



LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**TO:** Interested Persons  
**FROM:** Rich Marovich, Streamkeeper (SK)  
**DATE:** August 10, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Agenda for Thursday, August 10, 2017 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	
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 IRWM/WCB funding opportunities.	Patterned Calendar
4	10	<b>Interagency Updates:</b> SK will report on interagency actions.	
5	30	<b>Fish Monitoring Update:</b> Ken Davis will provide an update on aquatic monitoring.	
6	5	<b>Riparian Diversions Report:</b> Assistant SK will provide an update on diversions.	
7	10	<b>Seedling and Tree Planters:</b> SK will propose purchase of used equipment to facilitate planting native vegetation seedlings and trees.	
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 14 <sup>th</sup> at the Davis Police Department, 2600 Fifth Street, Davis from 3:30 to 5:00 PM.	

2017-08-10 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*



**TO:** Interested Persons

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

**DATE:** July 13, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee Discussion Meeting  
 Thursday, July 13th at the Davis Police Department Community Room, 2600  
 Fifth Street from 3:30 to 5:00 PM

No.	Item		
1	<b>Public Comment:</b> There was no public comment.		
2	<b>Approval of Minutes:</b> Minutes of the June meetings were approved		
3	<b>The LPCCC Reviewed:</b>	<b>a. Operational Budget</b> - 87% of budget expended at 92% of FY	<b>Patterned Calendar</b>
		<b>b. Grants and Projects Budget</b> - \$2.046 million remaining thru 2019	
		<b>c. Nursery Operations</b> – fertilizer precipitate resolved	
		<b>d. Equipment Inventory</b> – Humvee and backhoe added	
		<b>e. Appointment to Winters Putah Creek Committee</b> – Dennis Kilkenny reappointed.	
4	<b>Member Reports:</b> Harold reported that the latest fire on Bobcat Ranch is contained. The Streamkeeper reported on the Mertz diversion.		
5	<b>Correspondence:</b> The Streamkeeper reported on a letter from Mr. TenPas to the SCWA board on the EIR mitigation, monitoring and reporting plan.		
<b>Next Meeting:</b> The LPCCC will hold a discussion meeting on Thursday August 10th at the Monticello Room, Solano Irrigation District, 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Vacaville.			

Attendees: J.D. Kluge, Alejandro Garcia Rojas, Harold Anderson, Felix Riesenber, Carolyn West, Steven Sawyer. Staff: Mark Snyder, Rich Marovich, Nicolle Herr. Guests: Kate Mawdsley, Valerie Whitworth, Kent Anderson

2017-07 LPCCC Minutes.doc

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## LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**To: LPCCC Board Members**

**From: Rich Marovich, Streamkeeper**

**Date: August 10, 2017**

**RE: ITEM 7: MECHANIZED TREE PLANTERS - PROPOSED PURCHASES**

**BUDGET IMPACT:** Up to \$15,000 from Nut Tree Mitigation Fund (\$75,000 remaining)

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve equipment purchases

**SUMMARY:** The LPCCC has a contract with Nut Tree Airport to mitigate for removal of eucalyptus trees by planting thousands of replacement trees on Putah Creek over the next three years. We are currently growing thousands of native trees at our nursery and tending thousands more cottonwood and willow seedlings in thick natural stands for subsequent transplanting. Mechanized tree planting will further secure our position as low cost restoration service provider.

**BACKGROUND:** The scale of LPCCC planting projects has increased over time from roughly 4 acres per year to around 20 acres per year. We have struggled to keep up with our typical planting methods, auguring holes and backfilling with shovels. We devised a new planting tool called a “stinger” that presses a hole into the ground the same size and shape as our one gallon pots. This method worked well at Krupa (Pleasants Creek) and tripled our efficiency from 10 trees planted per volunteer per event to 30 trees per volunteer per event by eliminating shovel work. Still our capacity was at best hundreds of trees per day. Meanwhile, we have accepted \$90,000 to plant 1,000 trees on Putah Creek this year for the second phase of Nut Tree Airport mitigation for removal of eucalyptus trees. We also need to replant much of the first phase of Nut Tree mitigation, originally planted in 2013 due to the effects of drought and subsequent high flows and thick sediment deposits that buried much of the original planting.

Mechanized tree planting can increase our capacity up to several thousands of trees per day. The tree planter opens a narrow trench with a plow (called a ‘shoe’) into which an operator places a tree then closes the trench immediately behind the tree in a continuous operation. Tree planters come in various types and sizes with a “shade tree planter” being the largest and a seedling transplanter being the smallest. We need both sizes to accommodate plugs (e.g. 2” x 6”) and bare root trees (4” x 16”). Fortunately both are available as used equipment at steep discounts.

**SEEDLING TRANSPLANTER:** This machine is available on Government Surplus from the U.S. Forest Service and is listed in usable condition. Our cost is \$135 plus shipping from Texas.



Reynolds-Lowther Model F-400 Seedling Transplanter – similar unit at lower right with operator

**SHADE TREE TRANSPLANTER:** This machine is available through the manufacturer as used equipment. Our cost is \$4,995 plus shipping.



Shipping costs will depend on whether this equipment can be collapsed to fit on a pallet in a moving van or transported on a flatbed truck, which is more expensive. The manufacturer said they could palletize the shade tree transplanter. The seedling transplanter will likely need to be transported on a flatbed truck. New, these transplanters cost over \$16,000 each (plus shipping).