

fund to at least four times the amount now being received by California from the fund, which is approximately \$3½ million.

California is proud of its record in the distribution of these funds. Of the \$11 million received, we have distributed this money to 57 separate projects; \$6,400,000, or 59 percent, has been obligated to 25 acquisition projects, 4 of them State and 21 local; \$4,500,000, or 40 percent, has been for 31 development projects, 7 State projects and 24 local; and \$100,000, or 1 percent, has been obligated for one planning project. It should be noted that the percentage distribution of acquisition projects over development projects is consistent with that suggested by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

Of the 57 funded projects, 43 are local projects sponsored by 33 separate local jurisdictions; 15 counties, 15 cities and 3 recreation and park districts represent the local jurisdictions. These are distributed quite evenly throughout the entire State. Twelve State projects have been funded. Six of these projects are the responsibility of the Department of Parks and Recreation and six of them are the responsibility of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Board.

Of the \$11 million received in California, \$3,200,000 has been requested or paid out by the end of the current fiscal year, June 30, 1968, and before the end of this fiscal year, an additional \$2 million will be either requested from the Federal Government or disbursed to participants. California has received, in addition to the \$11 million, approval for \$3,500,000 from the Secretary's special contingency fund; \$2 million of this has been received and disbursed for the acquisition of the Pepperwood Grove project in the Humboldt Redwoods State Park. The additional \$1,500,000 will be received by the end of the current fiscal year. This will complete the contingency fund project.

The Department held during the month of January 1968, four public hearings to discuss the rules and regulations for the disbursement of Federal funds to State agencies and local jurisdictions. Although land acquisition remains critical, particularly for the larger metropolitan areas, the rural areas of the State feel that there must be greater emphasis placed on development in order for them to continue with land acquisition. There appears to be considerable feeling in the rural and suburban areas that allowing open space to remain undeveloped may prohibit further acquisition or make it impossible to hold open space for park and recreation purposes.

The department of parks and recreation for the State of California now owns, operates, and maintains in excess of 800,000 acres of land comprised of 200 units which make up the State park system. Although there are critical needs for land acquisition, such as the beaches, rounding out existing State parks, and eliminating inholdings within State parks, and the acquisition of State parks which will serve the major metropolitan areas, the greater emphasis should be placed on developing existing State parks.

Mr. Chairman, the above information should provide your committee with ample evidence that additional funds are desperately needed during the next several years to meet, in California, the demand for funds from the land and water conservation fund and it is for this reason that I strongly recommend your approving either Senate bill 1401 or S. 531.

Thank you.