

Technical Advisory Committee meeting notes for November 16, 2000

Chairman Dan Keppen opened the meeting with self-introductions.

PLANNING ACTIVITIES REPORT –

Burt Bundy, Manager of the Sacramento River Conservation Area, discussed the progress at Hamilton City. Glenn County, COE, Reclamation Board and others are putting together a “to-do” list involving maintenance on the “J” levee. This has involved working with landowners to remove some trees as well as putting material, furnished by GCID, on the back side of the levee at the north end. Ongoing hydrological and geomorphological studies of the area from the “J” levee to Ord Bend bridge should be available in the next 60 days. Mike Roberts from The Nature Conservancy will report at the next meeting. There is still a possibility it will be considered as an “Initial Project”. Have not seen a lot happening with Woodson Bridge as yet. Bloody Island Conservation easement has closed and BLM and DWR are looking at putting together a management program for that area. Will present information on that at next meeting. SRCA will coordinate a meeting for public input.

Burt reported on a meeting held in Sutter county with a landowner, the Reclamation Board, RD1500, and others concerning options on property (approx. 110 acres) inside the levee. Real concern here regarding impact to flows. Looking at possible easement acquisition through the NRCS but does not look like that is going to fit. Point was made that areas like this show that not all programs fit. Some discussion was opened about the Comp Study – some history of it – and how it fits in with projects like this. Their data base is constantly updated so that projects brought to it from the TAC could be brought into the system.

Les Heringer, manager of the M&T, gave an update on the situation with the M&T/Llano Seco pumps. He stated a letter has been sent to the COE requesting a meeting with them, Congressman Herger and the City of Chico. He is still trying to determine who to talk to about the gravel bar. They would also like to have a geomorphologist to the site to get some ideas on a short term solution. There has been no response to date on the letter sent to Patrick Wright.

INNER RIVER ZONES

Stacy Cepello from Department of Water Resources spoke on Inner River Zone guidelines in Reach 4. His report addressed the 2 options that had been presented and the third that was proposed at the Sept. 21 TAC meeting. He suggested that the purpose of development of #2 (develop an inner river zone guideline unique to this reach) was to help reduce confusion and appearance of ambiguity in the Handbook. He suggested defining IRZ guidelines for Reach 4 as an area approximately 10’ inside the project levee toe. He agreed to draft a definition which can be taken to the Board – language would be adjusted for differences that may exist in different reclamation

districts as regards edge of responsibility. It was stressed that participation will continue to be on a voluntary basis. Burt Bundy will coordinate a meeting in Reach 4 and will contact FWA to help with this. The Manager stated all landowners within the Reach will be notified - he also stressed how important it is that the public be aware that their input is wanted and needed.

HARD POINTS

Les Heringer and Paul Ward (CDFG) reviewed the definition process of "Hard Points" that was done through the Riparian Habitat sub-committee. A handout was made available that listed the previous discussions of proposed changes to the original language contained in the handbook (Pg. I-5). Subsequent changes were suggested until the October, 1999 version which was considered acceptable among all interests. This was not included in the Handbook because it had already been finalized for printing – instead, a new Handbook Section was proposed and accepted. Appendix I, page 1-2 "Issues to be Resolved" includes this version. The Chairman recommended that this be taken to the Board to begin the process of Handbook amendment. Burt stated MOA signatories and Advisory Council members must be notified of intent to modify the Handbook so will probably be after the first of the year.

Les requested that proposed modifications to the Handbook language be placed on agenda for February TAC meeting.

ACTIVITIES UPDATES

Marie Sullivan announced the retirement of Jim McKeivitt (USFWS) as of 12/01/00
Dan Martynn, NRCS, announced they have applied for a grant for a watershed coordinator and are looking for potential applicants.

Burt asked that anyone interested in working on the PILT committee or helping with the SRCA informational brochure to please let him know.

Allen Fulton, U.C. Co-Op Extension, stated that they are trying to address some questions in Colusa County on land use trends and invited interested parties to be involved.

The next meeting was set for January 11, in Willows

