



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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CACHE CREEK TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) SUMMARY MINUTES

Monday, October 11, 2010 10:00 a.m.
County Administration Building, Atrium Training Room
625 Court Street, Woodland

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Eric Larsen at 10:03 AM

Roll Call: Eric Larsen (TAC Fluvial Geomorphologist)
Erik Ringelberg (TAC Riparian Biologist)
Tim Horner (TAC Hydrologist)

Staff: Cindy Tuttle (Natural Resources Coordinator), Tami Leathers

Consultant: Heidi Tschudin

Others: See attached sign-in sheet

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The motion was made by Erik Ringelberg, and seconded by Tim Horner to approve today's agenda.

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Eric Larsen requested that the words "and a biology component" be struck from item 5.1.4 and the word "will" replace "be" in item 5.2.

It was then moved by Erik Larsen and seconded by Tim Horner to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2010 meetings. The minutes were adopted as corrected.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

5. STAFF UPDATES

5.1 Natural Resources

Cindy Tuttle announced that Kevin Schwartz accepted another position and was no longer working for Yolo County. Due to his leaving there had been a reorganization of work involving David Morrison and Jeff Anderson from the Planning and Public Works Department (PPW). Jeff will be handling most of the compliance for the OCMP. She expressed appreciation to PPW for stepping in to assist Natural Resources. David Morrison reported they will also be processing all permits. They are planning to discuss with the producers the feasibility of submitting the Annual Compliance Reports to the Planning Commission for 2009 and 2010 together.

It was announced that there will be an OHV workshop scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on October 25th. This will be a stakeholders' group meeting where all are welcome to attend.

Tami Leathers reported that Natural Resources had received the 2010 final aerial survey of Cache Creek.

Tami also mentioned that they are scheduling water samples; and may be contracting with the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for future testing.

Erik Ringelberg asked if they had "hit the numbers" and Tami answered that the numbers looked good.

5.2 Cache Creek Conservancy (CCC)

Lynnel Pollock deferred the time to item 6.1 when they would present the report on the Rio Jesus Maria project.

5.3 Yolo County Resource Conservation District

There were no representatives from the RCD present.

5.4 Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Max Stevenson began by mentioning that although there was no one present from the RCD, he wanted to announce that the District had a new Director, Nicole Bell.

Mr. Stevenson then gave an update on the Capay Dam apron repair project. Water diversion deliveries had been stopped a month early in hopes of dewatering the construction area. He felt the project was going quite well with no big snafus. Today they were to start pouring concrete. Since there was a concrete batch plant established on site, they were hoping concrete construction

would be completed within 10 days. Mr. Stevenson added that the apron repair will triple the size of Capay Dam and the extent of the apron will continue 45-feet downstream of the dam. The view from the web cam at the construction site garnered a pleasant reaction from the TAC as well as the audience. Eric Larsen asked Mr. Stevenson if he could get a couple of sample buckets of sediment from the west (upstream) side of the dam that had been transported from upstream areas of Cache Creek; and discovering that the area is easily accessed, Mr. Larsen decided to retrieve the samples himself. Mr. Stevenson mentioned that the completion of the project should be done no later than November 15, 2010.

6. REGULAR AGENDA

6.1 Cache Creek Conservancy

Lynnel Pollock updated the TAC on the Rio Jesus Maria project. She gave a presentation showing what has been done to remove non-native invasive vegetation (Tamarisk, Arundo, and Ravenna Grass). In 2006, the first year, there had been mostly mechanical (with equipment) removal. Between river mile (RM) 12.7 and 12.9, it was recommended to the Conservancy by a consultant to refrain from removing Arundo on the left bank (north side) of the stream due to the steep nature of the banks and to prevent erosion. Little was done in 2007, but in 2008 they began chemical treatment that continued in June 2009 to include Ravenna Grass removal; and in 2010 spray activities were maintained with the financial assistance of Yolo County. Erik Ringelberg asked if the untreated weeds at the top of the banks were beginning to re-invade down into the channel. Lynnel confirmed that there wasn't always access to treat the tops of the banks due to property ownership, active mining areas, and generally inaccessible areas, but the before and after pictures revealed that their work had been quite effective. Molly Farrell added that spraying for invasive plants in the Capay Reach downstream of the Capay Dam would be done while this area was dewatered during apron repair work.

Pictures of the Creek Clean-up Day held on September 25th were also displayed. The event had been a success, although there wasn't as much refuse as had been expected.

Erik Ringelberg again asked about the weeds moving back onto the banks. Molly Farrell answered that there was a minimal amount of seedlings found within the treated area, but this re-growth is considered maintainable. The new threat seemed to be the Ravenna Grass moving down the corridor.

Mr. Dave Pratt asked if any predatory beetles were released to control Tamarisk in the CCRMP area. Molly Farrell replied that there had been some relocation of beetles to the CCRMP area, however little to no success occurred. She did say that natural downstream migration of the beetles had occurred to approximately 1-mile upstream of the Capay Dam.

It was discussed that a meeting between Yolo County, Cache Creek Conservancy, and Audubon had been held to discuss invasive weed management.

6.2 TAC Responsibilities

Eric Larsen spoke of the TAC's work over the years. He feels that since the guidelines were established there had been what he called, "mission drift." Some items had drifted from the original goals, and others had simply been deferred. This agenda item discussion is intended to review responsibilities set for the TAC, by the guidelines of the Cache Creek Improvement Program (CCIP), adopted by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.

Heidi Tschudin referred to two summary charts provided by staff in advance of the meeting. One, prepared by Tami, provides a listing of every task of the TAC that is identified in the CCIP. This chart is ten pages and printed in "landscape" orientation. The second, prepared by Heidi, is a consolidated list of all mandatory tasks in the CCIP, organized into 14 main program areas. This chart is three pages and printed in "portrait" orientation. It includes and summarizes the longer itemized list provided by Tami and also includes other work efforts required of the County. Heidi suggested that going over the CCIP using the 14-item summary would explain the organization of the program (see Attachment A). She proceeded to review the 14 tasks of the CCIP with a short description of each. TAC decided to discuss what the TAC has done on each item, and what remained to be completed for each item.

Tim Horner expressed concern on the magnitude of the responsibilities. Eric Larsen and Erik Ringelberg each felt that the CCIP summary list seemed daunting at first glance, but after reviewing what was really left to do it looks as if it is quite doable. There is overlap in the responsibilities and collaboration is inevitable. It was decided to address the tasks first as individuals, then as a group.

- Tim Horner, TAC Hydrologist, gave an overview of his responsibilities. He reiterated that overlap is going to be a part of addressing who is to do what.

TAC Hydrologist Tasks

Collect water samples and evaluate water quality data (annual)

Water Year	First flush	Winter storm (peak flow?) sample date	Summer (low flow) sample date
2000	January 26, 2000	April 19, 2000	July 24, 2000
2001	January 17, 2001	April 4, 2001	July 9, 2001
2002	missing	January 3, 2002	July 22, 2002
2003	November 18, 2002	missing	June 16, 2003
2004	missing	missing	August 11, 2004
2005	December 9, 2004	February 22, 2005	August 17, 2005
2006	December 19, 2005	April 4, 2006	August 23, 2006
2007	missing	missing	August 22, 2007
2008	January 5, 2008- combined sample		August 5, 2008

Update the water quality database, and add older data (1997 – 2002)

Review groundwater data from mines

Evaluate mercury monitoring program- TMDL's, should we monitor methylmercury?

Monitor sediment discharge

Review stream gauging needs and continuous stream flow monitoring capability

Coordinate flood control warning and assessment with county and city staff.

Recommended TAC Actions

Study aquatic macroinvertebrates as indicators of water quality

Monitor and evaluate temperature

Develop a plan to reduce bacteria levels in Cache Creek

- Erik Ringelberg, TAC Riparian Biologist, sees no great boundaries in the CCIP tasks. He noted the need to set priorities and focus on the fundamentals of the CCIP.

TAC Biologist

Permitting

RGP-58

Programmatic permits

CDFG 1600 series

RWQCB WQ 401 Certification

SMARA Rec plan (Relevant CEQA?)

Surveys (monitoring)

Baseline ecological (photoplots, Cross Sections, and Lidar)

Fish/Methyl Mercury (MeHg)

Delineation (weeds, wetlands and OHWM)

2011 Preparation

Plant and animal survey needs (site specific)
Cross Sections
Riparian restoration priorities and designs
In-channel vegetation removal strategy

- Eric Larsen, TAC Fluvial Geomorphologist, perceives that he and Tim Horner have the most overlap in their areas of responsibilities, but that collaboration between them will flow easily.

TAC Geomorphologist

Eric Larsen began by asking the question ‘what is happening to form Cache Creek?’ and listed categories for monitoring analysis related to geomorphology issues. The categories include monitoring of coarse sediments, topography, form (plan-form), and modeling of water surface (HEC-RAS) and sediment transport.

Mr. Larsen asked for an action item to create a committee to list dates and locations of all data collected and stored to date. Mr. Larsen’s vision is to have a ‘corridor’ or ‘parkway’ plan developed from existing reclamation plans. Lynnel Pollock suggested finding appropriate language to go forward on corridor/parkway plan. Mr. Larsen continued to discuss the analysis of the “Test 3 Concept” for each reach using monitoring data of coarse sediments, topography, form (plan-form), and modeling. Max Stevenson added that the CCRMP and OCMP are good plans and that other plans including the Yolo County Natural Heritage Program and the IWRMP be reviewed to achieve cohesiveness between all plans. Heidi Tschudin explained that over the years there has been considerable effort to ensure that the HCP process and the CCAP are complementary. That effort continues today. Maria Wong, the HCP director, is fully aware of the CCAP and ensuring its integration into the HCP.

Eric Larsen would like to create a preliminary list of items TAC proposes to accomplish. Heidi suggested reviewing the role of each TAC title under each of the 14 areas of responsibility, then begin an inventory of what has and has not been done. Upon quick evaluation of the guidelines, it was decided that CCIP action items numbers 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 will not need to be addressed at this time. Items 5 (creation of staff position) and 6 (creation of TAC) are County’s responsibilities that have already been completed. Item 7 (FHDP applications and restoration proposals) is ongoing as applications and proposals are brought to the TAC for review and comment. Item 8 (TAC meetings) is underway and ongoing. Item 9 (TAC budget) will emerge later out of these efforts. An equivalent of Item 10 (stakeholders group) has been occurring through the structure of the regular TAC meetings tht has each stakeholder provide an update to the group. Item 12 (landowner coordination) will be revisited later. Item 13 (regulatory coordination) is a parallel effort already underway with Erik Ringelberg’s involvement. Item 14 (CCIP funding) is already

in place through the fees paid by the industry – opportunities for the County to expand funding through grants will be reevaluated later.

There was discussion about the technical data submitted and collected over the years to the County pursuant to the gravel program. Heidi mentioned the extensive effort staff had recently undertaken to locate and catalog that data on a spreadsheet. The Excel spreadsheet containing the entire list of files contained on the Natural Resources S:\ drive will be sent to each TAC member.

Lynnel Pollock offered that the Cache Creek Conservancy is willing to help with data or site visits, and will assist in any way.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next TAC meeting will be held at 10:00 AM on Monday, November 8, 2010.

Recommended items for next month's meeting:

Cindy Tuttle suggested that TAC dispense with the Regular Business and concentrate on

- the review of TAC responsibilities under the CCIP individually and collectively (Items 1-4, and 11 from the three-page summary chart)
- the status of implementation of TAC responsibilities in each area
- the prioritization of TAC responsibilities in each area
- the implementation of TAC responsibilities in each area

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m. by Eric Larsen.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Tuttle, Natural Resources Coordinator
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