

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

September 20, 2007  
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 not a quorum of voting members present (underlined).

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency (non-voting)</u>
Butte	(Jane Dolan)	<u>Shirley Lewis</u>	
Colusa	(Gary Evans)	(Knutte Myers)	
Glenn	(Keith Hansen)	<u>Don Anderson</u>	
Shasta	(Glenn Hawes)	(Dan Gover)	
Sutter	(Dan Silva)	<u>Russell Young</u>	
Tehama	(Ron Warner)	(Brendon Flynn)	
Yolo	<u>Lynnel Pollock</u>	<u>Marc Faye</u>	
Resources Agency	<u>Jim McKeivitt</u>		
DWR			Glen Pearson
DFG			Kent Smith
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; TAC Chair Ajay Singh, Glenn County RCD; Aric Lester, DWR; John Merz, Sacramento River Preservation Trust; Susan Strachan, CSUC; Ashley Emery, FWA; and Carol Barsotti, Field Representative, Congressman Herger's Chico District Office.

1. Unscheduled matters

There were no unscheduled matters at this time.

2. Consent Calendar

The June 28, 2007 Board meeting notes and Executive meeting notes will be considered at the next Board meeting.

3. Board Member Reports

Yolo County is doing a general plan update. One proposal is for additional urban development adjacent to Knights Landing (east, between the levee and County Rd. 16). Lynnel Pollock will continue to update the board. She indicated that someone would be able to attend the TAC meeting for a presentation on the general plan.

Russell Young noted that Tisdale Weir is being cleaned out. They have stacked 15 acres with silt as high as the levee. Lady Bug Doherty stated that CA bought land at Tisdale Weir on which to dump the soil. Sixteen earth movers have recently dumped soil there and it is for sale.

Glen Pearson reported DWR and the Corps will begin evaluations this fall on any additional work needed on levees. Geological archeologists from CSUC Research Foundation, Koll Buer and Bruce Ross took a river tour looking for cultural resources. Most sites are mapped and available on bank protection analysis. An 8,000 year old elk antler tool was found near the Tisdale Weir. Eroded surfaces and meander belts expose many cultural resources.

Frank Piccola, COE, reported on the Hamilton City preliminary design for the new setback levee; the 35% design will be finished by October, 60% by early spring. A workgroup meeting will be scheduled to review the 35% design in October or November. The Hamilton City Levee Festival is scheduled for October 21. The WRDA bill, authorizing the Hamilton City flood protection project to be done by COE is in both the Senate and the House.

#### 4. Manager's Report

Beverley reported SRCAF is helping to coordinate meetings and surveys at Hamilton City. One is scheduled next week to look at interior drainage. DWR is completing the design for an emergency repair on part of the levee. The emergency repair is planned on the landward side of the levee on TNC property and is scheduled to begin November 1.

SRCAF Staff, DWR, and TNC have been working together to reinitiate the Kopta Slough/Woodson Bridge flood damage reduction project. There is concern about erosion at the base of the bridge and flooding in the area. Work is being done to get money to complete a feasibility study that was begun by the Corps. Frank Piccola, COE, indicated that having the rock at that location de-authorized, to allow removal, would be possible. DWR is in discussion with Tehama County to get the project moving and using work there as mitigation for levee repairs.

Scott Rice, URS Consultant, will be making a presentation concerning DWR Levee Repairs and mitigation at the TAC meeting, October 2. Monthly meetings are being planned to keep the group updated.

Gregg Werner, TNC, reported CSP projects are moving forward. The Pest and Regulatory Effects Study looks at effects in terms of environmental regulations and pest species concerns. The hydraulic analysis for cumulative effects of the eight sites in Colusa County are also being investigated. With input from the CSP Advisory Workgroup (AW), the Ayres report is expected in draft form in October. The environmental assessment will be done in such a way as to be more usable for stakeholders. Completion is scheduled for next summer. The next CSP AW meeting will be held October 15, 10:00AM, at Colusa Industrial Properties.

#### 5. Board Committee Reports

Josh Brown was introduced as the new SRCAF Resource Conservation Assistant. Josh will be working on the programmatic Safe Harbor (SH), which is one solution for CSP and other restoration programs to protect landowners and neighbors from ESA issues. Incidental take permits can help to allay fears. FWS and DFG have new contacts which will assist SRCAF in the development of the SH. Kent Smith, DFG, added there has been some discussion toward state legislation for a nexus to SH. DFG is trying to make their process fit with the federal process. Beverley noted that this will allow us to look at the river system as a whole, the initial design of SRCAF. The Board received the working SH draft in March. SRCAF will post the draft on their website.

The SRCAF website is up and running at [www.sacramentoriver.org/srcaf](http://www.sacramentoriver.org/srcaf). A News and Announcements section is on the homepage for current updates, drafts, and links to documents or registration sites for conferences and workshops. Project Tracker will be updated at a later date. Please take a look and give us your comments.

Olen Zirkle gave an update on the M&T Pumping Plant at the June TAC meeting. They are looking at toe rock to stop erosion away from the pumps as well as dredging the gravel bar. A science group just returned from Ft. Collins, Colorado where physical modeling was done to determine a preferred long range solution (25-30 yrs). A science group meeting is planned for early next year to discuss the results of the modeling.

A DWR levee repair is assisting M&T with the scour issue causing erosion concerns in front of Phelan levee. This levee is part of the Butte Basin overflow system.

Stefan Lorenzato, DWR Watershed Program Manager, gave a presentation at the August 7 TAC meeting regarding the Levee and Floodplain Vegetation Research being done in cooperation with UC Davis Amorocho Hydraulics Lab and River Partners. Results from these initial studies showed that as the velocity of the water increased the roughness of bare soil increased; conversely, the roughness of the willow decreased. The study showed that plants slow the water velocity at the bottom of the flume, but velocity increases at the top with no measurable increase in water level. In studying the bending characteristics and recovery of the willow in a flood event, plants can help stabilize the flood plain. In tests with salmonids, the fish did not have to work as hard to maintain position with the plants and no fish were pushed downstream. The trees will be allowed to grow and retested over time and other common floodplain plants will be tested. It was also determined that bare soil during high flows could create flood problems. Please review the August 7 TAC notes online for further information on Stefan's presentation, or contact Stefan at: [stefanl@water.ca.gov](mailto:stefanl@water.ca.gov)

Susan Strachan, CSUC Research Foundation, gave a PowerPoint presentation (available on our website) on the Sacramento River Monitoring and Assessment Project (Project Tracker #127). Partners include UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis and TNC. The primary goal of the project is to quantitatively assess the extent to which restoration activities have impacted the overall health of the Sacramento River ecosystem from Red Bluff to Colusa. Vegetation mapping by Chuck Nelson, Geographical Information Center, is incorporated. Key hypotheses include vegetative structure, native species compared to managed and restored areas, and the influence of channel and floodplain characteristics. The draft scorecard and monitoring plan is expected in December 2008 and a workshop is planned for February 2009. The project completion date is June 2009. Updates will be provided. For more information contact Project Manager, Kristin Cooper-Carter, at (530) 898-4037, or by email at [kcooper-carter@csuchico.edu](mailto:kcooper-carter@csuchico.edu).

#### 6. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting was scheduled for November 15; however several Board members noted they will not be able to attend. SRCAF will poll the Executive Board and Board for an alternate date.

**NOTE: The Board meeting has since been rescheduled for December 6.**