

MSRP Trustee Council Meeting - October 28, 2008

MINUTES		OCTOBER 28, 2008	10:00AM – 4:30PM	LONG BEACH FEDERAL BUILDING 3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
MEETING CALLED BY	Jennifer Boyce			
TYPE OF MEETING	MSRP Trustee Council Meeting – FY 09 Budget Draft discussion and review			
ATTENDEES	Jennifer Boyce	Annie Little		
	Gabrielle Dorr	Chris Plaisted		
	Kate Faulkner	Jessica Rader		
	Jim Haas	Patty Velez		
	Laurie Harvey	Dave Witting		
	Laird Henkel	Guest presenter: Brad Keitt, Island Conservation		
NOTE TAKER	Vanessa Nalle	Guest presenter: Bill Waldman, Island Conservation		
SUMMARY OF HANDOUTS				
HANDOUT (1)	MINUTES - MSRP TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING SANTA CRUZ ISLAND, JUNE 20, 2008			
HANDOUT (2)	NOAA REVIEW AND RECONCILIATION OF COURT REGISTRY FUNDS FOR MSRP AND TRANSACTION DETAILS			
HANDOUT (3)	RESOLUTION DRAFT 08-4 REPAYMENT OF NOAA COSTS, DOI & COURT REGISTRY ACCOUNTS TRANSFERS			
HANDOUT (4)	STATUS SUMMARY SHEET OF MSRP COST DOCUMENTATION PACKAGES			
HANDOUT (5)	DRAFT PROPOSED MSRP 2009 BUDGET			
HANDOUT (6)	MSRP PROJECT FUNDS ALLOCATION VS. FUNDS SPENT SUMMARY SHEET			
HANDOUT (7)	SEABIRD RESTORATION PLAN TIMELINE & SBI 2009 DRAFT PROPOSAL			
AGENDA TOPIC		INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW OF MEETING OBJECTIVES		JEN BOYCE
DISCUSSION	Meeting goal: review and discuss draft MSRP FY 09 budget. A resolution to formally adopt the 2009 budget will be sent out once the draft is approved by the trustee council.			
AGENDA TOPIC		APPROVAL OF SANTA CRUZ ISLAND TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES		JEN BOYCE
DISCUSSION	Handout(1): minutes of MSRP Trustee Council meeting held on Santa Cruz Island, June 20, 2008 Jennifer Boyce made a motion to officially adopt the minutes of the MSRP Trustee Council meeting held on Santa Cruz Island, June 20, 2008. Patty Velez seconded the motion. The Trustee Council voted all in favor, and the minutes were formally approved and will be put in the administrative record.			

AGENDA TOPIC	ACCOUNT BALANCES AND INVESTMENT DECISIONS	JEN BOYCE & CHRIS PLAISTED
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DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to handout(2) of MSRP Court Registry Funds and accounts balance sheet: • Noted: The swing money is part of court registry account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The real balance number to look at for restoration funds is the DOI-NRDA account • Question posed to council if Cotton & Co should continue to reconcile the balance of the DOI and US District Court accounts. • Per Jim Haas, the money was put into a longer term investment. Jim will check to see if any interest is due in December. • The trustee council will make the investment decision on the next monthly council conference call. <p>Question was raised of how much is still owed to NOAA for past costs associated with damage assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Plaisted gave an overview of the plan to finalize all of NOAA's payments due for damage assessment: • As per the FY 03-1 resolution NOAA is to be paid \$4M per year over several years, with a final payment of \$2.5M in 2008. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Resolution 06-2 said if payment happened later than scheduled, any interest earned over the amount between the scheduled withdrawal and the actual withdrawal would go to NOAA. ◦ Interest earned up to the date of the actual transfer goes to MSRP ◦ Cotton & Co calculated the interest that will go to NOAA and MSRP under the provisions of Resolution 06-2 assuming a withdrawal date of November 1, 2008 • Chris Plaisted proposed the handling of the account to the council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Disburse the remaining funds (including past costs and interest) to NOAA per resolution 06-2 ◦ Move the remaining funds, all of which would be due to MRSP, out of court registry account and into the DOI NRDA account ◦ Handout (3) given to council by Chris Plaisted (Draft Resolution 08-4) ◦ Total past costs payment to NOAA will be \$6.5M: \$4M was due in 2007, and \$2.5M was due in January 2008. The total interest to be paid to NOAA is \$1,056,539. The balance of what is left in the account will be moved into the DOI NRDA account for use by MSRP ◦ MSRP has determined it no longer needs Cotton & Co. to maintain the reconciliation of the DOI and Court Registry account and Cotton & Co. will be notified of the change to the MSRP – Cotton & Co. contract • The council members in attendance unanimously agreed with the proposal and to distribute resolution 08-4 for council signatures.
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AGENDA TOPIC	RATIFICATION OF MSRP COST DOCUMENTATION PACKAGES	JEN BOYCE
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DISCUSSION	<p>Council received a handout (4) summarizing the status of all MSRP agency cost packages. The following MSRP cost packages were ratified by the trustee council:</p> <p>USFWS FY 2002: \$417,905.78 NOAA FY 2005: \$567,163.08 USFWS FY 2005: \$477,767.01 NOAA FY 2006: \$520,649.13 CSLC CY 2006: \$14,804.33</p>
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AGENDA TOPIC	2009 MSRP DRAFT BUDGET	JEN BOYCE
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DISCUSSION	<p>Budget and cost detail handouts were distributed to the council: (5) proposed draft 2009 MSRP budget: Total budget is \$5.6M (6) Project allocation vs. funds spent table</p> <p>Council reviewed the draft 2009 budget at length, with a line by line review Summary of changes:</p> <p>Trustee Council Page: noted: members hours were removed from project pages and totaled on the TC page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion held on administrative costs vs. project implementation costs • Explanation noted of two different rates for Jen Boyce: rate changed due to indirects charged
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> under NOAA Patty Velez will look at CDFG 07 cost package and see what she charged Kate Faulkner's travel was increased to \$1000 in the NPS section <p>MSRP Office Page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fix Annie Little's indirect amount Go into DOI account and check and print out website – distribute to council Quarterly audit amount of \$3200 for Cotton and Co removed <p>Fish Restoration Budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract cost changed to \$270,000 Huntington Beach Wetlands was given \$2M MPA will provide a type of report of monitoring and enforcement Bolsa Chica Wetlands dredging to be done fall 2008 at a cost of \$3M <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessica Rader discussed concern of needing to dredge every two years Per Dave Witting: project is a 360 acre full tidal exchange with another 200 acres of muted exchange so the large scale benefits are comparable to the costs Money will go to CSLC and will show in their cost package Huntington Beach Wetlands doesn't have this concern because Orange County maintains the inlet in perpetuity Sea grant – Huntington Beach – CSULB professors to do wetland research – Phase two focus will explore focusing on fish restoration as opposed to "Fishing" restoration <p>Seabird budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subtract \$12,000 (+18% indirects) from Growing Solutions budget and add \$13,800 to NPS/CIES contract costs to keep projects more clearly defined Add \$15,000 to NPS transportation costs for Shearwater for 10 days of SBI Prey and At-Sea surveys* Per Kate Faulkner: Change NPSGS-7 staff benefits to 38% (increase to \$16,028) and GS-5 (2) benefits to 38% (increase to \$26,600) Increase NPS line for International Intern to \$8,500 (for 4 months at \$2K/month + \$500 travel)** Add \$5,000 to NPA equipment/other line for SBI light meters <p>*Comment: Per Laird Henkel, CDFG could cover one or two flights for aerial survey/flight time. Laird to follow up with Esther.</p> <p>**Comment: discussion to possibly rotate the intern with other councils</p> <p>Eagle Budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes made Annie Little to double check Eagle Cam costs. An increase of 8 nests will be live on the Eagle Cam next year. <p>Outreach Budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2000 was deleted from the Outreach Products (Birds) line for videography Outreach mini grants under the NFWF Coop Agreement was increased to \$30,000 and moved to the fish budget. Jane Hendron under FWS Staff was moved to Seabird budget page. <p>General Budget Discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carryover of savings from previous years will be deducted from the current year's budget Per Kate Faulkner, the current budget should reflect the authorized money to be spent even if it includes money not spent (carryover) and that agencies should ask for what is needed.
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AGENDA TOPIC	ISLAND CONSERVATION PRESENTATION	BRAD KEITT & BILL WALDMAN
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DISCUSSION	Brad Keitt introduced Bill Waldman, the new head of Island Conservation, and gave a summary of his background Brad Keitt stated the IC mission statement is to prevent extinctions on islands Brad Keitt discussed ongoing IC projects and involvement in MSRP
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AGENDA TOPIC

SAN NICOLAS ISLAND PROJECT UPDATE

ANNIE LITTLE

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EA and NEPA documents are in process. The EA will be modified to include box traps in response to public comments • Discussions with Humane Society of the United States are ongoing. The goal is to start a field trial in cooperation with the HSUS the second week of November through the end of December using box traps only. Any feral cats that are caught would be taken to the mainland, but the current disposition is unknown. • Main program to start next summer using a possible combination of trapping techniques • Fox breeding season begins in February • The trial will start even if the EA is not signed because work is covered under the Navy's Integrated Work Management Plan • Jim Haas of USFWS asked the council how will the success of the trial be evaluated. • Clarification is needed on the transition from the trial period to the main program and efficacy standards need to be established • USFWS has data from the initial field trail that can be used to compare with numbers from the HSUS trial period. • Annie to work with Island Conservation will develop a cost model comparing the original trial trapping period vs. the HSUS trial • Best Friends submitted a proposal which was in favor of Trap-Neuter-Release which is not feasible under Navy policy. • Dave Garcelon has purchased \$4,000 worth of additional equipment for the HSUS trial period • Housing and board on the island will be provided for HSUS personnel during the trial period • The HSUS has not asked the MSRP trustee council for money at this point • The disposition of the trustee council is that any feral cats caught during the field trial be euthanized in the field, or be taken to the Ventura County Animal Shelter.
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AGENDA TOPIC

SEABIRD PROJECT UPDATES

LAURIE HARVEY

DISCUSSION	<p>Laurie Harvey updated the council and gave a slide presentation of the Channel Islands seabird and plant restoration work in progress. The council commented on the large number of volunteers helping the effort and that actually seeing the work through photos was inspiring.</p> <p>Project updates discussed by Laurie Harvey were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two out of twelve Ashy Storm Petrels fledged from Orizaba Rock • A predator skunk was captured at Cavern Point and released away from nesting areas • Eggs were collected for contaminant analysis • Restoration planting on Scorpion Rock is ongoing <p>The council received a handout (7) from Laurie Harvey outlining the restoration time line of Ashy-Storm Petrels and Santa Barbara Island Alcids, as well as Scorpion Rock habitat. Laurie discussed her Phase I work plan and post restoration goals as outlined in the handout.</p>
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AGENDA TOPIC

MEETING ADJOURNED

JENNIFER BOYCE

DISCUSSION	<p>End of minutes. Meeting dismissed at 4:30pm.</p>
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