

**James Fitzgerald Reserve Pilot CCA Project Pilot
Steering Committee Meeting
March 6, 2008 Summary**

Participants:

In person: Carolann Towe-Resource Conservation District (RCD); Al Wanger, Lisa Sniderman-Coastal Commission (CCC); Carmen Fewless-Regional Water Board; Julie Casagrande, Steve Monowitz-San Mateo County Public Works, Planning (SMC); Rich Allen-Moss Beach Ranch; Kathryn Slater-Carter-Montara Water and Sanitary District/Midcoast Community Council; Bridget Hoover-Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Phone-In (first part of meeting): Kat Ridolfi, San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI); Kathleen Van Velsor-Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)

Agenda items, key discussion points, agreements:

1. Announcements and Updates

Kat (SFEI) provided a quick update on their grant task progress. They have some deliverables due in April including findings for historical ecology. They will not include any decision points at this time. SFEI is working on graphics and will have some maps to show at the May CCA meeting. They are also working on a wetlands and riparian's document, which covers all 9 counties (wetlands regional monitoring project) and storm drains. Kat stated they are using the Cal Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM). Steve M. and Julie from San Mateo County are interested in additional details. Re: CRAM, SFEI found out there is one site in San Mateo County but not in the FMR CCA, and there are no plans to do coastside CRAM in the future. For more info, contact: kat@sfei.org.

Kathleen (ABAG) is working on a "White Paper" as part of SFEI's grant tasks and providing local technical assistance. The paper will be prepared in segments and covers all 3 pilot CCAs. It will look at policy gaps or barriers and opportunities. The goal is to ensure it is understood what the possibilities are and what would act as impediments to projects that are selected. The first part will be an overview with some context to provide understanding. The primary objective of the white paper is to analyze the nine projects (three per CCA) proposed for implementation. These projects are part of the CCA Action Plans. The second part of the paper will address these projects, when the Action Plans are finalized.

Lisa (Coastal Commission) reminded folks about the GGNRA walks update that was emailed to everyone. This is a good opportunity to provide public input. Rich noted that future use has not yet been determined, and input is important. Lisa also brought up the status of the circulating MOU. Al suggested we may want to call it a Statement of Operating Principles instead of an MOU which would possibly make it more palatable and be easier for some agencies to have approved. Bridget noted that the Sanctuary will not sign onto an MOU but they may likely be able to get a SOP signed at the local level. The number of signatories at present is unknown. Moss Beach Ranch and RCD have signed and the document is working its way up at the CCC. Lastly, Lisa noted that she and other members of the SC are going through the latest comments from the SC, filling some of the gaps and making necessary revisions on the Preliminary Watershed Assessment (PWA) document.

Steve M.(San Mateo County) is seeking public outreach on the County's Watershed Outreach strategy. First meeting was in La Honda. The meetings are in 2 parts – 1st: general info re. watersheds and why County Needs a protection program and 2nd addresses potential solutions with which the County came up, e.g., setbacks in inland areas, LCP policies outside coastal zone, development criteria on steep slopes. These have not yet been determined. The intention of the meetings is to solicit public input. The La Honda community was receptive but had concerns about the winery. The grandfathering/exemptions question also came up. Steve noted that it is his opinion that it is worthwhile to participate – since it is still taking shape now this is the time to have input re: slopes, impervious surfaces etc. and what the public feels should be considered for inclusion. Katherine asked Steve whether the Tahoe example had been included in the developing of the document. He noted that the overall plan was developed before Steve's time but that he is inserting a fresh perspective into the process now he is on board. He feels it is a good opportunity for this group to provide input on policies etc. that are working and those that aren't etc. Lisa requested he add the steering committee members to the Distribution List. For more information or to participate, see: <http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/ourwatersheds>. The County Managers office is lead in doing the outreach (Mary Macmillan). Al mentioned that Ventura County has a progressive program that may be helpful to look at, and that Jeff Pratt is the contact there. It was also noted that the Midcoast LCP amendment is dealing with drainage issues.

Action Items:

- **Everyone: please be prepared to discuss the status of the MOU at the May 1 meeting-e.g., signed, planning to sign and by when, not planning to sign**
- **Lisa: will report on the status of the Preliminary Watershed Assessment revisions at the May 1 meeting and outstanding items.**

2. FMR Process Mapping Exercise-Identify Linkages Between CCA Components

The majority of this meeting was spent conducting an interactive process mapping exercise with the SC members to help show everyone linkages between the land uses, potential and known threats or issues and responses and implementation actions. Al (CCC) demonstrated the exercise using one watershed, Montara Creek, and a few land uses, management measures and threats that he ran through with the group (see attachment for general framework). The intent was to help the SC to better understand how the existing or planned land uses in the watersheds and identified known or potential issues are or aren't being addressed sufficiently, and what additional actions the SC might want to recommend. Lisa and Al recommend that the SC discuss whether there was value in mapping out some of the issues and making connections and continue to work on key areas (see Item 3).

3. SC Meeting dates for May meeting and one proposed May agenda item.

Next SC meeting: **Thursday, May 1, 10am-12pm**, Montara Water and Sanitary District. Lisa and Al propose that the SC look at the list of early actions (perhaps broader than the top 5 list if time) and work backwards to see whether, in combination with other existing or planned programs in the County, they may be sufficient to address the potential or known threats or issues, and if not, what else might be needed. This can also help set the stage for how early actions can fit into an overall action plan for the CCA.