

**UNB RESTORATION POLICY TEAM
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Meeting Date: Monday, August 1, 2005

Meeting Time : 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Interpretive Center

Attendees: Matt Yurko (CCC) Roger Mallett (NBNF)
Irwin Haydock (NBNF) Don Millar (NBNF)
Jack Keating (NBNF) Melissa Ervin (The Nature Conservancy)
Rik Katzmeier (NBNF)

Prior to the business portion of the meeting, Melissa Ervin gave a presentation on the weed management practices used by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) on Irvine Ranch Land Reserve lands. She talked about physical, biological and chemical control options and addressed the specific herbicides used to control artichoke thistle, garland chrysanthemum, pampas grass, sweet fennel, and Spanish broom. She discussed the key repositories of weed control information and furnished links to information sources in an email to Jack Keating following after the meeting. Links include <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/index.html> (the TNC weed site.)

1. The minutes of the 5/9/05 Restoration Team meeting were approved.
2. Matt will reattempt to set up a tour of the UC Natural Reserve System/San Joaquin Fresh Water Marsh Reserve with Peter Bowler. Peter will be back in town from August 8 to September 8. A Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday lunch time works best for those present.
3. Matt reported that there had been no further progress on the green waste disposal guidelines because of the recent extensive HBP ranger training and the recent transfer of Joy to Caspers. Currently green waste was being taken by stakebed to a green waste disposal site in Irvine which charges \$14/ton, and we have the green waste dumpster on Shellmaker which only gets filled once every several months. Haulage fee is \$100, so the annual cost is not excessive. It appears that more extensive guidelines are not needed at the moment. Matt will advise the Team if he feels the situation changes.
4. Jack reported on the status of the “Design Guidelines for Site Elements” document. Jack indicated that no comments had been received back from the Management Coalition, and so it should be considered approved and available to be officially issued to those involved in design projects at UNB. Jack provided Melissa with a copy.
5. Based on the information presented by Melissa, it appeared that effort should not be expended at this time creating UNB Guidelines for Planting/Exotic Removal, since much of this information could be obtained from TNC. Matt will continue to take the lead in addressing needs and suitable methods on a project by project basis, and will work with other members of the Team as appropriate.
6. Matt reported on the status of the various ROOTS projects. The Newport Valley grant ends this month. Most of the objectives have been accomplished. There is still a lot of additional pampas grass removal and other work that can be done there. This is city property and it may be possible to use San Diego Creek mitigation money for use here. Matt will investigate total acreage and how much is riparian and will then discuss with Jan Vandersloot. Planting is done and the watering experiment is proceeding well at Bay View Mesa. They intend to put up permanent marker signs by December. Signs will be put back

at the Big Canyon native plant demonstration area. Wednesday Steward Days continue to be held at Bay View Mesa instead of on Shellmaker. For the fall Matt is planning to place willows where the myoporium was removed below the IC. Joy has transferred all of the community-based restoration work in the Nature Preserve to Matt. Matt handed out a draft plan for reorganizing and expanding the ROOTS program and creating a new umbrella brand name for the whole restoration/education program. ROOTS would be used solely to refer to the Saturday community event days. His plans were greeted favorably by the Team.

7. Jack provided an update on the West Bay projects on behalf of Joni. There has been no progress on either West Bay Access and Restoration Project. FEMA and HBP have met to discuss funding priorities for the West Border Trail and parking lot storm damage repairs, but funding approval has not been received from FEMA. However HBP intends to proceed so as to complete the needed work before the next rainy season. Joni is currently working with an expert at the ENC in developing the Butterfly Garden at the IC..
8. Jack reported that the City has not yet gone out to bid on the detailed design and permitting phase of the Big Canyon project. This is because of internal staffing constraints. (NOTE: The RFP for Big Canyon was released on 8/15. Please contact Jack if you would like a copy of the Phase II RFP)
9. Jack provided an update on DFG projects on behalf of Brian. The RFQ for the South Shellmaker Demonstration Marsh project has been issued. Work is proceeding on the new Ecological Reserve Management Plan. It should be completed next year.
10. Jack reported on the status of the Corps dredging project. The House of Representatives have approved \$2 million and the Senate \$7 million. They will go to conference after Labor Day to agree on an amount. The California Coastal Conservancy will provide the 35% non-federal funding up-front to allow work to begin this fall on restoration components with or without the full federal portion. This includes old dredge spoil removal. However doing some of the restoration work funded by the California Coastal Conservancy before the sediment basins are dug may be problematic.
11. Jack reported on a change in philosophy within the County which will lead to water quality, storm water management and development being addressed more holistically on a watershed basis.
12. Jack reported that IRWD is planning to expand its Michelson Plant, and that UCI has taken issue with certain aspects of the IRWD proposal. Jack wondered whether or not the team should be providing comments on this or other proposal that may change the makeup of the Bay. Irwin will look at the UCI comments to see if this is something we need to address.
13. The date for the next meeting will be Monday, November 7, 2005 from 3-5 pm at the Interpretive Center.

Minutes prepared by Roger Mallett
August 3, 2005