

AMERICAN BASIN COUNCIL of WATERSHEDS MEETING
Including
Dry Creek Watershed Council, Pleasant Gove/Curry Creek CRMP
Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek CRMP

February 6, 2008

PRESENT: Gregg Bates and David Baker, Dry Creek Watershed Coordinator and Dry Creek Conservancy (DCC); Jane Keillor, Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD); Chris White, Balance Hydraulics; Mick Klasson, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA); Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County; William Zisk, Roseville Resident; Barbara Washburn, Ashley Cates, Dianna Gillespie, OEHHA; Vicki Lake, CDFG; Richard River, NRCS; Brian Keating, Placer County Flood Control District; Kelye McKinney, City of Roseville; Mary Keller, Edmund Sullivan, Placer County; Beth Campbell, FWS; Marc Epstein, SESII.

Self-Introductions/Agenda Revisions: Introductions were made with no changes to the agenda.

American Basin Council of Watersheds (Council) Meeting

1. PRESENTATION- Turbidity issues in Dry Creek Watershed, Barbara Washburn, CalEPA, OEHHA: Barbara presented a Power Point presentation on the risk assessment of the Dry Creek Watershed based on data DCC has collected for the last six years.

The conceptual model was presented as follows: As urbanization occurs, there is an increase in the impervious cover. Precipitation turns into storm water. The increase in storm water changes hydrology of the watershed. This in turn effects the salmon population as well as the bug population. The fish data was gathered from 2003-2007. Barbara noted that the Dry Creek Watershed does not follow the pattern recently published in the Sacramento Bee for the whole Central Valley.

The Dry Creek IBI calculated from macro invertebrate data was compared to rankings in the southern central California IBI. Dry Creek watershed samples rated fair and poor. The impervious cover in Secret Ravine has increased by 350 acres from 2002 to 2006. Ashley Cates of OEHHA presented data on turbidity that showed that thresholds for negative impacts on both juvenile and adult salmon had been frequently reached. TSS data show a steady increase from 2002 to 2006 and have increased by 465%.

OEHHA hypothesizes that the ratio of stormwater runoff to precipitation has increased and that increased runoff has caused increased turbidity. OEHHA recommends continued monitoring and initiation of a dialogue to understand the implications of the data.

Discussion revolved around the validity of the sampling and the hypothesis. Barbara expressed confidence in the data sampling as collected and stated they are looking at all variables. It was noted the fish data is interesting but bug data is more compelling. There were a number of questions regarding details of the analysis. It was also noted that this analysis can have a major impact on operations of local jurisdictions, and so the analysis should be solid before it is presented to regulatory agencies. Gregg Bates expressed confidence in DCC's BMI sampling since DCC has worked closely with Jim Harrington of CDFG and with the DCC aquatic entomologist since 1996. It was suggested that the current Dry Creek Flood Control Plan update may yield useful data for this analysis. It was also suggested that stakeholders should pay for continued BMI monitoring and operation of instream loggers. Reservations were expressed about the availability of funds from local jurisdictions for monitoring.

Local stormwater representatives asked what their responsibility should be with regards to this analysis. They are faced with trying to have the most positive impact with limited resources. Frustration with the lack of action to correct the trend of degrading streams was expressed by some stakeholders.

OEHHA will continue to refine its analysis as part of a watershed assessment and stressor ID process. The suggestion was made to continue using the collaborative process in making positive changes for the enhancement of our watersheds. Barbara agreed to make a presentation to the Placer Regional Stormwater group and to provide an update of the OEHHA analysis at the meeting in two months. Gregg agreed to organize a subcommittee to focus on the issues raised.

2. PRESENTATION- City of Roseville Bikeway Program- Presentation canceled

3. REPORTS-

a) Grant proposals

- o The DOC coordinator proposals were submitted with provisions as discussed by ABCW. Links to the proposals at the RCD website were provided .
- o Design of the Auburn Ravine Fish Passage continues. Implementation is proposed in the current CABY grant proposal.
- o Representatives of CDFG, USFWS, and NRCS requested information on projects proposed for Secret Ravine that are seeking funding.
- o The Cottonwood Dam project is also part of the CABY proposal and has had funding reduced in recent drafts.

b) A link to the final report for the DOC Coordinator was also provided.

4. GRANT UPDATES:

a) Gregg also reported the final report from the Steelhead Creek Drinking Water Quality Study and Watershed Assessment is due out this week.

b) Work continues as part of the REI grant to present spawning data. Assistance from students at Rio Linda HS and OEHHA was offered.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS: It was announced that the Granite Bay Flycasters are looking for restoration projects.

7. NEXT MEETING, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, & ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on March 5, 2008 at the same location. Future agenda items suggested were; a presentation from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and a follow-up from the subcommittee on the turbidity study.