

**MINUTES**  
**Topanga Lagoon Restoration 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting**  
**Zoom from 930-1230**  
**Saturday 27 February 2021**

Over 70 participants joined the zoom call along with 14 project team members.

Kara Kemmler, CA Coastal Conservancy hosted the technical aspects of the meeting and provided guidance on those issues.

Jerry West, Acting District Superintendent, Angeles District, CA Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) welcomed everyone, introduced the project team, and outlined the goals of the meeting: review the conceptual design alternatives, review modeling results and get input from the participants on the alternatives.

Project Team: California State Parks, Landowner and Co-Lead  
RCD of the Santa Monica Mountains – Co-Lead for Phase 1 grant  
CA Coastal Conservancy – Funded Phase 1 effort from Prop 12  
Moffatt & Nichol Engineers – Consultant for modeling, lagoon and bridge design  
Environmental Science Associates (ESA) – Consultant for modeling, lagoon habitat and fish passage.  
Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors – landowner  
Caltrans – bridge and roadway

Assembly Member Richard Bloom – introduced the project and noted that public input can help develop a plan that will served us all well in restoring a degraded area that could be so much better!

Danielle LeFer, Sr. Environmental Scientist, CDPR reviewed the need for the project listing the problems with the existing condition including coastal erosion, resource impacts to lagoon, public access, recreation and visitor services limitations, emergency services limitations.

**What you did in 2020** – Danielle reviewed the input and direction provided by over 100 participants in the 1<sup>st</sup> public workshop held February 2020. Priorities identified included:

- Restore Topanga Lagoon to the greatest extent possible.
- Plan for resilience to SLR and coastal erosion
- Avoid impacts to surf break
- Improve ecological function of the lagoon by maintaining/improving tidewater goby habitat, improving fish passage for steelhead, protecting nesting and beach habitat, improving water quality and increasing wetland and transitional upland habitat.
- Move the lifeguard headquarters/restroom and helipad to better location.
- Avoid changing the surf break.
- Provide interpretation of the site history from Native Americans to present.

- Maintain some visitor serving services, including Wylie’s Bait Shop and restaurants like Reel Inn, Cholada.
- Public sentiment was divided between prioritizing day use only vs. evaluating the opportunity for historic Topanga Ranch Motel to provide overnight accommodation.
- Increase/improve emergency access
- Preserve parking, especially no cost parking!
- Increase public transportation accessibility.
- Maintain traffic flow during construction.

**What we learned:**

Rosi Dagit, Sr. Conservation Biologist, RCD of the Santa Monica Mountains summarized the baseline studies for water quality and water temperature that have been ongoing since 2000. She noted that numerous studies confirm that the source of fecal bacterial problems at Topanga Beach are from the lagoon and surrounding area, not coming downstream from the upper watershed. Bacteria counts high due to dog and bird poop, with increased problems due to “direct deposits” when folks don’t use the restrooms.

Thanks to the LA County Lifeguards, we have been able to monitor the lagoon breach conditions with photographs, augmented by a water level probe in the lagoon and temperature loggers also in the main and upper lagoons. The breach occurs when storm event flows connect the lagoon to the ocean. This data was critical to helping calibrate and validate the flow models for the alternative designs.

Southern steelhead trout historically were found throughout the state and Santa Monica Bay, but are currently restricted to a small resident reproducing population in Topanga. They are extremely vulnerable to extinction and restoring fish passage is a goal of the restoration efforts. The RCDSMM has monitored this population since 2001, and contributed to the statewide Coastal Monitoring Program by managing the southernmost lifecycle monitoring station in the state.

Another federally endangered fish, tidewater gobies recolonized Topanga in 2000, and now this is the only remaining reproducing population in the Santa Monica Bay. Thanks to funding for a small study from CDP, the RCD is working with UCLA and USFWS to examine what is making this possible and how we can ensure that suitable habitat is protected during construction and expanded with restoration to support this vulnerable species.

**What we did with the input:**

Clark Stevens, Executive Officer and Architect described the ways we integrated public input from 2020, along with constraints provided by the permitting agencies and modeling to develop 3 alternatives.

Many of the design elements are common across alternatives and shown on only 1 so that modeling could identify pros and cons (such as location of the helipad, lifeguard HQ, dendritic pattern on west channel) but could be applied to any of the alternatives.

Protection of cultural resources is universal. The site has archaeological sensitivity so a 2 ft. cap will protect all of this from any disturbance.

Beach access will be provided on both sides of the lagoon in all alternatives.

Locations of parking and concessions can be moved to accommodate the lagoon restoration and this will be the focus of the input we hope to get from you today.

The table comparing the alternatives is found in the presentation. Alternative 2 results in almost 12 acres of restoration, Alternative 3 almost 10 acres and Alternative 4 almost 11 acres compared to the existing condition in Alternative 1 No Project.

**Alternative 1: No Project/Managed Decline (0 acres restored):** There would be no change to the lagoon footprint or habitat quality and no new bridge. The lifeguard headquarters will probably need to relocate due to undermining from coastal erosion and sea level rise. The Topanga Ranch Motel may or may not be restored to operational but existing non-conforming concessions and septic systems may be restricted. No improvements to habitat would occur. Sea level rise will continue to reduce beach area and threaten PCH.

**Alternative 2: (9.5 wetted acres, 11.7 acres restored):** This alternative provides the maximum amount of lagoon, wetland, riparian and transitional habitat, but completely removes the historic Topanga Ranch Motel and other visitor services from the project area. The dendritic channel pattern is based on conditions in 1924 before the lagoon was filled in. This alternative includes restoration of side channels of different elevations on the west side that are based on the historic configuration of the lagoon and would accommodate changing sea level and storm surge conditions. Partial or full relocation or replacement of public parking, concessions and overnight accommodations along west side of Topanga Canyon Blvd in the project area may be an option. The lifeguard headquarters and helipad would be closer to the realigned access road that will have handicapped parking on a lower level, with additional parking on the upper level.

**Alternative 3: (7.1 wetted acres, 9.8 acres restored):** This alternative preserves much of the Topanga Ranch Motel in its historic configuration and allows for remodel and continued operation of a restaurant (current Reel Inn), while also providing expanded lagoon, wetland, riparian and transitional habitat mostly to the west. No other concessions would remain in that area. Partial or full relocation or replacement of public parking, concessions and overnight accommodations along the west side of Topanga Canyon Blvd. in the project study area may be an option. The lifeguard headquarters would move slightly east, and the helipad would be on the same level as PCH and the parking lot.

**Alternative 4: (7.1 wetted acres, 10.8 acres restored):** The alignment of PCH would move north allowing for the maximum amount of beach area. A portion of the historic Topanga Ranch Motel is retained with parking adjusted and allows for remodel and

continued operation of a restaurant (currently Reel Inn), while also providing expanded lagoon, wetland, riparian and transitional habitat mostly to the west. No other concessions remain and parking locations shift. Partial or full relocation of public parking, concessions and overnight accommodations along the west side of Topanga Canyon Blvd. in the project area may be an option. The helipad and lifeguard headquarters are not as closely sited. This alternative maximizes managed retreat and provides the most sea level rise resilience.

Parking is a key consideration and under all alternatives the number of parking spots will decrease. We look forward to your thoughts on how to manage this.

Weixia Jin, Engineer, Moffat & Nichol explained that both 1 D sediment transport and 2 D hydraulic modeling were performed to examine how each alternative performed. The sediment modeling included data from the entire watershed and augmented county stream gage data with a water level probe deployed in 2020 at the 2 mile Topanga Canyon Blvd. bridge. This permitted calibration of low flows, which are not captured by the county gage.

**MODELING RESULTS:** Under average flow conditions, sedimentation to the lagoon from the upper watershed is not changed by restoration or SLR. Under high flow conditions Alternative 2 accumulates slightly more sediment due to its larger surface area. Sediment flow to the ocean is not changed by any restoration alternative and is more affected by SLR than sedimentation. This indicates that there would be little change to the surf break due to restoration, but the surf break will be impacted by SLR over time. A wave uprush study will be performed to further examine this issue.

Peak flow velocity and depth are improved by all alternatives as the bridge span increases from 82 ft. to 200 ft. both at present and with projected SLR. Alternative 2 provides significantly lower storm flow velocity, which is a benefit for steelhead passage.

The 2 D hydraulic model was a flexible mesh model with mesh sizes ranging from 1 meter to 100 meters, permitting a more realistic approximation of conditions. The model was calibrated comparing recorded flows with water level measurements and photographs documenting breach timing, shape and dimensions during 2020. Over 14 conditions of the lagoon/ocean configuration were modeled to reflect the dynamic changes during storm events from a straight narrow channel to a wider channel migrating east downcoast.

The comparison summary (lagoon sedimentation, sediment transport to ocean, storm water lagoon surface elevation, velocity and fish passage) suggests that Alternative 2 performs the best, with small benefits from both Alternatives 3 and 4 compared with existing Alternative 1.

Rosi Dagit presented the modeling results generated by ESA, which specifically looked at fish passage, habitat suitability and potential for refugia habitat. ESA used a lagoon mouth dynamics and water level model for the 200 ft. span bridge that built upon the

hydraulic modeling data and used CDFW and NMFS passage criteria. Thanks to the integration of breach photos, observations of steelhead in the creek and the flows from 2011-2020, they were able to calibrate and validate the model well. The table in the presentation illustrated passage conditions for existing and each alternative under actual storm events showing that while Alternative 1 does provide limited opportunity for passage of adults into the creek, Alternatives 3 and 4 perform as well. Alternative 2 provides the most opportunity for fish to move into the creek because the wider lagoon increased channel width and reduces velocities over a greater area during high flows.

During high tides, all alternatives provide fish passage when the lagoon is connected and when coupled with storm flows, passage is also possible at low tide. Alternative 2 takes slightly longer time to breach because there is a larger lagoon to fill up, but once breached maintains a passable connection the longest. Alternative 2 also provides more refugia habitat for both tidewater gobies and juvenile steelhead. Both Alternative 3 and 4 also increase refugia habitat as compared to the existing conditions.

## **QUESTIONS**

A number of questions were received in the chat box and due to time limits we were unable to address them during the meeting. Please see the Q&A Zoom Chat document for the answers.

## **BREAK OUT ROOM COMMENTS**

All notes from the BORs as taken during the meeting are found in the BREAK OUT ROOM NOTES document. We had a few technical difficulties with randomly assigning break out rooms resulting in one room without a facilitator and several groups not completing the review of each alternative in the jamboard format. This summarizes the five most important things each group shared during the meeting plus notes from their alternative review.

**BOR1** – Facilitator Rosi Dagit, Participants: Steve Bylin, Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin, Susan Klenner, Noa Rische Kahille, Scott Thomas

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Lagoon restoration most important!!!! Everything else should contribute to that end.
2. Alt 4 North PCH alignment good to leave traffic unimpacted during construction.
3. Motel is important but does not need to be the full size but historic fabric important but maybe move to TCB .
4. Use TCB for parking and more is better
5. More services could reduce places for transient population to hide, trails would also be good and visitor center info

Name of participant who will share results of conversation:  
Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin

Alternative 2: prioritize parking on high ground of west bank, as well as starting at Feed Bin and going north on TCB.

TCB notes: Relocate Ranch Motel cabins (maybe as tiny cabins) and repurpose as a community center. Like the idea of overnight accommodations on TCB as there is lots of already degraded habitat but need to be sure to prevent any further impacts to creek. Camping is the best alternative. Maybe make more retail opportunities at the corner of PCH and TCB like Malibu Creek Center.

Alternative 3: If motel is maintained, would be great to add a visitor center element. Need easy access to visitor info. Historic motel is valuable in relation to current location. If possible to fit the septic then leave just motel and skip restaurant. Visitor service element especially low cost accommodation important. Retail at corner of PCH and TCB.

Alternative 4: Best possible alternative because there is some motel in historic configuration, maximized restoration and accommodates SLR, especially good to minimize traffic impacts. Moving PCH north is easier to build without disrupting traffic on PCH now. Allows some Ranch motel but increases habitat.

There was no chat for BOR1.

**BOR 2** Facilitator Jerry West, Participants: Aaron Chiang, Brody, Mark Abramson

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Alternative 2 Lagoon and Alternative 4 bridge with dune habitat are preferred
2. Motel should be a research and education center/small conference center. Reserch in residency-Catalina Conservancy model.
3. Food trucks instead of permanant residences w/ picnic areas and concession/convenient store "Beach Shack"
4. Keep parking and group structures to the maximum extent possible. To minimize storm water issues. Consider multi story parking structure on TCB north of Feed Bin. Heli pad on roof. Tie in sewer to Coastline Drive, non-growth inducing.
5. Include a visitor welcoming center/ interpretive center. Potential acquisition of surf shop, American Apparel, and parking west of Topanga Beach

Name of participant who will share results of conversation:  
Brody

Alternative 2: Parking structures to minimize impacts and consolidate parking and minimize storm water runoff, septic sewer issues! Parking at PCH and TCB good

TCB notes: Add some parking here and maintain amenities

Alternative 3: Add bike lane on bridge, trail use limited to food traffic, no equestrians or bikes, Could there be parking on bridge? Some kind of food concession. At one time was a mini market. Relocate parking to corner of PCH and TCB. Focus on educational group for the motel, Americorps, CCC, conferences, youth hostel....

Alternative 4: keep restaurants and parking together if we do have them to minimize storm water issues.

Chat notes: 11:18:09 From Mark Abramson to Jerry West, California State Parks(Privately) : I think the 12 acres was actual area to be restored and 30 acres is the area of the site.

11:28:32 From Mark Abramson to Jerry West, California State Parks(Privately) : combine alts 2 and 4

11:46:28 From BRODY to Jerry West, California State Parks(Privately) : Strongly support consolidation of Alt 2 lagoon with Alt 4 south beach sustainability. Motel should be research and education center with food truck concessions for beach goers. Additional parking along TCB north of Oasis, maybe stacked with helipad on top.

11:46:59 From Mark Abramson to Jerry West, California State Parks(Privately) : Jerry was a phenomenal facilitator

BOR 3 Facilitator Stephanie Campbell, Participants: Suzanne Goode, Eileen Delehanty Pearkes, Ruth Collinot, Liz Herron, Lynn Levitt.

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Habitat is foremost, Alt 2 preferred, reference general plan
2. retain portion of hotel for historical/accommodation
3. Restaraunts remain
4. Alt 4 , too much emergency access into habitat
5. overnight accommodations low priority

Name of participant who will share results of conversation:ov

Alternative 2: Is filtration system possible? Museum with gallery on west side high area

TCB notes: Is relocation of ranch motel possible? Keep Clear Zone, Parking possible?

Alternative 3: Can some of the hotel buildings be removed to allow more lagoon restoration? Pedestrian trails only.

Alternative 4: Emergency access encroaches too much into the natural area

There was no chat for BOR3.

BOR 4 Facilitator Chris Webb Participants: Tim Pershing, Dorothy Reik, Kerrie Peterson, Danielle LeFer, Megan Williams

We did not mark up the jam board and did not write comments electronically, but the notes and comments were:

1. Alt 2 was liked, but moving the highway north should be considered too if possible.
2. Restaurants are necessary.
3. Overnight accommodations are not necessarily good, but preserving the Ranch Motel is important in some fashion for historical character as possible concessions, offices, Lagoon history center, conference site, etc.
4. Parking is important, needs to be provided, and should be considered for Topanga Canyon Blvd north of the area where it is shown on the graphics.
5. The emergency turnaround is super important and appreciated.

Other stray thoughts where that costs are important for any decision-making and that this could be deferred until a National Parks process takes this site over (Dorothy Reik was this commenter).

There was no chat for BOR 4.

**BOR 5** Facilitator Kelly Kazmirchuk, Participants: Steve Williams, Tam Taylor, Muriel Kotin, Delmar Lathers, EJ

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Maximizing the ecological value is the priority. A combination of alternative 2 and 4 is preferred.
2. Keep Topanga Charm/history. Need to keep services/restaurants, yet they can be moved. Motel is important.
3. Focus on day trips as they can reach more people. Parking is a priority. Think about traffic flow. Provide education and services for day trips.
4. Have hiking trips for all alternatives.
5. How do we create equity? Low cost accommodations/outdoor school/camping/public transportation. How do we create a space that appeals to groups who may not be familiar with all that is offered.

Name of participant who will share results of conversation: Kelly

Alternative 2: More parking! Lack of parking is a negative. Do we lose Choladas? People can make day trip 7 million. More important to think about day trip. Day trips priority and educating for them is important. Move restaurants to west up the hill. Value the ranch motel as cultural resource. Moving Ranch motel loses historic value. Worried about moving things.

Motel will be a scarce resource. Not easily available. Have a museum, to give history. Can charm be kept? Coastal Comm. looking to increase affordable accommodations Ranch Motel is great resource for state parks. Keep it historical and affordable. Motel is in middle of fill. If it is going to stay it needs to be moved. Sat that restaurants are in bullseye of lagoon. Could there be a site to move these services? It is important for fill to go away and widen the bridge. Museum idea: each building a different time in Topanga history, 100 years ago, 50 years, etc. Spend 20 minutes in each period of time. Tough choice between services and restoration. How do we retain Topanga charm? Not create a slick Disney feel. No Lagoonville! Topanga is a unique place and still retains funky charm with motel as center piece.

Restoring natural aspects key. Major positive lagoon area is enlarged. This alt considers storm surge and protects habitat and great research.

How do we hold current and past and look to the future when we know climate change is coming? Important to look at 100 year plan. Really need to think about climate change In favor of losing fill! Move Alt 4 hiking trail to alt 2. More native plants. Remove invasives.

All alts will be better.

TCB notes: Traffic flow on corner of PCH and TCB a concern

Alternative 3: Important to look at services in terms of future perspective. Need to overlay climate impacts. Need to look at impacts to structures from SLR. Could restaurants etc go into red area on west? How many would fit? If we move things or add service area how do we deal with septic issues?

Alternative 4: Wise alternative to SLR, like a hybrid of 2 and 4 removal of fill from 1. Incorporate trail into all alts. Lots of room on the mountains for trail. Outdoor school. Could campgrounds be added on higher inland? Restore motel for school and outdoor programs. Restaurants can be moved. Style and access should be kept. Need to retain funkiness in all alts.

BOR 6 Facilitator Clark Stevens Participants: Natasha Roit, Karin Martin, Bill Hamm, Selene Castillo, Chanea Owens.

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. more beach better
2. camping not desired at TCB
3. trails good, without impacting habitat- make safe trail to beach if parking along TCB (along the natural top of slope)
4. add western habitat to all alternatives
5. alternative 4 seemed to be the most intriguing- use some cabins for science and art and education (septic and sewer opp)

Natasha and Bill

Alternative 2: science and art function using cabins, relocated if necessary. Septic improvement or sewer.

TCB notes: double sided parking 65' wide would fit 60 cars at Feed Bin. Trail would be nice! Bridge at ridge/high ground? Long way to beach for parking and safety

Alternative 3: No notes

Alternative 4: max beach good for resilience, couple of cabins for science and art education, no camping please, put info education center gateway trail connection at corner of PCH and TCB.

No chat for BOR 6.

**BOR 7** Facilitator Weixia Jin, Participants: Sabine Stork, Wendi Gladstone, Amy Bergrud, Leslie Ourcell, Axtionwear, Inc., Griffin Siednick

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. **1. Maximize the lagoon footprint, Alt 2 is preferred**
2. **2. Who is going to pay the restoration and management Cost, consider the revenue, balance between cost and revenue**
3. **3. Fire safety consideration and enforcement for all uses**
4. **4. Control /No chemical (pesticide and herbicide) uses**
5. **5. Low cost and minimal impact visitor services (motel and restaurants)**

Name of participant who will share results of conversation:

Alternative 2: is there possibility to minimize recreational area? Is there option to keep symbolic part of Ranch motel/visitor services? Need some kind of camping and low cost accommodations although septic needs to be addressed. Should achieve a medium between total natural and revenue. Restoration habitats: manage different species, reduce/eliminate unnatural chemicals (pesticide and herbicides).

Questions: Any tribal consultation being done? (Yes it is on-going)  
Where does the money come from? Who is going to pay for restoration in a high cost of minimal wage area? Sabine replied taxpayer. Note: planning effort has been funded by Prop 12 grant. Next steps for planning will also be grant funded.  
Will enforcement come from unnatural? Maintenance costs and funding source?

TCB notes: What kind of parking, fire mitigation and enforcement especially for RV uses?

Alternative 3: Motel used to be only low cost accommodation in the past. Other services should be around the lagoon, less human interaction and intervention. Restaurants are part of visitor services. Low cost and low impact food services

Alternative 4: no notes.

**BOR 8** Facilitator Pierre Battesti and Charles Thomas, Participants: Anthea Raymond, Elena Eger

Option 3 / 4 were preferred options

1. Important to restore the natural habitat and the lagoon with a balance between public's desire to visit and enjoy the area (need of amenities) and the conservation of this ecosystem
2. It's the state park's / RCDSMM role to give access to our coastline and mountain, including overnight stays. No affordable accommodation in this part of the coastline renders access from wider LA basin limited to day use only. Refurbishment of Topanga Ranch Motel would allow longer / more equitable access to diverse populations. Preserving the character land the history of the F&B capabilities, including addition of a beach restaurant could further expand the role that this place has played for many Angelinos
3. A program around eco-tourism would benefit the public, showcase the importance of our local ecosystem while preserving it. This could be a strong value add for the Topanga Ranch Motel operator. In order to promote diversity and inclusion, overnight accommodation could be completed by the addition of a campground, therefore providing all a wide range of price points and options and increasing accommodation capacity.
4. Water quality is paramount for both the local fauna / flora but also the users. Should visitation stay at the current levels or even increase, it would be appropriate to extend the

sewer line to this area. This would allow a better water management system and control of the Lagoon ecosystem

5. The Helipad / emergency responder capabilities seem to occupy a very large portion of the beach on the western side. Could these be relocated to the east of PCH (Motel parking ?)

**BOR 9** Facilitator Bob Patterson Participants: Stacy Sledge, Topanga Town Council, John Stockwell, Malibu Farm Restaurant group, David Dwyer, local resident, Dennis Washburn, RCD.

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Group preferred Alt 2. Refuge channels are important in any/all alternatives. Businesses can be moved if needed.
2. Question historic significance of Ranch Motel since it's been moved before. Possibly move Ranch Motel to area within site or outside of area.
3. Concern with homeless and transient population. Trash, dangerous,
4. Concern for area being a traffic bottleneck and evacuation problems during a fire. Therefore, minimize visitor serving and overnight accommodations along PCH.
5. Include consideration for a multi-level parking structure at the feed bin site, to reduce the amount of parking needed along PCH.

Name of participant who will share results of conversation: Bob

Why are properties southwest of PCH not part of the boundary? They are privately owned.

Alternative 2: Accessing beach is dangerous due to sewer dumping and trash, helipad, needles, etc. refuge channel zone important. This refuge concept needs to be maintained in whatever alternatives are moved forward. Traffic concerns. Ranch Motel has not retained historic significance since it has been moved etc. Alt 2 would provide best results overall. Any new construction should be fireproof and or modular using mechanical foundations safe in floodplain. Also provides ability to relocate structures.

Alternative 3: no notes

Alternative 4: Who are private property owners? Critical to identify them. The leases need to be determined. What are legal consequences of moving owners? NOTE: All property owned by state parks. Concessions are all renters on leases. Concerned about providing refuge over long term for wildlife due to SLR. How do we preserve the tidewater gob y and steelhead?

There was no chat for BOR 9.

**BOR 10** Facilitator Claire Sanders, Participants: Susan Nissman, Julie Howell, Matt Doolin

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Alternative 2 is preferred, which offers the most habitat protection and enhancement. The passageway maintains natural hydrological breach system. Alternative 4 is also positive as it allows for more beach area.
2. Alternative energy sources need to be emphasized. I.e. wind and solar.
3. What is the plan for incorporating the best and most environmentally sustainable waste treatment? No sewer! On site waste treatment preferred.
4. Can we combine parking lots and ensure viewshed is maintained or enhanced?
5. Can Alternative 4 be combined with Alt 2 to get the best of both? Allow for more beach.

Name of participant who will share results of conversation: Julie Howell

Alternative 2: What is going to be the criteria for what stays and what goes? How is the viewshed going to be protected? How will added parking be done in a way that accommodates visitors and protects the viewshed? Will the parking be free? Is there potential for a parking structure with a double layer off to one side leaving more beach and lagoon space? It is important for safety to have parking on the same side as the beach. Is there a way to eliminate multiple parking areas to consolidate to one larger lot? Can we conceal the parking near the mountainside to ensure we maintain aesthetics? Are we considering and is there feasibility to put solar charging on top of all open space parking? Will there be electric/solar charging stations in new parking areas?

What kind of shuttle and public transportation will be provided?

Will visitor service area be new construction or using existing structures? Will solar energy be incorporated into the building of any new structures? The exterior design corresponds with surrounding designs. Emphasis on consistency and blending to “same little village”. Noted the Topanga Library built on top of parking lot.

What solid waste system will the visitor center and existing visitor serving facilities have? Comments on waste water recycling and solid waste separation. Grey water/brown water. What is the plan for incorporating the best and most environmentally sustainable waste treatment? Concerns about new connections to the sewer line. Looking for options not connecting to sewer lines in order to be environmentally progressive. How can we develop sustainable, on-site waste treatment that utilizes the water (whether grey). Must be incorporated instead of relying on connecting to a sewer. Idea for this to connect to visitor center for education and outreach.

TCB notes: none

Alternative 3: Ranch motel should be prioritized as an educational center. General consensus that this should be used for educational purposes. Visitor services should

include having water and amenities for beach goers. Education should be primary use and purpose.

Alternative 4: no notes.

There was no chat for BOR 10.

**BOR 11** Facilitator Jelly Kahler Participants: Annemarie Donkin, Topanga Messenger/Canyon Chronicle, Robert Jan van de Hoek, Audubon, concerned resident, Allen Ma, LACDPW, Joseph Resendo, Topanga Chamber of Commerce.

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Historic features need to be preserved (Reel Inn, Ranch Motel and other local businesses)
2. Habitat should be preserved but limited change elsewhere - prefer alt 1
3. Topanga community voices need to be considered - impact on this community should be paramount - stop the urbanization of topanga lagoon
4. There should be equitable features available with focus on indigenous representation
5. leave parking as is - ensure a mix of paid and free parking remains

Name of participant who will share results of conversation: Joseph Rosendo - Topanga Chamber of Commerce

Alternative 1: Noted that no Alternative 1 shown but that was the existing condition slide.

Alternative 2: There is no logo for county or NPS (NOTE: NPS is not landowner, county is partner but not driving the restoration planning effort). No NPS voice. Need to preserve the scenic highway. Concerns about bottleneck on PCH. Keep TCB rural.

Try and maintain things as they are.

Parking: no parking at all: shuttle buses instead and incentives for riding buses to allow for equitable access, parallel parking along highway, diagonal parking.

Need more parking near reel Inn sufficient parking by beach motel, no parallel parking and provide less parking than side by side, dangerous.

Maintain or enhance free/affordable parking. Don't remove parking near beach – keep parallel parking along the bridge.

North and south sides of PCH offer different recreational opportunities which should be preserved.

Businesses are not trashing Topanga Beach, people are. We should keep the business without inviting more people.

How long will the restoration take? Are we thinking months, years, decades, never?

No other notes.

**CHAT COMMENTS:**

1:22:06 From Robert Jan van de Hoek to Everyone : Save Eucalyptus for Monarch butterfly and for hawks and owls that perch on tall trees.

11:23:48 From Robert Jan van de Hoek to Everyone : Not native tree but positive for native wildlife more than even native trees including the Sycamore.

11:24:07 From Annemarie Donkin to Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM(Direct Message) : Hi Jelly, I now work for The Canyon Chronicle newspaper. Thanks!!

11:38:01 From Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM to Everyone : Please put additional thoughts in the chat so we can capture all these thoughts

11:47:45 From Annemarie Donkin to Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM(Direct Message) : Would Alt. 1 allow for the restoration of the Topanga Ranch Motel? Thanks!

11:48:17 From Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM to Annemarie Donkin(Direct Message) : No. I don't believe it will

11:48:23 From Annemarie Donkin to Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM(Direct Message) : Thank you for a great break out session, great moderating!

12:00:14 From Robert Jan van de Hoek to Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM(Direct Message) : Why only chat to closed staff, not to everyone?

12:00:37 From Robert Jan van de Hoek to Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM(Direct Message) : There are only red letters of private available.

12:03:24 From Jelly Kahler, RCDSMM to Robert Jan van de Hoek(Direct Message) : Yes. I believe facilitators decided an open chat would be too distracting. If you have questions that you would like the group to address you can send them to Kara, or myself and we will make sure you are heard.

**BOR 12** Facilitator Antoine Kunsch, Participants: Snowdy Dodson, CNPS, Graham Surf LA

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Access equity with safer transit for pedestrian and bikes from topanga canyon to the beach (adding alternative parking along topanga C west side, and safe passage to the beach)
2. Motel should stay in its footprint. Use motel as either education hub or low-cost accomodation, or both.
3. Keep hiking trails pedestrian only with beach access on both ends (i.e., proposed trail in alt 4). Use education signs especially at transition areas between ecosystems, also featuring historical and cultural information
4. Details on the plant palette to be used in the restoration area in all alternatives (native ecosystems)
5. Keep minimal impact for alt 4 (e.g. PCH relocation in alternative 4). What impact on habitat and traffic, and for how long?

Name of participant who will share results of conversation:

Split between alternative 2 and alt 4 (need more info about alt 4 impact of moving PCH)

Alternative 2: Thoughtful integration of education info (environmental, historical, cultural) throughout motel and hiking paths.

Hiking trail pedestrian only especially for Alt 2 (favored). Impact on mountain bikes to be evaluated (and safety aspect). Agreed with pedestrian only trails. Opportunity for public education with all resources and features in the project (including historical). If trail, have interpretive hubs (importance of access equity to open spaces for example climate change, native ecosystems....).

Access equity for folks not having private cars? Bike paths, public transit, etc. to be incorporated.

No parking alternative location. Main concern is about adding impervious structure to this "restoration Project". Creatively maximize amount of parking in currently designated parking area. Additional Parking along TCB with safe passage for visitors to walk down the canyon to the beach. Could this be a parking structure (e.g. underground or several levels?) Concern about reduction in parking availability. Advers impact to surf zone and access equity. Little to no increase in impervious surfaces that could impact the transport of sediment.

Alternative 3; Same comments about hiking trails.

What alternatives besides reel inn (e.g. food, snacks, coffee/tea shop?)

Ranch Motel is not a top priority – how would that provide equitable low-cost accommodation? Would like to see Ranch Motel restored for low cost accommodation. Let's not shift the footprint to somewhere else. Keep it where it is. Proper waste management with visitor services (camping, motel) NO hostel (plenty of options along the coast). Secure low-cost accommodation with motel. Use motel cabins for education

purposes? Issue/concern with waste generation. Education about historical info, recreational resources, biological resources....

Alternative 4: What is the main purpose of moving PCH? If moving PCH in high traffic area take opportunity to widen it to accommodate for bike lanes, pedestrian paths, with new underground passage from N to S. Would th new PCH be wider? Concern about the project size of moving PCH and environmental impact. Time of disruption/construction work?

More beach area is appealing and create safer corridor between TCB and beach area for pedestrians and bikes. Advantage would be to give people more beach access? Confirm?

Hiking trail connect trails so you can access the beach on E and W side (use the beach as a loop) and education hub looking at transition between ecosystems upper creek and downstream

There was no chat for BOR 12.

BOR 13 Facilitator Barbara Tejada, Participants: Mikee Pierson, Mayor of malibu, Joseph Edmiston, SMMC, David Strohm, TC Docents, Haven Scott McVarish

Five takeaways to share with the whole group:

1. Parking along Topanga canyon west and east sides, with pedestrian controls
2. Maximum lagoon restoration, Alternative 2 generally preferred
3. Trail opportunities around lagoon/creek, picnic areas
4. educational focus for motel/small-scale camping/tent cabins
5. not add too much visitor facilities, at expense of habitat restoration and requiring more parking, one or two restaurants, beach store

Name of participant who will share results of conversation:

Alternative 2: Perimeter trail around the lagoon, add picnic areas in snake pit, move possible overnight to corner of PCH and TCB, parking along TCB with shuttle?

TCB notes: add visitor service facility

Alternative 3: Add camping opportunities, educational use of the motel, move parking and restaurants to TCB, is parking on east side of TCB possible? Less preferred alternative in general.

Alternative 4: Parking on TCB.

There was no chat for BOR 13.