

**UNB RESTORATION TEAM
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Draft 2/6/08

Meeting Date: Monday, Feb. 4, 2007
Meeting Time : 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Interpretive Center

Attendees:	Matt Yurko (California Coastal Commission)	Irwin Haydock (NBNF)
	Jennifer Naegele (OC Parks)	Jack Keating (NBNF)
	Bill Reiter (OC Parks)	Rik Katzmeier (NBNF)
	Susan Brodeur (County WCRD)	Roger Mallett (NBNF)
	Shane Burckle (City of Newport Beach)	Don Millar (NBNF)
	Tom Fox (NBNF)	Jeff Stoddard (DFG)

1. The minutes of the November 5, 2007 Restoration Team meeting was approved.
2. **PREVIOUS MEETING ACTIONS:** The following actions from the previous meeting were reviewed:
 - 2.1 Regarding action on Bay View Projects, Jack will take the action to set up a meeting with Jeff and Jennifer, and a representative of the City to define a strategy for rerouting the Mesa Drainage. This will then need to be presented to the Regional Water Quality Board.
 - 2.2 Roger will take the action to contact Ernie to find out how to access central files at county RDMD so that Dennis can check on the details of the easements in the area of the planned new Horse Arena. Access to this type of information is part of the data gathering and cataloging that needs to be done to support the development of the Comprehensive Resource Management Program for UNB.
3. **ROOTS PROJECTS:** Matt reported that Tom, Don and Bob Oberlin purchased a tool trailer for \$5,000 using the State Street grant money NBNF received last year. Tom did an excellent job of negotiating, thus leaving ample money for stocking the trailer with tools. Matt gave a summary of community restoration projects (ROOTS Events and Steward Days) for 2007. A total of 1574 volunteer attendances contributed 4,200 hours. Of the 1574 volunteer attendances, 284 were Naturalists. Matt would like to raise the overall total to 2000 this year, with 25% Naturalists. Over 6,600 plants were planted.
5. **OC PARKS PROJECTS:** Jennifer thanked Matt for covering her at the last Second Sunday event. A total of 130 volunteers pulled weeds and planted natives. For 2007 Second Sunday projects attracted about 1,000 participants who contributed about 3,000 hours.
6. **RESTORATION METRICS:** Roger took the action to see to what extent Jean Whitaker currently incorporates the community restoration participation in the overall UNB metrics and discuss ways to improve the metrics or their distribution and use.

7. **GROUP DISCUSSION ON HOW TO IMPROVE TEAM EFFECTIVENESS:** Roger led a roundtable discussion of how to improve the effectiveness of the Restoration Team. The consensus was:

1. Too much time is spent in Restoration Team meetings giving and listening to reports on projects and not enough time is spent on doing forwarding planning. This should be remedied by better advanced reporting, preferably via the internet.
2. Forwarding planning should focus on major projects or ones with a significant interaction between community-based and major construction projects not controlled by the local agency staff. Community-based projects are already being effectively coordinated outside of the Restoration Team meetings.
3. The function and goals of the Restoration Team and its interaction with the UNB Management Coalition need to be better defined. The Restoration Team should be the forum for discussion of overall priorities for presentation to the Management Coalition. Where the issues are watershed issues, the Restoration Team should make recommendations to the Management Coalition, which should interact with the Watershed Executive committee to ensure up-stream threats are addressed.
4. Meetings should be held to address specific issues that require group discussion, or to provide “workshop” information of relevance to the team – e.g. the presentation made a couple of years back by Trish Smith of The Nature Conservancy regarding what was working/not with respect to non-native removal in Irvine Company open space.
5. Meetings should not be held on prescheduled quarterly dates, but as needed based on items that require discussion.

Roger will take the action to become the gatherer and distributor of project status updates and other relevant information on a monthly basis. He will work with team members to see how to best revamp the original 3-month and 2-year reporting tools to make them more useful for team members. His intent is to post and update the information on the web and to send emails to team members to alert them to specific report items that may require action. He will then follow up with phone calls to see if there are specific developments that suggest the need for a timely Restoration Team meeting on one or more specific projects.

To ensure that the Team can meet reasonably quickly if the need arises, the first Monday of each month from 3-5 pm should be blocked off. If no meeting is felt needed based on the input Roger receives, he will notify the team to this effect 2-3 weeks beforehand. If a meeting is felt necessary, Roger will issue agenda, and invite guest speaker(s) as appropriate.

8. **BLUFF HOA PROJECT:** NBNF will be writing a grant due end of March to help fund a project the Bluffs HOA has agreed to undertake to remove Brazilian pepper, pampas grass and iceplant growing next to the Bay. Jack will interface with the City and/or DFG depending on whose land abuts the project area. Jeff suggested that this type of interaction with neighboring private landowners is a good area of involvement for NBNF.
9. **BIG CANYON RESTORATION:** Jack reported on the status of the project. The City has switched to a new contractor, which will be using essentially the same sub-contractors. The project is back on schedule.
10. **ACOE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT:** There is nothing new on funding. Discussions continue with Congressman to get continued funding in next years federal budget.

The ACOE will again be approached to reallocate money to continue the project. And local funding is also being explored. The contractor has submitted a cost proposal for the next phase and the ACOE is working up its own estimate for comparison. If the cost cannot be agreed, the work may need to be rebid.

11. TOM FOX: Tom announced that he will be stepping down from the Team to embark on a tour of the USA and get involved in preservation and restoration in Chesapeake Bay, Florida Everglades and other areas. The Restoration Team expressed tremendous thanks to Tom for his huge contribution to the success of the restoration efforts at UNB over the past 18 years as well as his involvement in many other volunteer activities at the Bay. Tom's infectious enthusiasm and can-do attitude will be greatly missed.
12. NEXT MEETING: No date was set for the next meeting. Roger will seek input from the agency staff about 2-3 weeks before the first Monday of each month to see if a meeting should be held.

Minutes prepared by Roger Mallett
February 4, 2008