



SAWA MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

February 26, 2009

Meeting Location:
4500 Glenwood Drive
Riverside, CA 92501
9:00 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Zembal called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees: Dick Zembal – OCWD; Bonnie Nasch – OCWD; Gayle Holyoak – SJBRCD; Jennifer Ares – IERCD; Diana Ruiz – RCRC; Vicki Long – EMARCD; Lee Reeder – SAWA; Jennette Corbitt – SAWA; Samantha Dempster – SAWA; Sue Hoffman – SAWA; Henry Armijo – SAWA; Nicole Peltier – SAWA; Shani McCullough – RCRC; Anna Milloy – CDFG; Michael Flores – CDFG; Terry Reeser – SAWA; Lynn Sweet – Cal-IPL Student Chapter; Matt Talluto – MSHCP; Bill Kronland – MSHCP; Dolly Aguirre – SAWA; and Tim Romo – SAWA

III. PUBLIC INPUT – Oral communication from the public audience on any subject matter within SAWA’s subject matter jurisdiction.

None.

IV. REVIEW, AMEND AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes from January 8th & January 22nd 2009

Director Ruiz pointed out a couple corrections on page 3, 4 & 5 on the January 8th minutes and page 7 of the January 22nd minutes.

Director Holyoak motioned to approve the January 8th and 22nd minutes with the noted corrections. Director Ruiz seconded and the motion passed with no objections.

V. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

a. Approve Consent Calendar: January 2009

Director Ruiz motioned to approve the financial statements. Director Ares seconded and the motion passed with no objections.

b. Treasurer’s Report - Diana Ruiz

No report this month because Director Ruiz didn’t hear from Kit, the Merrill Lynch representative. Director Ruiz reminded the board that Kit is still offering to conduct a short retreat for the board to go over the current investments and risk plan strategy for the future. Lee Reeder suggested he would like to have the retreat sometime in March or April and would come up with a few dates and submit it to the board.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Lee Reeder announced that SAWA received an In-Lieu Fee check for \$25K from Victoria Heights in Riverside County to do general maintenance for ongoing restoration within the watershed.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

a. Mural for Interpretive Center

Dolly – Requested to have at least one mural done in the Chino Interpretive Center. Because there wasn't money within the Ed Program budget, Dolly worked out an agreement with IEUA in which they would pay for some display cabinets and a ground water display model (if they can not get one donated from one of the IEUA member agencies), and leased out to SAWA for \$1 a year that would be amended to the current lease agreement. Then money that was in the budget for the cabinets would then be available to spend on the mural.

Director Ares suggested getting input from the biologists. Dolly informed the board that all of the artists are all open to suggestions for ideas to be incorporated into the mural. Additionally, Dolly said they would like to incorporate the specimens with the murals rather than painting animals on the mural. Chairperson Zembal said he would be able to get some wall mounted specimens that could be used in the interpretive center in addition to the ones we currently have.

Chairperson Zemal would like to see the watershed incorporated into the mural. Director Ruiz would like to have a preliminary drawing for approval. Dolly met with all three of the artists that she received quotes, was able to view some of their previous artwork and said they are willing to give a preliminary sketch for review. Dolly suggested going with Masterpiece Murals because they negotiated a non-profit price that was considerably less than the other artists' quotes.

Director Ares motioned to hire Masterpiece Murals for a landscape mural on one wall of the Chino Interpretive Center. Director Ruiz seconded and the motion passed with no objections.

b. Consulting Services from Renee Latu

Lee Reeder– His current priority is going through all of the mitigation files and making certain the reports are accurate to all of the agencies that we are required to report. He wants to finish the Prop 13 report and the mitigation table for the 2007/2008 annual reports. He feels the best use of his time and to help eliminate frustration and get answers to questions has been to call Renee.

Lee is proposing to bring in Renee as a consultant at \$50 per hour with a maximum of \$5,250.00 to use as needed. Tim Romo suggested Renee would be helpful with the permits as well

Director Ruiz motioned to approve hiring Renee Latu as needed for consulting purposes. Director Holyoak seconded and the motion was passed with no objections.

c. 2007 & 2008 Annual Reports

Lee Reeder was hoping to have the annuals approved at this meeting, but he still has some work to do on the mitigation table and was handed some edits from RCRC today and needs to incorporate their numbers & tables.

Lee suggested we should not need to print more than one hundred of the 2007 annual report and perhaps print the same number of copies as last year which was 500 for the 2008 annual report. Director Ruiz suggested that we don't need to print out so many copies of the outdated publication, but rather send a hard copy to the regulatory agencies that need it and have a pdf copy posted with pictures available for the general public to

view. The board agreed this will help save on costs. The main audience is the regulatory agencies: the USACE, CDFG & Fish and Wildlife Services. Chairperson Zembal suggested we have the annual report with the information needed and have a separate supporting photographic packet that they could download as desired to view the before and after pictures.

Director Ruiz suggested that we have a summary of what SAWA does to use as a public relations tool that states our accomplishments. Chairperson Zembal suggested we have an executive summary at the beginning of the annual that can be used as a stand alone document that can be used when applying for grants and research.

Anna – F&G, suggested mailing at least one hard copy to the agency and include the link to the SAWA website which will have the full report posted, including the photographic support available to download individual copies. Chairperson Zembal suggested we send a hard copy to each individual that we work specifically with in the different agencies in order to ensure the right individuals have received a copy for reporting purposes.

Director Ares motioned to approve the 2007 annual report and mitigation table pending any additional changes from RCRC. Director Holyoak seconded and the motion passed with no objections.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Status of Hall Easement

Lee Reeder shared that Carson Hall sent in a new revision of the easement that basically relieved him of any responsibility with regard to the easement property. Because acceptance of the easement was a term of his probation, the DA's office filed a motion to revoke his probation. Lee informed the board that we are waiting to see which choice he will make: to accept the easement or go back to his sentence. Since we don't know what his decision will be, it's not clear whether the easement will be affected by his refusal to accept the easement as written. Lee is going to find out a predicted time frame on this easement from our attorney, Greg Powers.

b. Status of Mockingbird Easement

Lee Reeder informed the board that just received the formal appraisal for the conservation, wetlands and access easements. We were formerly under the gun to get this wrapped up by tomorrow and had to pay a premium to get the appraisal done, but the bankruptcy court just granted an extension, and we have until June to finalize the quitclaim, so Lee should be able to handle the rest of the easement on his own.

IX. SAWA PROJECT REPORTS

Anna Milloy – CDFG

One of the things that CDFG want to start doing with the funds is locating the areas that need to be reported on. Currently there is a patch of arundo off Central Avenue that she is interested in using the funds from a couple different permits to remove the arundo and do long term maintenance. She needs to know how much acreage there is and who can do the monitoring and reporting on it. If there is more than one project involved there would only need to be one report. Chairperson Zembal asked Tim if it would be difficult to map out the entire area and he said it could be done in one day. Chairperson Zembal would like to see that the entire area is clean, not just the isolated area in question and suggested that perhaps we could combine funds and do the entire area. Anna reported that she wants to take care of this under arundo removal. Chairperson Zembal would like to take on this project with ongoing restoration.

Lee Reeder announced that next week he will be meeting with CDFG and will be able to incorporate Tim's mapping.

Chairperson Zembal reminded the board that taking on an easement needs to include some form of funding.

Director Ruiz believes that piece of land is actually in SJBRCD district – Director Holyoak would have to check a map to verify.

Anna stated that she has time limits with their agreements so she wanted to know if it was something SAWA or the RCD's would be interested in doing.

Chairperson Zembal said they could always hand it over to SAWA and if the RCD's wanted to take it on we could change it over at a later date.

a. Lee Reeder – SAWA

Budget - The budget was finalized last month and over the past few weeks we have been working to incorporate the details into the budget that have been recommended by the budget committee and the board. This includes the addition of Member Agency Reimbursement line item, and the addition of the budget category lines for restoration and conservation easements. We are now working on a method of trying to allocate the budget among those areas. It is a bit of a challenge in an organization with our mission because there are so many projects, and of the funds we take in, some must be set aside for future years of management. But we're going to get there on allocations, so we can do a better job of planning and investing.

Reporting – Lee's focus is getting caught up on and tightening up all the reporting of our mitigation work, and as I talked about in the budget segment, improving the way we allocate funds across admin, endangered species, invasive species removal, brown-headed cowbirds, education and public outreach, easements and restoration.

SAWPA – Lee met with Jeff Beehler and he informed us that he has made available for us for arundo removal and maintenance the amount of \$18,259.27, which was over-invoiced on a project for another agency. We just need to apply this to one of our projects, perhaps it can be used on carbon canyon. Also, SAWPA will be extending our Task Order for \$225K to September 2009, so we have until then to apply that money on projects we have going or need to start.

Lee reported that he is working on the Prop 13 reporting for SAWPA for 2007, with the help of Director Ares, and he is hoping to take advantage of some of Renee's help on that, as well as her assistance in tightening up the rest of the mitigation reporting.

Prop 50 funds for the PAR project are still frozen. Lee and Jeff are working to see if they can modify the scope of our PAR agreement so we can keep those funds available for future work, and it looks like we will be able to do that. This will allow us to bill the Army Corps and Aspen for our work on the PAR project so far, which was also within the scope of our Army Corps/Aspen agreement. That way, our PAR project work will be covered, and then we will have the Prop 50 funds available when and if they come on line again.

Chairperson Zembal – the Corps project – Hayley tries to build in enough funding where we can take the top 100 acres of maintenance on the PAR project and bill with that

removal and have funding to take care of the maintenance for the upcoming years. He suggests we could take on the bottom 100 acres if Prop 50 funding comes back.

CDFG & USACE – We are working on redefining our relationships and how we work with Fish and Game and Army Corps. Both are changing their permitting requirements and we are working within their guidelines to solidify our partnerships. Next week we are meeting with Fish and Game, and after that Lee will be working with Chairperson Zembal on the new prospectus for the Army Corps.

Staff – Lee Contacted Geoffrey Hopper & Associates about reworking our employee handbook and policy manuals.

He is starting a monthly staff meeting for SAWA on the first Wednesday of every month at the RCRCD meeting room at 1:30 P.M.

Late next month or early April Lee will be looking into the SAWA committee needs.

On March 11th he will be attending the CA Invasive Weeds Awareness Coalition's Invasive Weeds Awareness Day at the Capital in Sacramento. The focus will be strengthening invasive species programs and what we can do to thrive in the current funding crisis. In the afternoon they will walk to the Capital for legislative crisis and agency meetings.

b. Diana Ruiz – Riverside-Corona RCD

RCRCD staff continued working on the following projects:

- Coldwater Canyon fish and amphibian surveys in cooperation with the landowners, DFG and USGS.
- SEP monitoring and water quality testing on Temescal Creek at the Dos Lagos and Lee Lake easements.
- Sucker Recovery Program population surveys on the Santa Ana main stem below Prado Dam and between Mission Inn Ave and the RIX plant (on a monthly basis).

RCRCD completed the Weed Management Area annual report with SAWA, and was both a sponsor and an in-kind contributor.

The Sucker Sensitivity Project has been approved for the next two years by the USFWS. RCD staff started to retrofit the nursery basement area. In upcoming months, RCRCD will need some SAWA staff assistance in implementing the program and in managing the sucker population at the native fish stream.

The Deep Creek Fly fishers presented a \$1,500 cash award to RCRCD February 25 at their meeting. The grant will go toward RCRCD's Native Fish and Amphibian Restoration Program.

Erin Snyder is our volunteer coordinator for bluebird nest box monitoring, storm drain inlet labeling, cleanup events, watershed outreach, and more. This past quarter, she coordinated students from the California School for the Deaf (CSDR) on a few projects, including the door-to-door distribution of *Living on the Edge* to 500 homeowners.

Erin completed the 2008 Bluebird Nest box monitoring and reporting: 10 volunteers hung and monitored nest boxes for 195 Western Bluebird fledglings. She is seeking volunteers for the current nesting season.

Erin Snyder worked on coordinating the Calif. Envirothon team training sessions coming up in March. RCRCD has two teams competing from Arlington High School this year. Erin also serves on the California Envirothon Committee and the La Sierra High School Ag. Advisory committee.

RCRCD held an outreach booth at the Martin Luther King Community Service Event January 19.

RCRCD Resource Educators Renee Hicks and Kasey Davis continue to conduct *Only Rain Down the Storm Drain* (storm water education) programs in elementary schools. For adult storm water outreach, Erin presented the narrated program *Home Gardening: Simple and Environmentally Friendly* for the Palm Desert Community Gardeners on January 21.

RCRCD hosted the Riverside-San Bernardino chapter of the California Native Plant Society on February 19. Susan Jett, director of horticulture at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, spoke to nearly 100 guests about landscaping with natives.

Diana worked on coordinating the reprinting of the book "Birdwatching in Your Own Backyard for the Inland Empire" with Heyday Press. The second edition has been edited and will be recreated at the size of a "field guide". It will be completed in about one year. At the request of Heyday Press, Diana serves on the Inlandia Advisory Committee. The newly formed Inlandia Institute's mission is to "celebrate our region in word, image and sound." More about Inlandia and raising the profile of Inland Empire literature can be found at <http://www.riversideca.gov/Library/inlandia.asp>.

c. Vicki Long – Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza RCD

They are still working on the easement North of San Jacinto and working with the County Supervisor's office to plan for a clean up sometime in Fall, possibly on November 7th.

Director Long has been busy looking for housing for their district, and with the financial support from SAWA, she believes they will be able to have their own office soon.

They are putting together their job description for their district manager. She would appreciate each of the RCD's district managers to send her an electronic copy of their job descriptions.

Chairperson Zembal asked if there was any vireo found in Elsinore, Vicki is not sure but would like to have SAWA biologists come out, perhaps on a boat to access the habitat

Director Long announced that she is the new president of their board (Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza RCD).

They are looking to do some MOU's with the city of Murrieta and with San Diego State. Anna from CDFG asked if they have any plans to do some In-Lieu Fee programs in Murrieta Creek. Director Long said they are starting to work on that with USACE.

Director Long asked if SAWA can do any removal of palm trees – Director Ares informed her that Jason Gesal, near her area would be available to give a tour to see how he does removal.

d. Jennifer Ares – Inland Empire RCD

Director Ares reported that IERCD finished the second phase along the Santa Ana River Mission Area. They coordinated with the Riverside County Parks and Mitigation Bank on removing the arundo. They moved the bank and will follow up with spraying.

Director Ares finished the 2007 Reach 3 mitigation report, and is gearing up for the 2008 report for San Timoteo Creek to send to the USACE. She explained that SAWA received money for the construction of Reach 3B and San Timoteo Creek in which IERCD helped complete a lot of the work. Director Ares helped do a lot of the work in cooperation with Tim and Sue on the report, but needs to transition with Lee so he can do next years report.

IERCD is working with the City of Redlands on removing the tree of heaven in San Timoteo Creek. They are working on getting a permit with the City of Redlands, but they hit a wall with Union Pacific in which they received a short letter stating they would not allow them access. So if anyone has any contacts she would appreciate the assistance because they want the tree of heaven out of there. She is hoping the City of Loma Linda will be of some help.

Reach 3 mitigation removals requires easements in San Timoteo – Director Ares received a call from Gail Agness who thinks she has a willing seller in San Timoteo with riparian habitat, but she is not sure of the funding and how much is dedicated for that project.

Chairperson Zembal – out of the funds there is money available up to \$500K for potential land purchase. Director Ares needs to look at the contract and send it to Lee to review and forward to the board.

Director Ares attended the Special Districts Leadership Institute with one of her board members and she wanted to share that she did hear that if a non-profit was formed by government agencies, they are required to follow the Brown Act. She will also be attended two more government training sessions in the near future.

Director Ares announced that SAWPA was putting on CRAM training in late April. Chairperson Zembal shared that it is the mitigation tool that the Army Corps is going to use to try to equate the values. He suggests we sign up all or most of the biologists, as well as Tim Romo since they will be doing assessments it will be a good specialized veg analysis tool for them to utilize. He spoke to Jeff Beehler and was told that if we have a large amount of SAWA employees that we want to do the CRAM training, we can have a separate training.

e. Gayle Holyoak – San Jacinto RCD

Director Holyoak announced that they finished their Final Report done on the In-Lieu Manifest System of the water quality restrictions in Southern CA, which will be incorporated into their large Agriculture Water Quality Act Grant. Lee volunteered to help with the SJBRCD web posting. Mystic Lake project is going well and is still under contract, the rest of the SJBRCD projects have been turned over to SAWA and Tim's crew has it under control.

f. Bonnie Nash – OCWD

- Completed the installation and final touches on the floating tern island at Burris Basin.
- Sprayed 750 gallons of herbicide at Burris to control the mustard before the contractors come in to plant.
- Autumn De Woody and the Inland Coastkeepers hosted 5 local high school field trips which included mulefat planting, water quality and a nature walk.

- Talula and Dave assisted the other biologists with herps and raptor surveys.
- Dave conducted Herbarium training for the other SAWA biologists at the Chino Office.
- Talula and Dave finished up Winter Bird Surveys at 3M and Prado Basin.
- Bonnie attended Drug and Alcohol Supervisor Training courses.
- Bonnie and Talula helped Dan Bott with the ground work on “Potential Sucker Reintroduction/Restoration in the Santa Ana Watershed”.
- Talula and Dave attended the two day Macroinvert Training with the other SAWA biologists.
- Dave continues to scout out and GPS raptor nests in the Basin.
- Dave continues planting at the HWY 71 and other restoration sites in the Basin.
- We have been scouting out the local dairies and found one to put a cowbird trap on for year round trapping.

The board asked if Bonnie would bring is some pictures or do a short presentation in the near future on the floating tern island at Burris Basin.

g. Tim Romo – SAWA

PAR – Spraying continues and we will need to continue to spray in March and April as well.

Least Tern Island – spaying is going well, but the crew will have to go out again next week to spray again. He suggested it would be good to have another volunteer day in late April to rake up all of the bio mass that has been sprayed. Bonnie reported that OCWD still has extra t-shirts they can use. Need to look for another Saturday for the clean up, Sue and Dolly will work on organizing it and Chairperson Zembal will contact the Army Corps regarding another date for a volunteer clean up.

Carbon Canyon – The crew is out in Carbon Canyon this week, spraying on all of the land owners’ property that they have permission. He reported that he is still waiting for permission from four additional land owners to complete the spraying, one of which is a large property. Lee announced that he re-contacted those land owners which we have not received permission as of yet and we are waiting to hear back from them. Tim is working to acquire an encroachment permit for their right of ways in Carbon Canyon and he is having difficulty because Caltrans is asking for a NOE (Notice of Exemption). Chairperson Zembal asked to be included on the correspondences from Caltrans and he volunteered to work on getting SAWA a category exempt for the entire watershed.

h. Dolly Aguirre – SAWA

This month SAWA celebrated Wetlands Month and World Wetlands Day by doing three in-class presentations on the Wetlands at Rolling Ridge Elementary School in Chino. All three presentations were well received.

The SAWA Educational staff is considering developing a pilot in-class program on the wetlands that would be partnered with the Resource Conservation Districts. This topic will be discussed further at today's joint Educational RCD meeting.

The Water Discovery Field Trip Program has booked fifteen field trips for this year thus far, which is already a 50% increase from last year. Many of these field trips are double bookings, so we are actually servicing over 100 students every time. Two Vital tours were conducted this month; one for the State & Water Resource Control Board and the other was for the Garden In Every School Workshop attendees.

Dolly did a recruitment presentation at Master's Gardeners Graduation at Loma Linda University, in cooperation with their Docent Program.

The Education staff participated in the Day In The Park event yesterday at Chino Creek Wetlands Educational Park. They offered a recycled newspaper pot activity with poppy seeds. Dolly would like to extend her appreciation to Henry Armijo for exhibiting his raptors. The next upcoming event at the park is scheduled for Earth Day (April 22nd) at 3:00 P.M. They are going to try to outreach more to the afterschool programs to try to get more of the student population out to the park.

Next week they will begin SAWA's first Docent Training Program on Friday, March 6th. It consists of a six week program, that will be held every Friday until April 10th from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Currently they have 12 people who have paid their \$30 registration materials fee. They are anticipating more to show up on the day of, in addition to still receiving registrations. Many of the SAWA biologists will be presenting and/or coordinating the training sessions, so there are many diverse topics that will be covered. If anyone is interested in handing out outlines to the participants, please get those to Dolly and she will make the appropriate copies.

The Interpretive Center at the Chino location is scheduled to be finished by the end of March. IEUA has generously purchased display cabinets; however, they are still accepting donations of different specimens and/or reference books. There will be two libraries; one for adults and one for children.

SAWA will be meeting with Inside The Outdoors, an Orange County Department of Education to discuss any further avenues for collaboration for the Wetlands Park.

As far as funding goes, we are still waiting to hear back from the CA Department of Parks and Recreation on the Habitat Conservation, as well as CA Coastal Conservation, Whale Tail Grants Program. A small grant proposal was sent to Cornell University to their Celebrate Urban Birds Grant. Additionally, the Five Star Restoration Pell Grant Proposal was sent in for the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation.

Samantha is attending a three day Interpreter's Workshop this weekend. The staff is participating in many events over the next few months, including sharing a booth with IERCD at the Kid's Fitness Challenge and Chino Basin Water Conservation District's Earth Day Event.

Please keep in mind the following dates:

April 22nd: Earth Day Event - Chino Creek Wetlands Educational Park

September 21st: Project Webfoot

October 10th: Bird Festival - Chino Creek Wetlands Educational Park

- i. Ken Kietzer – DPR
Absent

X. SAWA / MSHCP BIOLOGIST REPORT

- a. Matt Talluto – MSHCP Biologist

They are starting the keno surveys and just had their first observation of keno flying yesterday. This year they are trying to get a good protocol for assessing vegetation associated with the presence of keno.

Raptor surveys are done and they are now shifting gears and looking for northern harrier nests.

They are prepping their stream surveys – their focus this season is on red-legged frogs and are hoping to find some relatively isolated vegetation patches of habitat that are not built around bull frogs.

Plants – they are prepping a repeat of last years assessment of shrubland chaparral and coastal sage shrub. They are going to mostly repeat the methods, but hopefully expand this year's sites as well.

The carnivoral surveys are focusing on the Anza area, moving to Wilson Valley conservation block in mid March, conducting presence/absence surveys.

Director Long asked if they had any success with the mountain lions from the camera stations. Bill Kronland said they have not, but they did have some with the transect surveys and they are working with Caltrans to expand the monitoring under bridges, etc. but they have to design a camera station unit that will deter vandalism.

Matt Introduced Bill Kronland who will be taking his place from now on.

b. Sue Hoffman – SAWA Lead Biologist

1. The viero report is in its final edit and we are planning the 2009 season. We had a good pool of applicants for the cowbird program and we are finalizing the schedule. The traps are being deployed and we should be opening them the week of March 16.
2. Herp arrays are open in Lake Perris this week. Melody is the lead on the herp program. Results to date are attached.
3. We have completed the field work for the winter bird surveys in San Timoteo, Mockingbird Canyon, Norco Burn, Featherly Park, and the Santa Ana River between Weir Canyon and Chapman Ave. We are also working up the Breeding Bird Survey data.
4. We continue to do the Raptor Surveys in Cajon, San Timoteo, San Jacinto, and Lake Perris. Allyson is the lead for the Raptor Surveys and should have the final 2008 report by the next meeting. She is away from work due to a death in the family.
5. Field work for focal species was done for the Santa Ana Sucker at various sites including Coldwater Canyon, Cactus Wren, Loggerhead Shrike, Spadefoot Toad, White-tailed Kite, Long-eared Owl (making nests for placement in trees).
6. We did a California Gnatcatcher and general bird surveys at Dos Lagos and a bird survey at Lee Lake for RCRC. We continue to work on RCRC projects such as the nursery and SEP.
7. The 2008 CCP small mammal trapping report is also being completed. Nicole and Talula are taking the lead on small mammals.
8. The 2008 CCP Tree Swallow Box Report is available at the door. We will continue to monitor the boxes at CCP and also put up 7 boxes in the San Jacinto River above State Street this season.

9. We are working on the 2008 Least Tern Report, Nicole and Sue are taking the lead on the Least Terns.
10. We are working on the new sensitive species accounts for woolly star, rubber boa, grasshopper sparrow, rufous-crowned sparrow, and San Diego pocket mouse.
11. We have a camera placed at the extreme west end of the Green River Golf Course at Coal Canyon but nothing of interest has been filmed. This site is of interest to State Parks because it may be a wildlife corridor. The current work is experimenting with the best way to use the camera. Formalizing the project is delayed due to the State budget problems.
12. We are participating in the docent training for the SAWA Education Department. Jill and Terry are presenting a program on local birds and Melody is presenting a program on local herps. Dick is giving the introductory program at the first session. We are also planning on participating in the workshop to prepare the local high school team for the Envirothon.
13. We began aquatic trapping at the ponds at the CCP and in one week caught 34 African Clad Frogs. We will continue to trap and investigate to see if there is a way to prevent infestations.
14. Many biologists attended a lecture by Stephen Rothstein at UCR on the cowbird trapping.
15. David McMichael presented a class to the biologists and the SAWA Education Department on how to collect and prepare plant specimens for the herbarium.
16. We attended a 2 day training session on macroinvertebrates presented by Errick Burrell of DFG. This new version of the older citizens' water quality testing program has been greatly expanded and refocused to hydrology and vegetative analysis. Macroinvertebrate identification is no longer done in the field but samples are taken and sent to labs. Exposure to the methodology will probably prove useful in the future. We had intended to use the method to investigate water quality and macroinvertebrate communities to correlate with bat activity at our bird study sites.
17. We continue to work on the Prado exotic aquatics and help out Tim's crew. Henry Armijo also participates in Prado and SAWA Education Dept. field trip by bringing his falcons for the kids to see.
18. The MSHCP monthly meeting was cancelled in February due to holidays and State furlough days.

XI. NEXT MEETING - March 26th 2009

XII. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 A.M.