

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS PROVIDED
DURING THE NOVEMBER 9, 2021
PLAN FOR WATER WORKSHOP #1

C – Comment
Q – Question
R – Response

- 00:59:55 C: *John Meeker* - Wants to see the person speaking
- R: *Jennifer Hanson* – Will make this an action item for staff.
- 1:01:19 C: *Barbara Rivenes* - Was figuring out how to comment (by raising hand in Zoom)
- 1:02:11 Q: *George Olive* - Asked GM to repeat her comment regarding her acting as facilitator.
- R: *Jennifer Hanson* – Explained she would be acting as the facilitator unless we get into a situation where an outside facilitator would be helpful working through an issue.
- Ms. Hanson is confident she can facilitate effectively through the process but is open to using an outside facilitator should the need arise.
- 1:04:46 Q: *Jeff Litton* - Asked how the public could engage in writing (Via zoom chat or by mail/email).
- R: *Jennifer Hanson* – We will look into turning on the Zoom chat feature for the next meeting. Written comments may be emailed to PFW@nidwater.com.
- 1:09:04 Q: *Richard Mattison* - Asked about in-person meetings
- R: *Jennifer Hanson* – Acknowledged that remote public engagement is challenging for this type of long-term planning. However, Nevada County has a health order that is still in effect. She stated that if we cannot meet the requirement for 6-foot public distancing, then masks are required. We will continue to have remote meetings. We are hopeful that we can move towards in-person meetings in the future.
- 1:15:00 C: *Stewart Feldman* - Commented about the website page with the tab to join the mailing list. On some devices, that tab is not visible. He suggested another link in the introduction to make it easier to sign up for just the Plan for Water email.
- R: *Jennifer Hanson* – We will look into that and see if it is a modification we can make.
- 1:20:57 C: *Matthew Coulter* - Suggested that technical issues such as the audio problems that occurred at the beginning of the meeting be checked ahead of time for future meetings.

R: Jennifer Hanson – We could definitely check it ahead of time, thank you.

1:30:00 *C: Diana Suarez* - Discussed the need to understand the natural infrastructure system of the functioning watershed, where integrated water management begins. Click [here](#) to see the full text of Ms. Suarez' comments.

1:33:33 *Q: Jeff Litton* - Asked if one of the stages outlined in the process encapsulates trying to create a vision of the community's goals? He asked if the goal of the Plan for Water is to produce something more in alignment with District Goal number three "developing and managing our resources in a self-determining manner protects and provides for local control of our community's most valuable assets"? He thinks we need to consider other issues such as ethics, cooperating with other agencies and water districts, and using scientifically based methods.

R: Jennifer Hanson – Stage three is intended for the Board to go through a process of strategic planning. The Board will deliberate and may come up with a new mission vision and strategic priorities or affirm one or none of the ones we currently have.

Q: Jeff Litton - Should creating our vision for our goal of this whole process come before going into the specifics like the water rights overview? Looking at our community's ethics would maybe change the way we view our water rights.

R: Jennifer Hanson - The intent of stage one and stage two is just factually based. It is 'this is what we have', not necessarily how water rights should be used for specific priorities.

1:37:20 *Q: Ann Wallace and Brian Wallace* - Asked how to get involved in this process. Some of the things he is interested in are the vision, direction, and the larger picture of biodiversity and the cultural community that the District is working with.

Mr. Wallace asked if this is the point where we talk about our role in the indigenous perspective of biodiversity and watershed habitat wellness and try to help enrich and inform this process, or are we going to strategic planning and have to fit all of this into that stage?

R: Jennifer Hanson – The planning stage is intended to be as long as it needs to be for the Board to be comfortable with the process. As we go through the system overview, if we are missing a specific piece of information, it can/should certainly be brought up.

C: Mr. Wallace: There are growing efforts among tribal indigenous communities to direct projects that restore habitats for declining species and resuscitate lost practices and knowledge at the same time that benefits everybody. It is not necessarily that this vision applies to just indigenous cultures, but also feeds the richness of other cultures and even non-native land cultures that share all these spaces that are all the stakeholders here that love this place.

1:52:56 Q: *Mr. Feldman* - Asked if the environmental studies of hydrology and hydrography and other things related to the preparation of environmental documents for the Centennial Project would be released to the public for review before stages four and five are discussed?

R: *Jennifer Hanson* – The draft environmental document was not completed for the Centennial Project. The PFW process is not in regard specifically to the Centennial project. We will look at the documentation we do have available that could be released for supplementing this process.

Q: *Mr. Feldman* - Asked about the FERC documentation and if there is any material that could be shared for discussion.

R: *Jennifer Hanson* – The FERC information is on our website. We can provide some of those links if you are interested in doing background research.

2:08:27 Q: *George Olive* - Asked when the meadow restoration is finished, will that channelized stream run through it, or will the water spread throughout the meadow?

R: *Greg Jones* - The idea is for the water to spread throughout the meadow. A goal of the project is to bring the ground table back to its natural flow and re-flood the meadow.

2:18:01 C: *Traci Sheehan* - Suggested reserving time in a workshop to discuss the FERC licensing and the environmental flows, such as the science behind the flows and how the flows are measured.

R: *Jennifer Hanson* – We plan to discuss the FERC licensing, the status of the voluntary agreements, as well as the status of the basin plans in stage six.

2:23:03 C: *Jeff Litton* - There is a large flow coming out of Jackson Meadows. A lot of that is above the Milton-Bowman Canal, which goes to Bowman. Then there is the Bowman-Spalding Canal, which then takes it to Spaulding, from there it could either go down the South Canal, down to where most of us are in Grass Valley and Nevada City, but it could also go through the Drum Canal, and then get farther over through the Bear River watershed. That is part of the reason that we see a good flow out of there, but only have the 5 cfs for fish passage.

R: *Chip Close* - A discussion on in-stream flows is a worthwhile topic for discussion, including the operations behind flows and how they affect NID's overall supply and demand.