

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

August 22, 2013
3:00pm

Willows City Hall
Willows, CA

Vice Chair John Nock called the meeting to order at 3:00PM. Self-introductions were made. Board status was reported to be 11 voting members, nine members present at the meeting and a quorum established. Names underlined indicate present; names in parentheses represent absences.

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency (non-voting)</u>
Butte	(Steve Lambert)	<u>John Nock</u>	
Colusa	Vacant	Vacant	
Glenn	Vacant	Vacant	
Shasta	<u>Leonard Moty</u>	<u>Glenn Hawes</u>	
Sutter	(James Gallagher)	<u>Brian Fedora</u>	
Tehama	<u>Ron Warner</u>	(Brendon Flynn)	
Yolo	<u>Jeanette Wrysinski</u>	<u>Lynnel Pollock</u>	
Resources Agency	<u>Jim McKeVitt</u>		
DWR			<u>Aric Lester</u>
CDFW			<u>Sandy Morey</u>
Central Valley Flood Control Board			(Emma Suarez)
USFWS			(Jan Knight)
USACE			<u>Marc Cowan</u>
Bureau of Reclamation			(Don Reck)
Bureau of Land Management			(Mike Pool)
US Forest Service			(Eduardo Olmedo)
CA Department of Parks and Recreation			(Denise Rist)

Forum staff: Executive Director Jane Dolan, Program Manager Susan Strachan, Resource Conservationist Rob Irwin and Administrative Assistant Ellen Gentry.

Other attendees: Janet Barbieri, BDCP North State Field Representative.

1. Announcements

There were no announcements made at this time.

2. Meeting Notes

Ron Warner moved, seconded by Jeanette Wrysinski, to accept the May 23, 2013 meeting notes as corrected. Motion carried.

3. Informational presentation of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Janet Barbieri, representing the office of BDCP, gave an update on the BDCP. An October release is expected of the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documents, including Chapter 8 (costs of funding sources), Chapter 9 (alternatives to “take”) and Chapter 16 of EIR/EIS (socioeconomic impacts). A 90 day public review and comment is expected.

The finance working group meeting was tape recorded and available. Information on optimization includes reducing footprint by almost half, realigning Hwy 16 during construction, using more existing DWR-owned property, relocating forebay, and making better use of the existing forebay. All information and studies are available on their website: www.BayDeltaConservationPlan.com.

Packets were distributed to the board of informational handouts regarding Expected Outcomes, Statewide Economic Impacts, Conservation Measure 1: Water Facilities and Operation, Refinements to Community and Statewide Needs, Economic Analyses and Statewide Economic Impacts.

Board concerns were expressed regarding agriculture and water rights. Janet noted that there is nothing that addresses any change of water rights in BDCP, and asked for suggestions as to how they can address that issue. The Plan is not requiring more water, just a change in where it will be taken out. There is not more water being used. The point is to stabilize what is there now, and how to manage the water better.

Conservation Measure 1 was of interest to Yolo board members. One option is an operable notch in the weir, which would bring down elevation allowing for more water and more fish in the bypass during high flows. This would benefit fish with a healthier environment, more food, and less predators, while keeping them from being stranded.

The board suggested that BDCP do more to inform the public that the plan is not requiring more water, which could improve the public's perception and possibly provide more assistance. The board was also interested in a future informational presentation. Jane Dolan will follow up on scheduling.

4. Shasta Dam Feasibility Study

The Draft EIS has been out since July. Comments are due September 30, 2013. It was noted by Susan Strachan that the SRCAF is mentioned in the draft EIS Shasta Dam Feasibility Study as assisting in the development of the riverine ecosystem mitigation and adaptive management plan. SRCAF has not been contacted to determine interest in, nor the ability to participate. Jane has been attempting to contact Katrina Chow, the lead staff of Bureau of Reclamation for this study, to find out what their intent was for SRCAF. Table S-2 Summary of Major Potential Benefits of Action Alternatives for the EIS, was distributed to board members.

Jeanette Wrynski moved, seconded by Leonard Moty, that Executive Director Jane Dolan write a letter requesting further information; noting SRCAF has been listed in the Study without being contacted, and asking about SRCAF's expected role, requirements, details, impacts, funding, etc. Motion carried. Jane will send copies of the letter to the board members of Shasta County for comment before it is sent to the Bureau.

5. M&T Llano Seco Fish Screen Facilities Long-term Alternatives

A meeting of only lead agencies, USFW and DFW, was held June 28, 2013, for the purpose of discussing the issues and options surrounding the NEPA/CEQA multiple alternatives for a long-range solution. It was discovered however, that TNC was also asked to attend, to the exclusion of other participants, including SRCAF. Executive Director Jane Dolan contacted Tina Bartlett, CDFW Region 2 Manager, who apologized for not including SRCAF and affirmed that the Forum would be included, and welcomed, at all future meetings.

The Executive Board discussed the issue and drafted a letter to be sent to the lead agencies. John Nock moved, seconded by Glenn Hawes, to send the letter as written, with a copy to the M&T and Llano Seco Ranch Managers. Motion carried.

6. Board Member Reports

Yolo County reported on the notching of conservation on Willow/Putah Watershed, which was not constructed on a low flow channel. Patchwork repairs have been done, but there is interest in improving and fully repairing in spite of competition with other projects.

Yolo also reported their Board of Supervisors sent a comment letter on the Environmental documentation regarding the Bay-Delta issue. The process has been difficult to follow.

Tehama reported on boat docks being taxed along with copies of deeds of trust, tax information, etc., and asked if other counties were being affected. The original boat dock taxation was set up for marinas. It was suggested that how the deed reads (to the bank or into the water) should be an indication.

DWR reported the next CA Water Plan Update 2013 plenary meeting will be held October 29 and 30, in Sacramento. The Plan's Public Review Draft will be released September 11, followed by a 30 day comment period.

A series of public workshops are being scheduled to discuss proposed updates to the state's climate adaptation strategy. The first workshop will be Monday, September 30, in Sacramento. Others will be held in Klamath, Los

Angeles, Merced and Truckee.

A detailed presentation of the water sustainability indicators framework is on the agenda of the next CA Water Quality Monitoring Council meeting. DWR representatives will explain how agencies can use the framework as a way to help measure water sustainability in CA. The meeting will be Wednesday, August 28, in Sacramento.

DWR announced potential changes to a proposed water conveyance system in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta that would shrink by 50% the total permanent footprint of the project, shift more than 400 ac of permanent and temporary construction impacts from private to public lands and otherwise substantially reduce the effects of the project on Delta residents.

DWR has approved funding for 14 reclamation district projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to strengthen nearly 90 miles of levees to provide protection against flooding. The projects will receive a total of nearly \$30M under the Delta Special Flood Control Projects' Hazard Mitigation Plan Levee Repair and Improvement Project Solicitation Package. The projects include landslide levee repair, all-weather road construction, erosion repair and other improvements, along with mitigation for any habitat damage.

IRWM Prop 84 Round 2 Implementation Grant draft recommendations for public review and comment should be released in September. Please check the DWR website for updated information on this and other items of interest.

USACE reported the agency will determine a plan for the Sutter Feasibility Study, to go before Congress, September 18. They are working on Section 7 now.

July 15-18 is scheduled for the Lower Cache Creek Feasibility. USACE worked with DWR and the City of Woodland and local efforts. The priority is a 200 year level of protection for the city.

Tomorrow a CVFSM meeting is scheduled regarding scoping on efforts identifying federal interests in the plan. More regional efforts will be reviewed. Yolo representatives stated they were unaware of the Lower Cache Creek feasibility study. Cowan reported they will get this corrected and get information to the study team. Jane will assist with contact information for this project.

7. Executive Director's Report

Jane distributed an Upper Sacramento River reference atlas to board members. The atlas, prepared with the assistance of the Geographical Information Center of CSUC, contains maps of the river corridor for each of the seven counties and includes information of recreation facilities and public access, habitat lands, land in public ownership and major infrastructure.

As previously reported, funding for the Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough Feasibility Study Completion has been approved for DWR Northern Region Office. SRCAF is to provide coordination and outreach for the study. Project tasks include staff review and refinement of the study, technical reports and analysis throughout the term, developing habitat restoration plan by spring 2015, an environmental review process that will begin the end of this year, a public draft document by fall 2014 and a final document by fall 2016. A presentation to the Tehama County Board of Supervisors will occur in September.

Jane will prepare a recommendation and description of committees, discuss with the Executive Board Committee, distribute by email for review and response and bring to one of the next board meetings. She will also give database information, of those interested along the river, to each county at that time.

8. Correspondence and items of interest

A list of items of correspondence, meetings, announcements and other items of interest is available to board members. Copies of each item are in a folder that is distributed at the meeting for review. Copies of any item are available upon request.

9. Adjournment

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 3-5:00PM, location to be determined.