



**San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
March 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Meeting held at Brisbane City Hall, 50 Park Place, Brisbane**

Attendees:

San Mateo County Parks Staff

- Ramona Arechiga, Natural Resource Manager
- Sam Herzberg, Senior Planner

Creekside Center for Earth Observation (Creekside Science)

- Dr. Stuart Weiss

California Native Plant Society

- Doug Allshouse
- Jake Sigg

San Bruno Mountain Watch

- Ken McIntyre

West Coast Wildland

- Mike Forbert

US Fish & Wildlife Service

- Joseph Terry

1. 30 Assessment

At their December 19, 2013 meeting the San Bruno Mountain HCP Trustees approved a Request for Proposal (RFP) to conduct an assessment of 30 years of San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The assessment would review habitat management and covered species monitoring. The HCP Trustees authorized the RFP to be distributed in the spring of 2014. The RFP was distributed to 11 potential biological contractors and one consultant marketing firm to help solicit additional proposals.

The Senior Planner, Sam Herzberg, confirmed that two firms had expressed interest, Creekside Science and Huffman Broadway. Only Creekside Science submitted a proposal by the deadline. The Creekside Science proposal was circulated to the TAC before the meeting March 20, 2014. TAC's roles was to: 1) interview Creekside Science and review their scope of work, budget and schedule; 2) determine the quality of the proposal; 3) determine if any proposal modifications were needed; and 4) make a recommendation to the Trustees regarding next steps.

During the March 20, 2014 TAC members raised specific questions they wanted answered through the assessment.

These included:

- 1) The optimum amount of habitat?
- 2) Can changes in butterfly populations be quantified based habitat management?
- 3) How do core habitats move based on weather and vegetation management?
- 4) Could a roundtable be created with regional Mission Blue butterfly experts to learn what is working best?
- 5) What is normal variability?
- 6) Should habitat density and assemblages be counted instead of butterfly population?
- 7) Should fixed transects move or be added?
- 8) What would be required to reintroduce the Bay Checkerspot butterfly on San Bruno Mountain?

The consensus of the TAC was to request that Creekside Science modify their proposal to address the questions listed above. The TAC further recommended that Creekside Science adjust their schedule to complete a DRAFT ready to review by the end of 2014. The TAC initiated a recommendation to the San Bruno Mountain HCP Trustees to hire Creekside Science to conduct the 30-year assessment as altered by the TAC's input described above.