Agricultural Commissioner assists the Fish and Wildlife Commission with budget requests and prepares the annual report of the proposed projects to be funded by the Fish and Wildlife Project Fund. The Tulare County Board of Supervisors review the recommended projects prior to the adoption of the budget, and either approve, or disprove the projects the Fish and Wildlife Commission has submitted. Early approval allows for the continuation of ongoing projects without interruption.

As specified in the Fish and Game Code Section 13103, Fish and Wildlife Project Fund may be expended solely for projects related to the protection, conservation, propagation,

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

DATE: July 30, 2024- REVISED

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 into public areas; improvement of fish and wildlife habitat; predator control actions for the benefit of fish and wildlife. Funds for these projects (\$2,000) are included in the Fish and Wildlife Propagation Program budget request for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

The projects are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15307 because the proposed activities are intended to protect natural resources and 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:



/s/Christopher P. Greer
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights & Measures

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Attachment A – Exhibit of Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Fish and Wildlife Projects
Attachment B – Notice of Exemption, California Environmental Quality Act
Attachment C – Secretary's minutes of meeting

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

IN THE MATTER OF Consideration of)
projects recommended by the County) Resolution No. 2024-0704
Fish and Wildlife Commission)
)
)
)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR VALERO, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR TOWNSEND, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD JULY 30, 2024, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SUPERVISORS MICARI, VANDER POEL, SHUKLIAN, VALERO AND TOWNSEND
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE



ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: 
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

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Attachment A

Tulare County Fish and Wildlife Commission Requested Project Funding FY 2024/2025

Applicant: (not listed in any order)	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Awarded</u>
1. <u>Critter Creek Wildlife Station</u> – Louise Culver This allocation will go towards the repairs for Barn Owl flight, Quad enclosures, and opossum pre-release enclosure that are needed for USDA certification and continued operations. 36710 Sand Creek Rd., Squaw Valley, CA 93675 (559-338-2415)	\$3,000	\$1,500
2. <u>SCICON Raptor Center</u> – Diane Shew 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. PO Box 339 41569 Bear Creek Road, Springville, CA 93265 (559-539-2642)	\$500	\$250
3. <u>Wild Ones Wildlife Rehabilitation</u> – Jim Crew 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. 19252 Campbell Creek Drive, Springville CA 93265 (559-539-2310)	\$500	\$250
Totals	\$4,000	\$2,000

Tulare County Fish and Wildlife Commission

3:30 June 12, 2024

Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, CA

Minutes

Commission Members:

Present: Richard Jones, District 1; Jeff Nelson, District 2; Fred Naylor, District3; Kevin Day, District 4.

Absent: Jim Crew, District 5

Quorum Present? Yes

Others Present: Tom Tucker, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, Tulare County; Christopher Greer Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, Tulare County

Others Present:

Representatives of Critter Creek Louise Culver and Dan Turner

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 3:30 by Richard Jones.

Public Comment: none

Minutes: Motion made by Jeff Nelson and seconded by Kevin Day to approve minutes from May 8,2023.

Old Business: none

New Business:

1. Report for Lieutenant Doug Barnhart, California Department of Fish and Wildlife given by Christopher Greer.

A new officer has been added and a new canine unit with a dog capable of detecting firearms, drugs, animals etc. There is a vacant position in Kings County. The ongoing misdemeanor diversion program continues to limit fines collected.

2. Tom Tucker, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Tulare County deferred to Christopher Greer.

Mr. Greer reported there is \$2356.34 available for distributions. Including \$84.76 from Friends of Tulare County.

Tom Tucker informed the board that Tulare County Board of Supervisors be recommended the current board of directors be renewed for 2025. This was moved by Richard Jones and seconded by Jeff Nelson. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Requests for Project Funding (see attachment A to the Agenda)

4. **Louise Culver, Critter Creek Wildlife Station** – Ms. Culver requested \$3,000 to go toward repairs of enclosures. Also, discussed collecting and storage of culled chicks from poultry ranches and providing them for Scicon.

Diane Shew, Scicon Raptor Center – requested \$500 to assist in the upkeep of the Scicon Raptor Center as well as medical and supportive feeding supplies.

James Crew, Wild Ones Wildlife Rehabilitation – requested \$500 to go toward expenses that include caging materials, foodstuff, medications, veterinary care, and training costs to care for orphaned wildlife.

DISCUSSION OF THE COMMISSION:

The Commission retired to Executive Session to discuss how to best apportion the funds available. The Commission agreed to distribute \$2000.00

Rich Jones asked if there were any other requests for funds. There were no further request or questions

Jeff Nelson moved to approve the following distribution as presented by Richard Jones, seconded by Fred Naylor and approved unanimously.

Funds Available DFW \$ 2,356.34

Including Funds available through Friends of Tulare Co \$84.70

Organization	Proposed Amount	Amount Distributed
Critter Creek	\$3,000	\$1,500
Scicon	\$500	\$250
WOWR	\$500	\$250
Total disbursed 2024/25		\$2,000
Carried forward to 2025		DFW \$356.34
		FOTC \$84.76
Total carried forward		\$441.10

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Naylor, Secretary

District 3 Commission Member