

Humboldt Stakeholder Working Group Meeting October 2, 2024, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Humboldt County Library, 85 E 5th St, Winnemucca, NV 89445

10:00 AM Meeting convenes

10:05 AM Overview of 2024 water season (NDWR)

10:20 AM Review of estimated effects of groundwater pumping on the Humboldt River (model results; NDWR)

10:50 AM NDWR capture management framework (NDWR)

11:45 AM Lunch

1:00 PM Stakeholder feedback on morning discussions and previous meeting (Working Group)

- How historical and legacy capture might be addressed (Chris Mahannah; 10+ minutes)

1:45 PM Working Group member presentation time (Working Group)

- Conservancy district considerations (Overview of Conservancy Districts and Carson Water Subconservancy District; Ed James; 30+ minutes)

2:30 PM Discussion and future agenda items (All)

3:00 PM Adjourn

Started based on Levi's notes, added to and some minor adjustments from Kips notes.

10:ish – Opened meeting – see sign-in sheet

Landon & Colton's presentation

Kip's presentation

- ETg over time by basin (Dwight)? Justin already did this and is available in supplemental material.
- Stream disconnection by location and time (Dwight)? - Follow up later.

Adam's presentation

- $\geq 10\%$ capture not offset after 50 years = curtailment
- Exemptions: DOM, small STK, MUN (need to obtain more data and investigate further)?
- Timeframe (after model pub)
 - Draft order end of 2025
 - Hearings, etc. then final order end of 2026
 - Offsets by end 2027
 - Curtailment beginning of 2028 irrigation season
- Offset requirements: real water, surface water, need to explore options
 - Anyone inside capture zone, whatever that ends up being
 - Surface and groundwater users must both be part of the solution (measuring devices, etc.)
- Users should be included in capture mgmt if over certain amount of AFY regardless of capture % (Dwight)
 - This would require evaluation of every well in the region, then exclusion based on some criteria (>5 AFY or something similar)
- Capture/recharge credits (not sure who; Doug and/or Sabrina?)
- MUN should NOT be exempt (Sam, Chris, Dwight, Doug, Sabrina, more)
- Suggested that NDWR evaluate magnitude of impact to River from exemptions (Sev).
- Suggested that a Conservancy should find offsets for Domestic and Stock (Chris)

Lunch

Chris Mahannah's presentation – addressing historical & legacy capture

- Impact of starting capture clock @ 2028 (in terms of AFY); wants model runs to determine how much impact would not be offset.
- CO dealing w/ historical & legacy capture; no details, contact Altenhofen for more
- SW injury must be recognized (Caitlin)
- SW users must be responsible for better management and measurement of their diversions (measuring devices, etc.; Sabrina)
- Focus on what we can do to address present capture/conflict now, and revisit historical later after we have better understanding of our approach (Doug)

- Unregulated old gravel pits along the river are affecting the flow of the river and should be dealt with (Sabrina)
- Conservancy could take on role of managing legacy capture (Chris)

Ed James' presentation – conservancy districts

- Est by district court; counties have ability to approve/deny
- Counties work cooperatively as part of conservancy board
- There's no policy so we can't do anything now (Jeffx3)
- There's no reason for people to take action because there's no imminent danger or threat (Jeff)
- Conservancy district requires a purpose before group is ready to move forward with concept.

Follow up discussion:

- What is the purpose of this group (Sabrina)?
- What is the end goal for this group (Sabrina)?
- Adam discussed the immediate goal of working as a group to come up with ideas
- Change "use it or lose it" to help promote conservation of physical resources (Sabrina)
- Why leave mines out (Sabrina)?

Items for future agendas (plucked from discussions):

- Draft order skeleton in writing and present with exemptions and timeline – create sense of immediacy and need for action
- Offsets discussion*** – Badly needed and going to be a big item!
- What are we trying to accomplish as a group (purpose)? – reiterate clearly
- Set a goal at the beginning of the next meeting and spend the whole meeting trying to meet it.
 - Structure of meeting and sideboards (Steve S)
- Brief update on Idaho situation (Sam req)