

## State to help with wharf repair

The state has agreed to pay half the cost of repairing the Capitola Wharf, City Manager Steve Burrell has reported.

The state Wildlife Conservation Board approved a city proposal that it provide \$91,000, or half of the local cost of repairing the wharf and adding an "bow" made of steel pilings that will lessen the chance of future damage.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is expected to pay for 75 percent of the storm-caused damage, with the city and state now splitting the remaining 25 percent between them.

The two local agencies will also split the cost for the protective measures the federal

government now routinely requires in an effort to minimize future damage to rebuilt roads and other public structures.

The total cost is now estimated at about \$180,000.

Burrell said the project could go out to bid by the end of March and bids opened a month later.

The Wildlife Conservation Board also approved nearly \$1 million in improvements at Elkhorn Slough, including \$655,000 for a new visitor center, museum building, employees homes, access roads and interpretive trail.

Another \$281,000 will be spent dredging a channel and converting 491 acres into tidal marshes.