

MINUTES OF THE  
BIG BEAR LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE MEETING

June 2, 2008

**Agency**

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Big Bear Mountain Resorts  
Big Bear Municipal Water District  
Big Bear Municipal Water District  
California Department of Transportation  
California Department of Transportation  
City of Big Bear Lake  
Risk Sciences  
San Bernardino County Flood Control District  
U.S. Forest Service  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

**Participant**

Hope Smythe  
Michael Perez  
Karl Klouzer  
John Eminger  
Scott Heule  
Cathy Jochai  
Gian Villarreal (RBF Consulting)  
David Lawrence  
Tim Moore  
Matt Yeager  
Deveree Kopp  
Mark Norton  
Rick Whetsel  
Marie Jauregui

**Call to Order & Introductions**

The Big Bear Lake TMDL Task Force meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Mark Norton at the Big Bear Municipal Water District offices, 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, California. Brief introductions were made by each of the attendees.

**Approval of April 14, 2008 Minutes**

The April 14, 2008, Big Bear Lake TMDL Task Force minutes were unanimously approved.

**Draft Task Force Agreement Comments**

The *Draft Agreement to form the Big Bear Lake TMDL Task Force, Exhibits A and B to the Task Force Agreement, and Table of comments received to date* were distributed. San Bernardino County Flood Control District's legal counsel still is reviewing the Agreement. The Regional Board will forward the Agreement to their legal counsel for review. The Task Force decided to incorporate all the comments that have been received to date into a new version for distribution.

**FY 07-08 Invoicing**

Invoices for FY 07-08 were prepared by BBMWD and distributed to the respective parties (Big Bear Mountain Resorts, Caltrans, and San Bernardino County Flood Control District) at the meeting. Caltrans commented that they would not be able to pay the invoice until the Task Force Agreement is finalized. There was a brief discussion regarding how Caltrans financially contributed to the effort in the past. It will be further researched after the meeting.

**Review Watershed and Lake Monitoring Program**

No comments were received from the Task Force on the *Watershed-wide Nutrient Monitoring Plan*. It was submitted to the Regional Board on May 2, 2008, to be put on the next Regional Board agenda. Regional Board staff expressed concern regarding: 1) the tentative plan to not necessarily collect all the stormwater data from each tributary during the same storm event; and 2) whether or not the Task Force could scientifically and legitimately composite samples. Tim Moore asked Tetra Tech about the Regional

Board's concerns, but has not received any answers. Therefore, he revised the budget to reflect a "worst case" scenario (Exhibit B).

Mr. Moore estimated the cost for the *Watershed-wide Nutrient Monitoring Program*, which would be performed by a consultant, to be approximately \$250,000 (Line Item 4.0 on Exhibit B) will be changed to \$200,000. It was noted that BBMWD will be funding the *In-lake Nutrient Monitoring Program* (Line Item 7.0 on Exhibit B). \$100,000 of the \$200,000 for the *Watershed-wide Nutrient Monitoring Program* will go toward the laboratory costs for the chemical analysis. The balance is the collection costs. Additionally, the \$200,000 assumes no in-kind contributions. It was noted that the budget does not include a "false alarm" cost, where if the consultant in the valley were to mobilize for a storm event that does not take place, the Task Force only pays half the labor costs and incurs no analytical cost.

Line Item 6.0 on Exhibit B will be removed from the budget as there are no proposed TMDLs. Also, Big Bear Mountain Resorts' stakeholder funded activities will be increased to \$100,000. Of the total budget, Caltrans will pay 10%; Big Bear Mountain Resorts will pay \$20,000; and San Bernardino County Flood Control will cover the balance. Once the Agreement is finalized, BBMWD will send SAWPA the carry-over funds from the FY 07-08 budget, which will be noted as such on the subsequent budget. Mr. Norton will send revised exhibits to the Task Force.

Michael Perez said that the sampling cannot be done with just one team. Mr. Moore feels that there needs to be three teams because eight samples need to be collected. The Regional Board staff has allowed the Task Force to cut back from three storm events to two storm events – one winter and one summer. Furthermore, eight samples need to be collected from seven sites twice – one dry season and one wet season.

Big Bear Mountain Resorts has enough staff to have three teams for sampling during storm events. However, they will need training and overall direction. Brown and Caldwell will be used for the laboratory analysis, train Big Bear Mountain Resorts, dry weather sampling, and assist with developing the QAPP. The City of Big Bear Lake will provide staff as a backup team for sampling. There was a suggestion that the Forest Service and Caltrans possibly could provide backup teams for sampling. Brown and Caldwell will be contacted about being a consultant. Mr. Moore will send Mark Norton a list of tasks for Brown and Caldwell.

Caltrans commented that they would be interested in both an upstream and downstream sample during storm events for Rathburn, Knickerbocker, and Grout Creeks. Mr. Moore will determine the costs for the additional sampling and determine how it will be divided amongst the stakeholders. (1.48.00)

Matt Yeager asked why Tetra Tech was being consulted. It was noted that Tetra Tech did the original models for the monitoring program. Mr. Moore merely asked Tetra Tech what assumptions they used with the Big Bear Lake models and what the models require. He felt that he could go to Tetra Tech to ask those questions because they would have an obligation to answer them. Discussion briefly ensued regarding data models.

Mr. Yeager requested clarification on the purpose of the parameter list, noting that the objectives are too general. Hope Smythe said that one of the TMDL requirements is to develop a model. The parameters are taken from the model that Tetra Tech developed for the Big Bear Lake Watershed. The Regional Board asked Tetra Tech for their advice on what parameters would be appropriate and useful for developing a watershed model. The Task Force can use any model that they feel is appropriate. Discussion briefly ensued. The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL preliminary plan will be distributed to the Task Force as a draft for markup.

It was thought to be an inefficient use of the Task Force's time to redevelop a monitoring plan that has been done by another Task Force. Mr. Moore will append the Monitoring Plan with justifications and address those concerns as they arise. Laying out a set of objectives and a specific rationale for the components can be done. Mr. Moore will not discuss how the data will be evaluated because it will not be done in time to meet the July deadline for the Regional Board. However, a modeling/monitoring interface matrix can be created, which can be used to show as something that will be addressed near-term. Mr. Moore will list the reports that he will use for his justifications. The Tetra Tech Report and a copy of the previous Proposition 13 watershed monitoring source report will be distributed to the Task Force.

The Monitoring Plan and Modeling Plan are due at the same time. The QAPP/SAP (Sampling Analysis Procedure) is due 60 days after the Monitoring Plan is approved. After the QAPP/SAP is approved, the sampling effort will begin. There are two QAPPs/SAPs required – one for the In-Lake and one for the Watershed-wide Monitoring Plans. Scott Heule will handle the QAPP for the In-Lake Nutrient Monitoring Plan. Mr. Moore thought that Erika Saad did the QAPP, but will follow-up with her. Discussion briefly ensued regarding changing from a QAPP to a SAP.

The Regional Board has deferred the approval of both the *Watershed-wide Nutrient Monitoring Program* and *In-Lake Nutrient Monitoring Program* to July. They felt that it would be easier to present both Programs to the Board at the same time. If the Watershed-wide Nutrient Monitoring Program is not ready, only the In-Lake Nutrient Monitoring Program will go forward at the July 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Board meeting. Mr. Moore will let Hope Smythe know by the end of June the status of the Monitoring Programs to keep it on the July 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Board agenda.

There was a brief discussion regarding atmospheric deposition.

#### **Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, July 1, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at San Bernardino County Public Works.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business for review, the meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.