

**Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Trustee Council
Summary**

July 19-20, 2007 Trustee Council Meeting

Day 1: Cabrillo Aquarium, Long Beach, California

Day 2: Long Beach Federal Building

The following primary and alternate Montrose Trustee Council ("Council") members were present:

Jennifer Boyce	NOAA	Suzanne Goode	CDPR
Patty Velez	CDFG	Kate Faulkner	NPS
Jim Haas	USFWS	Julie Yamamoto	CDFG
Jonathan Clark	SLC		

Also attending the full meeting on July 19th:

Greg Baker	MSRP Staff	Dave Witting	MSRP Staff
Annie Little	MSRP Staff	Gabrielle Dorr	MSRP Staff
Milena Viljoen	MSRP Staff	Sharon Taylor	USFWS
Chris Plaisted	NOAA GC	Randy Mason	URS
Ray de Wit	Padre Assoc.	David DiMaggio	URS
Rick Ware	Coastal Resources Inc	Alfonso Montel	Cabrillo Aquarium
Adrienne Fedrick	Port of Los Angeles	Andrew Jirik	Port of Los Angeles

DAY 1, JULY 19TH, CABRILLO MARINE AQUARIUM CONFERENCE ROOM

Outreach Position

Gabrielle Dorr was selected as the new Outreach Specialist for the MSRP team. She currently works for the NOAA Habitat Conservation Division in Long Beach. Her start date is August 1, 2007. She will have a two week transition with Milena Viljoen before Milena departs for graduate school.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

May 22-23, 2007 Notes: Greg Baker made two slight changes under wetlands and MPA section. No other comments were received. Minutes were approved by Council.

- o *Greg will resend out link to Query Manager web site, which was one of the follow-ups from the May 2007 meeting.*

TC Comments on EPA RI Document

TC agencies will share comments among each other. Once comments are drafted, Council members will discuss whether a letter should be drafted from the Council.

Artificial Reef Presentation- URS (Randy Mason)

Overview: Randy Mason presented the work conducted thus far by the URS team on developing reef concepts, compiling and reviewing existing site data, reviewing literature on other artificial reefs, and identifying next steps and initial cost estimates. Concepts presented included different configurations and spatial coverage of reef modules near the existing Cabrillo Pier, and also concepts for creating reef and a new fishing pier outside the harbor breakwater.

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Agency Coordination and Permitting: Ray De Wit contacted various agencies to scope out permitting requirements: Port of LA, CCC, CDFG, CSLC, CRWQCB, ACOE, NMFS, USFWS, and USCG. Some findings:

- CEQA document likely to be Mitigated Negative Declaration with Port of LA being lead
- ACOE likely to be lead on NEPA document (EA) needed to support Section 404 permit application/review
- Would likely require amendment to Port of LA Master Plan (Local Coastal Plan)
- Though Port would be lead on amending their LCP, would likely require concurrence from CCC for inside the breakwater reef
- May need separate coastal development permit from CCC for outside breakwater portions- TBD
- SLC- TBD, inside breakwater is covered under deed with Port
- ACOE: 401 certificate will be needed, Individual Permit likely
- ACOE will do Section 7 consultation for FWS, Essential Fish habitat with NMFS, Marine Mammal with NOAA

TC agency reps will consider whether there may be other regulatory requirements.

Conceptual Designs, Specifications, and Costs: URS presented several alternatives for reef construction, including conceptual designs and specifications ranging from 22 acres to 149 acres of reefs with different module sizes and heights.

URS presented very preliminary estimates of costs for the additional studies, compliance, construction, and monitoring costs for the various alternative reef concepts presented. For purposes of this early estimating, they assumed the source material would be quarry rock barged from Catalina; 20% contingency; reef would require an EA (federal) and mitigated negative declaration (state). Outside the breakwater options were substantially more costly than inside.

Issues Identified to be Addressed

- Geotechnical (settlement, mud waves)
- Reef constructability/cost (module shape, rock mix and staging)
- Condition of existing pier
- Public safety and breakwater Maintenance Access
- Sediment deposition and erosion
- Currents and circulation
- Resuspension – potential contaminants
- Navigation and effects on recreational boating
- Reef's effectiveness to attract certain species
- Permitting

Adrienne Fedrick consulted with two senior people in Port engineering department during the lunch break. A concern was raised that the Port typically doesn't allow projects that reduce the water depth within the harbor area to less than 12 feet below lowest low water (not mean lower low water). If this requirement were applied to the inside the breakwater alternatives, there are areas where existing sandy bottom is not deep enough to allow placement of 3 feet of new rocky substrate.

In addition, the TC raised the need to understand the Port's long-term plans for Cabrillo Pier, how our project may interface with the Port's major 7.5 mile "Bridge to Breakwater" planning effort, and other issues.

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MSRP staff will set up a high level meeting or series of meetings with appropriate Port, USCG, and URS personnel to follow-up on the issue of whether / to what extent the current water depth restricts ability to construct reefs of at least a 3 foot relief.

Council gave direction to MSRP staff and URS to continue to seek answers to questions about reef construction inside the breakwater, and not to pursue reef / pier construction outside the breakwater as part of this project at this time. The TC also wants a clearer understanding of the longer-term structural status of the pier, and does not want to pursue building reef at site if access/liability becomes a problem.

Trustee Council Resolution 07-05: Additional funds for Peregrine Falcon monitoring

The Trustee Council signed resolution 07-05, authorizing an additional \$10,000 for peregrine falcon monitoring. Additional funding for the peregrine falcon monitoring was discussed previously at the May 22-23 meeting on Santa Cruz Island as well, but the Trustees deferred signing until CSLC was present at this meeting.

Other Peregrine updates

USFWS applied for funds through an on-refuge investigations sub-activity award program to analyze available eggs from 2002-2007 to examine DDT/PCB concentrations and measure eggshell thickness. The information could then be used to compare current concentrations of DDTs and PCBs in peregrine falcon eggs between the Channel Islands and the southern California mainland. Annie circulated the proposal to the council for consideration, as it seems unlikely to be funded through USFWS.

Trustee Council Resolution 07-06: Restoring seabirds to San Nicolas Island

The Trustee Council signed resolution 07-06 authorizing the disbursement of \$84,513 to USFWS for Island Conservation (IC) work on San Nicolas Island. The funds will be administered through a cooperative agreement between USFWS and IC instead of through NFWF due to time constraints. IC needs money to continue their project planning work this summer so as to stay on schedule for full scale implementation in 2008.

Cost documentation guidelines

At the May 22-23 meeting on Santa Cruz Island, we briefly discussed new cost documentation guidelines, but no final decision was made. State Lands Commission was not present at that meeting, and so the council adopted by vote the new cost documentation guidelines at this meeting.

- o *Chris Plaisted will email the final guidelines.*

NOAA Cost Documentation

Jen Boyce informed the trustee council about a recent change in NOAA's voluntary practice for the Montrose case, whereby NOAA applies a reduced divisional overhead ("indirect") rate for NOAA labor. Typically NOAA has not charged the divisional overheads for people substantially dedicated to the project (e.g. program manager), and has charge 50% of the normal divisional overheads for people not substantially dedicated. It recently came to staff's attention that the 50% rate had been applied to both MSRP team members working under IMSG contracts (Dave, Milena), without considering whether they were "substantially dedicated". This was done for the 2006 and 2005 cost packages.

NOAA will reduce the divisional overhead to zero for Dave Witting, and retain the 50% rate for Milena and in the future for Gabrielle. Since the 2005 cost package was already accepted by the

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TC, the extra overhead charged for Dave (about \$49,000) for that year will appear as a credit in the 2006 NOAA cost package currently being prepared.

NFWF

NFWF's proposal, which they submitted to NOAA grants earlier this year, remains in review. A NOAA/NFWF cooperative agreement will probably be set up by November. In addition to the 10% administrative fee, NFWF has indicated they will charge an additional \$5,000-10,000 each to manage RFPs. However, NOAA considers this negotiable depending on how much planning and preparation is carried out by MSRP staff vs. NFWF.

Investments

TC will discuss longer-term investment strategies at the November meeting.

National Park Service 100th anniversary grants

NPS submitted applications for funds through grants available as part of the NPS 100th anniversary celebration.

One project will leverage Montrose seabird funding and funding for bald eagle restoration on Santa Cruz Island to (1) get additional money to fund another seabird person to work on additional monitoring, and on non-native removals; and (2) restore habitat for bald eagles.

In addition, MSRP funding for the Eagle CAM was used as match to apply for additional funds to expand the educational offerings of Channel Islands Live to include a curriculum for teachers to go along with the webcam.

Channel Islands Symposium

The Channel Islands Symposium is a good forum for agencies, contractors and partners to give talks and get papers published in proceedings. This year, the organizers are trying to keep the cost of the conference low to increase participation. NPS proposed that the council give \$5,000 to help with the proceedings, which could include several papers related to Montrose work on the islands, and could therefore serve as a good communication / outreach tool. Abstracts are due October 1st.

NPS also received \$15,000 to cover the costs of inviting Mexican scientists to participate in the symposium, likely individuals associated with on-island issues in Mexico. This could be a good forum to set up a discussion between those scientists and Montrose and other Councils that fund work in Mexico.

UPCOMING DATES

Monthly Conference call on August 16, 2007, at 2 pm
Trustee Council meeting on November 27 and 28, 2007 in Long Beach. First day will be bald eagle technical meeting and second day will be the 2008 Budget meeting.

DAY 2, JULY 20TH, LONG BEACH FEDERAL BUILDING

The Trustee Council met in an executive session in the morning, and toured the Huntington Beach Wetlands site in the afternoon.