



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

SUBJECT: Agenda for Aug 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 July 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: Updates on Riparian Diversions, Interagency Communications, Grant Applications, Fish Monitoring
5	3:30	Fall Attraction Flow Timing and Wooden Fish Ladder at Los Rios Check Dam
6	3:45	Putah Creek Water Management (PCWM) “Strategy Report” Update
7	4:10	Streamkeeper Report: review of activities on Putah Creek
8	4:20	Member Reports: LPCCC members will have an opportunity to report.
9	4:25	Next Meeting: June 13, 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*

July 11, 2024, LPCCC Meeting Minutes.

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

Attendees:

Chris Lee, Alex Rabidoux, Herb Wimmer, John Hasbrook, Carol Scianna, Andrew Fulks, Phil Stevens, Liz Reay,

Staff: Max Stevenson, Juliana Birkhoff (SCWA consultant), Rich Marovich, Gavin Poore

Public: by zoom: Peter Aronson, Jeff TenPas (zoom), Phil Stevens, Anne Boyd (UCD by zoom)

Convened at: 3:00 PM

Quorum: Yes at 3:15

- 1. Approval of the Current Agenda:** Agenda was adopted unanimously.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2024 Meetings:** Minutes were adopted unanimously.
- 3. Public Comment:** No formal public comments.
- 4. PCCC Operations Annual Budget Review**

Assistant GM Rabidoux gave an overview of the entire SCWA budget. There have been cuts this year to certain programs, to avoid drawing down reserves. Putah Creek management activities are a part of the overall budget but have generally seen small cuts. SCWA does not sell water and income comes from property taxes in Solano County. Scianna requested the SCWA budget numbers be recorded in the minutes (below).

SCWA FY 24-25 Budget Overview			
Table 1 – SCWA FY 24-25 Budget			
Fund	Revenues	Expenditures	Net Change
ASW	\$ 24,500,000	\$ 27,000,000	\$ (2,500,000)
State Water Project	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 19,500,000	\$ 2,500,000
Ulatis FC	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 500,000
Green Valley FC	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -
Total =	\$ 49,150,000	\$ 48,650,000	\$ 500,000
Table 2 – SCWA Reserves			
Fund	Type	Balance	
ASW	General	\$ 13,000,000	
State Water Project	Restricted	\$ 36,500,000	
Ulatis FC	Restricted	\$ 11,000,000	
Green Valley FC	Restricted	\$ 500,000	
Total =		\$ 61,000,000	

*ASW:
Administration
Solano Project
Water Master*

History of ASW Fund (Administration – Solano Project – Water Master)			
Fiscal Year	ASW Deficit	ASW Reserve	Purchases
15-16	\$ (500,000)	\$ 22,000,000	Peterson (\$6.9M)
16-17	\$ (2,500,000)	\$ 19,500,000	Start of Office Expansion
17-18	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 21,000,000	
18-19	\$ -	\$ 21,000,000	
19-20	\$ -	\$ 21,000,000	
20-21	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ 19,000,000	Sackett (\$2.6M) Lang Tule-SWP (\$1.75M)
21-22	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	
22-23	\$ (4,500,000)	\$ 15,500,000	Office, Purchase (\$1.2M)
23-24	\$ (2,500,000)	\$ 13,000,000	Office, Construction (\$8M)
24-25	\$ (2,500,000)	\$ 10,500,000	

Sackett: Highly sensitive purchase by the SCWA Board
Office Expansion: 8-year project, post COVID delay increased construction by ~50%

In past years, the Putah Creek budget was reviewed in terms of Accord mandated vs non-Accord expenses. Some Putah Creek related expenses were not historically included in either of these two categories. Moving forward, the LPCCC will review all costs related to Putah Creek management, whether they are tracked as Accord, non-Accord, or other. Regardless, nearly all Putah Creek expenses come from the ASW fund (or grants).

The adopted SCWA 2024-25 budget was summarized by line item, as it relates to Putah Creek:

- 1. Accord: \$270,666
- 2. Non-Accord: \$1,594,722
- 3. All Putah Creek line items: \$4,739,645 (includes Accord and non-Accord)

Item 3 above contained a large amount of overhead, labor, and administrative costs that may or may not accurately reflect actual Putah Creek costs. Rabidoux and Stevenson will investigate these categories further.

5. Grants and Project Budget Review

A sampling of individual projects slated for 2024-25 were reviewed. Costs are estimated.

- 1. Nishikawa \$250,000
- 2. Salmon Monitoring UCD (pending) \$400,000?
- 3. Ag Innovations/PCWM \$75,000
- 4. Longitudinal Cross Section Survey (Green LIDAR) \$120,000?
- 5. LRCD Fish Passage Grant (pending)? \$825,000
- 6. Flowmeters \$50,000
- 7. 106a culvert replacement \$20,000
- 8. Wooden fish ladder at LRCD \$10,000

Flowmeter testing has begun. Design of a wooden fish ladder is in process. SCWA is in discussion with River Partners about helping with the LRCD Fish Passage Grant.

6. Putah Creek Water Management (PCWM) “Strategy Report” Update

Juliana Birkhoff (Ag Innovations) gave a summary of PCWM activities for the past 2 years. Today, the LPCCC Planning Subcommittee has approved a draft list of strategies to better share water in the Creek. The ideas for strategies came from the stakeholders themselves (136 contacts). The strategies are placed into 5 categories.

Strategy One: Improve Water Measurements

Strategy Two: Upgrade Creek Operations and Infrastructure

Strategy Three: Consider Water Supply and Storage Options

Strategy Four: Enhance Fish Passage and Wildlife Habitat

Strategy Five: Increase Communication & Coordination Among Water Users

Each specific strategy will be evaluated with the following criteria:

- a. Financially Feasible and Sustainable
- b. Likelihood of Adoption
- c. Feasibility (Legally & Infrastructurally)
- d. Aligns with SCWA’s, LPCCC’s, regional partners, and watershed goals, priorities, and policies
- e. Stakeholder Acceptability (agriculture, environment, recreation)
- f. It can be written as an agreement
- g. Timely

The Strategies Report will be presented at the Aug 2024 SCWA Board meeting and posted to the website (<https://scwa2.com/pcwm/>). SCWA staff has already started flowmeter purchase and installation, the beginning of ‘Strategy One: Improve Water Measurements’.

7. Streamkeeper Report

Plans for the adult salmon counting weir were reviewed. UC Davis counts adult salmon under contract with SCWA.

Wimmer asked about the timing of VA discussions. Lee stated that first or second quarter of 2025 the Water Board would be making some decisions. Rubidoux is the main SCWA staff person working on VA issues. Lee is hopeful that the Water Board will approve the Healthy Rivers and Landscaped Initiative (previously called the Voluntary Agreements or VAs) instead of the Unimpaired Flows Plan. Wimmer suggested more outreach to Farm Bureau and said he could set-up a breakfast meeting with local farmers.

The Streamkeeper Activity Log was reviewed.

- a) SID Operations mtg- water orders 5/14
- b) City of Winters Nat Resources Comm 5/20
- c) CDFW Grant negotiations mtg 5/21
- d) VA Science Comm 5/22, 6/5, 6/19, 7/3
- e) PCC / PCWM webinar planning 5/22

- f) LRCD site visit w/grant manager 5/24
- g) Los Rios Farms landowner mtg 5/28
- h) PCC / PCWM webinar 5/31
- i) Winters/Marovich mtg 6/5
- j) LPCCC Subcomm 6/6, 6/26
- k) Yolo GW Subbasin interview 6/6
- l) Scarification planning mtg 6/10
- m) UCD Fish monitoring mtg 6/17
- n) Lake Berryessa historic data mtg 6/18
- o) State Advisory Comm. GW Data 6/25
- p) Scarification Mapping 6/26
- q) Salmon Fest Planning mtg 6/27
- r) VA Habitat Subcomm (DWR) 6/27
- s) Salmon Modeling data review
- t) Site visit WPCNP 6/28
- u) River Partners-LRCD Grant 7/2
- v) FishBio salmon car contract 7/2
- w) LPCCC Subcomm PCWM Strategy Workshop 1 7/9
- x) Westside IRWMP Coordinating Comm 7/10

8. Member Reports

Stevens reported that the Putah Creek Council's native plant nursery is permanently closing.

Hasbrook reported on his attendance at the Salmon Homecoming, at 2-day meeting at Lundberg Family Farms a few months ago. He suggested more collaboration in the future, especially with NCWA. Hasbrook also complimented SCWA staff member Duc Jones on recent work in the Creek.

Fulks reported that the City of Davis and UCD are moving forward with a single concept design for South Fork Wetlands (Old Davis Rd). He also reported that the Arboretum Waterway project is in the middle of heavy construction.

9. Next Regular Meeting is in-person Aug 8, 2024 in Vacaville Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM

LPCCC is a member of the Northern California Water Association (NCWA). To receive email notices and newsletters from NCWA, please let the Streamkeeper know or email Danyella Ochoa dochoa@norcalwater.org