

MEETING MINUTES

**East Alameda County Conservation Strategy
Steering Committee Meeting
January 8, 2008
1 – 3 pm
Zone 7 Conference Room 150**

ATTENDEES

Mary Lim - Zone 7

Troy Rahmig – Jones & Stokes

Eric Brown, Cheri Sheets, Steve Stewart, and Susan Frost – City of Livermore

Mark Lander and Jeff Baker – City of Dublin

Elizabeth McElligott – Alameda County

Stefan Garcia – Axis Consulting Engineers for ACCMA

Scott Wilson, Liam Davis and Marcia Grefsrud – DFG

- 1) Update on Prop 50 grant
 - a) No representative from ACRCO or NRCS was available to provide an update on the Prop 50 grant.
 - b) The City of Livermore will contact ACRCO and NRCS to get an update.

- 2) Phase 1 Work Progress
 - a) JSA has been working on the following items:
 - i) Selection criteria for focal species (i.e. developing a more thorough list from one that was developed previously)
 - ii) Land use characterization – making sure that it is common to what the cities are using
 - iii) Began land cover exercise
 - (1) Draft land cover classification system that will be consistent with adjacent habitat conservation plans
 - (2) Digitizing is underway
 - b) Draft work products will be available for the February 13th Steering Committee meeting.

- 3) January 17th Information Meeting
 - a) The interest letter, application & facts sheet were emailed out on Friday, January 4th. Received responses from Alameda County Public Works, Charles Crohare, Ohlone Audubon Society, Tri-Valley Conservancy, and Phil Wentz. Scott suggested that this information be forwarded on to the two mitigation banks in Alameda County.
 - i) ACTION ITEM: Mary will forward the information to the Alameda County mitigation banks.
 - b) Press release – A draft press release was distributed for the Steering Committee’s review & comment.
 - i) The press release will include each agency’s logo on the top and will be released on Friday.
 - c) Agenda - The Steering Committee reviewed the draft agenda provided and had the following comments:
 - i) Under Project Introduction and Purpose, it was suggested that we discuss other ongoing conservation efforts in and around the area and how it relates to the EACCS.
 - ii) For the discussion of the Users Advisory Group Role portion, it was suggested that we discuss how the Steering Committee will be selecting representatives, generally. We want to highlight the time commitment that we are asking of representatives in the Users Advisory Group. In addition, we want to discuss future opportunities for public input in this section.

- iii) When discussing the Phase 1 Scope, the Steering Committee agreed that this be kept as an overview with minimal detail. Details will be discussed at Users Advisory Group meetings.
 - iv) A question & answer section has been added.
 - v) The first EACCS Users Advisory Group Meeting will tentatively be on Thursday, February 28th at 4 pm at Zone 7.
 - d) Selection of Representatives for the Users Advisory Group
 - i) There was a concern that we may receive more than the 25 – 30 representatives that we prefer on the Users Advisory Group. What criteria will be used to determine who should be a representative?
 - ii) Suggested criteria
 - (1) Balance of interest
 - (2) 1 representative per agency/group
 - (3) How the applicant will be using the strategy
 - (4) Ability of the applicant to work in a collaborative manner
 - (5) Supportive of the effort
 - (6) Commitment to being a part of the process
 - iii) The Steering Committee agreed to hold a meeting on February 6th at 10 am at Zone 7 for those interested in going through the Users Advisory Group applications.
 - e) Outreach Materials – Materials that will be provided at the information meeting will include:
 - i) Study area map
 - ii) Flow chart of the process
 - iii) Phase 1 schedule
 - iv) JSA will send out a draft presentation to the Steering Committee for their review & comment
 - f) First Users Advisory Group Meeting was tentatively set for Thursday, February 28th at 4 pm at Zone 7.
- 4) Outreach Needs – The Steering Committee discussed public outreach needs while the strategy is being developed.
 - a) EACCS Website
 - i) The Steering Committee discussed places where EACCS information will be presented on the internet. Currently, Zone 7 has a page on their website that has a summary of the EACCS effort. In addition, Mary is working with USFWS staff to set up a page on their site for the EACCS.
 - ii) The Steering Committee agreed that a stand alone website is needed to ensure that up to date information on the EACCS is posted. However, we need assistance in setting up the website. The City of Livermore has staff that will likely be able to maintain the website while the EACCS is developed. When the strategy is final, USFWS & DFG will post the final document on their respective websites.
 - b) Updates to various interest groups
 - i) The Steering Committee discussed the need to provide updates to certain interests groups in the future.
 - ii) The group agreed that those on the Steering Committee that are on other committees will provide updates. However, there needs to be common outreach materials developed to ensure the same message is conveyed.
 - c) ACTION ITEM: JSA will provide a cost estimate to set up a website, prepare common outreach materials and facilitate public meetings for discussion at the next Steering Committee meeting.
- 5) Next Steering Committee Meeting Date: **Wednesday, February 13, 2008**