

# **HCPA** East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan Association

Date: October 10, 2006

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Final East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the HCP/NCCP

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your review is a compact disk containing the Final East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/ Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) as well as the Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the HCP/NCCP. These materials may also be viewed on the internet at <http://www.cocohcp.org>. Paper copies will be available to view at the libraries and offices listed below by Tuesday, October 17, 2006. Paper copies may also be purchased for the price of reproduction. Please contact me at the number provided below for more information.

The HCP/NCCP was prepared by the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan Association (HCPA), a Joint Exercise of Powers Authority formed by the Cities of Brentwood, Clayton, Oakley, and Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, the Contra Costa Water District, and the East Bay Regional Park District.

The HCPA Coordination Group, the committee of stakeholders and agency representatives that advised in the development of the HCP/NCCP will meet on October 12th and October 16th at 1 p.m. at the City of Pittsburg City Hall at 65 Civic Drive to discuss the planning effort. The Coordination Group meetings are open to the public and agendas will continue to be circulated to all who request to be on the Coordination Group mailing list. Printed copies of the Final HCP/NCCP and Final EIS/EIR will be available at these upcoming meetings.

The EIS/EIR was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The HCPA is the lead CEQA agency for the EIR. The Cities of Brentwood, Clayton, Oakley, and Pittsburg, Contra Costa County (County), the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Flood Control), and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) are responsible agencies under CEQA and would be the permittees under the HCP/NCCP. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is the lead NEPA agency for the EIS and the lead federal agency for consideration of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) pursuant to Section 10 of the federal Endangered Species Act. The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) is the lead state agency for consideration of an ITP pursuant to Section 2835 of the California Fish and Game Code. The HCPA, permittees, USFWS, and CDFG will take separate actions in the next few months concerning NEPA, CEQA, approval of the HCP/NCCP, and issuance of associated permits.

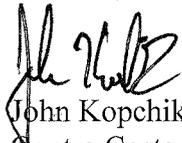
On November 8, 2006, the HCPA Executive Governing Committee will consider certification of the Final EIR (under CEQA) and approval of the Final HCP/NCCP for submission to the permittees for their approval. This meeting will be held at the City of Pittsburg City Hall at 65 Civic Drive at 5:30 pm. While CEQA does not require circulation nor a comment period for Final EIRs, the HCPA will consider any written comments concerning the final documents that are received prior to November 8, 2006. Written responses to comments will not be prepared. Comments can be submitted to the HCPA at the address below for the Contra Costa County Community Development Department.

The USFWS will be processing the Final EIS (under NEPA) shortly. A Notice of Availability regarding these draft documents will be published soon in the Federal Register. A 30-day public comment period will commence when the Notice of Availability is published. The Federal Register may be viewed on the internet at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

After the HCPA Executive Governing Committee meeting on November 8, 2006, if the HCP/NCCP is approved for submittal, the local agency permittees (cities, County, Flood Control and EBRPD) will be holding meetings to consider their approval of the HCP/NCCP. These meetings will be publicly noticed by the individual agencies per their normal meeting procedures.

Thank you very much for your interest in the East Contra Costa County HCP/NCCP. Please feel free to contact me at the Contra Costa County Community Development Department at (925) 335-1227 with any questions.

Sincerely,



John Kopchik, Principal Planner  
Contra Costa County Community Development Department, Coordinating Agency  
East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan Association

#### **LOCATIONS TO VIEW DOCUMENTS:**

##### **Contra Costa County Libraries**

751 Third Street, Brentwood, CA

6125 Clayton Road, Clayton, CA

Freedom High School, 1050 Neroly Road, Oakley, CA

80 Power Avenue, Pittsburg, CA

Riverview Middle School, 205 Pacifica Avenue, Bay Point, CA

##### **Local Agency Offices**

City of Brentwood, Community Development Dept., 104 Oak Street, Brentwood, CA 94513

City of Clayton, Community Development Department, 6000 Heritage Trail, Clayton, CA 94517

City of Oakley, Community Development Department, 3231 Main Street, Oakley, CA 94561

City of Pittsburg, Planning Department, 65 Civic Drive, Pittsburg, CA 94565

Contra Costa County Community Development Department, 651 Pine Street, North Wing,  
Fourth Floor, Martinez, CA 94553

East Bay Regional Park District, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605