



Meeting Notes

Water Management Technical Feedback

Friday July 20, 2012

Broadmoor Room, Piccadilly Inn University, Fresno, CA
DRAFT: 2012.0720

Attendees

Mario Manzo, Reclamation; Tyler Nunes, Reclamation; Jessica Fontaine, Reclamation; Rena Balew, Reclamation; Ed Salazar, Reclamation; Ernie Taylor, DWR; Gary Serrato, FID; Eric Quinley, FWA; Ron Jacobsma, FWA; Doug Welch, CWD; Bill Luce, FWA; Dan Vink, LTRID; Fergus Morrissey, OCID; Paul Hendrix, TID; Steve Ottemoeller, FWA; Ian LeMay, Costa's Office; Steve Collup, AEWSD; Tom Boardman, SLDMWA;

On the phone:

Beth Wrege, NOAA; Peter Vorster, TBI; Rod Meade, SJRRP Restoration Administrator;

Next Meetings

September 28th, 2012, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Piccadilly Inn University, Fresno, CA (to be confirmed)

December 13th

March 22nd, 2013

July 19th

Water Supply Briefing

Ed Salazar reviewed water supply reports and forecasts.

Interim Flow Releases and Accounting

Mario Manzo reviewed the status and future plans for interim flows and fall pulse flows. Discussion included:

- 350 cfs is being released currently, in accordance with latest RA recommendations
- Nothing being released past Sack Dam at this time because of groundwater-seepage concerns, though this concern/limitation is expected to undergo reevaluation.
- Steve Ottemoeller requested a flow accounting tool to review in advance of the next flow accounting meeting. The tool had been discussed previously with Dave Mooney as being developed by Reclamation. Mario indicated he would check with Apurba on the status of the tool.

Recovered Water Account

Mario Manzo discussed the recovered water account (RWA) methodology, balances, database and standard operating procedures. Discussion included:

- Settling Parties still looking to finalize a method for RWA calculation
- SJRRP Office (Apurba) is finalizing database for tracking balances
- Balances only reflect 16(b) usage, not recirculation under 16(a)

- Steve Collup stated that he appreciated the flexibility of Reclamation in allowing transfers of RWA balances
- Ron Jacobsma asked if RWA credits could be colored as Class 1 and Class 2 separately. Mario stated that if FWA came up with a procedure that was clear and had general agreement, then Reclamation would consider incorporating it into the database. Ron suggested that FWA would discuss this at an upcoming advisory board meeting, but noted that FWA does not represent the entire Friant Division and Reclamation would ultimately have to make the final decision

Restoration Flow Guidelines

Mario Manzo discussed steps for moving forward with the Restoration Flow Guidelines (RFG) in 2012. Discussion included:

- Upcoming meetings identified for August 29th, October 18th and December 18th
- Agenda for August will be Discussion of 13(i)
- Peter Vorster suggested that recent gaming sessions might need to be considered in the RFG discussions, and suggested a meeting to discuss outcomes from the sessions and perhaps continue the gaming sessions
- Rod Meade noted that he wanted to work more with agencies on developing the gaming tool into a common platform for evaluating flow schedule recommendations

Recapture and Recirculation

Mario Manzo opened discussion on recapture and recirculation. Discussion included:

- Districts noted that they will need advancement of water to make programs viable, cannot wait until October. Suggestions for advancement included CVP carryover or cushion over low point
- Districts requested Reclamation response on call for advancement. Mario noted that EA/FONSI and Westside agreements would be necessary, and that the issue remains whether advanced water would eventually become available.
- Friant districts noted a desire to begin the EA process next week, and reiterated that they needed the supplies before September.
- Districts requested that there be a clause developed to allow districts with interest in San Luis supply to access them, if other districts with supplies are not interested in having access to them. The method for setting this “cutoff” time for submitting a schedule should be included in the Recirculation & Recapture SOPs. FWA noted that they do not represent all of the contractors, and while they are willing to submit a suggestion on a “cutoff”, Reclamation would have to determine whether the procedure is acceptable for all the Friant Division contractors.

Recapture & Recirculation Plan

Mario Manzo reviewed 2012 recirculation volumes.

- 120 TAF projected available supply for 2012
- 64 TAF of projected supply has been captured
- 61 TAF of captured supply has been scheduled for delivery
- 3 TAF remain in storage, unscheduled

Mario noted that there would be \$200,000 available for Friant Division contractors to facilitate recapture and recirculation for Contract Year 2012. This funding is available for managing issues, including, agreements with Westside supply, Delta pumping, recirculation and plan funding. A meeting will be held on August 3 to discuss the RFP competition for the funding.

Steve Collup noted that Arvin-Edison WSD had completed another consolidated place of use authorization that included Westside supplies. While AEWSD has no plans to use this authorization, it is available through April or May 2013 for those who want to discuss its use.

Investment Strategy Contract

Mario Manzo discussed the ongoing contract for Water Management Goal Support, including the Investment Strategy. Ron Jacobsma asked if this was the \$10 million to move ideas forward in the Implementation Plan. Mario confirmed that the contract would be awarded from a portion of that funding, and stated that a contract would be in place by September 30th, 2012.

Part III Financial Guidelines

Mario Manzo reviewed the status of the Part III financial guidelines. Reclamation will be meeting with the districts to discuss the guidelines and their implementation. Funding will be made in stages between 2013 and 2015, with a total award for \$50 million over the 3 years.

Friant-Kern and Madera Canal Capacity Restoration Feasibility Study

Ed Salazar recently took the lead on the canal studies, and gave an update on the capacity restoration feasibility study. Updates on the Friant-Kern Canal included:

- Discussion of the recent geotechnical investigations of soil for use in construction activities. Some soil was fine, other areas had problems and additional testing will be conducted around the trouble areas.
- Eric Quinley clarified that the problems encountered included not obtaining higher than 80% compaction at depths of 4 feet, where Reclamation requires 92-95% compaction
- Ed noted that Reclamation is pursuing agreements to hand tasks over to Friant for the lining raise project

Ed noted that pilot projects are being pursued for the Madera Canal, and Reclamation is working with Doug Welsh to define the scope of those project. Alternatives and uncertainties on the issues and fixes require further clarification.

Friant-Kern Canal Reverse Flow Pump-back Facilities Project

Ed Salazar gave a brief report on the Pump-Back project. The former Reclamation PM on the project transferred out of his position. Mario Manzo mentioned that the reverse-flow opportunity would receive further review under the SJRRP Investment Strategy.

Lecture Series

The group agreed that it was nice to have the lecture series, and it was decided that the series would continue as part of the Water Management Goal Technical Feedback Meetings.

-Meeting Adjourned-