San Joaquin River Restoration Program
Mendota Pool Bypass and Reach 2B Improvements Project

Project Stakeholder Meeting
October 15, 2014 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Firebaugh Community Center
Firebaugh, CA
1. Introductions
2. SJRRP Updates
3. Reach 2B
   1. EIS/R Status
   2. Consensus Based Alternative
4. Design and Field Activities
   1. Geotechnical Investigations
   2. Hydraulic Conductivities
   3. Compact Bypass Design
5. 2B EIS/R Roll-Out Plan
Introductions

• Bureau of Reclamation:
  – Katrina Harrison, Project Manager, SJRRP
  – Blair Greimann, Hydraulic and Sedimentation Design Lead, Technical Services Center, Reclamation
  – Rebecca Kallio, Hydraulic Engineer, TSC, Reclamation
  – Lisa Zaffran, Geologist, MP-Region

• CA Department of Water Resources:
  – TBD

• SJRRP Consultants:
  – URS - Seth Gentzler, Shannon Leonard
  – MWH - Craig Moyle

• Water District Representatives:
  – Chris White, Reggie Hill, Randy Houk

• Other guests
  – To be announced
SJRRP UPDATES

Katrina Harrison
SJRRP Status - 2014

- 10j and 4d rule – allows people conducting legal activities to accidentally kill the endangered spring-run Chinook salmon
- Awarded $14.3 million for groundwater banking
- Released 62,729 AF in WY 2014
- Shut off flows several weeks early (mid-February) to provide additional human health and safety water and some permanent crop water to the Friant Division
- Documents
  - 2014 Channel Capacity Report
  - Restoration Flow Guidelines released December 31, 2013
  - Updated Seepage Management Plan finally posted September, 2014
  - Environmental docs
SJRRP Status - Flows

- No flow releases in 2014 Restoration Year
  - Critical High Year
  - Exchange Contractor and Refuge Water Supply priorities
- Unknown Water Year Type for 2015 Restoration Year
- Flow releases could start on March 1, 2015 at the earliest
- Possible flows into the Eastside Bypass
  - 7/9 flowage easements on private lands complete
SJRRP Status - 2015

- Reach 4B project starting up again
  - Landowner meetings will be scheduled in 2015
- Possible Temporary Arroyo Canal Fish Barrier
  - Construction in 2015
- Friant-Kern Canal Capacity Correction
  - Design and Contracting in 2015
- Long-term Recapture and Recirculation EIS/R public meetings
  - Late 2014 / early 2015
REACH 2B EIS/R STATUS
Reach 2B EIS/R Status

• Working on administrative drafts of EIS/R

• Public Draft EIS/R Anticipated for March 2015 release

• Will contain a preferred alternative
Reach 2B Project Update
EIS/R Process and Schedule

- Lead agencies prepare Public Draft EIS/R
- Public Draft EIS/R for formal review and comment
- Public Hearings
- Public comments received
- Lead agencies prepare Final EIS/R
- Final EIS/R released to public
- ROD/NOD

We are here

- Lead agencies draft preferred alternative

March 2015
Late Spring 2015
Early Summer 2015
Winter 2016
Spring 2016
Reach 2B Project Update
Project Process and Schedule

Scoping

Alternatives Formulation

EIS/R
Public Draft EIS/R March 2015
Final EIS/R Winter 2016

ROD/NOD
ROD Spring 2016

Permitting
Permits Spring 2017

Construction Procurement
Land Acquisition begins Spring 2016

Construction
Construction begins Fall 2017

Outreach/Consensus Building

Detailed Design

Land Acquisition

Draft – For Discussion Purposes Only Preliminary draft – subject to change Page 11 of 37
Reach 2B Project Alternatives

- Four Alternatives presented in the Reach 2B Project Description TM
  - Compact Bypass with Narrow Floodplain and South Canal
  - Compact Bypass with Wide Floodplain and Bifurcation Structure
  - Fresno Slough Dam with Narrow Floodplain and Short Canal
  - Fresno Slough Dam with Wide Floodplain and North Canal
Compact Bypass with Narrow Floodplain and South Canal

• **Compact Bypass**
  – New channel and structures capable to convey up to 4,500 cfs of Restoration Flows around Mendota Pool

• **Narrow Floodplain**
  – Floodplain habitat approx. 3,000 feet wide on average

• **South Canal**
  – South Canal and structures to convey up to 2,500 cfs from Reach 2B to Mendota Pool (includes fish passage facility)

• **Other**
  – Removal of Chowchilla riverside control structure
Compact Bypass with Narrow Floodplain and South Canal
Compact Bypass with Narrow Floodplain and South Canal

- Fish Barrier
- Compact Bypass Channel
- Staging Stockpile Area
- Columbia Canal Improvements
- Columbia Canal Pipeline
- Columbia Canal Siphon
- Reach 3 Levee Improvement
- Mendota Pool Dike
- 206
Compact Bypass with Wide Floodplain and Bifurcation Structure

- **Compact Bypass**
  - New channel and structures capable to convey up to 4,500 cfs of Restoration Flows around Mendota Pool

- **Wide Floodplain**
  - Floodplain habitat approx. 4,200 feet wide on average

- **Bifurcation Structure**
  - Mendota Pool control structure to convey up to 2,500 cfs from Reach 2B to Mendota Pool

- **Other**
  - Fish passage facility at Compact bypass control structure
  - Fish passage facility at Chowchilla riverside control structure
Compact Bypass with Wide Floodplain and Bifurcation Structure
Compact Bypass with Wide Floodplain and Bifurcation Structure
Fresno Slough Dam with Narrow Floodplain and Short Canal

- Fresno Slough Dam
  - New dam to restrict Mendota Pool to Fresno Slough so that up to 4,500 cfs of Restoration Flows can be conveyed around Mendota Pool
  - Mendota Dam fish passage facility
- Narrow Floodplain
  - Floodplain habitat approx. 3,000 feet wide on average
- Short Canal
  - Short Canal and structures to convey up to 2,500 cfs from Reach 2B to Mendota Pool
- Other
  - Fish passage facility at Chowchilla riverside control structure
Fresno Slough Dam with Narrow Floodplain and Short Canal
• Fresno Slough Dam
  – New dam to restrict Mendota Pool to Fresno Slough so that up to 4,500 cfs of Restoration Flows can be conveyed around Mendota Pool
  – Mendota Dam fish passage facility
• Wide Floodplain
  – Floodplain habitat approx. 4,200 feet wide on average
• North Canal
  – North Canal and structures to convey up to 2,500 cfs from Reach 2B to Mendota Pool (with fish passage facility)
• Other
  – Removal of Chowchilla riverside control structure
Fresno Slough Dam with Wide Floodplain and North Canal

Grade Control Structures

Mendota Dam Fish Passage Facility (Alternative Locations)

Main Canal & Helm Ditch Relocation

Fish Barrier

Construction Office

Fresno Slough Dam

Staging Stockpile Area

Columbia Canal Improvements

Columbia Canal Pipeline and Siphon

New Columbia Canal Diversion Channel
REACH 2B PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE
Reach 2B Preferred Alternative

- Based on landowner consensus based alternative

- Updated based on discussions with landowners and more information about infrastructure

- Tentatively Preferred Alternative:
  - Compact Bypass
  - Modified levee alignment – between narrow and wide
  - Bifurcation Structures for delivery to Mendota Pool
Reach 2B Preferred Alternative

- Fresno Slough Dam
  - Reduces Mendota Pool Volume
  - Changes to Operation
  - Mendota Dam recently repaired
- Compact Bypass
  - Landowner Consensus-Based Alternative
  - Larger floodplain
  - Same Delta Mendota Canal / Mendota Pool operations

- Public comment to date indicates Compact Bypass is Preferred
Reach 2B Preferred Alternative

- Narrow Levee Alignment
  - Minimizes land out of production
  - Landowner Consensus-Based Alternative
- Wide Levee Alignment
  - Maximizes fish habitat

- Some landowners willing to sell land outside of Narrow Levee Alignment
- Preferred Levee Alignment is Narrow, with areas landowners are willing to sell
- Slightly (~20 acres) smaller than Wide Levee Alignment
Reach 2B Preferred Alternative

- South or North Canal Options
  - Create access issues to farms – would require bridges
  - Take land out of production away from the river
  - Could move river side of the Chowchilla Bifurcation Structure downstream
    - Minimizes fish obstacles
    - Impacts flood operations

- Bifurcation Structures
  - Minimize land out of production

- Public comment to date indicates Bifurcation Structures are preferred
Reach 2B Preferred Alternative
Reach 2B Construction Schedule

• Must sequence project due to funding stream

• Preliminary schedule, based on Framework for Implementation:
  – Compact Bypass and structures to be constructed first
    • 2017-2020
  – Reach 2B Levees second
    • 2020-2025

• Design currently ongoing for Compact Bypass
GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Lisa Zaffran
Katrina

REACH 2B EIS/R ROLLOUT
Reach 2B EIS/R Rollout

- Public hearings on Draft EIS/R ~ April 2015
- 60 day comment period
Follow-Up

Review Assignments & Action Items
Questions?
Thank You

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