



Meeting Notes

Water Management Technical Feedback

Friday August 23, 2013

NRDC Office, San Francisco, CA

Attendees

John Roldan, MWH
Mario Manzo, Reclamation
Peter Vorster, TBI
Tom Boardman, SLDMWA
Alexandra Tollette, MWH
Jeff Payne, MWH
Jeevan Muhar, AEWS
Erin Rice, Reclamation
Erika Kegel, Reclamation
Jessica Fontaine, Reclamation
Steve Ottemoeller, FWA

Paul Hendrix, TID
Tom Weddle, EID/IID
Michael Hagman, LID
Bill Swanson, MWH
Bill Luce, FWA
Doug Obegi, NRDC
Monty Schmidt, NRDC
Hal Candee, Altshuler Berzon
Katrina Harrison, Reclamation
Tom Johnson, Restoration Administrator

On the phone:

Ron Jacobsma, FWA
Ed Salazar, Reclamation
Ken Swanson, SLDMWA

Chris Acree, Revive the San Joaquin
Ernie Taylor, DWR
Sean Geivet, PID/SID/TBID

Next Meetings

Friday, October 18, 2013, in Visalia, CA at Lamp Liter Inn

January 23, 2014, in Reno, NV concurrent with the Mid-Pacific Water Users Conference

Comments on Meeting Notes

No comments were made.

Water Supply Briefing

Ed Salazar provided the current water supply conditions on the San Joaquin River.

Interim Flow Releases

Katrina Harrison reported on year-to-date releases from Friant Dam. Discussion included:

- Review of 2013 forecasting, the SJRRP allocation process, and the subsequent water supply allocations in 2013.
- Peter discussed the various sources of information, including the National Weather Service, and the potential value of using alternative forecasts to the DWR Bulletin 120.
- The group discussed the programs developed to recapture flow at Mendota Pool, and the particulars surrounding losses in Restoration flows experienced below the Chowchilla Bifurcation gage.
- Katrina updated the group on programs to increase capacity below Sack Dam, which would allow flows to connect with the Merced River confluence.

Restoration Flow Guidelines

Mario Manzo discussed the progress of the Restoration Flow Guidelines (RFG) for 2013. Discussion included:

- Scheduled for completion by January 1, 2014.
- Chapter 13(j) is a priority.
- Peter commented that use of Riparian Recruitment in wet years, during floods, remains a significant technical issue.

Peter Vorster gave an overview of the Recovered Water Account (RWA) methodology, balances, and standard operating procedures. Mario Manzo provided an overview of the RWA balances that have been tracked to date. Discussion included:

- The manner in which RWA is being accounted.
- Historical RWA balances, use of credits, and resulting balances (i.e. reductions) that are on record.
- The process for updating balances through the use of the newly approved method.

Mario described the process of managing forecasting uncertainty. Discussion included:

- A table of forecasting percentiles has been developed for use. The table uses the year type to determine the type of forecast that should be used, and the intent of this table's use is to reduce forecasting uncertainties.
- The TAC and RA have been asked to help develop input to the forecasting process, perhaps offering refinements to the tables that could be agreeable among both Settling Parties.
- Peter discussed challenges and risk management issues surrounding management of flows for the river, and noted that 13(i) has an opportunity to serve as a risk management tool.

Investment Strategy

Bill Swanson gave an overview of progress in formulating the investment strategy. Discussion included:

- Draft Water Users Technical Memorandum (TM) is scheduled to be released in September.
- Additional Water Users Workshops may be scheduled to review comments and gain additional input after the Draft Water Users TM review period.

Recapture & Recirculation

Mario Manzo updated the group on the current Recapture and Recirculation projections. Discussion included:

- The plan for Recapture and Recirculation will replace the Draft Plan from 2011.
- The plan is in the initial stages of development.

Part III Financial Assistance

Erin Rice gave a brief overview of the Part III Financial Assistance:

- \$10m has been awarded to support four projects.
- A press release from June 7th provides details about RWA reductions that are expected from these projects.

Lecture Series: Irrigation District Overview

Paul Hendrix gave a presentation about the history of water development in the Tulare Irrigation District and .how the district is planning to manage their reductions in water deliveries with the water management tools provided through the Water Management Goal.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

-Meeting Adjourned-