

**UNB RESTORATION TEAM
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Draft 4/20/07

Meeting Date: Monday, February 5, 2007

Meeting Time : 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Interpretive Center

Attendees:	Matt Yurko (California Coastal Commission)	Jim Cokas (NBNF)
	Shane Burckle (City of Newport Beach)	Tom Fox (NBNF)
	Jennifer Naegele (County HBP)	Irwin Haydock (NBNF)
	Susan Brodeur (County RDMD)	Rik Katzmeier (NBNF)
	Jeff Stoddard (Department of Fish and Game)	Jack Keating (NBNF)
		Roger Mallett (NBNF)

1. The minutes of the 11/6/06 Restoration Team meeting were approved.
2. UCI RESERVE TOUR. Matt reported that this tour is still being planned. Because of a recent bereavement Peter Bowler has not been available to make the arrangements.

Action Item: Matt will continue working to make the tour happen.

- ~~3.~~ IRVINE RANCH ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT FUND. Matt reported that Irvine Ranch Land Reserve Trust had been approached about a possible grant for community-based restoration, but the grant was denied. He said the IRLRT is interested in supporting UNB restoration projects on a larger scale that will be defined in the UNB Comprehensive Resource Management Plan (CRMP).
4. ROOTS PROJECTS. Matt reported that ROOTS events are proving very successful with an average of 80-90 volunteers at each program and 13 different organizations and about 130 individuals at the last one. Participation included California Conservation Corps which is very beneficial since they have the heavy equipment and trained manpower to tackle larger projects. A total of 2,200 plants have been put in as part of the South Shellmaker Demonstration Project. Plants are doing fairly well. Roughly 1,300 plants remain in the nursery in reserve. Plants are also being propagated for Bolsa Chica. Plants survived the recent frost quite well with only minor leaf damage to some.

Action Item: Matt will copy the Restoration Team when he sends program attendance and other data to Jean Whitaker for inclusion in the bay-wide metrics.

Action Item: Roger will have Rita McCoy try to recruit more Naturalists to help with ROOTS events. There are 8 or 9 regulars at the moment, but this is not enough given the increased attendance at ROOTS and Second Sundays events.

Action Item: Matt and Tom will discuss tool and other needs for 2007 and provide estimated costs to Roger for inclusion in the 2007 NBNF budget. Any major capital expenditures should also be identified so that grants can be written. The need for a tool trailer has already been

identified. Storage location, and availability of a truck to be used to tow it needs to be addressed. Roger will include this in the agenda for the next Management Coalition meeting.

Action Item: Matt, Tom and Roger will work with Jeff to move ROOTS equipment and supplies out of the Block Building which will be demolished at the end of the month.

Action Item: Matt will discuss with Shane the graffiti on the interpretive signs at the Bayview restoration site and determine how to go about notifying the police about the problem and any future occurrences.

Action Item: Matt and Portia will continue to examine ownership issues to enable a permit application to be made by the County and/or City to the Coastal Commission for signage at the end of Mesa Drive for the Bayview project.

5. HBP PROJECTS. Jennifer reported that the Butterfly Habitat project is essentially complete, and the Boand Foundation has provided the last installment of the \$25,000 pledged for this project. HBP will cover the cost of additional plants needed and planting will be done as a Second Sundays community project. An irrigation system is ideally needed. Once the current work is finished, Boand will be asked to fund the project along with other needs. Habitat Sundays are going great. Jennifer thanked Tom Fox for all of his hard work with 2nd Sundays volunteer events. The ongoing service learning project with Early College High School is going well. There was an article in the Daily Pilot about the last planting they did. Jennifer thanked Matt, Tom, Don Millar and Peter Ridley for their involvement. Matt and UCI have been involved in a major pulling of iceplant at Constellation. Replanting below the Interpretive Center has been put on hold because a burrowing owl has taken up residence.

Action Item: Jennifer will ask Bill Reiter if Jack should get involved in rekindling HBP management interest in the OC Coastkeeper water conservation project at the corner of University and Irvine. OC Coastkeeper is still ready to fundraise as soon as they get the go-ahead.

Action Item: Jennifer indicated that a county crew is lined up to spray pampas grass, mostly at 23rd Street and Constellation, but also at Eastbluff. There is a large amount on private property there. Jack and Jennifer will talk about feasibility of county doing the privately owned area and the protocol needed for working with the homeowners association to accomplish this. It was noted that a pre-established protocol needs to be incorporated in the CRMP since this type of situation will arise routinely in the future.

6. WEST BAY RESTORATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT: Ernie Siedel was not present to report on the status of the "6-Acre" project. Jennifer did receive a copy of the project specifications, which she will forward to the rest of the Restoration Team, but she does not know anything more about where the project is.

Action Item: Roger will email Ernie to find out if the Board of Supervisors has approved the project to go out to bid, whether or not the bid package includes a permanent fence along the trail, whether or not a monitoring program arranged by HBP staff with volunteers to determine the long-term effectiveness of the planting and erosion control provisions is incorporated, and when the public outreach program at the IC to enlist support in helping make the project successful is planned.

7. WEST BAY TRAIL RESTORATION: Jennifer reported that she does not know the exact status on the 23rd Street trail restoration. There has been no erosion this winter because of the lack of rain. It is likely that any measures will be temporary pending development of the CRMP.
8. SINK HOLE: Jennifer reported on a large sinkhole on county property on the east side of the Bay. The hole was created by the collapse of an abandoned storm drain line. The hole has been pumped out and filled with riprap, but still needs to be topped off to mitigate the safety hazard. The issue of where the water came from and likely continues to come from still needs to be addressed, as does the need for measures to prevent sediment and pathogens entering the Bay.

Action Item: Jennifer will investigate what steps are being taken by county management to resolve the problem.

9. HORSE ARENA: This City project, which is part of the Santa Ana Heights redevelopment, involves the creation of a new horse arena on County Flood Control property adjacent to Delhi Channel to replace the unofficial arena on the nearby hilltop. Dennis Baker of NBNF is working with the homeowners and other stakeholders to arrive at a set of plans and other documents that address all of the issues. When he believes that all items have been satisfactorily addressed, he will bring the design before the Restoration Team for discussion. Key provisions include zero discharge to the Bay under 100-year storm conditions, and very tight restrictions on usage to local owners only. The city is very concerned that use does not expand and Shane indicated that his department in ensuring that local zoning requirements are followed. Anonymous reports of activities such as horse boarding in violation of zoning are encouraged with as much detail as possible. Separate from the horse arena there are issues relating to the rogue trails that zigzag up and down between the official Bay View trail and the properties along Mesa Drive.

Action Item: Jack will check to see if the vacant parcel of land northeast of the proposed site was a feasible option for the arena.

10. BIG CANYON RESTORATION: Roger reported on the presentation by WRC at the monthly Naturalist meeting held on February 1. WRC is doing the detailed design and permitting phase of the project, based on the “historic tidelands” option recommended by CCI in the conceptual design phase. Tidelands will be re-established where the parking lot and the fresh water pond currently are. A new pond will be constructed upstream and Back Bay Drive rerouted inland of the new tidelands. The habitat improvement, flood mitigation and long-term maintenance components were all well-received. However there was a strong feeling that the interpretive components, including the proposed amphitheater as well as the associated access roads and parking, were excessive. This aspect of the design will be rethought.
11. SOUTH SHELLMAKER DEMONSTRATION PROJECT: See Item 4 above.
12. BACK BAY SCIENCE CENTER LANDSCAPING: Jack indicated that he thought John Scholl was going to seek \$10,000 to buy plants that Tree of Life would grow and volunteers would plant.

Action Item: Jeff will check with John on this.

13. UNBER LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN (LMP): Jeff reported that he had not had a chance to look at this project in any detail. As far as Jeff is aware the contractor is still working on the LMP.

Action Item: Once more pressing items such as the demolition of the block building on Shellmaker have been addressed, Jeff will obtain latest documents from the contractor and establish when internal review and the public meeting can take place.

14. COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CRMP): Jack reported that the City has formed a council member and staff Bay Issues Committee to drive City actions in leading development of the CRMP. As previously reported, HBP has agreed to fund 20% of the cost with the City funding the remainder on behalf of itself and DFG. It is anticipated that the project will occur in three phases. The first will involve the stakeholders in defining the objectives of the CRMP. In the second and third phases, the plan would be developed and implemented.

15. UNB TRAIL PLANNING: Discussion took place on the need to establish which were official trails and which were rogue trails and what action should be taken with respect to them. The Bay Map previously produced by the Management Coalition but not officially published yet should be a starting point. See also under Item 17.

Action Item: Jeff and Jennifer will work together to decide which of the smaller rogue trails can be closed off immediately and which will require more thought to provide suitable alternate routes for the public to follow and thus prevent the closures from being circumvented.

16. ACOE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT: Susan reported that the contractor will be bringing back the suction dredge to use in building up the new island. The contractor still intends to level and resurface the Hot Dog Tern Island before the breeding season. The team had doubts as to whether this work could be accomplished by March 15, and will make plans to have the February 24 ROOTS project do vegetation removal and soil loosening in preparation for least tern nesting.

Action Item: Jack will check with Oriana, the contractor's project manager to see if the resurfacing of Hot Dog Tern Island can indeed be done in time.

Note: Following the meeting Jack contacted Oriana and was advised that the contractor is working to an April 15 date as the start of the least tern breeding season per ACOE specs. Jeff has verified the April 15 date is correct.

17. ROBINSON POINT PROJECT: Jack explained the intention to rename Vista Point (also historically known as the Friends Lookout) to Robinson Point. Jack reported that the permit application to the Coastal Commission is still not approved. The Coastal Commission has requested permit information on the existing fencing, stone and other items at the Friends Lookout. These items were all installed in 1985 or before, at which time permits were not believed necessary. This has been communicated to the Coastal Commission, and it is hoped that there will be no more hang-ups with the application. Jim Cokas presented full-color, full-size proofs of the interpretive panels that are intended to be installed at Robinson Point as well as the ones he has made for Matt for the Bay View restoration site. They have a common look

and feel, and include the logos of the various UNB partners. Discussion took place on the fairly urgent need to establish bay-wide standards and incorporate specifications into the Site Element Guidelines adopted by the Management Coalition and provided to the designers working on the ACOE Restoration Project, Big Canyon Project, etc. The Management Coalition and/or the UNB Education Team need to get involved in this.

Action Item: Roger will convene a Management Coalition meeting in the first part of March and put this down as an agenda item.

18. NEW BUSINESS: Irwin informed the team of a fabulous dinosaur exhibit at the Fullerton Museum. Link is http://www.ci.fullerton.ca.us/depts/museum/exhibits/featured_exhibit.asp.
19. NEW BUSINESS: There is a sinkhole at Big Canyon that needs to be temporarily repaired while the Big Canyon project is pending.

Action Item: Jeff and Tom will work together to come up with an interim solution.

20. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was set for Monday, May 7, 2007 from 3-5 pm at the Interpretive Center.

Minutes prepared by Roger Mallett
February 7, 2007