

**Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes**

January 17, 2008
3:00 p.m.

Monday Afternoon Club
Willows, CA

Chair Russell Young called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., followed by self-introductions. It was determined there was a quorum of voting members present (underlined).

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency (non-voting)</u>
Butte	<u>Jane Dolan</u>	(Shirley Lewis)	
Colusa	(Gary Evans)	(Knutte Myers)	
Glenn	<u>Keith Hansen</u>	<u>Don Anderson</u>	
Shasta	(Glenn Hawes)	<u>Dan Gover</u>	
Sutter	(Dan Silva)	<u>Russell Young</u>	
Tehama	<u>Ron Warner</u>	<u>Mark Gilles</u>	
Yolo	<u>Lynnel Pollock</u>	<u>Marc Faye</u>	
Resources Agency	<u>Jim McKeivitt</u>		
DWR			Glen Pearson
DFG			Sandy Morey
State Reclamation Board			Lady Bug Doherty
USFWS			(Catrina Martin)
USCOE			(Frank Piccola)
Bureau of Reclamation			Basia Trout

Names listed in parentheses represent absences

SRCAF: Manager Beverley Anderson-Abbs, Resource Conservation Assistant Josh Brown and Administrative Assistant Ellen Gentry.

Other identified attendees: Gregg Werner, TNC; Kelly Moroney, USFWS; Kent Sundseth, USFWS, Alaska.

1. Unscheduled matters

The 9th Annual Snow Goose Festival is scheduled for January 25-27 at the Chico Masonic Family Center, 1110 W. East Avenue in Chico (go to www.sacramentoriver.org for details).

The deadline for the DFG LIP is January 31. Announcements and applications have been sent.

A brochure was made available for the Sacramento River Monitoring and Assessment Project, a multidisciplinary approach to determining ecosystem health. SRCAF is a project partner.

2. Consent Calendar

Glen Pearson moved to adopt the minutes of the December 6, 2007 meeting, seconded by Keith Hansen. Motion passed by unanimous vote. The Executive Committee notes for December 6, 2007 were accepted by consensus.

3. Board Member Reports

Ron Warner reported an Informational Public Meeting on Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough will be held 6:30-8:00PM, January 24, at Corning City Council Chambers. This will provide flood and

erosion protection for the Corning area as well as mitigation credits for DWR repairs projects. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Glen Pearson reported the Governor has released the budget; flood levee repair will be moving forward. Metro levee situations have been addressed and rural areas are being undertaken. Public protection is supported.

4. Manager's Report

A Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator grant has been applied for to help cover the costs of public outreach and training for Josh as required for the Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough project feasibility study and later work.

The Reclamation Board unanimously approved DWR's proposal to do restoration at Ward property, which will provide off-site mitigation for the clearing of the Tisdale Bypass.

Josh is continuing to coordinate contact with landowners regarding surveys for the Hamilton City set-back levee project being completed by the Corps. The next public meeting at the 65% design phase is expected in April.

A DWR/URS representative has attended SRCAF TAC meetings with updates. The 2007 Ayres erosion study is available on the SRCAF website: www.sacramentoriver.org/srcaf

Work is continuing with DFG and USFWS for the Safe Harbor/Voluntary Local Program (SH/VLP). The CA Rangeland Coalition is developing a SH/VLP to cover rangeland in Shasta, Tehama, Butte and Glenn counties. The two documents are moving forward together to avoid conflict. The first one to go through for state species will need a full EIR. Baseline survey forms will be available at the next TAC and Board meeting for discussion.

5. Discussion of Strategic Plan Update

The Strategic Plan was sent out for comments by January 1; none have been received. Lynnel suggested adding "if warranted" to pg 14, Sec A 2009. Staff will finalize the report and have it available to the Board two weeks prior to the next Board meeting. The final draft will be up for adoption on the March agenda as an action item.

6. Board Committee Reports

Jane Dolan, Board Development Committee Chair, recommended the following Executive Committee appointments as approved by the Executive Committee: Chair Jim McKevitt, Vice Chair Brendon Flynn, Secretary/Treasurer Ron Warner, Past Chair Russell Young, Landowner Representative Shirley Lewis, Public Interest Representative Lynnel Pollock, and Agency Ex-Officio Sandy Morey. Keith Hansen moved to accept the Committee recommendations, seconded by Jim McKevitt. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Jane also announced that Committee Chairs will remain the same as last year. The TAC may appoint a vice chair as needed. Mark Faye moved to accept the Committee recommendations, seconded by Jim McKevitt. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Beverley reported that since the Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator grant application due date fell between Board meetings, Financial Capacity Committee Chair Jim McKevitt provided a letter noting that a discussion of the proposal and Board action in support of the application was on the agenda for the January meeting. A letter formalizing support would be sent subsequent to the meeting. Jane moved to ratify a letter to the Department of Conservation, seconded by Ron Warner. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Quarterly Narrative and Fiscal Reports have been submitted for both the Working Landscapes and the Directed Action contracts. The Quarterly Fiscal Reports were reviewed at the Executive Committee meeting.

At the TAC, Joe Silveira, USFWS, gave a presentation on bank swallow population trends. Also, an updated presentation was made to the TAC on the Codora Unit Grant Proposal (Project Tracker #130). The TAC agreed that the project met the principles and guidelines of the SRCAF handbook. The project summary and map were included in the Board packets.

Gregg Werner, TNC, reviewed the Codora Unit Habitat Restoration and Public Use Project, which will include 273 acres of habitat restoration within the Beehive Bend Sub-reach. Upon completion, there will be 1,628ac of contiguous riparian habitat between river miles 170-166. Public access will be available from river and land upon completion. The project timeline is as follows: July 2008-June 2009, NEPA and CEQA compliance; Fall 2009, orchard removal; Spring 2010, plant native vegetation; December 2012, project completion.

Discussions followed regarding maintenance of savanna (grazing, burning), listed species (VELB, yellow billed cuckoo), and recreational opportunities (fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation).

Jim McKevitt moved to write a letter stating that the project meets the principles and guidelines of the SRCAF Handbook, seconded by Ron Warner. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Gregg gave an informational presentation on the Colusa Subreach hydraulic analysis results. Ayres Associates used state of the art two-dimensional modeling for the entire subreach and considered cumulative impacts of all eight proposed restoration projects. The CSP Advisory Workgroup (AW) initially focused on addressing landowner questions and concerns related to wildlife habitat restoration and its effect on flood safety. Answers to those questions follow.

1. Has the channel silted in over time so that the floodway capacity is reduced?
Results of thalweg comparison are inconclusive. Modeled existing conditions elevations are lower than 1957 design capacity.
2. Does large woody debris in the channel result in higher flood flows?
The portion of the flood flow depth attributable to the presence of LWD is .1ft or less.
3. Is the floodway capacity less than the original design?
Floodway capacity as compared to design flow varies within a small range. No consistent pattern of change was found.
4. How will the proposed wildlife habitat restoration affect the flood flow levels and erosion?
Flood flow levels are at or below Design Flow or existing conditions levels with the exception of a .02ft increase at the 1000ac tract.
5. How will the proposed wildlife habitat restoration affect neighboring lands?
Changes in velocity will not result in any erosion effect to the levees or neighboring lands.
6. How will the proposed wildlife habitat restoration affect seepage through the levees?
The proposed restoration projects will not affect seepage through levees.

Copies of the CSP Hydraulic Analysis Report is available online, if more details are needed. The next CSP AW meeting is scheduled for March 10.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled for March 20. Suggestions are being taken for the location of the July 17 BBQ.