



# COMMUNITY & SCOPING MEETING

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

El Toro Room

Morgan Hill Community & Cultural Center

## PROGRAM

Thank you for attending tonight's meeting on the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan (Plan). To maximize opportunities for public comment, tonight's meeting begins with an informal open house followed by a presentation and public comment/question-and-answer session. During the open house, you are invited to view informational exhibits and speak with technical staff, members of the Stakeholder Committee, and representatives of the participating agencies to discuss the project and answer your specific questions.

Please be sure to fill out the Scoping Comment Card and return it this evening or by Monday, October 22, 2007 via mail/email to: Ken Schreiber, Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan, Santa Clara County Planning Department, 70 West Hedding, East Wing, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, San Jose, CA 95110

## AGENDA

6:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Open House
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	<b>Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Welcome and Introductions</li> <li>▪ HCP/NCCP Overview</li> <li>▪ Impacts of Covered Activities</li> <li>▪ Conservation Strategy Alternatives</li> <li>▪ Public Participation Opportunities</li> <li>▪ Scoping Comments</li> <li>▪ Program Question &amp; Answer</li> <li>▪ Next Steps</li> </ul>
8:45 – 9:00 p.m.	Additional Comment and Question & Answer Session

## OPEN HOUSE STATIONS 1-4

<b>Station 1 Scoping Process</b>	Station 1 covers the environmental review process for the Habitat Plan. The Purpose of the EIR/EIS is to provide information about potentially significant environmental effects of the Plan, to identify ways to minimize those potentially significant adverse effects and to describe and evaluate feasible alternatives to the proposed project.
<b>Station 2 Habitat Plan Overview</b>	Station 2 illustrates the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan study area, proposed covered species and activities. Covered species include species whose incidental take will be authorized by projects included in the Plan. In return, the Plan will provide mechanisms for the long-term conservation and management of these covered species.
<b>Station 3 Conservation Strategy Alternatives</b>	Station 3 includes a detailed map of land-cover types (e.g., vegetation, water features, agriculture, and development) and fish communities within the study area. Key components of the three preliminary DRAFT Conservation Strategy Alternatives are also highlighted.
<b>Station 4 Participation and Next Steps</b>	Station 4 illustrates the Plan development process with associated deliverables and key decisions and provides informational materials from the participating agencies.

<b>FOR MORE INFORMATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Visit <a href="http://www.scv-habitatplan.org">www.scv-habitatplan.org</a> or e-mail <a href="mailto:info@scv-habitatplan.org">info@scv-habitatplan.org</a></li> <li>▪ Contact Ken Schreiber, Program Manager, at <a href="mailto:ken.schreiber@pln.sccgov.org">ken.schreiber@pln.sccgov.org</a> or by phone at (408) 299-5789</li> </ul>
<b>Acronyms and Key Terms</b>	See reverse

## Short list of Acronyms and Key Terms

<b>BMP</b>	<b>Best Management Practice</b>	<b>NCCP</b>	<b>Natural Community Conservation Plan</b>
<b>BO</b>	<b>Biological Opinion</b>	<b>NEPA</b>	<b>National Environmental Policy Act</b>
<b>CDFG</b>	<b>California Department of Fish and Game</b>	<b>NMFS</b>	<b>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service</b>
<b>CEQA</b>	<b>California Environmental Quality Act</b>	<b>NOAA</b>	<b>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</b>
<b>CESA</b>	<b>California Endangered Species Act</b>	<b>Open Space Authority</b>	<b>Santa Clara County Open Space Authority</b>
<b>CSC</b>	<b>California species of special concern</b>	<b>Permittee</b>	<b>Local Partners</b>
<b>CVSP</b>	<b>Coyote Valley Specific Plan</b>	<b>Plan</b>	<b>Santa Clara Valley HCP/NCCP</b>
<b>EIR</b>	<b>Environmental Impact Report</b>	<b>Regional Board</b>	<b>Regional Water Quality Control Board</b>
<b>EIS</b>	<b>Environmental Impact Statement</b>	<b>SCVWD</b>	<b>Santa Clara Valley Water District</b>
<b>EPA</b>	<b>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</b>	<b>Services</b>	<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service</b>
<b>ESA</b>	<b>Federal Endangered Species Act</b>	<b>UGB</b>	<b>Urban Growth Boundary</b>
<b>FAHCE</b>	<b>Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort</b>	<b>USFWS</b>	<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</b>
<b>GIS</b>	<b>Geographical Information System</b>	<b>VTA</b>	<b>Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority</b>
<b>HCP</b>	<b>Habitat Conservation Plan</b>	<b>Wildlife Agencies</b>	<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and California Department of Fish and Game</b>

**Adaptive management.** A method for examining alternative strategies for meeting measurable biological goals and objectives, and then if necessary, adjusting future conservation management actions according to what is learned.

**Conservation strategy.** The sum of all conservation measures in the HCP/NCCP to achieve all conservation goals and objectives.

**Covered Activities.** Those activities (land disturbing projects) addressed in the Plan for which the Permittees will seek a permit.

**Covered species.** Those species addressed in the Plan for which conservation measures will be implemented.

**Ecosystem.** A community of organisms, and their physical environment, interacting as an ecological unit.

**Endangered species.** A native species, which is in serious danger of becoming extinct.

**Habitat.** For the purposes of the Plan, habitat is defined as the specific places where the environmental conditions (i.e., physical and biological) are present that are required to support occupancy by individuals or populations of a given species.

**Incidental take.** Any take otherwise prohibited, if such take is incidental to and not the purpose of the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity.

**Implementing Entity.** The Implementing Entity is the agency or organization that will be responsible for fully implementing the Plan. The Implementing Entity will be identified later in the planning process.

**Local Partners.** The jurisdictions preparing the Plan and applying as Permittees: the County of Santa Clara, Cities of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and San Jose; Santa Clara Valley Water District; and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.

**"No surprises assurances."** Assurances to permit holders that if unforeseen circumstances arise, the Wildlife Agencies will not require more land, water, or money or additional restrictions on the use of land, water, or other natural resources beyond the level stated in the HCP without the consent of the Permittee (63 FR 35, February 23, 1998).

**No-take species.** Species for which take is not authorized under the HCP/NCCP.

**Permit Term.** For an HCP/NCCP, the length of time for which the incidental take permits are valid and activities covered by the permit may occur. Also the time period in which all land acquisition, habitat restoration, and other mitigation and conservation measures must be accomplished.

**Protect habitat.** To maintain the existing or enhanced extent of species habitat through acquisition, easements, or other practicable processes for bringing unprotected sites under protected status.

**Range.** The geographic area a species is known or believed to occupy.

**Reserves.** Discrete areas of conserved habitats managed as single units under the Plan.

**Take.** Harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct.

**Threatened species.** A native species, subspecies, or distinct population segment (DPS) of an organism that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future.