San Joaquin River Restoration Program Fishery Management Work Group Technical Feedback Group Meeting

Tuesday, July 8, 2008 California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock, California

Meeting Summary

Attendees

Chris Acree Revive the San Joaquin

Brian Colleran San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust

Ron Forbes NCCFFF Jason Guignard FishBio

AJ Keith Stillwater Sciences

Abimael Leon CA Department of Water Resources

Bill Luce Friant Water Users Authority

Zoltan Matica CA Department of Water Resources

Carl Mesick U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Scott McBain & Trush

Jeff McLain

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

David Mooney

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Bill Swanson MWH Stephanie Theis MWH

Erwin Van Nieuwenhuyse U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Kim Webb U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Introductions, Recap as Appropriate, and Roadmap

Opening statements were given by Bill Swanson (MWH), providing an overview of the meeting agenda, the goals of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP), and information on the approach to fish restoration. Bill also described the process and connection between the Fish Management Plan (FMP) and the Program Environmental Impact Statement/Report.

Review of Conceptual Models TM

Jeff McLain (FWS) lead the discussion of the following topics:

- Definition of fish in good condition. The Fisheries Mgmt. Work Group has developed a
 definition for fish in good condition based on Peter Moyle's definition. This definition
 incorporates the following:
 - Good physical health
 - Self-sustaining population
 - No negative genetic factors
 - Healthy fish community
- Viable population target. The FMWG is using the Viable Salmonid Population definition from Lindley et al. (2007) as a population minimum.

Fish Goals and Objectives

Jeff McLain led the discussion of the fish goals and objectives. Objectives have been developed for both a system-wide perspective and on a reach-by-reach basis. The objectives will be used to develop the conceptual models. A variety of methods to prioritizing objectives were reviewed.

Water Temperature Modeling

David Mooney (Reclamation) presented the process and general results from the water temperature modeling.

Discussion

The following feedback was provided by attendees with regard to the materials discussed:

- Will the Hatchery Plan be included in the Genetics Management Plan?
- Need to clearly define 'floor population' and clarify that it is not the intent to restore the river only for that population level.
- Objective ranking tables should include a temporal component.
- Need to prioritize fish that will select life history tactics that will work within the San Joaquin River. This may include late fall-run Chinook salmon.
- Conceptual Model needs to include more than just the actions that the Five Agency Implementation Team can control. Other agencies and/or non-profit organizations may be able to assist in ways that the Five Agency Implementation Team cannot.
- Steelhead need to be considered in the process as well as other native fish species.

Next Steps and Future Meetings

The next meeting will be on August 12 at Cal State Stanislaus.

The meeting information and related project materials will be posted on the project website (www.restoresir.net).