

MEETING RECORD

San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative

Thursday, September 22, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Taylor Reception Hall, Claremont CA

Attendees

Jacqueline Ayer, *Association of Rural Town Councils (Antelope Valley) and Acton Town Council*

Tim Brick, *Arroyo Seco Foundation*

Dale Benson, *CalTrans, District 7*

Margaret Clark, *Rivers & Mountains Conservancy*

Ron Ellingson, *Mt. Baldy Lodge*

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel, *Community Hiking Club*

Belinda Faustinos, *San Gabriel Mountains Forever Coalition*

Armond Ghazarian, *Los Angeles Department of Public Works*

Kelly Gardner, *San Gabriel Valley Water Association*

Omar Gomez, *Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica*

Richard Guttenberg, *Archeology/Culture*

Cliff Hamlow, *San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers*

Henry Herrera, *CalFire*

Joseph Lyons, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*

Brian Mejia (for Kathryn Barger), *LA County Board of Supervisors – 5th District*

Mark Masaoka, *Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council*

Ron Ellingson, *Mt. Baldy Lodge*

Steve Messer, *Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association*

John Monsen, *The Sierra Club*

Chuck Myers, *National Forest Homeowners*

Nancy Negrete (for Robert Garcia), *The City Project*

Judy Nelson, *City of Glendora*

Michelle Nuttall, *Southern California Edison*

Daniel Oaxaca, *San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps*

Bill Reeves, *Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps*

Liz Reilly, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*

Claire Robinson, *Amigos de los Rios*

Dan Rosenfeld, *Community Partners, Trust for Public Land*

Daniel Rossman, *The Wilderness Society*

Andy Silva, *San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors*

Gary Stickel (for Andrew Salas), *Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation*

Ben Smith, *Community of Wrightwood*

W. Lee Smith (for Rick Travis), *California Rifle and Pistol Association*

FOREST SERVICE

Jeffrey Vail, Matthew Bokach, Cindy McArthur, *Angeles National Forest*

CONVENERS/FACILITATION TEAM

Karen DiBari, Edward Belden and Emily Olsen, *National Forest Foundation*

Welcome & Introductions

Karen DiBari welcomed all participants to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) meeting. Thirty-three SGMCC members and alternates, three U.S. Forest Service staff, and three National Forest Foundation staff were present. One guest, Daniel J. Prescott, was present as the new alternate for Daniel Oaxaca.

Collaborative Announcements

Jack Sahl, Judy Nelson and Karen DiBari had a conversation about the communications committee before the SGMCC meeting, and noted that they wanted members of the committee to convene during a break to discuss ways to proceed.

Steve Messer spoke with Mike Bishop who is interested in representing the Off-Road Vehicle stakeholder position, but has limited time. Steve recommended having Robert Ettleman as the representative as he works with LA County Park Planning on the OHV and trails division.

Andy Silva let the SGMCC know that his boss will be taking over his position as representative on the SGMCC as Andy begins work on the advisory group for the new Mojave Trails National Monument. This advisory group will be more formal, but his experience with the SGMCC will be very helpful to him and to the new group. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to participate with the SGMCC.

ACTION ITEMS

- Communications committee members to meet and report back next steps for committee.
- Steve Messer to provide nomination of Robert Ettleman to the Steering Committee for consideration of Off-Road Vehicle stakeholder position.

Forest Service Updates

Jeffrey Vail updated the SGMCC on several things that have happened since the August meeting:

- The Forest Service has held several public meetings and a webinar; next meeting will be October 4th in Wrightwood.
- The public comment period for Draft Monument Management Plan and Environmental Analysis has been extended until November 1st, 2016.
- Jeffrey Vail, Matthew Bokach, and Justin Seastrand met with M&TP Coordinating Committee leadership at the SO about the comment letter.
- Rachel Smith, who was Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor last fall, will be arriving in October as the new Deputy Forest Supervisor.

- The Forest Service will be conducting its first public meeting in Spanish on the Monument Plan & EA. ANF may reach out to SGMCC members to assist with logistics.

Cindy McArthur, Acting Partnership Coordinator on the Angeles and Monument:

- Started as a range ecologist with the Forest Service about 15 years ago, and now is involved more with public involvement and partnerships.
- The ANF is moving forward with Metro Gold Line shuttle pilot program to Chantry Flat every weekend from September 24, 2016 until October 9th. This experiment may continue long-term based on interest and support from other organizations.
- National Public Lands Day will be September 24th; there will be activities at Chantry Flat (hikes and info booths) and at Mt. Baldy (cleanup). Hikes will be led by REI, the NFF, and The Wilderness Society at Chantry Flat. The Friends of the Angeles will be surveying riders of the shuttle to gauge the success of the pilot program.
- On October 2nd The Wilderness Society is hosting a mental health hike starting at REI and taking the pilot shuttle up to Chantry Flat. The goal is to educate mental health providers about the benefits of the outdoors.
- October 8th is the SGMCC Anniversary. Partners should contact ANF staff (Cindy) if they are interested in hosting an event at Chantry Flat that day.
- October 27th SGMCC meeting will conflict with Metro Board meeting.

Matthew Bokach, Monument Manager, currently acting Santa Clara-Mojave District Ranger in the Acton Office:

- Excited to be here and grateful for the involvement of everyone. Appreciates the invitation to continue to engage with the larger community.

Consensus Comments Process Discussion

Karen checked in with the SGMCC about the consensus process and timeline. The SGMCC reviewed and discussed the previous process to achieve consensus comments and revised the milestones due to the new November 1, 2016 deadline for submitting comments. The SGMCC revised list of major upcoming milestones includes:

- (1) **September 22nd SGMCC Meeting** – Review concepts in draft comment letter; form conceptual approval – get as much done as possible towards consensus.
- (2) **Between meetings on Sept 22nd and October 6th** – members share specific language changes with M&TP Committee; members share the letter/marked up plan with their constituencies and resolve any final issues before reaching overall consensus.
- (3) **September 29th** – Deadline for comments/issues (in track changes if at all possible) from members due to M&TP Committee; members should dig in and communicate with M&TP Committee members.
- (4) **October 3^d** – M&TP Committee shares updated draft letter/marked up plan with SGMCC.
- (5) **October 6th*** – SGMCC special meeting to reach approval on the letter – strive for preliminary consensus agreement.
- (6) **Between October 6 and Oct 22*** – SGMCC vet the letter and draft plan comments with their constituencies.
- (7) **October 20th*** – M&TP Committee distributes final letter/marked up plan to SGMCC.
- (8) **October 27th*** – SGMCC meeting (100% vote) – reach consensus and finalize letter.

*If an additional meeting between October 6th and October 27th is needed to clarify any outstanding issued it will be held via telephone and will be scheduled via a doodle poll.

CONSENSUS: Approve the above process and milestones to finalize the draft EA/Monument Management Plan SGMCC comment letter and revisions.

ACTION ITEMS

- SGMCC members must send the M&TP Coordinating Committee any concerns, language suggestions, or flags by September 29th.
- The M&TP Coordinating Committee will share the updated draft letter/marked up plan with SGMCC by October 3, 2016.

Seek Consensus on the Draft EA & Monument Management Plan Comment Letter

Michelle Nuttall explained that the M&TP Coordinating Committee met numerous times on the phone and in person to develop the draft comment letter. The group and Michelle incorporated all the comments and suggestions from the SGMCC and built a letter to convey the SGMCC's overall thoughts and specific concerns. The committee also drafted specific language suggestions within the Management Plan so that the FS could understand the perspective of the SGMCC.

SGMCC members thanked Michelle Nuttall and the rest of the M&TP Coordinating Committee for the tremendous effort to prepare the draft comment letter and the markups and revisions to the Draft Monument Plan. The SGMCC members provided general feedback on the tone, approach, big picture thoughts, and specific reactions to the draft comment letter (Attachment 1).

Michelle Nuttall and Claire Robinson went through the revisions and markups to the Draft Monument Plan. The M&TP committee added new desired conditions, guidelines, objectives and management plan approaches to certain sections of the plan and made additional comments throughout the document. The M&TP Coordinating Committee also added a new vision section and a new section on visitor experience, information and education. The SGMCC provided general feedback to the markup of the Draft Monument Plan (Attachment 2). The SGMCC will review the markups in more detail during the October 6th SGMCC meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- The M&TP coordinating committee will revise the draft comment letter and markups to the Monument Plan based on the input from the SGMCC members.

Committee Updates & Proposals

STEERING COMMITTEE

Joe Lyons reported that the Steering Committee met and discussed rescheduling and consolidating the November and December meetings and how to address members and organizations that are not attending the meetings.

The committee recommended rescheduling and consolidating the November and December meeting to a December 8th meeting with a special request to consider the north side of the forest for the meeting location.

CONSENSUS: Approve the Proposal to cancel November meeting and reschedule December meeting for December 8th.

ACTION ITEMS

- NFF will coordinate the location and logistics for the December 8th meeting.

The Steering Committee also recommended that after a stakeholder or alternate misses three (3) consecutive meetings, facilitator (NFF) will prepare a letter for the Steering Committee to send, requesting to attend next meeting (or at least respond). If there's no response, Steering Committee will seek to refill the seat.

CONSENSUS: Approve the Proposal for facilitator to prepare a letter for the Steering Committee to send requesting attendance of stakeholder or alternate after missing three consecutive meetings. If there is no response, the Steering Committee will seek to refill the seat.

ACTION ITEMS

- NFF to continue track attendance and develop a letter for Steering Committee to review and send out.

PROJECTS & EXTERNAL IMPACTS COMMITTEE:

Belinda Faustinos presented the proposed SGMCC Policy on Approving Letters of Support on behalf of the Projects and External Impacts Committee. The SGMCC asked that the Steering Committee clarify the definition of the full collaborative used in the proposed policy in terms of what constitutes a quorum. The SGMCC asked to add to the policy an option for the requesting organization to provide a presentation if requested by the Steering Committee.

CONSENSUS: Approve the Proposed SGMCC Policy on Approving Letters of Support with the incorporation of the requested change above.

ACTION ITEMS

- Project and External Impacts Committee will revise the draft Policy to incorporate the option for the requesting organization to provide a presentation if requested by the Steering Committee.

Upcoming Meetings

NFF staff provided the revised roadmap showing upcoming SGMCC meetings and activities. The roadmap will be a living document that the group will review during each meeting. Committees should provide activity and meeting details to the NFF to ensure the roadmap is up-to-date.

Upcoming Meetings:

- The next SGMCC meeting will be **Thursday, October 6th from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM at Taylor Hall in Claremont (1775 N Indian Hill Blvd, Claremont, CA 91711).**
- All upcoming meetings are on a new online calendar on the SGMCC webpage: <https://www.nationalforests.org/sangabrielmountains>.

ROUND ROBIN FEEDBACK ON SGMCC

Below are the sentiments from the SGMCC members at the end of the meeting regarding the SGMCC process to date:

- Hearing a lot of good dialogue.
- Constructive format for the meeting.
- Working hard to get everyone's opinion into the drafts; think we're being successful.
- Very impressed by hard work of the M&TP Coordinating Committee and the collaborative spirit.
- Very appreciative of the broad interest group that's participating, and Michelle's work in putting the drafts together.
- Thank you for the facilitation and for creating the space to have these discussions.
- Each person cares a lot about other points of view – really trying hard to reach consensus.
- Showed today how well the group can work together.
- Surprisingly, enjoy attending the meetings. Letter is impressive!
- Coming out of the meeting with a sharper focus regarding the comments we're making on the plan.
- Have a much better appreciation about what other people are thinking. Things are bigger and much more complex than originally thought.
- Feels like we're motivating the Forest Service staff to reach new goals.
- Thank you to Michelle for your hard work and leadership!
- Impressed with quality and clarity of the written materials we produced.
- Entire two year process has been a learning experience on planning, collaboration, and learning more about the other interests that members bring to the table.
- New to the group. Thoroughly impressed and trying to take everything in and understand the information.
- Grateful to SCE for letting Michelle participate in the group.

RE-CAP: ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- Communications committee members to meet and report back next steps for committee.
- Steve Messer to provide nomination of Robert Ettleman to the Steering Committee for consideration of Off-Road Vehicle stakeholder position.
- SGMCC members must send the M&TP Coordinating Committee any concerns, language suggestions, or flags by September 29th.
- The M&TP Coordinating Committee will share the updated draft letter/marked up plan with SGMCC by October 3, 2016.
- The M&TP coordinating committee will revise the draft comment letter and markups to the Monument Plan based on the input from the SGMCC members.
- NFF will coordinate the location and logistics for the December 8th meeting.
- NFF to continue track attendance and develop a letter for Steering Committee to review and send out.
- Project and External Impacts Committee will revise the draft Policy to incorporate the option for the requesting organization to provide a presentation if requested by the Steering Committee.

Record of Decisions

Decision	Consensus
Approve the above process and milestones to finalize the draft EA/Monument Management Plan comment letter.	Yes
Approve the proposal to cancel November meeting and reschedule December meeting for December 8th.	Yes
Approve the proposal for facilitator to prepare a letter for Steering Committee to send requesting attendance of stakeholder or alternate after missing three consecutive meetings. If there is no response, the Steering Committee will seek to refill the seat.	Yes
Approve the proposal for an SGMCC Policy on Approving Letters of Support.	Yes