



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
(831) 454-3154 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

### FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMISSION Report for Calendar Years 2013 and 2014

#### Roles of the Commission

The Fish and Game Advisory Commission (Commission) advises the Board of Supervisors on issues relating to fish and wildlife, and also recommends projects for funding with the county's portion of Fish and Game fine monies and judgments.

#### Meeting Dates, Time and Location

The Commission meets generally five times a year in February, May, September, November and December at 7:00 pm in the Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 510, at 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz.

#### Commission Structure

As of December 31, 2014, the Commission included Chairperson Isaac Shikuma, representing the 4<sup>th</sup> District, and Vice Chair Chris Berry, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> District. Other commissioners include Lois Robin, 1<sup>st</sup> District; Rogers Johnson and Sandra Baron, 2<sup>nd</sup> District; Jodi Frediani and Colin Noyes, 3<sup>rd</sup> District; Russel Maridon 4<sup>th</sup> District; Matt Freeman and Morgan Scarborough, 5<sup>th</sup> District.

#### Commission Staff

Kristen Kittleson, Resource Planner with Environmental Health, is the administrative staff to the Commission.

#### Annual Goals and Accomplishments – 2013 and 2014

The Commission continues to follow the recovery process for steelhead and coho salmon. In 2013, the Commission heard a presentation by Jonathan Ambrose, National Marine Fisheries Service, on the Coho Salmon Recovery Plan. In 2014, the Commission considered and responded to Supervisor McPherson on a letter sent to him by the Valley Women's Club on coho recovery in the San Lorenzo River Watershed. Staff reported also on development of a steelhead and coho salmon conservation strategy for the County as a whole. The Commission continued to advocate for improved code compliance, especially for riparian corridor protection. During 2014, the Planning Department made some important improvements to the code compliance section and worked with Environmental Health to start the Code Compliance Roundtable which met first in December 2013. The Commission is participating in an effort to coordinate work programs among the Fish and Game Advisory Commission, Commission on the Environment and the Water Advisory Commission. In

addition, the Commission discussed trash in the Pajaro River and riparian protection at Pinto Lake County Park.

In 2013 and 2014, the Commission heard presentations on western pond turtle and red-legged frog in Watsonville Sloughs, the City of Santa Cruz’ Draft Habitat Conservation Plan, the new San Lorenzo River Alliance, Watsonville Wetlands Watch, the Resource Conservation District’s Branciforte Dam Removal Project and the Integrated Water Management Program.

In 2013, the Commission provided funding to the Scott Creek Drought Contingency Plan, which will provide access for coho salmon to Scott Creek in a severe drought. A public grants program was not conducted in 2013 due to a low balance in the Fish and Game Fund. In 2014, a public grants program has resulted in numerous quality proposals. The Commission will be making funding recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in early 2015. The Resource Conservation District and Environmental Health completed a project to produce a brochure about Stream Wood and printing of the revised Santa Cruz County Stream Care Guide.

Additional Activities

The Commission provides a forum for members of the public to voice concerns or issues on fish and game related issues. This type of activity is well suited to the Commission as many members of the public find it difficult to communicate their concerns to the appropriate agencies. In the past two years, the Commission heard public comments on the issue of dogs on county beaches and changing the name of the commission to Fish and Wildlife.

Future Goals

The Commission will continue to follow coho salmon and steelhead recovery planning, riparian corridor protection, code compliance, and trash in the Pajaro. The Commission will continue to fund grant projects that benefit local fish and wildlife species and their habitat. The Commission will continue to provide a forum for public input regarding fish and wildlife issues.

Fish and Game Commission Attendance 2013 and 2014

	May '13	Sept '13	Nov '13	Feb '14	May '14	June '14	Sept '14	Nov '14	Dec '14
Berry	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Robin	P	P	P	P	P	P	Ex	P	P
Johnson	Ex	P	Ex	P	P	P	P	P	Ex
Baron	P	P	Ex	Ex	P	P	P	P	P
Frediani	P	Ab	P	Ex	P	P	Ab	Ex	Ex
Noyes	P	P	P	P	P	P	Ex	P	Ex
Shikuma	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Maridon	P	Ex	P	Ex	Ex	P	Ex	P	P
Freeman	P	P	P	P	Ex	P	P	P	P
Scarborough	P	Ab	Ab	Ab	P	Ab	P	P	Ex

P = Present    Ex= Excused    Ab = Absent