

# Upper American River Watershed Plan

Plan Advisory Group (PAG)

Meeting #3 Summary

November 18, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM  
El Dorado County (Conference Room D)  
330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667

## Meeting Objectives:

- Receive feedback on the current content of the draft plan: Introduction, Current Watershed Management Sections.

**Attendees:** See attachment on last page for list of meeting participants.

## Action Items:

#	Item	Owner	Timeframe
1	Send out meeting slides, summary	Stantec	By November 23
2	Follow-up on plan feedback, requests, meetings	Stantec	By November 23
3	Provide information that should be considered in the Watershed Plan to Stantec	PAG members	By December 1
4	Provide drafted sections of the Watershed Plan to the PAG for review	Stantec	By January 18

**Presentation Materials:** See attached PowerPoint slide deck

## Meeting Summary:

### 1. Welcome and Agenda Review

- All attendees provided self-introductions.

### 2. Review Watershed Plan Outline

- A review of the draft Watershed Plan outline was presented, noting that the outline had not changed significantly since the previous PAG meeting.
- The group reviewed the timeline for the Watershed Plan Development, and there was clarifying discussion on the Watershed Plan Phase I and Phase II funding. The WaterSmart program has not committed to Phase II implementation funding for the Watershed Plan.

### 3. Review Current Content of Draft Watershed Plan

- The group reviewed the Introduction section of the Draft Watershed Plan.
  - Participants expressed interest in revisiting language in the introduction section as the Watershed Plan continues to develop.
  - It was suggested that efficiency and sustainability be included in the Watershed Plan objective. Efficiency could also be a criterion included in the later project prioritization section of the plan.
  - It was noted that the Watershed Planning Principles do not capture the environmental and ecological priorities of the plan.
  - It was noted that the planning principles should encourage participating agencies to use their existing authorities in an innovative and collaborative way.
- The group reviewed the Current Watershed Management section of the Watershed Plan.
  - It was suggested that municipal and community parks, golf courses, and river access points could be included in the recreation map. If showing on the map makes it confusing, adding their acreage in a paragraph would also be useful.
  - It was suggested that the highlighted border around National Forests be removed from the map.

- It was suggested that Federal Responsibility Areas be broken out into their respective federal agencies.
- It was suggested to add a map to show access to water and distance from each recreation area.
- It was suggested to check USFS and BLM for fire risk maps.
- It was suggested to capture definitions from PAG Meeting #2 to clarify definitions for “fire suppression” and “fire response.”
- El Dorado County Air Pollution & Control District should be discussed in this section in addition to any special districts working on flood control.
- The infrastructure section should mention power utility efforts to underground transmission lines to reduce fire hazard (fire mitigation).
- Looking at the Roles & Responsibilities Table, the group discussed including the Placer County Farm Bureau, water supply purveyors’ responsibility to manage the vegetation in their easements, and Georgetown Divide Public Utility District’s power infrastructure.
- It was suggested to discuss and add flooding map in the third section of the plan (Challenges).

#### 4. Next Steps

- Time permitting, the group discussed information to include in the Challenges section of the Watershed Plan.
  - From a water purveyor’s perspective, information on topography and slope would be helpful in characterizing access and erosion challenges, exacerbated by the recent wildfires.
  - It was discussed that fire fuels are a large concern from an agricultural perspective due to both direct and indirect impacts (e.g., smoke). Existing agricultural use can be characterized from the recent crop survey and compared to the general plan zoning.
  - It was suggested that adding a map for sustainable agriculture and healthy areas would be useful to discuss areas suitable to grow.
  - Vulnerabilities to climate change should be examined (e.g., fire, single source water supply, drought, septic tanks impact on water quality).
    - Department of Water Resources and El Dorado Water Agency will follow-up to discuss the state’s watershed initiative.
    - The American River Basin Study can be included as a reference, which identified drought vulnerability for the basin’s community.
  - Wildland Urban Interfaces should be examined and shown on a map, and it was suggested that wood process or biomass facilities be identified as wood processing post-fire has been a challenge.
- Participants agreed on their availability for PAG Meeting #4 to be held on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am, at the County building.

#### 5. Adjourn

- With no further business, the group adjourned at 12:30 pm.

## Upper American River Watershed Plan

Plan Advisory Group (PAG)

Meeting #3 Summary

### Meeting Participants

\* = virtual participant

<b>Meeting Participant</b>	<b>Agency (in alphabetical order by agency)</b>
<b>Core Group Members</b>	
Charlene Carveth	County of El Dorado, Agriculture Department
Jeffrey Warren	County of El Dorado, Environmental Management Department
Karen Garner	County of El Dorado, Planning and Building Department
Kyle Ericson	El Dorado Water Agency
*Darin Reintjes	Place County Water Agency
*Ansel Lundberg	Sacramento Municipal Utility District
<b>Additional Group Members</b>	
Lew Moeller	Department of Water Resources
Barb Kildow	El Dorado County Farm Bureau
Nicholas Schneider	Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
Bradley Hubbard	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Lee Mao	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
*Melissa Vignau	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
<b>Technical Support</b>	
Rebecca Guo	Stantec
Yung-Hsin Sun	Stantec
Maliheh Karamigolbaghi	Stantec
Bridget Childs	Stantec