



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Parks Department



**DATE:** January 23, 2015

**COMMISSION MEETING DATE:** February 5, 2015

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Ramona Arechiga, Natural Resource Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Natural Resource Manager Report

**RECOMMENDATION**

Review and accept report.

**BACKGROUND**

This report covers research and activities since the Commission's October 2, 2014 meeting.

**DISCUSSION:**

**County-wide Initiatives**

**Measure A**

The Natural Resource Manager (NRM) has worked with a variety of stakeholders in order to brainstorm potential Measure A project proposals and identify joint priorities. She hosted a meeting the first week in January to provide additional input concerning NRM priorities and opportunities.

**Building the Natural Resource Stewardship Program**

**Collaboration**

The California Native Plant Society Conservation Conference was held January 13-17 and NRM attended. This conference provided a wide array of relevant presentations covering topics that are cutting edge science and practical management techniques. This conference is well attended and provides a unique opportunity to network among regional partners, practitioners, and take specialized trainings. The authors of the Manual of California Vegetation hosted a two-day training that the NRM attended. Additional GIS trainings using this methodology will be held in the future and provide a great opportunity for both the NRM and GIS Intern.

### San Bruno Mountain HCP

The NRM has been working with the County Manager's office to develop a more formal Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) structure and participation process. Ms. Ashley Quintana has been a tremendous help organizing and developing materials for TAC participants. Two TAC meetings have been held since December. And strides have been made to formalize deadlines, meeting objectives, and participation procedures. The final 30-year Assessment completed by Creekside Science is due out in the middle of February.

### GIS

GIS and Natural Resource Intern, Rachelle Hedges, will be working with the Open Data Liaison, John Ridener, to organize a field data collection trial using the SCA high school crew in late February.

### **District Activities**

#### District I

CuriOdyssey staff, Catherine Brett, met with the NRM to discuss an ongoing invasive species removal of (*Limonium ramosissimum*) or Algerian sea lavender. A small volunteer event is scheduled for February 7, 2015 at Coyote Point Recreation Area.

#### District II

Creekside Science and the NRM program are working to implement ongoing adaptive management trials at Edgewood Park using a new technique called hydromechanical obliteration. This technique was used successfully last year. Additionally, field visits are set up for other invasive species work done by dedicated volunteers.

#### District III

The RCD and Parks staff hosted a meeting with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, NOAA, and US Fish and Wildlife Service in January. This meeting's purpose was to discuss an upcoming grant opportunity that could fund half the cost needed to remove the largest Humboldt crossing along Old Haul Road in Pescadero Creek County Park. This crossing is a legacy of the logging era and bleeds sediment into Pescadero Creek.

#### District IV

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve Cypress Grove Pilot Project has been completed. The San Vicente Creek project is underway. One dump truck load of invasive plant material has already been removed from some of the highest quality habitat that has been recently invaded by cape ivy (*Delairea odorata*).

#### District V

Pigeon Point site visit to collect information concerning the rare perennial goldfields (*Lasthenia californica* spp. *macrantha*) is currently being scheduled with a local Plant Expert, Toni Corelli.