

Measure P368

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please carefully read the following description of a ballot measure that was written by a disinterested expert. Feel free to take notes or outline passages as you read.

This should take approximately 5 minutes.

BALLOT MEASURE P368

BACKGROUND

Currently there are a number of state programs designed to enhance and protect wildlife and to expand the acreage which is protected for wildlife use. The major projects include:

- ***Protection of Wildlife.*** The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) protects lands used by wildlife by enforcing laws that protect rare, threatened, or endangered plants and animals.
- ***Acquisition of Lands.*** The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) acquires, develops, and improves lands for wildlife. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) purchases property for parks.

Funding for natural resources programs comes from various sources, including the state's General Fund and special funds dedicated to environmental programs. In 1988, the voters approved Proposition 99, which increased the taxes on cigarettes and tobacco. In part, that measure requires that 5 percent of the resulting funds be allocated for natural resources and 25 percent be put into an "unallocated account."

PROPOSAL

This measure creates the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) and guarantees it \$30 million a year for the next 30 years. This funding would be obtained by transferring monies from various existing environmental funds and from the state's General Fund. These monies would be used to acquire, enhance, or restore specified types of lands for wildlife or open space.

On an annual basis this measure provides funding to the following agencies:

- \$10 million (for five years) to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.
- \$4.5 million to the DPR. Of this amount, \$1.5 million would be for projects located in the Santa Lucia Mountain Range in Monterey County, \$1 million would be for additions to the state park system, and \$2 million would be for matching grants to local agencies.
- \$4 million to the State Coastal Conservancy.
- The balance of the money in the HCF would go to the WCB. For the first five years (1990-1991 through 1994-1995), this balance would be \$11 million a year. Thereafter, the

balance would be \$21 million a year because the allocation to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy would have expired.

This measure requires that these funds be used for the acquisition of lands for the protection of deer and mountain lions, rare and endangered animals and plant life, wetlands, and for park purposes. The measure requires that, to the extent possible, half of the funds be spent in northern California and half of the funds be spent in southern California.

In addition, this measure designates mountain lions as a specially protected mammal, and prohibits their taking, injury, possession, or sale. However, under limited circumstances the measure allows the killing of mountain lions if the lion (1) is perceived to be an imminent threat to public health or safety or (2) damages livestock or other property.



STOP!

Please go to the online survey, enter the 4-character code for this ballot measure (printed at the top and bottom of this page) and answer the survey questions.