

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

12 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 9:30 AM

Turlock Irrigation District, Room 152

SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Participants made self-introductions

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- Review/revise agenda – No Changes
- Approve notes from March 2017 meeting – Allison asked for a revision to the June notes such that the proper title of the Mc Bain and Trush paper is listed. Change Made and posted to the TRTAC website. <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>
- Items since last meeting – The handout list is posted at <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>

3. MONITORING/REPORTS:

- RST field work was done in June, Final Reports will be submitted with the annual report to FERC.
 - RST: Waterford 19,000 fish, Grayson 17,000 fish
 - JD noted higher returns on Stanislaus when fry are moved out to San Joaquin early
 - Several observations of large smolts (1 year class) were noted
- Snorkel Report: (Field work occurred August 2019) Wayne noted species diversity lower than normal, most fish observed were native, salmonids observed at all snorkel locations, final report on time.
- Counting weir installed September 11, 2019. Two Chinook passed weir on day 1.
- Redd Surveys will occur in September but full surveys begin October, 2019.

4. FLOW OPERATIONS:

- Fall pulse volume and timing will be aligned with Stanislaus River.
 - San Joaquin Fish Tech. Team will meet on all 5 trib's pulses September 26.
 - TID will produce strawman fall pulse estimate for JD
 - TID will send notices to Flow Group when winter and spring pulses are moved in time to be aligned with incoming precipitation.
 - Review of the Settlement Agreement is in order to see if 5,000AF of water can be moved in time to fatten up the fall pulse. TID will consult Army Corps for potential to move flood water.
 - A general concern was voiced about Merced River flows. Flows in September of 1,000cfs up to 2,000cfs occurred prior to the fall pulse. JD suggested they consult when timing is so near fish migration.

- Steve Tsao requesting Infiltration Gallery Site Visit.
- Infiltration Gallery: More details desired by group such as, anticipated flows, shut downs, and how this affects flows.
- The 9 to 99 Group will be conducting cleanup of the north bank this Saturday. Homeless camp is now ~200 yards away from the waters edge. 200 beds will be available at the Salvation Army in November in order to move homeless camp off river. Chris noted that if one side of the river is cleaned up the other side seems to clear up, but if homeless camps expand on one side they tend to pop up on the other side “Reflective Anomaly”. A body was found in the river and removed – assumed to be the missing homeless man. Many homeless folks have pets, but pets aren’t allowed in shelters (problematic). Dumpsters are centrally located near camps but are routinely picked through cause a mess. The Boise Decision keeps the City of Modesto from moving homeless out.
- Jason Guignard would like to be on the 9 to 99 distribution list.
- Peter conducting a float this Saturday and Sunday “Canoeing with the salmon”, contact: peter@tuolumne.org.
- 61lb. Channel Cat caught near Turlock Sportsman Club as reported by Fishbio staff. Could be a state record.

5. AGENCY/NGO UPDATES:

- Gretchen Murphey advised the group about hazardous trees across the channel above Basso Bridge

6. ADDITIONAL ITEMS: NONE

7. NEXT MEETING DATE: December 12, 2019

TRTAC Meeting Attendees

| | <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> |
|-----|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Patrick Maloney | TID |
| 2. | Allison Boucher | TRC |
| 3. | JD Wikert | USFWS |
| 4. | Steve Tsao | CDFW |
| 5. | Chris Guptil | 9 to 99 |
| 6. | Gordon Enas | MID |
| 7. | Jason Guignard | Fishbio |
| 8. | Wayne Swaney | SWS by phone |
| 9. | Loni Moore | Citizen |
| 10. | Herb Smart | TID by phone |
| 11. | Noah Hume | SWS by phone |
| 12. | Bernard Aguilar | CDFW by phone |
| 13. | Gretchen Murphey | CDFW by phone |
| 14. | Peter Drekmeier | TRT |
| 15. | Dave Boucher | TRC |
| 16. | Chris Carr | SWRCB |
| 17. | Bill Sears | CCSF |