



Socioeconomics

## Technical Working Group Meeting

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Location:**

**Directions**

**Discussion Topic:**

**Agenda**

**Attendees**

**Summary**

**Handouts, Attachments & Presentations**

## Directions to Forest Service Supervisor's Office

Take Highway 50 east to Placerville approximately 40 miles. Exit at Forni Road. Immediately after the exit take a left (east) at the stop sign; go about 300 yards and take a right (south) on Briw Road. Go about 200 yards. The FS Supervisor's Office is on the right.

**Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)  
Upper American River Project (UARP) Hydro Relicensing Project**

**Socioeconomics Technical Work Group Meeting  
September 26, 2003**

**Agenda**

Meeting Location: Forest Service Supervisor's Office  
Large Conference Room, Side A  
Placerville, CA  
Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

9:00 am

**Introductions & Meeting Guidelines**

**Approve March 17, 2003 Meeting Summary**

**Discuss and develop objectives for the socioeconomic evaluation of the reach downstream of Chili Bar Dam**

Goal: To develop the objectives for the socioeconomic evaluation for the reach downstream of Chili Bar Dam. The following issue questions, among others, form the foundation for this discussion: What are the socioeconomic benefits (direct, indirect and induced) and costs of the UARP to El Dorado County and the Region? What are the effects (local and regional) of Project operation on whitewater boating-associated businesses in the 20-mile reach below Chili Bar?

Process: Discussion and group consensus.

**Next meeting agenda**

**Wrap-up**

DATE: 9/26/2003

LOCATION: Forest Service Supervisor's Office - Large  
Conference Room

# UARP Hydro Relicensing

## Socioeconomic Technical Working Group

Initials	Name	AffiliationName	Email
_____	Art Marinaccio	Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County	artmarinaccio@hotmail.com
_____	Bernard Carlson	Friends of El Dorado County	bcc@internet49.com
_____	Beth Paulson	U.S. Forest Service	bapaulson@fs.fed.us
<u>FL</u>	Bill Center	American River Recreation Association & Camp Lotus	bclotus@innercite.com
_____	Bill Demerritt	Citizen	wdbill@att.net
<u>WTH</u>	Bill Hetland	El Dorado County Water Agency	bhetland@co.el-dorado.ca.us
_____	Carol Szuch	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	cszuch@smud.org
_____	Catherine Fonseca	Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians	cfonseca@ca.ihs.gov
_____	Charles Bertolette	Citizen	charlosb@cal.net
_____	Chris Shutes	Citizen	blancapaloma@msn.com
_____	Chris Williams	El Dorado County	cwilliam@goldrush.com
<u>DFH</u>	David Hanson	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	dhanson@smud.org
_____	David Rogers, P.E., C.E.G.	MWH America's Incorporated	david.k.rogers@us.mwhglobal.com
_____	David Witter	El Dorado Irrigation District	dwitter@eid.org
_____	Dirk Gallian	Raft Photo	jumper@jps.net
_____	Doug Leisz	El Dorado County Citizens for Water	dleisz@d-web.com
<u>Ed</u>	Ed Horton	Placer County Water Agency	ed@hortonfarm.com
_____	Edward T. Murray	El Dorado County Citizens for Water	edwardtmurray@comcast.net
_____	Fred Schaefer	El Dorado County Citizens for Water	mntvines@earthlink.net

Initials	Name	AffiliationName	Email
_____	Gale Higgins	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	ghiggin@smud.org
_____	Gary Bilyeu	U.S. Forest Service	gbilyeu@fs.fed.us
_____	Harry Dunlop	El Dorado County Citizens for Water	
_____	Jeff Horn	U.S. Bureau of Land Management	jhorn@ca.blm.gov
<i>JME</i>	Jim Eicher	U.S. Bureau of Land Management	jeicher@ca.blm.gov
<i>JK</i>	Jim Lynch	Devine Tarbell & Associates Incorporated	james.lynch@devinetarbell.com
<i>JD</i>	Joe Davis	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	jdavis1@smud.org
_____	John Fraser	El Dorado Irrigation District D-2	jfraser@innercite.com
_____	Judy Mathat	El Dorado County Republican Central Committee	mathat@cwnet.com
_____	Kathye Russell	El Dorado Business Alliance (BA)	Kathye@d-web.com
_____	LaVeta Stelzmler	California Republican Assembly, El Dorado County	jgstelz@cal.net
_____	Leslie Dunsworth	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	ldunsw@smud.org
_____	Lois Wright	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	lwright@smud.org
_____	Marie Davis	Placer County Water Agency	mledavis@hotmail.com
_____	Marie Rainwater	Rainwater & Associates, LLC	marie@rainwater-associates.com
_____	Martha Goodavish	MG Planning & Design	mgoodavish@aol.com
_____	Marvin Feldman	Resource Decisions	
_____	Matt Johnson	U.S. Forest Service	mjohnson04@fs.fed.us
_____	Mel Johnson	City of Sacramento	mjohnson@cityofsacramento.org
_____	Mike Henry	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	mike.henry@ferc.gov
<i>MJP</i>	Mike Preszler	Mead & Hunt, Incorporated	mike.preszler@meadhunt.com
_____	Nancee Murray	California Department of Fish and Game	nmurray@dfg.ca.gov

Initials	Name	AffiliationName	Email
_____	Nate Rangel	California Outdoors	nate@raftcalifornia.com
_____	Parvez Mody	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	pmody@smud.org
_____	Randy Angeloni	County of Sacramento	angelonir@SacCounty.net
_____	Ron Corso	Mead & Hunt, Incorporated	ron.corso@meadhunt.com
_____	Ron Stork	Friends of the River	rstork@friendsoftheriver.org
_____	Russ Kanz	State Water Resources Control Board	rkanz@waterrights.swrcb.ca.gov
_____	Samantha Olson	State Water Resources Control Board	solson@exec.swrcb.ca.gov
<u>SJS</u>	Sharon Stohrer	State Water Resources Control Board	sstohrer@waterrights.swrcb.ca.gov
_____	Steve Barber	South Fork Dialogue Group	prdympigrm@earthlink.net
_____	Sue Britting	Citizen	britting@innercite.com
_____	Thomas D. Cumpston	El Dorado Irrigation District	tcumpston@eid.org
_____	Tim James	Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce	tjames@metrochamber.org

RDR Rich Doble PGE, E RSDZ@PGE.com

JMV Joy Vandell PGE Jmv1@pge.com

NW Neil Wang PGE NJW5@pge.com

Lester Lubetkin Eldorado NF llubetkin@fs.fed.us

Rich Platt NRP

**Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)  
Upper American River Project (UARP) Hydro Relicensing Project**

**Socioeconomics TWG Meeting Summary  
September 26, 2003**

The Socioeconomics Technical Working Group (TWG) met on September 26, 2003 at the Eldorado National Forest Supervisor's Office, Placerville, California. The participants were:

- Bill Hetland, El Dorado County Water Agency
- Bill Center, American River Recreation Association & Camp Lotus
- Dave Hanson, SMUD
- Ed Horton, Placer County Water Agency
- Jim Eicher, Bureau of Land Management
- Jim Lynch, Devine Tarbell & Associates (SMUD Consultant)
- Joe Davis, SMUD
- Joy Vandell, PG&E
- Lester Lubetkin, US Forest Service
- Mike Preszler, Mead & Hunt, Incorporated (EDCWA Consultant)
- Neil Wong, PG&E
- Rich Doble, PG&E
- Rich Platt, US Forest Service
- Sharon Stohrer, SWRCB

The TWG met to accomplish the following primary tasks:

- Approve the March 17, 2003 Socioeconomic TWG meeting summary
- To develop the objectives for the Socioeconomic Study for the reach downstream of Chili Bar Dam.

**Summary and Agreements:**

The TWG approved the March 17, 2003 meeting summary.

Following a brief introduction by Dave Hanson, the TWG identified the follow aspects for development of objectives and a draft study plan for the socioeconomic study for the reach downstream of Chili Bar Dam.

- There may be some synergy between the ongoing Recreation Flow Study (results scheduled to be presented at a December 10 Recreation TWG meeting) and the to-be-developed Socioeconomic Study. These could include coordination of contacts, information gathering,

etc (i.e., ‘tag team’ with Recreation Flow Interviews). Participants encouraged the Licensees to look for reasonable coordination of efforts.

- Jim Lynch suggested that there may be two issues: one related to availability of flow information and the second regarding actual flows. He suggested the first one was process that has been developed on numerous recent relicensings, and the Socioeconomic Study did not need to focus intensely on that issue. Some agreement though it was acknowledged that availability of flow information would be important.
- It’s important to understand the impact of the hydro projects on recreation in the 20-mile reach; Reliability and Predictability of flows are critical to businesses dependent or related to the whitewater boating on the reach. The magnitude, duration and frequency of recreation flows as well as their predictability were identified as key factors in affecting socioeconomics.
- Interview outfitters (Bill Center said there were about 20 commercial boating firms, but some rely only on the South Fork), guides and businesses to determine how different levels of reliability and predictability affect businesses. The study should consider, private landowners along the river (though it was understood that evaluating the change in land values related to flows was outside the scope of the study), the clubs and organized groups, too.
- Also the Coloma Lotus Chamber of Commerce – about 70 members. Check in with the River Management Advisory Committee at one of their meetings.
- According to Bill Center, flows of 1,000, 1,200, 1,500 and 1,900 provide distinctly different experiences.
- Information needs to be shared with the general public before a trip, not just the boating community.
- According to Jim Eicher, the SFAR has a low return rate for commercial rafting customers.
- The Planning and Conservation League study conducted by Fred Kealy was the basis for the \$25M figure. This should be reviewed.
- EDC government has a significant role in influencing the issue.
- Other groups that may be useful to contact include: the EDC Economic Development Office, County Supervisors, the Planning Commission, Visitor’s Authority and the Film Commission.

Possible survey questions that were discussed include:

- To what extent is your business dependent upon flows in the river as compared to other conditions (e.g., roads, general economy, etc.)?
- How long (percent of time) can you sustain your business without boatable flows (i.e., how long before you go “dark?”)?

**Action Items:**

- Jim Eicher will provide a list of clubs and organized groups to Jim Lynch. Also Jeff Novak may have a list of large groups as well as other information such as the PCL study.
- Jim Lynch said that any information provided to him would be distributed to SMUD and PG&E.
- Jim Lynch will contact Kelly Bricker for copies of her Masters Thesis on recreation in the Chili Bar Reach.
- Jim Lynch will see that a draft study plan and questionnaire(s) is developed for TWGs approval based on the input discussed at this meeting.
- Jim Lynch will report to the group, during the November 12 TWG meeting, on the status of the draft study plan and associated questionnaire(s). The TWG said it would set its next meeting date at the November 12 meeting. Jim said he would try to have the plan to the TWG for approval in December, and the TWG said that was acceptable.
- Carol Efird and Dave Steindorf should check in with Bill Center and Jim Eicher concerning overlapping aspects between this study and the data to be gathered for the Recreation Flow Study for the reach below Chili Bar Dam, scheduled to be collected this fall.
- Bill Hetland said he would check to see if the county has done any similar studies.

**Next Meeting Date:**

The next Socioeconomic TWG meeting is scheduled for November 12, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, at SMUD's Customer Service Center, Sequoia 2 & 3, to review the results of the Socioeconomic Impact Study conducted by Dr. Bob Fountain and Dr. Deepak Chhabra.