

Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) - Update

Administrative Committee Meeting
December 14, 2016

Jonathan Brinkmann
Principal Planner

Overview



- Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Background
- Comment Letter
- Comments Approach
- HCP Schedule

▶ **1997 Habitat Management Plan (HMP)**

- Allowed Army to transfer Fort Ord property
- Established Fort Ord Habitat Reserve System
- Did not authorize “Take” of special status species

▶ **HCP expected outcomes**

- New Joint Powers Authority to manage annual expenditures and ensure HCP compliance
- Funding to manage habitat reserve system
- Federal and State Incidental Take Permits

Comment Letter



- ▶ US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) July 29, 2016 letter included nine general comments
 1. **Base any mitigation on Fort Ord National Monument (Monument) land to only be in addition to Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) normal activities**
 2. Confirm durability of mitigation on Monument land with BLM
 3. Require USFWS approval of any step-down plans implementing HCP requirements
 4. Provide additional detail on alternatives
 5. Clarify if non-Federal Habitat Management Areas (HMA's) can be sold
 6. Form Cooperative before permit issuance
 7. Enact HCP implementing ordinances/policies before permit issuance
 8. Clarify how mitigation lands would be preserved in perpetuity
 9. Define restoration targets and responsible party for Monument lands

Comments Approach



- ▶ **No longer manage species that aren't state or federal listed, or those listed and not known to occur outside of the Monument**
 - HCP species now include: Western Snowy Plover, Smith's Blue Butterfly, California Red-legged Frog, California Tiger Salamander, Sand Gilia, Seaside Bird's Beak, Monterey Spineflower, and Yadon's Piperia
- ▶ **Define additional mitigation measures funded by Permittees to benefit HCP species within the Monument**
 - Habitat restoration, weed abatement, transplantation/propagation planning, and manage fire-adapted systems
- ▶ **Revise HCP to only rely on Monument lands for mitigation when Permittees' additional mitigation measures provide a link for the reliance**

Questions

