

Bay Area Council – Optional Meeting

Notes

June 13, 2020

Held via Zoom – 10 a.m.

Due to COVID-19 keeping our meeting location at Richardson Bay closed to the public, we met via zoom. This was a check-in/optional meeting to catch up on any pressing issues. We are hopeful to have a meeting in July when Richardson Bay may re-open.

Attendees: 10 (6 Golden Gate, 1 Sequoia, 1 Napa Solano, 2 Marin, 1 Mt Diablo).

Items discussed:

1. Each group reported on chapter activities
2. How clubs are engaging members given COVID-19
3. USFWS plan to eradicate mice from the Farallon Islands

NOTE: Meeting preparation notes included updates from the Audubon California board of directors meeting on Friday May 15, were provided for discussion prior to this meeting. The update noted that the board meeting was the first to be held via Zoom; David Yarnold at the NY headquarters joined the call and focused largely on how Audubon is coping with COVID-19 at the national level. All across the country, Audubon is shifting to virtual meetings. While centers are closed through June 30, those staff members are still doing education and outreach using tools like Instagram Live, Facebook Live, and webinars. And the native plant nursery at Debs Park is being cared for, by a single staff person. Conservation work continues: the field work has gone on at Starr Ranch and at the Kern River Preserve, and in support of Tricolored Blackbirds. Mike Lynes reported on this year's Advocacy Day which will be virtual. Mike and his staff (Juan Altamirano and Pedro Hernandez) will set up meetings with legislators for Tuesday, June 2. All Audubon members may register to participate. Two efforts will receive attention. First is AB 3030, which would set targets of 30% of California land and 30% of California's water to be protected by the year 2030. Second is advocating against massive spending cuts anticipated for most state wildlife agencies. For more information and to register, see:

<https://ca.audubon.org/get-involved/advocacy/virtual-advocacy-day>

Special thanks to Barbara Salzman for hosting the zoom call for June 13.