



# Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

## MEETING MINUTES

Regional Participants Committee (RPC) Meeting No. 3; Community Workshop No. 2  
 October 12, 2011; 1:35 pm to 4:15 pm  
 Amador County Administration Building, Board Chambers, Jackson California

### Attendance and Introductions

RPC Members	Present	Absent	Affiliation	Alternate
Pete Bell	X		Foothill Conservancy	
Krista Clem		X	Golden Vale Subdivision	
Mike Daly	X		City of Jackson	
Jeff Gardner	X		City of Plymouth	
Tom Francis	X		East Bay Municipal Utility District	
Sarah Green		X	Alpine Watershed Group	
Donna Leatherman		X	Calaveras Public Utility District	
Gene Mancebo		X	Amador Water Agency	
Ted Novelli	X		Amador County Board of Supervisors	
Edwin Pattison	X		Calaveras County Water District	
Rod Schuler	X		Retired Amador County PW Director	
Gary Slade		X	Trout Unlimited, Mother Lode chapter	
Susan Snoke		X	Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council	
Hank Willy	X		Jackson Valley Irrigation District	
<b>New Members</b>				
Teresa McClung	X		USFS Stanislaus National Forest	
Tom Infusino	X		Calaveras Planning Coalition	
<b>Observers</b>				
	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	
Jason Preece	X		Department of Water Resources	
Bob Dean	X		Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority, Calaveras County Water District	
Art Toy	X		Amador Water Agency	
Lou Mayhew	X		Interested citizen, Wallace	
Muriel Zeller	X		Interested citizen, Valley Springs	
Erik Christenson	X		Amador Water Agency	
Mary Anne Garamendi	X		Stewardship Through Education	



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Project Team	Present	Absent	Affiliation	
Rob Alcott	X		Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA)	
Leslie Dumas	X		RMC Water and Environment	
Karen Johnson	X		Water Resources Planning	
Alyson Watson	X		RMC Water and Environment	

### Introductions and Background

The third meeting of the RPC and the second community workshop for the Mokelumne/Amador/Calaveras Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (MAC IRWMP) Update was initiated by Rob Alcott at 1:30pm at the Amador County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Chambers in Jackson, California, on Wednesday, October 17, 2011. Alcott introduced the project team and began a PowerPoint presentation providing background information on the 2006 MAC IRWMP, and the purpose of the current MAC Plan Update. Portions of the MAC IRWMP requiring modification for consistency with State guidelines were reviewed.

Karen Johnson presented the overall schedule for the project, including RPC meetings and community workshops. Johnson requested that RPC members make the project team aware if they are going to miss meetings. Johnson reviewed the governance structure, as well as roles and responsibilities of RPC members representing stakeholder organizations.

### Governing Procedures and RPC Member List

Johnson reviewed the Governing Procedures Guidebook, which was the subject of the last RPC meeting. Pete Bell identified a section of the governing procedures that needed to be changed based on recommendations from the previous meeting. Section G –Amendments should read: Amendments to these guidelines, if needed, will be made upon the consensus approval of RPC members present at any regularly scheduled RPC meeting.

This correction will be made to the Governing Procedures Guidebook. The RPC approved the Guidebook as revised.

Johnson and Alcott reviewed the RPC member list. Gary Slade is no longer with Amador Fly Fishers Association; he is now with the Mother Lode Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Gary Slade and Sarah Greene both contacted Alcott to let him know they are interested in continuing membership but were unable to attend the meeting. The RPC approved his continued participation despite his change in affiliation. Alcott identified a series of vacancies to be filled.



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- Amador Fly Fishers Association
- Sierra Pacific Industries
- West Point community representative
- Native American community representative
- El Dorado National Forest
- Stanislaus National Forest

The RPC voted to add several new members and interested persons and for Alcott to reach out to several others to gauge interest in joining.

### **RPC voted to add to RPC**

- Teresa McClung (Stanislaus National Forest)
- Tom Infusino (Calaveras Planning Coalition)

### **Potential RPC Members to be identified and contacted**

- Rick Hobson ( El Dorado National Forest)
- George Wendt (OARS)
- Bureau of Land Management, Mother Lode field office (Bill Hague)
- Central Sierra RC&D (Valerie)
- County RCDs (as opposed to RC&Ds), including Dan Port
- Local Department of Transportation Representatives
- County land use planners

### **Potential Interested Parties to be added to the Interested Parties list**

- Mary Anne Garamendi
- Ann Hayden (Environmental Defense Fund)

Ross Jackson of PG&E has been transferred into another division and has forwarded the RPC information to Linda Krieg. RPC members asked Alcott to identify a more senior representative.

### **DWR's Revised IRWM Plan Guidelines and Revised MAC Plan Framework**

Alyson Watson provided an overview of work completed since the 2006 MAC IRWMP. The bulk of the work was completed as part of the Region Acceptance Process (RAP).

A proposed reorganization of the final report was presented which would provide a more logical flow. The reorganization covers all sections required by the Plan standards, and deviations from the Plan standards are relatively minor. Jason Preece of DWR indicated that plans do not need to follow the order of the Plan standards, provided the required information is included. Although governance has typically been located at the



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end of the report, it is logical to put it at the beginning. The RPC voted to approve the revised table of contents.

### **Report Text Completed To-Date**

Watson walked through updates to the following report sections and solicited feedback from the RPC.

- Governance
- Region Description
- Coordination
- Stakeholder Involvement
- Local Water Planning

### **The RPC provided the following comments and feedback on Chapter 1**

- Teresa McClung noted that the National Forest descriptions and information may not be correct in some places in the Region Description and needs to be expanded on. Alcott will send McClung an editable version of the document for suggested edits.
- The Region Description will include a discussion of how the MOU with CABY ensures coordination between the regions regarding the overlapping IRWMP boundaries. In particular, a “heads up” will be provided on proposed projects that impact the other region.
- The River Pines area should be a disadvantaged community (DAC) located in the Cosumnes overlap area. Watson noted that DAC mapping will be completed once the 2010 Census data is available, and the team will check on whether River Pines is a DAC in those data.
- McClung indicated that Forest Management Plans should be added to the document list. The Stanislaus plan is available on its website but perhaps not the Eldorado plan.
- Preece asked why Table 1-1 does not include small utility districts. The text will be updated to indicate that this is a list of larger water providers. A comprehensive list of local utilities including wastewater agencies and community services districts will be provided as an appendix.
- Stanislaus and El Dorado National Forests should be added on page 1-16.
- Figure 1-7 should be updated to reflect general land uses such as urban, agricultural, forested, etc., rather than land cover.
- Word versions of the document should be provided to Tom I, Bob, Edwin, Teresa, and Ted for editing.
- Table 1-1 or text should be updated to indicate that Amador Water Agency is now the primary water supplier for the City of Plymouth with its own wells used as backup supply.



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- Municipal Service Review reports for Calaveras County and Amador County LAFCOs, available on each website, should be included in the document list.
- Table 1-9 should indicate that the foothill yellow-legged frog is also a federal-listed species.
- McClung will ask her biologist to update Table 1-9 with species.
- A section should be added to summarize issues associated with invasive aquatic and terrestrial species in the region.
- Uncertainty was raised associated with the validity of Urban Water Management Plan projected water demands, particularly CCWD's projected agricultural demands. Disagreement over demand assumptions will be noted as a challenge / conflict in section 1.4.1 rather than attempting to resolve the conflict. This conflict will come up again when projects are discussed.
- Un- or under-maintained roads should be included in Section 1.4.3: Water Quality Conflicts instead of 1.4.5 Forest Management.
- Biomass removal / forest trimming costs should be included in 1.4.7 Economic Impacts.
- 1.4.4 supply management should include meadow rehabilitation / restoration to slow water releases.
- Under forest and fire mgmt (1.4.5 and 1.4.6), we should list increasing vegetation densities outside of the natural range of variability.

### **The RPC provided the following comments and feedback on Chapters 2 and 3**

- The group voted to move future community workshops to the evening to enhance the ability of interested citizens to attend.
- The group discussed using SurveyMonkey.com to poll the public on the importance of various objectives. The RPC was split on whether to do this. Preece noted that Johnson explained previously under governing procedures that it is the RPC's charge to represent their respective interest areas and bring those opinions to the meetings. The RPC agreed that the need for such a tool will be explored at a later date when there is something (e.g., proposed projects) that the public may want to comment on. Preece also noted that a public awareness campaign can be conducted collectively by the group and financed together. This can bring sustainability to the group.
- In Section 2.3.2, there is a broken link that needs to be fixed.
- A discussion was held on whether anonymous comments should be solicited from the project website. If names are required, the content may be of higher quality, yet may prevent some folks from expressing their opinions. It was agreed by the group that the ability to comment anonymously will be revisited if comments are received.
- Table 4-1 should be expanded to include more planning documents. The document with no date and no name should be deleted. WSMP 2040 should be



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deleted until such time as it is approved (was overturned by the court). FERC relicensing documents should be included on the list but the relevant sections provided to the team for use. The Calaveras County Watershed Assessment should be listed. RPC members will send additional names of reports for inclusion in this list and relevant sections to the consultant team.

- Section 4.2 is only Coordination with Water Planning, not land use planning, and should be renamed for clarity with a new section provided.

### **Climate Change**

Leslie Dumas presented information on climate change analysis performed for the Upper Mokelumne watershed by EBMUD as part of WSMP 2040. This information was provided at the meeting as background information on modeling that has already been completed. The project team would like to build upon existing work to the greatest extent possible to allow funding to be utilized in other areas. This presentation was provided for information only at this time. The approach to integrate climate change impacts into the Plan will be discussed in greater detail at subsequent meetings.

Bell noted that it is important to consider the dampening effect of the reservoirs on the Upper Mokelumne system; earlier runoff would only be felt in above-normal and wet years in which the capacity of the reservoir system is exceeded in spring months; otherwise, the reservoirs could be managed to provide releases similar to the current schedule.

### **Next Steps and Adjournment**

The project team will complete the following items in advance of the next meeting.

- Draft the meeting summary and distribute it.
- Prepare IRWM sections on Goals and Objectives and the Project Solicitation Process.
- Prepare and distribute binders for new RPC members.

The RPC is asked to complete the following items.

- Review the draft RPC meeting summary and bring comments to the next meeting.
- Send additional comments on the draft IRWMP sections to Rob by October 26, 2011.
- Send suggestions for goals, objectives, and project solicitation process to Rob by October 26, 2011
- Review new IRWMP sections in advance of next meeting.

Alcott and Tom Francis described additional efforts being conducted in parallel with the MAC IRWMP Update. Currently, the UMRWA is working with the Eastern San Joaquin



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Groundwater Banking Authority to put together a joint planning grant application for funding to further assess the Integrated Regional Conjunctive Use Project (IRCUP). The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is also currently performing a gap analysis to identify what additional technical and environmental work must be done before a comprehensive feasibility study can be undertaken.

In addition, it was noted that Prop 84 grant funding was obtained by UMRWA for local implementation projects, and that the collaborative decision making process (a separate planning task funded by the Prop 84 Planning Grant) is scheduled to get underway in November.

The next RPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 1:30pm.

The meeting concluded at approximately 4:15 p.m.