

Subtidal and Intertidal Habitat Goals for Humboldt Bay and the Eel River Estuary

Advisory Team Meeting Notes

March 13, 2008, 1:30 to 4:00 pm, Eureka Sea Grant Office

Desired Outcome: to establish a process of literature review to describe habitats and summarize existing knowledge.

- I. In Attendance:** Diane Ashton (NOAA Fisheries), Annie Eicher (California Sea Grant Extension), Vicki Frey (DFG), Joel Gerwein (Coastal Conservancy), Andrea Pickart (USFWS), Bill Pinnix (USFWS), Kirsten Ramey (DFG), Susan Schlosser (California Sea Grant Extension), Tyler Smith (DFG). Guests: Jesus Castillo (University of Sevilla, Spain), Brenda Grewell (USDA Agricultural Research Service).

- II. Project Administrative Updates—Susan Schlosser**
 - A. AC approved 02/14/08 meeting notes and our revised mission statement:

Our mission is to integrate information about bay and estuarine habitats and selected species, identify research needs, and develop ecosystem-based management recommendations using a collaborative process.
 - B. Susan reviewed project timeline.
 - C. AC agreed that it would be a good idea to prepare a poster for the Humboldt Bay Symposium Apr 24-26.

- III. *Spartina densiflora*—Presentation by guest Dr. Jesus Castillo, visiting from Spain (currently working at UC Davis).** *S. densiflora* invaded tidal marshes in Spain in 16th-17th century and in many places now forms mono-cultures similar to what we see at Humboldt Bay. In Spain, there is evidence that *S. densiflora* is continuing to expand and it may be hybridizing with the native *S. maritima*. Dr. Castillo is researching environmental factors affecting *S. densiflora* growth and expansion, and he has been experimenting with manual control methods in selected areas. Susan suggested that it may be helpful for us to exchange letters of support to demonstrate to land managers and funders in both California and Spain the global importance of addressing the threat of *S. densiflora* expansion to prevent escalating losses in biodiversity. Dr. Castillo later sent us a powerpoint in which he incorporated photos and comments from his Humboldt Bay visit with observations from Spain.

- IV. Project Report Outline (draft)— Susan Schlosser**

SCS presented our preliminary list of habitat types and report format. Understanding what information we plan to include in the report will help focus the process of extracting the information we need as we review available literature.

- V. Literature Review Process—Group Exercise**

AC completed review forms for two sample journal articles and made suggestions for improving the review form. Our goal is to collectively extract the information we need for the report from available documents. Each AC member will review and annotate selected documents as part of this process.

VI. Work Assignments

A. Assignments for Sea Grant Staff

1. Write up 03/13/08 meeting notes and circulate to AC for review.
2. Meet with AC members individually to continue compiling and annotating the EndNote library on Humboldt Bay and Eel River Estuary habitats.
3. Prepare draft poster for Humboldt Bay Symposium.
4. Prepare agenda for 04/10/08 meeting.

B. Assignments for Advisory Committee

1. Review these meeting notes and contact Annie with comments or corrections. After approval at our 04/10/08 meeting, the notes will be posted to the website.
2. Make copies of pdf files to contribute to our pdf library and/or make arrangements with Annie to have hard copies of reports scanned. Meet with Annie and begin annotation process.

VII. Meeting Schedule. All meetings to be held at the Eureka Sea Grant office

∞ **Thursday, April 10, 2008, 1:30-4:30 p.m.**

∞ **Thursday, May 8, 2008, 1:30-4:30 p.m.**

∞ Thereafter: generally the second Thursday of every month, 1:30-4:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted