



HCP's: Moving Across Boundaries

(DRAFT - As of 23 October 2009)

November 9-10, 2009

Beckman Center, San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park

Organizers: University of California Riverside's Center for Conservation Biology, University of California's Cooperative Extension and San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research

Concept document for the workshop

Existing and planned HCP's in southern California are working to varying degrees in isolation, with little coordination or interaction. Each HCP has different goals for management, monitoring, and, in counties where land acquisition is still underway, for selecting habitat to conserve. A further issue is conservation across the international border with Mexico, which has become more problematic with the building of the border fence that restricts animal movement and ecosystem processes.

These conservation issues fall under the general conceptual framework of transboundary processes, which will be the framework for our next HCP meeting. The meeting will start with conceptual presentations on transboundary processes, including landscape concepts of scaling, boundary ecology, and connectivity, and followed by transboundary examples that are particular to southern California. These include fire, air pollution, invasive species, and species migration.

The workshop will be divided into three sections: Session 1 that develops the conceptual issues, Session 2 on restoration and management case studies relating to transboundary issues and on plans for measuring success of HCP's, interfacing with adjacent HCP's and criteria for selecting and purchasing habitat (biological and landscape issues), and Session 3 with discussion groups to define the issues to be resolved for better coordination among plans.

The focal regions for Session 3 are those in southern California that already have HCP's in place, or nearly so. These are San Diego Co., Orange Co., Western Riverside Co., and the Coachella Valley. Other counties (Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara) will be invited to participate in the discussion sessions. Speakers and discussants from Sacramento or other regional offices will help to provide overviews during discussion sessions.

Day One – 9 November, 2009

8:30am - Registration

Session 1: Transboundary Processes and Habitat Conservation Plans

(20min talks w/5min for questions/changeover)

- 9:00am Welcome-Introduction: HCPs and Transboundary Processes
Michael F. Allen, UC Riverside & Allison Alberts, San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research
- 9:30am Spatial distribution and habitat connectivity
Seth Riley, USGS
- 9:55am Corridors, fragmentation, and species conservation across boundaries
Doug Bolger, Dartmouth College
Jane Block Distinguished Lecture Series Speaker
- 10:20am Reintroduction of animals: transboundary considerations
Debra Shier, San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research
- 10:45am BREAK
- 11:15am Gene flow across boundaries
Oliver Ryder, San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research
- 11:30am Disease as a transboundary process
Tom Scott, UC Berkeley & UC Riverside
- 11:55am Species invasions across boundaries
Cameron Barrows, UC Riverside
- 12:20 – 1:20pm LUNCH
- 1:20pm Air pollution, nitrogen deposition, and the invasive species connection
Edie Allen, UC Riverside
- 1:45pm Fire as a transboundary conservation issue
Helen Regan, UC Riverside
- 2:10pm Plant restoration: transboundary issues
Bryan Endress, San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research
- 2:35pm Climate change and rare species shifts
John Rotenberry, UC Riverside
- 3:00pm BREAK

Session 2: Status of regional HCPs: Measuring success, interfacing with adjacent HCP's, criteria for selecting and purchasing habitat (biological and landscape issues)

- 3:25pm Summary of issues in Baja California
Ricardo Rodriguez-Estrella, CIBNOR La Paz
- 3:50pm Summary of San Diego MHCP
Keith Greer, San Diego MHCP
- 4:15pm Summary of the Western Riverside Co. MSHCP
Charles Landry, WRC Regional Conservation Authority
- 4:45pm Tour of Beckman Center Research Facility (*Optional*)
- 6:00pm *DINNER (Optional – reservations required)*

Day Two – 10 November 2009

- 9:00am Summary of the Coachella Valley HCP
Katie Barrows, Coachella Valley Association of Governments
- 9:25am Summary of Orange Co. NCCP
Kris Preston, UC Riverside & Natural Reserve of Orange County
- 9:50am Reserve design for the Florida scrub jay, Florida HCP issues
Reed Bowman, Archbold Research Station
- 10:45am *BREAK*

Session 3: Panel groups

- 11:10am Panel 1: Monitoring for connectivity and process functionality
Oliver Ryder, San Diego Zoo's Institute for Conservation Research
Amy Vandergast, USGS Western Ecological Research Center
- 12:00 *LUNCH*
- 1:00pm Panel 2: Habitat connectivity and management across boundaries
Cameron Barrows, UC Riverside
Reed Bowman, Archbold Research Station
- 1:50pm Panel 3: Integrating ecological processes across jurisdictional boundaries
Brenda Johnson, California Department of Fish & Game
Pete Stine, USDA Forest Service
- 2:45pm Wrap Up and Workshop Evaluations
Jeff Opdycke & Edith Allen