

**Matilija Dam Ecosystem Project Fine Sediment Study Group**  
**February 2, 2011**  
(CCP, 2/7/11)

**Flip Charst: Constraints/Regulatory Triggers Discussion**

**USACE**

Re-authorization triggers:

If costs are greater than 20% above authorized project

**Data gap:** *Has BRDA triggered that threshold? Can there be enough cost reductions to keep below this threshold?*

If changes in anticipated benefits (up or down) are more than 20% of authorized project

**Data gap:** *How would benefits/impacts change if the “without project alternative” is re-defined to refer to date in the future?*

**Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board**

*Issues affecting permitting:*

Duration of sediment pulses

Timing. If during natural events, less of an issue

Nutrient levels in sediments behind the dam: how and when they come down

Defining “chronic” sediment: critically important

**Data Gaps:**

*% sediment threshold in the Basin Plan*

*Determination of beneficial use for salmon/steelhead*

**[Suggestion from Group: “Workshop” at next Study Group meeting on Regional Board permitting for instream sediment levels]**

**DFG (CEQA, 1600 Stream Alteration, CESA incidental take)**

Would need to see much more detailed descriptions of actions, e.g. at the 65% design level, to determine if mitigation will be required

*Outstanding Question:* Will DFG accept programmatic EIR for the entire removal project, or require mitigation for specific elements?

*Constraint/possible mitigation trigger:* loss of habitat at slurry sites

**Data Gap:** *need more specific level of design*

## **USFWS**

*Trigger:* More detailed design (of any kind) will re-open the Biological Opinion and Section 7 consultation, likely for red-legged frog, least Bell's vireo, willow flycatcher

## **NOAA/NMFS**

*Trigger:* Similar to FWS

4b. Biological Opinion may need to be re-opened, but not necessarily a negative

***[Data Request: NMFS provide any firm data or guidance to the USACE design team on sediment thresholds for anadromous fish]***

## **CASITAS**

*Constraint/requirement:* Secure water quality and reliable water supply

If natural transport to be considered, has to look at: hydrology, nutrient impacts, chronic impacts

## **MOWD**

Ditto.

Potential on-site impacts

***Data gap:*** On-site impacts of deposited sediment on MOWD wells

***Data gap:*** Impacts of instream sediment on wells

***Data gap:*** relationship between storms and well shutdowns required

## **VRCWD**

***Data gap:*** Sediment disposal impacts on wells

***Data gap:*** Solubility of sediments

Flooding potential at BRDA sites

***[Response from Design Team:*** if OVLC will provide us additional acreage, we can move the site, reduce flooding potential]

