## SEPULVEDA BASIN WILDLIFE AREAS STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES -- March 24, 1998

The meeting was chaired by Steve Hartman. Also attending were Muriel Kotin, Steve Moe, Rosemarie White, and Sandy Wohlgemuth. Visiting were administrators, a teacher and students from Edison Middle School and a student from Palms Middle School Magnet and her mother.

Review of Minutes of the February 1998 meeting were deferred to next month due to the presence of visitors. The financial report from the Consortium was also deferred.

Student Visitors: Honor students from Madison Middle School presented their science project ("B.E.E.P") about Canada Geese. Vanessa Suddith from Palms M.S. Magnet will work from Steve Moe's records of water and birds for her project.

Wildlife Area Expansion: Steve Moe announced that all trees in the construction areas have been tagged for being saved or removed by a team including him, Eric Lesser and Sandy. A water-soluble paint was used, so he will check that the markings have not washed away.

Education Programs: The last scheduled Audubon Environmental Education field trip planned for March 30 should be able to proceed. Sunday birdwalks should not be a problem as the contractor will not be working on Sundays. Construction will last 240 days (3/16/98 - 11/13/98) if there are no problems or rain delays. Road work and planting are the last tasks scheduled, so it may be impossible to have the education program next fall. The CNPS planting scheduled for students on 4/23/98 will probably work with the bus dropping off and picking up along Burbank Blvd. CNPS has committed to supporting the Audubon education programs two more years beyond the current school year. Rosemarie feels the B.E.E.P. project is very important and will communicate to the teacher that if the students are really going to Lake Tahoe to study nesting geese there, perhaps we can help with a small donation.

<u>Brochure:</u> Steve Hartman wants to get moving on a brochure for fund-raising. He will coordinate the effort with the other members contributing to it. We are to get materials to him, preferably dropping it off when he is there.

<u>Publicity about Expansion:</u> Steve M. will pass along to his department that the committee would like the ACOE to publicize the expansion. Muriel will contact the LA Times.

Basin Flooding and Plants: Steve M. announced that Encino Golf Course will probably have some holes closed 4-6 months. The water in the wildlife lake got so cold that cattails and bulrushes went dormant. He has had R & P personnel removing exotics in the wildlife area. Spraying of arundo regrowth is ongoing as part of ACOE's arundo removal program south of Burbank Blvd. Steve H.

requested Steve M. to ask R & P to have someone go up in a helicopter to look for arundo south of Burbank. CNPS has been paying for additional weed eradicating in the wildlife area and elsewhere.

Garden Fair: The fair will be 5/16 and 5/17. This committee will have 2 adjacent tables and member organizations can hand out information. Rosemarie wants help setting up Saturday 5/16 at 7 a.m. and a schedule of who will help from which organization. She will have a banner reading "Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area" made and will ask the Consortium to reimburse her.

Fencing and Signage: Steve M. will get a price for the Consortium for extending the hurricane fence near the Burbank Blvd. overlook and for signs to keep dogs being walked on the berm from going into the wildlife reserve.

Submitted by,

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