



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: September 10, 2026, 3:00-4:30 PM

SUBJECT: Agenda for September 10, 2026, Meeting of the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating in-person at 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 202, 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: Review Minutes August 13, 2026
3	3:10	Public Comment: The public may comment on matters pertaining to Putah Creek.
4	3:15	Pattern Calendar (Annual Recurring Tasks): a) Grant Budgets b) Annual Report to the Court
5	3:25	Cache Creek/Putah Creek and Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (HRL) (Kristin Sicke, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District)
6	4:10	Dissolved Oxygen issues in Putah Creek, the Toe Drain, and the Yolo Bypass
7	4:20	Putah Creek Watershed Network (PCWN) Update
8	4:25	Streamkeeper Report
9	4:30	Next Meeting: October 8, 2026

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

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Meeting ID: 302 273 6169

Passcode: 810751

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acKkEqpy2>

810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 202, 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

LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – August 13, 2026

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

Attendees: Patrick Huber, Turrid Reid, Herb Wimmer, John Hasbrook, Nina Suzuki, Tara Thronson, Tim Hawkins, Chris Lee, Michael Hether, Liz Reay

Staff and Public: Max Stevenson, Elizabeth Patterson, Alex Rabidoux, Kristin Sicke, Kelly Huff

Convened at: 3:00 PM **Quorum:** Yes

1. Approval of the Current Agenda

Stevenson noted that Member Reports had inadvertently been omitted from the posted agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with Member Reports added after the Streamkeeper Report. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2026 Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 11, 2026 meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Kristin Sicke, General Manager of the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, introduced herself and said she was attending to learn more about the LPCCC. She had no specific public comment. No other public comments were received.

4. Pattern Calendar

Fall Attraction Flow Timing – Stevenson reviewed the Putah Creek Accord flow requirements and the purpose of the fall pulse flow, which is intended to attract adult fall-run Chinook salmon into Putah Creek. The 2026 fall pulse flow is scheduled to begin October 26 at approximately 50 cfs for five days. Stevenson explained that the date is a compromise among salmon migration needs, Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area flooding for waterfowl habitat, agricultural diversions, monitoring programs, construction schedules, and operation of Los Rios Check Dam.

Stevenson reviewed historical salmon-return and flow data showing that Putah Creek pulse flows have generally moved earlier in the fall since the mid-2010s and that larger adult returns have tended to occur during years with earlier attraction flows. Staff noted that the Mokelumne River program has informed Putah Creek's experimentation with multiple pulses and that additional coordination with scientists and managers on other salmon streams would be useful.

Discussion also addressed the interaction between earlier pulse flows and in-channel construction permits that traditionally allow work through October 15. Staff is discussing possible adjustments with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and other partners so future projects can accommodate earlier salmon movement while maintaining safe construction windows. No formal motion was taken on the October 26 date.

Interagency Communication Updates – No separate interagency item was presented; Stevenson noted that interagency coordination is incorporated through Streamkeeper updates.

Grant Application Updates – Stevenson reported six active or developing grant efforts. The Nishikawa salmon-habitat project has approximately \$750,000 in grant funding and is expected to move to construction next year, although costs have increased. Planning continues for a northern fish-passage bypass around Los Rios Check Dam and for fish passage at Road 106A. Putah Creek Council is also advancing an Interdam Reach planning grant.

Stevenson described a CalTrout/Wildlife Conservation Board proposal that would work with agricultural landowners to flood fields in ways that increase aquatic invertebrate production and release that food-rich water to benefit fish. The proposal also includes approximately \$250,000 for spawning gravel in Putah Creek. The preliminary application was invited to proceed to a full

application. A sixth proposal, associated with restoration on Pleasants Creek, includes approximately \$150,000 to study a possible cold-water bypass pipe through Lake Solano. Members noted that temperature benefits and possible sediment-management consequences would need to be evaluated as part of the study.

Fish Monitoring Updates – The annual resident-fish electrofishing survey is being scheduled for the fall. The long-running survey is conducted before the fall pulse flow so sampling can occur under safe conditions and before adult salmon enter the creek in substantial numbers.

5. Solano County Water Agency Mission: Overview for LPCCC

Alex Rabidoux presented an overview of Solano County Water Agency responsibilities and how Lower Putah Creek fits within the Agency's broader mission. SCWA has approximately 24 full-time staff and a 15-member Board of Directors representing cities, the County, and special districts. Rabidoux reviewed the Agency's strategic priorities, approximately \$64 million overall budget, administrative and safety functions, and the need for staff to work across disciplines because of the Agency's relatively small size.

The presentation covered the Solano Project and its importance to both urban and agricultural water supply; operation, maintenance, rehabilitation, monitoring, SCADA, and capital improvements at Monticello Dam, Putah Diversion Dam, and the Putah South Canal; countywide hydrologic and water-quality monitoring; aquatic invasive species prevention, including the growing threat of golden mussels; Lower Putah Creek Accord and restoration work; the Solano Habitat Conservation Plan; groundwater management and SGMA compliance; State Water Project and North Bay Aqueduct supplies; Bay-Delta planning and Healthy Rivers and Landscapes; urban and agricultural water conservation; regional flood-control responsibilities; and Agency-owned properties used for water-resource, habitat, and mitigation purposes.

Members discussed the Agency's funding structure, including general and zone-of-benefit assessments, water revenues, and grant funding. Members also asked about opportunities to incorporate habitat functions into the Ulatris flood-control system. Staff said the concept has merit and that perennial vegetation and other habitat-compatible approaches have been considered, but flood-control requirements, private-property easements, available funding, and staff capacity constrain larger changes. The Committee also discussed staffing levels relative to the Agency's broad responsibilities. Staff reported that workload and staffing are periodically benchmarked against comparable agencies, that prior reviews resulted in additional positions, and that contracting with partner agencies is an important way SCWA expands its operational capacity. Members thanked Rabidoux and Chris Lee for the overview and said periodic mission updates help place LPCCC work in the context of the Agency's broader responsibilities.

6. Streamkeeper Report

Stevenson reported that he and Rabidoux participated in filming a Healthy Rivers and Landscapes public-information video along Putah Creek; the link will be shared when the video is released. He then reported on aquatic-weed removal immediately downstream of Los Rios Check Dam. After permits were obtained, Los Rios Farms used a long-reach excavator and rake attachment to remove dense aquatic vegetation that had physically impeded salmon movement and contributed to very low dissolved oxygen.

Monitoring before the work showed dissolved oxygen falling to approximately zero during nighttime periods. In the several days after clearing, the lowest measured value was approximately 3.74 mg/L, a substantial improvement. Stevenson noted that the work should reduce both the physical obstruction and the low-oxygen barrier to fish passage and will likely need to become an ongoing maintenance activity. He also briefly noted the ecological value of large woody debris and log jams as cover and habitat for juvenile salmon, contrasting that function with the historic tendency to remove woody material from streams.

7. Member Reports

The City of Davis and Putah Creek Council reported no new items. UC Davis had no additional update and requested access to the recording of the SCWA mission presentation; a member also requested a copy of the presentation slides, and staff agreed to provide them. Other members expressed appreciation for the presentation and suggested that similar Agency overviews be provided periodically.

The Fairfield representative reported participation with partner agencies in the Solano Resource Conservation District's Solano Water Institute for Teachers, a multi-day educator workshop that included field tours and presentations on the Solano Project, Delta water supply, the North Bay Aqueduct, and the Barker Slough Pumping Plant. No other member reports were provided.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular LPCCC meeting will be held September 10, 2026, at 3:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 PM.