



JOHN BENCIGNO
DIRECTOR

County of Yolo

PLANNING, RESOURCES 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 December 11, 2006

Members in Attendance:	Kevin O'Dea and Jeff Hart
County Staff:	Julia McIver, Petrea Marchand, Chris Alford, and Jill Baty
Others in Attendance:	Ben Adamo, Steve Azevedo, Laurie Brajkovich, Crystal Cornejo, Mark Horey, Glen Jensen, Tanya Meyer, Lillie Noble, Lynnel Pollock, Dave Pratt, Paul Robins, Chris Rose, F. Stephens, Max Stevenson, Andrew Stresser, John Watson, Jack White, Jeanette Wrynski, and Lisa Zaffran
Members Absent:	Geoffrey Schladow

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chris Alford at 10:10 AM.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Kevin O'Dea motioned to adopt the minutes from the September 2006 meeting.

3. REGULAR AGENDA:

3.1 Non-native, Invasive Vegetation Removal Updates: County staff stated that Yolo County has been working on a four-year contract with the Cache Creek Conservancy to remove non-native vegetation, specifically tamarisk and giant reed, from the creek. Removal projects have priority in areas where vegetation constricts the channel and where the vegetation puts stress on existing levees.

3.1.1 Lynnel Pollock (Cache Creek Conservancy) stated that the CCC had finished final spraying in October. They have prepared a report of their work that includes extensive photo documentation. It is available on a CD for anyone who is interested. They have agreements with all landowners on the lower part of the creek to do work on private property. Most of the work the CCC completed this year was chopping vegetation with an excavator; they also did some spraying. Vegetation that was chopped this year will be sprayed next year. Their report delineates where the work was done, and she estimated that they sprayed on up to 7 or 8 acres of land. John Watson (Cache Creek Conservancy) stated that next year, they will be able to spray closer to the water using an herbicide called Habitat.

3.1.2 Tonya Meier (Yolo County Resource Conservation District) stated that she is the new Vegetation Management Specialist with the RCD. The RCD has been doing work from the Colusa County line to Guinda. In September they treated on several county parks and on four private properties. They got as far as Rumsey. Jeff Hart wondered if there are areas they would not be able to treat with chemicals. Tonya replied that they would have to be careful near organic farms

and could not spray within a radius of valley elderberry trees. Jeff wondered if tarping or solarization methods could help eradicate tamarisk. Jeanette Wrynski replied that she had read studies stating that tarping does not work to control this weed. Petrea Marchand wondered where gaps still exist in invasive vegetation removal efforts. Above Capay Dam more work needs to be done. Paul Robins (Yolo County RCD) stated that they are less worried about landowner cooperation in this area, and that a lack of funding is what is keeping them from working on this section. The RCD is also considering invasive species removal along tributaries to Cache Creek.

3.2 Grube-Payne Habitat Enhancement Project Update: County staff stated that the County had worked with landowner Anne Grube, tenant farmer Bill Payne, and the NRCS last year to design a management plan. County staff worked with California Audubon on the development of a habitat improvement plan for the site and are going out to bid for project implementation. Chris Rose (Audubon California) stated that it is a good site for a restoration project because the quality of the soil is appropriate. The plan proposes to plant shrubs and native grasses with help from the Center for Land Based Learning. County staff added that the plan focuses on areas that do not face significant danger from bank erosion. Jeff Hart stated his approval the plan and that he is happy to see that the project was appropriately located in an area with good soils, but that he wondered about the availability of moisture in that area. He recommended that the plan focus on drought tolerant plants where soil moisture is less plentiful. He suggested that willows and cottonwoods may be less appropriate to plant in these areas. He also pointed out that some of the species in the plan were technically not native to the valley habitat of the area. Toyon, redbud, fucia and buckwheat are native to foothill habitats. They will survive in the valley but will probably not reproduce. Chris stated that they were being planted as a part of Audubon's mission to protect pollinators in the region, and that he welcomed Jeff's advice. Jeff also advised that this is a good opportunity to use drainage water for irrigation, but that in the event that that runoff is no longer available vegetation would suffer. Kevin O'Dea stated that the upstream end of Site A is downstream of a migrating meander that will eventually affect the site. He did not think riparian revegetation sites need to be protected from erosion. These systems naturally coexist. He cautioned against a lack of control of surface water runoff and suggested that all irrigation is monitored. He pointed out that these soils will fail if they are saturated and suggested using a drip irrigation system.

3.3 DTM data discussion: County staff stated that DTM data is collected every year and that this year the County had used a new consultant for the collection of LiDAR information. Several end-users had expressed concerns with they type of data presented and with the way the data was presented. The County intends to revise the upcoming RFP and contract to ensure that data is collected on all areas in the CCRMP and that the information is presented in a format that is most appropriate for its end-uses. County staff have been soliciting input and concerns from known end-users and extends that solicitation to anyone that uses the data.

3.4 Yolo County Flood Hazard Development Permit Process: County staff have prepared a process check-list for new CCRMP participants and as a reminder to all CCRMP participants of the process in which a Flood Hazard Development Permit may be obtained. Copies of the checklist were made available during the meeting and additional copies can be requested at any time.

4. STAFF UPDATE:

4.1 Ten Year Off-Channel Mining Review: County staff will present an update at the Planning Commission meeting January 11 and at a Board of Supervisors meeting on a Tuesday in March- the exact date has not yet been determined.

- 4.2 Lead Agency Aggregate Mining Inspections Required by SMARA:** County staff stated that the inspections that SMARA requires are currently being conducted by County staff and will be finished in the next few weeks.
- 4.3 Teichert-Esparto Bank Stabilization Project Update:** The County has received verbal confirmation of permits from the Army Corps of Engineers and is waiting for the official documents so that a Flood Hazard Development Permit can be issued.
- 4.4 Rinker Bank Stabilization Project Update:** County staff have received a project proposal from Rinker and are currently reviewing the proposal for compliance with the CCRMP. Once this is complete, County staff will solicit review from TAC members.
- 4.5 Transect Surveys:** Transect surveys have been completed, although the consultant has yet to deliver the data.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Critical bank erosion site: TAC member Jeff Hart wondered if the critical bank erosion site on Cache Creek had been completed yet. Lynnel Pollock said setback levee work has been done. Jeff stated that it was important to find combinations of rock and soil depth that work well for vegetation. Kevin O'Dea stated that the group had presented their plans to the TAC, and that they had replied with a set of written recommendations. He pointed out that the TAC has no real control over the project.

Bank Erosion Emergencies: An audience member wondered about the permitting protocol in emergency drastic bank erosion situations. As a landowner, he wondered who he should contact. County staff suggested that in some situations the Department of Fish and Game or the Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted. Jeanette Wrynski stated that Phil Hogan of the NRCS can respond relatively quickly. Kevin O'Dea suggested that the next meeting could cover emergency contacts and protocol.

Trespassing and Off-highway Vehicles: Lynnel Pollock of the CCC stated that their organization was experiencing increasing problems with trespassers, especially those on four-wheelers and those playing paintball. Trespassers were leaving trash and cutting fences. They will continue to work with the sheriff's department on this problem. Many other landowners expressed frustration with trespass and vandalism by off-highway vehicle drivers who increasingly carry firearms.

Bank Protection Reinstallation: Glen Jensen, a landowner, stated that the bank protection the county put in two years ago had washed away, and wondered when the county planned on replacing it. County staff stated that this has happened in many locations.

7. SET DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next regular meeting of the TAC is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2007.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by Chris Alford at 11:19 AM.