

Notes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00. Present were:

Committee Members

Roy Curless
Ted Kuiper

Bob Gearheart
Dennis Mayo
Mark Wheatley

Dennis Hunter
Richard Trygar

Commission Staff

David Hull

Patti Tyson

The meeting was facilitated by Ted Loring, Jr.

Following up on the July 23rd meeting, additional comments were made about the notes from the four outreach meetings:

- The comments were generally consistent with those made during prior plan revisions.
- There is a continuing emphasis on balance, resolving the demands of competing interests.
- Some see an imbalance where the District has resolved the demands of competing interests.

Threats and Opportunities

The group was asked to look at the next three to a five years. From that perspective participants were asked to identify the most significant threats and opportunities facing the district. The group brainstormed the following points. Note that the group did not validate or approve any of the items presented below.

A. Opportunities	<i>Threats</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for trails and related improvements is increasing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The permitting process is broken.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ownership of bay front lands permits the District to initiate economic development activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District has very little discretionary income available for investment in new projects.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eco-system Bay Management (EBM) meeting is a science and policy coalition that brings new energy and resources to implementation of the Humboldt Bay Management Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District should anticipate objections from private parties and environmental non-profits to any development plan for the Redwood Dock.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An RV park could be built on District property in Fields Landing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act is likely to significantly impact commercial and sport fisheries.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District could develop and lease new aquaculture plots on the bay, utilizing the model pioneered elsewhere in the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You could increase District staff by a factor of ten and still not have enough personnel to do everything on the wish list.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The carbon sequestration aspect of shellfish projects can be sold as an environmental benefit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toxic contamination will be a trump card which can be played in the analysis of any bay related development project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competing interests create something of a political vacuum. There may be the opportunity to convene a coalition of interests to define local priorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no agreement on an affordable and acceptable disposal site for dredge spoils, which puts the entire dredging program at risk.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be the opportunity to support bio mass conversion projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The world is filled with unhappy, litigious people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community of concerned, local professionals has developed which has the ability to address environmental issues straight on. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of the bay, if it becomes a model for other jurisdictions, will also provide huge educational opportunities. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of the Klamath fisheries will change the demands made on the bay. 	

Potential Initiatives

The group was asked to reflect on the whole range of issues discuss during the outreach and follow up sessions. It was then asked to brainstorm potential strategic initiatives. Initiatives suggested should describe a desired change in the world that, arguably, could be achieved in the next three to five years. Again, the items listed below are the suggestions of individual participants. They were not validated or approved by the group.

At the conclusion of the brainstorming session, the group used a mechanical ranking process to roughly prioritize the potential initiatives. The potential initiatives are presented below in the priority determined by the process.

	<i>Potential Initiative</i>
5	Develop productive uses for District owned lands.
5	Map and manage personal safety and homeland security related issues around the bay.
4	Implement the Humboldt Bay Management Plan Task Force
4	Develop a coalition that will take on the task of designing an innovative, streamlined permitting process.
3	Develop a comprehensive response to the anticipated danger from tsunamis.



3	Increase the effectiveness of coordination and cooperation with local port operators.
3	Convene local interests to address potential impacts from the local implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act.
2	Develop a comprehensive response to the anticipated rise in sea level.
2	Promote District successes - regarding economic, recreational and conservation issues – to the public and interested parties.
2	Promote the redevelopment of a rail-link and road improvements.
2	Build an informational and political basis for deciding the future of rail on the north coast.
2	Support and/or engage in the development of water trails.
1	Catalyze the creation of a bay institute and/or a bay interpretive center.
1	Clarify the District’s jurisdictional boundaries as restoration projects and other factors change the shape of the bay.
1	Reinforce eel grass conservation efforts.
1	Devise a measure for the “capacity” of various bay habitats.
1	Devise a measure to assess the potential of the bay to host mitigation projects.
0	Implement a bay-wide signing program.
0	Create an effective inventory of cultural and historic resources around the bay and interpret it.
0	Commission a baseline survey of existing recreational uses around the bay and devise a methodology to determine the bays recreational “capacity”.

