

Natomas Joint Vision Open Space Plan
First Workshop Series
Questions & Comments from Citizen's & Landowners

Note: The statements below represent input from attendees of the first workshop series, given on three separate dates (April 19th, 26th, and 30th, 2007) to three audiences. The information contained in them has not been checked for factual accuracy, and does not necessarily represent the opinions of City, County, or LAFCo staff or project consultants.

- How does Airport plan to deal with HCP issues?
- It's not a good idea to increase development acres until you know if the first 17,500 will work. Judge commented that any more than 17,500 acres would screw up HCP.
- Where does the money for this Open Space Program/study come from?
- Taking financial support from developers would create a sense of entitlement.
- Swainson's hawk (SH) is listed by State, not protected by Feds.
- Airport gets funding from FAA by "point system" which often resulting in "overzealous" inspectors.
- GGS habitat is water, which attracts birds. (Carol Shearly)
- Could resolve flood protection problem with setback levees with less impact on habitat.
- "Umbrella method" used in HCP for allegedly used for "multi-species protection". "Multi-species is just a word.
- I met with the local Army Corps staff person, who is very sympathetic to habitat concerns, but the decision on removing vegetation from levees is from higher up.
- Why should mitigation land only be allowed within the basin?
- Will the 1:1 ratio be reduced for combination uses?
- Why are airport issues/areas considered separately?
- Is this information (PowerPoint presentation and maps) available to the public?
- How does this area compare to Sutter County's area? What is the balance between the two counties?
- Clarify the 500 M values on the biological values map.
- What are the wildlife restrictions within the airport's 5-mile zone?
- Is there a relationship between crop types and species?
- Why is the center of the farmland values map white?
- Why wasn't recreation included in the multi-value approach?
- Has Sutter County provided a community separator on their side?
- Double check the distance between the two orange lines on the map.
- What are the financing considerations recreation and public access? Are these resources a pro-rated expense?
- Regarding the idea of a potential regional park, would that be provided within the 1:1 ratio of open space to development? How would a regional park be used?
- What do you mean by acquisition? How will these lands (the remaining undesignated lands map) be acquired?
- What do the colors (open space acreage summary) mean?
- Maps don't show that there are also at least 2 hawk nests within the City Do you have data on hawk nests in developed areas? Can planners provide hawk habitat in developed areas?
- The Habitat Conservation Plan is 100% for the City, but not the County.

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- What was the County's direction to the City? How was the Swainson's hawk zone used in this analysis? When will the consideration for the advantages of development in the Boot happen?
- Interested in the County's read on these maps. Swainson's hawk zone is only shown on the east side of the river.
- Why does this not take into consideration Yolo County?
- Will Sutter County abide by the Natomas Joint Vision?
- Ecosystems do not abide by jurisdictional boundaries.
- How did you come up with 6,865 acres? Was 1:1 ratio used?
- Will the Municipal Services Review (MSR) look at the overall area (including the Boot)
- What and where is the "Boot"?
- Due process was not followed when the Habitat Conservation Plan was drafted. Can the HCP be revisited?
- Concerned that existing Giant Garter Snake (GGS) & Swainson's hawk habitat in the City was not taken into account in developing the HCP.
- Why is the ratio changing? Has the science changed?
- Will need to quantify why the ratio needs to change.
- Is the Natomas Basin Conservancy (NBC) increasing the numbers of the endangered species at its properties? If so, the current ratio is working.
- Would the project constitute a revision to the HCP?
- Was mitigation for levee improvements considered in allocation analysis?
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