

COSUMNES RIVER TASK FORCE

Oversight Committee
November 12, 2002
USDA Service Center
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Minutes: Tina Lunt, Cosumnes River Task Force

- 1. Welcome and Introduction:** Don Nottoli (Sacramento County Supervisor 5th District) opened the meeting at 7:10. Self introductions were made by Surjit S. Toor (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Walt Hoppe (Elk Grove Resource Conservation District), Craig Crouch (Sacramento County DWR), Frank Jerauld (Amador RCD), Marv McCauley (Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District), Keith Whitener (The Nature Conservancy), Carl Werder (US Bureau of Reclamation), Ed Hamberg (landowner), Carol Manning (landowner), and David Utterback (Reclamation District 800), Bill Cunningham (NRCS), Mark Cocke (NRCS) and Bob Nozuka (State DWR).
- 2. Cosumnes River Resources Inventory, Phase II**
Gerrit Platenkamp was introduced to the group as the new Jones & Stokes project manager on this project. Ken Casaday will remain as the principle-in-charge.

Tina handed out a summary of the status of the project by tasks (see handout). Mr. Platenkamp then went over the project task by task. Task 2 is scheduled for completion in March and Task 4 and 5 by September 2003. A lot of interest was expressed regarding task 2.5 sediment yield and 2.7 monitor sediment transport. We will ask Northwest Hydraulics Inc. to attend January's meeting to discuss these items further. Mapping of roads was also an area of concern. J&S will map as many roads as they can. The upper watershed and the lower watershed have pretty good map sources while the middle portion of the watershed is more difficult and aerial photograph interpretation will be used. Some areas will be spot checked to get an error factor so that corrections can be made to other areas. If additional data is needed Tina or Jones & Stokes will request that information from the appropriate party. Mr. Jerauld offered to help identify available information in Amador County such as infrared aerial photographs.

3. Project Progress Update

- **Stream Gages – Craig Crouch**

Looking for housing for the gage, one may have to be fabricated.

Tina received a phone call from Jeff Twitchell, Kleinschmidt, regarding the need for stream gages on Dry Creek (see handout). Mr. Crouch also received a phone call for one of his associates regarding this matter and explained to him that he would not be recommending the gage to Don Nottoli. Also, from the Task Force's perspective the gages in the upper watershed are top priority at this time.

- **Army Corps Project**

At a stand still with no CEQA lead. If the Resources Agency doesn't step up, one possibility is to split the project up by county. The other option is to cut the Corps out of the initial part of the

project, do a project formulation and then divide the projects up and bring the Corps in for individual projects.

The Nature Conservancy wrote a letter regarding this matter (see handout).

- **Power Point presentation of 4 flashboard dams and Granlees Dam**

Omochumne-Hartnell Water District applied for and received funding through FEMA for repairs on 4 flashboard dams on the Cosumnes River. For permitting purposes one of the flashboard dams, Blodgett, also required a fish ladder.

Two fish ladders are located at Granlees Dam in Rancho Murietta, one on the north side and one on the south side of the island. Due to diligent work by Trevor Kennedy of the Fisheries Foundation, George Heise of DFG, Keith Whitener of the Nature Conservancy, and the cooperation of Rancho Murietta, both fish ladders are now navigable by fish. A new fish ladder was unable to be built on the north side, instead repairs were made by creating deeper pools that allowed for adequate fish passage. The south ladder required removal of the old structure and construction of a new ladder. By allowing fish passage, 7 miles of spawning habitat was opened up. On November 10, 2002 the river opened up and in approximately 24 hours later fish were seen traveling up the fish ladder.

- **Schneider Project - Power point presentation**

Don Nottoli, Ron Suter (County Parks), Keith Devore (DWR), Surjit S. Toor (NRCS) and Mark Cocke (NRCS), Tina Lunt (CRTF Project Coordinator), Keith Whitener (Cosumnes River Preserve) and Leland Schneider (Landowner) met on October 11, 2002 to discuss repairs that would benefit the private landowners and the County. It was decided that Keith and Tina would talk to a private consulting firm to see how much it would cost to get the permitting completed. They would then go back to the County with the cost estimate to see if the County might be able to pay for the initial permitting.

Tina gave a power point presentation to show the changes that have occurred at the Schneider Project over the past 3 years. Shown in the presentation was the erosion on the county's side and the erosion on Schneider's property. Also, shown was the emergency repair work and the vegetation one and two years after the repair work. We really need to fix the erosion on the County's side otherwise the property on Schneider's side will continue eroding.

4. Newsletter

Newsletters were distributed to those in attendance. The rest of the newsletters will be mailed within the next couple of days.

5. Announcements

Frank announced the project Amador RCD is working on with Prop. 204 money is almost complete. The literature search on the Mokelumne River will be available on CD. Jones & Stokes might want to look at this since some of the literature overlaps with the Cosumnes.

Frank was also curious if anyone had heard about cloud seeding in the Sierra? In some areas it has been going on for years. We should try to get more information about this practice.

Adjourn - Next Meeting will be a luncheon on December 10, 2002. We will have a regularly scheduled meeting on January 14, 2003.