



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

(858) 565-3600 www.sdparks.org

5510 Overland Ave, 2nd Floor, Sycamore Conference Room San Diego, CA 92123

FWAC Meeting Minutes

DATE: June 12, 2025

TIME: 11:36 a.m.

PLACE: **Department of Parks and Recreation
5510 Overland Ave, 2nd Floor, Sycamore Conference Room
San Diego, CA 92123**

Commissioner	Present	Absent	Late	District	Supervisor
Mark Kukuchek		X		1	Vacant
Janeen Reed	X			1	Vacant
Ed Stovin		X		2	Anderson
Andy Paluczak	X			2	Anderson
Tashi MacMillen	Online			3	Lawson-Remer
Wayne Kotow	X			3	Lawson-Remer
Matthew Craig	X			4	Montgomery-Steppe
Samantha Guzzardo	X			4	Montgomery-Steppe
Jim Conrad	X			5	Desmond
Steve Turigliatto	X			5	Desmond

Call to Order

- A. Introductions** – Around the room and online
- B. Approval of Minutes** – January 9, 2025 Meeting – Motion Jim, 2nd Andy, Approved Unan.
- C. Public Comment** - None
- D. Chairperson's Report** - None

E. Administrative Items

1. Update SDC FWAC Website from Agriculture, Weights & Measures to Park and Recreation – Jesus says completed
2. Funds available and any funding status – Jan checks distributed \$32,153. Received \$34,542. 2025 Approved Budget \$43,000 plus \$3,000 admin. Total Fund Balance \$78,349
3. Form 700 Letters – All commissioners up to date
4. Updated business cards with SD County logo and updated address plus 3 new Name Plates for new Commissioners and Andy – Motion to approve expenditure Steve, 2nd Andy, approved Unan
5. Update SDC FWAC flyer and print new ones to hand out – Jesus had full box of old ones. Use up first but write in new address. Add new QR coded when printing new flyers - Tashi
6. SDC FWAC Stickers - Mock up New SD County Logo with Fish & Wildlife Commission around outside. Vote to approve at July meeting

F. Old Business

1. Spreadsheet of open grants, updates and their statuses – Jesus still working on it from old files and paper copies. Hope to have an updated spreadsheet at next meeting. Wayne suggested to get missing grants from Commissioners.
2. Commissioners look for new opportunities – Tashi suggested we add criteria for follow up and reporting to the grant petition template so applicants know the full expectation if grant is funded. He will develop and send to commissioners for review prior to next meeting

G. New Business

Grant Applications for Round 1 of Fiscal Year 2025-26 – Discussed the following grant applications

1. Ron Rybok and Jim with Kiwanis of Escondido
2. Dwayne and Debbie Patenaude with San Diego Anglers Foundation
3. Bennett Hardy with San Diego Natural History Museum
4. Wyatt – Mataguay Waterway Improvement
5. Captain Rollo Kid's at Sea – Wayne provided background

Grant App #	Project Name / Organization	Project Description	Grant Amount Proposed
25/26-1	Kiwanis of Escondido Childrens Fishing Experience / Kiwanis Club of Escondido	Twice each year Lake Dixon of Escondido hosts a 2- or 3-day Trout Derby. At each derby event the Kiwanis Club of Escondido - Hidden Valley Kiwanis constructs two (2) 20ft x 10ft x 6ft deep netted ponds and stocks them with 300-500 lbs of trout (approximately 1-2 lbs each) at a cost of \$5.00 per pound (\$1500 - \$3000) per event. With the assistance of the Sr. Anglers of Escondido, we invite all children within the North San Diego County under the age of 8 to participate in what we refer to as the "Children's Fishing Experience" The Sr. Anglers of Escondido provide all the fishing gear (or they may use their own) and the expertise. The Kiwanis Club of Escondido - Hidden Valley provides construction materials, nets and fish in support of the effort. Kiwanis has been hosting this activity for approximately 26 years. Between the April 2024 and November Trout Derby we hosted over 310 children. Typically, this event serves 150 - 200 children each event.	\$4,000

25/26-2	Kids Saltwater Fishing Event / San Diego Anglers Foundation	Our Foundation specializes in getting kids (and wounded warriors) out on the ocean on the charter boat fleet out of Seaforth Sportfishing. We concentrate on fishing off the coast of La Jolla, but we also educate the kids about the marine life that is available to see off La Jolla, California. Numerous species of birds, marine mammals such as California sea lions, harbor seals, sometimes we see common dolphins on the way up along with the occasional grey whale. Many of these kids have never been on the ocean before and we take the time to answer all their questions on what they will be seeing. We then educate them on the wonderful sport of inshore saltwater fishing for Calico Bass, Sand Bass, Barracuda, Mackerel, Pacific Bonita, and if we are lucky, the California Yellowtail. As the fish are caught, and sometimes released, we educate the kids on each species and how it fits into the giant kelp beds off La Jolla. We are very happy if we keep the kids so interested that they stay off their cell phones all morning long. On the way in, the kids lucky enough to catch something to eat, we educate them of the proper way to prepare their fish for their family. We also inform them that they can get their families to buy tickets on these open party fishing boats whenever they want.	\$3,000
25/26-3	Assessing Habitat for the Reintroduction of Threatened California Red-Legged Frogs / San Diego Natural History Museum	Once abundant throughout California, including San Diego County, as an important part of our local biodiversity, the California Red-Legged Frog disappeared in the 1970s from our native aquatic fauna within the county. Beginning in 2020, the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM or Museum) and partner organizations have reintroduced the species to the county via yearly stocking of frog eggs to build up multiple generations of new frogs. Excitingly, just this year, we've documented the first wild breeding at our other recovery site in Riverside County. We also detected strong breeding calls in San Diego, but no breeding yet. With the knowledge that our work can be successful, we aim to improve habitat conditions in a variety of ways at our San Diego County site to further encourage natural breeding and self-sufficiency. Our team plans to enhance the pond with aquatic vegetation to facilitate frog egg laying and protective cover, however we don't know 1) how water levels and temperatures fluctuate for planting 2) where invasive bullfrogs are hiding, and 3) how Red-Legged Frogs use the current habitat and where they move. We seek funds for equipment purchases to help us restore habitat and make the best decisions about habitat management at our San Diego County site and help us choose future frog reintroduction sites within the county. As a long-term goal, this project will be successful when frogs in San Diego County begin breeding on their own and become self-sustaining.	\$4,405

25/26-4	Mataguay Waterway Improvement 2025-26 / San Diego-Imperial Council Scouting America	<p>The Mataguay Waterway Improvement is a multiphase project to repair and protect the inland waterways such as Matagual Creek that run through Mataguay Scout Ranch. The repairs will help prevent erosion and support wildlife, including one endangered species. This phase of the project will focus on completing unfinished work on the waterways. The work will be carried out by volunteers and youth under the guidance of our facilities manager.</p> <p>This phase will see us continue the upkeep of the lake, silt pond, and inland waterways. We hope to start to work on the upper lake and its upkeep. This will improve the quality of life for those animals and help promote healthy biodiversity. The upper lake flows through the creeks and into the lower lake. Its health is key to ensuring the health</p>	\$2,800
		<p>of all wildlife downstream. Continual upkeep and monitoring will ensure a rich biodiversity of wildlife.</p> <p>The project will restore waterways that support fish, birds, mountain lions, deer, raccoons, bobcats, and coyotes. Our waterways are home to a federally endangered species. The clearing of the waterways will help bolster an already diverse community of wildlife.</p>	
25/26-5	Taking San Diego Youth Fishing / Captain Rollos Kids at Sea	<p>Requesting Funding assistance on 4 half-day fishing trips. Each trip will be for 25-30 youth in the San Diego area. The youth would be supervised by their perspective community groups. The trips would include the San Diego based sportfishing boat, a hot meal for each child and rental tackle.</p> <p>Captain Rollos Kids at Sea anticipate four trips including meals and tackle for 30-35 kids per trip would be \$14,000. We are requesting funds to provide half of that amount (\$7000). Captain Rollos Kids at Sea would match that amount to complete the funding for these trips.</p>	\$7,000
			\$21,205

6. Review the meetings calendar with the recent approval to meet 4 times per year.

2025 Dates	Activity
January 9	Meeting
February	No Meeting
March	No Meeting
April	No Meeting
May	No Meeting

June 1	<i>Grant Applications Due</i>
June 12	Meeting
July 10	Meeting
August	No Meeting
September	No Meeting
October	No Meeting
November	No Meeting
December 1	<i>Grant Applications Due</i>
December 11	Meeting

H. Commissioner's Corner

Steve provided update on the JAKES Day at the Range Event, June 22nd. Kids from 6-16 free, Adults \$10 Includes lunch and drinks. Please share. 30 spots still open

I. Adjourn – 12:47p

The next meeting is July 10, 2025, at 11:30 am.