

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



333 East Canal Drive
Turlock, CA 95381-0949
Phone: (209) 883-8278
Fax: (209) 656-2191
Email: pemaloney@tid.org

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

23 March 2017 at 9:30 AM

Turlock Irrigation District, Room 152

Summary

1. INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Participants made self introductions.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- Review/Revise agenda – No changes.
- Approve notes from December meeting – No changes were identified. However, it should be noted that thermographs are not retrievable under current flow conditions.
- Items since last meeting – A handout list posted at <http://tuolumnerivertac.com/> was reviewed.
- The weir, rotary screw trap and seine reports have been submitted to Wayne Swaney for addition into the 2016 Annual Report to FERC. However, several of the reports require additional internal review prior to submission. No delay past the submittal date is expected.

3. MONITORING/REPORTS: (*Handouts were reviewed*)

- Fall run information – As of today's date, 3531 Chinook have migrated upstream past the counting weir, as compared to 422 at this same time last year. No *O. mykiss* passages were recorded this season. The weir was removed on January 3, 2017 due to high flows.
- Ongoing monitoring – seine crews continue to operate every other Tuesday, fry have been captured at all seine locations including those on the San Joaquin this season. The rotary screw trap (RST) at Waterford was installed January 13th, and the RST at Grayson was installed January 22. However, both traps were removed mid-February for two weeks due to high flows. Since then, 500 to 2000 hatchery fry have been marked and released weekly for RST efficiency studies. Redd surveys were conducted in the fall but ceased January 1, 2017 due to high flows.
- Summer Monitoring – Thermographs will be downloaded as soon as flows allow. RST and seine surveys will be conducted through early summer as allowed. Snorkel surveys will be conducted as regularly scheduled unless flows are prohibitive.
- A discussion was led by Noah regarding potential for spring monitoring. Flood plain temperature, flow and stranding were all discussed. Noah and Andrea offer common staffing. Ramping rates related to ramping down from flood flows and potential stranding were discussed. A review of the Stranding Reports is planned by Noah and Patrick.

4. FLOW OPERATIONS:

- Flood releases began January 2, 2017. Flood flows will likely continue through summer due to excessive precipitation and snow pack in the drainage and the fact that Don Pedro remains above flood control level. Zach Jackson of USFWS has vacated his position as the lead agency person involved in negotiating the Tuolumne River Flow Schedule. Subsequently, TID has scheduled a meeting with the new lead agency person, Gretchen Murphy (CDFW) and the Flow Group (Laura Heironimus-USFWS, Monica Gutierrez-NOAA, J.D. Wilkert-USFWS, Craig Anderson-USFWS, and Tim Heyne-CDFW) in order to get all the involved parties on the same page with regard to calculation of the flow schedule. The meeting will be hosted by Patrick Maloney-TID, Wes Monier-TID, Jason Carkeet-TID and Noah Hume-SWS, and will be held Wednesday April 5, 2017 at 2PM in room 152 of TID's Main Office.

5. AGENCY/NGO UPDATES

- Gretchen Murphy (CDFW) has assumed the position of lead agency negotiator with regard to Lower Tuolumne River Flow Schedules.

6. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- None

7. NEXT MEETING DATES – JUNE 8, SEPTEMBER 7, DECEMBER 14, 2017.

TRTAC Meeting Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
1. Patrick Maloney	TID
2. Noah Hume	Stillwater Sciences
3. Wayne Swaney	Stillwater Sciences (by phone)
4. Jason Guignard	Fishbio (by phone)