

Appendix A-1

The Russian River Biological Opinion

Proposed Changes to Minimum Instream Flows in Russian River & Dry Creek

The Sonoma County Water Agency has released a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) being prepared for the proposed Fish Habitat Flows and Water Rights Project. The purpose of the EIR is to analyze the impacts of proposed changes to minimum instream flow requirements in the Russian River and Dry Creek, as mandated by the National Marine Fisheries Service in its Russian River Biological Opinion.



Three Open House scoping meetings have been scheduled to obtain public comment on the proposed project and subjects that should be evaluated in the draft EIR. The NOP is available online at www.sonomacountywater.org/rrifr, at the Santa Rosa Central Library (3rd and E Streets), at the Sonoma County Water Agency, 404 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa or by calling 547-1903 or 547-1934.

Upcoming Community Meetings:

Monte Rio

Date: November 4th

Time: 5:00-9:00pm

Monte Rio Community Center
20488 Highway 116

Windsor

Date: November 8th

Time: 6:00-9:00pm

Windsor Town Hall
9291 Old Redwood Hwy #400

Ukiah

Date: November 10th

Time: 6:00-9:00pm

The Alex Rorabaugh Center
1640 State St

The deadline for submitting comments is 5pm on November 15, 2010. Comments can be submitted at www.sonomacountywater.org/rrifr or to Jessica Martini Lamb, 404 Aviation Blvd, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

Appendix A-2

The Russian River Biological Opinion

Public Hearing and Notice of Availability for the Russian River Estuary Management Project EIR

The Sonoma County Water Agency (Water Agency) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to assess potential environmental effects of the proposed Russian River Estuary Management Project (Project). Under the Project, from May 15 to October 15 annually, the Water Agency will adaptively manage an outlet channel at the barrier beach that forms at the mouth of the Estuary. The purpose of the Project is to enhance summer rearing habitat for young steelhead and other salmon. The Water Agency will continue to artificially breach the barrier beach, as necessary, the remainder of the year.



The Draft EIR is available online at www.sonomacountywater.org. Electronic copies are available to the public by request at estuaryproject@esassoc.com, or at the **Sonoma County Water Agency**, 404 Aviation Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95403; **Guerneville Regional Library**, 14107 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville, CA 95446; or **Occidental Library**, 73 Main Street, Occidental, CA 95465. The 60-day review period begins on December 15, 2010 and extends through February 14, 2011.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for:

January 18, 2010

6:00p.m. – 9:00p.m.

Jenner Community Center

10398 Highway 1, Jenner CA 95450

Include a name, address, and telephone number of a contact person for all future correspondence on this subject. Please send your comments to: Sonoma County Water Agency, Attention Jessica Martini-Lamb, 404 Aviation Boulevard, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, or via email to estuaryproject@esassoc.com. **The public comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. February 14, 2010.**



Appendix A-3

Jenner Community Meeting Summer Plans for Estuary

6 – 8:30 p.m.
Monday, June 22
Jenner Community Hall

1. **Welcome** **Supervisor Efren Carrillo**
3-5 minutes thanking everyone for coming; etc.

2. **Biological Opinion – Estuary** **Dr. Bill Hearn**
National Marine Fisheries Service
20 minutes on estuary

3. **Marine Mammal Protection Act** **Monica DeAngelis**
National Marine Fisheries Service
20 minutes on the MMPA (purpose of the act; actions related to the estuary; anticipated timeline of listing in federal register; opportunities for public input)

4. **Seal Monitoring/Studies** **Michele Luna**
Stewards of the Coast & Redwoods
Joe Mortenson, researcher
Norma Jellison, seal watcher
20 minutes total on seal monitoring program; past research findings; need for volunteers to assist

5. **Estuary Monitoring/Studies** **Jessica Martini-Lamb**
Sonoma County Water Agency
10-15 minutes on other estuary monitoring efforts (seining, Fyke trap, water quality monitoring, etc)

6. **Questions?**

7. **Wrap-Up** **Supervisor Carrillo**
3 minutes thank you to people & next steps (we will send out an email to people who signed in and gave us an email address to notify them when harassment permit is in Federal Register, plus there will be a meeting in fall to discuss findings)



**COMMUNITY MEETING
2010 SUMMER ESTUARY ACTIVITIES**

Jenner Community Center
Wednesday, May 19
6:30 – 7:30

- 6:30 **Welcome & Introductions**
Supervisor Efren Carrillo

- 6:40 **Brief Overview of Summer Activities**
Jessica Martini-Lamb, Principal Environmental Specialist,
Sonoma County Water Agency

- 6:45 **Community Questions**

- 7:30 **Adjournment of Community Meeting**

**RUSSIAN RIVER ESTUARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SCOPING MEETING & OPEN HOUSE**

- 7:30 **Project Description & CEQA Process**
Jim O'Toole, Principal Consultant, ESA

- 8:00 **Open House**

- 9:00 **Adjournment**

Community Meeting on Russian River Biological Opinion

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 19
6:30-7 p.m. Open House
7 -9 p.m. Presentations, Q&A
Location: Community Hall, Jenner

AGENDA

1. **Welcome**
Grant Davis
Sonoma County Water Agency
2. **Overview of the Biological Opinion**
Dr. Bill Hearn
National Marine Fisheries Service
3. **Proposed Changes in Estuary**
Eric Schott
National Marine Fisheries Service
4. **Proposed Changes in Flows**
Pam Jeane
Sonoma County Water Agency
5. **NEPA/CEQA Process**
Jessica Martini-Lamb
Sonoma County Water Agency
6. **Estuary Studies**
David Manning
Sonoma County Water Agency
7. **Q & A**
8. **Adjourn**



**RUSSIAN RIVER ESTUARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
SCOPING MEETING & OPEN HOUSE**

Thursday, May 20, 2010

6:30 – 8:00

Permit and Resource Management Department Meeting Room

6:30 Project Description & CEQA Process

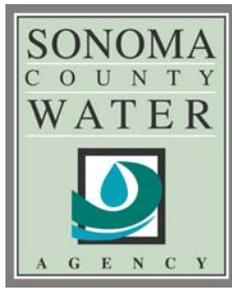
Jim O'Toole, Principal Consultant, ESA

7:00 Open House

Opportunity to speak directly with staff to learn about the proposed project, to ask questions and to write formal comments.

8:30 Adjournment

Appendix A-4



Community Meetings

Russian River Temporary Urgency Change

Healdsburg

Date: June 2nd

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Healdsburg Community Center

1557 Healdsburg Avenue

Ukiah

Date: June 3rd

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Ukiah City Hall

300 Seminary Ave

Guerneville

Date: June 9th

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Guerneville Odd Fellows Hall

Please join the Sonoma County Water Agency to discuss changes in Russian River flows this summer!

As required by National Marine Fisheries Service' Russian River Biological Opinion, in April the Sonoma County Water Agency petitioned the State Water Resources Control Board to reduce flows in the Russian River this summer. The Water Agency is mandated to comply with the Biological Opinion, which requires lower flows in the Russian River to maintain a healthy environment for threatened steelhead and Chinook salmon and endangered coho salmon. Come learn about the State Board order.

Any Questions? Call Ann DuBay at 707.524.8378 or email ann.dubay@scwa.ca.gov.

Appendix A-5

The Russian River Biological Opinion

Please join the Sonoma County Water Agency to discuss changes in Russian River flows this summer!

As required by the Russian River Biological Opinion, the Sonoma County Water Agency petitioned the State Water Resources Control Board to reduce flows in the Russian River this summer. The Water Agency is mandated to comply with the Biological Opinion, which requires lower flows in the Russian River to maintain a healthy environment for threatened steelhead and Chinook salmon and endangered coho salmon. Learn more about the State Board order:



Upcoming Community Meetings:

Healdsburg

Date: June 2nd

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Healdsburg Community Center

1557 Healdsburg Avenue

Ukiah

Date: June 3rd

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Ukiah City Hall

300 Seminary Ave

Guerneville

Date: June 9th

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Guerneville Odd Fellows Hall

16219 1st St

Any Questions? Call Ann DuBay at 707.524.8378 or email ann.dubay@scwa.ca.gov .