

Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan

**Stakeholder
Meeting
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SANTA CLARA VALLEY HCP/NCCP PARTNERSHIP



 **Jones & Stokes**

Presentation Outline

- Components of Conservation Strategy
 - Introduction
 - Alternatives
- Biological Goals and Objectives
 - Introduction
 - Development process

Conservation Strategy

- What will it look like?
 - Methods
 - Biological goals and objectives
 - Conservation principles and process
 - Conservation actions
 - Land and water conservation actions
 - Habitat restoration actions
 - Habitat and species management actions
 - Conditions on covered activities (avoidance/minimization)
- It will be programmatic
- It will define a process to implement over permit term

Conservation Strategy Development Process



0548005-005 (10-06)

Conservation Alternatives

- Conservation strategy can vary by:
 - Acres, location of land preserved
 - Use of existing protected areas in preserve system
 - Amount, timing, location of water releases
 - Type, location, extent of habitat restoration
 - Type, location, extent of habitat management
 - Biological goals and objectives
 - Types or extent of avoidance/minimization measures
 - Emphasis placed on certain species or natural communities
 - Process used to assemble preserve system (e.g., use of maps, use of fee title vs. easements)

Conservation Alternatives

- Good conservation alternatives will
 - Meet basic regulatory standards
 - Be technically feasible
 - Be affordable (maybe)
 - Provide real choices in actions
 - Reflect the range of preferences by Partners, Wildlife Agencies, Stakeholders
 - Be easily distinguishable (change one or few variables)
 - Support the CEQA/NEPA process

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Conservation Alternatives

- How will alternatives be developed?
 - Choices are emerging from development of biological goals and objectives (e.g., emphasis on different locations or species)
 - Preferences expressed at meetings
 - Science Advisors report provides alternatives
 - Preserve design model, if used, could generate alternatives

Conservation Strategy Development Process



Biological Goals and Objectives

- Required by FWS/NOAA 5-point policy
- Clear statements of
 - Overall framework: goals (why)
 - Conservation targets: objectives (what)
 - Activities: actions (how)
- Conservation Strategy “at-a-glance”
- Monitoring actions linked to each objective

Goals & Objectives Organization

- Many ways to organize goals and objectives
- Using hierarchical organization
 - *Landscape*-level (e.g., ecosystem processes, wildlife movement, watershed function)
 - *Natural-community* level (e.g., stream/riparian, grassland, wetland/pond,)
 - *Species*-level (e.g., single covered species or groups)

Definitions

- **Goals:** Broad qualitative statements
- **Objectives:** Measurable targets
- **Actions:** Activities on the ground
- **Conservation Strategy:** Collection of all Actions
- **Conservation Alternatives:** Different combinations of Actions

Biological Goals Process

- Series of 6 workshops with consultant team, local agency biologists, agency experts, outside experts
- Workshops organized by natural communities and species groups
- Last workshop in late February
- Special stakeholder workshop to consider preliminary draft BGOs?