

MSRP Trustee Council Meeting –November 28, 2012

Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

MINUTES **NOVEMBER 28, 2012** 8:30AM – 5PM LONG BEACH FEDERAL BUILDING
3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

MEETING CALLED BY	Jennifer Boyce
TYPE OF MEETING	Annual MSRP Trustee Council Meeting
STAFF AND COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDEES	Jennifer Boyce, MSRP Program Manager
	Kathryn Colson, California State Lands Commission
	Gabrielle Dorr, MSRP
	Kate Faulkner, National Park Service
	Holly Gellerman, California Department of Fish & Wildlife (by phone)
	Annie Little, MSRP
	Sarah Mongano, California State Lands Commission
	Christopher Plaisted, NOAA
	Carol Roberts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Patty Velez, California Department of Fish & Wildlife
	Dave Witting, MSRP
	Lisa Wolfe-Kolb, California Department of Fish & Wildlife (by phone)
NOTE TAKER	Vanessa Nalle, MSRP

GUEST PRESENTERS

	Kelly Sorenson and Joe Burnett of Ventana Wildlife Society
HANDOUT	Ventana Wildlife Society 2012 Annual Report (provided by Kelly Sorenson)

SUMMARY OF HANDOUTS

HANDOUT (1)	Draft – CY2013 MSRP Budget
HANDOUT (2)	Minutes from December 13-14, 2011 Trustee Council meeting
HANDOUT (3)	Revised Montrose Trustee Council Cost Reimbursement Guideline
HANDOUT (4)	Status Summary of Montrose cost packages
HANDOUT (5)	Pricing plan options for live stream without advertising
HANDOUT (6)	Evaluation of Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Fishing Outreach Mini-Grant Program 2007-2011 Report
HANDOUT (7)	Bald Eagle Restoration on the Channel Islands 10 th Annual Report January –December 2011

AGENDA TOPIC GENERAL BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	<p>The meeting began with introductions of those in attendance for the new Trustee Council representative Sarah Mongano (California State Lands Commission.)</p> <p><u>General Business</u> Council members approved minutes from 2011 budget meeting. A handout was provided of 2011 meeting minutes.</p> <p>A summary of cost packages was discussed and a handout of the current status of all agencies was provided.</p>
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The following cost packages were ratified by council members:

2006 National Park Service \$432,465.78
2007 National Park Service \$224,465.31
2009 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \$1,986,122.87
2010 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \$1,039,213.63

Packages that are submitted and pending certification by Cotton & Co are:

2008 National Park Service
2009 National Park Service
2010 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
2011 California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Cost packages that are outstanding and have not been submitted are:

2010 National Park Service, California State Lands Commission
2011 National Park Service, California State Lands Commission, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

2012 National Park Service, California State Lands Commission, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has not submitted expenses or a cost package since 2005.

Under the current cost guidelines, agencies with delinquent cost packages would be denied new funding. However, given administrative challenges in the past and the Trustee Council's recent, largely successful, push to get cost packages up to date, the Trustee Council discussed their willingness to grant an exception to policy for certain agencies with delinquent cost packages. Language to this effect will be included in a Trustee Council resolution.

Additional discussion was held about administrative cost reimbursement guidelines, which the Council had previously agreed to revise. Chris Plaisted reviewed the proposed changes, which included, amongst other things, a new cost documentation deadline of one year after the calendar year of the cost package (instead of 6 months). There was also a proposed change that the penalty for missing this deadline, denial of new funding, would be limited to administrative funds, so as to not stop progress on project implementation.

Other edits to the cost guidelines: add a reference about CERCLA laws and the applicable sections and adding the word "implementation." In Section 4, add language that says the Trustees will decide if there is a nexus between the administrative cost meeting restoration goals. In the travel section, a revision will be made to say that receipts will be provided and the word "subsistence" will be removed since per diem applies. Also language will be added as further explanation for travel costs being contained in the budget.

Chris Plaisted will revise the cost guidelines and send the rough draft to Lisa Wolfe-Kolb for review. A new draft will be sent out to the council and a resolution will be made to adopt the revised guidelines.

Cost package documents need to have personally identifiable information (PII) such as credit card numbers, social security numbers, etc. redacted prior to submission. Packages will be sent for co-trustee review electronically and printed copies will be sent on request. Trustee agencies are requested to send smaller cost packages electronically when they are ready for review. Agencies whose packages are larger (USFWS, NPS, NOAA) should not include staples when submitting paper copies that are too large to scan. It was decided that agencies should submit monthly summary sheets of personnel and hours rather than individual time sheets.

BUDGET - Jennifer Boyce led a section-by-section review and discussion of the proposed 2013 budget.

Overview

There is close to \$4M in the NOAA account so a decrease in disbursement to NOAA is reflected in the 2013 budget. USFWS has carryover to cover 2013 costs so no funding advance is needed. The NPS has \$150,000 in carryover funds that will be applied toward 2013 costs.

A discussion was held about average Trustee Council hours which have been reduced in the 2013 budget for cost savings. The Trustee Council discussed ways to reduce labor hours, thereby reducing administrative costs, and some resulting changes were made to the Trustee Council administrative budget.

Trustee Council

Jennifer Boyce discussed adding an accounting person to work on budget tracking. A placeholder for a cost accounting support was added underneath Cotton & Co. Also, a California State University Long Beach intern program has been added to the budget. One or two interns will be hired to assist the team with fish-related projects, outreach and communications activities, and with maintenance of the fish webcam. .

Outreach

Gabrielle Dorr gave a presentation of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program [MSRP] 2012 outreach accomplishments. The *What's the Catch* comic book was revised and re-printed to include updated fish consumption information. A revised Website/Webcam postcard was printed as a tool to direct the public to the MSRP multi-media features and viewing of the Huntington Beach Wetlands Fish cam and the Channel Islands Bald Eagle cam.

An update was given on the MSRP Public Information Project. Several goals of the project have been met so far including: 1) Developing an evaluation tool for the Outreach Mini-grant Programs; and 2) Completing a final draft of past program performance. Next steps are to finalize the report and complete a report on the first year data collection.

MSRP staff participated in four public fishing events in 2012: Day at the Docks with Marina Del Rey Anglers, Fisherman's Appreciation Day with FCEC, Seal Beach Fishing Derby with the Seal Beach Rotary Club and the Fishing Rodeo with the Tuna Club.

MSRP also participated in four general 2012 outreach events: Earth Day and NOAA Day at the Aquarium of the Pacific, Earth Day at SEA Lab, and Sea Fair at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

DISCUSSION

MSRP coordinated the second annual Bald Eagle Festival held at the NPS Visitors Center. The event had better attendance than the previous year which was probably due to the date, better advertising, and good weather.

Highlights of the MSRP Grant Program Fishing Outreach Mini-Grants were provided:

Youth Fishing Project with the Marina Del Rey Anglers is a program that included bringing youth groups on a fishing boat; teaching them about fish contamination, learning how to fish and properly filet fresh fish. This program reached over 400 youth from centers across Los Angeles.

Fun Fishing Program through SEA Lab of Redondo Beach held a program that included three hours of hands-on sessions to learn about contamination moving up the food chain, learning how to identify fish, how to fish from a pier and proper filet techniques.

Data was presented for the following:

- The MSRP website
- User and pages most visited data
- Website traffic sources data
- Pages most visited

Fish Webcam user data and update

- Increased number of views by 2,000+ since August 2012
- Increased number of followers in crowd by 13
- Viewers from 40 countries
- Received student observation forms from classroom teacher
- Contacted MSRP partners about linking to or broadcasting video stream
- Orange County Coastkeeper embedded live feed on website page about eelgrass restoration
- Continuous live streaming since July 2012

The Huntington Beach Fish Webcam live feed and information about MSRP is posted on the Orange County Coastkeeper website.

Social Media Update

A social media and web strategy was developed in 2012.

- Increase traffic to website by 20%
- Calculated a 49% increase between 2nd and 3rd quarter
- Increase number of fans on Facebook
- Five additional fans this year
- Increase posting to Facebook (3-4 times/week)

- More interaction from fans (comments and likes up to 6 or 7 on posts)

Second Year Kiosk Data

Data indicates that there were 230,299 users of the MSRP interactive kiosk over the past 2+ years at three locations in Southern California (SEA Lab Redondo Beach, California Science Center, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and National Park Service).

Seabird Protection Network Chapter Update

- Letter of Intent to jointly expand the network and support received
- Presented information about the Channel Islands Chapter at the 8th California Islands Symposia
- Distributed 1,000 seabird cards to various resource users in 2012
- Santa Cruz Island Landing Permit Holders (TNC)
- Boater Education Program (Santa Monica Bay Foundation)
- Channel Islands Outfitters
- Park Marine Patrol Rangers (NPS)
- Yacht Club Members
- Presented at 4 local yacht clubs in 2012
- Chapter kick-off meeting in March 2013

The outreach budget proposal for 2013 includes the following:

FISHING OUTREACH

- Fishing Outreach Program Mini-grants recommendations
 - Fund the following programs (\$40,000 total)
 - SEA Lab-Fun Fishing Program (\$20K)
 - Marina Del Rey Anglers-Youth Fishing Project (\$10K)
 - City of Los Angeles-Cabrillo Beach Pier Fishing Program (\$10K)
- Fish Contamination Education Continuum [FCEC] Angler Outreach*
 - Recommendations for FCEC Angler Outreach
 - Fund Collaboration with FCEC (\$10,000 total)
 - Promotion of Los Anglers Website (\$4700)
 - Google Online Ads
 - Questions & Anglers Forum Credibility Building

Support for Fishermen's Appreciation Day (\$5495)

- Costs to cover successful event

•Sponsoring Sport Fishing Events

Goal: To promote sport fishing and support sport fishing groups through monetary sponsorship (\$1,000)

Steps:

- Consult with Council legal advisors regarding constraints in terms of sponsoring
- Generate a list of all Fishing Events within contaminated area
- Contact sport fishing groups and ask about how we could contribute to their event monetarily (i.e. purchase fishing rods, bait, raffle prizes, etc.)
- Promote our involvement with the event by posting our logo on event flyers and providing outreach materials

•Removing Advertising from online video streaming service*

- Six months @ \$249/month (\$4482)
 - 4,000 viewer hours per month
- Discuss other options for future (see hand-out)
 - *A cost analysis of Internet video stream options without advertising was presented comparing different vendors
- Current contract runs until April 2013

GENERAL OUTREACH

•Newsletter Costs

Electronic newsletters will continue and costs are included in the 2013 budget.

•Social Media Promotion

Increasing social media presence by using ads (\$1,000)

Justification

- Social media is ubiquitous and a commonly used outreach tool by nearly all government agencies.
- Targeted social media ads have proven extremely successful. For example, FCEC had around 100 fans and then ran two ads costing \$700 and they now have almost 2000 fans
- Social media ads are less expensive than traditional advertising
- Funding for outreach events
- Event Advertising

- California State University Long Beach Internship Program begins in January 2012 (approx. \$19K)
 - Ability to hire interns through CSULB
 - Funds are for 2 interns x 20 hours per week x 10 weeks x \$12 hour for 3 work periods (spring, summer, fall)
 - Intern positions: Biological Science and Communications

FISH

Belmont Pier Artificial Reef

The project is moving forward. The City of Long Beach is the lead CEQA agency. The attorneys for the City have been consulted and have indicated the city's readiness to go ahead with the project. The city has been the principal landowner since 1910.

Kelp Restoration Project

\$788,000 is included in the 2013 budget for this project. This funding will support the project from May 2013 to the end of 2013.

Other project details were presented:

- Compliance monitoring for restoration sites on Palos Verdes is nearing completion; 3.5 of 5 completed. (Waterkeeper and Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation [SMBRF]).
- Response monitoring for restoration and kelp sites has been completed by Vantuna Research Group and SMBRF.
- A site meeting for boat staging at the Southern California Marine Institute is scheduled for November 30, 2012,
- A presentation on the project was presented to the California Ocean Science Trust, California State Coastal Conservancy, California Ocean Protection Council, Marine Monitoring Enterprise conducted November 16th.
- Permitting for Scientific Collection Permit from California Department of Fish and Game is in process. Ten urchin divers will be used.
- A California Multifunction Fish Business License has been obtained.
- There will be an in person meeting with Bob Bertelli, President Commercial Sea Urchin Harvester Commission on October 18, 2012.
- A recruitment event for volunteers is scheduled for December 4, 2012 at Eco Dive Center

Rocky Reef Restoration Project

The goal of this project is the restore four rocky reefs that are buried by sediment near Portuguese Bend. One of the four areas originally considered has been identified as being too close to underwater pipelines, leaving three areas for the project. Oceanographic work will be done between April and June 2013. The reef design and plan will be finalized by the end of 2013. There is a possibility of collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency on this project. The proposed project budget is \$519,749 for three areas.

Huntington Beach Wetlands

Monitoring is ongoing on this project. No additional funds requested for this year.

EPA Sediment and Fish Tracking Study

David Witting gave council members an overview of recent findings by the EPA's sediment study of the Palos Verdes shelf.

Fish Tracking

David Witting summarized recent data on White Croaker and Barred Sand Bass [BSB] from the Fish Tracking project in the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.

White Croaker tracking data indicated:

- 47% (46 of 97) white croaker entered the harbor
- 28 of the 46 individuals returned to the array from the Harbor
- Most of the movements into and out of the Harbor were at night
- Harbor gate receivers are showing directionality of movement
- Travel times between array and Harbor for these fish was < 4 hrs
- Fish moved to deeper water in the winter outside of the tracking area
- There was some indication of site fidelity

Barred Sand Bass tracking data since July 15, 2010 indicated:

- 55 barred sand bass tagged
- 55 detected within the array
- 844,658 detections

Barred sand bass exposure to the contaminated area of the Palos Verdes shelf left the shelf and went south toward Huntington Beach flats rather than Redondo Beach.

Mobile receivers were used to expand coverage beyond Palos Verdes to Santa Monica Bay and Huntington Flats. The receivers were deployed from CPFV's, research vessels, and private vessels by volunteers. The date, time, and GPS location was recorded for each deployment.

In summer of 2011 there were 83 separate deployments and 18 total barred sand bass detections. Five individual barred sand bass were detected. All detections occurred to the southeast in the areas of Horseshoe Kelp and Huntington Flats. The average migration of the barred sand bass was 26.1 ± 4 km and the longest migration was 29.9 km. 24 barred sand bass were detected outside of the tracking array.

Dave Witting recommended the council support additional fish sampling to collect and analyze barred sand bass from the Huntington Flats. Measurements have not been taken since 2002. Frozen fish samples from 2008 were done as a baseline survey of the Ports and this area will be sampled again in 2013. The Bight '13 project would not be an option to gather data in support of changing the "Do Not Consume" advisory for barred sand bass.

Carol Roberts supports a project that would look at the diet of receptor species.

California Condor Presentation

Joe Burnett and Kelly Sorenson with the Ventana Wildlife Society gave a presentation on California Condor restoration in Central California. The presentation to the Trustee Council is for information purposes and to initiate discussion. The Ventana Wildlife Society is seeking additional funding to sustain their work for five years due to low hatch success rate and high amounts of DDE in egg contents. The Trustee Council will take the proposal into consideration. Council members will also review data that will be available with the release of Myra Finkelstein's condor study (that was funded by MSRP) in March 2013. Annie Little will send out copies of the Finkelstein report to the Council when it is ready.

BALD EAGLES

Annie Little gave an update on the Bald Eagle restoration in the Channel Islands. Overall there are currently about 60 bald eagles on all the Channel Islands. There are 10 territories in the Northern Channel Islands [NCI] (about 30-35 bald eagles) and seven territories on Catalina Islands (about 20-25 eagles).

In 2012 Catalina Island had 6 nesting attempts (9 chicks hatched; 6 fledged); Triplets at West End nest; Pinnacle Rock nest had a new male (3 eggs did not hatch); the Twin Rocks nest also had a new male, but did not nest. An Island Fox was captured on video taking a three-week old chick from the nest at Twin Harbors.

In the NCI there were ten nesting attempts. Overall, 10 chicks hatched and 8 fledged. On Santa Cruz Island [SCI] the Pelican Harbor, Sauces, Malva Real, Cueva Valdez nests successful. There were also two first time nesters at Fry's Harbor (A-46/A-24) and Los Pinos on Santa Cruz Island that failed during incubation. A-49 (1st natural hatch from 2006) & A-64 (her brother from 2008) nested at Fraser Point on Santa Cruz Island. This is a milestone being the second-generation of natural hatched eagles. Even though they successfully hatched chick, it died within a few days. On Santa Rosa Island [SRI], the Trap Canyon and Lopey Canyon pairs were successful. On Anacapa Island the Oak Canyon pair failed.

The funding proposal for 2013 was discussed. Per the MSRP Phase 2 Plan, 2013 is the first year of reduced funding for the Bald Eagle program. The budget for Institute for Wildlife Studies [IWS] was reduced from ~\$454K/yr (2012) to ~\$325K/yr for 2013. Staffing was reduced (now there is only a Project Director, an on-Island NCI Project Leader, a 9-month technician on Catalina and a 3-month technician on the NCI). This reduced level of funding will be maintained through 2017.

Web cameras on Sauces Canyon, Pelican Harbor, West End, and Two Harbors nests will be maintained. There have been technical issues with the Ventura County Office of Education [VCOE] so consideration will be given to using UStream without ads. There is a potential for several new nests on SCI and SRI in 2013. A complete manuscript on first 5 years (2002-2006) of NCI Program will be submitted in 2013.

PEREGRINE FALCONS

Annie Little updated the Trustee Council on 2012 Peregrine Falcon restoration activities. The 2007 Peregrine Falcon Report was completed in May 2012. An RFP for survey work was opened on August 17- September 18, 2012. Two applications were received. On October 4, 2012 the review team made the selection for Institute for IWSIWS to conduct the surveys and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation notified the applicants in October 2012. IWS is in the process of securing permits. Joe Barnes was added to team due to extensive PEFA and nest entry experience.

SEABIRDS

Jennifer Boyce suggested pulling together all the scientific papers published through the Montrose program in electronic form to be posted on the web site. The Trustee Council agreed with this suggestion.

Ashy-Storm Petrel Project

The goal in the Phase 1 restoration plan for Ashy Storm Petrels (ASSP) is to re-establish the colony on Orizaba Rock of Santa Cruz Island using social attraction and artificial habitat. Ravens became a problem as they were attracted to the artificial habitat structures. Social attraction will not be used in 2013. Song meters will be put out in sea caves and monitoring will continue in 2013. In 2013, attempts will be made to modify artificial habitat to make it raven-proof. Holly Gellerman suggested consulting experts on the design of the artificial ASSP habitat who have dealt with raven issues before. Holly Gellerman also suggested putting monitoring on hold until reports are received. Council agreed that the work is too important to stop and Jennifer Boyce and Annie Little will continue to press researchers to complete their reports. Concern was raised over late reports on seabird projects that are past due. Jennifer Boyce and Annie Little will discuss with Laurie Harvey and Frank Gress and come up with a

plan and scheduled deliverables. Reductions were made to the ASSP budget since Harry Carter will not be assisting on the project so he can have time to complete his outstanding reports. Scorpion Rock
 Between 2008-2011, over 8,000 plants were planted to restore seabird habitat. Cassin's Auklets reproductive success has likely increased and there was a decrease in predation. The plan for 2013 is to continue site maintenance, nest monitoring, and complete outstanding reports. The Scorpion Rock plant nursery was turned over to the National Park Service.

San Nicolas Island Project

Follow up work for Island Fox monitoring in 2012 is complete. Genetic samples from most of the feral cats were sent to UC Davis for analysis. No funds are allocated for monitoring in 2013. The outstanding seabird reports for this project will be completed in 2013.

Baja Seabird Project

The contract for work on projects outlined in the Phase 2 Restoration Plan for Conservacion de Islas was approved by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation [NFWF]. Work will begin in 2013.

Anacapa Island

In 2013, emphasis will be placed on finishing up report on assessment work. There may be one trip in June to check status of known ASSP nesting site, but no additional work is planned.

Santa Barbara Island [SBI]

The goal for restoration on SBI is to restore seabird nesting habitat for Scripps's Murrelets [SCMU] and re-establish Cassin's Auklets [CAAU]. 15,000 plants were grown on-island and out planted between 2007-2011, across 4.5 acres in five restoration sites. In 2012, 5,000 plants were out planted. The first confirmed nesting of a Cassin's Auklet since 1994 was found in April 2009. In 2012, there were four nesting pairs at the Landing Cove site.

In 2013, SCMU and CAAU monitoring, nest searches and outplanting will continue as well as the Barn Owl study. Outplanting will continue with goal of 2,500 plants over multiple plots. Social attraction will not be used in 2013. Goal is to also complete several of the outstanding seabird reports for this project.

Holly Gellerman suggested keeping social attraction off in the spring because mice who prey on seabird eggs like green vegetation which is helped by spring rain.

Data and preliminary conclusions from the report "Living on the Edge: Spatiotemporal Patterns of Barn Owl Predation on Scripps's Murrelets" by Sarah K. Thomsen and Laurie Harvey was presented. Sarah Thomsen is proposing a continuation of work in 2013 to look at the factors influencing depredation of SCMU on SBI. Proposed objectives for her 2013 work are: (1) Quantify changes in owl diet over changing densities of prey, (2) Quantify space use of owls in relation to mice and murrelets, and (3) Quantify murrelet egg depredation in relation to owl habitat use. Proposed methods to accomplish these goals were presented.

AGENDA TOPIC	WRAP UP	JENNIFER BOYCE
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DISCUSSION	Jennifer Boyce will send out a slightly revised budget and disbursement resolution before the end of the year. A second resolution for the revised cost reimbursement guidelines will also be sent to the Trustee Council for signature.
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END MINUTES	MEETING ADJOURNED	JENNIFER BOYCE
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DISCUSSION	End of minutes. Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm
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