



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

MEETING SUMMARY

Regional Participants Committee (RPC) Meeting No. 11

September 24, 2012; 3:10 pm to 5:35 pm

Amador County Administration Building, Conference Room C, Jackson, California

Attendance and Introductions

RPC Members (Alternates)	Present	Absent	Affiliation
Pete Bell	X		Foothill Conservancy
(Joaquin Cruz)		X	East Bay Municipal Utility District
Mike Daly		X	City of Jackson
(Katherine Evatt)		X	Foothill Conservancy
Tom Francis	X		East Bay Municipal Utility District
Jeff Gardner	X		City of Plymouth
(Rick Hopson)		X	US Forest Service
Tom Infusino	X		Calaveras Planning Coalition
Donna Leatherman		X	Calaveras Public Utility District
Gene Mancebo	X		Amador Water Agency
Teresa McClung		X	US Forest Service
Jeff Meyer		X	Calaveras County Water District
Rod Schuler	X		Retired Amador County PW Director
(Don Stump)	X		Calaveras County Water District
(Art Toy)	X		Amador Water Agency
Hank Willy	X		Jackson Valley Irrigation District
Ed Pattison		X	City of Lone
Observers	Present	Absent	Affiliation
Jason Preece		X	Department of Water Resources
Bob Dean	X		Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority, Calaveras County Water District
Project Team	Present	Absent	Affiliation
Rob Alcott	X		Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA)
Karen Johnson	X		Water Resources Planning
Alyson Watson	X		RMC Water and Environment
Lindsey Clark	X		RMC Water and Environment

Purpose of RPC Meeting #11

The eleventh meeting of the Mokelumne/Amador/Calaveras Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (MAC IRWMP) Regional Participants Committee (RPC) was initiated



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

by Alyson Watson at 3:10pm in Conference Room C at the Amador County Administration Building, in Jackson, California, on Monday, September 24, 2012.

Watson began walking through a PowerPoint presentation outlining the purpose and agenda for RPC Meeting #11. The primary purposes of the meeting were to endorse the revised Implementing Projects and Programs section, project list, and project evaluation; endorse the Impacts and Benefits and Financing sections; discuss the Plan Performance and Monitoring, Data Management, and Technical Analysis sections; discuss an approach to resolving RPC member comments on Governance; and review the Proposition 84, Round 2 Implementation Grant scoring criteria and discuss potential projects for inclusion in a grant application.

MAC Plan Update Schedule

There are two RPC meetings scheduled after this meeting; there is no October RPC meeting scheduled. The following items are currently planned for the November RPC meeting:

- Endorse Plan Performance and Monitoring and Data Management, Technical Analysis
- Discuss Climate Change and Coordination with Land Use Agencies
- Endorse implementation grant projects

At the January 2013 meeting, the RPC will be asked to endorse the Draft MAC Plan Update. Bell wondered when hard copies of the Plan could be distributed for review. Bell and Infusino noted that they will each need to bring the MAC Plan Update document to their governing boards prior to stating endorsement. The Foothill Conservancy (FC) Board meetings are the last Tuesday of each month (so there may not be one in December) and the Calaveras County Planning Coalition has meetings on November 26th and January 21st. Public comments on the portions of the Plan completed to-date will be due to RMC by October 3rd. RMC will incorporate comments and prepare a compiled Draft Plan for RPC review on December 7th. CARWSP (the Camanche Area Regional Water Supply Plan) is an effort currently being implemented in parallel to the MAC Plan Update. Upon completion of the CARWSP study, it will be incorporated into the MAC Plan Update. As such, the December 7th Draft MAC IRWM Plan Update will not include the CARWSP material. RMC will release the draft CARWSP portion of the MAC Plan Update on January 3, 2013. AWA and CCWD will present CARWSP updates to their respective Boards on October 24th and 25th, and RPC members and interested members of the public are encouraged to attend these meetings to get an overview of the project and what to expect in the January 3rd chapter. The RPC has seen the majority of the MAC Plan Update so the hope is that there will not be significant comments prior to the January endorsement date.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

Implementing Projects and Programs Section, Project List, and Project Evaluation

RMC revised the Implementing Projects and Programs section based on RPC comments and input provided at RPC Meeting No. 10 on August 29, 2012. The key components included in this section are the procedure for submitting projects, a summary of the project evaluation process, an explanation of the vetting process currently underway, a list of the projects not fully vetted, a summary of resource management strategies integrated by the MAC projects, and identification of considerations for future Plan updates. An RPC member noted that this version of the Plan is much more thorough than the previous version so it may not require extensive revisions/rewriting in future updates.

The RPC unanimously endorsed the Implementing Projects and Programs section, recognizing that additional projects may be moved to the “vetted” list prior to the November 7, 2012 RPC meeting. If this occurs, the section will be submitted for re-endorsement at the November RPC meeting.

After RPC Meeting No. 9, RPC members raised concerns over the project list which had been endorsed. In order to have a Plan Update and associated list of projects that all RPC members are comfortable with, concerned RPC members requested meetings with Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) and Amador Water Agency (AWA) to discuss the prioritization and scoring of projects, comments, and concerns. The FHC, Ratepayer Protection Alliance (RPA), Infusino, and Muriel Zeller met with AWA on August 21st and with CCWD on August 23rd. Not all of the projects were discussed, so additional meetings have been scheduled to address remaining comments. If there are comments or concerns that cannot be resolved during the comment discussion meetings, they will be brought to the RPC for discussion.

Changes discussed and agreed upon at the two August meetings were made in the project evaluation; the revised project list and evaluation were provided to the RPC. The RPC endorsed the revised project list unanimously. The projects requiring further vetting will be discussed in separate meetings in October and updated prior to the November meeting. The results from those separate meetings shall be documented by October 31st to allow for project evaluation revisions prior to November 7th.

Impacts and Benefits, and Finance Plan Sections

Watson provided an overview of the Impact and Benefit and Finance Plan standards as defined in the DWR Prop 84 & 1E Guidelines. RMC sent electronic sections of the impacts and benefits and finance sections to the RPC for review and comment.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

Bob Dean commented that while there are no federally recognized tribes in the Region, there are state-recognized tribes (or portions of tribes). He suggested that state-recognized tribes be mentioned in the impacts and benefits section.

Infusino suggested 'economic benefits' in Table 4-2 be changed to 'local prosperity.' He noted that while projects may provide local prosperity benefits, they could carry long-term fiscal impacts that would actually cause economic impacts, and the use of the term "economic benefit" could therefore be misleading. In addition, he noted that the discussion of impacts is not as robust as that of benefits, and recommended that the impacts discussion be expanded to the same level of detail as the benefits.

The RPC provided tentative endorsement of the Impacts and Benefits section with the suggested changes noted above. The section will be revised and re-submitted for full endorsement at the November 7 RPC meeting.

Infusino pointed out that page 59 of the Prop 84 Guidelines includes a more detailed finance table than that provided in the draft Finance section of the MAC Plan Update. RMC will revise the table in the Financing Plan section of the MAC Plan Update to more closely resemble DWR's example. Specific changes include:

- Add a column for O&M costs
- Add a footnote indicating that percent of funding by source will be added over time as it is identified
- Add a footnote that longevity and certainty of funding sources will be added over time as this information is identified

Bell suggested that water agencies consider adding an option on monthly water bills to give customers the option to donate money to maintain projects.

The RPC tentatively endorsed the Financing section with the suggested changes above.

Plan Performance and Monitoring, Data Management, and Technical Analysis Sections

Watson explained that according to the Prop 84 Guidelines IRWMPs must contain performance measures and monitoring methods to ensure the objectives of the Plan are met. As described in the draft Plan Performance and Monitoring section, a MAC Plan Performance Review would be completed every three years. Infusino did not think this was sufficient and would like to see it completed more often. Alcott explained that financing is the limiting factor, and the frequency was limited because of the costs associated with performing the Plan performance monitoring. Alcott will develop a cost estimate for Plan Performance Monitoring to be presented to the UMRWA Board in



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

January when it is scheduled to adopt the updated Plan. A committee member noted it may be possible to request funding through the IRWM program to complete this.

An RPC member suggested adding the creation of a DMS to the considerations for future updates in Section 4. Don Stump noted that DWR will provide technical assistance for data management.

The Technical Analysis section was not discussed in detail. The RPC will send comments on this section to RMC by 10/3/12.

Governance

RPC members previously commented that in their view the MAC Region's governance structure is not consistent with DWR requirements. Consistent with the Governing Procedures, RPC members Infusino and Bell (with Watson's assistance) developed potential alternatives to the currently endorsed governance structure for discussion at the September RPC meeting. Infusino summarized his issues with the governance structure and suggested changes for improvement.

- Need to improve public outreach. The Plan states that electric companies, Native American communities, business representatives and others on the RPC, but there currently are none from these groups. [Alcott noted that they have been invited but declined to participate.]
- Conduct workshops to invite specific people/groups that may not be able to commit to being on the RPC, but would still like to contribute more than just through a public comment period. This would be an intermediate level of participation between public workshops and the RPC.
- Establish a RPC policy for information collection (e.g. water supplies and demands).
- Include public comments in the MAC Plan verbatim.
- Allow stakeholders to participate in Plan development regardless of their ability to contribute financially to the IRWM planning process, consistent with IRWM plan guidelines.
- Formalize the roles of the RPC, UMRWA Board, etc in the Governance section.

The governance input provided by Watson to Infusino and Bell will be transmitted separately to the RPC for review and input.

Due to a community workshop following the RPC meeting, the discussion was not concluded. It will be readdressed at the November RPC meeting.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's MAC Plan Update

If agreed upon by the RPC, the proposed changes to the existing governance structure would be recommended to the UMRWA Board to be implemented during the next MAC Plan Update.

Implementation Grant Preparation

This item on the agenda was not discussed due to time constraints. This will be discussed via email and revisited at the next meeting.

Next Steps and Adjournment

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

- Revise Implementing Projects and Programs section.
- Revise the Impacts and Benefits, and Financing sections.
- Revise Plan Performance and Monitoring, Data Management, and Technical Analysis sections.
- Send governance input previously sent to Bell and Infusino to the rest of the RPC.
- Send the Draft Plan Update (minus the CARWSP portion) to the RPC on December 7th.
- Send the CARWSP chapter by January 3rd.
- Alcott to develop estimate of costs to perform Plan Performance Monitoring for the January 25 UMRWA Board meeting.

The RPC is asked to complete the following.

- Review the meeting notes prior to the next meeting.
- Send comments on the Plan Performance & Monitoring, Data Management, and Technical Analysis sections to RMC (by 10/3/12).
- RPC members with concerns related to projects and scoring will set up meetings with project sponsors to discuss project-specific comments, prior to October 31st.

The next RPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at the Amador County Administration Building from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the upstairs conference room.

The meeting concluded at approximately 5:35 p.m.