

Lower Sutter Bypass Anadromous Fish Habitat Management Plan
Workshop #1
Monday, January 25, 2021
10 AM-Noon

Meeting Notes

Introduction to the Project Team

- Bruce DiGennaro of Essex Partnership will serve as the facilitator for this project and will lead the group through the Structured Decision-Making process.
- cbec is the prime consultant (Technical Team), doing hydraulic modeling and alternative design.
 - Chris Bowles will be serving as their Project Director for the Technical Team
 - Chris Campbell and Greg Kamman will be serving as Project Managers for the Technical Team
 - Cramer Fish Science will provide fish biology expertise.
 - Pacific Agroecology will address Ag economics
 - Kearns and West will aid in the outreach and facilitation associated with cbec's tasks.
 - Mark Henderson, USGS, will advise cbec with SDM integration.
 - cbec is also working on the Tisdale-Sutter Bypass Management Plan that is part of the Mid & Upper Sacramento Regional Flood Management Plan. cbec is working with RD 1500 and KSN.
 - The management plan team has been collecting stakeholder input in the southern end of the Sutter Bypass and will be working on gathering input in the northern section.
 - This team will provide continuity with upstream and downstream planning efforts
 - cbec has also been working on the Fremont Weir for the last decade with DWR.

Project Launch (Bruce DiGennaro)

- Project Charter
 - Charter has been posted on the website
 - Want to continue refining our objectives
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan
 - Core Working Group
 - 5-10 individuals
 - 7 meetings over 12 months
 - More in depth conversations
 - Topical Workshops (5 of them)
 - Can find on [website](#), make sure we all have an understanding of these
 - Open to all
 - Structured decision making process (SDM)
 - Basic planning process with multiple steps

- Understand problem
- Define objectives and look at alternatives
- Look at consequences of your objectives
- Make a decision and take action

2021 Work Plan (Greg Kamman)

- Guide development of consensus-based Restoration Plan that is compatible with existing agriculture land use and not increasing flood risk
- Tasks in the Workplan
 - Develop work-plan with Core Work Group and CDFW
 - Review Existing info (hydro, bio, ag)
 - Field Reconnaissance and meetings
 - Lay of the land to see how water moves
 - Meet with property owners and assess ideas and concerns
 - Technical Assessments
 - Hydraulic Modeling
 - Conceptual Anadromous Fish Habitat Model
 - Ag Production Model
- Hydraulic and Sediment Transport Modeling (inundation video and discussion)
 - Rely on existing models for Feather and Sutter Bypass
 - Adapting 2D model for Tisdale Weir Rehab and Fish Passage Project
 - cbec will update model with 2020 LiDAR when it becomes available
 - Runs from data for the past 22 years (water years 1997 through 2018)
 - Colin Purdy asked about the potential for a slight reduction in stage in the Lower Sutter Bypass due to the notching at Fremont Weirs.
 - Greg Kamman said this will be included in the hydraulic model.
 - Chris Campbell: Sediment from the Feather River will be an important consideration given the heavy sediment loads when considering potential connections from the river to the bypass through the Nelson Slough Unit or river right.
 - Chris Campbell: Potential reoperation of the Tisdale Weir Fish Passage Project to bring more flows more frequently into the bypass is another element to consider as part of the planning process.
 - Jacob Katz: Think also how the flood system might work in the future, not just how it has worked in the past. Reimagine how the system could be operated.
- Tasks in the Workplan (continued)
 - Develop Design Alternatives
 - Conduct Alternative Feasibility Analysis
 - Prepare Conceptual Anadromous Fish Habitat Restoration Plan
- Ongoing Tasks
 - Outreach and Engagement
 - Project Management
- Sedimentation Issues and Discussion
 - Maya Kepner stated that it is important to emphasize the sedimentation issue.

- Julie Rentner pointed out that it is easy to imagine the sediment that likely deposited after the 2017 Oroville Dam disaster. The project area is a low spot in the system.
- Julie shared that you can see the sedimentation issues that Goose Club has encounters when the Feather River comes out of its banks.
- Greg Kamman said that cbec will incorporate sediment transport into their analysis.
- Visions for the Project—What represents success 5yrs from now?
 - Jacob Katz: Success is landscape scale implementation, change the physical world so that we can expect a population level response, model for global conservation (farms, salmon, and abundance). 4 runs, tens of millions of fish, increase in shorebirds.
 - Kevin Thomas (CDFW): Reduce the number of man-made structures so we can reduce the need for maintenance and create a sustainable solution, re-connect floodplains and reintroduce natural processes or actions without human manipulation.
 - Bjarni Serup (CDFW): Aquatic connectivity, increased flow, allows for migration and clean passage (barrier removal), look at entire life cycle.
 - Julie: Feather River connectivity—only connected now during higher flows so want to connect in lower flows as well.
 - Adam Henderson (DWR): locally supported, based in partnerships, conservation strategy measurable objectives, compliments regional goals, flexible/adaptable as conditions change.
 - Ruth Darling (CVFPB): Local input and meeting their needs, integrated process, “consider other agencies’ needs as our own”, take into account impacts due to climate, bypasses will be increasingly important and will help in dealing with more water coming as rain.
 - Barry O’Regan (KSN): implementable plan, move towards action.
 - Rene Henery (Trout Unlimited): Guided by actual outcomes and experiences of the fish—sanity check, feel good at the end of the project and that we all are on the same page of understanding, major benefit for fish.
 - John Brennan: Don’t let one or two people stop this project, come with an understandable management plan and can coordinate management for the bypass, interested in setting up hierarchy of goals (1. Flood management, 2. Habitat, 3. Agriculture, etc.), how to keep habitat during the dry years (dry years are also good farm years)
- Next Steps/Action Items:
 - Reviewed website (www.LowerSutterBypassFish.org)
 - Project charter and stakeholder engagement plans are posted. Send updates to Helen.
 - Email Helen to be a part of the mailing list.

Appendix
Participant List

Participants	Organization	Title, Roles/Experiences
Adam Henderson	DWR	Senior Environmental Scientist, lot of work on Conservation Strategy
Andrea Buckley	CVFPB	Chief of Environmental Services and Land Management (CEQA, Sacramento-San Joaquin Drainage District properties, encroachment permitting)
Asia Jones	River Partners	Restoration Biologist, Sacramento Office
Barry O'Regan	KSN	Civil Engineer, KSN, working on Mid- & Upper Sacramento River Regional Flood Management Plan and Tisdale-Sutter Bypass Management Plan; Sac Valley RCIS
Bjarni Serup	CDFW	Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor), Ecosystem Conservation Division-Water Branch
Bruce DiGennaro	Essex Partnership	Facilitator
Chris Bowles	cbec	Technical Team, serving as Project Director
Chris Campbell	cbec	Technical Team, serving as Project Manager
Colin Purdy	CDFW	Fisheries Program Manager, Region 2
David Martasian (DWR)	DWR	Division of Multi-benefit Initiatives, System-wide Multi-benefit Initiatives
David Pesavento	DWR	P.E., System-wide Multi-benefit Initiatives, Program Manager for Tisdale Bypass
Diana Garofalo	CVFPB	Senior Right-of-Way Agent
Duane Linander	CDFW	Habitat Restoration Coordinator, Region 2
Elisabeth Beckensten	KSN	Working on Tisdale-Sutter Bypass Management Plan
Erin Hagen	River Partners	Science Director
Greg Harvey	CVFPB	Planned Implementation and Compliance Branch: works on 408 permission with Corps and Corps sponsored projects
Greg Kamman	cbec	Technical Team, serving as Project Manager
Helen Swagerty	River Partners	Director of Development, serving as Project Manager
Itzia Rivera	CVFPB	Senior Environmental Scientist, permitting
Jacob Katz	Cal Trout	Senior Scientist, California Salmon Habitat Partnership
Jake Kincaid	River Partners	Restoration Biologist
Jeffery Kohl	CDFW	Environmental Scientist, CDFW Lands Program Comprehensive Wetlands Program
Jennifer Stewart	CVFPB	Senior Environmental Scientist, CEQA review and permitting
Jesus Esparza	DWR	Division of Multi-benefit Initiatives
John Brennan	Farm Manager/Real estate	Represents Goose Club, manages Goose Club Farms, Vice President of Sutter Bypass Water Association, Robbins Rice Dryer
Julie Rentner	River Partners	President, Project Manager
Kelsey Navarre	CDFW	Environmental Scientist, CDFW Lands Program Comprehensive Wetlands Program
Lori Clamurro-Chew	DWR	Division of Multi-Benefit Initiatives, Systemwide Multi-benefit Initiatives Office

Mary Dunne	CDFW	Environmental Scientist, Watershed Restoration Grants: Grant Manager
Maya Kepner	American West Conservation	Representative for Dos Rios property
Michael Wright	CVFPB	Chief Engineer
Morgan Kilgour	CDFW	Anadromous Fish Supervisor for Region 2
Ruth Darling	CVFPB	Program Manager
Thomas Engler	MBK	Civil Engineer, Represents Reclamation District 1001
Jose Esparza	DWR	Multi-benefit initiatives
Kevin Thomas	CDFW	Regional Manager, Region 2
Rene Henery	Cal Trout	California Science Director, Visiting professor at UNR, Central Valley Salmon Habitat Partnership