

MEETING RECORD
San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative
Tuesday, June 2, 2015
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Taylor Reception Hall, Claremont

Attendees

Andrew Salas, *Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation*
Andrew Silva, *San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors*
Ann Croissant, *San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy*
Armond Ghazarian, *Los Angeles Department of Public Works*
Belinda Faustinos, *San Gabriel Mountains Forever Coalition*
Chris Solek, *Council for Watershed Health*
Chuck Myers, *National Forest Homeowners*
Claire Robinson, *Amigos de Los Rios*
Cliff Hamlow, *San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers*
Dale Benson, *California Department of Transportation, District 7*
Daniel Oaxaca, *San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps*
Daniel Rossman, *The Wilderness Society*
Dayana Molina (for Robert Garcia), *The City Project*
Donn Christiansen, *Angeles National Forest*
Gary Slater, *Caltrans Planning*
Grace J. Kast, *Gateway Water Management Authority*
Henry Herrera, *CalFire*

Jack Sahl, *Friends of the Angeles*
Jacqueline Ayer, *Association of Rural Town Councils*
Jeff Seymour, *El Monte City School District*
John Monsen (for Nidia Erceg), *Sierra Club*
John Thornton, *Angeles National Forest*
Joseph Lyons, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*
Judy Nelson, *Glendora*
Kelly Gardiner (for Greg Galindo), *San Gabriel Valley Water Association*
Linda Wucherpfennig, *California Off-Road Vehicle Association*
Liz Reilly, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*
Margaret Clark, *Rivers & Mountains Conservancy*
Mark Masaoka, *Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council*
Michelle Nuttall, *Southern California Edison*
Omar Gomez, *Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica (COFEM)*
Ron Ellingson, *Mt. Baldy Lodge*
Shawn Troeger, *Community of Wrightwood*
Steve Messer, *Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association*
Tim Brick, *Arroyo Seco Foundation*

CONVENORS/FACILITATION TEAM

Mary Mitsos, Edward Belden and Emily Olsen, *National Forest Foundation*

Welcome & Introduction

Mary Mitsos welcomed all participants to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative meeting. Thirty-three Community Collaborative members, two Forest Service staff, and three National Forest Foundation staff were present.

Forest Service Update – National Monument Planning & Public Engagement Process

Donn Christiansen, Acting San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Manager, provided an update on the National Monument planning process. Donn shared *Key Messages about the Monument Planning Process* (attached), which describes planning milestones.

Key Points from the Forest Service Update:

- Five public meetings, utilizing an open house format, are scheduled to discuss the planning process and Need to Change the Existing Land Management Plan (hereafter “Need to Change”) document.
 - **June 22, 4-8 p.m., Pacific Community Center**, 501 S. Pacific Ave., Glendale, CA
 - **June 23, 4-8 p.m., Palmdale Legacy Commons Senior Center**, 930 East Avenue Q9, Palmdale, CA
 - **June 24, 4-8 p.m., Glendora Public Library**, 140 S. Glendora Ave., Glendora, CA
 - **June 25, 4-8¹ p.m., Pico House**, 424 N. Main St., Los Angeles, CA
 - **June 26, 4-8 p.m., Big Pines Lodge**, 24537 Big Pines Highway, Wrightwood, CA
- Donn reminded the group that the Forest Service is looking for the Collaborative’s feedback about language translation services for public meetings.
- The Need to Change is expected to be released around June 15th. **Release of the Need to Change will start the 45-day public comment period.**
- During the planning process there will be two 45-day public comment periods:
 - First is focused on the Need for Change document (June- July 2015)
 - Second is focused around the draft forest plan amendment and the release of the Environmental Assessment (Spring 2016)
- If a person comments at any of the public meetings starting in June 2015, or sends in a comment during the public comment periods, they will have standing to object to the draft forest plan amendment after the environmental assessment is released and before the final decision on the amendment is signed.

Action Items

- **NFF staff will create a shortened link to the Forest Service’s planning website – <http://1.usa.gov/1G9QHn0>**
- **By June 19, Collaborative members will send NFF staff feedback about which language translation services (or languages) are needed depending on the meeting location.**

Proposal to temporarily change the SGMCC meeting schedule to allow the Collaborative to develop consensus recommendations around the Need to Change:

- Members decided to change the SGMCC meeting schedule to hold at least two (and potentially three) full group meetings during the 45-day public comment period.

¹ The June 25th public meeting at the Pico House was initially scheduled for 3:00-7:00 PM. After the SGMCC expressed concerns about the meeting time, Deputy Forest Supervisor John Thornton confirmed that the Forest Service will change the time to 4:00-8:00 PM.

- The first full Collaborative meeting will be scheduled after the Need to Change has been publically released and will include (1) Forest Service briefing on the existing Angeles National Forest Plan and (2) Forest Service briefing on the Need to Change and everything else that will be presented at the public meetings.
- Collaborative decided to create ad-hoc committees to develop recommendations around the four parts of the Need to Change document.
- Committees will start work after the first of these three meetings to develop proposed recommendations. Committees must be sure to distribute reports in advance of the full Collaborative meetings to help members prepare.
- The second and third meetings will focus on reaching consensus with the full collaborative on the subcommittees' proposed recommendations. Note that the third meeting will only occur if the Collaborative needs more time to reach consensus on the recommendations prior to the end of the public comment period.

Action Items:

- **NFF staff will use Doodle polls to attempt to schedule three meetings in June and July.**

Discuss Committee Organizational Structure for Management Plan Process

The Collaborative created four ad-hoc committees to develop recommendations around the four parts of the Need to Change document – transportation, land use, minerals and recreation. The committees will work in-between full Collaborative meetings to develop recommendation proposals for the full Collaborative's approval.

Consensus Agreement: Membership Policy for Ad-Hoc Need to Change Committees

- Committee members can be a SGMCC member or alternate so long as the member or alternate has attended at least one full Community Collaborative meeting.
- Recommendations from the committees will not move forward as part of the SGMCC's Need to Change recommendations until they are approved by the full Collaborative.
- Each committee will have co-chairs. The co-chairs from each committee will meet to develop templates and guidance to format recommendations in a consistent manner. NFF will facilitate the co-chairs.

Below are the committee membership lists and designated co-chairs.

Transportation

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| • Claire Robinson –
Co-Chair | • Jackie Ayer | • Liz Reilly |
| • Dale Benson | • Jeff Seymour | • Michelle Nuttall –
Co-Chair |
| • Daniel Rossman | • Joe Lyons | |
| • Gary Slater | • Linda
Wucherpfennig | |

Land Use

- Andy Salas
- Ann Croissant
- Armond Ghazarian
- Chuck Myers
- Cliff Hamlow
- Daniel Rossman – **Co-Chair**
- Grace J. Kast
- John Monsen
- Judy Nelson
- Linda Wucherpfennig
- Margaret Clark– **Co-Chair**
- Ron Ellingson
- Steve Messer

Minerals

- Andy Salas
- Andy Silva
- Ann Croissant – **Chair**
- Daniel Rossman
- Jackie Ayer

Recreation

- Chris Solek
- Claire Robinson
- Dale Benson
- Daniel Oaxaca
- Daniel Rossman
- Dayana Molina
- Jack Sahl – **Co-Chair**
- Jeff Seymour– **Co-Chair**
- Joe Lyons
- John Monsen
- Kelly Gardiner
- Linda Wucherpfennig
- Margaret Clark
- Mark Masaoka
- Omar Gomez
- Ron Ellingson
- Steve Messer

Action Items:

- **NFF staff will organize a co-chairs meeting (all committee chairs) ASAP.**
- **Following the co-chairs meeting, NFF staff will poll all committee members to schedule committee meetings.**

Learn About Potential Projects on the Angeles National Forest

Donn Christiansen and John Thornton described “opportunity projects” that the Angeles National Forest is considering, both in the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and the Angeles National Forest. The Collaborative discussed future opportunities to help determine priority projects and suggested that the group develop criteria to vet projects.

Edward Belden briefly described projects the NFF is involved with that will be implemented this summer (2015). Those projects include:

- Invasive Plant Removal
- Invasive Giant Reed (Arundo) Removal
- Chaparral Restoration
- Colby Trail Reroute
- Nature Ambassadors Program in Big Tujunga
- Big Tujunga Sustainable Recreation Projects
- Oaks Picnic Area/East Fork San Gabriel River Improvements
- Living Learning Laboratory
- Friends of the Angeles Tool Cache

Members suggested forming a Forest Projects Committee to (1) draft project criteria for the full Collaborative's approval, and (2) vet and propose priority restoration and recreation projects to the full Collaborative. SGMCC members who volunteered to join the Forest Projects Committee include Claire, Jack, Dale, Tim, Ann, Andy Salas, Belinda, and Liz.

Action Items:

- **Forest Service staff will provide their project list and the map to NFF to share with Collaborative members.**
- **If possible, the Forest Service will provide the full project list (and cost estimates) to the NFF to share with the Collaborative. The Forest Service will work with NFF to figure out the best way to provide the most information to the full Community Collaborative.**
- **NFF staff will send the link to the Angeles National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA), or projects that will begin or are currently undergoing environmental analysis. <http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/forest-level.php?110501>.**

Staffing Changes on the Angeles National Forest

Donn Christiansen and John Thornton described recent or upcoming staffing changes on the Angeles National Forest, including:

- New Forest Supervisor, Jeff Vail, starts on June 8th
- Daniel Lovato will return to the Deputy Forest Supervisor position
- John Thornton will return to the District Ranger position on the San Gabriel River Ranger District.
- New Volunteer Coordinator starts on June 8th
- Two Visitor Information Specialists were hired, with at least one more on the way (for Mt. Baldy; Gateway/Cyrstal Lake; Big Pine, and potentially other locations)
- District Ranger on the Los Angeles River Ranger District –A Detailer, Kevan Paluso (previously on the San Gabriel River Ranger District), starts on June 8th
- Monument Management Plan ID Team Leader – Joe David will replace Deb McLaughlin starting June 28th
- Trails Manager at the Forest Level – Vacant, but not slated to be filled
- Recreation Program Officer – Vacant for several years; the Forest received approval to fill the position
- Recreation program manager on the San Gabriel River Ranger District – the Forest received approval to fill the position
- Six interns were hired, who will be paired with Forest Service staff to start a field ranger program; long-term goal is to hire permanent people for those positions
- Law enforcement – working on a workforce organization plan to increase workforce within the National Monument; final decisions will be made in the Washington Office and not at the National Forest-level

Seek Agreement on New Membership Proposal

Linda Wucherpennig presented the second membership proposal developed by the Membership Working Group. Linda also welcomed three new members recommended by the Working Group and approved by the Full Collaborative at the May meeting – Andy Salas, Chris Solek, and Liz Reilly. The full membership report is attached.

Consensus Agreements:

- Add three additional recreation seats – fishing, equestrian, and hunting/shooting
- Invite the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps to select an individual to join the full Collaborative
- Adopt the youth seat and youth committee proposal developed by the Working Group and shared by Joe Lyons (attached)
- Seek suggestions from the full Collaborative for individuals to fill the equestrian, hunting/shooting, youth, and academia (arts, history and culture) seats. Suggestions are due to NFF staff by June 16th, and will be vetted by the Membership Working Group.

Action Items:

- By June 16th, Collaborative members should send names and short bios of potential representatives for the equestrian, hunting/shooting, youth, and academia (arts, history and culture) seats to NFF staff.
- NFF staff will schedule another Membership Working Group meeting in late June to vet the suggestions received from the Collaborative.

Miscellaneous

Some collaborative members expressed interest in consistently holding meetings in a centrally located venue. NFF will follow-up on this request based on suggestions from members. Collaborative members requested that the NFF share the group contact list. Finally, members requested better sound amplification/mics at future meetings. NFF also reminded members **that the July 7th SGMCC meeting is cancelled in lieu of meetings being scheduled at the beginning/end of the 45-day Need to Change public comment period.**

Action Items:

- Members are encouraged to send centrally-located venue ideas to Edward (ebelden@nationalforests.org); based on suggestions received, the topic will be discussed at a future meeting.
- NFF staff will share the member contact list with full collaborative, and will collect addresses and other missing contact information.

All Action Items

- ✓ *Completed:* NFF staff will create a shortened link to the Forest Service’s planning website for Collaborative members to share – <http://1.usa.gov/1G9QHn0>.
- ✓ By June 19, Collaborative members will send NFF staff feedback about which language translation services (or languages) are needed depending on the meeting location.
- ✓ NFF staff will attempt to schedule three meetings in June and July.
- ✓ NFF staff will organize a co-chairs meeting (all committee chairs) ASAP.
- ✓ Following the co-chairs meeting, co-chairs will schedule committee meetings.
- ✓ Forest Service staff will provide their project list and the map to NFF to share with Collaborative members.
- ✓ If possible, the Forest Service will provide the full project list (and cost estimates) to the NFF to share with the Collaborative. The Forest Service will work with NFF to figure out the best way to provide the most information to the full Community Collaborative.
- ✓ NFF staff will send the link to the Angeles National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) – <http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/forest-level.php?110501>.
- ✓ By June 16th, Collaborative members should send names and short bios of potential representatives for the equestrian, hunting/shooting, youth, and academia (arts, history and culture) seats to NFF staff.
- ✓ NFF staff will schedule another Membership Working Group meeting in late June to vet the suggestions received from the Collaborative.
- ✓ Members should send centrally located venue ideas to Edward; based on suggestions received, the topic will be discussed at a future meeting.
- ✓ NFF staff will share the member contact list with the full collaborative, and will collect addresses and other missing contact information.

Record of Decisions

Decision	Consensus
<p><u>Membership Policy for Ad-Hoc Need to Change Committees</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members can be a SGMCC member or alternate so long as the member or alternate has attended at least one full Collaborative meeting. • Recommendations from the committees will not move forward as part of the SGMCC’s Need to Change recommendations until they are approved by the full Collaborative. • Each committee will have co-chairs. The co-chairs from each committee will meet to develop templates and guidance to format recommendations in a consistent manner. NFF will facilitate the co-chairs. 	Yes
Add three additional recreation seats to the Community Collaborative, representing fishing, equestrian, and hunting/shooting interests	Yes
Invite the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps to select an individual to join the full Collaborative as a fishing representative	Yes
Adopt the youth seat/youth committee proposal developed by the Working Group	Yes