

**Arcade Creek Watershed Group
Public Meeting
April 17, 2007, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Sacramento Horseman's Association**

Meeting Summary

The Arcade Creek Watershed Group met on April 17, 2008, to discuss the following agenda items:

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Meeting Purpose, Review of Agenda, and Review of August 16, 2007 Watershed Group Meeting Action Items
- III. Del Paso Park Wetland Project Status Report
- IV. Del Paso Park Wetland Project Interpretive Exhibit
- V. Arcade Creek Stream Corridor Management Plan
- VI. Other Updates
- VII. Next Steps and Review of Action Items

This meeting summary is based on the above meeting agenda. Any related discussion items are listed after each agenda item

I. Welcome and Introductions

Nicholas Dewar, from ICF Jones & Stokes, facilitated the meeting. Dewar thanked the Sacramento Horseman's Association for the use of their facility for the meeting. Self-introductions by watershed group members and other stakeholders followed.

II. Meeting Purpose, Review of Agenda, and Review of August 16, 2007 Watershed Group Meeting Action Items

Dewar presented the meeting purpose and reviewed the agenda. The meeting purpose was to maintain the Arcade Creek Watershed Group forum; provide a status report for the Del Paso Park Wetland Project; discuss interpretive exhibit ideas for the Del Paso Park Wetland Project; and discuss restoration opportunities and their priority, as identified in the Arcade Creek Stream Corridor Management Plan.

Dewar also provided an update on the action items from the August 16, 2007, watershed group meeting:

- *Arden Arcade Watershed – community wants to start a watershed group.* Request forwarded to appropriate County of Sacramento Water Resources Department staff.
- *Mowing 30-foot setback along Auburn Boulevard was done in previous years but not this year.* Mowing of a setback through Del Paso Park was undertaken by City Parks this year.

- *Explore adding a dog park to Del Paso Park.* A dog park is inconsistent with the planned uses for Del Paso Park.
- *It is important to lock parking lot at dusk to discourage illicit activities – check to see who will be ensuring that this happens.* City Parks unlocks the parking lot so it is available for planned activities at Henry Renfree ball field.
- *Will soil sampling occur in the Del Paso Park Wetland?* Sediment monitoring in the wetland basin is not proposed.
- *Check on use of Bridge Road Bridge by water trucks and other construction vehicles weighing in excess of five tons.* Given the weight restrictions of the bridge, water trucks weighing in excess of 5 tons should not be using the bridge.

III. Del Paso Park Wetland Project Status Report

Patrick Sanger, with the City of Sacramento Utilities Department, presented an update on the Del Paso Park Wetland Project. Construction on the wetland project was built between August and November 2007. The project complies with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. There are ADA-complaint parking spaces located off of Auburn Boulevard and trails from those parking spaces to the overlook at the top of the wetland basin. Storm flows damaged the wetland's outlet and the outlet was repaired using coconut matting and riprap to stabilize the outlet and minimize erosion. Otherwise, the wetland is performing as expected in this early stage of establishment. The temporary construction fence surrounding the wetland will be removed in June.

Discussion Questions

- Will the construction parking lot off of Auburn Boulevard be permanent?
 - Reply: No, the parking lot will be removed once the plant and wetland basin maintenance period is complete (November 1, 2010). The gravel from the parking lot can be removed or seeded over with a native cover crop mix.

IV. Del Paso Park Wetland Project Interpretive Exhibit

Karen Leone, with ICF Jones & Stokes, presented an update on the interpretive exhibit for the Del Paso Park Wetland Project. Currently, four interpretive exhibits are proposed and three would be mounted on the overlook rail and one would be free-standing and located near the wetland overlook. The free-standing exhibit would be approximately 24-inches by 36-inches in size and three exhibits mounted to the overlook railing would be smaller. The exhibits would feature four themes (one theme per exhibit): the importance of healthy watersheds to communities, wildlife habitat created by the wetland project, actions that individuals can undertake to improve water quality in local creeks, and Native American history of the Arcade Creek watershed. Leone asked if any members of the watershed group would be interested in working with ICF Jones & Stokes on the design of the exhibits and a volunteer was identified (Pat Olson).

Discussion Questions

- Can the exhibits be small?
 - Reply: Yes, that is open for discussion. At this time the free-standing exhibit is proposed to be 24-inches by 36-inches in size.
- Can use of a white border be minimized because it stands out too much?
 - Reply: Yes, a different color border can be used.
- Can the exhibits be low so that the view is not obscured, it is easier for children to see, and it is easier for people in wheelchairs to read?
 - Reply: The height of the free-standing exhibit from the ground is currently proposed to be 2.5 to 3 feet high. The height of the three exhibits on the overlook railing is based on the height of the railing.
- Ensure that the free-standing exhibit is high enough so that it clears a stirrup.
 - Reply: Yes, this can be done but guidance must be provided as to a suitable height.

V. Arcade Creek Stream Corridor Management Plan

Jeff Peters, with ICF Jones & Stokes, presented information on the restoration opportunities field mapping for Cripple Creek, a major tributary to Arcade Creek (this information was not available at the time of the last watershed management group meeting) and restoration opportunities identified as part of preparation of the Draft Arcade Creek Existing Conditions Assessment Report/Stream Corridor Management Plan. The six primary categories of restoration activities and examples presented included:

- Removal of invasive vegetation and revegetate with native species;
- Removal of trash/debris/old structures in channel;
- Stabilization of stream banks (removal or restoration of hardscaped areas on stream banks, replacement of pipe outfalls in poor condition);
- Control of runoff from parking lots and other paved areas;
- Restoration of recreational trails; and
- Other restoration opportunities (e.g., channel widening).

A hard copy handout of a map set showing the restoration opportunities was provided to meeting participants and they were encouraged to comment on the map set and give feedback on the prioritization of restoration efforts along the stream corridor. The map set is also available at arcadecreek.org.

Discussion Questions

- Can the Del Paso Park Wetland Project be added to the maps?
 - Reply: Yes.
- Are restoration opportunities present on Cripple Creek?

- Reply: Yes, Group should look at the maps.
- Where did invasive vegetation along the creek come from?
 - Reply: Many of the invasive plant species that were mapped during the 2007 field survey work are horticultural varieties that residents have planted as landscape plants. Over time, these plants have spread into the stream corridor.
- Can the web site link to National Public Radio's web site page where invasive plants are discussed by region?
 - Reply: The watershed coordinator will check to see if this is possible. This will be noted as an action item.

VI. Other Updates

Sanger led a brainstorm on how the watershed group could attract more members and become more active in issues facing the Arcade Creek watershed. The Group in general thought the watershed group forum was important to this end but also said that many of their neighbors had become discouraged over years because of limited progress due to funding and jurisdictional issues.

Many homeowners on Park Road have lived there for 30 years or more and their biggest concern with the stream corridor is the illicit activities that occur in Del Paso Park; these residents have seen some increased Police presence to address the illicit activities but the problem remains. One Group member pointed out that the Discovery Museum put a fence around themselves and stopped using a nature trail behind the museum because of illicit activities along the creek in that section of Del Paso park. Sanger said that when more legitimate uses are fostered in an area, illegitimate uses usually decline. It was hoped that between the construction of the Del Paso Park Wetland Project and the invasive plant species removal efforts in the park (planned for the fall), more legitimate users would be encouraged to visit the park.

Other homeowners who live more closely to the creek than the Park Road homeowners are more concerned about localized flooding that affects their property and many have tried to protect their property themselves rather than relying on local agencies to provide the flood protection.

Local agencies need to start doing things right along the creek. One Group member brought up the proposed disc golf course planned for Del Paso Park and how this was not a good idea (completion of the the disc golf course in the park has since been put on hold by the City in response to stakeholder concerns).

VII. Next Steps and Review of Action Items

Watershed Group Future Meeting Schedule. Dewar and Group confirmed continued practice of scheduling future watershed group meetings around deliverables and agreed the next meeting would be held when the invasive plant species control plan was ready to be presented to the Group.

Review of Action Items. Dewar reviewed action items and confirmed responsible parties.

- Investigate if the project web site can link to the National Public Radio web site page where invasive species are discussed by region. Responsible party: Wilson.
- Encourage involvement of local boards and agencies in Arcade Creek watershed group. Responsible party: Wilson.
- Provide historical photographs of the Arcade Creek stream corridor to Wilson. Responsible party: All meeting participants.
- E-mail additional contacts to Wilson. Responsible party: All meeting participants.
- Watershed group members willing to staff an Arcade Creek “Creek Week” table at the Discovery Museum should contact Wilson for support. Responsible party: All meeting participants.

Meeting Attendee

Teri Burns
Nicholas Dewar
Anne Geraghty
Karen Leone
Pat Olson
Jeff Peters
Cindy Pridmore
Patrick Sanger
Randy Smith
Mary Tappel
Dave Toland
Alta Tura
Myrtle Widmark
Frank Wallace

Affiliation

Sacramento Horseman’s Association
ICF Jones & Stokes
Walk Sacramento
ICF Jones & Stokes
Sacramento Horseman’s Association
ICF Jones & Stokes
Homeowner
City of Sacramento, Department of Utilities
Homeowner
Homeowner
Sacramento Horseman’s Association
Sacramento Urban Creeks Council
Homeowner
Sacramento Weed Warriors