

From: [Kent, Robin](#)
To: Alison_Willy@fws.gov
Cc: [Devine, John](#); [Borovansky, Jenna](#)
Subject: Don Pedro Project: Potential VELB hole findings
Date: Friday, March 23, 2012 12:21:17 PM
Attachments: [VELB photos.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Dear Alison:

Per the study plan for Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle on the relicensing of the Don Pedro Project, we are to report to the USFWS within two weeks when we locate either VELB or potential VELB boreoles. Per this requirement, I want to report to you three elderberry occurrences that were located on the Project with potential boreholes.

Occurrence #4: UTM: 4188803 736565 Photos: VELB 4a-d (suspected to possibly be other than VELB boreholes)

Occurrence #6: UTM: 4188844 736238 Photos: VELB 6a-e (holes appear older)

Occurrence #9: UTM: 4188941 736328 Photos: VELB 9a-i (possibly recent holes)

I have enclosed all the photos as a single pdf file. Please let me know if you have trouble opening the attachment.

All information required by the study plan about all elderberry plants with appropriate stems over 1 inch for VELB will be included in the study report.

If there is more information I can provide at this time about the study or the located potential VELB boreholes, please let me know.

Thank you!

Robin Kent
Scientist
HDR|DTA

W&AR-7

Jason Guignard
Fisheries Biologist

FISHBIO

jasonguignard@fishbio.com

O: (209) 847-6300

C: (209) 840-9019

www.fishbio.com

From: Mark Clifford <mclifford@dfg.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Fwd: Merced River hatchery fish request
Date: March 26, 2012 2:17:11 PM PDT
To: <jasonguignard@fishbio.com>

Hi Jason,

Attached are the guidelines to follow when requesting fish or fish products. Send the official request (on company/university/agency letter head) to me and I will forward the request to the DFG Regional Biologist for their consideration. Once they make a determination, they send me their response and I will contact you with either a approval or denial.

Best regards,

Mark

Mark A. Clifford, Ph.D.
Hatchery Coordinator
California Department of Fish and Game
Fisheries Branch
830 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
916-445-2416 (office)

Jason Guignard <jasonguignard@fishbio.com> 03/26/12 1:21 PM >>>

From: Jason Guignard <jasonguignard@fishbio.com><~!B*+R^&>> Date: March 15, 2012
9:51:28 AM PDT

To: mclifford@dfg.ca.gov

Cc: Andrea Fuller <andreafuller@fishbio.com><~!B*+R^&>> Subject: Merced River hatchery
fish request

Hi Mark,

I would like to put a request in for the use of 900 Merced River Hatchery juvenile chinook this spring. Can you tell me what steps we need to go through for an official request?

These fish will be used on the Tuolumne River as part of a FERC study related to the relicensing of the Don Pedro Project. The study calls for 225 acoustically tagged fish and an additional 600 unmarked fish to accompany the study fish. The minimum size for tagging is 12 grams (105-125 mm), and we would plan to tag and release these fish during the first 2 weeks of May.

Please let me know what our next steps need to be in order to have our request considered.

Thank You,

Jason Guignard
Fisheries Biologist

FISHBIO
1617 S. Yosemite Ave.
Oakdale, CA 95361
(209) 847-6300 office
(209) 840-9019 cell
www.fishbio.com

From: Imholt, Susan
To: ["Cranston, Peggy"](#); [Eicher, James M](#)
Cc: [Borovansky, Jenna](#); [Devine, John](#)
Subject: RE: Don Pedro Project FERC Relicensing - fieldwork on BLM land
Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 5:34:00 PM

Peggy and Jim,

We have slightly revised our itinerary for April 2-3. We are adding site reconnaissance for foothill yellow-legged frog at Smarts Gulch and two unnamed tributaries northeast of Upper Bay, where FYLF and western pond turtle have been found on BLM-owned land. We will not be going to Six-bit Gulch or Poor Man's Gulch on this field trip.

We plan to conduct FYLF reconnaissance at Six-bit Gulch, Sullivan Creek, Woods Creek, and Slate Creek the week of April 16th.

Thank you,
Susie

SUSAN IMHOLT

HDR Engineering, Inc.

Scientist - Wildlife, Fisheries, Botanical

601 Union St, Suite 700 | Seattle, WA 98101

206.826.4693 | c: 360.318.5333

susan.imholt@hdrinc.com | hdrinc.com

From: Imholt, Susan
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 4:19 PM
To: 'Cranston, Peggy'; Eicher, James M
Cc: Borovansky, Jenna; Devine, John
Subject: Don Pedro Project FERC Relicensing - fieldwork on BLM land

Hello Peggy and Jim,

For the Don Pedro Project Special-Status Amphibians Study, we will be conducting site reconnaissance for foothill yellow-legged frog on April 2-3. Some of the sites we plan to visit are on BLM-owned land, including Six-bit Gulch, Poor Man's Gulch, Moccasin Creek (below Moccasin Reservoir), and depending on accessibility: Turnback Creek, Tuolumne River above Don Pedro Reservoir, and NF Tuolumne River.

Please email or give me a call if you are interested in attending this fieldwork.

Thank you,
Susie Imholt



Date: April 4, 2012

To: Tuolumne River Commercial Outfitters, Managers, and Private Boaters

Re: Invitation to Participate in Whitewater Boating Take Out Improvement Feasibility Study for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Application for a New License for the Don Pedro Hydroelectric Project

Turlock Irrigation District (TID) and Modesto Irrigation District (MID) (collectively, the Districts) are the co-licensees of the Don Pedro Hydroelectric Project. The current license to operate the Don Pedro Project will expire on April 30, 2016, and the Districts are in the process of obtaining a new license to operate from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Districts plan to apply for a new license no later than April 30, 2014 and are engaged in a comprehensive suite of 35 environmental and related studies in support of their license application. Information about the Don Pedro Relicensing is available at: www.donpedro-relicensing.com.

One of the studies being conducted is a Whitewater Boating Take Out Improvement Feasibility Study. As part of this study, the Districts are seeking input from guides and boaters familiar with the Tuolumne River and the Ward's Ferry Bridge take out about use of the existing site, potential improvements, and alternative sites. As you may already be aware, the Annual Tuolumne River Recreation Meeting is scheduled from 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM on April 17, 2012 at the Hetch Hetchy Water and Power Administration Building at 1 Lakeshore Dr, Moccasin, CA (as per Adam Mazurkiewicz, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission). The Districts are inviting volunteers to participate in a focus group session following this annual meeting. The Districts' focus group meeting will convene from approximately 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM immediately following the annual meeting.

As discussed with relicensing participants during study plan development, this time and date has been selected as a convenience for those of you who will attend the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's recreation meeting.

For our focus group, we are inviting individuals knowledgeable about Tuolumne River whitewater boating, agency representatives responsible for managing the Tuolumne River, professional guides, and other outfitter employees. By participating in this 1-1/2 hour meeting, you will help us assess the feasibility of improving the existing Ward's Ferry take out location

April 4, 2012
Page Two

for continued use by whitewater boaters and also assess the feasibility of alternative take out locations. Please note that even if you are not planning to attend the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's recreation meeting, the Districts are interested in your participation in our focus group.

Please RSVP to the Districts' consultant, HDR, Inc. at (916) 206-3189 and ask for Kelly Bricker (kelly.bricker@hdrinc.com), or Nancy Craig via email at nancy.craig@hdrinc.com, if you are available for this important focus group session. We will appreciate hearing from you by Thursday, April 12 to assist us in our planning.

Thank you!

Subject: RE: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan

Hi Tim,

I'd say 2001 and 2002 are also good return years to check, since they would correspond to outmigration years 2000, 1999, and 1998, which were all "wet" or "above normal". 2004, 2005, and 2006 return year samples could all work for "dry" and "below normal" outmigration years.

Thx,
Maia

From: Tim Heyne [<mailto:theyne@dfg.ca.gov>]
Sent: Mon 4/9/2012 8:26 AM
To: Rachel Barnett-Johnson; Maia Singer
Subject: Re: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan

Maia and Rachel

What other years should we look at numbers? We have some years after 2003 that will probably work. And there maybe 1995 samples to do 2 year old off of 1994 outmigrants.

Tim Heyne <'>>>>>>>>><
Senior Scientist
Tuolumne River Restoration Center
California Dept. of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 10, La Grange, CA 95329
(209) 853-2533 Fax:(209) 853-9017

theyne@dfg.ca.gov

>>> Rachel Barnett-Johnson <Barnett-Johnson@biology.ucsc.edu> 4/4/2012
3:42 PM >>>

Keeping my fingers crossed that out years look more promising. Be in touch.

Rachel

On 4/4/12, Maia Singer <maia@stillwatersci.com> wrote:

> Hi Tim,

> Thanks for the update. It is disappointing that the numbers are so low,

> but I very much appreciate the effort to get them! Let's try to chat

> tomorrow AM - I'll give you a call around 8 am.

> Thx,
> Maia
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Tim Heyne [<mailto:theyne@dfg.ca.gov>]
> Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 5:02 PM
> To: Rachel Barnett-Johnson; Maia Singer
> Subject: RE: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan
>
> Maia
>
> Sorry I didn't get back to you last week. Kinda underwater currently.
> I did get Crystall thru the samples. It is not good in terms of
> non-adclip fish. The following are the numbers:
> 1996 22
> 1997 1
> 1998 27
> 1999 29
>
> I will be in the office tomorrow and try to call you. If you try me a
> time or two we should be able to get hooked up. I am working on
> numbers
> for all years 2004 to the present now.
>
> Tim Heyne <'>>>>>>>><
> Senior Scientist
> Tuolumne River Restoration Center
> California Dept. of Fish and Game
> P.O. Box 10, La Grange, CA 95329
> (209) 853-2533 Fax:(209) 853-9017
>
> theyne@dfg.ca.gov
>
>>>> Maia Singer <maia@stillwatersci.com> 3/28/2012 11:54 AM >>>>
> Hi Tim,
> Checking back on Crystal's progress. How are things looking?
> Thx,
> Maia
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Tim Heyne [<mailto:theyne@dfg.ca.gov>]
> Sent: Friday, March 23, 2012 1:11 PM
> To: Rachel Barnett-Johnson; Maia Singer
> Subject: RE: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan
>
> Maia
>
> I have had Crystal checking on the inventory of otoliths from the

1990s.

> It going to be difficult based on the database with a couple of years
> showing only one fish that is not adclipped. I asked Crystal to go
back
> to the physical inventory and confirm this cause it seems more low
from
> what I remember. I am hoping there are otoliths that were not
> inventoried into the database (cause we were focused on scales/age
det).
> I will wait till Monday to give you two a call to review what we
really
> have. Sorry this is not moving as fast as I hoped.

>
> Tim Heyne <'>>>>>>>><
> Senior Scientist
> Tuolumne River Restoration Center
> California Dept. of Fish and Game
> P.O. Box 10, La Grange, CA 95329
> (209) 853-2533 Fax:(209) 853-9017

>
> theyne@dfg.ca.gov

>
>>>> Maia Singer <maia@stillwatersci.com> 3/19/2012 10:29 AM >>>
> Thanks very much Rachel.

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: barnettjohnson [mailto:barnettjohnson] On
> Behalf Of Rachel Barnett-Johnson
> Sent: Monday, March 19, 2012 10:08 AM
> To: Maia Singer
> Cc: Tim Heyne
> Subject: Re: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan

>
> Hi Maia-
>
> It was nice talking with you and Tim today. I have attached the ppt
> slide that shows the juvenile outmigration year and how we sample the
> escapment to reconstruct 2,3, and 4 year old returns from the cohort.
> Call with questions.

>
> Thanks,
> Rachel

>
>
>
> On 3/19/12, Maia Singer <maia@stillwatersci.com> wrote:
>> Just a reminder to please use the call-in number below for our 9:30
am

>
>> call.
>>
>> Thx!
>>
>> Maia
>>
>>
>>
>> From: Maia Singer
>> Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 3:09 PM
>> To: Tim Heyne
>> Cc: Barnett-Johnson@biology.ucsc.edu
>> Subject: RE: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan
>>
>>
>>
>> OK, let's say 9:30 am Monday morning. Thanks!
>>
>>
>>
>> Call-in number: 1-888-246-3009
>> Participant code: 756-591-2630
>>
>> _____
>>
>> From: Tim Heyne [<mailto:Theyne@dfg.ca.gov>]
>> Sent: Fri 3/16/2012 2:28 PM
>> To: Maia Singer
>> Subject: Re: RE: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan
>>
>> Maia
>>
>> Tried to call you but after the operator routed me the line went dead
>> and the meeting started again. Rachel is here and said she can do a
>> call on Monday. Anytime after 9 am works for me till noon.
>>
>>
>> Tim Heyne ><<<<<<<' >
>> Senior Fishery Biologist
>> Tuolumne River Restoration Center
>> California Dept. of Fish and Game
>> P.O. Box 10, La Grange, CA 95329
>> (209) 853-2533x1 Fax:(209) 853-9017
>>
>> theyne@dfg.ca.gov
>>>>> Maia Singer <maia@stillwatersci.com> 03/16/12 11:51 AM >>>
>> Thanks Tim,

>> I'm at my desk through lunch, on another call at 1 pm. Monday works
>> for me between 8-11 am. Rachel, are you available Monday AM? Noah
>> will probably sit this one out, but I'll update him.

>> Maia

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Tim Heyne [<mailto:Theyne@dfg.ca.gov>]

>> Sent: Friday, March 16, 2012 11:04 AM

>> To: Maia Singer

>> Cc: Barnett-Johnson@biology.ucsc.edu; Noah Hume

>> Subject: Re: RE: Tuolumne River otolith study plan

>>

>> Maia

>>

>> I am sorry that I have not been able to respond before this. I am in

>> a meeting today but will try to call you at the lunch to check in.

>> Can we do the call on Monday morning?

>>

>>

>>

>> Tim Heyne <<<<<<<<' >

>> Senior Fishery Biologist

>> Tuolumne River Restoration Center

>> California Dept. of Fish and Game

>> P.O. Box 10, La Grange, CA 95329

>> (209) 853-2533x1 Fax:(209) 853-9017

>>

>> theyne@dfg.ca.gov

>>>> Maia Singer <maia@stillwatersci.com> 03/12/12 18:45 PM >>>

>> Hi Tim,

>>

>> As a follow-up to my email last week, which included the otolith

study

>

>> plan and general information about our water year types of interest,

>> we've had further discussions with Rachel Barnett-Johnson and have

>> narrowed in on four specific years for the Tuolumne River otolith

>> analyses, as follows:

>>

>> 1998 - Corresponding outmigration years 1995-1996 classified as "Wet"

>> San Joaquin Index (SJI) with potential for floodplain inundation.

>> Corresponding brood years 1994-1995.

>>

>> 1999 - Corresponding outmigration years 1996-1997 classified as "Wet"

>> SJI, with potential for floodplain inundation. Corresponding brood

>> years 1995-1996.

>>

>> 2004 - Corresponding outmigration years 2001-2002 classified as "Dry"

>> SJI, with little to no potential for floodplain inundation.
>> Corresponding brood years 2000-2001.
>>
>> 2005 - Corresponding outmigration years 2002-2003 classified as "Dry"
>> and "Below Normal" SJI, with little to no potential for floodplain
>> inundation. Corresponding brood years 2001-2002.
>>
>> These are also highlighted in the attached spreadsheet as blue for
wet
>
>> years and yellow for dry years. I included some comments in the last
>> column, so you can follow our reasoning.
>>
>> We'd like to try and make use of the otolith data being analyzed as
>> part of the Stanislaus River project, which I think covers 2001 and
> 2003.
>> The already analyzed 2001 samples look like they would fit into a wet
>> year designation, although the 2003 samples may include two water
year
>
>> types (i.e., Above Normal and Dry) and so might not work well for the
>> Tuolumne River study. I may have the years wrong - Rachel can
correct
>
>> me if so. Just in case, I added 2011 as another dry outmigration
year
>
>> possibility. The escapement was relatively higher in 2011, so there
>> may be a better chance of having sufficient otolith samples to
> analyze.
>>
>> With the exception of 2005, the selected years exhibit relatively
high
>
>> escapement for the Tuolumne River, so they are good candidates for
>> providing the minimum sample size recommended by Rachel (i.e., 100
>> otolith samples [note, this is higher than our study plan estimate of
>> 25-40]). Not surprisingly, it is hard to find a dry outmigration
year
>
>> that results in relatively high escapements 2-3 years later.
>>
>> Rachel indicated that her colleague George is planning to be at the
>> CDFG labs within the next 2-3 weeks to help with inventory and review
>> sample availability for the Stanislaus River project. While he's
>> there, he could check the inventory for the above Tuolumne years to
be
>

>> sure there are 100 otolith samples for each year we are requesting.

>>

>> How does that sound to you?

>>

>> Rachel and I are happy to talk through this on the phone, if you have

>> any questions. Are you available for a call Weds 8 am - noon, Thurs

>> 8-9 am or 11 am - 1 pm, or Friday 8 am - 2pm?

>>

>> Thx!

>>

>> Maia

>>

>>

>>

>>

>> _____

>>

>> From: Maia Singer

>> Sent: Mon 3/5/2012 4:38 PM

>> To: Tim Heyne

>> Subject: Tuolumne River otolith study plan

>>

>>

>>

>> Hello Tim,

>>

>> My apologies for the long delay in getting this info to you - we've

>> been engaged in conversation with Rachel Barnett-Johnson and Jim Hobbs

>

>> to determine budget, timelines, and work products, and it's taken a

>> few weeks to coordinate amongst the parties. I've attached the study

>> plan for the Tuolumne River Chinook Salmon Otolith study (Study Plan

>> W&AR-11). Section 3.0 presents the study goals and Section 5.3

>> presents selection criteria for existing otolith samples by water

year

>

>> type. The plan calls for 25-40 samples for each of three above

normal

>

>> water years and 25-40 samples for each of three below normal water

>> years, with the water year classifications as below:

>>

>> Below normal water years

>>

>> Above normal water years

>>

>> 1985

> University of California, Santa Cruz
> Institute of Marine Sciences
> phone: 831-239-8782
> email: Barnett-Johnson@biology.ucsc.edu
> website: www.Barnett-Johnson.com
> *****
>
>
>
>
>

--

Rachel Barnett-Johnson, PhD
University of California, Santa Cruz
Institute of Marine Sciences
phone: 831-239-8782
email: Barnett-Johnson@biology.ucsc.edu
website: www.Barnett-Johnson.com

From: [Kent, Robin](#)
To: Alison_Willy@fws.gov
Cc: [Devine, John](#); [Borovansky, Jenna](#)
Subject: RE: Don Pedro Project: Potential VELB hole findings
Date: Monday, April 09, 2012 10:37:00 AM
Attachments: [VELB 17 and 18.pdf](#)

Dear Alison:

Per the study plan for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle on the relicensing of the Don Pedro Project, we are to report to the USFWS when we located either VELB or VELB boreholes. Per this requirement, I am reporting to you an additional two elderberry occurrences with potential boreholes that were located on the Project.

Occurrence #17: UTM: 4174849 727170 Photos: VELB 17a and b (suspected to be sapsucker holes)

Occurrence#18: UTM: 4176047 726153 Photos: VELB 18a and b

I have enclosed photos as a single pdf file. Please let me know if you have trouble opening the attachment.

All information required by the study plan about all elderberry plants with appropriate stems over 1 inch will be included in the study report.

If there is more information I can provide at this time about the study, the elderberry occurrences or the located potential boreholes, please let me know.

Thank you!

ROBIN KENT

HDR

Senior Scientist, Hydropower Services

2379 Gateway Oaks, Suite 200 | Sacramento, CA 95833

916.679.8733 | c: 530.220.4283

robin.kent@hdrinc.com | hdrinc.com



Please Think Before Printing

From: [Kent, Robin](#)
To: Alison_Willy@fws.gov
Cc: [Devine, John](#); [Borovansky, Jenna](#)
Subject: RE: Don Pedro Project: Potential VELB hole findings
Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:14:00 PM
Attachments: [Slingshot.txt](#)
Importance: High

HDR Employees:

Use the "Download Attachments" button after opening this message in Outlook to download attached files.

Non-HDR Recipients:

If you are not an HDR employee and this is your first time using Slingshot click [here](#) and follow the prompts to set your password.

Returning users click here to [Download](#) (files: SAMNIGCAE304.JPG; SAMNIGCAE301A.JPG;)

Notice: The link in this email will only work for up to 30 days (as set by the sender). If you need access to these files for longer, please download and save a copy locally. Recipients of forwarded emails WILL NOT have access to the files using this link.

Dear Alison:

Per the study plan for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle on the relicensing of the Don Pedro Project, we are to report to the USFWS when we located either VELB or VELB boreholes. Per this requirement, I am reporting to you an additional two elderberry occurrences with potential boreholes that were located on the Project.

Occurrence #301: UTM: 4173362 733709 Photos: VELB 301a

Occurrence#304: UTM: 4173307 733809 Photos: VELB 304

I have enclosed photos of the two elderberry occurrences. Please let me know if you have trouble opening the attachments.

All information required by the study plan about all elderberry plants with appropriate stems over 1 inch will be included in the study report.

If there is more information I can provide at this time about the study, the elderberry occurrences or the located potential boreholes, please let me know.

Thank you!

ROBIN KENT

HDR

Senior Scientist, Hydropower Services

From: Jason Guignard <jasonguignard@fishbio.com>
Subject: Re: Tuolumne River Fish Study Request
Date: April 12, 2012 5:42:45 PM PDT
To: Dean Marston <DMarston@dfg.ca.gov>, Ramon Martin <ramon_martin@fws.gov>
Cc: Andrea Fuller <andreafuller@fishbio.com>, John Devine <John.Devine@hdrinc.com>, Noah Hume <noah@stillwatersci.com>, Jenna Borovansky <jenna.borovansky@hdrinc.com>

Hi Dean,

I wanted to follow up with you regarding the purpose of the additional 600 fish. I believe Ramon Martin made this request for FWS and have cc'd him on this message. The purpose of these additional fish was to accompany the tagged fish to promote schooling behavior.

If it is helpful, I can set up a conference call for us all to discuss this issue. Ramon and Dean, if you send me your availability for a call I will set it up.

Thank You,

Jason Guignard
Fisheries Biologist

FISHBIO
1617 S. Yosemite Ave.
Oakdale, CA 95361
(209) 847-6300 office
(209) 840-9019 cell
www.fishbio.com

On Apr 9, 2012, at 4:52 PM, Dean Marston wrote:

Thanks for the reply Jason. I'm working off my blackberry and cannot access the attached file. Can you please identify the biological and/or scientific study purpose of the 600 fish the FWS wants added to the study? If you do not know the answer would you mind asking the FWS?

Thanks in advance,
Dean

-----Original Message-----

From: Jason Guignard <jasonguignard@fishbio.com>
To: Marston, Dean <DMarston@dfg.ca.gov>

Cc: Fuller, Andrea <andreafuller@fishbio.com>
Cc: Devine, John <John.Devine@hdrinc.com>

Sent: 4/9/2012 4:13:27 PM
Subject: Re: Tuolumne River Fish Study Request

Hi Dean,

Thanks for getting back to me regarding this fish request.

- i) The additional 600 unmarked fish were included in the study plan at the request of USFWS during the FERC review period (page 9 of Study Plan)
- ii) The purpose of the 75 additional fish was to allow a buffer for sorting of undersized fish/mortalities during the tagging process, as well as 12 "dummy" tagged fish. As we are proposing to conduct tagging at the Hatchery, any fish not selected for tagging would remain at the facilities.

I have attached a copy of the study plan for your reference, as I don't know if you have been involved in earlier review of this study. The acoustic tracking portion is Section 5.3.3 (pg. 8). Please don't hesitate to email or call if you have additional questions.

Thank You,

Jason Guignard
Fisheries Biologist

FISHBIO
1617 S. Yosemite Ave.
Oakdale, CA 95361
(209) 847-6300 office
(209) 840-9019 cell
www.fishbio.com

On Apr 9, 2012, at 11:40 AM, Dean Marston wrote:

Hi Jason,

Your fish request has come to me for review/approval. From your letter dated March 26, 2012 you have asked for a total of 900 fish from our Merced River Hatchery. Of these 900 fish it appears that 225 will be acoustically tagged, 600 will be untagged and released concurrent with the tagged fish, and 75 are unaccounted for. A couple of questions arise: i) what is the purpose of the 600 fish given no information can be collected from them since apparently they will be untagged and unmarked, and ii) what is the purpose/outcome of the 75 fish that have not been accounted for? This information was not provided in the request letter.

Dean

Dean Marston
Fisheries Program Manager
California Department of Fish and Game
Central Region
1234 E. Shaw Ave
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 243-4014 x241

From: Patrick Koepele <patrick@tuolumne.org>
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 3:56 PM
To: Bricker, Kelly
Cc: scott [REDACTED]; rivers [REDACTED]; arta [REDACTED];
info [REDACTED]; smrt@mlode.com; bil [REDACTED].com;
sue [REDACTED]; raft [REDACTED]; ferg [REDACTED].com;
zrafting [REDACTED]; chris [REDACTED]; bpittman@fs.fed.us;
jhilson@fs.fed.us; marycross@fs.fed.us; dfoote@fs.fed.us;
lcphillips@fs.fed.us; jasminecackson [REDACTED]; chimpson [REDACTED];
jmera [REDACTED]; paul_martzen [REDACTED];
romani218 [REDACTED]; carussell@tid.org; picturethis [REDACTED];
Gregg [REDACTED]; Greg_Stock@nps.gov; Roger_Farmer@nps.gov;
drjigour@tid.org; marty [REDACTED]; james [REDACTED];
tylerw [REDACTED]; tyras [REDACTED]; HotelCharlotte [REDACTED];
cindy [REDACTED]; peggy [REDACTED]; jacarkeet@tid.org;
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Subject:RE: Recreation Focus Group Meeting-April 17 (Following Tuolumne River
Recreation Meeting)
Attachments: NorthBank.kmz; SouthBank.kmz; Takeout.kmz; Takeout.skp;
WardsFerryConceptualLayout_Storesund_2011-03-04.pdf

Kelly,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend next Tuesday's meeting to discuss options for the Whitewater Boating Take Out at Wards Ferry but I remain very interested in this study. Bob Hackamack, a Tuolumne River Trust board member, will be attending Tuesday's meeting on TRT's behalf.

Last spring, Rune Storesund, P.E., of Storesund Consulting kindly provided us with some preliminary conceptual ideas for a takeout that could be built at Wards Ferry Bridge, which I attach to this message. These ideas were very preliminary and would of course need additional detailed survey data, geologic data, information about the bridge engineering, etc.

Here is some feedback on the ideas that Rune put together that I received from those who use the existing takeout frequently:

* Instead of steps down to the water, possibly install a ramp with a removable parking lot bollard that locks down and several options for the hole that it plugs into. The idea would be to prevent vehicles towing motor boats from using the site to launch, but make the bollard moveable so as the water level changes vehicles carrying non-motorized boats (rafts, kayaks, canoes) to get

close to the water. As the water level changes, the reservoir ops folks could come and move the bollard.

* The raft lift (jib crane) is an intriguing idea if it can be made bullet proof. Not just for your run-of-the-mill vandalism, but some really serious stuff. The folks that go out there on a Saturday night are ruthless. If it could be made to withstand vandalism (a nuclear bomb-blast), it would be great. Folks could bring their winch and it would work really well.

* If there are two launches, as you've drawn, each access road could be as narrow as 1-lane. If there is only a single takeout (1-side of the reservoir only) then it should be 2-lanes to prevent traffic jams.

* The turnaround should accommodate shuttle busses and large trucks that are about 32 feet long and have a 17 foot wheelbase.

There was also discussion amongst those I talked to about an alternative location on the north side of the bridge, creating a new road that leaves Wards Ferry Road about 800 ' traveling northwest from the Wards Ferry Bridge abutment. The new ramp/road could travel along an existing path that departs Wards Ferry road (just across the river opposite the Deer Creek-Tuolumne River confluence, there is a very large turnout on Wards Ferry Road here too) and traverses west, down to the river where there is a very large sediment sand bench established. I'm also aware that the Deer Creek area on the south side is proposed by some as an alternative location. I'm sure you will receive more information about these concepts on Tuesday.

Finally, I posted on boof.com (an online bulletin board/forum used heavily by whitewater kayakers) to solicit ideas about an improved takeout at Wards Ferry Bridge. A primary concern echoed by a number of posts is "that my car is going to be pushed in to Don Pedro reservoir or set on fire, broken into or stolen. We give these people an easy target, not just here but almost every place we paddle and leave our cars at put in or take out."

My take-away thoughts from this message is that if there can be any level of increased patrolling in the Wards Ferry area, particularly May-Labor Day, that would be helpful to increase security.

Finally, I would strongly recommend visiting the various locations that folks recommend with a group of outfitters, rafters, and kayakers. There are many knowledgeable people and it's impossible to get a good sense of the various alternatives and related issues without seeing the site. The canyon walls are very steep and so a site visit would really help clarify the issues.

Please keep me posted for any future meetings, notes, discussions about this topic. Feel free to call if you have any questions. 209-588-8636.

Thanks,
Patrick Koepele

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