

Tri-County F.I.S.H. Team Meeting
(Funding for Improvement of Salmonid Habitat)

Minutes from the January 14, 2003 Public Meeting
Goleta Sanitary District

Meeting Participants

Robert Almy, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Jean Baldrige, ENTRIX, Inc.
Doug Bird, County of San Luis Obispo
Mark Capelli, NMFS
Matt Carpenter, ENTRIX, Inc.
Michael Clarke, City of San Luis Obispo
Don Davis, City of Ventura
John Johnson, Casitas Municipal Water District
Elise Kelley, The Nature Conservancy
Rory Lang, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Mary Larson, Department of Fish & Game
Leo Lentsch, Casitas Municipal Water District
Kindra Loomis, ENTRIX, Inc.
Murray McEachron, United Water Conservation District
Lisa Mash, ENTRIX, Inc.
Connie O'Henly, Central Coast Salmon Enhancement
David Pritchett, Southern California Steelhead Coalition
Rik Prussing, Santa Barbara SEA
Kate Rees, Cachuma Conservation Release Board
Margaret Roper, Department of Fish & Game
Jim Ruch, Ventura Landowner
Don Villeneuve, Cambria Community Services District
Karen Waln, City of Ventura
Darla Wise, Ventura County Watershed Protection District
Jim Word, Casitas Municipal Water District
Chip Wullbrandt, Law Offices of Price, Postel, and Parma

Item 1: Introduction

Ms. Loomis opened the meeting at approximately 1:10 pm by introducing herself and requesting that everyone else do the same. She then reviewed the meeting agenda and goals as outlined in the agenda. Ms. Loomis then turned things over to Mr. Wullbrandt for a Funding Update.

Item 2: Funding Update

Mr. Wullbrandt provided an overview of recent happenings at the federal and state levels regarding salmonid restoration funding. Funding will be available from federal sources and propositions for 2003. Given the current status of the state budget, the status of future funding is unclear.

Based on comments Mr. Wullbrandt heard at the DFG Funding Advisory Committee Meeting in November, DFG recommended that the TCFT have a local presence in the Tri-County area to be more effective. The Executive Committee (EC) is working with the Santa Barbara County Water Agency to find time for Rory Lang to fill this role. Over the next couple of months, administrative responsibilities will shift to Ms. Lang.

Item 3: TCFT MOU Update

Ms. Loomis then reviewed the intent of the MOU and encouraged those participants to sign the MOU who have not done so already so as to be eligible to participate in the upcoming EC elections. The deadline for signing the MOU this year to meet EC election eligibility requirements is set for January 31st. However, Ms. Loomis reminded everyone that participants could sign the MOU at any time throughout the year. Ms. Loomis then turned things over to Ms. Mash (Assistant Coordinator of the TCFT) to give an update on current signatories to the MOU.

A handout was distributed listing the current signatories to the MOU. Ms. Mash stated that she had received signed signatory pages from only those groups/organizations listed on the handout. Several participants informed Ms Mash that they would be providing signed signatory pages in the near term.

Item 4: Executive Committee Elections

Ms. Loomis noted that EC elections were imminent. The EC has established a formalized process in accordance with the Purpose and Procedures document, which set forth provisions for these elections. To encourage participation in this year's elections, the EC agreed that the eligibility for participating in the elections would be determined only by those who have signed the MOU. A handout was then distributed on the EC election process.

Ms. Loomis outlined the election process for this year, which is as follows:

- Participant eligibility determined on January 31st (i.e. those that have signed the MOU by 1/31). Eligible participants will be notified via email and nominations requested.

- Nominations due by February 7th. Ballots will be sent out via email to all eligible voters.
- Faxed, signed ballots due by February 21st at which time the results will be distributed via email to the entire TCFT.

Ms. Loomis addressed the possibility of a tie during the election process. Comments on how to handle a tiebreak were requested. Some thoughts were to have two entities occupy one seat but only given one vote; let the candidates decide amongst themselves who should hold the seat; or leave it up to the EC to decide. Final resolution was put off pending determination if such a problem should arise.

Item 5: Mary Larson, DFG Grant Process

Ms. Larson discussed the recent (2002) process and changes anticipated in the 2003 grant process. The main highlights from Ms. Larson's discussion include:

- Only a small number of proposals were submitted by southern California last year (11 proposals)
- 73% approval on southern California proposals (8 out of 11)
- The DFG Funding Committee paid close attention to project budgets
- On the ground projects were better received
- A revised RFP process for this year's grant cycle is expected
- DFG will release a call for proposals some time in February
- DFG will be able to provide limited assistance once the call for proposals has been released
- Those parties interested in submitting a proposal for this year should be contacting Ms. Larson now to schedule site visits before the RFP comes out
- Attend the upcoming workshops on the new RFP process; information will be posted on the TCFT website and an email distributed to all TCFT participants once dates and times are known

Item 6: TCFT Work Plan for 2002/2003

Ms. Loomis reviewed the goals of the TCFT for this year as outlined in the 2002/2003 Work Plan. Below is a summary of the topics covered regarding the work plan:

- A webpage will be established and updated throughout the year on an as needed basis (when new documents, meeting times/agendas, and resources become available);
- Develop workshop curricula to be used throughout the Tri-County area to educate the public;
- Assess the existing policies and practices (types of activities/actions) of TCFT participants with regard to maintenance and restoration of aquatic habitat. This will include meetings with TCFT participants. An Assessment Report will be prepared synthesizing the data collected throughout the Tri-County area.

- Develop 3 new BMPs as the foundation for a broader regional BMP document;
- Compile a directory of watershed groups active within the Tri-County area;
- Assist the Coastal Conservancy in making the statewide barrier database complete and current. Please contact Michael Bowen or Chris Wilkinson with any new information that has not already been provided to this effort:

Michael Bowen
510-286-0720
mbowen@scc.ca.gov

Chris Wilkinson
916-651-9629
cdw@water.ca.gov

A handout was distributed on a tentative schedule for implementation of these goals.

The key milestones are as follows:

- **February:** Website up and running; activity questionnaires due by all TCFT participants (see below); meetings with TCFT participants to discuss current activities; EC elections and results
- **April:** Public Meeting in Ventura (brainstorm workshop curricula)
- **May:** Draft workshop curricula
- **June:** Final workshop curricula made available on website; Draft Assessment Report;
- **July:** Public Meeting in San Luis Obispo (comments/suggestions on 2003/2004 Work Plan); Draft BMP Report;
- **August:** Final BMP Report; Final Assessment Report
- **October:** Public Meeting in Santa Barbara (present deliverables); and Final Draft 2003/2004 Work Plan.

Ms. Loomis then turned things over to Ms. Mash who went over the request for information handout. The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather information from TCFT participants to assist in implementing components of the TCFT work plan as described above. An electronic copy of the activity questionnaire will be provided to all TCFT participants and will be due to Ms. Mash by **February 6th**.

Next Meeting

Three potential meeting times were selected for the next TCFT meeting which will take place in Ventura. Please contact Ms. Mash if you are unavailable for any of the following dates/times:

- April 22nd (Tuesday), am or pm
- April 24th (Thursday), am or pm
- April 29th (Tuesday), am or pm:

Also, we are also in the process of setting up a permanent quarterly meeting schedule. We need to know when you have recurring events (board meetings, weekly meetings, etc.).

Meeting Handouts

The following items were distributed at the meeting, contact Ms. Mash (lmash@entrinx.com or 925-988-1296) if you would like a copy:

- Current Signatories of the MOU
- Executive Committee Election Process and Procedures
- Tentative Schedule for Implementation of the Work Plan
- Request for Information on Current Activities

Announcements

- The Salmonid Restoration Federation's Annual Restoration Conference: Urban Stream Restoration and Salmonid Recovery is being sponsored by Central Coast Salmon Enhancement from March 26-29 in San Luis Obispo, please contact Ms. Connie O'Henly (805-473-8221) for more information.
- ENTRIX, Inc. is currently serving as the coordinator for the activities of the TCFT. The contact persons are Kindra Loomis (kloomis@entrinx.com, 925-988-1278, fax: 925-935-5368) and Lisa Mash (lmash@entrinx.com, 925-988-1296, fax: 925-935-5368).

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