Conservation Biology Lab 406L/506L

Friday 1230 -> Sunday sunset
Meet 1230h S or W side BSE (4th and Highland)
Hat, water, sunscreen, close-toed shoes
Lunch, snacks, weather gear, ($?)
Add camping gear and food!

Readings on Course Website:
Las Cienegas, Ranching, San Pedro

The Las Cienegas NCA includes a variety of unique and rare vegetative communities including five of the rarest habitat types in the American Southwest: cienegas (marshlands), cottonwood-willow riparian forests, sacaton grasslands, mesquite bosques, and semi-desert grasslands.
Debate 20 Sept 2007:
Should the flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*) be ESA listed?

Three groups – one will debate, another will evaluate, third will observe, then we rotate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debate 1 (20 Sept.)</th>
<th>Debate 1 (20 Sept.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A debate</td>
<td>506 A assist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B evaluate</td>
<td>506 B assist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group C observe</td>
<td>506 C observe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debate 2 (23 Oct.)</th>
<th>Debate 2 (23 Oct.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A observe</td>
<td>506 A observe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B debate</td>
<td>506 B assist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group C evaluate</td>
<td>506 C assist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debate 3 (15 Nov.)</th>
<th>Debate 3 (15 Nov.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A evaluate</td>
<td>506 A assist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B observe</td>
<td>506 B observe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group C debate</td>
<td>506 C assist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Short paper suggestions:

Choose a thesis to support and state it upfront, then defend it.

A catchy title.

Name, Date, One Page, Double Space

Best papers supported their arguments with one or two other sources. Use citation format of Conservation Biology articles.

Review Essay and Paragraph structural suggestions.

Proofread.
http://www.pima.gov/cmo/sdcp/

Date: August 14, 2006

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
   Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
      County Administrator

Re: Draft Multi-Species Conservation Plan

Introduction

Attached is the draft Multi-Species Conservation Plan that Pima County will submit to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for a Section 10 permit. The permit package will also contain the Environmental Impact Statement, which belongs to the Service, and an Implementation Agreement that delineates obligations in a phased approach. Earlier drafts of the Multi-Species Conservation Plan have been published in 2003, 2005, and in January of 2006 as part of the extensive process of developing scientific information and inviting public review and comment.
Biological Basis of the **Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan**

Thanks to Bob Steidl and others…
SDCP Biological Goal

Ensure the long-term survival of the full spectrum of plants and animals that are indigenous to Pima County...

Approach

• Select elements for planning
• Establish quantifiable goals
• Develop explicit rules for reserve design process
• Organize, synthesize, and acquire information
• Evaluate
• Establish, Monitor, Manage
Select Species

- Regionally “vulnerable” species
- Short-list of 55 species

*Species chosen should have little influence on ultimate reserve design*

Species List

- 9 mammals
- 8 birds
- 7 reptiles
- 2 frogs
- 6 fish
- 16 invertebrates
- 7 plants

- 7 bats
- 6 riparian
- 3 riparian
- all riparian
- all riparian
- mostly snails
- 2 riparian

>60% of plants and vertebrates associated with riparian environments
Species Information

- Natural history accounts
- Species-environment matrix
- Decide best method by which to achieve goals for each species
- Less helpful if:
  - either rare or common
  - on lands that are protected or off-limits
  - limited natural-history information
- Reduced from 55 to 44 species

Land Cover
Species Distributions

• Based on models rather than known locations or published distributions
• Developed to predict species distributions based on potential habitat
• Input and evaluation by experts
  – Habitat associations, known distribution
• Iterate
• Combine to identify areas of high species richness

Species Richness, 1 or more
Species Richness, 2 or more

Species Richness, 3 or more
Species Richness, 4 or more

Species Richness, 5 or more
Biological Core

Species Richness – Expert Opinion

Summary of Priority Conservation Areas
All Priority Vulnerable Species
Biologically Preferred

Riparian as Foundation for Linkages
List of Vital Signs
Vital Signs in (parentheses) are not currently monitored by SOEN, but may be monitored by individual Parks or other agencies.

Air Quality and Climate
- Wet and Dry Deposition
- Visibility and Particulate Matter
- Broad-Scale Climate
- Meso-Scale Climate

Geology and Soils
- Upland Soil Movement
- Biological Soil Crusts
- Soil Aggregate Stability
- Soil Compaction
- Soil Cover
- Soil Organic Matter Content
- Soil Carbon and Nitrogen Content

Water Quality and Quantity
- Surface Water Dynamics
- Core Water Quality Parameters
- Nutrient Loading
- Pollutant Metals
- Microorganisms
- Aquatic Macroinvertebrates and Algae
- Carcinogens and Toxins
- Suspended Sediments
NEPA, NEPA, NEPA!!!!

An EIS includes…

• Project goals and objectives
• Resources that might be affected
• Alternative ways to try to achieve the goals
• Environmental impacts that are likely to occur under each alternative
• Potential mitigation
The public gets to review the EIS and make comments.
The agency has to take these comments into account before deciding upon an alternative.

Summary

• The EIS is supposed to help agencies decide how they can achieve their goals, taking all environmental impacts into account, with input from the people who are going to be affected (the public).
**EIS drawbacks?**

- The EIS is supposed to help agencies decide how they can achieve their goals, taking all environmental impacts into account, with input from the people who are going to be affected (the public).
Fujicolor Processing Pleads Guilty to Environmental Crime
Release date: 09/06/2007
Contact Information: Roxanne Smith, (202) 564-4355 / smith.roxanne@epa.gov

(Washington, D.C. - Sept. 6, 2007) Fujicolor Processing agreed to pay a $200,000 criminal fine for discharging excessive amounts of silver-tainted photo processing waste to a Texas wastewater treatment plant, the Justice Department and Environmental Protection Agency announced today.

Fujicolor pleaded guilty to one count of negligently violating a requirement of its pretreatment permit at its photo-processing facility in Terrell, Texas.

Based on an internal investigation, Fujicolor discovered that from 1999 through July 2002 employees were selectively reporting to the city only test results that fell within permit limits. Industrial facilities report results to local agencies for permit compliance purposes. Employees would send part of a sample to a laboratory for screening and, if the sample met permit limits, it would be submitted to the city. If a sample did not meet the silver limit, employees would keep collecting samples until they found one that fell within allowable limits. Fujicolor discovered similar problems at its facilities in New Britain, Conn., and Tukwila, Wash.

"By 'cherry-picking' samples, Fuji's employees undermined federal and state permit programs," said Granta Nakayama, assistant administrator for the EPA's enforcement and compliance assurance program.

EPA requires that industry pre-treat toxic pollutants chemicals in their wastes in order to protect local sewers and wastewater treatment plants. Local agencies must regulate industrial facilities by issuing permits, conducting inspections, sampling wastewater and reviewing each facility's monitoring data.

In July 2002, the city of Terrell fined the facility $105,725 for exceeding its monthly limit for silver, based on samples submitted by the facility.

Fujicolor disclosed the findings of its investigation to federal and local officials. The company has since taken action to address the environmental problems, including firing employees responsible for violations and putting safeguards in place to prevent additional violations.

This investigation was conducted by the EPA's Criminal Investigations Division, and the Texas Department of Environmental Quality. The case was prosecuted by the U.S. Department of Justice Environmental Crimes Section and the U.S. Attorneys Office for the Northern District of Texas.

The endangered species program
http://www.fws.gov/endangered/

“Taking”
Shoot, Shovel, Shut Up

Led to Habitat Conservation Planning (HCP)
Incidental Take Permits (e.g., SDCP with mitigation)

San Bruno Mtns
-negotiate, compromise, all parties involved

“No Surprises”
MOAs
Safe Harbor Agreements

Need to include and motivate private landowners
Pre- Endangered Species Act of 1973 Legislation

• Lacey Act - 1900. Authorized Federal enforcement of state wildlife laws and based on Federal power to regulate interstate commerce.

• Committee on Rare and Endangered Wildlife Species 1964 - consists of 9 biologist - published the first “Redbook” - first Federal list of fish and wildlife considered threatened with extinction.

Pre- Endangered Species Act of 1973 Legislation

• Lacey Act - 1900.

• Committee on Rare and Endangered Wildlife Species 1964

• 1966 Endangered Species Preservation Act - Federal agencies must conserve habitats of native vertebrate species found by the Secretary of the Interior to be in danger of Extinction to the extent “Practicable and consistent” with the primary purposes of the Federal agencies.
Pre- Endangered Species Act of 1973 Legislation

- 1969 *Endangered Species Conservation Act* - extended protection to invertebrates, and extended the Lacey Act’s prohibitions to cover *interstate commerce* in illegally taken reptiles, amphibians, and certain invertebrates. Also took *Global View* - authorized Secretary to make a list of species threatened with worldwide extinction and with limited exceptions permitted the Secretary to prohibit imports of such species or their products into the U.S.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as Amended

- Largest controversy involved whether protection should be extended to *plants*.

- Not seen as a large economic issue. *Passed Senate unanimously, passed House overwhelmingly*

- Signed into law on December 28, 1973
Endangered Species Act of 1973, as Amended

- Jointly administered by Secretaries of Interior and Commerce (Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service)

- Amended many times.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as Amended

- Section 3. Definitions
- Section 4. Determination of endangered species and threatened species (Listing)
- Section 5. Land acquisition
- Section 6. Cooperation with States
- Section 7. Interagency cooperation
- Section 8. International cooperation
- Section 8A. Convention implementation
- Section 9. Prohibited Acts
- Section 10. Exceptions
- Section 11. Penalties and enforcement
- Section 12. Endangered Plants
Section 4, ESA

Listing Species Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, As Amended
5 Listing Factors

1. The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;

2. Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;

3. Disease or predation;

4. The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms;

5. Other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

Section 7, ESA

Interagency cooperation
Section 10, ESA

Exceptions

10(a)(1)(A) – Recovery Permits
10(a)(1)(B) - HCP

(SDCP: Multi-species HCP)

Recovery Planning
Mount Graham Red Squirrel
*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus grahamensis*

- Listed as endangered in 1987

*Photo: Paul Young*
Mount Graham Red Squirrel
*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus grahamensis*

- Restricted to:
  - Spruce-Fir
  - Transition
  - Mixed Conifer

- Above 8000 ft
Revised Mount Graham Red Squirrel  
(Tamiasciurus hudsonicus grahamensis) Recovery Plan

-Technical Subteam

• Squirrel biologists  
• Silviculturalist  
• Fire Ecologist  
• Forest health specialist  
• Conservation biologists  
• Population biologists  
• Entomologists
For more information on the State Water Contractors, please visit http://www.swc.org.

Collectively the State Water Contractors deliver water to more than 25 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural lands. An association of 27 public agencies from Northern, Central and Southern California that purchase water under contract from the California State Water Project.

Deltas failing condition has made it an increasingly unreliable pathway for delivering water to 25 million Californians, businesses and farms throughout the state. This unprecedented cutback in our statewide water supply, forcing local water agencies to scramble to identify back up water sources and find ways to lessen direct impacts on their customers," said Laura King Moon. "Never, in California's history, have we had a court impose such a massive reduction in the water use and it is not clear that even this extraordinary action will save the Delta smelt given all the other threats to its existence." Local water agencies will have to rely on contingency and emergency sources of water, including local groundwater and storage supplies, to lessen direct impacts on their customers. However, by doing so, they will exhaust or significantly limit supplies that would be needed for a drought or major catastrophe, such as an earthquake, major flood event, etc. Local agencies are particularly concerned about depleting their back-up reserves during the current drought - 2007 is the driest year on record for parts of California. "The cutback considerably increases the chances of severe water use restrictions at the local level – water agencies can only rely on emergency or contingency sources for so long," added Moon. This significant reduction in water supply will be experienced in the Bay Area, Central and Southern California. The SWP is a critical source of water for the majority of California, providing water to two out of every three people (approximately 25 million residents), irrigating 750,000 acres of prime agricultural lands and directly supporting $400 million of the state's trillion-dollar economy. "Farms, businesses and people will all feel the impacts of this ruling," added Moon. "The ripple effects will undoubtedly harm our state economy and cause loss of jobs. The most immediate impact of the court ruling will be in agricultural communities as farmers in the San Joaquin Valley, Inland Empire and San Diego regions are forced to abandon crop planting this coming winter and spring. Urban water users will need to conserve water during this critical time period. In some regions, consumers may be asked for more stringent water restrictions, including rationing, and may experience increased costs. Throughout the coming weeks, local public water agencies will be assessing direct impacts of the court ruling to their regions and customers, including potential impacts on local economic growth. As background, Judge Wanger ruled, in May 2007, that the existing 2005 biological opinion for Delta smelt that would be needed for a drought or major catastrophe, such as an earthquake, major flood event, etc. Local agencies are particularly concerned about depleting their back-up reserves during the current drought - 2007 is the driest year on record for parts of California. "The cutback considerably increases the chances of severe water use restrictions at the local level – water agencies can only rely on emergency or contingency sources for so long," added Moon. This significant reduction in water supply will be experienced in the Bay Area, Central and Southern California. The SWP is a critical source of water for the majority of California, providing water to two out of every three people (approximately 25 million residents), irrigating 750,000 acres of prime agricultural lands and directly supporting $400 million of the state's trillion-dollar economy. 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"Today's decision comes at a time when the Delta is in dire need of a fix, and the cutbacks ordered by the court only emphasize the instability of the Delta and the need for improvements to the state's broken conveyance system," added Moon. The Delta's failing condition has made it an increasingly unreliable pathway for delivering water to 25 million Californians, businesses and farms throughout the state. Aged and deteriorating levees, climate change, mounting regulatory uncertainties such as this most recent event and a struggling eco-system plague the Delta more so today than ever before. These unprecedented challenges need to be addressed responsibly and in a timely manner in order to avoid irreparable damages to California's water supply, environment, public health, statewide economy and infrastructure system. The State Water Contractors is a non-profit association of 27 public agencies from Northern, Central and Southern California that purchase water under contract from the California State Water Project. Collectively the State Water Contractors deliver water to more than 25 million residents throughout the state and more than 750,000 acres of agricultural lands.
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has completed a final rule designating 32 units of critical habitat along the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington for the Pacific coast population of the western snowy plover, a Federally threatened species. The critical habitat units total 12,145 acres, nearly 40 per cent less acreage than an earlier critical habitat plan the Service adopted in 1999.

Of the designated units, 24 are in California (7,472 acres), five are in Oregon (2,147 acres), and three are in Washington (2,526 acres). Of the total acreage, 2,479 acres (20 percent) are on Federal lands; 6,474 acres (53 percent) are owned by states or local agencies; and 3,191 acres (26 percent) are private.

Compared to the 1999 plan, today's action designates more critical habitat units but generally smaller ones, based on increased knowledge of the species' needs and better mapping. This new rule designates 32 units covering 12,145 acres, compared to 28 units covering 19,474 acres in the 1999 plan.

The rule will take effect 30 days after publication.

Some 2,859 acres of proposed critical habitat in six units were deleted based on the projected cost of designating critical habitat. An economic analysis prepared by Industrial Economics Inc. projected that critical habitat could cost between $273 million and $645 million, with the biggest costs due to beach recreation losses. More than three-quarters of the loss was found to occur in five proposed California critical habitat units, located on Coronado’s Silver Strand, Morro Bay, Pismo Beach, and two on Monterey Bay.

In addition, 615 acres were deleted because of management plans and commitments -- such as Habitat Conservation Plans -- and 1,621 acres were deleted because they are covered by military land management plans or national security needs.
The endangered species program
http://www.fws.gov/endangered/

"Taking"
Shoot, Shovel, Shut Up

Led to Habitat Conservation Planning (HCP)
Incidental Take Permits (e.g., SDCP with mitigation)

San Bruno Mtns
-negotiate, compromise, all parties involved

“No Surprises”
MOAs
Safe Harbor Agreements

International Conservation Laws and Treaties

Implementation, Compliance, Effectiveness
Fewer people and larger industry = easier

Intent and Capacity to comply
-incentives vs. coercion
1937 Whaling
1950 Birds
1958 Benelux (birds)
1973 Baltic Sea
1973 CITES (trade or species?)
Appendix I, II, III
1982 Antarctic Marine Resources
The CITES species

Roughly 5,000 species of animals and 20,000 species of plants are protected by CITES against over-exploitation through international trade. They are listed in the three CITES Appendices. The species are grouped in the Appendices according to how threatened they are by international trade. They include some whole groups, such as primates, cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises), sea turtles, parrots, corals, cash and orchids. But in some cases only a subspecies or geographically separate population of a species (for example, the population of just one country) is listed. The table below shows the approximate numbers of species that are included in the CITES Appendices as of present.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix I</th>
<th>Appendix II</th>
<th>Appendix III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mammals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>228 spp.</td>
<td>360 spp.</td>
<td>57 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 13 spp.</td>
<td>+ 34 spp.</td>
<td>+ 11 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 13 plains</td>
<td>+ 14 plains</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>146 spp.</td>
<td>1401 spp.</td>
<td>149 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 3 spp.</td>
<td>+ 9 spp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 2 plains</td>
<td>+ 1 plains</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reptiles</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 spp.</td>
<td>508 spp.</td>
<td>25 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 4 spp.</td>
<td>+ 3 spp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 4 plains</td>
<td>+ 4 plains</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphibians</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 spp.</td>
<td>50 spp.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 spp.</td>
<td>60 spp.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invertebrates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 spp.</td>
<td>2030 spp.</td>
<td>10 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 5 spp.</td>
<td>+ 1 spp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>298 spp.</td>
<td>28074 spp.</td>
<td>45 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 4 spp.</td>
<td>+ 3 spp.</td>
<td>+ 1 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 6 plains</td>
<td>+ 2 plains</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>827 spp.</td>
<td>32540 spp.</td>
<td>291 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 19 plains</td>
<td>+ 49 spp.</td>
<td>+ 12 spp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 19 plains</td>
<td>+ 19 plains</td>
<td>+ 2 plains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any type of wild plant or animal may be included in the list of species protected by CITES [see Resolution Conf. 6.24 (Rev. CoP13)] and the range of wildlife species included in the Appendices extends from leeches to lions and from pine trees to pitcher plants. While the more charismatic creatures, such as bears and wolves, may be the better known examples of CITES species, the most numerous groups include many less popularized plants and animals, such as aloes, corals, muscids and frogs.

Habitats and Ecosystems...

1971 Ramsar Wetlands (Iran)
119 countries
500 listed wetlands

1972 UN (UNEP)
United Nations Environmental Program
-include social issues
1992 Earth Summit (aka Rio Summit)
- Agenda 21
  (environment, social issues, poverty, technology transfer, sustainability, water, pollution)
- 178 Governments
- Developed countries aid developing
- Sustainable Development
- Polluter Pays
- Convention on Global Warming
- Convention on Biodiversity

1972 US Marine Mammal Protection Act
dolphins
tuna
international trade

1989 US Sea Turtle Act
shrimp
TED's
international trade
GATT (general agreement on tariffs and free trade)

-WTO - trade over environment
-Leadership vs. Imperialism