

Small Group Meeting #6

Multiple Species Conservation Program – North County Plan

Date: May 8, 2017

Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Place: County Operations Center

5510 Overland, Alpine Room

<u>Question</u>	<u>Response</u>
When will the East County MSCP be worked on?	Once the North County Plan is completed, staff will seek Board direction for the eastern portion of the county
What accounts for the long length of time between the South County Plan adoption and the North County Plan?	Many reasons, including the General Plan Update becoming a priority and additional time to gain appropriate staff and financial resources.
How was the PAMA determined?	The PAMA was determined through remoting sensing data and modeling that was calibrated with available survey data.
Are habitat impact mitigation fees being included? From the development perspective, increased mitigation ratios are not favorable. However, impact fees are considered a better way forward, and would be supported over increased mitigation ratios.	Not currently being planned for, but could be proposed.
Does the PAMA align with species occurrences?	Yes, the PAMA was partially determined by the species prediction model.
What is the percent of existing species necessary to maintain viable population?	Still under development; however, the amount necessary to maintain a viable population is more likely to be expressed as “occurrences” rather than a percentage of species’ population
How does the County of San Diego know what is on private property?	Two types of data are included in MSCP modeling efforts: 1.) Observations from public and private lands seeking discretionary project approvals; and 2.) Remote sensing data. Results are a combination of conceptual models and survey results
Agriculture is not development – species predictive models are not science	No response

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Will watch list species be monitored like covered list species?	Watch list species will be monitored at the regional/landscape level. This is not required by permit due to lack of incidental take authorization for watch list species.
Will we have watch list species issues like happened in the South County (i.e. vernal pools)?	Staff is working diligently to develop a plan that can adapt to unforeseen conditions in the future.
Will each of the 29 covered species have a percentage of the population to maintain?	Goals and objectives for individual species are under development and will likely be expressed as a number of occurrences rather than a percentage of a population. The Draft Plan will have goals and objectives for each species that the County will take comments on once it is released for public review.
Will the Plan and environmental document be released at the same time? There is concern about appropriate alternatives.	The County intends to release a Draft North County Plan during scoping at the beginning of the environmental analysis.
How will the Preserve be assembled?	The Preserve will be assembled mainly through land acquisition and/or easements as well as mitigation and/or avoidance from discretionary projects. The team is still evaluating all options.
How will exemptions be applied? First come-first served?	Staff is evaluating options for disbursing exemptions for the North County Plan. In the South County Plan, it is a first come-first served process.
How does the PAMA relate to the General Plan? How will GPAs be addressed? Need something more stable than the General Plan.	The PAMA was created recognizing the land use designations of the General Plan and potential buildout. GPAs are evaluated for their potential impacts to the South County Preserve realization and evaluated in North County for impacts related to precluding the North County Preserve from happening.
When is the South County Report available?	Staff will send email to group with a link to the South County Report and date of meeting (if set).
FRMP – what do Wildlife Agencies weigh in on? The FRMP or each RMP?	According to the recently released HCP Handbook, if there is an approved FRMP then all individual RMPs are approved by the permittee (County). Wildlife Agencies will approve the FRMP as a component of the North County Plan.
What if the County is not in compliance with the North County Plan?	Staff will follow up on the ramifications of non-compliance. Wildlife Agencies could revoke take authorization if the County is found to not be implementing the North County Plan, or ‘non-compliant.’

<u>Question</u>	<u>Response</u>
Adaptive management and BMO should be subject to public review – need transparent process	The BMO will be subject to public review as a component of the North County Plan released for public review. Adaptive Management actions could potentially be subject to review, but is dependent on the specific action proposed.
How does management and monitoring happen on private land?	Management and monitoring on private lands are conducted in accordance with an approved RMP and also include an open space easement, funding and management agreement.
There should be an independent review of the funding plan.	County will consider this comment
County should commit to recourse on man-made catastrophes (i.e. fire)	Comment noted
County should prioritize habitat rich areas for acquisition	
County should ask for endowment or set aside funds for Plan	
As projects move forward prior to Plan adoption, to what standard will they be held? Currently, the 2009 version is used for project evaluation.	Once the Draft North County Plan is released for review, project processing will likely switch to taking direction from that Draft Plan rather than the 2009 Plan.
GPAs should not be included in the North County Plan	
Cattlemen are worried about grazing requiring a permit and mitigation. Need to define ministerial vs. discretionary projects	
Legal agricultural operations needs to be defined, or at least what is illegal	
How is climate change being addressed?	Climate change is a new focus in the 2016 HCP Handbook. The Plan will address climate change by allowing for adaptive management actions, including a range of elevations and habitat types in the preserve design to allow for the movement of various species, and allowing for changed circumstances in the Plan.
The Plan is heavily dependent on corridors and linkages – it needs to be a special emphasis of the Plan.	