



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: LSJ/DS RFMP **Date:** 7/1/14
Meeting Subject: Small Group Meeting for Benefit Area 6 (RD 773) **Project No.:** _____
Location: SJAFCA Conference Room **Page:** 1
Notes by: Charles Hilliard

Attendees:	<u>Chris Neudeck</u>	<u>Roger Churchwell</u>	<u>Gemma Biscocho</u>	<u>Jim Giottonini/phone</u>
	<u>John Kleinfelter</u>	<u>Doug Weinrich</u>	<u>John Cain</u>	<u>Monica Gutierrez</u>
	<u>Charles Hilliard</u>	<u>Ashlee Casey</u>	<u>John Maguire</u>	<u>Loren Bottorff</u>
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Purpose:

The purpose of this meeting was to share current information within the RFMP regarding RD 773. Project descriptions, including cost, were checked with RD staff to obtain feedback, as well as to discuss project prioritization.

Discussion: Introductions were made by attendees, followed by a presentation from Loren Bottorff of PBI outlining the current state of the RFMP, what the next steps will be, and what the meeting would be covering. Explained that potential projects are being placed into three tiers to show when each project is likely to be implemented. Tier 1 would be for projects with likely implementation in the next 5 years. Tier 2 would be projects with implementation in the 6 to 12 year period. Tier 3 projects would be implemented beyond 12 years. RFMP is a 25 year plan.

Following the presentation, there was a discussion about RD 773's projects within the RFMP and how the district would like to see them prioritized. Chris Neudeck, of KSN Inc. (district engineer) spoke about district priorities and answered questions from the group. The following is a list summarizing this:

- KSN has been the district engineer for 3-4 years.
- Geometry improvements have mostly been completed (PL84-99).
- The levees around RD 773, RD1, and RD2 are very tall. Overtopping is not an issue.
- Fabian/Grant Line canal has levee slope issues, with the water side of the levees having nearly vertical faces.
 - It is proposed to build up the land side so that geometry issue can be fixed.
 - Idea to use dredge spoils from CVP project to build up the levees along Grant Line canal but USACE made the RD fund impact studies to get permission. The RD did get permission but is only allocated a limited amount of material per year. Using this limited resource, the district is working from west to east, building up the levee.
 - Fixing the levee slope is the main concern, with concerns like placing rock for erosion protection happening only when the problem becomes critical.
 - In order to fix the slope issue, KSN is placing a berm on the land side of the levee and is moving the levee crown landward, then flattening the water side slope.
 - This is being done as budget and material allow.
- There are county roads on the levee and that this might lead to a shared responsibility for the repairs.
- Old River corridor is heavily vegetated on the levee, but it is not a current priority of the district.
- Seepage is not an issue for the district at this time.
- Current assessment budget for the district is around \$250k. With subventions funds this figure is closer to \$350-\$400k.
- There are siltation issues in Fabian Canal.
- The district currently has an all-weather road but it needs to be improved.



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- Chris explained that the point of getting to PL84-99 standard was to get both FEMA and USACE coverage, but a few years ago the federal government said that only one could apply, so the district is moving away from the PL84-99 standard and moving toward using the state standard so FEMA coverage is not lost.
- There are opportunities in the district for multi-benefit projects
 - Old river corridor has many riverine habitats and channel islands
 - The district wanted to pursue habitat on one of the islands but the idea fell through
 - District would like to place rock along islands to stop the erosion that is occurring
- There is opportunity for setback levees to create habitat.
- The districts concern with paradise cut is not freeboard, but is the erosion issue that would come along with a higher flow rate.

At this point, the discussion turned to multi-benefit project opportunities. It was suggested that there is potential for setback levees around RD 773 and that these areas might be used to offset other projects in areas where there is no opportunity for multi-benefits.

Paradise Cut Expansion was discussed, with John Cain mentioning that there are habitat benefits to the project, with Swainsons Hawk and the Riparian Brush Rabbit both receiving habitat enhancement from the project. It was suggested that since the City of Stockton and RD 17 will not get much flood control benefit from the Paradise Cut project that they might benefit from the habitat benefits as offsets for other projects.

Consolidation of RDs was then discussed, with Chris Neudeck saying that when RDs are in different drainage sheds it is difficult to align their goals, but if RDs are within the same drainage shed consolidation may make sense.

It was noted that the current budget figure within the financial plan (\$106,000) is too low, and the actual budget is in the range of \$250,000. The funding capacity estimates within the plan are also very low.

Project prioritization was then discussed, with Chris Neudeck explaining that the priorities of the RD are outlined in the 5 year plan.

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