

Valles Caldera Trust
Minutes of the Working Meeting – October 3, 2007
Conference Call

Board members present:

Bill Keleher, chair
Ed Tinsley, vice chair
Steve Henry, secretary
Jim Gosz
Tracy Hephner
Ray Loretto

Staff present:

Jeffrey Cross, executive director

1. Audit Contract

The contract (\$89K) to audit the Trust's financial records for 2004 through 2007 was awarded to Moss Adams (Albuquerque) in early September. They will begin the audit in December 2007.

2. State of the Preserve

The draft State of the Preserve was posted on the Trust's Web site for public review and comment on September 26, 2007. The Trust will accept comments until October 24, 2007. The goal is to revise the report and have the final available at the December public meeting.

3. Interim Camping PSA

The Board discussed the Proposed Stewardship Action for Interim Camping and asked the Executive Director to provide more information on estimated costs and revenues to implement the action.

4. Public Access and Use Management Planning

The comment period on the Public Access and Use meetings closed September 21. The facilitator is writing a report on the meetings that is due by the end of October. The Trust received a significant number of comments after the meetings. We will report the results of the meetings and comments received to the Board in November and to the public at the public Board meeting in December.

5. Forage Management

The Board discussed the new Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Trust's grazing program, which should be completed by summer 2008. The EA will not be finished in time to apply it to the 2008 grazing season. The Board discussed the potential for a grazing program in FY08 and the need to complete a NEPA adequacy analysis of the existing EA.

6. Preserve Main Entrance

Work on the Main gate began in late August. Phase 1 of the project consists of removing the berm on the north side of Hwy 4, placing temporary fences, relocation of the entrance gate, earthwork, grading, culvert extensions and placement of base course. The Westbound shoulder of Highway 4 will be closed during working hours; highway traffic will use the existing travel lanes during Phase 1. Access into the Preserve will be maintained.