



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

*Patrick S. Blacklock*  
County Administrator

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## **CACHE CREEK TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) SUMMARY MINUTES**

Monday, October 8, 2012 10:00 AM  
County Administration Building, Atrium Training Room  
625 Court Street, Woodland

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Eric Larsen at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call: Dr. Eric Larsen (TAC Fluvial Geomorphologist)  
Dr. Mark Tompkins (TAC Hydraulic Engineer)  
Jim Martin (TAC Biologist)

Staff: Cindy Tuttle, Elisa Sabatini and Lanell Hoover

Others: See attached sign-in sheet

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

After an overview of the agenda by Dr. Larsen approval of the agenda was moved by Mr. Martin and seconded by Dr. Tomkins. Agenda approved.

### 3. INTRODUCTIONS

Individual introductions of meeting attendees were made.

### 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 2012 MEETING

Approval of the minutes for the August 13, 2012 meeting was moved by Mr. Martin and seconded by Dr. Tomkins. The minutes were adopted as submitted.

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

## 6. FOLLOW UP ITEMS

### Parking Lot:

1. Vehicles left abandoned on flood plain – (Submitted to RWQCB) *No report.*
2. Barn structure falling into Cache Creek (Reynolds Property) (Submitted to RWQCB) *No report.*
3. Follow up on signage regarding fishing due to mercury presence. Initiate search for funding to update signage. (*Staff continuing to follow up*)

### Action items:

1. Invasive Species Mapping (*TAC continuing work on this*)
2. Biological Baseline and Biological Update (*TAC continuing work on this*)
3. Baseline DTM data (*No report*)
4. CCRMP In-Channel Boundary (*Discussed with Agenda Item 8.1*)
5. Obtain new hydrology that is now available through Fran Borcalli (*Staff continuing to work on this*)
6. Send copy of PG&E FHDP to TAC once approved (*Sabatini*)
7. Schedule half-day Creek Walk prep session in March/April 2013 (*continue*)
8. Obtain copy of original Palisades construction study (*Sabatini*)

## 7. STAFF UPDATES

### 7.1 Natural Resources Division

Ms Tuttle introduced the new Natural Resources Program Coordinator, Elisa Sabatini.

#### 7.1.1 General Permit Update

Jim Martin reported that much of the resistance to the renewal of the permits has been resolved. A Public Notice of Intent was issued by the Army Corps for the renewal of General Permit #58, with the comment period ending on October 13, 2012. He encouraged the audience to send letters in support of the reissuance. The next step is for the Army Corps to initiate a Section 7 consultation with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

He also feels a major shift towards agreement for the reissuance of RWQCB 401 permit. Some additional information and reports involving annual listing of channel monitoring may be indicated, as well as additional fees.

#### 7.1.2 Ambient Mercury Study

Ms Sabatini has been in contact with the consultant Darrel Slotten; a report is expected from him in December.

#### 7.1.3 Cache Creek Parkway Plan

Ms. Sabatini announced that the County's request for a 1-year extension of the 2011 Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance grant from the National Park Service has been approved.

#### **7.1.4 Annual Report Timeline**

Dr. Larsen acknowledged that the draft for the Annual Report was due October 1<sup>st</sup>. He agreed the first draft would be finalized by the end of the week and indicated that the three TAC members were working together and were adhering to the annual report outline that was provided to them at the August TAC meeting.

Ms. Tuttle reminded the TAC that County staff was responsible for the Administrative and Budget components of the annual report and that the TAC was responsible for all of the technical pieces.

Ms. Tuttle also reminded the TAC that the first draft of the annual report should not include the recommendations that result from today's discussion of agenda items 8.1 and 8.2. Those recommendations need to be recirculated and agreed upon before they are included in the annual report.

#### **7.2 Cache Creek Conservancy (CCC)**

Lynnel Pollock reported continued maintenance at Correll-Rodgers. They also continue to work with Granite and PPW at the Granite Reiff site, helping to coordinate tree mitigation for the widening of County Road 98.

Over the course of 2012, the CCC's Planning Committee has been preparing a strategic planning report to guide the Conservancy going forward. In conjunction with this report, the County and the CCC reviewed the three (3) agreements that impact the CCC; the Master Agreement between Teichert and the County; the Conservation Easement on the Nature Preserve land; and the License Agreement between the CCC and the County. This report still needs to be approved by the full Conservancy Board. Once approved, it will be included in the Conservancy's annual report.

Jim Martin requested that he be provided with the draft vegetation information prepared for the Conservancy's annual report so that he may include the Conservancy's data in the biological resources section of the TAC's annual report.

The education program has been busy, they were booked all available days with many volunteers; and she announced the event scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 6:00 will be a celebration of the completion of the Restore Restory project with UCD.

#### **7.3 Yolo County Resource Conservation District**

There was no report from the RCD.

#### 7.4 Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Max Stevenson reported that the end of the irrigation season is near, and that the YCFCWCD will be turning its releases off on October 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Stevenson also reported that PG&E had notified the YCFCWCD that they would begin repairs on the Palisades natural gas lines the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

He also discussed the West Side IRWMP and that a project had been submitted for grant money to repair or replace the Moore Siphon.

Mr. Stevenson reported on the Water Resources Information Database (WRID) that the YCFCWCD is developing with funding from the Yolo Water Resources Association (WRA). He noted that the scope of work (SOW) for the final phase of the WRID has been approved. Part of that SOW is for the consultant to work with the aggregate industry and their contractors to import the CCRMP surface water monitoring data, some of which goes back over 15 years. The WRA will bear the entire cost associated with importing this data.

Ms. Tuttle noted that the WRID would be a huge asset to this program as it will contain all of the program's historical data in one place and would allow us to better analyze trends over time.

Mr. Stevenson reported that the YCFCWCD was now an approved "monitoring entity" for the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring program (CASGEM).

#### 7.5 Mercury Council Report (Mercury Report)

Dr. Larsen asked if staff could rename this standing item the "Mercury Report".

Staff reiterated that Steven McCord, hired through a grant from the WRA, is tracking all mercury related activities in Yolo County and developing a plan to stay on top of all of the identified efforts. Mr. McCord is also available in an advisory role to help WRA member agencies prioritize and respond to mercury issues as they arise.

### 8. REGULAR AGENDA

#### 8.1 CCRMP Boundary Study Area

##### 8.1.1 Study Area to be defined.

Dr. Larsen has been looking at the proposed study area. The channel has moved outside of the existing CCRMP boundary in some places over the years. Due to this channel migration there are some areas that have not been included in past studies that use the existing CCRMP boundary as a study limit. He ran a PowerPoint presentation showing areas of the CCRMP and the boundary line reach by reach. Because the channel has changed, accurate comparisons cannot be made since one would be using different areas from one year to another. Mr. Stevenson asked where the boundary

originated. Ms. Tschudin answered that it originally came from the 1995 Technical Studies. She stated that over the years it had been digitized by County staff using existing drawings and historical knowledge.

Dr. Larsen will use the CCRMP boundary line and a 300 foot buffer, adjusting the line as necessary to exclude mining activity and include areas that are particularly dynamic for use in the study area. Ms Tuttle reminded that we need the final study boundary recommendation by November, as they will be include in the Annual Report.

Staff was instructed to coordinate with Dr. Larsen to ensure adequate time prior to the November TAC meeting for circulation of the final study area recommendations.

#### 8.1.2 Establish fixed permanent identification points along creek (e.g. river miles)

Ms. Tuttle suggested acknowledging that what we call “river miles” are in fact labels for identifying points along the creek and are really just names, not geographic points of reference.

Dr. Larsen indicated that he would check with the state Department of Water Resources to see if they have existing fixed points that they use for Cache Creek.

### 8.2 Surface Water Quality Testing Protocol

Dr. Tomkins reported on recommendations for streamlining surface water quality testing. He briefly discussed the existing protocol:

- Frequencies  
Last year three tests were done: winter, spring and summer. First flush occurring in winter, with peak flow in spring, and low flow in summer. The frequencies are important, but 2 could be sufficient in wetter years, dropping to 1 in dry years, but keeping open the potential of additional samples if there is a major occurrence.
- Sites sampled  
There are currently 5 locations at which samples are taken. This could be reduced to 4, or even 3.
- What samples are tested for  
There is a very long list of constituents for which each sample is tested. He recommended keeping the complete list.
- CCRMP Performance Standard language  
Per the CCRMP, surface water quality testing is **required**:
  - One (1) time per year at first flush
  - At two (2) locations (Capay bridge and I5/Yolo)

Dr Tomkins stated the cost for each sample, at each site, is \$850 for the full battery of tests. He suggested the minimum sites to be sampled would be at Capay Bridge, upstream of Gordon Slough, and at I5 in Yolo, and then added it would be important to add a site in Gordon Slough, It was briefly discussed that first flush at Capay Bridge and first flush at I5/Yolo

It was noted by Mark Cocke that first flush at Capay and first flush at Yolo may be several months apart.

Ben Adamo, Granite Construction, asked if there was a suite/battery of tests that could replace the EPA required tests. The EPA tests are expensive and require that we test for constituents that have never shown up, and, in some cases, are not even used in this county.

Max Stevenson pointed out that there is extensive surface water quality testing being done in conjunction with the Irrigated Land program and that the results of those tests are public data.

A question was raised as to whether the programs RWQCB permit would be affected by any changes to the current protocols. Mr. Martin indicated he would research this and report back.

Ms. Tschudin commented that it is acceptable to utilize others' testing results. She also requested that the final recommendations be tied to the goals, standards, and objectives in the program documents.

Dr. Tompkins stated that he would research the issues raised and amend his recommendations, if necessary.

Staff was instructed to coordinate with Dr. Tompkins to ensure adequate time prior to the November TAC meeting for circulation of the final surface water quality recommendations.

### 8.3 HEC-RAS Model

Dr. Larsen reported that he has requested a copy of the HEC-RAS model from Woods Rogers, but at this point we are still waiting for the state to release the data.

### 8.4 5-year Vegetation Survey

Mr. Martin is working with staff on how to best use existing data. There was no detailed survey work done this year. He will get a good digital map of vegetative cover and focus on developing strong recommendations so that we know where to focus our mapping efforts for next year's study areas.

Mr. Martin also discussed that recent vegetation surveys have indicated an overall decline in over- and understory in the program area.

Mr. Martin noted that he would be working with Chris Gardner (Habitat Manager, Cache Creek Conservancy) and Ms. Sabatini in Spring 2013 to develop useful, cost-effective vegetation mapping protocols.

## 9. NEXT MEETING

The next regular TAC meeting date falls on a holiday (Nov. 12); therefore the meeting is moved to November 19, 2012

9.1 Future Agenda Items

9.1.1 Presentation of the Annual Report (TAC)

-Final Study Boundary Area recommendations

-Final Surface Water Quality Protocol recommendations

10. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m. by Eric Larsen.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa Sabatini,  
Natural Resources Program Coordinator  
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## CACHE CREEK TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

October 8, 2012

10:00 am

NAME	EMAIL	PHONE NO.
Ben Adamo		
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Heidi Tschudin		
Peg Henderson		
<del>Ellie Barrett</del>		
<del>JENNIFER GOMEZ</del>		
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