

MSRP Trustee Council Meeting – October 29, 2008

Phase Two Restoration Planning Discussion

MINUTES SEPTEMBER 28, 2008 8:30AM – 4:30PM LONG BEACH FEDERAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

MEETING CALLED BY	Jennifer Boyce	
TYPE OF MEETING	MSRP Trustee Council Meeting – MSRP Phase Two Planning	
MEETING CALLED BY	Jennifer Boyce	Follow Up items are noted in BOLD
PARTICIPANTS	Jennifer Boyce	Chuck McKinley
	Gabrielle Dorr	Chris Plaisted
	Kate Faulkner	Jessica Rader
	Suzanne Goode	Patty Velez
	Laird Henkel	Dave Witting
	Annie Little	Lisa Wolfe-Kolb by telephone
NOTE TAKER	Vanessa Nalle, MSRP	

AGENDA TOPIC **INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW OF MEETING OBJECTIVES** JEN BOYCE

DISCUSSION	Meeting goal: review and discuss MSRP Phase Two planning concepts
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AGENDA TOPIC **LOOKING BACK – PHASE ONE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND THE FUTURE** JEN BOYCE

DISCUSSION	<p>Jen Boyce provided a retrospective of what has been accomplished to date since finalizing Phase One Restoration Plan. Also discussed what the plans are for projects that haven't been completed yet in Phase One. The following table was presented:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Category</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Allocated</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Spent</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Balance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fish Contamination Study and Angler Survey</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1.5M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1.6M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Artificial Reefs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$6M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$120,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$5,880,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fishing Outreach</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$88,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$912,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wetlands</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3.6M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MPA Monitoring</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$500,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$500,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bald Eagle Restoration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$6.2M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$4.5M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peregrine Falcon Monitoring</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$250,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$214,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$36,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>San Miguel Restoration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2.4M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$98,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2.3M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Santa Barbara Island Restoration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$602,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$539,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$63,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>San Nicolas Island Restoration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1.8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">–</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scorpion Rock/Santa Cruz</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$326,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$570,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">–</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baja Islands-Mexico</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1M</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1M</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Allocated	Spent	Balance	Fish Contamination Study and Angler Survey	\$1.5M	\$1.6M	0	Artificial Reefs	\$6M	\$120,000	\$5,880,000	Fishing Outreach	\$1M	\$88,000	\$912,000	Wetlands	\$3M	\$3.6M	0	MPA Monitoring	\$500,000	\$500,000	0	Bald Eagle Restoration	\$6.2M	\$4.5M	\$1.7	Peregrine Falcon Monitoring	\$250,000	\$214,000	\$36,000	San Miguel Restoration	\$2.4M	\$98,000	\$2.3M	Santa Barbara Island Restoration	\$602,000	\$539,000	\$63,000	San Nicolas Island Restoration	\$1.8	3M	–	Scorpion Rock/Santa Cruz	\$326,000	\$570,000	–	Baja Islands-Mexico	\$1M	\$0	\$1M
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DISCUSSION

Dave Witting recommended that Phase Two planning focus on fish habitat restoration on the Palos Verdes shelf.

Dave Witting met with the Santa Monica Baykeepers and Dan Pondella of Occidental College and they discussed three viable fish habitat restoration programs on the Palos Verdes Shelf

- 1) Lunada Bay – rocky reef, kelp forest restoration. The present condition of the rocky reef has been impacted by sea urchins and could be enhanced to recruit kelp growth. Per Kate Faulkner, kelp forest restoration could benefit from sea otter population changes.
 - Kelp forest improvements made over a six month period can bring kelp in one year. USFWS has a plan for otters to re-colonize Southern California that has been delayed. Per Kate Faulkner, it might help the case to remove sea urchins if otters are re-introduced.
 - Per Kate Faulkner, the Lunada Bay area is not a MPA, however nearby Abalone Cove is an MPA
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- 2) Area between Portuguese Bend and Point Fermin where rocky reef habitat has been impaired by sand that moved offshore as a result erosion from increased activity of the Portuguese landslide that occurred in the mid-1990's. Restoration would involve building modules of high relief reef in the deeper water to restore rocky reef habitat.
 - Suzanne Goode raised the question about needing more sediment data and asked if there are any ongoing surveys in the area offshore from Trump Golf Course. Recommendation was made to get a depth monitor and track dept changes.
 - Chuck McKinley asked if there was an enforcement action taken to remediate the golf course landslide.
 - **Suzanne Goode will check with an attorney she knows.**
 - The project will go out to the public for comments and review so consulting with a broader group of technical people would be beneficial.
- 3) Horseshoe Kelp area – expand the reef to create more rocky reef habitat.
 - The focus would be on habitat restoration not on creating fishing areas. If the area was designated an MPA it would be beneficial, however if MPA designation comes before the start of the project then it might impact the ability to do the project at all.
- 4) Trustees will consider planing a workshop for each several fish habitat restoration project categories (reef/kelp, wetland, MPAs).

Fish PowerPoint presentation text:

- Wetlands restoration
 - Projects are soon to be implemented.
 - Bolsa Chica Dredging
 - \$3.3 Million after 3 years
 - Ongoing need beyond our scope
 - Huntington Beach Wetlands
 - Cost increases (fuel cost related) have left portions unfunded.
 - Need for funding not well known (Coastal Conservancy likely to cover balance).
- Rocky Reef Restoration
 - Pier reefs in development will likely continue for 3-5 years.
 - Move to restore impacted fish habitat on PV
 - Met with Occidental College, Santa Monica Baykeeper, SMBRC to discuss options.
 - Identified 3 potential restoration projects.
 - Enhance Kelp Forests on Palos Verdes Shelf
 - Restore Rocky Reefs between Portuguese Bend and Point Fermin.
 - Expand highly productive reef habitat near horseshoe kelp.
- Marine Protected Areas
 - MPLA Process is in progress for Southern California.
 - Potentially could contribute to evaluation of habitats for MPA protection
 - Or could consider artificial fishing reefs outside MPAs that protect natural reefs.
- Portuguese Bend reef restoration
 - Investigate sediment deposition/accretion rates
 - EPA RI report and associated data may help
 - Studies of Portuguese Bend Landslide from mid-1990's
 - Map area of buried rocky habitat
 - Rick Kvitek data from 2002 SMBRC habitat mapping project.
 - USGS sub-bottom profile data.

- Develop design
- Kelp Forest restoration (Lunada Bay)
 - NFWF grant to Santa Monica Baykeeper
- Horseshoe Kelp reef augmentation
 - Longer term project
 - Potentially linked to MLPA process

AGENDA TOPIC PHASE TWO BIRD RESTORATION CONCEPTS ANNIE LITTLE

DISCUSSION

BALD EAGLES

- The Santa Rosa Island nest failed eggs turned out to be infertile. Contaminant data analysis on the eggs is forthcoming.
- The council discussed that some eggs have been hatching naturally and that the analysis of egg shells needs to be included in Phase Two

Costs, progress and outcome of the Catalina and Northern Channel Islands bald eagle restoration explained in PowerPoint text:

Feasibility Study Language- Feb. 2002

- Approximate 5-year data gap study to determine feasibility of successfully reestablishing a breeding population of bald eagles on the NCIs given continued presence of contamination by DDTs and PCBs
- Information to assist in selecting best restoration approaches for the long-term restoration plan
- Results of study will be used by Council to evaluate whether to proceed with a full-scale program to reintroduce bald eagles to NCIs

Restoration Plan Language- Oct. 2005

- Expected results of Feasibility Study to be known ~2008
- Trustees will release subsequent NEPA/CEQA document for public review between 2008-2010 that will outline next steps

Summary of NCI Program 2002-2009

	2002 -2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
# Released	46	15	0	1	
# Pairs	0	2	2	4	6?
# Nests	0	2	2	4	
Hatching success	0	50% (2 of 4 eggs)	25% (1 of 4 eggs)	67% (4 of 6 eggs)	
# Fledged	0	2 (A-49, A-61)	1 (A-63)	2 (A-64, A-65)	
Nest success*	0	100% (2 of 2)	50% (1 of 2)	25% (1 of 4)	

# NCI islands with nests	0	1 (Santa Cruz)	1 (Santa Cruz)	2 (Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa)	
Total # eagles on NCIs	~35 in 2005	35	30-35	30-35	

- Nest success (% of occupied nests in which at least 1 young fledged)

Catalina Island

- 7 pairs currently
- 2008- 5 successful nests
- 9 chicks hatched naturally in 4 nests
- 2 eggs failed in incubation, 2 hatched & fostered
- 11 chicks fledged!

FWS Initial 5 year review 2002-2006

- The NCI restoration effort is successful to date.
- Nesting and first-year survival was not different than in other studied wild populations.
- Monitoring shows increasing contaminant load with age.
- Effects of increasing DDE and PCB levels on future survival and reproduction in the NCI population are unknown.
- Continued monitoring will be necessary to determine if their ongoing exposure eventually impairs their productivity.

Parameters to Evaluate Success

- Hatching success
- Nest success
- Distribution of breeding pairs across islands
- # breeding pairs
- Retention on islands (30-35 reside on islands)
- Sprunt et. al 1973 summarized that nest success should be >50% and productivity >0.7 in order to produce a stable population.

To date, Trustees have spent:

- ~\$1.1 M on Catalina Program (2001-2007)
- ~\$2.5 M on NCI program (2002-2007)
- \$560,000 on combined program (2008)
- Total spent through 2008: \$4.1M
- Allocated ~\$6.2 M in Phase 1
- Remaining- ~\$2.1 M in Phase 1
- Remainder of Phase 1 would fund 3-4 more years of intensive monitoring at current levels (through ~2012)
- At that point, NCI program would be funded for 10 years (5 years of releases, 5 years monitoring)
- At what point do we have enough data to determine future of NCI program?
- ~\$550K/yr for IWS monitoring for both programs at current level
- 5 years = \$2.75 M, 10 years= \$5.5M

Council bald eagle discussion:

- Per Annie Little: At the conclusion of Phase One: there is \$2.1M remaining for the NCI program
- Annie Little asked the council if there is enough information to make a decision on how to spend the remaining money. Consensus led by Chuck McKinley was that there is not enough information to make decision on how to spend the remaining money because the 2008 Feasibility study hasn't been released yet.
- Recommendation was made to allocate in the Phase Two Plan the balance of \$2.1M for monitoring and produce another document outlining the final plan for eagles when the results of the feasibility study are known
- Chuck McKinley suggested a separate report to theorize the future plan goals in which a

scientific review board would be involved.

Jennifer Lucchesi and Jessica Rader will discuss with their executive officer whether CSCL can start signing a combined budget containing the eagle activities.

Seabird Potential Restoration Ideas for Phase Two:

- East Anacapa Island protect gull chicks with added vegetation
- Planting ice plant on East Anacapa Island to restore XAMU
- Eradicate feral cats off San Clemente Island to restore CAAU unlikely because of Navy bombings on the island
- Concentrate on ASSP, XAMU, CAAU
- Annie Little will keep working on seabird phase two planning with smaller groups and get back to the council
- Per Laird Henkel – since Brown Pelicans have been de-listed, FWS can no longer fund projects for Brown Pelicans
- The council agreed to award Laurie Harvey a step increase in her salary. **Kate Faulkner will advise the council about Laurie's increase amount**

SEABIRDS

- \$6.2 M allocated for 6 projects in Phase 1
- Benefits to CAAU, WEGU, BRCO, ASSP
- Potential Ideas for Phase 2
- Ashy storm-petrel restoration on Anacapa Island (artificial habitat, social attraction), identified Ph.1
- Prince Island vegetation restoration (CAAU)
- Revegetation work on W. Anacapa Island (XAMU)
- Revegetation work on E. Anacapa Island (WEGU)
- Brown pelican roost (Tier 1)

PEREGRINE FALCONS

- Phase 1: Two intensive survey efforts of all Channel Islands, including contaminant analysis of eggs
- 2007 effort cost \$200K
- Phase 2: Continued monitoring of expansion rates and contaminant exposure
- Monitor recovery every 3-5 years?

Council discussion on Peregrine Falcons:

- Consider doing contaminant analysis in 2010
- Noted that the Southern California Predatory Bird Group disbanded
- Kate Faulkner suggested that MSRP support efforts to have Peregrine Falcon data published in scientific literature
- Phase Two proposal could include monitoring of recovery

AGENDA TOPIC

PHASE TWO – OUTREACH CONCEPTS

GABRIELLE DORR

DISCUSSION

Outreach PowerPoint presentation text:

Review of Outreach-Phase I

- General Outreach Total Dollars Spent **\$424,313***
 - \$83K in 2007 (eaglecam)
 - \$97K in 2008 (bald eagle video)
 - \$84K in 2009
- Fishing Outreach Total Dollars Spent **\$108,000***
 - \$30K in 2007 (Outreach mini-grants)
 - \$8.3K in 2008 (Printing costs)
 - \$30K in 2009 (Outreach mini-grants)
- Phase I fishing outreach opportunities still exist

Outreach Highlights-Phase I

2006

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eagle CAM • Sequoia attends outreach events (started in 2005) • New versions of Comic book and Fish ID cards <p>2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish versions of Comic book and Fish ID cards • Outreach mini-grants • New MSRP banner <p>2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bald eagle video • Three new MSRP banners • Fish contamination curriculum <p><u>Future Fishing Outreach Projects-Phase I</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish CAM (associated with pier reef project) • Reef Balls <p>-community event associated with artificial reef (Belmont Pier)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational signs explaining the function of artificial reefs • Updated fishing advisory pier signs • Permanent MSRP exhibits (CMA, Sea Lab, Pier Restoration Sites, AOP) • Outreach mini-grants (continue grant program) • Fishing workshops with local sport fishing groups <p><u>Fishing Outreach-Phase II</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing projects that will require funding <p>-Comic book/Fish ID card/Curriculum printing (updates?) -Outreach mini-grants (end in phase I?) -Fish CAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future projects associated with Phase II <p>-New outreach products-connection to reefs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Phase II <p>-Include ongoing costs from Phase I -Specify fishing outreach funding in Phase II</p> <p><u>General Outreach-Phase II</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing outreach projects that will require funding <p>-Eagle CAM -Printing costs -Staff/Council time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future general outreach projects for Phase II <p>-MSRP videos (seabirds, overall program) -Permanent exhibits? -New outreach products?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Phase II <p>-General outreach costs covered in operating costs for Phase I -Outreach costs will probably stay at the same level or increase -Will operating costs cover outreach in the future?</p> <p><u>Council discussion on outreach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy can give MSRP space for a permanent exhibit - The council will need to agree on language of fishing advisory signs - The council suggested that outreach administrative costs could be covered by interest earnings - Goal is to present a target amount that MSRP will spend for outreach over the next five years - Kate Faulkner suggested creating videos of field work that could be posted on the MSRP website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The council agreed that is a good idea and Jen Boyce proposed to have Kevin White shoot seabird footage along with the eagle footage
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AGENDA TOPIC	PHASE TWO - TYPE OF DOCUMENT	ALL
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7-1 of the MSRP Restoration Plan lays out Phase Two as being tiered off the original EIS/EIR • Chuck McKinley recommended doing an EA which will determine the need for an EIS for specific projects. The council agreed to proceed with the EA and include a summary of work that had been done • Projected date for the Phase Two EA outline is in February • CDFG will be the lead agency for the State of California and NOAA will be the lead federal agency • Note Section 8-2 of the MSRP Restoration Plan for CERCLA scope 	

AGENDA TOPIC		PHASE TWO - TIMELINE
		ALL
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work should start now, including outlines of concepts from this meeting • Target for draft Phase Two plan: the end of Summer 2009 • Each agency will check their requirements for EAs. • Review Phase One restoration plan and see if there are commitments unfulfilled • Determine costs for restoration concepts and give recommendations to the council • The maximum restoration benefit should drive the choice of projects • Phase Two plan could be a combined NEPA/CEQA document, or the State could adopt a federal NEPA document. • Both State and Federal will coordinate what the document is and circulate to public and state offices 	
AGENDA TOPIC		NEXT MEETING
		ALL
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council will meet again in January or February 2009 for a symposium with project partners • Suggested location for the symposium is at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, inviting the public to be considered • The symposium will possibly scheduled around the date of the groundbreaking event at the Huntington Beach wetlands • The next Trustee Council meeting will be a summer trip to Santa Cruz Island • The next Trustee Council conference call is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25, 2008 	
AGENDA TOPIC		MEETING ADJOURNED
		JENNIFER BOYCE
DISCUSSION	End of minutes. Meeting dismissed at 2:30pm.	