



Meeting Agenda  
**Dunes Collaborative—VSTF**  
Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
9:00am  
Dunes Center  
1055 Guadalupe Street,  
Guadalupe, CA 93434  
Chair: Rey Monge  
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1. **Introductions**—Mario Castellanos, Rey Monge, Kanani Fox, Dan McElhinney, Jamie King, Glenn Greenwald
  2. **Agenda Review – 5 minutes**
  3. **Review the projects proposed in the Dunes Complex Interpretive Master plan and how the Project Needs List is responding to it**

The group discussed the summary of the Interpretive Master Plan prepared by Kanani Fox of the Dunes Center and the comparison prepared by Jamie King of CNLM between the VSTF Needs List (Needs List) and the Interpretive Master Plan (IMP). It was suggested that once we complete this draft of the Needs List, updated with IMP projects, different named potential project sponsors will have an opportunity to vet their listed projects. It was also agreed upon that the project prioritization process comes into play once the projects have been put forward and is being evaluated. Mario and Rey suggested classifying the needs list by high priority, low priority, and a list of projects with no sponsor or that have fallen off of the list but are important to keep track of.

The group discussed the various projects put forward in the IMP that haven't been sponsored or completed. Rey Monge, of California State Parks, emphasized the importance of complex-wide projects to State Parks and stated that State Parks currently accomplishing the Oso Flaco Lake projects. The group also reviewed the current Needs List projects to tidy up projects and remove any redundancy.

**The following are points from the discussion about specific projects.**

- a. Restoration site access with US Fish and Wildlife as managers.
  - i. This is in a holding pattern.
  - ii. Big issue is dealing with the liability problems.
  - iii. Nothing is going to happen until the cleanup is completed.
- b. Nipomo Native Gardens Visitor Center
  - i. This was pulled back due to funding shortfalls.
  - ii. It was low ranking due to dunes nexus.
  - iii. they are still interested in funding however

- c. RGDP Signage Improvements
  - i. Undetermined timeline, no permits or matching funds.
- d. Complex Interpretive Panels
  - i. State parks already have a catalog of interpretive panels already prefabricated to go forward with a variety of habitats. They are customizable and ready to go. This can provide the basic elements.
  - ii. Rey Monge stated that State Parks Interpreter Jenna Scimeca will be working on Oso Flaco Interpretive Panels we may be able to tie some of the other sites in to that work.
- e. Dunes Complex Directional Signage
  - i. Oso Flaco, Dunes Center, RGDP
  - ii. Discussion about getting Cal Trans to put signage up on how to get to the parks.
  - iii. We can approach Cal Trans as a group or as individuals.
- f. OHV Education and Outreach—Education Station in the vehicle riding area.
  - i. Volunteers/docents/staff leading these activities.
  - ii. State Parks is currently working on bringing in a trailer that can be towed onto the beach for interpretation that could be used by multiple volunteers and at multiple locations.
- g. Complex Branding Signage
  - i. As long as it doesn't conflict with internal signage.
  - ii. This needs to be a strategy endorsed by all partners to move forward.
  - iii. This is a discussion that for the Collaborative.
- h. Core Messages: Complex wide
  - i. RGDP Entry Redesign
    - 1. CNLM has put this forward.
  - ii. New Overlook at RGDP
    - 1. Not high priority because of funding. Proposed by CNLM needs to be reevaluated.
  - iii. Welcome Panel
    - 1. this has been proposed not funded
  - iv. Way-finding map.
    - 1. completed w/ USFWS
  - v. Pedestrian Bridge from Calendar Road Property to Black Lake Canyon
  - vi. Glenn stopped in and provided insight to the Refuge perspective.
  - vii. Complex recreation brochure is different than the trail guide or info guide.

**Action Items:**

- **Dan: provide map to Rey, Jamie, Glenn**
- **Mario: when this is finished, we can contact partners who have projects to provide feedback.**

- **Update regarding the Collaborative Mission statement. Mario: Mission statement, then core messages/theme, then signage. Follow up with John Jostes regarding the Mission Statement and statement on website.**
  - **Rey: Next VSTF meeting Rey offered to bring the catalog of signs.**
  - **Jamie King from CNLM agreed to draft Request for Proposals.**
4. **Summary of discussion of including Interpretive Master Plan in the Project Evaluation Criteria**
    - Why this is important: Opportunities for Collaboration section of Evaluation Criteria places an importance on partnership.
      - a) It should also emphasize our documents: IMP, Santa Maria River Estuary Enhancement Plan, and the Collaborative Work Plan.
  5. **Special Events Report from the Dunes Center**—A brief summary of recent Oso Flaco Lake Grand Opening and National Wildlife Refuge Family Day Event was provided by the Dunes Center. The Oso Flaco Event hosted 95 visitors to celebrate the new boardwalk section and there were education activities stationed along the bridge and boardwalk. The refuge event had 65 guests and featured education booths by many Collaborative partners including, the Dunes Center, CNLM, Land Conservancy of SLO Count, US Fish and Wildlife, Cal Poly, California Native Plant Society, Cal Academy of Sciences and California State Parks.
  6. **Other—none under other.**
  7. **Meeting date, July 23<sup>rd</sup> VSTF Meeting**
    - i. VSTF Projects Due on September 1<sup>st</sup>.
  8. **Adjourn**