

**TEHAMA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
AB3030 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2002**

Present: Serge Birk; Jim Lowden; Roger Sherrill; William Richardson; Kevin Borrer; Robert Steinacher.  
Absent: Steve Kimbrough; Gary Antone and Tom Hefferman.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Serge Birk at 2:00 p.m.
2. Introductions: Visitors: Bob Vince of CDM; Art Bullock; Chuck DeJournette; Dan McMannus and Allen Fulton of UC Davis.
3. Public Comment: Chuck DeJournette, past member of the AB3030 Temporary Advisory Committee, discussed how similar California problems are compared to Yakima Watershed.

Bill Richardson discussed a report from Mr. Greg Thomas (Director, Natural Heritage Institute), concerning conjunctive use within the agricultural interests.

Serge Birk suggested that Mr. Thomas be invited to speak at a future meeting to discuss the issue.

Roger Sherrill updated the TAC on SB1938 which is Senator Machado's plan to tighten groundwater management plans in California.

4. Red Bluff Diversion Dam & Sites Reservoir: Mr. Art Bullock, General Manager of Tehama Colusa Canal, discussed the Fish Passage Improvement Project for the Red Bluff Diversion Dam. The dam was built in the mid 60's in conjunction with two canal systems stretching from Red Bluff to Woodland. The idea of the dam was to bank the river, forming Lake Red Bluff, for 12 months out of the year. Water from Lake Red Bluff would flow by gravity into the canal systems.

The federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) passed in 1972. Provisions of the Act apply to protection of winter run and spring run Chinook salmon as a result of NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service) listing these fish races endangered and threatened. As a result of concern of the salmon going through the dam, operations at the RBDD were changed to protect adult and juvenile fish passage. Consequently, gates down operations were changed from twelve months to six months. At the time, and it was believed that gate down operations during the spring and summer months not contribute to significant impacts on fish populations present during that time period. In 1988, a formal agreement saying the dam would be out 4-months out of the year took effect. Currently, NMFS is considering another operational change for greater protection for spring run Chinook salmon. Under this change gates would be in for only two

months of the years, constraining water delivery to the TCCA and Corning Canals.

Pumping water in the spring, water demand begins in March and by May the demand is heavy. Water from Stony Creek is being pumped when water is available in the creek. Without rain, as is the current condition, this is difficult. The fish agencies, NMFS, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) also want to create an anadromous fishery in Stony Creek of steelhead and salmon.

Mr. Bullock discussed three alternatives on how the dam could be operated which are presented in the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents being prepared for the project. Each of three alternatives involves building a pumping plant and screen facility to divert water out of the river and into the canal system. Information was distributed.

With a partial grant from CALFED, funding is in place to complete the EIS phase of the project. Mr. Bullock added the environmental information for EIS and SEQA began 3-years ago and next month the public environmental draft should be ready for review. He noted that the City of Red Bluff is circulating a petition asking to leave the lake 4-months out of the year. The City was not fighting any issues until now.

With regard to the Sites Reservoir, Mr. Bullock is only a spokesman. Information was distributed showing the history and proposed location of off-stream storage located west of the Town of Williams.

5. Water Inventory & Analysis Update: Bob Vince of Camp Dresser & McKee, discussed the progress staff and his firm have done with the Water Inventory & Analysis Grant. At present, a scope of work is being planned and the contract will be signed shortly.

Dan McManus of DWR added that a sub group needs to be established to discuss units, year type scenarios and methodology.

Roger Sherrill suggested and it was the consensus of the TAC members to establish a committee consisting of Roger Sherrill, Bill Richardson and Jim Lowden. Also, e-mail to the group for information will be distributed through staff.

6. Staff Report: Staff was unable to attend the meeting. Information was distributed by Chairman Serge Birk. Well monitoring and temperature was discussed and there were questions from the group. Chairman Birk asked this be agendized.
7. Meeting Schedule for July 15, 2002: It was the consensus of the TAC to cancel the July 15th meeting and meet August 19. Chairman asked staff to inform those that did not attend this meeting of the cancellation.

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