

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: **RECORD OF MEETING**

MEETING TITLE: **LAST CHANCE GRADE PARTNERING MEETING**

<b>MEETING DATE:</b> 5/31/17	<b>TIME:</b> 1000 - 1200	<b>LOCATION:</b> YUROK TRIBAL OFFICE, KLAMATH, CA
<b>Facilitator</b> Jaime Matteoli  <b>Meeting initiated by:</b> Caltrans District 1	<b>Attendees</b> Victor Bjelajac Jeff Bomke Craig Compton Laura Denny Karl Falk-Carlsen Javier Kinney Rosalind Litzky Jaime Matteoli Kevin Mealue Brandi Natt David Roemer Brett Silver	<b>Titles / Affiliations</b> District Superintendent, California State Parks California State Parks Green Diamond Resource Co. Redwood National Park Project Management Support, Caltrans OSG, Yurok Tribe Environmental Senior, Caltrans Project Manager, Caltrans Environmental Services, Elk Valley Rancheria Yurok Tribe National Park Service California State Parks

Notes:

**I. INTRODUCTIONS:**

Introductions were made and a brief overview of the agenda was given.

**II. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

A. Jaime Matteoli briefly discussed the content of the previous meeting, acknowledged that the partnership had not met in approximately one year and gave a brief overview of some of the events that have happened at Last Chance Grade since that time. There was a brief discussion about the decision that MIG (Joan) is no longer needed to moderate these Partnership meetings.

**III. MOU**

- A. Adding Partners
  - 1. Caltrans recommends that two additional partners are added to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Green Diamond Resource Co. and the Resighini Rancheria. New members to the partnership must receive approval from all members of the current MOU to be added to the partnership and the MOU.
    - a. The partners agreed that the MOU approval process can be quite lengthy, because of the many agencies and administrations the document must flow through. Because of this, the partners agreed to change the MOU as little as possible while adding the new partners.
    - b. Green Diamond stated that they are thankful for the opportunity to join the Partnership and look forward to providing their knowledge and information. Green Diamond also stated that their legal department has reviewed the current MOU and is okay with joining the MOU as it stands, given the approval from all current partners.
    - c. Green Diamond and the Resighini Rancheria will need to provide a "Whereas" statement for the "Witnesseth" section of the MOU.
- B. Update Org Charts
  - 1. As it has been a year since the adoption of the current MOU, and the Partnership is looking to add new members to the MOU, it was agreed that all current and new members of the Partnership should update the organization charts included as an appendix to the MOU.
- C. Other Updates and Suggestions
  - 1. It was suggested that while we are updating the org charts and adding members to the MOU, it would also be a good idea to update the Goals section of the MOU. Many of the current goals have been completed and the Partnership is moving forward toward new tasks and goals.
  - 2. Jaime Matteoli also suggested that verbiage be added discussing the environmental studies that will take place when the project gets fully funded.
  - 3. A discussion was had about the amount of cultural review that was done for the original MOU, in addition to the legal review. As a result, Victor Bjelajac (State Parks) will have both the State Parks cultural and legal teams review the updated MOU before signing. Green Diamond also added that all of their timber harvest plans contain a cultural review and that these plans are on file with Cal Fire.
  - 4. The addition of language in the MOU to the effect of the org charts and the goals section be updated on an annual basis was also discussed. Those present at the meeting were in favor of such language.

#### IV. UPDATES

- A. 2016/2017 Storm Damage, Funding and Repairs
  - 1. Caltrans is spending approximately \$27.6 Million in construction costs to repair four walls and construct or extend four walls, eight total, from damage that occurred during events since March, 2016.
- B. Caltrans funding \$5M for Geotechnical Studies
  - 1. Caltrans District 1 has received \$5 Million in partial SHOPP funding to conduct geotechnical investigations and for the associated environmental work required. This partial funding is separate from and in addition to an Expert Risk Assessment being prepared. Caltrans is working with State Parks now to obtain a Scientific Collection Permit for this geotechnical work.
    - a. Jaime Matteoli said that he will share the schedule for this geotechnical work at the next Partnership meeting.
  - 2. State Parks and Caltrans discussed an upcoming meeting between the two agencies to discuss funding a liaison position for the Last Chance Grade project or other Caltrans work. State Parks is interested in being involved in tree surveys.
- C. Coordinating with FHWA on Approaching Approval of a Permanent Project
  - 1. Caltrans is currently working with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to get full funding for the project.
    - a. At this time, Caltrans and FHWA are coordinating an Expert Risk Assessment which would inform and support any decision to approve and fund a permanent realignment around Last Chance Grade. The Expert Risk Assessment team will consider the geotechnical information and risks associated with the project to compile a report. Caltrans is anticipating this report being completed during Summer, 2018.
- D. Partner Updates
  - 1. National Parks suggested that public outreach be looked into for viewing the project alternative alignments when we get closer to a fully funded project. People would likely be interested in seeing the different alignments and want to view/walk some or all of them. To mitigate trespassing and liability issues, it is anticipated that there will be a need to hold guided tours for the public to view some of the potential alignments. Jaime Matteoli will discuss with Jeremiah Joyner (Caltrans, Right of Way).
  - 2. Caltrans Environmental is working with Redwood National Park to get Scientific Collection permits, which will be needed for the geotechnical studies associated with the \$5M in partial SHOPP funding. Caltrans will need to get two rounds of permits, the first for surveys and the second for the actual geotechnical field studies.
  - 3. Craig Compton said that the Green Diamond staff geologist could be available to coordinate and help with Caltrans' upcoming geotechnical efforts. Craig will email Jaime Matteoli the contact information.
  - 4. State Parks and Green Diamond are working together on a mutual agreement for a potential alternative route in an emergency, should Highway 101 not be available.
  - 5. Brandi Natt asked how Caltrans will disseminate information on traffic delays or closures at Last Chance Grade due to the work we are doing this summer? Delays and closures effect many systems the Yurok Tribe has in place, including transportation services. She asked that Caltrans and its contractors coordinate with the Yurok tribe on dates and times so that the tribe can work around the delays.

#### V. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. The team reviewed and concurred on the attached action items.
- B. The team agreed to hold a Partnering Meeting sometime in July. Jaime will send out a Doodle poll to determine the date.

Meeting concluded at 12:00 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Responsible	Action	Due Date
Craig Compton	Draft a "whereas" statement to add to the MOU.	7/15/17
All Partners	Update Org Charts from the MOU.	8/15/17
All Partners	What are goals and tasks to be listed in the updated MOU?	8/15/17
Victor Bjelajac	Have State Parks' legal and cultural teams review the MOU draft for updates.	8/15/18
Jaime Matteoli	Share our Long Lead Geotechnical Studies schedule with the Partners.	Next Meeting
Jaime Matteoli	Discuss the idea of having public showings of the alignments and walking tours with Caltrans Right of Way.	7/15/17
Jaime Matteoli	Send out doodle poll to schedule next meeting.	6/7/17
National Parks	Coordinate with State Parks and Caltrans on the Scientific Collection Permit	7/15/17
Jaime Matteoli	Reach out to Partners not present at today's meeting to discuss the issues presented.	7/1/17