

SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 7

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: David B. Okita, General Manager

DATE: October 8, 2009

SUBJECT: October General Manager's Report

Water Supply

October is the beginning of a new water year. Rainfall records and reservoir storage figures are usually based on an October-October year.

The 2008-2009 water year was the third dry year in a row. Lake Berryessa levels continued to drop. Runoff into the Lake was less than the amount withdrawn for use. The Lake ended the water year about 150,000 acre feet lower than last year and currently stands at 63% full at about 1,002,000 acre feet. For perspective, we utilize about 200,000 acre feet per year for the Solano Project. However, we still have a relatively full reservoir after three years of drought.

One indicator that we will be watching in the coming years is triggering the Drought Measures Agreement for the Solano Project where we have agreed to reduce withdrawals by 5%. That is triggered in the storage in Lake Berryessa is below 800,000 AF (1/2 full) on April 1. We will not reach that level in 2010, but could reach that level in 2011 if the drought continues. There will be no reductions in Solano Project supplies in 2010.

Our State Water Project supplies are much more dependent on winter rains. As with this year, allocations will start very low for 2010, but will increase with precipitation during the winter.

Delta

At our September meeting, the Legislature was one day from recessing and was working that night on major Delta legislation. The Legislature did not pass the Delta legislation and it is unknown whether they were very close in getting enough votes to pass Delta legislation. However, there is pressure from the Governor and legislative leadership to get Delta legislation passed this year, so we



expect the Legislature to reconvene in October to make another attempt. We will be discussing any potential legislative activity, and more importantly, our discussions regarding the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

If you have any questions please contact me at 455-1103 or dokita@scwa2.com.

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SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Chris Lee, Supervising Environmental Scientist

DATE: October 8, 2009

SUBJECT: Habitat Conservation Plan Workshop

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Chris Lee', is written over the 'FROM:' line.

The Solano HCP establishes a framework for complying with state and federal endangered species regulations while accommodating future urban growth, development of infrastructure, and ongoing operations and maintenance activities associated with flood control, irrigation facilities, and other public infrastructure undertaken by or under the permitting authority/control of the Plan Participants within Solano County over the next 30 years.

These covered activities are associated with: 1) approximately 13,050 acres of planned urban development within the boundaries of Vacaville, Fairfield, Suisun City, Vallejo, Rio Vista and Dixon; 2) the operation and maintenance of the approximately 400 miles of flood control and irrigation channels, 1300 miles of pipelines, and numerous pump stations, diversion dams, holding reservoirs, water tanks, and other associated facilities owned and operated by Solano County Water Agency (SCWA), Solano Irrigation District (SID), Maine Prairie Water District (MPWD), Reclamation District 2068 (RD 2068), Dixon Resource Conservation District (RCD), Dixon Regional Watershed Joint Powers Authority (JPA), Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District (VSFCD), and Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District (FSSD); and 3) implementation of HCP conservation measures such as the establishment and management of reserves and preserves, habitat restoration and construction, scientific collection/monitoring, relocation of covered species and associated activities on an estimated 25,000 to 30,000 acres of reserves, preserves, open space lands and other cooperative habitat restoration sites.

There have been significant delays for a variety of reasons, but we hope to have a public draft of the HCP (and a draft EIR/EIS) out by then end of the year. We have been working very closely with the staff of the cities and districts who are participating in the HCP since they are the entities that will be most affected by the HCP. It is important for the Board to understand that the

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HCP must be approved by the governing boards of each of the public agency participants, so city/district involvement at all stages of HCP development is critical. The purpose of this workshop is to update the Board on progress made on the HCP and to solicit any comments the Board may have, but any major changes suggested need to be worked through a process that involves the city/district participants.

The workshop will cover the following:

- A. Status of HCP-Chris Lee
- B. Major Changes from Last Draft-Chris Lee
- C. Local Agency Involvement-Development Projects /Operations and Maintenance-City of Vacaville
- D. HCP Implementation-David Okita/Chris Lee
- E. Other Issues -David Okita/Chris Lee

If you have any questions please contact me at 455-1105 or cle@scwa2.com.