

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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EL DORADO

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 23, 2008

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Peter N. Maurer, Principal Planner

SUBJECT: Plant and Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee Membership

Background:

On June 10, 2008, your Board directed staff to prepare a recommendation for a combined Plant and Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee (PAWTAC) and stakeholder committee and bring back names and qualifications of those willing to serve on such a committee.

Discussion:

Staff contacted the members of PAWTAC that last served on the committee for the General Plan Update process. One member, Greg Greenwood (representing the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection), is out of contact, and staff believes that he is living out of the country. The representative from S.A.G.E. (Rick Russell) is no longer president of that organization, and the current president, Dan Hinrichs, has volunteered to serve as replacement. Daniel Burmester and Terri Weist of California Department of Fish and Game are no longer assigned to El Dorado County projects; they have been replaced with Todd Gardner. Similarly, Susan Moore and Lori Rinek of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are no longer assigned to PAWTAC; they have been replaced by Amy Fesnock. David Witter (El Dorado Irrigation District) is replaced by Dan Corcoran. There was no response from private consultant Connie Wade of Wade & Associates. The remaining members of PAWTAC replied affirmatively that they wished to continue their roles as PAWTAC members.

The preliminary 2008 PAWTAC membership roster consists of the following individuals:

2008 PAWTAC

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Role</i>
Alan Ehgott / Elena DeLacy (Alternate)	American River Conservancy	Biologist/Administration
Amy Fesnock	US Fish & Wildlife Service	Biologist
Bill Frost	UC Cooperative Extension	Natural Resource Advisor/Certified Rangeland Manager
Craig Thomas	Private Volunteer	Ecologist
Dan Corcoran	El Dorado Irrigation District	Environmental Review Manager
Dan Hinrichs	SAGE/DJH Engineering	Engineer
Ray Griffiths	Private Volunteer	Ecologist
Sue Britting	CNPS	Biologist
Todd Gardner	CA Dept of Fish & Game	Biologist
Valerie Zentner	El Dorado County Farm Bureau	Administration

The qualifications of these individuals are submitted below.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that your Board clarify to staff the Board's desire as to continuing representation of the above individuals to PAWTAC; and any additions that the Board desires to make. In addition, staff requests that the Board clarify their expectations for PAWTAC's role in the development of the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan.

PAWTAC MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS			
Name	Organization	Role	Qualifications
Alan Ehrgott	American River Conservancy	Biologist Administrator	Alan has served as the Executive Director since 1989 overseeing the American River Conservancy's education, stewardship and conservation programs. Alan holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a Master's degree in Environmental Administration. He has extensive experience completing land protection projects within the American and Cosumnes River Watersheds as well as managing a successful local non-profit organization. Alan has significant experience working with federal, state and local government agencies as well as foundations and private landowners.
Amy Fesnock	US Fish & Wildlife Service	Biologist	I have a BS in Wildlife Biology and a MS in Natural Resource Management. I have been an active member of The Wildlife Society since 1992 and am a certified Wildlife Biologist through this organization. I worked 14 years in the National Park Service as an ecologist and have spent the last 3 years working for the Fish and Wildlife Service as an Endangered Species Biologist.
Bill Frost	UC Cooperative Extension	Natural Resource Advisor Certified Rangeland Manager	I have served as Natural Resource Advisor with UC Cooperative Extension since 1994. I am responsible for applied research and educational outreach in the area areas of rangeland watershed management, water quality and invasive species. My background includes previous professional experience as an: Agriculture and Natural Resource Extension Agent with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension; Rangeland Resource Specialist with the California Agricultural Technology Institute; and as a Range Conservationist with the USDA Forest Service. I have degrees from UC Davis in Range and Wildlands Science (B.S.) and Range Science (M.S.) as well as a Ph.D. in Range Management from the University of Arizona.
Craig Thomas		Ecologist	I am the executive director of Sierra Forest Legacy, a conservation coalition that works on Federal forest policy, protection of at-risk wildlife, and landscape level conservation planning. My degree is in Cultural Ecology (the ecological, economic, social and spiritual relationships between human beings and the landscapes where they live).
Dan Corcoran	El Dorado Irrigation District	Biologist Administration	Dan is the Environmental Review Manager for EID. He is a biologist by training and currently manages EID's environmental activities including EIRs/EISs, CEQA/NEPA compliance, Project 184 and FERC environmental compliance, and deals with endangered species issues including the Pine Hill Preserve and red-legged frogs. He would bring a practitioners approach to this position that would be valuable addition to the committee. The environmental perspective of the largest water, wastewater, recycled utility on the west slope of the county, that directly affects the General Plan, would seem to be a needed part of the PAWTAC.

PAWTAC MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS			
Name	Organization	Role	Qualifications
Dan Hinrichs	S.A.G.E. / DJH Engineering	Development Engineer	President of S.A.G.E., an organization comprised of professional surveyors, architects, geologists, and engineers, whose members have participated in the design and construction of buildings in El Dorado County. I am a licensed civil engineer and a licensed agricultural engineer. I specialize in wastewater treatment and recycling. I also work on water quality issues for all types of wastewater.
Elena DeLacy	American River Conservancy (Alternate for Alan Ehr Gott)	Biologist	Elena has served as Conservation Project Coordinator for the American River Conservancy since 2004. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology and Management from UC Davis. Elena manages the Geographic Information System (GIS) for the Conservancy. Elena also assists the Executive Director with conservation planning projects as well as individual land protection projects. Elena also has significant experience in planning, implementing and monitoring ecological restoration projects.
Ray Griffiths	Private Volunteer	Ecologist	<p>Length of residency in EDC - Dec. 1978 Education - B.A. Biology CSU Chico 1974, M.S. Ecology, UC Davis 1977. Extension classes in CEQA, land use planning, wetlands, mitigation, fire safety, wildlife.</p> <p>Involvement in local govt/ community groups - Georgetown Advisory Committee, El Dorado County Rare Plant Advisory Committee, EDC Planning Commission 1990-94, EDC Waste Management Task Force, EDC Oak Woodland Committee, EDC Plant and Wildlife Committee, EDC Noxious Weed Committee. Currently a Director on the Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District. Vice-chairman of the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council.</p>
Sue Britting	California Native Plant Society	Biologist	Ms. Britting received her doctorate in biology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1992. Working as a consultant to non-profit organizations, her services include advising on implementation of federal and state environmental policies, analysis of management plans, habitat analysis using a geographic information system (GIS), and database development for natural resource management. She has co-authored watershed and conservation assessments for the South Fork American and Cosumnes watersheds. She also co-authored the "Sierra Nevada Community Conservation and Wildfire Protection Plan Guidebook," a tool to assist communities in the development of wildfire protection plans. Her primary area of interest is habitat planning in the Sierra Nevada, although her interests in policy development extend statewide. In 2002, she was appointed by Governor Davis to serve as a member of the California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Ms. Britting has served in leadership positions with the California Native Plant Society, a statewide plant conservation organization, since 1993 and currently is President of the Board of Directors.

PAWTAC MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS			
Name	Organization	Role	Qualifications
Todd Gardner	CA Dept of Fish & Game	Biologist	I currently work for the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) as a Staff Environmental Scientist, and am DFG's primary contact for CESA/CEQA and conservation planning efforts for several counties, including El Dorado County.
Valerie Zentner	El Dorado County Farm Bureau	Administration	I have been the Executive Director for the Farm Bureau since 1999. As a membership organization, we represent all commodities within the county and we advocate on behalf of them at local, regional, and federal levels. As agriculturists, we are natural resource specialists who manage our soils, water, crops, and livestock in a sustainable manner. Since natural resource decisions will impact our abilities to ranch and farm, it is important that agriculture be present at the table as these decisions are made.