

STEVENS & PERMANENTE CREEKS WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING

April 5, 2006

Mt. View Library
Community Room
585 Franklin Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

Summary of Record

1. **List of Participants: See Appendix**

2. **Agenda unchanged**

3. **Introductions and announcements**

4. **Large Woody Debris presentation**, David Salsbury and Melissa Moore, SCVWD fisheries biologist:

LWD helps with pool formation and gravel bar formation. Stream stewardship program has helped give ecological structure to their maintenance program. New mission allows them to leave large wood in the stream. Sometimes possible to leave it and monitor for scour and movement of wood. Sometimes it is clear the wood will move to a bridge abutment. Anchoring or cabling of the wood is sometimes done to hold the wood in place.

Streamside residents are apprehensive about leaving wood. Preparing flyer to these residents asking them to consider leaving the wood to see what happens. We can help in this educational effort.

Passage of fish under bridges. lots of deposition under bridges, makes passage challenging.

Evelyn bridge: SCVWD created low flow channel on right side facing upstream. Removed 300 yd³ of material. If we notice shallow areas under bridges that will slow fish movement up or down, let them know.

Dennis has noticed this on El Camino. Concrete sill with an inch at most of water.

David Salsbury: Worked for consultant reviewing fish ladder function. Water does not always hit the ladder, or sediment build up causes flow to be too low. Central ladder can trap fish when flow is low. Evelyn fish ladder needs to be cleaned. Fish relocation when dewatered. Many trout found in second year maintained but not first.

Genetic study: during ladder study, adult steelhead fish were trapped at Moffett ladder. Central Coast ESU, or now called distinct population center. Listing done without genetic work being done. SCVWD sponsored genetic study to determine if the resident population is from stocked fish, or the protected fish. (Stevens Creek fish are probably one or two years in freshwater and two years in the ocean. There is a lot of variability amongst steelhead). 50 samples from Stevens creek 1100 fish throughout the county.

Reservoir may have protected the original steelhead stock in the upper watershed. One square millimeter fin clip from fish found both above and below the reservoir. Some samples also collected from Permanente Creek. Hansen did some stocking of Permanente. Roach and stickle back was all they found on Hale. Mondy has seen trout in Hale creek. NMFS collaborating—doing the analysis. Hoping to have draft report in the next couple of months.

Carlos Garza found Smithsonian had 100 year old samples from Coyote Creek.

In the past, fish from even other states have been stocked. Also, fish stray. Pink salmon have been found in Guadalupe when they should be in Washington State. Chum found too. Delta water used to augment Calabazas creek and this may be a source of fish. Penitencia creek ponds store water from Central Valley. When drained they found central valley fish that made it all the way in a pipe, including four foot long sturgeon.

LWD criteria: Thirty centimeters and five feet long?

Coastal Habitat Education and Environmental Restoration Herman Garcia from CHEER presentation:

Has help of Eleanor Villareal, top fundraising executive, who is committed to raising money for their effort. CHEER focusing on Pajaro River Watershed. Wants to collaborate helping us find funding for fish and education. Herman works for First Five. We might be able to apply for funds for education program. Advantage for CHEER is the interest in the environment, and for knowledge and education about how our council works. Website is www.cheercentral.org

Bylaws—Claire forgot to add in the voting method that votes only count for active members.

Logo—Debi would like all the parts to fit together. Some don't like the leaf or think it is too big. Committee will make more progress.

Fish below the dam—district turned up the flow to try to wash out the fish.

Fundraising. Mondy went to a workshop on fundraising and is interested in getting a membership drive going. Mondy promoted the idea of having an annual event in March to welcome back the fish. Indoors with a silent auction? Aaron suggests running up the stream with a fish like the Olympic torch.

Gary put in a plea for a secretary and other members of the executive committee.

Watershed assessment. Kristy McCumby: Began to define the scope of the assessment. Entire watershed, identify data gaps, collaborate with Save the Bay. Kristy would like to have monthly meetings, potentially every other with the WAMs group and once without. It will be a major task to keep focused. Jan points out that CA Assessment manual is overwhelming, but recommends to focus on key questions.

Development and Water Resources: Making the Connection. Presentation and walk on the Guadalupe. Sponsored by the land use subgroup of the WMI. Robin Grossinger will talk about Historical Ecology on Wednesday May 3rd.

Hale Creek Mondy told about the progress of the restoration plans for the church on Hale Creek.

Stevens Creek Corridor: City of Cupertino may be interested in partnering on plant eradication.

Cleanup: April 22 9-12 Mountain View and friends of SC creek cleanup meet at Whisman park 310 easy street.

Next meeting June 7, 2006 4 PM in Sunnyvale

APPENDIX

Stevens/Permanente Creek Watershed Council

Contacts List for meeting of April 5, 2006

Name Organization E-Mail Phone

Mondy Lariz

Gary Bailey

Aaron Grossman

Kristy McCumby-Hyland

Marty Seldon

Barbara Banfield

Deborah Jamison

Dennis Buranek

Vivian Blomenkamp

Claire Elliott

Cheryl Turner

Gail Brownell

Catherine Preston