

**CARPINTERIA CREEK
WATERSHED COALITION**



CCWC meeting minutes
January 18, 2007

Attendance:

Doug Campbell	N/A
Betty Songer	Carp Creeks Committee
Vince Semonsen	City of Carp; Biologist
Andrea Adams Morden	Carp Nature Park/Bluffs
Ken Owen	Channel Islands Restoration
Nick Bobroff	City of Carp
Suzanne Feldman	CEC
Allen Braithwaite	N/A
Matt Roberts	City of Carp
Moe Gomez	Coalition Chair
Marie Lindsey	State Parks
Natasha Lohmus	Fish and Game

Announcements:

Bioengineering & Riparian Workshop on the Ventura River, Jan. 22, Ventura, CA (see handout at end of notes)

25th Salmonid Restoration Conference, March 7 – 10, Santa Rosa, CA (see posters and meeting agenda, information available at www.calsalmon.org)

Discussion Items:

1) Fish Passage Project Updates

MGomez made announcements about numerous fish passage barrier removal projects slated for construction in 2007. Projects that have planning stages completed and will have low-flow crossings removed and bridges installed are the Bliss Property Project, Cate School Property Project, and Raya Property Project. Also, County Flood Control has committed to work removing a barrier at the Gobernador Debris Basin in the upcoming year. A first set of plans for the Widdoes Property Project were just completed, and MGomez shared the plans, and a photo of the site currently, with the group for comments. Many questions were raised, and coalition members are excited to see other project alternatives and watch the planning process for this barrier removal. Efforts will be made to have Questa Engineering present the plans at next months meeting.

2) Wetlands Recovery Project—Small Grant Program

Discussion was once again opened about applying for a grant from the Wetlands Recovery Project—Small Grant Program in 2007. MGomez relayed that projects with community involvement, educational benefits, and a real ‘on-the-ground’ scope are favored; the project idea involving removal of ice plant down at Carpinteria Creek’s mouth at Carpinteria State Beach seems to be a good fit! MLindsey from State Parks stated that Rich Rojas w/ Parks is very supportive of the project, and the rest of the group agreed that the project sounded great. Parks would like to be involved by offering in-kind matching with their school-aged volunteers, and KOWen with Channel Islands Restoration would also love to be involved and use some of his volunteer forces.

3) Carpinteria Creek Outreach

Sfeldman gave a presentation updating the group about changes to the CCWC website, and an upcoming series of newsletters being designed. Ideas for newsletter articles were solicited from the group and included: a Fish and Game Regulations textbox (explaining No Fishing Laws, etc.), a story on the CCWC and soon-to-be Habitat Restoration Coalition, a text box w/ volunteer opportunities and upcoming events, and stories updating various city/group/agency projects. A printed page of the website was shown by SFeldman, and the group was reminded that any information they wanted displayed on the website could be given to SFeldman for posting. Any additional ideas for newsletters or the website should be sent to SFeldman.

4) Other updates:

i) **City of Carpinteria Projects.** NBobroff told the group of a few landowners along Carpinteria Creek that are undergoing remodels/landscaping work on their property. MRoberts shared an artists rendition of the 8th St. Bridge ‘upgrade’. The bridge will be 6ft. wide and used by pedestrians/cyclists.

ii) ***Arundo donax* Eradication Effort.** KOWen shared his passion for killing *arundo* with the group. The stretch of Carpinteria Creek that he and David Chang have been working on is almost complete except for a small portion between the 8th St. Bridge and Carpinteria Ave. He said that many community members have approached his work sites and expressed interest and support.

iii) **Water Quality Monitoring Volunteers?** SFeldman requested advice from the group as to seeking out volunteers to continue a water testing program that her and MGomez began in November 2006. Paul Speery was suggested as a contact at Carp. Jr. High; Susan Anderson at Carp. High, and the new City Volunteer Coordinator as a contact for finding adult volunteers.

iv) **No Fishing Signs by Tri County FISH Team.** MGomez shared new ‘No Fishing’ signs he obtained at a Tri County FISH Team meeting in Ventura, January 17, 2007. The group suggested placement at the 8th St. Bridge, 101 underpass/bike path, and Carpinteria State Beach Campground.

5) The New 501 (c)(3)

MGomez announced that he and Sfeldman will be transitioning the Watershed Restoration Program, currently at the Community Environmental Council, and forming a new nonprofit called Habitat Restoration Coalition. The new nonprofit will be housed in Carpinteria and will continue working on all Watershed Restoration Program projects, as well as begin researching, funding and implementing new projects. The group all expressed good wishes and suggested office space locations in Carpinteria. Any questions/suggestions should be direct to MGomez.

Next meeting will be February 15th at Carpinteria City Hall

Contact Info:

Mauricio Gomez

Director - Watershed Restoration Program

26 W. Anapamu St. - 2nd Floor

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

805-963-0583 Ext.111 - Office

805-962-9080 - Fax

mgomez@cecmail.org

Suzanne Feldman

Associate - Watershed Restoration Program

26 W. Anapamu St. - 2nd Floor

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

805-963-0583 Ext.116 - Office

805-962-9080 - Fax

sfeldman@cecmail.org