

# WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTI-SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OCTOBER 12, 2000

**1, CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS.**

Richard Lashbrook called the meeting order at 1:15 p.m. The following were in attendance:

Bob Perkins*	Farm Bureau
Michael Rowe	Property Owner
Garry Grant	Property Owner
Lynn Gritton	Property Owner
Bill Sullivan*	Lockheed Martin
Karin Cleary-Rose*	USFWS
Robin Reeser Lowe*	WRCOG / RCTC
Shelli Lamb*	Riverside – Corona RCD
Kerwin Russell	Riverside – Corona RCD
Robert Hewitt	USDA – NRCS
Jim Sullivan	UC Riverside
Bob Wheeler*	Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza RCD
Tom White*	U.S. Forest Service (Cleveland)
Gail Wanczuk-Barton*	Property Owner
Zully Smith*	Riverside County Flood Control District
Tracey Alsobrook*	Southern California Edison
Wendy Picht*	Metropolitan Water District
Larry LaPre*	Audubon Society
Joel Schultz	BLM – Palm Springs
Steve Lech	Riverside County WMD
Won Yoo*	TPC / Ranpac
Jim Miller	City of Murrieta
John Freiman	City of Canyon Lake
Stephen Brown	City of Temecula
Sandy Wilson	Property Owner
David Phares	D.L. Phares & Associates
Sharon Bolton	Riverside Farm Bureau
Laurie Thrower	The Press-Enterprise
Ileene Anderson	California Native Plant Society
Ann Tucker-McKibben	Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley
Erin Warmington	Warmington Land Company
Michele Staples	Jackson, DeMarco & Peckenpaugh
Vaidas Sekas	S.E. Corporation
Cindy Domenigoni*	Property Owner

Peter Kiriakos*	Sierra Club
Greg Reden*	Silverado Ranch
Dan Silver*	Endangered Habitats League
Robin Maloney-Rames*	California Department Fish & Game
Tom Scott*	University of California – Riverside
Borre Winckel*	Building Industry Association
Jane Block*	Property Owner
Ed Sauls*	Property Owner
Richard Lashbrook	Riverside County – TLMA
Kristi Lovelady	Riverside County – TLMA
Jerry Jolliffe	Riverside County – TLMA
Jim Wang	Interested Party
Steve Ruddick	WRCOG
Dennis Hollingsworth	Farm Bureau
Gerald A. Ginn	Conservation Alliance
Jerry B. Geller	Conservation Alliance
Olivia Gutierrez	City of Perris
Joe Lewis	Eastern Municipal Water District
Kathleen Hamilton	1 <sup>st</sup> District
Jim Bessant	

\*Denotes Advisory Committee member

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Garry Grant, Private Land Owner, expressed concern over the MSHCP and its various planning stages of conservation of land for endangered species habitat preservation.

**3. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS CONCERNING ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

Shelli Lamb suggested that the Natural Resources Conservation Service be represented on the Committee. Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League, expressed an opinion that the Interim Project Review process was not working. In the case of the Scott Road project, concerns from the wildlife agencies that could preclude some reserve design options were not sent to the Planning Commission. Borre Winckel, expressed the opinion that Mr. Silver's comments reflected a position statement and that, in fact, the considerations were made and the process did work. Peter Kiriakos concurred with Dan Silver's opinion.

Cindy Domenigoni, property owner, asked for information on the Interim Project Review. Dan Silver added that specific projects were not to be discussed in this forum.

Dennis Hollingsworth, Farm Bureau, announced that this would be his last Advisory Committee meeting and urged that the committee move forward and continue its efforts.

**4. ELECTION OF NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR.**

Bob Wheeler, Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza RCD, withdrew his earlier nomination (September 14<sup>th</sup>) of Ed Sauls and Dan Silver as co-chairs and nominated Gail Wanczuk-Barton as Committee Chair.

Robin Reeser Lowe seconded motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF RULES/PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING COMMITTEE BUSINESS.**

The Advisory Committee was presented with proposed Rules and Procedures for conducting Advisory Committee meetings.

Kristi Lovelady stated that the rules and procedures drafted for the MSHCP Advisory Committee, were derived from the Rules & Procedures adopted by the General Plan Advisory Committee.

Membership issues were then discussed. Karen Cleary-Rose mentioned that Mary Beth Woulfe will be replacing Michelle Shaughnessy, Tom Scott noted that he would have to confirm with his colleagues that he would be the UCR appointed representative, Jane Block indicated she would confirm the status of the Riverside Land Conservancy's membership/representation, Larry LePre mentioned that he would contact Tony Metcalf and confirm the status of the San Bernardino County Museum, and Tom White stated that the Forest Service was considering consolidating its two positions on the Committee into one. All indicated that they would report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

Much discussion followed regarding the consensus approach, i.e., voting and reporting mechanisms. There was some confusion concerning the newly proposed rules and procedures distributed today and Resolution No. 2000-275 that reestablished the Advisory Committee with rules and procedures. Richard Lashbrook mentioned that the Board would likely be inclined to support any set of rules and procedures which the Committee supports. The current Board resolution could be amended to reflect what is decided today.

Additional discussion focused on whether the committee preferred to make decisions on a majority vote, attempt to achieve consensus before a final vote, or operate by consensus only. Bob Perkins opined that the resolution establishing procedures on the committee by the Board of Supervisors requires a formal vote on all actions by the committee and that consensus decisions are not allowed. Mr. Perkins further stated that he is opposed to the procedure that continues to provide for consensus on issues.

Jane Block moved and Peter Kiriakos seconded to accept rules and procedures that were distributed and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Motion carried 15 ayes and 3 nays. Riverside County Farm Bureau, Cindy Domenigoni, and the Riverside/Corona Resource Conservation District provided the dissenting votes. The Committee asked that this issue be brought back at their next regular meeting for final examination.

**6. REPORT FROM GENERAL PLAN, CETAP AND STEERING COMMITTEES**

Jerry Jolliffe reported that the General Plan Committee approved the incentive program in concept. The details of the program are still under construction.

Robin Reeser Lowe, reported that the CETAP Committee representatives would begin discussions regarding the San Bernardino/ Riverside corridor. Additionally, public hearings will be held regarding the interior CETAP corridors. She added that the SR 79 realignment project is moving forward and the next CETAP meeting will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Simpson Center in Hemet.

Richard Lashbrook reported that a General Plan Density Planning Commission / Board of Supervisors workshop is to be held October 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. in the 14<sup>th</sup> Boardroom.

**7. REPORT ON STATUS OF PROJECTS SUBJECT TO THE RCIP INTERIM PROJECT REVIEW GUIDELINES.**

Jerry Jolliffe, presented information on a Lake Matthews General Plan Amendment. He also made reference to ongoing discussions between the resource agencies, County staff and Andy McElhinney and Jim Bessant.

**8. REVIEW OF UPDATED SCHEDULE FOR**

Kristi Lovelady, stated that there is nothing to report at this time. She asked that the Committee hold the item over until next meeting when a revised RCIP schedule would be presented.

**9. PRESENTATION CONCERNING MSHCP ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT.**

June Collins provided the Committee with a brief report concerning the MSHCP Alternatives Documentation and the Executive Summary. Both documents were distributed to those present.

Members of the Committee expressed concern regarding how the alternatives corresponded with the General Plan maps under expressed development. Borre Winckel noted that the document does not appear to address limitations or constraints posed by the numerous critical habitat designations under development by the USFWS. June Collins explained that the document allows for fundamental decisions to be made with respect to which species could be conserved pursuant to several alternative reserve configurations and pursuant to the alternatives developed by the Committee earlier in the summer.

Subsequent discussion included clarification regarding information on certain species and their respective conservation considerations, biological basis of reserve design, integration of hazard information, comparative cost savings of alternatives 1 through 3, and the 30 day review time period requested by the resource agencies and the Scientific Review Panel. Those present agreed that a decision making schedule was critical. Richard Lashbrook clarified that the Committee must soon develop a proposal that would forward 1) a preferred MSHCP alternative with list of species and reserve configuration, 2) a funding/implementation mechanism, and 3) policies and procedures regarding incentives. With that information, Dudek could launch their conservation analysis that would lead to an administrative draft of the MSHCP document.

Those present agreed that for their October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, the MSHCP alternatives map should be overlaid with the following data: General Plan alternatives, hazards maps, parcel information, proposed CETAP transportation corridors, and public facility projects received and identified to date.

**10. REPORT CONCERNING MSHCP FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION DISCUSSIONS.**

Sub-subcommittee was still engaging in meetings but had nothing to report at this time.

**11. CONSIDERATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REQUEST – CITY OF MURRIETA.**

Robin Reeser Lowe stated that no cities have been granted membership to committee as the forum for City remarks was the WRCOG and its respective technical advisory committees.

After some discussion, those present agreed that the matter of optimal City participation in the MSHCP process should be forwarded to the WRCOG executive Board.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF BIA PER UNIT FEE FOR EARLY MSHCP ACQUISITION.**

Staff distributed the BIA per unit fee and early MSHCP acquisition proposal noting that the Funding and Implementation Subcommittee agreed to recommend the proposal to the full Advisory Committee. A brief discussion of the matter focused on the legality of terminating the existing SKR fee. Those present agreed that the item should be brought back at the next meeting.

**13. UPDATE ON BOARD'S DISCUSSION ON REQUIRING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO FILE CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENTS.**

Richard Lashbrook stated that at a recent Board Meeting an issue was raised regarding whether or not each advisory committee members should be required to file a Conflict of Interest Statement (COI). From that discussion, it was evident that the roll of the Advisory Committee must be clarified with respect to its relationship to the Board of Supervisors. If the Advisory Committees were directing the consultants or making policy decisions that would receive only minimal review by the Board of Supervisors, then the committee members would clearly be required to file the COI. However, if the Committee's role was to be advisory with staff making final reports to the Board, then COI may not be necessary.

Bob Wheeler moved and Bob Perkins seconded a motion to clarify the relationship of the Advisory Committee to the Board in that all positions taken by the Committee are advisory in nature for staff to consider in their reports to the Board. All Committee members present concurred.

**14. UPDATE CONCERNING MEMORIAL FOR GARY WANCZUK.**

Borre Winckel mentioned how many people are deeply saddened by Gary's death and asked if consideration could be given to name a portion of a park/preserve in Gary's name.

Wendy Picht informed the committee that the Southwestern Riverside County Multiple Species Reserve Management Committee is considering a draft resolution that would name a portion of the reserve in Gary's memory.

Tom Scott reminded the committee that UCR is creating a scholarship fund to run over a ten to 15 year period. The Center for Biology would decide which student would receive it.

**15. MEETING SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER / NOVEMBER**

Kristi Lovelady noted that the next Advisory Committee meetings are scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>, November 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 9<sup>th</sup>. An agenda would be mailed one week prior to each meeting.

**16. FINAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Michael Rowe stated that each of the proposed alternatives included lands in private ownership therefore it is important for there to be sufficient funding to ensure the necessary acquisitions. Additionally, he noted that the BIA's interim funding proposal included a provision to eliminate the SKR fee. Mr. Rowe reminded the committee that

those fees are necessary to generate funds to complete the remaining land acquisition obligations of the SKR HCP. He also questioned whether in-holdings in existing reserves were to be purchased.

Garry Grant expressed concerns over the democratic process and pointed out that Advisory Committee members once absent more than three times should be replaced. Mr. Grant noted that Advisory Committee members' comments should be limited to three minutes each to expedite the decision-making process. Additionally, he noted that the BIA proposal essentially represented unfair taxation.

Ileene Anderson requested and received clarification from Dudek concerning the species list for Alternative 2A. She also asked if comments would be accepted in addition to expressing an interest in membership on the Committee.

Sandy Wilson stated that the meetings need to be concise and to the point, as people tend to repeat the same points over and over. She expressed concern regarding the cost of managing the species identified under the various alternatives. Additionally she noted that she'd lost a land sale once a potential buyer attended the last meeting and was frightened by the complexity of the MSHCP development process.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:10.