



FLOOD PROJECT COORDINATING COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 13, 2008

DATE: May 30, 2008

TO: Flood Project Coordinating Committee Members

FROM: Naomi Duerr, Director, Truckee River Flood Management Project, 850-7420
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SUBJECT: Accept Truckee River Flood Management Project Status Report for May 2008

SUMMARY

A status report on the activities related to the Truckee River Flood Management Project for the month of May 2008 is provided herein.

PREVIOUS ACTION

The most recent status report was presented to the FPCC at their May 9, 2008 meeting.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Corps Activities

Fish Passage - A meeting was held May 29th with the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Flood Project Staff, Bureau of Reclamation, University of Nevada, Reno, Sierra Pacific Power Company, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and various stakeholders on fish passage options. Fish passage is part of ecosystem restoration, one of the three primary goals of the Flood Project. The Corps presented five scenarios for fish passage at the meeting. They call the scenarios "best buy" plans. Discussion at the meeting focused on how the Corps arrived at the cost and benefits associated with each of the five options. Based on input from the local stakeholders, the Corps agreed to preference upstream passage features (i.e., removing or modifying dams and other obstructions which prevent fish passage) over downstream features (i.e, screening to prevent young fry from being diverted off the river to fields), and present new options based on the input received. Further discussion is needed prior to any final decisions about the best scenario to be included in the final Flood Project Plan.

Recreation Plan - Flood Project staff continues to work with Stantec Consulting along with Reno, Sparks and Washoe County Parks' Managers and planners to conceive and create the Truckee

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River Corridor Recreation Plan. An update was presented at the Working Group and Technical Advisory Group meetings in May. In addition, Flood Project staff met with the City of Sparks' Parks and Recreation to review concept plans in the Sparks area and how they fit with existing and future Sparks Parks and Recreation plans. The conceptual plan will be presented at the June FPCC meeting. Plan drawings, specs and cost estimates have already been forwarded to the Corps.

Flood Project Schedule – The Corps schedule for completion of the General Re-evaluation Report remains uncertain. A number of activities remain incomplete, such as the river channel stability assessment and the EIS. Colonel Chapman, Sacramento District Commander is scheduled to closely review the schedule and propose a new timeframe for completion of the next key milestones in the near future.

TRAction Projects

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony TRAction Project - A new Development and Finance Agreement (DFA) with the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) (an interlocal cooperative agreement) and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. regarding construction of a 2,241 foot flood levee on Colony and State of Nevada land east of US.395 and north of Second Street in Reno was presented to the Board of County Commissioners in late May. This action authorized the Chairman to execute the new DFA and sign any required easements upon presentation. Both the RSIC and Wal-Mart have now signed the new DFA. Wal-Mart is still awaiting NDOT permits for their store, one of the pre-conditions for providing their share of the funds (approximately \$2 million. Because of the delay in receiving the Wal-Mart funds, the BCC very reluctantly rejected the construction bids it had already obtained in January 2008 for constructing the levee. A new bid process will commence once all approvals are in place and the funding has been provided.

North Truckee Drain Realignment – A Section 104 application was filed with the Corps for the North Truckee Drain Project the first week of June. Approval of the 104 application prior to construction will ensure that local funds expended for construction are credited to the local sponsor. Design work has commenced. A initial meeting on land /right of way acquisition for the project was also held this month.

102 Ranch Funding Agreement - At the May 9th meeting, the FPCC approved a TRAction Project Agreement with The Nature Conservancy for \$3.1 million (using State AB 5 funds) to restore the 102 Ranch site in the East Truckee Canyon as part of the Flood Project's restoration efforts, and to endorse The Nature Conservancy's application for Desert Terminal Lakes program funding from the Bureau of Reclamation to support additional restoration work at the 102 Ranch. The Board of County Commission approved the agreement at their May 27th meeting. A Section 104 application was filed with the Corps the first week of June. Approval of the 104 application prior to construction will ensure that local funds expended for construction are credited to the local sponsor.

Lockwood Restoration Project - At the May 13th Meeting, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved a Deed of Combination for the "Lockwood Restoration Project" and authorized the Chairman to execute the deed upon presentation. The Deed of Combination will combine the 13 separate parcels into 1 parcel, thereby providing for the efficient ability to coordinate with State Lands with the necessary future cross easement documents.

Local Sponsors/Collaborative Efforts

Southeast Connector Road - Flood Project Staff attended the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) open house May 28th concerning the Southeast Connector Plan Line Study. This is the second public meeting by RTC in response to the RTC Board direction to have a study done on this issue by July 31st.

Regional Hydrologic Model – At the May 13th meeting, the Board of County Commissioners approved the issuance of a Request for Qualifications to Engineering firms for the development of a regional hydrologic model for the Flood Project. Once developed, the regional hydrologic model will have sufficient resolution to determine impacts from land use changes as small as 5 to 10 acres. The RFQ will start the process of identifying firms that have the ability to use the best and latest hydrologic technical advances appropriate for the Truckee River Watershed.

Funding

Flood Funding Study - FCS Group and CH2MHill updated the Finance Subcommittee at the May 7th meeting. They conveyed their progress on data collection and presented possible funding scenarios. FCS and CH2MHill will further update the Finance Subcommittee at the June 10th meeting. Outreach for the Flood Funding Area Study continues with approximately 90% of the NAB, CAB, and SCACs in the regions having received the Flood Funding Study presentation. The plan is to provide follow-up briefings to the advisory groups once the consultants have concluded their work. The Flood Funding study is expected to conclude in August 2008 with a series of recommendations for setting up flood funding areas and rates, and providing additional justification for the project. Already, data analyzed by the consultants shows that the project will have a very significant economic stimulus effect, as well as prevent up to \$2 Billion in future flood damages.

Land Acquisition/Land Management

Property Specialists Agreement amendment - At the May 9th meeting, the FPCC approved amendment of the existing Agreement with Property Specialists, Inc. for specialized relocation services, to increase the amount of the contract by \$19,000 (for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$69,000), and to extend the term of the contract by 6 months. The amendment to the agreement is scheduled for consideration by the Board of County Commission on June 10th.

Lease Agreement with Bristlecone - Doug DuBois, Land Acquisition Manager updated the FPCC on the lease agreement with Bristlecone Family Resources, Inc. The FPCC asked that Bristlecone begin to pay rent (rent had been waived for the last year, in an escalating amount up to \$7500 by the end of next year. The lease agreement will be considered by the FPCC in June.

Outreach

Associated State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) Conference- The ASFPM convened the world's largest and most comprehensive floodplain management conference - the 32nd annual gathering - the week of May 18-23, 2008, in Reno-Sparks, Nevada. It was the largest ASFPM conference ever with over 1300 industry experts in attendance.

Throughout the week, Flood Project Staff acted as guides on Flood Project raft and/or bus tours, talked to hundreds of participants at the booth about the Project and provided a myriad of other volunteer duties as needed. A press conference was coordinated by Flood Staff Wednesday, May 21st that included Major General Riley of the Army Corp of Engineers with media coverage from Channel 4. Other media coverage during the conference included the Sparks Tribune and Channel 2, both on raft tours. Of special note, Flood Staff hosted a separate bus tour of the Project

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for Army Corp of Engineer personnel culminating in a substantial appreciation for the breadth of the Project goals and understanding of the mission. In addition, a more in-depth field trip was provided by Director Duerr to the Hidden Valley TRAction Project and Lockwood Restoration site for key Corps personnel. The Truckee River Flood Project will be top-of-mind in many regions of the country thanks to this outreach opportunity.

Flood Warning Software – Paul Urban, Flood Project Manager is working with Reno, Sparks and Washoe County on installing new Flood Warning Software.

Staff/Personnel Update

Fiscal Compliance Officer – Trish Yohey joined the Flood Project May 12th. She comes to the Flood Project with more than 20 years in the private sector in various accounting and administrative positions joining the Washoe County family in 2000 in the Budget Division. Other moves within the County included the District Health Department and Senior Services where her duties included budget, all things financial, and grants administration.

Licensed Engineer Position – Eric Scheetz joined the Flood Project May 19th. He is a licensed engineer in both Nevada and California and has over 13 years of experience in the engineering and construction fields. Prior to working on Heavy Civil Projects, Eric worked in construction in which he built homes throughout the North Lake Tahoe/ Truckee area. Eric has a Masters in Construction Management, a skill that will be a significant asset to the flood project as we move into construction. Eric will be assuming primary responsibility for the TRAction projects and home elevation activities, amongst other assignments.

Administrative Assistant – Laura Bayer will be joining the Flood Project June 9th. An update on her background will be provided in the next monthly report.

International Right of Way Association (IRWA) – Doug DuBois was named to the local Board of IRWA as Membership Chair.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Flood Project Coordinating Committee (FPCC) accept this status report on the Truckee River Flood Management Program

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the FPCC wish to implement the staff recommendation, a simple motion to approve the recommendation would suffice.

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