

AMERICAN BASIN COUNCIL of WATERSHEDS MEETING
Including
Dry Creek Watershed Council, Pleasant Gove/Curry Creek CRMP
Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek CRMP

August 6, 2008

PRESENT: Gregg Bates and David Baker, Dry Creek Watershed Coordinator and Dry Creek Conservancy (DCC); Rich Gresham and Jane Keillor, Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD); Chris White, Balance Hydrologics; Janet Parris, Sacramento County; Barbara Washburn, OEHHA; Brian Keating, Placer County Flood Control District; Beth Campbell and Zac Jackson, USFWS; Katie Burdick, CABY; Duke Davis, DCC; Ed Armstrong, Foothill Associates; Don Tanner, NMFS; David Willoughby, Department of Water Resources(DWR).

1. Self-Introductions/Agenda Revisions: Item 3 was moved to the first spot.

American Basin Council of Watersheds (Council) Meeting

2. DISCUSSION: Continued planning for October Conference on the condition of the watershed and LID-

The committee, consisting of Janet Parris, Ed Sullivan, Gregg Bates and Barbara Washburn met and Gregg provided notes. They decided to limit the conference to one day. The City of Roseville has reserved the Maidu Community Center room on Tuesday, October 7, 2008. The intended audience is local government staff. Tentative agenda items are: Case studies from California, the conflict between dense communities and LID, Hydro modification and the BMP calculator; codes and ordinances, local ordinances relating to LID, and a facilitated discussion at the end of day sharing ideas on how to manage current issues. Janet will inquire if Carmel Brown is available to talk about current permit provisions. The group should ask the intended audience if this agenda meets their needs. Janet noted that this conference might reach a different audience than attends stormwater conferences.

Rich Gresham will inform Mark White of the RCD of the conference and that it is an opportunity for local staff to gain information about LID. Gregg will try to get on the agenda for the Placer Regional Stormwater Coordination Group meeting to talk about the conference.

3. DISCUSSION: Fish passage and habitat projects on Secret Ravine, using existing CDFG funds for design and CEQA- This item was discussed first on the agenda.

Brain Keating advised that there are few flood control impacts related to the project. Zac Jackson, USFWS explained the National Fish Passage Program is a possible source of funds. DCC submitted a request to Swanson Hydrology and Geomorphology for an estimate for design and CEQA and is waiting to receive it.

A suggestion was made to bundle several projects for a grant proposal. It was noted that processing documents for projects in different cities would be difficult.

Katie Burdick said CABY convened a group to discuss fish projects that could be funded by Prop 84. The group took two actions: 1. They tentatively chose Auburn Ravine to develop a model fish restoration plan that could be applied to all West Placer creeks. That choice was due to the interests attending and the presence of cold water. A follow up meeting is planned for further discussion. 2. They planned a regional fish restoration plan throughout the CABY region. They could work with other IRWMP's such as RWA and NCWA. CABY is preparing for possible funding from Sierra Nevada Conservancy. Katie noted a study from CVPIA that described passage projects in the region and offered to make it available to the group.

4. DISCUSSION: Grant RFP- California River Parkways (RP) and the Urban Streams Restoration (USR) grant programs. Item 8 below- Gregg said we might want to apply for these Proposition 84 grants for the Secret Ravine projects and other projects. On Secret Ravine, a trail component could be part of a River Parkway grant. Other possible proposals could be implementing erosion management measures called for in the Dry Creek Erosion Management Plan funded by a previous USRP grant, and implementing the Greenway Vision Plan. Gregg will follow-up with the City of Roseville; other groups who may be interested are Sacramento Valley Conservancy, and cities of Lincoln and Rocklin. Brian believes the flood control district could support some of these proposals and that he could help write one. There will be five RFP workshops in September.

5. REPORTS:

- a) **River Friendly Steering Committee-** Gregg attended the July meeting and will attend another tomorrow. Led by Sacramento County, attendees include Sacramento Tree Foundation, Water Education Foundation, and SMUD. They are developing a certification procedure for landscapers utilizing practices such as native plants, composting, IPM, rain barrels and rain gardens. They also plan to work on homeowner education.
- b) **Foothill Water Network- PG & E FERC process-PAD comments-** FWN includes nonprofits such as the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited, Granite Bay FlyCasters, and Friends of the River working in partnership with state agencies such as CDFG and the forest service to represent their interests in the FERC process. West Placer Creeks are being suggested as a component of the FERC settlement. Gregg read a letter the City of Lincoln sent to PG&E stating their interests in maintaining flows in Auburn Ravine and Coon Creek. Gregg asked if it would be appropriate for ABCW to send a similar letter. The group suggested that he work with local cities to help them submit letters of interest. A request for an extension on the comment period is pending.
- c) **Watershed Assessment-OEHHA-** The assessment is focused on temperature, nutrients, sediment, and physical habitat. Balance Hydrologics has been contracted to work on a sediment budget but there are data gaps, especially for bedload, that may prevent a complete analysis. Most sediment appears to result from stream channel scour. OEHHA is looking at the relationship between sediment data and BMI data. Temperature data show that Dry Creek exceeds temperatures necessary for healthy development. Unhealthy temperatures can make it difficult for fish to adapt to salt water.
- d) **CABY** information is given in item 3 above.
- e) **SARSAS-** Jack Sanchez is working with the Foothill Water Network and the American Rivers. He has gained a lot of support and recognition from many other organizations.
- f) **DOC proposal- Ducks Unlimited, PCFCD-** PCFCD continues to work on proposals for Scilacci Farms. Ducks Unlimited is taking the lead on the current proposal.
- g) **Weed Management Authority Budget-** Ramona Robison handles this project for Sacramento County which provides little funding for red Sesbania. Rich Gresham shared that funding in Placer County is from a CalFed grant.
- h) **Elverta Bridge Construction-** Environmental review continues. Gregg resent ABCW comments.
- i) **Sierra Nevada Alliance Conservation Home Landscaping RFP-** No proposal was made.
- j) **Auburn Ravine Fish Passage Improvement Project-** This idea was proposed to the DOC coordinator program but not funded. Gregg is continuing to develop collaboration and a meeting is scheduled with Placer and DCC. Brian said that PCFCD would support this process.
- k) **Other-** David Willoughby explained he is in charge of outreach activities to all watershed groups for DWR. He volunteered to assist with project review and grant administration. He is willing to provide technical assistance related to water quality.

Gregg noted DCC has loggers but no funding to put them in the stream. OEHHA and others would like to continue the data set begun several years ago. DCC will meet with David to discuss possible collaboration.

6. GRANT UPDATES:

• **Central Valley Joint Venture-working landscapes:** Rich Gresham noted the joint venture is working with several ranches. The grant includes conservation easements and riparian restoration. Four landowners have agreed to do riparian restoration on their lands to demonstrate how landowners can retain their livelihood while also doing the riparian improvements. The hope is that the project will encourage more farmers to make riparian improvements on their property. The American Basin Working Group has expanded to Sutter County including into the Buttes in an effort underway to repopulate the ducks and geese in the area. The PCRCD will apply for a grant to assist in these efforts.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS: See Agenda for August 6, 2008

8. CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Refer to Agenda for August 6, 2008

9. NEXT MEETING, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT: The next meeting will be on September 3, 2008 at the same location.

- September Agenda- CABY presentation.
- October Agenda- Placer County Flood Control Plan Update.