

MEMBER UNITS EXHIBIT NUMBER 24

DRAFT

February 24, 1994

NOTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 1994 MEETING OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER FISHERIES CONSENSUS COMMITTEE

Summary of topics discussed:

- Recent Long Pool Survey
- Review of notes of the previous meeting.
- Review and discussion of Bradbury Dam releases.
- Status of flashboards for spillway gates.
- Report of the TAC, giving a summary of the studies to date and discussion of the future work plan and budget.
- Discussion of coordinating the use of the fishery information.
- Discussion of interim fishery agreement.
- Discussion of the fish poaching incident below Bradbury Dam.
- Soil Conservation Service Information.
- Rivershed management plan.
- Short-term water release needs for fish.

Handouts:

- Summary - Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee December 15, 1993
- Bradbury Dam operations June through December
- News articles about the fish poaching incident, photos and a letter to the editor of the Santa Barbara News-Press
- February 2, 1994, Draft Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation and Fish Maintenance - Santa Ynez River -
- Memorandum (Dated May 14, 1991) from Thomas R. Payne & Associates, Fisheries Consultants, regarding Habitat Mapping and Tributary Migration Site Survey

Recent Long Pool Survey

Brian Trautwein reported on his February 1, 1994, survey of fisheries - He had found at least ten trout, possibly Steelhead Salmon, many of the fish appeared to be pregnant. Some of the fish had their dorsal fins above the surface, apparently displaying signs of guarding redds (nests). Three redds were found, two were out of the water with eggs drying out, one was in the water with enough cover to last maybe a week before drying out. - The recommendation was to release water to the river in a manner that will keep the remaining redd safe from desiccation.

Review of notes of the previous meeting.

There were several comments, but no revisions. Bill Luce promised to get the notes of this meeting out in a more timely manner.

Review and discussion of Bradbury Dam releases.

Bill Luce explained the Handout on Bradbury Dam operations. In June of 1993, there was no differentiation between surcharge and storage and the zeros in the first part of that month represent a period of spill. The surcharge was gone by mid-August. The erratic daily totals in October was explained by the difficulty to make low flow adjustments. Releases above the 20 acre-feet amounted to 40.2 acre-feet and were a

the background information to relate temperature to the physiological needs of the fish spatially and temporally.

Dissolved oxygen measurements were taken by Bruce Jones of the Bureau of Reclamation at three sites below Bradbury Dam. The first site was the stilling basin, the second at the long pool, and the third site was a pool at the Highway 154 bridge. The ranges of oxygen concentration generally decreased further downstream of Bradbury Dam.

The fish surveys have yielded information of fish abundance, species composition and fish distribution in the Santa Ynez River and some of the major tributaries. This data has been correlated with the results from the temperature and water quality which has led to a framework proposal for future investigations.

The summary report for the 1993 activities should be available sometime next week.

Discussion of coordinating the use of the fishery information. / Discussion of interim fishery agreement.

It was suggested that the committee nominate some people to serve on the TAC to control task management, budgeting, and administrative functions. Chuck Evens, Steve Mack, and Tom Peterson were nominated. This recommendation shall also become part of the Memorandum of Understanding.

The future work plan covering follow-up on the 1993 monitoring, the project work for 1994, cost sharing, and budgeting is not complete at this time. After several revisions, the document is acceptable to some but not to others. It was agreed that in the course of the day's meeting, closure would not be possible.

Hansen, Entrix, Cal F&G and possibly USF&WS will be meeting on the February 10 and February 11 to discuss a unified recommendation on a future work plan. The study plans of the present work and the study plan of the EIS/EIR will be compared to determine the adequacy of TAC data for the EIS/EIR process. Operating under the assumption that TAC's study plan may fit the EIS/EIR timetable, a number of results are anticipated, such as accelerated studies in part of the work area. Other topics include the idea that the studies rely too heavily on budgeting from the water agencies. Among the agencies, the hope that the EIS/EIR processes does not get bogged down in the present study and that the EIS/EIR will rely on existing data.

Soil Conservation Service Information.

Cindy Chadwick informed the Committee of the Soil Conservation Service's plan to develop land treatment sites on private lands in the Santa Ynez River watershed area. At the end of February SCS will do a field trip reconnaissance survey of the area, to select specific sites for their treatments. Money may be available for erosion control. The Committee should look for ways to take advantage of this prospect.

Rivershed management plan.

California Coastal Conservancy will be looking at the general area in the near future. We may anticipate a process similar to the Santa Clara River. The studies may overlap with the land use planning for the Santa Ynez Valley already underway.

Short-Term water release needs for fish.

In consideration of the most recent findings at the Long Pool, it has become very important to come up with a declaration of an interim flow requirement. Tom, Chuck, Steve plan to meet on this subject by February 3, 1994, and communicate this to Reclamation and to the Entities.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting Monday, February 28, 1994, at the Goleta Sanitary District office.

MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Name: Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee Meeting

Location: Conference Room, Goleta Sanitary District Office, 1000 James
Fowler Road, Goleta CA

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 1994

Time: 9:30 a.m.

The Agenda Will Include:

- (1) Review of minutes of previous meeting. (Consensus)
- (2) Status of flashboards for spillway gates. (Discussion)
- ⊥ (3) Coordination and use of fishery information. (Discussion)
- ⊥ (4) Weir installation and fish survey status. (Discussion) *Phone #'s*
- ⊥ (5) River Status (Discussion)
- (6) "MOU for Cooperation in Research and Fish Maintenance - Santa Ynez River" (Discussion and Consensus)
- (7) Other Items (Open Topic Discussion)
- (8) Agenda for Next Consensus Committee Meeting (Discussion)

June 14, 9:30 A e Golsen



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
South-Central California Area Office
2666 North Grove Industrial Drive, Suite 106
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CPA File
LSYR Consensus Comm.
(Fish Studies/MOW)



IN REPLY REFER TO:

SCC-427
ENV-4.00/PRJ-13.00

AUG 19 1994

AUG 22 1994


Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee
(See attached list)

Subject: Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee Meeting - Cachuma
Project

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the draft meeting notes for the last Consensus Committee meeting held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 1994. If you have any questions or comments, please call me at (209) 487-5139 or for the hearing impaired (209) 487-5933.

Sincerely,


J. Carl Dealy
Natural Resource Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

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August 17, 1994

NOTES OF THE **June 14, 1994** MEETING OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER FISHERIES CONSENSUS COMMITTEE

Attached: List of Attendees

Summary of topics discussed:

Handouts:

- Changes to Notes of the Previous Meetings February 28, 1994 - Dated, March 14, 1994
 - "MOU for Cooperation in Research and Fish Maintenance - Santa Ynez River"
 - Ceremonial Signing of the MOU and Dan Beard's Visit
 - Report of the River Operations Status
 - Fish Survey Status
 - State Water Board Activities
 - Steelhead Management Plan for California
 - CCWA - Montgomery Watson Study
 - Meeting Concerning State Water Board 89-18 Requirements, May 19, 1994
 - Announcement of Lompoc Policy Committee Meeting
 - Status of Flashboards for Spillway Gates
 - Agenda/Scheduling for Next Consensus Committee Meeting
- Copy of the Steelhead Management Plan for California was made available through Cindy Chadwick, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)

Changes to Notes of the Previous Meeting (February 28, 1994 - Dated, March 14, 1994)

Art Kidman asked for a change to the third full paragraph of page three. The word, "incorporate" should be stricken and replaced with the word "consider" so that it now reads, "CCRB believes that the contract renewal process should proceed and is willing to consider a re-opener process to cover possible releases based upon the results of the on-going studies."

"MOU for Cooperation in Research and Fish Maintenance - Santa Ynez River"

Bill Luce will sign on behalf of the Bureau of Reclamation and Craig Faanes will sign on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Art Kidman stated that he had signatures from CCRB Improvement District No. 1 and Parent District as well as CDFG. Although they have approved the MOU, the County water Agency has not signed at this time.

There remain some residual concerns from the City of Lompoc (City). Although the City has no objection to the MOU in principle, the portion of the MOU dealing with WR 89-18

Report of the River Operations Status

Ali Shahroody gave his estimate of the start of the release to be July 16, 1994. The primary target and objective is to recharge the Lompoc Basin. The secondary target is to recharge the upper basin.

The method planned is similar to what has been done in the past. Releases must be made at the highest rate possible. This will be 125 cfs for 10 to 12 days, depending on river conditions, to get water to the narrows as quickly as possible. Once the water reaches the narrows, the release may be throttled down to 100 to 90 cfs and then further to 50 cfs. Once the flows reach "V" Street, we assume steady state conditions and then a release of 25 cfs should provide sustainable recharge. One cfs maintained through July 15 or until the start of the downstream release will end the downstream accounting. Mr. Shahroody noted that this strategy worked well last August through September.

The Ramp-down scheduling through October to a minimum flow will be decided by the TAC at the August scheduled meeting of the TAC. At that time, there will be an evaluation of habitat effects due to the ramp down of releases. Thereafter, minimal sustained releases as long as the fish are in good condition.

The question was raised by Art Kidman as to whether IFIM data from the California Department of Water Resources would be sufficient for the contract renewal EIS/EIR to a great extent or would new data collection effort, given the opportunities created by the future release schedule, be warranted. John Grey of Woodward Clyde responded that he would see if more studies could be coordinated.

Another question was raised about the need to ramp-up the releases to the downstream accounts. Evidently even at the high release rate, the flow will only advance on the surface at a slow, "crawling flow," rate. Therefore, ramping the flow up is not a concern.

Tony Buelna reported that we lost the live stream, for the purpose of above and below narrows accounting, on May 20, 1994.

Fish Survey Status

Cindy Chadwick introduced Scott Engbloom, the Project Biologist to the attendees. Then she summarized the study progress. Trapping has continued in order to assess population information. We have also learned something about the methods and should be

Steelhead Management Plan for California

Cindy Chadwick of the CDFG reported that in 1988 the state legislature enacted a bill that gave the CDFG a mandate to come up with plans to double the Salmon and Steelhead populations.

In April, the draft plan for doubling the Steelhead populations was completed. The plan identifies the Santa Ynez River as one of the southern streams that has been impacted the greatest and most imperiled. The MOU process/studies are not in this document, but Cindy assured the group that she would make sure that it was included in the newer drafts. The thought is that the present draft is for internal review. Cindy said that she would clarify the review process for the Consensus Committee.

Chip Wullbrandt of Price Postel and Parma, representing MWD and CCWD, expressed great concern about the perpetuation of the anecdotal comments on past Steelhead populations and the wording, "documented Steelhead." Russell Ruiz of Hill and Standford, representing GWD, voiced similar concerns.

CCWA - Montgomery Watson Study

Art Kidman stated that there is a concern that a great amount of money could be spent on engineering for the possibility that fish imprinting may be disrupted due to the mixing of state water project water. It will be difficult to support this expense given that there seems to be little scientific basis.

Cindy explained CDFG's understanding that under the currently planned project tapping into the valve configuration that up to flows of 22 cfs the water would be totally state water. This type of release would be unacceptable due to the possible effects to the imprinting in anadromous fish. CDFG does not want to foreclose on options to have a say on the water quality. So, the CDFG has asked Montgomery Watson to look for options to get a minimum 50/50 mixture.

The 50/50 mix proposed was not based on scientific evidence, although there is information on other anadromous fish populations showing negative effects.

As background, Rob Almy of the Santa Barbara County Water Agency provided a summary of the project alternatives. These include modifications to the existing release works with valves deep within the pipes. The other alternative may be some kind of siphon to release water from the reservoir to blend with water from the state water project water as needed. The latter alternative seems to be more desirable at this time.

Additions include a discussion of flashboards and the Steelhead imprinting issue. Any other agenda items could be communicated to Carl Dealy prior to the meeting.

Next meeting: Conference Room, Goleta Sanitary District Office
1000 James Fowler Road, Goleta CA

Date: Tuesday, September 20, 1994 Time: 9:30 a.m.

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS:

1. Reclamation will release 1 cfs total release starting today. The Technical Advisory Committee will revisit the amount of release before the week of July 5. Scott Engbloom will provide the biological information necessary.
2. Art Kidman will get the signatures on all the signature pages and distribute the executed MOU for Cooperation in Research and Fish Maintenance - Santa Ynez River.
3. Cindy Chadwick will distribute the Steelhead Management Plan to those who need it. She will determine the current status of the review process.
4. Ann Ball will coordinate the pre-meeting for the State Water Board meeting.
5. Carl Dealy will get this meeting and the previous meeting's notes distributed.

File



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
South-Central California Area Office
2666 North Grove Industrial Drive, Suite 106
Fresno, California 93727-1551



IN REPLY REFER TO:

SCC-427
ENV-4.00/PRJ-13.00

SEP 13 1994

SEP 15 1994

Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee
(See Attached List)

Subject: Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee Meeting - Cachuma
Project

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This is to confirm that the next Consensus Committee meeting will be held at
9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 4, 1994. The location will be:

Conference Room
Goleta Sanitary District Office
1000 James Fowler Road
Goleta, California 93116

Enclosed is the Agenda for the meeting. If you have any questions, please
call me at (209) 487-5139 or for the hearing impaired (209) 487-5933.

Sincerely,

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MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Name: Santa Ynez River Fisheries Consensus Committee Meeting
Location: Conference Room, Goleta Sanitary District Office, 1000 James
Fowler Road, Goleta CA
Date: Tuesday, October 4,, 1994 Time: 9:30 a.m.

The Agenda Will Include:

- (1) Review of minutes of previous meetings. (Consensus) *August 17, 1994*
 - (2) Fish Survey Status - Coordination and use of fishery information.
(Scott Engbloom)(Discussion)
 - (3) Steelhead Management Plan for California/Steelhead Listing. (~~Paul C. Dealy~~
P. Forsberg, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game)(Discussion)
 - (4) Cachuma Project Contract Renewal EIS/EIR Status (J. Gray)
 - (5) Status of flashboards for spillway gates. (Rob Almy, Santa Barbara
Co. Water Agency)(Tony Buelna,USBR)
 - (6) Report of the River Operations Status. (Tony Buelna,USBR)
 - (7) CCWA - Montgomery Watson Study. (C. Dealy) (*P. Forsberg letter*)
 - (8) State Water Board Activities (Art Kidman)
 - (9) Other Items (Open Topic Discussion) *State Coastal Conservancy - SYREP*
 - (10) Agenda/Scheduling for Next Consensus Committee Meeting (Discussion)
- (11) SYRIAC Goals