

MEETING RECORD
San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative
Thursday, June 23, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Big Pines Visitor Center, Wrightwood

Attendees

Tim Brick, *Arroyo Seco Foundation*
Dale Benson, *CalTrans, District 7*
Armond Ghazarian, *Los Angeles Department of Public Works*
Kelly Gardner, *San Gabriel Valley Water Association*
Richard Guttenberg, *Archaeology/Culture*
Cliff Hamlow, *San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers*
Henry Herrera, *CalFire*
Mark Masaoka, *Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council*
Joseph Lyons, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*
Mike McNutt, *Palmdale Water District*
Ron Ellingson, *Mt. Baldy Lodge*
Steve Messer, *Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association*
John Monsen, *The Sierra Club*
Chuck Myers, *National Forest Homeowners*

Judy Nelson, *City of Glendora*
Wendy La (for Ann Croissant), *San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy*
Nancy Negrete (for Robert Garcia), *The City Project*
Michelle Nuttall, *Southern California Edison*
Bill Reeves, *Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps*
Liz Reilly, *San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*
Daniel Rossman, *The Wilderness Society*
Jack Sahl, *Friends of the Angeles*
Gary Stickel (for Andrew Salas), *Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation*
Shawn Troeger, *Community of Wrightwood*
W. Lee Smith (for Rick Travis), *California Rifle and Pistol Association*
Amy Granat (temporary CORVA representative), *California Off-Road Vehicle Association*

FOREST SERVICE

Matthew Bokach, Adrienne Dunfee, Justin Seastrand, Ron Heinig, John Rivera, Raven Magpie Rivera (volunteer), and Ashley Griffith (volunteer), *Angeles National Forest*

CONVENERS/FACILITATION TEAM

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

Welcome & Introductions

Mary Mitsos welcomed all participants to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) meeting. Twenty-six SGMCC members and alternates, five Angeles National Forest (ANF) staff, two volunteers, and three National Forest Foundation staff were present.

Ron Heinig, welcoming the SGMCC to Wrightwood, shared the history of the Big Pines Visitor Center. Raven Magpie Rivera spoke about Native American history and culture, and described the conservation education services that she and her husband provide.

Mary announced that Amy Granat would join the meeting via phone, and that CORVA is actively looking for a new representative to take Linda Wucherpfennig's place. Mary also reminded members that committees were set up with co-chairs to share committee responsibilities. Committee leaders should split up roles and responsibilities as necessary.

Joe Lyons reminded members that the Steering Committee meets monthly to develop meetings agendas and discuss other items. Committee chairs (and interested SGMCC members) should submit agenda items to the Steering Committee by the second Thursday of each month in order to be considered for that month's agenda. Joe reminded the group about process steps for SGMCC members, committees, and interested citizens to submit agenda items:

- (1) Committees or individuals should visit the online form to submit a topic. If the item is coming from a committee, please note that in the form. **Link to online form:**
<http://goo.gl/forms/osgvusIYd>.
- (2) The SGMCC can review topics that have been submitted at any time by visiting:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1j6TzvUpG2c0hQu4gLOMw-SN69qZbrUirpz7vCgJeVsg/edit?usp=sharing>.
- (3) Steering Committee members will regularly review the topics that have been submitted, and will meet the second Thursday of every month (two weeks prior to the monthly SGMCC meeting) to discuss proposed agenda items and draft an agenda.

Joe also shared the Steering Committee's proposed process for SGMCC letters of endorsement or support:

- (1) Letters for the collaborative to approve should first go through the Steering Committee.
- (2) Steering Committee will discuss the letter and add the letter to a future SGMCC meeting or send the letter back to a committee for additional work.

Forest Service Updates

Adrienne Dunfee updated the SGMCC about the Reservoir Fire and Fish Fire, managed as the San Gabriel Complex. At the time of the report, both fires had been contained within the National Monument boundary, and the Forest Service was coordinating community meetings.

Matthew Bokach and Justin Seastrand updated the SGMCC about the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Angeles plan amendment. Because the formal comment period hadn't started and the SGMCC must be treated the same as other interested citizens, Matthew and Justin were unable to answer specific questions. However, Matthew and Justin did describe the

goals of the plan development process. The interdisciplinary (ID) team and ANF leadership desire to have management flexibility and ensure that the plan is implementable. The team is looking forward to the comment period, when they'll be able to describe the rationale for the draft EA as part of their written responses to public comment.

SGMCC members applauded the ANF for releasing draft EA chapters 1 and 2 early for review, which helped the SGMCC generate and discuss potential issues earlier in the planning process.

San Gabriel Mountains National Monument - Draft Environmental Assessment Ch. 1 and 2

Michelle Nuttall walked through the Monument & Transportation Plan Coordinating Committee's draft comment matrix. **The matrix, with annotations from the meeting, is available as attachment A.** Members and ANF staff shared appreciation for the committee and Michelle's leadership.

During the discussion, SGMCC members asked for guidance about how to write forest planning comments. Members are encouraged to see [A Citizens Guide to Forest Planning](#), released in June by the 2012 Planning Rule Advisory Committee, which offers guidance about the process.

Justin Seastrand talked about a roads analysis that the ANF completed, as referenced in the draft EA. Members can download the analysis via [this Google Drive link](#), or email eolsen@nationalforests.org for a copy.

ACTION ITEMS

- SGMCC members will review the full draft EA when it's released at the end of July, and share new or emerging concerns with the Monument Plan & Transportation Coordinating Committee as soon as possible.

Committee Updates & Proposals

Monument & Transportation Plan Coordinating Committee:

- The Committee is actively working on comments for the draft EA and Monument Management Plan. The Committee is also interested in transportation issues, and asked for clarification about the new transportation working group described by Jeffrey Vail during the May SGMCC meeting.
- **Action Item:** Matthew Bokach will follow up with NFF staff regarding the new transportation working group, general details about the new effort, and the SGMCC's potential engagement.

Projects & External Impacts Committee:

- Mary Mitsos suggested that the Projects & External Impacts Committee may be able to work on transportation issues and projects, including state and regional efforts. *Update: The Committee met following the meeting to consider a strategic focus.*

Communications & Engagement Committee:

- No updates. The committee has not met recently.

Review and Consider Approving Draft Letters

Per the SGMCC's request from the May meeting, Nancy Negrete shared a draft letter in support of the Community Transit to Parks & Open Space demonstration project for the SGMCC to review and consider supporting. The SGMCC raised concerns about the group's processes for reviewing and signing on to letters of support. In lieu of supporting the letter as a group, SGMCC members agreed to review the letter as individual organizations and sign on, if desired, independently. Nancy provided an updated template letter (Attachment B) for members to sign on an individual basis.

Consensus Decision: The Projects and External Impacts Committee will bring a proposed approach and process for letters of support back to the full SGMCC in July. The Committee will also analyze and define what it means for the SGMCC to support or endorse a project. In the meantime, those members who support the Community Transit to Parks & Open Space demonstration project are free to support the project on an individual basis.

Gary Stickel also presented a draft letter in support of the Big Rock Kizh Monument. Members voiced support for cultural resource protection, but had questions about the letter's scope and audience. Gary clarified that the letter would be written to the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in support of the Big Rock Kizh monument. Gary Stickel agreed to work with Mike McNutt to develop the draft letter of support prior to the July 28th meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- Projects and External Impacts Committee will develop a proposed approach and process for SGMCC letters of support by the July 28th SGMCC meeting.
- Members who wish to support the Community Transit to Parks & Open Space demonstration project are encouraged to complete the template letter provided by Nancy Negrete by the end of July or as soon as possible.
- Gary Stickel will work with Mike McNutt to develop letter of support for the Kizh Monument effort prior to the July 28th meeting.

Upcoming Meetings & Miscellaneous Business

Upcoming Meetings:

- The next SGMCC meeting will be **Thursday, July 28th at the Altadena Community Center from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.**
- All upcoming meetings are on a new online calendar on the SGMCC webpage: <https://www.nationalforests.org/sangabrielmountains>.

Miscellaneous Business

Mary Mitsos will be on a special assignment for the NFF between July and October, and unable to facilitate SGMCC meetings. Karen DiBari, part of the NFF team and an experienced facilitator, will lead SGMCC meetings for the next four months.

RE-CAP: ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- **SGMCC members will review the full draft EA when it's released at the end of July, and share new or emerging concerns with the Monument Plan & Transportation Coordinating Committee as soon as possible.**
- **Matthew Bokach will follow up with NFF staff to provide information about the new transportation working group, general details about the new effort, and the SGMCC's potential engagement.**
- **Projects and External Impacts Committee will develop a proposed approach and process for SGMCC letters of support by the July 28th SGMCC meeting.**
- **Members who wish to support the Community Transit to Parks & Open Space demonstration project are encouraged to complete the template letter provided by Nancy Negrete by the end of July or as soon as possible.**
- **Gary Stickel will work with Mike McNutt to develop letter of support for the Kizh Monument effort prior to the July 28th meeting.**

Record of Decisions

Decision	Consensus
The Projects and External Impacts Committee will bring a proposed approach and process for letters of support back to the full SGMCC in July. The Committee will also analyze and define what it means for the SGMCC to support or endorse a project. In the meantime, those members who support the Community Transit to Parks & Open Space demonstration project are free to support the project on an individual basis.	Yes