

**San Joaquin River Restoration Program
Water Management Work Group
Technical Feedback Meeting
Friday, October 2, 2009
Lamp Litter 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 DeFlicht	Reclamation	Dale Brogan	Delano-Earlimart ID
Peter Vorster	The Bay Institute	Keith Norris	Tea Pot Dome WD
Rod Meade	SJRRP RA	Michael Hagman	Lindmore ID
Ron Jacobsma	FWUA	Doug Welch	Chowchilla WD
Steve Ottemoeller	FWUA	William West	Stone Corral ID
Gary Perez	FWA	Mark Larsen	Kaweah Delta WCD
Steve Collup	Arvin-Edison WSD	Kim Brown	Paramount Farming
Sean Geivet	Porterville, Saucelito, Terra Bella ID	Chris Acree	Revive the San Joaquin
Gary Serrato	Fresno ID	Steve Haze	Sierra RCD/SJVWLF
Laurence Kimura	Fresno ID	John Roldan	MWH
		Jeff Payne	MWH

Next Meeting:

November 6, 2009, 8:30am – 10:00am

Summary of Meeting:

Comments on Recent Meeting Notes by John Roldan (MWH)

No comments on the September meeting notes were presented by the group.

Status Update on Water Management Activities by John Roldan (MWH)

John Roldan reviewed the list of Water Management activities with Reclamation involvement, emphasizing the Restoration Flow Guidelines (RFG) and Water Transfer Provisions.

Action Items:

- Reclamation will provide a schedule for the next RFG document.

Interim Flow Water Right Petition / Recapture by Doug DeFlicht & Jason Phillips (Reclamation)

Doug DeFlicht informed the group that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Order approving the Interim Flow Water Right Petition had been issued and

Interim Flows were released on October 1st at 6:00pm. The Order included requirements from the SWRCB. Jason Phillips indicated that all monitoring wells have been installed, with the exception of one at the intersection of Highway 152 and the San Joaquin River. Jason also indicated that Interim Flows will be recaptured if possible; however, there may not be any water past the Merced River to recapture during the fall Interim Flow period.

The group noted the following:

- The purpose of Interim Flows described in the Settlement includes collecting information on water management activities; and
- Reclamation does not have the discretion to recapture Interim Flows prior to the Merced River confluence.

Action Items:

- The non-Federal Settling Parties will discuss the possibility of recapturing Interim Flows within the Restoration Area; and
- Steve Ottemoeller (FWUA) will attempt to account for the Interim Flows attributed to each Friant District on a daily basis.

Part III Guidelines by John Roldan (MWH)

John Roldan provided an overview of the development of the Part III Guidelines (Guidelines) to date and the schedule for finalizing the Guidelines prior to the legislatively mandated deadline of March 30, 2010. Input from Friant is anticipated on the Selection Criteria and Project Benefit Methodology sections of the draft Guidelines. Friant's proposed Implementation Agreement suggested that the funding should be divided amongst the Friant Districts in accordance with the modeled water supply impacts. The legislation identifies minimum criteria to be eligible for funding, while additional selection criteria may need to be defined to enable Reclamation to prioritize projects. The legislation also requires the determination of project benefits to identify the portion of a project eligible for Federal cost-sharing and to determine the appropriate reduction in the Recovered Water Account.

The group noted the following:

- Part III projects can be included in the Federal budget now, but it will be difficult to carry over appropriated funds from year to year;
- Friant expressed interest in establishing a reimbursement or accrual plan in the event projects are ready for construction prior to the finalization of the Part III Guidelines; and
- The importance of demonstrating project benefits was emphasized.

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

John Roldan reviewed the schedule for the Capacity Correction project, including the tentative October 16th hydraulic model review meeting with the Madera and Chowchilla Water and Power Authority and the Friant Water Users Authority. He also informed the group that a contract had been awarded to MWH for modeling tasks associated with the

Friant-Kern Canal reverse flow pump-back facilities. The kick-off meeting for this contract is scheduled for October 5th.

The group noted the following:

- Another pump-back facility at the White River check structure is desirable for the modeling study.

Public Comment

None.