

Humboldt Bay Ecosystem-Based Management Program

Advisory Team Meeting Notes: July 25, 2008

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office, Arcata

May 9, 2008 Meeting Notes: No changes

Announcements:

- Trinidad-Westhaven Integrated Coastal Watershed Management Plan available online
- Humboldt Bay Stewards are sponsoring a public forum on the Redwood Dock Marine Terminal development, August 12 at the Wharfinger Building in Eureka from 6:30-8:30 PM.
- Harbor District meeting on July 24 public input regarding the Redwood Dock Marine Terminal proposed included a diverse range of comments regarding the business plan and suggestions for alternative proposals. The next meeting will be August 7 at a larger venue to accommodate more people. Public comments are being accepted through August 30.
- David Hull will present Redwood Terminal proposal to the Eureka City Council on August 19.
- EBM Cultural Roundtable August 20 at the Ag Center, Eureka. NOAA CSC and PlanWest will present historical information and results of recent survey regarding the human use patterns of Humboldt Bay. Contact Susan Schlosser by August 7 if you are interested in participating.
- Coastal Conservancy Board meeting in Eureka on September 25. Sheila Seemans and Paul Sheary have been invited to HSU for an overview of the university's programs and projects.
- Greg Crawford stated that the North Coast Marine Information System database is available for use online. This is a pilot project; HSU is looking for addition funding to expand the system.
- Yurok tribe is requesting a marine sanctuary be established on the Klamath River.
- MLPA process should start on the north coast in 2010; Ecotrust will conduct socio-economic surveys in 2009, prior to the beginning of the official process.

EBM Memorandum of Mutual Understanding (MOMU)-handout:

- Informal mechanism to take the EBM Program to the next step, an agreement to collaborate on further development of EBM Program; Joel Gerwein assisted the Implementation Subcommittee with the adaptation of the NCIWMP MOMU, revising sections to include specific details for the Humboldt Bay EBM Program. This type of agreement could assist with future funding.
- MOMU does not include process for forming the committee; subcommittee developed initial list of possible signatories: existing EBM Advisory Committee, Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation & Conservation District, City of Eureka, City of Arcata, Manila Community Services District, McKinleyville Community Services District, County of Humboldt, Reclamation District 768, Wiyot Tribe, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District, City of Blue Lake, Trinity County, Mendocino County, Lake County, California Department of Fish and Game, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Transportation, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Railroad Authority, California State Lands Commission, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Bureau of Land Management, United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
 - Possible additions: Trinidad Rancheria, City of Trinidad, State Parks, City of Ferndale, City of Fortuna, Bear River Rancheria, Cal Fire
- Other EBM programs structure: British Columbia has very structured organization; other groups have informal agreement that consist of an Advisory Team

Discussion:

- MOMU should be more inclusive of all groups rather than just institutional/agency; if the group is too structured is could be perceived as a regulatory body; include agricultural, ranchers, Resource Conservation District, aquaculture companies, non-governmental organizations.

- Need more involvement from the community for program to progress, significant representation to show power, blending of managers and scientists collaborating; natural evolution for full committee to divide into subcommittees to address particular issues
- Polycentric – no one organization is in charge; horizontal structure
- Harbor District Management Plan is structured around EBM; Adam Wagschal, Conservation Director, is interested in being involved with EBM Program
- Coordination role of EBM Committee could be on a rotating basis with a group responsible for meeting scheduling and organization; Sea Grant can continue to be the point of contact through Collaborative Tools and maintaining the website
- Purpose of committee is to decide on the future structure of the EBM Program

Harbor District Advisory Committee:

- Discussion regarding the possible role of the Advisory Committee as assisting with completion of missing sections of the Harbor District Management Plan or prioritizing Management Plan policies; interaction between EBM and Harbor District Advisory Committees
- Several agency participants expressed concern over application process rather than invitation sent to supervisors who could then approve individual involvement. Individuals cannot submit application without supervisor's approval.
- Committee meetings are open to the public so anyone interested can attend
- Suggestion to include alternates for each member so more people can be involved and representation at meetings is more complete
- Categories weighted toward users and resource managers; list developed years ago so needs to be updated
- Committee not regulatory; more proposal/policy oriented
- Possible applicants: Adona White, Water Quality; Susan Schlosser, Education; John Mello and Vicki Frey, DFG; Paula Golightly and Eric Nelson, USFWS

EBM Strategic Planning Process:

Susan talked to Kristin Sherwood, Packard Foundation, regarding the EBM strategic planning training; funding organizations are requiring applicants to have a plan. Foundations of Success is the organization that conducts the training; Nick Salafsky from Foundations will send Susan a scope of work for the training which consists of 5 days with 12-20 people to complete tables and models describing the Humboldt Bay EBM Program. A conceptual model showing how each individual fits into the scheme of EBM, can easily be edited for additional participants, will be developed. Susan will look into applying for a grant to reimburse participants for their time. Early January was the agreed on time period for the training.

Humboldt Bay Institute:

San Francisco Estuary Institute was approached to setup a local office to research toxicology in the area. Several entities have suggested that this area needs an organization like this for Humboldt Bay. The Advisory Team previous discussed such an institute to manage the EBM Program.

Estuarine Restoration:

Michael Valentine, Resources Legacy, expressed an interest in funding local restoration projects. Darren and Susan had a conference call with Michael Valentine and Michael Webber to discuss possibilities. Darren prepared information on potential restoration projects for background planning, monitoring and a comprehensive restoration overview. He has not received a response.

Next Meeting: September 19