

Butte Regional HCP/NCCP Stakeholder Committee Meeting

May 02, 2007, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

BCAG

Meeting Summary

Stakeholder Committee

Jason Bougie (BIA)	Ted Trimble (WC Water District)
Richard Price (Butte Cnty Ag Commissioner)	Virginia Getz (Ducks Unlimited)
Pia Sevelius (BC-RCD)	Phil Johnson (Altacal)
Suellen Rowlison (CNPS)	Colleen Aguiar (Butte County Farm Bureau)

Resource Agencies

Jenny Marr (CDFG)	Katie Perry (CDFG)
Jennifer Hogan (CDFG)	Jesse Wild (USFWS)

Steering Committee and Staff

Jane Dolan (Supervisor)	Jamie Johansson (Oroville)
Chris Devine (BCAG)	Paul Cylinder (SAIC)
Jon Clark (BCAG)	Letty Brown (SAIC)

Interested Public

Barbara Vlamis (BEC)	John Merz (Sac River Preservation Trust)
GeneAnna McMillan (BEC)	Nathan Key (NRCS)
Rich Reiner (TNC)	

Associated documents/handouts:

1. Agenda including *Draft Planning and Decision-making Process* handout; Draft Planning Agreement; Draft Acronym List; Meeting Notes from Stakeholder Meeting April 4th, 2007
2. Draft Science Panel Short List
3. Memo to Chris Devine regarding inclusion of Foothill Yellow-legged Frog to Potential Covered Species list
4. Binders for everyone!

Action Items and Key Recommendations:

- Stakeholder Committee offered suggestions for changes to specific sections of the Planning Agreement and Roles and Responsibilities document. A subgroup was

created to implement these changes. The subgroup will bring the revised documents to the next meeting.

- Committee recommended that a scientist be added to the Science Panel with expertise in intensive agriculture, wetlands and waterfowl. Candidate names were solicited and Chris Devine will contact Wayne Spencer, Independent Science Panel Facilitator, to initiate the search.
- Other than this category, the final candidates for Science Panelists have been chosen and their first workshop and field tour of the planning area will occur in mid- June.
- A new draft of the Ecological Baseline Report will be available on the Butte HCP website in late May. This draft incorporates comments from the Stakeholders, Interested Parties, and the Resource Agencies.
- The Science Panel will review and comment on this new draft. Stakeholders are encouraged to review the document and make additional comments.
- A new species account (peregrine falcon) has been created and is available on the Butte HCP website. The foothill yellow-legged frog is being considered as a potential covered species.
- A mapping workshop is scheduled for May 17th, 6-8 pm, at BCAG.
- Next Stakeholder meeting will be held June 27th, 1- 4pm, at BCAG.

Meeting Purpose:

- Review of Roles and Responsibilities of Committees, Boards and Councils
- Planning Agreement
- Science Panel Status
- Review of the Acronyms list
- Status of Ecological Baseline Report;
- Review of April 4th Meeting Notes (**Attachment 1**)
- Upcoming Workshops: Working Session to Review Maps of Butte Regional HCP/NCCP Planning Area
- Action Items and Next Meeting

Discussion of Committee Roles and Responsibilities:

- Bill Haas' comments were directly integrated into both Steering and Stakeholder Committee sections of the Roles and Responsibilities document. Committee discussed this and other language in the documents.
- Key words and phrases in the document were discussed. Examples of recommended changes included: changing "consensus" to "collaborative recommendations" or "collaborative decisions," changing the phrase "the Steering Committee will not significantly alter the decisions of the Stakeholder Committee" to "the Steering Committee will non-substantively alter the decisions of the Stakeholder Committee."
- Additionally, suggestion to change wording describing types of scientific data used in the HCP/NCCP process. Farm Bureau suggested a change to: "current best independent peer-reviewed scientific knowledge and empirical data."

- Because of the large number of suggested re-wordings, a subgroup was created to implement these into the document. Subgroup includes Chris Devine, Bill Haas, Colleen Aguiar and Jane Dolan.
- Question: Can information regarding Steering Committee meeting content be brought to the Stakeholder Committee? An agenda item will be added to each Stakeholder meeting to report topics discussed in the last Steering Committee meeting. It was also reiterated that Steering Committee meetings are open to the public.
- Question: How does Stakeholder Committee membership work-- specifically, can new members be added, and what are the requirements for being on the Committee? Agencies/consultants explained that there is now a working list of people committed to being Committee members. Criteria for inclusion in the Committee include representation of a group, and communication with the group, attendance and participation in meetings, and reading and reviewing documents brought before the Committee. While these are general guidelines, the Committee will always be open to the public.
- Suggestion to add more planning staff to Stakeholder meetings
- Suggestion that name tags or table name plates be added to Stakeholder meetings
- Suggestion made by Farm Bureau that Meeting Notes list attendees by groups to clarify the different roles of attendees (see above).

Draft Planning Agreement:

- The status of the draft Planning Agreement was discussed. Representatives from the resource agencies, the cities, and the county have commented and it will go before the councils and the Board in August.
- The revised language from sections of the Roles and Responsibilities document (see above) will be carried into analogous sections of the Planning Agreement.
- Recommendation to change Section 6.4.2. as Stakeholder Committee meets monthly, not quarterly as it now reads.

Science Panel/Acronym List:

- The majority of the Science Panelists have been selected. Discussion of which individuals were chosen.
- Recommendation made to add a person to the Science Panel with expertise in intensive agriculture, wetlands and waterfowl. Chris Devine will contact Wayne Spencer, Science Panel Facilitator, regarding this.
- The first Science Panel workshop will be held in mid-June for an orientation and a tour of the planning area.
- Acronym list was reviewed and discussed.

Ecological Baseline Report:

- A new draft of the Ecological Baseline Report will be available on the Butte HCP website in late May. This draft incorporates comments from the Stakeholder Committee and the Resource Agencies' review.
- The Science Panel will review and comment on this draft.

- New items include a list of “Local Species of Concern” which includes species that are rare, declining, or potentially threatened by land use changes in the planning area but that do not meet one or more of the criteria used in the Covered Species selection process. The conservation strategies designed to protect the Covered Species and habitats will also consider the needs of species on this new list. CNDDDB maps are beginning to be augmented with locally known occurrence data. This type of data will continue to be added.
- A peregrine falcon account has been prepared and is on the website (buttehcp.com) for review.
- The Committee reviewed a recommendation that the foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*) be considered for listing as a Potential Covered Species. Letty Brown (SAIC) will follow up with local biologists to determine if it meets the four criteria for selection as a Covered Species.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Next Stakeholder meeting will occur on Wednesday, June 27th, 1:00 am- 4:00 pm, at BCAG.
- Mapping workshop on May 17th; 15 min presentation; the rest will be looking at the 23 aerial maps.