

PACIFIC COAST JOINT VENTURE-MEETING MINUTES
 Friday, September 30th 2011
 Humboldt Area Foundation – Nilsen Room

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Contact
Zachary Anaya	The Wildlands Conservancy	Za7@humboldt.edu
Madison Ayala	Bear River Band	madisonayala@rocketmail.com
Erika Collins	Bear River	erikacollins@brb-nsn.gov
Briannon Fraley	Wiyot Tribe	brie@wiyot.us
Doreen Hansen	Humboldt County Resource Conservation District	doreenhrcrd@yahoo.com
Sharon Kahara	HSU/ PCJV	Snk6@humboldt.edu
Stephen Kullman	Wiyot Tribe	Stephen@wiyot.us
Chet Ogan	Redwood Region Audubon Society	Chet-ogan@yahoo.com
Megan Rocha	HSU Indian Economic Community Development Program	mmr@humboldt.edu
Josee Rousseau	Klamath & Humboldt Bay Bird Observatories	jsr@klamathbird.org
Jonathan Schultz	USDA-NRCS	John.shultz@ca.usda.gov
Andrea Souther	NRCS	Andrea.souther@ca.usda.gov
Ryan Wells	North Coast Regional Land Trust	r.wells@ncrlt.org
Mark Wheatley	California DFG	mwheatley@dfg.ca.gov

Agenda with an amendment:

1. Welcome, introductions, coffee and refreshments
2. Quick announcements - Sharon Kahara: Upcoming grant deadlines, discretionary fund contracts, PCJV end of year funds awardees, and more.
3. Conservation Highlights - A presentation by Stephen Kullman, Environmental Director Wiyot Tribe (See poster attached)
4. Upcoming Spartina Symposium (Thursday, December 1st at HSU)- a model for future Partner driven symposia/workshops
5. ~~Comments on California PCJV Science Updates—The future of our wetlands and uplands science strategic plans—(we may schedule this for the next meeting)~~ Partner Updates
6. Set next meeting (tentative date, November 18th 2011)

Upcoming grant deadlines:

- a) Temper of the times (December 15th 2011) – Provides funds only to non-profit organizations classed as 501(c)(3) public charities by the Internal Revenue Service. Grants may be used to fund the production of print, radio or television ads, advertising space, airtime, pamphlets, books, videos, etc.
NOTE: The grant funds advertising for a particular cause or issue and not the organization itself.
- b) Neotropical Migratory Birds Conservation Act grants (No later than November 30th 2011) – Competitive matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in North America, the Caribbean and Latin America. Contact the USFWS Division of Bird Habitat Conservation and submit a proposal for evaluation by staff.
- c) NAWCA Small grants (October 27th 2011) – Competitive matching grants program. Grants must not exceed \$75,000 and funding priority is given to new grantees or partners. Work on proposals with the Joint Venture Coordinator and then forward to the USFWS Division of Bird Habitat Conservation.

PCJV Discretionary funds:

Due to travel efficiencies terminated projects and less than anticipated invoicing there was about \$42,000 in unallocated funds from FY 2010 and 2011. State coordinators submitted new proposals for these funds and we received twelve suggestions. The Board chose not to fund proposals that were not funded earlier in the year. They were not funded for a reason and partner needs are changing on a daily basis. The twelve submissions were reviewed by our science coordinators and seven were recommended for funding.

From California the Board approved additional funding a proposal to outline California Coastal Commission regulatory compliance guide with follow-up workshops.

Conservation Highlights – A presentation by Stephen Kullman, Environmental Director of the Wiyot Tribe (see attached Power Point pdf.)

Upcoming Spartina Symposium:

The California PCJV, in partnership with the Humboldt Bay NWR, Humboldt State University, the Humboldt Bay Harbor District, and the California State Coastal Conservancy will hold a one day symposium highlighting the collaborative efforts to eradicate and conduct research on *Spartina densiflora* in Humboldt Bay.

The symposium will be held on December 1st, 2011 at Humboldt State University's Native American Forum (Room BSS 162). Eleven speakers have been lined up to give talks from 12:30pm-5:00pm.

This symposium was relatively simple and straightforward to set up and the PCJV would be happy to co-sponsor similar partner driven symposia (e.g., on shorebirds, brant/eelgrass, Aleutian cackling geese, Oak, etc). These symposia could highlight local research being carried out and the conservation implications.

Any ideas can be forwarded to Sharon or presented at subsequent meetings.

Partner Updates:

Zachary Anaya (The Wildlands Conservancy)

- TWC is one of the largest landholding non-profits in California.
- Currently working on a number of projects - establishing trails, the visitors' center, curtailing ATV access and restoration work.
- Recently acquired 1100 acres along the southern spit of the Eel River.
- Looking for partners to census and monitor wildlife and plants.

Mark Wheetley (City of Arcata/Department of Fish and Game)

- City of Arcata is in construction phase on the Baylands estuary and Jacoby creek.
- McDaniel slough construction work is ongoing – may spill over to next year.
- Work currently covers over 1000 acres.
- Fish and Game recently participated in the West Coast Humboldt Bay Initiative Ecosystem based Management network meeting. Humboldt Bay hosted the annual meeting with participants arriving from San Diego, all the way up to Washington state.
- Several EBM networks were represented, all of which were identified by the West Coast Governors Agreement. PCJV was identified as a model for collaboration across various states.
- Sea level rise tools (available online) were mentioned during the meeting. Plan to test slr models on Humboldt Bay and then expand this to other cities along the coast. Initial analysis will begin on federal lands e.g., Fish and Game land.
- Finalizing acquisition of Riverside Ranch. Name will be changed to the Salt River Unit of the Eel River wildlife area.

Doreen Hansen (Humboldt bay RCD)

- Final permitting for the Salt River project besides some land owner agreements of the river channel. Coastal Commission is in final stages of reviewing permits.

Andrea Souther (NRCS)

- Working with the RCD as part of the Redwood Region NAWCA grant- working on fencing and upland pasture portions.
- Also working with Sharon to prepare a Del Norte partners meeting in the spring.

Chet Ogan (RRAS)

- On October 22nd – RRAS is hosting the meeting of northern California Audubon chapters in the Emerson conference room at the Humboldt Area Foundation.
- Working with the Sierra Club on the release of the Klamath River Restoration Draft EIR.
- Received a grant to monitor Western Grebe up in Del Norte County. Will be fencing off parts of Lake Earl to keep cattle intrusion down. This is one of the only known coastal Western grebe nesting sites on the west coast.

- Moving ahead on Parcel 4 in Eureka. In 2008, RRAS got the conservation easement on Parcel 4 – working through the City of Eureka to develop a plan for restoration of that property. First process will be re-zoning.

Josee Rousseau (Klamath Bird Observatory. Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory)

- The Klamath Bird Observatory will be winding down their banding season at the end of October. Area searches cover southern Oregon and northern California.
- Will hold a celebration at the Lanphere Dunes on October 22nd. Will include presentations, potluck and barbeque.
- The Humboldt Bay Bird Observatory will continue surveys year round. This fall will focus on small owl surveys.
- Will begin data entry and analysis over the winter.
- Continuing collation of historic datasets – these will be uploaded online for simple assessment e.g. frequency, etc.

Ryan Wells (NRLT)

- Have initiated work on two new conservation easement projects plus the four that are currently underway.
- One is a small property over by the Klamath River, the other is south bay to the Van Duzen outside of Fortuna.
- Both in various stages and have high conservation value with willing owners.
- Freshwater Farms received some recent PCJV discretionary funding. However other proposals fell through, so implementation may be pushed back to summer 2012.
- May send a proposal to the NAWCA small grants for a ¼ mile public access trail.
- Annual fundraiser celebration at the Fortuna River Lodge from 5-8pm on Sunday, October 2nd.

Jonathan Schultz (USDA/NRCS)

- Diana Dellinger accepted another position in Pennsylvania. Jonathan will be the acting District Conservationists for the time being.
- Have been working with private lands in the Eel River valley.
- The wetland Reserve Program just closed on a close to 90 acre WRP permanent easement in the eel River valley (In the Smith Creek area – west of Ferndale).
- Looking to restore this to about 40 acres of salt march/freshwater habitat and another 50 acres of Aleutian goose habitat.
- Also working through WHIP program were able to get some last minute funding for Humboldt County – to re-establish riparian vegetation and redwoods.

Next Meeting – tentatively set for Friday, November 18th. Otherwise partners may also convene during the Spartina Symposium on December 1st.