

**Bucks Lake Public Planning Workshop  
Plumas Fairground – Quincy, California  
September 3, 2008 - 3:00 to 7:00pm**

A public planning workshop for the Bucks Lake pilot project was hosted by the Stewardship Council on September 3, 2008, in Quincy, California. A total of 77 individuals attended and participated in the workshop, representing a wide variety of interests, including local, state, federal, and tribal governments; community organizations; and local businesses. The primary purpose of this workshop was to solicit input from the public on the development of a Land Conservation and Conveyance Plan (LCCP) to preserve and enhance Bucks Lake. The Stewardship Council will consider all input received from the public.

During the meeting, a break-out session was held in which the workshop attendees were randomly divided into five groups consisting of approximately 10-15 people. Discussions were guided by staff and focused on two topics: important qualifications of future land owners and conservation easements holders, and importance/priority of the 15 potential measures recommended for Bucks Lake. Notes from each group were recorded on flip-charts and key discussion points were reported back to the larger group at the end of the workshop by a community member. Below is a compilation of the notes from each group according to color assignments.

**Yellow Group Breakout Session Notes**

**Topic #1: Qualifications of future landowners and conservation easement holders.**

- Generally understands values and history of Bucks Lake area and community and what it represents with respect to development of their plan
- Transparency of donee intentions
- Financial stability and longevity and ability to fund on-going monitoring without passing on the cost to consumers/public
- Donee sensitive to existing encumbrances (water rights, sewer easements, etc.) and work with them, not against them
- Donee has endowment large enough to fund future monitoring and pay costs and out-strip inflation
- Knowledge of/proven experience in financial management
- Donees need to protect and respect existing rights (access to water supplies)
- Donee willing to accept safeguards in case of default
- Despite size of organization, donee needs to demonstrate local understanding
- Need designated go-to person with a vested interest in the future of Bucks Lake
- Someone that blends in with this area, will complement past uses and history
- Willingness to collaborate

Other comments on donees:

- When will the public get to provide input on donee selection and intentions?
- Want to know donee's plan for public access
- Who pays for redoing the easement or finding a new donee in the future?

## **Topic #2: Importance/priority of potential measures to preserve/enhance BPVs.**

- Preservation of Historic Values a priority, but measures do not include historical value of cabin community
- Would like to add measure to preserve and maintain the historical Bucks Lake Community (1850 to today). This measure would include:
  - Continuation of existing leases and the ability to repair and rebuild as needed
  - Preservation of community life and not do things to disrupt it
  - Recognition of the historical value of cabins and homes
- Sustainable forestry important, including cleaning up after harvesting, want responsible logging
- Fuels management important
- Want more shoreline improvements
- Impact of public access an issue as it can have a negative impact on the BPVs. Need to address the impact of increasing public access. Improvements should not negatively impact homeowner's quality of life (e.g., Indian Rocks)
- Improvements need to limit the intensity of uses, need to understand capacity for use/recreation at Bucks Lake
- Coordination with commercial and homesite lessees should be in the overall Planning Unit Objective
- Problems at Indian Rocks make us question the wisdom of expanding day use area amenities. Need checks and balances when adding new recreation amenities
- Toilet measures – good thing but need to mitigate for impacts, Indian Rocks is an example - was overcrowded and trashy on holiday weekend

### Other comments on measures:

- Have a lot of public facilities as it is now
- When do we find out outcome of surveys and plans?
- Why can't we see a draft conservation easement?

## **Red Group Breakout Session Notes**

### **Topic #1: Qualifications of future landowners and conservation easement holders.**

- Maintain openness
- Ability to educate public (plants, trees, conservation, history, and culture)
- Long-term existence (history)
- Must have mission statement and bylaws
- Free of political agenda
- Established organization
- Organization must have experience and education in land management
- Local ties to land and local community
- Provide funding for management

- Committed to purpose
- Stability of organization
- Non-exclusive (open to the public)
- Experience in managing current land uses (i.e., grazing and marina)
- Lease management experience

Five qualifications prioritized by group:

- History and stability of organization
- Local ties to land and community
- Free of political agenda
- Commitment to Beneficial Public Values
- Demonstrated management experience

Additional comments:

- There is a difference between fee holder and conservation easement holder qualifications.
- Holders of the conservation easement will manage the rules
- Land is not contiguous so there is a potential for several donees

**Topic #2: Importance/priority of potential measures to preserve/enhance BPVs.**

- Open space preservation
- Protection of natural habitat (unclear what level)
- Management practices should be coordinated with existing uses
- Coordinate management with existing and nearby land managers and agencies
- Identification of important plants, animals, habitats, etc.
- There is no objective that recognizes agriculture use – suggest adding one
- Day use area in the south part of Haskins Bay (designated swim area/beach for families, restrooms, picnic tables, and garbage facilities). There is potential for a lot of use at this site.
- Proper management and monitoring of day-use facilities. Activities at day-use area are not being monitored resulting in extended use into the evening.
- Provide adequate parking to accommodate access to the Pacific Crest Trail
- Ensure future measures are compatible with existing use (i.e., mountain bikes are not allowed on Pacific Crest Trail)
- Bring back Lakeshore Resort – day use and shoreline
- Sustainable forestry
- Fuels management plan
- Respect historic uses of the area
- Improve areas for public and increase understanding of the area

Four recommendations prioritized by group:

- Guaranteed protection of natural habitat
- Coordinate measures with existing land managers and agencies

- Proper management and monitoring of day use facilities
- Development of a fuels management plan

Additional comments:

- Open space designation will guarantee protection
- PG&E is in the process of negotiating a lease for Lakeshore Resort

### **Blue Group Breakout Session Notes**

#### **Topic #1: Qualifications of future landowners and conservation easement holders.**

- Strong fiscally
- Emotional tie to the land
- Responsible forestry (example: clear debris)
- Strong communication abilities, and communication between donees
- Responsible youth group
- Respect for lake, preference for keeping it the same
- Being present physically
- No youth component in proximity to cabins
  - If youth components, make sure they are responsible
- Make sure the easement holder and the fee owner have same ideals

#### **Topic #2: Importance/priority of potential measures to preserve/enhance BPVs.**

- Forest management high on the list
- Northern buffer on hikers, bikers, horse only (same as it is now)
- Improve existing recreational facilities
- Improve lakeshore resort
- Toilet/Refuse at Bucks Creek good/needed
- No casinos

### **Green Group Breakout Session Notes**

#### **Topic #1: Qualifications of future landowners and conservation easement holders**

- Want a group that respects the area
- How will the donee safeguard privacy and property
- Will there be means for input to the donee
- Does infrastructure exist for potential uses
- Law enforcement/Fire services
- Septic issues/garbage
- Financial stability/capacity
- Ability to follow through
- Local – Committed
- Track record of success

- Multi-experienced/references
- Longevity
- Group that understands local culture/history

**Topic #2: Importance/priority of potential measures to preserve/enhance BPVs.**

- Priority for lower impact activities
  - Noise, congestion, over use, specifically on the Lake
- Forest Management
  - Fuels
- Historical uses a priority
- Plan around infrastructure
- Don't pave Mile High Road
- Maintain special rural quality of life
- No massive expansion
- Maintain wilderness
- Resolve leach field issues
  - Exclude from donee lands
- Increase public uses
- Day use liability issues
  - People/trash/bears/trespassing
- Donee insurance
- Who manages the donees

**Orange Group Breakout Session Notes**

**Topic #1: Qualifications of future landowners and conservation easement holders**

- Integrity – not personal agenda
- Knowledge in the local area / local concerns – long term
- Goals to maintain the qualities of the local area
- Financial stability
- Long term ownership – reason to be there
- Should not be too large of an organization
- Experience with leases and lease holders
- Knowledge / interest in historical resources
- Ties to the land
- Maintain the character of Bucks

**Topic #2: Importance/priority of potential measures to preserve/enhance BPVs**

- What is the necessity of a survey
- Conservation easement should address each issue
- Buffer which reduces use would NOT be preferred
- Parking
- Long term implication of all measures

- A day use area may limit access by paying customers to Lakeshore resort area
- Parking and access for emergency vehicles in limited areas
- The location of the Haskins Bay area bathroom may not be necessary given the new USFS improvements nearby
- Day use of Haskins Bay (ferc issue?)
- Placement of measures based on recent information
- Lack of agriculture being addressed for the unit (horse lease)
- Open range area affected by the unit?