

Butte Regional HCP/NCCP Steering Committee Meeting

September 5th, 2007

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

BCAG Conference Room

Meeting Summary

Attendees

Jane Dolan (County Supervisor)
Chris Devine (BCAG)
Jon Clark (BCAG)
Scott Gruendl (City of Chico)
Jenny Marr (DFG)
Letty Brown (SAIC)

Paul Cylinder, (SAIC)
Debbie Haldeman, (Wildlands)
Rick Kuyper, (FWS)

Meeting Purpose:

1. Public Workshops
2. Public Outreach Materials
3. Status of Covered Activities Coordination with Applicants
4. GIC Vernal Pool Mapping Update
5. Stakeholder Committee Agenda
6. Upcoming Meetings/Workshops

Meeting Notes:

- The majority of the Science Advisory Panel has been chosen, though the Stakeholder Committee has recommended the inclusion of an intensive agriculture and associated species specialist. Their first workshop and field tour of the planning area will occur in mid- June.
- 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.
- A new iteration of the Ecological Baseline Report will be available in late May (on the buttehcp website). This will include comments from the Resource Agencies, Stakeholder Committee and other interested parties, as well as new occurrence data for many of the Proposed Covered Species. This will also cover 2 new species which have been added as Proposed Covered Species-- the peregrine falcon and the foothill yellow-legged frog.
- The new iteration of the Ecological Baseline also contains a list of “Species of Local Concern” which includes species that are rare, declining, or potentially threatened by land use change in the planning area but do not meet one or more of the criteria used in the selection of Covered Species. The conservation strategies designed to protect the Covered Species and habitats will also consider the needs of species on this new list.

- Review of a meeting with the Farm Bureau in Oroville to discuss the HCP/NCCP which occurred in early May. There was a good turnout of approximately 30 people. Discussion of the conflict that arises for the County with more land in conservation easement and a resulting loss of tax base.
- Discussion of how mitigation ratios will be set. Resource agencies explained that these will depend on the species. Suggestion that a handout be developed to list the benefits of HCP/NCCP's to land owners.
- Vernal pool mapping will be improved to provide more detailed mapping. The Southern Sacramento HCP vernal pool mapping has been suggested as a good model of what to do.
- Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 27th, from 11:00- 12:30, at BCAG.