Aquatic Ecosystem Assessment of the McCormack-Williamson Tract: A Long-Term Collaborative Monitoring Initiative for Salmonid Restoration

August 26,2024 - Optional Site Walk

Questions and Answers

Question #1: A question was posed regarding available online documentation that describes the funding for this project as $800,000.

Answer #1: Funding allocation for this project to evaluate the sub-tidal wetland habitat on the McCormick Williamson Tract (MWT) has been estimated at $800,000. It is reasonable to consider the $800,000 as a rough guide, as there is some flexibility in this number. There is no obligation for selection to be based on the lowest bid, and cost is just one category under the evaluation criteria of the RFP. Selection will be based on the merits of the proposal. Consultants should create a proposal that will work to develop and implement a monitoring plan that can accomplish the overall goals of describing the current state of the aquatic ecosystem, informing the hypothesis described in the *Project Description*, and quantifying the extent of potential juvenile salmonid rearing habitat.

Question #2: Are there any plans for future agricultural usages of the MWT?

Answer #2: There are no plans for any future agricultural usages on the MWT.

Question #3: Can you describe the breaches of the MWT? What river stage are the breaches designed to inundate at? And what river gage gives data that is the most relevant for the MWT?

Answer #3: In 2023, significant rain events caused three main levee breaches (northside, westside, and southside). Since the breaching of the MWT in 2023:

1) The northside breach (Snodgrass Slough) has been completely repaired.
2) The westside breach (west weir; Dead Horse Cut) was originally three smaller breaches; however, this breach is currently under construction and will eventually be one single larger breach (.25 miles - 1320 ft) that is designed to always be inundated (tidal).
3) The southside breach (south weir; Mokelumne River) is designed to overtop at a river stage of 7.5 feet.
4) A new weir (east weir; Lost Slough) has been constructed along the eastside levee and is designed to overtop at a river stage of 11 feet. The weir's main purpose is to take pressure off the surrounding levees during high flows.

These stage heights are based off the DWR Benson Ferry gage and can be found at the DWR website (https://cdec.water.ca.gov/dynamicapp/staMeta?station_id=BEN).

Question #4: What data has MBK collected that is relevant to this project?

Answer #4: Currently MBK has six (6) pressure transducers throughout the MWT that have been collecting data since the island breached in 2023. MBK also has LiDAR data that was collected roughly 2 years ago (2022), and we are currently working with MBK to get an exact date of the LiDAR flight.

Question #5: What forms should be filled out for the Contract Equity Participation (CEP)?

Answer #5: Proposer should read EBMUD'S CEP Guidelines as well as fill out the CEP forms (P-025 & P-040) and include them in proposals. These documents can be found on the EBMUD website (https://www.ebmud.com/business-center/contract-equity-program), in the *Contract Equity Guidelines and Forms* document.