

# 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 & Wildlife  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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### TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

11 JUNE 2020 AT 9:30 AM

VIA ZOOM

<https://zoom.us/j/7403273352?pwd=dGVLVmN4ejFKNmVtNXFUSXBVV1J4QT09>

Meeting ID: 740 327 3352

Password: 490692

### *SUMMARY*

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Participants made self-introductions

#### 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- Review/revise agenda – No changes.
- Approve notes from May 2020 meeting – No changes were identified. Notes for the last meeting are posted to the TRTAC website: <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>
- Items since last meeting – The handouts are posted at <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>
- Gretchen asked what studies are TID/MID required to conduct and report on annually. Noah responded that spawner survey data is all that is required by the FERC License, all other surveys are voluntary. Noah also noted that FERC requires notification if required studies can't be conducted due to COVID-19.
- Allison noted that Mr. Rairden had died a few month back and that Lary Bird has a long term lease on the Rairden Ranch.

#### 3. MONITORING/REPORTS:

- Seine sampling ended the 1<sup>st</sup> week of March.
- Weir operations ended March 17<sup>th</sup> and will begin again in September
- COVID-19 issues with fall sampling will be dealt with at a later date
- Noah noted that we should post Merced River Restoration papers related to gravel scour and include the Tuolumne River Coarse Sediment Management Plan.
- Allison inquired about the trade off releasing water to recruit gravel from recruitment piles vs washout of redds. It was noted by the group that adjusting flows that may wash out redds is not a good method of recruiting gravel from shoreline stockpiles.
- Thermograph downloads are half complete, the last half will be downloaded in a week or two.
- The snorkel survey is planned for the last week in July. It is a 3 day survey. Chris Diviney was invited to attend with Patrick and Wayne.

#### 4. FLOW OPERATIONS:

- B-120 Update – Median Dry Year

- No changes will be made to the flow schedule at this time – Flow Group to meet in July.
- TID Hydrology reports it should be dry the next 18 days
- Fish Flow Schedule is available at: <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>
- Timing and shaping of the fall pulse will be discussed at the September TRTAC meeting.

5. AGENCY/NGO UPDATES:

- JD stated that the Salmon Festival was unlikely due to COVID-19, and that outreach may occur on the web. Planning Committee response has been slow and suggested exhibitors make 3-5 minute videos for a YouTube Channel.
- BILL Sears stated there are no changes to rafting on the upper river. Outfits are allowed to run but are not due to COVID-19. Rafters hope to run this summer.
- Patrick noted –that Ron Zanker reported seeing otters back in the river after 12 months of no sightings. Gretchen noted that TLSRA staff indicated otters had been problematic recently.

6. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- JD Requested that the Restoration Group start meeting again. Requested standalone meetings and volunteered to chair meeting if separate. Patrick to work on scheduling.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE: September 10, 2020

**TRTAC Meeting Attendees**

	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>
1.	Patrick Maloney	TID
2.	Mike Cooke	TID
3.	Gordon Enas	MID
4.	Bill Sears	CCSF
5.	Brooke Watkins	DWR
6.	Gretchen Murphey	CDFW
7.	Chris Diviney	CDFW
8.	J.D. Wikert	USFWS
9.	Stacie Smith	NOAA
10.	Monica Gutierrez	NOAA
11.	Stephanie Millsap	USFWS
12.	Wayne Swaney	SWS
13.	Noah Hume	SWS
14.	Dave and Allison Boucher	TRC