

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

February 14, 2018
3:00 PM

Davis Home Ranch
Colusa County, CA

Forum Board Chair Leonard Moty called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Self-introductions were made. Forum Board status is 11 voting members and 9 advisory members; a quorum was 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	<u>Richard Price</u>	(John Nock)	
Shasta	<u>Leonard Moty</u>	<u>Glenn Hawes</u>	
Sutter	<u>Mat Conant</u>	(Brian Fedora)	
Tehama	<u>Burt Bundy</u>	(Michael Vasey)	
Yolo	<u>Jeanette Wrysinski</u>	<u>Lynnel Pollock</u>	
Resources Agency	<u>John Brennan</u>		

Department of Water Resources DWR)	<u>Mike Berry</u>
California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)	(Vacant)
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	(Jan Knight)
US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	(Mark Cowan)
US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)	(Paul Zedonis)
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	(Jennifer Mata)
US Forest Service (USFS)	<u>Monique Sanchez</u>
Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)	(Trish Ladd)
Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB)	(Elizabeth Hubert)

Forum staff present: Executive Director Jane Dolan, Resource Conservationist Rob Irwin and Administrative Assistant Ellen Gentry.

Other attendees: Mark Young, Westervelt Ecological Services; Jeff Mathew, Westervelt Ecological Services; Emily James, Davis Ranches.

This meeting was scheduled this day and location to allow the Board to visit a ranch that has entered into a Cooperative Agreement of our Programmatic Safe Harbor Program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jane Dolan wished for the Board to know she has been reappointed to CVFPB by Governor Brown.

1. Meeting Notes

Glenn Hawes moved, seconded by Lynnel Pollock, to approve the December 13, 2017 meeting notes.
Motion carried.

2. Presentation of information of the Safe Harbor Program and the Cooperative Agreement with Davis Home Ranches

Jane reviewed the history of the Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement and briefly about Davis Home Ranches entering into the Agreement. She then introduced speakers John Brennan and Emily James, both from Davis Ranches who are hosting today's Forum board meeting.

3. Presentation of information of Davis Home Ranches – John Brennan and Emily James

A PowerPoint presentation was given providing information about the Davis Ranches in Colusa County. The ranches have been owned by the same family since 1857 and include 8,500 acres. It was historically a wheat and rice farm. Patriarch Howell Davis was the founder of the town of Sycamore, CA, which included 900 people living on a portion of the current ranch site. The bricks for construction of the historic Davis home were made on site; construction was completed in 1894. There are currently 30 family members who share ownership of the ranch, and whose goal is not only to restore the home, but to restore 100 acres by the year 2100. The owners work with tenants and conservation partners to integrate sustainable farming and native habitat into the working agricultural landscape. They are also committed to preservation of migratory birds, waterfowl and wildlife habitat. The ranch continues to farm, save water, reduce waste, recycle, educate and make improvements.

Money from establishing a hunting club has provided cost share for restoration. Davis Ranches worked with Rob Irwin extensively to develop both the baseline and the conservation management plan for restoration under the Safe Harbor Agreement, covering the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle and the Giant Garter Snake. They are also working to provide for Swainson's Hawk and Monarch butterflies, among other species. There are currently more than 40 acres of restored habitat. The ranch is interested in working with their neighbors who are able to establish species baselines and able to have the same protections regarding take. Another goal is planting habitat hedgerows from the Sacramento River to the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge.

As noted at the last Forum board meeting, Davis Ranches has a habitat exchange program and are the pilot project on how to build mitigation. They keep working on adding different species. Also, the Regional Conservation Investment Strategies (RCIS) Program, administered by CDFW's Habitat Conservation Planning Branch in Sacramento, encourages a voluntary, non-regulatory regional planning process for conservation and habitat for species.

After the presentation(s), Emily James gave a tour of the ranch house, which is complete with period pieces, including a Steinway piano, stained glass windows, dumb waiter and a grand entrance. Descriptive labels accompany many item throughout the house. John Brennan then lead a car caravan tour of the ranch, including several stops along the way to see their solar arrays, new planting on restoration sites and to watch the migratory birds on the property.

4. Correspondence and items of interest

A list of items of correspondence, meetings, announcements and other items of interest was included with the agenda. Full copies of these items are available in a folder at this meeting. The items can be reviewed and copies any item are available upon request.

5. Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, 2018 from 3:00-5PM, at the Human Resources Conference Room, Rolling Hills Casino, Corning.