

**San Joaquin River Restoration Program
Restoration Goal Technical Feedback Group Meeting
Thursday, July 7, 2011
California State University - Stanislaus
Turlock, CA**

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees:

Michelle Banonis	Bureau of Reclamation
Apurba Borah	Bureau of Reclamation
Steve Chedester	Exchange Contractors
Bob Clarke	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ane Deister	Cardno Entrix
Dave Encinas	CA Department of Water Resources
Ron Forbes	NCC FFF
Alicia Forsythe	Bureau of Reclamation
Benjamin Gettleman	Kearns & West
Margaret Gidding	Bureau of Reclamation
Jason Guignard	Fishbio
Eric Guzman	CA Department of Fish and Game
Katrina Harrison	Bureau of Reclamation
J. Mike Harty	Kearns & West
Mike Harvey	Tetra Tech
Steve Haze	SJUCF
Deborah Kruse	San Joaquin Valley Leadership Forum
Bill Luce	Friant Water Authority
Scott McBain	TAC
Palmer McCoy	HMRD
Rod Meade	SJRRP Restoration Administrator
Matt Meyers	CA Department of Water Resources
Dave Mooney	Bureau of Reclamation
Bruce Orr	Stillwater Sciences
Rhonda Reed	NOAA Fisheries
Julie Renter	River Partners
Erin Rice	Bureau of Reclamation
Paul Romero	CA Department of Water Resources
Katherine Ross	Bureau of Reclamation
Monty Schmitt	Natural Resource Defense Council
Erin Strange	National Marine Fisheries Service
Carolyn Yale	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

MEETING SUMMARY:

Introduction

Mike Harty, facilitator, welcomed the group and reviewed the meeting agenda and goals. The meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Erin Rice, Reclamation, provided an overview of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP). He noted that the overall purpose of the meeting was to present some of the monitoring and analysis results that will be included in the 2011 SJRRP Annual Technical Report.

Program Updates

Dave Mooney, Reclamation, provided an update on Interim Flows and flood control operations related to SJRRP. Key topics discussed following Mr. Mooney's presentation included:

- How new flows will compare to historical flows
- Channel capacities

Monitoring and Analysis Plan

Erin Rice, Reclamation, presented on the Monitoring and Analysis Plan (MAP). Mr. Rice reviewed the outline of the MAP, and noted that its key function is to present the Implementing Agencies' monitoring and analysis activities for the upcoming year. The MAP also provides a format for agency collaboration and a process for soliciting public input into SJRRP monitoring and analysis.

Spawning and Incubation Habitat Assessment

Matt Meyers, California Department of Water Resources, presented on the Spawning and Incubation Habitat Assessment that will quantify the mobility of the coarse surface layer as it pertains to Chinook salmon habitat. Key topics discussed following Mr. Meyer's presentation included:

- Importance of considering sand levels when assessing spawning suitability
- The suggestion of using a larger sampling size to better understand various dynamics that impact spawning

Seepage Projects

Katrina Harrison, Reclamation, presented on planning and identifying potential locations of seepage projects. Ms. Harrison reviewed the Program's seepage avoidance approach that includes developing a seepage project handbook, identifying parcel groups, and choosing first tier projects that will require further study. Key topics discussed following Ms. Harrison's presentation included:

- Criteria used to identify priority projects
- Coordination with other agencies on seepage-related issues

Feedback

Mike Harty, facilitator, asked meeting participants to share suggestions for the format or content of future Restoration Goal TFG meetings. Key comments included:

- It is helpful to have the Restoration Goal TFG meeting every three months. This allows for a manageable amount of material to be covered during each meeting.

- The presentations seem to address the issues that participants are most interested in.
- SJRRP staff should consider sending suggested agenda items with the meeting save-the-date and requesting input on the topics.
- An update on the juvenile salmon release should be provided at the September meeting.
- It would helpful to discuss the various management plans and the Monitoring and Assessment Plan at upcoming meetings.

Closing and Next Meeting

Erin Rice thanked the meeting attendees for their participation. He noted that the next Restoration Goal TFG meeting will likely take place in September.