

To: Carlsbad Project Vegetation Management Team  
From: Marsha Carra  
Date: October 3, 2007  
Re: Carlsbad Project Vegetation Management Program September 26, 2007

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This memo outlines the outputs and action items from subject Carlsbad Project Vegetation Management Program Meeting, held on September 26, 2007 at the Carlsbad Soil and Water Conservation District, Carlsbad, 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.

**Status:** Done, posted on the web site

b. Reclamation will need and updated map of the Pecos and the locations of various activities.

**Status:** Pending

c. Reclamation Albuquerque Area office will contact Sandia Labs to get the updates on the bank stabilization program.

**Status:** Contacted.

d. 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>

**Status:** Done.

e. Paul Tashjian will set up a meeting with the Carlsbad Irrigation District board members to brief work proposed in the BLNWR and will also contact Reclamation with the date and time so everyone necessary can help and attend.

**Status:** Completed, met on June 12 with the CID board members and briefed on project. Received support letter and letters from the Chaves County and the Friends of Bitter Lake

3. 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.

4. Mark Walthall spoke about the Artesia sites (followed by site visits) both sprayed and untreated.

5. Joe Alderete presented material provided to him by Rob Doster 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 next 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.

6. Judy Brock presented a paper "Pecos River Non-Native Phreatophyte Management Program" and this will be posted on the web site. It includes the treatment applications and sprayings done by the SWCD over the previous years 2002-2006.

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. Funding from the NM Environmental Department will be used to help restore oxbows 1-4.

8. Jesse Roberts briefed on the current modeling work with sedimentation movement and the latest sampling done on water quality (at request of CID) (presentation to be posted on web site). This presentation was made from hypothetical data.

9. Scott O'Meara briefed on the work with the beetles done in the Carlsbad area. The power point presentation is available on the web site. Beetles will be released in the same location as 2007, once they become available.

10. Joe Alderete passed out a copy of a draft mission statement for review and comment by the team.

#### 11. **Action Items**

a. Participants will provide electronic copies of their presentations to Marsha Carra in Reclamation.

b. Reclamation will need an updated map of the Pecos and the locations of various activities.

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.

d. Participants need to review and comment on the mission statement and provide these by the next meeting date.

12. **Upcoming Meetings** - A date of April 23, 2008 has been set for the next meeting to be held at the Bitter Lakes NWR in Roswell NM. The following day, April 24, 2008 will be for site visits to the field.