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# County of Yolo

## PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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### Yolo County Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee Summary Minutes November 1, 2004

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<b>Members in Attendance:</b>	Kevin O'Dea, Geoff Schladow
<b>County Staff:</b>	Linda Fiack, Dimitrios Georges
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	Max Stevenson, Sally Barrett, Jack White, Tal Bailey, Bob Schneider, Jan Lowrey, Tim O'Halloran, Lillie Noble, David Scheuring.
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Jeff Hart

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#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting commenced at 10:18 a.m.

#### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tim O'Halloran introduced Max Stevenson, who has been hired by the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFCWCD) to assist with water quality and environmental enhancement projects and monitoring.

#### 3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2004 were adopted with the following modifications: Geoff Schladow brought a minor grammatical error in the minutes to the attention of staff for modification.

#### 4. **STAFF UPDATE**

Questa Engineering is continuing the process of developing bid specifications for the Capay Open Space Parcel located just north of the town of Capay off of Rd 85. It is anticipated that staff will be seeking approval of the bid package from the Board of Supervisors in December with the intent of going out to bid for project implementation in early Spring. In the meantime, 54 trees purchased as part of a mitigation package for the CR 32 road widening project will be planted this Fall. The trees will be planted by staff with support from the Yolo County Conservation Partnership Program (YCCP).

The Jensen Bank Stabilization project has been successfully completed. The project was completed under budget and Project Manager Brett Williams, County Resource Coordinator reports that he anticipates the revegetation effort will be successful.

The Guinda Bank Stabilization project has been successfully completed.

The Wild Wings Open Space parcel enhancement project is well underway. Brett Williams advised staff that the bollards have been installed to restrict vehicular traffic down to the trails along Cache Creek. The irrigation system has been installed and the native grasses have been mechanically drilled into the soil. The rest of the plant material will be planted this Winter.

Jan Lowrey provided an update on Cache Creek Conservancy projects. He advised that a meeting and presentation regarding remote sensing and aerial reconnaissance was sponsored by YCFCWCD and mediated by Ray Caruthers on October 29, 2004. The presentation was well attended, and Jan reported there may be opportunities to coordinate data and aerial reconnaissance to assist with the eradication of invasives such as Tamarisk, Arundo, Star Thistle and others. He reported that there may be an opportunity to secure satellite imagery (aerials) of the entire bio-region through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). County Parks and Resources staff attended.

## 5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

NONE

## 6. **REGULAR AGENDA**

### Presentation of Cache Creek Flows:

Tim O'Halloran gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Historic and Current Flow Regimes on Cache Creek". Tim reported on historical diversions and flows of Cache Creek and how the YCFCWCD became involved. Tim advised that his Board is committed to the sharing of information regarding historical flows/management of Cache Creek and he makes these types of presentations to share information. Highpoints of his presentation included:

- Water rights on Cache Creek are historically both appropriative and riparian and are based on the historic natural flows.
- Cache Creek historically had high flows in the winter and low or sometimes no flows in the summer.
- Current management balances flows more consistently.
- Flows are managed at three points in the watershed: Grigsby Dam at Clear Lake, Indian Valley Dam, and the Cache Creek Diversion Dam.
- Flows throughout the system vary according to when water arrives in the watershed since rain events control the inflow of water during the winter.

The topic of potential water consumption by invasives such as Tamarisk was introduced by Bob Schneider. Jan Lowrey commented that some research indicates that invasive species of plants may use more water than native plants. He said that a single large Tamarisk may take up as much as 200 gallons of water per day. Staff was directed to follow up with Jan Lowrey to research water usage studies and to present research information at the next TAC meeting in December.

Presentation of Water Quality Program Reporting Limit Changes:

Committee members Kevin O'Dea and Geoff Schladow continued discussion on the water quality monitoring format presented by Foothill Associates. Geoff thought that the report parameters are adequate as a baseline. He felt that the report could be improved upon by reporting on specific constituents of Cache Creek that may need more detailed analysis, especially testing for Glyphosate because so much is being applied throughout the system. Tim O'Halloran suggested flow referral be noted.

Chair O'Dea made a motion to include Glyphosate testing in all future water quality monitoring reports of Cache Creek. Seconded by Geoff Schladow. Motion carried.

Review of Harrison Site Observations:

Chair O'Dea commented that the gravel bar on Cache Creek near the Harrison property is continuing to create hydraulic changes by shifting the water flow of Cache Creek northward. Jan Lowrey agreed, and commented that if the gravel bar directs the flows north, the steep eroded banks will continue to erode. Staff member Dimitrios Georges commented that he studied the aerials of the site, and it appeared that approximately two feet of gravel had been deposited in the southern section of the channel area since 2002 (aerial photos from 2002 depicted the channel flowing through the south part of the site). Chair O'Dea stated that his observations concur with the research.

Jan commented that the property owner on the north side of the Harrison Property has not cooperated with the Tamarisk removal efforts along Cache Creek. Resource Manager Linda Fiack commented that the County may be able to take action in some extreme instances (when necessary) when there is a risk of a hazard.

Property owner Mark Harrison was invited, but was not available to attend the meeting. Staff was directed to invite him again to the next TAC meeting, and if he was not available, that staff request that he send a letter expressing his thoughts and concerns regarding the sandbar.

Further discussion will occur at the next TAC meeting.

Continue Review of Letter Submitted by Chad Roberts:

Chair O'Dea commented that the flow restrictions at the bridges present challenges. The test 3 (200-year event) is driven by hydraulic conditions at the bridges. Chair O'Dea also discussed the importance of wildlife habitat issues and that one of the goals of the Cache Creek Resource Management Plan (CCRMP) is to manage habitat issues in meanders and future off channel mining pits.

Chair O'Dea commented that the off channel mining reclamation plan includes a return of the mined areas to either, 1) Agriculture, 2) Wildlife Habitat, or 3) Recreation after the mining is complete.

Since time was running short, Chair O'Dea suggested that the discussions be tabled to the next meeting. At that meeting, the process for identifying topics for further discussion prompted by Mr. Roberts will be considered.

Discuss Process for Identifying Topics for Future Discussion of CCRMP and Technical Study Workshop:

Staff was directed to begin contacting agencies and individuals to be involved in a TAC workshop to review the history and background for establishment of the test 3 boundary. Aspects would include: 200 year event flow restrictions caused by bridge restrictions, habitat opportunities, and discuss rationale and limitations.

The TAC agreed that discussion items should be informational in nature. Linda suggested a date in January (date to be determined) starting at 4 PM (in the Cache Creek Room), and proposed two hours of working presentations followed by one hour of discussion. Linda stated that preparation of a presentation requested by the Board of Supervisors regarding the "Past, Present, and Future" of gravel mining and the CCRMP activity on lower Cache Creek will assist in preparing for this workshop.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Next meeting will be December 6, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.