

**July 7<sup>th</sup> 2010**  
**Pacific Coast Joint Venture Meeting Minutes**  
**Humboldt Area Foundation**

**Contacts for those present:**

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| 1. Rondal Snodgrass, Sanctuary Forest:                      | raveswatch@asis.com  |
| 2. Jeff McCreary, Ducks Unlimited:                          | jmccreary@ducks.org  |
| 4. Laura Bridy, PCFWWRA:                                    | laura@pcfwwra.org  |
| 5. David Lancaster, California Department of Fish and Game: | dlancaster@dfg.gov   |
| 6. Susan Ornelas, Jacoby Creek Land Trust:                  | jclandtrust@yahoo.com  |
| 7. Sharon Kahara, California Coordinator of PCJV:           | snk6@humboldt.edu  |
| 8. Aldaron Laird, Trinity Association:                      | riverplanner@sbcglobal.net   |
| 9. Eric Nelson, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge:      | Eric_T_Nelson@fws.gov  |
| 10. Chet Ogan, Redwood Audubon Society:                     | oganc@sbcglobal.net  |
| 11. Mark Maxon, FSFSC:                                      | DavidMarkMaxon@gmail.com   |
| 12. C.J. Ralph, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:             | C.J.r2@humboldt.edu  |
| 13. Robert Eckart, Fort Seward Fire Safe Council:           | villagekeepers@gmail.com   |
| 14. Ryan Wells, North Coast Regional Land Trust:            | <a href="mailto:r.wells@ncrlt.org">r.wells@ncrlt.org</a>                     |
| 15. Donna Chambers, Humboldt County RCD:                    | <a href="mailto:donnahcrccd@yahoo.com">donnahcrccd@yahoo.com</a>             |
| 16. Carey Smith, PCJV:                                      | <a href="mailto:carey_smith@fws.gov">carey_smith@fws.gov</a>                 |
| 17. Paula Golightly, USFWS (Coastal and Partners Programs): | <a href="mailto:paula_golightly@fws.gov">paula_golightly@fws.gov</a>         |
| 18. Carol Vander Meer, Friends of the Dunes:                | <a href="mailto:carol@friendsofthedunes.org">carol@friendsofthedunes.org</a> |
| 19. Julie Neander, City of Arcata:                          | <a href="mailto:jneander@cityofarcata.org">jneander@cityofarcata.org</a>     |

**Agenda:**

- 1) Welcome participants and introductions
- 2) Quick announcements: approaching proposal deadlines – Carey Smith, Sharon Kahara
- 3) Presentation by Gina LaRocco (Conservation Program Associate-Defenders of Nature)- The Conservation Registry
- 4) Update on the “Regulatory Permitting Mini-Workshop”-Sharon Kahara and Aldaron Laird
- 5) Partner Updates
- 7) Wrap up, set next meeting

1. Quick announcements: Carey Smith

For more information please visit our website: <http://www.pcjv.org/whatsnew/may10.html/>

2. Presentation by Gina LaRocco- A demonstration of how to enter project information into the Conservation Registry.

- Gina provided a step by step guide on how to enter projects into the Conservation Registry. Please visit the Conservation Registry (<http://www.conservationregistry.org/>). Please contact Gina for assistance entering your project:
- Gina LaRocco ,  
Conservation Program Associate,  
1880 Willamette Falls Dr #200 West Linn OR 97068

Tel: 503-697-3222 | Fax: 503-697-3268  
glarocco@defenders.org | [www.defenders.org](http://www.defenders.org)

- There may be potential linkage between the Conservation Registry and the USFWS HABITS program.
- The PCJV is considering making project entry to the Conservation Registry part of the eligibility requirements for future discretionary funding.

3. Outline for a Regulatory Permitting Handbook -Aldaron Laird:

- We're planning on developing a regulatory guideline handbook for partners that incorporates also including regulatory constraints encountered locally. The handbook may also include case studies of previous applications. Statewide wetland and water policies have recently been updated and may be more restrictive. The handbook would be made available online.
- Carey: The handbook could be eligible for discretionary funding in the next cycle.
- Carol: The handbook could follow a dichotomous key format and include frequently asked questions to help guide partners.
- Ryan: An appendix could also include a fee schedule to give partners an idea of what to expect in terms of timelines from start to finish.
- The handbook could also include the order in which permits should be applied for and which can be worked on consecutively.
- It may also outline general costs of impact assessment permitting which can be expensive.
- PCJV could organize a workshop following release of the handbook and invite permitting bodies such as the California Coastal Commission.
- Sharon will send out the handbook outline developed by Aldaron to the group for comment.

4. Partner Updates

#### CJ Ralph, Redwood Sciences Lab

- Klamath Bird Observatory will be getting a full time person to handle their bird monitoring.

#### Laura Bridy, PCFWWRA

- Department of Fish and Game was slow delivering their permits but finally received them
- Upslope sediment reduction work continuing in Redwood Creek
- Riparian restoration projects downstream of Redwood national Park in Orick continuing
- Have Conservation crews weed whacking
- Salmon creek restoration is ongoing

#### Rondal Snogross, Sanctuary Forest Land Trust

- The extinction of Coho salmon in the Matolle watershed is a very real possibility. Sanctuary Forest Land Trust plans to rehabilitate rivers along the Matolle to improve water retention.
- Retention of Matolle coho will determine continued existence of other salmon and coho all along the Northcoast.
- There's a lot of attention on how this project will continue and they are planning on employing a number of novel techniques to restore the streams in the watershed

#### Aldaron Laird

- Working with the State Coastal Conservancy to estimate the last boundary of the Salt River, and to assess vulnerability of Humboldt Bay to sea level rise.
- Primarily a GIS exercise to determine vulnerable shorelines.

#### Chet Ogan, Redwood Audubon

- Hired Ken Burton as a grant writer for the organization and to work with partners developing grants.

#### Jeff McCreary, Ducks Unlimited

- Redwood Coast NAWCA was approved and now awaiting the USFWS contract.
- Bird Habitat Conservation Division will issue a contract sometime soon.
- DU will then begin working with partners. Spartina projects at the refuge may get their money directly and can begin work earlier.
- DU received National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) money for lake Earl projects and will begin pulling fences back for Aleutian geese and nesting grebes.
- They will also conduct a year-long monitoring program and add information kiosks on the lake. Information kiosks will include descriptions of grebes and their nests.
- The eelgrass project that's part of the NAWCA have put in a request for funding. They may receive some NFWF funding. Currently has 4-5 Humboldt State University students working on removal of non-native eelgrass using a novel technique. heat to sterilize the rhizomes and kill plants.

#### Dave Lancaster, Department of Fish and Game

- Working with Mark Colwell, monitoring snowy plover nests.
- DFG is also working with Jeff Black, banding western geese.
- They're continuing to work through the department to trade hunting tags for habitat work.
- Banding mourning doves is continuing and are also working with CJ on a riparian woodland monitoring project that aims to prioritize riparian woodland areas.
- They are also banding birds on Blue Lake's cottonwoods.
- The mid-winter survey of black brant indicated an increase (get number from him) from 8500 individuals spotted last year.
- The department also has a program that started in 2002 to establish bird recorders on timers.
- Also examining changes in communities in response to climate change.
- DFG is looking for funding partners.

#### Susan Ornelas, Jacoby Creek Land Trust

- Working on conservation easements in Jacoby Creek.
- They received funding for "Whale Tail" workshops and also to conduct native propagation of plants and increase landowner knowledge of various native species. Funding also covers workshops on carbon sequestration in the region. (please visit their website for more information: <http://www.jclandtrust.org/>).
- A recent slide off golf course creek deposited a lot of sediment into the creek and this is a concern.

#### Mark Maxon and Robert Eckart, Fire Safe Council

- They are a non-profit group working closely with the Railroads.
- They have been permitted to clear invasive species along the railroad tracks all around Humboldt Bay.
- Seeking funds to clear the J track of scotch-broom and pampas grass.
- Spoke to Eric Nelson about removing Spartina from areas around the refuge.
- They are open to discussion with partners on how they can assist them with invasive species removals in the future.
- They have a contractor and equipment that can do the job.

#### Donna Chambers, HCRCD

- Working on cattle exclusion as well as watershed restoration and erosion control projects sediment removal in the Yager and Van Duzen watersheds as well as Freshwater Creek and Elk River watersheds. Work is in collaboration with several landowners the PA. CFWWR
- Also working with dairy producers to implement nutrient management planning and with the DFG to improve Aleutian goose habitat through agricultural activities.
- Seeking funding for this work.

- Continuing to work on the Salt River Ecosystem Restoration Project along with many partners. The project will Current work include upslope sediment reduction work in the Wildcat Hills above Ferndale as well as estuary restoration and construction of a new Salt River channel.
- The work at Riverside ranch will include restoration and reconnection to Williams creek.

#### Carey Smith, PCJV

- The submission deadline for small NAWCAs is October 28<sup>th</sup> – guidelines for submission are online at <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Small/index.shtm>.

#### Ryan Wells, NCRLT

- Working on a new conservation easements, hopefully by the end of 2011 there may be up to 1400 additional acres protected in southern Humboldt Co.
- Continuing their educational outreach with Six Rivers Charter School.
- Currently working on developing the walking trail around Freshwater Farms project with benches from recycled wood from the tide gate, interpretive signs, and a kayak launch.
- The 38,000 native plants they established have taken hold and are growing well.
- Now they're planning to transect map the vegetation, looking for partners to do this.

#### Paula Golightly, USFWS

- The USFWS is working with several partners present at the meeting including a Coastal Program project on Salmon Creek, The City of Arcata, City of Eureka (Palco Marsh).
- Working to assist the City of Eureka with environmental compliance and wrapping up their permits.
- National Coastal Wetland Grants have been submitted to the Regional offices.
- Working with the Humboldt Bay Initiative in various strategies including invasive species control and helping to address data gaps for sea level rise modeling. Currently looking for funding to model sea level rise.

#### Eric Nelson, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge

- Working at the refuge to control Spartina.
- Attended the Spartina conference last week, which included presentations as well as a tour from the RCAA.
- The tour included a demonstration of control methods, all manual or mechanical.
- Plan to eradicate all Spartina from refuge property.
- Several projects underway at the refuge including the repair of the white slough tide gate and installation of solar panels by local contractors.
- This year the Aluetian goose counts indicate population numbers have increased to 125,000 plus or minus 25,000.
- The Bureau of Land Management is spreading oyster shell on the south spit for plover habitat. This year about 40 yards were spread. They weren't used but perhaps next year. They plan to expand the oyster shell to cover 400 yards.

- The NWR has booked a stand at the county fair again this year and are looking for volunteers to take turns at the booth. Partners are encouraged to volunteer and bring their own materials and brochures as well.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> 2010 9:30 am at the Humboldt Area Foundation (No meeting rooms were available on the 15<sup>th</sup>)