

MSAR TMDL Task Force Meeting Notes

August 15, 2018

PARTICIPANTS

Tiffany Lin
Raul Arevalo
Joe Indrawan
Kris Hanson
Luis Ortiz
Tanya Honeycutt
Joe Rosales
Julie Carver
Lynn Merrill
Mike Roberts
David Alderete
Richard Meyerhoff
Marsha Westropp
Menu Leddy
Tim Moore
Ed Filadelfia
Andrea Gonzales
Abigail Suter
Rebekah Guill
Cynthia Gabaldon
Arlene Chun
Chris Crompton
Rick Whetsel

REPRESENTING

CDM Smith
City of Corona
City of Eastvale
City of Eastvale
City of Eastvale
City of Fontana
City of Montclair
City of Pomona
City of Rialto
City of Riverside
CSU Sacramento
GEI Consultants
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Risk Sciences
Riverside RWQCP
Riverside County Flood Control
Riverside County Flood Control
Riverside County Flood Control
San Bernardino County
San Bernardino County Flood Control
OCPW/Environmental Resources
SAWPA

Via-Conference Call

Steven Wolosoff
Amanda Grey
Ray Hiemstra
Megan Brousseau
Bobby Gustafson

CDM Smith
UC Riverside
Orange County Coastkeeper
Inland Empire Waterkeeper
City of Riverside

1. Call to Order & Introductions

The MSAR TMDL Task Force Meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Rick Whetsel at Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA). Brief introductions were made by the attendees.

MSAR TMDL Meeting Items:

2. Approval of the Meeting Notes

Rick Whetsel asked for any comments on the June 19, 2018 MSAR TMDL meeting notes. There were no comments and the meeting notes were deemed acceptable.

3. Update: CBRP Audit Report (Regional Board Staff)

Ken Theisen /Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board provided an update on the Regional Board CBRP Audit. Ken noted that the Audit report has been made available to permittees. Regional Board staff is continuing to meet with individual stakeholders to review the findings of the audit.

4. Update: Revised Language Relating to Phase II Permits (Regional Board Staff)

Ken Theisen /Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board provided an update on the renewal of the MS4 permits by Regional Board. Ken noted that there is nothing new to report on this item as other pressing issues have relegated this item to a lower priority.

There is currently no time table for Regional Board staff to review the permit language for Phase II MS4 permittees.

5. Update: Statewide Bacteria Standards (Risk Sciences)

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences presented a handout to the stakeholders summarizing the new statewide water quality objectives for bacteria. The key for stakeholders to understand, regarding these new water quality objectives is that the new objectives supersede the numeric objectives for REC-1 from the 2012 Basin Plan Amendment, but they do not supersede the narrative objectives or site-specific objectives.

Tim informed stakeholders that these new water quality objectives will require to take the following actions:

- 1) Stakeholders will be required to update/revise the Santa Ana River Bacteria Monitoring Plan.

This task is to be completed through the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force. Tim recommended that this effort be addressed this fall in conjunction with re-issuing the RFP for hiring a consultant to oversee and implement the monitoring program, to assure that there are no issues in the compliance monitoring.

- 2) The Task Force will need to update the MSAR TMDLs, as soon as feasible.

In relation to the new water quality objectives for bacteria, Mr. Moore requested CDM Smith staff to review the water quality data for Prado Park Lake to see how the new objections will impact the potential delisting of this waterbody.

Mr. Whetsel will work with Tim to prepare a RFP to hire a consultant to a) update the current monitoring program plan and QAPP, and B) oversee and implement the annual bacteria monitoring program for the next meeting.

6. Update: Petition to Regional Board to Update/Revise the MSAR TMDLs (Risk Sciences)

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences informed stakeholders of his intent to resubmit the petition to request the MSAR TMDLs be updated/revise as part of the Regional Board's Triennial Review process. Ken Theisen reminded stakeholders that this effort cannot begin until the Regional Board has completed the process to approve the update to the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake (LE&CL) nutrient TMDLs. It is expected that this effort will begin in 2019-20. The effort is not expected to be as onerous or expensive as the effort to update the LE&CL TMDLs, for which the updated technical cost stakeholders approximately \$800,000 and nearly three years to complete.

7. Discussion: Items to Include in Regional Board Triennial Review (Risk Sciences)

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences presented a handout to stakeholders identifying the various items he is recommending be included in the list of items for the Regional Board Triennial Review.

As part of this discussion, the issue of homelessness was discussed:

Cynthia Gabaldon /representing SBCFCD informed stakeholders that the annual CASQA Conference (October 15 – 17, Riverside, CA) has dedicated an entire session on the topic and will include panel discussion with local agency staff.

Rick Whetsel noted that SAWPA staff, at the direction of the SAWPA Commission is working with its member agencies to issue an RFP to investigate the issue of homelessness and its impacts on water quality in the Santa Ana River. This RFP is envisioned to include the following a) a literature review of what is currently being done around the State and the greater U.S. to address this issue, and b) develop a monitoring plan to assess the impacts of the homeless living in the riparian channel on water quality. Mr. Whetsel noted that any proposed monitoring would be vetted with the MSAR TMDL /Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Forces.

Larry McKenney /SAWPA noted an effort by SAWPA working with the City of Riverside on this issue and the availability of additional grant funds through the Proposition 1 – Disadvantaged Communities Program to provide technical assistance for projects where we can tie together the benefits of addressing the homelessness issue and relate it to water. This is something agencies or this Task Force may want to pursue.

Ken Theisen noted he would like to see the Task Force piggy-back on the grant opportunity. Larry recommended looking at the source of bacteria related to homelessness, as well as, other uncontrollable sources of bacteria contamination.

If you would like to know more about this grant opportunity, please contact Rick Whetsel at SAWPA.

8. TMDL Task Force Administration (SAWPA)

FY 2018-19 Invoices

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA announced to stakeholders that FY 2018-19 invoices were sent out August 2nd.

Status Update: Amendment No. 1 to MSAR Task Force Agreement

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed stakeholders that he has followed up with emails/calls to stakeholders regarding the outstanding signature pages to Amendment No. 1 to Task Force Agreement. He believes he made good progress and is expecting to have the balance of the signature pages received by the end of September.

Regional Water Quality Monitoring Meeting Items:

9. Update: Santa Ana River Watershed Bacteria Monitoring Program (CDM Smith)

Tiffany Lin /CDM Smith provided a presentation to update to stakeholders on the current FY 2018-19 Santa Ana River Regional Bacteria Monitoring program. She started with a review of the warm/dry season monitoring for the Priority 1, 2, and 3 sites will be completed in September, followed by a five week break and then the final five weeks week of cool dry season monitoring beginning in October into November.

Ms. Lin then followed with a brief presentation to discuss proposed updates to the monitoring program.

Following brief discussion it was that updates to the monitoring program would be addressed as part of the RFP. However, two sites were delisted and removed from the current year monitoring, SAR Reach 2 and Fulmor Lake.

10. Discussion: Task Force Implementation Strategy and Schedule (Risk Sciences)

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences requested feedback from stakeholders as to the priority of tasks for the task force.

Tim directed stakeholders to look at the list of 14 303-d listed waterbodies, pending TMDLs and asked stakeholders, how and in what order should these waterbodies should be addressed, for example are we developing a SSO, a UAA, diversions, etc...

Ken Theisen suggested that our first goal should be making sure we have good data on each of these waterbodies before proceeding on any actions.

Chris Crompton / OCPW/Environmental Resources noted that the County is not as concerned with dry weather issues, as they can be easily addressed with diversion to OC Sanitation, the issue of interest is the development of long term strategies to deal with wet weather issues on a programmatic scale. In terms of compliance, he's in favor of a watershed management plan approach to deal with issues in the waterbodies as an alternative to additional TMDLs. Ken Theisen noted that regional Board is in favor of this approach.

Chris noted for several of these waterbodies it comes down to a question of jurisdiction; the waterbody may be either privately owned or on public lands now under the jurisdiction of the County or local cities.

Chris also noted the County's interest in pursuing UAA's for additional waterbodies based upon the prototype work done previously.

Lastly, the issue of habitat was discussed with respect to natural flow and the competing benefits.

It was requested that Tiffany Lin /CDM Smith identify and assemble the available water quality data for the waterbodies currently being monitored as part of the SAR Regional Bacteria Monitoring Program.

It was requested that Orange County Coastkeeper share past bacteria monitoring data that had been collected for a number of these waterbodies to support this effort.

11. TMDL Task Force Administration (SAWPA)

FY 2018-19 Invoices

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA again noted that FY 2018-19 invoices were sent out August 2nd.

12. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

13. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting is a MSAR TMDL/Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force, and is scheduled for October 31, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. at SAWPA.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business for review, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.