



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting of January 18, 2006**

Fred Martin, Note taker

The meeting commenced at 16:45 and Linda M. presided as the facilitator. Bill brought Trader Joe's chips and Boont Berry salsa!

CHECK IN (Thembi, Linda, Bill, Ken, Fred):  
Dianne C. according to Bill had some flood damage at their home in Ukiah.  
Bill had been in Texas, which was very dry.  
Ken and Thembi said hello.  
Fred took notes.

Ken M.:  
Be sure to list our meeting dates in the "Room Schedule" for the center.

The lease is under negotiation with the owner of the building. In consequence of which we can expect changes to the structure of the agreement. This probably requires a rental agreement between the NWWG and the lease holder.

Seed and Scion exchange workshop February 4 from 10:00 to 16:00. Tim Bates will be there to demonstrate pruning.

Storm:  
Ken described the rainfall over the decades. According to the official record, 29.56 inches of rain fell between 12/17 and 01/04; this is the most rain in December in 70 years.

Thembi describe some road failures, technical description, in particular the rock size for armouring stream beds according to estimated volume and velocity during conditions of flood.

This year was a good example of a near 100 year flood condition.

Linda described some damage along Robinson Creek restoration area. Overall the creek looks more like a creek and less like a manufactured channel. Some discussion on water flow around an illusive island in the creek. The water was three feet deep around many of the willows planted to protect the banks of the creek. Some willows were lost but most survived and are well silted. Bill and Ken have some photos.

#### Milestones:

Greg has a new posting in the California Parks to Avenue of the Giants. He and Sandy have returned to their home at Shively. We shall miss them.

Dianne is retiring from the Department of Agriculture in April, and it is rumored that she will be replaced by two new (new to this area) employees. We hope that we can enlist the aid of one of them to participate in NWWG.

#### Watershed Signs:

We need to work at assuring there will be continuity with the watershed sign project that Dianne has been so expertly handling. The project is waiting, preparing?, to submit a grant request to the Coastal Conservancy for funding the installation of the signs.

#### Web Site:

The web site needs some upgrading and polishing to make it more user friendly – I don't know if that is supposed to be a joke or not, I have yet to find a web site magnificently used friendly! Also, we need events for the calendar. Thembi has a wish list for the web site.

Nicole Porter who works for the RCD is reputed to be knowledgeable on web site programming and may provide assistance to NWWG. [Nicole.porter@ca.nacdnet.net](mailto:Nicole.porter@ca.nacdnet.net) or [rivercenter@mcn.org](mailto:rivercenter@mcn.org)

#### Hours:

Linda- Monday and Wednesday, Nicole- Tuesday, Patty- Thursday 13:00 to 16:00 hours.

#### New column in the AVA:

Linda writes news about developments in the watershed programs and Thembi writes about trees and forests – aka "Tree Tips". They plan on writing on alternate weeks.

This is part of NWWG's outreach to the general readership program on watershed issues.

#### Workshops:

Thembi plans a road maintenance workshop focused on recent heavy rains. This is in the initial planning stage and she needs good examples of road damage (there was none on the Holmes Ranch Roads). It is important to attract the appropriate audience.

Linda plans a workshop on flora in the region.

NWWG may plan a workday or workshop on Robinson Creek if there is adequate interest.

#### Miscellaneous:

This will probably be a poor year for Coho spawning because they spawn early in the season and the heavy rains will have washed the Coho eggs away; big storm events disrupt Coho spawn. Steelhead are more flexible.

Mendocino Natives Nursery:

The MNN's sun is setting. It will be subsumed in the Alexander Valley Nursery and that will include a business collaboration with the High School. AVN emphasizes restoration flora and provides a comprehensive supply of native flora.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting on February 15 will be held at the Boonville Fire House. It is expected that Peter Warner will come to advise the audience on weed control. Patti's e-mail will keep us informed on the details.



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting March 15, 2006**

Present: Fred (facilitator), Zac Robinson from Husch Winery, Ken (timekeeper), Linda (notetaker), Patty, and Bill

Introductions and check ins

Reports:

Holmes Ranch Road Maintenance:

Fred reported on Pacific enzyme used on Holmes Ranch Road used for compaction to form a natural cement, reduce washboard effect. 1000\$/mile, need to spend more money to prepare the road surface first.

River Center Update:

Ken reported on the lease for the Building. Lease up in the end of April. Tom Cronquist the landowner will not split up the lease, we may be able to negotiate with Tom about separating out the land trust and river center office separating the front office from the back office. Patty suggested the possibility of hiring a commercial building manager. This may be a more expensive option. So far the lease is up at the end of April and depending on who rents the space, we may or not be able to keep our nice street front office space. Any ideas on someone who may be interested to rent just the back offices let us know!

Weed Management Workshop Report:

Purpose was to discuss how we address and deal with invasive weeds in the County and specifically for the Navarro. Piloted a windshield weed survey that ultimately will be used to map and quantify, identify weed areas throughout the county. Unity club-wildflower show may be a good place to outreach the public on this issue. What is going to engage the public on this issue? Property values, fire danger concerns etc.

Invasive Plant Brochure:

Our Invasive Plant Brochure is done and ready to distribute next week, Hooray! We will be distributing them at the Wildflower show for sure.

Watershed Signs:

Patty has written a grant from Coastal Conservancy for 21 signs, mostly watershed signs, some water-safety signs included. Everything in place, just need the money at this point.

#### Workshops:

Roads-Patty emailed Danny Hagens, we are on for May 27<sup>th</sup>, one day for heavy equipment operators, landowners invited. By next meeting she hopes to confirm. We are now confirmed as of this writing. We will meet at the Firehouse at 9:00 am with classroom element in the morning, In the afternoon the plan is go into the field, probably Holmes Ranch Rd. and more specifically Hungry Hollow Rd. for demonstration with heavy equipment and in the field element.

#### Holistic Range Management:

We are also working on doing a Holistic Range Management Workshop for ranchers in the Valley. We'd like to partner with Farm Bureau and UC Coop Ext. help to galvanize landowner and rancher support and participation. Will keep everyone informed as this progresses.

#### Website:

Linda reported Nicole is working on refreshing and updating information, streamlining the site for ease and pleasure of moving through the site, building on all of the fabulous work that Thembi and Russ have done on the site thus far. Linda mentioned it may be nice to include aerial photos of Watershed. She also brought up that with our URL being NWWG.org makes the site people and group specific, which may not be as accessible or interesting to broader population interested in learning about Navarro Watershed. Patty thought that since this is being funded with Coastal Conservancy money we are best to leave it alone for right now, rather than get involved with all the different stakeholder agendas on a Watershed Level.

#### Announcements:

Farmer's Market- June 24<sup>th</sup> Watershed day.

Wildflower Show April 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

Roads Workshop May 27<sup>th</sup>

Next meeting is April 19th



## Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting April 19, 2006

The meeting was held at 4:30 p.m. in the River Center Meeting Room in Boonville.

Present: Thambi Borrás  
Dianne Chocholak, Notetaker  
Linda MacElwee, Facilitator

Patty Madigan  
Bill Palmer-Taylor  
Fred Martin

### CHECK-IN

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sudden Oak Death training April 26 at the Ag Dept. in Ukiah April 26, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Wildflower Festival April 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds

Patty on vacation April 30 to May 5

Wild Iris Show June 2-4 (last one!)

Roads Workshop June 2

Water Festival in Fort Bragg June 2, 4:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Watershed Day ("Watershed Watch") at the Farmer's Market June 17

### Reports

- 1.) Patty presented the new Navarro River Guide. The Guide costs \$5 each. At the next meeting we will put stickers with AVLT information on the guides. Patty said the goal is to get a brochure into the hands of every landowner in Anderson Valley!
- 2.) Fish Barrier Removal on Flynn Creek Road. Dianne said the County Dept. of Transportation (DOT) was "called back" for a full proposal on fish barrier removal projects at Marsh Creek and Albion River. Patty said NWWG would write a letter of support for the project.
- 3.) Website Update. Nicole at the RCD updated the NWWG website!
- 4.) Watershed signs. Since the County is reluctant to put watershed signs along the right of way, Patty suggested asking private landowners to allow them to be put up at appropriate sites. There will also be a legislative tour in sometime June; county supervisors, Patty Berg, Wes Chesbro, etc. will attend. At that time Patty will invite Howard Dashiell of DOT to visit specific sites.
- 5.) Newsletter. There is money in the NWWG budget for a newsletter. Fred will work on an article on the Holmes Ranch Road project. The First Edition, at the end of May, will also feature the Robinson Creek project. There was discussion on featuring an instructive article about the grading ordinance. Deadline for submittals is May 17.

6.) Update. Patty reported that she and the RCD just submitted 5 proposals to Fish and Game:

1. Fix a landslide on Evelyn Ashton's property/Nashmill Road
2. Put in a new culvert at Red Gulch near Russ Emal's property /Hungry Hollow Road
3. Road drainage
4. North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), \$1.1 million through Karen Gaffney and DWR Prop 50 Water Quality funds
5. Consolidated Grants Program 319(h) projects on Navarro roads and various stream band projects that total \$999,000.

The next meeting is set for 4:30 p.m. May 17 at the River Center  
The meeting was adjourned about 5:30.



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting May 17, 2006**

note taker: Patty  
time keeper : Linda  
facilitator: Dianne  
attendees: Thembi, Linda, Dianne, Bill, Patty (Ken?)  
Check-ins: everyone is ready to go!

### **Reports:**

**Road Workshop:** The date is June 2nd, no charge for participants, and we can announce the event in Tree Tips (Thembi) next week; and the call in show on KZYX on Wednesday at 9am.

**Website:** The website is being continuously updated. the calendar is active, but we need to promote it more.

**Newsletter:** Fred submitted an article. the newsletter is going to happen! Layout and content meeting will be held next Wednesday at 1pm at the River Center. The newsletter will include information on storm events, Robinson Creek, River Center, River Guide, and Robinson Creek Oral History.

**Watershed Celebration at Boonville Farmer's Market:** The celebration will be held on June 17th. We will ask to borrow the watershed model from the Water Agency. Thembi and Linda will help organize and conduct the event. Ken will loan plants. Photos? River guides will be promoted, as well as other printed materials.

**Anderson Creek Walk:** We are talking about June 24th, or later for a walk with landowners and NWWG participants, with AVLTT folks, too. Karen Gaffney will lead the tour/walk.

We think 8am to 11am is best because of hot weather. The route we are thinking of is starting just upstream from the elementary school to Tebbutts. the best meeting place might be the elementary school.

**NWWG Transitions:** Dianne will be retiring at the end of June. Two people will be replacing her! Ken is taking a leave of absence from all his extra curricular activities. he has hired a former MNN intern, Pedro to help with maintenance. Restoration monitoring will be traded to AVHS for use of the shade house for AV Nursery. Ken is working with a few folks and RCD on custom propagation orders.

River Center: We have a new lease with Bob Abeles of Checkerboard Solutions.

Recruitment strategies for NWWG: To get more people interested in participating in NWWG we acknowledge that each person has an interest--roads, plants, fish, etc. We should expand our email list to include people whom have showed interest but may not be able to attend regularly like Joe Scriven, Zac Robinson, Doug Albin. Maybe we should join the local Chamber of Commerce? We can send potential attendees agendas and minutes--and a copy of the River Guide.

Calendar of Events (planning):

#### JUNE

2 Road workshop

17 Watershed Celebration Day (BFM)

24 Anderson Creek Walk (?)

#### JULY

? Estuary tour

? Fair booth planning

? Presentation by Brock Dolman (OAEC)

#### AUGUST

? NWWG Social @ Hendy Woods--BBQ & Creek Walk with geologist

#### SEPT

17 Apple Fair (booth)

Robinson Creek Tour?

#### OCTOBER

? Birding field trip with Audubon

#### NOVEMBER

? Pull invasives at Robinson Creek--"The Invasives Challenge"

#### DECEMBER

? Holiday Party

? Welcome Back Salmon

Next Meeting set for June 21<sup>st</sup> 2006 at the River Center



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting June 21, 2006**

Facilitator- Linda MacElwee

Present- Linda MacElwee, Bill Taylor, Thembi Borrás, Fred Martin

Notetaker-Fred Martin

CHECK Ins

Reports:

Farmer's Market:

Linda, or Thembi or both, described a successful day at the Boonville Farmers Market, selling and distributing folders and guides. The sales amounted to about \$85.

Road Workshop:

June workshop was well attended with operators as well as general attendance. About 30 people attended in all. There was some discussion on the evolution of techniques in the techniques for road improvements. The group visited Holmes Ranch Road and Hungary Hollow Road

Discussions

- Discussed road association dynamics.
- Mendocino County Water Agency is exploring the Navarro watershed to ascertain the extent of the changes made during the past winter and storms.
- Anderson Creek walk postponed due to "red tape".
- News Letter out soon.

Announcements

- Legislative tour of restoration sites set for Friday, June 23 with lunch in the NWWG office. The tour will start at 11:00 with a visit to Robertson Creek at the High School followed by lunch. Expected are Patty Berg, legislative aides from various legislators, and agencies. The emphasis is on oracling up the need for legislative support for watershed programs. Thembi and Bill may help with logistics.
- We now have CD and Video information on the Watershed Management with updates over the original Manuel.
- Summer meeting party suggested for August 18 or 19 with possible locations: Rancho Navarro meeting facility and the Martins.

Next meeting, July 19.



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting July 19, 2006**

Attending: Fred Martin (Facilitator), Patty Madigan, Thembi Borrás, Linda MacElwee, Bill Taylor(notetaker)

### Reports:

County Fair: Sept. 16-17. We discussed having a more actively staffed booth this year, with the new River Guide as a substantial offering and means to have dialogs with people. Linda, Thembi, Patty and Bill can do 2 two-hour shifts (some of them can do 2 shifts). Sharing the booth with the land trust would increase staff coverage for each organization. Linda will email Susan Addison.

Newsletter, events, and accepting donations: Will be ready soon; Nicole, Linda, Patty have been working on it and others have written articles. Mostly black and white, perhaps a colored ink. Will go to all landowners in the watershed. Bill raised fundraising question: Is there a mechanism to accept donations as this is a wide audience. Patty mentioned problem as RCD does not want to make it a regular occurrence (they have accepted a few large contributions to NWWG). Other possibilities include the new Navarro By The Sea Center (which wants to host scientists to do research projects in the watershed; their building on the estuary is to have interpretive displays downstairs), AVL T, or the considerable effort of becoming a 501(c)3. More research is needed, so agreed to not solicit this issue.

Ditto for Bill's suggestion of having volunteer projects and events listed; we did not agree on dates for these although December would be best for vinca and blackberry removal (Bill can run or help run the on-site work). Linda will contact Karen Gaffney about a walking interpretive tour.

Macro-Invertebrate Monitoring: Patty has been approached concerning this citizen-monitoring project. She will ask about the time, cost, training and its location (requesting it be in the watershed), and what our commitment is if we do it. We brainstormed a few sources of volunteers and Patty told us a few methods for counting invertebrates but we tabled further discussion pending answers to Patty's questions.

Boonville Farmers' Market: Thembi can staff the booth (Bill and Linda have other booths there, but could help with set-up or break-down). Tyler at AV Nursery may be able to deliver plants; \_\_\_\_\_ will contact Ken once we have a date. Update: Linda asked Cindy Wilder (BFM Mkt Mgr) about dates and

Cindy will get back to her; Melon Day in mid-August is no longer expendable so Sept. is more likely.

August social meeting suggested date of Aug. 19 (Sat), 4:30 or 5 PM, tentatively at Rancho Navarro but Thembi needs to run it by their board.

Monitoring- Dennis Slota will be invited to September meeting to present monitoring results.

Funding Brainstorm –(This is funding and labor brainstorm as a refresher from a previous, 9/05,meeting)

Possible sources:

Ukiah Coop small grant

Fish and Game Commission: up to \$5,000 small grants

Volunteer labor via a senior student at AV High School could work on the web site

Website has a lot of potential as a center for conventional fundraising (dinners, garage sales)

Auction off work or advise on property. Patty warned that insurance can be required even for advice which suggests road improvements and other risk-involving work.

Workathon idea has potential: people get pledges and then do restoration work - bringing both funds and new blood into NWWG. Insurance wouldn't be needed at the High School site or in state parks.

Next Meeting is August Social Aug 19<sup>th</sup>



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting September 20, 2006**

Present: Thembi, Patty, Linda, Bill, and Bruce Patterson

Facilitator: Bill

Note taker: Thembi

Next Facilitator: Patty

Check-ins: Thembi announced the sale of homestead

Reports and Discussion:

Structure for receiving donations: In the short-term, while the RCD is still receiving support from the Coastal Conservancy, the RCD can probably hold funds donated on behalf of NWWG. The purpose of the funds would be for the website & office maintenance.

Grading Ordinance: Linda encourages us to be informed and do our part as individuals given that NWWG is not an advocacy group. On another note, Bruce or "Pat" as he is known, spoke about a new subdivision going in across from Long Valley.

Newsletter: Is ready and going out to local residents and landowners

Fair booth report: In general it was a good turn out—visitors ebbed and flowed; materials were distributed

Reviewed mission: Discussed who we are and our relationship to the community/watershed

New projects: Tania McCurry would like some assistance from us to plant willow on her property—perhaps a demonstration project.

Brainstorm for event:

Watershed Restoration Project Tour:

-Robinson Creek

-Hendy woods to Apple Farm—watershed interpretation

-Gowan Creek (Pat)

-Bradford Restoration Project

-Other sites—the property across from Toll House (from Navarro Plan), high school, Tebbutts.

Next meeting: October 18<sup>th</sup> 4:30 pm—Bruce Patterson on agenda



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting October 18, 2006**

Members present; Patty Madigan, Thembi Borrás, Bill Taylor, Linda MacElwee  
Facilitator; Patty  
Notetaker; Linda

Announcements; Native Plant Collection Workshop, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Series, October 24<sup>th</sup>  
4:30 pm-6:00pm meet at the Domes at the High School.  
Reports:

Grading Ordinance-Bill Taylor gave a report @ Grading Ordinance meeting that happened Tuesday Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm, next public meeting scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> to select a final draft of the ordinance.

Funding- RCD offered to allow the proceeds of the River Guide sales go toward the rent on the River Center after March and our current grant. Whoo hoo!

Quarterly Planning November-January:

Tanya McCurry- volunteer willow planting along the banks of the Navarro. Possible late fall date- December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>.

Action items- Linda will call Tanya @ project and will also check with Ken@ willow dormancy. Bill T. said he would help coordinate such an event.

David Lewis Watershed Talk – Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:30 PM at the Boonville Firehouse. David is the Watershed Management Advisor for UC Cooperative Extension. His talk is titled- Results and Outcomes of Watershed Stewardship. He will be discussing Coho Life cycles and the Russian River Coho Restoration Program. He will also be talking about Watershed functions and reducing non-point sources (NPS) of runoff.

Action items- The firehouse is reserved, David L. will bring computer and projector. Linda will make a flyer and submit a PSA to AVA and KZYX.

Robinson Creek Restoration Tour at November Meeting November 15<sup>th</sup>- meeting will start early at 4:00pm to have greater access to daylight. We will meet at the River Center. Please be prompt as it will be getting dark early.

Action items- Patty will contact Teri Jo and Joe. Linda will contact the landowners.

Other brainstorming ideas: Linda brought up the need to set some ideas out ahead because it can take months to plan an event and need to think about seasonally sensitive timing and material.

Yorkville Ranch Restoration Site Tour for the public-Feb. –March

Creek Clean- up with the High School and Junior High kids in March- High School schedules.

Volunteer Seed Collection Day- September/October 2007 public event.

Continue Outreach to other groups- AV winegrowers- Linda will pursue this idea, any others?

First Salmon Social Potluck @ Grange with a film- 50\$ to rent the space / event

Grading Forum- partner with UC Cooperative Extension, NRCS, and NWWG- if the intent of ordinance is to conserve soil then here are ways to do it.

Create Educational Materials and make them available to the public- like Fred's idea of Road Management Tips for Landowners, or Ken's Native Plant list- or a good map with tributaries named,

Seed Saving in the Spring- in place of a meeting once a year we go out and collect seed.

Creek Walk with Karen Gaffney- June - September 2007

Next Meeting November 15, 2006 at the River Center



## **Minutes of the Navarro Watershed Working Group Meeting November 15, 2006**

Note: we spent the first hour of the meeting touring restoration sites on Robinson Creek, so only had time for a quick meeting

Present: Kristine Lawler, Fred Martin, Nicole Porter, Linda MacElwee  
Bill Taylor, Patty Madigan

### Announcements:

- Saturday Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> 12:30-3:30pm In Stream Bio-engineering Workshop with Teri Jo Barber from Ridge to River. We will meet at the High School at 12:30. wear boots or something you can get into the river with, bring gloves and a shovel or pick. We will also tour some nearby restoration sites.
- Sat. November 18<sup>th</sup>, tour of the Tebbutt's restoration site on Anderson Creek, organized by the AVL. Starts at 11:00 am.
- Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> Panel discussion on the 2007 Farm Bill. Tom Bius president of the Farmer's Union, rep. From Mike Thompson's office, Dan Imhoff from the Wild Farm Alliance (author of Food Fight, a citizen's guide to the 2007 Farm Bill) Roland Wentzel local landowner and agro-economist. Many of the conservation programs run through the RCD's could be affected by the Farm Bill. Nonetheless, should be interesting discussion- 7:30 pm at the AV Grange.

### Report on Watershed talk and slide show;

David Lewis the watershed advisor for Sonoma, Marin and Mendocino gave a talk and slideshow at the Boonville Firehouse. There were only a few people that came but it was full of scientific information and graphs on how restoration was working. He gave an excellent overview of Watershed functions and processes. Linda has it video taped, we can schedule a time to watch it together if people are interested.

We have tentative date scheduled January 18<sup>th</sup> with Brock Dolman to come up and give a talk and slideshow in the evening. Will keep you posted. Patty made the suggestion of doing it during our regular scheduled meeting, or co-sponsoring such an event with AVL, will talk to Barbara or Susan.

Xmas Gathering and Thembi and Steve's going away and well-wishing Fiesta at Patty and Tom's in Comptche, Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm. Patty will take food suggestions, will follow up with potluck meal coordination.

Newsletter report: 1100 newsletters were sent out to all the landowners in the Navarro Watershed and nearby surrounding communities as well as some agency and working partners

Fundraising: Send out a plea for funds to help keep the River Center going

- Fred suggests emphasize localness
- Patty will draft a letter and send out to us for approval. She will include factual interests.
- Bill suggests mentioning calendar events in the letter.
- Will focus on people that have benefited from our work
- Bill suggests an “adopt a native” or “part of watershed” program
- Patty suggests that the Coastal Conservancy could help, but they need to see community support
- Basic Costs to keep River Center doors open per month are roughly \$325
- RCD has offered to let 100% of sales of the River Guide go toward Rent on River Center
- Idea- Local businesses or wineries could support River Center for 1 month a year.
- Patty leaving the Navarro in March for a bigger River (the Russian)

Grant Funding in the Navarro Update

- \$75,000 will be applied
- Prop 50- North Coast ranked highest in the state
- 319H- recommended at the top of the list \$950,00- when the National Budget passes and funding comes in this will go to Roads projects throughout the Navarro including Hendy Woods

Next Meeting- January 17<sup>th</sup> 2007 at the River Center 4:30-6:00pm

p.s. Bill notes Feb tour of sites for Fish Spawning