

Dear Interested Party:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and County of Orange (lead agencies), will jointly conduct a public workshop on May 15, 2002, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the San Juan Capistrano Community Center, 25925 Camino del Avion, San Juan Capistrano, California.

We invite you to attend and participate in this workshop, which will be the third in a series of workshops focusing on the formulation of a range of "alternatives" that should be considered for the Special Area Management Plan/Master Streambed Alteration Agreement and Natural Community Conservation Planning/Habitat Conservation Plan programs in southern Orange County. The SAMP/MSAA and NCCP/HCP programs are two elements of a coordinated public planning process for southern Orange County that also includes the proposed General Plan/Zone Change for Rancho Mission Viejo that will be processed by the County of Orange.

The May 15 Workshop will address the following topics for the SAMP/MSAA:

- I. Review and discussion of the SAMP/MSAA process that must be completed by the lead agencies to identify and evaluate the range of proposed project alternatives;
- I. Review and discussion of the delineation and functional assessment of riparian ecosystem integrity of San Juan and San Mateo Creek watersheds;
- I. Review and discussion of the SAMP/MSAA tenets;
- I. Review and discussion of the main conclusions from the Baseline Conditions Report and how this document relates to the agency documents; and,
- I. Identify topics that may be covered in future workshops.

The May 15 workshop will provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions, comment, and discuss issues of interest related to the above topics.

Resource information related to the planning process is available for public viewing at the following locations during normal business hours:

San Clemente Library, 242 Avenida Del Mar, San Clemente, California 92672;
San Juan Capistrano Library, 31495 El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano, California 92675; Rancho Santa Margarita Library, 30902 La Promeda, Rancho Santa Margarita, California 92688; Mission Viejo Library, 25209 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo, California 92692; and the
Santa Margarita Water District Office, 26111 Antonio Parkway, Las Flores, California 92688.

Information is also available at <http://pdsd.oc.ca.gov/soccpp>.

The lead agencies will be accepting public comments and suggestions on the range of “alternatives” that should be addressed in the three planning efforts. Comments should be submitted in writing to Karen A. Evans, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, 2730 Loker Avenue West, Carlsbad, California 92008.

All comments will be collated and provided to the other lead agencies for inclusion in their administrative records. If you have questions or require additional information about the workshop, please contact one of the following agency representatives:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jill Terp (760) 431-9440;
California Department of Fish and Game, Warren Wong (858) 467-4249;
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fari Tabatabai (213) 452-3291;
County of Orange, Chuck Shoemaker (714) 834-2166.

We appreciate your interest in the planning efforts for southern Orange County and look forward to seeing you at the workshop.