



## Meeting Agenda—Draft

Dunes Collaborative

Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

9:00 am to Noon

Dunes Center

1055 Guadalupe Street, Guadalupe, CA 93434

Co-Chairs: Bob Hill [bobh@lcslo.org](mailto:bobh@lcslo.org) and

Rey Monge [rmong@parks.ca.gov](mailto:rmong@parks.ca.gov)

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### 1. Introductions/Opening Remarks

John Jostes on the phone, Deborah Rogers on the phone, Bob Hill, Daniel Bohlman, Kaila Dettman, Rey Monge, Ronnie Glick, Glenn Greenwald, Mario Castellanos, Dan McElhinney, Christina Holanda

### 2. Review of Meeting Notes from November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Dunes Collaborative Meeting

**Action Item:** Meeting Notes approved.

### 3. Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve—Update from the Center for Natural Lands Management

Deborah Rogers, Director of Conservation Science with the Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM), discussed the current status of Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve (RGDP). Unlike almost all other CNLM properties, RGDP was not established with an endowment and the funds for management are running out. Due to the current funding shortage the position of Preserve Manager (Jamie King) was eliminated and the park is running at a limited funding level.

Current contacts for RGDP and CNLM are Tina Snijdewind, Lead Ranger 805-431-1389 for daily park related issues and for management issues, Deborah Rogers at 510-799-7653.

Deborah Rogers emphasized that CNLM has been at RGDP for 10 years and is interested and willing to be a fundraising partner with the county.

Bob Hill raised a question regarding the Interpretive Trailer.

Deborah Rogers stated that since CNLM is not planning on leaving the park, the trailer should maintain its current status. However, if CNLM were to leave then the trailer would revert to the county accordingly.

Glenn Greenwald offered to clean and secure the trailer at the Dunes Center. He also asked if the Dunes Center could utilize the interpretive aspects at the Visitor Center. Deborah Rogers stated that CNLM was appreciative of both Glenn Greenwald's offer to

clean and secure the trailer as well as willing and glad to see the educational component in use at the Dunes Center.

Deborah Rogers stated that she and CNLM will keep the Dunes Collaborative informed regarding any changes or possible opportunities going forward so that the group is as informed as possible.

#### **4. Finalize Package of Projects and Documents For Submission to the Restoration Subcommittee**

Bob Hill provided an update following the positive discussion at November's Collaborative meeting. Daniel Bohlman and Ronnie Glick had an opportunity to follow up regarding the Remote Sensing Project and substantively altered the budget removing the line item for imagery from the project budget. At the previous Restoration Subcommittee meeting, the group discussed spending \$300,000 of principal plus an additional \$118,000.00 of interest for projects in 2010.

The breakdown for projects to be funded is \$278,000.00 on restoration projects and 139,000.00 on visitor serving projects based on the current 2/3, 1/3 allocation.

The Dunes Center offered to reduce their request for Administration funding by 50% by providing a 50% match.

The Restoration Subcommittee stated that they are not willing to invade principal in 2011.

Summary of 2010 project proposals (see proposals for more detailed information):

##### **1. Invasive Species Removal**

The primary purpose of this project is to remove veldt grass and European beach grass and continue native re-vegetation in the Dunes Complex according to priorities established through the Restoration Task Force.

**The budget for this project is: \$245,180.00.**

##### **2. Restoration Task Force Coordination**

This project provides coordination of the Restoration Task Force that informs the Dunes Collaborative on restoration needs, develops restoration project concepts and arranges for project implementation in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex.

**The budget for this project is: \$9,700.00.**

##### **3. Remote Sensing of Invasive Species**

Over the last eight years, invasive species removal has been the priority restoration activity in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes (the Dunes). Priority treatment areas were originally determined in 2003. The purpose of this project is to conduct a comprehensive re-assessment of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex, including areas previously un-surveyed, to resolve the overall effect of treatment

efforts to date, as well as provide critical reassessment and prioritization for future invasive species treatment allocation.

**The budget for this project is: \$4,960.00**

#### **4. Dunes Collaborative Endowment Administration**

To administer the Dunes Collaborative Endowment Projects, the Dunes Center enables funds distribution and administrative oversight through its 501(c)3 status. The Dunes Center will provide financial and project administration for 2010 Endowment Projects including: Invasive Species Removal and Monitoring; Restoration Task Force Coordination; and a Remote Sensing Invasive Species Reassessment.

**The budget for this project is: \$18,860.00**

The total for the four Dunes Collaborative Endowment 2010 projects is: \$278,700. The budget for Year 2 of the Dunes Center's Mission Expansion Project is \$139,400.00. **The total for 2010 projects to \$418,100.00**

There was brief discussion about billable rates and what their basis is. Glenn Greenwald raised a question as to whether or not they are justified. Bob Hill provided a brief explanation of the costs associated with a nonprofit employee and how those translate into the billable hour for projects like these. The group concluded that the billable rates are justified.

The group also discussed the fact that the proposed Administration Project reduces Dunes Collaborative meetings from 12 to 6. There was considerable discussion on the value of meeting more often in order to have more shared learning opportunities within the collaborative process. The group supported meeting 12 times with providing more guest speakers and other learning opportunities. Kaila Dettman expressed support for more frequent meetings as opportunities to come up with creative fundraising strategies, brainstorming and responding to new opportunities. Daniel Bohlman stated that he supported more frequent meetings as well in order to place a different emphasis on agendas, whether the needs be more administrative or more about shared learning.

Mario Castellanos stated that increasing the meetings from 6 to 12 would increase the workload but the Dunes Center would not increase its request for the Administration Project.

Bob Hill called a vote on recommending the Administration Project to the Restoration Subcommittee for 2010:

Rey Monge, California State Parks: yes  
Bob Hill, Land Conservancy of SLO County: yes  
Glenn Greenwald, US Fish and Wildlife Service: yes  
Mario Castellanos, Dunes Center: yes

**Action Item:** The group voted to approve the Administration Project along with the previously approved Invasive Species Removal Project, Restoration Task Force Coordination, and Remote Sensing Project.

## **5. Other Information, Announcements, and Updates**

- a. John Jostes raised the topic of a Dunes Collaborative Retreat in 2010. He stated that we have done much retreat-like soul searching in the past quarter and perhaps the retreat should be rebooted in 2010 in order to renew rather than focus on the logistical and/or more administrative tasks associated with beginning a new year. In the context of the discussion regarding more meetings rather than less, the group expressed interested in having different type of retreat this coming year.
- b. Mario Castellanos announced that the Dunes Center is planning on organizing DuneQuest in May of 2010. The Dunes Center looked at what the previous DuneQuest cost and decided that it could be done for less. CCNHA and State Parks will help in this process with one day focused on the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex and another day focused on the Dunes Complex in Morro Bay/Los Osos. A meeting has been scheduled at the CA State HQ (Pismo Beach) for 10:00 am on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Mario Castellanos, Jenna Scimeca, and Rouvaishyana have confirmed there attendance.
  - (i) Daniel Bohlman suggested coordinating DuneQuest '10 with the next Dunes Guild meeting and he stated that Land Conservancy Staff members would follow up with the Dunes Guild to find out their interest in visiting our area.
- c. Bob Hill provided an update regarding land acquisition. In 2008, the Land Conservancy acquired the southern portion of Paradise Beach. Currently, the Land Conservancy has been in dialogue to acquire the northern portion of that beach. The LC has applied for a CELCP grant through NOAA using the National Natural Landmark information. Bob Hill stated this knowledge was a result of the Collaborative and it significantly enhanced the proposal and the proposal's ranking. It ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation and it looks like a strong candidate to receive federal funding.
- d. Ronnie Glick stated that State Parks is planning a prescribed burn at Oso Flaco Lake Natural Area, just south of Oso Flaco Creek.
- e. Ronnie Glick also announced that water quality monitoring devices are being installed mouth of Oso Flaco Creek watershed, the creek area between little and Oso Flaco Lake and the crossing under the road.

## **6. Adjourn**

**Next Meeting: Tentatively, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 9am-12pm at the Dunes Center**