

Santa Clara River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan

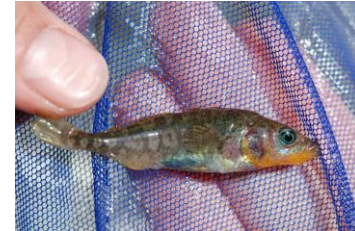


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United Water
Conservation District

What is a HCP/ITP



- Incidental Take Permit
 - Required for Non-Federal Activities that will Result in “Take” of a Threatened or Endangered Species
 - Net Benefit to the Species while Allowing the Applicant to Conduct the Covered Activities
- Habitat Conservation Plan
 - Evaluation and Planning Process
 - Ensures Mechanisms in Place to Minimize and Mitigate Adverse Impacts to the Maximum Extent Practicable
- United’s HCP
 - Multi-species
 - Steelhead Recovery Element



The HCP Process



- Description of Covered Activities and Project Area
- Assessment of Impacts
- Analysis of Alternatives
- Measures to Avoid, Minimize and Mitigate Impacts to Maximum Extent Practicable
- Assurance of Funding
- Evaluation that “Take” will not Appreciably Reduce Likelihood of Species’ Survival and Recovery

Public Participation

- Public Information Meetings
- CEQA/NEPA Public Scoping Meetings
- Formal Public Review and Comment Periods
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
 - Representatives from local interest groups



Fish Passage Review Panel



- Composed of qualified fish-passage engineers, hydrologist, and fishery biologists
 - One NMFS fish-passage specialist
- Function independently in a non-biased, transparent manner
- Task
 - Assess the current fish passage facility
 - **Recommend interim physical modifications**
 - Make recommendations for alternatives to provide adequate passage (modifications to fish ladder or new project)

Trash Rack





Trash Rack Modifications



Consultation with Resource Agencies

- Have initiated consultation with NMFS and F&W
- Technical Team (NMFS/United)
 - Interim operating criteria
 - Smolt migration bypass flow study



United has fast-tracked this project

- **Scheduled to complete the ITP application package by the end of 2010**
- **Fish Passage Review Panel is to submit recommendations by Aug 2010**
- **Time to process the application after submittal**
 - **dependant on complexity of issues identified**
 - **detail involved in the CEQA and NEPA assessment process**

