BDCP
BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

Meeting: Yolo Fisheries Enhancement Working Group
Location: 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1131
Date: June 30, 2011
Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Planning Team Attendees:

David Katz	Knaggs Ranch/Cal Marsh and Farm
Gene Massa, by phone	Colusa Basin Drain District
Greg Yarris, by phone	CA Waterfowl Association/Central Valley Joint Venture
Jason Peltier	Westlands Water District
Jeff McCreary	Ducks Unlimited
John Cain, by phone	American Rivers
John Currey	Dixon Resource Conservation District
Kelly Catlett	Defenders of Wildlife
Laura King Moon	State Water Contractors
Lewis Bair	Reclamation District 108
Marty Scholl	Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito/Vector Control District
Maya Kepner	Conaway Ranch
Mike Hardesty	RD 2068 & RD 2098
Mike Lear	Swanston Ranch
Phil Pogledich	Yolo County
Rich Marovich	Putah Creek Stream Keeper
Robin Kulakow	Yolo Basin Foundation
Ron Tadlock	Farmer/Landowner
Tim Miramontes	Yolo County Farm Bureau
Tom Philp	Metropolitan Water District of Southern CA

State/Federal Attendees:

Becky Victorine	USBR
Butch Hodgkins	Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Carl Wilcox	DFG
Dave Feliz	DFG
Douglas Hampton, by phone	NOAA
Erin Aquino-Carhart	DFG
Federico Barajas	USBR
Heather Webb	USFWS

Jason Roberts	DFG
Jerry Meral	Resources Agency
Karla Nemeth	Resources Agency
Len Marino	Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Luana Kaiger, by phone	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Marianne Kirkland	DWR
Marina Brand	Delta Stewardship Council
Mike Tucker	NOAA

Observers and Other Staff:

Aaron Will	Ducks Unlimited
Ann Brice	Yolo Basin Foundation
Chuck Dalldorf	MWD Outreach
Doug Brown	Consultant
Janet Barbieri	Facilitator
John Brennan	Knaggs
David Martasian	DWR
Rebecca Nicholas	URS
Robert Morrow	Individual
Steve Thompson	Conaway Ranch
Sophie Unger	WaterWise Consulting

Meeting Summary

Meeting facilitator Janet Barbieri opened the meeting by reviewing the agenda and describing meeting procedures. Meeting participants introduced themselves.

Meeting Trajectory

Karla Nemeth reviewed and discussed the draft meeting trajectory. Ms. Nemeth provided a recap of past meetings, and an outline of meeting topics moving forward.

Land Uses/Management

Ms. Barbieri provided a summary of presentations shared at the June 28th information web conference. Detailed summary sheets were provided to meeting attendees, and discussion ensued regarding supplemental information and points of clarification. Items of discussion included:

- Total acreage in the Yolo Bypass versus acreage for Agricultural land and wildlife.
- Potential vector control issues with BDCP implementation, and the importance for drainage.
- The economic factors involved with land use changes.

Fish Technical Team

Jason Roberts with the Department of Fish and Game provided a summary of the most recent Fish Technical Team (FTT) meeting, focusing on the timing of fish presence at the Knights Landing Rotary Screw Trap, six miles upstream of the Fremont Weir. The FTT, made up of state and federal agency representatives, evaluated five races of salmonid species in order to determine presence upstream of the weir:

- Winter Run (present November – March)
- Fall Run (present December – May)
- Spring Run (present mid-November – May)
- Late-Fall Run (present November – May)

There is a direct correlation between catch at the monitoring stations and the amount of flow, meaning juvenile salmonids are following flow.

Next, Mr. Roberts discussed the timing and presence of Sacramento Splittail in the Yolo Bypass. The FTT reports a trend in migration patterns closely follows one week after pulse flows. The presence of Sacramento Splittail is directly correlated with flow and the quantity of food.

The team provided the following feedback and questions on the FTT data:

- Potential and/or opportunities to manage pulses.
- The need to understand where in the River juvenile fish are present.
- The need to study fish passage and how efficiently we can move juveniles.
- The need to know how many fish are needed in the Bypass in order to understand how successful the measure is.

The next FTT meeting will focus on the timing of inundation in the Yolo Bypass. Results of that discussion will be presented during an upcoming Yolo Bypass Fisheries Enhancement meeting.

Modeling

Marianne Kirkland, with the Department of Water Resources, provided an overview of consultants' modeling results illustrating the low flow-inundated area relationship in Yolo Bypass. The Yolo Bypass Fisheries Enhancement working group will identify ideas to test using additional modeling.

Ms. Kirkland reviewed Modeling Set #1 (1-Dimensional), Modeling Set #2 (1-Dimensional), and Modeling Set #3 (2-Dimensional) at 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) increments.

Ms. Kirkland compared results from modeling representing existing condition snapshots in time when Fremont Weir is not overtopping and modeling sole inflow is from the western tributaries with modeling representing those same snapshots in time under potential project conditions when notch flow could join contributions from western tributaries.

The team provided the following feedback and questions about the modeling:

- The results presented reflected the Bypass' existing state, and did not test possibilities of modified canals and drainage locations (e.g. Tule Canal).
- The need to understand the location of the west-side tributaries.
- Want modeling to look at differences between current conditions versus the potential proposed conditions.
- Want to know refined historical and project-proposed inundation patterns to help understand what percentage of flooding individual properties will experience.
- The need to study how Agricultural drainage points will be impacted by flood waters and the desire to think of ways lands could drain more quickly.
- Weighting the value of the notch.
- The need to have the US Army Corps of Engineers to weigh-in on permitting needs and flood control impacts.
- The need for additional modeling of depth, velocity and water quality.
- The need to understand how early flows can reach the Bypass, and how to quickly move water.
- The need to address methylmercury issues.
- The need to better understand the economics of the measure.

Next Steps

The next meeting will expand upon the concerns and issues raised, and provide opportunity for discussion regarding potential conflicts and opportunities for Conservation Measure 2.

Next Meeting (Time and Place):

July 8, 2011 – 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Prepared by: Rebecca Nicholas