

Tulare Basin Working Group

When: October 26, 2012

Where: 3530 West Orchard Court, Visalia, CA

Draft Agenda

1. San Joaquin Valley Upland Species Recovery Team SJVUSRT) mapping efforts and gap analysis (Larry Saslaw, all participants in July SJVUSRT meeting at Los Banos, Larry Vredenburgh, Scott Phillips (identify Tulare Basin upland/wildlife corridors protected and those in need of protection), Elizabeth Palmer (re: Tulare Basin wetland boundaries GIS info)
 - a. Tie in to TBWP/Tulare Basin Watershed Initiative (TBWI) primary goal under CA DOC Grant (“ . . . to create a healthy regional watershed with ecologically functional waterways, wetlands and upland, providing abundant clean water for both people and wildlife.”)
 - b. Connection to TBWI website interactive map & IRWM project integration efforts (Sarah Campe, Niki Woodard, Kathy Wood)
 - c. TBWG review of maps and feedback regarding additional protected lands (TBWG)
 - d. Next step planning for Nov. 2 SJVUSRT meeting planned for Nov. 2 (Larry Saslaw, others)

2. Tulare Basin Watershed Initiative
 - a. Update (Kathy Wood)
 - b. Newly-launched TBWI website (Niki Woodard)
 - c. Request for project submittals (Niki Woodard)
 - d. Discussion of Southwest Tulare County roundtables and future water, environmental, and recreational opportunities (Niki Woodard, Denise Akins, Jessi Snyder, Denise Kadara, Kayode Kadara, Matt Hurley, Steve Ptomey, Steve Larson)

3. NRCS
 - a. “Ensuring the future of Wetland Reserve Program in Tulare Basin” -- FY 2013 Farm Bill status and CA funding for WRPs, success level of existing outreach efforts, brainstorming more outreach options and opportunities (Dean Kwasny, Elizabeth Palmer, Jesse Bahm, Karl Kraft; Bob Hartnack & Emmy Cattani— invited, TBWG participants)

 - b. TBWG feedback re: other NRCS habitat program project opportunities, including brainstorming functionality of Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) and potential for enhancements to increase usefulness in Tulare Basin (Sarah Campe, Dean Kwasny, Elizabeth Palmer, TBWG)
 - c. Discussion/decision re: TBWG April 26, 2013 spring tour of Tulare Basin NRCS WRP and other NRCS habitat program easement sites

4. Introduction and update by new Kern NWR Refuge Manager (Shannon Ludwig -- invited,

Nick Stanley, Scott Frazer)

- a. Q & A by TBWG

(Break)

5. BLM-Bakersfield Update (Steve Larson)
 - a. New Atwell Island Project Manager--Jihadda Govan (10/29/12)
 - b. Other BLM news (e.g. UC NRS Field Station at Atwell Island)

6. Central Valley Joint Venture 2012/2013 Implementation Plan Update and TBWG participation/assistance (Greg Yarris, Bob Shaffer and/or Ruth Ostroff-- in person or phoning in, TBWG feedback)

7. TBWG volunteer biological monitoring proposal, feedback, follow up (Larry Saslaw)

8. Brief CSG legislative update (Tasha Newman – invited to phone in)

9. Brief agency and organizational updates

10. Next TBWG dates
 - b. Spring TBWG tour/meeting – Friday, April 26, 2013
 - c. Fall TBWG meeting – Friday, October 25, 2013