

**TUOLUMNE RIVER TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**DON PEDRO PROJECT - FERC LICENSE 2299**

MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME  
U. S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE



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**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

December 12, 2013 at 9:30 AM  
Turlock Irrigation District, Room 152

*Summary*

**1. INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Participants made self introductions.
- Two brief discussions took place; status of water quality monitoring in Don Pedro Reservoir in response to the Rim Fire and water hyacinth density in the lower Tuolumne River.

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

- Review/Revise agenda – No changes
- Approve notes from September meeting – No changes were identified. Notes for the last meeting are posted to the TRTAC website: <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>.  
Items since last meeting – A handout list posted at <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/> was reviewed. The list included meeting summaries and notes from the September TRTAC Meeting, preliminary Tuolumne River Chinook passage data, preliminary spawning season data from Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus Rivers, and a progress report regarding the Annual Report to FERC was outlined.

**3. MONITORING/REPORTS: (*Handouts were reviewed*)**

- Preliminary run estimates from the Tuolumne, Merced and Stanislaus Rivers were reviewed. As of December 11<sup>th</sup> 3,578 Chinook salmon had migrated upstream past the Tuolumne River weir, where as 5,383 salmon had migrated up past the Stanislaus weir. The proportion of hatchery fish (adipose fin-clipped) returning to the Tuolumne River so far this year is 11.3%. Several consultants, DFW personnel and TID personnel have reported that returning fish have been larger than normal this year on the Tuolumne. Weir operations will continue into July, 2014 in order to support the upcoming predation study.
- Redd surveys will continue through the end of December and possibly through the second week of January depending on spawning activity. Observations indicate broader use of the river this year as compared to last.
- Final 2013 thermograph download was completed the week of November 3, 2013, with data transferred to HDR and FISHBIO for use in various technical reports.
- Technical Reports to be included in the 2013 FERC Report were distributed as a draft Table of Contents.
- Other winter monitoring plans: Ongoing weir operations, redd-mapping, seining surveys, rotary screw trap operations, and project relicensing studies are planned for

winter and spring and summer of 2014 (such as the predation study).

**4. FLOW OPERATIONS:**

- Current Tuolumne River flows are approximately 160 cfs to the lower river.

**5. AGENCY/NGO UPDATES**

- Ramon Martin (USFWS) promoted and transferring to Georgia. No habitat restoration coordinator announced.
- Patrick Koepele (TRT) appointed as Executive Director, replacing Eric Wesselman.

**6. ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

- CDFW Merced River Fish Facility has spawned out about 400 females. Expecting near capacity in juvenile production in Spring 2014.

**7. NEXT MEETING DATES – (*Quarterly on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 9:30am*)**

- 2014 meeting dates: March 13<sup>th</sup>, June 12<sup>th</sup>, September 11<sup>th</sup>, and December 11<sup>th</sup>

**TRTAC Meeting Attendees**

	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>
1.	Patrick Maloney	TID
2.	Greg Dias	MID
3.	Jason Guignard	FISHBIO
4.	Noah Hume	Stillwater