

## Meeting Summary

## ATTACHMENT B

### Butte Regional HCP/NCCP Stakeholder Committee Meeting

October 3, 2007, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

BCAG Conference Room

### Stakeholder Committee Attendees

Richard Price (Butte County Ag. Commission)	Phil Johnson (Altacal Audubon)
Bill Haas (CNPS)	Colleen Aguiar (Butte County Farm Bureau)
Ted Trimble (WCWD)	Virginia Getz (Ducks Unlimited)
Suellen Rowilson (CNPS)	Justin Fredrickson (CA Farm Bureau)
Laura Grossman (Sierra Club)	

### Resource Agencies Attendees

Rick Kuyper (USFWS)	Jennifer Hogan (DFG)
Jenny Marr (DFG)	

### Steering Committee and Staff Attendees

Jane Dolan (BCAG/ Supervisor)	Paul Cylinder (SAIC)
Jon Clark (BCAG)	Letty Brown (SAIC)
Chris Devine (BCAG)	Jim Estep (SAIC)

### Interested Public Attendees

None

### Associated Documents/Handouts:

1. Agenda including Public Outreach Packet and Meeting Notes from October 3, 2007
2. Species Habitat Model Packet
3. Table with Status of Species Models

### Action Items and Key Recommendations:

- The draft Planning Agreement will appear soon before the councils and the Board. BCAG will alert Stakeholders to these dates and times.

- The first public workshops for the Butte Regional HCP/NCCP were held in Chico and Oroville.
- Recommendations were made by the Committee of ways to further public engagement including participation in the Snow Goose Festival in February, and an article in local newspapers. BCAG/SAIC will follow-up with these suggestions.
- The Science Advisory Panel's Guidelines Report has been posted to the website.
- The Chico Geographic Information Center (GIC) has completed the draft vernal pool GIS coverage and it is now being reviewed by SAIC. This dataset will be integrated into the land cover type database shortly.
- Upon completion of the vernal pool dataset, BCAG will host a mapping workshop. This will serve as an opportunity for Stakeholder review of the new vernal pool GIS coverage.
- Fourteen new and seven revised habitat suitability models were reviewed by the Stakeholder Committee. These are posted on the website (buttehcp.com). The Committee will review more models in upcoming Stakeholder meetings.
- The next Stakeholder meeting will be held November 7, 11am- 3pm, at BCAG.

#### **Meeting Purpose:**

- Planning Agreement Status
- Report on Public Workshops
- Science Advisory Panel Guidelines Report
- Update: Vernal Pool Mapping
- New Species Habitat Models
- Revised Species Habitat Models
- Meeting Notes from September 5, 2007
- Action Items and Next Meeting

#### **Planning Agreement Status:**

- Chris Devine discussed the status of the draft Planning Agreement. It has gone through DFG's required 21-day Notice of Public Availability, during which time no comments were received.
- The document will likely go before the councils and the Board in October or November. BCAG will alert Stakeholders to the dates and times that the Planning Agreement will appear before the councils and Board.

#### **Report on Public Workshops:**

- Chris Devine reported on the Chico and the Oroville public workshops that occurred in early to mid-September. He reviewed the purpose of conducting these workshops as well as the format of the workshops which included an overview presentation and kiosks for attendees to ask questions.
- At the workshops, attendees were asked to submit comment cards. A small number of comments were received. One of the comments was to include the Oroville Planning Commission in the HCP/NCCP process. Altacal Audubon added feedback from their members, including the recommendation to make a lengthier presentation at the next workshop. Additionally some of their members

posed the question of how the planning area boundary was chosen. A recommendation was made to prepare a formal statement for release to the public with a rationale for this decision. BCAG and SAIC will prepare a draft of this for the next meeting.

- The Committee engaged in a discussion of how to better inform the public about the HCP/NCCP. Suggestions included preparing and distributing an educational CD/DVD (including discussion of what a finalized HCP/NCCP looks like), soliciting local newspapers to write an informative article, and hosting additional informative sessions. The suggestion was made to host a booth at the Snow Goose Festival in February.

### **Science Advisory Panel Guidance Report:**

- The Science Advisory Panel Guidelines Report has been received, and is posted to the website ([buttehcp.org](http://buttehcp.org)). This document offers independent advice to the Committee and to the consultant team in terms of approach, and various facets of the plan.
- Wayne Spencer, the Science Panel facilitator, offered a summary of the Guidelines Report to the Stakeholder Committee via telephone.
- Question: can the Stakeholder Committee pose questions to the Science Advisors Panel? Questions can be posed to the Science Advisory Panel through Chris Devine who will forward to Wayne Spencer, Science Panel Facilitator.
- An Executive Summary of the Guidelines Report will be posted shortly.

### **Vernal Pool Mapping Update**

- SAIC is in the midst of a review of GIC's draft vernal pool GIS coverage. Once the coverage is ready, SAIC will integrate this data into the existing land cover type mapping dataset. Paul Cylinder outlined the categories of vernal pool elements (e.g., vernal pool, vernal swale, hummock complex) used by the GIC for the Stakeholder Committee.
- BCAG offered to host a mapping workshop of the vernal pool dataset. This will serve as an opportunity for Stakeholder review of the new vernal pool GIS coverage. Scheduling of the workshop will be discussed at the next Stakeholder Committee meeting.
- The recommendation was made to show the Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Units and Critical Habitat as an overlay on the maps. SAIC will do this.
- The recommendation was made to bring large-scale maps of the rock outcrop/cliff areas (used in the American peregrine falcon model) for Stakeholders to review. SAIC will do this.

### **Species Habitat Models (New and Revised):**

- Jim Estep (SAIC subcontractor/ Estep Consulting) presented each of the four reptile and amphibian models, the valley elderberry longhorn beetle, and the two remaining bird species (white tailed kite and the western burrowing owl) models. Paul Cylinder/Letty Brown presented the 7 fish species models. The Committee discussed each one individually, and offered feedback.

- The Committee reviewed the seven revised bird species models and offered feedback.
- More models will be available for Committee review for the next Stakeholder meeting in November.

**Upcoming Workshops/Meetings:**

- The next Stakeholder meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7th, 11:00 am- 3:00 pm, at BCAG. Agenda items will include an overview of the approach to Impact Assessment, as well as habitat models revisions and an update on the vernal pool mapping.
- The subsequent Stakeholder Committee meeting will occur on December 5<sup>th</sup>.