

**San Joaquin River Restoration Program  
Water Management Work Group  
Technical Feedback Meeting  
Friday, February 20, 2009  
Lamp Liter Inn  
Visalia, CA**

**MEETING NOTES**

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**Attendees:**

Jason Phillips	Reclamation	Keith Norris	Tea Pot Dome WD
Dave Mooney	Reclamation	Fergus Morrissey	Orange Cove ID
Peter Vorster	The Bay Institute	Doug Welch	Chowchilla WD
Ron Jacobsma	FWUA	Paul Hendrix	Tulare ID
Bill Luce	FWUA	Dick Moss	Provost & Pritchard
Dick Tzou	Madera ID	Chris Acree	Revive the San
Steve Collup	Arvin-Edison WSD		Joaquin
Sean Geivet	Porterville, Saucelito,	Steve Haze	SJVWLF
	Terra Bella ID	Bill Swanson	MWH
Dan Vink	Lower Tule River,	John Roldan	MWH
	Pixley ID	Jeff Payne	MWH
Jerry Ezell	Shafter-Wasco ID		

**Next Meeting:**

March 20, 2009 – Immediately following the joint FWUA/FWA Advisory Committee Meeting in Visalia at the Lamp Lighter Inn (Tentative schedule 12:00pm – 2:00pm)

**Summary of Meeting:**

**Discussion of Title III Guidelines by John Roldan (MWH)**

John Roldan reviewed the purpose and status of the Title III Guidelines. The Title III Guidelines will outline the procedures for obtaining Federal financial assistance on local groundwater projects made available pursuant to Title III of the draft legislation. The Title III Guidelines are currently in an initial draft format and Friant input is being solicited. The document is required to be complete within one year of the passage of legislation.

The following two sections of the draft Title III Guidelines were reviewed in more detail: 1) Selection Criteria and 2) Project Benefit Methodology. Selection Criteria will establish criteria that will be used to select projects for Federal funding, while Project Benefit Methodology will establish how the benefits of a project will be quantified for purposes of cost sharing and Recovered Water Account adjustments. Questions were raised to help frame the issues associated

with each section of the document. It was noted that entering into a contract subject to future appropriations does not obligate Reclamation to include those funds in future budgets.

Restoration Flow Guidelines and Recovered Water Account by Dave Mooney (Reclamation) and Jeff Payne (MWH)

Dave Mooney reviewed the Restoration Flow Guidelines draft flow chart depicting the timing and sequencing of water supply forecasts, Restoration Flow allocations, evaluations of flow schedules for consistency with Project operations and Settlement criteria, and monitoring and real-time changes in flow schedules.

Jeff Payne reviewed the draft process for establishing Recovered Water Account credits to the Friant Division as a whole. A discounting factor was discussed to facilitate the determination of water supply impacts by water year type. The intent of the discounting factor is to approximate the average portion of Restoration Flows that are made as flood flows and the beneficial water supply impact that Restoration Flows can have by evacuating storage space at Millerton Lake in advance of imminent flood releases.

The group noted the following:

- Attempting to account for any potential storage benefit provided by the release of Restoration Flows is impractical and not included in the Settlement. This issue will require further review.

Status of Water Management Activities by Bill Swanson (MWH)

Bill Swanson reviewed the extent of coverage that will be provided by the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Report (PEIS/R) for the 16(a) recapture activities. Environmental coverage will be provided for the reoperation of Friant Dam to include Restoration and 16(b) releases, and to petition the State Water Resources Control Board to change the purpose of use of Reclamation's water rights to include instream flow and to protect Restoration Flows from unauthorized diversions. The programmatic recapture analysis performed to date will be used to establish environmental coverage on an upper bound of potential cumulative and system effects from future recapture activities. This analysis has identified up to 90,000 acre-feet of recapture potential. A site-specific study on recapture and recirculation is scheduled to be initiated this year which will identify specific plans and mechanisms for recapture and recirculation.