



# El Dorado Irrigation District

In Reply Refer To: E1101-324

November 1, 2001

Kyle Ericson, P.E.  
Associate Water Resource Control Engineer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
3443 Routier Road, Suite A  
Sacramento, CA 95827-3003

Subject: Weber Creek – Clean-up and Abatement Order Extension Request  
Project No. 01005E

Dear Mr. Ericson:

At a meeting held on October 10, 2001, the Department of Fish & Game (DFG) and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) recommended that the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) staff and contractors submit a comprehensive status report and amendment to the work plan on or before November 1, 2001. The Status Report was submitted on October 26, 2001, and outlines what has been accomplished to date by identifying all critical milestones, amount of sediment removed, adaptive techniques employed and steps needed to complete the clean up and remediation. In addition, a request was made by EID, supported by DFG, for an extension of the November 1, 2001 deadline of the Weber Creek Clean-up and Abatement Order. The Work Plan Addendum is attached, thus completing the submittal requests.

The Status Report states that as of October 18, 2001 the material removal by loader/backhoe crews is complete and that 2,300 cubic yards of material were removed by that technique, including 1,187 cubic yards from the North Fork. Approximately 2,800 cubic yards of sediment have been removed in total. The 3.5-mile section of the mainstem Weber Creek has also been treated by mechanical removal equipment and by hand crews. Northwest Biological Consulting estimates that 50 to 70 percent of the reach has been treated in this manner. Heavy equipment access is limited to five locations. Hand crews will complete sediment removal activities throughout the remainder of the reach

Essentially, the work plan outlines further steps needed to complete the clean up and remediation of Weber Creek. However, it must be noted that during the process of revising the work plan, new information has become available through continued engineering analysis. This information needs to be more thoroughly analyzed by affected agencies, and has the potential to result in further changes to the current work plan.

By way of summary, the following elements are developed in the attached work plan:

- 1) Continue the cleanup effort beyond November 1, 2001 to further remove sediments using mechanical equipment and hand tools where necessary. This work would continue until November 30, 2001, if necessary, and as permitted by the weather.
- 2) Placement of gravel/cobbles in certain locations that have been cleaned.
- 3) Construction of sediment catch basins using removable dams and one permanent dam through November 30, 2001. DFG and ECORP Consulting, Inc. would monitor the catch basins on a regular basis. As material settles out into the catch basins, Northwest Biological Consulting will remove the collected material.
- 4) Stream restoration including gravel/cobble placement and re-vegetation as approved by DFG.
- 5) A final mitigation remediation and sign-off step by DFG in late winter or early spring.
- 6) Post-completion monitoring as required by DFG.

Additional engineering analyses conducted include a bathymetric survey of Weber Dam that estimates the amount of sediments released, an analysis of naturally occurring sediments in the Weber Creek basin, and a mass balance estimate for constituents of concern.

It is the hope of EID that these analyses, in conjunction with the ongoing cleanup as outline in the amended work plan, will satisfy the requirements of the Order and bring this effort to a close. To this end, EID would like to schedule a meeting with DFG and the RWQCB as early as the week of November 5, 2001 to discuss the work plan and this new information. Please review this information and advise us as to your availability to meet and discuss these findings. I can be reached directly at (530) 642-4107.

Sincerely,

EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT



David E. Powell, P.E.  
Engineering Director

Attachment: Addendum – Operational Work Plan for Weber Creek Restoration Activities,  
October 31, 2001, prepared by ECORP Consulting, Inc.

- c:     Stafford Lehr, Department of Fish & Game  
        Richard Floch, Richard Floch & Associates  
        Brian Mueller, Project Engineer  
        William C. Neasham, District Counsel  
        Jim Stewart, ECORP Consulting, Inc.  
        William L. Wilkins, General Manager