

**AMERICAN BASIN
COUNCIL of WATERSHEDS**
Including
**Dry Creek, Pleasant Grove/Curry Creek, and
Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek Watersheds**

**Wednesday July 1, 2009
9:00 a.m.**

**Roseville Corporation Yard
2005 Hilltop Circle, Room 2
Roseville, CA**

Watershed stakeholders meet in a voluntary and cooperative commitment to develop Coordinated Resource Management to improve resource management and maximize collaboration among landowners, land users, recreational users, government agencies and conservation groups.

Draft Meeting Notes

1. **5 Self Introductions** – agenda revisions, suggestions, announcements

Attending: Janet Parris, Sac County Stormwater; Don Tanner, NMFS; Rich Gresham, Placer Resource Conservation District; Brian Keating, Placer County Flood Control, Duke Davis, Dry Creek Conservancy; Carl Walker, City of Roseville, DPW; Garth Gaylord, City of Roseville; Chris White, Balance Hydrologics; Walker Wieland, OEHHA; Lily Allen, OEHHA; Bart van der Zeeuw, Foothill Assoc.; John Williams, Dry Creek Conservancy; Marilyn Jasper, Sierra Club, Clover Valley Foundation; Beth Campbell, USFWS; Dave Willoughby, DWR, Gregg Bates, ABCW Coordinator.

2. **20 Discussion** – New developments in American Basin watershed management

- National Marine Fisheries biological opinion on Central Valley Project and State Water Project

http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocap/NMFS_Biological_and_Conference_Opinion_on_the_Long-Term_Operations_of_the_CVP_and_SWP.pdf

- Habitat Expansion Agreement, Multi party forum

<http://www.sac-basin-hea.com/default.aspx>

- West Placer Creeks Assessment – CABY

<http://www.cabyregion.org/western-placer-creeks-assessment>

Notes: Gregg distributed and discussed a four page background paper (attached) on the processes listed above. The point of the discussion was to consider how the larger processes affect local efforts on West Placer Creeks. Comments – DWR and PGE fund the HEA which focuses on opening new habitat for spring run Chinook, especially on the Feather River. They may argue that the current proposal is too expensive and argue for a more restricted plan. The NMFS opinion suggests a set of actions that will be ranked by their potential to provide the largest increase in population per dollar spent. If fall-run Chinook are listed in the future they would be included in the suggested actions. There has been a suggestion that west Placer creeks might be used as a passage to upper American River habitat but those present were not familiar with that idea. High elevation habitat becomes more important as climate change warms lower elevation waters. Geographical diversity is important to a viable salmonid population. CABY could be an advocate with agencies for finding a place for west Placer creeks in the recovery plans. Madeline Martinez might be a good NMFS contact for that.

Don of NMFS has been working with CDFG to improve passage on Auburn Ravine. Last fall a number of barriers were removed or had management plans put in place. Current focus is on unscreened diversion canals.

City of Roseville has no fish enhancement plan, but projects are designed to accommodate fish sustainability. There is discussion with CDFG of a project near Riverside Ave. to acquire floodplain property and combine improved flood protection with improved fish passage. Funding may be sought from Prop 84.

Chris White discussed the assessment project that Balance Hydrologics and ECORP were chosen to develop for CABY. Rich wondered if ABCW could develop a project to submit for inclusion in the CABY Prop 84 proposal currently being developed. Chris thought the assessment proposal would be ready in October which is after the August submission currently being worked on. Rich would like to investigate possible projects that could be included.

3. 30 **Reports** – (As time permits.)

a. **Instream loggers** – No new info. Grants for reinstallation of loggers will be applied for.

b. **Fish Passage**

- o Secret Ravine – Applications for 404, 401, and 1600 permits have been submitted. Army Corps consultation with National Marine Fisheries has been initiated. There was a field meeting with the CVRWQCB.
- o Possible re-involvement of DWR Fish Passage Improvement Program for Cottonwood, Dry Creek at Riverside, and others. A field meeting is being organized.

Notes: Brian of PCFCWCD continues to be interested in any Cottonwood Dam project and would like to be included in field meetings and other processes. A project at that location would have flood control benefit.

c. **Grant Proposals**

- o Secret Ravine Barrier – FFAST submission to State Water Resources Control Board for Recovery Act. Submission was acknowledged but no further feedback.
- o American Rivers submission to NOAA for Recovery Act funding included the Secret Ravine Barrier Project. Selection is scheduled for May 1. A total of 770 proposals were received for \$2.8 billion. No new info as of 5/28.
- o Urban Streams Restoration (USRP) grant programs –
 - o Roseville – Secret Ravine barrier – No new info on this RFP.
 - o Rocklin – Antelope Creek Restoration – no new info

Notes: There has been no feedback on the above proposals and considering current state budget problems it seems unlikely funding will be provided. Dave reported that the next bond sale will be this fall; more about available funding will be known then.

- o Department Of Conservation proposal – Watershed Coordinator RFP. No new info.
- o Department Of Conservation proposal – Ducks Unlimited, PCFCD (Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District)

Notes: Difficulty with a previously cooperative landowner has jeopardized this project.

d. **River Friendly Steering Committee** –

Notes: This committee is making progress changing stormwater management practices in Sac County. Roseville is working on similar activities as discussed at last month's meeting. It would be good if the Placer Regional Stormwater Coordination Group could join with the RFL committee to extend their activities throughout west Placer. Janet will raise that idea at tomorrow's RFL meeting.

e. **Foothill Water Network** –Discussions regarding the Yuba County Water Agency relicensing have been initiated.

f. **Dry Creek Watershed Assessment** – OEHHA continues to work on watershed data. Future agenda item.

Notes: Lilly and Walker gave an update on OEHHA analysis using DCC and other data. They mentioned that on July 16th and 17th, Eric Berntsen will lead a field activity to collect measurements on the stream to perform a stream vulnerability analysis. This analysis is based on a method developed by Andy Collison, a geomorphologist from PWA, originally for the Contra Costa Stormwater Program. Others interested in going should contact Barbara Washburn. The method will put all the PHAB data DCC collected to good use and help provide important info to guide management decisions.

g. **SARSAS** (Save Auburn Ravine Salmon and Steelhead)

h. **Integrated Regional Water Management** - Regional Water Authority (RWA); Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY); Northern California Water Agency (NCWA)

- o CABY/RWA –. Meeting with consultants for the West Placer Creeks Plan June 26th.
<http://www.cabyregion.org/western-placer-creeks-assessment>

Notes: A follow-up meeting will be scheduled to refine the scope of work for the project.

- o NCWA

i. Development projects –

- o **Elverta Bridge construction** – No new info.

j. Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek coordination

4. 10 **Grant Updates:** (As time permits.) Brief description of change in status.

a. **Central Valley Joint Venture** – working landscapes

Grant amount – \$1.8M

Grantor – California Department of Fish and Game

Grantee – Placer Co RCD for American Basin Working Group

Activity – To be reported.

Notes: Rich reported that Ducks Unlimited has secured additional funding from a private source to continue the project.

b. **Auburn Ravine Fish Passage Improvement Project:**

- Modification of Hemphill Dam and NID gauging station on Auburn Ravine which inhibit and/or limit anadromous fish passage.

▪ Funding -

a) American Basin Watershed Restoration Project

Grant amount – \$340,000

Grantor – CALFED Watershed Program

Grantee – Placer County Legacy Program

Activity –

Notes: Email updates provided by Ed Sullivan indicate the agency is working through a lengthy process to make payment on many outstanding invoices for existing projects, including this one.

b) Auburn Ravine Spawning and Rearing Habitat Access

Grant amount – \$55,000

Grantor – Bella Vista Foundation

Grantee – Dry Creek Conservancy

Activity –Coordinated with item a) above

5. 5 **Upcoming events of interest**

6. 5 **Correspondence / Announcements**

7. 5 **Next Meeting, Future Agenda Items, & Adjournment**

- Dry Creek Watershed Flood Control Plan Update
- Report on Dry Creek watershed assessment
- Lakeview Farms
- Swamp Labor Day 2008 Recreational Use Study
- DOC Statewide Watershed Program coordinator proposal

Notes: The next meeting is set for August 5th. Possible discussion items include a presentation by a NMFS representative on the Central Valley Project Opinion and a presentation on CABY activities.