

Meeting Notes

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force Technical Advisory Committee

March 22, 2011, at 9:00 AM
Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503
Prepared by Rick Whetsel

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Committee Members Present

Hope Smythe, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Pat Kilroy, City of Lake Elsinore
Jim Grimm, City of Canyon Lake
Pat Boldt, San Jacinto River Watershed Council
Mark Norton, SAWPA
Jason Uhley, County of Riverside
Ron Young, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Others Present

Robert Taylor, USFS; Robert Vasquez, RCFC&WCD; Tim Moore, Risk Sciences; Gian Villarreal, RBF/Caltrans; Rick Whetsel, SAWPA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Rick Whetsel called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING NOTES

The Meeting notes for the December 15th TAC meeting were approved without any comments.

3. DISCUSSION: 2011 TMDL IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY (TIM MOORE/RISK SCIENCES)

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences provided an overview of the schedule of work to be completed by the Task Force in 2011, which focuses around the completion of a MS4 permit driven Comprehensive Nutrient Reduction Plan (CNRP), due to the Regional Board by December 31, 2011. Mr. Moore stated that the goal for the Task Force is to have a draft CNRP by June 30, 2011, and the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District currently has an RFP out to hire a consultant to complete the plan. Mr. Moore will support the development of the CNRP by providing a scope and outline of the plan, which will include on behalf of the Task Force a suite of nutrient removal projects for Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake. It will also include agreements to operate the aeration/destratification project for Lake Elsinore, fishery management in Lake Elsinore, and a Canyon Lake project involving the development of an oxygenation system or application of Phoslock or some combination of both. One of the goals for the Task Force stakeholders in preparation of the CNRP is to decide on an appropriate system for Canyon Lake.

Another key aspect proposed for the CNRP is the concept of creating assimilative capacity within the lakes to allow for pollutant trading. The concept revolves around the idea of implementing in-lake treatment to create additional in-lake capacity for external nutrient loading. The stakeholder parties that would fund the O&M of these systems would accrue nutrient credits to bank toward their nutrient TMDL load allocation. Mr. Moore discussed his outline of revisions to the first of these agreements, an agreement to operate the aeration/destratification system for Lake Elsinore. It is envisioned that this treatment system will create 9,000 kg of assimilative capacity to treat phosphorus loading in Lake Elsinore. The agreement will enable the assimilative load capacity to be assigned a dollar value and a credit amount.

Also, as part of the pollutant trading concept, Mr. Moore has been in discussions with Ronda Sandquist / Squire Sanders for her to prepare the legal documents with State and Federal regulatory agencies, which

would allow for this trading system. Further discussion on a proposal for creating these trading agreements will take place at the next LE&CL TMDL TAC meeting.

4. DISCUSSION: 2010 SAN JACINTO WATERSHED MODEL SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER ACREAGE

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences briefly discussed a spreadsheet breaking down the watershed acreage by stakeholder for the San Jacinto Watershed model, showing the acreage above Mystic Lake and the acreage in the lower watershed.

Jason Uhley requested that SCAG agriculture acreage be separated from the municipalities and that the table includes a breakdown of the loads by municipality going into Canyon Lake.

Further discussion on the spreadsheet and how it will be used will take place at the next LE&CL TMDL TAC meeting.

5. DISCUSSION: CANYON LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN, NEXT STEPS

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences initiated discussion regarding the Pre-Design Report produced by PACE Engineering for Canyon Lake. It was noted by stakeholders that the project is much more expensive than the project initially described by Dr. Michael Anderson in his 2006 report. Tim Moore speculated that it may be due to the modeling performed by PACE Engineering not including a feedback loop for the incremental improvements in the in-lake conditions over time.

According to Mr. Moore, these concerns regarding the sizing of the project and its cost have stakeholders concerned with moving forward with the project have resulted in Phoslock as being a viable option for in-lake treatment. Discussion ensued regarding the idea of developing a hybrid HOS system for Canyon Lake, which could be built in stages over time and augmented with treatments of Phoslock to Canyon Lake, or moving toward the idea of annual Phoslock treatment as the solution.

It was noted that Phoslock treatment in the East Bay of Canyon Lake may be a good way to pilot study the effectiveness of Phoslock.

It was also noted that PACE Engineering is still waiting on comments from several key TAC members and it would be greatly appreciated if these comments could be submitted by the end of the week.

Further discussion on the Canyon Lake Treatment alternative will take place at the next LE&CL TMDL TAC meeting.

6. DISCUSSION: CANYON LAKE AND LAKE ELSINORE MODELING

Due to time constraints the Members of the TAC recommended that LESJWA staff and Tim Moore/Risk Sciences schedule a conference call with Dr. Michael Anderson to discuss the proposed Scope of Work for future modeling activities for Canyon Lake.

7. DISCUSSION: LAKE ELSINORE AERATION SYSTEM O&M AGREEMENT

Item was discussed under item # 3 "2011 TMDL Implementation Strategy". Tim Moore continues to work on a draft agreement to share with the participants of the agreement.

8. DISCUSSION: FY 2011-12 TASK FORCE BUDGET (RICK WHETSEL)

Due to time constraints the Members of the TAC briefly reviewed the FY 2011-12 budget. Stakeholders commented that the budget was sufficient to cover the work planned for FY 2011-12.

9. NEXT MEETING

Members of the LE&CL TAC requested that a follow-up meeting be held on April 6, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake Nutrient TMDL Task Force Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at 1:00 p.m.

Rick Whetsel adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.