

Presentations

January

- Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Levee Relocation Project – City of Roseville/West Yost.
Outcome – Shared information. The project may be beneficial by taking holding ponds out of the riparian area and planting a large number of trees.
- Royer Park Storm Damage Repair Project – City of Roseville/Mark Thomas & Company.
Outcome – Shared information. Concerns expressed regarding OES inability to fund an ecologically sound project.
- Impervious Cover Estimation tool – Barbara Washburn, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Outcome – Shared information regarding development of a procedure to be available.

February

- Downtown Roseville Revitalization Plan – Kevin Payne, Assistant Director, Planning and Redevelopment
Outcome – Reservations were expressed regarding the design to build on existing creek banks and not providing more space for storm flows in the channel. A follow-up meeting was held with Dry Creek Conservancy and City of Roseville. Some features of the Swanson Hydrology and Geomorphology Erosion Control Plan were incorporated on the Royer Park side. The City had concluded a lengthy public process and is committed to this design.

March

- The StormUlator - Eric Berntsen, State Water Resources Control Board. A runoff calculator developed to give a general idea of what may be needed to keep pre and post runoff volume the same.
Outcome – Shared information.

April

- Climate Change, Robert Collier, Sierra Nevada Alliance. What California has done to mitigate and adapt and what more California organizations can do.
Outcome – Shared information.
- A Regional Monitoring Program for the Sacramento River Watershed, Dr. Stephen McCord
Outcome – Shared information.

September

- The Sundance Properties – Ed Sullivan, Placer County Planning -Riparian Restoration Project in Coon Creek Watershed to replace small amounts of wetland and riparian functions lost at project sites using mitigation funds paid by public/private development projects. There were no acquisition costs due to an existing Natural Resources Conservation (NRCS) easement. The project restores 7 acres of wetlands adjacent to Coon Creek, breaches a levee to expand the floodplain, and restores 20 acres of riparian area associated with that breach.
Outcome – Shared information.

October

- Dry Creek Watershed Assessment, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, CalEPA. An update on field studies to assess erosion potential in the Secret Ravine Watershed.
Outcome – Shared information.

November

- Photos of West Placer creeks before and after October 13th storm. Gauge reading at Vernon St. and NID gauging station. Report of Salmon spotting.

Outcome – Shared information.

December

- Integrated Regional Water Management update, Gary Lippner, DWR Chief of Water Supply Evaluation. The California Water Plan and how it ties to the IRWM program including where the regions are, where the funds are coming from and how they are to be distributed between the regions. The goal of the presentation is to help the group understand the process and get involved with the local IRWM Group.

Outcome –Information shared.

Discussions

January

- Support letter – American and Sutter Basins Working Group Strategy

Outcome – the group recommended sending a support letter.

March

- Numerous salmon sightings have been reported in Dry Creek since year end. They may be strays from later runs.
- The Riolo Vineyards project proposes building in the floodplain. The project was eventually modified to remove a group of homes from the floodplain. Several homes built on fill at the edge remain and have property lines that extend into the floodplain.
- Resuming and expanding instream logger operation using student interns and with assistance from DWR Watershed Coordinator. Funding request attached.

April

- Maintenance of development projects that have gone into foreclosure. Bonds should cover maintenance but the local government must initiate an action.

May

- Runoff Ramblings – CWP Runoff Rundown Spring 2009, Reflections on Off-Site Stormwater Mitigation Programs.

http://www.cwp.org/News/Runoff_Rundown/Archive/34/ramblings.html

Sometimes, complying with strict stormwater pollutant reductions at the individual site scale can be very expensive, particularly for redevelopment, infill, or ultra-urban sites. Wouldn't it make more sense for the developer to pay a fee to a local or regional environmental fund that could use the money to conduct watershed restoration projects, such as stream and riparian restoration, stormwater retrofits, watershed reforestation, or agricultural BMPs? This would be even better if the pollutant reductions equal, or better yet, exceed those that would have been achieved on-site, and at a lower cost. Trading programs that follow this basic premise are gaining steam in the stormwater world, particularly for pollutants such as nutrients. Nutrient trading systems, compensation and offset fees, pro-rata share payment programs, and banks are being developed as states and localities seek the most efficient and cost-effective ways to reduce pollutants at the watershed or jurisdiction scale.

June

- Current efforts of City of Roseville Stormwater program to promote River Friendly principles.

August

- Watershed activities for fall. Plantings, spawning survey, watershed tour, public workshops.

September

- Integrated Watershed Protection Assessment, River Network
Outcome –The concept was tabled.

October

- River Friendly Landscaping. How to bring this successful Sacramento program to Placer County.

November

- October 7 LID conference follow-up. Sacramento County staff provided extensive summary and analysis.

Reports

Fish Passage

- Secret Ravine – CDFG/NFWF funding was used to complete 90% design and permitting. A foundation grant of \$30,000 was secured. Several stimulus funds proposals were not accepted. An American Rivers/NMFS proposal is pending.

Grant proposals

- Secret Ravine Barrier – FFAST submission to State Water Resources Control Board for Recovery Act. Submission was acknowledged but no further feedback.
- American Rivers submission to NOAA for Recovery Act funding included the Secret Ravine Barrier Project. The proposal was not funded.
- Urban Streams Restoration (USRP) grant programs –
 - Roseville – Secret Ravine barrier – this RFP was not concluded in 2009 due to state budget issues.
 - Rocklin – Antelope Creek Restoration – this RFP was not concluded in 2009 due to state budget issues. The project is reportedly an earmark for federal funding.
- Department Of Conservation proposal – Watershed Coordinator RFP was not released due to state budget issues.
- CalFed Watershed Program Riparian Buffer Project. Neither of two local proposals submitted were accepted.
- Department Of Conservation proposal – Ducks Unlimited, PCFCD (Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District). This proposal reached a second cut but was not ultimately funded.
- Scilacci Farms Flood and Conservation Easement. Proposal not funded.

Other Issues reported

- **Wastewater treatment pipeline crossing Riverside** –Mike Healy, George Heise, and Marjorie Caisley of CDFG, Trevor Kennedy of Fisheries Foundation, Carl Walker of City of Roseville, and Gregg Bates of DCC/ABCW met on site to discuss passage improvements. Marjorie suggested a new technique for a rock ramp that would be relatively inexpensive and the group agreed to cooperate on developing a proposal.
- **Cherry Island Golf Course** is forming a resource advisory group as part of applying for certification from Audubon International including water quality, water conservation, and

wildlife and habitat management. In the future the program may extend to include adjacent facilities of Cherry Island Soccer Complex and Gibson Ranch. The program is led by Kurtis Wolford [kurtis.wolford@yahoo.com], course superintendent

- **Marc Epstein of Secondary Environmental and Science Educators Institute and Norcal Environmental Student Network** is working to coordinate a DCC volunteer and Rio Linda High School staff to re-start student water quality monitoring on Dry Creek. In September students collected GPS data points on Dry Creek from Hayer Park to Rio Linda Blvd. to extend the GIS data themes of the riparian boundary and the creek itself to give detailed base map coverage from Dry Creek Blvd to Rio Linda Blvd. Future data collection is planned for the area around Gibson Ranch. Marc's program continues to work well at Lincoln HS. Students have collected but not processed data points around Auburn Ravine Park.
- **City of Rocklin Creekweek 2008 Project** - Johnson-Springview Park Native Tree and Plant Nursery funded by grants to Dry Creek Conservancy of \$5000 from REI and \$5000 from Pacific Gas and Electric's Climate Smart program. A tubular steel fence enclosure (60' x 25') was built by the City of Rocklin to provide a secured area to propagate and grow young trees and plants. Within the fenced area, volunteers built 6 wooden planters with irrigation and 2 work tables. The completed planters were filled with either a planting mix or gravel mix by the volunteers as a planting medium. The volunteers then transplanted seedling oak trees and native plants. Since the completion of the project both native plants and oak trees propagated in the nursery have been transplanted into parks and open space throughout the city. New plants are then started. A local 4th grade class of approximately 30 children will plant locally collected acorns this spring into growing pots that will be maintained in the nursery. It is estimated that 100-200 new oak trees and several hundred native plants and grasses will be grown in the nursery annually.
- **Riolo Vineyards** – DCC commented and Sierra Club sent a letter to the March 10th Placer Supervisors meeting at which the Board directed staff to return with a modified project that (1)allows for fill within the floodplain for infrastructure (roads, sewer lift station, etc.) – making a finding that it serves a public benefit; (2)that allows for fill for the Agriculture-10 acre lots (a building pad) – making a finding that it serves a public benefit by promoting agriculture; but (3) not permitting fill for the medium density residential lots located along the southern tributary. The Board felt that allowing the smaller lots to be developed was inconsistent with prior Board policy. DCC has contacted Placer Supervisors, and Placer County staff regarding problems with this approach and possible alternatives. DCC had discussions with the development company and Placer Land Trust regarding applying for a grant to buy floodplain acreage.
- **Watershed Academy Hydromod Workshop** – About 140 attended a two day agenda aimed at supporting implementation of a Rapid Permit Checklist for Streams and Floodplains developed by A.L. Riley of the San Francisco RWQCB. The second day included a practical exercise focused on Dry Creek at Saugstad Park in downtown Roseville.
- **Creek Week/Earth Day** - Creek Week attended by about 500 people throughout the watershed.
- **Dry Creek Watershed Flood Control Plan Update** - Analysis continues. Presentation to ABCW in the future.
- **Elverta Bridge construction** - The Elverta Road Widening DEIR has been released and is available online.

- **Integrated Regional Water Management** - Regional Water Authority (RWA); Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY); Northern California Water Agency (NCWA)
 - CABY/RWA – A West Placer Creeks Group was formed for the purpose of developing a scope of work for a creeks assessment. An RFP was released and respondents interviewed. There was general agreement that the assessment should be streamlined and that quick action is preferable to a drawn out data gathering process. Information on the three anadromous fish producing watersheds was presented by local participants to develop a map of barriers and other issues as a first step toward identifying constraints and opportunities.
 - RWA – On October 20th representatives of RWA, OEHHA, Dry Creek Watershed, Cosumnes Watershed, and Elk Grove Water District met to discuss opportunities to package multi interest projects for funding. RWA is looking for partners on River Friendly Landscaping and the Green Gardener program. RWA held a stakeholder Forum on November 4th to discuss updating the IRWMP. Adoption of a revised plan is scheduled for June 30, 2011. ABCW participants should discuss multi interest projects that might be included. <http://www.rwah2o.org/rwa/programs/irwmp/>
- **Foothill Water Network** - FWN has secured funding to participate in the CABY/RWA west Placer Fish Group and has formed a group to work collaboratively to develop recommendations for goals, objectives, and a workplan for CABY West Placer Creek Group. FWN continues its involvement in Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA), Yuba/Bear and Middle Fork American FERC processes
- **River Friendly Steering Committee** –
 - Green Gardener Training program for landscape contractors was implemented.
 - DCC met with Placer County stormwater staff and Placer Regional Stormwater Coordination Group to discuss the possibility of promoting RFL in Placer. Staff felt that it could be promoted in Truckee/Tahoe where TMDL's are in place but would be difficult in west Placer where there are not formal incentives and no funds to offer them. River Friendly Landscaping.
 - City of Rocklin Stormwater Management Program is instituting a sustainable business certification program.
 - Discussion of Bay Friendly Scorecard for Commercial and Civic Landscapes
 - A workshop on the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance was held in Lincoln to assist local governments and urban water suppliers in adopting and implementing the Model Ordinance, or a local ordinance that is at least as effective as the Model Ordinance. The law requires cities and counties, including charter cities and charter counties, to adopt landscape water conservation ordinances by January 1, 2010. <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/landscapeordinance/>
- **Recreational Use Study June follow-up, Central Valley Water Quality Control Board, preliminary results** show Cirby Creek near I-80 E. coli of 344.8 exceeded the USEPA guideline of 235 MPN/100mL. Though there are no guidelines in place for Crypto/Giardia or Salmonella, positive results were found at Dry Creek/Cirby confluence and Dry Creek at Walerga. Cirby Creek near I-80 fell below the CV Basin Plan Objective of Dissolved Oxygen (7.0 mg/L) with a value of 4.3. Also, the Dry Creek/Cirby Confluence site is part of a bacteria source I.D. pilot study being conducted this year.

American Basin Council of Watersheds 2009 Summary

- **Instream loggers** - Sacramento City College has determined that students working on independent study classes cannot work off campus. CalEPA and DWR may provide interns. Funding for reinstallation of loggers has not been secured.
- **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 – Funding has been on hold due to state budget issues. Designs developed are being re-examined . It is unlikely there is sufficient funding to complete improvement of both structures.
 - 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