

Upper American River Watershed Program
Programmatic Watershed Plan (PWP)
 Plan Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting #5 Draft Summary

February 17, 2023, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
 El Dorado County (Conference Room D)
 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667

Meeting Objectives:

- Provide updates on the development and content of the Programmatic Watershed Plan (PWP) for the Upper American River Watershed.
- Review, refine, and confirm the identified watershed resource management strategies.
- Review and refine projects evaluation criteria and initial screening.

Attendees: See attachment on last page for list of meeting participants.

Action Items:

#	Item	Owner	Timeframe
1	Send out meeting slides, summary	Stantec	By February 24
2	Follow-up on plan feedback, requests, meetings	Stantec	By February 24
3	Send out draft project list (Section 5 of the PWP) for review	Stantec	By February 24
3	Provide feedback on the identified projects (Section 5 of the PWP): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional information on any of the currently identified and listed projects that would help the evaluation and prioritization. • Provide a list of missing projects that are in line with the goals of the PWP and are not included in the current list • If desired, provide feedback on the priority level of the listed and their proposed projects 	PAG members	By March 3
4	Provide feedback on the current content of the PWP draft	PAG members	By March 10
4	Provide drafted sections of the PWP to the PAG for review	Stantec	By April 26

Presentation Materials: See attached PowerPoint slide deck.

Meeting Summary:

- 1. Welcome and Agenda Review**
 - All attendees provided self-introductions.
- 2. Recap Timeline, PWP Review and Development Process**
 - A review of the PWP development process was presented noting that the development of the PWP is only the beginning of the watershed program effort and that the efforts will continue in alignment with the PWP goals after the plan development concludes, expected June 2023.
 - A review of the PWP outline was presented, noting that the outline had not changed since the previous PAG meetings. It was clarified that Section 6: Implementation will provide implementation policy and guidance only for El Dorado Water Agency.
 - The group reviewed the timeline and remaining tasks for development and completion of the PWP.
- 3. Draft PWP Content Review**
 - **Section 1: Introduction** draft content was presented to the PAG members. Minor revisions to the PWP goals were highlighted.

- It was clarified that the “energy” state of emergency proclamation referred to power outage and rolling blackout events.
 - It was clarified that the “forest conditions” state of emergency proclamation referred to events similar to the 2019 fire fuel reduction actions taken by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to reduce wildfire risk to 200 communities, including the creation of the Colfax Fuel Break.
 - **Section 2: Watershed Management** draft content was presented to the PAG members. The importance of considering the impacts of ecosystem goods and services in planning and management strategies were reviewed.
 - A survey was distributed to PAG members to provide input on their organization’s active roles in promoting and protecting ecosystem goods and services. [It was noted that “regulatory” was not referring to regulations in a governmental context.]
 - During the discussion, it was clarified that Fire Safe Councils are composed of volunteer community members as well as governmental agencies, and corporations with the aim to provide education to residents on wildfire dangers and prevention.
 - **Section 3: Challenges** draft content was presented to the PAG members.
 - Feedback was given to broaden the challenges identified for Natural Capacity “Cw2: Ecosystem Function Degradation Due to Wildfires and Improper Resource Management” from forest specific impacts to impacts on forests, rangelands, and waterbodies.
 - Feedback was given to expand the challenges identified for Built Capacity “Cw4: Increased Vulnerability of Existing Infrastructure to Changed Conditions Due to Wildfires and Improper Watershed Management” to include undergrounding power lines. It was discussed that power outage events could cause water shortage events that would be critical for power dependent small water systems and private well users.
 - PAG members highlighted the importance of challenges related to Social Capacity category in creating a wildfire resilient landscape, noting that public education, awareness, and implementation are all necessary components.
 - **Section 4: Resource Management Strategies** is under development. A high-level overview of the approach to identify resource management strategies (RMS) and management actions was presented. The connection between Section 4 of the PWP and the RMS in the 2019 El Dorado Water Agency Water Resources Development and Management Plan was discussed.
 - **Section 5: Project and Management Actions** identification and prioritization process was presented to the PAG members. The evaluation criteria were distributed to the PAG members via handout for feedback.
 - It was suggested that the most developed and readily implemented institutional, planning, and implementation projects be prioritized.
- 4. Next Steps**
- Participants agreed on their availability for PAG Meeting #6 will be held on Friday, April 28th at 10:30 am, at the County building.
- 5. Adjourn**
- With no further business, the group adjourned at 12:30 pm.

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Meeting Participants

* = virtual participant

Meeting Participant	Agency (in alphabetical order by agency)
Group Members	
LeeAnne Mila	County of El Dorado, Agriculture Department
Jeffrey Warren	County of El Dorado, Environmental Management Department
Kyle Ericson	El Dorado Water Agency
Rebecca Guo	El Dorado Water Agency
Alexis Elliott	Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
*Michelle Banonis	Regional Water Authority
Lynn Huntsinger	University of California, Berkeley
Brad Hubbard	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Mark Curney	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
*Melissa Vignau	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Technical Support	
Bridget Childs	Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
*Kari Shively	Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
Maliheh Karamigolbaghi	Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
*Yung-Hsin Sun	Sunzi Consulting LLC