

# Upper Feather River IRWM Regional Water Management Group

## FINAL SUMMARY MINUTES

June 24, 2016

Meeting materials are available on the website at: [http://featherriver.org/rwmg\\_meetings/](http://featherriver.org/rwmg_meetings/).

Note: due to a technical error, no meeting video is available.

### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Sherrie Thrall called the meeting to order on June 24, 2016 at 1:05 pm at the Plumas County Planning Conference Room, 555 Main Street, Quincy, California.

### **Members Present:**

Sherrie Thrall, Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
Russell Reid, Feather River Resource Conservation District  
Terry Swofford, Plumas County Board of Supervisors  
Trina Cunningham, Maidu Summit Consortium  
Jeffrey Greening, Public Member  
Nancy Francine, Plumas National Forest (Advisory) (sitting in for Joe Hoffman)

### **Members Absent:**

Paul Roen, Sierra County Board of Supervisors  
Bill Nunes, Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District  
Jim Roberti, Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District  
Roger Diefendorf, Plumas County Community Development Commission  
Carol Thornton, Lassen National Forest (Advisory)  
Quentin Youngblood, Tahoe National Forest (Advisory)

### **Staff Present:**

Uma Hinman, Uma Hinman Consulting  
Leah Wills  
Burkhard Bohm

### **Additions or Deletions from the Agenda**

None noted

### **Public Comment Opportunity**

None noted

### **Announcements / Reports**

Nancy Francine, Plumas National Forest, introduced herself and noted that she was sitting in for Joe Hoffman. Nancy announced that all Plumas National Forest management positions have been filled. Mickey Smith, Mt. Hough Ranger District; Sabrina Stadler, Beckwourth District Ranger; Barbara Drake, Deputy Forest Supervisor; and Daniel Lavato, Forest Supervisor.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **a. RWMG Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2016**

Upon motion by Russell Reid and second by Terry Swofford, the RWMG Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2016 were unanimously approved.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **1. Project Status Updates**

Uma Hinman presented an overview of the project schedule, tasks and budget. Uma noted that DWR had officially approved the Grant Agreement extension to October 4, 2016. There are three more chapters to complete and send out for public review, which will occur within the next two weeks. An administrative Draft Plan will be prepared in July for internal review, with the public review Draft Plan ready in August. Three public meetings will occur for the Public Review Draft Plan: two public workshops, one each in Chester and Portola, and a meeting to present the Draft Plan to the RWMG. The Final Plan will come to the RWMG for adoption in September.

The Forest-Water Balance Study will be completed at the end of June 2016. The DAC Community Vulnerability Study has been completed and will be presented later during this meeting.

Uma reported that she and Randy Wilson attended a Tribal consultation with members of the Mechoopda Tribe and Enterprise Rancheria on June 15, 2016 at their request. Another meeting was requested for August, which Uma and Randy will coordinate with them.

Frank Motzkus is now the General Manager for Chester Public Utility District (CPUD). The CPUD approved signing the UFR MOU at their last meeting: Frank provided a copy to Uma during the meeting. Sherrie Thrall congratulated him and thanked him for getting CPUD involved in the UFR IRWM process.

### **2. Sierra Water Workgroup Presentation**

During the May 20, 2016 RWMG meeting, Uma presented the Sierra Water Workgroup (SWWG) MOU for consideration. The RWMG had a number of questions and requested that representatives of the SWWG be invited to attend the next meeting. Liz Mansfield, Executive Director, and Kate Gladstein, GIS Specialist, attended and presented on the SWWG and the SWWG's online data management program.

Liz presented on the SWWG (presentation posted on website) background, purpose and vision. Liz explained that the SWWG is primarily geared toward facilitating collaboration and information sharing both between IRWM regions and between the State and the IRWM regions. Liz noted that participants in the UFR IRWM have long been involved in the SWWG efforts, including Leah Wills, Trina Cunningham, Jonathan Kusel, and Randy Wilson. Participation in the SWWG consists primarily of participating in meetings, which are almost always by conference call and occur 1-3 times per year, and optional participation in an annual workshop. This year's workshop will be held in August in Auburn and will be focused on supporting the Proposition 1 DACI Mountain Counties Funding Area coordination.

Kate Gladstein presented the SWWG's Interregional Data Management System (DMS), which is a GIS (ESRI) based system that is publicly available (presentation located on website). The DMS was developed in support of the Tahoe-Sierra IRWMP and serves as a platform for publishing spatial and tabular data to promote collaboration and data sharing between IRWM regions, stakeholders within the IRWM regions, and the public. The tool is a web-based data management tool as well as document library. The tool/application includes plan implementation projects, which are identified as RWMG approved, completed, or pending RWMG approval. The application can accept project applications online, which are identified as "pending RWMG approval" to insure that it is clear they are not yet approved. To date, region specific applications have been launched for Tahoe-Sierra IRWM and Yosemite-Mariposa IRWM, with

another one currently being developed for CABY. There are a lot of data layers available and an application can be tailored to individual IRWMs at cost. The rough cost estimate for having an IRWM application developed is approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 to create the layers for the region. There is also an annual maintenance cost of approximately \$1,500 per region, which is expected to decrease as more regions join. IRWM regions must also sign the SWWG MOU in order to participate in the DMS program. The data is hosted on a secure ESRI server. Regions typically set up an IRWM data committee of 3-4 representatives to decide what data to portray in the application. Kate noted that each IRWM region is responsible for QA/QC of project submittals included in the DMS platform.

Ren Reynolds of the Enterprise Rancheria expressed concerns that the DMS tool should not include confidential Tribal information on the maps and within the database. He requested a follow-up meeting with Kate for the Enterprise Rancheria to explore Tribal uses for the tool. Trina Cunningham agreed that it was a valuable tool and that tribes may want to take advantage of it.

Jeffery Greening requested that Uma send the DMS links to the RWMG members. Trina Cunningham requested Kate provide a synopsis of the tool that she can share with the Tribal Advisory Committee and Tribes.

Sherrie Thrall suggested that consideration of signing the SWWG MOU be held until the next RWMG meeting because there were so many absences this meeting. The RWMG members in attendance unanimously agreed.

### **3. Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Coordination**

Leah Wills provided an update from the last DACI coordination meeting, which was held in Mammoth, California on May 20, 2016. The all-day workshop focused on IRWM regions sharing their respective DAC outreach efforts, results and needs. The SWWG co-hosted the meeting with Inyo-Mono IRWM and is playing an active role in coordinating IRWM region outreach in support of the Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) RFP.

Liz Mansfield, SWWG, reported that the DACI RFP will be finalized in July and there will be approximately six months to submit a Funding Area application. Applications will need a letter of support from each IRWM in the Funding Area and there will be no option for “opting out.” There will be a one day, facilitated DACI workshop in Auburn in August. Each region should send representatives with the ability to select a fiscal sponsor and entity for preparing the applications.

Sherrie Thrall asked staff who they recommended for the region. Leah Wills noted that there were several people who have been involved from the beginning of the DACI RFP process: Uma Hinman, Trina Cunningham, Jonathan Kusel, and Leah. Sherrie said that the RWMG members would consider and make a decision.

### **4. Integration Presentation on Disadvantaged Community Outreach and the Community Vulnerability Study**

Trina Cunningham has been performing DAC outreach for the Plan update team, which consists of contacting DACs who have not yet been involved in the Plan Update process, completion of surveys, and identification of DAC projects. Trina reported that she and Leah had met with the Plumas and Sierra County Environmental Health Departments and received great support and information from both. She reported that they had not yet been able to get a meeting Butte County representatives, but were working on it. Outreach to the DACs has been very well received so far and Trina will be working to finish up that effort in the next few weeks. Trina and Leah will be presenting to the Sierraville Public Utility District and meeting

with Loylton in early July. Uma noted that this effort is identified in the Grant Agreement work plan and will integrate with the Community Vulnerability Study being prepared by Burkhard Bohm and will also serve as the basis of a DAC needs assessment, which will be important for the upcoming DACI RFP. Sherrie Thrall asked if Trina had contacted Hamilton Branch CSD; Trina will get that contact from Sherrie.

Burkhard Bohm presented the methodology and results of the Community Vulnerability Study (also referred to as the Well Vulnerability Study) which supports one of the tasks for DAC outreach in the Grant Work Plan. The Study identifies a number of DACs in the Sierra Valley and analyzes their vulnerability to groundwater pollutants. Nine DACs were reviewed in the study and four communities were selected for more intensive analysis. The purpose of this task is to incorporate the drinking and wastewater treatment needs of the disadvantaged communities. This will tie into the DAC outreach being performed by Trina Cunningham and Leah Wills and will be very important for the projects that come out of the next round of Proposition 1 funding available from DWR for DAC projects; Prop 1 Round 1 is for DAC involvement and Round 2 is for DAC implementation projects focused on water and wastewater needs. The Community Vulnerability Study will be included as an Appendix in the IRWM Plan.

#### **5. Draft Resource Management Strategies Chapter**

Uma Hinman presented the Draft Resource Management Strategies chapter, including the required RMS Standard from the Guidelines, content, and format of the chapter. All comments received were provided to the RWVG on June 10 via email. The revised chapter, in which staff addresses the comments received, was provided to the RWVG in the meeting agenda packets. The RWVG had no comments on the chapter at this time and requested that Uma email a Word version of the chapter to them in case they have some edits to suggest.

#### **7. Draft Plan Implementation, Performance, Monitoring, Data Management Chapter**

Uma Hinman presented the Draft Plan Implementation, Performance, Monitoring, Data Management chapter, including the required Plan Standards from the Guidelines, content and format of the chapter. Uma noted that this chapter includes two Plan Standards. All comments received were provided to the RWVG on June 10 via email. The revised chapter, in which staff addresses the comments received, was provided to the RWVG in the meeting agenda packets. The RWVG had no comments on the chapter at this time and requested that Uma email a Word version of the chapter to them in case they have some edits to suggest.

#### **9. Next Meeting**

Uma Hinman reported that this was the 13<sup>th</sup> RWVG meeting (12 regular and 1 special meetings); the Grant Agreement Work Plan included 12 RWVG meetings. She went over the remaining chapters that had yet to be presented to the RWVG (Goals and Objectives, Finance, Introduction) Uma noted that she would be happy to do a meeting in July, but that perhaps it would be better to wait until August and present the Draft Plan at that time. The RWVG agreed that July was a difficult month to get member attendance.

Russell Reid suggested that we continue to follow the same process for chapter review to be consistent, but that the process could occur via email. After the public review period, staff will incorporate comments and send to the RWVG along with the consolidated comment chapters.

Sherrie Thrall noted that Bill Nunes had missed several consecutive RWVG meetings and asked Terry Swofford to coordinate with Paul Roen to reach out to Bill to see if he is still able to participate in the RWVG. The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, August 19, 2016 at 1pm.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.