

**Yolo County Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee  
Summary Minutes  
April 30, 2003**

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**Members in Attendance:** Kevin O'Dea, Geoff Schladow, Jeff Hart

**County Staff:** Linda Fiack

**Others in Attendance:** Jan Lowrey, John Watson, Jack White, Lillie Noble, Barry Baba, Ben Adamo

**Members Absent:** None

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting commenced 1:10 a.m.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments were received.

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2003 were adopted as presented.

4. **STAFF UPDATE**

Corps General Permit is being processed but has not yet been issued.

Pending issuance of a new General Permit, the Corps is processing an application for a Nationwide Permit for the Wild Wings Outfall.

Planting has been completed at Stephens, Granite, and Scheuring (toe of jetties) sites. A planting plot is being developed for the Harrison Property (weed management needs are being addressed, as well).

The Parks and Resources Management web page is up and running. It can be accessed at the Yolo County web site by clicking on to Departments, PPW, Parks and Resources Management Division.

Lake and Yolo Counties are sponsoring a Cache Creek Watershed Forum in Guinda on May tenth, from 8-2. The focus of the forum will be to: review water resources of Upper and Lower Cache Creek; discuss watershed activities and programs; provide input for collaboration; share visions for the future. Dennis Bowker will be the facilitator of the plenary discussion.

Comments on the Woodland Flood Damage Reduction Project DEIR/EIS are due by June 4, 2003. The County will be submitting comments as a responsible agency.

The Draft In-channel Mining (Maintenance) Ordinance is still in draft and has not yet been submitted to the State for review prior to presenting to the Board of Supervisors for consideration.

5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Jeff Hart reported that he is involved in a group (Friends of the Delta) that are proposing formation of a local conservancy for the lower bypass area that has the potential for habitat enhancement. The CCC is being used as a model.

Kevin O'Dea reported that a Technical Advisory Committee for the Russian River is being created.

6. **REGULAR AGENDA**

**Update on Teichert Removal of Invasives and Habitat Enhancement**

Lillie Noble, Teichert Project Manager and Barry Baba, Teichert Biologist, provided an overview of the work they have been doing to manage tamarisk, arundo, and perennial pepperweed, and to enhance native vegetation. They explained the difficulty in taking a historical approach to enhance the in-channel reach at the Woodland site given variable influences and realistic environmental and geological constraints. The variability in tail water as a natural irrigation source due to crop shifting was also identified as a major factor.

The TAC members acknowledged the difficulty in expecting vegetation that was previously perceived to actually be successfully planted, given the terrain. Exploring the water table and allowing sufficient time, as feasible, were discussed as ways to address the situation. Ms. Noble indicated that Teichert is trying to satisfactorily address the situation (over the past 10 years) to allow them to move on to the next phase.

The TAC acknowledged that adaptive management, together with experimental plots, is the approach that needs to be taken on the Creek. Jan Lowrey added that invasive species abatement is extremely important in addition to planting. The TAC agreed that the successful removal of invasives could be as effective, at some sites, as habitat enhancement through plantings.

The TAC will allow time to explore the site during the upcoming creek walk. The Parks and Resources Manager suggested that after receiving input at that time, that Teichert provide documentation to the County outlining the history of weed management/habitat enhancement attempts at the site.

**Wild Wings:**

Pending approval by Corps of Engineers, the item was moved to the next agenda.

**Draft Water Quality Monitoring Summary:**

Kevin O'Dea is working with Sequoia Analytical to consider lowering reporting limits as historical data deems appropriate.

**Discussion of Turbidity Monitoring Options:**

The Parks and Resources Manager expressed the County's desire to continue to explore options for effective turbidity monitoring, within a dynamic system such as Cache Creek. Kevin O'Dea indicated that the Pacific Southwest Lab that is a part of USDA in Arcata has been researching improved methods with regard to the logging industry.

Options were discussed to establish two stations (\$10,000 per station) using the latest available techniques per Pacific Southwest Lab's pioneering efforts. It must be recognized, however, that this method would still only collect data for then determining statistical significance. Geoff Schladow indicated that there would still be the need to collect multiple samples and the concern with regard to the scale of data. He offered the thought of applying for a Calfed Grant, however the call for proposals was quickly approaching.

Kevin suggested using a short-term/long-term approach which would demonstrate the continuing efforts of the County to explore the appropriate monitoring techniques for the Cache Creek System. Geoff Schladow will follow-up with the Parks and Resources Manager as to the feasibility of submitting a CALFED grant proposal (given time constraints) and the possibility of utilizing UCD intern resources to conduct monitoring, possibly using equipment that could be purchased by the County.

**Review aerials/transects/DTM in area from CR 94B to I-5**

Moved to a future agenda because of time limitations.

**Review Questa input on feasibility of bank stabilization projects at Capay Bridge and lower Cache Creek near Yolo:**

Input not yet received. Item will be put on a future agenda.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

June 22 and 23 were discussed as possible options for the creek walk, later than usual due to the amount of water still in the creek.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.