

# **MARIPOSA COUNTY**

## **Merced River Trail Community Working Group**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** August 17, 2022

**TIME:** 4:15 PM

**LOCATION:** IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE HYBRID //  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS, 5100  
BULLION STREET, MARIPOSA CA, 95338**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Goralnik called the meeting to order at: 4:15 PM

Members Present: Ralph Mendershausen, Susie Clark, Wendy Brown, Tara Fouch-Moore, Jeff Jenkins, Michael Martin, Art Baggett,

Members Absent: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Miles Menetrey

Excused Absences: Jessica Thompson,

Visitors:

2. **APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE 7/20/22 MEETING:**

The minutes were unanimously passed with minor modifications.

3. **DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL UPSTREAM ROUTE ALTERNATIVES:**

Baggett shared that he, Smallcombe, and Goralnik had two meetings with Jose Hernandez and others from Stanislaus National Forest/USFS District 5 to discuss both the El Portal and Foresta bypasses, and additional considerations for the Miller Gulch property. He shared that USFS was helpful and collaborative, and that USFS recommended discussing the potential remediation activities on Miller Gulch as part of a future phase—but that they would not be party to the restoration activities. He shared that USFS staff would be need to do and promised to conduct significant research to understand agency practices and policies related to the potential right of way acquisition at Miller Gulch.

4. **DISCUSSION ON DRAFT VISION PLAN CHAPTER 1:**

Mendershausen shared that he, Michael Martin, and Tara Fouch Moore had discussed some comments that Michael had on the history section. These comments were integrated into the comment log for Chapter 1 and would be addressed in the final draft of this chapter. Wendy Brown shared a comment about the destructive impacts of mining. Ralph had a comment about the text being cut off at the bottom of pg. 12 in the section on the ranching history. Michael has a suggested edit for the text on the image on pg. 29.

Goralnik stated that all CWG comments on the chapter draft would be due on August 31.

5. **DISCUSSION ON DRAFT VISION PLAN APPENDIX:**

Michael Martin suggested that staff consider removing content from the EPA Technical Assistance related to the Miller Gulch site and the Headwaters Economics Merced River Trail Community Benefits Study from the appendix.

**6. DISCUSSION ON ADDITIONAL DRAFT VISION PLAN SECTIONS:**

Goralnik shared that he had received comments from USFS and NPS on the Action Plan, and had addressed those comments in the current draft. The draft Action Plan had also been distributed to BLM staff to provide comments, which had not yet happened.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**8. ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned the meeting at 5:35 PM.

Minutes Prepared by: Mikey Goralnik

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