

**MOKELUMNE RIVER FORUM**  
**MEETING No. 32**  
***DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY***

MEETING DATE: October 4, 2007

LOCATION: San Joaquin Farm Bureau  
3290 North Ad Art Road  
Stockton, CA 95215

ATTENDEES: Mike Harty  
Tom Francis – East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Rob Schuler – Amador County (Retired)  
Ed Steffani – North San Joaquin Water Conservation District  
Joe Mehrten – North San Joaquin Water Conservation District  
Tom Gau – San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works  
Jim Hanson – San Joaquin County & Hanson Eng.  
Ed Pattison – Calaveras County Water District  
Pete Bell – Foothill Conservancy  
Rob Alcott – East Bay Municipal Utility District Rep.  
Alex Coate – East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Gene Mancebo – Amador Water Agency  
Jim Abercrombie – Amador Water Agency  
Lena Tam – East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Mike Floyd – California Dept. of Water Resources  
Tom Orvis – San Joaquin Farm Bureau  
Kevin Kauffman – Stockton East Water District  
Bob Granberg – City of Stockton  
Charles Swimley – City of Lodi  
Jim Meier – WRIME, Inc.  
Ali Taghavi – WRIME, Inc.  
Tom Flinn – San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works

<b>ACTION ITEMS AND AGREEMENTS</b>
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1. Forum members will have until Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> to provide WRIME with comments to a handout they distributed and discussed at today's Forum meeting. The handout consisted of tables and figures that referenced information regarding Mokelumne River water rights matters. WRIME will consider the comments as they craft a draft memo. on water rights.
2. WRIME, Inc. will provide Forum members (via email) an electronic copy of the handout they distributed at today's meeting and as referenced above.
3. Prior to the November Forum meeting, WRIME, Inc. will provide Forum members (via email) an electronic copy of the draft memo. they are crafting on water rights.

4. WRIME, Inc. plans to meet with key agency staff (technical experts) to discuss river hydraulics (i.e., model runs, data sets, etc.) and water rights matters on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held starting at 1:30 pm at San Joaquin County government offices in Stockton, California.
5. WRIME, Inc. plans to meet with a Forum subcommittee on October 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss what various agencies may separately wish to see in an IRCUP project (i.e., the project size, key components, etc.). They will use this information as they move forward with their IRCUP study efforts. The meeting will be held at Stockton East Water District's meeting facilities starting at 1:30 pm.
6. Rob Alcott will review the concept of a GBA-UMRWA JPA agreement (as used for I-RCUP study governance) with UMRWA members at a meeting of the UMRWA to be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>. He'll provide feedback to the Forum at the Forum's November meeting.
7. Mike Harty asked that attendees be prepared to consult with their respected elected officials regarding the prospect of a meeting (likely held in Stockton at the Farm Bureau's meeting facilities) during the Feb. / Mar. 08 timeframe.
8. The Forum shall plan to develop (in Nov 07 +/-) an agenda for a proposed Feb. / March 08 elected officials meeting, as well as a briefing document that all Forum members could utilize as a means to update their elected officials regarding the IRCUP status prior to the event.
9. The City of Stockton agreed to provide breakfast for the November 1, 2007 Forum meeting.

<b>PRELIMINARY MATTERS</b>
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### **September Meeting Summary**

Tom Francis provided printed copies of the September meeting summary. Forum attendees were asked to review the summary and provide comments to Mr. Francis. Corrections to the minutes were provided via email (prior to the meeting) by Bob Granberg of the City of Stockton. During the Forum meeting, Ed Pattison pointed out that he and Charles Hebrard were not shown as being affiliated with Calaveras County Water District. Mr. Francis noted that he would make the necessary corrections.

### **Purpose and Agenda**

The primary purpose of the October Forum meeting was to receive an update from WRIME, Inc. regarding their IRCUP related efforts and discuss steps to support their efforts. A second purpose was to continue the discussion of potential governance options for the Forum and agree on next steps.

**AGENDA TOPIC: UPDATES FROM FORUM MEMBERS**

*North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD):* Ed Steffani of NSJWCD noted that his agency understands that the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Organization has challenged NSJWCD's plans to impose a groundwater user charge. The group's intention was made known as a result of the validation action taken by NSJWCD in San Joaquin County Court, asking that the Court rule that NSJWCD has followed the proper "218" Procedures and requiring that those parties that plan to file lawsuit(s) come forward.

*San Joaquin County Department of Public Works (SJC):* Tom Gau of SJC noted that there had been discussion of a proposed IRCUP governance agreement between the Northeastern San Joaquin Groundwater Banking Authority (GBA) and the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA) during a recent GBA meeting. The GBA views that such a governance option is acceptable, dependent on how the agreement takes shape.

Tom Flinn of SJC noted that he is a member of a Delta Vision stakeholders group (a group made up of approx. 40 of the region's water leaders). Tom detailed the concept of a potential middle river conveyance (an option that could be seen as an alternative to a peripheral canal). He suggested that the Forum may wish to invite Dr. Tom Zuckerman to speak / discuss the work that he has done regarding the Delta and the Delta Visioning effort. Mr. Flinn noted that a paper authored by Dr. Zuckerman shares a perspective on the issues facing the Delta and offers an opinion about potential solutions that differs substantially from those proposed by others.

*Calaveras County Water District (CCWD):* Ed Pattison of CCWD noted that the agency continues to work with those in the County to review general plan matters. Ed also commented that there is hope that AB 303 grant monies would be made available to fund future projects related to groundwater. In addition, Mr. Pattison noted that CCWD has been in talks with groups hoping to prepare an IRWMP for the Stanislaus and Tuolumne River region.

*East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD):* Alex Coate of EBMUD mentioned that the agency is in the midst of preparing its water supply management program (WSMP 2040), an update of a past WSMP that will now forecast EBMUD needs through the year 2040. He expects that EBMUD will issue draft environmental documents in the spring of 2008.

In addition, Alex commented that he met with Victoria Whitney of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) earlier that week to discuss the Freeport Regional Water Project, their WSMP 2040 as well as an effort underway between EBMUD and several San Joaquin region water agencies to reach a mutual agreement to resolve water rights protests. The conversation with the SWRCB also dealt with matters associated with EBMUD's need to revisit a water shortage contingency plan and potentially review options for short term water transfers, in the event that water is needed by EBMUD to address drought conditions next year.

Rob Alcott of EBMUD commented that he had some informal conversations with UMRWA members regarding the possibility of entering into an agreement with the GBA to manage IRCUP efforts. Rob commented that any proposed UMRWA-GBA agreement would first require that the UMRWA modify its own JPA. Rob would bring up this issue at an UMRWA meeting to be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

*California Department of Water Resources (DWR):* Mike Floyd of DWR discussed various State grant programs / bond legislation. Specifically, Mr. Floyd mentioned that approximately \$40M is tentatively available for preparation of IRWMPs via Prop. 84. There is additional monies contemplated through that program for AB303 type groundwater projects (approx. \$250k per grant is proposed under such efforts). Regarding Prop. 50, Mike noted that the GBA will likely be moving forward with their IRWMP implementation grant plans, due to a positive IRWMP assessment made by the State as part of the first step in Round 2 IRWMP implementation grant funding.

*San Joaquin Farm Bureau (SJFB):* Tom Orvis of the SJFB mentioned that while the California Farm Bureau has given support to the Governor's Proposed Water Bond measure, since the measure includes provisions and/or a preference for a peripheral canal, the SJFB is concerned about the measure. The SJFB may be able to support a scheme that proposes a thru-Delta conveyance, but not an around Delta conveyance. Tom noted that the SJFB had prepared a position paper that provides greater detail / discussion regarding their position.

*Stockton East Water District (SEWD):* Kevin Kauffman of SEWD provided a brief update regarding the status of the Principles of Agreement (POA) negotiation that is ongoing between EBMUD and several San Joaquin region water agencies (including SEWD). Per Mr. Kauffman, the POA developed as of June 2007 has not been revised, although there were plans for EBMUD and the San Joaquin water agencies to meet later in September to discuss the POA in an effort to move forward on mutually agreeable language. As a reminder, the POA development is an effort to mutually resolve water rights related protests as raised by the parties.

Kevin also discussed SEWD's recent water treatment plant expansion. The plant upgrade is such that the treatment rate achieved is 50 mgd. Further, he mentioned that their Farmington Groundwater Project continues to prove valuable, having stored water at an estimated rate of 7,000 acre-ft/yr via the recharge facilities.

*City of Stockton (Stockton or the City):* Bob Granberg of Stockton noted that CDM is working on their Delta Water Supply Project's (DWSP) treatment plant and pipeline. The City expects construction to commence next summer. Stockton is also working on DWSP financing matters, including review of fees, rates, bond matters, related Prop. 218 concerns, etc..

Bob also mentioned that the City will be meeting with the Metropolitan Water District (MET) in September to discuss Delta matters.

Mr. Granberg concluded by noting that Stockton has held some preliminary discussions with Lodi regarding an option to utilize their wastewater discharge as part of influent to a recycled water project that Stockton could implement. RMC is helping Stockton perform the conceptual study that will review such an option.

*City of Lodi (Lodi of the City):* Charlie Swimley noted that Lodi continues to move forward on their plans for the design and construction of a water treatment plant. HDR has been working on a review of facility siting options and treatment process alternatives. The City also continues to review work associated with installation of customer water meters.

Mr. Swimley also commented that the City's wastewater plant's discharge permit as issued by the Water Board was of interest to environmental parties concerned about permitted levels for certain water quality parameters such as salinity, nitrate, etc. He expects that Lodi will be working to address their questions / issues.

Finally, Charlie mentioned that the City is also working on pipe repairs along Thornton Road, including repairs to a sewer outfall / trunkline). He also noted that RMC is helping the City prepare a recycled water master plan.

<b>AGENDA TOPIC: WRIME I-RCUP WORK EFFORT</b>
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Ali Taghavi and Jim Meier of WRIME Inc. discussed their ongoing work effort on behalf of the Forum and as associated with the IRCUP.

Dr. Taghavi began by distributing a handout that included key tables and figures that are a part of a document being prepared by WRIME, Inc. to summarize Mokelumne River water rights, agreements and contracts as held by various parties.

Ali and Jim then discussed the handout. Included was a table listing documents as provided by the various agencies as part of WRIME's info-gathering request. Also included was a summary table as prepared by WRIME, which was an attempt to compile a list of water rights / agreements / etc. as well as pertinent information as related to said rights / agreements. A timeline was provided that showed the progression of water rights on the River since beginning in the early 1900's thru to the present day. Finally, they discussed several Figures that WRIME prepared (and as were included in the handout) that attempted to provide a geographic picture of where certain rights "existed". Ali and

Jim thanked Jim Hanson for his assistance, since many of the Figures were prepared from templates provided by Jim H., utilizing prior info. compiled by Mr. Hanson through his years of providing consulting assistance on water rights matters.

During the above discussion, several Forum members had questions, comments and/or corrections to the pages included in the handout. There was a concern that the table prepared to summarize water rights and agreements needed more work / detail / thought. Some thought that data as graphed on several of the Figures was somewhat confusing. However, it was recognized that the full document / report being prepared by WRIME may provide some of the missing details.

WRIME was asked to make sure that any document / document pages they produce have the word “draft” stamped on it prior to the document’s finalization (to avoid any perception that works in progress were “finalized” efforts).

Jim and Ali asked Forum members to take the handout back to their respective offices and review it / provide them with comments as a follow-up action item to today’s meeting. They asked that comments relative to the tables and figures be provided quickly (by October 10<sup>th</sup>) in order that edits could be incorporated into the draft document (with the hopes of distributing the draft document to the Forum prior to the November meeting).

Following that discussion, WRIME detailed a desire to hold two specific meetings with agency staff between now and the Nov. Forum meeting.

Those meetings (and the ensuing dates / times) were agreed to as follows:

- A meeting between WRIME and key agency staff (technical experts) to discuss river hydraulics (i.e., model runs, data sets, etc.) and water rights matters on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held starting at 1:30 pm at San Joaquin County government offices in Stockton, California.
- A meeting between WRIME, Inc. and a Forum subcommittee on October 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss what various agencies may separately wish to see in an IRCUP project (i.e., the project size, key components, etc.). They will use this information as they move forward with their IRCUP study efforts. The meeting will be held at Stockton East Water District’s meeting facilities starting at 1:30 pm.

Tom Francis will send emails to proposed participants alerting them / reminding them of the proposed meetings.

<b>DISCUSSION TOPIC: I-RCUP GOVERNANCE OPTIONS</b>
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Tom Gau of SJC noted that at the Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GBA, the option of a proposed GBA-UMRWA governance structure for IRCUP feasibility studies was discussed. Mr. Gau noted that the GBA was open to such an option.

Rob Alcott of EBMUD noted that he had been working on proposed draft revisions to the UMRWA's JPA, revisions that if acceptable to the UMRWA members would then better enable the UMRWA to enter into a GBA-UMRWA governance agreement. JPA revisions were viewed as necessary since some UMRWA members are not water agencies and/or would have no stake in an IRCUP project, and hence they would not wish to participate. Rob mentioned that the UMRWA would be meeting on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, at which time the governance agreement as well as the proposed JPA modifications would be discussed. Mr. Alcott will be prepared to share UMRWA comments with the Forum at the Nov. meeting.

**AGENDA TOPIC: A POSSIBLE ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING**

Mike Harty noted that for various reasons, the option to hold an elected officials meeting concurrent with the upcoming fall ACWA conference was not viewed favorably by Forum members. Instead, it was suggested that the Forum consider holding an elected officials meeting early in 2008 (Feb and/or March), likely held at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau's meeting facilities in Stockton, and likely a catered lunch similar to an event held in early 2007.

Mike asked that attendees be prepared to consult with their respected officials regarding the prospect of a meeting during the Feb. / March 08 timeframe.

Further, it was suggested that the Forum develop an agenda for the Feb. / March 08 meeting well ahead of time, as well as a briefing document that all Forum members could utilize as a means to update their elected officials regarding the IRCUP status prior to the event.

**AGENDA TOPIC: NEXT FORUM MEETING**

The next meeting of the Mokelumne River Forum is scheduled to take place on Thursday November 1, 2007. It will be held from 9:00 am thru 12 noon at the offices of the San Joaquin Farm Bureau in Stockton, California.

**CLOSING**

The October 4, 2007 meeting of the Mokelumne River Forum was adjourned at approximately 12 noon.

**NEXT FORUM MEETING BREAKFAST PROVIDER**

The City of Stockton agreed to provide breakfast at the next Forum meeting.

**NOTE: The initial draft of these meeting minutes was prepared by Tom Francis of EBMUD. Mike Harty reviewed and edited the draft. Please send comments or questions to Mike.**