

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (OSAC)

The Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) was established in 1979 to provide knowledgeable local evaluation of the extent, character and management needs of open space areas in the Del Monte Forest. OSAC is composed of four naturalists and two representatives from each of three involved entities: Del Monte Forest Property Owners, Del Monte Forest Foundation, and the Pebble Beach Company. OSAC meets quarterly to review current trends and management issues affecting plants and animals in the forest and prepares an Annual Report of Maintenance and Conditions of Del Monte Forest Open Space Properties.

Guided by its four founding naturalists, OSAC recommended in early 1980 that all open space areas in the forest be consolidated under the ownership or control of a single entity, the Del Monte Forest Foundation, in order to simplify and streamline their administration and management. Naturalists Rudd Crawford, a Director of the Forest Committee and Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, Jim Griffin, Phd and Research Ecologist at Hastings Natural History Reservation, Bruce Cowan of the Monterey Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, and Vern Yadon, Director of the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History worked with Larry Seeman of LSA to prepare the OSAC Management Plan with Maintenance Standards detailed for individual open space properties. The OSAC Management Plan was completed in June of 1980 and adopted by Monterey County as Chapter Seven of its Del Monte Forest Area Land Use Plan. The OSAC Management Plan was revised in 1983 and adopted by the California Coastal Commission in 1984 as part of Monterey County's Local Coastal Program. Updated Maintenance Standards for Huckleberry Hill Natural Reserve were prepared and adopted by OSAC in 1990.

The Monterey County Local Coastal Program and its Del Monte Forest Land Use Plan (LUP) designated the DMFF as the recipient of open space and scenic easements and fee interests in open space properties in the Del Monte Forest. To protect and maintain open space, DMFF follows the policies and guidelines contained in the LUP, which contains property specific categories of land use and resources. Chapter Seven of the LUP is the "Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC) Management Plan", which prescribes Forest Maintenance Standards developed by the botanists and ecologists of OSAC on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

As required by the LUP, OSAC prepares and files an annual Open Space Maintenance Report with Monterey County. Please contact us if you would like to receive a copy of this annual report.