

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

February 17, 2011  
3:00pm

Willows City Hall  
Willows, CA

Chair Brendon Flynn called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., and self-introductions were made. A quorum of voting members was present (underlined). Names listed in parentheses represent absences.

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency (non-voting)</u>
Butte	<u>Steve Lambert</u>	Vacant	
Colusa	<u>Gary Evans</u>	<u>Walt Seaver</u>	
Glenn	Vacant	Vacant	
Shasta	<u>Glenn Hawes</u>	(Dan Gover)	
Sutter	<u>James Gallagher</u>	(Brian Fedora)	
Tehama	<u>Ron Warner</u>	<u>Brendon Flynn</u>	
Yolo	(Lynnel Pollock)	(Marc Faye)	
Resources Agency	<u>Jim McKeivitt</u>		
DWR			Aric Lester
DFG			Sandy Morey
Central Valley Flood Control Board			(Jay Punia)
USFWS			Jan Knight
USACE			Mark Cowan
Bureau of Reclamation			(Don Reck)

SRCAF: Manager Jane Dolan, Resource Conservation Assistant Rob Irwin and Administrative Assistant Ellen Gentry.

Other identified attendees: Ralph Keeley, Congressman Wally Herger's office; Rebecca Funes, CSU Chico.

1. Unscheduled Matters

There were no unscheduled matters.

2. Consent Calendar

Ron Warner moved to approve the December 9 Board meeting notes, seconded by Glenn Hawes. Motion carried. The January 20, Executive Committee notes were accepted as received.

3. Selection of Officers for 2011

The Executive Committee report and recommendation of officers for 2011 was presented. Glenn Hawes moved, seconded by Steve Lambert, to approve the following slate of officers:

Chair: Ron Warner, Public Interest Representative, Tehama County

Vice Chair: Walt Seaver, Landowner Representative, Colusa County

Secretary/Treasurer: Lynnel Pollock, Public Interest Representative, Yolo County

Past Chair: Brendon Flynn, Landowner Representative, Tehama County

Motion carried.

4. Selection of Executive Committee members

The report and recommendations for the remaining positions on the Executive Committee was revised. Shirley Lewis is leaving the Board as she has asked to not be reappointed as the Butte County Landowner Representative. Therefore, she will not be able to serve as the landowner position on the Executive Committee. Steve Lambert reported that Butte County will make their appointment next month. John Nock has submitted his interest and was recommended as the Butte County Landowner Representative. The Executive Committee suggested waiting to fill the landowner position, but making all other appointments today. Jim McKeivitt moved and Brendon Flynn seconded the approval of the additional Executive Committee members.

Committee: James Gallagher, Public Interest, Sutter County

Committee: Sandy Morey, Department of Fish and Game

Motion carried.

#### 5. Board Presentation

Brendon Flynn stepped down from his position as the SRCAF Board Chair. Ron Warner was seated as the 2011 SRCAF Board Chair and presented Brendon with a framed, aerial photograph of his property in Tehama County. Brendon was thanked by the Board for his past service as Board Chair.

#### 6. Other Committee Organization

Jane Dolan reported that she is reviewing organizational matters and notes that two committees created by the Board in 2004, Board Development and Outreach, have had no members and no meetings for two years. She recommends that the Board find that the identified work of these committees is appropriately handled by staff and not committee volunteers. Brendon Flynn moved, seconded by Glenn Hawes, to discontinue these committees and direct that the functions to be appropriately handled by the SRCAF staff. Motion carried.

#### 7. Board Meeting Schedule

Jane Dolan reported that a poll of the Board is being distributed to members present and will be mailed to those who could not attend this meeting. Responses will assist in determining the most suitable day and time of the 2011 Board meeting schedule. She recommends that since most counties do not make appointments prior to the month of January, that the meetings are held on an alternating monthly schedule, beginning in February. Brendon Flynn moved, seconded by Gary Evans, to approve the alternating monthly schedule (February, April, June, August, October and December) for 2011.

Executive Committee meetings are no longer being planned to occur just prior to Board meetings. This will enable staff to prepare notes for the Board prior the next Board meeting. The Executive Committee will meet during alternating months of the Board meetings.

#### 8. Board Member Reports

Ron Warner reported Tehama County on negotiations with bargaining units in the county.

Sandy Morey reported DFG has hired a staff person to assist with permitting on private land for restoration and other streamlining processes.

Mark Cowan, USACE, reported briefly on the President's budget. The FY12 construction program includes a high-priority new construction start in Hamilton City (\$8 million), and \$4 million in Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) for a comprehensive levee safety initiative to help ensure that federal levees are safe and to assist non-federal parties to address safety issues with their levees. More information on the budget can be found at: <http://www.usace.army.mil/CEPA/NewsReleases/Pages/2012CWBudget.aspx> A public notice to solicit comments on the proposed set of revised nationwide permits was published in the February 16, 2011 Federal Register at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-02-16/pdf/2011-3371.pdf>. USACE will accept written comments for a 60-day period that ends on April 18, 2011.

Stan Cleveland briefly reviewed the reconnaissance study for the Yuba fish passage to reconnect fisheries. Also, Deer Creek Watershed Conservancy correspondence was received regarding negative impacts of the Sacramento River Bank Protection Project. USACE is coordinating with Holly Savage to alleviate and address concerns.

Aric Lester reported on DWR activities: Early Implementation Program (EIP) proposals, and the final Cost-Sharing Formulas document used; March 18 Invitation for Public Comment and Participation in Workshops on the Local Levee Assistance Program's Release of Draft Guidelines and workshops scheduled to accept these comments and facilitate discussion on the document (March 8, 1-3PM in Redding; March 9, 1-3PM in Oakland; March 11, 1-3PM in Riverside; and March 15, 10-12Noon internet WebEx); Flood Corridor Program Grant applications due February 25; CA Water Plan Tribal Advisory Committee meeting Friday, February 25 in Sacramento; upcoming workshops on 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (March 11 in Redding); IRWM Planning Grant applications received, facilitation services assistance applications; Stormwater Flood Management Grants guidelines. For more information on these and other DWR activities, contact Aric at [alester@water.ca.gov](mailto:alester@water.ca.gov), or go to the DWR website.

#### 9. Manager's Report/Staff Activities

Jane Dolan reported that the request of the SRCAF grant funding extension, to December 31, 2011, has been submitted and approval is anticipated. The preparation of the environmental report of alternatives for protection of the facilities located at RM192.5 is underway and is being coordinated by Ducks Unlimited. This analysis is expected to be completed by the end of this calendar year. Approval has been obtained to submit a proposal to grant administration to fund appropriate legal assistance for the Board for the Programmatic Safe Harbor

Agreement. Insurance for the SRCAF Board of Directors and Officers has been secured and is in place. The SRCAF Advisory Council membership will be updated with new representatives. Jane commented that her goal is to continue to improve communication and information; she is preparing a binder for Board members that will contain SRCAF organization information; she will continue to schedule meetings with all county/agency representatives and other organizations. If you know of events or meetings in your area, please let her know.

A staff activities report was submitted which includes: Quarterly Reports, monitoring the IRWM Planning process, SRMAP, Delta Stewardship Council, Colusa Subreach Planning Documents, The Sacramento River Parkway, the Sacramento River Library, Project Tracker, Conservation Easement mapping, Sacramento River GIS, and a variety of other outreach activities. Details were provided to the Board on all activities.

#### 10. Technical Advisory Committee Report

Rob Irwin gave a TAC review of the December 7 meeting, including an updates on the *Sacramento River side-channel restoration projects*, *Willow Bend Restoration Project*, Anadromous Fish Restoration Program funding and a report by Earl Nelson on the Flood Protection Corridor Program.

#### 11. SRCAF Website Presentation

Rob Irwin gave a presentation on the resources available on the SRCAF website: ([www.sacramentoriver.org/srcaf/index.php?id=resources](http://www.sacramentoriver.org/srcaf/index.php?id=resources)). The Sacramento River Library is a searchable collection of documents, maps, web links, photographs, and other information relating to the river. Users can search, browse and download information from the online library. The Landowner Incentive Library is a collection of programs to assist landowners in conservation activities. The Sacramento River GIS Portal provides public access to a variety of spatial datasets for use in geographic analysis and planning. Each GIS dataset is described and users can download data in KML/KMZ format (google earth files), shapefiles (GIS specific files), or view the data in google maps.

#### 12. SRMAP Presentation

Rebecca Funes, Project Coordinator, CSUC, gave a presentation on the Sacramento River Monitoring and Assessment Program, a multi-disciplinary approach to ecosystem health. The project goal is to quantitatively assess the extent to which restoration activities have impacted the overall health of the Sacramento River ecosystem.

Rebecca gave an overview of original research, including information on updated 2007 aerial photography, validated 2007 riparian mapping, understory vegetation in restoration areas, vegetation trends in restoration sites versus remnant trends, willow and cottonwood recruitment on gravel bars, channel migration patterns, and vegetation characteristics by floodplain age.

Information on the Ecosystem Scorecard included: key ecological attributes, measurable indicators, acceptable ranges of variation, “grades” current condition against conservation goals. The purpose sets measurable conservation goals and assesses viability of focal biodiversity.

The purpose of the Sacramento River monitoring plan sets forth methodology to monitor and evaluate changes in the riparian ecosystem; including supporting data acquisition at appropriate spatial and temporal scales to feed into the Ecosystem Scorecard, statistical and analytical uses, and quantitative and qualitative approaches.

The project summary, scorecard and monitoring plan documents are available at <http://www.sacramentoriver.org/SRCAFindex.php?id=sacmon>. Project maps, technical reports, aerial photographs and GIS data are available at [www.sacramentoriver.org/sacmon](http://www.sacramentoriver.org/sacmon). For additional information, contact Susan Strachan, Project Director, at [sstrachan@csuchico.edu](mailto:sstrachan@csuchico.edu).

#### 13. Correspondence

Correspondence and some items of interest were provided to Board members in mailed packets and folders.

#### 14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00PM.