

From: [Glenn Phillips \(via Google Docs\)](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: ageiger@goldengateaudubon.org
Subject: Administrative Code - Official Animal - Wild Parrot, Item 230451
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 10:57:45 AM
Attachments: [7_27 BOS Office City Animal Naming.GGAS.pdf.docx.pdf](#)

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Glenn Phillips attached a document



Glenn Phillips (gphillips@goldengateaudubon.org) has attached the following document:

Attached please find a letter in regards to Administrative Code - Official Animal - Wild Parrot, Item 230451



7_27 BOS Office City Animal Naming.GGAS.pdf.docx

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From: [Robert Hall](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: 6/27/23 BOS Meeting, Administrative Code - Official Animal - Wild Parrot, Item 230451
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 6:05:34 PM

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CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Yerba Buena
Chapter

June 26, 2023

Clerk of the Board and Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689

RE: Administrative Code - Official Animal - Wild Parrot, Item 230451

Dear Supervisors,

I'm writing on behalf of the Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. We have over 600 members in San Francisco and Northern San Mateo County and are committed to protecting and expanding biodiversity, even in highly-degraded urbanized areas.

While we realize a "city animal" naming contest is meant to be fun and frivolous, however, naming a city animal (red-masked parakeet aka "wild parrot") after a species that competes with our beleaguered indigenous wildlife while we're in a biodiversity crisis is just sad.

San Francisco has a long list of threatened and endangered species, any one of which could use the PR boost like never before. While there is a small group of community naturalists and agency staff working to prevent further local extinction, the city has historically done very little to address this human-caused biodiversity crisis. Indeed, the city's landscaping actions have been a primary cause.

The official "city bird", California Quail, was extirpated from the city in 2019. We're on the verge of losing several mammal and additional bird species right now. There are 37 species of plants represented by a single population.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a Biodiversity Resolution in April 2018, but subsequently, almost no policy changes or funding has been approved to go beyond those aspirations.

If a "city animal" is to be chosen by the Board, please consider Mission Blue Butterfly (which



June 26, 2023

Clerk of the Board and Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca.
94102-4689

RE: Administrative Code - Official Animal - Wild Parrot, Item 230451

Dear Supervisors,

On behalf of the Golden Gate Audubon's 7,000 members and supporters in San Francisco and around the Bay, I am writing to ask you not to name an exotic species as the official "City Animal." For over 100 years, our members have been committed to protecting biodiversity, even in the most urban parts of San Francisco.

We realize a "city animal" naming contest is meant to be fun. Nevertheless, naming a Red-Masked Parakeet, a species that competes with our beleaguered indigenous wildlife, is inconsistent with the City's commitment to preserving its biodiversity.

San Francisco has a long list of threatened and endangered species, including many species of birds. In fact, Golden Gate Audubon has recently compiled a publication that documents the San Francisco County Bird Species of Special Conservation Concern, which we would be happy to share with your members. These species would benefit from the additional attention and PR boost that being named the City Bird would bring. While there is a small group of community naturalists and agency staff working to prevent further local extinction, the city has historically done very little to address this human-caused biodiversity crisis.

The official "City Bird", California Quail, was extirpated from the city in 2019. Efforts are underway to restore this iconic bird to San Francisco and everyone has been excited to learn that quail were recently seen at the City's southern border.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a Biodiversity Resolution in April 2018, but subsequently, almost no policy changes or funding has been approved to go beyond those aspirations.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON

2150 Allston Way, Suite 210 Berkeley, California 94704

phone 510.843.2222 fax 510.361.0140 web www.goldengateaudubon.org

If a "City Animal" is to be chosen by the Board, please consider naturally occurring species that are in need of conservation attention, such as the California Red-Legged Frog or the San Francisco Garter Snake, considered by many to be the most beautiful snake in America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Glenn Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G' and a long, sweeping tail on the 's'.

Glenn Philips

still holds on Twin Peaks) or San Francisco Garter Snake, considered by many to be the most beautiful snake in America, or, one of the species below.

Here is a partial list of San Francisco's threatened and endangered animals, certainly no badge of honor.

California Tiger Salamander
California Red-legged Frog
Foothill Yellow-legged Frog
California Giant Salamander
California Tiger Salamander
Ridgway's Rail
Black Rail
Snowy Plover
Yellow Rail
Least Tern
Peregrine Falcon
Burrowing Owl
Cooper's Hawk
Snowy Egret
Double-crested Cormorant
Bank Swallow
Common Yellowthroat
Song Sparrow
Caspian Tern
Northern Harrier
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Merlin
White-tailed Kite
California Ridgway's Rail
California Black Rail
Alameda Song Sparrow
California Least Tern
San Pablo Song Sparrow
Snowy Plover
Saltmarsh Common Yellowthroat

Obscure Bumble Bee
Western Bumble Bee
Moss' Elfin
Monarch
Boisduval's Blue
Callippe Fritillary
Zerene Fritillary
Edith's Checkerspot
San Bruno Elfin

Mission Blue
Bay Region Checkerspot
Callippe Fritillary
Myrtle's Silverspot
Monarch - California Overwintering Population
San Francisco Forktail
Tidewater Goby
Hardhead
Longfin Smelt
Western Ridged Mussel
Mimic Tryonia
Common Name
Tomales Isopod
Island Tube Lichen
Salt-marsh Harvest Mouse
Silver-haired Bat
Steller Sea Lion
Hoary Bat
Fringed Myotis
Sea Otter
Western Red Bat
Townsend's Big-eared Bat
Pallid Bat
Pacific Jumping Mouse
North American Porcupine
Big Free-tailed Bat
American Badger
Vagrant Shrew
Saltmarsh Wandering Shrew
Point Reyes Jumping Mouse
Southern Sea Otter
Fragrant Fritillary
Grassleaf Mud-plantain
Northern Meadow Sedge
Peninsular Onion
Bristly Sedge
Peninsular Onion
California Triquetrella Moss
Peninsula Solitary Bee
Pacific Sand Bear Scarab Beetle
Opler's Longhorn Moth
Leech's Skyline Diving Beetle
Common Gartersnake
San Francisco Gartersnake
San Francisco Bay Area
Leafcutter Bee

Incredible Harvestman
Marin Hesperian
Hairy-necked Tiger Beetle
Pacific Hairy-necked Tiger
Beetle
Western Pond Turtle

Sincerely,

Bob Hall
CNPS Yerba Buena chapter Conservation Chair

Cc: Eddie Bartley CNPS Yerba Buena chapter President

https://url.avanan.click/v2/___http://cnps-yerbabuena.org___YXAzOnNmZHQyOmE6bzo3ODk0ZWY4NjkwZjVkJzA1YTNkNTZmZDdjNzk2YzFiMDo2OjMwZDk6MDBjNjAzZmUzMmE0ZjIyZDZjOWVlYzVkODRiZjk3NmFjOWEzY2E0Y2Y2M2I0YTMwZDM2NGNmNGMyZTcwMzFmYjp0OIQ