

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – August 15, 2002

Chair Anjanette Martin opened the meeting followed by introductions, announcements, and public comments-

- 1-day workshops will be available through U.C. Davis in September and October covering a wide range of subjects such as erosion control, fluvial geomorphology, and other relevant topics.
- John Thomson, F&WS, announced the Central Valley Conservation Program, a joint project of the Bureau of Reclamation and F&WS, would be accepting grant proposals. A brochure was available with information on the objectives of the program and criteria for selecting projects.
- Everyone was encouraged to attend the Comprehensive Study meeting in Chico that evening at 6:00 p.m. It was noted the Reclamation Board will also be discussing the Interim Comprehensive Report at their Friday meeting. Comments are due back on the report by August 22nd. It was suggested that if there is an extension, it should be announced in a timely manner prior to the final deadline.
- Anjanette announced the Watershed Selection Panel has met and believes recommendations would be out next month for the CALFED Watershed Program.
- Pia Sevelius was introduced to the group as the new Butte County Watershed Coordinator.

Activities Updates-

- Carol Wright, Sacramento River Partners, distributed a fact sheet and map on the GCID Mitigation Project, which includes transplanting elderberry shrubs. The restoration area involves approximately 20 acres located at River Mile 206, north of County Road 9, Hamilton City and is funded by Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District. Carol noted information on this project, and all of their projects, is now available on their website – www.riverpartners.org.
- Carol also discussed the management plan for the Del Rio Wildlife Area which is currently in the planning stages. Sacramento River Partners wants to involve the public in the plan and is seeking input to help determine what the different interests are for that area and what facilities are most needed. The SRCAF will help to facilitate a meeting at the end of August or early September for public input. A questionnaire is also available asking for the type of use, frequency of use, and facilities needed for each activity. The management plan will be developed after they receive the feedback. Anyone interested in more information or who would like to be a part of the planning can contact Sacramento River Partners or the SRCAF for more information.
- The draft Socio-Economic Assessment by Jones & Stokes is still in process. Review of the report by the SRCAF will be determined by the Board but will probably occur at the PILT/Economic Committee. Once available it will be posted on The Nature Conservancy website.
- The contract is in place with Chico State to develop the website that will provide both project tracking and public access information. The funds, however, are from last year and they are still working on renewing them for this year – the process has not moved forward.
- A new Atlas based on '99 photographs will be available on the website in approximately 2 weeks that will cover Red Bluff to Colusa.
- The North of Delta Off-stream Storage (Sites Reservoir) Flow Technical group working under the umbrella of Integrated Storage Investigation (ISI) is moving forward with CH2M HILL heading the effort.

- Two water projects that have received federal funding but are looking for the state match include the Sediment Removal Project submitted by Reclamation District 108 and the “state of the art” fish screen for the Sutter Mutual Water Company.

Directed action Proposals-

- Letters were sent to the directed action project proponents advising them of their point of contact. Most of the revised proposals are due in by October first; after that date they will be on the website for review and comment. The review period will probably be extended to the first of the year.
- Funded projects were notified that it might take 6-9 months to get a contract.
- Hamilton City was moved from Section 205 to a directed action proposal. The Reclamation Board has submitted a proposal requested \$420,000 for a feasibility study to look at alternative locations for the levee including the area below Hamilton City. This proposal is very similar to the COE Section 205 Feasibility Study but is aligned more closely with CALFED and the Comprehensive Study, and provides a better match for locals.
- There was a possibility CALFED would not have PSP’s next year, but instead take another look at those not recommended for funding. It was decided they will be out next spring but will not be as broad.
- Bonnie Ross, Department of Water Resources, discussed the Flood Protection Corridor Program grant money available to implement non-structural flood damage reduction projects within the flood corridors. For further information, the website address for the Flood Protection Corridor Program is www.dfm.water.ca.gov/fpcp Bonnie also updated the group on the Feeny-Lerch Property located at RM 173 south of Glenn. If the sale is finalized, they intend to put an agricultural conservation easement on the front part of the property located outside the levee, re-sell that portion, and restore habitat on another portion that is inside the levee.

Manager’s Report –

- Burt Bundy, SRCAF Manager, introduced Mike Roberts from TNC to discuss the Public Use and Access Study initiated to assess existing public recreation access uses, needs and facilities between Red Bluff and Colusa. Mike displayed a map that has been developed by EDAW, the planning firm hired to conduct the study, showing ownership and types of facilities only. The map will undergo a review by the landowners and managers for accuracy before being finalized.

Information will be gathered through interviews with public users and through public workshops and will include looking at impacts one use might have on another. The SRCAF will facilitate the public participation. Information gathered will also be integrated with other agencies’ studies. The target date for completion is the end of the year.

- Burt updated the Committee on the draft Good Neighbor Policy being developed at the Landowner Assurances Committee. The Chair, Ben Carter, will be presenting the first part of the document to the Board at the August meeting for their review.

Next Meeting –

- The next meeting is scheduled for September 19th, 9:30 a.m., Willows City Hall.