



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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CACHE CREEK TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) SUMMARY MINUTES

Monday, November 19, 2012 10:00 AM
County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Chambers
625 Court Street, Woodland

Time set items are approximate. The Chair may adjust the time any item is heard in order to more efficiently manage the meeting. Items may be heard earlier than the time indicated at the discretion of the Chair.

1. CALL TO ORDER (10 AM):

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Eric Larsen about 10:05 AM.

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

Staff: Cindy Tuttle, Natural Resources Program Manager
Alyssa Manprin, Executive Assistant
Elisa Sabatini, Natural Resources Program Coordinator

Others: See attached sign-in sheet

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

After an overview of the agenda by Dr. Larsen the agenda was approved.

3. INTRODUCTIONS:

Individual introductions of meeting attendees were made.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2012 MEETING:

The minutes for the October 8, 2012 meeting were adopted with the following changes:

8.1.2 is revised as follows:

- a. "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."

8.3 is revised as follows:

- b. "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."

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

6. **FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:**

Parking Lot:

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

Action Items:

1. Invasive Species Mapping During Removal by Cache Creek Conservancy (To be discussed Spring 2013, Staff and Martin)
2. Biological baseline and Biological Update for 5-Year Survey (In process, Staff and Martin)

Jim Martin, Natural Resources staff, and County GIS staff are working on it.

3. Baseline DTM data: Mr. Randall provided the 1997 DTM data to Dr. Larsen. Dr. Larsen to determine if that data is useable. If not, Dr. Larsen to contact John Perry regarding using 1996 aerials to develop a baseline DTM. (Larsen)

Dr. Larsen, Natural Resources staff, and County GIS staff are working on it.

4. Obtain new hydrology that is now available through Fran Borcalli (Tuttle)

Cindy Tuttle stated that this item is in progress.

5. Schedule half-day Creek Walk prep session in March/April 2013 (Sabatini)

Elisa Sabatini stated that the half day creek walk prep session would be held in April. In addition to choosing maps and other items needed in the field, Ms. Sabatini indicated that she was working with the County IT staff to obtain tablets that are pre-loaded with GIS data for use in the field. The creek walk prep session may also include training from Yolo County IT staff on the use of new devices/technology available for the creek walk.

6. Obtain copy of original Palisades construction study (Sabatini)

This item is in progress.

7. Cache Creek Conservancy to provide Jim Martin with draft of vegetation information contained in the Conservancy's Annual Report (Sabatini)

Ms. Sabatini and Mr. Martin will work with Cache Creek Conservancy staff to ensure that Mr. Martin reviews the annual vegetation data from the Conservancy. Mr. Martin will incorporate into the Annual Report if appropriate.

8. Determine if the EPA has new suite of water quality tests that better suit Yolo County's activities and environs (Tompkins)

Mark Tompkins has researched the available suites of water quality tests available and determined that the current EPA tests (EPA Methods 8140 and 8150) are the most appropriate.

9. Update draft Water Quality Protocol recommendations to cite the goals, objectives, actions, etc. from the CCRMP (Tompkins)

Discussed as Agenda Item 8.1.3

10. HEC-RAS Model (Larsen)

Dr. Larsen indicated that he and the other participants (Woods Rogers) were still waiting for data from the state.

11. Check RWQCB 401 requirements related to surface water protocol (Martin)

Mr. Martin reviewed the requirements and conditions of approval for previous RWQCB 401 permits issued to the County and determined that the proposed surface water quality protocol revisions would have no effect on permit reissuance. This item has been completed.

12. Surface Water Protocol to be distributed to TAC meeting list PRIOR to November 19th meeting for input prior to inclusion in the Annual Report. (Tompkins/Sabatini)

Completed

13. Study Area delineation to be distributed to TAC meeting list PRIOR to November 19th meeting for input prior to inclusion in the Annual Report (Larsen/Sabatini)

Completed

14. Provide information to Producers for support letters to USACOE on General Permit # 58 renewal (Sabatini)

Ms. Sabatini stated that the information requested was provided to the Producers and that the County had been cc'd on numerous letters of support written to the USACOE regarding reissuance of General Permit #58.

7. STAFF UPDATES (10:10-10:45 AM):

7.1 Natural Resources Division

Cindy Tuttle introduced Alyssa Manprin (Executive Assistant, County Administrator's Office). Ms. Manprin will be taking over the clerical functions for the program for Lanell Hoover. Ms Hoover will be retiring at the end of the year.

7.1.1 General Permit Update

Mr. Martin provided the following update on the status of the renewal of the general permits:

- The USACE has initiated a Section 7 consultation with the USF&WS
- USACE requested the County consult directly with SHPO to determine if they are satisfied with the existing documents or want them updated. Mr. Martin will be following up.
- Staff needs to initiate a DFG authorization

7.1.2 Ambient Mercury Study

Dr. Slotton expects to have the study completed and preliminary results to Yolo County by the end of the year. Ms. Sabatini will follow up with Dr. Slotton in the middle of December.

Ms. Tuttle explained that the Ambient Mercury Study was a requirement of the reclamation plans. The study will establish levels of mercury in fish and invertebrates from Cache Creek.

Dr. Tompkins described an ongoing study by DWR and the USGS that may also be of interest to those studying mercury in Cache Creek Watershed. The USGS is about halfway through a 4-year study regarding mercury in the Cache Creek Settling Basin.

7.1.3 Cache Creek Parkway Plan

Ms. Sabatini provided a brief update on the Cache Creek Parkway Plan and indicated that staff hoped to complete the following tasks in the near future:

- Development of a property catalogue
- Property ownership information
- Plan development overview

7.1.4 Annual Report Timeline

Ms. Sabatini indicated that the timeline would be discussed in conjunction with agenda item 8.1.

7.2 Cache Creek Conservancy (CCC)

No report.

7.3 Yolo County Resource Conservation District (RCD)

Gilles Robertson made a brief presentation on the Cache Creek Watershed Invasive Weed Management Plan. He detailed the plan's goals and objectives,

the criteria and data collection methods, and discussed monitoring and future management actions. Mr. Robertson said that the Yolo County RCD had been invited to submit a full proposal the NFWF "Pulling Together Initiative" for approximately \$125,000 in grant funding for plan implementation.

7.4 Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFCWCD)

No report.

7.5 Mercury Report (Tuttle)

Ms. Tuttle mentioned that the USGS had approached Yolo County prior to commencing the Cache Creek Settling Basin study to discuss possible partnership opportunities. She indicated that Yolo staff had been receptive, though had questions about financing the study.

Ms. Tuttle stated that staff was working with the YCFCWCD to install turbidity monitors.

Ms. Tuttle talked about a grant from the WRA that allowed Dr. Stephen McCord to track and monitor all watershed-wide mercury initiatives on behalf of the WRA and its member agencies. In addition, Dr. McCord will be available to provide advisory and advocacy services related to mercury issues.

8. REGULAR AGENDA (10:45 AM-12:00 PM):

8.1 2012 Cache Creek Annual Status Report Presentation

Ms. Sabatini provided a brief overview of the Administration section of the draft annual report. She stated that there were several new items in the report this year, including: highlights of cost-saving efforts, summary of the biennial audit, and the income and expense summary for FY 2011-12.

Dr. Larsen reviewed his geomorphological findings and recommendations. Ms. Tuttle asked for clarification regarding his recommendation that the CCRMP in-channel boundary be re-assessed. Upon further discussion, it was agreed that the recommendation should be split into two recommendations:

- i. Adopt the temporary "Working Study Area Boundary". This temporary boundary should be good for roughly 10 years.
- ii. Reassess the adopted, permanent, CCRMP in channel boundary once the HEC-RAS model is complete and available for Cache Creek modeling.

Dr. Tompkins reviewed the hydrology/water quality findings and recommendations from the draft annual report. Items of interest include:

- i. Levels of mercury in surface water were 1 order of magnitude higher than in previous years, though the detectable mercury was still below drinking water quality standards. This finding caused Dr. Tompkins to reassess

his proposed surface water quality protocol recommendations. Dr. Tompkins revised his prior recommendation regarding duplicate and blank samples. This revised recommendation will be included in the final annual report.

- ii. It is being recommended that the TAC create and maintain a water quality catalogue to track items of concern in the creek (such as abandoned vehicles, metal drums, standing pipes, etc.).

Mr. Martin reported that there were no significant findings in vegetation or biological resources and that his recommendation for 2013 was to obtain new vegetation data/mapping.

Ms. Sabatini discussed the timeline for public comment on the draft annual report. She stated that the report would be released for public comment within the next two weeks and that comments would be due no later than December 12. The final annual report would be submitted to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors no later than January 2013.

8.2 Receive TAC member updates (TAC)

Dr. Larsen reported that his immediate priorities were:

Finalizing the annual report

Baseline DTM data

Getting back to the basic tasks described in the CCRMP/CCIP in anticipation of the renewal of the general permits

Dr. Tompkins stated that he would be focusing on coordinating with the ongoing mercury efforts in the region and establishing the cause of the most recent sample results. He will also be focused on creating the surface water quality catalogue described above.

Mr. Martin said he would remain focused on the renewal of the general permits and will also direct significant attention to the 2013 vegetation mapping effort.

9. NEXT MEETING: January 14, 2013

After discussion by the TAC and staff it was determined that the TAC will have a meeting in January. The focus on this meeting will be to review and update the Scope(s) of Work for the aerial survey and the 5-year vegetation survey and mapping effort. The next TAC meeting will be January 14, 2013.

9.1 Future Agenda Items

January Meeting

Scope of Work Review & Update

2013 Creek Walk (prep session and actual inspection dates)

February Meeting

In-Channel Boundary

Merge and Prioritize 2011/2012 TAC Recommendations

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Respectfully submitted by,

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