

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

City/County Library Community Room

995 Palm Street

San Luis Obispo

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

1:30 p.m.

1. **Introductions and Determination of a Quorum**
 2. **Approval of June and July meeting minutes**
 3. **Public Comment**
 4. **Ongoing Updates:**
 - a. **San Luis Drainage Feature Re-evaluation Project (Central Valley Selenium Project)**
 - b. **Santa Margarita Ag Cluster EIR**
 - c. **Conservation and Open Space Element**
 - d. **North County Water Forum**
 - e. **IRWM / Master Water Plan**
 - f. **State Water**
 - g. **CA Water Plan**
 5. **Invasive Mussel Species**
 6. **Report on the Countywide Community Services District Association (CSDA) Chapter**
 7. **Future Agenda Items**
- Adjourn by 3:00 pm ---*

Next Regular Meeting: **October 1, 2008 1:30 pm**
City/County Library Community Room
995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo

Visit Water Resources on the Web at: www.slocountywater.org

Purpose of the Committee:

To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the SLO County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. To recommend to the Board specific water resource programs. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated March, 6, 2007

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2008

Approximately 1:30 pm; Chairperson Winn called the meeting to order.

- 1) Introductions of Members and Attendees – Quorum Established
- 2) Approval of April 2008 Meeting Minutes – The May 7, 2008, WRAC meeting minutes were approved upon a first by Member Buel, second by Member Mulholland, and a unanimous vote.
- 3) Public Comment – John Snyder speaks about the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin litigation including the decision by the landowners to appeal, request for a hearing regarding prescription and overdraft being considered on June 13th, portions of the case's transcript and comparison of the accounting for recipients of Twitchell Reservoir water versus accounting for recipients of the Santa Maria/Nipomo CSD inter-tie project water. Alternate Member Bianchi speaks about a Southwest Hydrology article regarding a 3.5 million acre-foot recharge project in Arizona. Member Buel informs the WRAC about a June 11th Nipomo CSD Board meeting agenda item regarding the current calculation of groundwater storage for the Nipomo mesa and the report's availability on the Nipomo CSD's website. Mark Hutchinson, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the County has completed the first-year Annual Report for its Stormwater Management Program, available for review and comment on the Public Works Department website. Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC of a July 7th Planning Commission hearing on the Santa Margarita Ranch EIR, that San Simeon CSD will be a new member, that Richard Wimmer, Public Works intern assisting with website development and the data collection program, will be hired as a County Parks Aide, and that she will be giving an overview of water resources in the County at the June 9th Health Commission meeting. Member Winn speaks to water issues in the southeast of Spain that WRAC members may be interested in learning about.
- 4) Member Report – City of Pismo Beach – Dennis Delzeit, Director of Public Works, summarizes water resources issues for the City of Pismo Beach, including current and build-out population; sources of supply and their ability to meet needs at build-out; the Northern Cities Agreement for groundwater management; results of their recycling/reuse study and the wastewater treatment plant upgrade; ocean and stream water quality investigations; 1990s retrofit program and current conservation policies.
- 5) Integrated Regional Water Management Program/Master Water Plan – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, summarizes the anticipated changes to the guidelines under Proposition 84, including the requirement to form a Water Management Group with a formal agreement as a governance structure and a region approval process. Ms. Howard also speaks to the development of the Master Water Plan in conjunction with the IRWM Plan update and solicits water resources planning documents from agencies.

- 6) Consideration of a special July or August Meeting – Potential reasons for calling a special meeting were discussed, including the Santa Margarita Ranch Final EIR and Affordable Housing Ordinance. Consensus was reached that if a special meeting was called, it would ideally be held on July 2nd at 1:30 pm in the Library Community Room.

- 7) Ongoing Updates
 - a. Invasive Mussel Species – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the Planning and Public Works Departments will be presenting an update on the issue at a June 24th Board of Supervisors meeting.
 - b. AB 303 Local Groundwater Assistance Grant Program – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the City of Paso Robles application to complete a Groundwater Management Plan for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin qualified for grant funding, and that others who didn't were encouraged to request that they be considered by the State for a Capacity Building Grant.
 - c. Proposed Basin Plan Revisions – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the Regional Water Board approved the Revised Basin Plan with a change from "requirement" to "recommendation" of 5-year septic system pumping and inspection, and that it is to be approved by the State Water Board before it becomes administrative law, most likely in January of 2009. Chairperson Winn notes that "agency" was defined as the County.
 - d. State Water – Schedule for Reviewing Options for Shandon's Allocation – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC her next step will be contacting Shandon to discuss the topic, with Member Sinton informing the WRAC that Shandon will be holding a workshop to discuss their water issues. Ms. Howard also informs the WRAC that the annual transfer program will be a two-year program in accordance with State Department of Water Resources requirements.
 - e. Budget Hearings – Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that the budget report was finalized before the WRAC's recommendation for funding the monitoring of sentry wells in the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin could be incorporated, and that the amendment would be read into the record at the Board of Supervisor's budget hearings the week of June 16th, and incorporated into the final budget book.

- 8) Future Agenda Items – Data Enhancement Plan; Conservation Element; Resource Management System.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:15 pm.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING

Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2008

Approximately 1:30 pm; Chairperson Winn called the meeting to order.

- 1) Introductions of Members and Attendees – Quorum Established
- 2) Consideration of Comments with Cover Letter on the Santa Margarita Ranch Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) – After an introduction of the comments and cover letter, discussion ensues regarding the need for a Resource Capacity Study of the area, the need for proof that the project owners will secure water from Nacimiento to cover all domestic water use for cumulative buildout, the need for sufficient historical data, the principle that the WRAC's comments should only be on information specifically in the FEIR, the anticipated water use for the proposed residential development, and the need to evaluate water needs for the future proposed development. Member Mulholland moved to have the WRAC Chair sign (as drafted) and submit the letter to the Chair of the Board of Supervisors, to the Board of Supervisors, and to the Planning Commission, with Member Garfinkel seconding the motion. The motion passed, with a vote of 13 to 1.

Meeting adjourned approximately 2:15 pm.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2008

Organization	Representative		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul**	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cambria CSD	Jim Adams	M			X	X	X	X					
	Robert Reasons	A						X					
	Bob Gresens	Staff	X										
Heritage Ranch CSD	John D'Ornellas	M	X			X							
	Debbie Fransen	A											
Los Osos CSD	John Schempf	M	X			X		X	X				
	Steve Senet	A	X	X		X	X						
	George Milanes	Staff	X										
	Margret Falkner	Staff											
Nipomo CSD	Bruce Buel	M	X	X	*	X	X	X	X				
	Ed Eby	A	X	X	X		X		X				
Oceano CSD	Patrick O'Reilly	M	X						X				
	Phil Davis	A											
Templeton CSD	Paul Sorensen	M					X	X					
	Laurie Ion	A											
San Simeon CSD	John Russell*	NM											
	Charles Grace*	NA											
City of Arroyo Grande	Chuck Fellows	M		X	*	X	X						
	Jim Guthrie	A											
City of Atascadero	Steve Kahn	M											
	David Athey	A											
City of Grover Beach	Chuck Ashton	M		X	X	X	X	X	X				
	Bill Nicolls	A											
City of Morro Bay	Betty Winholtz	M	X	X	X	X	X	X					
	Bill Boucher	A											
	Dylan Wade*	NA						X					
City of Paso Robles	Christopher Alakel	M			*		X						
	Doug Monn	A											
	Iris Prieststaff	Staff			X								
City of Pismo Beach	Kris Vardas	M											
	Dennis Delzeit	A	X	X		X	X	X					
City of San Luis Obispo	Christine Mulholland	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
	Alan Settle	A											
	Ron Munds	Staff											
	Gary Henderson	Staff	X	X	X	X		X	X				
District 1	Steve Sinton	M	X	X	X	X	X	X					
District 2	Bill Garfinkel	M	X	X	X	X	X	X					
District 3	Marilee Hyman	M	X	X	X	X	X	X					
District 4	Michael Winn	M	X	X	*	X	X	X	X				
District 5	Dan O'Grady	M	X	X	X	X	X	*	X				
Ca Mens Colony	John Kellerman	M	X	X	X	X		X					
	Gerald Elwood	A											
Camp SLO	Chris Long	M			X	*		X					
	Nicole Balliet	A				*							
Cuesta College	Edralin Maduli	M											
	Terry Reece	A			X								
Atascadero Mutual	John Neil	M				X							
	Jaime Lien	A			X			X	X				
Golden State Water	Mark Zimmer	M			X		X	X					
	Dan Dorlack	A											
Agriculture at Large	Ray Allen	M	X	X	X	X							
	Mike Broadhurst	A	X		X	*	X	X					
County Farm Bureau	Joy Fitzhugh	M	X	X	X	X	X	*					
	Jackie Crabb	A						X	X				
Environmental at Large	Sue Luft	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
	Eric Greening	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
	David Chipping	A	X	X	X	X		X	X				
	Sue Harvey	A			X				X				
Coastal San Luis RCD	Linda Chipping	M	X	X	X	X		X	X				
	Kathie Matsuyama	A											
Upper Salinas RCD	Tom Mora	M											
	Bill Bianchi	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
	Gidi Pullen	Staff					X						
Public Works Staff	Courtney Howard	Staff	X	X	X	X		X					
	Paavo Ogren	Staff		X			X						
	Dean Benedix	Staff			X	X	X	X	X				
	Sylas Cranor	Staff	X	X	X	X		X	X				
	Glen Priddy	Staff					X						
	Mark Hutchinson	Staff					X	X					
Planning Staff	James Caruso	Staff			X		X						
	Martha Miller	Staff			X								
Parks Staff	Don Melin	Staff					X						
Env. Health Staff	Laurie Salo	Staff											
	Leslie Terry	Staff	X		X	X	X	X	X				
	Megan Lillich	Staff	X		X	X		X					
Ag. Com. Staff	Michael Isensee	Staff	X	X	X	X		X					

M= Member; A= Alternate; NM=New Member NA= New Alternate 0 = No nomination received as of 8/11/08
 *To be confirmed at a future BOS meeting
 **Special Meeting
 * = Notified of Absence/Conflict



San Luis Obispo County

Department of Planning and Building Environmental Division

TO: Each Member, Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)

FROM: Jeff Oliveira, Environmental Resource Specialist

DATE: August 28, 2008

SUBJECT: San Luis Drainage Feature Reevaluation EIS Status Update

The purpose of this memo is to provide the WRAC, along with other interested parties and stakeholders, with a brief status update with regards to the progress of the San Luis Drainage Feature Reevaluation Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

As you recall, the Draft EIS evaluated a total of eight alternatives for the purpose of providing agricultural drainage service to the San Luis Unit of the Central Valley Project. The County Planning and Building Department prepared a comment letter (August 31, 2005) that addressed substantive inadequacies with respect to the Draft EIS with a focus on the impact analysis provided for the Out of Valley/Ocean Disposal ("Ocean Disposal") Alternative. This alternative included a proposal to transport agricultural drainage from the San Luis Drainage Unit to an outfall structure in the Estero Bay area, and represents the greatest environmental and economic impacts to San Luis Obispo County.

As of March, 2007, the USBR had signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for the San Luis Drainage Feature Re-evaluation EIS. The ROD indicated that the Ocean Disposal Alternative would not be recommended as the preferred alternative for wastewater drainage. Instead, the USBR had selected the In-Valley Water Needs Land Retirement Alternative as the alternative for implementation. The selected alternative would fulfill the requirements of a District Court Order and a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that the USBR has a statutory duty to provide drainage service to the San Luis Unit.

Under the selected alternative, a total of 194,000 acres would be retired from irrigated agriculture in the San Luis Unit. The alternative also includes drainage reduction measures, collector systems, drainage water reuse facilities, treatment systems and evaporation ponds.

Recently, the County received an update from the USBR that outlines the availability of a Feasibility Report for the project that highlights two In-Valley treatment alternatives. This includes the In-Valley/Drainage Impaired Land Retirement Alternative and the In-

Valley Water Needs Land Retirement Alternative (as analyzed in the ROD). As such, the USBR has chosen not to move forward with the Estero Bay "Ocean Disposal" Alternative.

In partnership with the other concerned stakeholders, the County Planning and Building Department will continue to follow the progress of the implementation of the In-Valley Alternatives as it moves through the implementation process.

Thank you for your continued interest in this project as the outcome had the potential for significant impacts countywide. Please feel free to contact Jeff Oliveira, or Ellen Carroll at 805-781-5010 if you have questions.

Mid-Pacific Region
Sacramento, CA

MP-08-091

Media Contact: Pete Lucero, 916-978-5100, plucero@mp.usbr.gov

For Release On: July 8, 2008

Reclamation Releases Feasibility Report for the San Luis Drainage Feature Re-evaluation

The Bureau of Reclamation has released the San Luis Drainage Feature Re-evaluation Feasibility Report which presents feasibility level designs and cost estimates for two alternatives for drainage service in the Central Valley Project's San Luis Unit (SLU): (1) In-Valley/Drainage Impaired Land Retirement and (2) In-Valley/Water Needs Land Retirement. The feasibility report confirms that new legislation would be required to implement the In-Valley/Water Needs Land Retirement Alternative selected in the March 2007 Record of Decision. The new legislation would increase the construction cost ceiling for distribution systems and drains for the SLU.

The feasibility report was prepared in accordance with the March 1983 *Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies*. It was developed to comply with a December 2000 order of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California directing the U.S. Department of the Interior to provide drainage service to the SLU without delay. To comply with the court's order, the Department is forwarding the report to Congress for consideration.

Based upon preliminary analysis associated with the report's preparation, Reclamation initiated a concurrent process to explore an alternative solution to the drainage problem. Reclamation continues to work with interested stakeholders on a proposal under which SLU irrigation districts would assume financial responsibility to provide drainage service within their service areas; this would relieve the Federal Government of the responsibility to provide drainage. The districts already own most lands required to address drainage needs; thus, selecting this proposal would avoid the substantial land acquisition costs the Department would otherwise face and dramatically reduces the cost of a drainage solution. The parties remain hopeful that the ongoing discussion will result in a cost-effective resolution of this long-standing issue. Any alternative arising from this process would also require Congressional authorization.

The report may be viewed at <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/sccaosld/index.html>. If you encounter problems accessing the report online, please contact Ms. Lynnette Wirth at 916-978-5102 or lwirth@mp.usbr.gov.

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Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier and the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the United States, with operations and facilities in the 17 Western States. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits. Visit our website at www.usbr.gov.



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation



TO: Water Resource Advisory Committee

FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer

DATE: September 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4.d: North County Water Forum

County and City of Paso Robles Staff will be working with the North County Water Forum, as stakeholders overlying the Basin, to develop a Groundwater Management Plan for the Basin and the Resource Capacity Study for the area of significant decline in the Basin. The WRAC's Groundwater Banking Subcommittee may be interested in attending these meetings to keep track of how the Study results are incorporated into these two efforts. The next meeting is being held at the Templeton CSD office from 5 to 6:30 on Thursday, September 4th.

TO: Water Resource Advisory Committee
FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer
DATE: September 3, 2008
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4.e: IRWM/Master Water Plan

The following is a brief summary of anticipated next steps for the IRWM and Master Water Plans:

IRWM Plan

- 1) Upon availability, review and comment on the new guidelines for IRWM Plans
- 2) Prepare a list of improvements needed for the San Luis Region's IRWM Plan to be competitive
- 3) Conduct a workshop to go over the improvements needed, the proposed approach to address them, and receive feedback
- 4) Make needed improvements, including the incorporation of the four documents developed with planning grant funding (Groundwater Banking Study, Data Enhancement Plan, Regional Permitting Plan, and Flood Control Plan)

Master Water Plan

- 1) Develop scope of work for hiring a consultant to assist
- 2) Inventory County-wide water supply, demand, project and needs information
- 3) Review scope of work and inventory with the WRAC
- 4) Conduct process for hiring a consultant
- 5) Develop the Master Water Plan document

TO: Water Resource Advisory Committee

FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer

DATE: September 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4.f: State Water

San Luis Obispo County began transferring its excess allocation of State Water to the Central Coast Water Authority in August. The program will continue through the end of 2009 as long as the allocation of State Water Table A amounts from the State remain at 40% and below.

The State also has released a third draft of its Delta Vision Strategic Plan for public review. It provides a comprehensive description of the issues in the Delta, through which State Water is conveyed. The report can be found at <http://deltavision.ca.gov>.

TO: Water Resource Advisory Committee

FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer

DATE: September 3, 2008

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4.g: CA Water Plan

A draft of the Central Coast Region report for the 2009 of the California Water Plan can be found at <http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/regions/index.cfm>. The County has submitted comments on the draft plan and can be viewed by following the public comments link on the website. WRAC members may also be interested in reviewing the analytical tools used and resource management strategies considered in developing the CA Water Plan, also available on the website.

The San Luis Region's IRWM Plan and the County-wide Master Water Plan will be developed with consideration of their relationship to the CA Water Plan and of the technical strategies used to develop the CA Water Plan.

TO: Water Resource Advisory Committee
FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer
DATE: September 3, 2008
SUBJECT: Agenda Item #5: Invasive Mussel Species

Recommendation

Choose a representative(s) to attend an interagency meeting on Invasive Mussel prevention.

Discussion

At the June 24, 2008, Board of Supervisors hearing, Chairperson Patterson directed Public Works to draft a letter to Monterey County articulating the Board's concerns discussed at the Board hearing and to set a meeting with Monterey County Board Members and staff, with Supervisor Ovitt, Chairperson Patterson, Public Works and Parks staff, the WRAC, the City of SLO and other advisory groups to discuss the invasive mussel issue. County staff is in the process of coordinating this meeting. Due to the number of participants and the potential for travel to Monterey County, Staff recommends choosing one or more representatives from WRAC to participate.

County staff, in coordination with the City of San Luis Obispo, has also identified potential external resources to assist with the development of response plans for the reservoirs.

The monitoring reports for July and August are attached. No invasive mussels were detected. No new preventative measures have been put into place.

2008 July SLO Co. PWD Invasive Mussel Monitoring Program - Summary Report

Reservoir	Agency	No. of sites	Were all sites inspected?	Any confirmed positives?	Notes
Lopez Lk	CDFG	1	No ⁽¹⁾	---	
Lopez Lk	SLO Co. PWD	3	Yes	No	
Lopez Terminal	SLO Co. PWD	1	No ⁽²⁾	---	
Salinas	CDFG	1	No ⁽¹⁾	---	
Salinas	SLO Co. PWD	2	No ⁽³⁾	---	
Nacimiento	CDFG	1	No ⁽¹⁾	---	
Nacimiento	SLO Co. PWD/OSCA	1	Yes	No	Artificial substrate missing; surface survey only
Nacimiento	HRCSD/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No	
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No	
San Antonio	CDFG	1	No ⁽¹⁾	---	
San Antonio	Mo. Co. Parks	1	Yes	No	
Lake Cachuma	SB Co. Parks	6	Yes	No	

Notes:

(1) CDFG sites not inspected in July due to staff turnover.

(2) Lopez Terminal inspection was inadvertently missed.

(3) Routine operator's visit to Salinas Reservoir in July was too close to previous inspection at end of June, so the July inspection was not performed; next inspection is scheduled for August 12.

SLO Co. PWD Regional Invasive Mussel Monitoring Program - Summary Report - August 2008

Information compiled Aug. 28, 2008

Reservoir	Agency	No. of sites	Were all sites inspected?	Any confirmed positives?	Notes
Lopez Lk	CDFG	1	No	---	Inspections scheduled to resume in September
Lopez Lk	SLO Co. PWD	3	Yes	No	
Lopez Terminal	SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No	
Salinas	CDFG	1	No	---	Inspections scheduled to resume in September
Salinas	SLO Co. PWD	2	Yes	No	
Nacimiento	CDFG	1	Yes	No	Inspected by SLO Co. PWD staff and Mo. Co. Parks staff
Nacimiento	SLO Co. PWD/OSCA	1	No	---	
Nacimiento	HRCSD/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No	
Nacimiento	Mo. Co. Parks/SLO Co. PWD	1	Yes	No	
Nacimiento	MCWRA	2	Yes	No	Inspected by Mo. Co. Parks Dept. staff
San Antonio	CDFG	1	Yes	No	Inspected by Mo. Co. Parks Dept. staff
San Antonio	Mo. Co. Parks	1	Yes	No	
Lake Cachuma	SB Co. Parks	6	Yes	No	