



County of Yolo

PARKS AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee Summary Minutes December 10, 2007

Members in Attendance:	Eric Larsen, Tim Horner
County Staff:	Kent Reeves, Kevin Schwartz, Chris Alford, Holly Malcolm
Others in Attendance:	David Pratt, Laurie Brajkovich, Brian King, Lynnel Pollock, Max Stevenson, Ben Adamo, Bert Swartz, Joe Domenichelli, Tony Barela, Christian Carlton, Meredith Bizanstad, Ed Armstrong, Duane Chamberlain
Members Absent:	none

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Kevin Schwartz at 10:00 AM.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Tim Horner motioned to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2007 and November 5, 2007 meetings. Eric Larsen seconded the motion.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. STAFF UPDATES

4.1 Revised RFP reminder to TAC Riparian Biologist: Kevin Schwartz (County staff) reminded everyone that the position will remain open until filled. Several applications have been received and he hopes to fill the vacancy by February 1, 2008.

4.2 Update on Capay Open Space Park: Kevin Schwartz reported that the grading, drainage and utilities are complete; trails constructed; parking lots are paved; host pad in place; potable water exists; gates installed; tamarisk and arundo on north side were removed; plantings will be done by early 2008; vault restrooms in by early 2008; access ramp to creek constructed in spring 2008; and draft educational/interpretive program complete. Funding for project came from Prop. 40, Prop. 50 and CCRMP.

4.3 Cache Creek Conservancy Update: Lynnel Pollock, Executive Director for the Cache Creek Conservancy (CCC) stated that the CCC finished spraying for arundo the 2nd week of November below the Capay Dam. They will begin again in May/June 2008. The recently held SLEWS Day was successful.

5. REGULAR AGENDA

Correll-Rodgers Pond Enhancement Plan

Plan Goals and Overview

Foothill Associates and Domenichelli and Associates gave a power point presentation of the Correll-Rodgers Pond Enhancement Plan. (Hard copies were distributed) Foothill Associates produced a draft copy of the Correll-Rodgers Pond Enhancement Plan (Heretofore referred to as "The Plan") that was reviewed by the Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and received comments by the TAC at this meeting. In addition, it was announced that the document would be made available to the public electronically.

The Plan's purpose is to recommend strategies to improve the ecological health of the Correll-Rodgers Ponds. The goals of the plan are to enhance native habitat increasing vegetation and wildlife diversity, improve site hydraulics and water quality, and protect the private property of adjoining land owners.

Preferred Alternative Benefits

The preferred alternative in The Plan has many benefits (slide #12 and 15). Channel morphology and floodplain processes are re-established. The currently separate pits are connected and the connection to the creek is improved. The dramatic slopes in the pits will be regraded to diversify the site topography increasing available habitat opportunities. Existing stands of riparian trees will be preserved and diversified with new plantings. An invasives management plan will be established and a planting plan was created to increase vegetation and wildlife diversity. Existing infrastructure in the Rodgers pits and between the Correll and Rodgers' pits will be removed; the overlook will be relocated, as well as relocating the Magnolia Drain Outfall to where the current pipe break exists. OHV access to the site and to adjacent property will be better controlled and enforced, although the details of the best management practices for control and enforcement while discussed at the meeting are not the subject of the current Plan. Erosion will be decreased including removing greater than 45,000 cubic yards of material that would have eventually eroded from the site given the current site conditions and ended up in the settling basin. In addition, the preferred alternative increases the potential for sediment deposition on site, which will help remove sediment that would have otherwise wound up in the settling basin. The preferred alternative also improves compliance with the "Test 3" line detailed in the Cache Creek Resource Management Plan (CCRMP).

Hydraulic Analysis

Tony Barela (Domenichelli and Associates) discussed the Hydraulics of the plan (slide #15-19). The existing conditions and proposed alternative hydraulic analysis was discussed. Under existing conditions the Correll site is inundated at the 2-yr levels, but not the Rodgers' site. Both sites are inundated at the 5-yr levels. Cross sections at various river stations were shown and discussed from 2000 ft. upstream to 2000 ft. downstream of the Correll-Rodgers sites. At a storm that is typically bigger than 13,000 cfs, water will start coming into the site. With the proposed conditions, velocities will

slow compared to current conditions on the site and the water elevations upstream will decrease. Water elevations downstream will remain the same. Thus, proposed conditions would potentially attenuate flood risk to adjacent private property upstream and at the south of the site while neither increasing nor decreasing flood risk downstream. Private property will be protected with 3 armored weirs, one at the upstream entrance to the site, one at the current overlook site, and one at the downstream exit to the site. The Rodgers pond will get more water throughout the year. It currently only gets water when Correll spills over into it or from overflow from the Magnolia canal. The proposed plan will cause the Rodgers' pit to fill as often as the Correll pit from the creek. The outflow of the Magnolia drain will be repaired to outfall where the current break exists in pond C of the Rodgers pit. Future stages of the planning process will incorporate 2-D hydraulic modeling that will spot check creek velocities at hard points in the design. While The Plan proposes water movement from upstream to the downstream end with swales, Eric Larsen (TAC Fluvial Geomorphologist) asked for a detailed narrative in The Plan of what happens to water during the year at the site. In response, Tony explained that pools will form in both pits during low water periods until they naturally fill in over time. Tim Horner (TAC Hydrologist) concurred with Eric that the water movement on site for the proposed plan was not clearly described in The Plan and, in addition to Eric's comment, suggested that The Final Plan show spot elevations and contour elevations. The Plan contains no grading TOPOS for the ponds themselves.

Habitat Restoration Goals

Meredith Bizanstad (Foothill Associates) discussed habitat restoration goals and the Habitat design for The Plan (slide #20-22). There is currently very little understory in the existing riparian area. Higher elevations will be used for native perennial grassland and valley oak savannah. Lower elevations will be used for enhancing riparian woodland. Meredith spoke with Hedgerow Farms about seeding rates and consulted with the CCRMP to create The Plan's planting design. Tobacco plants on site will be removed and replaced with native plants that will fill the niche for bird habitat such as Fuchsia, and species of *Mimulus*, and *Salvia*.

Tim Horner had concerns about using non-native mosquito fish. Response: They are already in the creek. Kent Reeves (County staff) suggested focusing on the wildlife first and then the habitat. Riparian bird species is a way to monitor success of the project.

Public Access and OHV Trespassing, Damage, and Liability Issues

Public access and OHV issues were not specifically addressed by the Plan, because it was defined to be outside of The Plan's scope of work; these issues will be more explicitly addressed at later planning stages. Access to the site was discussed. There are several issues related to this that need to be resolved: how to get the public out to the site, while respecting local landowners' concerns about public access; and how to keep OHVs out of the site and off private property. The proposed fence to run parallel to the current berm raised concerns about practicality, water quality and wildlife barrier issues.

Cost Proposal

Due to the cost of the proposed project, \$3.5 million, it was suggested that it be done in phases. Phasing will add about \$75,000 to the final costs. The costs are detailed in The Plan and include \$1.2 million for work on the Rodgers site and \$1.3 million for work on the Correll site. CEQA compliance for The Plan is estimated at \$120,000. Construction

Administration and Contingency funds need to be broken up to apply to each sub phase. The County should consider Proposition 50 funding. Eric wants to see the cost broken up more clearly before applying for funding. In addition, \$2M of the proposed plan are directly related to soil/material movement from the berm and regrading. It was discussed by several County staff members, the TAC, and several members of the public that work done directly by the County and, perhaps, through an exchange with a local gravel company could potentially offset much of the cost. The cost of the proposal would be more thoroughly addressed at later stages of the planning process.

6. SET DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the TAC is tentatively scheduled for January 14, 2008.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Kevin Schwartz at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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