

El Dorado County Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan

Overview of INRMP:
Key Milestones, Answers to Questions,
Next Steps
(Optional: Summary of Work Plan)

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March 6, 2007

Presentation Topics Today

- **Key Milestones** – INRMP related activities from May 2006 to today
- **Answers to Questions** – Responses to questions posed by BOS at January 23 meeting
- **Next Steps** – March and April 2007
- **Summary of Work Plan (Optional)** - Review of SAIC Work Plan tasks

Key Milestones on INRMP

- May 12, 2006: RFP released for INRMP
- June 12, 2006: Proposals submitted (5 teams)
- July 13, 2006: Interviews conducted (3 teams)
- July 21, 2006: SAIC selected as INRMP prime and EN2 Resources selected as OWMP prime
- Sept 12, 2006: Initial Tasks contract with SAIC (see next slide)

Key Milestones on INRMP

- Initial Tasks Contract with SAIC
 - Conduct 2 workshops with BOS
 - Coordinate with FWS and DFG
 - Review draft OWMP
 - Prepare INRMP Work Plan
 - Initial legal support – Ebbin Moser Skaggs brought in to process
 - Added task – Review Pine Hill Preserve Management Plan

Key Milestones on INRMP

- Oct 16, 2006 BOS Workshop
 - Overview and comparison of county, state, and federal requirements (INRMP, NCCP, CESA, HCP)
 - Comparison of process – individual project permitting vs. regional permit
 - FAQ's
 - Lessons learned from past HCP/NCCPs
 - Q&A with BOS

Key Milestones on INRMP

- Nov 6, 2006 BOS Workshop
 - Comparison of 5 regional conservation planning approach options
 - Schedule - comparison of options
 - Cost - comparison of options
 - BOS Resolution - direction to prepare Work Plan for INRMP that meets all requirements of HCP/NCCP

BOS Resolution Nov 6, 2006 Directed Staff to:

- 1. Work with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) to prepare a detailed scope of work for preparation of a conservation plan which initially provides for a combined Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (INRMP/HCP/NCCP); said scope of work shall include:**
 - a. planning area to be covered by the plan, including the potential inclusion of federal land;**
 - b. impact analysis needed for a HCP/NCCP;**
 - c. steps necessary to get a planning agreement with state and federal agencies;**
 - d. timelines when the County can determine whether to proceed with a HCP/NCCP or proceed with a local INRMP; and**
 - e. structure of citizen participation, including role of the Plant and Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee (PAWTAC).**
- 2. Formally contact local governmental bodies such as El Dorado Irrigation District, Public Utility Districts, Water Agency, Community Services Districts, and coordinate with California Fish and Game and the Fish and Wildlife Service and seek their input regarding the process and their participation.**
- 3. Provide scope of work to the Board and the public no later than December 12, 2006.**
- 4. Set a public hearing on January 23, 2007 to review and discuss the scope of work.**

Key Milestones on INRMP

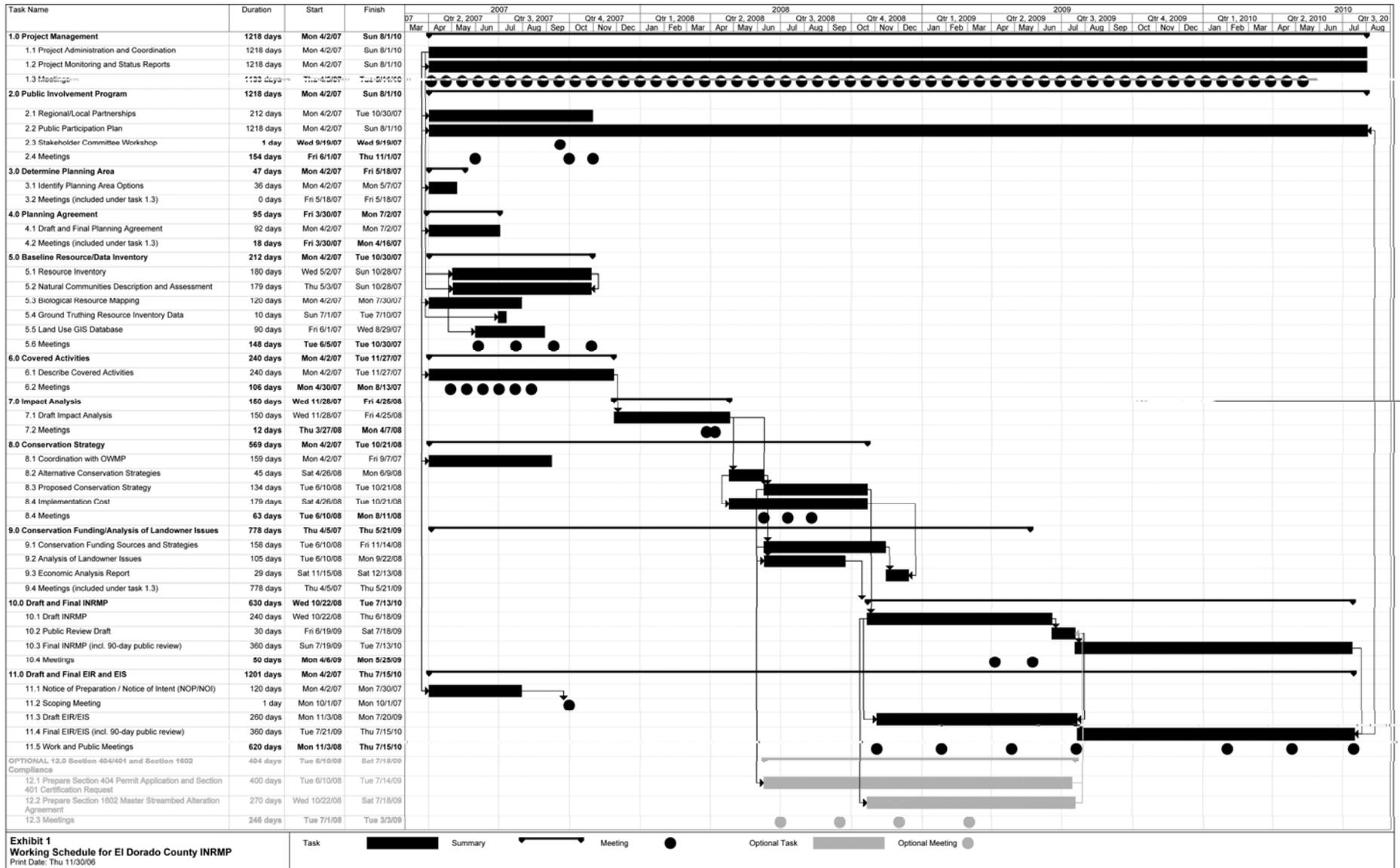
- Dec 12, 2006: Work Plan submitted to BOS
 - Scope of Work
 - Cost Estimate
 - Detailed Schedule
 - “Off-Ramp” graphic depicting timing of BOS decisions to drop HCP and NCCP compliance that would affect scope and cost

SAIC Consulting Cost Estimate

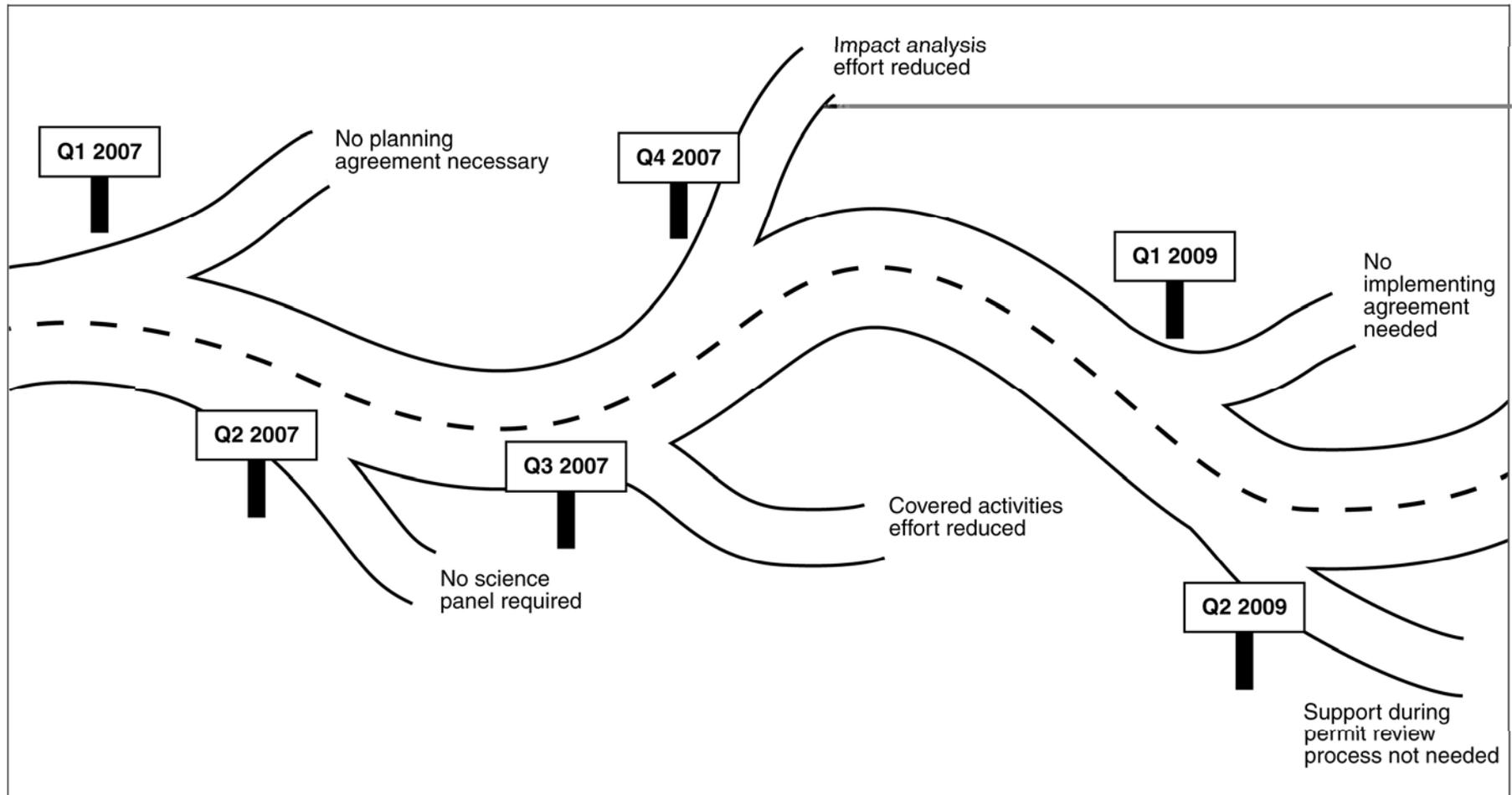
• 1. Project Management	\$236,570
• 2. Public Involvement	332,802
• 3. Determine Plan Area	10,932
• 4. Planning Agreement	5,817
• 5. Baseline Resources	249,224
• 6. Covered Activities	51,977
• 7. Impact Analysis	74,730
• 8. Conservation Strategy	258,687
• 9. Funding Sources	115,992
• 10. Draft/Final INRMP	233,712
• 11. Draft/Final EIR/EIS	<u>350,723</u>
Subtotal	\$1,921,166
• 12. Wetlands/Stream Permits	<u>101,072</u>
Total	\$2,022,238

Note: Does not include costs for legal support.

INRMP Schedule based on start date of April 2, 2007



INRMP “Off-Ramps” for HCP/NCCCP Tasks



Key Milestones on INRMP

- Dec 22, 2006: Letters sent to stakeholders by County staff
- Jan 16, 2006: Grant application (“section 6”) sent to DFG by County staff
- Jan 23, 2006: BOS Meeting
 - Summary of Work Plan
 - Questions for SAIC

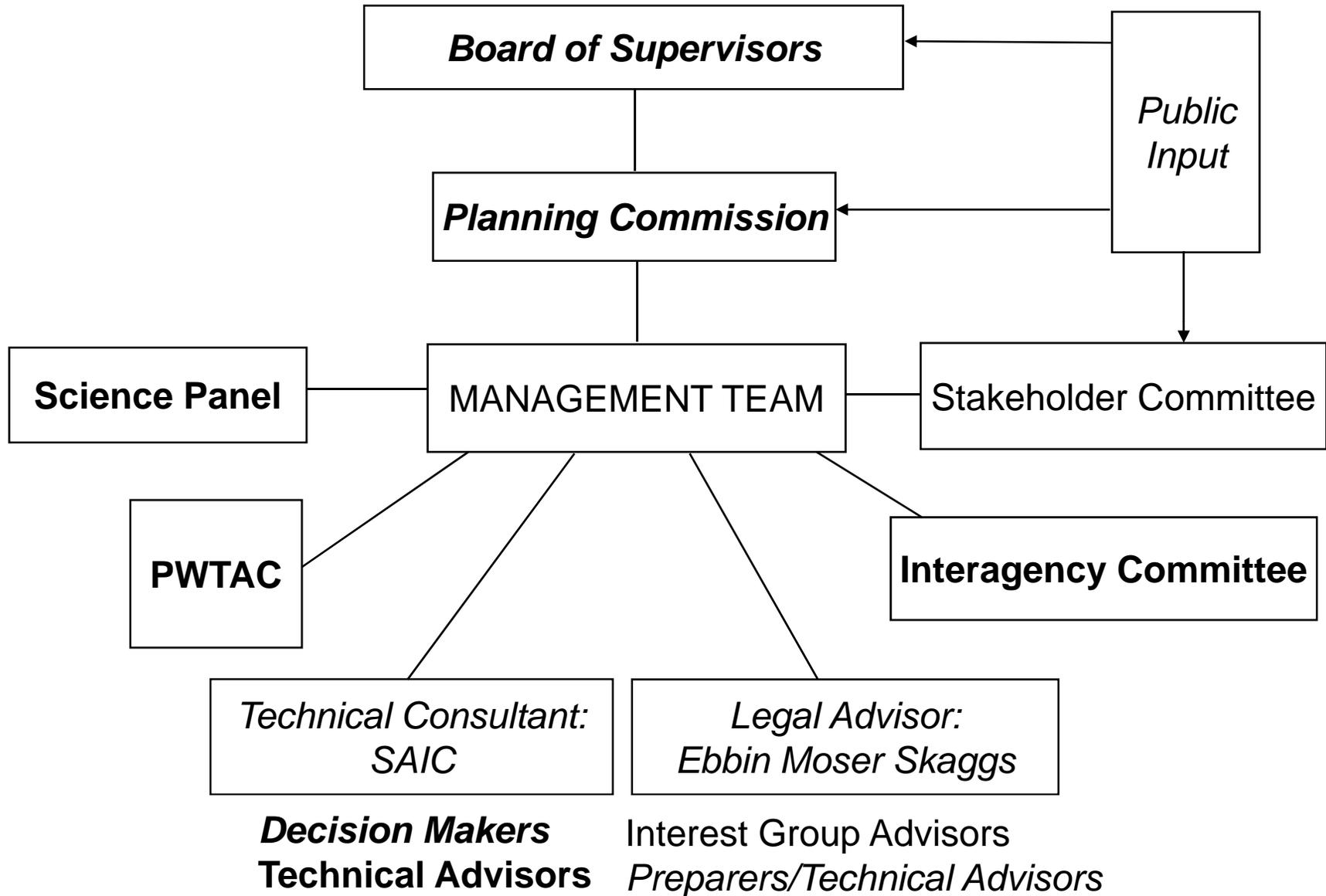
Responses to BOS Questions

- Q: Where in the Work Plan is the BOS and PC given the opportunity to provide policy guidance the INRMP process in a public forum?
- A: While not explicit the Work Plan provides for up to 70 meetings with decision-making bodies and these would be distributed among the BOS, PC, and Management Team. In addition there would be 12 Stakeholder Committee meetings and 3 public workshops.

Responses to BOS Questions

- Q: What will be the INRMP decision-making organizational structure?
- A: Developing the organizational structure for decision making is an early task in the Work Plan. The BOS will decide the final structure including what committees will be formed and who will be on those committees. See example organizational chart on next slide...

Example of INRMP Organizational Structure



Responses to BOS Questions

- Q: How and when will the INRMP Planning Area be determined?
- A: Determination of the Planning Area is a task in the Work Plan. Criteria for selecting the boundary include political boundaries, planned growth areas, ecological boundaries, species distributions, need for permits, land ownership patterns, land use patterns. West slope below 4000' elevation was chosen as rough upper limit of oak woodlands.

Responses to BOS Questions

- Q: How do resource mapping, impact analysis, and the development of the conservation strategy relate?
- A: Baseline data will be gathered including existing data and a new uniform GIS “land cover” map with sufficient resolution for regional planning. Impacts on species and natural communities from covered activities will be based on various data sources with the land cover GIS a key component. Development of conservation strategy begins after impacts have been analyzed and BOS decides what overall approach to conservation they prefer.

Responses to BOS Questions

- Q: Can County receive credit for conservation on federal/state public lands?
- A: Yes, INRMP funded habitat restoration on public land can be credited to the INRMP. New habitat preserves can be established adjacent to existing protected lands for greater ecological benefit and therefore greater credit.

Responses to BOS Questions

- Q: What are the benefits of a regional section 404 wetlands permit and section 1602 streambed alteration agreement?
- A: With wetlands/streams permits in addition to the endangered species permits, the County gains more control for over project authorization with reduced fed/state involvement. Many species use wetlands and streams and so the 404/1602 permits are needed in addition to the species take permits for an activity to be authorized in these habitats.

Responses to BOS Questions: Additional Thoughts

- Regional HCP/NCCPs are prepared voluntarily and projects within the planning area may use the regional permits or may pursue their own project specific permits.
- Lands outside the INRMP Planning Area are unaffected by the INRMP and permits. Projects outside the Planning Area must seek permits as in the past.

Responses to BOS Questions

- More detailed written answers to specific BOS questions are in staff letter to BOS included in the meeting packet.

Next Steps

- March 2007:
 - BOS Approval of Work Plan
 - Staff draft contract w/SAIC for BOS approval
- April 2007:
 - Initiate SAIC INRMP contract and SAIC begin work on INRMP
 - Coordination with Placerville, EID, EDWA on partnering

Summary of INRMP
Work Plan
(Optional Presentation)

SAIC December 1, 2006 version

Task 1. Project Management

- Manage SAIC consultant team and coordinate with County staff and Management Team
- Track contract and budget progress
- Meetings – frequent meetings with BOS, PC, Management Team, and Wildlife Agencies necessary to maintain close communication, receive guidance, and ensure INRMP is developed in an efficient process

Task 2. Public Involvement Program

- Coordinate with various committees:
 - Interagency Committee
 - Stakeholder Committee (frequent meetings)
 - Plant and Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee
 - Science Advisory Panel
- Public Participation Program
 - Website, newsletters, press releases
 - Public Workshops – outdoor events

Task 3. Determine Planning Area

- Current assumption for costing INRMP development: West slope up to 4000-foot elevation
- Options for geographic scope of INRMP will be provided (e.g., EID areas above 4000')
- Early decision by BOS on Planning Area boundaries necessary to maintain schedule

Task 4. Planning Agreement

- NCCP Act requirement
- Prepared by Ebbin Moser Skaggs
- Summarize expected INRMP elements (e.g., plan area, covered species, covered activities, public outreach, science panel)
- Signed agreement between County, other applicants, and DFG to develop plan together

Task 5. Baseline Resource/Data Inventory

- Land cover GIS database – mapping of vegetation and other land cover types of the plan area (complete and uniform database)
- Gathering of existing data on biological and physical resources (species occurrences, soils, geology, land use, streams, etc.)
- Natural community descriptions
- Covered species ecological profiles

Task 6. Covered Activities

- Descriptions of development activities to be covered by the federal and state “incidental take” permits for all applicants
- Defined mainly by General Plan
- Sufficient for use in conducting biological impact analysis
- Sufficient for use in final federal and state permits

Task 7. Impact Analysis

- Develop habitat distribution models for covered species using land cover GIS data and other GIS data
- Assess impacts of covered activities on covered species and their habitat and on covered natural communities

Task 8. Conservation Strategy

- Develop conservation goals and objectives
- Develop alternative overall approaches to conservation of natural communities and species
- BOS selects proposed alternative
- Coordinate with existing Pine Hill Preserve Agreement and Management Plan and Oak Woodland Management Plan
- Develop proposed conservation strategy, monitoring plan and adaptive management plan
- Assess implementation cost of conservation strategy

Task 9. Conservation Funding

- Based on estimated overall cost to implement conservation strategy, identify potential funding sources for implementation
- Identify one-time and ongoing funding sources to address one-time (e.g., land acquisition) and on-going (e.g., habitat management) costs

Task 10. Draft and Final INRMP

- Prepare administrative drafts of INRMP document for review by BOS, PC, Management Team, Wildlife Agencies, Stakeholder Committee, Science Panel
- Prepare public draft INRMP for release to the public with public draft EIR/EIS
- Prepare final INRMP to accompany federal and state take permits and Implementing Agreement
- INRMP will contain all information necessary to serve as a federal HCP and California NCCP

Task 11. Draft and Final EIR/EIS

- Prepare NOP/NOI and conduct Scoping
- County CEQA lead; USFWS NEPA lead
- Prepare administrative drafts of EIR/EIS for review by BOS, PC, Management Team, Wildlife Agencies, Stakeholder Committee
- Prepare public draft EIR/EIS for public release and comment
- Prepare responses to comments and final EIR/EIS

Optional Task 12. Section 404/401 and Section 1602 Compliance

- Coordinate with USACE and EPA on approach to Wetlands permitting (404) and RWQCB on water quality certification (401)
- Develop Section 404/401 permit application
- Coordinate with DFG on approach to Master Streambed Alteration Agreement (1602)
- Develop Section 1602 Agreement