

MEETING NOTES

East Alameda County Conservation Strategy Steering Committee Meeting July 1, 2008 10 am – 12 pm Zone 7 Conference Room 150A

Attendees

Jill Duerig & Mary Lim - Zone 7
David Zippin – ICF Jones & Stokes
Liz McElligott & Dominic Farinha – Alameda County
Stefan Garcia – Alameda County Congestion Management Agency
Brian Mathews – Alameda County Waste Management Authority
Jeff Baker – City of Dublin
Steve Stewart, Fred Osborn, and Susan Frost – City of Livermore
Jim Kelcourse – City of Pleasanton
Brad Olson & Chris Barton – EBRPD
Karen Sweet, Terry Huff & Jim Robins– NRCS/ACRCD Partnership
Cay Goude & Kim Squires – USFWS
Scott Wilson & Marcia Grefsrud – DFG
Tracy Schohr – California Rangeland Conservation Coalition

- 1) California Rangeland Resolution Presentation – Tracy Schohr
 - a) Tracy Schohr from the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition (CRCC) provided a presentation of the origin of the California Rangeland Resolution.
 - b) The priority area map developed by the CRCC has not been fully groundtruthed but rather provides a general view of which areas are critical and/or important to the CRCC's conservation goals.
 - c) The EACCS falls within the intent of California Rangeland Resolution.
 - d) The CRCC, although a voluntary coalition, can provide assistance as challenges that may arise during the development of the EACCS. The CRCC can assist with outreach and be a support group for the UAG, particularly for landowners, through the development of the EACCS.
 - e) Tracy will be providing a similar presentation to the UAG on July 10th. A slide describing the relevance of the CRCC to EACCS will be added.
- 2) June 18th Landowner Meeting Debrief – J. Robins, K. Sweet, T. Huff
 - a) Jim Robins provided meeting notes divided up in to sections including: questions to the Steering Committee; landowner' goals and objectives for the EACCS; landowner ad hoc committee purpose; and miscellaneous notes.
 - b) Eleven landowners, who were mainly small parcel owners, attended this meeting.
 - c) The meeting was an open dialogue for the landowners to provide their views and concerns about the EACCS as reflected in the meeting notes.
 - i) The participating landowners would like to see as much of the suggestions made incorporated into the EACCS as much as possible and as appropriate.
 - d) Generally, the main three landowner issues/concerns about the EACCS include:

- i) Lack of confidence in the process based on past experience with other regional efforts, such as the Biodiversity Study.
- ii) Ongoing concern about looking at landowner's lands and fear of new regulations that may impact their existing land use.
- iii) "Predatory" practices for acquiring land (i.e. use of eminent domain)
- e) The Steering Committee decided that the meeting notes not be distributed to the UAG.
- f) With regards to having a landowner ad hoc committee, the Steering Committee is behind one being established but will not initiate the formation of such a committee.
 - i) Formation of a landowner ad hoc committee should be initiated by a landowner(s) on the UAG. In addition, the UAG should provide their support for this committee since an ad hoc committee would be an offshoot of the UAG and not the Steering Committee.
 - ii) The purpose of the landowner ad hoc committee as suggested by the participating landowners at this information meeting (see meeting notes) should be vetted through this landowner ad hoc committee.
 - iii) It was also suggested that the Steering Committee open up a few more spots for other landowners to be on the UAG. This may eliminate the need for a landowner ad hoc committee.
 - iv) The Steering Committee agreed that the formation of the landowner ad hoc committee be placed on the UAG agenda as a brief discussion for consideration by the UAG.
- g) With regards to the questions posed to the Steering Committee, it was suggested that the answers to some of the questions be incorporated into and refine the landowner FAQ.
 - i) Proposed that these notes be forwarded to the Outreach Subcommittee

3) Phase 1 Work Progress

- a) Land use classification table & map
 - i) The land use classification table has been reduced down to three simplified categories (agriculture and rangelands, public lands, and urban). In addition, two land use designation maps were distributed.
 - (1) Brushy Peak is currently not on the map but will be added.
 - (2) Altamont Landfill is shown on the map as urban but is designated as agriculture. This will be verified and changed on the map.
 - (3) The maps shall include a date. "Working" will be added in front of Draft and "Planning" will be added after Land Use.
- b) Open space classification and map
 - i) Figure 2-4 Criteria for Open Space Types has been revised to provide clarity on the four open space classifications. In addition, the flow chart at the top has been simplified.
 - ii) The draft open space map was also distributed. Some comments included:
 - (1) Verify and add:
 - (a) CDFG easements on the Alameda and Contra Costa County lines.
 - (b) Wildlands mitigation bank off of Patterson Pass Road. Note this mitigation bank has been approved by CDFG and is pending approval by USFWS.
 - (2) The "Proposed as Type 1" category is capturing the proposed expansion of existing mitigation banks.

- (3) In the future, adding the San Joaquin County and Contra Costa County conservation efforts to show connectivity.
 - (4) Carnegie State Vehicular Rec. Area will be revised to show that this site is separated between Type 3 and Type 4.
 - (5) Del Valle Reservoir will be labeled Type 3 instead of Type 4 since it is mostly undeveloped and managed as open space with ecological value.
 - (6) Los Vaqueros Reservoir will be revised be entirely Type 3.
 - (7) Add “See Figure 2-4” to indicate that the types are defined in this figure. Add date and “working draft” to the figure.
- c) Focal species occurrence data and maps
 - i) The data used to map out the focal species occurrences come from the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB).
 - (1) At the UAG meeting, it will be noted that the data contained in the CNDDDB is based on volunteer reporting of species siting and is likely not a complete record of actual occurrences of species. With that, we will be soliciting more occurrence data.
 - (2) Reference to the source of the data will be added to all the maps.
 - ii) For the Focal Species Occurrence Records map, the study area will be shown more prominently and the area outside will be muted out similar to the other maps.
 - iii) On the Western Pond Turtle Map, northwestern and southwestern pond turtle references will be deleted.
 - iv) All the maps will be formatted in a consistent manner before the UAG meeting.
- 4) Phases 2/3 Update
 - a) Zone 7’s Board of Directors approved the ICF Jones & Stokes Phases 2/3 contract.
 - b) A fully executed Funding Agreement is required before a Notice to Proceed on the ICF Jones & Stokes contract will be issued.
 - c) Forward any comments on the Funding Agreement ASAP.
 - 5) Users Advisory Group Meeting
 - a) Date: July 10, 2008, 2 pm @ City of Dublin’s Regional Meeting Room
 - 6) Next Steering Committee Meeting Date: **August 5, 2008 @ 10 am**