

**MINUTES  
EL DORADO COUNTY  
PLANT AND WILDLIFE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAWTAC)  
and  
INRMP STAKEHOLDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ISAC)**

December 17, 2009

**PAWTAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sue Britting  
Jim Davies  
Todd Gardner  
Ray Griffiths  
Jeremiah Karuzas  
Mahala Young  
Valerie Zentner

**PAWTAC MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jim Brunello  
Dan Corcoran  
Bill Frost  
Jim Gibson  
Dan Hinrichs  
Craig Thomas

**ISAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Kimberly Beal  
Jamie Beutler  
Bill Center  
Francesca Loftis  
Art Marinaccio  
Kathye Russell  
Cindy Shaffer  
John Zentner

**ISAC MEMBERS ABSENT:**

David Bolster

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jordan Postlewait, SEA  
Bob Smart, SEA  
Ethan Koenigs, SEA

Kris Kiehne, SEA  
Fraser Shilling, SEA  
Rick Lind, SEA  
Peter Maurer, El Dorado County  
Beverly Savage, El Dorado County  
Dr. Richard Boyland

The Meeting was called to order by staff Peter Maurer at 9:11 a.m.

**A. Approval of Minutes**

1. ISAC – The minutes of the June 4, July 9 and October 15 meetings were approved.
2. PAWTAC – There was no quorum at this time to conduct PAWTAC business.

**B. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**C. INRMP**

1. Presentation by Sierra Ecosystem (SEA) – Contract Overview
  - a. Members of the SEA team provided a presentation summarizing the scope of work on this first phase of the INRMP. A printed summary of the presentation was distributed and is attached for the record.
  - b. A list of contract deliverables and target completion dates was distributed and discussed. This list is also attached for the record.

**2. Communication Protocol**

A document, "Suggested PAWTAC/ISAC Responsibilities and Timelines for Review, Comment, and Committee Position Statements on INRMP Work Products," ("Communications Protocols") was distributed and discussed.

Art Marinaccio (ISAC) asked if documents, once distributed from SEA to the Committees, remain confidential. Or, are they at that point in the public domain? Mr. Maurer replied that he would verify with County Counsel but was almost certain that since the Committees fall subject to the Brown Act that all documents submitted to them are available to the public.

John Zenter (ISAC) asked how the suggested Communications Protocols relate to the project schedule, which was also distributed. Mr. Maurer replied that the Communications Protocols helped to maintain the schedule. Rick Lind (SEA) concurred and elaborated that the schedule contained only key project deliverables. Many subtasks within each task will be addressed incrementally by the Committees. The Communications Protocols will help to keep this process moving. Jordan Postlewait (SEA) added that the schedule will be modified and updated regularly based on Committee schedules and other factors.

Valerie Zentner (PAWTAC) suggested that updates to the Agricultural Commission be added to number 9 of the Communications Protocols.

General discussion ensued regarding Protocol number 5. Mr. Marinaccio expressed concern that number 5 might result in a violation of the Brown Act and advised that County Counsel input should be sought. Mr. Zentner recalled a discussion by Paula Frantz of County Counsel that the proper mechanism for entering dissenting opinions into the record is via a motion. The dissenter would raise the motion. It would be defeated but would be recorded in the Minutes. Mr. Maurer agreed with Mr. Zenter and added that number 5 was suggested as a means for a dissenter to submit a more detailed position statement. A recommendation was made to amend number 5 to include that minority positions statements will be submitted to the Committee Chair and to Mr. Maurer.

With the above revision to number 5 and the inclusion of Agriculture Commission updates to number 9, the Communication Protocols were approved by the Committees.

### **3. Project Schedule**

- a. Proposed Timeline – The Project Timeline was distributed and reviewed by Mr. Postlewait. The schedule remains flexible and will be updated monthly.

Ms. Britting (PAWTAC) expressed concern that findings during subtask 1.d might initiate changes to mapping completed at subtask 1.b. There was general discussion and a suggestion made that the subtasks not be finalized until subtasks a, b, c and d are completed.

Dr. Boyland asked if the scope of work will include analysis of missing species that were historically found in this region and might return if barriers were removed. He mentioned, by example, adding fish ladders at Folsom Cam. On a question of meeting protocol, Kathye Russell (ISAC) interjected that the Public Comment section on the agenda had passed and she felt it was not appropriate for the public to comment during the Committee business portion of the meeting. Mahala Young (PAWTAC) disagreed and added that the Public Comment portion of the agenda is

intended for items introduction of items that are not on the agenda. In Ms. Young's opinion, any item of discussion should be open to public comment during the meeting. Mr. Marinaccio disagreed and expressed that unless discussion is limited, the Committees will be hindered in accomplishing their combined mission. Mr. Maurer added that the purpose of the INRMP is to discuss the cumulative impacts of development resulting from the 2004 General Plan. Ms. Britting noted that cumulative impacts occur in the past, present and in the future and added that, in addition to Folsom Dam, the Committees might look at Highway 50, which has already happened. Through the process at hand, the Committees have the opportunity to positively impact future development. Kim Beal (ISAC) cautioned that the Committees should not force future development to pay for the mistakes of past development. Ms. Young commented that the Committees must look at the cumulative affects of the total.

- b. Future Meeting Dates – This item will be discussed later in today's meeting.
- c. Board of Supervisors' "Deliverable Review Points" – Specific dates for Board of Supervisor review and approval are included on the Project Timeline.

#### **4. Key Term Definitions**

Kris Kiehne (SEA) distributed "Discussion Draft Key Term Definitions." Committee members were asked to review the draft definitions and be prepared to discuss and adopt definitions at the January meetings. Ms. Kiehne pointed to the distinctions in the definitions of Critical Habitat versus Important Habitat. For the purposes of this project, SEA is employing the Endangered Species Act definition of Critical Habitat. The Committees need to define Important Habitat and decide when each term is used. The terms may overlap.

Ms. Britting requested that the Word version of the document be e-mailed to Committee members so suggested revisions may be made in the document using the "track changes" feature. SEA will send the document to County staff who will forward it to the Committees.

Mrs. Kiehne continued that the first three definitions on the list need to be finalized first, as they relate to subtask 1.a. Jeremiah Karuzas (PAWTAC) asked how specific the definitions needed to be. For instance, when considering the definition of "Important Habitat," would the definition be "tree" for some species or would the definition follow the Webster's Dictionary model? Ms. Kiehne explained that the goal at this phase is to develop the more broad, Webster's Dictionary-type definitions. As we move forward, definitions will become more specific.

**5. Proposed Agenda Items for January 2010 Meeting(s)**

- a. Draft definitions were discussed in item 4 above and will be agendized for the January meetings.
- b. INRMP mapping update was deferred. A PowerPoint presentation had been planned by SEA but was not available due to a power outage in the building.
- c. Updated Timeline – Mr. Postlewait pointed to the Project Timeline that was reviewed earlier in the meeting.

**D. Election of Vice Chair (ISAC)**

Bill Center was elected Vice Chair.

**E. PAWTAC Meeting Schedule**

Additional member(s) of PAWTAC arrived during the meeting. At this point, a quorum was present and Committee business was conducted.

Those present at the meeting agreed to the following: Beginning in February, PAWTAC will meet the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m.; ISAC will meet the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Maurer will contact the members who were absent before finalizing this schedule. Mr. Maurer will also ask these members if they are still interested in serving on the Committee.

There was general discussion regarding election of a PAWTAC chair. Ms. Britting suggested that the position rotate alphabetically. This topic will be agendized for the January meeting. The minutes of the July 15 meeting were approved.

Mr. Maurer adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.