

**Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee**  
**Meeting November 24, 2015 -- Approved Minutes**

Chair Steve Hartman called the meeting to order at 6:33. Attending were other voting members Glenn Bailey, William Bowling, Theresa Brady, Muriel Kotin, Robert Munsey and Joe Phillips. Non-voting member was Jesse Casillas. Guests and alternates were Patricia Bates, Bruce Campbell, Carrie Carrier, Irina Irvine, Karen Maish, Bill Neill, Kris Ohlenkamp, Susan Schalbe, Evelyn Solano, David Troy, and Chris Trent.

LAPD Officers Solano and Gadsby: Evelyn Solano has received emails about drones and kite fighting. Abrasive glass fragments used on the strings; dangerous to humans and wildlife. There's nothing to prohibit kite fighting in LAMCs. Would like to amend. The relevant city council members are Koretz and Martinez. Currently police are trying to ascertain where the kite fighting is occurring. Call 1 877 ASK LAPD if we observe. Drones are not addressed in LAMC. There may be an amendment in the works. FAA says no drones within 3-5 miles of an airport. She recently instructed a group of drone flyers to apply for a permit to use drones in the old corn maze area.

For the Amphitheater Area, Officer Solano reported that there is a known transient who continuously leaves behind trash and large bulky items within the amphitheater area, which has generated several complaints. As a result of complaints and the amount of items at the location, during LAPD's clean up details, the items are placed in large trash bags and placed near trash cans so the known transient can pick them up or dispose of them. The transient has been advised that he can't keep anything in the amphitheater area -- on notice. There was cleanup by R&P at Burbank and Hayvenhurst, not in WR yet. A group of gang members also are hanging out around the amphitheater. People are charging their phones in city's electrical outlets in amphitheater area. She spoke to Charles Singer, Principal for R&P about the outlets. They are there for educational programs and permitted events. He is not amenable to deactivating. Suggestion: a

circuit breaker inside the Storeroom that can be turned on by RAP only for scheduled events.

There are people who fly drones in the model airplane area -- not a problem for RAP. Comment from audience in defense of homeless having possessions, asking the committee to provide housing for homeless. Evelyn is concerned about danger to dam from homeless persons' debris and to the safety of the homeless with the El Nino. Also from audience, concern about high school kids doing drugs at Bull Creek. LAPD does patrol and tells the kids to go to school. If this behavior is observed, call 877 ASK LAPD. Glenn found ordinance on unmanned aircraft-- to become effective Dec 2: LAMC Section 56.3.

Minutes of 9/29/15 were corrected and approved.

Announcements:

- Bill Bowling reported for FoLAR that they got a permit and started a two-year fish study in Sepulveda Basin. They caught 3,400 fish (and a drone) in their nets, mainly juvenile tilapia. City of LA stocked the LA River with tilapia in 1973-1974 to control mosquitos and algae.
- Carrie: Topanga Chamber of Commerce having a party Dec 12.
- Glenn: County is doing a series of workshops to identify park needs, projects. Dec. 10 at 7PM, Balboa Sports Center on Sepulveda Basin. Other dates and locations. Neighborhood Councils are rating city services; survey available.
- Terrie: Save Porter Ranch is working on So Cal Gas Co leak.

Chair for Next Year: Joe Phillips is willing and will become chair January 1st. Steve H will assist him.

Management of Invasive Plants by National Park Service: Irina Irvine, Restoration Ecologist for SMM NRA, spoke on how do you maintain biodiversity in the face of climate change, invasive species and financial and manpower constraints? Sta. Monica Mts. are a hotspot of species diversity. Focus is on species that are capable to alter the environment. There are 25 target species. They use an

integrated pest management approach with many tools. Herbicides are one of the tools. Often they cut down the invasives, then apply herbicides. Irina does not consider herbicides to be only a last resort. Controlling what you need to control in a highly targeted fashion is the way to go. She could not do her job without herbicide. Bird surveys often needed. Fish and other aquatic species must not be disturbed.

*Glyphosate?* NPS and Forest Service are waiting to see what EPA determines. EPA has not found any endocrine disrupting. Next month a ruling on carcinogen. Meanwhile NPS and Forest Service continue to use it. Amounts NPS applies are negligible compared to amounts applied in agriculture.

For Castor Bean *Triclopyr* is best remedy but can't be used near water. SMM is still in process of developing a formal plant management plan. They must always follow the parameters and directions on the label. Is there any danger to weeders handling plants killed by herbicide? Not with gloves on after waiting several weeks after application. Varies with type of pesticide -- longer if oil based. Applicator must have proper certification. Good oversight is used by NPS. Some chemicals available over the counter are ones NPS would not use. To go with only weeding, you would need a 5 - 10 year commitment to remove every targeted weed before it goes to seed.

Bill Neill on Injector Technology: Evergreen ash has sprouted up on the west bank of Haskell Creek. About 20 feet from water, but within riparian corridor. Normally he would use *Garlon*. Injector system provides even less exposure to wildlife. He injects a mixture of wax and herbicide directly into the tree. *Imazapyr* is what he used on ailanthus, could use *Garlon 4*. It is systemic, meaning most of it goes to the roots, and is rapid.

Angel Fest, a musical festival to be presented Oct. 7-9, 2016 in Woodley Park:  
The Make Good Group, a social impact company. Use pop culture to foster environment, to green companies and organizations. This event to showcase LA's parks, with Community service cleaning up Haskell Creek. Want to use Woodley I,

II, III and IV. Want to stage trailers behind archery range. Stages all over the place, including corn maze. Focus on 18 - 24 year old audience. [Note from Charles Singer, Superintendent of Recreation Operations, Valley Region: ... regarding the Angelfest special event ..., let me clarify - the target audience is actually 18-50 years old with areas for the entire family. Many of the acts peaked many years ago.] Parking on Woodley Lakes Golf and Model Airplane Field, Hjelte Park, Pierce College, etc. 65K people each day, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Incentive to those using public transportation. They will double fence the Wildlife Area, extra Rangers to keep people out. Speakers aimed downward, rather than at the Wildlife Reserve. Set up time 15 days, 20+ to take down. Sections of the park will close in stages. Would they be able to make a huge contribution to the Consortium? Much of proceeds will go to R&P through Park Foundation. Help fund Woodcrete fencing of WR? Tabling opportunities. They suggested we ask Fran Pavley about the leader's bona fides. Disruptions to Audubon walks and SBEEP training, possibly start of SBEEP programs. There is a long EA. Largely an evening event. Biggest impact will be around 11PM when people leave. Impacts on wildlife from parking on the grass at Woodley Golf. They would like this to be an annual event. \$295 for 3 day ticket, \$125 for daily ticket. They want to mow some areas of model airplane field for parking, otherwise parking on Encino Golf. Woodley will be closed from Thurs Ave - until Monday Morning. Burbank will be closed.

Propane Flame Weeding as Proposed by Steve H: Jesse says Jeremy will not approve, as he has many concerns about safety, igniting a wildfire. Steve is disappointed. Steve hoped to control the mustard with the Flame. Bill Neill uses around 2 gallons of herbicides per year.

Signage: Jesse reported that Jeremy says it isn't going to happen. Steve suggested we do some research on the genesis of the WR and communicate to RAP.

Chair Position: Steve H turned over the chairmanship to Joe. Steve was just elected president of California State CNPS.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58PM.

Submitted by

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