

MSRP Trustee Council Meeting –December 7-8, 2010

MINUTES

**DAY 1
DECEMBER 7, 2010**

10:00AM – 5:00PM

LONG BEACH FEDERAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

MEETING CALLED BY	Jennifer Boyce
TYPE OF MEETING	MSRP Trustee Council Meeting – MSRP Phase 2 discussion
STAFF AND COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDEES	Jennifer Boyce, MSRP Program Manager
	Kathryn Colson, California State Lands Commission
	Gabrielle Dorr, MSRP
	Kate Faulkner, National Park Service
	Jim Haas, US Fish & Wildlife Service
	Laurie Harvey, National Park Service
	Laird Henkel, California Department of Fish & Game
	Annie Little, MSRP
	David Mazurkiewicz – National Park Service
	Jessica Rader, California State Lands Commission
	Sharon Taylor, US Fish & Wildlife Service
	Patty Velez, California Department of Fish & Game
	Dave Witting, MSRP
	Lisa Wolfe-Kolbe, California Department of Fish & Game by telephone
NOTE TAKER	Vanessa Nalle, MSRP

SUMMARY OF HANDOUTS

HANDOUT (1)	MEETING AGENDA
HANDOUT (2)	MSRP DRAFT PROPOSED 2011 BUDGET
HANDOUT (3)	STATUS SUMMARY SHEET OF MSRP COST DOCUMENTATION PACKAGES
HANDOUT (4)	SUMMARY COST PACKAGES TO BE RATIFIED
HANDOUT (5)	BUDGET JUSTIFICATION FOR PALOS VERDES FISH HABITAT RESTORATION
HANDOUT (6)	BUNKER POINT RESTORATION PROJECT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE
HANDOUT (7)	ASSESSING REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY OF FISH POPULATIONS AMONG NEWLY-RESTORED COASTAL WETLANDS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
HANDOUT (8)	QUANTIFYING THE DIETS OF BREEDING BALD EAGLES ON THE CHANNEL ISLANDS: A MULTY PROXY APPROACH
HANDOUT (9)	BALD EAGLE RESTORATION ON THE CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS 8 TH ANNUAL REPORT
HANDOUT (10)	THE REMOVAL OF FERAL CATS FROM SAN NICOLAS ISLAND FINAL REPORT FROM ISLAND CONSERVATION
HANDOUT (11)	FUN FISHING PROGRAM

AGENDA TOPIC

GENERAL BUSINESS

ALL

DISCUSSION	<p>Introductions were made for new trustee council member Kathryn Colson of California State Lands Commission.</p> <p>Jennifer Boyce moved to approve the meeting summary from December 1-2, 2009 trustee council meeting. Kathryn Colson and Jessica Rader asked for time to review a copy during the meeting. Motion seconded by Kathryn Colson, all in favor. Minutes were approved as final.</p> <p>No investment decisions or account balances were discussed. Jim Haas will follow up with Jennifer Boyce and report the status of the DOI account to see if any decisions need to be made.</p> <p>Council received a handout (#4) summarizing the status of all MSRP agency cost packages.</p> <p>The following MSRP cost packages were ratified by the Trustee Council:</p> <p>CSLC 2004 \$11,736.91– motion made by Jennifer Boyce seconded by Patty Velez CSLC 2007 \$15,003.00– motion made by Jennifer Boyce seconded by Patty Velez CSLC 2008 \$6,859.14 - motion made by Jennifer Boyce seconded by Patty Velez</p> <p>FWS 2007 \$754,126.61 motion made by Jennifer Boyce seconded by Patty Velez 2008 FWS 2008 \$604,366 motion made by Jennifer Boyce seconded by Patty Velez</p> <p>CDFG 2009 \$49,459.50 motion made by Jennifer Boyce seconded by Kate Faulkner</p> <p>Sharon Taylor stated that USFWS Carlsbad budget staff requested that the reporting period for the cost packages match the federal fiscal year end of September 30. Per Jennifer Boyce, this issue was discussed previously and because the state fiscal year is different from the federal fiscal year, it was decided to keep cost reporting based on the calendar year. It also facilitates contracting by being on a calendar year.</p> <p>Discussion was held whether to continue using Cotton and Company for cost package review. The Council will continue to use Cotton and Co. to review cost packages.</p> <p>Discussion was held about monthly trustee council calls. It was decided to continue to hold the time slot for the call (third Thursday of the month at 2pm), but cancel the call if there is nothing substantial to discuss. Council members agreed there should be no more than one quarter (3 months) without a call.</p>
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AGENDA TOPIC	2011 MSRP BUDGET AND WORK PLAN	JENNIFER BOYCE
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DISCUSSION	<p>The council discussed the draft proposed budget for 2011 (handout #2).</p> <p>Discussion on the Trustee Council budget page: Suggested edit to reduce Rob Ricker's travel to \$1,000 since he is busy with Deepwater Horizon and it is unlikely he will use funds for MSRP travel. Also the amount will be changed to reflect he is now living on the West Coast.</p> <p>Jessica Rader will verify California State Lands Commission rates. Jennifer Boyce requested everyone verify their agency's rates and report any differences. Rates for NOAA employees and contractors also need to be verified. Annie Little advised that Chuck McKinley might bring in an EPA lawyer on detail to replace him for MSRP related matters. Jennifer Boyce will continue to travel for Deepwater Horizon early in 2011 but her hours in the budget have not been adjusted –she probably won't use all of them.</p> <p>MSRP office budget page: Dave Witting will be working on Deepwater Horizon and other NOAA Restoration Center projects in 2011, therefore the Council discussed a proposal to bring in a project technician to back up fish project tasks and help with finalizing the Phase 2 restoration plan. The position will be a full time IMSG contractor for one year and the Council can re-evaluate whether to keep position after the first year. Fifty percent of Dave Witting's time is a conservative estimate for work on Montrose, although he will continue to provide support for Montrose fish work. Dave Witting's recommendation is to hire someone with local knowledge.</p> <p>It was noted that Jennifer Boyce's rate on the Trustee Council budget page is different because the full NOAA overhead is charged for program manager time and 50% is charged for Trustee Council time</p>
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Laurie Harvey updated the council on MSRP seabird project work in 2010.

Santa Barbara Island:

High winds made surveys difficult this year. Cassin's Auklets (CAAU) had a good year and high numbers for Xantus's Murrelets were seen in 2010. Pilot year for barn owl study was done in 2010. .

Social attraction was stopped in the spring of 2010 because CAAU carcasses were found due to Barn Owl predation. Evidence showed that CAAU were attracted to the sound system. It is not known if the Barn Owls are responding to the sound system or if the predation is opportunistic. Going forward, the social attraction speaker placement will be close to artificial habitat that will provide safe cover. The speakers will be on a set schedule along with camera observation using night vision goggles to determine owl predation. The duration of social attraction for this project was discussed.

2011 Plans

- Redesign CAAU artificial habitat
- Commence CAAU broadcast at Northeast sites, January 2010
- Finish new permanent nursery (March 2011)
- Grow minimum 5,000 plants for 2011 outplanting
- Continue plot maintenance (water and weed)
- Expand Western restoration area above Elephant Seal Cove; additional artificial habitat
- First full year Barn Owl predation study

Total cost for proposed 2011 Santa Barbara Island budget: \$317,427

Santa Cruz Island –Ashy Storm-Petrels (ASSP)

Discussion was held on the proposed genetics study that will be a collaboration with Queens University. The proposed study involves analyzing already collected genetic samples and summarizing additional data collected in 2011 to determine the degree of genetic exchange between the Channel Islands and Gulf of the Farrallones. The project would be contracted through NFWF. The Council agreed to add a line item of \$25,000 for this work.

Total for Santa Santa Cruz Island Ashy Storm-Petrel Proposed Budget direct costs: \$136,392 (not including genetics study costs)

Ashy Storm-Petrels: 2010 Highlights Santa Cruz Island

- Completed baseline nest monitoring at 5 locations
- Third year of social attraction at Orizaba Rock
- 7 of 30 artificial sites occupied; Raven disturbance was documented
- Continued preventative skunk trapping in several sea caves; zero skunk activity in 2010
- Audio-Visual study pilot year was conducted to assess the effects of social attraction
- Contaminant analysis report for ASSP eggs: in prep
- Phase II planning: assess additional offshore rocks at Santa Cruz Island for trends since 1990s. *Attempted in 2010 but not completed due to extremely bad weather*
- Initiated breeding biology study: 49 chicks were pit tagged in 2010

Scorpion Rock Project Update

Dave Mazurkiewicz discussed the status of the third year of restoration work on Scorpion Rock. Kate Faulkner asked if gulls had an impact on planting. Per Dave, there is no notable impact and they are monitoring the number of nesting gulls.

Scorpion Rock Restoration 2010 Work

- Continued CAAU monitoring at Scorpion Rock, Prince Island
- Constructed nursery at Scorpion Ranch
- Maintained outplantings (water and weed)
- Fall outplanting completed in Oct 2010

DISCUSSION

Restoration Status

- 50% survival of 2008 outplantings to date
- 70% survival of 2009 outplantings to date
- 2,000 plants outplanted in Fall 2010, total of ~7,000 plants outplanted since 2008
- Difficult weed year in 2010, coverage of iceplant was ~80% of open areas. Estimated 7-8 tons of biomass removed from Scorpion Rock by hand.
- Control plots removed in spring 2010
- New nursery completed summer 2010

Scorpion Rock 2011 Work Plan

- Continued CAAU monitoring at Scorpion Rock, Prince Island
- *final year of PI reference site monitoring*
- Continued nursery production at Scorpion Ranch
- Maintain outplantings (water and weed)
- *additional volunteer work trips led by Growing Solutions*
- Fall Outplanting; target 2,000 plants

Total cost for Scorpion Rock project: \$213,607

Anacapa Island Project

A new scoping project has been added as part of Phase 2 restoration planning work to examine nesting habitat on Anacapa Island and to examine three species ASSP, XAMU, CAAU for restoration nesting habitat potential. UC Santa Cruz will be a partner using autonomous recording units (ARUs). Work would be done in 2011.

Anacapa Project Overview

- Assess Ashy Storm-Petrel, Xantus's Murrelets, and Cassin's Auklet status and habitat restoration potential: -mist netting, diurnal shoreline/cave searches, ARUs
- Surveys:
 - 4-day trips aboard support vessel
 - 4-person team
 - assess presence/absence and habitat characteristics

Total cost for Anacapa Island Project: \$210,279

Discussion took place regarding the purchase of a boat for seabird restoration work. The Council had previously approved up to \$100,000 towards the boat if it was shown to be feasible. Per Laurie Harvey, after additional scoping and cost analysis it was determined that \$100,000 will not be enough. Laurie projects the cost would be approximately \$130,000 - \$160,000. Originally the National Park Service (NPS) was going to match \$50,000 however, those funds are no longer available. Laurie estimated a 5-7 year break even on purchasing a boat. The boat could be used for at-sea surveys and prey sampling. Start up year costs are estimated at \$200,000 including a skipper. Volunteers would go out on the boat as NPS volunteers and sign a waiver. Jennifer Boyce requested additional cost analysis be done and more time to consider a boat purchase.

Discussion was held regarding the NPS staff structure proposed for 2011. The total indicated in the draft budget is \$1,131,269 not including DOI and indirect costs. Consideration is being given to hire another full time staff member at GS-9 level. The NPS is planning on hiring a full-time permanent seabird biologist. An NPS GS-6 tech would now be funded by MSRP. Also requested in the 2011 budget are a barn owl intern at stipend level and an administrative person at GS4-5 level.

Laurie Harvey gave a summary of proposed 2011 seabird restoration work:

Restoration Sites: 2011 Plans

- Redesign CAAU artificial habitat
- Commence Auklet broadcast at Northeast sites, January 2010
- Finish new permanent nursery (March 2011)
- Grow minimum 5,000 plants for 2011 outplanting
- Continue plot maintenance (water and weed)
- Expand Western restoration area above Elephant Seal Cove; additional artificial habitat
- First full year Barn Owl predation study
- XAMU nest cam study, year two

- Winter 2011 additional social attraction

Budget notes made as follows:

It was noted line 54 of the 2011 draft budget reflects funds if an NPS employee leaves their position, they are paid a lump sum.

The Council agreed to add \$3,000 to pay OPM dedicated time for processing the job postings.

AGENDA TOPIC

HUNTINGTON BEACH WETLANDS AND FISH COMMUNITY MONITORING UPDATE

CHRIS LOWE, ERICA FOX-
CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

DISCUSSION

Chris Lowe Bengt Allent, Christine Whitecraft, and Erica Fox of Cal State University, Long Beach were introduced to the council.

Erica Fox, Cal State University Long Beach graduate student gave a presentation on juvenile California Halibut monitoring in the newly restored Huntington Beach Wetlands. Noted that the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funded the Magnolia Marsh restoration and some of the fish monitoring.

California Halibut

Paralichthys californicus

- Range from British Columbia to Baja California
- Adults spawn in shallow water near the coast (< 200ft)
- After 3-4 weeks larvae are transported shoreward and settle in shallow coastal environments
- "Nursery habitats" provide protection, food resources, increased growth rates, decreased mortality
-

Commercial Landings of California Halibut: The halibut population of Los Angeles was approximately 600,000 in the early 1920's, Halibut fishing occurred from coast to three miles out. In 1994 improved management was implemented including a California nearshore gillnet fishery ban up to three miles out. Despite increased regulations, landings never recovered: overharvesting as well as habitat loss contributed. The drop in landings corresponds to the most dramatic loss of estuarine habitat, also modification of watershed habitat. Recent years recreational fishing has put more pressure on halibut.

Fish Community

- Monthly abundance surveys June 2009 - July 2010
- Quarterly abundance surveys beginning September 2010

Halibut Specific Projects

- Active acoustic tracking study August 2009 - June 2010
- Diet analysis using stable isotopes and gut contents (ongoing)
- Growth and habitat use study using enclosures (ongoing)
- Passive acoustic monitoring (ongoing)

Abundance Surveys

- 100ft x 5ft beach seine net
- 6 locations in each marsh per month
- All fish collected are counted, subset measured
-

24 Species were sampled: Anchovy, Barred Sand Bass, Batray, Bay Blenny, California Tonguefish, Corbina, Diamond Turbot, Giant Kelpfish, Goby, Grunion, Halibut, Jacksmelt, Kelp Bass, Killifish, Mullet, Pipefish, Round Ray, Shiner Surfperch, Smoothhound, Spotted Bay Bass, Staghorn Sculpin, Topsmelt, Yellow Croaker, Yellowchin Sculpin.

Conclusions

No fish went into marsh creeks, and transplants quickly left.

- Possible greater transport of larger mobile prey for halibut to ambush
- Prey may take refuge in eelgrass beds

No fish left the complex during observation (10 days)

Size segregation?

- Smaller halibut caught in marsh channels
- Are food sources available for these smaller halibut within the marshes?

Diet Analysis (Marsh Fish)

Gut Content Analysis

- Instantaneous picture of short-term feeding habits

Stable Isotope Analysis

- Reveals feeding patterns integrated in body tissues over several months
- Carbon isotopes indicate food sources, nitrogen isotopes indicate trophic level

Goals

- Determine residency and seasonal use (long term data)
- Site Fidelity
- Future Studies
 - Connectivity between wetland systems

AGENDA TOPIC

FISH MONITORING - CONTINUED

CHRIS LOWE (CAL STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH)

Chris Lowe Bengt Allen, Christine Whitecraft, and Erica Fox of Cal State University, Long Beach were introduced to the council.

Erica Fox, Cal State University Long Beach graduate student gave a presentation on juvenile California Halibut monitoring in the newly restored Huntington Beach Wetlands. Noted that the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funded the Magnolia Marsh restoration and some of the fish monitoring. Erica summarized the following surveys that were funded by the Trustees:

Fish Community

- Monthly abundance surveys June 2009 - July 2010
- Quarterly abundance surveys beginning September 2010

Halibut Specific Projects

- Active acoustic tracking study August 2009 - June 2010
- Diet analysis using stable isotopes and gut contents (ongoing)
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Abundance Surveys

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Diet Analysis (Marsh Fish)

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- Instantaneous picture of short-term feeding habits

Stable Isotope Analysis

- Reveals feeding patterns integrated in body tissues over several months
- Carbon isotopes indicate food sources, nitrogen isotopes indicate trophic level

DISCUSSION

Erica summarized the following preliminary findings and conclusions from the 2009-2010 surveys:

1. 24 Species were collected: Anchovy, Barred Sand Bass, Batray, Bay Blenny, California Tonguefish, Corbina, Diamond Turbot, Giant Kelpfish, Goby, Grunion, California Halibut, Jacksmelt, Kelp Bass, Killifish, Mullet, Pipefish, Round Ray, Shiner Surfperch, Smoothhound, Spotted Bay Bass, Staghorn Sculpin, Topsmelt, Yellow Croaker, Yellowchin Sculpin.
2. Juvenile California Halibut were collected in the marsh creeks.
3. No tagged adult California Halibut went into marsh creeks, and transplants quickly left.
4. Possible greater transport of larger mobile prey in the main channel for halibut to ambush
5. Prey may take refuge in eelgrass beds.
6. Speculated about how the availability of food sources may drive the habitat preferences juvenile halibut within the marshes?
7. No tagged adult California Halibut left the Huntington Beach Wetlands during the 10 days of observation.
8. California Halibut appear to use the wetlands differently depending on life stage, with juveniles using both the main channel and the creeks and adults primarily using the main channel.
9. Erica Proposed expanding the tagging work to determine degree to which the two MSRP-funded wetland projects (Bolsa Chica wetlands and Huntington Beach Wetlands) are connected by transplanting mobile predators that are commonly found in both systems (California Halibut, grey smooth hounds, and shovelnose guitarfish). This work would capitalize on existing acoustic arrays.

Chris Lowe discussed movement patterns and site fidelity of White Croaker along the Palos Verdes Shelf.

The summary provided represents two months of summer data only. Final data gathered after winter 2011 will determine EPA sediment capping because White Croaker seem to avoid higher contaminated areas of the shelf.

A grid of acoustic receivers of approximately 20-60 meters was set up at White's Point extending to Point Fermin and Portuguese Bend covering 2 square kilometers with transmitter fields.

- There has been a high success rate of implanting transmitters into White Croaker.
- Fish crossed over the outfall pipes.
- Certain individuals show affinity to the pipe (i.e., appear to swim along the pipes)
- White Croaker move around more than Barred Sand Bass.

Per Chris Lowe, the next 6 six months of data will show what the White Croaker does during the winter months; they might move over the contaminated area during that time. The project involves work with Santa Monica Baykeepers , and Long Beach and Newport commercial party and sport boats to track fish outside of the fixed arrays. White Croaker will be tagged in the Los Angeles Harbor with new funding to start in January 2011.

AGENDA TOPIC

BALD EAGLES

ANNIE LITTLE

2010 Northern Channel Islands Summary: 2010 Northern Channel Islands Summary:

In the 2010 breeding season, there were six active pairs. Five out of the six pairs were successful.

Santa Cruz Island summary:

Pelican Harbor nest – Two eggs were laid on February 25, 2010 and hatched on April 3 and 5, 2010. A live outreach event was held at the National Park Service Ventura for the banding of eagles A-68 and A-69 from this nest. This was the first time two chicks successfully fledged from a nest on Santa Cruz Island.

Sauces Canyon nest - A new female (A-27) laid two eggs and one chick hatched on April 25, 2010. This nest failed in 2008-2009 breeding season.

Baby's Harbor nest – This is a new nest with a new pair. (known as the Cueva Valdez pair – A-16 males from Alaska and A-00 female from the San Francisco Zoo in 2002). One egg hatched on April 23, 2010 and was a male (A-72).

Carl's Peak nest- This is a new nest site in 2010 made by the Malva Real pair. Two eggs were laid but by the end of April 2010, the nest was empty and egg fragments were found beneath the tree.

Santa Rosa Island summary:

Verde Canyon nest- Pair hatched one egg in late March 2010 – this was the first hatch on Santa Rosa Island since 1950's. This pair (A-08 and A-22) failed in 2008 and 2009.

Lopez Canyon nest – this is a new nest and new pair in 2010 (K-36 female, 2005 San Francisco Zoo hack and A-43 male San Francisco Zoo foster). One egg hatched from this nest (A-70 female).

Catalina Island summary:

Twin Rocks nest – Two eggs were laid but both failed. Pair is an 18 year old K-33 male and K-17 a 26 year old female who was removed from a nest in Shasta County in 1984 and hatched on Catalina.

Pinnacle Rock nest – Eagle pair K-65 male and K-56 female laid two eggs and hatched one female K-95.

West End nest – Eagle pair hatched two chicks (K-08 male, K-07 female) but they were found dead in the ocean.

Rattlesnake Canyon nest - Pair K-80 (male) and K-47 (female) failed in 2008 and 2009. Two chicks successfully hatched in 2010 but both were found dead shortly after fledging. A necropsy was performed by University of Wisconsin, Madison but the cause of death is unknown.

Middle Ranch nest – this is the first time a Northern Channel Islands eagle successfully nested on Catalina Island. A-37 (San Francisco Zoo hack on Santa Cruz Island in 2005) was the new female at the nest (replacing A-32). One chick hatched (K-98 male) but died of dehydration in July 2010.

Seal Rocks nest - K-25 male and K-34 17 had one chick (K-05, female).

DISCUSSION

Two Harbors nest - K-81 male and K-82 female had two chicks (K-04 female and K-06 male).

2010 Overall Summary

- 13 nesting pairs (7 Catalina, 4 Santa Cruz, 2 Santa Rosa)
- 2 nests failed (1 Catalina, 1 Santa Cruz)
- 13-14 eggs laid on Catalina, 9 chicks hatched (64-69%)
- 9-12 eggs laid on Northern Channel Islands , 6 chicks hatched (50-66%)
- 15 chicks total (9 Catalina, 4 Santa Cruz, 2 Santa Rosa)
- All 15 chicks fledged
- ~60 bald eagles on Channel Islands (25 on Catalina, 40 on Northern Channel Islands)

Discussion was held on the proposal for prey collection and stable isotope analysis work to be done in collaboration with Seth Newsome (University of Wyoming) and Paul Collins (Santa Barbara Natural History Museum). No prey analysis on the Santa Cruz Island nests was conducted this year because permits from The Nature Conservancy were not secured in time. Seth Newsome will work with TNC to complete the necessary permits for 2011.

2011 work will include stable isotope analysis and examination of prey remains. A new component would add a systematic approach to looking at video camera footage to see what prey was delivered to the nest. Annie Little will inform Seth Newsome of the previous stable isotope work so that it can be incorporated. The Council agreed to fund Prey Diet Study Project #1 in 2011.

Also noted that Kevin White has footage from the Pelican Harbor nest that could be useful for the study.

2011 Bald Eagle Budget

- Analytical costs (~\$20,430)
- FWS support (\$6,024)
- NPS support (\$6,975)
- Eaglecam (\$35,000)
- IWS Contract (\$432,657)

TOTAL = \$506,586

(2010 budget was \$508,547)

AGENDA TOPIC

FISH RESTORATION

DAVE WITTING

Discussion was held on the Fish Restoration page of the budget. It was noted that the Belmont Pier Artificial Reef construction cost estimate of \$2,500,000 is included in the draft proposed 2011 budget. The goal is to begin building the reef in December 2011, coordinating construction around the annual Grunion run and near shore summer activities. As of the meeting date (12/7/10), the Memorandum Of Understanding with the City of Long Beach had not yet been completed. The draft NEPA documentation will be done in early Spring 2011.

The contractor, URS, is currently evaluating the cost benefit of getting rocks from inland vs. barging the rock to Belmont Shores from Catalina. They need to know for NEPA and bidding purposes if inland rock will be more expensive or not. The City of Long Beach is the lead CEQA agency. Per Jennifer Boyce, the council should move ahead to get the money dispersed in the 2011 budget and if needed it can carry over in case construction doesn't start until 2012.

It was noted that the Fish Tissue and Analysis line in the proposed 2011 budget is \$0 because there are carryover funds that were allocated in 2009. Per Dave Witting, American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds extended Huntington Beach Wetlands fish monitoring for another two to three years. The fish tracking work on the Palos Verdes Shelf is not being covered with ARRA funding. The proposal for 2011 is to continue monitoring and look at fish between Bolsa Chica Full-tidal Basin and the Huntington Beach Wetlands. The receivers are in already place, so new costs would be for the tags and a graduate student to do the work (see handout "Assessing Regional Connectivity of fish Populations Among Newly-restored Wetlands in Southern California")

Dave Witting discussed consideration under the Phase 2 Restoration plan to restore Kelp forests in a range of areas from White Point to Palos Verdes Point that were impacted by urchin barrens. Surveys revealed that approximately 56 acres are not functioning as habitat and no Kelp is growing because of urchin barrens. The preliminary work would entail doing a detailed baseline monitoring for 5 of 8 areas. Noted that Sheephead are natural control for urchins. Kate Faulkner asked if the program does move forward with a kelp forest restoration project, what would keep it from going back to a barren. Per Dave Witting, treatment and reference sites showed the kelp returns if the cycle is broken. Once they clear a site it becomes more resistant to going back to an urchin barren. Last year's funding was for planning. Now they are

asking for funding to, focus on five sites for more intensive biological monitoring. (see handout "Budget Justification for Palos Verdes Fish Habitat Restoration").

Dave Witting distributed a survey of the Portuguese Bend proposal to determine if reef habitat could be restored in the area where the golf course landslide buried the existing reef. Three potential restoration areas were identified in the survey. The project proposal is to go into three blocks next spring and determine if there are areas to be avoided for building artificial reef by doing detailed surveys,. Abalone and white abalone have been found off Rocky Point. Work will be done by Santa Monica Baykeepers and Ventana Research Group.

Dave Witting discussed Aquamap – a device that uses buoys to records position as you swim around with it. Aquamap will automatically create a GIS image. Dave is proposing MSRP purchase Aquamap hardware and \$25,000 is included in the proposed budget. The council agreed it would be a useful tool.

AGENDA TOPIC

OUTREACH

GABRIELLE DORR

MSRP General Outreach 2010 summary:

MSRP Newsletters (Spring and Fall) two e-newsletters went out in 2010; the goal is four per year

- Question was asked if preview reading counts as open read or not. Not known, Gabrielle will find out. Gabrielle proposed adding a featured MSRP scientist section to the newsletter.

MSRP Facebook Fan Page

- Sharon Taylor suggested linking the Eagle cam viewers with the MSRP Facebook fan page. Also, US Fish and Wildlife Service also has a Facebook fan page and they are looking for other pages to link to.

5 Outreach events/ 2 Presentations were done in 2010

- Earth Day Event (Aquarium of the Pacific)
- Earth Day Event (SEA Lab)
- Fishermen's Appreciation Day (Venice Pier)
- Seabird Day (Aquarium of the Pacific)
- Sea Fair (Cabrillo Marine Aquarium)

MSRP Presentations

- Humanitas Institute-California Science Center (35 High School Teachers)
- Biology Club-Animo Leadership Charter High School (30 High School students)

New MSRP website

- Gabrielle is waiting for NOAA webmaster to develop a new MSRP website to have one that is better organized and easier to update.
- The 3D animation used in the kiosks is up and running on the MSRP homepage. People take home the brochures after using the kiosk to download the program and simulate the kiosk with their home computer..

DISCUSSION

Huntington Beach Wetlands Fishcam:

There have been ongoing problems with different parts of the system – it was discovered that the cable was damaged. The cable is currently being repaired. There will be a link to a live view of the wetlands from the MSRP home page when the Fishcam is up and running and the images will also stream into the wetlands visitor center.

Outreach Mini-grants

Three MSRP outreach grants were funded in 2009: United Anglers of Southern California, Asian Youth Center, and SEA Lab. United Anglers never used the \$10,000 funds. The Asian Youth Center translated the MSRP comic book and MSRP Fish ID card into Chinese. Asian Youth Center workshops are not a preferred option for future funding. The next RFP for outreach grants will be in 2011.

Fun Fishing Program at SEA Lab

Gabrielle Dorr provided a proposal (see handout) to provide annual funding for the SEA Lab "Fun Fishing Program" instead of having the program compete under the Outreach Mini-grant Program. This program falls under restoring fishing opportunities. There was some discussion about recruiting young people to fish as opposed to teaching people who already fish how to fish safely. The discussion was initiated by survey evidence in the proposal which states that 50% of the students who participated in the Fun Fishing Program from previous years had never fished before. Some points that

were brought up in support of the program is that we are still reaching a large percentage of the students and families (50%) that are currently fishing with this program. Also, the fishing injury sustained by Montrose is based on loss of use, so the fun Fishing Program would restore the benefits associated with fishing. A comparison to FCEC's program was made which was that FCEC educates people who are already fishing – the Fun Fishing Program would address others who might go out and fish and need to do so safely, or who wouldn't because they don't know there is a safe way to fish. It was mentioned that the education program helps young people learn how to fish, clean fish and which fish to eat works well but we don't know if they will use what they learn. It was brought up that per the consent decree and restoration plan, the program does include restoring fishing and there is a difference between restoring vs. recruiting. The point was also made that just because some fish species in the area are contaminated, does not mean that we shouldn't provide children the opportunity to fish and learn safe fishing practices.

SEA Lab received \$15,000 in 2009, and \$10,000 in 2010. A question was raised about whether it was funding for the same program? In 2009 the funding was only used to support the pier fishing and in 2010 SEA Lab expanded the program into the classroom to reach more kids. Some members thought the school presentations are a good value.

Seabird Outreach:

MSRP Birds of the Channel Islands Single Card

Discussion was held on the single Seabird ID card which was sent to the council for review prior the meeting. The purpose of the ID card is to bring awareness to certain species of seabirds, contamination impact and restoration.

MSRP Birds of the Channel Islands Flip Card

The flip cards will be field tested and MSRP will partner with other agencies for distribution. The flip cards were funded in the 2010 budget.

Next Steps for flip cards:

- Compile comments
- Field test for changes in design and/or content
- Partner with other agencies/organizations to distribute
- Add in currently used wildlife guidelines
- Research printing on recyclable material

Bald eagle outreach:

The 2010 banding event went very well.

- This year's bald eagle banding event was broadcast live via the Eagle webcam
- 2,000 people were watching the event live
- More than 1 hour of footage was collected

The Bald Eaglecam number of users has doubled in the past year.

Bald Eagle Cam Usage Stats

2009

Unique Visitors= **88,978**

Web Page Hits= 327,662

2010

Unique Visitors= **122,020**

Web Page Hits= 616,480

Fish outreach budget discussion:

Gabrielle discussed the MSRP Interactive Kiosks. Two kiosks built with the 2010 budget funds are at the Redondo Beach Sea Lab, one is in their classroom until another location can be found for it; the second kiosk is in use inside the SEA Lab facility. The kiosk being stored at SEA Lab will be moved to the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in January. After the 2010 budget was approved there was an error with the amount of funding to build the kiosks so we could only build two kiosks last year. As a result, funding for two additional kiosks at \$60,000 is included in the 2011 draft proposed budget. The total funding for four kiosks will be \$274,000.

Kiosk Next Steps:

- Finalize instructional sign for kiosk
- Move one kiosk to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (early January)
- Third kiosk placed at California Science Center (early January)
- Find location for fourth kiosk (summer 2011)

Noted that public workshops for Phase 2 of the Restoration Plan was funded in 2009 so there is \$0 in the draft proposed 2011 budget. More money will be allocated in the 2012 budget.

An edit was suggested to the 2011 budget for the seabird curriculum line item- note made to take out this placeholder.

Outreach Mini-grant Fishing Program 2011/2012

Contract to Provide Annual Funding to SEA Lab

- Continue to fund SEA Lab's "Fun Fishing Program" annually (see proposal) for 3-5 years
- Re-evaluate program after 3 years to determine goals are continuing to be met

Additional Funding

- Generate a list of all kid's youth fishing programs supported by the State of California within the area of concern
- Look for gaps in funding or particular program needs
- Release an RFP to fund 1 or 2 programs in March/April 2011
- Assist programs with proposal development
- Follow-up with grantees on technical and educational needs

END MINUTES

MEETING ADJOURNED

JENNIFER BOYCE

DISCUSSION

End of minutes. Meeting dismissed at 5:00pm.

MSRP Trustee Council Meeting –December 7-8, 2010

MINUTES	DECEMBER 8, 2010	8:30AM – 3:30PM	LONG BEACH FEDERAL BUILDING 3 RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
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MEETING CALLED BY	Jennifer Boyce
TYPE OF MEETING	MSRP Trustee Council Meeting – MSRP Phase 2 discussion
ATTENDEES	Jennifer Boyce, MSRP Program Manager
	Kathryn Colson, California State Lands Commission
	Gabrielle Dorr, MSRP
	Kate Faulkner, National Park Service
	Jim Haas, US Fish & Wildlife Service
	Laurie Harvey, National Park Service
	Laird Henkel, California Department of Fish & Game
	Annie Little, US Fish & Wildlife Service
	David Mazurkiewicz – National Park Service
	Jessica Rader, California State Lands Commission
	Sharon Taylor, US Fish & Wildlife Service
	Patty Velez, California Department of Fish & Game
	Dave Witting, MSRP
NOTE TAKER	Vanessa Nalle, MSRP

SUMMARY OF DAY 2 HANDOUTS

HANDOUT (11)	ANNUAL REPORT ON ISLAND FOX CARE AND MONITORING FOR THE SAN NICOLAS ISLANDS SEABIRD RESTORATION PROGRAM 2009
HANDOUT (12)	THE REMOVAL OF FEAL CATS FROM SAN NICOLAS ISLAND, CALIFORNIA TO PROTECT NATIVE AND ENDEMIC SPECIES: 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

AGENDA TOPIC	GENERAL BUSINESS	LAURIE HARVEY
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DISCUSSION	<p>Laurie Harvey – Discussion was held on desalinization equipment to help with planting work. A reverse osmosis system on Santa Barbara Island was discussed last year. A small contract with Growing Solutions was done to help determine options. One option was a system that costs between \$18,000 - \$20,000 + other accessories adding up to between \$28,000 - \$30,000. The National Park Service (NPS) put in \$10,000 for additional solar panels that would be needed for the unit. They were purchased this year and are ready to be installed. Now they are waiting for permits. The Los Angeles Water Board has control over water issues and they are holding the permits. MSRP needs to get an exemption from the board before they can proceed.</p> <p>Laurie Harvey is requesting \$30,000 for the NPS to complete this system. Transportation costs would be reduced if water was available on the island. The system will take about three days to install. Once a week maintenance will be done by seabird staff. Patty Velez asked how much it would save in water transportation costs. Laurie is not sure but said it will move the project work into high gear allowing staff to be freed up to do more work instead of transporting water. Also fuel would be saved. Annie Little asked about the Water Board’s response. Since the amount of discharge will be very small, the NPS is going through the process for exemption. Laurie doesn’t think it will be a problem.</p> <p>The council agreed to the additional funds needed and \$30,000 will be added to the seabird budget. Discussion continued on whether a boat purchase is an option the council wants to pursue. Laurie Harvey will put together a working group to analyze cost, pros and cons, and create a decision document for the council to decide how to proceed. No money has been allocated for a boat purchase so far.</p>
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Annie Little informed the council that Brad Kielt and Island Conservation are contracted to do mouse removal work on the Farallones to benefit seabirds with the Luckenbach trustee council. Island Conservation was awarded money from the U.S. Coast Guard, but the project will exceed the money and the contingency. They are planning for more non-target mitigation and bird impacts. Brad is seeking additional funds from other sources and might bring it up to the council at the meeting today. The Farallones is in the Montrose Environmental Impact Study but is listed as a non-preferred project. Brad is looking for approximately \$20,000 - \$30,000 to finish the NEPA process. Jim Haas said Island Conservation can submit a proposal to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for consideration. Annie said Brad has not written a formal proposal yet. Jennifer Boyce explained the Luckenbach budget is very tight and they aren't able to keep the interest earned on the funds. Jennifer Boyce is not certain of the amount budgeted for the project. The council can only use the money for the items approved in the budget. Originally they thought they would be done with NEPA but now they have a short fall. Common Murres will not benefit – Laird Henkel asked if other species would benefit like Brandt's Cormorants. Per Jennifer Boyce, they are not impacted by mice like Ashy Storm Petrels are so maybe other trustee councils working on those species could contribute. Noted that Barn Owls prey on mice and when the mice population goes down they prey on Ashy Storm Petrels.

AGENDA TOPIC

2011 MSRP BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

JENNIFER BOYCE

Jennifer Boyce discussed the Phase Two restoration plan. Progress has been delayed because of work on Deepwater Horizon. The draft is not ready for review yet.

Phase Two Restoration Plan 2011 Timeline

Landmark	Date	Comments
TC Review Draft	3/19/2011	30 day TC review period
TC comments due	4/18/2011	14 days to address comments
Agency Review Draft	5/2/2-11	45 day agency review period
Agency comments due	6/16/2011	14 days to address agency comments
Public review draft	6/30/2011	

Jennifer will send the timeline to the council so they can put the dates in their calendar. Patty Velez felt that 30 days for agency review is not enough time. Recommendation made to change it to 45 days. Change will be made and a revised timeline will be sent out. Goal is to have a completed Phase Two restoration plan by the budget meeting next year.

DISCUSSION

The council discussed the Phase Two plan narrative template. No comments at this time. The EIS will be referenced. A section on Humboldt County Condors will be added. Per Jim Haas, approval from the Santa Cruz USFWS office was given for an additional project for Condor DDE, lead and micro trash impacts on survivability. It will be a three year project but data will be available before the end of the three years. The idea is to evaluate new Condor re-introduction areas. Per Dave Witting the New York Times article on Condors generated interest from Carmen White with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA might be interested in funding and looking at the tie into sea lions. The USFWS modeling of pathways, etc. is in line with work the EPA is doing. There would be a separate NEPA effort if areas are selected for re-introduction. The MSRP Phase Two plan will include an option for involvement. The most likely place for reintroduction would be northern California. Western Oregon and Eastern Idaho are also being considered. It was noted that general counsel should be consulted about affected environment. Also Jim Haas advised that USFWS just did studies on failed Snowy Plover eggs in Monterey Bay with potential DDE from Montrose DDT. Per Jim mercury is also considered as a possible contaminant in sea lion carcasses.

2011 Council meeting discussion on Phase Two Restoration Plan:

The consensus is to meet in person rather than handle work on the restoration plan via email. It was suggested that review comments on the draft plan would be addressed at a meeting that ties into one of the Belmont Pier project the public meetings. Also mentioned was the possibility the Ventura, CA public meetings could be combined with a council trip in July or August. The council will hold a budget meeting again in December 2011.

Public meetings will be held in Cabrillo, Long Beach, Ventura, CA.

Per Kate Faulkner, a Channel Islands symposium will be held in 2012 including an MSRP session.

Per Jennifer Boyce, resolutions for the 2011 will be sent out in January.

AGENDA TOPIC	SAN NICOLAS ISLAND SEABIRD RESTORATION PROJECT	BRAD KEITT, JAKE BONHAM, WES JOLLEY, GRACE SMITH
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San Nicolas Island
Island Conservation presentation

Attending: Wes Jolley, Brad Keitt, Jake Bonham, Dan Shide Navy, Grace Smith US Navy

Brad Keitt recapped the project history.

Implementation:
Preparation on the island began in March, 2009 to determine infrastructure and trap site selection. Trapping was initiated June 25, 2009 using a rolling front, complete island coverage. Traps were deactivated in December due to weather and holidays. The staff returned in January and continued trapping. Heavy rain in January limited access to parts of the island. Trapping was less successful during rainy weather. Traps closed again end of January and at that they knew one cat remained. February no success and shut down for island fox breeding season.

Trapping results: 57 cats removed. There were also 1,012 fox capture events (460 unique individuals). Fox injuries totaled 74.

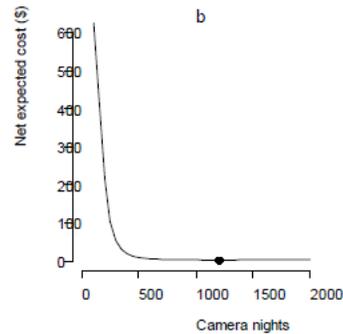
Monitoring included the use of trail cameras
Jake (IC field manager) – review of implementation and trapping methods (see ppt slide)

Eradication model was developed with confidence levels at 99% to determine successful eradication.

Dave Garcelon presentation (ppt)

Kate asked about plans for publication about the project. Landshare report will be published. A summary of the project will be done – not clear on timing of when it will be done. IWS, MSRP will be represented as authors. Jen suggested publicity at the end of the project in end of 2011.

Brad feels it should be discussed. December next year. Kate asked why so few cats. Grace: dry island conditions might



be a factor. More signs were seen prior to the start of the project.

AGENDA TOPIC	HUNTINGTON BEACH WETLANDS AND FISH COMMUNITY MONITORING UPDATE	CHRIS LOWE, ERICA FOX-CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
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DISCUSSION

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AGENDA TOPIC	CHRIS LOWE (CAL STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH)
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DISCUSSION

AGENDA TOPIC	ANNIE LITTLE
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DISCUSSION	
AGENDA TOPIC	FISH RESTORATION DAVE WITTING
END MINUTES	MEETING ADJOURNED JENNIFER BOYCE
DISCUSSION	End of minutes. Meeting dismissed at 5:00pm.