

Lake Merced Task Force  
 March 18, 2003 Nature Committee Minutes

Prepared by: Randy Zebell

April 07, 2003

Present: Anna-Marie Bratton, James Grant, Barbara Holzman, Laura Louttit, Dan Murphy, Eva Sargent, Lisa Wayne, Randy Zebell

The Nature Committee (NC) agreed to have a rotating meeting facilitator who would be responsible for calling the next meeting, write up and distributing meeting minutes, and presenting meeting findings to the full Lake Merced Task Force (LMTF). Randy facilitated the March NC meeting and Barbara will facilitate the next NC meeting.

The NC reviewed LMTF Initial Report and Stewardship Proposal recommendations and updated status and priority as follows.

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Current Priority</b>
1.1.a	evaluate aquatic invertebrates	in proposal stage	high
1.1.b	model lake level and habitat	being done	
1.1.c	identify runoff effects	add issue of golf course drainage	high
1.1.d	assess impact of lake contaminants	needs funding	very high
1.1.e	develop management recommendations based on new studies		high
1.2.a	create detailed report of natural resources	completed report at draft stage	-
1.2.b	prepare management plan	completed report at draft stage	-
1.2.c	conduct pilot marsh enhancement study	needs funding	medium
1.3.a	identify and fund research projects	needs funding	medium
2.1.a	create lake brochure	done	-
2.1.b	increase environmental ed	needs funding	high
2.1.c	develop docent training program	needs funding	medium
2.1.d	develop wayside exhibits	being done	-
2.1.e	develop signs on human effects	needs funding	medium
2.1.f	create environmental center	in planning	medium
3.1.a	remove pest plants in critical areas	being done in part, needs funding to fully implement	high/medium
3.1.b	conduct bird surveys prior to veg work	being done	-
3.1.c	enhance western pond turtle habitat	needs funding	high
3.1.d	protect California red-legged frog	needs funding	high
3.1.e	design/implement resource monitoring plan	being done in part, needs funding to fully implement	high

3.1.f	ensure management activities of all agencies are compatible	ongoing	-
3.2.a	expand native habitats in critical areas	ongoing	-
3.3.a	implement erosion control	needs funding, must address additional erosional areas	high/medium
3.3.b	minimize erosion	ongoing	-
3.4.a	develop city-wide domestic/non-native animal policy	unresolved	high

New NC issues and direction

1. Enhanced erosion at lake from Vista Grande cannal, Harding golf course, trees on steep slopes and road culverts need closer scrutiny, coordination amongst agencies, and funding to resolve.
2. Would like to increase LMTF participation in restoration activites around lake.
3. Need to resolve conflicts between different committee recommendations.
4. Need to identify sources of lake pollution and incompatible human uses.

NC discussed potential problems with the proposed northwest pier project including location of outfall pipe, ability of pier to adjust to lake level, and location of pier relative to anticipated tule growth.

NC expressed a desire to function as a technical review body for current and future Coastal Conservancy projects.

Proposed dates for next NC meeting:

April 29<sup>th</sup> 2003 5:30 pm, or  
May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003, 5:30 pm

Proposed agenda items for next NC meeting:

1. Approve previous meeting mintues.
2. Assess and resolve incompatabilites between Nature, Recreation, and Water committee recommendations.
3. Get updates on:
  - the northwest pier replacement project
  - the Coastal Conservancy grant
  - Harding Park erosion (consider inviting Rick Thal to attend meeting)
4. Discuss how to notice NC meetings.