

**SUMMARY of DISCUSSION of the
PLANT AND WILDLIFE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(PAWTAC)
September 2, 2010**

Members in Attendance:

Jim Brunello
Dan Corcoran
Valerie Zentner
Ray Griffiths
Jeremiah Karuzas

Jordan Postlewait, SEA
Fraser Shilling, SEA
Peter Maurer, EDC

Others in Attendance:

Kris Kiehne, SEA
Rick Lind, SEA
Art Marinaccio

Members Absent:

Sue Britting
Jim Davies
Elena DeLacy
Bill Frost
Todd Gardner
Mahala Young

The September 2, 2010 meeting was called to order by Chair Valerie Zentner at 9:15 AM.

A. Approval of Minutes

Since there was no quorum, the minutes were continued to the next meeting.

B. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present

C. INRMP

C.1 Status report on process of project to date

Jordan Postlewait provided a status report and overview of items for this day's agenda. Peter Maurer indicated that the Indicator Species Report is ready for Board consideration but needs to be agendaized. That is likely to occur in October due to budget hearings in September.

C.2 Discussion of Administrative Draft Wildlife Movement and Corridors Report

Fraser Shilling presented an outline of the report via a power point presentation. Some potential Highway 50 crossings have not been analyzed due to access limitations. Dr. Shilling is waiting on a Caltrans permit to complete that analysis. Other potential crossings were suggested by committee members that will also be investigated.

Two previous studies done on wildlife movement corridors identified several existing corridors based on existing land use patterns and road crossings of Highway 50. These identified the Bass Lake area, west and east of Placerville, and the Riverton area. It was noted that future development plans, including an approved specific plan for the Bass Lake area could eliminate the westerly corridor.

Ray Griffiths shared the results of the study that he led with high school students on two undercrossings.

Two main points came out of the committee discussion. These were that retrofitting existing crossings are more feasible than creating new crossings and that relying solely on Webber Creek as a crossing of Highway 50 will not provide movement opportunities for species that inhabit grassland, oak savannah, and chaparral communities at the lower elevation western end of the County.

Other issues discussed include the following:

- Public/Private partnerships
- Fencing
- Adjacent land uses
- Maintenance at ends of crossings
- Costs
- Retrofitting
- Future development could change status of existing wildlife crossing points
- Incorporating improvements into new projects and plans (land use and transportation)
- Incorporating regulations through the IBC implementation
- Access to funding

C.3 Introduction to Alternative Approaches to Phase II of the INRMP

Jordan Postlewait presented this item, focusing on the components already set forth in Policy 7.4.2.8. Additional points raised by committee members included:

- Range of regulatory constraints
- EDCTC as a potential partner
- Costs of monitoring
- NRCS monitoring programs – linked to agriculture

D. Committee Member Comments

Jim Brunello suggested participation by PAWTAC and ISAC members in EDAC's regulatory reform subcommittee

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m. Discussion continued with three members present with specific comments on the administrative draft report (Item C.2) by Dan Corcoran to SEA. Other members were encouraged to provide specific comments on the report to SEA through staff.

Peter Maurer reminded the remaining members that the next and subsequent PAWTAC meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m. The location is yet to be determined.