

To: Carlsbad Project Vegetation Management Team
From: Marsha Carra
Date: April 4, 2008
Re: Carlsbad Project Vegetation Management Program April 2, 2008

This memo outlines the outputs and action items from subject Carlsbad Project Vegetation Management Program Meeting, held on April 2, 2008 at the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Roswell NM.

Attendees:

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Handouts: Meeting Agenda

Agenda:

1. Introductions

Each attendee made their introduction, the agency they represented, and their role in the program.

2. Status of Previous Action Items

- a. Participants will provide electronic copies of their presentations to Marsha Carra in Reclamation. (completed)
 - b. Reclamation will need and updated map of the Pecos and the locations of various activities. (completed)
 - c. Reclamation will post the power points presented at the meeting on the Reclamation Web Site:
<http://www.usbr.gov/uc/albuq/library/eaba/saltcedar/saltcedar.html> under meeting date September 26, 2007.
(completed)
 - d. Participants need to review and comment on the mission statement and provide these by the next meeting date. (completed)
3. Mark Walthall presented a power point presentation and spoke about the Artesia sites both sprayed and untreated.
4. Judy Brock presented a paper on “Non-Native Phreatophyte Management Program –Pecos River House Bill 2 Funding 2002 through 2005” and a map of the Avalon Watershed Project by BLM. A copy Carlsbad Soil and Water Conservation District CFRP Executive Summary was also given to the group; results are expected within the next three weeks Mark Walthall presented a power point presentation and spoke about the Artesia sites both sprayed and untreated.
5. Brent Tanzy briefed the group on the latest attempt to establish native vegetation by using zeolite in the seeding and transplanting deep rooted grasses and shrubs to post-treated saltcedar sites in New Mexico during summer months when monsoon rains were likely to occur. Seeding was conducted utilizing a no-till drill and transplanting was done in the following manner. The site was cleared of annual weeds and the soil surface was windrowed to maximize concentration of available precipitation into depressions or ditches.
6. Joe Alderete presented material provided to him by Scott O’Meara on the work done in the Carlsbad area with the beetles. This paper, “Biological control of Saltcedar at McMillan Lake bed 2008 Update” will be posted along with the meeting notes, on the web pag
7. Jeff Howland from the FWS at Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge briefed on the work to be performed with the state on connecting the channels within the refuge. Bitter Lakes has scheduled a release of beetles in the springtime (2008) with the assistance and guidance of Dave Thompson (NMSU). The EA was out and posted for review.
8. Marsha Carra briefed on Rob Doster’s work on the Interior Least Tern. The least tern areas that were cleared of vegetation this year rapidly re-grew in kochia as higher than normal spring and fall rains fell. With a heavy growth of kochia, these sites were essentially unusable by least terns by early summer. Plans for this year include reclearing vegetation from all three areas (84 acres) and possibly using a pre-emergence herbicide to help control kochia that has proven to be a persistent problem. A map of the area was included in the handouts.
9. Joe Alderete passed out a copy of a draft mission statement for review and comment by the team.
10. Dierdre Tarr with the Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District briefed on their work with saltcedar done in the Abo Canyon and creek area along highway 60, approximately 10 miles west of Mountainair. Reclamation will get a copy of the paper for posting on the web page.

11. Action Items

- a. Participants will provide electronic copies of their presentations to Marsha Carra in Reclamation.
- b. Reclamation will need a map of the actual locations of aerial treatment of spraying of the saltcedar to be done by BLM around Avalon.
- c. Reclamation will post the power points presented at the meeting on the Reclamation Web Site: <http://www.usbr.gov/uc/albuq/library/eaba/saltcedar/saltcedar.html> under meeting date April 2, 2008.
- d. Participants have three weeks to provide any final comments on the mission statement before this is posted on the Reclamation web page (April 18, 2008).

12. **Upcoming Meetings** - A date of September 30, 2008 has been set for the next meeting to be held at the Bitter Lakes NWR in Roswell NM. The following day, October 1, 2008 will be for site visits to the field.