Review of Oak Woodland Management Plan

El Dorado County oak policy is not driven by fear that General Plan implementation will result in a significant cutting and loss of oaks. A study of the 1996 General Plan indicated that even at theoretical General Plan build out (projected to occur long after 2025 Plan Period, if ever), only 4 % of oaks would actually be converted. [i] (Saving-Greenwood). A Forest Service study referenced in the General Plan found that El Dorado County oaks had increased 4% during the 40 years prior to 1988 [ii]. A 2004 University of California report found a slight decrease in Hardwood Canopy Cover between 1991 and 2004[iii]. Oaks are now recognized as assets by landowners and are retained, rather than cleared for grazing or cut for firewood.

Saving-Greenwood, along with another study referenced in the EIR [iv], reviewed the 1996 General Plan oak woodland canopy retention and open space requirements, and concluded these measures were "ineffective at mitigating the loss associated with urban development" (EIR 5.12-40). Although acknowledging that a mere 4% maximum of oaks might be physically lost due to development based on 1996 General Plan theoretical land use build-out Saving-Greenwood theorized that 40% of the oak woodlands would become fragmented, marginal or urban woodland. "In other words, areas that once functioned under a more natural state and presumably provided functional habitat for species that are degraded either due to proximity to urban land uses or by isolation from patches of contiguous native vegetation". (Saving-Greenwood) (EIR 5.12-39).

To mitigate the natural habitat loss and fragmentation associated with urban development, the 2004 General Plan developed different mitigation programs relating to oak habitat ranging from the individual oak tree to oak woodland landscapes. Each of these mitigation policies treat oak habitat consistent with the GP definition of habitat, "The physical location or type of environment an organism or biological population lives or can be found." The theory of the GP is that by protecting certain identified habitats, the flora and fauna living in the habitats will be protected.

Mitigation Policy 7.4.4.4 provides for projects that impact oak woodlands (1% canopy cover on one or more acres) with one of two mitigation options: **Option A** allows a project with oak woodlands to retain a percentage of the oak woodland canopy on site and to replace any removed oaks at a 1:1 ratio. Alternatively, **Option B** allows an applicant to convert oak woodlands and contribute cash or a conservation easement to the Integrated Resource Management Plan (**INRMP**) Conservation Fund, based on a 2:1 preservation ratio. This Policy provides a project, wherever located, the option to either retain and replace oak woodlands, or convert oak woodlands and contribute to the INRMP at a 2:1 ratio

After the General Plan was adopted in 2004 a conundrum developed: Few high-intensity projects could comply with Policy 7.4.4.4 Option A Retention and Replacement Standards, and Option B was illusory, since it allowed oaks to be removed with a mitigating contribution to the INRMP Conservation Fund, but the INRMP was not yet adopted nor even in process.

On April 10, 2006, the County entered into a Settlement Agreement to resolve General Plan litigation. All parties to the Settlement Agreement agreed to the following language: "It is the County's position…and which the trial court agreed, that under existing Policy 7.4.4.4 the County may require …Option B…only after the County has adopted the **oak woodland portion of the INRMP described in Policy 7.4.2.8**".

Policy 7.4.2.8 created the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) to conserve and restore identified habitats to offset loss and habitat fragmentation elsewhere.

In September 2006, work commenced on the Oak Woodland Management Plan **(OWMP**), a combined project to review Policy 7.4.4.4 (Options A and B) and adopt the "oak woodland portion of the INRMP". In addition, the OWMP will qualify as an Oak Management Plan for funding for state Oak Woodland Conservation Fund grants.

Adoption of the Oak Portion of the INRMP

Policy 7.4.2.8 (A) – (H) describes the requirements for the "Oak Woodland Portion of the INRMP."

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (A) (1)-(5) requires the INRMP shall inventory and map the following important habitats in El Dorado County:

1. Habitats that support special status species;
2. Aquatic environments including streams, rivers and lakes;
3. Wetland and riparian habitat;
4. Important habitat for migratory deer herds;
5. Large Expanses of Native Vegetation.

Policy 7.4.2.8 (B) e**stablishes** the INRMP strategy and goal: Protect important habitat based on coordinated land acquisitions, with *the goal to conserve and restore contiguous blocks of important habitat to offset the effects of increased habitat loss and fragmentation elsewhere*.

Regarding oak woodlands, the INRMP was designed as mitigation for the conversion of oak woodland habitat to urban habitat and fragmentation in the areas planned for high intensity projects. Consistent with the express language of Policies7.4.2.8 (A) and (B), the goal of the GP as analyzed in the following EIR references is to preserve large expanses of oak habitat in the areas not planned for fragmentation to mitigate the conversion of oaks in the areas planned for higher intensity projects and fragmentation:

1. "The INRMP conservation fund would help to preserve some of the largest and most un-fragmented woodlands" (EIR 4.2-498). This contrasts to areas planned for high intensity projects. "High Intensity projects …are areas where mass grading of large blocks of undeveloped land would be expected and the landscape would be increasingly urbanized and fragmented*", "Impacts are expected to be highest in…high intensity projects and would result in fragmentation and loss of the majority of the existing habitat"* (EIR 5.12-61).

2. The INRMP was designed to preserve the ecological value of a large expanse of oaks: "Goal of the (INRMP) is to conserve habitat in sufficient amount and configuration to ensure its ecological function." (EIR 5.12-45). This would not be possible in areas planned for high intensity projects "Generally the lowest diversity of native wildlife can be expected in densely urbanized areas." (EIR 5.12-9); "Most people can agree that high density urban and suburban developments do not provide much high quality habitat for most species…" (Saving-Greenwood (2002)) Urban areas (Community Regions) are planned for the "highest intensity compact urban type developments" (GP Objective 2.1.1);

3. Clustering development in urban areas is part of the General Plan strategy to protect wildlife habitat. "Assignment of higher density land use designations to Community Regions and Rural Centers would allow for the concentration of higher intensity development in those areas. This would further the maintenance of the rural nature of the County's Rural Regions. Clustering developments in urban areas can be utilized as a strategy for protecting wildlife habitat in rural areas…" (EIR 4.12-492).

4. Large Expanses of oak woodlands within the Rural Residential (RR), Open Space (OS) and Natural Resource (NR) would maintain quality wildlife habitat and values. "The Open Space (OS), Natural Resources (NR) and Rural Residential (RR) land use designations would be maintained …in support of protection of large and contiguous native habitats" (EIR 5.12-94);

Initial Mapping of Large Contiguous Expanses of Oaks Consistent with INRMP Goal

Consistent with Policy 7.4.2.8 (A) and (B), Figure 1 of the OWMP identifies large expanses of contiguous oak woodlands in un-fragmented areas as Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs).

Figure 1 includes a Legend that indicates the BOS has determined that oak woodlands within these areas are where willing landowners could be approached to negotiate GP Policy 7.4.4.4 mitigation and other types of oak woodland conservation land acquisition. The legend also notes these lands are not subject to GP Policy 7.4.1.6 and Measure CO-U no-net loss requirements unless the oak woodland habitat is within (but not adjacent to) any lands that are already identified as containing threatened, rare or endangered species. The Legend is consistent with General Plan Objective 7.4.1 which provides, "The County shall protect State and Federally recognized rare, threatened or endangered species and their habitats consistent with Federal and State laws". In addition to these mapped PCAs, projects that support any of the habitats described in 7.4.2.8 (A) (1)-(5) or are within IBCs must be identified by the Biological Resource Study and provided for in the Important Habitat Mitigation Plan.

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (C) describes how the INRMP will be managed. The INRMP requires a program to be established to facilitate the mitigation process. GP suggestions include the development of mitigation banks as incentives for developers and landowners to participate in both the acquisition and management components of the INRMP. Qualified land trusts are the common method of managing mitigation programs similar to the INRMP (Yolo, Marin, Placer, etc.) and the INRMP authorizes land trust participation in the acquisition and management of conservation easements and fee title. Grants of conservation easements, or fee title to the land trusts, will include a provision that the County may require transfer of the easement, fee and endowment to the county. The OWMP provides for acquisition and management of conservation easements in perpetuity based upon documents approved by County by land conservation groups approved by County. Management of conserved lands will be done either by the County or by land conservation groups approved by the County.

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (D) requires acquisition targets. For purposes of the Oak Portion of the INRMP, habitat acquisition targets have been identified by the mapping in Policy 7.4.2.8 (A) (B). The OWMP provides priority should be given to conserving oak woodland habitat within PCAs adjacent to existing woodlands under or subject to an IBC, existing conserved lands, public lands, open space lands, riparian corridors, ecological preserves or other PCAs lying west of the National Forest and consideration should be given to maintaining the relative acreages of five oak types with emphasis on Valley Oaks.

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (E) requires evaluation of each acquisition to determine whether restoration or management actions should be performed. When a dedication of off-site conservation easements is proposed by a developer, a study must show the acquired oak woodlands are of equal or greater biological value than the oaks converted. The OWMP provides the County shall approve a conservation easement for acquisitions that includes management and monitoring requirements as required by the County and the GP. The question of whether planting is legally sufficient oak mitigation to satisfy CEQA was answered by CEQA statute PRC 21083.4. This statute states that planting oaks fulfills up to 50% of oak mitigation and conservation easements may satisfy 100% of mitigation requirements. The Option A guidelines for replanting generally conform to the planting protocol

developed by the University of California IHRMP. There is an abundance of literature to guide in the planting of oak trees.[v]

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (F) requires a habitat monitoring program. The OWMP incorporates a habitat monitoring program including an annual report to the County. Funding for habitat monitoring is incorporated into the Conservation Fund In-Lieu Fee. The County approved conservation easements will include a monitoring program that provides an annual report to the County.

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (G) provides for public participation and informal consultation with local, state and federal agencies having jurisdiction over natural resources within the County. The Oak Portion of the INRMP satisfies this requirement with the establishment of an EDC Technical Advisory Committee along with informal consultation with local, state and federal agencies with natural resource jurisdiction within El Dorado County.

INRMP Policy 7.4.2.8 (H) requires the County to establish a conservation fund. The Conservation Fund In-Lieu Fee established under the OWMP includes management, monitoring and reporting components, in addition to funds for acquisition of conservation easements. All conservation easements, endowments, fee titles and any fees to mitigate loss of important oak woodlands will be deemed contributions to the Conservation Fund. The County may simply establish this Conservation Fund.

Selected General Plan Policies and Measures to Implement the INRMP

Measure CO-M is the implementation measure for the INRMP under Policy 7.4.2.8. While the INRMP is to be developed within 5 years of General Plan adoption, Measure CO-M contemplates that certain actions will be implemented prior to completion of the INRMP, including: a) Establishment of the Conservation Fund; b) Development of a strategy for acquisition and management of conservation easements; c) Development and implementation of mitigation assistance program; d) Acquisition of important habitat after preparation of the *initial inventory and mapping*. The County has extensively inventoried and mapped oak woodlands throughout the County. This is all that is required for the "oak woodland portion of the INRMP". However, in addition, the County has recently adopted as the *initial inventory and mapping*, a map identifying important habitats described in Policy 7.4.2.8 (A). If a project is within the areas shown on this map or otherwise has any of these identified habitats then a Biological Resource Study and Important Habitat Mitigation Plan must be prepared.

Important Biological Corridors

Policy 7.4.2.9 establishes the **Important Biological Corridor (IBC)** overlay which identifies specific lands having "high wildlife habitat values" as further mitigation for fragmentation, including loss of connectivity. The goal of the IBC is to provide continuous corridors of vegetation and connectivity between areas of more extensive natural vegetation for greater environmental protection.

In the primary oak woodlands study for the GP, Saving and Greenwood noted , "The purpose of this study was to evaluate the potential impact of EDC GP on wildland habitat in the county (primarily oak woodlands)" The IBC overlay was created because it, "gives the most promising terms of preserving connectivity of important habitat in western El Dorado County." (EIR 5.12-96)

Saving and Greenwood discussed the north-south connection between "large areas of contiguous habitat in the northwest and southwest portions of El Dorado County" (EIR 5.12-39). The Savings-Greenwood mapping **(Exhibit A)** generally follow the IBC overlay configuration as to the north-south connections for both Weber Creek and a potential south connection in the Indian Creek Canyon area

between the Shingle Springs overpass and El Dorado Road . This second connection was was qualified, "although this scenario did not actually maintain the (north-south) connection, several small patches do extend through this area indicating a *potential* to maintain this critical corridor." Both these north-south connectors discussed by Saving-Greenwood are mapped by the IBCs **(Exhibit B).**

GP Measure CO-N anticipated the IBCs would be reviewed and updated within two years of General Plan adoption.

Canopy and Oak Woodland

As to the issue of whether the mitigation ratio for both direct impacts and fragmentation may be measured by canopy, the following factors should be considered:

1. The ratio of 2:1 was intended to offset fragmentation and results in protection of twice the canopy area which may include other vegetation types, habitat elements and intervening open spaces to offset effects of fragmentation;.

2. 2. Public Resource Code Section 21083.4 defines oaks as a "native tree species in the genus *Quercus*…that is 5 inches or more in diameter at breast height". Enacted by the state in 2004, this Amendment requires a county to determine, as part of its CEQA review, whether a project may result in conversion of oak woodlands that will have a significant effect on the environment. If the county determines that the project may have a significant effect, the county must require one or more of four mitigation alternatives:

A. Conservation of oak woodlands;

B. Plant and maintain for seven years an appropriate number of trees. (Planting may not fulfill more than one-half of the mitigation.);

C. Contribute to the statewide Oak Woodlands Conservation Fund; or

D. Other mitigation measures developed by the county.

These mitigation alternatives do not prescribe a method for calculating impact (i.e. canopy or woodland), the ratio for replacement plantings or woodland conserved (i.e. 1:1, 2:1), or even the amount of the fee to be contributed to the statewide Oak Woodland Conservation Fund. Clearly, the legislature intended to leave these matters to the local Boards of Supervisors, in their reasonable discretion.

3. In fact, no uniform methodology for quantifying impact or determining appropriate mitigation has been adopted. Many jurisdictions, such as Nevada County, mitigate measured by the inch multiplied by a factor. Other jurisdictions, such as Sacramento, require a set a mitigation standard for planting by requiring a replacement % of canopy within a set number of years. Yet other mitigations use a per tree measure and a multiplier. That is for each tree removed a set number must be planted or preserved. (See county oak mitigation policies compiled by the UC IHRMP at http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/county/.)

4. Measuring by canopy is consistent with the goals and objectives of the General Plan.

Scope of Work for Completion of INRMP and IBC Revision

As the OWMP includes the "oak portion of the INRMP" it is important the OWMP integrate into the INRMP. On May 12, 2006 the County issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a consultant to prepare the INRMP. On July 10, 2007 the BOS directed the consultant and staff to provide a revised scope of work and to prepare a staff report indicating a work plan for the INRMP and related tasks, including identification of important habitats, revision of the IBCs and identification of critical corridors

The direction to staff was by motion, part of which is attached as **Exhibit C,** which incorporated the flow chart attached as **Exhibit D** and a one page directive entitled WHAT IS AN INRMP as **Exhibit E.** The DVD of the motion is available at EDC or http://www.placerville.info/bos_owmp_motion-07-10-2007.html

The flow chart (Exhibit D) illustrates the GP goal to first identify and map the habitats described in Policy 7.4.2.8 (A) and determine the extent to which these habitats are protected on public lands and by regulatory constraints on private lands. When these habitats are mapped along with the existing protected areas and IBCs, the BOS will consider the matrix of permeable landscape and will take all of part of the following actions:

1. Determine whether the existing Inventory and Mapping is adequate to meet the INRMP goals. Additional identification and mapping will be completed as required.

2. Review the existing regulatory constraints against the identified habitats and revise as appropriate.

3. Prepare a biological study that will assess the matrix of connectivity and may prepare species specific wildlife movement reports and sample wildlife in both riparian and non-riparian areas to determine possible corridor composition and connectivity policies. As part of the INRMP, all of the connection resources will be identified on the same map (of overlays) and the issue of connection of important habitat identified in the INRMP and a revision of the IBCs (Measure CO-N) will be addressed. The GP EIR presented an objective: "Preserving connectivity between large areas of natural habitat is a key to maintaining opportunities for wildlife movement. Natural linkages often exist in the form of riparian corridors, canyon bottoms, and ridgelines. But connectivity is not just corridors**:** habitat linkages are best provided by maintaining a permeable landscape, one that permits the uninhibited movement of wildlife species across great distances. Connectivity as it relates to wildlife movement, is afforded more by the suitability of the overall landscape matrix than by the presence or absence of discrete corridors**.** (EIR 5.12-89)". .

4. Address the north-south connector discussed by Saving-Greenwood along with Weber Creek with a decision as to their feasibility. The barrier effect of Highway 50 on north- south wildlife connectivity will be included in this study to avoid any funneling of wildlife into "mortality sinks".

5. After public input, the BOS will identify the habitats among these inventoried habitats that are not otherwise protected, and should be protected and conserved to achieve the greatest biological benefits. This process will include the identification of essential corridors, choke-points and missing links for priority acquisition.

6. Administer a conservation fund (that) would allow the County to pool mitigation funds from multiple projects as well as other sources (such as grants, State Oak Woodlands Conservation Act funds, or County generated funds) and apply those funds towards acquisition and restoration of projects that would produce the greatest biological benefits (EIR 4.1-51). Or, as stated in Exhibit C, "the most bang for the buck".

Habitat and Tree Protection Pending Adoption of INRMP

1. Pending adoption of the INRMP, oak woodland habitats are being protected by the following policies and habitat linkages and matrix of policies and protected areas as shown on the OWMP Figure 2 and the following policies:

a. IBCs;
b. PCAs;

c. Riparian Corridors are identified as important habitats and already have a 200 foot buffer area (100 feet on each side);

d. Slope restrictions to protect canyons and other migratory paths;

e. deer fawning and migration areas identified as "important habitat" and mapped in EIR Exhibits 5.12-7 and 5.12-19.;

f. Land use categories that limit intensity of development;

g. Policies that encourage cluster-development as a means of increasing open space and preserving important habitats;

h. Identification of the PCAs (large expanses of un-fragmented oak woodlands);

i. Natural Resource Lands;

j. Ecological Preserves;

k. Designated Recovery Plan Areas for the Red Legged Frog and rare and threatened plants;

l. Location and extent of sensitive species habitat type as shown in the EIR. .Status Plant Occurrences are mapped as identified in EIR Exhibits 5.12-8 and 11; Special-Status Animal Occurrences are mapped as identified in EIR Exhibits 5.12-10 and 13;

m. Open space maintained by an organized homeowners group or CSD (a responsible managing entity);

n. Parklands.

2. Policy 7.4.4.4 Option A and Option B require a Biological Resource Study and a Habitat Mitigation Plan for the conversion of oaks. Wherever oaks are converted (including Community Regions) and there are any of the important habitats included in Policy 7.4.2.8 (A)(1)-(5) as identified in the Initial Inventory and Mapping then the applicant will be required to mitigate these impacts since the only mitigation provided for by the OWMP is for conversion of oak woodlands . Oak woodlands acquired within the PCAs have been established as meeting the County's conservation objectives as mitigation for the conversion of oaks in areas planned for fragmentation.

3. With or without the INRMP, any project subject to CEQA review must identify and mitigate any significant impact that would "Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites".

4. Although not a part of the "Oak woodland portion of the INRMP", the county may process an oak preservation ordinance in accordance with Policy 7.4.5.2. Policy 7.4.5.2 requires the County adopt an Oak Preservation Ordinance to protect native oaks, where feasible, at the tree level for landscaping, cultural and aesthetic purposes, *rather than for any biological value* (EIR 5.12). Consistent with the GP and EIR, the OWMP Technical Advisory Committee explained: "We accept a policy interpretation that 'woodland habitat' conservation goals and standards are based more upon aesthetic/cultural values than biological values when woodland habitat is located within urban areas…" (Page 2, Attachment 4, OWMP, March 22, 2007, Summary of OWMP TAC Conclusions). The County could adopt interim guidelines implementing the literal requirements of Policy 7.4.5.2 pending adoption of an Oak Preservation Ordinance.

Conclusions

1. All parties to the Settlement Agreement, agreed to the following language: "It is the County's position…and with which the trial court agreed, that under existing Policy 7.4.4.4 the County may require …Option B…only after the County has adopted the oak woodland portion of the INRMP described in Policy 7.4.2.8".

2. The OWMP is consistent with the requirements of the General Plan. The OWMP is a conservation and mitigation assistance program identified in the General Plan EIR and does not result in any significant environmental effects. The OWMP does not amend or otherwise modify the General Plan and does not add new environmental impacts or increase the severity of previously identified impacts associated with the General Plan implementation.

3. Public Resources Code Section 21083 a component of CEQA requires a County to require one or more oak woodlands mitigation alternatives to mitigate the significant effect of the conversion of oak woodlands and provides: " A lead agency that adopts, and a project that incorporates, one or more of the measures specified in this section to mitigate the significant effects to oaks and oak woodlands shall be deemed to be in compliance with this division only as it applies to effects on oaks and oak woodlands."

4. CEQA itself has deemed that conservation easements mitigate for significant effects resulting from the conversion of oak woodlands. The OWMP incorporates one or more of the measures (conservation easements, planting) specified in PR Section 21083.4 to mitigate the significant effects to oaks and oak woodlands and is therefore in compliance with CEQA as it applies to mitigation of effects on oaks and oak woodlands.

5. As for impacts to other habitat identified for conservation in the GP or federal, state or county regulations, the OWMP only provides mitigation for significant effects on oak woodlands. A project applicant must still mitigate any impact on IBCs, deer areas, aquatic, riparian, special status species or other defined habitats, such as habitats identified by an Initial Study checklist ("Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites") or shown on the Initial Inventory or Mapping consistent with Policy 7.4.2.8 and Measure CO-M.

6. The INRMP is a local conservation plan. The Oak Portion of the INRMP has independent utility as mitigating conversion of oak woodlands in a manner consistent with state law, the GP and the Settlement agreement

Respectfully submitted,

James Brunello

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Oak Woodla
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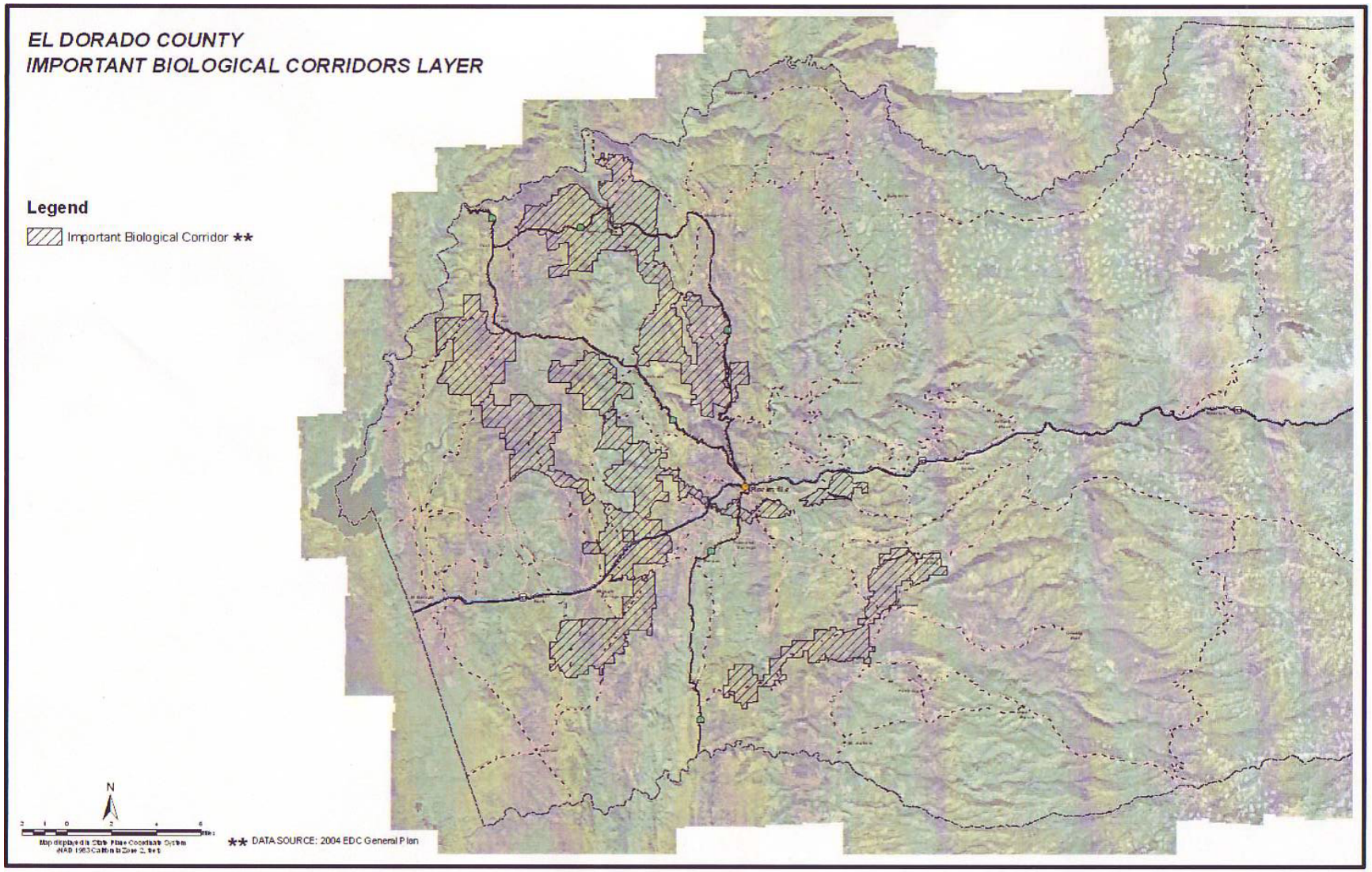

EL DORADO COUNTY
IMPORTANT BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS LAYER
Legend
Important Biological Corridor **
N
** DATA SOURCE: 2004 EDC General Plan

B.O.S. MEETING 7/10/07 Partial Transcript

Helen Baumann:

What's being suggested, at quite a hefty price tag, is that we go back and reinventory and I think it is far too complex and, going back to what Norma just said, would concur that we pull it in, reduce its scope and go back to what I said a little bit ago, reduce it to about 4 to 6 months and a fraction of the cost. Number one, we just don't have the money to do some fancy program to redo what we've already done. I would be so bold, just to keep us moving, to take the presentation (and if you guys don't want to do that that's fine, I'm just going to throw something out here) that Jim just got done explaining, take that and rework the scope, narrow it down, see where and who is the appropriate staff to bring it in and get this thing moving forward and bring it back one more time to the board. I don't know what else to do with it anymore. I was trying to resurrect something I see in here. . . . . and I can certainly cut out a lot of it but we will be doing the piecemeal, so let's take a look at the whole scope of the project, and I would highly recommend that we go back and just do this (holding up Jim's paper). I can't think of a better way to work it through. Anybody else have any other options? I think that will get us to the inventory which, using the existing data, I would stress the use of existing data, certainly on the identification of land, we have spent an awful lot of time on that.

Norma Santiago:

To invest money on something that we've already done is throwing good money after bad. Why are we continually throwing money at something we already have the information for? We can do it for less and in 4 months.

Helen Baumann:

I think in the long run if we can ratchet down the scope of this, and ….. needed to have land use authority to move county forward in a positive direction and protect the environment . . . We do control land use authority in this county and have to show the public that we are responsible and we know how to do that. I think that this habitat inventory is what's really got me plagued because I know the language in the general plan yet I think we have the data available to do that inventory and I think that's true of a lot of these. That's why I really, in all seriousness, really do like this (holding paper). This really simplifies it and yet keeps the spirit of what we were trying to do and that is plan appropriate growth yet protect our environment. Nobody . . . wants to see this county destroyed. It's a beautiful county and we want to keep it that way, yet we do have a whole lot of other pressures, so I would go as far as to make a motion that we send this back to staff, defining the scope of the project and its basic tools. They do the inventory, prioritize, acquire and protect, and that the basis of that be in the map that was shared with us today. I think it really does cover all the concerns of all the varying groups in this county and really lets us use the taxpayers' money for the best bang we can get out of our bank right now. That I will put into a motion and ask that staff take another look, bring it back, based on this suggested schematic.

Jack Sweeney . . .

Norma Santiago:

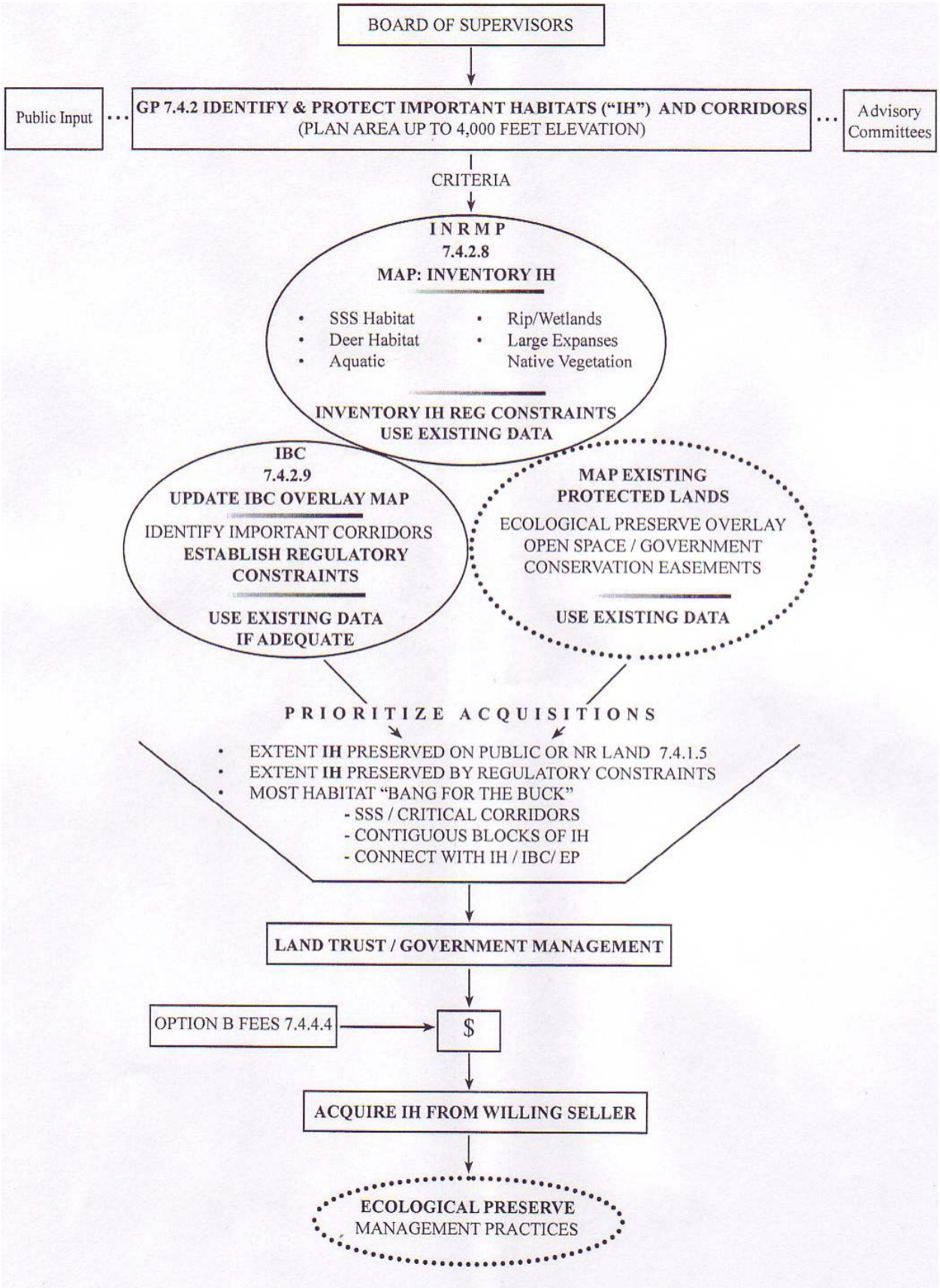
Part of the motion included to use as a reference these handouts that we were provided and that in itself tells you more or less what direction we want to go with regard to the scope and looking at downsizing and inventory prioritize, acquire, protect.

Helen Baumann:

$500,000 see what you can come up with.

Alright, we have a motion and a second, all in favor?

We need to make sure C.J. gets a copy of the information that was handed out.


BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Public Input
GP 7.4.2 IDENTIFY & PROTECT IMPORTANT HABITATS ("IH") AND CORRIDORS
(PLAN AREA UP TO 4,000 FEET ELEVATION)
Advisory Committees
CRITERIA
INRMP
7.4.2.8
MAP: INVENTORY IH
SSS Habitat
Deer Habitat
Aquatic
Rip/Wetlands
Large Expanses
Native Vegetation
INVENTORY IH REG CONSTRAINTS
USE EXISTING DATA
IBC
7.4.2.9
UPDATE IBC OVERLAY MAP
IDENTIFY IMPORTANT CORRIDORS
ESTABLISH REGULATORY CONSTRAINTS
USE EXISTING DATA IF ADEQUATE
MAP EXISTING PROTECTED LANDS
ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE OVERLAY
OPEN SPACE / GOVERNMENT
CONSERVATION EASEMENTS
USE EXISTING DATA
PRIORITIZE ACQUISITIONS
EXTENT IH PRESERVED ON PUBLIC OR NR LAND 7.4.1.5
EXTENT IH PRESERVED BY REGULATORY CONSTRAINTS
MOST HABITAT "BANG FOR THE BUCK"
- SSS / CRITICAL CORRIDORS
- CONTIGUOUS BLOCKS OF IH
- CONNECT WITH IH / IBC/ EP
LAND TRUST / GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT
OPTION B FEES 7.4.4.4
$
ACQUIRE IH FROM WILLING SELLER
ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

WHAT IS AN INRMP?
DRAFT (7/7/07)

The Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) is a simple Mitigation Measure designed to mitigate impacts to species and habitats which occu during implementation of the General Plan. Development and implementation of th INRMP consists of four basic steps:

Inventory, Prioritize, Acquire and Protect

Inventory:

Develop initial inventory and mapping of the following important habitats:

A. Habitats that support special status species;
B. Aquatic environments (streams, rivers, and lakes);
C. Wetland and riparian habitat;
D. Important habitat for migratory deer herds; and
E. Large expanses of native vegetation.

Prioritize:

Develop strategy for determining relative priority of important habitats based criteria included in General Plan, such as:

Large contiguous blocks of important habitat, presence of special status speci connectivity with adjacent protected lands and important habitat, parcels which prese natural wildlife movement corridors or opportunities for terrestrial wildlife crossings under major roadways, and lands which achieve multiple benefits.

Acquire:

Acquire lands from willing sellers, either through conservation easements or i fee. Develop mitigation banks or other programs to facilitate mitigation of impacts t biological resources resulting from projects approved by the County which impact important habitats.

Protect:

All land acquired shall be added to the Ecological Preserve overlay area. Eac property or conservation easement acquired will be evaluated to determine whether t resources would benefit from restoration or management actions. A habitat monitori program will be developed to include all lands added to the Ecological Preserve over

[i] Saving-Greenwood, (2002) The Potential Impacts of Development on Wildlands in El Dorado County, California. USDA Forest Service Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-184.

[ii] Bolsinger, CL (1988) The hardwoods of California's timberlands, woodlands and savannas. Res. Bull. PNW RB - 148. Portland OR: Portland Northwest Research Station, U.S.D.A. Forest Service.

[iii] Frost and Churches, 2004, Monitoring Oak Woodland Canopy Change; El Dorado, Amador and Calaveras Counties, Publication Number CTY-004, University of California Extension.

[iv] Oak Management by County Jurisdictions in the Central Sierra Nevada, California (2002) Richard R. Harris and Susan D. Kocher, USDA Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-184.,

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