

Public Meeting Notes

Friday, March 4, 2005

Delta Levees Habitat Advisory Committee

Bob Orcutt, Chair

1. Announcements

Margit Aramburu provided a briefing on beaver issues in the Delta area.

2. Minutes from January 7, 2005

Minutes were approved with minor revisions.

3. Bay-Delta Levee Program Update on SB 34/AM 360 Program

US Army Corps of Engineers: Briefings were covered in next meeting.

Department of Water Resources: David Mraz (DWR) reported on the Levee Maintenance Subventions Program status, and provided a handout on the topic. DWR has mailed 64 work agreements to reclamation districts, and received 36 signed work agreements. DWR staff has received 58 final claims for \$12.3 million. They have completed review on 38 claims and made payment to 30 reclamation districts in the amount of \$2.3 million. DWR has received approval letters from DFG for 41 districts, and has completed joint levee inspection for 42 out of 58 reclamation districts. DWR expects to complete processing final claims in April, and anticipate final payments by the end of May, 2005.

Regarding Assembly Bill 264 (Machado), Dave Mraz stated that DWR does not have a specific position on this bill. (AB 264 provides extension of the Delta Flood Protection Fund through 2008.)

4. Franks Tract

Franks Tract: Don Kurosaka (DWR) provided a briefing on the Franks Tract Program explaining that DWR completed reports on alternatives. Model runs using two-dimensional models have been performed indicating some water quality improvements. Although results are preliminary, they reflect improvements of water quality at the pumps. There will be a public draft by early June, with final report by the end of June.

Tom Zuckerman requested that the Comprehensive Plan Evaluation take into consideration the Franks Tract Program findings. Margit Aramburu requested to provide more clarity in a summary for general public to understand the water quality benefits.

5. Department of Fish and Game Update on SB 34/AM 360 Program

Bob Orcutt (DFG) reported that three streambed alteration agreements are going through the administration process. DWR is looking at Sherman Island habitat levee. Bob encouraged the group to look at the Authority's 10-year finance plan, and at SB-264.

Regarding SB-264, Tom Zuckerman requested to bring comments from agencies to this forum. George Basye has been nominated to look at this legislation on behalf of the subcommittee.

6. Report on RWQCB Dredging Spoils Reuse Workshop

The report on the all-day workshop included potential funding from the USACE.

**California Bay-Delta Advisory Committee
Levees Subcommittee**

Marci Coglianese and Thomas Zuckerman, Co-Chairs

1. BDPAC Levee Subcommittee Co-Chairs Report

Tom Zuckerman and Marci Coglianese provided a report on the February Authority meeting.

June Workshop: The workshop will be held on Monday, June 6, 2005, at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. Jim Holiday and Lester Snow are both potential speakers.

2. Implementing Agencies Report

Department of Water Resources: Dr. Les Harder (DWR) reported that the USACE will potentially participate with DWR in preparing the Comprehensive Plan Evaluation. The group that will work on the scope of work for the CPE will start meeting in the near future.

US Army Corps of Engineers: Paul Bowers (USACE) reported that they are pleased to participate in the CPE. The Corps signed a memorandum of understanding with the US Bureau of Reclamation, which could facilitate the participation of Reclamation in Delta work. There is also a potential MOU with the US Conservation Service being prepared.

California Bay-Delta Authority: The briefing on performance measures was postponed for a future meeting. Curt Schmuttee (DWR) stated that DWR will be working on drafting performance measures for the Levees Program.

3. Program Plan

Dave Mraz handed out the second draft of the annual program plan. He requested comments from participants by the next meeting. The draft plan will be reviewed by the implementing agencies and submitted in the information packet for the April Authority meeting.

4. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Action Items

1) Delta Levees and Habitat Advisory Committee Meeting:

- Provide presentation of the Franks Tract Program to the ISB

2) CALFED BDPAC Levee Program Subcommittee:

- None

Future topics of discussion

- Update on June Workshop
- Performance Measures
- Costs of Jones Tract Levee Breach
- Update on Comprehensive Plan Evaluation
- Draft Revised Program Plan