



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 8, 2024, 3:00-4:30 PM

SUBJECT: Agenda for February 8, 2024 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 January 11, 2024, meetings will be reviewed.
3	3:10	Public Comment: The public may comment on matters pertaining to Putah Creek.
4	3:15	Pattern Calendar: Riparian Diversion Updates, Interagency Communication Updates, Fish Monitoring Updates, Annual Workplan
5	3:35	2024 Putah Creek Monitoring Data Summit planning update
6	3:45	LPCCC Planning Subcommittee: Putah Creek Water Management update
7	4:00	Streamkeeper Report: Report on water conditions and current activities.
8	4:20	Member Reports: LPCCC members will have an opportunity to report.
9	4:25	Next Meeting: March 14, 2024, 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

+16699009128,,3022736169#,,,,*810751# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,3022736169#,,,,*810751# US

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*

Jan 11, 2024, LPCCC Meeting Minutes.

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

Attendees:

Michael Hether, Herb Wimmer, John Hasbrook, JD Kluge; Chris Lee, Patrick Huber, Carol Scianna Turid Reid; Phil Stevenson, Andrew Fulks, JP Marie, Tara Thronson

Staff: Max Stevenson, Juliana Birkhoff (SCWA consultant, by zoom)

Public: by zoom: Alex Wampler (UCD), Anne Boyd (UCD), Peter Aronson (UCD), Kelly Huff, Jeff TenPas

Convened at: 3:00 PM

Quorum: Yes

1. Approval of the Current Agenda:

Revisions: None. Moved to adopt: Hether, Second: Scianna

Ayes: Unanimous

2. Approval of Minutes of Nov 9, 2023 Meetings:

Revisions: none

Motion to approve: Wimmer, Second: Kluge

Ayes: Unanimous (Thronson abstain)

3. Public Comment: TenPas comment on the historic gravel extraction and requested a summary or report on gravel extraction. Streamkeeper noted that Clancy McConnell recent completed a dissertation at UC Davis on channel changes and loss of material.

4. Chair/Vice Chair, Member, and Subcommittee Assignments for 2024

Chair - Andrew Fulks. Vice Chair – Melissa Cansdale

Planning Subcommittee (no changes): Lee, Hether, Reid, Fulks, Wimmer, and Stevenson as staff (maximum 5 LPCCC members)

LPCCC Member Roster (5 from Yolo, 5 from Solano, plus alternates)

2024 LPCCC Roster - adopted Jan 11, 2024

	5 Members Each County	Alternates	
Solano			
SCWA	Chris Lee	John Vasquez	Alex Rabidoux
SID	JD Kluge	Cary Keaton	
Maine Prairie			
Vacaville	Justen Cole		
Fairfield		Michael Hether	
Vallejo	Melissa Cansdale	Beth Schoenberger	
Suisun City		Nora Flynn	
County of Solano			
Landowner	Herb Wimmer	John Hasbrook	
Yolo			
PCC	Turid Reid	Liz Reay	
City of Davis	Patrick Huber	John McNerny	
UC Davis	Andrew Fulks	JP Marie	
City of Winters	Carol Scianna	Bill Biasi	
Landowner			
County of Yolo	Tara Thronson	Lucas Frerichs	
	<i># of members</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
core members			

Motion to approve: Hether, Second: Lee

Ayes: Unanimous

The new Chair, Andrew Fulks, thanked outgoing Chair Michael Hether for his service.

5. Pattern Calendar – The Pattern Calendar for January was reviewed.

1. Grant/Project Budget – Streamkeeper reported on the plan for SCWA/LPCCC to jointly manage the Accord budget (~\$300k) and the non-Accord budget (~\$1 million).
2. Grant Application Process -A planning grant proposal for the Los Rios Check Dam Northern Bypass was discussed. In previous meetings, the LPCCC decided that a planning grant with two years of permitting activities was not a priority and we did not pursue this grant opportunity. However, CDFW re-opened the proposal to allow funding of additional SCWA staff time. The Streamkeeper asked for direction from the LPCCC. The LPCCC recommended that we apply for the funds, but to defer a final decision on taking the grant, if awarded. Lee mentioned that additional staff time would not be a consultant, but that a SCWA hire could increase program capacity better than a consultant. Thronson stated the opportunity sounded more inviting than last time. Cansdale stated that Putah is part of the VA and Unimpaired Flows process and moving forward with CDFW shows good faith and relationship building.
3. Equipment Inventory – Duc Jones of SCWA manages equipment now and no report was available at meeting time.
4. Chair Assignments – Covered on previous agenda item

6. Fall 2023 Salmon Run Update -guest speaker Anne Boyd from UC Davis.

UC Davis is the main SCWA contractor for counting adult and juvenile salmon in Putah Creek. Boyd is the manager of the adult carcass survey effort, the juvenile rotary screw trap counts, and the tracking of salmon with JSAT (Juvenile Salmon Acoustic Transmitters). SCWA buys \$20-50k worth of JSATs each year for implantation into juvenile salmon.

2023 salmon carcass survey collected samples from more than 400 fish. Carcasses are marked and placed back on the ground, a disappearance rate is calculated, and the CJS statistical model is used to scale up the total number of salmon in Putah Creek. Two SCWA staff assisted the UCD team 2 to 4 days per week. Genetic and other tissues samples are collected from the carcasses during the survey. The biggest fish this year was over a meter long. Live fish are counted when seen swimming, most fish arrived during October.

The Wallace Weir Fish Rescue Facility is still collecting salmon, 30 adults last week (first week of January 2024). As of January 8, 2024, SCWA is no longer opening barriers to fish passage. The pattern of board removal at Los Rios Check Dam was reviewed. Mokelumne River uses multiple pulses over 6 to 8 weeks to stimulate greater arrival of salmon.

7. LPCCC Planning Subcommittee Update: PCWM – Putah Creek Water Management

Juliana Berkoff from Ag innovation gave an update of PCWM activities. A second large public meeting (55 attendees) was held Jan 10, 2024 in Davis. Kelly Huff (Dixon RCD) reported that she received numerous phone calls today about the meeting and some farmers were 'shocked' at the message. They heard that the farmers east of Mace Blvd were being blamed for missing water. This was not the message intended by the LPCCC. (note: later review of the meeting transcript showed that some public comments blamed farmers for missing water.) The Water Agency is responsible for providing flows for all the needs in the Creek; fish flows, water for irrigation, and water for groundwater recharge. Coordinating these flows and sharing the Creek is the goal of PCWM. <https://www.scwa2.com/pcwm/> We want to ask the farmers for input and help on how to coordinate the irrigation and environmental flows.

Huber shared comments that some attendees at the Davis Public meeting were unclear on the purpose of the meeting. If this meeting is for farmers that pump, why is it a general public invited? Hether commented that the visioning exercise may be too broad. Hether also commented that people expect water to always be in the Creek, regardless of weather. Additionally, Hether stated that if Cities need calibrated flow meters, so do other diverters. Fulks said the problem is more nuanced now and not as obvious as 20 years ago, the problem statement needs refinement. Lee recommended improved graphics, perhaps including cfs on the compliance point map. The intent of the meeting in advertising and in the meeting itself needs more attention. Thronson identified 'key stakeholders' versus general public. If key stakeholders are calling Kelly Huff and not SCWA that is an issue that needs addressed. Marovich commented that communication between farmers (when pumping) is something that SCWA could help with.

Recent/future PCWM meetings:

Public Agency Pumper Meeting (Jan 9)

Davis Public PCWM Meeting (Jan 10)

Farmer Focus Group Meeting Planning (Jan 12)
Farmer Focus Group Meeting (Feb 13)

8. Streamkeeper Report

The list of activities was reviewed:

- a) Sac Create contact list of 72 riparian farms
- b) UCD Special Collections Librarian mtg (Putah Creek Archives) 12/15
- c) DWR/SCWA VA habitat sub-team 12/18
- d) VA Science Committee mtg 12/18
- e) City of Winters Nat Resource mtg 12/18
- f) Toe Drain/Wallace Weir salmon coord 12/21
- g) VA habitat subcommittee 12/22
- h) 2 week Holiday Break 12/23/23 to 1/8/24
- i) Very low dissolved oxygen Toe Drain 12/24
- j) Letter to SCWA Board on PCWM 12/26
- k) Received fish monitoring report TRPA 12/27
- l) VA Science Committee 1/3/2024
- m) UCD salmon monitoring coord call 1/3
- n) LPCCC subcommittee 1/8
- o) Los Rios coord call 1/8
- p) Krovoza PCWM mtg 1/8
- q) PCWM Public Agency mtg 1/9
- r) Davis Public PCWM mtg 1/10
- s) Stevenson Bridge Rehab mtg 1/11
- t) Putah Creek Partners (RCDs, PCC, SCWA)

There was some additional discussion on the Stevenson Bridge rehabilitation project. Solano County (not SCWA) is the lead Agency. Design is at 50%. Public input phase should start soon. Construction is planned for 2025.

9. Member Reports

Reid – PCC/RCD planting day on Saturday Jan 13, 2024 at Putah Creek fishing access site #1.
Sciana – 50 oaks being planted at the Winters Putah Creek Nature Park as part of an Eagle Scout project, Marovich is helping.

10. Next Meeting is in-person Feb 8, 2024 in Vacaville

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

LPCCC is a member of the Northern California Water Association (NCWA). The 2024 NCWA Annual Meeting is an all-day event in Chico, CA on Friday, March 8, 2024. To receive email notices and newsletters from NCWA, please let the Streamkeeper know or email Danyella Ochoa dochoa@norcalwater.org.



2024 Annual Meeting

**Please
Join Us**

Friday, March 8

Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.
1075 E. 20th St., Chico



Coffee Reception 8:30am
Program 9:30 to 3:30pm
Beer Reception 3:30pm

RSVP to DOchoa@norcalwater.org