

Revised Proposal to Address Socioeconomic and Cultural/Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake

November 20, 2019

Background

The primary purpose of the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake (Committee) according to AB 707 (Aguiar-Curry)¹ is:

... to spearhead activities aimed at cleaning up the lake for environmental gains that will revitalize its regional significance so that it may once again be used for recreational purposes, thus creating jobs and inciting new economic development.

Recent discussions with Committee members support the formation of two additional and distinct discussion venues to develop potential socioeconomic and cultural/traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) recommendations designed to alleviate challenges affecting Clear Lake and the surrounding communities.² A Technical Subcommittee, designed to develop specific environmental research and restoration recommendations, has been in place since March 2019.

This *draft* proposal was developed by the Sacramento State University College of Continuing Education's Consensus and Collaboration Program (CCP) for consideration by the Committee for approval at its December 11, 2019 quarterly meeting.

Proposal

The two separate subcommittees under discussion include a socioeconomic group and a cultural/TEK group. Similar to the existing Technical Subcommittee, the new subcommittees are expected to develop recommendations specific to their subject areas to alleviate the conditions identified in AB 707. Each subcommittee will also review recommendations developed by each of its counterparts to ensure those recommendations do not adversely impact socioeconomic, cultural/TEK, or environmental conditions. All recommendations and comments developed during subcommittee review periods will be compiled for the full Committee's consideration; no single subcommittee can "override" recommendations from other groups, nor are they expected to reach consensus or approve any work products.

In addition to the primary purpose discussed above, these subcommittees will also:

¹ http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB707

² "Cultural resources" for the purpose of this document are defined as items showing physical evidence or place of past human activity (i.e., sites, objects, landscapes, structures, or natural feature of significance). In this case, tribal historical sites, as well as natural materials found around Clear Lake and used for traditional ceremonies or other purposes, are assumed to be the primary cultural resources of concern for the Committee. "Traditional Ecological Knowledge" is defined as the evolving knowledge acquired by indigenous and local peoples over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment. This knowledge is specific to a location and includes the relationships between plants, animals, natural phenomena, landscapes and timing of events that are used for lifeways, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, agriculture, and forestry.

- Provide a venue for academics, local business leaders, and stakeholders with economic, social science, and cultural/TEK expertise to hold in depth discussions on socioeconomic and cultural/TEK issues affecting Clear Lake (Lake). Example issues include (but are not limited to) zoning changes, infrastructure modifications, or traditional tribal resources such as ancient village sites and willow stands.
- Review technical recommendations at a greater level of detail than may be possible during formal quarterly Committee meetings.
- Coordinate with existing research efforts throughout the Basin to minimize study overlap.
- Answer specific, socioeconomic or cultural/TEK questions as they arise at the direction of Committee members and develop action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the full Committee.

Given the potentially significant workload, Committee members are encouraged to actively participate and lead the new subcommittees. All subcommittee conversations and meetings will be convened in accordance with Bagley Keene Open Meetings Act (Bagley Keene) quorum rules; no more than seven Committee members may participate in any one subcommittee. Subcommittee meetings will be convened at the discretion of Committee leads for each group based on their initial review of recommendations and Committee discussion during quarterly meetings. Suggested leads include:

- Socioeconomic issues: Wilda Shock and Terre Logsdon
- Cultural/TEK issues: Linda Rosas-Bill and Sarah Ryan

Membership in each subcommittee will be established on an *ad hoc* basis to ensure appropriate local, regional, and state experts are included in specific discussions. Facilitation and logistical assistance will be provided by CCP at the request of subcommittee leads. All meetings will be publicly noticed in accordance with standard noticing requirements as outlined in Bagley Keene.