

TUOLUMNE RIVER TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DON PEDRO PROJECT - FERC LICENSE 2299

MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT
CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME
U. S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE



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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

13 March 2008

9:30 AM

Turlock Irrigation District, Room 152

Draft Summary

1. Introduction and Announcements - NMFS in attendance in part due to the reported problem of sedimentation/turbidity
2.
 - A. Comments on agenda
 - B. Dec meeting summary was approved with minor wording change to Item 4
 - C. Items since last meeting Dec were reviewed in handout listing the additions of material posted at <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/>
3. 2007 FERC Report: Draft table of contents in handout was reviewed; standard items planned plus (1) 5-yr update on flow, export, temperature, and water quality data, (2) update of rainbow trout data since 2003; invertebrate report will be completed later
4. Monitoring
 - A. 2007 fall run: preliminary TID estimate is 180 salmon, but awaiting CDFG numbers; estimate of about 1200 total for all three rivers; low numbers for entire Central Vally with Stuart reporting few 2-year olds seen in general which may not be good for next fall returns
 - B. Seine summary data in handout – low abundance to date is similar to last year and consistent with low parent run numbers
 - C. Screw traps: data in handouts; several fry (and smolt) pulses at Waterford and 2 pulses at Grayson (lower numbers); larger sizes present in winter months indicate other than fall run timing – will examine further in analysis; Grayson operation was delayed by wet conditions for installation until Jan 22 when alternate site was used to assemble traps and then traps were moved down to sampling site
 - D. TRTAC monitoring grant status: still no news, but C. Charles commented she would check with CDFG
5. March 1 DWR basin index forecast
 - A. Handout reviewed range of potential annual fish flow volume for next fish flow year based on forecast; current flow requirement is 150 cfs through April 14

- B. Forecast did not account for dry days to date in March – another forecast due this week which should have lower numbers
- C. Reviewed determination of flow volumes based on index forecasts

6. VAMP

- A. 2007 results in report at <http://www.sjrg.org/>; several major mortality/predation sites within the Delta were found based on acoustic tag study results – sites included near Stockton wastewater plant and in front of CVP trash racks
- B. 2008 study plan: plan to study reach losses using about 1000 tagged fish total in two paired release studies; more monitoring sites to be installed including Jersey Point and Chipps Island areas; probably no head of Old River barrier installed, unlike in 2007
- C. 2008 study may include water quality assessment still under consideration

7. Severe sediment runoff from Peaslee Creek watershed

- A. Reviewed handout summarizing data gathered by Districts; information included rainfall amount and timing, local runoff data, and elevated turbidity documented in river and tributary monitoring
- B. Some photos have been posted to website
- C. NFMS will consider enforcement action following field review
- D. Unknown if CDFG has taken any action

8. Restoration and status of grants

- A. Handout of updated TRTAC project status from Fryer (TID) was reviewed
- B. No change in TRTAC restoration grants for gravel additions and for mining reach projects – CDFG has not responded to submittal of documents
- C. Part of Gasburg Project payment is in dispute with CDFG

9. Agency and NGO updates: Stuart reported that completion report on the Zimmerman trout otolith study for CDFG was available and he will provide it to the Districts; some evidence of anadromy was found in all local rivers

10. Additional items

02Apr: Corps of Engineers will have open house on Stockton Deepwater Ship Channel Project to deepen channel for ships (Stuart)

11. Next meeting dates

- Quarterly on 2nd Thursday: June 12, September 11, December 11

FERC 2299 TRTAC Meeting

13 March 2008

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Tim Ford	TID/MID
Robert Nees	TID
Jeff Barton	TID
Roger Masuda	TID
Walter Ward	MID
Bill Sears	CCSF
Ron Yoshiyama	CCSF
Jeff Stuart	NMFS
Janiel Grinder	NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
Noah Hume	Stillwater Sciences
Cindy Charles	GWWF/NCCFFF