

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

YOLO HABITAT CONSERVANCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TIME: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 12, 2016

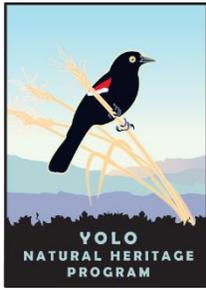
PLACE: Yolo County Administration Building
625 Court St., Woodland, CA 95695
Atrium Training Room (in the basement)

INFORMATION: Contact Susan Garbini at 530-723-5909 or susan@yolohabitatconservancy.org

NOTICE: If requested, this agenda can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Federal Rules and Regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Persons seeking an alternative format should contact Susan Garbini for further information. In addition, a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in a public meeting, should contact Susan Garbini at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Call meeting to order and introductions
2. Approve agenda order
3. Approve July 11, 2016 draft meeting summary; review status of Action Items:
 - Review Regional Conservation Framework materials
 - Schedule monthly AC meetings (see revised Schedule)
4. Update on Regional Conservation Framework/Local Conservation Plan – Petrea Marchand & Ellen Berryman, ICF
5. HCP/NCCP Plan Update – Petrea Marchand
6. Discuss Monitoring Research Summary – Chris Alford
7. Announcements and updates: Advisory Committee members
8. Adjournment to next meeting date: Monday, October 10, 2016, 4-6 pm, Atrium Training Room, Yolo County Administration Building



YOLO HABITAT CONSERVANCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary September 12, 2016

ACTION ITEMS

- Conservancy staff will send an update to the Advisory Committee when there is news regarding the status of the release of the Public Review Draft HCP/NCCP and Public Review Draft EIS/EIR.
- Conservancy staff will send out information for the upcoming NCCPP workshop - DONE

1. Call meeting to order and introductions

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Yolo Habitat Conservancy Advisory Committee Chair, **John Hopkins**. All those present introduced themselves.

Attendees:

Advisory Committee Members, Liaisons, and Alternates

Michelle Azevedo, Ridge Capital

John Hopkins, IEH

Chad Roberts, Davis Citizen

Glen Holstein, California Native Plant Society

Steve Thompson, Conaway Ranch

Member Agency Staff and Liaisons

John Donlevy, City of Winters

Guests

Michael Perrone, California Department of Water Resources

Julie Spezia, Metropolitan Water District

Bonnie Chiu, The New Home Company

Carrie Shaw, Putah Creek Council

Conservancy Staff

Petrea Marchand, Executive Director

Chris Alford, Deputy Director

Stefanie Scott, Intern

2. Approve agenda order

Summary: The review of Regional Conservation Framework materials (Item 3a.) was removed from the agenda. No changes to the agenda order requested.

3. Approve July 11, 2016 draft meeting summary; review status of Action Items:

3.a. Review Regional Conservation Framework materials

Summary: The Master Services Agreement for work associated with the Regional Conservation Framework is still being negotiated so no materials were ready for review.

3.b. Schedule monthly AC meetings (see revised Schedule)

Summary: Proposed monthly meeting schedule was provided. The Advisory Committee did not have a quorum so no action was taken to formally approve the meeting schedule.

4. HCP/NCCP Plan Update – Petrea Marchand

Summary: Petrea Marchand provided an update on the status of the HCP/NCCP and the EIS/EIR. She noted that there have been some delays as a result of insufficient staff at the wildlife agencies to review drafts and meet deadlines. As a result, the release of the Public Review Draft is now two months behind schedule. The Conservancy submitted the Draft Plan on time to the wildlife agencies on August 30th, despite delays with the EIS/EIR. To try to resolve issues in a timely manner and avoid any further delays, the Conservancy has requested upper-level liaison meetings with wildlife agencies and have seen some progress. The first liaison meeting with Jennifer Norris and Tina Bartlett is the week of Sept 19th. Petrea summarized the previous and current timeline.

John Hopkins asked if Petrea had talked to Butte since it sounds like they are in a similar position. He stated that she may also want to talk to Chris Lee from Solano. Petrea responded that the Conservancy hasn't talked to Butte recently but has looked closely at some of their documents.

Petrea mentioned that the Conservancy is also currently working on other efforts, including an application to Delta Conservancy for a conservation easement on Elliott Ranch, a property previously reviewed by the STAC and identified as being good for Swainson's hawk and having high habitat value in general.

5. Update on Regional Conservation Framework/Local Conservation Plan – Petrea Marchand

Summary: Petrea Marchand provided a summary of the status of the Regional Conservation Framework/Local Conservation Plan, noting that the Board previously approved entering into a Master Services Agreement to work on a Regional Conservation Framework as one of four pilot projects in the state. The Chair and Vice Chair decided to postpone the signing of the Master Services Agreement until after the recently proposed

legislation associated with Regional Conservation Frameworks was passed due to significant changes made to the draft legislation language in August. The legislation (AB 2087) just passed the Legislature and is awaiting a decision by the Governor. AB 2087 will allow for the development of Regional Conservation Frameworks that are approved by CDFW, although the name of the plans identified in this legislation is now referred to as Regional Conservation Investment Strategies. These are frameworks that anyone can use. They outline conservation strategies but are not permits.

John Hopkins mentioned that there are concerns by HCPs throughout the state about where this legislation could go. Julie Spezia stated that it looks like the legislation is splicing together two items, regional conservation and mitigation credits. Petrea agreed and stated that the Conservancy is interested in the regional conservation aspect for the LCP but is also interested in the mitigation credit portion because we want to make sure that mitigation efforts associated with state projects or other projects not covered by the NCCP don't conflict with the HCP/NCCP. Glen noted that this idea started with the Biodiversity Council with an interest in furthering conservation in areas where habitat conservation planning efforts do not exist or where there are gaps. Chad added that Joe Caves and Graham Chisholm were the main drafters of the language. Chad added that Joe Caves and Graham Chisholm were the main drafters of the language; it's understood that Chisholm's intent with this approach was to expedite a broader implementation of ecosystem-based regional conservation planning, as he was involved with in Audubon California's Tejon Ranch project (see <http://www.tejonconservancy.org/>) It was generally agreed that we need to see what we get from the pilot project and then we can see if the outcomes of the effort work.

6. Discuss Monitoring Research Summary

Summary: Chris Alford summarized that Stefanie, the Conservancy's intern, has been researching different monitoring approaches that are commonly used for the species specific to the Yolo HCP/NCCP and has developed a spreadsheet that summarizes her effort. Chris is interested in getting input from both the STAC and Advisory Committee regarding both which monitoring efforts seem most appropriate for the Yolo HCP/NCCP, if there are any that we have not already identified that should be considered, and also to help identify any entities that are already doing monitoring for any of these species within Yolo. Conservancy staff want to make sure that we are coordinating with other entities, want to use the most appropriate approaches, and not duplicate other efforts. She had intended to provide printed copies of the spreadsheet but had issues with the printer so they will be provided at another time.

Glen mentioned that the San Diego Managing and Monitoring Program is a comprehensive program. John Hopkins noted that San Diego is the gold standard and also has a huge amount of money to run their monitoring program. John also mentioned that he is interested in having counties start to broaden their monitoring to be consistent with one another and coordinate between plans so that the data is compatible and can be used to inform efforts larger than the individual plans. Chad Roberts stated that there are really two different types of monitoring: compliance and species population monitoring and asked to clarify what was being discussed. Chris responded the Yolo HCP/NCCP will include both types of monitoring and the compliance monitoring is already well described in the draft plan. The spreadsheet is associated with that later and includes population

monitoring and other metrics for understanding species population and whether or not efforts are meeting conservation goals. Chad stated that there will need to be a qualifications requirement for those conducting that type of monitoring.

7. Announcements and updates: Advisory Committee members

Carrie Shaw: The Putah Creek Council is in the signing stage right now for a Prop 1 planning grant for restoration in lower Putah Creek. It will involve a lot of outreach and planning. There will be an advisory committee, public outreach meetings, etc. 3-yr long effort. The project will build on previous planning efforts and hopefully identify three projects that can be implemented in the near future.

Glen Holstein: The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) will be developing a field botanist certification program for certifying individuals that are qualified to conduct monitoring.

John Hopkins: The Northern California Conservation Planning Partners annual workshop is coming up Oct 19th. Conservancy staff will send out information via email to the Advisory Committee.

Bonnie Chiu: Petrea spoke at North State BIA meeting recently. There was a good discussion.

Julie Spezia: There will be a Wallace Weir event (bottom of ridge cut and Colusa basin drain) Oct 6th that is open to the public. The project is well under construction now.

8. Adjournment to next meeting date: Monday, November 7, 2016, 4-6pm, Yolo County Farm Bureau Board Room

John Hopkins made the recommendation to cancel the Oct 10th meeting due to slowed down pace. The next Advisory Committee meeting will be Monday, November 7, 2016, 4-6pm, at the Yolo County Farm Bureau, 69 W. Kentucky Ave., Woodland.

The meeting was adjourned by John Hopkins at 5:22 p.m.