



## LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**TO:** Interested Persons

**FROM:** Rich Marovich, Streamkeeper (SK)

**DATE:** August 9, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Agenda for Thursday, August 9, 2018 Discussion Meeting of the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee – Solano Irrigation District Monticello Room, 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Vacaville from 3:30 to 5:00 pm.

No.	Time	Item	Patterned Calendar
1	10	<b>Public Comment:</b> The public may comment on matters pertaining to Putah Creek.	
2	5	<b>Approval of Minutes:</b> Minutes of the July meeting will be reviewed.	
3	5	<b>Grant Application Updates:</b> SK will report on funding opportunities.	
4	10	<b>Interagency Updates:</b> SK will report on interagency actions.	
5	30	<b>Fish Monitoring Update:</b> Peter Moyle will provide an update on salmon monitoring.	
6	10	<b>Streamkeeper Report:</b> SK will report on projects for August-September.	
7	5	<b>Riparian Diversions Report:</b> Assistant SK will provide an update on diversions.	
8	10	<b>Member Reports:</b> LPCCC members will have an opportunity to report.	
9	5	<b>Correspondence:</b> SK will propose support letters for legislation, the Yolo HCP and grants.	
	-	<b>Next Meeting:</b> The LPCCC will hold a decision meeting Thursday, September 13 <sup>th</sup> at the Davis Police Department, 2600 Fifth Street, Davis from 3:30 to 5:00 PM.	

2018-08-09 LPCCC Agenda.doc

810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 203, Vacaville, California 95688 ☐ Phone: (530) 902-1794 ☐ Fax: (707) 451-6099  
[http:// www.watershedportals.org/lpccc](http://www.watershedportals.org/lpccc)

*The Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee consists of:  
 Cities of Davis, Fairfield, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo and Winters; Counties of Solano and Yolo; Solano and Yolo  
 Riparian Landowners; Maine Prairie Water District; Solano County Water Agency;  
 Solano Irrigation District; Putah Creek Council and University of California, Davis*



## LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**TO: Interested Persons**

**FROM: Rich Marovich**

**DATE: August 9, 2018**

**SUBJECT: Minutes of July 12, 2018 Decision Meeting at Davis Police Department Community Room 3:30 to 5:00 PM**

### **Introduction**

**Patrick:**

- The purpose of this meeting is to best implement the Accord and help Rich
- This is not a forum for open debate from public members to the committee

### **1. Public comment**

**Alan Pryor:**

- I am here to discuss the potential loss of water because of the impermeable layer
- I got SCWA's data and compared flow ratings and difference
- Review now looking at August and September and results show data that potential water recharge loss is 2.66 times Winter's water use
- The recharge is decreasing over time if the layer is compacting more
- Note on the minutes: Page 3 Vic said the trenches at Phase 2 issue of compacted surfaces is fixed, but I don't believe it is fixed, and I don't believe it actually is his findings.

**Glen Holstein**

- I have 20 years of experience in riparian restoration
- Information that I learned is now moving into the main stream
- More pools in the creek are better, slower flows are better,
- This is better for salmonids, trees, and the overall health of streams
- This information is too radical to be passed at a meeting

---

810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 203, Vacaville, California 95688

◆ Phone: (530) 902-1794 ◆ Fax: (707) 451-6099 <http://www.watershedportals.org/lpccc>

*The Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee consists of: Cities of Davis, Fairfield, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo and Winters; Counties of Solano and Yolo; Solano and Yolo Riparian Landowners; Maine Prairie Water District; Solano County Water Agency; Solano Irrigation District; Putah Creek Council and University of California, Davis*

- See the article I brought: *Beavers Rebooted*
- Areas with beaver dams and restricted flow have cooler water than restoration areas in the Putah Creek
- In my opinion the restoration work being is being done absolutely backwards

## 2. Approval of minutes

Approved

Seconded

Approve agenda, any changes?

No

## 3. LPCCC accord budget

**Rich:**

- There is a 1.21% change in Accord funding due to inflation
- Use of vegetation management funds for maintenance of existing project sites approved
- Each year we support electrofishing with Normandeau, which is \$30,000
- \$37,958 goes to Ken Davis to monitor aquatic inverts
- \$10,000 for salmon monitoring by UCD subsumed by SCWA-funded study. Funds reserved for removal of the rotary screw trap for staff and equipment
- LPCCC approved fish monitoring budget

**Alejandro:**

- We would appreciate detail in monitoring and would like to see documents to show what work is going to be done and where
- Something that is easy to explain and transparent
- There is no document now given by the agenda
- There is nothing to show \$78,000 without knowing exactly what's being done and what goals have been set, and where we are on those goals.
- We need to know is this the best way to spend funds?

**Rich:**

- \$78,000 is encumbered in a multi-year contract for UCD wildlife monitoring

**Alejandro:** We would like to know a yearly update and be able to share data. We have been asking for a year for raw data

**Rich:**

- We do not release raw data per agreement with the landowners
- We report wildlife by river mile

**Alejandro:** We are not asking to change anything, but asking to see data.

**Thomas Pate:** Do you have minutes from these public discussions? Are there many members on your board that want this?

**Alejandro:** Yes, we are not asking for anything to change, just to justify and explain expenditure, what's been done before, and what works?

**John Kulge:** Has your director put your requests into writing?

**Alejandro:** We want to know what work is being done versus the data that's being gathered like wildlife monitoring

**Andrew Fulks:**

- There is a block of funding that is part of a ten-year contract with UCD
- We can clarify when needing information, versus raw data when needed
- As for the fish monitoring, we know what they do and know scope of their work, we need to know that the scope of their work is right, but not necessarily exact data

**Thomas Pate:** Put it in writing from the director of Putah Creek Council, and what the Putah Creek Council is requesting.

**Andrew Fulks:** We can approve the budget as it stands, and then request more information, but that's not part of this month's agenda

**Rich:** We are approving a budget for our existing projects and fish monitoring

**Felix Riesenberg:**

- As a group we have been satisfied, there are other ways to get the details for the work scope, we are getting what we expected, get where you're coming from, and are not interested in asking staff for that level of detail
- It takes time, effort, and cost
- We are comfortable with what we've gotten
- We need to approve vegetative management budget and the fish monitoring budget

Approve it as it stands

Approved, second

Opposed? None.

**Alejandro:** Abstain

**4. LPCCC reviewed**

**a. Stream keeper report**

**Rich:**

- Last month I presented map of project sites, and would like to make that a regular part of the meeting
- Due to technical problems with the laptop I can't show the map, but it's the same with the addition on river mile 11 downstream Stevenson Bridge where there will be eucalyptus removal with the help of the CALFIRE tree crew

**Patrick:** I don't see the site.

**Rich:**

- It is the red dot for weed control
- This is all I have to report

**b. Operational budget**

**Rich:**

- We reorganized the spreadsheet, and it was not ready until the meeting

- The operational budget displayed Accord required contributions and SCWA support
- Total budget for the year including miscellaneous supplies is \$248,000
- 93% of that has been expended as of May 5, 2018
- 92% of the fiscal year gone by
- We've received non-Accord contributions from the agency for consulting work on the salmon project, native plant nursery, and equipment, offset by rental income from grants and plant sales
- the total amount of SCWA additional contributions is \$462,000

Questions?

**Herb:** I am pleased to see the improvement and SCWA's additional support; it is good to see that reflected in the budget.

#### **c. Grants and project budget**

**Rich:**

- \$1.3 million funds available for coming year
- FEMA grant for erosion control, \$42,000
- Brings it to 1.8 million for the following year

**Patrick:** Are there any grants you're currently in pursuit of?

**Rich:**

- Additional requests for proposals are due this fall

**Patrick:** Will there be more funds?

**Rich:** Yes, additional rounds of Prop 1 and IRWM funding. We will weigh IRWM against Prop 1 funding because there is considerable overlap

**Patrick:** What about the Coastal Commission?

**Rich:** This is for gravel scarification, and we've only spent \$6,000 of it

#### **d. Nursery operations**

**Rich:**

- Since 2008, the native plant nursery has had a partnership with CALFIRE, which has been a great partnership. CALFIRE is returning the nursery to production of conifers but is very interested in keeping our relationship and sharing space
- Water agency provides \$30,000 a year for PCC volunteer events, one of most popular volunteer opportunities in the area
- We have learned a great deal in ten years, and the nursery will eventually be self-sufficient, becoming more efficient, more self-supporting in the future
- sale of plants offset cost, \$30,000 is assured if not raised otherwise

**Amy:**

- The nursery offers one of the most popular stewardship opportunities in the area
- It is very productive, but having trouble keeping up with the LPCCC's demands for plants
- We are halfway through the season

- We are providing training for One Creek interns, between the Solano County Water agency and the city of Davis, the interns meet a lot of people and make real life connections

**Present:**

- SCWA currently provides 67% of funding
- We hope to close the gap by raising prices to match local nurseries
- PCC obtained a grant from Raley's to help support the nursery
- PCC has organized a seed bank
- Producing plant propagation protocols
- Photos of seeds, species, method, pre-plant treatment, sowing and time to grow, to understand big picture
- Plant prices are now at the right level, similar to other nurseries
- Video of nursery events is a good outreach tool

**Andrew:** Is there a committee discount?

**Amy:** There are discounts for projects on the creek and for LPCCC members

**Andrew Fulks:**

- The one creek internship is a great opportunity to meet with other interns
- When asked, One Creek is the highlight of the students' summer and it gives them a good understanding of restoration

#### **e. Equipment inventory**

**Rich:**

- Hasn't been much change,
- The water agency is donating older vehicles as they're replaced, Colorado and Expedition to use for support in projects

**John Kluge:** Do the donated vehicles stay on SCWA or LPCCC books?

**Rich:** The repairs and maintenance are on us, but they are still owned by SCWA, as a reserve fleet

**John Kluge:** Can't surplus and dispose of, just curious.

**Rich:** They are part of our fleet but remain on SCWA books as with all LPCCC assets.

**Herb:** I was impressed that 300 trees were planted in an hour. Was this using the tree transplanter?

**Rich:** We used the tree transplanter on other field nursery sites but the latest planting was with a stinger on an excavator, punching a hole the size of pot, plant it, and you're good to go. No shovel work needed.

**John:** It doesn't compact soil?

**Rich:**

- By the time we rip, disk and harrow the soil it is loose, and a little bit of compaction drives out air pockets, and so it turned out to be successful

- We've had very good success where we use this technique and the plants respond favorably
- The trees look great even in middle of summer, excellent survival
- Not shearing sides of the hole which is a drawback to augers

**f. Appointment to Winters Putah Creek Committee**

**Harold:** Dennis Kilkenny filled this role, and Vickery did for a while, but Dennis out for a few months. We are asking for appointees approved this time every year, would any members like to be part of the committee?

**Patrick:** Is Dennis interested in doing it when he's better?

**Rich:** Maybe we can hold the position for Dennis, but fill in with another member while Dennis is recovering. Harold any thoughts??

**Harold:** If anyone is willing to do it, that would be good.

**John:** Will this be for the time until Dennis is ready to come back?

**Rich:** Yes

**John:** I will go Monday as an acting member.

**Rich:** Okay then we will officially appoint John as alternate, and Dennis as the regular.

**5. County fire**

**Rich:**

- The fire is 86% contained, burned 92,000 acres, 10 times larger than previous fires
- Started from livestock fence in Guinda
- CALfire back-burned north of 128
- Successful to get it to not jump the creek
- A significant area burned on the entire eastern edge of Lake Berryessa

**Harold:** This has not happened in many years

**Rich:** Now is a good time for post-fire assessments for erosion control, because the landscape is more visible. The agency is looking into it.

**Patrick:** Will sediment affect the flow through the dam?

**Rich:**

- There may be sediment in the lake, but probably not near the dam
- We may need to address erosion
- Post fire assessments have resulted in two grants so far
  - Monticello Fire – IRWM
  - Wragg Fire - FEMA

**Andrew:** Will there be stuff coming down dry creek as well this time?

**Rich:**

- We want to reduce siltation of Lake Solano and Lower Putah Creek
- Vegetation typically comes back after fires, it all depends on rainfall patterns the following year. If heavy rains occur early in the season, there is nothing we can do. If rainfall is gentle, nothing needs to be done.
- CALFIRE cut back on post fire remediation accordingly
- Fire does not generally spike erosion as much as it reveals longstanding erosion issues unveiled by lack of vegetation
- Dozer trails are a primary concern because they can concentrate runoff

**Patrick:** What is the assessment process?

**Rich:**

- The water agency has hired a soil scientist for post-fire assessments
- The assessments easily become grant proposals
- Remediation focuses on trails and roads to keep runoff from concentrating.

## **6. Member reports**

**Andrew Fulks:**

- Students are doing work on creek, and JP has lead summer students
- On a personal note, 640 acres of UCD burned this week, and 1,280 burned week before; it has been a tough couple of weeks
- A lot of people we know have acreage that burned
- Pleasants Valley has been evacuated every year

**Alejandro:**

- Putah Creek Council has moved across the street
- We have much more space now

## **7. Correspondence**

**Patrick:** None, and we can finish a half hour early.

**Attendance:** Members: Andrew Fulks, Alejandro Garcia Rojas, Stephen Sawyer, JD Kluge, Herb Wimmer, John Vickrey, Harold Anderson, Patrick Huber, Felix Riesenber, Jessica Jones, Thomas Pate, John McNearney, JP Marie, Gloria Partida.

Staff: Rich Marovich, Nina Levin

Public: Chris Rose, Amy Williams, Kate Mawdsley, Bruce Conrad, Alan Pryor, Glen Holstein





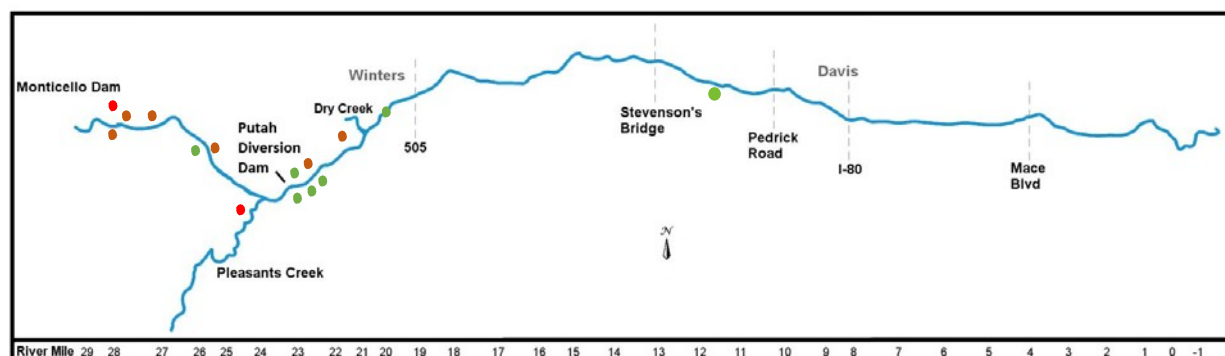
**TO:** Interested Persons

**FROM:** Rich Marovich, Streamkeeper

**DATE:** August 9, 2018

**SUBJECT:** STREAMKEEPER REPORT

**Current Field Work (August-September):**



**Legend**

- Upland erosion control projects
- Trails for weed control
- Planting/irrigating native vegetation

During September and August, work continues on upland erosion control sites in the Interdam Reach north of Highway 128 and along Pleasants Creek as part of the IRWM project. We are continuing to make trails for weed control in sites where nesting birds are not present, subject to individual site clearances. We planted 700 cottonwood trees in 2 hours at the NAWCA 2 site (RM 22) and we are developing additional planting sites for the Nut Tree Mitigation project in the same vicinity.





2018-08-01 Cottonwood field nursery at NAWCA 2 on day of planting



Cottonwood Field Nursery at NAWCA 2 (planted earlier this season)