

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee**  
**Minutes -- March 23, 2010**

Glenn Bailey chaired the meeting, which commenced at 6:50PM. A quorum was established. Other voting members attending were Sharon Ford, Steve Hartman, Muriel Kotin, Robert Munsey and Rosemarie White. Non-voting members, guests and alternates were Patrick Aubuchon, Kerri Barton, Snowdy Dodson, Waldemar (Val) Sikorski, and Jeremy Thomas. It was noted that an organization must attend 4 within last 8 meetings to maintain active status.

Minutes of the Meeting February 23, 2010: Minutes were approved after correcting the spelling of our website under Public Recreational Use Plan of 1987.

Announcements:

SFVAS's Wildlife Reserve Cleanup will be Saturday April 10 from 8:30 - noon. LAAS will co-sponsor.

The Valley Water Expo will be held Thursday evening of April 22 at the Balboa Sports Center. See [valleywaterexpo.blogspot.com](http://valleywaterexpo.blogspot.com).

CNPS Wildflower Show is April 3 and 4 from 10 - 4 at Malibu Bluffs Park.

Sierra Club is sponsoring a legal workshop March 27 at Loyola.

Public Comment: Val Sikorski, photographer, spoke of being appalled by the illegal behavior going on in the Wildlife Reserve. He has been doing surveillance since the summer of 2009 and has posted photographs. Steve H has now posted them on the SepulvedaBasinWildlife.org website. One series shows a coot killed by beer bottle for fun by men who were hunting with a sling shot several days later. Fishing by many different means happens often. Dogs are trained to hunt in the Wildlife Lake. Val said OPS often responds when he phones, but response is usually slow.

Proposed Northridge Cross Country Meet: Coach Don Strametz did not attend this meeting. Committee members expressed strong objections to such events in any part of the Wildlife Reserve. A run is scheduled for April 11 on the Bull Creek trail, presumably with a permit.

Army Corps of Engineers: Carvel Bass reported for the ACOE. Bull Creek's unexpected erosion and engineering problems are being investigated. By April 12, the Corps will have more information internally from its hydraulic engineers. The Bull Creek project was turned over to the City of LA last year. The city took over the landscaping last week. The contractor and city will do a final walkthrough on plantings and irrigation with Marina Landscape tomorrow. Ed Louie is the project manager for Bull Creek.

Snowdy pointed out that Bull Creek appears to be a flawed project. The oxbow is entirely silted in and will not carry water. It is too high. Steve suggested that much of the silt may be ash that fell on the SFV from the Station Fire.

Glenn suggested there should be an operational agreement between city and corps for Bull Creek, similar to the 1987 Public Recreational Use Plan Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area. He would like this committee to have a part in the dialog.

Erosion is occurring along the LA River near Woodley Lakes Golf Course. Wildlife Lake: it seems like the rules need to be dusted off and used.

There may be a movie shoot on the top of the dam in a few weeks.

ACOE/R&P Lease: Glenn pointed out that the lease requires a specific written permission from the ACOE for any event anywhere in Sepulveda Basin for over 1,000 people. The City permits say the ACOE permission is required. Carvel said the ACOE should give approval prior to permit. Jeremy said it's being discussed now by city and corps. Carvel will check about the 1,000 person events.

**Major maintenance by the city throughout the Wildlife Reserve should be coordinated with the ACOE's Carvel Bass or Katie Parks.**

The South Reserve is on the books as a Corps maintenance area. The only maintenance they do is to trim back plants along the road. The city sometimes helps with the trimming.

Tillman Water Reclamation Plant Expansion: Glenn asked where it will be located. Carvel said several alternatives are being considered. They're deciding what alternatives will be included in the Environmental Assessment. Carvel will find out the status of scoping for next month's meeting. Rules protecting recreational land may mean that some locations are precluded.

Consortium Meeting: The Steering Committee adjourned temporarily and a meeting of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Consortium was called to order. Steve explained his request to fund Bill Neill's control of weeds in the WR and Bull Creek. This is a very wet rainy season, causing greater than normal weed growth. Also Bull Creek Restoration Project has expanded our areas of responsibility. Control now will save us money in the long run. The account balance is approximately \$30,000. **A motion that the consortium approves up to \$4800 over the next 8 months for weed control within Sepulveda Basin using Bill Neill of Riparian Repairs passed 4-1.** The Consortium meeting was adjourned

Steering Committee Meeting Resumed:

Sepulveda Basin Master Plan Update Public Meeting #3: Date was changed to April 24, 2010.

Hummingbird Hill Replanting: Steve announced that the city has planted out some California native plants. More replanting is planned.

The Unauthorized Cricket Field: This continues to be used for organized games as observed by Steve, Glenn and Muriel. The committee requests that OPS take action. R&P have requested same. Glenn will request.

Committee Mailing List for Hard Copies: We would like to help R&P update this.

Tillman Expansion: Glenn asked if we would like to have Sanitation make a presentation next time. Yes.

Recreation & Parks: Jeremy discussed the Bull Creek Project further. Tomorrow's walkthrough will largely be on irrigation. The contractor says they won't come out any more if they're not getting paid.

Management of the WR has been turned over to Jeremy, but not the lake.

Everyone from Steve Moe's department but 1 full timer and 1 part timer has retired. Steve H observed that the boat wasn't really going out to test the water - for the 2 days he was in the WR recently, weeding.

Gene Greene told Glenn Bailey that the electric cart has a flat tire.

Glenn pointed out many areas of missing railings between Woodley #4 and the WR, with informal paths leading into the WR. The committee approved R&P putting up hurricane fencing there if replacement railings are not available.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Submitted by

Muriel S. Kotin, Member Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee