

DRAFT Meeting Notes

California LCC Interim Steering Committee Meeting June 24, 2010

Attendees:

Mark Biddlecomb, DU	Mark Kramer, TNC
Ellie Cohen, PRBO ConSci	Ted Meyers, NMFS
Rick Cooper, BLM	Arlen Nickel, BOR
Rebecca Fris, USFWS	Fritz Reid, SF Bay JV
Armand Gonzales, DFG	Rosalie del Rosario, NMFS
Dave Graber NPS	Tom Suchanek USGS
Bill Haigh, BLM	Don Yasuda, USFS
Rick Kearney, USFWS	

Action Items

1. The project review team will complete review of the 18 proposals and provide recommendations to the Interim Steering Committee within the next few weeks.
2. Discussion of roles and responsibilities of potential cost shared staff and addition of new Interim Steering Committee members will be placed on a future agenda.
3. Development of goals and objectives for the CA LCC will be placed on a future agenda.
4. For the August 5th face-to-face meeting, CA LCC staff will develop objectives and an agenda and determine the timing and location.

Agenda

Item 1 – Introductions. Rick Kearney started the meeting and listed off the participants. The BLM has two new representatives – Bill Haigh, Mother Lode Field Office Manager and Rick Cooper, Hollister Field Office Manager. He also introduced the new CA LCC Science Coordinator Rebecca Fris who joins FWS after 15 years working on conservation issues with the State of California.

Item 2 - Update on the Data/Informatics Team. The Informatics Team met on June 16th to begin discussion of existing data and data information needs for the CA LCC. They discussed a need to define terms so everyone is speaking in the same language. Tom mentioned they talked about filling the gaps in species range distribution information and that they would look into the BIOS database as a resource. Ted said the group also agreed to draft a data management policy document for presentation to the Steering Committee. Grant Ballard provided the group examples of data

management policies. One example prepared for the North American Bird Conservation Initiative is very comprehensive.

Item 3/4 – Project Review. Rick began discussion on the project review process underway to fund projects this year. There had been some feedback on the process so there is now an effort to make a few changes to ensure the process is as open and transparent as possible. Rebecca explained that 70 proposals were received and a subgroup of the Interim Steering Committee (FWS, CDFG, DWR, PRBO ConSci, USGS, 2 joint venture reps) reviewed those concepts and narrowed the projects down to 18. A five page proposal was requested of the 18 and these are now under review by the review subgroup. An offer was made to add additional Interim Steering Committee members to assist in the review and selection. It would require reviewing the 18 proposals over the next couple weeks and spending a day developing recommendations for funding that would go back to the Interim Steering Committee.

Each member of the review team will complete a review form for each proposal. The review team will then discuss each project and come to a consensus decision on funding. Review team members that represent an agency or organization whose proposal is being discussed will not vote on that proposal. If questions or clarifications are needed on a proposal, those questions will be written down and staff will follow up to get those questions answered.

Given everyone's busy schedules, no one on the call offered to join the team. The group agreed that the existing review subgroup should go forward, complete the review and make the recommendations. If anyone else is interested in joining the review, they should contact Deb or Rebecca ASAP. A goal for this funding is to fund efforts that can show measurable results this year. Thus, this final selection must be completed in the next few weeks. Rick mentioned that future review processes will be conducted in a more deliberate manner and will be informed by specific goals and objectives.

Item 5 – Roles of potential cost shared staff, additional Steering Committee members. The group decided to defer this discussion to a future meeting. Ellie mentioned that the CA Coastal Conservancy had asked about membership on the Steering Committee. Mark said that he and Rebecca Shaw were interested in beginning a process to set clear goals for the CA LCC which would then lead to the types and number of positions needed. Rick agreed that goal setting was very important and suggested putting this on the next agenda including a set of milestones for completion of that process.

Item 6 – Face-to-face meeting August 5th – Staff will develop objectives and an agenda for this meeting and it will be led by Dave Ceppos. The time is tentatively set for 1 – 5 pm with a location still to be determined. Armand offered the DFG Director's Conference Room and Tom offered a USGS room at Sac State.

Next Meeting - July 8th