

**Alameda Creek Fisheries Work Group
Flows Subcommittee**

November 6, 2006 10 AM – 12:30 PM

Natural Resources Defense Council
111 Sutter Street, 20th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Minutes

Attending:

Brenda Buxton, Coastal Conservancy
Jeff Miller, Alameda Creek Alliance
Monty Schmitt, Natural Resources Defense Council
Mary Lim, Zone 7 Water Agency
Brian Sak, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Laura Kidd, Alameda County Public Works Agency
Eric Cartwright, Alameda County Water District
Tim Ramirez, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Curtis Steitz, Pacific Gas & Electric Company

1. Announcements, review agenda

Brian Sak noted that the PUC has hired a new biologist, Mr. Scott Chenue, who will be working with Brian in Sunol by the end of November. Jeff Miller stated that a recent survey of 0.5 miles of Stonybrook Creek just below the first impassable road crossing, supervised by Pete Alexander, found many trout of multiple year-classes. Eric Cartwright noted that Jim Reynolds will be retiring later this month after 35 years with ACWD, and he will be replaced as Water Supply Supervisor by Ms. Laura Hidas.

2. Subcommittee Operations

The official representatives to the Flows Subcommittee, and their alternates, are as follows

Organization	Representative	Alternate
Alameda County Water District	Eric Cartwright	Thomas Niesar
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission	Tim Ramirez	Brian Sak
Coastal Conservancy	Brenda Buxton	None
Alameda County Flood Control	Laura Kidd	Carla Schulteis/Manny da Costa
Alameda Creek Alliance	Jeff Miller	Ralph Kanz
Natural Resources Defense Council	Monty Schmitt	Barry Nelson
Zone 7 Water Agency	David Houts	Mary Lim

Pacific Gas & Electric	Curtis Steitz	Diane Ross-Leech
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Eric Cartwright was nominated to serve as Chairperson of the Subcommittee, and this was approved by unanimous consent. It was agreed that the Subcommittee would set a regular meeting time of either the first Tuesday or Thursday of the month, or the second Thursday of the month, depending upon which of these days worked better for representatives from NMFS and DFG. It was requested that Andy contact Gary Stern and Krissy Atkinson as soon as possible regarding the schedule.

The subcommittee requested that a standing agenda item be a report from the project manager (presently Andy Gunther). It was also agreed that a meeting summary should be prepared for each meeting, with a draft circulated to the subcommittee members and their alternates for comment prior to approval at the subsequent meeting. It was envisioned that the approved meeting summary would be delivered to the Work Group and posted on the CEMAR web site.

While there was an interest in having different subcommittee members host the meeting, it was agreed that an effort should be made to have meetings accessible by BART.

3. Discuss Phase 1 Scope and budget from McBain & Trush

The members noted Gary Stern's comments regarding the text asking the consultant to conduct the analysis "while minimizing the impact to water supply." While all agreed that the signatories of the MOU recognize the importance of considering the impact of proposed flow regimes on water supply, it was also agreed that the product of Phase 1 should not be limited at this stage by such impacts. In addition, it was agreed that the scope should be modified to request that the consultant develop an understanding of water management in the watershed. As the Alameda County Water District Board will not meet to consider approval of the contract until December 14, 2006, the proposed schedule was changed accordingly.

The members of the subcommittee agreed that although cost of \$60,000 was higher than expected, review of proposed activities and labor rates suggested that the price was not inappropriate. Given the experience and expertise of the consultants, a high quality product is expected.

It was agreed that Andy would make the requested changes to the scope and distribute for a quick review by subcommittee members, after which it would be forwarded for Work Group review and approval.

4. Identify Technical Team members

It was noted that the Project Manager's budget is limited, and so it will be important that the Technical Team be well coordinated. Andy requested that each organization designate their Technical Team members in writing, with a "lead" member if there are more than one.

5. Compilation of data and information for Phase 1

Tim Ramirez reported that the SFPUC has compiled an initial list of documents in the form of an annotated bibliography. Tim agreed to provide it to Andy, who will circulate it to other subcommittee members to see if there are other documents to be added prior to forwarding the list to McBain & Trush.

6. Phase 1 cost sharing agreements and contracting schedule

Eric reported that the Alameda County Water District board will not be able to review the proposed contract to McBain & Trush until December 14.

7. Items for upcoming meetings

The only specific item noted was a progress report from the Project Manager.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.