

**SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES -- May 26, 1998**

The meeting began at 7:30. Attending were Chairman Glenn Bailey, David Ecklund, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Mel Swift, James Ward, and Sandy Wohlgemuth. Minutes of the February 24, March 24, and April 28, 1998 meetings were approved without changes.

Septage Receiving Facility at Tillman Plant: Mel Swift attended the meeting because of mention in the April 28th minutes about a road being built from Victory Blvd. to the septage facility. He asked if anyone is doing an environmental document? If not, why not? James Ward replied that it is not a Rec & Parks project, but he thinks the ACOE did. Mel has not seen an EIR for the road. James recommended that Mel speak to TWRP manager Bob Birk or Carvel Bass. Committee members suggested other people he might contact but did not consider environmental documentation on the road to be a wildlife areas issue.

Wildlife Area Expansion: James said the construction schedule is on track. The contractor was ahead but had to re-grade along the creek. They are tearing up the parking areas. The culverts over Haskell Creek under the main access road had rusted out. A change order is being drawn up to correct the problem. Eric Lesser has submitted a letter to the ACOE suggesting substitutions for mulefat to be planted along the creek. R & P may keep the temporary detour road leading to the access road after the TWRP outfall project as a service road if it holds up well during the construction projects. James will ask Steve Moe to keep us posted with the construction calendar. We can get information on construction meetings from Steve M. and attend them.

Sandy asked about the temporary lowering of the Wildlife Lake while a ramp is installed for the boat R & P uses to test water quality and for maintenance. Steve Moe will have to update us, but James expects the level to be drawn down about 3 feet for a few days. There will probably be little impact on the fish in the lake.

Future Basin Projects: James reported that \$1.8 million allocated for Sepulveda Basin from Proposition A. There will also be funds from Prop A2. When the outfall project is complete, pipelines to irrigate the golf courses with reclaimed water will be completed and Lake Balboa will be changed to a recirculated reclaimed water system. The Lake Balboa project will cost \$700,00 to \$800,000. Construction of the Woodley Clubhouse will begin this summer and the administration trailer moved to east of the Valley R & P headquarters building. The Woodley Golf Course driving range has been illuminated.

Arts Park will remain in the master plan until R & P writes a formal letter saying it is infeasible, but it will not happen. R & P plans to plant cherry trees in that area along the slopes facing Balboa and Victory boulevards. Conifers will go along the ridge. West of Bull Creek, a grass overflow parking area for 500 cars will be created. So will a native tree grove that can hold special event parking.

NOTES from 5/98

R & P will take responsibility for Bull Creek, widen it, and build a bridge crossing and a restroom west of the creek. The Bull Creek projects will be shared 75%/25% by ACOE and the city. R & P hopes to complete these projects by the year 2000.

R & P will also build a bike path and decomposed granite walkway along the north side of the LA River west from the Burbank Blvd. crossing to Bull Creek. \$2.8 M is available now for all of these projects plus about \$10 M over the next 20 years from Prop K.

Hummingbird Hill: Steve Hartman asked if we have an estimate for fencing yet. James has not seen one — next meeting.

Signage: Signage for the top of the dam will be a Consortium matter. For the expansion project, James will check to ascertain exactly what signage was specified in the contract with Ace Engineering.

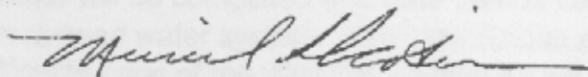
Consortium: Sandy Wohlgemuth provided the following financial statement: the Consortium's accounts are now combined into one account. It had \$31,211.04 as of 1/9/98. \$400-\$500 additional has accrued in interest since. Muriel will look in her old notes for the priorities list.

California Native Plant Society: Steve H. reported on the May 12 meeting on the Basin. Only the regulars attended on a very stormy day.

Miscellaneous: The Steering Committee did not participate in the Garden Fair. Steve is cutting back on the level of his efforts in Sepulveda Basin for 6 - 12 months. James W. will ask Steve M. to check on arundo in the south reserve. Muriel did not send out a press release on the expansion. Steve H. suggested the committee ready a brochure in time for a "Grand Opening" when the expansion project is complete. The committee went through the mailing list to help R & P shorten it.

Next Meeting: We will meet Tuesday, 6/23/98.

Submitted by,



Muriel S. Kotin, Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee