



FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION



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Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903



SUBJECT:

Marin County Fish & Wildlife Commission project and funding recommendations for the enhancement of Marin fish and wildlife resources in FY 2025-2026 and Related Budget Adjustments

Dear Board Members,

RECOMMENDATION:

1) Award \$27,499.53 to the recommended organizations and a scholarship indicated for programmatic support of projects from the Marin County Fish & Wildlife Commission (MCFWC) FY 2024-25 fund balance; and 2) Approve UCCE Marin FY 2025-26 budget adjustments as detailed in the Fiscal Impact Section below.

SUMMARY:

MCFWC annually reviews grant requests from local organizations to fund projects that promote restoration, sustainable use, management, and education pertaining to fish and wildlife resources in Marin County. The Commission then provides recommendations to your Board based on proposal merit and funding availability.

This year marks the inaugural year in which the Commission recommends a scholarship to support a student pursuing studies related to fish and wildlife conservation in honor of former Commission Chair Ed Schulze. In making this scholarship recommendation, the Commission advances the mandate and directives of the California Fish and Game Code by ensuring a pipeline of individuals equipped with the knowledge and skills to protect and enhance Marin's fish and wildlife and their habitats.

MCFWC respectfully requests Board approval of these recommended projects at the recommended funding amounts as indicated in the next section. These awards, if approved, will be implemented as contracts in FY 2025-26. This year, due to reduced state and local funding and other considerations, several grant requests were recommended for partial to zero funding. The total funding request was \$52,778, and the total recommended for approval is \$27,499.23, including \$25,098.53 for grant and \$2,400 in scholarship awards. Please note that recommended awards are for supplies and materials, the scholarship, and not for staff time.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no increase in General Fund net county costs as a result of this action. The following are the 12 projects and 1 scholarship their respective recommended funding amounts:

	Grant Applicant	Description	Request	Recommended
1.	Felidae Conservation Fund	Parasite sample collection and testing for wild cat health	\$5,000	\$3,067
2.	International Bird Rescue	Mitigating human-wildlife conflicts in Marin with bird veterinarian care	\$5,058	\$2,611
3.	Marin Humane Society	Field Equipment for safe wildlife animal rescue and handling	\$2,000	\$0
4.	Marin Link	Raíces del Canal Fish and Wildlife Education Program materials and waterway supplies	\$5,000	\$500
5.	Sonoma Ecology Center	North Bay Bear Collaborative bear survey and population estimate	\$5,000	\$3,967
6.	Shark Stewards	Project outreach and education including translation and film capture and editing	\$5,000	\$1,867
7.	West Marin Environmental Action Committee	Community-science visitor engagement educational supplies and printing	\$2,180	\$0
8.	Western Alliance for Nature	Preserves habitat restoration through invasive broom removal	\$5,000	\$850
9.	WildCare	Terwilliger Nature Education Program tools and resources	\$4,717	\$2,730
10.	Chileno Valley Newt Brigade	Amphibian Rescue and Conservation volunteer support and training materials	\$3,953.53	\$3,953.53
11.	Marin Audubon Society	Habitat Enhancement at Bahia, including restoration plant material	\$4,870	\$2,486
12.	California White Shark Project	Population and ecology survey of white sharks	\$5,000	\$3,067
		2025 Ed Schulze Scholarship		\$2,400

	Grant Applicant	Description	Request	Recommended
		Total		\$27,499.53

UCCE Marin will be awarded \$2,500 as requested for supplies and equipment related to materials and office copier use to support the editing and distribution of the MCFW newsletter, proposal request outreach, grant applications compiling, and editing and distribution of the monthly agenda and minutes.

Approval will increase UCCE Marin General Fund expenditure appropriations of \$2,500, fully offset by transfer revenue from the Fish and Wildlife Commission Fund (2810). In addition, increase Fish and Wildlife Commission Fund expenditure appropriations of \$2,500 to transfer to the General Fund, fully offset by a corresponding reduction to existing expenditure appropriations.

Acting Commission Chair, Brooke Halsey is available and ready if you have any questions or require further information at (415) 473-4204.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Cartwright, Director
UC Cooperative Extension Marin

REVIEWED BY:
 Department of Finance
 CEO