



JOHN BENCOMO  
DIRECTOR

# County of Yolo

## PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

292 West Beamer Street Woodland, CA 95695-2598 (530) 666-8775 FAX (530) 666-8728  
www.yolocounty.org

### Cache Creek Technical Advisory Committee Summary Minutes September 8, 2005

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<b>Members in Attendance:</b>	Kevin O'Dea, Jeff Hart, and Geoff Schladow.
<b>County Staff:</b>	Dimitrios Georges, Brett Williams, and Petrea Marchand.
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	F. Stephens, Denise Sagara, Dan Campbell, Rick Landon, Dave Pratt, Jack White, Mary Kimball, Becky Wood, Jesse Yang, Bill Cruickshank, Max Stevenson, Richard Mora, Richard Pendleton, Maya Walker, Tim O'Halloran, Vance Russell.
<b>Members Absent:</b>	None.

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#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair O'Dea at 10:03 AM

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 1, 2005 meeting were adopted.

#### 4. STAFF UPDATE

4.1 Update on the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Mercury TMDL process: Petrea Marchand advised that the RWQCB has shown some flexibility on the process, and allowed for a three month extension on the process in order to gain more public input. Petrea advised that the CCRMP will be affected by the new requirements for mercury TMDL.

4.2 Update on the Capay Open Space Park plans, specifications, and bidding process: Brett Williams advised that the plans are being revised and prepared by Questa for bidding. Brett also advised that Yolo County extended the closing date for the position of Deputy Director of Parks & Natural Resources.

4.3 Teichert Flood Hazard Development permit: Staff advised that Teichert Aggregates has applied for a permit to cross under Road 94B from the East side to the Storz parcel as part of their next phase of mining which was approved under their original gravel mining agreement for their Woodland site. Becky Wood, Teichert's Manager of Environmental Services provided a brief overview of Teichert's proposal, the permits they have applied for, and provided the TAC with a hand out of their current proposal.

4.4 Update on staff activities in the Rio Jesus Maria reach; Staff reported that a proposal has been solicited from Chair O'Dea by the County to prepare a timeline and conduct research on changes in the reach before proceeding with any engineering studies for control of the erosion in the area.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Jeff Hart discussed the trends and observations in erosion of the outside banks of the creek and other fluvial systems. He believes that while native plants will help in reducing erosion, natural cycles, which include erosion, must be tolerated. Natural systems such as Cache Creek require flows of water and sediment to keep the system functioning naturally.

## 7. REGULAR AGENDA:

7.1 Update on the Agricultural Waiver Program by Tim O'Halloran, General Manager of the YCFC & WCD and Rick Landon, County Agricultural Commissioner: Tim and Rick discussed the program's history, and current benefits and constraints to the farming operations in Yolo County. Rick advised that the program is known as the Irrigated Lands Waiver (Ag waiver). The purpose of the program, administered by the State water Boards is to manage and account for irrigation and storm water runoff that is leaving crop lands from farm and ranch lands so that the run off does not add to the pollution of rivers, streams and creeks by pesticides, fertilizers, sediment, and other pollutants. Rick advised that participants in the ag waiver could apply for an ag waiver by:

*Option 1:* joining a coalition group that has applied for a waiver which allows growers time to organize, apply for funding and work cooperatively with other growers.

*Option 2:* apply for a waiver as an individual by submitting a "discharge Notice" at a higher fee.

*Option 3:* submit an application to the regional board and supply enough information showing compliance with CEQA.

All the options require water quality monitoring, implementation of management practices, and reporting to the board.

Rick said that incidents of Ag tailwater running into any of the creeks in Yolo County is extremely minor, and that even the ditches that run through the fields do not drain into the creeks. Jeff Hart asked if vegetated ditches are helping to reduce problems that the Ag waiver is trying to address. Rick said that vegetated waterways can help in reducing pollution, but that growers weigh the benefits of a vegetated waterways against the costs of planting/maintaining such a project. He said that growers are willing to assess themselves to pay for monitoring. Rick handed out a brochure on the Ag waiver program (information: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/irrigated\\_lands/index.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/irrigated_lands/index.html))

7.2 Gruber/Payne Property update: Chair O'Dea described the location of the situation (North of the creek and West of CR 89), the issues involved with the erosion of the creek banks and run-off from the fields at the site. Brett Williams advised that the farmer, Bill Payne approached County staff and the TAC on what can be done to control the erosion. He also advised that several field meetings have been held on the site, which have included the owner, the Conservancy, the NRCS, and the RCD (group). The County will continue to facilitate and coordinate with the owner and the group to come up with a solution which would identify funding sources for the work which would include control of the run-off from the fields, and stabilization of the creek banks. . The bank stabilization project would require a

Floodplain Development Permit in accordance with the County flood ordinance and the CCRMP.

- 7.3 Status of TAC annual report: Staff is coordinating with the TAC and others on preparation of an annual report. Format would be similar to the last report with detailed appendices containing updated information that will "bridge" the last report and the report for 2005.
- 7.4 Vegetation and riparian habitat mapping task by Jeff Hart: Jeff advised that he secured some representative 2005 aerial orthophotomaps from County staff and field checked the maps in the field. After ground truthing the sample areas, he said that the maps are not detailed enough for him to carry out his vegetation mapping effort for the annual report. Jeff said that he would need color aerials in order to be able to distinguish between different vegetative species and layers. He suggested staff explore the possibility of getting a LYDAR aerial, which is similar to a digital terrain model of vegetation. Staff will explore the possibility of turning around a quick contract for the LYDAR flight.
- 7.5 Stage and Temperature Gauge project by Geoff Schladow: Staff and Geoff have been working to finalize a contract for the flow and temperature gauges. The data provided by the installation of the instruments would become baseline information for creation of a HEC/RAS model for the creek and the Mercury TMDL process. Max Stevenson advised that his agency (YCFCWCD) would be able to share the flow and temperature information gathered from the gauge at the Capay Dam.

Geoff handed out a draft copy of his 2004 sediment and turbidity monitoring report to the TAC and staff. He made a few preliminary comments regarding the research and the report, and will be making a full presentation regarding the program at the TAC regular meeting in October.

The next regular meeting of the TAC is tentatively scheduled for October 3, 2005.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM