

San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan Trust

Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2022

The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom Online Conference Call.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Clay Holstine (City of Brisbane), Mike Futrell (City of South San Francisco), Shawna Maltbie (City of Daly City).

Justin Mates, Deputy County Manager, present on behalf of Mike Callagy (County of San Mateo)

STAFF PRESENT: Hannah Ormshaw (SMCP), Brett Jones (fiscal auditor), Rolando Jorquera (SMCP), Austin Lam (SMCP)

1) Public Comments

No oral public comments were made during this meeting.

2) Action to Set the Agenda and Approve the Consent Agenda Items

Consent agenda included minutes from June 2021 meeting and FY2020-21 Audit

Action: Motion/Second Holstine/Futrell to set the agenda and approve the consented agenda items.

Motion carried 3-0.

3) Report Backs

a) Dedication Status Updates

- Ms. Ormshaw provided a memo outlining updates on the Toll Brothers property dedication of the Northeast Ridge parcels to the County, in conjunction with the development described in the 2008 HCP amendment.
- has now offered two parcels for dedication to the County in accordance with the terms of the HCP. A Dedication and Transfer Agreement has been developed to clarify the next steps in the dedication process for these parcels to be added to the San Bruno Mountain State and County Park. The property for dedication and transfer to the County at this time consists of two parcels, “Parcel B” and “Parcel C” (totaling 78.27 acres), that make up the prime butterfly habitat that was conserved by HCP Amendment 5, as approved in 2010.

- Toll Brothers agreed to provide funding to the County in the amount of \$127,500 to complete the remaining necessary habitat restoration work and to address neglected management during the 5 years the dedication process was pending. This restoration work will be overseen by the County of San Mateo Parks Department.
- Dedication agreement to come to the County’s Board of Supervisors for approval, County will receive funding upon completion of this, and will be able to proceed with restoration efforts and management of the property as conserved habitat.

No action required for this item.

b) USFWS discussion on HCP Amendment

- Communication between County and City of Brisbane Staff and USFWS Staff regarding existing take coverage of callippe silverspot and bay checkerspot butterfly within planned parcels
- USFWS has indicated that it may be necessary to amend the HCP to include modifications to the existing incidental take permit, that would provide necessary take coverage for the species for remaining unplanned parcels within the HCP area

No action required for this item.

c) Updates on Grant Awards from the State Coastal Conservancy & Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

- County Parks working with Metropolitan Transportation Commission on \$137,900 grant award given for the SBMHCP Grazing Pilot Program.
- County Parks also working with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on a \$20,000 grant for restoration of the federally-endangered San Francisco Lessingia. Work is underway for the project in coordination with San Bruno Mountain Watch

No action required for this item.

4) Review and Approval of San Bruno Mountain HCP Budget

a) Review and Update of Planned Expenditures for Habitat Conservation Activities within the San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan area for FY 2021-22*

- Ms. Ormshaw discussed the proposed changes to the budget for FY 2021-22.
 - Revenues include interest for the trust fund as well as interest from the HCP endowment

- Revenue also includes fees collected annually from property owners within the HCP area
 - Other line items under revenue include grant award, and anticipated receipt of funding from Toll Brothers for restoration of the Northeast Ridge parcels
 - Expenditures largely follow the standard allocations set aside annually for these allotments that are set aside annually to be used for these activities
 - Grazing Management and Fuel Reduction expenditures are higher as a result of the additional one-time funding allocation from the unrestricted fund balance and would not be sustained at this level long term as we work toward implementing these special projects.
 - The grazing management funds represent match for the grant received for the grazing pilot program
 - Maintenance easement, survey, and real property costs in expenditures include internal costs for preparing documentation and working with our real property division on the northeast ridge dedication process
 - Other expenditures for McKesson, grants, and funds for management of parcels 1,2, & 6
- Mr. Holstine asked about who implements the fuel reduction projects and if the local fire agencies have input on the projects. Ms. Ormshaw responded that the County Parks department manages these projects but has contractors that implement the work, including the recent eucalyptus removal project on Old Guadalupe Trail and the gorse management efforts near the Saddle Loop trail. Ms. Ormshaw responded that fire agency input was provided during the development of the Department's wildfire fuel management program, with confirmation of the importance of proposed projects
 - Mr. Holstine notes that in recent years we have improved our fiscal position significantly over the years and that we have made significant efforts to improve our efforts across the HCP area

No public comment for this item

Action: Motion/Second Holstine/Futrell to approve the budget.

Motion carried 3-0.

5) Review of 2020-2021 Annual Activities Highlights

- The annual activities report for the SBMHCP has been posted to the San Mateo County Parks website, which contains more thorough information on annual butterfly monitoring results and other habitat management activities.
- A map is presented that shows the habitat enhancement and vegetation management performed for 2021. Work mostly focused on native scrub removal

where scrub is encroaching into high-quality butterfly habitat and grassland areas, as well as removal of invasive species such as jubata grass, fennel, broom, radish, gorse, poison hemlock, eucalyptus, and English ivy. Most work was performed by contractors, with some of it also being performed by County Parks staff.

- Butterfly monitoring surveys focused on Mission Blue butterfly in 2021
- San Francisco *Lessingia* restoration project is being led by San Bruno Mountain Watch, who have stewarded the site for a while. The grant being awarded for the project will be instrumental in identifying effective propagation and seeding methods for the species.
- A grazing management plan is under development for the Cattle Grazing Pilot project. A displayed map depicts the two pilot areas, one at Northeast Ridge and one at Southeast Slope. Tasks for this year will involve working on long-term monitoring and reporting plan, grazing management plan, and infrastructure planning.
- Mission Blue translocations are ongoing
- Bay checkerspot reintroduction is ongoing this spring. Creekside Science introduced larvae to the Northeast Ridge, which has a high non-native host plant presence and thus strong potential for successful reintroduction of the species.
- Volunteer stewardship and restoration efforts have been restarted recently. Events include weeding around Ranch Road trail area and pulling broom at Northeast Ridge, with plans to continue hosting events in the future.
- Discussion on the San Bruno Mountain fuel reduction projects. Project areas are ones with invasive species concerns or dense eucalyptus stands in close proximity to other properties or neighborhoods. Fuel breaks will be created near Franciscan Park Community, Crocker Street Entrance, and Alta Vista Avenue. Work will also continue this year with removing gorse along Saddle Loop Trail.
- Note that there was a fire on the Southeast slope in June 2022

Questions from Mr. Holstine on the fire – what would be the next steps for this, and is there a known determination for what caused the fire. Ms. Ormshaw responded that we may conduct some erosion control efforts if needed, and that there is no known cause for the fire.

No action required for this update.

6) Upcoming & Recent Meetings

a) Grazing TAC

b) Natural Resource Coordination – Quarterly

c) Trustees Meeting – May 2023

- The timing of a May meeting works well for fiscal staff to prepare the budget information and to be able to present budget information to trustees in advance of a new fiscal year.

Action: Motion/Second Holstine/Futrell to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried 3-0.