

**San Joaquin River Restoration Program
Water Management Work Group
Technical Feedback Meeting
Friday, August 20, 2010
Piccadilly Inn University
Fresno, CA**

MEETING NOTES

Attendees:

Jason Phillips	Reclamation	Eric Quinley	FWA
Dave Mooney	Reclamation	Doug Welch	Chowchilla WD
Mario Manzo	Reclamation	Steve Collup	Arvin-Edison WSD
Robert Campbell	Reclamation	Jeevan Muhar	Arvin-Edison WSD
Katrina Harrison	Reclamation	Mark Larsen	Kaweah Delta WCD
Erin Rice	Reclamation	Fergus Morrissey	Orange Cove ID
Ernie Taylor	DWR	Tom Boardman	SLDMWA
Peter Vorster	The Bay Institute	Chris Acree	Revive the San Joaquin
Rod Meade	SJRRP RA	Dick Moss	Provost & Pritchard
Ron Jacobsma	FWUA	Mike Day	Provost & Pritchard
Steve Ottemoeller	FWUA	John Roldan	MWH
Bill Luce	FWUA		

Next Meeting:

October 15, 2010, 9:00am – 11:30am

Summary of Meeting:

Comments on June Meeting Notes

None.

Madera & Friant-Kern Canals Capacity Restoration and Friant-Kern Canal Reverse Flow Feasibility Studies

Mario Manzo provided a brief overview of the work completed and stakeholder coordination efforts over the last couple of months. He discussed the operational modeling assumptions and results for the Capacity Restoration project, and informed the group that Reclamation would work with the Authorities to reformulate the feasibility study based on the results of an optimization study. Mario then discussed the operational assumptions and results for the Reverse Flow project, as well as the cost estimates for the three pump stations. He informed the group that Reclamation would work with the FWUA to reformulate the feasibility study based on delivery priorities and pump station configuration and size.

The following points were raised by members of the group:

Capacity Restoration Project

- The FWUA feels the Capacity Restoration operational modeling results underestimate the additional water supply deliveries from the project;
- The comparison of daily and monthly operational analyses of spill frequency and magnitude should be reviewed;
- The Feasibility TM will be posted on the SJRRP website; and
- If the Authorities will be allowed to perform the construction work by force account, the cost estimate should reflect the Authorities' cost to perform the work for purposes of the cost benefit analysis.

Reverse Flow Project

- The only existing reverse flow facility on the FKC is a 30 cfs pump located at the Shafter Check;
- The Reverse Flow economic analysis should evaluate drought conditions, such as when the Exchange Contractors have only a 50 percent allocation from the Delta;
- Outside programs may provide the highest value and should be evaluated in conjunction with the recapture/recirculation program, such as the Semitropic water bank. Additional investment from local stakeholders and DWR may be available;
- Potential water quality impacts associated with Delta water delivered to the Friant Division continue to be an issue;
- Additional delivery priorities should be considered;
- The FWUA feels the cost estimates are too high and would like to be involved in the review process and value engineering effort; and
- Consider reprioritizing funding between projects (Capacity Restoration, Reverse Flow, and Part III).

Restoration Flow Guidelines

Dave Mooney informed the group that it appears there is agreement on the RWA model inputs and outputs, but lingering disagreement on what is considered an impact. Dave also reviewed the criteria for making flow changes to meet the Gravelly Ford flow targets.

The following points were raised by members of the group:

- Future Friant operations will continue to maximize the benefit of storage;
- Tom Boardman suggested that an explanation of flood flow magnitudes with and without Restoration would be helpful for folks on the westside;
- Historically large flood years provide similar benefits to the westside even with Restoration; and
- The Gravelly Ford target for Interim and Restoration Flows remains a question (315 or 350 cfs).

Interim Flow Release Summary

Dave Mooney reviewed the Interim Flow release summary for 2010 and the resulting operations at Gravelly Ford based on utilizing the flow compliance criteria discussed earlier.

The following points were raised by members of the group:

- The changes at Gravelly Ford smooth the hydrograph, but maintain water volume;
- It appears the seepage loss assumed in the Settlement is relatively close to actual conditions; and
- There are no guidelines at this time to address the release of purchased water from willing sellers for unexpected seepage.

Recapture and Recirculation

Dave Mooney discussed the procedure for calculating recapture volume and informed the group of the total recapture volume based on the 2010 Interim Flows. He notified the group that the environmental documentation for the 2010 experimental recirculation program is complete, the exchange agreements have been signed, and water is available for purchase and delivery out of Millerton Lake.

The following point was raised by members of the group:

- The FWUA is waiting for Reclamation to provide the total recaptured volume of the 2009 Fall Interim Flows.

Public Comment

None.