

South Fork American River Watershed Group Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 24, 2010
2:00 – 4:00 PM
USFS Large Conference Room
100 Forni Rd, Placerville

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 16, 2-4 pm. large conference room 100 Forni Rd, Placerville

Attendees: Mark Egbert – Resource Conservation District
Joe Davis – SMUD
Clint Meyer – RMC Water and Environment
Bruce Boom -USFS
Jesse Saich – EID
Randy Pesses – City of Placerville
Mike Preszler – Citizen
Brian Deason – EID
Gary Miles – Citizen
Dave Eggerton – EID
Ross Branch – Representative for Congressman McClintock
Elizabeth Sheppard – SEA/EN2 Resources
Fred Hunt – RCD/NRCS
Elena DeLacy – American River Conservancy
Chad Johnson – Sound Watershed
Darold Perry – SMUD
Melissa Marquez – RCD
Richard Boylan

≈ Action Items

1) Adopt-A-Creek program

Overall approval for the program and the role of the group to review sign locations, sign design, and overall program direction. The RCD will continue to develop the program. Details to follow.

Comments/Suggestions: Form clear and concise objectives, continue to seek grant funding, contact CCC crews for possible sign installation to decrease cost, research possibility of extending the program to include creek cleanup by adoptee in addition to sign, create maps with the proposed sign locations for group review.

2) Water quality monitoring program - Clint Meyer

Introduced concept proposal for the El Dorado County Foothill Watershed Monitoring Program (attached). Discussed what the program objectives could be, educational citizen monitoring or develop a program that would be SWAMP compliant and includes a QAPP, Elizabeth Sheppard could help develop a monitoring protocol and QAPP. Program development will continue.

Comments/Suggestions: Could start educational and develop from there, the Adopt-A-Creek program and monitoring program could meet the same goals and perhaps be integrated, use SWAMP protocols and free training, volunteer could be from watershed group, data could be added to the SWIM model, look into involving FFA students and other school groups, research past monitoring activities such as a study conducted through the American River Conservancy (Greg Souba), City of Placerville for Hangtown Creek, EID for Deer Creek, Safe-to-Swim, etc. so that we know what data is and has been collected.

3) Safe-to-Swim Study 2010

Water Board study on local swimming holes, volunteers to collect from locations sampled in 2008. Volunteer training held at the American River Nature Center on Thursday 8/26 at 10:00am.

4) Group logo

The watershed group has \$200 for a logo design for the South Fork American River Watershed Group. Past attempts to solicit designs from students were unfruitful.

Target design concepts from local artists and professionals. Solicit designers within the next couple of weeks and have them contact Melissa Marquez @ 295-5636 or Melissa.Marquez@ca.usda.gov.

≈ Information Items

1) Great Sierra River Cleanup

Saturday September 25th from 9:00-12:00 followed by a volunteer appreciation barbeque. Site leaders needed for the Cosumnes river site at Happy Valley and Browns Ravine at Folsom Lake. Provide Randy P. with information to announce at the September 14 City Council meeting. Obtain information about upcoming meetings for the Placerville Downtown Association.

To sign up fill out the online registration form at the ARC or RCD website.

<http://arconservancy.org/xoops/>

<http://eldoradorcd.org/nodes/projects/GSRCU.htm>

2) Watershed Tours

All tour dates had a good turnout. A big **Thank you** to the group for all the support of providing ideas, presentations and to the members who helped to lead the tour groups and for providing interesting and stimulating discussions. Brainstorm topics and locations for next year.

3) Grants update

- Title II – RAC meets every third Monday, no project proposal information or dates yet. Guidelines anticipated soon.
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado/projects/rac/eldorado/index.shtml>
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy Restoration and Pre-Project Planning Grants – Due Sept. 13
<http://www.sierranevadaconservancy.ca.gov/grants.html>
- Department of Conservation Watershed Coordinator Grants – Due Oct. 12
http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/wp/grants/Pages/wcgp_forms.aspx

4) ArcGIS Online and Explorer – map sharing group

Discussed ArcGIS online and Explorer as a tool for map sharing, especially ArcMap generated maps. South Fork American River Watershed group at www.arcgis.com

The SWIM model was mentioned and can be used for data sharing. SWIM is a Sacramento Watershed Program project.

(http://www.sacriver.org/aboutus/programs/education_4.php)

Google Earth was mentioned as a map-sharing tool, the pro series can be purchased for \$30.

Ideas to think about for map sharing between the group and future monitoring groups. Will look into adding the group to the SWIM database and expanding the ArcGIS Online/Explorer group.