

Meeting Summary

Butte Regional HCP/NCCP Stakeholder Committee Meeting

August 1, 2007, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

BCAG Conference Room

Stakeholder Committee

Nathan Key (BC-RCD)
Pia Sevelius (BC-RCD)
Jeff Swindle (CalTrans)
Suellen Rowlison (CNPS)

Virginia Getz (Ducks Unlimited)
Colleen Aguiar (Butte County Farm Bureau)
Scott McNall (Chico State)
Scott Huber (Altacal)

Resource Agencies

Jesse Wild (USFWS)

Steering Committee and Staff

Jamie Johansson (Oroville)
Jane Dolan (BCAG/ Supervisor)
Jon Clark (BCAG)
Chris Devine (BCAG)

Sharif Ebrahim (SAIC)
Paul Cylinder (SAIC)
Letty Brown (SAIC)

Interested Public

Laura Grossman (Sierra Club)

Associated Documents/Handouts:

1. Agenda including Meeting Notes from June 27th, 2007, and Revised Draft Committee Roles and Responsibilities Document
2. Public Outreach Materials

Action Items and Key Recommendations:

- The Stakeholder Committee reviewed and offered feedback on several public outreach documents, including a draft brochure and newsletter. The approach for the upcoming public workshops was also discussed; these will be held on September 5th in Chico, and September 12th in Oroville.

- The Stakeholder Committee reached agreement on the final Committee Roles and Responsibilities document.
- SAIC and BCAG are continuing to meet with potential permit applicants within the planning area to prepare the Covered Activities chapter of the HCP/NCCP. This chapter will be provided to the Stakeholder Committee following completion by SAIC and applicants.
- The land cover type maps have been revised based on the mapping workshop. Habitat suitability models for a subset of Covered Species will be brought to the next Stakeholder Committee meeting.
- The next Stakeholder meeting will be held September 5th, 11am- 3pm, at BCAG.

Meeting Purpose:

- Public Outreach
- Planning Agreement Status
- Review Revised Draft Committee Roles and Responsibilities Document
- Covered Activities
- Status of Land Cover Type Mapping
- Vernal Pool Mapping Update
- Review of HCP/NCCP Calendar
- Review of June 27th, 2007 Meeting Notes
- Upcoming Workshops/Meetings
- Action Items and Next Meeting

Public Outreach:

- Sharif Ebrahim (SAIC's public outreach subcontractor) distributed the draft Butte Regional HCP/NCCP newsletter and led the Committee through it. The newsletter will be distributed to the BCAG mailing list, as well as to members of the city councils. Newsletters will be sent out 2 to 4 times per year. An e-version will also be made available.
- A draft brochure was distributed. Brochures are designed to have a longer life than newsletters (6 months or more).
- The content of the outreach documents was discussed. Sharif solicited quotes by members of the Stakeholder Committee. These are to be sent to Chris Devine by the end of the week.
- Sharif discussed the purpose for conducting the upcoming public workshops. The workshops will include an overview presentation for all, and kiosks for individual questions. Display materials were also discussed.
- The Stakeholder Committee offered feedback on discussion topics for the overview presentation. The design of the kiosks was also discussed.
- Recommendations included avoiding the use of HCP/NCCP, rewriting the title of the documents and presentations to "Butte Regional Conservation Plan", and ensuring that workshop materials address why individuals should care.

Planning Agreement:

- The status of the draft Planning Agreement was discussed. It is currently with the Wildlife Agencies for final review and will go before the councils and the Board in August or September (now looking at October).

Draft Committee Roles and Responsibilities Document:

- The Stakeholder Committee agreed that the revised Committee Roles and Responsibilities document is in final form. Thanks were offered to the Workgroup, comprised of Chris Devine, Bill Haas, Colleen Aguiar, Jane Dolan, Barbara Vlamis, Suellen Rowlinson, Jesse Wild and Richard Price, for their work on revisions.

Covered Activities:

- Paul Cylinder discussed the purpose of the Covered Activities portion of the HCP/NCCP. Permit applicants (cities, the County, water districts, and other entities) will apply for permits for projects and actions that they anticipate may adversely affect biological resources over the 30 to 50 year life of the permit.
- SAIC is working with potential applicants to identify what activities they may undertake that would necessitate a permit. Covered Activities are divided into permanent development activities and ongoing operations and maintenance.
- SAIC and BCAG are also working with Chico, Oroville, Biggs, and Gridley to draw bounded areas that would be the proposed initial permit areas.

Status of Land Cover Type Mapping:

- SAIC is finalizing corrections based on the mapping workshop earlier in the summer. These revised maps will be used for species habitat models.
- Letty Brown (SAIC) brought maps of the Chico area to show examples of how land cover type maps have been revised.
- Other changes include adding detail to the Llano Seco area, and adding managed wetlands to the southeastern portion of the planning area.

Status of Vernal Pool Mapping:

- The Chico Geographic Information Center (GIC) is mapping vernal pools in the planning area at the individual pool level. They are doing this using aerial photography interpretation, and employing the same methods used for the South Sacramento HCP.
- By mid-September, the GIC is scheduled to complete the GIS coverage and submit it to SAIC for review, and for integration with the rest of the land cover type database.
- BCAG and SAIC are overseeing the GIC's effort and will ensure compatibility with the rest of the land cover type mapping.

Review of June 27th, 2007 Stakeholder Committee Meeting Notes

- No comments were submitted.

Upcoming Workshops/Meetings:

- Next Stakeholder meeting will be on Wednesday, September 5th, 11:00 am- 3:00 pm, at BCAG. Agenda items will include Habitat Models, additional examples of revised Land Cover maps, and discussion of the public workshops.
- The subsequent Stakeholder Committee meetings will occur on October 3rd, November 7th, and December 5th.
- The first public workshops will be held in Chico, on September 5th; and in Oroville on September 12th.