



L O W E R P U T A H C R E E K C O O R D I N A T I N G C O M M I T T E E

TO: Interested Persons
FROM: Max Stevenson, Streamkeeper
DATE: February 16, 2023 3:30-5:00 PM (rescheduled from Feb 9)

SUBJECT: Agenda for February 16, 2023 Meeting of the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee via Zoom from 3:30 to 5:00 PM

#	time	Item
1	3:30	Remote Meeting Action Item: In Compliance with Government Code Section 54953(e) added by Assembly Bill 361, board to reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and determine that: (i) the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and/or (ii) State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing. The State of Emergency will be ending in February and the March meeting will need to follow different rules (remote may still be available).
2	3:35	Public Comment: The public may comment on matters pertaining to Putah Creek.
3	3:40	Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the Jan 12, 2023 meeting will be reviewed.
4	3:45	Nishikawa CEQA Update
5	3:50	Putah Creek Monitoring Data Summit March 16, 2023
6	4:00	Planning Subcommittee Report: Putah Creek Water Management Plan (PCWM) update and Possible Process for Expansion of Landowner Representation on the LPCCC
7	4:15	Pattern Calendar: Review February Items: Riparian Diversion Updates, Interagency Communication, Fish Monitoring, Annual Workplan Progress Update
8	4:30	Streamkeeper Report: report on water conditions and current activities.
9	4:45	Member Reports: LPCCC members will have an opportunity to report.
10	4:50	Next Meeting: March 9, 2023 3:30-5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/92144805586?pwd=UFI1NXFUMDFoZlBSSXZRamc1eVBoZz09>
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<https://www.scwa2.com/lower-putah-creek-coordinating-committee/>

*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*

Jan 12, 2023, LPCCC Meeting Minutes. Meeting by Zoom

Attendees:

Patrick Huber, Turid Reid, Elizabeth Reay, Andrew Fulks, Justen Cole, Michael Hether, Roland Sanford, Herb Wimmer, JD Kluge, John Hasbrook, Tara Thronson, Carol Scianna, Chris Lee, JP Marie

Staff: Max Stevenson, Thomas Pate

Public: Jeff Tenpas, Alan Pryor, Rich Marovich

Convened at: 3:32 PM

Quorum: Yes

1. Remote Meeting Action Item: Government Code Section 54953(e) added by Assembly Bill 361 requires that teleconferencing be approved by governing boards each month. It was decided unanimously during the July 14, 2022 meeting, that future meetings will also be remote, except for one in-person meeting in the fall. Chair Huber waived discussion on this item. The Chair also mentioned that Gov Newsom has removed the emergency meeting provisions and that City of Davis meetings will resume in-person in March. The LPCCC will discuss resuming in-person meetings later.

2. Elect New Chair and Vice Chair

Lee: Nominate Michael Hether for Chair of the LPCCC. Second from Wimmer. Passed unanimously.

Fulks graciously nominated himself for vice-chair. Passed unanimously.

Hether assumed the Chair role and began running the meeting.

3. Public Comment: Jeff TenPas reported on the salmon run in Winters this season, which he stated seemed to last longer than normal. TenPas noted that salmon used the newly placed gravel but no other areas of the Winters Putah Creek Nature Park. TenPas recommended more gravel augmentation.

4. Approval of Minutes of the Nov 10, 2022 Meeting:

Revisions: None (except for a typo correction).

Motion to approve: Wimmer. Second: not intelligible in the recording

Ayes: Unanimous, Scianna and Thronson abstained.

5. LPCCC Roster for 2023

The 2023 Membership Roster for the LPCCC was selected per the Accord and presented in Table 1. below. The Accord can be found here https://www.scwa2.com/documents/lpccc/reports/S-92U_SecondAmendedPutahCreekJudgment.pdf

Table 1. 2023 LPCCC Members

	Members	Alternates	2nd Alternates
Yolo Side			
PCC	Turid Reid*	Liz Reay	
City of Davis	Patrick Huber*	John McNerny	Tracie Reynolds
UC Davis	Andrew Fulks*	JP Marie	
City of Winters	Carol Scianna	Bill Biasi	
County of Yolo	Tara Thronson	Lucas Frerichs	
Solano Side			
SCWA	Chris Lee*	John Vasquez	Thomas Pate
SID	JD Kluge*	Cary Keaton	
Fairfield	Michael Hether*		
Vacaville	Justen Cole		
Landowner	Herb Wimmer	John Hasbrook	
* core members per the Accord			

There were no changes to the Planning Subcommittee member list (Reid, Wimmer, Fulks, Hether, and Lee). The members of the Planning Subcommittee agreed to address the Streamkeeper’s Annual Performance Review. Lee will invite Roland Sanford to participate in the Annual Review, as Lee has less experience with the LPCCC this past year. Next year’s meeting dates were reviewed and will continue to be held on the second Thursday of the month. Scianna asked that her new City email be used for future contact. The City of Winters Natural Resources Committee (3rd Monday of the month at 6 pm) has an LPCCC voting member. The LPCCC unanimously designated the Streamkeeper as the voting representative with JD Kluge as an alternate (note from 2/10/2022, Dennis Kilkenny’s appointment to the Natural Resources Committee is still active and he still wishes to participate on the City committee.)

Zoom versus in-person was discussed. The last zoom meeting is next February. Thronson stated that Brown Act does not allow many remote options. March will be in-person. The Streamkeeper would need a dedicated notetaker, since zoom recording would not be available. Thronson will investigate the legal hybrid options.

A request was made to share contact information between members.

6. Salmon Update

A summary of recent and historic adult salmon returns was presented, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Historic returns of fall run Chinook salmon in Putah Creek.

YEAR	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
# of Adult Spawning Salmon	8	200-500	500-700	1500-1700	700	483+	48	52*	4	500+

Members shared anecdotes of viewing salmon this year. A short discussion was had on the need for standardized counting of salmon. Stevenson said a Putah Creek Monitoring Data Summit will be held in March 2023 and standardizing the salmon count will be part of the meeting.

7. Review of thank you letter for Harold Anderson, John Vickery, and Dennis Kilkenny. Some minor edits were made to the letter. The letter was approved for signature by the Chair.

8. Planning Subcommittee Report

The last meeting of the subcommittee was 1/5/2023.

PCWM: Putah Creek Water Management

PCWM is the main charge of the Subcommittee. The draft 3-to-5-year schedule for PCWM was shown. Work completed, so far, by the facilitation firm (Ag Innovations) and the water rights engineering firm (MBK) was reviewed.

1. Ag Innovations
 - 7 of 10 riparian landowner interviews completed.
 - Ag Innovations reported to subcommittee on Feb 2, 2023
2. MBK
 - Found 1970-1998 flow data for Putah Creek from original modeling during Accord negotiations.
 - Can automate calculation of environmental water.

Table 3. Calendar of tasks for PCWM (Putah Creek Water Management Project).

Task	2023				2024				2025				
	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Ag Innovations Facilitation													
Phase I - Solicit input from all Stakeholders, w/ MBK													
Phase I - Develop list of shared goals													
Report - summary from stakeholders current view													
Scope Phase II - How to share the Creek													
Scope Phase III - Implement the Plan													
MBK Water Rights/Availability Investigation													
Organize SCWA records, Water Board, Etc, w/Ag Innov													
Report - Scope for actual investigation													
Complete Water Rights/Water Availability Investigation													
Creative Water Supply ideas - groundwater, partnerships, purchase/transfers													
SCWA and LPCCC Engagement													
Hire PCWM Project Manager													
Operational Solutions													
Infrastructure Plan													
Infrastructure Funding Plan (mix public, private, grants, etc)													
Ongoing Operations/Maintenance - sustainable funding													
Implementation of plan													
Construction beginning													

Expanded landowner representation on the LPCCC was briefly discussed. A memo from SCWA legal counsel was reviewed. Outreach is also planned to LPCCC members that have not participated recently.

8. Pattern Calendar

The pattern calendar has 3 items this month.

1. Grant/Project Budgets

Nishiskawa project is \$750,000 grant and \$250,000 from SCWA to restore 30 acres near Pedrick Rd. No grant money has been received yet because a site lease from UCD is needed first. Before UCD can sign the site lease, CEQA needs completed. CEQA should be completed by March/April 2023. About \$150,000 has been spent so far.

2. Grant Application Process

Marovich and Stevenson met with Kate Reza, the administrator of the Sac Westside Integrated Regional Water Management Coordinating Committee. A database of grant opportunities was reviewed, and certain programs were identified for follow-up.

3. Equipment Inventory

Duc Jones (SCWA) manages the equipment for LPCCC. Some diesel trucks will need to be retired because of air quality regulations. Much of the equipment is useful for other restoration projects and is used by SCWA for projects in other areas. This is an excellent use of available resources.

9. Streamkeeper Report

SCWA staff assures that the flow monitoring station on Putah Creek near the Toe Drain is planned for installation next spring.

The report, *Scientific Basis of the Voluntary Agreements (VAs)* has been released and the State Water Board is accepting public comments. Background information on the VA's was discussed. Putah Creek is mentioned 58 times in the report.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/docs/2023/202301-bd-draft-sbrsupp.pdf

Social media for Streamkeeper activities since November 2022 has 13,000+ views.

The rain based flow event on 1/9/2023 of 4,500 to 6,000 cfs was reviewed. There was no glory hole spill from Monticello Dam.

The Streamkeeper reported on general activities as listed below.

- a) Supply LIDAR data sets to consultants on South Fork Wetlands project 12/8
- b) Tour for Putah Creek Council staff at Putah Diversion Dam 12/09
- c) Central Valley Salmonid Recovery Workshop 12/12
- d) Solano Groundwater Sustainability mtg with Kelly Huff and connection to Putah Creek 12/13
- e) Ag Innovations check-in meeting of PCWM (Putah Creek Water Management Project) 12/13
- f) Toe Drain dissolved oxygen drifted near danger zone but recovered 12/14
- g) California Water Data Consortium meeting (Tech Committee) 12/14
- h) Rich Marovich Retirement Luncheon 12/14
- i) Putah Creek Monitoring Data Summit Planning Committee mtg 12/15
- j) Voluntary Agreements (VA) Science Committee mtg 12/15
- k) City of Winters Natural Resources Committee mtg presentation 12/19
- l) Daily Republic newspaper interview 12/21
- m) Landowner meeting, Sean McNamara 1/2/2023
- n) Ag Innovations staff site visit to Putah Creek 1/3/2023
- o) Riparian Forecast Model training with Avry Dotan 1/3/2023
- p) Voluntary Agreements (VA) Science Committee mtg 1/4/2023
- q) LPCCC Planning Subcommittee mtg 1/5/2023
- r) Yolo Bypass Flyway Talk attendance. Big Notch project update from DWR 1/5/2023
- s) Grant Application meeting with Marovich and Reza (Sac Westside IRWM) 1/6/2023
- t) Nishikawa Site visit before high water 1/6/2023
- u) San Francisco Estuary News Magazine interview 1/9/2023
- v) Lower Putah Creek site visits for 4,500 cfs flow 1/9/2023
- w) Landowner meeting, Mike Turkovich 1/10/2023
- x) Chair the Sac Westside IRWM Committee mtgs 1/11/2023

10. Member Reports

Fulks reported that the City of Davis received 8 proposals for the South Fork Wetlands Project (at Old Davis Rd).

Scianna reported that it is wonderful to be able to see salmon of the Railroad Bridge in Winters.

Rey reported on various PCC events. The Education Coordinator at PCC is leaving to work for the City of Roseville.

Wimmer thanked Huber for his service as Chair of the LPCCC for the past year.

11. Next Meeting Feb 9 16, 2023 3:30-5:00 PM

The next meeting will be by zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.