

Alameda Creek Fisheries Workgroup Meeting Summary

March 10, 2011 - 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission - 1145 Market Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco, CA

Attendees:

Leigh Ochikubo Chan (East Bay Parks)	Bill Trush (McBain & Trush)
Jeff Miller (Alameda Creek Alliance)	Andy Gunther (CEMAR)
Stuart Moock (Garcia & Associates for PG&E)	Gordon Becker (CEMAR)
Scott Chenue (SFPUC)	David Thomas (PG&E)
Brian Sak (SFPUC)	Brad Ledesma (Zone 7)
Tim Ramirez (SFPUC)	Chuck Hanson (Hanson Environmental)
Ahod Dakal (SFPUC)	Ellen Natesan (SFPUC)
Elke Rank (Zone 7)	Jennifer Vick (SFPUC)
Josh Fuller (NMFS)	Gabe Rossi (McBain & Trush)
Krissy Atkinson (CDFG)	Kristina Cervantes (UC Berkeley student)
Eric Cartwright (ACWD)	Ellen Natesan (SFPUC)
Evan Buckland (ACWD)	Jennifer Vick (consultant for PG&E)
Scott McBain (McBain & Trush)	

Meeting Summary:

1. Introductions
2. Workgroup Nuts & Bolts
 - a. Potential speakers/topics for future meetings:
 - Kevin Urquhart, Monterey Peninsula Water District - Carmel River
 - Smolt trapping on Napa River
 - NMFS
 - ACWD – new passage flows
 - b. Funding partners have updated the Workgroup's MOU with additional funding specifications, and each has allocated funding for the next tasks. Associated scope of work will likely need updating but this should not have an impact on the funds recently allocated.
 - c. Updates/ Announcements:
 - ACWD applied for and received two grants for the BART weir, fish screens and rubber dam projects. Krissy noted that the next round of fisheries restoration grants is due this month. Alameda is again a focus watershed.
 - Jeff provided an update on Caltrans' Niles Canyon project. Caltrans has cut approximately 80 trees (mature sycamores), and they intend to install 1,000 feet of hardscape as part of Phase 1. For Phase 1, all permits seem to be in order. Phase 2,

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for which a CEQA document was circulated last year, includes removal of several hundred more trees. Mitigation may be in the Livermore area. Phase 3 is in the planning stages, and will include a bridge at the Stonybrook Creek crossing that has long been identified as an important passage project in the watershed.

- Tim and Josh announced that the NMFS Biological Opinion for the Calaveras Dam Replacement Project was signed by NMFS on Monday. Project will go before SF Board of Supervisors this month. The SFPUC is awaiting an Army Corps permit and other permits before beginning construction. BO will be shared with the public/Workgroup.
 - Andy noted that CEMAR's contract with Alameda County Public Works Agency is coming to a close as of May or June; it includes maintaining our documents on their website and the fish webcam). Group should consider if the CEMAR contract better fits under the MOU which is funded by the 5 funding partners.
 - At Andy's suggestion, Jeff offered to prepare a chronology of the Workgroup and their efforts.
3. Migration Flows. Eric Cartwright announced a conceptual agreement on flows in the flood control channel between ACWD and CDFG and NMFS. He noted that continuous flows would be provided for immigration and outmigration. The next step for ACWD is to design the BART weir fishway and draft a biological assessment. Agency staff hope to complete construction of this project in 2013. Eric said he will discuss the flows determination process and its results at the next Workgroup meeting.

End.

(See separate notes from Flows subcommittee meeting).