San Joaquin River Restoration Program  
Water Management Work Group  
Technical Feedback Meeting  
Friday, September 4, 2009  
Lamp Liter Inn  
Visalia, CA  

MEETING NOTES

Attendees:

Jason Phillips  Reclamation  Jerry Ezell  Shafter-Wasco ID  
Dave Mooney  Reclamation  Fergus Morrissey  Orange Cove ID  
Tony Buelna  Reclamation  Paul Hendrix  Tulare ID  
Doug DeFlitch  Reclamation  Keith Norris  Tea Pot Dome WD  
Edward Salazar  Reclamation  Doug Welch  Chowchilla WD  
Valerie Curley  Reclamation  Dale Sally  Exeter, Ivanhoe ID  
George Bushard  Reclamation  William West  Stone Corral ID  
Rufino Gonzalez  Reclamation  Kim Brown  Paramount Farming/  
Peter Vorster  The Bay Institute  WMWC  
Ron Jacobsma  FWUA  Ernie Taylor  DWR  
Steve Ottemoeller  FWUA  Chris Acree  Revive the San Joaquin  
Steve Collup  Arvin-Edison WSD  Dave Fullerton  Metropolitan WD of  
Sean Geivet  Porterville, Saucelito, Terra Bella ID  Steve Haze  Southern California  
Laurence Kimura  Fresno ID  Dick Moss  Provost & Pritchard  
Dan Vink  Lower Tule River, Pixley ID  John Roldan  MWH  

Next Meeting:  
October 2, 2009, 8:30am – 10:00am  

Summary of Meeting:  

Comments on Recent Meeting Notes by John Roldan (MWH)  

John Roldan reminded the group that the August meeting was cancelled so the most recent notes were from the July meeting. No comments on the July meeting notes were presented by the group.  

Status Update on Water Management Activities by Dave Mooney (Reclamation)  

Dave Mooney reviewed the list of Water Management activities with Reclamation involvement, emphasizing those activities that were not scheduled for additional discussion later in the meeting. With regard to the Part III Guidelines, Reclamation will award a contract soon that will address the refinement and finalization of the guidelines prior to the deadline of March 30, 2010. Water transfer provisions of the Settlement will
take effect after the 9(d) contract conversions. Friant will provide their understanding of the transfer provisions through this process.

Interim Flow Water Right Petition / Interim Flow Recapture by Doug DeFlitch (Reclamation)

Doug DeFlitch informed the group that two letters of support and two objections were submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on the Interim Flow Water Right Petition. Reclamation must finalize the Environmental Assessment (EA) / Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and receive approval from the SWRCB prior to release of Interim Flows on October 1st.

Doug reviewed the Water Year 2010 Interim Flow releases as outlined in the Settlement and the Restoration Administrator’s Fall Interim Flow recommendations. Factors that may reduce the releases or increase the need for recapture were also reviewed, as well as potential locations and mechanisms of recapture.

The group noted the following:

• Accretions in Reach 5 should be measured prior to the release of Interim Flows to establish a pre-project condition;
• Are systems established to report monitoring results and what is the status of monitoring station installation? Doug DeFlitch and Ernie Taylor (DWR) provided an overview of data reporting systems and a status of monitoring station installations;
• It may be difficult to obtain capacity in only a portion of the California Aqueduct without paying for capacity in the entire canal;
• An exchange with MWD for Article 55 supply may be possible;
• Can recaptured Interim Flows be stored in San Luis Reservoir (SLR) until wheeling agreements can be developed? Dave Mooney indicated that Central Valley Operations (CVO) wants wheeling agreements before storing water in SLR; however, it may be possible to establish SLR as the point of delivery to Friant.

Restoration Flow Guidelines by Dave Mooney (Reclamation)

Dave Mooney provided an overview of recent meetings and progress on the Restoration Flow Guidelines (RFG). Issues requiring further discussion have been framed. A revised draft of the RFG will be prepared updating those issues that have been addressed.

Madera & Friant-Kern Canals Capacity Correction Assessment and Friant-Kern Canal Reverse Flow Facilities by Dave Mooney (Reclamation) and John Roldan (MWH)

Dave Mooney reviewed the feasibility evaluation process for the Capacity Correction and Reverse Flow facilities, outlining the portions already under contract, the portions that will be awarded to a contractor in the near future, and those portions that will be performed by Reclamation. Dave then provided an update on activities involving the Reverse Flow facilities and John Roldan provided an update on the Capacity Correction. Detailed review of the calibrated hydraulic model with the Friant Water Users Authority
and Madera and Chowchilla Water and Power Authority is scheduled to occur at the end of September.

The group noted the following:
  • It is hoped that the Capacity Correction Assessment will identify the easier, less time intensive canal fixes, along with the comprehensive capacity correction solution.

Public Comment

None.