

Notes from CCC Hearing July 10 2019, San Luis Obispo

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runs from 52:30 through 2:53:50

Brownsey

- Expressed concern about poison use especially in the environment – and especially in an ultra-ESHA
- “split in the environmental community”
- Has a problem with slow eradication
- Have there been other efforts to address mouse issue and BUOW issue?
- Will no mice mean no owls?
- Worried about proximity of Farallones to SF
- Gulls are incredibly persistent. Word will get out on the gull network
- What about lessons learned from other projects?
- 100% skeptical
- How long does this contaminant remain in the environment?

Escalante

- What is definition of an unacceptably hi non-target risk to trigger early removal of bait? (or whatever action associated with hi non target take being observed...)
- Is there a chance for a follow up application?

Aminzadeh

- Has experience with Santa Cruz island and pig eradication
- Does not want to question the science
- CCC is supposed to vote on consistency with coastal act and ESHA
- She pointed to harm to public and cited the letters from public coastal supervisors (Coonerty and others) that raised this concern
- Raised concern about non target impacts
- Asked about plans- contingency, monitoring, implementation – and expressed concern they were not complete
- This project is not to the maximum extent practicable consistent with the coastal act

Uranga

He came across as the least informed but comments remain highly valid

- Concern about duration of the toxin
- “Collateral damage”
- He was confused because some of the presentations and data talked about rats and wondered if rats were on Farallones...
- Interested in alternative methods
- Concerned approach is severe/extreme
- Definition of success has many aspects (I believe suggesting success should include limited non target and other impacts)

Rice

- “consistency question” appears to question that this project meets consistency standard
- If successful – what is the timeline that the islands would be restored?
- What about historical efforts to eradicate invasives on Farallones? Methods used etc..

Padilla

- Question about trigger with respect to non-target mitigation plan
- Are there examples of triggers in the operational plan?
- Referenced EPA Dunning that suggests
 - 3rd party operational review
 - After action review
- Mentioned Acute vs extended exposure
- Proximity of Farallones to mainland concerning
- Was contraception alternative thoroughly reviewed?

Groom

- Contraceptives
- Hard to believe poison won't damage the vegetation as well as the gulls flying back and forth
- Would like a deeper look at the 49 alternatives

Luevano

- What method used in the 1 case where eradication successful w/o rodenticide?
- Burrowing owls predate on petrel eggs?
- Supportive of Groom and Aminezedah comments

Bochco

- Troubled by cats and rabbits – not told how those were done
- What if it fails? – need to describe plans about what happens if project fails
 - Disturbed by response of “we don’t know”? and we might just do it again...
- Success has many definitions
- Wants to know more about clean up
- Focused on 120 day life of the toxicant

Public comments:

Charter

- Snail extinction in the Seychelles (and black abalone is a snail)
 - I looked up the paper on this – it says population went from 1 before eradication to 0 after and declared eradication responsible for extinction
 - Another paper of his does show some toxicity of brodifacoum to this genus
 - Multiple other studies have shown no impact on snails.
 - This needs a more thorough review of the information.