

**COORDINATED AB3030 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2001**

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Serge Birk at 2:04 P.M.
2. Introductions: Serge Birk; Jim Lowden; Roger Sherrill; Gary Antone; Bill Richardson; Lee Mercer; Tom Heffernan; Steve Kimbrough; and Kevin Borrer. Absent: Robert Steinacher. Also attending: Allen Fulton; Ernie Ohlin; Dan McManis.
3. Public Comment: Allen Fulton of UC Davis Extension Service discussed a recent meeting attended by 70 growers with regard to well construction and irrigation. The workshop was sponsored by Groundwater Hydrologist Extension Specialist from UC Davis.
4. The minutes from the October joint meeting of AB3030 and TCFC&WCD were attached for review from the TAC. Approval of these minutes will be done by the TCFC&WCD Directors with corrections made by the TAC.
5. Salt Water Injection Well - Use Permit Application: Lee Mercer of Tehama County Environmental Health discussed an application to construct a salt water injection in the Capay area. The application was subsequently withdrawn. There are currently three wells in the County. One closed system and two wells which are reinjecting salt water back into the ground. Environmental Health and the Division of Oil and Gas monitor and test the facilities. A video is available thru the Division of Oil and Gas for the TAC to view.

Ernie Ohlin, Water Resources Manager, discussed the transport of the water taken from the ground. With a producing well, as much as two truck loads per day, for the life of the well. Eight to nine thousand gallons of salt water could be reinjected back into the ground.

Lee Mercer commented that the Division of Oil/Gas requires an analysis of the water taken from the wells. Some wells in Glenn County transport their water to Tehama County for injection. The haulers of this material are independent and only if suspected of mis-use are they investigated. The water is not considered hazardous material unless it is spilled prior to injection.
6. Deer Creek Irrigation District - Basin Management Objectives, MOU with District: Dan McManis of DWR discussed the groundwater substitute pumping program for exchange and surface water to enhance flows for the spring run Salmon. Groundwater monitoring has taken place since 1998, but the program has stalled due groundwater protection concerns. Deer Creek and Stanford/Vina Irrigation do not have an AB3030 Plan, but Deer Creek may consider joining the Tehama County Plan. Dan McManis discussed that with the next step of the County AB3030 Plan to address basic groundwater management objective that the Deer Creek Project could be a pilot area to

set up a more focused and local view of how to manage groundwater levels. Mr. McManis stated the intent in this would be starting the Deer Creek Exchange Program, but being able to operate it within an agreed management plan with Tehama County. Installation of production wells for this exchange program must be coordinated with the County.

Dan McManis distributed information regarding the proposed program and the process for implementation of the Deer Creek Water Exchange Program.

Ernie Ohlin discussed the need to separate the fishery issue from management issues because the ESA could demand more water in streams. This would be the place to examine the management objectives and issues.

Serge Birk felt the separation of the two issues needs to be understood. Previous groundwater exchange programs have been to off-set water diversion, to keep it in the stream. This is now being attempted in the Klamath Basin.

Jim Lowden added that these plans, as they unfold, will protect the groundwater because the one weakness we have is reliability of supply. When we are totally dependent on surface flows, our liability of supply is hard and farmers need a reliable supply. If we can, through conjunctive use, use a little groundwater, it will allow them to use a lot more surface water.

Roger Sherrill did not see a conflict in the program presented because monitoring will be done prior to knowing what the end results will be.

It was suggested the TAC read the information provided and DWR gather more information for later presentation to the committee.

7. Staff Report: Ernie Ohlin presented the latest information on the AB303 Grant Application.

- \$ Staff prepared and submitted the package requesting \$217,500 to be used for groundwater analysis similar to the Butte County document previously discussed. To date, no contract has been received for the previously approved grant.
- \$ Meetings in Sacramento regarding the Calfed Environmental Water Program and the Calfed "Appropriate Measurement" water issue.
- \$ Staff participation in the Sacramento/San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study Outreach meeting discussing their starting point-master plan.
- \$ DWR Drought Preparedness workshop in Redding.
- \$ Meetings to develop a grading ordinance for Tehama County
- \$ Groundwater substitution transfers and a document prepared by DWR. Comments by the TAC are needed by November 27.
- \$ Election of members for next agenda.

8. December 17th meeting schedule not changed.

9. 2002 Meeting Schedule: The following were agreed upon by the TAC for the 2002 meeting dates:

January 28	July 15
February 25	August 19
March 18	September 16
April 15	October 21
May 20	November 18
June 17	December 16

10. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Comment:

DRAFT

