

2. Question and Content for Steering Committee Meeting #5

Multiple Species Conservation Program – North County Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #5

Conservation Strategy Question:

1. What are your thoughts on the multi-tiered approach to conservation strategy implementing the North County Plan? Using this multi-tiered approach are we able to meet the needs for the Plan and the Stakeholders?
 - The conservation strategy is designed to ensure the assembly of the Preserve, conservation of natural vegetation communities and Covered Species, and to avoid, minimize and mitigate for the impacts of the covered activities.
 - The County, in coordination with the Wildlife Agencies, will be responsible for ensuring implementation of the goals, objectives and actions outlined in this conservation strategy.
 - The elements of the multi-tiered approach to the conservation strategy are organized by these levels with increasing specificity:
 - Landscape
 - Planning Units
 - Preserve connectivity
 - Vegetation communities
 - Covered Species
 - **Landscape:** the broadest scale component of the conservation strategy; general Preserve-wide conservation goals
 - Goal: A Preserve with large blocks of contiguous natural vegetation communities to support populations of Covered Species, which are linked to each other and areas of protected habitat adjacent to the Plan Area
 - Objective: conserve Preserve area during the 50-year permit term. Conserve a range of natural vegetation community types.
 - **Planning Units:** the PAMA is comprised of eight Planning Units
 - Goal: conserve natural vegetation communities and Covered Species within PAMA
 - Objective: conserve and adaptively manage PAMA. Maintain the viability of conserved natural vegetation communities. Conserve occurrences of Covered Species.
 - **Preserve Connectivity:** regional linkages, wildlife corridors and roadway wildlife crossings within the North County PAMA and with adjacent HCP preserve areas
 - Goal: ensure the persistence of populations and communities of Covered Species and other native species across the Preserve. Preserve ecosystem functions across the landscape.
 - Objective: Conserve interconnected habitat areas that contribute to the preservation of wide ranging species

- **Vegetation Communities:** seven communities representing the diversity of habitat types
 - Goal: Have large areas of conserved vegetation communities throughout the PAMA sufficient to maintain viable occurrences of Covered Species using this habitat.
 - Objective: Conserve XX acreages of vegetation through acquisition, avoidance and mitigation. Maintain the viability of vegetation communities within PAMA.
- **Covered Species:** occur within the Plan Area, includes habitat requirements and special ecological considerations
 - Goal: Viable occurrences of Covered Species and conserve host vegetation communities to support suitable habitat within the PAMA.
 - Objective: Conserve a minimum of XX of viable occurrences and at least XX acres of predicted distribution.
- Planning Units' goals and objectives are connected to each level of the multi-tiered approach based on that Unit's Preserve connectivity, vegetation communities, and Covered Species
- Planning Units: eight Planning Units have been identified within the North County PAMA:
 - PU-1 Santa Margarita-Mount Olympus (33,041 acres)
 - PU-2 San Luis Rey River (14,323 acres)
 - PU-3 Palomar Mountain Foothills (4,935 acres)
 - PU-4 Guejito-Pauma (35,453 acres)
 - PU-5 Valley Center (15,246 acres)
 - PU-6 Gopher Canyon-Twin Oaks (9,697 acres)
 - PU-7 Coastal-Harmony Grove (7,793 acres)
 - PU-8 Ramona (25,951 acres)