
File No.: 17-0362

Agenda Date: 6/15/2017

Item No.: 6.

BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

Presentation and Discussion on Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and discuss information on Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).

SUMMARY:

This item provides a status update on the resolution of the water rights complaint pending with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) as specified by the Settlement Agreement, in a process known as the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE).

The Settlement Agreement was initiated in 2003 by the Santa Clara Valley Water District, Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District (GCRCD), Trout Unlimited, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), to address a water rights complaint filed by the GCRCD.

District staff and consultants have been working with the Settlement Agreement Initialing Parties and a Technical Work Group (TWG) composed of members of the Initialing Parties representatives to develop a biological evaluation methodology and a Fish Habitat Restoration Plan (FHRP). The work products will be used to support the development of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for FAHCE.

The biological evaluation methodology is largely complete, with the consultant finalizing the biological model validation. The FHRP has been drafted and an administrative draft is expected to be released in July, 2017. As part of the EIR process, a public scoping meeting has been scheduled for June 19, 2017.

Staff presentation will provide an overview and status on the FAHCE process.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this item.

CEQA:

The recommended action does not constitute a project under CEQA because it does not have a potential for resulting in direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: SCVWD PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Vincent Gin, (408) 630-2633

FAHCE

Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort

1 |

FAHCE

- ▶ Water rights
- ▶ Settlement Agreement
- ▶ Initialing Parties

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Goals

- Resolve water right complaints
- Provide habitat enhancements
- Balance beneficial uses
- Ensure regulatory compliance

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FAHCE Elements

- ▶ Flow Measures (Article VI)
 - ▶ Reservoir Re-operation
- ▶ Non-Flow Measures (Article VI)
 - ▶ Barrier removal
 - ▶ Habitat enhancement
- ▶ Adaptive Management & Monitoring (Article (VII))

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FAHCE By the Numbers

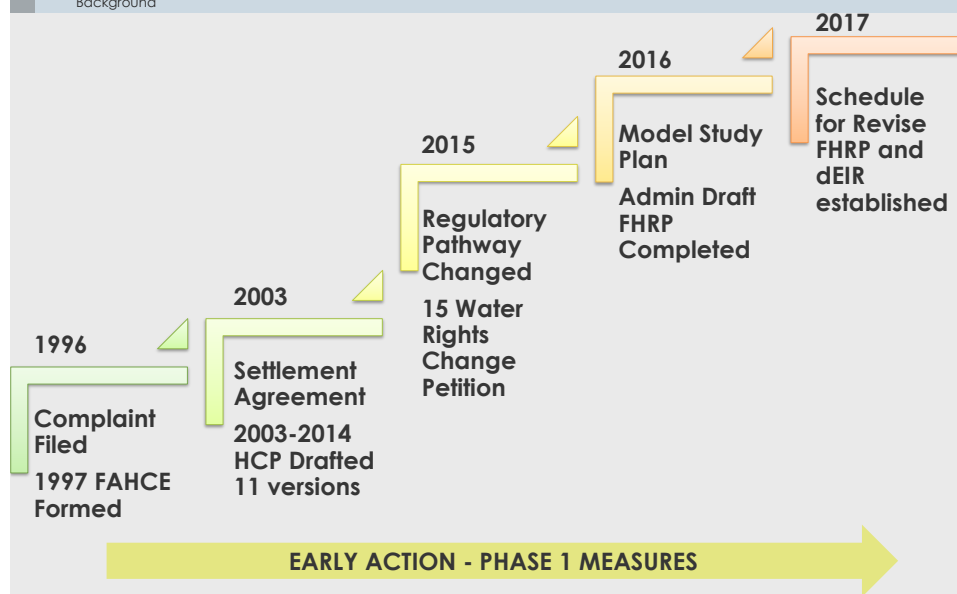
Background

- ▶ Three Watersheds
- ▶ Two Fish Species
- ▶ Four Phases for Implementation
- ▶ 15 Water Rights Change Petitions
 - ▶ 80% of Local Water Supply

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FAHCE at a Glance

Background



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