

HABITAT CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
for the Washington County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)
Work meeting – July 22, 2008

A work meeting of the Habitat Conservation Advisory Committee (HCAC) was held in the County Commissioner's Chambers at the Washington County Administration Building, 197 E. Tabernacle St., on JULY 22, 2008.

Committee members present were:

Chris Blake, Vice Chairman	Environmental Organization
Marc Mortensen	Citizen-at-Large
Jeff Morby	Local Development
Larry Crist	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Reed Harris	Utah Dept. of Natural Resources (UDNR)
Todd Christensen	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Bill Mader, Administrator	Washington County - HCP

Absent and excused:

Karl Wilson, Chairman	Mayors Association
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Also present were:

Ann McLuckie	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR)
Alan Gardner	Washington County Commissioner
Bob Sandberg	Washington County - HCP
Tom Webster	Washington County - HCP
Brad Young, Recorder	Washington County - HCP

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Chris Blake noted that at least five committee members were present and a quorum existed. He called the meeting to order at 9:37 A.M. Chairman Wilson's absence was excused. Todd Christensen joined the meeting at 11:15 A.M.

SYNOPSIS

The topics of this work meeting were a discussion on the 2009 budget and fencing priorities. No motions or decisions were made. Bill Mader distributed the handouts – Exhibits 1-a through 1-g HCAC Wrk Mtng – 072208.

DISCUSSION

a. BUDGET:

Chris referred to Exhibit 1-g and asked Bill to lead the discussion on each line item.

Bill went down the list of the 2009 proposed budget. The members discussed the current budget amount and the proposed amount for each line item.

Under *Printing*, Marc advocated and emphasized a less expensive trail map to be provided to the public free of charge. Commissioner Gardner and Bill agreed.

The members discussed the impact of fire on habitat and tortoise populations. Fire prevention, fire management and post-fire restoration and reseeding were emphasized. The Cottonwood Road is considered a critical fire break.

Guidance and recommendations on the proposed budget were provided.

b. FENCING:

The members referred to a large map of the reserve. The map showed the perimeter fencing and gaps where fencing was absent or not necessary.

The members discussed the continuing need to fence the gaps to prevent tortoises from leaving the reserve and to control ATV traffic. Not all the reserve perimeter requires fencing because the gap may be a cliff face or because the tortoise population in that area is considered very low density.

A goal was established to complete the required perimeter fencing by the end of 2009.

c. OTHER BUSINESS:

Chris asked for an update on the status of the land bill (Washington County Growth & Conservation Act of 2008). No one had anything certain. An update will be provided at the work meeting on August 26, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 A.M.

Minutes prepared by Brad Young.