

Draft

**BIG TUJUNGA WASH MITIGATION BANK
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 29, 2007
HANSEN YARD 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.**

I. Welcome / Introduction (B Kwan and C. Stone, Public Works)

1. Welcome
2. Review of agenda

II. Site Maintenance Issues and Discussion of Action Items from the Previous Meeting (B. Kwan, Public Works)

1. Site Safety: The public should call the Los Angeles Police Department to report any illegal activities within the Mitigation Bank. The number is (877) ASK-LAPD or (877) 275-5273.
2. Website: The LADPW website can be accessed at www.ladpw.org.
3. General Site Signage: LADPW has designed new signs for the site. These signs follow the County's standard design and focus of key issues. Municipal codes are listed on the sign and they will be posted in both English and Spanish. LADPW will also add that "All Dogs Must be on Leashes" to the new signs. Barbara Tarnowski wants the signs to list more of the prohibited activities that are generally associated with the ponds. She wants the existing signs to remain at the entrance of the pond areas. LADPW has no plans for removing these existing signs. Additionally, LADPW does not own the pond area adjacent to the Mitigation Bank but will contact the Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department regarding the possibility of posting more signs around the ponds.
4. Kiosks: The kiosks are severely damaged and heavily covered in graffiti and it would be costly to repair them. LADPW suggested removing the existing kiosks and replacing them with a trails map. CAC member, Terry Kaiser, suggested that a new aerial photo with the current trail system could be screened onto a metal podium.
5. Cottonwood Area as a Staging Area: Terry Kaiser suggested using the cottonwood area as a staging area for horse trailer in the event of a fire. If allowed, 10 to 15 trailers would be parked along the concrete area for approximately one day. No horses would be on the property and the area would be marked off to prevent any damage to surrounding vegetation. LADPW agreed to look in to it.

III. Current Status of Programs and Programs Implemented in 2006 and 2007 (L. Freeberg, Chambers Group)

1. Exotic Plant Removal: Eupatory removal is going very well. A few sprouts of Arundo have been reported but it is mostly under control. The number of castor bean plants is down. The entire root must be removed during hand-pulling in order to be effective and the seedpods must be removed from the site.
2. Riparian and Upland Restoration Areas: Stakes have been placed within the site where new planting is scheduled to occur. Success monitoring of the Upland areas and the Functional Analysis for the Riparian areas are currently being performed.
3. Water Quality: MWH Laboratories performed water quality analysis in July and December of 2006. Barbara Tarnowski is concerned about the MWH analysis results and wants to split the sample with MWH for the next testing.
4. Trail Usage and Maintenance: The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) does not like public site usage and may deduct credits because of the trails. CAC members pointed

out that there are fewer trails now than when the project began in 2000 and most of the trail crossings have been redirected to be perpendicular to the streams to lessen the impact.

The haul road trail near Wheatland breaks off due to erosion and poses a danger to those unaware of the trail condition. CAC members suggested installing larger plants along cliff edge to discourage its use. Terry Kaiser offered to help water the plants installed along the broken trail area. LADPW will discuss this issue further at the next CAC meeting.

IV. Discuss and Schedule Next Trail Maintenance Day

The next trail maintenance and clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday May 19, 2007. A pre-maintenance day meeting will be held Tuesday May 1, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hansen Yard.

V. Schedule Next CAC Meeting (LADPW)

LADPW will continue the meetings with the CAC on a semi-annual basis. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on September 27, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hansen Yard.

VI. Comments, Questions, and Answers (Panel)

The Big Tujunga Dam will undergo rehabilitation. The construction will begin in July and will last 3 years during which time, flows in Tujunga Canyon will be affected. Chris Stone of LADPW offered to speak with any local community organizations that may be affected or concerned with this construction.