

Meeting Summary
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Stakeholder Forum
Public Access and Recreation Work Group
2/18/04

1. Participants

See attached roster.

2. Introduction

Greg Bourne of the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) welcomed all participants and briefly described the agenda for the meeting:

- Introductions
- Work Group Protocols
- Work Group Membership
- Phil Williams Associates “Critical Path” for Input from the Work Group
- Work Group Topics
- Meeting Schedules and Next Steps

After introductions, Bourne distributed several documents: a summary of the public access/recreation project leaders, topics, anticipated agendas and current participants; the Operating Protocols for the Stakeholder Forum and Work Groups; a summary of the issues associated with each work group; and, a timeline and tasks graphic for the entire project.

3. Work Group Protocols

Bourne led a brief discussion of the Work Group protocols, noting in particular that the Work Group’s purpose is to address the substantive issues associated with public access and recreation, and then provide input to the Stakeholder Forum. That input could be in the form of ideas generated by the Work Group or recommendations from the Work Group. Ultimately, the Stakeholder Forum will use the input from the work groups to advise their deliberations and recommendations for action to the Project Management Team. Other protocols included in the Stakeholder Forum and Work Group Operating Protocols document were referenced.

4. Membership

Bourne noted that the Work Group currently had participants representing trails, bird watching, hunting, boating and education. It was noted that boating interests should be subdivided into powered, sailing and non-powered (e.g., kayaking). This led to the suggestion that a group like San Francisco Board Sailing be contacted to assess their interest in participating. Also a group like Bay Access, which is developing a water trail throughout the Bay, should be contacted.

Fishing was also noted as a key issue. Although no one in the meeting represented fishing interests, participants indicated they felt members of the Stakeholder Forum attending other Work Groups could meet this need in subsequent meetings. This will require contacting Mondy Lariz and Tom Laine to see if they will be able to provide input to the Work Group.

Education was another focal point in the discussion along with historical and cultural resources. One idea raised was whether historical and cultural resources should be the subject of a separate work group. Most participants, however, saw these topics as related and suggested the possibility of engaging interpretive centers in educational programs incorporating historical and cultural resources. The group also suggested dedicating one or more meetings of the Work Group to address education, historical and cultural resources.

5. Phil Williams and Associates: Critical path issues for habitat restoration in the planning process

David Blau of EDAW, Inc., a member of the PWA team, provided a handout describing the tasks they will be undertaking as part of the restoration planning effort, and how those tasks relate to the activities of the Work Group. He also discussed the integration of tasks with the timeline for completing each task. He noted at the March meeting of the Work Group a summary of data collection sources would be provided for feedback, and that mapping efforts to identify key areas related to public access and recreation would begin.

6. Work Group Comments and Questions on Key Topics

The group was then asked to identify additional issues that were not included on the initial list of Public Access and Recreation Work Group topics. Additional issues identified included:

- Safety concerns associated with public access and recreation
- Historical and cultural resources
- Opportunities for commercial recreational activities (e.g., camping)
- Management implications associated with public access and recreation
- Land management and the inter-relationship with wildlife, including issues such as seasonal use
- Kayaking opportunities, including those associated with birdwatching.

General comments related to the Work Group's focus and activities included:

- Public access should help inform restoration design rather than have restoration design drive public access
- Need to address the education/interpretive component discussed earlier
- Need to develop goals or objectives for public access to develop a set of priorities

- Need to communicate with local governments to identify ordinances that pertain to public access or recreation, and where they have joint jurisdiction with the Fish and Wildlife Service or Cal Fish and Game
- The values associated with concentrating versus diffusing public access and recreation should be identified
- The costs of recreational activities should be linked to geographic areas
- Need to consider camping and other recreational opportunities offered by the land manager as well as commercial operations
- The wildness of much of the salt pond/marsh areas in the South Bay protects the land by itself and should be considered in restoration planning.

7. Meeting Schedule/Next Steps

The group jointly agreed upon Wednesday, March 31 as the next meeting date. The preferred time is 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. The location will be determined and conveyed to everyone in the near future. (Subsequently, it was noted March 31 is a State holiday, and as such the meeting will need to be re-scheduled.)

Tuesday, May 25 was agreed upon for the following meeting, also from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Bourne noted that a meeting summary would be prepared and distributed.

**Next Meeting of the Public Access and Recreation Work Group:
April 1, 2004; Time 2:00-5:00
Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge Auditorium, Newark, CA**

Draft Agenda:

1. Feedback to PWA on data sources/acquisition plan
2. Feedback on initial mapping efforts
3. Input on initial detailed project objectives
4. Envisioning new public access/recreation activities and approaches

8. Action Items or Recommendations to the Forum and PM Team:

- Need to contact Tom Laine and Mondy Lariz concerning their participation on the Work Group.
- Need to follow-up with contacting potential new participants on the Work Group.
- Need to assess how to integrate additional focus on historical and cultural resources into the activities of the Work Group.

First Name	Last Name	Email	Company/Organization	Attended Feb meeting
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Norton	Bell	nwbell@juno.com	FWS	
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Craig	Breon	craig@scvas.org	Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society	y
Frank and Janice	Delfino		Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge	y
Peter	Dunne	pdunne@stanpac.com	Eden Shores Community	
Steve	Fiala	sfiala@ebparks.org	East Bay Regional Park District	y
Mark	Frederick	Mark.Frederick@prk.sccgov.org	Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation Department	
John	Fritz			y
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Pat	Gordon	PAGPEG@aol.com	Ohlone Audubon Society	
Dennis	Hausler			y
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