

Staff Report

TO: Chair and Board Members
Yolo County Habitat JPA

FROM: Maria Wong
Executive Director

DATE: ~~October 18, 2010~~ **November 15, 2010**

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

1. Prop 84/NCCP funding

Proposition 84 authorized \$90M to assist in the development and implementation of NCCPs. The 2009 water legislation package appropriated \$24M of those funds for Delta NCCPs. Due to the strong advocacy of county staff and other supporters of the NHP, the newly adopted state budget has preserved the funding for another year.

2. California Habitat Conservation Planning Coalition

As previously reported, the FWS has been concerned about the use of mitigation fees to match federal section 6 grants. This source of funding will be important to the NHP during implementation as a contribution to the non-federal match requirement. The CHCPC began working with FWS earlier this year to work out a solution that would allow continued the use of these funds. Last month agreements were reached that allow the use of mitigation fees as match for Section 6 funding pursuant to criteria that work for the NHP.

Based in part on the success of the Coalition's negotiation with DG and FWS on the use of mitigation fees as match, a broader agenda has been developed for the Coalition's two-day summit in Coachella valley later this month. Consequently, staff will attend, as several discussion topics are germane to the NHP.

3. BDCP

Staff continues to monitor the progress of the BDCP. The schedule to complete the plan has been extended. Staff met with several entities undertaking BDCP "early implementation projects" to assess opportunities for mutually beneficial ecological outcomes. Initial discussions are promising; staff will keep the Board informed as talks continue.

The BDCP held a public outreach meeting on the Fremont Weir Conservation Measure October 6 at the West Sacramento library. Yolo County staff and JPA staff continue to monitor the conservation measure, which is intended to provide fish habitat in the Yolo Bypass by increasing the frequency and duration of flooding.

4. Delta Plan

The Delta Stewardship Council adopted the Interim Delta Plan and is in the process of developing the Delta Plan. SB X7 1, which created the Delta Stewardship Council, defines HCP/NCCPs as “projects” subject to the Delta Plan. Staff will continue to monitor and comment on the developing Delta Plan to minimize future conflicts between the NHP and the adopted Delta Plan.

5. Public outreach

JPA staff made a presentation to the BRBNA in August. The new NHP bumper sticker is available, as well as two new posters.