

Stakeholder Workshop
Quino Addition to the South County Subarea Plan
November 2, 2017, 10:00am - 12:00pm
Meeting Notes

Attendees:

PDS: Peter Eichar; Crystal Benham; Eira Whitty; Greg Mattson; Korey Klutz (Consultant)

DPR: Dallas Pugh

CDFW: Carol Williams

Stakeholder Attendees: Rob Cameron, Jackson Pendo Development; Pam Heatherington, Eco San Diego; Shelby Howard, Helix Environmental Planning; Liz Jackson, Jackson Pendo Development; Mark Kennedy, Marathon Construction; Fiona McKenna, National Enterprises, Inc.; Chris Mendoza, National Enterprises, Inc.; Dennis Moser, Jackson Pendo Development; Jim Peugh, San Diego Audubon Society; Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League; Maryanne Vancio, Lakeside River Park Conservancy; Arnie Veldkamp, Superior Ready Mix; Jim Whalen, J.W. Associates; David Wick, National Enterprises, Inc.

Question/Comment/Topic:	Response/Way Forward:
On the map, does each point represent a Quino checkerspot butterfly occurrence or an observation of an individual butterfly?	The points on the map are occurrences (individual observations grouped within a quarter mile of each other).
Why has it taken awhile to add the Quino checkerspot butterfly as a covered species to the MSCP—South County Subarea Plan?	Since the MSCP – South County Subarea Plan’s permit was granted in 1998, more has been learned about the Quino checkerspot butterfly’s biology and there has been an increase in development pressure in the MSCP – South County Subarea. Internally, the General Plan was the main priority of the Planning & Development Services department up until the adoption of the General Plan in August 2011. Preparation and finalization of the General Plan required reallocation of staff resources and stalled efforts for the Quino Addition. The Quino Addition is now back on track.
Have development projects had to conduct surveys for Quino checkerspot butterfly?	Yes. If there is potential Quino checkerspot butterfly habitat on a project site, County Guidelines direct project applicants to conduct focused Quino checkerspot butterfly surveys or site assessments during scoping. Focused surveys for federally listed species should follow the 2014 USFWS Quino Checkerspot Butterfly Survey Guidelines.
When referring to “the Preserve”, does this mean existing or future?	Currently, the Quino Addition is focused on the existing MSCP – South County Subarea Plan’s Preserve. There is potential for Preserve expansion as the Quino Addition proceeds.
Will the County re-run analysis to include General Plan Amendment areas?	The Conservation Analysis will consider buildout of the 2011 General Plan. All General Plan Amendments to date, reflected in current land use designations of the General Plan, will be accounted for in the Conservation Analysis. General Plan Amendments received after the Quino Addition will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Question/Comment/Topic:	Response/Way Forward:
(To group) Any specific suggestions for future stakeholder engagement for the Quino Addition process?	Stakeholders want to be notified about any major milestones and opportunities for review.
Does the Hermes copper butterfly have the same host plant as Quino checkerspot butterfly?	No. The Hermes copper butterfly's host plant is spiny redberry (<i>Rhamnus crocea</i>) and the Quino checkerspot butterfly's main host plant is dwarf plantain (<i>Plantago erecta</i>).
Will the Hermes copper butterfly be included in the Quino Addition?	Currently, it is not incorporated in the Quino Addition effort. The County is exploring a variety of conservation options for the Hermes copper butterfly.
Work has been done on past iterations of the Quino Addition. Will the current Quino Addition use any of this material or start from scratch?	The current Quino Addition will use all relevant information from past iterations of the Quino Addition and update the documents to incorporate new biological knowledge, data, regulatory standards, and changed conditions.
Is the Quino Addition mirroring any of the USFWS Recovery Plan for the Quino Checkerspot Butterfly?	Yes and the County is working with USFWS on the Quino Addition and conservation for the Hermes copper butterfly.
Previously, there was a mapping protocol (M. Klein) that blocked off a lot of area as Quino habitat and was deemed to be impracticable by the development community, is the Quino Addition using this model?	County staff will assess the M. Klein mapping protocol. One overall challenge with modeling potential Quino checkerspot butterfly habitat is the difficulty in determining potential suitable habitat that is occupied. This modeling challenge can result in predictions of a larger potential habitat area.
Management of land is an important component for Quino conservation. A piece of land will likely only support Quino populations with a lot of management. Without the management, it will may never have or sustain Quino populations	The Conservation Strategy will identify required management actions for the Quino Addition.
Will the County go back and assess approved projects that haven't finished their conditions as part of the Quino Addition?	No. If a project is approved, the County has no legal authority to reevaluate conditions. However, the County would reevaluate the project if the project applicant proposes significant changes.
Will the Quino Addition require more land acquisition?	The Conservation Analysis and Conservation Strategy will determine whether additional land needs to be acquired for the Quino Addition. This will depend on different variables such as habitat health and connectivity.
Is this a standalone Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)?	No, it is an addition to the MSCP – South County Subarea Plan to add the Quino checkerspot butterfly as a covered species. However, it will address all the components of a HCP.
City of Chula Vista's MSCP – Subarea Plan includes the Quino checkerspot butterfly as a covered species. Are there any other HCPs that include the Quino checkerspot butterfly as a covered species in San Diego County?	Yes, there are two other HCPs that include the Quino checkerspot butterfly in San Diego. These include SDG&E Low-effect Habitat Conservation Plan for Quino Checkerspot Butterfly and San Diego County Water Authority Subregional NCCP/HCP.

Question/Comment/Topic:	Response/Way Forward:
Is there currently enough information for conservation of the Hermes copper butterfly?	Currently, the County is working with USFWS and CDFW to determine whether there is enough information on the Hermes copper butterfly and how to best plan for future surveys of the species within the region. The County and regional partners are planning to conduct surveys for Hermes copper butterfly in Spring 2018.
How will the Quino Addition address recreation?	The Quino Addition will follow the MSCP – South County Subarea Plan’s guidelines for recreation such as passive recreation within specified areas of the preserve and recreational facilities adjacent to the preserve or in residential areas.
The Quino Addition should assess how variations in rainfall and climate change may impact butterfly-host plant interactions, potentially causing disconnect in the timing between blooming of host plants and emergence of Quino checkerspot butterfly larvae or adults.	The Quino Addition will consider climate change effects in the development of the Conservation Strategy’s Goals and Objectives.