

Chair Anjanette Martin opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. followed by introductions, announcements and public comments. Carol Wright reminded the group of the upcoming Snow Goose Festival January 19-20, 2002 that begins at the Masonic Family Center in Chico.

ACTIVITIES UPDATES

- Kelly Maroney, Sacramento River Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, announced they are getting close on the restoration Environmental Assessment; should have final draft within a month.
- Carol Wright, Sacramento River Partners, announced they would be holding a series of meetings dealing with public use and access on the Pamma Property (borders Glenn & Butte counties). They will involve as many constituents as possible in the management plan. The SRCA staff offered to provide names and addresses and help in facilitating meetings as needed. The property includes 120 acres of walnuts that they will try to leave in farming and an almond orchard that is non-productive and will be removed.
- TNC will hold a meeting at the Chico City Council Chambers on January 30th at 9:00 a.m. to discuss landowner impacts. They have compiled a list of the issues that landowners are concerned with; the meeting will bring people in to see if all the issues have been addressed.
- Stacy announced there would be a memorandum out at a later date on bank inventories. They are looking for a consistent baseline to work from concerning natural banks versus rock banks. Adam Henderson, DWR, will present the information at a future TAC. DWR has also been looking at movement of debris in the river, what kinds of things are moving, where it originates, and where it ends up. DWR staff has been tagging those trees that are falling into the river so they can start collecting information on movement of debris; this data will also be brought to the TAC.

THE IRZ AND OUTER BOUNDARY OF THE CONSERVATION AREA

- A draft "Sacramento River Conservation Area Board Statement" was presented for review only; discussion will not start until dialogue and action takes place at the Board level and direction is given to the TAC. A draft was also made available on "Board Policy Activities" which was drafted to send to the counties to clarify the SRCA's position; Burt noted this is a first draft only.
- SRCA Background draft - Stacy asked for suggestions or comments to the language. A suggestion was made to change "water contractor" to "water users" in paragraph discussing Advisory Council Representatives.
- Discussion on removing the outside boundary that delineates the Conservation Area:
 - question whether to shrink or remove it entirely; there is a difference.
 - removal of boundary will make it more difficult to determine which projects should come forward, which projects to track.
 - IRZG is area where the processes of the river are most likely to maintain a riparian corridor left unto itself; it is not a boundary.
 - one of the driving forces behind resolution to counties was the economic impact to counties by taking land out of agriculture.
 - would removing the boundary result in a decrease in habitat conversion or will it be easier to get projects outside the IRZ because they won't have to have the approval of the SRCA?
 - will not reduce the number of projects; monies will continue with no reduction in funds

-important to continue to communicate with landowners, understand boundaries are not acceptable to some people, and make program work.

Stacy informed the Committee he has been working on a project that would have a live link to the CALFED proposal site. There are now 140 project proposals; without the outer boundary, would have to include a much broader range of projects that are farther removed but still might influence the river. Stacy asked for input from the Committee on how to deal with this issue. It was determined that the Conservation Area should be used as a boundary for the current PSPs; future PSPs will depend on the action taken by the Board. Suggestions:

1. Keep boundary for tracking purposes only or
2. Limit to projects within the floodplain

It was noted that other issues besides PSPs are impacted as well.

In anticipation of a Board request, it was suggested that a work group be formed to address the Handbook language issues and/or the possibility of having two TAC meetings prior to the February Board meeting.

PROJECT PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS -

Burt discussed the project review process and asked for additional comments. There is consensus that a standardized form is needed and it should encompass all projects, not just CALFED. The process should be a way to open communication, a chance to ask for clarification on projects and to request additional information. It was noted that the “hard questions” need to be asked on projects brought to the SRCA. There was a suggestion that the Board needs to provide adequate time for projects; a request was made to have “Project Review” as a separate item on both the TAC and Board agendas. It was recommended that the Project and Proposal Review draft move forward but that the Board should be advised that the form might need to be amended as they move through the actual review process.

MANAGERS REPORT

- **Hamilton City** - DWR, The Reclamation Board, The Corps, HCCSD, Glenn County Public Works, and other interested parties have explored various options for conducting a flood fight and have established a plan of action. In the event of an imminent danger of flooding, the Corps, DWR, and Glenn County can each mobilize to do the emergency repair under PL 84-99.
- **M&T/Llano Seco** - Work has been completed on the gravel removal project. There are still issues to be addressed such as what to do with the gravel that has been removed and whether or not the gravel bar is re-building. These questions still need to be addressed, along with the long-term solution.
- **TNC/Public Use** -TNC is administering a CALFED grant, in collaboration with other agencies, on a Sacramento River public access study. A contractor has been selected to conduct the study; the SRCA will help coordinate outreach and stakeholder review.

Anjanette noted that the Northern Sacramento Valley Forum is interested in having discussion on the Sacramento River Conservation Area as a main topic.

The next TAC meeting will be on February 21st, 9:00 a.m., Willows City Hall, Willows, Ca.