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Mission Statement:

"The Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group will work to preserve the environment, private property and water rights, and economic resources of Cottonwood Creek watershed through responsible stewardship, liaison, cooperation, and education.

CCWG 10/27/99

DIRECTORS

- Dennis Mitchell, Chair**
- Tom Harrington, V. Chair**
- Jackie Backer, Secretary**
- Richard Edsall, CFO**
- Roy Richards**
- Gene Davis**

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Ag Waivers

Letters are currently being prepared providing information regarding the Ag waivers that were adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 5, on July 11, 2003, and the three options available to each discharger. These letters will be sent to all known irrigators in both Shasta and Tehama Counties. CCWG is planning a forum on this very important issue for the stakeholder meeting held on the 25th of November.

Cottonwood Creek and You

1. Grant Update

Grant Programs: The Watershed Management Planning Program grant is ready to fund. This grant will start the process of developing a management plan for the entire watershed and will focus on nine issue areas such as erosion and sedimentation; flooding, rangelands, green belt/riparian coordinators, aquatic habitats, terrestrial habitats, groundwater and water quality. The focus of this grant is to hold meetings with landowners, directors and technical advisors in each of the nine issue areas, establish a consensus and develop a cooperative WMP that outlines the desired watershed conditions. CCWG needs your participation and input. The meeting dates and times will be announced when the contract has been signed, however we are providing you notice at this time and you are encouraged to contact the office to get your name & address on the list to be contacted when the meetings are set. Call Vieva @ 347-6637 or email ccwg@shasta.com.

"Funding for this project has been provided full or in part through an Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) pursuant to the Costa-Machado Water Act of 2000, (Proposition 13) and any amendments thereto for the implementation of California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program."

This work is estimated to start in January 2004.

CCWG is also in the preparation of drafting the second phase to the management plan which will be sent to the funding review team by October 15, 2003. This strategy will include demonstration projects and outcomes from the plan process which will ultimately be developed by the stakeholders work in phase one.

As we continue to grow and apply for grants, we often come across a grant request for proposal (RFP) for a specific type of project (i.e. funding to keep cattle from the creek and still provide them drinking water, or a request to do some riparian habitat restoration, bank stabilization or hazardous fuel reduction on your property). In order to effectively prepare a grant proposal for that specific type of project, we need to know, in

advance, who, what, why, where and maybe when. Please, let us know your needs.

ALSO, the Watershed Assessment is finished and CD's of the document are still available at the office.

2. Landowner Letter

Part II By: Carmen Doherty-Evergreen School

One of the most memorable times for my wife & I was our honeymoon in the Powell Cabin, in parcel 3. We were married in September of 1939. We sneaked off to Reno in our sophomore year at San Jose State and wanted to keep it a secret because I was headed for Med-School and in those days, No school would accept a married student. The next day, our marriage was in the newspaper; "Marriage Licenses issued in Reno." The secret was out. Incidentally, It rained 6 of the 7 days on our honeymoon and I told Ruth," we better get out of here; the creek is rising real fast." I mean it rained-incessantly!

Our four daughters, their husbands and our 10 grandchildren all have enjoyed camping on our 4.85 acres. All join in to set up, help with the daily chores and take down. I have, caught many trout in Moon Fork and Cottonwood Creek. The largest by far was a 21" rainbow in the pool at the base of the spillway. I also caught a beautiful Dolly Varden just above Mrs. Webb's cabin.

One day I stopped fishing to explore the sight of Mr. Moon's cabin about a quarter mile above Mrs. Webb's. After that, I returned to the creek below where a large tree had fallen making a deep hole in the upstream side. When I was ready, I scrambled up on the log and what did I see in the pool. Two otters were playing in the pool. When they saw me, they high tailed it up stream. I knew the fishing was over for the day.

Three years ago, I received a letter from a forester by the name of Frank Barron who works for Crane Mills. He wanted to let me know they would be harvesting timber on our plot.

My daughter, Beth, made arrangements to meet with him to set aside any "heritage" trees we wished to save. This man marked those trees and explained the whole operation to her. We were completely satisfied.



The next year I went with Beth's family. It had been years since I was there. We invited Frank to come up on the night we make "stew in a foil blanket." I can't tell you how much we both enjoyed that night. He told me some things I was not aware of and I told him many things he did not know.

Right then and there, we made a date for the next year and invited his whole family. They were our kind of people and they are all invited to come again next year. I have found 2 Chinese coins on our property. Charlie H. told me that there was a laundry on our site. You mailed your bulletin to my uncle Clarence and his wife Edna May Lawson at my address.

He gave me their share and my folks gave me their share. They have all died long ago.

I should have legally transferred the title to our family trust and I hope to have this done very soon. We will soon celebrate our 64th wedding anniversary and my 83rd birthday. (Yes, we lied to the judge who married us. We swore we both were both 21.) That's 30 for this part.

Mr. Lawson, thank you for sharing your memories with stakeholders in CCWG. If we have others out there who would like to share, we will get the word out.

3. Board Member Needed

Due to the resignation of board member Robin Rich we are currently looking to replace this member. Robin Rich, from the upper watershed area, served as Chief Financial Officer since 2000. She will be sorely missed for both her duties as CFO and her ability to

always provide calm reasonable solutions to difficult issues. Heavy demands on her family time, ranch time and her position with Shasta County left her in a position of being unable to find the time to continue her service as director. Interested persons will need to contact a board member or the CCWG office and obtain a letter of intent form.

4. Fire Council

By Vieva Swearingen

Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group received funding to move forward with our fire safe council and much work is still needed. We will begin meetings in October, meeting on the **third Tuesday of the month**, so the first meeting will be **October 21st at 6:30 PM**. The Tehama County RAC has begun to accept proposals for funding until the end of January 2004. This would be a good opportunity for those of you in Tehama County to assist on a proposal to submit to the RAC. The land involved must be adjacent to or benefit the national forest.

5. News from the past

Excerpts from Dottie Smith's book, History of Cottonwood, Now and Then. Enjoy!!

Foster's Hotel

1861: The building of Foster's Hotel was completed and considered from the start to be first- class. A barn and livery stable were built alongside the hotel which was the "chief building of the village of Cottonwood" and the main stopping place on the road. The hotel stood on the north side of

Cottonwood Creek (on the opposite side of the creek from the Clanton property) near the crossroads. Present-day location would be the SE corner of Main and Front Streets.

A description of Foster's Hotel: The Ballroom took up all the space of the west wing of the second floor as well as part of the east wing. The great airy parlor, the bar, the huge dining room, kitchen and some sleeping apartments were on the ground floor. The hotel was fitted through with the best of furniture, the finest linens, china and silverware.

1876: Jacob Foster sold his Foster Hotel to William Price and Adam Schuman on February 28th.

1885: On April 15, the hotel was destroyed by fire and not rebuilt.

Upcoming Events

CCWG Stakeholders Meeting Schedule:

When: 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:15 pm

Where: Room 18 at Evergreen Middle School, 19500 Learning Way, off Bowman Road, Cottonwood, CA

- Sept. 23th Fish in Cottonwood Creek
- Oct. 28nd Farm & Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and funding available
- Nov. 25th Ag Waiver Panel

Newsletter prepared by:
Vieva Swearingen

Thank you to the following authors for their article and/or input: Carmen Doherty and Dottie Smith

