



LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING COMMITTEE

TO: Interested Persons
FROM: Max Stevenson, Streamkeeper
DATE: August 10, 2023, 3:00-4:30 PM

SUBJECT: Agenda for Aug 10, 2023 Meeting of the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating in-person at 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 203, Vacaville, California 95688 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM.

#	time	Item
1	3:00	Approval of the Current Agenda: Members can remove items, add items subject to Brown Act Emergency Rules, or suggest future agenda items.
2	3:05	Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the July 13, 2023 meeting will be reviewed.
3	3:10	Public Comment: The public may comment on matters pertaining to Putah Creek.
4	3:15	Pattern Calendar: Fall Pulse Flow Timing
5	3:30	Pattern Calendar: Riparian Diversion Updates, Interagency Communication Updates, Grant Application Updates, Fish Monitoring Updates, Financial Reserves (ie. Project Cost Accounting)
6	3:40	LPCCC Planning Subcommittee Update: Putah Creek Water Management (future public workshop date planning)
7	3:50	LPCCC Butte Creek Tour Planning
8	4:00	Streamkeeper Report: Report on water conditions and current activities.
9	4:20	Member Reports: LPCCC members will have an opportunity to report.
10	4:25	Next Meeting: September 14, 2023 3:00-4:30 PM

This meeting is in-person.

There is an option for public participation by zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/3022736169?pwd=SIBZM1RxMFVjWUN5QTE5TjJSY1ZPZz09>

Meeting ID: 302 273 6169

Passcode: JbDB0b

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 302 273 6169

Passcode: 810751

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acKkEoqpy2>

810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 203, Vacaville, California 95688 ♦ Phone: (707)451-6090 ♦ Fax: (707) 451-6099
<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*

July 13, 2023, LPCCC Meeting Minutes.

Meeting in-person at 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Vacaville, CA 95688 (zoom available for public)

Attendees:

Elizabeth Reay, Michael Hether, Herb Wimmer, John Hasbrook, Carol Scianna, Chris Lee, Patrick Huber, Turid Reid, Andrew Fulks, Justen Cole, JD Kluge, Melissa Cansdale

Staff: Max Stevenson, Thomas Pate

Public: David Guy, Alan Pryor, Jef TenPas, Phil Stevens

Convened at: 3:30 PM

Quorum: Yes

1. Approval of the Current Agenda:

Revisions: None.

Motion to approve: Kluge. Second: Scianna

Ayes: Unanimous

2. Approval of Minutes of the June, 2023 Meeting:

Revisions: None.

Motion to approve: Lee. Second: Wimmer

Ayes: Unanimous

3. Public Comment: Alan Pryor announced that Friends of Putah Creek is suing the Water Agency for deficiencies in the Putah Creek Programmatic EIR and the Nishikawa Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration. Pryor gave some details on the complaint.

Jef Tenpas also commented on the lawsuit against the Water Agency and gave some details and opinions on the complaint.

4. Pattern Calendar – The Pattern Calendar for April was reviewed.

1. Ops Budget summary as of 5/31/2023 was reviewed. Both 'Accord Required' and 'Non-Accord' funds are spent on Putah Creek activities.

LPCCC Operations Budget Report				
FY 2022-2023*				
(does not include grants)				
Operations Budget				
As of 5/31/2023 =11/12 =92% of FY				
^ These funds come from LPCCC operations (variable)			# These funds come from SCWA as funding (Fixed)	
Item	Initial Annual Budget	5/31/2023	%	YTD Remain
ACCORD REQUIRED CONTRIBUTIONS				
# SCWA Contribution Vegetation - 6130SC	\$ 15,549	\$ 18,048	116%	\$ (2,499)
# SCWA Contribution Wildlife - 6148SC	\$ 85,521	\$ -	0%	\$ 85,521
# SCWA Contribution Fish Monitoring - 6149SC	\$ 85,521	\$ 85,676	100%	\$ (155)
#SCWA Contribution Misc Supplies - 6199SC	\$ 17,000	\$ 10,316	61%	\$ 6,684
# SCWA Contribution Streamkeeper Salary&Benefits	\$ 62,197	\$ 57,222	92%	\$ 4,976
TOTAL ACCORD REQUIRED CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 265,788	\$ 171,262	64%	\$ 94,526
ADDITIONAL SCWA SUPPORT - NON-ACCORD ITEMS				
SK # SCWA Contribution Streamkeeper Salary&Benefits	\$ 98,544	\$ 97,533	99%	\$ 1,011
#SCWA Contribution Nursery -6183SC	\$ -	\$ 26,785		\$ (26,785)
* #SCWA LPCCC Services-billable -6179SC	\$ -	\$ 182		\$ (182)
#SCWA Equipment -Purchase/repairs less recycle reimb-6181SC	\$ 15,000	\$ 40,805	272%	\$ (25,805)
#Labor - SCWA- LPCCC 6950SC-5602	\$ 336,817	\$ 210,895	63%	\$ 125,922
#Labor- LPCCC Equip 6950SC-5602	\$ 44,135	\$ 34,211	78%	\$ 9,924
#Labor-LPCCC Others 6950SC-5605	\$ 7,032	\$ -	0%	\$ 7,032
#Labor SCWA LPCCC Non-Reimbursable grant support(Non SK)	\$ 76,439	\$ 13,920	18%	\$ 62,519
Lower Putah Creek-Non Accord Support Consultants -6620SC	\$ 636,979	\$ 456,962	72%	\$ 180,017
Capital Assets - 5500SC	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
^ Nursery 3rd Party Sales Income -4922SC	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -
* ^LPCCC Services Invoiced - 4978SC	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -
^Equipment Rental 3rd Party - 4981SC	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
^ Grant Equipment Reimbursement-Usage - 4150SC	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	\$ -
SK ^Grant Labor Streamkeeper-Reimbursement	\$ (98,544)		0%	\$ (98,544)
Net Addtl SCWA Non-Accord Contributions	\$ 1,116,401	\$ 881,292	79%	\$ 235,109
* FY = July 1 through June 30				

2. Grant Budgets

Three active or pending grant applications were reviewed: Nishikawa, SWEEP, and Los Rio Check Dam Bypass Project.

The Nishikawa salmon restoration project is an active \$1 million project on 30 acres on Putah Creek.

The \$3.6 million SWEEP grant application was submitted to CDFR. The project would focus on flow meter installations on Putah Creek diversion pumps, although other water and energy saving projects would be eligible also, up to \$200,000 per farm. Flow meters will be connected to the SCWA SCADA system for real-time flow measurement.

A \$1.3 million grant proposal to fund construction of a fish bypass around the Los Rio Check Dam will be submitted to CDFR in July.

- Equipment Inventory – Seventy-Eight pieces of equipment are on the LPCCC equipment list, mostly military surplus. Duc Jones, SCWA Field Supervisor, is tasked with maintaining the equipment. Some equipment is permanently broken, or in excess of needs, and will be removed from the list following SCWA procedures.

5. LPCCC Planning Subcommittee Report

Membership of the subcommittee was reviewed: Chris Lee, Herb Wimmer, Turid Reid, Michael Hether, Andrew Fulks, and Max Stevenson are current members. The Putah Creek Water Management (PCWM) project is the main activity of the subcommittee. The number of LPCCC members of the subcommittee is limited to 5. A few subcommittee members offered to step down if others wanted to serve on the subcommittee.

The PCWM Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Workplan from Ag Innovations was reviewed. It is a one-year plan with a \$150,000 budget. The plan will be taken to the SCWA Board for approval. Deliverables such as handouts, graphics, and mailers will be reviewed first by the subcommittee, then distributed to the main LPCCC Board for review and comments. Input and comments are needed from all LPCCC members, but no action by the full LPCCC Board is required.

The Streamkeeper reported that MBK Engineers recently submitted a summary to SCWA of Putah Creek water rights from eWRIMS and a quality controlled data set of the historic flows in Putah Creek from 1957 to present.

6. Approval of Draft PCWM Talking Points Document

The PCWM Talking Points documents was edited and shortened since the July 2023 LPCCC meetings. All members agreed that comments had been incorporated properly. The text of the document is below:

PCWM Talking Points

Our intended goal is to build an engaged community dedicated to sharing the water in Putah Creek. By improving implementation of the Putah Creek Accord (2000), we can meet today's and future challenges in an era of cooperation.

Introduction

The Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee (LPCCC) is leading the Putah Creek Water Management (PCWM) initiative. The initiative will coordinate creek water use and distribution among all water uses, including riparian water right holders, groundwater recharge, fish, wildlife, and others. Water management concerns among Putah Creek water users includes diminishing water quantity, uncertain water reliability, fair creek use, and regulatory compliance.

The Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) is responsible for ensuring Putah Creek water flow and use complies with State laws. The LPCCC and SCWA are partnering to address Putah Creek challenges through the PCWM initiative. When implemented, PCWM will protect and enhance a functioning creek, support agricultural operations, and ensure environmental flow compliance.

The PCWM process is actively reaching out to growers, community organizations, the public, and agencies to gather and understand interests, priorities, and concerns. The PCWM's objective is to identify solutions to address Putah Creek challenges that are informed by transparent stakeholder engagement, technical and scientific information, and laws and regulations.

Goals of PCWM

Fair Creek Management

- The water is shared by many. PCWM strives to ensure that creek water remains available for all users by supporting compliant and fair water management.

Support Agriculture's Need for Water Information to Plan their Operations

- The Creek is an essential seasonal source of water for growers. PCWM aims to improve water predictability for planning agriculture operations in the region.

Maintain Environmental Flows

- The Creek must be maintained for fish and wildlife. It is mandated by law for Putah Creek to have minimum environmental flows. PCWM is a critical step towards creating reliable flows in the creek.

Water Regulation & Compliance

- The California State Water Board mandates all water agencies and water users comply with water regulations. SCWA is responsible for ensuring Creek flows and use is in compliance with State laws. The LPCCC and SCWA are addressing regulatory compliance through PCWM.

7. Consideration of LPCCC Associate Membership in NCWA (Northern California Water Association)

Stevenson and Hasbrook introduce David Guy, President of NCWA. David Guy gave a presentation on NCWA activities in the Sac Valley. Putah Creek is part of the Sac Valley Watershed. Guy talked about NCWA membership. NCWA has 79 members (water supplier agencies) and 45 associate sponsors (non-water suppliers). Guy also explained “reconnecting the floodplain” and a holistic approach to habitat restoration and working landscapes. NCWA is also a part of the Floodplain Forward Coalition, comprised of landowners and watershed managers. Flooded rice fields provide a dramatically better food source for salmon than the water in Sacramento River. Collaborative solutions are the path forward. Guy’s zoom connection was lost partway through the presentation and the LPCCC proceeded to talk about joining NCWA as an Associate member. Chris Lee stated that the Water Agency’s lobbyist, Rob Reeb, is also a member of NCWA. Associate membership does not have a voting role in NCWA. Full voting membership is not being considered at this time.

Motion for LPCCC to join NCWA at the lowest Associate Level (\$500/year): Wimmer Second: Fulks

Kluge commented that membership should be reviewed annually, and the motion was amended to reflect those comments.

Ayes: Unanimous

8. Streamkeeper Report

1. Water Conditions – Accord minimum flow requirements were reviewed at three locations (Putah Diversion Dam, I-80, and the Toe Drain in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area). The water level at the Los Rios Check Dam is below the top of the boards (no overpour). A visual estimate of the leaks through the boards show less than 1 cfs downstream of the Check Dam. Hasbrook asked about water temperature monitoring. The Streamkeeper mentioned that the temperature monitoring network is not real-time, it’s based on manually collected data loggers.
2. New Monitoring Station at Los Rios Check Dam – CDFW has not given permission to install the sensor after repeated calls and emails, no response this month. The previous manager of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area retired in January 2023 and the position is vacant. Los Rios farms has approved on the sensor, but not the CDFW.
3. List of Meetings/Outreach/Activities
 - a) MBK water rights deliverables/doc requests 6/9
 - b) Yolo County Water Resources Toe Drain collaboration request 6/9

- c) SCWA FTP sever migration 6/12
- d) PCWM talking points summary to LPCCC 6/9
- e) SCWA VA Coordination meeting 6/12
- f) LPCCC Subcommittee mtg 6/12
- g) YCFC/SCWA/UCD VA coordination 6/12
- h) Salamunovich mtg turbidity/fish monitoring 6/12
- i) SCWA Management mtg 6/13
- j) Army Corp permit meeting at Nishikawa 6/14
- k) Los Rios Farms call 6/15
- l) Fire Ashes sampling for UCD water quality study 6/16
- m) SWEEP Grant submitted \$3.6M 6/19
- n) DWR bypass tribs research call (Eric Holmes) 6/20
- o) SCWA Management mtg 6/20
- p) Mertz landowner mtg/Notice of Completion resent 6/20
- q) City of Davis (landowner) CR 106a fish passage call 6/20
- r) VA Science Committee mtg 6/21
- s) PCWM AG Innovations check in 6/21
- t) Geoff Kline landowner/new diversion mtg 6/21
- u) Lawrence Livermore Lab consult on groundwater monitoring 6/22
- v) ICF HEC-RAS data for South Fork Wetlands Project 6/23
- w) Yolo County Supervisor Field visit/Wimmer Landowner 6/26
- x) LPCCC Subcommittee mtg 6/26
- y) City of Winters Natural Resources Subcomm. 6/26
- z) Monticello Dam min release SOP request 6/26
- aa) SCWA Management mtg 6/27
- bb) Posted 2023 Riparian Forecast Model results to web 6/28
- cc) Streamkeeper Vacation 6/30 to 7/11
- dd) Ca Water Data Consortium Tech Comm follow up 7/10
- ee) Sac Westside IRWM mtg 7/12
- ff) LPCCC Subcommittee 7/12
- gg) Field Activities 4 camps homeless cleanup in WPCNP (again in June), wood chips on paths 40 cy, watering periodically, burned both side Nishikawa, grubbing, Euc removal and saving for LWD, Sackett- mowing on bank and fire breaks, fire crew cleared invasive brush along 300 yds of bank near large pump intake, nursery many volunteer days, bat monitoring (505, carbridge, and Sackett BCI), Peterson planting 300 hedgerow style, 5 volunteers, Ramos delayed, Don Sanders debris cleaning Pickerel, donated plants to Lake Solano Park through Solano RCD, scarification at some sites (fowler), ash collection from fish lab,

9. Member Reports

Reid – new PCC outreach in libraries in very successful. July 20, 2023 CreekSpeak about cultural burning. Pleasants Creek has some cattle that is causing erosion.

10. Next Meetings August 10, 2023 ****3:00 PM to 4:30 PM ****

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM