

**SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES -- August 25, 1998**

Steve Hartman chaired the meeting. Also attending were Glenn Bailey, Jean Dillingham, Dave Ecklund, Gene Greene, Muriel Kotin, Steve Moe, Jake Robbins, Rosemarie White, and Sandy Wohlgemuth. Minutes of the July 28, 1998 meeting were approved with the correction of the next meeting being changed to 8/23/98 (today). Please note: Minutes from the Consortium meeting at the Wildlife Areas on 8/4/98 are on page 2 of the minutes.

Recreation and Parks Report: Steve Moe reported that completion of the expansion project is expected mid December. Access for naturalist training before then should be OK. Steve Hartman requested information about the period of maintenance on the new plantings. Steve M. did not know when irrigation will be available, including for Hummingbird Hill, but no later than completion of the project. If necessary, Steve M. will water the goose forage area by using a pump to irrigate it with lake water. Park rangers have posted 4 homeless encampments in the south reserve and will sweep them tomorrow. The boy scouts will not be in the wildlife area during their October jamboree.

Signage and Canada Geese: Rosemarie showed the committee a revised version of contents for a sign to go on the dam near the overlook that asks people not to enter the eastern reaches of the wildlife area. Fencing will be installed near the top of the dam north of the overlook by late September.

The Sta. Monica Mtns. Conservancy is planning to train their own rangers. Rosemarie suggested we learn more about their training with the idea of getting rangers (hired or volunteers) into the wildlife reserve. Steve M. said the ACOE will be re-establishing their 30-foot maintenance road at the base of the dam in the north reserve soon. Glenn suggested a letter to the ACOE asking that they complete the work before the geese arrive. Steve M. will talk to the corps.

Split-rail Fence: The woodcrete split-rail fencing along Woodley Ave. looks great, but the committee suggests adding and deleting areas still to be fenced. We would like to see the fencing without gaps along Burbank Blvd. and along the temporary road between present Woodley Park and the area that was lowered by compensatory excavation. We would like to eliminate fencing along the trail east of Haskell Creek near the old entrance to the wildlife area, where there is now a metal fence. We are not sure we need a fence between the old wildlife area and the new entry that was once a cricket field. Gene Green has some lightly used chain-link fencing available which he offered to the committee or R&P.

East Valley Water Recycling Project: Gene reported that this project is almost finished within Woodley Park except for reconstruction of R&P areas. The contractor is not listening well to instructions. They messed up the TWRP berms; irrigation is not working; valves are buried; replanting is needed. The south road is open to the public but needs resurfacing. The committee wants to take a reconnaissance tour of the area as soon as possible to make suggestions on how to replant with Gene, Steve Licena, the project engineer, and the contractor. Hoover Ng has been the project engineer but is retiring this week. The piles of soil on the west side of Woodley Ave. will be removed when the project is done.

Hummingbird Hill: Jake Robbins, a UCLA student / volunteer reported that monarch butterflies are using the milkweed. He doesn't know if there are any larval forms there yet. Steve H. suggested a planting at H.H. this fall, after construction is complete.

Education: Muriel reported that SFV Audubon will be leading birdwalks for families and beginners on second Saturdays October 1998 through March 1999. The second Saturday of April (4/10/99) will be a Great L.A. Cleanup at the wildlife area. Training will be held this fall for naturalists for the Audubon LAUSD education program. For the American Lung Association of Los Angeles County's BreathWalk in Woodley Park on Saturday 11/7/98, SFV Audubon will lead participants on tours of the Wildlife Reserve.

Rosemarie suggested that R&P should have a major ceremony opening the expanded wildlife preserve. She would like to begin talking about the organizations participating in the dedication. She also suggested having an education program ready for Chatsworth Nature Preserve/Reservoir.

Jean Dillingham commented on the great potential of the improvements and wildlife area expansion. She discussed the naturalist training and invited committee members to attend. She asked for suggestions for an instructor about insects as pollinators. She will make training schedules available.

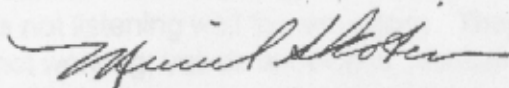
Consortium Project List: The list from February 1993 was copied and distributed. Muriel is to fax Eric his copy.

Brochure: Rosemarie reported on the committee meeting with Eric and Muriel. Who should the brochure direct people to call? R&P and all the participating non-government organizations. Glenn suggested an e-mail address and later a WEB page. Jean recommended a short print run as phone numbers change frequently. Gene can help with computer graphics and scanning. Steve H. suggested an estimated budget. Glenn said it would be \$.04 each if at least 1,000. The brochure would be posted at various locations in the basin including TWRP and the garden center, public libraries, the re-dedication. We should keep it cheap, just xeroxed, so it's a baby step and we can change our minds about what should be in the brochure.

Kiwana Pavilion: Gene reported that planning of a Kiwana Pavilion to be located at the southern edge of the Japanese Garden continues.

Next Meeting: We will meet **Tuesday, 9/22/98, starting at 6:00 with a tour.**

Submitted by,



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