

**MOKELUMNE RIVER FORUM**  
**MEETING No. 39 (Actually 40)**  
***DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY***

MEETING DATE: November 6, 2008

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

ATTENDEES: Mike Harty  
Ed Pattison – Calaveras County Water District  
Rod Schuler – Amador County (Retired)  
Hank Willy – Jackson Valley Irrigation District  
Mel Lytle – San Joaquin County Public Works Dept.  
Tom Gau – San Joaquin County Public Works Dept.  
Tom Flinn – San Joaquin County Public Works Dept.  
Jim Abercrombie – Amador Water Agency  
Gene Mancebo – Amador Water Agency  
Dante Nomellini – Central Delta Water Agency  
Bob Granberg – City of Stockton  
Pete Bell – Foothill Conservancy  
Kevin Kauffman – Stockton East Water District  
Mike Floyd – Department of Water Resources  
Tom McGurk – Stockton East Water District  
Joe Mehrten – North San Joaquin Water Conservation District  
Ed Steffani – North San Joaquin Water Conservation District  
Gerald Schwartz – East Bay Municipal Utility District

<b>ACTION ITEMS AND AGREEMENTS</b>
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1. Mike Harty and Tom Francis will review Forum email distribution lists to ensure Bob Granberg is not missing.
2. Forum members agreed generally to pursue planning funding based on the work performed by WRIME in light of opportunities created by SBX2-1. This topic should be revisited at the next Forum meeting.

<b>PRELIMINARY MATTERS</b>
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**Preliminary Matters**

No preliminary matters for this meeting.

**September Meeting Summary**

Forum members were asked to review the September summary and forward any requested edits to Tom Francis of East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD).

## **Purpose and Agenda**

Mike Harty, the Forum's facilitator, mentioned that the primary purpose of the meeting was to receive an update on discussions among the four agencies on Terms and Conditions, as well as on IRCUP modeling.

### **AGENDA TOPIC: UPDATES FROM FORUM MEMBERS**

*East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD):* Gerald Schwartz advised that EBMUD is looking for water to serve its users and that the Forum remains a key component of its approach.

The Freeport Project has a 2009 "complete" target, with a goal of integration in 2010. Pipe acquisition is an ongoing challenge, along with project contractors.

EBMUD is holding a scoping meeting November 18 for its 2040 water supply plan at the Lodi Public Library.

*Central Delta Water Agency:* Dante Nomellini first addressed concerns about the lack of an adequate water supply to support a Peripheral Canal, pointing out the Oroville Reservoir is not an option. He also raised concerns about use of the public trust doctrine in relation to water rights and property. A third point addressed a focus on groundwater as part of a potential Task Force proposal for the Delta.

The need for Delta levee improvements was a second topic, with Dante pointing out that there is funding available for levees that protect key infrastructure. This led to a discussion of flood control related issues, including a FEMA re-mapping of SJ County, under the designation RD 17 (Urban District); the quality of USACE levees and need for improvements; the role of FloodSafe; vegetation issues; local cost share; and a Feasibility Study by the USACE for southern SJ County; and the USACE regulatory process generally in relationship to flood control and levees.

*City of Stockton:* Bob Granberg provided an update on the Delta Water Supply Project, which is at 95% design stage. The current schedule anticipates moving to construction in June 2009. Stockton is working with DFG on issues related to an operating permit.

Bob advised that Stockton, Contra Costa, and Solano County had jointly written to DWR regarding expediting Prop. 84 funding for relocation of the City's intake.

Bob also requested that he be restored to email distribution lists for the Forum if there had been any inadvertent deletions.

*California Department of Water Resources (DWR):* Mike Floyd reported that he has been promoted to the Delta levees program and will no longer be involved with the Forum. His replacement should be in place by the January 2009 Forum meeting.

On the IRCUP write-up in the State Water Plan, this remains on track.

*Stockton East Water District (SEWD)*: Tom McGurk advised that his district's board has taken a unanimous position against a proposed Peripheral Canal.

*San Joaquin County Public Works Dept. (SJC)*: Mel Lytle advised that the EIR for the GBA's IRWMP is progressing and should be available within weeks.

On MORE Water, Mel reported that USBR had signed a 50-50 cost-sharing agreement.

Mel also advised that the County had made an American River filing to use the Freeport Project.

Tom Gau provided an update on the joint efforts of five counties to address issues raised by Delta Vision as a Coalition. Tom Flinn added information about concerns raised by the five counties with Sec'y Chrisman regarding Delta Vision. Although setting joint priorities is a challenge, one clear concern is future governance. SJ County has retained Terry Dermody as an Acting Special Counsel for water issues with an eye on Delta issues.

Tom Flinn also reminded Forum members about the upcoming forum at UOP on water issues (November 20). The relationship of flood control to water supply is one topic that will be addressed.

- Kevin Kaufmann provided additional details on the forum. Lt. Gov. Garamendi is scheduled to speak at noon. One goal for the forum is to bring in new elected officials to provide joint education on Delta issues.
- Note: in response to discussion about key contact points on flood control, one organization is the San Joaquin River Flood Control Association. Contacts include Alex Hildebrand for Delta perspectives, and Tom Flinn.

*Jackson Valley Irrigation District (JVID)*: Hank Willy of JVID advised that work on environmental studies for a Prop. 50 funded effort to install a water delivery pipeline north of Pardee will be getting underway.

*Foothill Conservancy*: Pete Bell reported that a local general plan update (Amador County) is the primary focus of attention. One set of issues involves local residents advocating for a set of "property rights" and the interests of the county overall.

*Calaveras County Water District (CCWD)*: Ed Pattison reported on a Calaveras general plan update, including some concerns that the process is moving too quickly. The update has a water element involving infrastructure, not supply. This type of element is somewhat unusual.

PGE's pump storage project is reviewing multiple options, including Lower Bear. Other Forum members are tracking this.

The M/A/C IRWMP also is examining a Lower Bear alternative.

*Amador Water Agency:* Gene Mancebo advised that there are four new board members at AWA, with Terry Moore remaining. AWA is participating in a M/A/C IRWMP update.

*North San Joaquin Water Conservation District:* Ed Steffani first advised that the district has one new board member.

The groundwater charge is uncertain because of a recent ballot initiative [Measure V] to remove the charge and related litigation about the initiative. A court ruling is expected within two weeks.

Ed reported completion of the South Pump Station fish screen project.

Ed also reported completion of the Demonstration Recharge Project, but a problem related to lack of water (rain). The District approached the Cit of Lodi about a possible transfer but pricing is a concern.

<b>AGENDA TOPIC: Update on MOCASIM Modeling</b>
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Mel reminded the group of the September modeling update, including a GM-level meeting among four Forum agencies.

The agencies' Technical Group held a meeting to discuss the draft Terms and Conditions for a joint, IRCUP project. A follow up conference call is planned for next week, and a GMs meeting is planned for November 18. It is possible that there will be sufficient progress to provide updates during the December ACWA meetings.

The agencies are working with Avry Dotan on various MOCASIM issues, including NSJWCD water rights, and measuring effects of raising Lower Bear.

Gene Mancebo reported that discussions on the Terms and Conditions are positive. Ed Pattison explained that the context is not limited to four agencies, but to the entire Forum. In response to some comments, Gene pointed out that protest resolution is a focus of the Terms and Conditions, after which there will be significant remaining work to do. One challenge is limitations on existing models: a new one is needed. His view is that discussions on any options remain conceptual.

Pete Bell expressed frustration at a lack of specific information about a Raise Lower Bear option and inquired when details would be discussed with the full Forum. He also asked how the entire system can be modeled.

Ed Pattison indicated that Avry is designing a high-level mass balance analysis, and that the current modeling suggests opportunities for an IRCUP. Ed also opined that more time should be spent by the four agencies on the overall effort to make progress.

There was a strong overall message from Forum members not involved in the four agency discussions that they seek progress and a product.

**AGENDA TOPIC: Update on Funding**

Mike Floyd reviewed SB X-21 and related funding vehicles including Prop. 84. See the discussion in the September 2008 meeting summary.

SBX2-1 was signed into law in September and appropriates approximately \$840 million from Prop. 84 and Prop. 1E. The details of possible funding opportunities are complicated and merit further attention from Forum members. Three statewide meetings are planned by DWR to address these topics. Projects with inter-regional significance appear to be attractive candidates, and continue to have support at DWR. Funding for both planning and implementation appears likely. Mike Floyd advised a focus on the linkage of the IRCUP to IRWMPs and on DWR's regional acceptance process.

One topic raised in discussions is whether the Forum should support smaller local projects, such as Miche Grove, in addition to the larger IRCUP.

Mel proposed that the Forum take steps to seek planning funds based on the work done already by WRIME, and there was general support for this step.

**AGENDA TOPIC: NEXT FORUM MEETING**

The next meeting of the Mokelumne River Forum is tentatively scheduled to take place in January 2009. 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 September 4, 2008 meeting of the Mokelumne River Forum was adjourned at approximately 12 noon.

**NEXT FORUM MEETING BREAKFAST PROVIDER**

To be assigned.

**NOTE: The initial draft of these meeting minutes was prepared by Mike Harty. Please send comments or questions to [jmharty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmharty@sbcglobal.net).**