

SAN MATEO COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Draft Minutes

December 7, 2007

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors: Field Trip of Pillar Point Harbor

1. **CALL TO ORDER**: Because a quorum of directors was declared present, Rich Allen called a Special Meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS and STAFF**:

Directors: Rich Allen, Jim Reynolds, TJ Glauthier

RCD Staff: Kellyx Nelson, Carolann Towe, Ellen Gartside

TAC Members: Steve Peters, Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services; Dan Temko, Pillar Point Harbor Master; Keith Mangold; Carmen Fewless, Regional Water Quality Control Board; Doug Coffman, Bruce Fujikawa, San Mateo County Public Health Laboratory; Dean Peterson, Greg Smith, San Mateo County Department of Environmental Health; Jill Murray, Creeks Division City of Santa Barbara; Sarah Corbin, Surfrider

Public: Ron Sturgeon

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**:

Ron Sturgeon asked what the purpose of the field trip was. Kellyx responded that it was determined at the initial TAC meeting for the Pillar Point Harbor project that it would be a good idea for all members of the TAC to have an opportunity to visit the physical setting of the study, as it facilitates a different type of conversation when the group is together on site rather than talking about the site in an office. Furthermore, while some of the TAC members are experts on the harbor, others are not local and bring experience from similar projects in different regions.

Dan Temko publicly acknowledged and thanked the RCD for taking on the project and putting questions about this problem to rest.

4. **FIELD TRIP**

RCD staff, directors, and members of the Technical Advisory Committee for the "Identification of Sources of Fecal Pollution Impacting Pillar Point Harbor" project toured parts of the project area and discussed the project. The RCD Board took no RCD related actions during the field trip.

Kellyx reminded all attendees that:

- a) This project is not a regulatory investigation.

- b) Attendees are not to presuppose any conclusions before investigations have been conducted. This is an information session and we may identify areas for investigation.

Site 1: Pillar Point Marsh (PPM)/Mavericks Beach (MB) (Map sites 5 & 6)

Questions/Comments:

- Wrack as a source of E. coli, coliforms?
- Rotting kelp as nutrient source for growth of bacteria from sea gull fecal matter?
- What is recreational use of these beaches? PPM: launch site for kayaks, some recreational use; MB more recreational/swimming since more protected, less wrack there.
- What will be sampling protocols here? Sampling plan is projected at this time, dependent on approval of QAPP. Sampling needs to be coordinated with microbiologists, hydrologists, and QAPP. SMCO Dept of Health is currently sampling at several sites within the inner harbor. Suggested that these locations be indicated on site map.
- Pointed out location of Yacht Club Beach (map site # 10)

Site 2: Denniston Creek (Map site 4)

Questions/Comments:

- This is a rerouted creek.
- This is a potential location for a stream gage.
- Any existing water quality data on this creek? Surfrider monitored this creek for approximately 18 months, not currently being monitored.
- Fan-shaped plume of sediment (decomposed granite) was observed.
- What are the planned dredging projects for the Harbor? Proposed dredging at Romeo's Pier has no funding and not likely to occur; proposed dredging for addition of new berths at south end of harbor.
- Are all buildings in this area on sewer line? Some used to be on septic but it is believed that all are on sewer at this time.
- What is concrete structure at water's edge? Part of an old sardine operation.

Site 3: Capistrano Beach (Map sites # 1, 2, 3)

Questions/Comments:

- This site was formerly SMC Health monitoring sites Pillar Point 4 & 5. Due to consistently high readings, no longer sampled by County- permanently posted with warning sign. As part of grant this site will be sampled during the study.
- Storm drain has had questionable outflow for number of years. Remnant of old drain, question as to why drain was relocated. Also question about backflow into drain with high tides and potential deposition of material inside drain.

- Possible for storm drain to be rerouted into sewer? County Department of Public Works determined this wasn't feasible. At one time there had been human fecal intrusion when sewer line crossed storm drain.
- Bathhouse Outfall Beach (Map #2) is Montecito Creek, a paved creek, outfall under bathrooms at south end of Capistrano Beach, west of Barbara's Fish Trap. Question about how far tide pushed back into drain.

Site 4: Deer Creek (Map site # 8; incorrectly marked on map; map sites 7, 9)

- Deer Creek was rerouted, (but don't know why, contact Don Gulluzzy former harbor master) mouth is now south of boat launch; old outfall is visible north of boat ramp.
- Sediment plume (decomposed granite) noted and filling in under boat launch; eventually will need to do maintenance dredging.
- Noted Beach House Beach (map #7) is frequently used by clambers.
- Inner Beach (map # 9) is an artificial beach composed of dredge materials.
- Launch ramp has holding vault with oil/water separator to collect runoff as boats are pulled out and washed down.
- Pointed out location of Surfers Beach, (map # 11), outside of outer breakwater, this beach is not part of study.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Carmen Fewless thanked RCD for sponsoring this field trip.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.