Stakeholder Meeting to Discuss Draft Updated Tulloch Reservoir Shoreline Management Plan (SMP)

Copperopolis, CA April 11, 2015



Agenda

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Purpose of Meeting
- 3. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- 4. SMPs at FERC-Licensed Projects
- 5. Purpose of FERC Tulloch Reservoir SMP
- 6. Overview of Tulloch Reservoir Updated SMP
- 7. Process to Updated Tulloch Reservoir SMP
- 8. Comments
- 9. Questions
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Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to review with interested parties the Draft Updated Tulloch Reservoir Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), general topics of the comments that were received, and to answer questions on the Draft Updated SMP.

Tri-Dam will continue to implement the version of the SMP approved in the February 16, 2006 license order until the Updated SMP is approved by FERC.



Federal Regulatory Energy Commission

- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is an independent, federal agency that authorizes the construction and operation of non-federal hydropower development in the United States.
- FERC Issues licenses with terms of from 30 to 50 years.
- On February 16, 2006, FERC issued to Tri-Dam a license for the Tulloch Hydroelectric Project.
- The license requires Tri-Dam to update the Tulloch Reservoir SMP that was approved in Article 411 of the license.



SMPs AT FERC-LICENSED PROJECTS

- SMP's may be required by FERC for all hydro projects where shoreline development by parties other than the licensee occur.
- SMPs are required to address both residential and commercial shoreline development.
- Allows existing licensee to approve certain proposed shoreline development without prior FERC approval.
- FERC maintains jurisdiction over all development activities that occur within the FERC Project Boundary at FERClicensed projects, but under an SMP, FERC defers approval authority to the licensee for activities such as docks.



Purpose of Tulloch Reservoir SMP

- FERC requires that the Tulloch Reservoir SMP include provisions that allow for the protection of Tri-Dam's power generation interests while protecting and enhancing the scenic, environmental and public recreational shoreline values at the reservoir.
- At Tulloch Reservoir, the normal high water elevation during the summer months ranges from 506.5 feet to 509.5 feet, and the reservoir is considered at full pool volume at elevation 510 feet. The FERC Project Boundary, meaning those areas that Tri-Dam is obligated to review and permit is set at the 515 foot elevation, thus activities that occur at the 515 foot elevation and below are subject to review and conformance with the SMP, and other applicable Tri-Dam regulations.



Overview of Tulloch Reservoir Draft Updated SMP (1 of 3)

- Addresses shoreline uses and proposed residential and commercial development within the FERC Project Boundary.
- Designed to provide a comprehensive policy for managing shorelines consistent with Project purposes by providing clear guidelines for shoreline development.
- Provide coordination with other FERC-license resource management plans in effect at Tulloch Reservoir.
- Required Tri-Dam to perform an assessment at least every 10 years to determine if the SMP is meeting current needs and conditions, and if any changes to the SMP are needed.



Overview of Tulloch Reservoir Draft Updated SMP (2 of 3)

Contents

- Introduction
- 2. Goals, Policy and Management Implementation
- 3. Land Use and Shoreline Classifications
- 4. SMP Permitting Processes
- 5. References Cited

Appendices

- A. Land Use Designations
- B. Land Ownership within FERC Project Boundary
- C. Map of Special Status Species within Boundary (Redacted)
- D. Map of Valley Longhorn Beetle Habitat within Boundary
- E. Map of Vegetation Types within Boundary
- F. Map of Noxious Weeds within Boundary
- G. Maps of Historic Property Locations within Boundary (Redacted)
- H. Consultation Record



Overview of Tulloch Reservoir Draft Updated SMP (3 of 3)

- Provisions for residential docks and buoys.
- Permitting of commercial development.
- Methods for mitigating shoreline erosion due to development.
- Prohibitions on shoreline alteration, cutting or filling.
- Landscaping restrictions on project lands.
- Campfire and burning restrictions.
- Standards designed to maintain navigability and public safety at Tulloch Reservoir.
- Permission for shoreline development activities is granted by Tri-Dam through issuance of an encroachment permit.



Process to Updated SMP (1 of 3)

- Consultation following license issuance resulted in initial updated SMP being filed with FERC for approval on 6/23/08.
- On March 28, 2014, Tri-Dam filed a request with FERC to withdraw the 2008 SMP to update and refile it for approval.
- On April 1, 2014, FERC approved Tri-Dam's request and set the deadline for filing an updated SMP as May 1, 2015.



Process to Updated SMP (2 of 3)

- On December 31, 2014, Tri-Dam filed the Draft Updated SMP with FERC and distributed it to parties listed in Article 411 asking for written comments by February 2, 2015. The parties include:
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Tuolumne County
 - Calaveras County
 - Representatives of homeowners associations that have land that directly abuts Tulloch Reservoir (Copper Cove at Lake Tulloch Owners' Association, Lake Tulloch Alliance, Connor Estates Master Association Black Jack Bluffs Association Peninsula Estates Association, Lake Tulloch Shores Subdivision, Calypso Bay Property Owners Association)
- Also sent to Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management and Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center.



Process to Updated SMP (3 of 3)

- Tri-Dam extended its outreach past the requirement in the FERC license.
 - On January 14, 2015, Tri-Dam distributed notice of the Draft Updated SMP availability to over 150 landowners surrounding Tulloch Reservoir for review and, and extended the written comment deadline to March 15, 2015 to allow additional time for the filing of comments.
 - Tri-Dam is holding this public meeting to further explain the SMP Update process, and the additional steps moving forward.
- Tri-Dam will address all written comments and file a revised Updated SMP with FERC by May 1, 2015.



Comments Topics (1 of 3)

- Tri-Dam was contacted via e-mail or letter by 14 parties interested in the Draft Updated SMP, and received written comments from 10.
- Also, received phone calls from a few individuals, primarily asking procedural questions about the document and process.

Comment Topics (2 of 3)

Some comments received on the Draft Updated SMP touched on topics that are outside the SMP program:

- Drought operations
- Aquatic weeds
- Two-stroke outboard engines
- Counties' role
- FEMA flood line / dam elevation datum
- Public recreation access site

Other than noting that the comments were received and providing information about these topics and where they are addressed, these will not be addressed in the Draft Updated SMP that will be filed with FERC.

Comment Topics (3 of 3)

- Non-motorized boating zones in Black and Green Springs arms
- Size of jet ski ports
- New residential and commercial development
- New docks
- Dredging at private residences
- Attaching Tri-Dam encroachment permit Application Form to Updated SMP
- SMP fees
- Landowner rights



Questions



Next Steps

- All of the written comments received to date are being thoroughly considered and will be evaluated and addressed in the revised Draft Updated SMP.
- Tri-Dam will file the revised Draft Updated SMP and required documentation of consultation with FERC by May 1, 2015 for FERC's review and approval.
- Tri-Dam will continue to implement the version of the SMP approved in the February 16, 2006 license order until the Updated SMP is approved by FERC.



Thank You for Coming

