

**Yolo County Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee
Summary Minutes
February 27, 2002**

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

County Staff: Linda Fiack

Others in Attendance: Max Rink, Glen Jensen, Jack White, Frank Siefertman, Ann Scheuring, Tony Gallegos, Melton Losoya, Mike Horgan, Sally Oliver, Joe Dudeck

Members Absent: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting commenced at 9:40 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tony Gallegos, Lake County Resource Division was introduced. He will be attending meetings from time to time and be coordinating with Linda Fiack, Yolo County Resource Manager, as her counterpart in Lake County.

Frank Siefertman emphasized his feeling that the creek needs to be maintained for flood capacity. He indicated that consideration should be given to allowing the gravel companies to clean the creek out, vegetation and sand to maintain the flow.

Sally Oliver expressed her belief that the current condition of the creek is a result of historic gravel mining.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 7, 2001 meeting were adopted.

The minutes of the January 23, 2002 meeting were adopted, with the amendment to reflect that Chris Foe had attended the Mercury Council meeting.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

Presentation on Tamarisk/Arundo Removal Project

Jan Lowrey, Executive Director of the Cache Creek Conservancy gave an overview presentation on the tamarisk/arundo removal that was completed the end of 2001. He indicated that although the project did not get underway until October (pending go-ahead letter from the WCB), the program will begin in July of 2002. It is anticipated it will start at the Plocher property, which is where the 2001 project left off. Reference was made to the remarkable difference you can visually see in the area that was completed in 2001 from the Oliver property up to the Plocher

property. Sally Oliver suggested that a video be made to document the project and show the difference.

Melton Losoya, Chief Probation Officer for Yolo County was present and commended the opportunities that the tamarisk removal project has given for participation of the County YCCP program.

Discuss and consider RWQCB Report on Cache Creek Vegetation and Gravel Removal Project.

Chris Foe prompted discussion regarding the potential for mercury movement related to the vegetation removal project. Chairman O'Dea pointed out that through several discussions at previous TAC meetings the testing protocol required by the RWQCB has been reviewed and a monitoring program had been established to monitor above, at and below the project area and before, during and after the project. Darrel Slotton is conducting the monitoring as agreed to by all parties involved. It was also emphasized that the modeling being conducted by MBK that has been discussed at several of the TAC meetings will also provide useful information regarding sediment transport as related to vegetation removal.

It was also mentioned that having the transects established will provide good reference points for monitoring. The various options available for measuring turbidity were discussed. The indication was that there are different techniques depending on the specific circumstances of a given waterway. Chairman O'Dea requested that this be tabled for future discussion at an upcoming TAC meeting. Jeff Hart indicated that increases in bio-mass should be recognized and that growth rates could be monitoring utilizing the transects. This topic will also be tabled for future discussion.

Sally Oliver voiced that the historic influence of mining over 40 years has to be considered when doing studies in the creek. Frank Sieferman added that he is glad to see that vegetation removal is taking place because the tamarisk has gotten out of hand.

Consideration of Granite request to amend Flood Hazard Development Permit for proposed bank stabilization project.

The TAC will be provided with a copy of the existing permit in order to consider amendment at the next meeting.

Discussion of erosion/bank stabilization/habitat enhancement at I-505 sites.

Chairman O'Dea emphasized that projects had not been completed unsuccessfully in the past at the sites primarily due to the position of the species and the lack of water availability. Jeff Hart has provided recommendations of what species would be preferred for planting above, below and on the slopes. It was also clarified that the adjacent landowner is willing to provide water for the project.

Frank Sieferman indicated that the sandbar west of I-505 had historically been mined out by Syar but has since returned. He indicated a need to have it removed again. Sally Oliver said she wanted to remind everyone of the ongoing impacts from historical gravel mining and that we need to recognize what gravel extraction has done to the creek.

Plans for planting at the sites will be brought forward to share with the TAC, once they are developed.

Discussion of Water Quality Test Results

Unavailable. Will be provided and discussed a future meeting.

Discuss and consider proposal for relocation of Sequoia test sites

The question has been raised as to whether we are the sampling stations located to get the samples intended. Chris Foe brought up that we must review what the purpose of the sampling is in order to determine if the intent is being met. Chairman indicated it is a long-term monitoring program within the general parameters of the Creek. Thought has been given to different influences, particularly Gordon Sl. Geoff Schladow pointed out that the program is not designed to find gross pollutants in the entire watershed. It emphasized that Gordon Sl. is a major tributary to Cache Creek but not necessarily of major concern.

Discuss proposed monitoring device at Stevens Bridge

The proposal brought forward as a part of a project being proposed by the engineering staff of Planning and Public Works would not be economical or beneficial from the standpoint of the needs for monitoring creek levels. Geoff Schladow will look into options.

5. STAFF UPDATE

A report by the Resource Manager on relevant staff activities and meetings.

It was reported that the DSEIR is being completed for tentative release for public review in April.

MBK is continuing to put together the modeling report.

The monuments have been put in place by Andregg Surveyors and the cross sections will be completed when they are able to cross the creek.

There is a need to complete the annual report for 2000/2001.

The I-505 is continuing to be considered as a mitigation site for the County bridge project at Yolo. It is undetermined at this time whether the site will be acceptable by U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Nothing to report on coordination with Cache Creek interest groups; the City of Woodland/FEMA project, or the presence of salmon in the Creek.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports by Committee members on information they have received and meetings attended which would be of interest to the Committee or the public.

With several new people in attendance, the TAC members introduced themselves and provided an overview of their expertise.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at noon.