

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Notes – October 12, 2004

Chair – Anjanette Martin

Vice Chair – Stacy Cepello

The Chair opened the meeting with self-introductions. The following were in attendance: Scott Clemons, Gregg Werner, Shirley Lewis, Dan Efseaff, John Merz, Caroline Prose, Lewis Bair, Woody Elliott, Michelle Stevens, Jody Gallaway, Myrnie Mayville, Stacy Cepello, Anjanette Martin, Burt Bundy, Pat Brown and Ellen Gentry.

Activity Reports

Caroline Prose, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), encouraged prospective applicants to submit proposals for the fiscal year 2005 Central Valley Project Conservation Program (CVPCP) and the Central Valley Project Improvement Act Habitat Restoration Program (HRP). Applications will be accepted up to March 1, 2005.

Dan Efseaff, River Partners, reported the restoration efforts on Moulton Weir will be completed this month; Pine Creek is close as well.

Burt Bundy, SRCAF, commented that the Project Tracker is up and going. He would appreciate projects being entered and also updated as needed.

Stacy Cepello reported on the new CALFED Proposal Solicitation Package related to monitoring on past CALFED funded projects. A plan is needed for goals, indicators and what and how a project is being monitored. There may be separate proposals or, a possibility being discussed would involve a collaborative effort to develop a plan for the Sacramento Corridor. The monitoring proposal deadline is 11/19/04 and the science deadline is in January. Stacy may try to do one for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and would make every effort to present it to the TAC and Board but the November 19 timeline makes it difficult. A proposal plan for the Sacramento Corridor is also underway and is currently being headed by Chico State (Kristin Cooper-Carter, contact person). Burt will discuss the possibility of the SRCAF participating in the collaborative effort with the Executive Committee and the rest of the Board. The Advisory Council will meet October 21 in Sacramento and the full Board Meeting is scheduled for the 18th of November. Burt will also ask the Executive Committee to approve a letter to CALFED asking for an extension of the November 19 deadline. Anjanette Martin also volunteered to talk to Vicki Newlin, CALFED, regarding an extension of the due date. Stacy Cepello will send an email to kick off the collaborative process and draft a resolution of support to various entities. Burt noted the SRCAF received approval for a new SRCAF technical position that could help coordinate a monitoring process.

Scott Clemons, WCB, reported on a meeting between Ryan Broddrick, Department of Fish and Game and Wayne White, USFWS, about problems with respect to the elderberry issue and flood plane maintenance. There was agreement between the Broddrick and White that a solution needs to be determined. An old Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding this issue has never been agreed to and has been tied up in the DFG & F&WS legal. It was noted that the state does not have reason to enter an agreement on a federally listed species; it should be between the USFWS and the maintaining entities. Paul Hofmann, DFG, reported he had received a copy of a

MOA but will have to review it to determine if it is a new draft. There was the suggestion that representatives from DFG and USFWS come to the Board or the LAC to discuss the issue.

Current Project Updates

Gregg Werner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), discussed the 3-year study of the 22 mile stretch of river from Princeton Ferry to the Colusa Bridge. The contract is in place between TNC and CALFED and the MOA between the SRCAF and TNC was approved in June. The process will involve a wide variety of stakeholders. The facilitator and survey consultant have been hired and the Advisory Workgroup is being formed. The first meeting for the Advisory Workgroup is set for November 3 at the Farm Bureau office in Colusa. Anyone wanting more information was urged to see Burt or Gregg.

New Projects or Proposal Review

Dicus Slough Restoration - Dan Efseaff reported on their proposal to restore 82 acres of mixed riparian forest and native grass woodlands on the Dicus Slough Unit of the Sacramento River Wildlife Area. The project was entered on the new project tracker website and Dan reported some difficulties when entering the information. One of the issues was the inability to incorporate a map. Stacy noted there will be some revisions and improvements to the site, at some point they hope to have an automated map maker. The map for this project will be emailed to the group following the meeting. The project will move forward to the Board as it was determined that it meets the Guidelines of the Handbook.

Brayton Acquisition Parcels - Woody Elliott, CA Department of Parks, reported on a proposal to acquire 44 acres of walnut orchard adjacent to Bidwell-Sacramento River State Park. The parcel would be restored to riparian and oak woodland habitat. The plans call for a parking lot, access to the beach and low impact campgrounds. There is a residence on site that will be demolished. This project was not included in the General Plan but they may try to include it since the Plan has not been approved. He answered questions regarding staff availability and potential trespass and maintenance issues. The project will move forward to the Board as it was determined that it meets the Guidelines of the Handbook.

Cross Boundary Issues

The subcommittee working on the cross-boundary issues will take the species list and compare against the 24 issues identified in the Good Neighbor Policy (GNP). The focus will be on the threatened and endangered species to determine the real problems and then try to identify potential solutions. Mark Buckley, UC Davis economist, has written a thesis regarding land owner concerns in the Sacramento River Corridor. He has sent out surveys to landowners that addressed some of the issues and is willing to share his information.

Next Meeting Date and Location

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, November 2, at 9:30 a.m. at the Willows City Hall.