



Seepage and Conveyance Technical Feedback Group

December 15, 2011

541 H Street

Los Banos, CA



Agenda


- Introductions and Technical Feedback Group (TFG) Purpose
- Action Item Review and Update
- Wrap up of design process and environmental compliance sections
- Construction Section Discussion
- High-Priority Projects Discussion
- Introduction of Financial Assistance Section
- Information & Data Exchange
- Next Steps and Follow-through

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TECHNICAL FEEDBACK GROUP OBJECTIVES


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TFG Objectives

- Convey Interim and Restoration Flows while avoiding seepage impacts
- Identify potential projects that would avoid seepage impacts
- Identify locations for projects with potential for seepage impacts
- Develop a common understanding of the process, procedures and expectations for projects


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Process & Decision-making

- **Monthly Meetings**
 - Focused on Seepage Project Handbook and identifying projects to avoid seepage impacts
- **Additional topics and meetings identified and considered as we proceed**
- **Reclamation and its partner agencies retain decision authority for Program implementation**

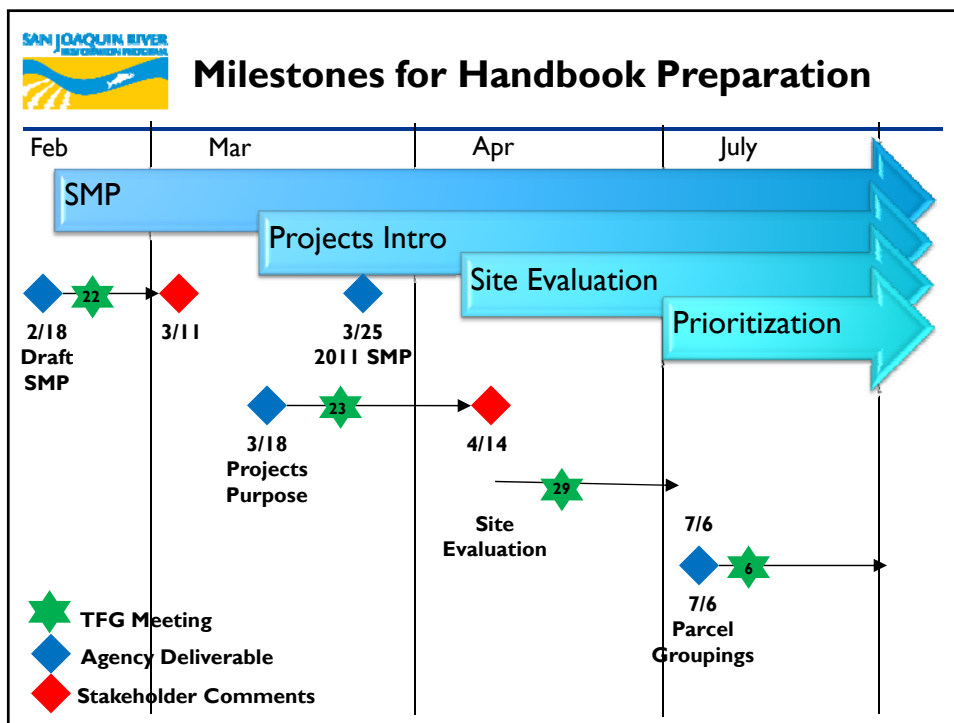
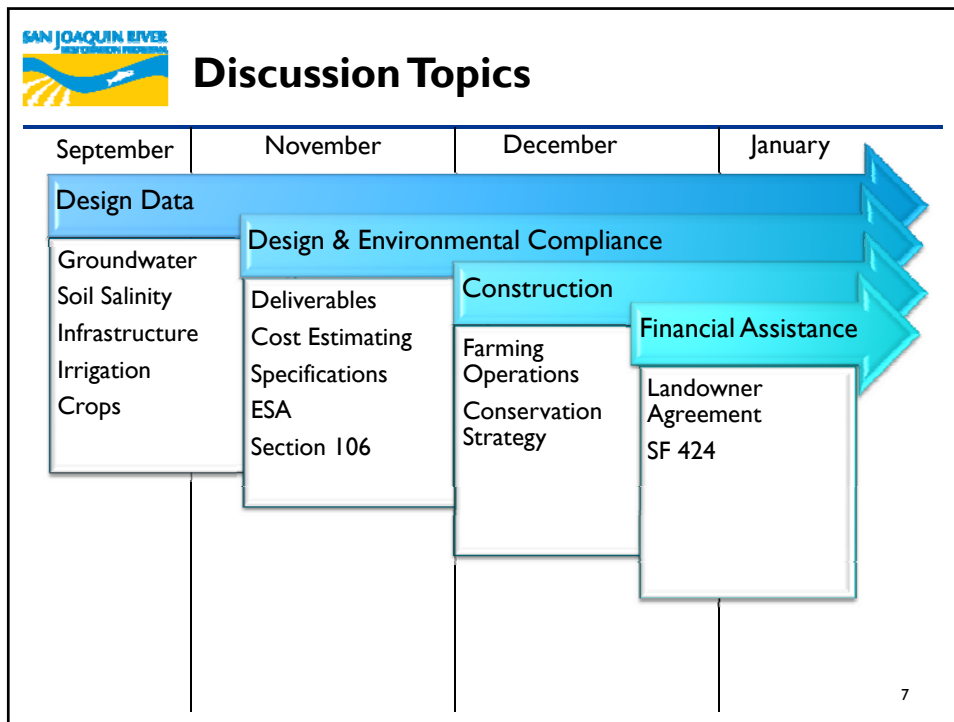
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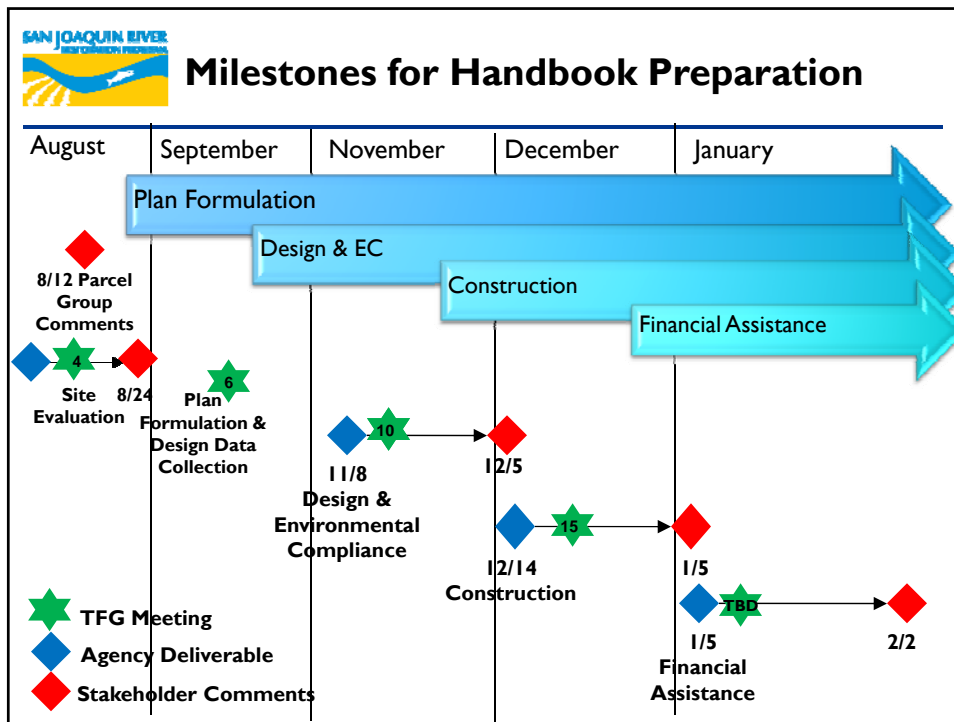


Discussion Topics

Mar	Apr	June/July	August
Projects Intro			
Introduction Background Purpose Potential Projects	Site Evaluation		
	Data Collection Investigations Groundwater Soil Salinity Conductivity Water Quality	Prioritization	
		Project Types Site-Specific Considerations	Plan Formulation
			Selection Criteria Weighting

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ACTION ITEMS


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Action Items

Action Items	ID'ed	Due	Assigned to:	Status
1. Brainstorm on seepage project scenarios at future meeting	8/4/11	9/6/11	Team	Complete
2. Coordination with NULE- report on opportunities for cross evaluation work and exchange information on drilling permit	8/4/11	9/6/11	Scott Rice, DWR	Complete
3. Post a map of well locations to website	11/10/11	12/9/11	Katrina	Complete
4. Ask Paul Romero about Seepage Lab data from DWR	11/10/11	12/9/11	Katrina	Complete – RD 544
5. Look at NRCS for financial assistance projects and project ranking criteria.	11/10/11	12/9/11	Katrina	Complete
6. Find out if WAPA can provide power for seepage projects	11/10/11	12/9/11	Katrina	In progress
7. Modify the language regarding permanent crops and the level of seepage protection that will be accommodated.	11/10/11	12/14/11	Brian/Katrina	Complete

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Elements of the Seepage Project Handbook


- Introduction
- Site Evaluation
- Environmental Compliance
- Design
- Plan Formulation
- Design Data Collection
- Construction ← Today
- Financial Assistance

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DESIGN PROCESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE WRAP UP

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Comments

- No written comments received
- Suggestions from last SCTFG:
 - Permanent crop language removed
 - NRCS grant criteria considered, incorporated into plan formulation criteria

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Design Process

- Appraisal level designs for all alternatives
- Feasibility level design for preferred alternative
- Final design and construction via consultant or financial assistance agreement

- Suggestions on local consultants to do final design and construction?

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Environmental Compliance

- Endangered Species Act Effects Analysis
- Cultural Resources Analysis
- NEPA or joint NEPA/CEQA document
- Potential Regional Water Quality Control Board permit / approval
- Potential Army Corps of Engineers permit
- Potential San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District permit

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Purpose

- Define construction windows and concerns in order to minimize disruption to landowners



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The slide contains the logo for the San Joaquin River Water Conservation Program in the top left corner. Below the logo is the title 'Purpose' followed by a horizontal line. A single bullet point is listed below the line. At the bottom center of the slide is a 3D rendering of a yellow hard hat. The number '18' is in the bottom right corner.



Potential Factors

- Schedule
 - Outside of irrigation season
 - Winter months (i.e., Dec – Mar)
 - ESA
 - Vary depending on
 - Type of project (e.g., slurry wall vs. interceptor line vs. well)
 - Crop types, irrigation, etc.

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Potential Factors

- Mobilization
 - Existing roads, where possible
- Staging
 - Minimize land used
 - Minimize disruption
 - ESA may affect staging locations



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Potential Factors

- Discussion
 - Other concerns?



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HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECTS

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Purpose

- Define highest priority projects
- Implement a section of CCID Interceptor Plan
- Initiate a seepage project quickly

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Potential High Priority Projects

- 15 properties between the canal and the river
- Highest priority locations to resolve potential impacts and increase river flows
- Temporary projects on properties adjacent to the Eastside Bypass

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Parcel Group 87

- Location: Property just south of Sack Dam on the West side of the river
- Rationale: Based on data available, highest potential for possible impacts of lands on west side of river outside of canal

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Parcel Groups 159 and 154

- Location: Property just north of Hutchins Road on the West side of the river
 - Possible extension south of Hutchins Road
- Rationale: Lots of nearby data collection – potentially quick process

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Next Steps

- Landowner Meetings - January
- Site Evaluation - Spring
- Plan Formulation
- Follow Seepage Project Handbook process



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Check-in Points

- Ongoing meetings with landowners
- Updates at Seepage and Conveyance Technical Feedback Group meetings regarding schedule




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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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Purpose

- Set expectations and roles and responsibilities for ownership, operations, payment
- Define terms and conditions of an agreement with the landowner
- Define terms and conditions of potential financial assistance with the districts for final design and construction

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Agreement

- Ownership Options
 - Reclamation-owned project on private land
 - Reclamation-owned project on district land
 - District-owned project on district land
 - District-owned project on private land
 - Landowner-owned project on private land

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Agreement / Financial Assistance

- Operations and Maintenance Options
 - District O&M
 - Landowner O&M
 - Reclamation consultant O&M

AND

 - Performance measures for operations and maintenance in the agreement

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Agreement / Financial Assistance

- Water Discharge Choices
 - Discharge to river or canal?
 - Depends on water quality
 - Ownership of water
 - Landowner, district or Reclamation holds permits?



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Agreement / Financial Assistance

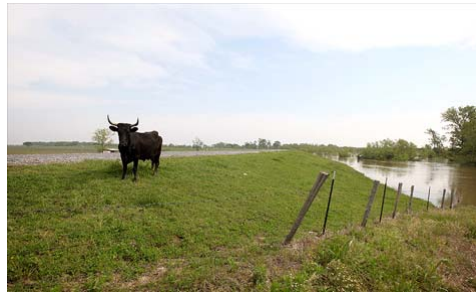
- Long-term Monitoring
 - Water quality monitoring for permit compliance or water supply compliance performed by landowner, district, or Reclamation?
 - Long-term groundwater monitoring performed by landowner, district, or Reclamation?

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Agreement / Financial Assistance

- Cost-share
 - Projects may prevent historical flooding impacts on lands – approximately 1 out of 3 years
 - Cost-share with districts or landowners?




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Dave Mooney / Shay Humphrey

INFORMATION & DATA EXCHANGE

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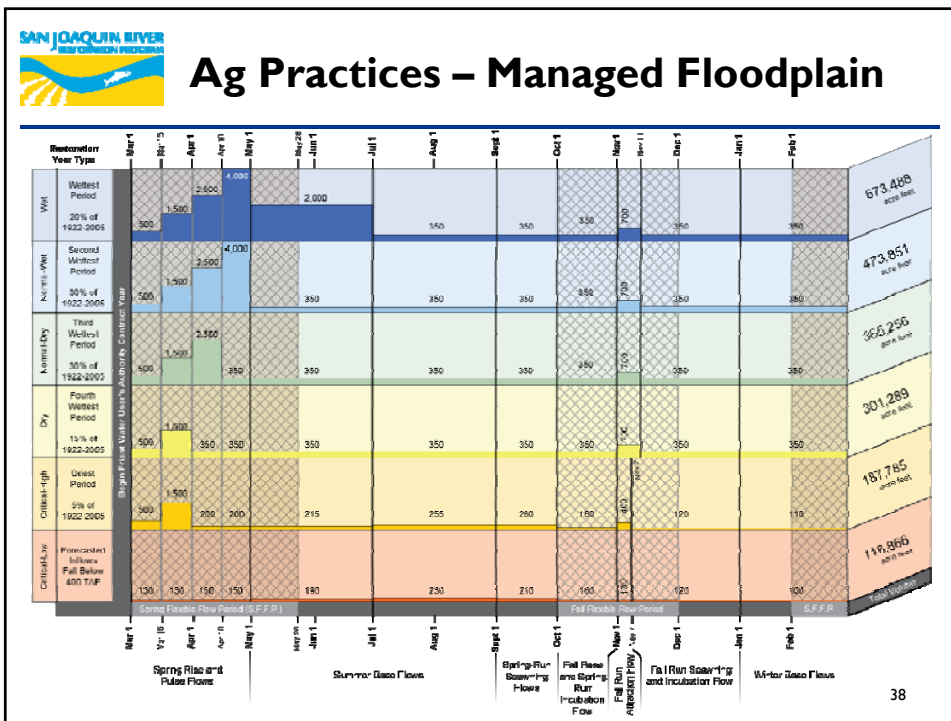


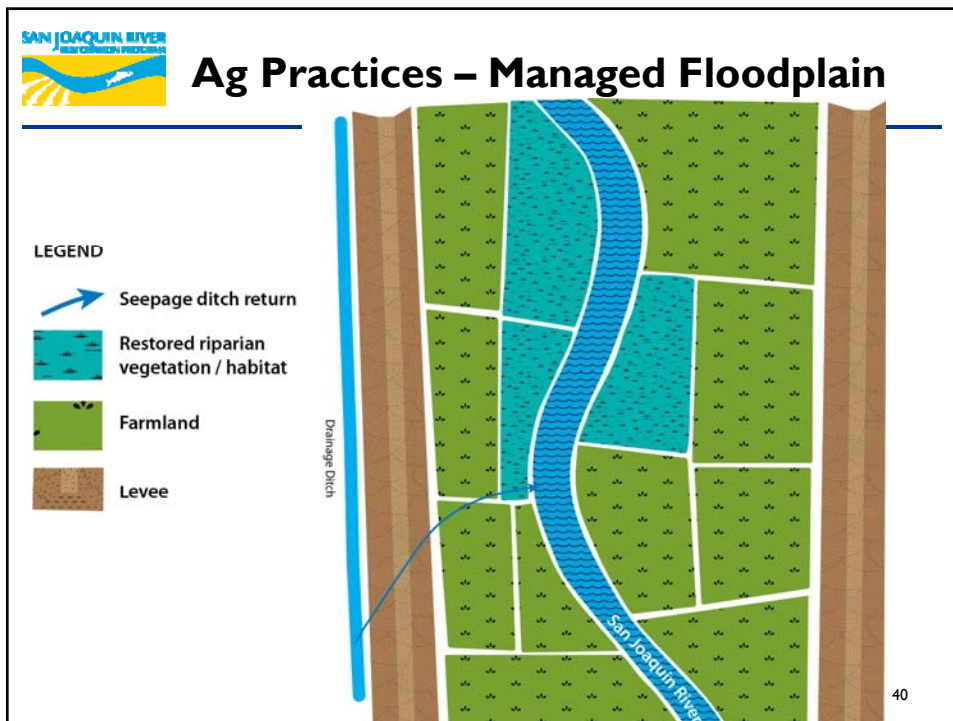
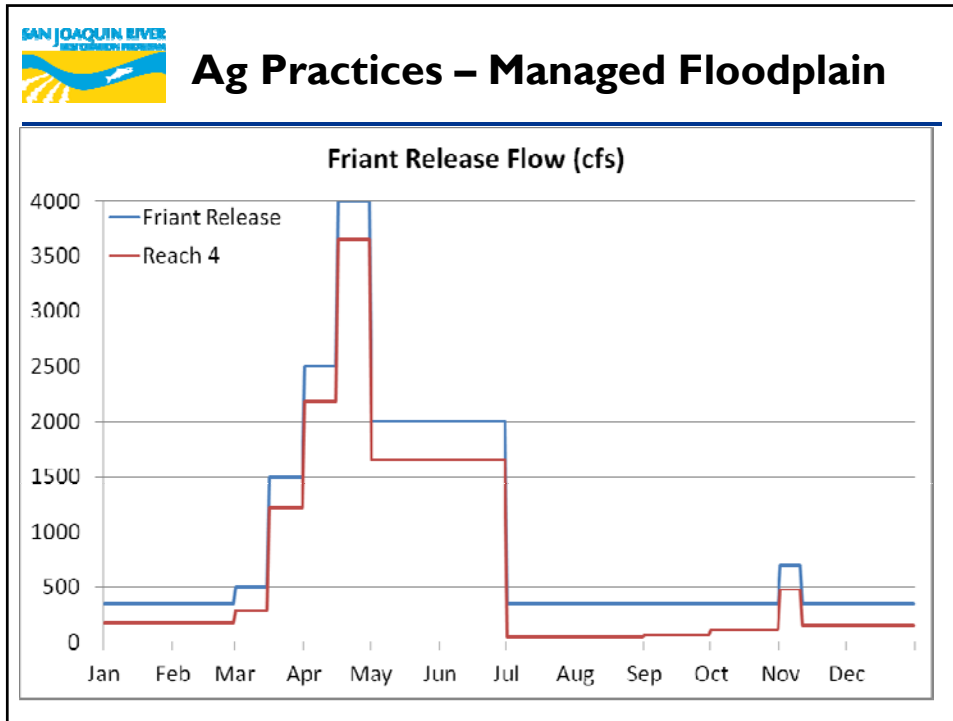
Ag Practices – Managed Floodplain

Purpose:

- Discuss ways to coordinate land management between restoration and agriculture.
- Discuss ways to implement floodplain projects.

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Ag Practices – Managed Floodplain

- What experience or anecdotes does the group have with coordinating Ag and and restoration projects?
- Are there examples of flooded lands in the Central Valley?
- How might cropping change with seasonal flooding?

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2012 Schedule and Discussion Topics

- Do we need to continue monthly meetings through 2012?
- What topics should be covered in 2012?
- How often should we meet?
- What can we do to improve the meetings next year?

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NEXT STEPS AND FOLLOW-THROUGH

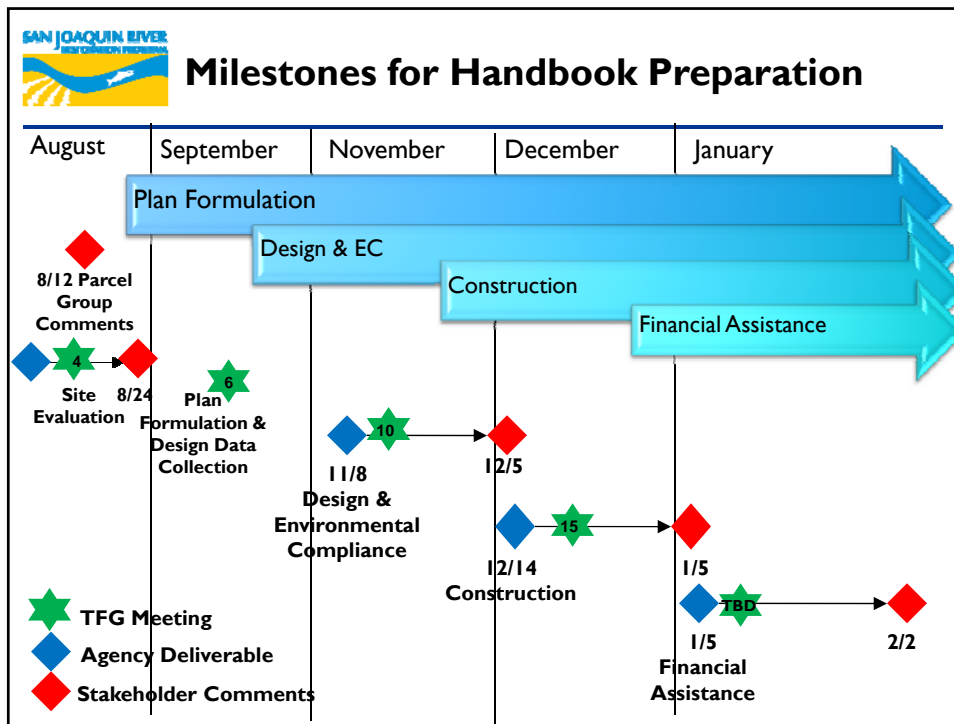
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Next Steps

- Construction section of SPH posted
- Feedback from Landowners on Construction section of SPH
 - Due January 5
- Financial Assistance section of SPH posted
 - January 6
- Next Meeting Date:
 - TBD

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Action Items and Review

- Update Action Items
 - Revised Actions
 - New Actions

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Parking Lot Topics

- Impacts to Firebaugh
- California State Lands Commission findings
- Full range of alternatives including:
 - All tile/interceptor scenario
 - All easement scenario
- Identify potential willing sellers for acquisitions projects.

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Contact

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- Seepage Concerns – Seepage Hotline
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