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SANTA ROSA & SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL MONUMENT

MONUMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT
OF
PROCEEDINGS

LOCATION: PALM DESERT CITY HALL
Palm Desert, California

DATE
AND TIME: Saturday, April 5, 2003
9:03 a.m. - 1:35 p.m.

REPORTED BY: Sonja Chapman, CSR
CSR NO. 11504

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1 PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA; SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2003

2 9:03 A.M.

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4

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We're now ready to
6 begin. The court reporter asks that you speak
7 loudly and clearly so she can hear you. We call
8 the meeting to order. My apologies for a few
9 minutes late. Welcome to everyone. The review of
10 the minutes of the last meeting -- two meetings,
11 actually. The meeting in December and the meeting
12 in February, both of which have been reviewed by
13 myself and staff and corrections made. They are
14 before you for your information.

16 accept?

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I don't think so.

18 Housekeeping, update from designated
19 federal official. Danella.

20 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Good morning.

21 Danella George, National Monument Manager. A
22 little housekeeping first of all. We have a new
23 court reporter, Sonja Chapman.

24 Sonja, feel free if you cannot hear
25 someone to give us a signal so that we speak

4

1 clearly for you and hopefully say our names.

2 Remember to do that.

3 I wanted to review the agenda. We're
4 hoping that this will be an abbreviated meeting
5 today, that we'll get out fairly early.

6 We're going to have a presentation after
7 the agency updates by Jim Kenna and
8 Laurie Rosenthal by Tracy Liegler regarding the
9 Interpretive and Environmental Education Concept
10 Plan, which you should have all received in the
11 mail, I hope.

12 MS. ANDERSON: No. Never got it. Today
13 is the first I've seen it.

14 MR. FREET: First I've seen it.

15 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Tracy? We mailed
16 them out, didn't we, Tracy?

17 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh.

18 MS. ANDERSON: The notice was they were
19 going out on the 21st of March, and I have been
20 looking for it ever since.

21 MS. GEORGE: They were mailed to your
22 residence.

23 MS. ANDERSON: Okay. I'm sorry. I was
24 referring to this.

25 MS. GEORGE: No. Interpretive. We did

1 that like two weeks ago.

2 MS. ANDERSON: Okay. Yes, I got the
3 Interpretive.

4 MS. GEORGE: Okay. So Tracy will be
5 covering that. So you had that, hopefully, to
6 look at and kind of digest.

7 Real briefly, Ed and I are going to talk
8 about a couple of slides, Power Point, and talk
9 about where the Monument Advisory Committee wants
10 to go with input or where we need you to go to
11 help us move from the draft plan to the final
12 plan.

13 We'll have our public comment. This is
14 the first meeting where public comment happens
15 from 11:00 to 12:00. Lunch at 12:00.

16 And then Connell, unless we get going and
17 can move this up before lunch, will go over the
18 Draft National Monument Plan, which you do have a
19 copy of the draft on your table. That was
20 presented this morning. And also a copy of the
21 Executive Summary on the table for you. And
22 Connell will go through those with all of us.

23 Then we'll summarize the meetings and
24 we'll adjourn. So that's our agenda.

25 I have good news to share. There was a

1 Gallop poll done with all the federal advisory
2 committees with the federal government, and our
3 committee surfaced in the top 40 nationally. And
4 of that, we were in the top two of the Bureau of
5 Land Management. The other one was up in
6 Medford. So for those of you who responded to
7 your Gallop poll, thanks so much. I guess we're
8 pretty happy. It's pretty good news. Pretty
9 impressive.

10 They interviewed me this week. I said,
11 "Whatever you do, please don't try and drag these
12 guys off to work with the people having problems,
13 because then they might not be happy."

14 Anyhow, I think some of the things I
15 cited as why I think we've done well is we have a
16 clear mission statement. You guys all worked
17 together in the past. There was a lot of thought
18 in who was put onto this committee. You have that
19 history. So those were my thoughts I shared with
20 them as to why I think you all work well.

21 The other thing -- yes?

22 MR. CRITES: Buford Crites, City of
23 Palm Desert. Where did the Desert Advisory
24 Council rank?

25 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. I did not

1 ask. We want to move through that after Gary and
2 Barbara and I, we don't want to be a part of
3 that.

4 Okay. Moving on. Just moving on to
5 update you all. We had a field trip on Monday.
6 We went out to Joshua Tree National Park. Frank
7 wanted to do this, Frank Bogert. Frank was unable
8 to go because he was sick, and the doctor wouldn't
9 let him out. So Jeff was the one Advisory
10 Committee member that did attend. We had a good
11 presentation by Joe Zarky.

12 There are some really nice kiosk signs
13 that are very general about all the different
14 parks, monuments, Forest Service that are going to
15 be available. We looked at the draft on that.

16 We looked at the nursery, and then we did
17 a quick drive-through and Jeff was really a good
18 tour guide. He's inclined to spend time there.

19 We had a good view at the Keyes Lookout
20 looking at the National Monument. Hopefully we
21 can work with the Park Service to do a future
22 interpretation of the National Monument from the
23 Keyes Lookout. So that was a good trip. We did
24 that.

25 I also would like to thank Barbara for

1 hosting -- when we had Assistant or Deputy
2 Secretary Griles out, hosting his assistant and
3 myself out in the canyons and a wonderful
4 wildflower walk through the canyons. That was
5 wonderful.

6 And Frank also hosted and showed us his
7 fine western spur collection, saddles and a lot of
8 good history. Right, Frank?

9 MR. BOGERT: I guess so.

10 MS. GEORGE: So I want to say thanks to
11 you folks for that. Let's see.

12 Sheila, who is normally with us usually
13 outside greeting folks, Sheila is attending the
14 Women's Leadership Conference this morning being
15 held in Indian Wells. And Mary Roche is opening
16 that because she is the leader and creator of the
17 Women's Leadership Council. Mary will be with us
18 later in the morning after she does that.

19 Let's see. I want to let you all know
20 you have two cards. I've given each of you two
21 cards. They're invitations for Earth Day Event,
22 April 22nd at the Visitor Center.

23 Feel free to share this with someone.
24 We're going to be doing some neat stuff out
25 there. At 11:00 we'll be recognizing the Nova

1 Academy, the poetry writing. They have
2 participated in writing about Leave No Trace in
3 the National Monument with PASTA, Parks and
4 Stewardship Through the Arts. So that should be a
5 nice affair between 11:00 to 12:00.

6 And that's on the 22nd, the official
7 Earth Day. But also, backing up on April 19th, we
8 will be hosting Frank Bogert at the Visitor Center
9 from 9:00 to 11:00. Frank is going to be signing
10 his book the second edition Palm Springs, The
11 First Hundred Years.

12 I'm going to pass around fliers. Feel
13 free to take a few and share with folks. I went
14 to Frank's book signing at Palm Springs, and it
15 was standing room only. So hopefully we'll get a
16 good turnout on the 19th at the Visitor Center
17 from 9:00 to 11:00.

18 There will also be plenty of artists in
19 the morning there from The Desert Mice. The
20 Desert Mice will be there painting the desert.

21 And Starbucks from La Quinta has entered
22 into a partnership with us. We'll be working with
23 them. So they'll have their coffee booth there on
24 the 19th and on the 22nd.

25 On the 15th, Terry has invited me to

1 speak to La Quinta City Council, which I look
2 forward to doing.

3 The last thing I guess really to share
4 with you all is the appointments, where we are.
5 The stagger one-year appointments are now up to
6 the level of Kit Kimble. Once they have the
7 Secretary's blessing, the Forest Service will
8 concur. So hopefully by the June meeting.

9 The second stagger, I met the time lines
10 I agreed to at the last meeting on updating the
11 Federal Register notice, sent up the food chain.
12 It is now at the Secretary's level. So hopefully
13 we'll be getting that back, and we can do the
14 press and publicity.

15 There will be a 45-day period from when
16 it's announced in the Federal Register notice for
17 people that wish to apply for the positions.

18 We also have some packets for folks that
19 were at the last meetings for the -- so we brought
20 those along. For not reappointment, but for call
21 for nominations. I've been corrected on that by
22 the department. The new call for nominations.

23 The recharter has been sent to the state
24 office. We sent that up. A courtesy copy has
25 gone to the regional office of the Forest Service

1 as well as to Laurie Rosenthal.

2 I guess the last thing, I'm hoping today
3 we might have a discussion, if we have any time,
4 about the future of the Monument foundation.

5 We learned at Joshua Tree that the
6 foundation there right now is pulling in about
7 \$100,000 a year funds that are going directly to
8 the park to help do work as well as just the
9 volunteers they have, which is above inclined
10 service. So I'm hoping we can look at that
11 because we need to move forward on developing a
12 National Monument foundation.

13 Then I've been asked to introduce
14 Greg Hill. Greg is visiting the advisory
15 committee today.

16 Greg, do you want to tell them about
17 yourself?

18 MR. HILL: I'm the new planning and
19 environmental coordinator for our office here in
20 Palm Springs. So I'll be working with all of our
21 planning efforts in the office.

22 I've been in the San Diego project office
23 of Palm Springs/South Coast office down Hamul, if
24 you know where that is. Outside of San Diego we
25 have a little office down there.

1 So for the past three years I've been
2 down there. And previous to that, I worked for
3 the BLM in Utah at the Grand Staircase National
4 Monument, which was BLM's first National
5 Monument. So I have a little experience with
6 these monuments.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Welcome.

8 MR. HILL: Thank you.

9 MS. GEORGE: And last, we wanted to
10 recognize the folks that have had perfect
11 attendance for the National Monument in the first
12 year. So we've created a Certificate of
13 Achievement. It's "In recognition of your perfect
14 attendance at all Santa Rosa and San Jacinto
15 Mountains National Monument Advisory Committee
16 Meetings during calendar year 2002."

17 The first one is going to
18 Robert Brockman. The second one is going to go to
19 Mr. Gary Watts.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: All right, Gary.

21 MS. GEORGE: And the third one is going
22 to Mr. Jeffrey Morgan.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: All right, Jeff.

24 MS. GEORGE: Then we also want to
25 recognize our chair, Mr. Ed Kibbey. And last but

1 certainly not least is Ms. Connell Dunning, who
2 has also had perfect attendance.

3 And I am done with 10 minutes shaved off
4 or eight minutes shaved off. So back to you,
5 Mr. Chair.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Is that what's known as
7 a close shave?

8 MS. GEORGE: A close shave.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. All right.
10 Mr. Kenna, sir.

11 MR. KENNA: Mr. Kibbey, sir. I'm really
12 just going to give you one item of update. I
13 wanted to talk a little bit about the Trails
14 Management Plan because there's so much going on
15 right now, I wanted to bring everybody up to
16 date.

17 What I thought probably what I'd do is
18 start at about 3,000 feet and look at this thing
19 from a big-picture standpoint and take everybody
20 back to 1999, when we had the scoping meeting at
21 The Living Desert and 200-plus people participated
22 and a lot of interest and concern about trails.

23 It was also in '99 that we had the
24 beginning of the voluntary program on the trails
25 that BLM started. In about 2000, along came the

1 dog closure in the Santa Rosas covering everything
2 pretty much from Palm Canyon to the east.

3 Along with that we identified three areas
4 that we were going to work on for dog areas. All
5 three of those have now been identified and
6 completed. One is in La Quinta Cove, one in
7 Cathedral Cove and now one in Palm Desert. The
8 third one is now finally completed.

9 Through 2000 and 2001, we had 15 meetings
10 of the trails and sheep working group. They've
11 produced four alternatives that formed the
12 foundation for the discussions that went on with
13 the cities and the wildlife agencies.

14 They really worked off of two goals, one
15 to provide reasonable opportunities for
16 recreation. And two, to be consistent with sheep
17 recovery.

18 In 2002, we had the three-biologist
19 working group -- a biologist from Fish & Game, a
20 biologist from Fish & Wildlife Service and a
21 biologist from BLM -- that took the alternatives
22 that working group produced and worked through
23 those. It led to meetings with each of the
24 affected cities and the wildlife agencies.

25 Where we ended up at the end of that

1 process was what might be called a preliminary
2 preferred alternative. We put that into the
3 Draft EIS that BLM put out to sort of benchmark as
4 far as we had come.

5 For the second reason is we incorporated
6 into the BLM plan a recovery strategy for Bighorn
7 sheep, and to the extent that it related to
8 trails, given all the high interest in trails, we
9 needed something to point to and say "These are
10 the alternatives that are under discussion."

11 That being done, we had 90 days of public
12 comment. We received quite a bit of comment.
13 Remembering that we were receiving comment on the
14 entire plan for Coachella Valley, I would say
15 roughly half of the comments came in on trails.

16 Trails way a high-interest item. We
17 deferred the comment analysis on that, put it into
18 the cross-multijurisdictional trails planning
19 process. That comment analysis is now going on.

20 We have a couple of things to do. One is
21 to go through the comment analysis and make sure
22 we're responsive to all the comments.

23 Two, we need to revisit all the
24 alternatives and see what needs to be looked at or
25 changed based on the kinds of issues and concerns

1 that were raised.

2 Three, we need to work towards a public
3 draft, which will be done as a multijurisdictional
4 effort and should come out in October.

5 A lot of work has gone on over the last
6 year or so. There was a subgroup of the Trails
7 Working Committee that started to work on specific
8 alignments for peripheral trails.

9 There's been work done on specific
10 alignments for the La Quinta/Palm Desert Trail.
11 All of that is basically coming to a head at this
12 point.

13 So what's the process right at this
14 point? Well, we had to sort of reconvene the
15 three-biologist group to go through specifically
16 the biology-related comments.

17 The most common comment that we received
18 related to the biology had to do with what's the
19 science underneath this? What is the data? What
20 is the evidence? Does it make sense?

21 So they're going through that in a very
22 specific way, looking area by area, trail by
23 trail. They've done a series of meetings at this
24 point. Those meetings are pretty well through.
25 Now it's a matter of writing up all the details

1 and going through some consultation on that.

2 The goal essentially is to be responsive
3 to comment, to produce something that is logical,
4 defensible, and biologically meaningful as far as
5 the trails plan and also provides for the
6 recreational opportunities.

7 The goals really stayed the same as they
8 were with the trails working group process --
9 reasonable opportunities for recreation and
10 consistency with recovery of Peninsula Bighorn
11 Sheep.

12 If you look at the methods, the methods
13 that are being applied by the biologist group
14 basically revolve around four things:

15 One is looking very specifically at
16 habitat requirements. That includes water,
17 forage, escape cover. Those sorts of things.

18 Two, to look at habitat selection, again,
19 very specifically. Looking at ewes, looking at
20 rams because they select habitat differently.

21 Three, to apply knowledge of interactions
22 between sheeps -- sheep and human. Sheeps. Sheep
23 in the plural.

24 And then fourth, what knowledge we have
25 at this point of recreation use, where the

1 recreation use is, where it's lighter. And a lot
2 of that came from the monitoring effort related to
3 the voluntary program.

4 The whole basis that we're trying to make
5 sure that we have underneath this plan that makes
6 it solid and defensible and so on is that it's
7 well-founded facts in evidence.

8 So that's kind of where we're headed, and
9 that's kind of where we are. I wanted to get
10 everybody up to speed on that. So stay tuned. I
11 expect if we all stay on track, the public draft
12 should become available. October 1 is the target.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Questions
14 from the audience? Yes, sir. Please identify
15 yourself and speak up.

16 MR. SHATLER: John Shatler. Jim, what
17
18 Secretary Grile came and visited with you
19 regarding the looking at the trails and going
20 through the process of habitat requirement and
21 selection? Have there been any changes at all
22 since he came in terms of what the BLM is doing
23 and their analysis?

24 MR. KENNA: Not really. I guess what he
25 did, I believe, is essentially come and show

1 support to a process that I think we already
2 pretty much had under way with CVAG and the local
3 jurisdictions.

4 His basic message, as I understand it, is
5 that this should be a community-based approach,
6 that he wasn't going to come in and try to do the
7 analysis or be the biologist or any of that. He
8 just wanted to support the process and ensure that
9 we were doing our jobs, which was, you know, get
10 in there, be analytical, look to the facts and
11 evidence.

12 But all those things, I think, are very,
13 very consistent with the discussions that have
14 been going on with CVAG over the course of the
15 last year as well.

16 MR. SHATLER: Jim, have you received any
17 direction from the deputy secretary or from
18 Mike Pool or from the BLM that there should be
19 additional individual biologists or additional
20 different biological views that would go into this
21 analysis?

22 MR. KENNA: Not really. Although, I have
23 to say some of that discussion was going on before
24 the visit. You know, we really -- I think when we
25 did the original four alternatives in the Draft

1 EIS, we also sent that out to a very broad
2 cross-section of biologists across the west.

3 And that's part of the comment analysis
4 stuff that we got back is some biological peer
5 review style comments. Those we're going to take
6 a hard look at. And we will do that again.

7 MR. SHATLER: But that review will be
8 done by the same biologists that you had working
9 on it previously?

10 MR. KENNA: No, not necessarily. We may
11 very well look to a fairly formal peer review
12 process that would include -- what we want to make
13 sure that we have in this process and underneath
14 this process is a cross-section of the biological
15 opinion and review.

16 Because certainly, if we've learned
17 anything through this process, it's that there are
18 some differences in terms of what the biological
19 scientists say relative to the literature.

20 And then you add to that whatever the
21 facts and evidence are, and it creates, I think, a
22 complex enough situation that certainly I think
23 there's room for different points of view within
24 the biological science community. We've certainly
25 seen that.

1 Our intention is to make sure that all of
2 the biological science range of opinion is
3 represented. I think that, you know, sometimes
4 some of the best testing of the idea comes from
5 the minority of opinions that may and may not be
6 out there.

7 So you will see -- and I hope that's
8 really evident when you see the product in
9 October, I think you will see a pretty good
10 accounting of the range of biological opinion that
11 is out there.

12 And there really is a big push to make
13 sure we have solid facts and evidence under
14 whatever is being proposed. So there will be some
15 changes.

16 MR. SHATLER: Jim, will this peer review
17 take place prior to publication in October?

18 MR. KENNA: Yeah. Some of that is
19 ongoing right now.

20 MR. SHATLER: Okay. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions or
22 comments? Jeff?

23 MR. MORGAN: Jeff Morgan. I have a
24 suggestion that maybe next time Mr. Griles comes
25 out, he meet with members of the Advisory

1 Committee, or at least the chair of the Advisory
2 Committee so that we have a broader input with him
3 and not just an input from special groups.

4 MR. KENNA: Well, you know, obviously
5 Mr. Griles could have met with a lot of folks.
6 The trip could have been constructed differently.

7 I think the important point to remember
8 from my point of view is that Mr. Griles is not
9 trying to run the process. Mr. Griles is not
10 trying to influence the process. Mr. Griles is
11 just trying to put his support behind the
12 secretary's four "C's".

13 One of the most important elements of
14 them is communication, coordination and
15 consultation is that these types of processes have
16 a community foundation. So I think that was his
17 message, and hopefully, that would be
18 well-received by all parties.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Terry?

20 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson, City of La
21 Quinta. Mr. Chair, could we get some specifics on
22 the last conversation that just took place? I
23 believe I have an assumption that we might be
24 talking about some scientific evaluation on the
25 sheep habitat, but I'm not sure.

1 It seems to be related to this other
2 meeting. The record is going to reflect this
3 question and answer, and I'm not sure it's going
4 to tell anybody what it was in reference to.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

6 MS. GEORGE: Mr. Chair, just etiquette
7 format. In the future, we really need the
8 questions directed to the committee chair, and the
9 committee directs it back to the agency. FACA,
10 Federal Advisory Committees, are for the public to
11 talk to the committee, and then the committee
12 through the chair asks the agency to respond if
13 they so desire. Just so we don't get into a bad
14 habit.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, I think it's a
16 good habit. I'd like to recognize the audience
17 and will continue to do so.

18 MS. GEORGE: No. Well, correct.
19 Correct. Mr. Chair -- Mr. Chair, let me finish.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: All right.

21 MS. GEORGE: We want public participation
22 throughout, but it's the way we do it. It needs
23 to go through the chair, and the chair to the
24 agency.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It goes through the

1 chair by the chair recognizing the person. And
2 that is through the chair. They don't speak
3 without recognition of the chair.

4 MS. GEORGE: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Would you perhaps
6 outline the visit of the assistant secretary, why
7 he was here. And perhaps a little broader on the
8 scientific of the trails speaking to the input
9 from the public.

10 MR. KENNA: Sure. I guess first Deputy
11 Secretary Griles's visit my belief is that it
12 originated from invitation from Desert Riders.

13 It was the deputy secretary's view that
14 he wanted to hear some other points of view while
15 he was here, and he did. I mean, he visited the
16 Bighorn Institute. He certainly got a different
17 view than perhaps visits with the Desert Riders.

18 He understood and I think believed from
19 the get-go that he was not going to get the full
20 range of views in a one-day visit which included
21 in fact, some other issues as well.

22 What we did try to do is sort of
23 springboard off that and have a Saturday visit
24 that involved Steve Thompson, the head of Fish &
25 Wildlife Service and Mike Poole, the state

1 director for BLM, with CVAG. And we spent the
2 entire day Saturday, which was really where, you
3 know, most of the content of the how we discussed,
4 you know, what framework might allow for the
5 resolution of the remaining issues under the
6 multispecies plan.

7 We went around and physically looked at
8 different areas. It was very much not a visit in
9 the sense of trying to get specific solutions
10 identified, but more so to set a framework that
11 will allow us with CVAG to work over the next
12 period of months and get to the solutions that
13 might specifically address those issues.

14 Steve Griles's visit basically just sort
15 of gave us that springboard opportunity, because
16 the state director was down here and the director
17 of Fish & Wildlife was down here, and we were able
18 to work off of that.

19 I think the basic message of the Griles
20 visit was in the paper. It was very simple and
21 it's the way I articulated it. He wanted to put
22 some emphasis on a process that he thought would
23 be community-based and would be well-founded in
24 science and facts and evidence.

25 It's a very simple message. He wasn't

1 trying to go any deeper than that. He did try and
2 get that across, and I think it came across in the
3 paper. It wasn't intended to slight anybody or
4 anything along that line. So that's the visit
5 part.

6 The science part of this thing is a
7 process that's been going on with CVAG and the
8 wildlife agencies for some time. One of the most
9 common comments and concerns that we've received
10 is, you know, "What is the scientific basis for
11 some of the things that are in the various
12 alternatives that are being discussed?"

13 So the way to resolve that is to go back
14 and look at what kind of facts and evidence
15 underlay what is being discussed and proposed.
16 That is a very methodical process.

17 And you can look at habitat requirements
18 in a very objective way. Sheep require very
19 specific things in terms of they occur in certain
20 proximity to water. There is a certain roughness
21 that is required in the landscape in order to have
22 escape cover. Those things all have to be in
23 certain proximity.

24 So you can do some fairly objective
25 analysis about, you know, how good are the

1 elements in this portion of the landscape to meet
2 those habitat requirements.

3 The second thing you could do is you can
4 look at habitat selection. We have quite a bit of
5 data on habitat selection in the Santa Rosas.

6 You can look at, you know, historically
7 where the ewes, when population was high and when
8 population was low, where they had their lambs,
9 and have they reared those lambs. Those kinds of
10 things can be objectively looked at.

11 So it's going back. It's looking at
12 those kinds of foundation elements. There's
13 nothing mysterious about it really. It's just a
14 very analytical, very methodical kind of a view.
15 It was raised very strongly in the public
16 comment. So it's important that we do that.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Does that answer your
18 question, Terry?

19 MS. ANDERSON: Yes. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions or
21 comments from the members?

22 Jim, thank you very much for a good
23 report. I just want to comment that I think the
24 Griles visit was good because it raised our effort
25 to a national level.

1 I think it will ease things -- Jeff, I
2 think it will ease things when the plan does go
3 back there for their ultimate review, that it's
4 not going to be just another plan. I think it's
5 going to have the stamp of interest. I think
6 that's important.

7 One final question. Is there any
8 indication of when we'll actually start building
9 the peripheral trail?

10 MR. KENNA: It's my understanding it's as
11 soon as all the cities pony up big bundles of
12 money. That was a joke. I do think there are
13 plenty of opportunities. But we have to first get
14 to a decision where we all agree on a common
15 direction. Once we get there, I think this is one
16 of those things if we build a plan, it will come.

17 I think there are a number of options
18 related to building a trail. Certainly
19 public/private partnership is one of them.
20 There's a long history of that related to trails
21 in the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto mountains with the
22 Desert Riders Fund.

23 I'm not trying to suggest that they
24 agreed to anything. I'm just trying to say that
25 those kinds of public/private partnerships in this

1 part of the world are certainly a possibility.

2 I also think that there will be some
3 interest on the part of the congresswoman. As you
4 say, there's been national attention raised
5 through this so that if we can get this thing to a
6 decision that we're all ready to move forward
7 with, there's going to be some interest in trying
8 to make it successful.

9 So I hope to see a federal component in
10 there in terms of funding. I would look to see
11 some participation from the city and counties on
12 some of this. So I think it will be a mix, but I
13 think it's eminently doable.

14 I think the key thing here to really set
15 this thing up is to get it to the point where we
16 can agree that this is a logical management
17 direction. Let's go do it.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. Thank you very
19 much. Good report.

20 Laurie, good morning.

21 MS. ROSENTHAL: Good morning.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: This is
23 Laurie Rosenthal, District Ranger.

24 MS. ROSENTHAL: First of all, this
25 organization needs to celebrate because you have a

1 draft plan out. That's very important in
2 organizations for you to celebrate. So I want to
3 thank you all. Give yourselves a big hand. A
4 special hand for Connell.

5 Last time, I did a pretty intensive
6 report and update on the dead tree situation up on
7 the mountain. I'm not going to go into that too
8 much. Just a little bit of an update. This is
9 going to be really brief.

10 The governor has declared a state of
11 emergency. I don't know if you all knew this. It
12 finally happened. There was tremendous pressure.
13 This has been going on for a year that we've been
14 trying to get this.

15 So what it actually means, we're not
16 really sure. There's not any funds coming as a
17 result of it. But this does open up the
18 possibility for FEMA funds. So that's really
19 good. And politically, I think it's just a really
20 good thing to have that declaration.

21 A few other things related to the dead
22 tree situation. We have completed the Strawberry
23 Field break, which helps protect the Idyllwild and
24 Pine Cove community. And we are in the process of
25 working on another field break in Pine Cove, which

1 will help protect Pine Cove. That should be done
2 before the fire season.

3 We've also been very intensive getting
4 rid of hazard trees, especially those for
5 emergency evacuation routes and campsites with
6 dead trees that could fall on them. Those kinds
7 of things.

8 One of biggest challenge that I talked
9 about last time is what to do with all the slash,
10 what to do with the junk logs. We have no
11 industry set up. The closest mill is 300 miles
12 away. Frankly, most of the trees are not even
13 sellable because they're dead. So what to do.

14 One thing we've done is we've cleared an
15 area. Those of you that know Idyllwild, this is
16 the old dump site. That area is now going to be
17 used for processing logs.

18 And also we're toying with a couple of
19 ideas. One is an air curtain. This is like an
20 incinerator that you can put all the logs in and
21 everything, and it will incinerate them
22 basically.

23 Another is a possibility of a grinder.
24 So, you know, this is the infrastructure. This is
25 all so new for us that we're still in the

1 infrastructure type of building up the foundation
2 of how to handle this problem that just grows by
3 the day.

4 As far as looking for industry other than
5 logging, we kind of like -- I guess the line is in
6 the water, and we've had a couple of nibbles. But
7 this is still an area that we're just exploring
8 all the different possibilities of industry for
9 the dead trees.

10 One possible thing that may happen,
11 actually, is in Temecula. There's a processing
12 site that may be interested in railroad ties. So
13 these are all the different things that we're
14 working on exploring at this point, is trying to
15 create industries for this.

16 Lastly, April 10th, a few of you did get
17 invitations on this. We will be having a meeting
18 relating to our forest closures, the possibility
19 of that. We have had a little bit more
20 precipitation this year. Still, with all the dead
21 trees, we're talking about a very serious fire
22 hazard in the community.

23 So we want to get the community involved
24 in this. We don't want to just say, "We're
25 closing these areas." There's other creative

1 solutions possibly to some of this.

2 So this meeting is about balancing safety
3 and recreation opportunities and fire prevention.
4 We're going to be asking representatives from
5 different organizations for their input as far as
6 what are some creative solutions that we can still
7 sustain the economics of the community and
8 recreation opportunities, and yet safety, of
9 course, is first. That's my report.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Yes, sir,
11 Bary.

12 MR. FREET: Bary Freet. The April 10th
13 meeting is where?

14 MS. ROSENTHAL: It's at the Idyllwild
15 Fire Station from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. That's this
16 coming Thursday.

17 MR. FREET: Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's a public
19 meeting, Laurie?

20 MS. ROSENTHAL: We've invited
21 representatives from different organizations. So
22 we don't want to make it huge, because we want to
23 actually get some work done. But if any of you --
24 a few of you have already received invitations
25 like State Parks and the tribe. But anybody else

1 from this group is certainly welcome.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Yes?

3 MR. CRITES: Buford Crites, Palm Desert.

4 Just a quick comment. Because most of your folks
5 I'm sure would be in the Idyllwild area, I think
6 it would be a good idea if Santa Rosa mountain is
7 going to be open that we look at creating an
8 emergency evacuation spot somewhere on the top of
9 the mountain where you could actually bring a
10 chopper in or something.

11 Because you've got 12 miles of road all
12 of which goes through incredibly ready country for
13 burn. There's no damn way off, and you can't get
14 a chopper down off the top of the mountain, unless
15 it's the calmest day of the month.

16 So look for a spot somewhere up there
17 where you can direct people to from campsites and
18 stuff where you would have a commitment of getting
19 them out of the there.

20 MS. ROSENTHAL: That's an area where
21 we're very closely looking at this year.

22 MR. CRITES: Thank you.

23 MS. ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments or
25 questions?

1 MS. ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I have one, Laurie.

3 MS. ROSENTHAL: Oh. I'm sorry.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: You're not getting off
5 quite that easily. A number of months ago you
6 reported to us your desire to expand your station
7 facilities up there.

8 MS. ROSENTHAL: Yeah.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: How's that coming?

10 MS. ROSENTHAL: We're in the process
11 of -- the owner next door has sent us a letter
12 that says they are possibly interested. But this
13 involves an illness in the family. So things are
14 taking a little bit longer. But the process has
15 begun. We do have the funds for it. It's just
16 the process. So yes, it is slowly but surely
17 coming along.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Is it still in the plan
19 that that will be kind of the official
20 informational portal for the Monument?

21 MS. ROSENTHAL: Yes. For that area.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other questions?

23 Thank you very much for a good report.
24 Appreciate it.

25 MS. ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And Tracy.
2 Presentation on the Interpretive and Environment
3 Education Concept Plan for the National Monument.

4 MS. LIEGLER: Good morning. I've got a
5 little review of a wonderful plan that was created
6 by a couple of Forest Service staff, Rita Cantu
7 and Skyanne Housser.

8 This was developed and presented in
9 January 2002. What you got in the mail was this
10 as well as a couple of pages, double-sided, of
11 kind of a review.

12 But today I'd like to take some time to
13 review the interpreters' view of the Monument and
14 all of the issues there, as well as three general
15 areas of how the staff is approaching it. That
16 would be public information, interpretive
17 programs, and education.

18 As interpreters, we have two senses of
19 obligation. That is getting useful information
20 out and making that information rememberable so
21 that people walk away and they remember that
22 information.

23 And those are two very important
24 challenges and communicating about the Monument to
25 the public. So we are using this plan very well.

1 If you took a look at it, you know that it's very
2 full. It's got a lot of great content in it.
3 It's got wonderful ideas. It applies to many
4 aspects of the Monument -- demographics,
5 geography, history, current issues, futuristic
6 issues.

7 I just want to mention that there are
8 extra copies of this. Some of them have three
9 holes in them. Connell said there's certain
10 members that like to be able to put them in their
11 notebook. I mailed them out without three holes.
12 If you'd like one, you can exchange it outside.

13 There are many strengths to this. It was
14 great for me to come into the position and have
15 this already done, because it just gave me a lot
16 of the structure. A lot of research had already
17 been done.

18 I think the only main change or
19 adjustment I would have made to it is it's not as
20 community-based as Danella explained to me when
21 the position was first brought up, you know, as
22 well as I do that in her heart, she really wants
23 this Monument to be community-based.

24 That sets it apart from different
25 national parks and monuments. She'd laid a lot of

1 groundwork for that. We've designed our program
2 to be community-based.

3 For example, we have incorporated a lot
4 of community groups into these monthly themes.
5 Since January, we kind of claimed a different
6 theme each month.

7 The Visitor Center has a program each day
8 at 10:00. And then throughout the month, we list
9 different organizations and what they're doing to
10 compliment that theme.

11 We don't do all these programs. They're
12 not necessarily Monument-sponsored. But we
13 partner up with the Agua Caliente, The Shadow Rock
14 Mineral and Gem Society, CVAG. We had a program
15 with them last night.

16 It's really nice because it shows that
17 there are a lot of partnering agencies in the
18 Monument that weren't really previously identified
19 before. As you know, a lot of community members
20 are surprised to find that there's a Monument
21 right here, but we're talking steps for that.

22 Another good thing about these theme
23 programs is that by the end of month, we've got
24 all kinds of people that started to go through the
25 whole series.

1 At the end, we had like this little group
2 of geologists in February and palm oasis people in
3 January. We just finished up a wonderful month of
4 wildflowers. This month it's desert landscaping.

5 So it seems like each time by the end of
6 the month, people have seen each other. They've
7 exchanged phone numbers and have started asking,
8 "Are you going to go to this next one or not?"
9 And sometimes people need rides, so it works
10 nicely.

11 So the definition of the community
12 certainly is open. Our main group of people who
13 attend our programs, as you can guess, are those
14 people that are in the community, but they're only
15 here for the season.

16 So we get a lot of snow birds. They all
17 have time on their hands, they're looking for
18 things to do. So we're starting to branch our
19 programming a little bit so we're getting people
20 that aren't just the snow birds. That will easily
21 be done through education.

22 A big step that the interpretive staff is
23 looking at taking -- when I say "interpretive
24 staff," there's three that work out of the Visitor
25 Center. You all know Bonnie. She was here this

1 morning greeting you. Pam Hanson and
2 David Korzelius.

3 We're really anxious to get that Trails
4 Management Plan, because we're the ones that
5 interface with the audience.

6 They come to the Visitor Center or they
7 call us on the phone, "Where can we go hiking?
8 We're ready to go. Where can I go? I want to be
9 on the trail in five minutes?"

10 So we're sort of putting our thoughts
11 together on signage -- you know, a big plan for
12 signage and where those signs will go. Gateway
13 signs, informational signs, kiosks. And then once
14 the Trails Management Plan is produced, we'll
15 match our ideas up.

16 We'll do what we can as soon as we can,
17 and that's starting with the large gateway signs.
18 So we already have one near the Visitor Center
19 going up Highway 74.

20 The next one is planned for getting
21 off -- when you get off Highway 10 onto
22 Highway 111, right near Snow Creek Road. It's a
23 beautiful scene. It's on the cover of our
24 brochure. It will say "Welcome" or "You're now
25 entering the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains

1 National Monument." And the third one is up in
2 the Pinyon area or a little before the Pinyon
3 area.

4 Another source of public information will
5 be publications. Those will be quite varied. We
6 already have our brochure, which is very useful.
7 But there aren't trails on it. So once we can,
8 we'll publish trails on that.

9 We have a little brochure that lists
10 where the trails are closed. We have a newsletter
11 periodically. This is produced by the Visitor
12 Center. It's another version of sharing what's
13 going on within the Monument with all the
14 different agencies. It ties them together quite
15 well. This is produced every three months.

16 I'd like to talk a little bit about
17 education and interpretation. One exciting thing
18 is that we're partnering up with Desert Sands
19 Unified School District.

20 They've received a federal grant to
21 promote the idea that students at one school can
22 actually go to a different school. It's called
23 "Student Choice."

24 Part of their grant is to work with
25 natural science facilities in the area to enhance

1 the schools that are going to be more impacted.
2 The school that we've been assigned to is
3 Washington Charter School. At the end of next
4 week, they're going to present us with an MOU for
5 Mr. Kenna and Danella to sign.

6 I'm really excited about it. My
7 background is working at the Palm Springs Desert
8 Museum. There were two big programs that didn't
9 overlap at all. One was called the Outreach
10 Program where the staff went into the schools.

11 I brought some of these along. Those of
12 you that have a teaching background, that is kind
13 of what you're real familiar with. I'll just pass
14 them to every three people, and you can share
15 them.

16 This is the basics of the education
17 system. These are state standards that teachers
18 have to comply with. Now that there's a big
19 emphasis on testing, this is, you know, really
20 what is the engine behind the school system.

21 So if an outside agency like us doesn't
22 overlap with this, we really aren't going to be
23 accepted. Teachers aren't going to want their
24 students to come on field trips.

25 So we're designing our programs to be

1 directly integrated with this. This is what we
2 start with. So at the museum they have quite an
3 extensive Outreach program where people go into
4 schools.

5 It's really nice because especially
6 elementary teachers don't have the resources.
7 They don't have the expertise usually. They don't
8 have the materials to do quality science and
9 history and, you know, programs that apply to the
10 direct environment.

11 A lot of the teachers, especially in
12 Desert Sands, are recruited from outside areas,
13 and they're not familiar with the Cahuilla
14 Indians. They might teach about Indians that
15 they're familiar with back in the Midwest.

16 They certainly aren't that familiar with
17 the desert. So they might have snowmen on their
18 calendars when it's November or December, when we
19 know that that's not very applicable.

20 So we start with this nuts and bolts.
21 Then we're creating lessons that use these
22 standards about the direct environment here. This
23 can go a lot of places.

24 Danella has talked about actually working
25 with the textbook company to make a real sound

1 curriculum that's supported by textbooks for the
2 desert regions here. And that's really exciting.
3 It's very possible. There's no reason not to take
4 our environment very seriously and build on it.

5 Just visiting the school is a bit
6 incomplete. We have access to wonderful natural
7 resources here. Experiencing those resources, I
8 think, is really the key. So we've come up with
9 the program where we'll have an outreach lesson in
10 the schools. That will preclude a trip into the
11 Monument somewhere. And that will compliment the
12 curriculum of that grade.

13 The students will learn how to use some
14 scientific equipment. They'll learn some
15 questioning skills. They'll learn about the place
16 they're going. They'll get to know the staff
17 person that came. And maybe a week or so later,
18 that staff person will show up back at the school
19 dressed in field gear and escort the students and
20 the teacher out into the Monument somewhere.

21 I think that's going to be really
22 successful. We're going to just pilot it actually
23 in a couple of weeks with Washington Charter
24 School's fourth grade. And then next year, we
25 might take a bigger step and commit to them to do

1 it for the whole school, each grade. If there's
2 questions along the way, feel free to speak.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Terry.

4 MS. ANDERSON: I don't have a question,
5 but in glancing through this book, I ran across a
6 page that has a lot of notes on it. Is this your
7 personal?

8 MS. LIEGLER: Yeah. Those are my
9 personal copies. So I do need them back.

10 MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other questions? Bob.

12 MR. BROCKMAN: Bob Brockman. Could you
13 tell me how the Interpretive Plan relates to our
14 Draft Management Plan. I'm looking through the
15 two documents to see the interface.

16 Is it an implementation measure of our
17 plan or does this stand alone?

18 MS. LIEGLER: It stands alone, but it was
19 certainly referred to a lot. I went to several of
20 the Draft Plan management meetings. This is, I'd
21 say, more thorough and more detailed. We
22 generalized in the Draft Plan.

23 MR. BROCKMAN: I read that there's a
24 final version of this yet to come. Is that then
25 going to be incorporated into the plan? It says

1 that the final Interpretive Environmental
2 Educational Plan would be incorporated into the
3 master plan.

4 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. Yes. We'll
5 have it as an appendix. I don't know how far this
6 will be revised at that point in time. It will be
7 a living document Interpretive Plan ongoing. It's
8 talked about -- like you said, Bob -- in here
9 about interpretation.

10 There's so many connections because we
11 really need to have that Trails Plan completed
12 before we finalize our Interpretive Plan. A lot
13 of interpretive stuff will need to occur on the
14 trails and the signage and the agreement for
15 that. So we're looking at trying to get that
16 Trails Plan done, and then after our Final Plan,
17 National Monument Final Plan, finalizing this
18 Interpretive Plan.

19 And we're going to look at asking the MAC
20 to create a work group for working with
21 interpretation and making any recommendations.

22 Does that make sense?

23 MR. BROCKMAN: You answered my question,
24 yes.

25 MS. GEORGE: It does need to be an

1 appendix in the file. It definitely does.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other questions at this
3 point? Terry.

4 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson, La
5 Quinta. I was going to wait until the end of the
6 presentation on whether or not this was adopted or
7 still open for further input. There's a couple of
8 corrections that need to be made in here. Do you
9 want them now? Later?

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Tracy, do you want them
11 now or later?

12 MS. LIEGLER: Talk to me later.

13 MS. ANDERSON: Okay.

14 MS. LIEGLER: Thank you.

15 MS. GEORGE: Can I say one thing?

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Certainly.

17 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. What we
18 want to do is just bring you guys up to snuff.
19 This has been sitting around for about a year and
20 a half. We wanted to wait until Tracy came on
21 board and was able to familiarize herself, because
22 this is her shop, her program, and bring it to the
23 MAC. So we've got plenty of time to work on
24 this.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bary.

1 MR. FREET: Bary Freet. Referring to
2 page 39, it's listed under "Appendices." It's
3 "Cost Estimates for Typical Interpretive Media."

4 What is that supposed to mean? Is that
5 like a shopping list, your wish list, your wish
6 for donations? Is that maybe something a
7 foundation could help fund?

8 MS. LIEGLER: Oh, definitely.

9 MR. FREET: Are we linking a foundation
10 discussion perhaps to things like this?

11 MS. LIEGLER: The more I'm finding is
12 instead of working with natural history groups and
13 hiking groups, it's good for me to step into the
14 economic and development groups as well as part of
15 this job. That's exactly right.

16 I think sometimes particular objects
17 might be out of our price range, you know, to be
18 up to speed with what our needs are. You know,
19 looking at audio/visual equipment and things like
20 that. It's a form of partnership, you know,
21 getting financial help.

22 This is what Rita put together as far as
23 expenses go, but that's ever changing as equipment
24 changes too.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

1 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. To follow
2 up on the foundation with Bary, it is the strong
3 belief of Laurie Rosenthal and Gene Zimmerman, and
4 I have Jim's support this year, that we do need to
5 have a National Monument foundation that focuses
6 on an endowment hopefully where we can augment
7 federal fundings for just the kind of stuff that's
8 described in this document. I would hope the MAC
9 might discuss that and make a motion at some
10 point.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We'll certainly address
12 that in the next area here. Other questions or
13 comments?

14 Getting to the school portion of it, am I
15 hearing a two-pronged approach -- the BLM staff
16 going into the school and teaching and then taking
17 them out and guiding, and then a separate lesson
18 plan for the teachers to kind of prepare the class
19 for when the BLM person comes in?

20 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh. I'd say I break
21 the program into two divisions. One would be
22 education and one would be interpretation. So in
23 the education line, it would be working with the
24 schools. It's curriculum-based. It's a
25 guaranteed audience. We don't have to sell it.

1 That's what's so nice about it. The
2 students are already organized. We can send the
3 teachers lesson plans before we even arrive. And
4 they're warmed up to the ideas, you know, that
5 they're going to be presented.

6 We'll do an outreach lesson on some
7 follow-up material. And we'll do the field trip
8 and following up as well. And that would be with
9 Monument staff.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And what avenue are you
11 using to encourage the teachers to think along
12 this line and to utilize the product that you send
13 them? Are you going to have a meeting with them?
14 Are you doing it through a letter? How were you
15 going to do this to encourage the teachers?

16 MS. LIEGLER: We're doing it formally
17 right now through Desert Sands Unified. I've
18 always found that teachers are very independent
19 people, especially seasoned teachers. They know
20 what works. It's not a good system to just go
21 through from the top down.

22 I find it's always helpful to go from
23 both ends. You work with the teachers toward the
24 district office, and you work with the district
25 office down toward the teachers at the same time.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think that's the
2 point I'm trying to bring out. If you come from
3 the district down, forget it. They ignore it.

4 MS. LIEGLER: Right.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So how are you going to
6 interface directly or perhaps slightly indirectly
7 with the teachers themselves?

8 MS. LIEGLER: It's indirectly.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: How do you do that?

10 MS. LIEGLER: We've done it already. We
11 have a science fair workshop. Some teachers
12 attended that. We pass out our business cards.

13 One teacher in particular, Melanie Royer,
14 is actually a Friends of the Desert Mountains
15 volunteer she works at the bookstore. She loves
16 it. When she sees us doing lessons and things,
17 she'll talk to the other teachers. So she has
18 already sold us at the school.

19 And then on Tuesday, I'm speaking at
20 their all-staff meeting. Just a quick
21 introduction of our ideas about the field trip
22 program.

23 The teachers, you know, they're totally
24 for the students. You know, if we present it just
25 as our idea, it's not going to win. If it's

1 concerning what's best for the students and what's
2 best for the curriculum, enriching it, it should
3 work.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It's been my
5 experience, and I do a lot of this, that
6 preparation of the students before you get there
7 makes a great success.

8 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh. Because then
9 they're ready, especially field trips. When they
10 just get on a bus and show up on a field trip,
11 they're excited. They have behavior problems.
12 They get in trouble. They're not prepared.

13 But if they know us and they have goals
14 before they get there, then it's their field
15 trip. It's not us taking them. It's them using
16 us to go.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

18 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. Mr. Chair,
19 just to share with what Tracy said, this model I
20 saw is called "Lessons on the Lake." That was
21 used at Lake Ponchatrain. It took quite a few
22 years to develop it. It didn't happen overnight.

23 Elementary school and middle school kids,
24 partnerships, totally community-based. You've got
25 folks taking the kids out on canoe rides in the

1 bayous. Just all sorts of different field trips
2 occurring.

3 And there's a very high awareness now in
4 the surrounding area around Lake Ponchatrain of
5 New Orleans about their local environment.

6 So we kind of want to steal that model,
7 and Tracy will figure out how to get to the kids
8 and figure out the funding to make it happen.
9 It's going to take a few years. But we call it
10 "Lessons on the Monument" and the cultural
11 history, understanding the Cahuilla people.

12 There's not just the science. There's
13 the sociology, the history, the cultural
14 resources, even the conflict resolution on
15 government, how the Monument was created by
16 legislation. Just communication. All sorts of
17 stuff that could be there for our kids.

18 And Tracy, I want to give her some
19 credit, has coined this phrase "There's a Monument
20 in your backyard," which is working with our local
21 kids.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Excellent. Allan.

23 MR. MUTH: Allan Muth. Tracy, Living
24 Desert has a huge education program. Every day
25 you go by there, there's school buses packed in

1 the parking lot.

2 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh.

3 MR. MUTH: Is this program in any way
4 coordinating with that effort or is it
5 complimentary? How does it fit together?

6 MS. LIEGLER: We're connected socially.
7 I'm good friends with staff there. We're also
8 part of a group called "The Natural Science
9 Collaborative." And that's who the Desert Sands
10 Unified School District has approached.

11 Our theme is always to try to do what we
12 do well and not try to do everything. You know,
13 send other facilities business or students that do
14 that better. I'd say the Monument's strength for
15 opportunity is to have field trips, because we
16 have the places, you know, all around. We have
17 the habitat. We have facilities. We have access
18 to facilities.

19 The Living Desert uses their grounds, but
20 they don't do a lot off-site other than schools.
21 So we certainly send people to The Living Desert
22 for their tours. Ideally, once the students came
23 to us, they might have already gone. And that's
24 even better. We're borrowing things and sharing
25 things.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Barbara.

2 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: We're working with
3 Desert Sands right now in one school there. Are
4 we going to moving more towards the other district
5 and Palm Springs area Unified School District and
6 working with more schools, and how long will that
7 take? Do we go towards maybe talking with the
8 school boards maybe to get more schools?

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Tracy.

10 MS. LIEGLER: I'd say once we're
11 established in Desert Sands. The Desert Museum
12 does quite a lot for Palm Springs Unified
13 already. Desert Sands has nothing like it.

14 Desert Sands has a lot of schools. I
15 think the most southern one is all the way down
16 towards Oasis, the town of Oasis. They don't have
17 much other than The Living Desert going out and
18 doing environmental and science education with
19 them. So I think they're by far the neediest
20 district.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Oasis is the Coachella
22 Valley Unified School District.

23 MS. LIEGLER: I think, then, it goes down
24 to Thermal.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: No. Coachella Valley

1 Unified School District. Desert Sands goes down
2 to just north of Coachella. Actually a little
3 into Coachella. All the rest of it south and to
4 the east is Coachella Valley Unified.

5 I guess I heard you saying that this is
6 the pilot program that you're working now with
7 Desert Sands?

8 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And I think that once
10 the pilot shows it can fly the plane that you'll
11 expand to other districts. I would certainly hope
12 so.

13 MS. LIEGLER: We could do it so that
14 there's maybe kids involved. We have loaned kids,
15 so it's not staff-intensive. It's always a nice
16 way to go when teachers can borrow things. We
17 might have a yearly or twice-a-year workshop where
18 teachers can learn how to use it, and then they
19 can do it themselves.

20 It is a class curriculum approach we're
21 taking. It's not just science in here. It's nice
22 because it lines up all the different subjects
23 teachers have to teach. So we can work with their
24 math challenges and literature and where they are
25 in all the different fields and coordinate lessons

1 according to what the grade level needs.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

3 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. Responding
4 to Barbara, I think, again, that's a place where
5 the Monument Advisory Committee, you guys working
6 with work groups and recommendations coming to the
7 committee of what you want to see for
8 environmental/cultural/resource/education about
9 the National Monument in this community is
10 something for you guys to be helping us with in
11 the future and your recommendations on where you
12 want to see it go, because you all are the leaders
13 of the community.

14 MS. LIEGLER: Like right now, if a school
15 in Palm Springs called us and they were studying
16 palms, and they wanted us to come and talk to
17 their students about the ecology in a palm oasis
18 and maybe guide a field trip, we'd be happy to do
19 that. We're certainly open, but it's kind of a
20 one-at-a-time situation. It's nice to look at
21 things ahead.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Bary.

23 MR. FREET: Following along with the
24 concept of expanding the program, which we're not
25 there yet, but you started off your presentation

1 by saying that Desert Sands had a grant.

2 So should we then begin getting educated
3 on what the grant process is so that we can pass
4 that information on to our contacts in the
5 adjoining school districts so that they can apply
6 for the grant and be in queue for the process?

7 MS. LIEGLER: Do you mean other groups
8 within the Monument?

9 MR. FREET: No. I assume that when --
10 you said the school district had a grant or that
11 there was a grant -- that the school district
12 applied for the grant and won the grant. So I'm
13 curious as to how we can educate the other school
14 districts as to how they can get in que for a
15 similar grant so that they're ready to accept the
16 program when we're ready to move there.

17 MS. LIEGLER: I think it's not going to
18 be offered again. It lasts for five years. I
19 don't think there will be an option.

20 MR. FREET: Okay. The grant.

21 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh. It's called
22 "Voluntary Choice Student Grant."

23 MR. FREET: Okay. So we just have to
24 encourage them to be open to finding grants as
25 they come about.

1 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh.

2 MR. FREET: Okay.

3 MS. LIEGLER: So stepping away from
4 education and more towards interpretation, one
5 important component of interpretation is the
6 people involved, the staff. But also when staff
7 can't be there, exhibitions are always nice to
8 help people to learn.

9 So one idea we have that's on the bottom
10 of page 2 on the little summary is to work with
11 Rita Cantu's ideas in the Interpretive Plan, but
12 have the exhibits actually sort of be rotatable or
13 movable.

14 The Visitor Center has some opportunities
15 for having hands-on exhibit components, but so do
16 hundreds of other places in the Coachella Valley
17 on the higher elevations of the monument.

18 So what we'd like to do is come up with
19 exhibit components that are hands-on and
20 informative with flip doors finding which animals
21 live where, uses of plants. There's just hundreds
22 of ideas. That's what people like me like to
23 think about.

24 But have them appear stationary but be
25 transportable. Move them to other places. Maybe

1 at the tram, Imax Theater. Any public place would
2 be welcome. That's again where it would be nice
3 to have financial support or sponsorships. Those
4 agencies could be recognized on the exhibit
5 themselves.

6 It's also nice for staff. I don't know
7 if you ever worked in a place that has an ongoing
8 activity. It's nice to have those kinds of things
9 changed on a seasonal basis, especially when
10 there's sounds involved.

11 So these will start directly in the
12 Visitor Center. And then as more are made, they
13 would replace the ones in the Visitor Center.
14 Those would be moved somewhere else. We'd have
15 them rotate around different areas. The Forest
16 Service office up in Idyllwild would be an ideal
17 spot for them if there's room.

18 One exciting area that we're looking into
19 is working with the City of Palm Springs. As you
20 may know, they've acquired the gas station to be
21 used as a visitor center. It's a real hot spot.
22 It's a very attractive entry point into Palm
23 Springs. It's right where the tramway is where a
24 large percentage of our visitors access into the
25 Monument.

1 Mr. Kenna and I were at a trails meeting
2 with Doug Evans. We talked about how we'd like to
3 use that area of that facility for a visitor
4 center, and Doug proudly said that the city of
5 Palm Springs had just acquired that and the City
6 Council had approved it. So we said, "Well,
7 please consider us as partners."

8 Then Danella sent them a letter
9 expressing interest. We have met with them now
10 once and talked with their economic and
11 development staff about partnering and having a
12 presence in that facility. So that would really
13 be a nice contact point for people to learn about
14 the Monument.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Question. Would that
16 be a manned facility or a static display or
17 information kiosk or what?

18 MS. LIEGLER: Well, that's a good
19 question. That's what's being considered.
20 There's fees that will go along with that, but I
21 don't know what they are.

22 But they explained some options. You
23 covered them all. One would be actually having a
24 workstation in that building. There's about nine
25 workstations that are going to be created in

1 there.

2 I'm most familiar with it as a pink gas
3 station. I used to get gas there all the time.
4 But then it became an art gallery. They
5 refinised it very well. They put a lot of money
6 into restoring it. So it's a very much improved
7 building.

8 They put up a high wall that's going to
9 be brought down so that you can see a little
10 better when you're driving on Highway 111.

11 So one option is to have a manned staff
12 person in there using a workstation in there
13 coming to the counter when needed, maybe doing
14 programs periodically, you know, a couple times a
15 day.

16 There's a little bit of a cement seating
17 area in front of it towards 111 that they're going
18 to remove and have a grassy knoll. It's in the
19 shade.

20 MS. GEORGE: A grassy knoll?

21 MS. LIEGLER: A grassy hummock.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: This is not Dallas.

23 MS. LIEGLER: They mentioned that they
24 would like to see the Monument doing programs
25 there every so often. They're willing to actually

1 build a little bungalow building on the side that
2 we could man also, and have it open and closed
3 when staff is there.

4 You know how there's "Welcome to the City
5 of Palm Springs" in the palms before the
6 building? They're considering having a little
7 bungalow kind of building there.

8 We can always have, like you said, a
9 static display with Monument brochures. The staff
10 there would give out information on the
11 Monument -- the City of Palm Springs staff.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Following on that
13 thought, would it be in your mind a volunteer
14 position or BLM or Monument money to staff this
15 with a staff person? How would that work or have
16 you gone that far?

17 MS. LIEGLER: We haven't gone that far.
18 I think about it all the time. You know, one
19 thought would be having rotating staff be there.
20 Another is to have a staff grounded there. You
21 know, that's their office. But I'm sure we'd want
22 to supplement it with volunteers.

23 It's nice having -- I mean, I'd love to
24 see a staff person there, because no one really
25 represents the Monument like informed staff that

1 are in touch with the whole operation, you know,
2 the comings and goings.

3 They're going to have high numbers of
4 visitors. They claim they'll often have 1,000
5 people a day. It's very nice that the City of
6 Palm Springs is allowing us to keep our foot in
7 the door. And that's all it is right now, you
8 know. It's just our foot in the door. I think we
9 are the exclusive partner besides Agua Caliente
10 that have their foot in the door.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think both Bary and
12 Barbara will be instrumental in widening that foot
13 in the door.

14 MS. GEORGE: Frank too.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Frank too.

16 MR. BOGERT: What?

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: See what I mean?
18 Frank, of course.

19 Yeah, Bary.

20 MR. FREET: Bary Freet. I'd be happy to
21 try to keep the foot in the door. The site does
22 create some challenges. There's limited square
23 footage in the building. As you indicated,
24 there's a desire by a number of partners.
25 There's, I feel, some good opportunities for grant

1 application.

2 But I guess at this point, everybody has
3 their foot in the door and trying to figure out
4 how to wedge it open further. So it's very
5 preliminary, as you indicated.

6 I have strong interest in it
7 professionally in the fire service in Palm Springs
8 not as an interpretive site but a fire mitigation
9 site. I think there's an opportunity for some
10 money to be sought to enhance the site overall.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any comments? Yes,
12 Jeff.

13 MR. MORGAN: I think the site itself is
14 fairly large, even though the square footage in
15 the building may be small. In the future I
16 believe there's possible room for expansion of the
17 facility either by a separate bungalow or another
18 building to the rear of the existing one.

19 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bary.

21 MR. FREET: The site is limited.
22 Although there appears to be a lot of open space
23 around it, it's privately owned and will require
24 multiple agreements or an acquisition. So
25 although there is vacant property adjoining the

1 site, the site itself is very limited in space.

2 As you indicated, there could be 1,000
3 people -- somebody said 1,000 people visiting
4 there a day, and parking is a considerable
5 concern.

7 the property pretty much?

8 MR. FREET: Yes.

9 MS. LIEGLER: Our point of view is we
10 want people to get outside as much as we want them
11 to have information. Doug Evans really likes this
12 idea that not only will they stop there and get
13 information and book their hotel rooms, but
14 they'll have a chance to take a nice desert walk.
15 It can be 20 minutes, 40 minutes or an hour and a
16 half.

17 You know, there's all those different
18 levels of activities that people like to do. And
19 that's a nice place because it's right there. I
20 think that's going to hopefully be worked into the
21 trails plans, that they'll have a variety of loops
22 that they can take. There are long hikes and
23 short hikes.

24 And then we can go out and take people on
25 interpretive walks there as well. I think there's

1 only about 28 parking spots. So it is very
2 limited. They don't want us to come up with
3 programs that are going to keep people there for
4 an hour, because it will be, you know, a parking
5 problem.

6 There's only one rest room in there now.
7 So they are going to build new rest rooms in the
8 back. Other than that, no other big buildings are
9 planned right now. The opening day of it is
10 expected to be on the last day of October.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. What else do you
12 have, Tracy?

13 MS. LIEGLER: I just have a little bit of
14 a photo album to show you about what we've been
15 doing lately, and just a quick overview of some
16 programs that we have had.

17 We aren't able to take ultralights over
18 the Monument anymore, but we try to use maps and
19 sources in traveling to the Monument sites
20 ourselves to get a taste of what our next stops
21 are.

22 We've used Vargas Palms a few times this
23 year already. That's kind of a gateway area to
24 the Monument from the west side right off
25 Highway 111.

1 We've hiked into Vargas Palms for a few
2 different programs where people get to learn about
3 hopefully whatever they came to learn about. That
4 would include other people that lived here before,
5 other people that are here now, plants, animal
6 geography, where the Monument is going and
7 coming.

8 We've worked with one particular school
9 that I think is a nice example of how diversified
10 an experience can be in the Monument. Danella has
11 worked closely with a group called Nova School.

12 It's called a magnet school?

13 MS. GEORGE: It's a charter school.

14 MS. LIEGLER: Charter school. It's been
15 a great experience for me to work with them the
16 little bit that I have. They are high school and
17 precollege students. We have met with them in
18 their classroom with a goal of teaching them
19 leave-no-trace ethics, a bit about the Monument as
20 well.

21 And then our final goal is something very
22 creative. With just one little field trip, it got
23 in the newspaper. The press just loves this kind
24 of stuff.

25 A couple of people at the office always

1 tease me that I have this nice position where the
2 news is good and positive, and they have to deal
3 with the bad news.

4 But we worked with a gal who is out of
5 the Riverside office, Jo Ann Schiffer. She's a
6 real veteran BLM gal. We took them up and worked
7 with Ellen Acture at the state park and taught
8 them leave-no-trace ethics out in the snow.

9 The teacher who is in the green jacket
10 here -- you can't really make her out too well --
11 that's Laura Lord. She's a very gifted writer.
12 She has real high standards for her students.
13 After every experience, they write about it.

14 We also had them do a little bit of peer
15 teaching themselves, not because we don't want to
16 do the teaching ourselves, but it really helps
17 when they have to generate the lessons
18 themselves.

19 So when we got up there, they all had the
20 assignment to teach each other about
21 leave-no-trace ethics with no restrictions and not
22 a lot of guidance. They came up with a rap song,
23 which was really hilarious, about leave no trace.
24 And the girls brought their puppets and did a
25 little puppet show.

1 We've had a little bit of staff training
2 with a group called The National Association of
3 Interpreters. Some of you may recognize
4 Reese Peterson on the left. She put on a seminar
5 in Tustin, and three of the four of us attended
6 that training. We didn't play with dolls and
7 vultures. We learned how to use props.

8 And we've had several lectures and hikes,
9 guided walks with different specialists in the
10 community. You may recognize Harry Quinn. He was
11 featured during geology month.

12 He is a typical example of when you get
13 specialists out in the field with people, they
14 really do make a connection. They aren't afraid
15 of science like some people might be. They are
16 able to get their questions answered. And they're
17 able to bring up new questions that are
18 unanswered.

19 So the interpretive team with the
20 Monument, this is our goal, to get people
21 provoked, thinking about new things and engaged in
22 their thoughts about the Monument. That's the
23 end.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Questions? Comments?
25 You've notice we're a little over time, but I felt

1 that this was the crux of our interest in the
2 Monument, this letting people know what's going
3 on.

4 Tracy, I appreciate all the hard work
5 you've done and where you're going with this. I
6 think you've heard the Advisory Committee.
7 Although, this may have been written a year and a
8 half ago, it sure speaks to a lot of concerns that
9 the committee has that are addressed in the plan.
10 I'd encourage you to go forward.

11 MS. LIEGLER: The page I referred to a
12 lot is page 31, which is kind of priorities and
13 goals. Take a look at that. I'm at the Palm
14 Springs field office. You're welcome to give me a
15 call and share your thoughts.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Also on page 17 where
17 you have "Potential interpretive sites within the
18 Monument and potential regional interpretive
19 opportunities, are you looking for input there?

20 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So if anybody has any
22 suggestions for this area, you can call Tracy and
23 let her know.

24 MS. LIEGLER: It doesn't have to be a
25 natural area. It can be commercial areas as well.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Can I include model
2 homes in there?

3 MS. LIEGLER: Well, you should sell them
4 on the fact that they've got a Monument in their
5 backyard is definitely a plus.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's it. Danella.

7 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. It's going
8 to be very important to get a work group, it would
9 be nice to have a theme with the same sort of
10 format with our communities that are within the
11 National Monument so that our interpretive kiosks,
12 when people are looking at them, they'll go, "This
13 looks like what I just saw in Palm Desert" or "It
14 has the same flavor as a La Quinta trail had."

15 So we need to come up with a strategy
16 with that. We do need to have a work team. Maybe
17 staff, but with some direction from the MAC with
18 commitment from the communities and the cities to
19 do this in partnership with the interpretation.

20 There's opportunities to get federal
21 highway funds. There's lots of different ways to
22 get it funded from the local community. We were
23 just waiting for Tracy to get on board.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It would seem to me
25 that this would be a natural for Barbara.

1 Would you care to take that on, Barbara?

2 MS. ANDERSON: Do you like that idea,
3 Barbara?

4 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Yes. That would be
5 fine.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think so. And of
7 course, as all you remember, we haven't done work
8 groups for a while, but everybody is a part of a
9 work group if they want to be.

11 the meetings are taking place.

12 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Third Wednesday of
13 every month, 1:00.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And as many that can
15 attend. Terry.

16 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson. I will
17 take up some items as we discussed earlier with
18 you later, but I would like to ask on page 13,
19 there is a reference to -- it says, "Although
20 there is little data regarding use patterns in
21 natural-based recreation, the Indian Canyons and
22 recent, but currently inoperative, local jeep
23 tours."

24 I'd like to know what "inoperative"
25 means. Does that mean their machines are broken

1 down? Does that mean the trails are broken
2 down --

3 MR. CRITES: It means the gates are
4 locked.

5 MS. ANDERSON: -- or does that mean
6 they're not permitted? Okay. So that means
7 they're not permitted. I think that should be
8 changed, the wording there, "inoperative."

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think it's probably
10 less than descriptive. Jim, are there still
11 ongoing talks of whether they're going to be
12 opened up, or is that a closed subject?

13 MR. KENNA: My understanding is they
14 cross private land. My understanding is they do
15 not have the permission to cross that land.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So it's a closed
17 subject as well as a closed gate.

18 MS. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, then to
19 finish up, I was under the impression as we were
20 going through this document that we were
21 addressing potential jeep tours.

22 Am I hearing now that there are not going
23 to be jeep tours?

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Jim.

25 MR. KENNA: I don't think we know that

1 one way or the other at this point. I think
2 that's probably the most direct answer I can give
3 you, because there are a lot of things that would
4 have to line up to make jeep tours work. Right
5 now, they aren't lined up.

6 But that doesn't mean that that shouldn't
7 be an option for forever in the Monument. I think
8 we need to think about a little bit bigger and
9 longer term than that and say, you know, is this
10 something that has positive public value in
11 certain places under certain conditions?

12 And that really ought to drive the
13 decision-making process as opposed to the current
14 set of circumstances we find ourselves in.

15 MS. ANDERSON: Well, then Mr. Chairman, I
16 would just follow up with I agree with your
17 statement. I understand it 100 percent. But then
18 in future reference to the possibility of jeep
19 tours, it ought to use language that sounds more
20 positive instead of negative. This "inoperative
21 local jeep tours" is in my opinion very negative.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Tracy, you heard that?

23 MS. LIEGLER: Uh-huh. Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Danella.

25 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. Today is

1 April the 5th; right? Could we set like maybe a
2 date like June 5th written response or comments --
3 you can send them to me, and then I will forward
4 them on to Tracy -- on the Interpretive and
5 Environmental Education Concept Plan? Would that
6 be good?

7 MS. ANDERSON: Did you say June 5th?

8 MS. GEORGE: June 5th.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments?
10 Questions? Thank you, Tracy. Appreciate it.

11 Since the next discussion may be somewhat
12 lengthy, I think we'll go ahead and take our break
13 now and come back five minutes of 11:00. Then
14 we'll do the public comment and then the status of
15 the National Monument plan.

16 (Recess taken.)

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. We're back on
18 the record. I've asked Eddie to give us a quick
19 briefing on some rocks he carefully had placed up
20 on 74.

21 MR. KONNO: My name is Eddie Konno,
22 California Department of Fish & Game. The parking
23 lot is about a mile above Vista Point. There were
24 some people who were driving around our little
25 gate there onto a power line road entering the

1 Carrizo area and into our Carrizo reserve there.

2 What we did originally was have Caltrans
3 put a dirt berm across the road, which didn't work
4 very well because everyone kept going around it.
5 At the time Caltrans didn't have any boulders for
6 us, but they said as soon as they got some, they
7 would let us know.

8 In the meantime, we had purchased some
9 posts and cable to put up a little fence to try
10 and stop some of that access. But last week we
11 got a call from Caltrans that they had some
12 boulders available, and they were able to place
13 them.

14 So we placed, I don't know, about maybe
15 10 boulders or so along that road there. We'll
16 see how well that will work in keeping people out
17 of there.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Buford has suggested
19 that they're going to still drive around the end
20 of it and that Eddie's group ought to take that
21 cable and posts they bought and carry it on out
22 and around a little bit to an area where there's a
23 drop, and maybe we can block it. At least the
24 service is doing something about those folks
25 getting in there. We thank you for that.

1 MR. KONNO: I wanted to stay away from a
2 fence just because it's uglier than putting rocks
3 down. So I think we'd like to see how well the
4 rocks work.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Good. Any questions
6 from anyone?

7 MS. ANDERSON: Yeah.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Terry.

9 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson. Just to
10 comment, I did come over the mountain over the
11 last weekend. I did see the rocks there. I
12 thought, "Okay. We got our rocks." We didn't
13 stop long enough or we went by them before I
14 realized where it was. So I don't know if there
15 is still area at the end, but there may be.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yeah. They can loop
17 around the end with a four-wheel drive vehicle. I
18 suppose if we carry it from here to San Diego,
19 they probably wouldn't be able to go around.

20 But at least this will slow down some of
21 the folks, especially those who don't have
22 four-wheel drive because they no longer can gain
23 access. That's very positive. We thank you for
24 that, Eddie. I know you'll keep finding rocks;
25 right?

1 Okay. We have about two minutes here
2 before public comment. Anybody have anything they
3 want to throw on the table for the moment? We'll
4 just go ahead and open public comment a minute
5 early. John Shatler.

6 MR. SHATLER: Hi. Rather than leaving
7 you with the impression that I'm a hired gun, let
8 me introduce myself, please. My name is
9 John Shatler. I'm a resident of Palm Springs with
10 my wife. We have about for the last 15 years.
11 We're year-round residents.

12 I'm a geologist. I've been a registered
13 geologist in California for the last 35 years. If
14 you have any doubt, I will admit I have my faults
15 and I'm often taken for granite.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Oh.

17 MR. SHATLER: If you want to get worse, I
18 give talks on sedentary metaphysical rocks. I'm a
19 member of the Bar since 1969, although my formal
20 education didn't start until I ran into
21 Frank Bogert about 12 years ago, and Frank said I
22 was a "blank blank dumb blank blank gringo who
23 didn't know nothing" as only Frank can say.

24 My concern and my questions about peer
25 review have to do -- I spent about four years in

1 Reagan's second term as chairman of the Energy
2 Research Advisory Board to the Secretary of
3 Energy.

4 We gave recommendations and advice to the
5 secretary on education, on overseeing the 13
6 national labs, and things as obtuse as
7 recommending nuclear reactors for the production
8 of tritium for atomic weapons because AEC, The
9 Atomic Energy Commission, was rolled into the
10 Department of Energy in 1977 under Carter.

11 I agree with BLM that there are an
12 objective set of criteria for the Bighorn sheep,
13 and you can enumerate them as Jim did in the
14 habitat as to water and forage and escape routes.

15 My concern really goes to the
16 interpretation of that. When you look at the
17 requirements and the selection and the interaction
18 of people with those objective elements, that's
19 what drives the conclusions.

20 Let me give you a metaphor. I mean a
21 metaphor is an expressed comparison between two
22 things that are unlike in every respect except
23 one, namely that which they're being compared.

24 I don't want this to be an inflammatory
25 metaphor, but if you turn on the TV set and look

1 at the Iraqi war right now, you can look at the
2 minister of information in downtown Baghdad, and
3 he will tell you that the Iraqi troops are
4 occupying Saddam International Airport.

5 If you listen to central command out in
6 Qatar this morning, he will say, "No. We've got
7 Baghdad International Airport, and we have US
8 troops there."

9 The facts of what's happening at the
10 airport are absolutely the same, but the
11 interpretation of those two things is very, very
12 different.

13 If we come back to the sheep just from
14 that part of the analogy, and you have objective
15 criteria, most of the people here in the city and
16 around this table are not going to go up and view
17 the forage, water and escape routes.

18 They're going to depend on the biological
19 interpretation. To date, the biologists from the
20 BLM and the Fish & Wildlife Service and the
21 California Department of Fish & Game have worked
22 in concert.

23 They've promulgated and come to
24 conclusions that started coming out in 1999 that
25 have shut off certain areas. And everything that

1 has been published to date reinforces the shutoff
2 of those areas.

3 The one message that I received or I
4 thought I got from the paper and the impression I
5 received when Deputy Secretary Griles was here and
6 Mike Pool from the BLM and Steve Thompson from the
7 Fish & Wildlife Service is that yes, there has to
8 be public input. There has to be public
9 involvement. There has to be community input.

10 But the other side of that is the
11 biologists are going to drive the interpretation
12 of those objective facts. We have biologist -- we
13 provided biologist -- I'm president-elect of
14 Desert Riders for next year. We have provided
15 biologist Rob Roy Ramey, who is the head biologist
16 for the Desert Museum of Natural History.

17 John Weirhausen up in Bishop runs the
18 Whitewater Mountain Research Station for the
19 University of California, Berkley. They're both
20 world-renowned experts on the Bighorn sheep.

21 If you exclude, as they have been, the
22 scientific thoughts of individuals like that to
23 counterbalance the scientific thoughts that may
24 come from another direction, you don't, in my
25 opinion, get a balanced recommendation on what

1 should be done with the Bighorn sheep and with the
2 trails.

3 That is the concern that brought me here
4 this morning, is to urge the agencies from the BLM
5 and Fish & Game and Fish & Wildlife Service to
6 open up the process to include not only peer
7 review but other views of the biology
8 interpretation of the raw data that they have.
9 And I think we'll get a more balanced
10 recommendation on how to handle the trails and how
11 to handled the Bighorn sheep in this area. Thank
12 you very much.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you, sir. Is
14 there anyone else that would like to provide
15 public comment? Then we'll close public comment
16 and turn to the Danella and Ed show. Danella.

17 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Danella George. And
18 actually the Connell show too, because again in
19 hopes of trying to abbreviate today's meeting, I
20 think we can cut this down, my whole discussion
21 here with you, Ed and MAC and head right into
22 Connell.

23 Basically, the question is where we are
24 headed for the National Monument Plan, "we" being
25 the Monument Advisory Committee. Okay.

2 you have your Draft National Monument Plan, each
3 member reviews the Draft Plan. Members assist at
4 the National Monument Plan open houses on
5 April 22nd, 23rd and 29th.

6 MR. FREET: 24th.

7 MS. GEORGE: Oh, I'm sorry. 22nd, 24th
8 and 29th. I've got to get my eyes examined. I
9 just did that yesterday.

10 The 22nd will be held in Idyllwild. The
11 24th is going to be the Pinyon Pine community. So
12 Ruth, we're hoping you'll be able to be there for
13 that one.

14 The 29th will be Palm Desert. Hopefully
15 some of the folks from that -- especially Buford
16 and some of the valley floor folks could be at the
17 29th meeting. It's from 6:00 to 9:30. These are
18 just some things we'd really like you all to be
19 there to help us. Connell will go into that a bit
20 more when she goes into her presentation.

21 Another task we could have is the work
22 groups could regroup and set up work meetings to
23 provide any recommendations for change to the
24 Monument Advisory Committee at the June 7th
25 meeting, which will be really the last meeting to

1 provide recommendations for change to the final.

2 Then I just have the question that you
3 guys can dialogue and visit with each other and
4 come to maybe some decision of how you would like
5 to proceed with respect to contributing to the
6 National Monument Plan and the Final Plan.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Comments from anyone?
8 The plan is expected to be published in October.

9 MS. DUNNING: Right now the comment
10 period ends June 19th. Good segue. Nice one.
11 Yeah. So the comment period ends June 19th.

12 And then following that, we take all of
13 the comments that we get at midnight on June 19th,
14 because that's how it always ends up, and we use
15 the next month to go through a comment analysis
16 and respond to every single comment and augment
17 the plan or change the plan in some places. If we
18 don't change the plan, provide responses why we
19 didn't. And use the next month to do that.

20 The month of August, we anticipate going
21 through the BLM district state office and
22 Washington office review as well as the Forest
23 Service regional office and Washington office
24 review. All of that can take quite a bit of time
25 with the anticipation that we will get that final

1 out in September. So this is our anticipated time
2 frame right now.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So our June meeting
4 will be the meeting that we'll be expected to make
5 any final comments?

6 MS. DUNNING: Yes. By the end of
7 June 7th MAC meeting, we would like to use that as
8 a forum to talk as a MAC, as a group, to see what
9 are your cumulative MAC comments, what do you all
10 agree on.

11 So prior to that date, it's important
12 that you work together to prepare what those
13 comments are so we can talk about them at that
14 time. And of course, throughout this, you're all
15 welcome to provide individual comments up to this
16 time frame.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So we'll as a committee
18 have no ability to comment or undertake or
19 otherwise be advised of the results of the public
20 comment section which closes June 19th?

21 MS. DUNNING: Right. That is correct.
22 The next time you'll see it, it will be in the
23 Final Plan.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I don't know what the
25 rest of you think about it, but it's very possible

1 that the public comments could radically change
2 our recommendations in some manner.

3 Is there some way that we could perhaps
4 adjourn the June 7th meeting to an end of June
5 meeting so that we could have that chance? And
6 then if there really is no public comment --

7 MS. DUNNING: Well, actually the 90-day
8 comment period is 90 days, and it ends. And at
9 that point, all public comments end.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's it. Okay.

11 MS. DUNNING: Given the time frame that
12 we're under and given the congressional deadline,
13 that's it. We're not extending it past that point
14 at this date.

15 We need it to end at that time to meet
16 our deadlines which we're already pushing back a
17 little bit right now. So that's not a full
18 90 days. So we hope that we can organize some way
19 between now and then to adequately get all of the
20 comments.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So I guess probably
22 what needs to be said is if we want to be aware of
23 what the public is saying, we need to make those
24 three comment sessions and actually hear them so
25 that on June 7 when we come forth -- because I

1 guess in this whole process, we're nothing more
2 than a public input.

3 MS. DUNNING: And all comments are made
4 public. At any point, I can keep you updated. As
5 comments come in, they're put into a public file,
6 and they're open for all of the public to see.

7 So I can keep you posted as we are
8 getting comments in and kind of let you know what
9 those are just like any other member of the public
10 would get to see those as they come in.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: They will be on the Web
12 site?

13 MS. DUNNING: No. They're not on the Web
14 site at that time. They're kept in a folder as we
15 get them, just the hard copies. And they're
16 placed in the BLM office.

17 What you will see in the Final Plan is a
18 copy of every comment that we get. They will be
19 published at the very end of the plan with
20 information on how we responded to each of those
21 comments.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

23 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. June 19th
24 is a Thursday. It is a Thursday. I just want to
25 dialogue a little bit about what Ed asked.

1 Connell, were you open? I mean, is there any
2 opening in your mind to think about moving that
3 7th meeting to the 21st of June?

4 MS. DUNNING: The comment period will be
5 over then.

6 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Okay.

7 MS. DUNNING: I think we have enough
8 time. I think the comments that we got for the
9 Draft Plan, if it would help you to get a full set
10 of those and kind of see what we got for the Draft
11 Plan, the comments that we'll get for the final
12 will be very similar, if you think it would help
13 jog your brain any.

14 Actually, the time frame works out quite
15 well. That June 7th meeting gives you an
16 opportunity to -- well, between now and then --
17 get all those comments in, and it gives us an
18 opportunity to really start, you know, looking at
19 those comments that we've got in and, you know,
20 looking to see how the final will change or not
21 change according to those.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We should still all
23 have those comment sheets. We did receive them.

24 MS. DUNNING: That's true.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So we should have them.

1 Look through your files and check. Yes, Terry.

2 MS. ANDERSON: Your indication that we
3 should make those three meetings may have some
4 validity. However, comments are going to come in
5 through June 19th up until midnight. So it
6 doesn't matter if we can make all three meetings
7 or not.

8 My question would be even though the
9 comment period is over on June 19th, there is
10 another 30-day protest period. So apparently, if
11 comments or if all the comments are in, and there
12 is a protest to something that you have put in the
13 plan --

14 MS. DUNNING: There's always an
15 opportunity. However, with the group that we're
16 working this much with and we've spent this much
17 time with, when that plan comes out, you know, we
18 were hoping that that is the reason we're all
19 working together and commenting now. It's a
20 formality. We see it as a formality, but there's
21 always an option there.

22 MS. ANDERSON: Now, during that 30-day
23 protest period, my question would be how is a
24 resolution reached to a protest if it is by staff
25 and it is in opposition to what the Monument

1 wants? Although, I understand what you just said,
2 that you have the best interest of the Monument.

3 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. We will outline very
4 clearly in the Final Plan when it comes out to you
5 and also to members of the public if they have a
6 problem with anything written in there, we have
7 decisions that are appealable and decisions that
8 are protestable.

9 Those land use decisions are
10 protestable. Some of the decisions that we're
11 coming out with in this plan are appealable.
12 We'll outline the different processes and what
13 that entails in both of those.

14 It's something that goes back to
15 Washington, and we get some assistance in how we
16 respond. We don't do it only at the field office
17 level. That's when we look to get additional
18 outside interest to help respond to those.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bob.

20 MR. BROCKMAN: I guess what we're really
21 talking about is what is the MAC's role in all of
22 this? From what I'm hearing, and correct me if
23 I'm wrong, our role is as you said nothing more
24 than another form of public comment.

25 If that's all it is, then is there even

1 any need or is there any extra weight given to
2 shall I say a consensus comment from the MAC as
3 opposed to individual member comments?

4 MS. DUNNING: Right. Obviously a lot of
5 effort is put into bringing as diverse a group of
6 people together as possible in this Advisory
7 Committee. So a consensus from this type of
8 committee does hold a lot of weight to externals
9 looking in.

10 And when we can say that we have people
11 from all different sides coordinating and coming
12 to some decisions, from the externals we're
13 saying, "Look at how we're working at a community
14 level. Look at how the local groups are
15 supportive of these decisions."

16 So what it does is it gives us the added
17 weight at this level from the community up. And
18 that's the strength there. So any sort of
19 recommendation, all of those that are reached via
20 consensus, those are strong, and they are looked
21 upon so.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Follow-up?

23 MR. BROCKMAN: Yes. Given that and given
24 the fact that the comment period doesn't close
25 until the 19th, if there is any added weight that

1 can be given to a consensus MAC position on any of
2 these, it seems that the timing is just not
3 working well for us. And probably to meet as late
4 as possible in this comment period if you're
5 looking for some MAC response to comments will be
6 helpful.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

8 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. To follow
9 up what I was asking for about for the June --
10 Jim just nudged me that it's okay to do, is you
11 guys are a federal advisory committee. You are
12 outside the bounds of public comment period
13 because you are chartered to advise the
14 secretaries for the development and implementation
15 of the plan.

16 So we could set forth a date where they
17 can look at a summary of comments after the 19th
18 and be able to provide their recommendation to the
19 final product.

20 Jim has concurred. He's had this
21 experience in the past. And as you guys remember,
22 I'm still learning FACA. That's what I thought.
23 That's why I was asking. He nudged me along that
24 that is correct; right?

25 MR. KENNA: Uh-huh.

1 MS. GEORGE: So this is something we
2 probably want to have this discussion to see about
3 changing that date.

4 MS. DUNNING: So Jim, that would consist
5 of once we get all the comments in, giving staff
6 some time to put them into a readable format for
7 this group?

8 MR. KENNA: The point here is that a
9 FACA-chartered group is not bound by the public
10 comment period. They're a standing committee that
11 provides advice. So it is more than just the
12 public comment as Bob indicated.

13 If the FACA group would like to have a
14 discussion after the close of the public comment
15 period and be basically briefed on the comment
16 content and have the opportunity to make a comment
17 at that time, they have that option.

18 MS. DUNNING: And given the time line
19 that we're under being so short and so -- you
20 know, the lengthening of it, if we could get the
21 bulk of your comments without seeing those as the
22 first step, that would still be helpful for us as
23 staff in getting this completed with maybe that as
24 a second step looking at all those comments that
25 have come in.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Before I ask Buford,
2 Allan, do you still have a comment? You had your
3 hand up.

4 MR. MUTH: Yeah. It was just having to
5 do with the process. For those of us that are
6 ignorant of these things, what is the difference
7 between a protest and an appeal? What is the
8 distinction?

9 MS. DUNNING: Jim.

10 MR. KENNA: The difference between the
11 two, a protestable decision is a decision -- a
12 protest is essentially a step that's added before
13 you can go to appeal. Some decisions by
14 regulation go directly to appeal. So there is no
15 protest period.

16 If a protest period is identified, it
17 gives an option before getting into the legal
18 appeals process to resolve whatever the issue
19 might be before the decision becomes an absolute
20 final decision. That's the difference.

21 There are certain decisions that have
22 that protest period built in. There are other
23 decisions that do not by regulation. That's what
24 Connell was talking about. Hopefully that's
25 clear.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: As mud.

2 MR. MUTH: Essentially, a protest is a
3 way of settling out of court.

4 MR. KENNA: Basically, it is. Although,
5 the appeals process that applies to most of these
6 decisions it's an administrative law process. So
7 they don't necessarily go to court.

8 MR. MUTH: That was just an analogy,
9 Jim.

10 MR. KENNA: Yeah. Okay.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Buford.

12 MR. CRITES: No.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. Terry.

14 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson. Would it
15 be fair to assume that a protest could result in
16 the document reflecting the solution to the
17 protest, and an appeal could go on long after the
18 document has been approved and is printed, and at
19 some time in the future the appeal may win and
20 amend the document?

21 MR. KENNA: That theory is certainly
22 possible.

23 MS. DUNNING: One of the things, before
24 we go too far down this track, those decisions
25 that are protestable are major land use plan

1 decisions, the majority of which are the CDCA
2 Plan, which we finished in December of 2002. We
3 came out with our proposed final in December of
4 2002.

5 Those are protestable decisions, that
6 land use plan. The Forest Service plan that
7 they're undergoing right now has a number of
8 protestable decisions.

9 This didn't readdress those protestable
10 decisions. Chapter 2, most of the actions
11 proposed are appealable. They fall under that
12 other realm.

13 There are some discussions going back and
14 forth that help us with what Washington perceives
15 and what we perceive as being protestable. So I
16 can't say right now exactly what those are. That
17 discussion is going back and forth. The majority
18 of these are appealable.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Buford.

20 MR. CRITES: One, if we have a meeting
21 after the deadline -- Buford Crites. If we have a
22 meeting after the deadline, do we, "A", still have
23 to have a meeting on the 7th because it's legally
24 noticed? "B", can we have the meeting on the 7th
25 and simply not have a quorum? Is there time to do

1 a Federal Register notice or whatever you have to
2 do for a meeting, let's say, on the 28th, which is
3 the first Saturday following the 19th, giving at
4 least a week to look at comments?

5 MS. DUNNING: It will take at least a
6 week to compile them into a format that you would
7 be able to digest them and look at them.

8 MR. CRITES: I'm just trying --

9 MS. DUNNING: Exactly. This is a good
10 conversation to have.

11 MR. CRITES: -- to find ways of getting
12 to this as quickly as we can.

13 MS. DUNNING: I think there is still a
14 valid reason to have that June 7th meeting.
15 You're looking at this and providing your
16 comments, what are the Monument Advisory Committee
17 comments to what is in here. Those separate
18 comments that come in, you would then be
19 commenting on the comments. You know what I
20 mean.

21 It's a different goal of each meeting.
22 The second, as Jim placed it, would be almost a
23 briefing of the types of comments that have come
24 in, giving you a second opportunity to provide
25 second comments.

1 But the initial meeting is really look at
2 it as what are your comments about this draft
3 management plan and what we document that the
4 Monument Advisory Committee has to say about this.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Follow-up?

6 MR. CRITES: No.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

8 MS. GEORGE: Danella George, National
9 Monument manager. What we could do is have a
10 little workshop setting where you can review the
11 comments that we've addressed after the 19th.
12 More of a workshop-style meeting focused on that.

13 And I think we don't even -- well, do we
14 have to have a public comment if we have a
15 workshop, Jim? A public comment period?

16 MR. KENNA: No. But it would have to
17 come back as the MAC at the next meeting.

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That was the point I
19 was going to make. The workshop is not an
20 official meeting, so therefore it wouldn't be the
21 official comment of the MAC group.

22 MS. GEORGE: No. No. No. The way we
23 did the workshops with the consultants, we did
24 that in a quorum. We did it with a federal
25 register notice, and you did make

1 recommendations. We just worked it for the focus
2 of rolling up our sleeves and focusing on making
3 some recommendations in a public setting in a
4 workshop.

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: One question, Jim. Can
6 we adjourn a meeting to a date certain, (i.e. take
7 the June 7th meeting and say we adjourn it to
8 July 12th), for purposes of final comment by the
9 group on the comments without a public notice?

10 MR. KENNA: I doubt that. I've never
11 seen it done.

12 MS. ANDERSON: Recess it, not adjourn it.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Excuse me. Recess it.

14 MR. KENNA: I doubt that. I've never had
15 anybody ask the question either, so I don't know.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So could we perhaps
17 research that and have an answer by our June
18 meeting?

19 MR. KENNA: Oh, I'm certain that we can
20 get some answers on it.

21 MS. GEORGE: We can do it right now.
22 We've done this in this process. We canceled a

24 for Cancellation.

25 You're saying not to hold the June

1 meeting?

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: No. The June meeting
3 is important because that would be our official
4 input, if you will. And then the special meeting
5 we're talking about would be our look at all of
6 the comments to see if they cause a problem with
7 what our MAC has recommended.

8 MS. DUNNING: Or if you have additional
9 to give.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It's important that we
11 have the June 7th meeting, because that would be
12 the official final input. The special meeting
13 would be a review meeting. It's not for new
14 input. It's to take a look at all of the final
15 product, if you will, and say, "Whoa. Does this
16 cause a real problem with any of our
17 recommendations?"

18 MS. DUNNING: And that final product
19 would be the raw comments that we've gotten, not
20 our assessment of those comments?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's correct. And
22 that would be I would suggest probably July 12th.
23 That would give you enough time to get through
24 and --

25 MS. GEORGE: Staff it out.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: -- staff the raw
2 comments, if you will. My only concern is whether
3 we could get a registered notice in time for that
4 or if we could get around it by --

5 MS. GEORGE: No. We can get a notice
6 around. We're able to go directly with our
7 meetings; right, Connell? That's what we did the
8 last time was go straight to the federal register
9 so we would be able to get a notice. It might
10 start the meeting a little bit later.

11 MS. DUNNING: And the goal of that
12 meeting would be us coming back to you with a
13 summary of those comments for you to see? That
14 would be a public meeting?

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Right. And the whole
16 reason for the meeting would be do we have a
17 problem with the public comments with our
18 recommendation, the recommendation we've made, and
19 all of a sudden we get an organization coming in
20 and recommending just the opposite.

21 MS. DUNNING: Well, you know that's going
22 to happen.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, not necessarily.

24 MS. DUNNING: Well, we may get comments
25 from all over.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Right.

2 MS. DUNNING: So I want to also talk
3 about what you hope to end with at that meeting.
4 After you see these comments coming from all over
5 the place, do you hope to provide some feedback or
6 no?

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's correct. The
8 meeting would be just feedback on what was
9 received. We wouldn't be coming forth with any
10 new recommendations or anything like that. That
11 would be the June 7th meeting that we do that, if
12 there's anything.

13 This would be just a reaction to that
14 which you received.

15 MR. LYMAN: Bob Lyman with the County of
16 Riverside.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes.

18 MR. LYMAN: With the ultimate goal to
19 comment that this is not compatible with the MAC
20 vision or whatever.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's correct. That's
22 how I see it.

23 MR. CRITES: Or it is.

24 MR. LYMAN: Or it is.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments? Yes.

1 MR. WATTS: Help me along here, Mr. Chair
2 and others because I don't see what's to be gained
3 by that really. I mean, we have taken public
4 input for over a year now that helped us guide our
5 recommendations.

6 I agree there's probably going to be, you
7 know, a whole spectrum of comments coming in from
8 the public that I doubt all 15 of us are going to
9 agree on.

10 I guess I'm having trouble understanding
11 what we'll accomplish at that meeting as far as
12 providing a comment.

13 For instance -- and help me at any
14 point -- but if somebody puts in a very
15 controversial public comment that is maybe at odds
16 with us, No. 1, we'd have to agree on it as a
17 group at a consensus, at least, level to, you
18 know, either disagree with it or agree with it
19 depending on that comment.

20 It's not going to change -- I don't
21 think, unless that's where you're going -- our
22 original recommendations as a committee.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: In my mind it could.
24 In my mind there could go a comment by a number of
25 people on something that we hadn't looked at or we

1 didn't quite understand, and maybe we might want
2 to modify our recommendation with new information,
3 as it were.

4 I just look at it as the final
5 opportunity for us to change or rebut or whatever
6 the case may be those final comments that come in
7 as a committee.

8 If someone, the Sierra Club, comes in
9 with some off-the-wall -- not that they would --
10 some off the wall thing that just really is 180
11 out from our recommendation, I think that we ought
12 to have the opportunity to respond to that.

13 I guess Connell first because she's the

15 MS. DUNNING: I'm hearing two things.
16 I'm hearing one goal of that meeting would be to
17 take the final recommendation that you've provided
18 on June 7th. Then you've gotten a chance to read
19 other comments that we've gotten in and use that
20 as a starting point that day to say, "Are these
21 still our final comments" --.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: No. Total comment.
23 Total.

24 MS. DUNNING: -- "and do we want to
25 supplement or change them?"

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Total comment, not
2 final comment. We wouldn't be looking just at
3 June 7th.

4 MS. DUNNING: But you would use your
5 comments or the MAC comments as the starting point
6 on this July 12th meeting and say, "Of the other
7 comments that we've looked at, do we want to amend
8 these -- add something, change something?"

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That isn't the way I
10 see it. We have a record of comment, which will
11 be amended or added to at June 7th. That will
12 become our total record of comment and
13 recommendation.

14 The July 12th meeting would give us the
15 opportunity to basically see how the rest of the
16 world feels about this vis-a-vis our comments, our
17 recommendations -- total recommendations. And if
18 there is some input that is just really 180 out
19 from one of our recommendations, we would have the
20 ability to respond to that. So we guide staff.
21 "This is a great recommendation, but". . .

22 I'm talking about final staff guidance to
23 kind of help staff along with how they're going to
24 filter out and sift these final public comments.

25 MS. DUNNING: So in a situation where we

1 have let's say 800 comments, are you anticipating
2 going through saying, "Agree, don't agree, agree,"
3 or are you anticipating on saying, "We've picked
4 out a few that we'd like to comment on and here
5 are our comments"?

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That would be the way I
7 would see it. I'm just one member of this group,
8 so that's why we're having this discussion. Let's
9 turn to Jeff.

10 MR. MORGAN: Jeff Morgan. I don't know
11 if we should be the arbitrator of this public
12 comment, you know. The public are allowed to make
13 their comments. The staff are supposed to address
14 their comments, respond to them, publish them, and
15 let the ideas that were put forward be known to
16 everyone.

17 As you say, if we want this for the
18 Monument and 800 people say that that's bad, I
19 don't think we'd ignore those 800 people. There
20 again, I don't know if we would want to change
21 what we recommended, you know.

22 You're going to have a lot of wide-apart
23 comments, from us, from them, from all kinds of
24 people. And it's up to staff really to resolve
25 how they're handle and whether they're going to

1 act on them or whether they're incorporated into
2 the final document.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments? Yes,
4 Terry.

5 MS. ANDERSON: Yeah. I think that
6 somehow or other -- I'm sorry. Terry Anderson.
7 Somehow or other I think that we're moving away
8 from an acceptable process. That process simply
9 is that all along, everything that we've looked at
10 or studied here has included scientific analysis
11 one way or the other. There's been Option 1,
12 Option 2, Option 3.

13 Everything is going to fit into one of
14 those based on the information that we have. I
15 know there's concern that we make sure we include
16 all of the scientific analysis. That's what I
17 think we'll look for to bring forward at our
18 June 7th meeting.

19 These folks, the staff, I've had no
20 reason to believe that they're not capable of
21 doing their job to this point. And that's what
22 they have to do with the comments that come in, is
23 sit down and use the analysis that we've accepted,
24 the procedure and the outcome, figure out how it
25 fits in there and how to respond to it.

1 I think we're to a point where we're
2 probably looking at appealable decisions which may
3 not be resolved until after the document is
4 printed.

5 I'm not sure that we need to see that
6 midnight comment that comes in on June 19th that
7 we could actually tell Connell, "These folks have
8 a good idea. Let's change our whole plan and put
9 it down this way, or we don't agree with this, and
10 we already have it in there. So let's change our
11 whole plan and take it out."

12 We're not going to do that. We had a
13 logical way of getting to where we are, and I
14 think the responses will all be responded to in a
15 logical way.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Allan.

17 MR. MUTH: Allan Muth. I concur with a
18 lot of what Terry just had to say, but my overall
19 view of what this later meeting would accomplish
20 is that it would give us an opportunity to see if
21 we've done our job and to see if we are in fact
22 representing our constituencies.

23 If we have a large number of comments
24 that are counter to something that we've
25 recommended, maybe we should take a look at it and

1 ask ourselves objectively "are we representing the
2 people we're supposed to be representing?"

3 If not, let's think about this. Let's
4 come to some resolution of this group and in fact
5 change the recommendation if it's really called
6 for that we provide to staff. That's what I think
7 that meeting should be about.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Buford.

9 MR. CRITES: I think I'm square in line
10 with what Terry had to say. I now don't see any
11 reason to do this. I agree. The folks were
12 selected, one, because they have an interest and
13 background with the Monument.

14 We have gone through the public hearing.
15 We have gone through the public comment. We're
16 going to go through another set of public
17 hearings. We're going to have at least some
18 public comments that we'll have in well before the
19 June 7 meeting.

20 We can make what we believe to be the
21 best set of recommendations, and I'm willing to
22 live with those and let the agency sort it out.
23 If something happens between the June 7 and June
24 the 19th, that's their business.

25 I think we have listened and listened and

1 thought and argued and agreed and disagreed.

2 We've done our business, and I'm comfortable with
3 that for one person.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Barbara, did I see your
5 hand?

6 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: I think we have -- I
7 think there was a recommendation maybe that we
8 have the working groups -- have it brought there,
9 and they can maybe receive comments. That's
10 another area we can receive comments through until
11 that June 19th day or June 7th day.

12 I think we have done our job, and we've
13 done a good job in getting this out to the
14 public. Maybe those are the ways that we can get
15 some of the comments also from the public.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Gary.

17 MR. WATTS: I just wanted to say that
18 Buford said what I wanted to say a lot better and
19 a lot clearer than that what I said. I agree with
20 him.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

22 MS. GEORGE: Couldn't we use the
23 August 7th meeting as a place to just show you all
24 what the comments were and how staff responded by
25 then, by August 7th, Connell?

1 MS. DUNNING: I'm not sure if we will
2 have finished our response to comments by that
3 date, depending on the number of comments that we
4 get in and the complexity of those, but it will be
5 an opportunity that we will have all of them in a
6 format that we can see them.

7 MS. GEORGE: I'd like to use the
8 August 7th meeting --

9 MS. ANDERSON: August 2nd.

10 MS. GEORGE: August 2nd. August 2nd
11 meeting. I'm sorry. On August 7th, I'll be on a
12 747. Okay. On August 2nd, we can show you all

14 staffed-out format to review and have it where
15 they can digest it before the August 2nd meeting
16 sent to them.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Terry.

18 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson.
19 Worst-case scenario, if what you bring to us on
20 August 7th contains something that this group
21 doesn't approve of, we can start an appeal
22 process?

23 MS. DUNNING: It will only be the
24 comments. There certainly will be a comment that
25 comes in that somebody doesn't agree with. It

1 will just be the comments.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Other comments?

3 MR. LYMAN: Each one of the comments has
4 to be addressed in relation to the EIS; right?

5 MS. DUNNING: Yes. That's correct.

6 MR. LYMAN: So that's the format anyway.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other comments?

8 Decision time. Do we need a special meeting
9 following June 19th closure of public comment? I
10 would entertain a motion either way. Well, if we
11 don't, we don't need a motion. Jeff.

12 MR. MORGAN: I'll make a motion that we
13 do not need a meeting.

14 MS. ANDERSON: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any comment? Any
16 opposed? We will not have a special meeting
17 following the June 19th closure.

18 Having said that, I see someone jumping
19 in their chair in my peripheral vision here.
20 Mr. Buford, sir.

21 MR. CRITES: I think while we're doing
22 all these congratulations, an advisory committee
23 that actually doesn't have another meeting is
24 something to be congratulated on.

25 MS. ANDERSON: Lunch.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I would suggest that if
2 that is the case, it would appear that the timing
3 is right. If you want to go ahead and break for
4 lunch a few minutes early and then come back
5 early, is that all right with everyone?

6 I should first, before we do that, turn
7 to Danella and say are we complete with this
8 section?

9 MS. GEORGE: We are complete with this
10 section. Yes we are. Yep.

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. One comment in
12 this section. I'd like you to think about once we
13 get the August meeting done, I'm of a mind that we
14 ought to meet not more than quarterly. So you
15 might give that some thought.

16 MR. CRITES: I agree.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay. We are
18 adjourned -- in recess, rather, until 12:30 for
19 lunch.

20 (Lunch recess taken.)

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We're back on the
22 record. Let's begin, then, with the Draft
23 National Monument Plan discussion. Connell.

24 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So the goal of the
25 rest of today that I will be talking about is

1 almost a user's guide and a read-through of the
2 plan. I'll be focusing on the Executive Summary.

3 The Executive Summary is contained wholly
4 within this as well in the Executive Summary
5 area. I'll be referring to the stand-alone
6 executive summary.

7 Again, just a reminder. The background
8 of the goal of the National Monument from the
9 legislation is the protection and preservation of
10 biological, cultural, recreational, geological,
11 educational, scientific and scenic values. You
12 should all be able to say this in your sleep.

13 Okay. A summary of nonissue, what you
14 will not find in this plan, again you've heard
15 this before, but there are other planning
16 processes going on right now. The Forest Service
17 and the BLM just completed another planning
18 process.

19 Route designations, wild horse and burro,
20 fire and fuels. ACECs, which are areas of
21 critical and biological concern energy for the
22 BLM. Energy. These are not addressed in our
23 plan.

24 Mining and off-road vehicle designations
25 were included in the BLM CDCA Plan. Grazing

1 allotments are discussed in other planning
2 efforts.

3 So what that leaves us to talk about
4 within the Monument --

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Can we just jump in as
6 questions come up?

7 MS. DUNNING: Sure. Sure.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I don't understand fire
9 not being included.

10 MS. DUNNING: What we propose -- we do
11 have fire -- additional strategies proposed for
12 fire in the Monument plan. Both the BLM and the
13 Forest Services have in their other planning
14 processes, they're addressing fire and fire
15 management categories for the land. So we're
16 building upon that in the Monument plan.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So we still have the
18 concern of our fire --

19 MS. DUNNING: Yes, we do.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: -- and coordination and
21 things like that?

22 MS. DUNNING: Yes, we do.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay.

24 MS. DUNNING: Those coordination
25 strategies are in the plan. We have some specific

1 nontrail-related recreation actions because we do
2 have a Trails Plan that Jim Kenna summarized
3 earlier this morning through the Habitat
4 Conservation Plan process. So we have a number of
5 nontrail actions that we've seen.

6 A focus of education, outreach and
7 partnerships, tribal relationships, facilities,
8 just to name a few. We'll go through them today.

9 Again, just to summarize, this is the
10 schedule you've already seen. June 19th is the
11 last day to get comments in from you. We hope to
12 issue a record of decision in November. So we're
13 one month delayed right now.

14 We might be able to squeeze up some time
15 to meet that October 24th deadline, and we're
16 still going to aim to do, but this is the time
17 line that our Washington office is comfortable
18 with.

19 The Draft Plan structure, looking at the
20 big plan, an executive summary is in the
21 beginning. Then there is Chapter 1. Chapter 1
22 provides an introduction and provides the reader
23 with the scope and the criteria of this plan and
24 what we used to come up with the actions that are
25 proposed.

1 It gives an outline of the other planning
2 processes, which is a very critical step in
3 understanding of everything else that is out
4 there.

5 Chapter 2 is where we have our proposed
6 strategies and actions. This is the chapter that
7 you'll be focusing your review on, because these
8 are the actions that we're proposing as BLM and
9 Forest Service.

10 Chapter 3 provides a summary of the
11 existing environment. It's also called "affected
12 environment." So anywhere in Chapter 2, if you
13 don't see an action, if you look at Chapter 3
14 where we describe an existing environment, we're
15 not proposing changing that. So Chapter 3 is
16 really a cumulative summary of everything that's
17 going on today.

18 What we've done with Chapter 4 is we've
19 taken a look at our actions and asked ourselves
20 how are those actions that we're proposing
21 impacting a number of different areas. How are
22 those actions affecting air quality. How are
23 these actions in Chapter 2 affecting noise
24 quality.

25 So that impact analysis on all of those

1 different things that we're analyzing is following
2 in Chapter 4.

3 Chapter 5 provides a summary of how we've
4 come to the plan that you're holding, a summary of
5 all the different people that we've coordinated
6 with, a summary of our public participation, how
7 we've coordinated with tribes and we've consulted
8 with the tribes, how we've worked with federal,
9 state, county, city and local groups, how we as an
10 interagency working group have met. We've met a
11 number of times to get the bulk of this
12 information. And also a distribution list of who
13 it was mailed to and a list of preparers.

14 Then there are some figures. We have a
15 total of nine figures to help outline what we're
16 proposing. There's a glossary, references, and a
17 number of appendices.

18 So again, I'd just like to reiterate,
19 Chapter 2 is where we're focusing getting your
20 cumulative MAC input and how you feel about the
21 actions that we're proposing.

22 Certainly we want your input on all of
23 these sections. If you're reading in the affected
24 environment of how we summarized your individual
25 group, or if you don't think we've provided enough

1 information, we're taking comments for all of
2 this, but Chapter 2 is what we'll be focusing on
3 at the next meeting.

4 Moving to the Executive Summary. The
5 Executive Summary has in it a table, table ES-1,
6 which provides a summary of every action in
7 Chapter 2. It's page ES-15, and that starts our
8 summary of all of the actions that we're
9 proposing.

10 They're separated into the following
11 sections: Biological, cultural, recreational,
12 geological, educational, scientific. And then at
13 the end, all of the other types of things that
14 have come up through scoping are addressed
15 following that.

16 So what I'd like to do now is go through
17 them briefly starting on page ES-15 so that you
18 know what you're looking at and we can help with
19 following what we're about to go through.

20 We want to make sure that every section,
21 each of these section areas, is covered in terms
22 of you having a chance to look at it.

23 If you would like to focus on any one of
24 these areas as a working group to -- obviously,
25 the cultural working group can focus on those

1 actions that we're proposing through cultural, et
2 cetera.

3 But these are each of the areas that we'd
4 like to meet today with an understanding of how
5 you're going to meet outside of this and get your
6 information back to us.

7 The first action proposed on ES-15 is the
8 management of special status species. The way
9 that these slides are shown, we have the proposed
10 action summarized on the left with just how it is
11 affecting like the existing environment.

12 This is important because if there's no
13 change, then why are we proposing it? So there
14 should be some change with the existing.

15 So with special status species, the first
16 in the box on ES-15, what you'll note is it's a
17 box that spans across a column that says
18 "Alternative A, Alternative B, Alternative C, and
19 Alternative D." And that's the same for all of
20 these. Alternative D is our no action.
21 Alternative D is if we didn't adopt any of these
22 other alternatives. It's the existing environment
23 and what we would continue to do.

24 If you see a box that spans across
25 Alternative A, B and C, what that is is it's a

1 strategy that we're proposing where we didn't feel
2 from the actions that we were proposing that there
3 was enough of a difference between the two.

4 For example, our special status species
5 strategy is to update inventories, to work with
6 partner agencies. We're not making a decision
7 spanning from A to B or from A to C. There's no
8 difference there. We're proposing that we're
9 going to work with our partner agencies and
10 continue to.

11 The same is true with our monitoring
12 program. And I apologize. It actually starts on
13 ES-14. The first is our habitat management for
14 noxious, nonnative and invasive plant species. So
15 that actually starts the Chapter 2 that we'll want
16 your comments on.

17 These look very similar to the input that
18 you've already looked at. It's the same kind of
19 format. The change there, we're improving
20 coordination of the removal of unwanted plants.
21 The final biological proposed action is the
22 monitoring program.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Excuse me, Connell.
24 Terry.

25 MS. ANDERSON: Terry Anderson. We also

1 received in various pieces of material we received
2 a joint or a comments of Administrative Draft
3 Management Plan Environment Impact Statement from
4 the Center for Collaborative Policy.

5 MS. DUNNING: Uh-huh.

6 MS. ANDERSON: There was a reference in
7 there to what you just said, that because this
8 goes all the way across and takes in
9 Alternative A, B, and C, they had a concern that
10 we needed to describe the differences between the
11 three potential management strategy alternatives,
12 excluding, of course, the no-action alternative.
13 "The document is very easily understood," blah,
14 blah, blah, blah.

15 And then it went on, I believe, in here.
16 It said that most of their concerns you had
17 addressed.

18 MS. DUNNING: Yes. And the way that
19 we've addressed that specific concern is if you
20 open up the large plan, Chapter 2, page 2-3, we
21 have proposed the difference where there is a
22 range of alternatives.

23 We proposed our range of alternatives to
24 range from least intensive management to more
25 intensive management. Where you will see this

1 range show up is where we were able to build that
2 range.

3 With a proposed action of our vegetation
4 management, for example, we felt that the proposal
5 that we have spans -- it fits all of those. It
6 fits within least intensive to most intensive
7 management.

8 An example where we have the separation,
9 where we have these alternatives spelled out, if
10 we jump ahead in the Executive Summary , it would
11 be page ES-22, where we have different
12 alternatives proposed to hang gliding ranging from
13 least intensive to more intensive management.

14 This is an example of where that range
15 fits. We have an action here where we have a
16 spectrum of options to choose from, and this range
17 fits that.

18 Alternative A, hang gliding launches
19 could be allowed with a permit ranging to hang
20 gliding launches would not be allowed with the
21 proposal for invasive weed management.

22 That's a strategy we're going to adopt.
23 We either are going to adopt the strategy or we're
24 not. That's why we've displayed it to run across
25 that A, B and C column here. This is a case where

1 the only range that we have is are we going to do
2 it or are we not. We feel with that range, we're
3 capturing everything with it.

4 MS. ANDERSON: To follow up,
5 Mr. Chairman, the message that I received as I
6 read this document was one of concern that now
7 that I hear you describing this is that if our
8 recommendation is going to be a recommendation
10 is going to be subject to considerably more either
11 questions or inquiries or suggestions for changes
12 in the future so the need was to make it clear why
13 we're doing that.

14 MS. DUNNING: Yeah.

15 MS. ANDERSON: And you say that in this
16 document on page 2-3 it does that.

17 MS. DUNNING: It does that. That is how
18 we responded to that comment. We outlined what
19 the range of alternatives was. We also
20 outlined -- in some cases the range is quite
21 small. Do we adopt a weed strategy or not? That
22 is the range.

23 So we addressed that through that
24 section, and we explained that the difference
25 between a combined strategy at the bottom, which

1 is where we explain -- when you see that combined
2 strategy, the range is just smaller. We have
3 fewer options to deal with there.

4 MS. ANDERSON: Am I reading this right,
5 then, that you went on and addressed and listed
6 those that you've included A, B, and C?

7 MS. DUNNING: Yes.

8 MS. ANDERSON: That's what it appears.

9 MS. DUNNING: That's what this list is
10 here.

11 MS. ANDERSON: Okay. So I can
12 cross-reference this to that and feel comfortable
13 that --

14 MS. DUNNING: Yes.

15 MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.

16 MS. DUNNING: Thank you for asking that.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Anybody else have any
18 questions? Okay.

19 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So moving on. Are
20 there any questions about the way that this table
21 is laid out? No?

22 Okay. The final biological proposed
23 action is our monitoring program. We're going to
24 go through them quite quickly today with the hopes
25 that you'll take them and read through them after

1 this.

2 So what I'd like to get from you is a
3 sense of would you like to go through each one of
4 these in bulleted fashion as you see on the
5 screen, or are you comfortable opening it up to
6 discussion about how we're going to do these later
7 as a working group?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Comments? Anybody have
9 a feeling on it?

10 MS. DUNNING: We can go through a couple
11 more and then see.

12 MR. MUTH: This goes on for a long time.

13 MS. DUNNING: It does. That's why I'm
14 stopping. We can go through a couple more and
15 make sure you're understanding.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Let's go through a
17 couple more.

18 MS. DUNNING: Okay. The next is
19 cultural.

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Page number?

21 MS. DUNNING: Page No. ES-16. The first
22 proposed action in cultural is to work with tribes
23 to identify significant cultural and historic
24 sites and events. And I'm reading from that first
25 square. That's what we're calling the research

1 actions.

2 The second on that page, ES-16, action of
3 inventory. And again, if you look at
4 Alternative D, the existing environment is what is
5 provided for us in our current plans. So we're
6 augmenting our existing plans by going through
7 here.

8 So conduct a sample inventory within the
9 Monument each year. That's an action that we're
10 proposing with the details in the box.

11 Moving on to page ES-17, we're proposing
12 an existing cultural conditions assessment. So we
13 need to assess what's out there separate from an
14 inventory of everything else. And a way to do
15 that change to existing would be the site
16 stewardship program including volunteers is one
17 example.

18 On ES-18, we have actions for culture
19 resources to protect and preserve. How are we
20 going to protect and preserve cultural resources?
21 Seeking partnerships, developing a list of needs,
22 identifying trail management actions, developing a
23 collections policy. This is a change from the
24 existing. We don't currently have a collections
25 policy.

1 MR. BROCKMAN: Mr. Chairman?

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes, Bob.

3 MR. BROCKMAN: Just using ES-17 as an
4 example, under the cultural resources, is the
5 action to seek partnerships or are the actions
6 really the four bulleted points?

7 MS. DUNNING: That's a good question.
8 The action are the four bulleted points, but what
9 we'd like to do is to seek partners to help us do
10 those things. So we will actively gather baseline
11 condition data, but we would like to do that with
12 volunteers or with tribes.

13 MR. BROCKMAN: So in other words, if you
14 couldn't obtain the partnerships, you would still
15 do the four bulleted points?

16 MS. DUNNING: Yes. That's true.

17 MR. BROCKMAN: I would suggest, then,
18 that maybe seek partnerships become a fifth one
19 rather than all-encompassing.

20 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So that would be the
21 final one of each of these boxes?

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That was my thought.
23 I'm not too sure, Bob, if I'd make it a bullet.
24 I'd use the same placement, only put it last
25 because it isn't an action. It's a way to carry

1 out the action. That's why I agree it should be
2 last, but yet not be intended as an action.

3 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So you mean just add
4 it to the bottom of that.

5 MR. BROCKMAN: In some fashion so the
6 partnership seeking doesn't become the primary
7 action. It's really an implementing or a means to
8 get to the end.

9 MS. DUNNING: True. Okay. Moving to
10 ES-19, interpretation and education, you'll see in
11 that list a number of bullets that look quite
12 familiar. The cultural resources working group
13 helped us pull together a lot of those.

14 ES-20, to develop a Cultural Resources
15 Management Plan. Using what we have developed
16 here as a basis, if we just extract what we pulled
17 together for this plan and use that as a starting
18 point, that's that proposed action.

19 The next on ES-21 is Native American
20 Coordination and Consultation. It kind of
21 outlines specific ways to continue to coordinate
22 with tribes throughout the management of the
23 Monument.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Connell?

25 MS. DUNNING: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It would seem to me
2 that for the most part, we're expanding on the
3 CDCA plan.

4 MS. DUNNING: We're using the CDCA Plan
5 and the Forest Plan as starting points. We're
6 asking ourselves are they adequate? Do we need to
7 supplement that? So that is our starting point
8 because that is our existing direction that we
9 have to go with. So everything we see on this
10 side, we have to compare with what we currently
11 have. So these are additions, additional above
12 and beyond, yes.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: So for the most part,
14 we're expanding on their plan?

15 MS. DUNNING: Yes. Had the time line
16 been different, the Monument Plan could have been
17 kind of wedged inside the CDCA Plan and inside the
18 Forest Plan. It could have been a pretty big
19 document, but yeah, it is a good way to look at
20 it. Okay. So that concludes the cultural
21 actions.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Does everybody
23 generally have the idea?

24 MS. DUNNING: Let me go through the
25 recreational ones, because these are a little

1 different.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay.

3 MS. DUNNING: We do have a number for the
4 alternatives that do fit that range, the first one
5 being hang gliding. You can see where it says
6 "preferred plan," that is the preferred.

7 I forgot to mention that up above where
8 you see "preferred," that's what we're choosing as
9 the preferred. Where it spanned A, B, and C as a
10 combined strategy, that's our preferred versus a
11 no action.

12 Now that we have our first example of
13 hang gliding, our preferred is the middle column.
14 So our preferred is Alternative B in this case,
15 hang gliding launches from and landing on BLM and
16 Forest Service lands within and adjacent to
17 Bighorn sheep habitat not be allowed, but that we
18 look for hang gliding opportunities in other areas
19 of the Monument.

20 So our action is to limit hang gliding in
21 some areas of the Monument and prohibit it in some
22 areas. Gary?

23 MR. WATTS: Just a quick point of
24 clarification. Do you define "adjacent" in the
25 plan anywhere?

1 MS. DUNNING: Next to, neighboring. I
2 think we could look in the glossary. I don't
3 know. That's a good question.

4 MR. WATTS: Only because it seems to me
5 that's going to open up disagreement.

6 MR. FREET: In other words, does it mean
7 contiguous to?

8 MR. WATTS: How far? Within the whole
9 Monument?

10 MR. FREET: Yeah.

11 MS. DUNNING: Okay. That's a good point.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Connell, I think it's
13 interesting here in the preferred, you're not only
14 finding appropriate, but you're also designating
15 inappropriate, which are outside the essential
16 habitat.

17 MS. DUNNING: That would be according to
18 this alternative.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Right. I think it's
20 interesting that you're going the complete circle
21 there. You're not just saying, "Here's the
22 appropriate outside the essential, but there are
23 also inappropriate ones outside the essential."

24 MS. DUNNING: Exactly. There may very
25 well be, depending on how many outside categories

1 that we haven't yet thought of.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think that's a
3 compliment that you've done the full circle there.
4 I think that's great.

5 MS. DUNNING: We try to, and you can help
6 us as a group, wherever possible, be adaptive in
7 our wording such that this isn't a set cut and dry
8 versus only what we see out there now, but that
9 the language is open enough so that whatever
10 happens to come up later, we've covered it here.
11 So you can help us with that wording.

12 The second recreation activity addressed
13 on page ES-23, that is to prohibit paintball is a
14 change to existing because currently, paintball is
15 not prohibited. Do you all know what paintball
16 is? Yeah. The change is minimal. We don't see
17 it happening a lot, but it isn't currently
18 disallowed. So the action that we're making is to
19 disallow it.

20 The next is addressing the Pacific Crest
21 National Scenic Trail in a way to improve
22 coordination with a partner agency along the PCT.
23 It's just a proposed strategy for how we're going
24 to better coordinate.

25 ES-24, our preferred plan action for

1 recreational shooting is that no recreational
2 shooting except for hunting would be allowed on
3 federal lands within the Monument. There's no
4 access via vehicle to those sites for recreational
5 shooting. Hunting will continue. We're not
6 proposing any changes to hunting. That will
7 continue to be a Department of Fish & Game
8 volunteered activity, and we'll coordinate with
9 Fish & Game.

10 Page ES-25, we're proposing that pets
11 within essential Bighorn sheep habitat at parking
12 areas, visitor centers and other developed sites
13 and designated areas, dogs would be allowed. And
14 then designated areas are listed.

15 Also, owners would be required to collect
16 and properly dispose of any waste. So the
17 implementation of it is up for discussion how we
18 would do that, that's that proposed action.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It's going to be
20 interesting to see them try to pick up urine.

21 MS. DUNNING: We could add the word
22 "solid" in that. Let me add a note.

23 MR. WATTS: You're talking about two
24 different things with "pets" in the title.

25 MS. DUNNING: We say "pets", however, at

1 this stage, we've only designated sites for dogs
2 right now. We have those three that Jim Kenna
3 mentioned earlier this morning. We have
4 designated dog sites.

5 With this language, we're trying to set
6 the stage for entry with pets. We don't know
7 what's going to happen in the future with pets.
8 So we don't know what the pet of the future will
9 be, and we're trying to use that language, you
10 know, as adaptive as we can.

11 MR. WATTS: In this particular example,
12 you're saying dogs would be allowed?

13 MS. DUNNING: Yes, in the sentence.

14 MR. WATTS: If I bring my cat on a leash,
15 it's not allowed?

16 MS. DUNNING: Pets are allowed. We just
17 need to add another sentence in there.

18 MR. WATTS: You need to either replace
19 "dogs" with "pets." Be consistent in your
20 wording. "Pets" is a broad category.

21 MS. DUNNING: We want to be broad in the
22 Monument, but we have that saying "dog sites."

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Danella.

24 MS. GEORGE: That fourth sentence,
25 Connell, right there, "designated for dog use."

1 Go to the fourth sentence there. See? What he's
2 saying is we've got "dog" there and we've got
3 "pets" up above.

4 Is that what you're saying?

5 MR. WATTS: Yeah.

7 Barbara.

8 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Also what Gary is
9 saying is down here it says, "Owners would be
10 required to collect and properly dispose of any
11 waste produced by their pet." It has to be by
12 their dog if you're talking about dogs.

13 MS. DUNNING: We're talking about pets.

14 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Okay. Then you have
15 to --

16 MS. DUNNING: We don't have pet
17 designated areas in the Monument. We currently
18 have dog designated areas in the Monument. We can
19 work on that to make the actions that we're
20 proposing consistent.

21 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: But the other part
22 of my question is then are we going to define a
23 pet? I can have a pet snake. I can have a pet
24 potbelly pig. I can have a pet goat. I can have
25 a potbelly pig on a leash.

1 I mean, are we going to allow those types
2 of things all in the Monument? If so, if they get
3 away, what's going to happen?

4 MS. GEORGE: Barbecue.

5 MS. DUNNING: That could be a topic of
6 discussion for this group, one of the working
7 groups. You could discuss that -- what do you see
8 as pets there. We didn't list that as an exact
9 list of pets for the same reason, we want that
10 language to be adaptive. We don't want to miss
11 something and have it come up later.

12 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. There
13 probably is someplace we could go to for the
14 definition of pets, some California state thing;
15 right?

16 MS. DUNNING: Eddie Konno? I guess we
17 could work on it as a group.

18 MR. KONNO: I guess.

19 MS. GEORGE: What I'm thinking of is
20 probably things that legislate and regulate the
21 veterinary industry. Veterinarians in the state
22 probably have a definition of "pet."

23 MR. KONNO: There also may be --

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Speak up, please.

25 MR. KONNO: There also may be a

1 distinction between livestock and pets within the
2 agricultural community or something like that.
3 I'm not sure what the actual designation is.

4 MS. DUNNING: The actual designation of
5 where dogs specifically can and cannot go is being
6 addressed for the Trails Plan. What we're
7 addressing is "Okay. Once that decision has been
8 made, how can they be there?"

9 So we propose that within essential
10 Bighorn sheep habitat, there will be designated
11 sites. That's our vision. And outside of Bighorn
12 sheep habitat, we're proposing on page ES-26 that
13 pets would be allowed on all Federal lands with a
14 leash. That's the proposed action.

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Barbara.

16 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Another concern on
17 that same issue being if we have pet pigs, pet
18 goats, cats, if one of them gets away or two of
19 them get away, then you're going to start having a
20 population of wild pigs, wild goats and wild cats,
21 and what are they going to do to the ecosystem if
22 you start allowing pets and not just dogs?

23 It's bad enough with dogs. But if you
24 start having these other pets, people are saying,
25 "Well, it says 'pets.' I'm going to bring up my

1 potbelly pig" and they start getting away, are we
2 going to have a problem?

3 MS. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman?

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Terry.

5 MS. ANDERSON: Yeah. Just to comment, I
6 think if you're working with the perfect to begin
7 with and you're trying to anticipate all of the
8 problems in the future, you have a lot of these
9 concerns. But dogs, pets, pigs goats, sheep have
10 all been around these mountains for hundreds of
11 years.

12 Do we already have too many cats that are
13 going up there? I mean, occasionally we do. I
14 know people that have pet pigs. There are
15 probably some already going into there. So we're
16 not starting with a perfect.

17 And I don't know that we can anticipate
18 because we say in the plan "you can bring your
19 pig" doesn't mean we're encouraging it. It just
20 means that that person who is currently taking
21 their pig for a walk can continue to take their
22 pig.

23 MS. DUNNING: That's what this is
24 saying. So the comment that's up for discussion
25 right now is do we need to alter this or give any

1 recommendations about the way it's worded.

2 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Gary.

3 MR. WATTS: Gary Watts. I'm sorry I
4 brought it up, but it is a legal issue. Maybe BLM
5 has regulations already in place that would cover
6 that. Okay. I'm sorry then. I know it happens.

7 People will come up and say, "You say no
8 dogs." If that's what your language says, no dogs
9 on a leash, it doesn't say legally that the other
10 animals are. Then you have a problem. Then we
11 have exotic animals getting involved, and you have
12 an enforcement issue.

13 So I just would recommend you have
14 consistent language that's based on law that you
15 can back up if need be to implement whatever
16 preferred alternative you have so that you don't
17 get into a legal issue in court when you get
18 pushed to the edge by somebody, who will push
19 you.

20 MS. DUNNING: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: If I may, my
22 recollection of this discussion area, which was
23 quite extensive, was that all animals would be
24 under control.

25 MS. DUNNING: The recommendation from

1 this committee was that animals be under control.
2 That was the recommendation.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Under control. That's
4 correct. Allan.

5 MR. MUTH: Allan Muth. Just as a point
6 of clarification, will this document be reviewed
7 by Department of Justice attorneys to look at
8 issues like that?

9 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. We'll have
10 a solicitor review. We actually use a solicitor.
11 The department of Interior uses a solicitor.
12 There will be solicitor review, I would hope. I
13 asked for one earlier.

14 We will also have a writer/editor --
15 Connell and I worked on this earlier this week --
16 that will pick up these things too. We want a
17 writer/editor contract to take a look at it. So
18 yes. Yes solicitor and yes to pick up some of the
19 things you guys are picking up on right now, a
20 writer/editor, as well, to look at it at two
21 different stages.

22 Thank you, Mr. Chair, for reminding us
23 what the committee already recommended on this.

24 MS. DUNNING: I think what the CDCA Plan,
25 BLM had a kind of seasoned planner come and take a

1 run at it with the same exact ideas. Someone with
2 a legal background so we're able to change those
3 types of things so that in the final, there wasn't
4 this ambiguity. Getting this other set of eyes
5 and seeing things is really what we need now.

6 MS. GEORGE: Danella George. We also
7 need that writer/editor that is not a technical
8 person that can review a document like EPA uses
9 and Justice to take a look at it.

10 MS. DUNNING: Yes. So we'll have several
11 eyes taking a look at it.

12 MS. GEORGE: Danella again. Mr. Chair,
13 you made a comment of what the committee had
14 recommended. Barbara made some very valuable
15 points as did other members here about this issue
16 of noxious and nonnative species.

17 We have that guy down in Palm Springs
18 that brings his snake to the Thursday night street
19 fair. If these things get on the loose, the
20 damage that could happen with rodents -- not
21 rodents, but I'm thinking like the snake guy. And
22 you have some weird lizards and who knows what
23 next.

24 MS. ANDERSON: Leave my lizards alone.

25 MS. DUNNING: The comments that you're

1 providing today in discussion, you know, we're
2 going to respond to. We've started. We're on
3 that path towards the final. So everything you're
4 saying today, that's why we have our trusty court
5 reporter. So we'll capture those comments.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Let's break in at this
7 point, then, and say have we got the general idea,
8 and we'll all go back and take a look at it
9 individually and make our comments.

10 Don't forget that your comments, although
11 individual, should also be brought to the June 7th
12 meeting so that everybody is aware of what your
13 concern is. Terry.

14 MS. ANDERSON: Just to add to that, I
15 think it's important that we all make sure we take
16 these documents back to those agencies that we're
17 representing and see to it that it's getting a
18 full-blown going over, if you will.

19 MS. DUNNING: So back to agencies so you
20 can take it to your planning shop at La Quinta,
21 for example. Does everybody here feel
22 comfortable? You can take it to all your people
23 down at Deep Canyon?

24 Some have been mailed to the planning
25 departments of the different cities, but your

1 knowledge of "hey, this is the time line. This is
2 what we're looking at" would be helpful. Okay.
3 So everybody here will get it back to their
4 agencies for agency review.

5 In terms of meeting on June 7th, do you
6 have an interest in meeting ahead of time outside
7 of this to help compile what would be the basis of
8 this meeting?

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The basis of the
10 June 7th meeting will be to present any comments
11 that either come out of a work group, either come
12 out of an individual member for consideration by
13 the group or at the meeting itself. It would be
14 our final comments.

15 MS. DUNNING: So similar to the structure
16 that we had to gather comments for the last
17 go-round?

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think that's a
19 reasonable description.

20 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So we would need
21 them in by the end of May.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yeah. Work groups, we
23 should have them submitted to Connell -- put
24 together, I guess.

25 MS. DUNNING: We had that third-party

1 neutral group come in and do that kind of
2 assimilating and getting that stuff together. Is
3 there an interest in having a third-party neutral
4 help, or are you comfortable with sending them in
5 via the BLM staff and having us do that summary,
6 that cumulation of things to then talk about on
7 June 7th?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Comments anyone?

9 MS. ANDERSON: Yeah, I have a comment.
10 Am I hearing that the staff is recommending that
11 we get some additional help because of the time
12 frame, and you may find yourself a little under
13 the gun?

14 MS. DUNNING: No. I'm asking how this
15 group feels and how you want to work. Danella,
16 help me out here.

17 MS. GEORGE: Well, okay. Let me help you
18 out. Yeah. I think it would be appropriate to
19 have some help for Connell with Austin and David
20 again helping us, the three of them for the MAC,
21 preparing the documents for the MAC, for you
22 guys.

23 But to do that, we're going to have the
24 comments back -- actually, we're probably going to
25 have to have the comments back by May -- I'm

1 thinking probably May 23, Connell --

2 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

3 MS. GEORGE: -- for David and Austin to

4 assist.

5 MS. DUNNING: Okay. Then to get them

6 into the format that we need so that you can get

7 it and see it ahead of time. Okay.

8 MS. GEORGE: Okay. For the MAC to be

9 able to see it. What day were you looking at for

10 the MAC to see it?

11 MS. DUNNING: Well, if you were to get it

12 a week in advance to see all of your input

13 together, is that enough time?

14 MS. GEORGE: Would Monday June 2nd be

15 enough time, Terry?

16 The 31st is a Saturday, Connell.

17 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

18 MS. ANDERSON: Sure. I think that sounds

19 fine.

20 MS. GEORGE: Memorial Day is the 30th.

21 I'm just looking at a calendar. We'll get

22 grounded here on the calendar. We need to think

23 about that weekend. A lot of people are gone. A

24 lot of people take holiday.

25 So if we can get from the MAC their

1 comments, be it work group or individual, for
2 Austin and David to consolidate with Connell's
3 assistance to bring back to MAC, I'm just thinking
4 maybe May 22nd. Why don't we look at May 22nd,
5 because we've lost the 30th.

6 Then we could have that to you all we
7 hope by the 2nd of June prior to a June 7th
8 meeting. Would that work?

9 MR. BROCKMAN: I lost you. What happens
10 on June 2nd?

11 MS. GEORGE: June 2nd we'd have the
12 material. Hopefully Austin and David could have
13 that out to the chair, to Mr. Kibbey, to
14 distribute to you to have a review period before
15 the June 7th meeting.

16 MR. BROCKMAN: So as I understand it,
17 individual or work group comments in by the 22nd
18 of May will come back to us by the 2nd so that
19 we're ready for the 7th?

20 MS. GEORGE: Correct. Would that work?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: One question for just a
22 moment. Would Austin, et al., be here June 7th to
23 work with us?

24 MS. GEORGE: If you would like Austin to
25 come and work with us in person, this would be an

1 appropriate time to bring him down, I think, to
2 work with Connell, yes.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think it would be
4 helpful. Anybody agree with that? Terry?

5 MS. ANDERSON: Just a clarification. Is
6 the document going to be in our hands on Monday,
7 June the 2nd or in the mail?

8 MS. DUNNING: E-mail?

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: It will all be
10 e-mailed, correct?

11 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. Is e-mail acceptable
12 for everybody?

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: E-mail is preferable.

14 MR. MUTH: Except for Mr. Crites.

15 MS. DUNNING: E-mailed June 2nd. So
16 May 22nd to BLM staff. So then we have roughly
17 the months of April and May to work out the review
18 process between this group?

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: She's asking a
20 question. Are we responding to her question or do
21 we have other comments here? Bary.

22 MR. FREET: I'm trying to respond to her
23 question.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay.

25 MR. FREET: Bary Freet. So we need to

1 have a master calendar created for our work groups
2 so you can be reactive to those needs and
3 participation, specifically for the cultural.

4 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

5 MR. FREET: I'm not speaking for the
6 chair, but we've set the dates of April the 16th
7 and May the 21st.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: 21, not 22?

9 MS. DUNNING: 21st.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: There you go.

11 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: We also need to deal
12 with the other document ourselves, the
13 Interpretive Environmental Education Concept Plan,
14 too, with those two meetings.

15 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. The priority here is
16 our deadline with the plan because it ends in a
17 90-day period. Our comments with the Interp Plan
18 are ongoing.

19 MR. FREET: Maybe we should set that
20 aside, then.

21 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: We'll set it aside
22 then.

23 MS. DUNNING: Okay. Maybe after in June.

24 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Okay.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bob, you had a comment?

1 MR. LYMAN: Yeah. I have a question.
2 What format do you want the responses in? Do you
3 want us to address "ES-1"? How do you want that
4 format?

5 MS. DUNNING: Yeah. In fact, by page
6 number and section, because you may have comments
7 about Chapter 1, Chapter 2. And the Executive
8 Summary, you can go by the section and the table.
9 Yeah. The different sections are biological,
10 cultural, recreational, geological, educational.
11 And then we have a suite of actions at the end
12 that cross the boundary.

13 So I think my recommendation would be
14 that each group look at those that fall at the end
15 of the table. The visitation, facilities, access
16 and uses kind of affect all of the groups. Or the
17 recreation group could -- I don't know. It's just
18 they all need to be looked at by something. We
19 don't want any of them to fall through the
20 cracks.

21 Are there any recommendations of how we'd
22 like to go through each of those with the
23 different working groups that we have existing?

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: What I'll do is I'll
25 get back and send the e-mail to each head. Let's

1 see. We have one missing. To Bill Havert telling
2 him that his group should -- pardon me?

3 MS. DUNNING: And Mary.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: No. I meant for the
5 work groups.

6 MS. GEORGE: And Frank. Frank is
7 missing.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I thought there was
9 somebody here that was sitting in for Frank. I
10 guess not. Okay.

11 MS. GEORGE: Buford, when Buford gets
12 back.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: You're on Frank's
14 group.

15 MS. GEORGE: Yeah. Jeff.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's what I thought.
17 All right. So the only one I need to do is tell
18 Bill; right? He needs to get a copy. Has he got
19 his copies?

20 MS. DUNNING: Yes. He got a copy
21 yesterday.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Okay.

23 MS. DUNNING: The biological, we have
24 three actions proposed in the biological area.
25 There's not currently a biological working group.

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Good question.

2 MS. DUNNING: Do you have any
3 recommendations for the biological and
4 geological?

5 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Jeff, would you mind
6 handling those two?

7 MR. MORGAN: In what capacity?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Just any comment.
9 They're kind of up your alley, since we don't have
10 a specific work group.

11 MR. MORGAN: After I've reviewed the
12 documents, I will offer comment.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Allan, you could work
14 with him on that? You two work together on that.

15 MS. GEORGE: We can give you Rachelle if
16 you need some help. Rachelle Huddleston-Lorton
17 for staff help because she helped Collin create
18 it.

19 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Gary.

20 MR. WATTS: I've asked Eddie to go back
21 to Fish & Game management and decide how they want
22 to review their concerns, whether they want to
23 route it back through me as a representative of
24 the community or separate it out. Maybe we'll get
25 some additional help in an area on those

1 biological concerns.

2 MS. DUNNING: Any takers for geological?

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Those two.

4 MS. DUNNING: Same. Okay. Educational?

5 There are three actions proposed for educational.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Barbara is going to

7 take care of that.

8 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: Yeah.

9 MS. DUNNING: Barbara. Okay. And the
10 scientific, Jeff and Al?

11 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Same thing, I think.

12 Jeff and Al on that.

13 MS. DUNNING: And others who want to jump
14 in?

15 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yeah. And if you would
16 put all this down on a piece of paper and get it
17 to me, I'll distribute it. Or you can just
18 distribute it to everybody on the committee so
19 that we all have that information and those
20 dates.

21 MS. DUNNING: Okay. The others that we
22 have -- let me do just a run-through. And think
23 about who can do these. Working to achieve
24 access, I assume would be the access and
25 recreational group?

1 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes.

2 MS. DUNNING: Addressing private property
3 concerns?

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: That's Bill.

5 MS. DUNNING: Bill. Establish criteria
6 for facilities?

7 MS. GEORGE: That's education outreach.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, for facilities --

9 MS. GEORGE: Recreation.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: -- probably the
11 recreation group.

12 MS. DUNNING: The recreation group?

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes.

14 MS. DUNNING: Okay. Coordinating with
15 Caltrans. Recreation group?

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes. I think
17 recreation group.

18 MS. DUNNING: Monitoring visitors?
19 Recreation?

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yes.

21 MS. DUNNING: Reducing hazards and Fire
22 Plan?

23 MS. GEORGE: We need a fire group.

24 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We don't have a fire
25 group. Perhaps Bary could just handle that.

1 MS. DUNNING: The hazards and the fire,
2 okay. Okay. Water resources?

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think Bill probably.
4 That's the land group. I think they'd also do
5 water.

6 MS. DUNNING: Okay. Acquisition strategy
7 would be Bill?

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yeah.

9 MS. DUNNING: And then the final adaptive
10 management and monitoring, I think would be
11 everybody. So the planning group.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, I think the
13 planning group is also going to get into the
14 facilities area too.

15 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

16 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Bob.

17 MR. BROCKMAN: I'm not sure what we're
18 doing, to be honest. Are we now assigning
19 portions of this plan to specific work groups as
20 opposed to individual comments? I, for one, was
21 planning on reading the whole thing and commenting
22 on the whole thing.

23 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: And you would.

24 MR. BROCKMAN: And to the extent that the
25 planning group was kind of an over-arching group

1 anyway, I would assume that the other members of
2 this committee would be doing the same thing.

4 way limit input from any individual. It is to
5 enhance input from group thinking of the specific
6 groups. So both. You would do your bit, and you
7 could. You don't have to. If you look at it and
8 you think there's nothing there for your
9 committee, don't worry about it.

10 MR. BROCKMAN: I'll poll the work group
11 and see.

12 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Yeah. The idea is
13 we're saying, "All right. There are specific
14 areas in the plan, and this is where we think
15 those groups might be interested."

16 MS. DUNNING: It's also so that we don't
17 show up on June 7 and have everyone say, "Oh, I
18 didn't look at that" and look around the room and
19 nobody in this group looked at it. We don't want

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think that's a
22 distinct possibility either way.

23 MS. DUNNING: Okay. Okay. Thinking
24 about this and the way that feedback is going to
25 come back by individuals and by groups, I think

1 I'd like to move this date up a little bit if
2 possible.

3 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: To June 25th?

4 MS. DUNNING: No. Because we're going to
5 need to take people's input and put it in
6 different formats and put it all together.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: We're already on
8 June 5 -- May 5, rather. April 5.

9 MS. GEORGE: No. We're April 5.

10 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: April 5.

11 MS. GEORGE: So one, two, three, four,
12 five, six.

13 MS. DUNNING: May 20? I can do a lot in
14 two days.

15 MS. GEORGE: Well, how about either the
16 16th, which is a Friday, at close of business or
17 how about the 20th of May?

18 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Does any work group
19 meet on a weekend? There's no sense of doing it
20 on a weekend. Let's do the Friday.

21 MS. GEORGE: May 16th, Connell.

22 MS. DUNNING: May 16th?

23 MS. GEORGE: Yes. You've got it.

24 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

25 MS. ANDERSON: So the May 21st, maybe we

1 should just cancel it.

2 MS. GEORGE: No.

3 MS. DUNNING: We'll still have individual
4 comments in by this day and cultural in by that
5 day?

6 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Oh, okay. That's
7 fine.

8 MR. FREET: We can do that.

9 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So individual
10 comments in. And cultural will come in after
11 May 21st, because you need to meet to get that
12 group input.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Well, they're meeting
14 on May 16th.

15 MS. DUNNING: So we'll get half the input
16 and half here. Okay.

17 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Is that it, Connell?

18 MS. DUNNING: That is. I wanted to just
19 review quickly the public meeting dates that we
20 have. April 22nd will be in Idyllwild. April
21 24th will be in Pinyon. April 29th will be in
22 Palm Desert here.

23 MR. FREET: Times?

24 MS. DUNNING: 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: You'll pass that out to

1 everyone, that schedule?

2 MS. DUNNING: If you could share that
3 information with councils, with people in the
4 know, post them places, bring it to your family.
5 Share the information as much as possible. We're
6 really working on getting the media out on this.
7 And that is all I have.

8 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Thank you for your hard
9 work.

10 Summarize meeting and needs for the June
11 MAC meeting, Danella George.

12 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Mr. Chair, I've taken
13 notes on that. I need a moment to look for that.

14 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think it's relatively
15 easy. We only had one vote and one action.

16 MS. GEORGE: Yes. We had one motion.
17 First to review -- Danella George, National
18 Monument manager -- to review the motions. We
19 wanted to start doing one motion; right? And that
20 was to be no June meeting -- June 19th. There
21 would be no meeting on June the 19th.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I think the motion was
23 no special meeting, but that's fine.

24 MS. GEORGE: All right. Then we
25 discussed Barbara Gonzales-Lyon today, her work

1 group, the cultural resources would now start
2 looking at the Interpretation Plan, and they
3 agreed to that.

4 MR. FREET: We did, but the schedule has
5 changed.

6 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Right. The schedule
7 has changed. We were going to do it April and
8 May. Now you're asking us to make sure we get the
9 comments from the Monument Draft back April/May.
10 So we will do that probably June/July.

11 MS. GEORGE: On the Interpretive Plan,
12 June and July?

13 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Uh-huh.

14 MS. GEORGE: All right.

15 MR. FREET: Which means we'll be unable
16 to respond to your request for comments by June
17 the 5th.

18 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Right.

19 MS. GEORGE: When do you think you'll be
20 able to comment?

21 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: In August.

22 MS. GEORGE: August.

23 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: We have June and
24 July.

25 MS. GEORGE: Connell, will we be able to

1 make those changes from the Interpretive Plan?

2 MS. DUNNING: I apologize. I missed it.

3 MS. GEORGE: Okay. What I've asked folks
4 to make comments in response to the Draft
5 Interpretive Outreach Concept Plan that was
6 presented today was if there are substantial
7 changes that need to go into it, that those
8 changes are made, realizing that that document
9 will always be a living document, but that we need
10 to have it as an appendix to the final plan.

11 MS. DUNNING: Okay. So the appendix will
12 be an amended version of that plan in the final
13 with MAC input?

14 MS. GEORGE: Correct.

15 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

16 MS. GEORGE: Now, do you think if they
17 got the input to us in August that we'll be able
18 to meet the deadline?

19 MS. DUNNING: Beginning of August.

20 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: Actually, we can
21 have it in by the end of July.

22 MS. DUNNING: End of July 15, okay.

23 MS. GEORGE: Let's look and set a date in
24 the end of July. How about July 31st? Would that
25 work?

1 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

2 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Actually, we're
3 going to have it back by July 23rd. Our meeting
4 would be July 16th, which is the third Wednesday.

5 MS. DUNNING: So July 16th you'll be
6 discussing that plan?

7 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Right.

8 MS. DUNNING: And Tracy will hopefully be
9 able to go to that meeting and work together.

10 MS. GONZALES-LYONS: Right.

11 MS. DUNNING: Okay.

12 MS. GEORGE: Okay. So I ask people to
13 review it here today, individual MAC members to
14 review the document and provide the comments to me
15 to give to Tracy.

16 Should we go ahead and change that and
17 have the individual MAC members that are looking
18 at the document that don't go to your work group
19 provide to you by June 5th their comments?

20 MS. GONZALEZ-LYONS: Okay.

21 MS. GEORGE: Okay. Everybody clear on
22 that? Now, you'll take a look at the Interpretive
23 Plan that Tracy did the presentation on today. If
24 you have any comments, anything in there like
25 Terry picked up some things, and if you're not

1 going to the work group to work on it, you would

3 July -- no -- June 5th.

4 MR. LYMAN: You'll recap all of this in
5 an e-mail?

6 MS. GEORGE: That's why we're recapping
7 it now. That's why we call it the meeting
8 summary.

9 MS. ROSENTHAL: Just for clarification,
10 we're not just talking about cultural aspects of
11 the Interpretive Plan. We're talking about the
12 entire plan, even though that's the cultural work
13 group; right?

14 MS. GEORGE: Right. The entire
15 Interpretive Environmental Education Outreach
16 Plan.

17 Okay. The only other thing is to review
18 that we have a field date to go out on an
19 informational tour in May to look at red trees
20 (sic) on the Idyllwild district -- San Jacinto
21 district with Laurie on May the 19th. Why don't
22 we plan on all meeting at the parking lot at the
23 Visitor Center by 8:30 on May the 19th.

24 And I would also like to pose a question
25 to the Advisory Committee regarding a tour of

1 Mt. Santa Rosa. We never made it to the top last
2 time. Would we like to go there in July?

3 We can off go while we get the dates.

4 (Discussion off the record.)

5 MS. GEORGE: Okay. We're going to
6 scratch any field trip in the summer. We are
7 going to look at the red trees (sic) and the
8 issues there on May 19th.

9 MS. ANDERSON: Are you saying "red
10 trees"?

11 MS. GEORGE: Dead trees.

12 MR. MUTH: She said "red trees."

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Side conversations
14 stop, please. We had a question. Was 8:30 for
15 the tree tour too early? Anybody have a comment
16 on that?

17 My personal feeling is it's just fine,
18 thank you.

19 MS. ROSENTHAL: We're going to meet in
20 the parking lot at 8:30?

21 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Right.

22 MS. LIEGLER: What we can do is meet at
23 the Sugarloaf Cafe. That's how we do our
24 programs.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Do you have your

1 answer, Laurie?

2 MS. ROSENTHAL: Yeah. 8:30 in the
3 parking lot in Idyllwild.

4 MS. GEORGE: No. No. No. 8:30 at the
5 Visitor Center.

6 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: The Visitor Center down
7 here.

8 MS. ROSENTHAL: Oh.

9 MS. GEORGE: Because of vehicles for
10 transporting folks and whatnot. So we'll meet at
11 the Highway 74 Visitor Center like we did on the
12 other field trips.

13 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Gary.

14 MR. WATTS: Can we have two staging
15 areas, one down here and one up there? Maybe
16 Laurie can coordinate one up on top.

17 MS. ROSENTHAL: Right. Right. See, I
18 thought you meant up there. You'll just carpool
19 up to the district office?

20 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Right.

21 MS. ROSENTHAL: Okay. I'm glad we got
22 that straight.

23 MS. GEORGE: Sound good?

24 MS. ROSENTHAL: Yes.

25 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Jeff.

1 MR. MORGAN: So the second meeting spot
2 if you don't show up here will be in Idyllwild at
3 9:30 instead of Palm Desert at 8:30.

4 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: I would suggest that's
5 realistic, yes.

6 MR. MORGAN: Okay.

7 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Everybody hear that?
8 If you don't make the Visitor Center down here at
9 8:30, make the Forestry office at 9:30 in
10 Idyllwild.

11 MS. GEORGE: Then another thing. Another
12 potential site tour that I heard today was I heard
13 folks interested in the Palm Springs the Frey
14 Building. There's quite a bit of interest there.
15 I would like to propose for those that are
16 interested having us set up a site visit to look
17 at this to see the dimensions inside and visit
18 that.

19 Is that of interest to maybe Barbara and
20 Bary and Jeff and myself, at least out on site?

21 MR. FREET: I'm okay with it, yeah.

22 MS. GEORGE: Okay. So we'll follow up
23 with that, Tracy, and get a visit out there on
24 site. I think that's about it, except save
25 October 25th. That's going to be the date to

1 celebrate the Monument. We'll do something out in
2 the canyons.

3 I'm just looking to see what else. I
4 have just a few more notes. I have Ed on
5 etiquette. I'll talk to him later. For all of
6 those who came, thank you. And for those with the
7 perfect attendance, thank you. Thanks for all the
8 work you're going to do until our next meeting.

9 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Any other input,
10 comment, request? Meeting is adjourned. Wait a
11 minute. Tracy.

12 MS. LIEGLER: I'm going to say that next
13 month is going to be archeology month at the
14 Visitor Center. It is about a week and a half for
15 input on programs. We'll include symposium
16 sponsored by CVAG at the Palm Springs Desert
17 Museum.

18 We'll have Lowell Bean speak. I'm not
19 sure where, but maybe at the Tahquitz Visitor
20 Center. If you know about a historical-related
21 program, please let me know.

22 CHAIRMAN KIBBEY: Now the meeting is
23 adjourned. Thank you very much for coming
24 everyone.

25 (The proceedings were adjourned at 1:35 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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) ss.
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I, Sonja Chernick, a Certified Shorthand Reporter within and for the State of California, hereby certify:

That the said proceedings, taken down by me in stenotype at the time and place therein stated, was thereafter reduced to typewritten by computer-aided transcription under my direction, and is an accurate transcription of the oral proceedings in this matter, to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am not in any way interested in the event of this proceeding and that I am not related to any of the parties thereto.

DATED THIS 10TH DAY OF APRIL 2003.

Sonja Chapman, CSR No. 11504