

**GLENN COUNTY
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
For the Water Advisory Committee**

Glenn County Department of Agriculture
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Minutes

Meeting Date: December 16, 2009

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: Glenn County Department of Agriculture
720 N. Colusa Street
Willows, CA 95988

TAC Members Present:

Mark Black	Ag Commissioner
Ben Pennock	Central Area
Lance Boyd	PID/PCGID
Kelly Staton	DWR
George Wilson	North Area

WAC Members Present:

James Weber	E. Corning Basin PP
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Others:

Lester Messina	Glenn Co. Ag. Dept
Gaylee Curcio	Glenn Co. Ag Dept.
Lisa Hunter	Glenn Co. Ag Dept.
Jon Mulder	DWR

I. INTRODUCTIONS: Those in attendance introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the November 9, 2009 meeting were approved as mailed.

III. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS:

1. BMO Revision Memo

Allan Fulton sent the Technical Advisory Committee a memo outlining his ideas on technical reasons to justify why the BMOs should be changed based on land use changes and declining water levels. The memo also touched on the functions of the TAC and role of its members, in which Lester Messina also wanted to brainstorm with other TAC members at the meeting.

Questions asked were:

Should all BMO areas be looked at using the period of record 1976-2009? The original period of record was 1977-1997.

Kelly Staton thought it would be interesting to look at all observation wells and use the new period of record to see what the changes are. Kelly asked if there were any abnormal groundwater levels reported in those areas. Lester responded there was nothing officially recorded but that information is subject to public disclosure, so the property owner would have to agree to give out some personal information. Previously, if a problem occurred in the sub-areas, the representative from that sub-area would address it with the Ag Department based on the recommendations of the WAC.

Should the TAC recommend to the WAC that BMO documents be reviewed more closely so that it reflects land and water use changes? If changes are not made, some areas will wind up in stage 3 forever and be

subject to adaptive management even though in reality the user is not experiencing any problems. Kelly thinks it is only fair to have one consistent way of evaluating BMOs so no one sub-area is not singled out. Kelly said that the regression method is hard to duplicate. If all sub-areas are looked at using the Spring BMO, the representatives could look at all the hydrographs with advanced stage alerts. Ben Pennock thinks it should be the responsibility of each sub-area representative unless they have support from their group; they should have the input unless we mandate it. Mark thinks that the TAC should have a good argument for uniformity and explain its benefits. Without language incorporated in the BMOs emphasizing uniformity, Mark is concerned that the sub-areas will revert back to their original methods. Ben Pennock prefers that in trying to push for uniformity that we persuade not force the issue.

Based on all the discussion, it was decided the TAC, through Ag Department staff should provide initial review for all BMOs.

2. BMO Revisions for sub-areas 8, 9, and 10

The Technical Advisory Committee will be recommending to the Water Advisory Committee to accept the following revisions:

- a) The BMO method in Sub-area 8 is changed to 1-2 standard deviations from 20% of range. All BMOs for Sub-areas 9 and 10 are changed to 1-2 standard deviations and utilize spring measurements.
- b) Additional language has been added to the BMOs indicating what action steps will be taken at different alert stages; these include informational, investigational, and actionable steps.
- c) A level of uniformity is adopted for all other sub-areas.

The TAC also discussed changing the word “compliance” to “conditions” so that perception of the BMO changes to educational versus regulatory. The ordinance will be looked at to see if it contains the word “compliance” and change it accordingly.

MEMBER REPORTS:

Lester reported that he has submitted the scope of work requested by DWR on the Sub-area 8 (Capay) Recharge Project. The scope of work has been reviewed by Ben Pennock and Kelly Staton. Kelly with DWR mentioned that Bob Niblack and NCWA would like to meet with Lester along with other interested groups to discuss the project further.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

NEXT MEETINGS:

No WAC or TAC Meetings were scheduled at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gaylee Curcio