

# MSAR TMDL TASK FORCE MEETING NOTES

October 18, 2016

## PARTICIPANTS

Richard Meyerhoff  
Tiffany Lin  
Tonya Honeycutt  
Lynn Merrill  
Mike Roberts  
Menu Leddy  
Ken Theisen  
Stuart McKibbin  
Eric Lomeli  
Pat Boldt  
Tim Moore  
Marc Rodabaugh  
Mark Norton

## REPRESENTING

CDM Smith  
CDM Smith  
City of Fontana  
City of Rialto  
City of Riverside  
Orange County Water District  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Agricultural Pool  
Risk Sciences  
San Bernardino County Flood Control District  
SAWPA

## Via Conf Call:

Bobby Gustafson  
Carlos Morales

Elsinore Valley Water District  
City of Jurupa Valley

### **1. Call to Order & Introductions**

The Middle Santa Ana River Watershed Pathogen (MSAR) TMDL Task Force meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Rick Whetsel at Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA). Brief introductions were made by the attendees.

### **2. Approval of the Meeting Notes**

Rick Whetsel asked for any comments on the July 28, 2016 meeting notes. There were no comments and the meeting notes were deemed acceptable.

### **3. Update: Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) (CDM Smith)**

#### **a. Quarterly Report Summary**

Richard Meyerhoff / CDM Smith provided an update on the third quarter of the dry weather monitoring program. During this quarter, CDM Smith wrapped up the dry weather sampling (summer sampling) to complete the 20 week sampling of all of the Priority one and two sites. At the same time, the once-a-year sampling required for the priority four samples (samples with anti-degradation targets) was completed. Regarding the priority four sampling sites, one sample came back with results above the anti-degradation target, triggering additional sampling at the Temescal Creek site, which will be discussed in further detail under the next agenda item. Then there are the priority three sites, which are sampled for a five-week period rotated throughout the year. There is one more set of these priority samples to be sampled (Group 5: Goldenstar Creek and Lake Fulmar) and this will take place October 30 through November 27. Additionally, the MSAR TMDL requires the monitoring of one storm event (five TMDL sites, four samples collected over a 96-hour event) to take place between November 1 and March 31.

Regarding the storm event to be targeted, CDM Smith typically targets the second storm event, as the first storm event is usually a wash out event.

The fourth quarter is to finish up the monitoring for the first annual report that is due in the spring (Draft April and Final June).

Mr. Meyerhoff also informed stakeholders that the revised 2016 Triennial Report is near completion and will be sent out in the week for final review and comment.

b. Temescal Creek Water Quality Evaluation

Richard Meyerhoff introduced Tiffany Lin/CDM Smith to provide an update on the additional monitoring required for the exceedance at the priority four Temescal Creek monitoring location.

On June 23rd, an E. coli sample was collected with a result of 770 mpn/100 ml exceeding the anti-degradation target, established based on the 75th percentile of the lognormal distribution fitted to historical data collected from Lincoln Ave.

This exceedance triggered the collection of three additional monthly samples to be collected at the site, with the requirement that if any of the follow-up samples exceed the anti-degradation target, then sampling will continue on a monthly basis until source(s) of the increased bacterial indicators are identified and mitigated, and bacteria levels return to below the anti-degradation target in three of four samples collected over three consecutive months.

Discussion ensued regarding the monitoring at the Main Street location, as the historical data used to establish Temescal Creek anti-degradation target had been collected at the downstream location at Lincoln Avenue, a location which consistently reported much lower E.coli results.

Follow-up monitoring (7/28, 8/25, 9/9, 9/15, 9/22, 9/26 and 10/3) of the two locations consistently reported much higher values of E.coli at the upstream Main Street Site vs. the Lincoln Avenue site.

CDM Smith, working in coordination with county staff, have not been able to determine the reason for the improved downstream water quality, possible factors include 1) the possibility of solar radiation destroying the exposed bacteria as it flows down the concrete channel and 2) the possibility of the bacteria adhering to plant and soil material along the natural stream bottom immediately upstream of the Lincoln Avenue site.

Based upon the monitoring results, which show the Main Street location to not be representative of the Lincoln Ave dataset that was used to establish the antidegradation target, CDM Smith recommended to Regional Board staff 1) Relocate the existing Priority 4 Temescal Creek site (Main St., P4-RC1) to Lincoln Ave (P4-RC2) for future monitoring and 2) Conclude investigations into Temescal Creek antidegradation target exceedances for the 2016 dry season.

Regional Board Staff supported these recommendations.

Follow-on discussion ensued regarding some possible BMP that stakeholders could consider, based upon the additional monitoring and investigation of the sites. This included incorporating small weirs to slow down sheet flow in the channels and to sweep the channel bottoms.

Last, Rick Whetsel/SAWPA informed stakeholders that the Agreement to form a Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force was approved by the SAWPA Commission on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

He asked representatives of the agencies participating in the new Task Force Agreement to review the 2016-17 Draft Workplan (Exhibit B to the agreement) prepared by CDM Smith, so that a final version could be included with the agreement for Board approval. He will resend out the Workplan following the meeting.

**4. Update: Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plan Implementation Activities**

RCFC&WCD

Eric Lomeli/RCFC&WCD reported that the district is working with CDM Smith on the design for the Eastvale mitigation at Lines D & E channels that drain to the Santa Ana River.

## SBCFCD

Marc Rodabaugh/SBCFCD reported that the District has been working to collect monitoring data (10 week sampling) to characterize the impacts to Chino Creek from the Claremont / Pomona area. The results to date show low levels of bacteria inputs to Chino Creek.

The District also is working with CDM Smith on a re-characterization of Cucamonga Creek from the 60 freeway to Prado wetland. This includes six weeks of monitoring data in an effort to separate out flow coming in from IEUA recycled water discharge, versus MS4 discharges, versus what is coming in from Chris Basin with a goal of getting better flow values for each individual component for estimating mass inputs.

The District was awarded a Proposition One Implementation Planning Grant to prepare a stormwater Management resource Plan, which will be used to characterize the watershed and prioritize water quality projects (as a top priority).

## Orange County

Nothing reported.

## Pomona & Claremont

Nothing reported.

## Agricultural Operators

Pat Boldt had nothing new to report at this time.

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences stated that a Canyon Lake Management Plan was prepared by Maureen Sullivan for the City of Canyon Lake and Canyon Lake POA. This report pooled together a lot of available E.coli and bacteria data that can be useful to the Task Force.

## **TMDL Task Force Administration (SAWPA)**

### Budget Update

Rick Whetsel stated he will prepare a Draft FY 2017-18 budget and send it out to stakeholders for review and comment in November.

### FY 2016-17 Invoice

Mr. Whetsel reported that SAWPA has received payment for FY 2016-17 from all stakeholders of the MSAR TMDL Task Force. The only outstanding invoice is from RCFC&WCD for the Regional Bacteria Monitoring Program

## **Other Business**

Menu Leddy/OCWD informed stakeholders of studies being conducted by the USDA Salinity laboratory located in Riverside California. These studies will investigate factors that influence the development, spread and mitigation of antibiotic resistant bacteria, genes, E.coli and salmonella in sediments and run-off of the Santa Ana River.

Following discussion, it was requested that Menu invited representatives of the USDA Salinity lab to discuss their work with the Task Force at a future meeting.

## **Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force is scheduled for January 4, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at SAWPA.

## **Adjourn**

There being no further business for review, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.