

# 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



333 East Canal Drive  
Turlock, CA 95381-0949  
Phone: (209) 883-8278  
Fax: (209) 656-2191  
Email: pemaloney@tid.org

### TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

28 May 2020 at 9:00 AM

VIA Zoom

#### *Summary*

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Participants made self introductions.

#### 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- Review/Revise agenda - No changes were identified
- Approve notes from December meeting: Call for papers related to gravel movement – Coarse Sediment Management Plan posted to Restoration Tab at <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>, JD to produce pdf of Codiff 2001 report for posting, Jesse Anderson to produce Merced River data and manuscripts for posting, Fred Myer to produce Smokey pitman work on red washout for posting. Patrick to contact Chris Guptill about lower river cleanup float. Patrick to facilitate communication between Maggie Blankinship of River Partners and 4 land owners (Boucher, Zanker, Larson and Rairden for the invasive plant removal project. JD to produce Otolith and Radio Telemetry papers for posting.
- Items since last meeting – None

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

- RST sampling ended March 16 due to COVID19. Waterford captured about 2000 fry size Chinook, however only one Chinook was captured at Grayson. A year to date comparison will be made in the Annual Report.
- Seine netting started in late January, 4 sample events occurred prior to the COVID19 shutdown, the last occurring on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Fry were captured on all surveys and ranged between 30 and 94 fish, with the peak occurring on February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Weir sampling continued through March 17<sup>th</sup>. A total of 2137 adult passages were recorded, 11% were adipose clipped, four O. mykiss passages were recorded, they occurred in early December and in early February. The four O. mykiss were 9-10 inches in length. Gretchen and Jason report that the adult population was typical in size of most recent years. The weir will be reinstalled in early September 2020.
- Summer Monitoring – Thermographs will be downloaded in the next few weeks.
- Snorkel surveys will be conducted as regularly scheduled unless flows are prohibitive.

#### 4. FLOW OPERATIONS:

- Olivia reported that May was above average, but the watershed was at 65.9% of

average for date and noted that not much precipitation expected over this summer. Snow pack is at 7% of average to date, similar to 2018. TID uses both the European and US models to inform forecasts. Not much change is expected over the next 8 to 16 days. Temperatures are above average this week but will be falling to about 4 degrees below average for about 16 days. Peak snowmelt was a month early. CCSF is getting close to filling at 656,000AF. CCSF releases increased because there is more snow pack than needed to fill. The Water Bank is drawing down to 100,000AF. Don Pedro Reservoir elevation is 808.1 feet above sea level, and is not expected to fill and will end up between 753 and 764 feet above sea level. We do expect about 275,000AF to flow into Don Pedro but reservoir space and demand will keep Don Pedro from filling. It is a dry year (May ~70% of average FNF), so we will be holding the river close to the minimum flow. Accumulated FNF to date is 788,721AF, we expect to end the WY at 1 to 1.1MAF, well below the average of 1.97MAF. Turlock Lake is being held low due to it being a dry year. Bill Sears reported that: Hetch Hetchy releases are running about 700cfs to Early Intake. There will be normal rafting flows this summer but due to COVID19 rafting operations may not occur. There will be water free Wednesday or possibly Thursdays this year.

**5. AGENCY/NGO UPDATES**

- Gretchen requested copies of the 2000 and 2001 Annual Reports.
- Infiltration Gallery update provided in the handouts. Gretchen would still like to visit the site when restrictions lift. Allison asked about the wet well. Jason and others explained how it works, but several folks asked for diagrams or photos, Jason and Patrick to research.
- Peter noted that they had received grant funding for three projects: Bobcat Flat, the La Grange Project and a Modesto project. Site tours will be held the first two weeks of June (Zanker phase II, and LaGrange).
- Peter mentioned that gauging of the infiltration gallery was being discussed in relicensing meetings.
- JD suggested that all posted papers be vetted for permission issues. Patrick to work with Chrissy at Fishbio to resolve.
- Gretchen, JD Monica and Patrick to work on Interpolation and Fall Pulse flows in August/September.

**6. ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

- None

**7. NEXT MEETING DATES – SEPTEMBER 10, DECEMBER 10, 2020.**

### **TRTAC Meeting Attendees**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>
1. Patrick Maloney	TID
2. JD Wikert	USFWS
3. John Mauterer	MID
4. Allison and Dave Boucher	TRC
5. Jason Guignard	Fishbio
6. Madison ?	DWR
7. Fred Myer	McBain and Assoc.
8. Tim Cauldwell	McBain and Assoc.
9. Gretchem Murphey	CDFW
10. Chris Deviney	CDFW
11. Olivia Cramer	TID
12. Bill Sears	CCSF
13. Peter Druckmyer	TRT
14. JD Wikert	USFWS
15. Bernard Aguilar	CDFW
16. Wayne Swaney	SWS