

Minutes

South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan Steering Committee - November 2, 2006

11:00 AM - 12:30 - 700 H Street, CEO - Large conference rm.

<http://www.saccounty.net/planning/habitat-conservation/overview.html>

Attendee	Affiliation
Alta Tura	Sacramento Audubon Society
Charlotte Mitchell	Sac. Co. Farm Bureau
Cynthia Garcia	SOS Cranes
Dan Gifford	California Department of Fish and Game
Kate Wheatley	Taylor & Wiley
James Romero	Reynen & Bardis Communities
Jesse Wild	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
John Hopkins	Institute for Ecological Health
John Lane	Teichert Aggregates
Joyce Hunting	Rancho Cordova
Margaret Teichert	AKT Development
Mark Hansen	SBM - Real Estate Division
Rich Radmacher	Sacramento County
Rick Balazs	Sac. Co. Economic Development
Stan Van Vleck	Sac. Cattlemen's Association
Steve Norris	Regional Sanitation District
Taro Echiburu	City of Elk Grove
Vincent King	Sacramento County

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by John Hopkins and introductions were made.

2. Preliminary Document Review Strategy

Rich Radmacher initiated discussion by introducing the chapters of the preliminary draft he felt may require cursory and intensive review (see Preliminary Draft Review attached). He explained that chapters requiring intensive review would be distributed one month before the Steering Committee meeting. Then at the next Steering Committee a brief presentation would be given on the chapter. After the presentation, the Steering Committee would have opportunity to comment on the chapter and written comments could be provided two weeks after the meeting took place. This would allow a total of six weeks to review each document.

Alta Tura suggested that presentations occur concurrently with distribution of the chapters one month prior to actually reviewing the document in the Steering Committee. She felt this would provide people with a better sense for the content of the document prior to reviewing and discussing the document at the Steering Committee. There were no objections to this suggestion and it was adopted as the new distribution/review strategy (i.e. documents requiring intensive review will be presented and distributed to the Steering Committee one month prior to reviewing the document at the next Steering Committee. Chapters requiring cursory review would be distributed similarly, but no presentation would be given.)

Joyce Hunting asked if the preliminary document would be sent soon and Rich Radmacher said a CD would be mailed at the end of next week. Rich also added that some chapters are now available on line and that all preliminary draft chapters will be online with t next week or two.

3. SSHCP Timeline

Rich R. introduced a general timeline for the SSHCP and began reviewing the items and projected completion dates (see Timeline attached). He mentioned that this continues to be an aggressive timeline, which is something he prefers as it helps keep things moving. He pointed out that item #10 (Environmental Documents) would also be aggressive, but he had been given assurances from the Department of Environmental Review and Assessment (DERA) that they would do their best to work within the timeline.

4. Review Physical Resources Chapter

Rich R. reviewed the Physical Resources chapter asking for comments page by page. When reviewing the classification section he was asked to clarify how the SSHCP was addressing mine tailings. It was explained that mine tailings were mapped separately from cottonwoods on the SSHCP Cover Types Map and that only cottonwoods would require mitigation. Rich R. also explained that the full details would be discussed in the covered activities chapter.

While reviewing the document, John Hopkins noted that classification of geologic land formations is important for the SSHCP because vernal pools differ by formation. He also noted that many HCPs do not consider climate change, but he felt that this was an important factor and should continue to be considered in this plan.

Rich R. found a typo and took the opportunity to explain that many of the preliminary draft documents have not been reviewed for typographical or grammatical errors due to our accelerated timeline and that additional errors likely exist throughout the plan document. He stressed that comments should focus on content and that basic editing such as grammar and typos will be corrected prior to the administrative draft.

Interest arose over the floodplain map and whether data was available for the 200-yr and/or 500-yr flood event. Rich R. explained that 200 and 500-yr floodplain mapping may be done in the County, but only in urbanized areas and that a comprehensive map would not be available. John Hopkins wanted to correct the name of the floodplain map to state that it was the 100-yr floodplain map.

Stan Van Vleck asked if groundwater was a consideration of the plan. John H. and Rich R. noted that the HCP would not have an ability to regulate/control ground water. Stan V. also asked what was used to determine the ground water recharge areas. Rich R. explained that the data is from the 1974 California Geological Survey which identified soil permeability characteristics and recharge potential in the County. It was mentioned that specific soil maps are available, but the number of soil types are too numerous to be helpful for the SSHCP.

After review of the document Rich R. solicited for general comments on the document and explained that written comments would be accepted two weeks after the meeting (Nov. 16th).

5. Recap/other business

Rich R. mentioned that facilitators should be present when we review more intensive and controversial chapters and that these chapters would require longer meetings. The issue of scheduling was brought up and it was agreed that a list of dates should be sent out to the Steering Committee to schedule the next meeting. It was also requested that people again be asked to join the economic sub-committee.

The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 7, 2006 from 11:00-12:30. This meeting time and date will likely change to a later date and longer timeframe.